



*Pine Tree District
Newsletter
- November 2019 -*

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Graduate Webelos Scouts Into a Troop

The year-round growth plan is designed to facilitate Scout recruitment and pack-troop relations. To carry out the plan, the troop membership chair will need to remember some important guidelines:

1. Work closely with a nearby Cub Scout pack.
2. Prepare an effective Webelos-to-Scout plan.
3. Make new Scouts and their parents feel welcome.

At the beginning of the recruitment process, the troop should align with a Cub Scout pack in the community. If more than one troop draws its new Scouts from this pack, contact the leadership of the other troops and design a plan to work together with the pack. Offer the use of your troop's equipment and expertise to the Cubmaster and the Webelos den leaders, and work with them to develop an effective Webelos-to-Scout plan, following the year-round calendar on this webpage.

Use the [Second-Year Webelos Scout Tracking form](#)  to collect information on each second-year Webelos Scout. The information will be invaluable as the year-round plan is implemented. The form helps track the Webelos Scouts' progress toward becoming members of a troop.

Lastly, ensure that the Scouts and their parents have a smooth transition from the Webelos den to the Scout troop. Make the Scouts and their parents feel welcome and at ease in the new troop environment, and recruit parents of the new Scouts to become assistant Scoutmasters and troop committee members.

The activities recommended in this plan will help stimulate youth interest in the Scouts BSA program. Implementing the plan involves the active involvement of adult and youth leaders of the Scouts BSA troop as well as the leadership of the Cub Scout pack.

Webelos-to-Scout Plan

Key:

- CM-Cubmaster
- PLC-Patrol leaders' council
- SM-Scoutmaster
- SPL-Senior patrol leader
- TCC-Troop committee chair
- TG-Troop guide
- TMC-Troop membership chair
- WDL-Webelos den leader



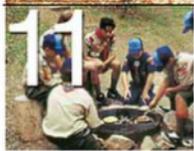
August	Person Responsible
1 Get names, addresses, and telephone numbers of second-year Webelos Scouts. Record the information on the Webelos Scout Tracking form.	TMC, WDL, CM
2 Plan a joint Scout troop/Webelos den camping trip for October.	SM, PLC, CM, WDL
3 Plan a program of upcoming events to present at a Webelos den meeting visit in November.	TMC
4 Select a den chief for each Webelos den.	SM, SPL, CM



September	Person Responsible
1 Mail a letter of introduction from the Scout troop to second-year Webelos Scouts to introduce them to the troop.	TMC, SM
2 Put second-year Webelos Scouts on the mailing list to receive the troop newsletter.	TMC
3 Continue planning the joint camping trip for October.	SM, PLC, CM, WDL



October	Person Responsible
1 Conduct the joint camping trip with the Webelos den.	SM, TMC, SPL, CM



November	Person Responsible
1 Attend a Webelos den meeting to teach the Webelos Scouts how the Scout troop works.	SM, TMC, SPL
2 Have den chiefs attend a local council or district training course.	SM



December	Person Responsible
1 Set a date for Webelos Scouts and their parents to visit a Scout troop meeting in January.	SM, WDL
2 If desired, send a small holiday gift to each Webelos Scout.	SM, TMC



January	Person Responsible
1 Host Webelos Scouts and their parents at a troop meeting.	SM, SPL
2 Plan a bridging ceremony for the blue and gold banquet in February to welcome graduating Webelos Scouts to their new troop.	SM, CM, TMC, SPL
3 Attend a meeting of first-year Webelos Scouts to introduce them to Scouts BSA.	SM, TMC, CM



February	Person Responsible
1 Hold the bridging ceremony at the blue and gold banquet.	SM, CM, SPL, TMC
2 Get new Scouts actively involved with the troop through troop activities.	TMC, SM, CM
3 Recruit parents of new Scouts to become assistant Scoutmasters or troop committee members.	TCC, SM



March	Person Responsible
1 Plan a troop activity for new Scouts to get them involved with their new troop.	PLC, SM, TMC, TG



BSA PARENTS

The Boy Scouts of America serves an invaluable purpose in **building character and instilling values in America's youth, and shaping the leaders of tomorrow**. As parents, family members and friends of the BSA, we pledge our support for this organization and the value that it brings to communities.

GET INVOLVED.

BSAParents.com

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of BSA Parents is to recruit, inform and amplify voices of those who believe:

- That the Boy Scouts of America is a vital organization that plays an indispensable role in the formation of character and values in America's youth.
- That the Boy Scouts of America is invaluable to our communities.
- That the Boy Scouts of America is a welcoming and inclusive organization that should live on and thrive for generations to come.
- That the Boy Scouts of America has a social and moral responsibility to continue to protect youth and it needs to continue to live out this duty every day.

Joining a new Scout unit can be a little overwhelming at first. You're presented with a calendar full of fun upcoming activities, but all the new people, places and things can seem like a lot to digest.

Fortunately there's help. It comes in the form of a volunteer whose job is all about making new members feel right at home.

It's called the **New Member Coordinator**, and it's a position invented by volunteers in 2017 to help welcome new Scouting families to our life-changing, adventure-packed program.

In the Scouting spirit of friendliness and helpfulness, we kindly recommend that every Scout unit identify one or more volunteers to serve in this vital role.



At what levels can New Member Coordinators serve?

There are New Member Coordinators at the unit level and — new in 2019 and beyond — at the district and council level, too.

What does a unit-level New Member Coordinator do?

The unit-level New Member Coordinator forms a connection with new members and their families. They are appointed by and report to the Unit Committee Chair.

Each unit should have one — or, ideally, more than one — New Member Coordinator.

In general, all unit-level New Member Coordinators:

- Serve as welcoming ambassadors for the unit.
- Work with the unit committee in developing and implementing the Unit Membership Plan.
- Participate in New Member Coordinator training and collaborate with the district membership team.

“New Member Coordinators can be a game-changer for membership retention as well as recruitment,” says Linda Baker, chairwoman of the New Member Coordinator Task Force. “Having one or more NMCs in a unit can make everything easier and more fun.”

What does a New Member Coordinator wear?

In most cases, New Member Coordinators *do not* wear the Scout field uniform (unofficially known as the “Class A”). In an effort to make new Scouting families feel as comfortable as possible, New Member Coordinators dress like new members — not like longtime Scouting veterans. It makes sense.

But that doesn't mean the New Member Coordinator should attend meetings incognito.

The Scout Shop offers **an array of New Member Coordinator gear**, including neckerchiefs, pins, hats, polos and T-shirts.

How can someone register as a New Member Coordinator?

The easiest time to register someone as a New Member Coordinator is when your pack, troop or crew recharter.

The New Member Coordinator, which uses the registration code “NM,” is a member of the unit committee.

This role replaced the roles of Unit Membership Chair and Parent Coordinator, which are no longer available.

What about the district-level New Member Coordinator?

In 2019, the BSA added a district-level New Member Coordinator.

This volunteer, appointed by the District Membership Chair, serves on the District Membership Committee.

Responsibilities include:

- Serving as advocates, promoters, ambassadors, mentors, supporters, colleagues, champions and cheerleaders for unit-level New Member Coordinators.
- Sharing the New Member Coordinator concept, ensuring widespread awareness of the benefits of
- units' having one or more New Member Coordinators.
- Shaping the role of New Member Coordinators in the district so that the district and units benefit from
- NMC engagement and so that New Member Coordinators are welcomed, trained and supported.

Interested in stepping up and serving in this role? Contact your District Membership Chair or District Executive.

What about the council-level New Member Coordinator?

This position was added in 2019, as well.

The council-level New Member Coordinator is appointed by and reports to the Council Membership Vice President. They receive additional guidance and support from the Council Executive staff.

Responsibilities include:

- Serving as advocates, promoters, ambassadors, mentors, supporters, colleagues, champions and cheerleaders for district- and unit-level New Member Coordinators.
- Leading the council's team effort to strengthen membership in the council through collaboration with New Member Coordinators at all levels.
- Sharing the New Member Coordinator concept, ensuring council-wide awareness of the benefits of units' having one or more New Member Coordinators
- Shaping the role of New Member Coordinators in the council so that the district and units benefit from NMC engagement and so that New Member Coordinators are welcomed, trained and supported.

Think you have what it takes for this role? Contact your Council Membership Vice President or council office for more information.



Have you come to a Round Table? Why NOT? Roundtable is more than just another Scout meeting. Its your chance to hear from subject matter experts in things like backpacking, winter camping, summer camps and much more. It's also a chance for you to talk with your fellow leaders and learn what they are doing and trying that could help you.

Everyone is welcome
Parent, Leaders and even SCOUTS

*See you November 12th at 6:30 pm
Brainerd Salvation Army Chapel*

**The November Roundtable is going to be very important.
We will be passing out the Recharter paperwork.**

**We must have someone from each unit to attend this meeting.
Please add it to your schedule right now, PLEASE!**



Wood Badge 2020

Wood Badge buffet (for all Wood Badgers and potential Wood Badgers)
January 25, 2020

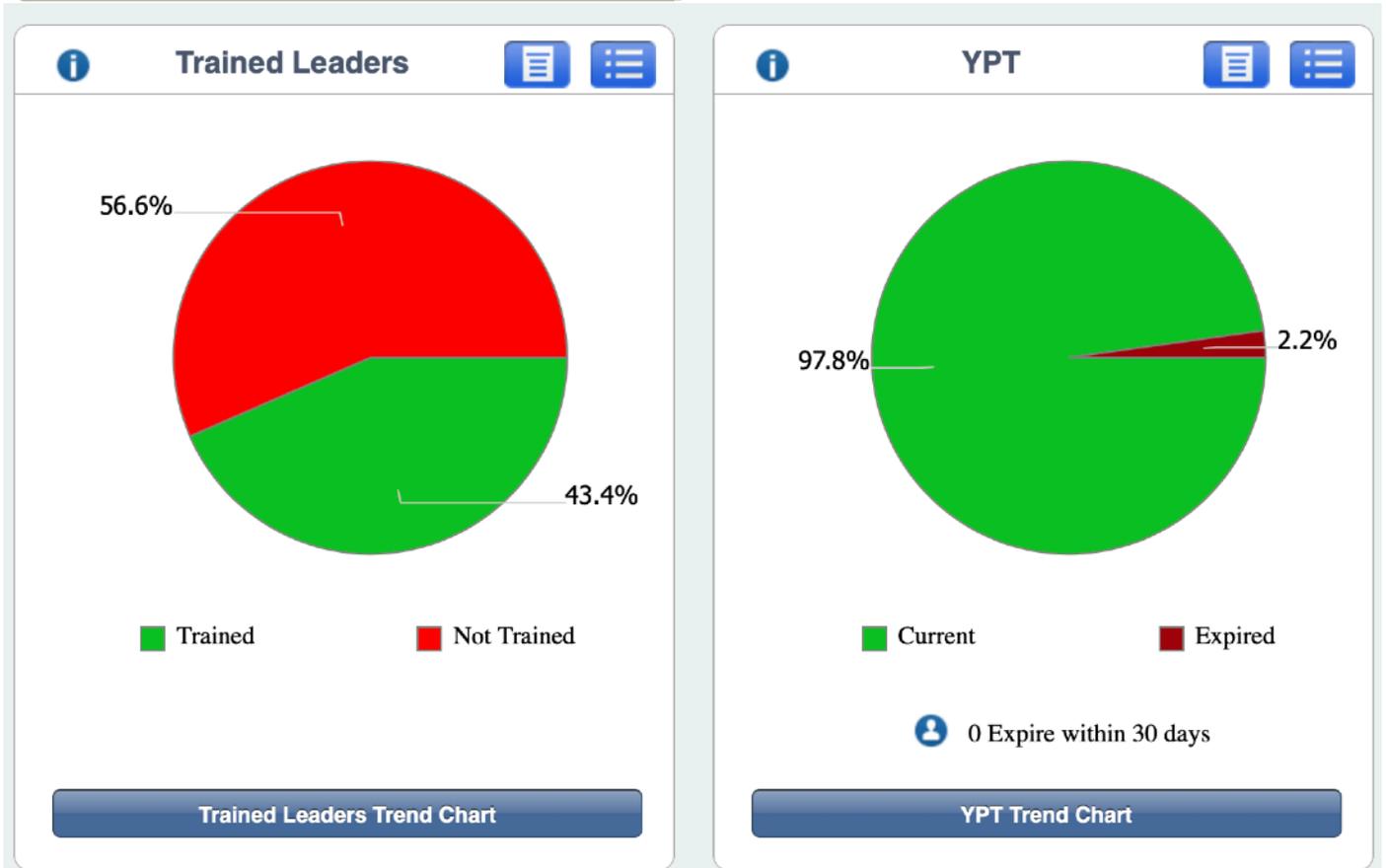
Orientation: Wed., September 9, 2020

First Weekend: September 24 -27, 2020

Second Weekend: October 16 -18, 2020



Training Update



Dashboard updated 11/10/2019 2:17 AM CST. Next update 11/11/2019 2:17 AM CST.

It is our goal to get at least half of our leaders trained in their positions. As you can see we have just over 40% of our leaders trained. This means we have leaders who are doing a job that they may not know all of the ins and outs of, they may not know all of the resources that are available to them and they may not be giving their Scouts the best program they are capable of delivering. We want every leader to know they can do a great job and make it easier for them.

Up-Coming Training Events

None are currently scheduled but we are taking requests from unit to do unit trainings

Training is also available on the my.scouting.org website. You can log into the site and watch the videos. Do not let the number of videos intimidate you because many of them are very short but still very informative. Training helps you and will make your program better!



Friends of Scouting is your chance to support the bigger mission of the Scouting Movement in your Council. We need your support to ensure we can provide the best program to all young people who want to be Scouts. One way you can support the mission is to buy a brick in the Parker Plaza.

Parker Fund Pledge Form

I have enclosed a donation for an engraved brick to build "The Parker Fund".

- 15" x 10" Brick..... \$1,000
 10" x 10" Brick..... \$500
 10" x 5" Brick..... \$250
 Other \$ _____

Name _____ Business _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Brick Text Engraving _____

3 Lines Maximum: 23 characters per line for 15" x 10"; 13 characters per line for 10"x10" and 10"x5"

Please make checks payable to: Central Minnesota Council, BSA. By August 15, 2018



The Parker Fund has been established as an investment in Parker Scout Camp to ensure the property remains a healthy and valuable asset for youth and families for years to come.

The goal of the fund is to raise \$1.3 million for projects at camp and start an endowment fund that will provide for the maintenance and upkeep of Parker Scout Camp and to continue to develop fun and innovative programming for youth. We are nearly half way to that goal and we need your help!

Please consider a gift at the \$1000, \$500 or \$250 level. Your gift will be permanently recognized with an engraved brick in our new flag plaza at camp.



From the Chief: Scouting amid the holiday hustle

We are entering the “most wonderful time of the year,” starting with a feast focused on gratitude and ending with a countdown to the new calendar. In between is a time that hopefully is joyful, reflective, and full of fun, love and memories. But it’s also incredibly busy. The holiday season is one of many times each year when hundreds of thousands of people across the country sacrifice and juggle to find time in their hectic schedules to make Scouting programs happen.

I am grateful to each and every one of you leaders, volunteers and parents for giving your time, energy and heart to helping young people have once-in-a-lifetime opportunities. Without you, Scouting wouldn’t exist.

You mentor and shape the leaders of the future through a thousand small, sometimes thankless tasks: coordinating meeting locations, setting up chairs, shopping for supplies, driving vans, camping in the cold, and finding the balance between stepping in to help and stepping back to let young people learn on their own.

It’s a tough gig, but it makes an incredible difference in the lives of young people. Through your efforts, the next generation builds character, learns to lead and develops skills they will use for a lifetime. Thank you.

I hope that your experience and Scouting has added family adventures and lifelong friendships to your life.

Know that the tremendous effort you give to shape our world into a better place to live is appreciated. This is a wonderful community to be a part of, and you’ve given me so much to be thankful for.

May you all have a wonderful holiday season.

Yours in Scouting,

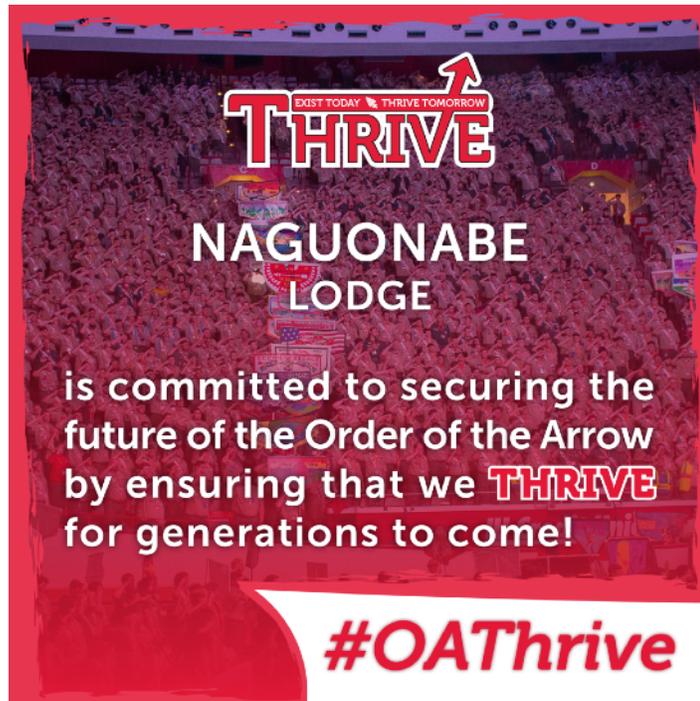
Michael Surbaugh

Chief Scout Executive



Lodge Leadership Development took place earlier this month and we had several Scouts and leaders in attendance from Pine Tree District.

In the coming year Blake Collins will be holding the position of Lodge Secretary and he will be working with other members of the lodge to facilitate elections throughout the district. You can contact Blake through his father DJ Collins or Zach Vogt, Lodge Adviser (zachvogt15@gmail.com) or Loren to schedule an election for your troop. Additionally, the lodge leadership is looking to make a presentation to every troop to present what the lodge is looking to do in the coming year to enhance Scouting and camping for the units. Please when contacted respond and let the youth leadership know when they can meet with your Scouts.



Subject: FW: National Registration Fee Increase

Dear Scouters,

For more than 100 years, Scouting has helped build future leaders by combining educational activities and lifelong values with fun and adventure in the outdoors. At Boy Scouts of America, we are dedicated to developing leaders of character by preparing young men and women for life by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law. The timeless ideals of the Scout Law, such as being trustworthy, helpful, kind and brave, make up the foundation young people need to address and overcome challenges in their lives and the issues facing their generation.

Here in Central Minnesota Council, Scouting serves more than 3,800 youth in 12 counties. Now as we continue the Scouting mission, it is important that we keep pace with an ever-changing world. While costs to the organization have increased every year, the Boy Scouts of America has worked to keep the annual membership fee as low as possible by subsidizing core costs, including liability insurance we must carry to cover all official Scouting activities. Unfortunately, it is no longer possible to subsidize at the level we have in the past, especially as the cost of insurance has increased dramatically. We kept the cost low to make Scouting available to as many young people as possible but keeping the cost artificially low for many years now magnifies the impact of changes.

To ensure we have the resources to fulfill the promise of Scouting despite increasing operating costs, the National Executive Board of the Boy Scouts of America has made the difficult but necessary decision to increase the annual membership fee effective January 1, 2020 to:

- \$60 for youth members in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouts,
- \$36 for youth members in Exploring
- \$36 for adult members
- \$5 additional fee, for all registered members, for local council insurance surcharge

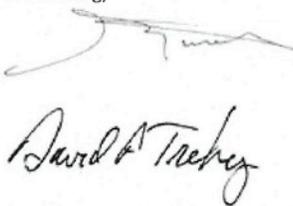
Every dollar of the national membership fee will go toward the cost of essential services, including liability insurance for those participating in approved Scouting activities, program resources, safety standards, youth protection and personal safety training, and services to councils nationwide to sustain Scouting. The National organization will also continue to develop and improve resources that support our volunteers and youth members such as online registration, Member Care and Scoutbook, which now includes the Den Leader experience to ensure the safe and consistent delivery of Cub Scouting; as well as improvements aimed at simplifying the annual renewal process.

Across the country and in our own community, we know that Scouting remains one of the most valuable investments we can make to support young men and women today so they can become the leaders we will turn to tomorrow. From once-in-a-lifetime adventures to merit badges that spark interests and future careers; from campouts under the stars to service projects that leave a lasting impact on our communities; Scouting's year-round program expands horizons and provides young people with a safe and welcoming place to learn, grow, and thrive.

That is why we are committed to ensuring that all youth can experience the character-building benefits of Scouting regardless of their financial situation. In addition to our existing council and unit membership assistance, we have established a national *Growing Future Leaders Fund*, which is funded entirely through donations, to provide additional financial support to those who need it.

Thank you for your continued role in empowering a generation of future leaders of character through Scouting programs.

In Scouting,



Philmont Training Center – 2020

From the desk of Loren Meinke

Join other volunteers in the Pine Tree District to venture to the Philmont Training Center in the summer of 2020.

Philmont Scout Ranch is the Boy Scouts of America's largest National High Adventure Base and training center. It's located at the edge of the rugged mountain wilderness in the Sangre de Cristo (the blood of Christ) range of the Rocky Mountains in northeastern New Mexico. Philmont has a unique history of ancient Native Americans who chipped petroglyphs into canyon walls, Spanish conquistadors, who explored the Southwest long before the first colonists arrived on the Atlantic coast, the rugged breed of mountain man such as Kit Carson, who blazed trails across the land, the great land barons like Lucien Maxwell who built ranches along the Santa Fe Trail and miners, loggers and cowboys. All left their mark on Philmont. The famous Tooth of Time served as a landmark for pioneers on the Santa Fe Trail to turn south to Santa Fe. Ruts are still on Philmont property.

The Philmont Training Center (PTC) is the national volunteer training center for the Boy Scouts of America. Since 1950, the PTC has provided a unique environment for training volunteers, creating leaders, and hosting family friendly experiences and adventures. Each year, more than 6,000 Scouters and their families attend the PTC.



Every conference at the PTC features tools, techniques, audiovisuals, discussions, idea sharing, and activities led by a faculty of experienced Scouters. All registered Scouters are invited to attend training center courses; council approval is not required. JOIN US!

Make it a family vacation – while you are in one of the most exhilarating training programs that you will ever attend your family can enjoy: **Small Fry - Children 2 months - 4 years old**; Philmont Staff provides age appropriate activities, games, pony rides, and supervised play throughout the conference week. **Bandits - Children 5 - 6 years old**; Bandits follow the Lion Scout activities and participate in nature hikes, pony rides, games, songs and skits, crafts, Villa and Museum tours, and two half-day hikes. **Ropers - Youth 7 years old**; Ropers follow the Tiger Scout program activities including hiking, Villa and Museum tours, archery and slingshots, pony rides, games, crafts, and an all-day hike. Based on group size, Ropers may be combined with Bandits or Deputies. **Deputies - Youth 8 - 9 years old**; Deputies

program follows the Wolf and Bear Scout activities including hiking, Villa and Museum tours, archery and BB guns, pony rides, games, crafts, and an all-day hike. **Sidewinders - Youth 10 years old;** Sidewinders follow the Webelos Scout program which enjoys hiking, sports, rock climbing, crafts, archery and BB guns, Villa and Museum tours, and a Sidewinder/Parent overnight camping trip. **Mustangs - Youth 11 - 13 years old;** Mustangs follow the Scouts, BSA program and have fun enjoying horse rides, archery and air rifles, handcraft projects, nature activities, outdoor cooking, games, Villa and Museum tours, and an overnight camping trip to Philmont's backcountry. **Broncos - Young Adults 14 - 20 years old;** Broncos follow the Venturing Scout program and enjoy a week of activities as a group including hiking, horse rides, Villa and Museum tours, local sight-seeing, COPE, shooting sports, and more. Participants will stay at the PTC with their families.

Mountain Trek - Young Adults 14 - 20 years old; Mountain Trek expeditions provide the opportunity to experience the rugged challenges of Philmont's mountains. Crews hike 20 to 30 miles into the backcountry, where participants stay at several camps that offer a variety of exciting programs while also having time to relax and enjoy the natural beauty of Philmont. **Silverados - Non-Conference Adults 21+ years old;** The Silverados program is for adult family members to experience a wide variety of adventure at the PTC. A wide range of activities are planned that may include Villa and Museum tours, local history, Indian arts programs, pottery-making demonstrations, guided nature walks, COPE, fishing, and trips to nearby towns such as Red River or Angel Fire. Silverados carpool to any hike or activity away from PTC.

But - - you will still enjoy your meals with your family unless they are on a field trip. And - - part or most of Wednesday is yours to tour the area such as Taos where the only Navajo village still functions in the old way.

Several people are committed to the Relationship's Week (2020 schedule will be released this summer) conferences but if something else catches your fancy then do that.

More information to follow as the year progresses or just log onto Philmont Scout Ranch and seek all that they offer.



Yowl-Prowl-Howl 2019

When: Saturday, December 7th

Time:

Lion and Tiger Scouts - 8:30am-1pm

Wolf Scouts - 11:30pm - 4:00pm

See Details Below and Register accordingly!

Where: Foley High School. 621 Penn St, Foley, MN

Cost: \$25 until November 30th. \$30 after December 1st and at the door. Parents and Staff are Free!

What is it: BB Guns, Swimming, Adventure Loop Stations, and Guest Speakers! Each scout will get a snack, earn an adventure loop, and a Patch!



Program Sessions:

Lions and Tiger Scouts: 8:30am – 1pm (K-1)

"Gizmos and Gadgets" Lions Adventure Loop

"Tiger Tag" Tiger Adventure Loop

8:30-9am – Registration

9am-Noon – Stations

Noon-1pm: Entertainment

Wolf Howl - 11:30am - 4:00pm Wolves (2nd Grade)

"Hometown Heros" Adventure Loop

"Spirit of the Water" Adventure Loop

11:30am - Noon - Registration

Noon - 1:00pm - **Entertainment**

1:00pm - 4:00pm - Stations



SCOUTBOOK TRAINING

When: Wednesday, November 20th from 6:00pm - 8:30pm

Where:

Central Minnesota Council Office

Who: Committee Chairs, Cub Masters, Den Leaders, Advancement Chairs, Committee Members, Scoutmasters and all other unit leaders that want to learn more about Scoutbook.

This training will focus on how unit leaders can utilize Scoutbook. This will not be geared towards parents.

Bring laptop, tablet or smart phone to help you with this hands on training.

***Please know your My.Scouting.org, username and password, and try and login to Scoutbook.com (use Chrome or Firefox for your browser) prior to the training.

Due to the amount of information we need to get out to the leaders we will be unable to assist with log-in issues the night of training.

<https://scoutingevent.com/296-Scoutbook>

Greetings Fellow Scouters,

We have once again come to that point in the year where it is time to recharter our units. This process can be as quick and painless as any or it can be a huge headache for a leader who is tasked with its completion. Code will be passed out at Roundtable, therefore, we need a representative from every unit to come to Roundtable this month to receive their code and paperwork. To make this process smoother and more manageable for the unit please let the unit know of your intention to stay on with the unit and pay your annual dues promptly. Additionally, this paperwork requires the signature of the Charter Organization, therefore, if you are a COR please work with your unit to get them what they need. It is the the goal of the District to have EVERY SINGLE RECHARTER COMPLETED AND TURNED INTO COUNCIL BEFORE DECEMBER 15TH WITH ZERO ERRORS AND OMISSIONS.

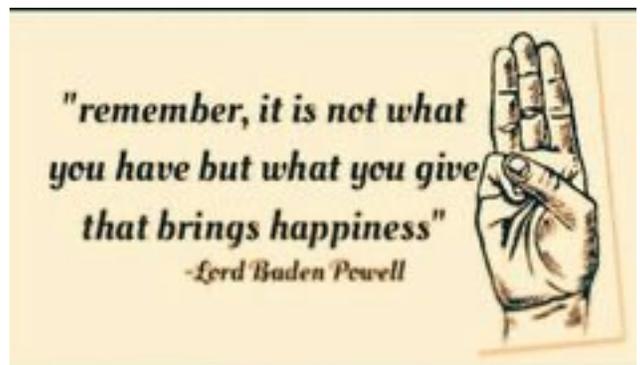
Popcorn pick up and distribution is just around the corner. I look forward to seeing the unit kernels at Bernick's for the District popcorn distribution. It was a good sale for our district and I thank each of you who made it possible. A Scout is Thrifty and this sale helps keep Scouting possible. If you need any additional items please contact the Council Office and don't forget there is still a chance to make some online sales.

Currently we are pretty far off the mark from our membership goal. This is not a failure by any means but a missed opportunity to have an impact on the lives of so many more young people and to improve the fun of our units. It is show in several research studies that more Scouts in a unit increases the fun felt and experienced by the Scouts. The best way to grow our membership is peer-to-peer recruiting. Also, for moms to talk to other moms. I challenge every Scout leader and parent in our program to share it on social media, to share a Scout story with a friend and to invite someone to come to your next Scout meeting. Together we can double our numbers and make this programs grow and change lives.

Thank you to everyone who helped make the 2019 Haunted Cub Prowl possible and to everyone who attended I hope you had as much fun attending as we did putting it on for you. This years attendance was the best we have ever had. Next year we hope to continue the numbers and will be adding events to help make it even better.

Winter is coming. That means it's time to camp. Winter camp that is. Nanqu is a weekend of fun winter activities and a great opportunity for Cubs to experience Parker Scout Camp, so let's hope for snow so we can strap on those skis and snowshoes and hit the miles of Parker Trails. Don't forget Scouts BSA members we have a great set of programs for you as well. Alpha Lupus and KOTA make for a weekend of learning how to winter camp and getting out there and doing it. We've also restocked our supply of ZERO HERO patches and look forward to passing those out. We don't hibernate, we dominate the winter.

In Service,
Kenneth Toole
Pine Tree Senior District Executive



			December			
1	2	3 Dis. Comm	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Roundtable	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24		26	27	28
29	30	31 				
			November			
					1 LLD <i>Recharter Opens</i>	2 LLD
3	4	5 Dis. Comm	6	7	8	9
10	11 	12 Roundtable	13	14 	15	16
17	18	19	20 Scoutbook	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 	29	30

For more information on events in Pine Tree District or Central Minnesota Council visit
<http://www.bsacmc.org/#!event-calendar/c1xcb>

Your input on the District Newsletter is always welcome please contact Ken with your input
kenneth.toole@scouting.org

