



SIGNALS

Chief Okemos Council, BSA

April 2003

Volume 9, Issue 4

Mission Statement

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical choices over their lifetime by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

Time Givers Check

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Jackson National Life Representative John Day (who is also the Cubmaster of Pack 227) gives a “Time Givers” check to Scout Executive Pete Shannon and Senior District Executive Clarence Smith for volunteer work done by employees.

Donations from Your Employer on Your Behalf

A number of the larger employers in our area make contributions to the organizations in which their employees volunteer. These employers include General Motors, Consumers Power, and Jackson National Life Insurance.

The employee usually picks up the form from Human Resources or a company web-site. The employee fills out the form and verifies their volunteer hours. The council service center then verifies that the volunteer is a BSA volunteer and the IRS 501c3 status of the council is provided.. If your company is among those which give these kinds of donations, please take the steps for the Council to receive the donation. It is a painless way for you to help the Chief Okemos Council deliver a quality program to your youth.

Council Calendar

- 1 Advancement Committee
Commissioner Cabinet
- 4 Pre-Camp - at Northwoods
- 5 Store Open 10-12
- 6 Day Camp Committee
- 7-8 Planning Committee
- 9 Outdoor Skills Training
- 12 Scouting for Food
- 14 Full Staff Meeting
Last Day Free Popcorn Returns
Backdating Meeting
- 15 Training Committee
Properties Committee
- 16 Outdoor Skills Training
District Operations
Finance Committee
- 17 Whitney Young
- 18 Good Friday - Service Center
and Store Closed
- 20 Easter Sunday
- 22 Executive Board Meeting
- 25-27 Outdoor Skills
- 26-27 Webelos Outdoor Training
- 25 Final Popcorn Distribution
- 28 Field Staff Meeting
Camping Committee
- 29 Commissioner Cabinet

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FOR THE CHIEF OKEMOS COUNCIL ANNUAL GOLF OUTING.

Every year community and business leaders, scouters, and people dedicated to helping youth assemble to participate in the annual fundraising golf outing. Everyone is welcome. The date is Wednesday, August 13, 2003. The course location is being confirmed. Contact Duane Bartrem 627-9072, Don Walker 321-7278 ex107 or John Hogg ex104, if you would like to sign-up or have questions.

Distinguished Citizen Event

Mark your calendar for this May 15 Luncheon at the Kellogg Center. This year we are honoring Don Hines and James Butler. Tickets are just \$65.00.

SCOUT SHOP HOURS

Winter: Until June 1, 2003

M, W, T, F 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tuesday 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Open Saturday, April 5 and May 3

10 a.m. to Noon

Closed Good Friday, April 18, 2003

Closed Memorial Day, May 26, 2003

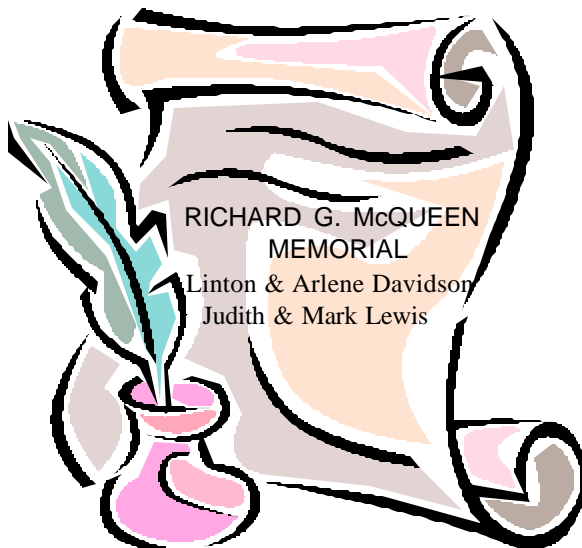
Summer:

June 1, 2003 through September 30, 2003

There will be no Saturday hours until October 4, 2003.

Monday through Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Fridays 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.



Assistant Scout Executives Minute



By

John S. Hogg

(This takes about one minute to read)

Leader's You Can Trust

Without caring and dedicated adult leaders the Scouting program cannot deliver the mission of Scouting. *"It is the mission of the Boy Scouts of America to serve others by helping to instill values in young people and, in other ways, prepare them to make ethical choices over their lifetime in achieving their full potential. The values we strive to instill are based on those found in the Scout Oath and Law"*

A recent survey conducted by the Chief Okemos Council was randomly sent to 200 families involved in Scouting. 20% of the families responded to the surveys. The survey was an attempt to evaluate the impact of Scouting on these families. Numerous areas of Scouting were evaluated. It is not the scope of this short article to give you the summary of the entire survey. One area of the survey covered the adult leadership of the Scouting program.

The results concerning adult leaders are as follows: 100% of the Cub Scout parents strongly agree or agree their son's Scout leaders are people they trust; 100% of the Cub Scouts surveyed said their Scout leaders are people they admire and look up to; 95% of the Boy Scout parents strongly agree or agree their son's Scout leaders are people they trust; 90% of the Boy Scouts strongly agree or agree their Scoutmaster is someone they trust.

Wow! Thank you to all the adult leaders who are the positive role models our sons and daughters need to have. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication you give to Scouting week after week after week. Thank you for caring. Thank you for being who you are. Thank you for your time. Scouts and parents truly admire and trust you. Thank you for earning that TRUST.

75-year Scout Letts Dies at 91

(excerpt from the State Journal)

C. Paul Letts of Eaton Rapids had one big love in life - kids.

He was part of the Boy Scouts for more than 75 years starting out as a Scout when he was 15 and becoming Eaton Rapids' first Eagle Scout in 1929. He also was a scoutmaster for years to follow

"If I didn't have the kids, I don't know what I'd do," he told the Lansing State Journal in 1986.

The former Eaton Rapids teacher, principal and Scout leader died Saturday March 8, 2003 at 91.

Letts had a strong impact on every Boy Scout who crossed his path, Scouts say.

"The kids loved him. He had so many stories of when he was a kid," said Charlie Hurd of Eaton Rapids, adding that Letts took pride in teaching leadership training, good citizenship, duties to the country and morals.

"He had a great memory," the Boy Scouts

representative said.

Randall Jecks II of Eaton Rapids recalled Letts attending summer camps up until last summer.

"When he started talking, everybody would just quiet and listen to him," said Jecks, 21. He was like the epitome of scouting. He lived by the oath and law.

Letts would bring his faded green tent from 1933 to camp, Jecks said.

In 1986, part of a campground in Wallaceburg, Ontario, was named after Letts in recognition of his service to the Scouts.

Letts retired from the former King Street Elementary in 1975, but continued to volunteering to help students.

"He just enjoyed teaching and being with kids," said Letts' daughter Georgia Moore of Eaton Rapids.

Memorial Gifts should be directed to the Chief Okemos Council in memory of C. Paul Letts.



Order of the Arrow

Gabe-shi-win-gi-ji-kens #374

Lodge Calendar

Apr. 6 – Lodge Executive Committee – Council Service Center – 2:00
Apr. 25-27 – OA Chapel Project at Northwoods
May 4 – Lodge Executive Committee – Council Service Center – 2:00
May 10 – OA Central Region One Day of Service
May 16-18 – OA Call-outs at Spring Camporees
June 6-8 – Spring Ordeal at Northwoods
June-July – Call-outs and Brotherhood Conversions at Northwoods

Winter Banquet

On February 22nd the Lodge held its annual Winter Banquet. There were 94 people in attendance. Distinguished guests included Jim Kinney, Section Adviser; Jamie Callahan, Associate Section Adviser; Erik Stein, Section Chief; and John Hogg, Assistant Scout Executive. The evening included a delicious meal that was prepared by Donna Haynie. Congratulations to all who received awards. The 2003 Vigil Call-Out and the presentation of the Founder's Awards highlighted the evening. The Vigil Candidates for 2003 are: **Alex Cox-Troop 63**; **David Graff-Troop 63**; **Ben Pulver-Troop 141**; **Brad Pulver-Troop 141**; **Chris Proper-Troop 121**; and **Erik Schultink-Troop 63**. The Founder's Award Recipients are **Spencer Long** and **Sam Newberry**. Congratulations to these gentlemen on receiving these prestigious Awards. Special thanks to Cindy Todd for providing the dessert.

Unit Elections

Unit Elections for the year 2003 are well underway. Now is the time for your unit to sign-up to have an election, if you haven't already done so. Unit Election request forms can be picked up at the Scout office. Remember the Lodge asks for six weeks advance notice so that they can plan accordingly. If you have questions please call a member of the Lodge Key – 3.

Lodge Key – 3

Lodge Chief–Spencer Long 272-1886
Lodge Lay Adviser-Rick Todd 543-3301
Lodge Staff Adviser-Jason Kerschke 321-7278 ext. 106

OA Chapel Project

The OA Chapel Project is almost ready to begin. The Lodge still needs to raise additional funds, but we have enough to begin work on it. We will begin to work on the project at the end of this month, so plan on joining us at Northwoods to help with the construction. If you would like to make a financial contribution, you may do so by writing a check payable to Chief Okemos Council. You may send it to Jason Kerschke at 4000 W. Michigan Ave. Lansing, MI 48917.



OA Conversion

Have You Seen the Arrow? Hey all you Ordeal Members out there. Do you know that this year you will be able to complete your Brotherhood in the OA? Some of you may have already done so at the March Brotherhood Day. Others of you will have the chance at the Spring Ordeal, during Summer Camp, or at the Fall Ordeal. Now is a great time to start studying the information as shown in your OA handbook. If you have questions regarding the conversion requirements, ask any Brotherhood member or call a member of the Lodge Key – 3. Remember that the requirements for Brotherhood conversion are not to test you, but rather to help you learn about the Order. Keep in mind, if you are willing to learn we can guarantee your success in meeting the requirements for conversion.



Mawanjidiwin District

District Calendar

Apr 6 - Commissioners' Meeting, Great Lakes Christian College 6:00 p.m.
 Apr 6 - District Committee Meeting - Great Lakes Christian College - 7:00 p.m.
 Apr. 13 - Roundtable - Lawrence Ave. United Methodist Church-Charlotte-7:00 PM
 May 1 - Commissioner's Meeting - Great Lakes Christian College-6:00 PM
 May 1 - District Committee Meeting - Great Lakes Christian College-7:00 PM
 May 8 - Roundtable - Lawrence Ave. United Methodist Church-Charlotte-7:00 PM
 May 16-18 - Mawanjidiwin Spring Camporee - Charlotte

FOS

The District is off to a great start with this year's Friends of Scouting Campaign. So far we have raised over \$12,000 for Scouting!!! Most packs and troops have already had their presentations with a lot of success. Congratulations to Packs 45, 46, 140, 240, 252, 255, 260, 600, 601, 650, and 653 for raising a combined \$7,965 for Scouting. Congratulations also to Troops 43, 45, 46, 52, 645, and 705 for adding another \$4,225. If your unit hasn't scheduled its presentation yet, contact Jason at 321-7278 ext.106.

Summer Camp

Now is a great time to start thinking about the summer camping activities for your Unit. Last year we had great attendance at Northwoods and the various Day Camp Sessions. By now you should have the necessary materials to promote camp within your unit. This year we are asking all packs to register as a Pack for Day Camp and Resident Camp. Troops should also register for Northwoods if you haven't already done so

Popcorn



Spring Popcorn is underway and I know that everyone is working hard with this fundraiser. Keep up the good work and help your unit raise money for this summer's camping opportunities. If your unit has not yet sold this Spring, but would still like to, just call Bernadine Henley at 694-5275 or Jason at 321-7278 ext. 106.

District Committee

District Chair- Vacant
 District Commissioner-Bill Hull 627-2439
 Vice Chair of Program - Chuck Rabey 543-3295
 District Executive-Jason Kerschke 321-7278 ext. 106
 Activities Chair - Tom Baker 663-4315
 Membership Chair - Vacant
 Finance Chair-Vacant
 Training Chair-Kurt Johnson 541-1124
 Advancement Chair-Jim Welling 543-6031
 Outdoor & Camp Promo Chair Joe Wright 647-7123
 Boy Scout Roundtable Commissioner-Tom Watson 543-2995
 Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioner-Carolyn Newcomb 647-2323
 Popcorn Chair-Bernadine Henley 694-5275

Round-UP

Attention All Cub Scout Packs! Now is a great time to schedule Spring round-ups and boy talks for some new boys to join your pack. Most of you have already held (or will soon) your Blue & Gold Banquet and your 2nd year Webelos have crossed-over to Boy Scouts. With the summer activities just around the corner, now is the perfect time to use those activities to help you recruit new boys. Kindergartners are eligible to become Tiger Cubs on June 1st and would be excellent candidates for day camp this summer. Fliers and other materials are still available through the Scout office. Just give Jason a call at 321-7278 ext. 106.

Recognition Dinner

The District Recognition Dinner was held on February 27th. Many gathered to honor our best volunteers. Thanks to Troop 52 for preparing a delicious meal and especially for your 75 years of Scouting. The evening program included the presentation of numerous training awards at both the Cub Scout and Boy Scout levels. Congratulations goes to Phil Rolfe, Cub Scouter of the Year; Shannon Rogers-Troop 46, Boy Scouter of the Year; and Joel and Vicki Dulebohn-Troop 111, Scouting Family of the Year. The District Award of Merit went to **Steve Peters** and **Ed Stank**. Special Thanks to the selection committees and to Bill Hull and Bill Bogle for preparing the programs.



Migisins District

DISTRICT CALENDAR

April	District Committee Meeting
3	7:00 p.m. at Memorial Building, Dewitt
10	District Roundtable
	7:00 p.m. at Memorial Building, Dewitt
May	District Committee Meeting
1	7:00 p.m. at Memorial Building, Dewitt
8	District Roundtable
	7:00 p.m. at Memorial Building, Dewitt

DISTRICT COMMITTEE

District Chairperson	Jim Gunther	224-6137
District Activities	Nancy Roney	669-6191
District Advancement	Jim Winslow	647-6134
District Camping	Dave Mongson	374-6599
	Steve Bassette	224-7939
District Finance	Vacant	
District Membership	Vacant	
District Training	Larry Proctor	224-8422
District Commissioner	Jeff Carter	484-8725
District Executive	Don Walker	321-9400, ext. 107

DISTRICT AWARDS RECIPIENTS

The following volunteers were recognized for their outstanding efforts on behalf of Scouting at the Volunteer Recognition Dinner on March 13: Doug Cook, Committee Member from Troop 520 in St. Johns received the District Award of Merit; Jill & Troy Bancroft, also Committee Members from Troop 520 received the Scouting Family of the Year award; and Tim Perrone, Scoutmaster for Troop 8 in Lansing, received the Boy Scouter of the Year Award. Russ Gifford, Cubmaster for Pack 515 in St. Johns and Ken Marrison, Webelos Den Leader for Pack 386 in Waverly, were recipients of the Cub Scouter of the Year award. For perhaps the first time in Migisins history, we also honored the spouses of unit leaders with a Scouters' Husband or Scouters' Wife award.

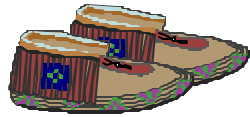
FRIENDS OF SCOUTING

Our 2003 Family Campaign "kicked-off" on January 28 with a presentation by Joe Gross to Troop 299 in Lansing. As of February 28, Pack 121 At St. Gerard Catholic Church in Waverly leads the district with pledges totaling \$1,755.00! Congratulations to the following seven units for earning the "Gold Unit" status (10% increase over last year's pledges) entitling them to a \$75.00 certificate for Council camp facilities: P9; P121; P139; P205; P510; P515; and P516. As of February 28, we were at 43% of our Family Campaign goal of \$14,000.00, with 15 more units to report. If you were not present for your unit's FOS presentation, please contact me (Don Walker) at the Council Service Center for a campaign brochure and pledge card. We want to provide every Scouting family an opportunity to participate in this essential fundraising effort.

SPRING ROUNDUPS

With summer activities such as Cub Scout Day Camp, Cub Scout Resident Camp, and Parent & Son Camp just around the corner, now is the time to recruit new Scouts to your Pack. Kindergartners are eligible to become Tiger Cubs on June 1, which would make them eligible to participate in these highly enjoyable programs. Troop leaders are also encouraged to focus on the recruitment of this year's 5th graders, who are eligible to join Scouting at age 11 or after completing 5th grade. If you need help scheduling "Boy Talks" or "Join Scouting Nights," just give me (Don Walker) a call at extension 107 or contact me at Dwalker@bsamail.org.





Ojibwas District

APRIL

- 3 Commissioner Staff, 6:00 p.m., Foster Building, Lansing
District Committee Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Foster Building, Lansing
- 10 Cub Scout & Boy Scout Leader's Roundtable, 7:00p.m., Chippewa Middle School, Okemos
- 17 Whitney M. Young Event

MAY

- 1 District Annual Meeting, Foster Building, Lansing
- 2 - 4 Eager Beaver Work Weekend at Northwoods Scout Reservation
- 8 Cub Scout & Boy Scout Leader's Roundtable, 7:00p.m., Chippewa Middle School, Okemos
- 10 Ojibwas Cub Scout Day at Camp
- 16 Popcorn Payment Due
- 16 - 18 Spring Camporee, Northwoods Scout Reservation, Lupton
- 23 - 26 Holiday Family Camp at Northwoods Scout Reservation - Memorial Weekend

District Committee

- District Chairman - **Chuck Barbieri** - (H) 332-7963
- District Commissioner - **Noah Belanger** - (H) 655-4450
- District Vice Chair of Program - **Vacant**
- District Director - **Bob Vergamini** (W) 321-9400 ex. 110
- Senior District Executive - **Clarence Smith** (W) 321-9400 ex. 109
- District Vice Chair of Urban Scouting - **Ron Landfair** - (H) 484-6679
- District vice Chair of Venturing - **Mick Potter** - (H) 339-0493
- District Membership Chairman - **Bill Ames** - (H) 393-8622
- District Finance Chairman - **Tom Monkowski** - (H) 676-4554
- District Friends of Scouting Chairman - **Vacant**
- District PR and Marketing Chair - **Jeff Pillon** (H) 882-2030
- District Activities Chairman - **John Parker** (H) 694-0842
- District Advancement Chairman - **Dave Merchant** - (H) 351-0360
- District Camping Chairman - **Tom Pavlik** - (H) 882-2030
- District Cub Scout Activities Chairman - **Kate Caddy** (H) 339-2978

EAGLE SCOUTS FOR 2003

Here are the Eagles Scouts so far this year. High honors and congratulations to:

- Michael Reynolds, Troop 164
- Jonathan Beard, Troop 2
- Kevin Cox, Troop 125
- Benjamin Batdorff, Troop 316



Spring Cub Scout Day at Camp

May 10, 2003
Camp Kiwanis

Interested? It will be a great time! For details, contact Kate Caddy, 339-2978.

April Boy Scout Roundtable Report

Do you know what the 12 steps are for a scout to advance from Life rank to Eagle rank? Do you know what some of the most common errors found in Eagle applications are? Do you know who can and cannot sit on a rank advancement board of review, or on an Eagle board of review? Do you have a troop program set up for moving new scouts through the ranks? Scouters who attended the February Roundtable know how to answer these questions. If you want to know, but couldn't make that one, just ask someone from troops 63, 64, 97, 109, 125, 164, 316, 417, 711, 779 or 795.

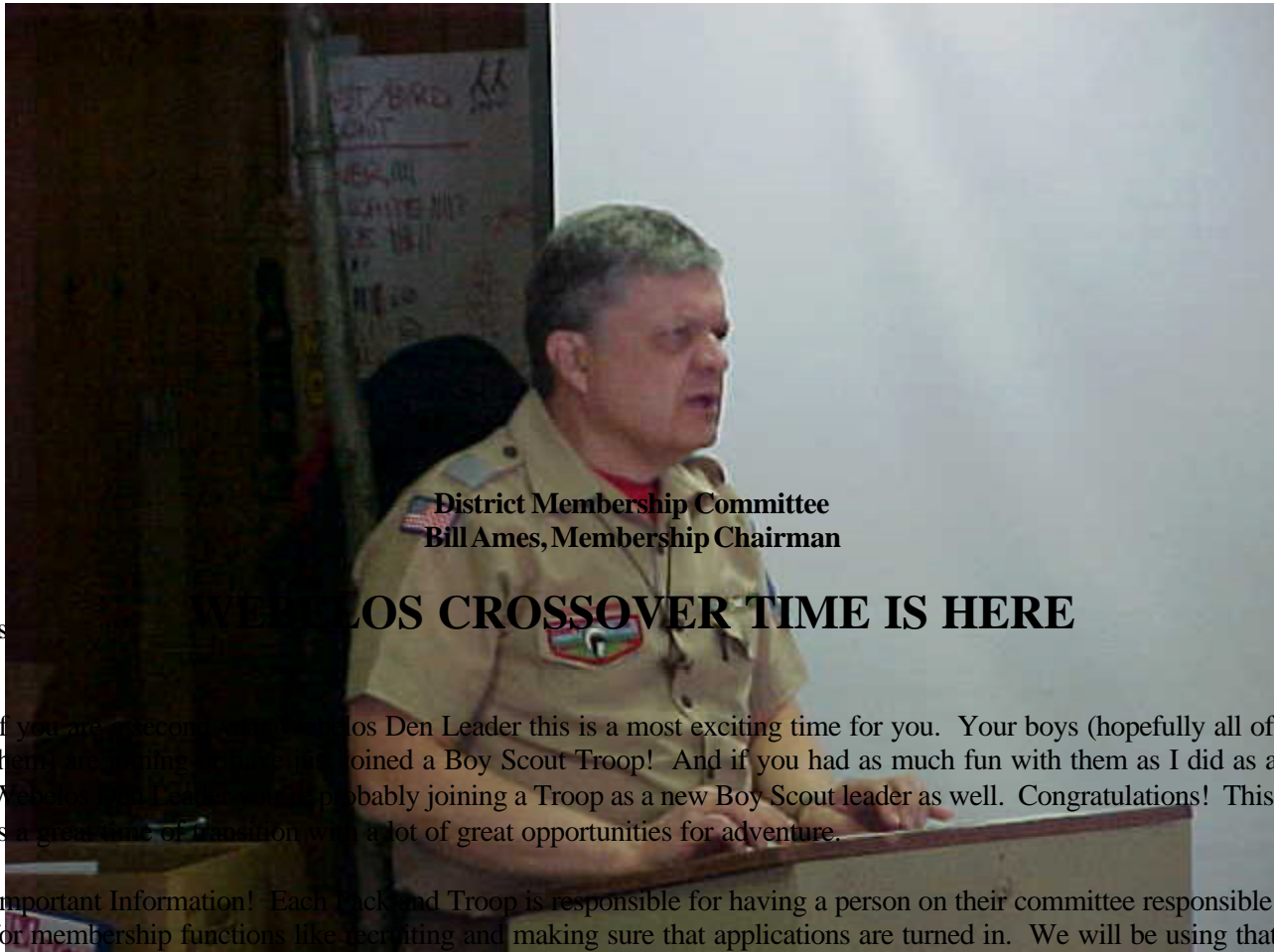
Our next roundtable will be April 10th at Chippewa Middle School at 7:00 PM. April's round table will cover emergency preparedness and first aid. Come see what other troops are doing to teach first aid for rank advancement and for the merit badge and how to host a disaster! Bring your questions, bring your ideas and bring your friends.

It is also time to start thinking about what yummy camping dish you would like to make to show off and share at Camp Kiwanis for the May 8th round table. The May roundtable will be a session on how to lead an interpretive hike as we see the spring wonders of Kiwanis. Everyone will have an opportunity to explain something we see on the hike through the woods. After the hike, everyone can enjoy the great food we all bring.

**District Finance Committee Report
Finance Chairman Tom Monkowski**

Friends of Scouting Campaign 2003

Our Family Friends of Scouting Campaign is 40% done, and we have had great results so far. We have made 17 presentations to date and 12 of the units have qualified



**District Membership Committee
Bill Ames, Membership Chairman**

WEBELOS CROSSOVER TIME IS HERE

If you are a second or third generation Webelos Den Leader this is a most exciting time for you. Your boys (hopefully all of them) are going to have joined a Boy Scout Troop! And if you had as much fun with them as I did as a Webelos leader, you will probably join a Troop as a new Boy Scout leader as well. Congratulations! This is a great time of transition with a lot of great opportunities for adventure.

Important Information! Each Pack and Troop is responsible for having a person on their committee responsible for membership functions like recruiting and making sure that applications are turned in. We will be using that person to bring information to you about Roundups, Webelos transitions, and other programs. We need the name of your membership person! It is important that each unit have someone to receive this information. Please give your unit's name to Bob Vergamini or call me (Bill) at 393-8622.

"Gold" units! Thank you for your assistance in a most important project - Funding the Council!

HONOR UNITS FOR 2003

These Units have earned the \$75.00 gift certificate for carrying out their responsibilities. To date, only Pa... as turned in the paperwork.

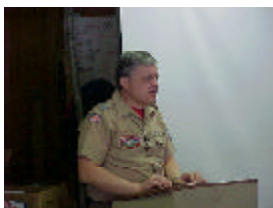
Troops 2, 97, 164 Packs: 101, 141, 165, 224, 262, 265 Crew 97

If you don't see your unit listed here and believe you qualified don't panic! We may not have received your FOS results in time for this publication. For the units who have done their part in making our 2003 campaign a big success to this point **THANK YOU!** As of this report, troop 141 leads the way with \$1820.00 in cash and pledges! Super Job!

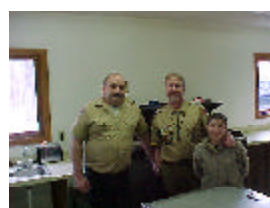
Woodbadge Breakfast

Woodbadge is the BSA's advanced Leadership training course. Graduates are among the finest leaders in the Council, and have proven their dedication by spending the time to become "Woodbadgers". The course includes several days of classes. The attendees then write out several goals they must achieve before their formal graduation. The goals, combined, make up their "ticket", thus we hear them speak of "working my ticket", meaning working on achieving the goals I set while attending Woodbadge class. Graduates may then wear a distinctive neckerchief with a special woggle, and a set of wooden beads on a thong signifying their graduation. If you are interested in becoming one of a special few, contact Bob Vergamini at the Council Service Center.

Each year on the first Saturday of March all Woodbadgers are invited to a fellowship breakfast held at Camp Kiwanis. This year there were 49 attendees. Jim Doyle, the Council Training Chairman, was our Chairman, Noah Belanger, his son Patrick, and Rick Corbett from Troop 63 were the cooks, Bill Hull gave out welcome prizes for everyone, and Bill Bogle provided the entertainment. Presentations were made on Philmont Scout Reservation and Michigan International Camporee.



Our Master of Ceremonies Jim Doyle



Our Cooks, Rick Corbett, Noah Belanger and Patrick Belanger

Northwoods Scout Reservation Nature Center/Ecology Wish List

If you have or are willing to provide anything on this list, please contact Bob Vergamini at the Council Service Center, 321-9400 ext. 110.

- Field Guide for Mammals (that has a list of mammals by Families)
- Aquarium Thermometers, small, floating tube type (for hygrometers for Weather MB, need 2 per hygrometer)
- Quilter's template plastic sheets (larger sheets to make funnels for rain gauges for Weather MB)
- 'Butterfly' nets (inexpensive ones from dollar and discount stores)
- Cloud Identification poster (from teacher supply store or acorn naturalists online – see below)
- Michigan Bird Call Identification CD (from Wild Birds Unlimited or area book/audio stores)
- CD player for group listening (for the frog and bird call CDs)
- 9-Volt Batteries (6)
- Laminating machine for laminating posters, etc. Or access to one...
- From the acornnaturalists.com online catalog:
 - Basic Rock and Mineral Collection #KIT-434
 - Soil Corer #T-4189
 - Guide to Nests, Eggs & Nestlings of North American Birds #BIRD-9099
 - A Key-Guide to Mammal Skulls & Lower Jaws #MAM-578
 - Cloud chart #PO-3135
 - Simple Weather Experiments with Everyday Materials #BIO-906
 - Discover Nature at Sundown #EE-3033
 - Pocket Thermometer #T-4308
 - Lightweight Headlamp #T-8090
 - Scat replicas for mammals found at camp

Youth Protection

Youth protection continues to be one of the most important things in Scouting. It is a prerequisite. Before we can possibly accomplish our major objectives of instilling values and preparing young people for the future, we must consider youth protection.

In the last couple of months over 230 people in the council have completed youth protection training. This training focuses primarily on child abuse. However, the overall youth protection effort in Scouting also includes: substance abuse, first aid treatment, safe driving practices, knowledge of your environment, safe meeting places, and behavior of the individuals who are involved in the Scouting programs.

Very recent developments include that starting on February 1, 2003 a youth protection trained leader is required on all outings. Starting on April 1, 2003 new adults will be required to complete the new adult application form number 28-501V. Old applications should be discarded, as they will no longer be accepted. On the front of the new application you will see the wording “By submitting this application you are authorizing a criminal background check of yourself.... This check will be made from public record sources. You will have an opportunity to review and challenge any adverse information disclosed by the check.”

On the application itself, you will find that a social security number is required. The social security number will only be on the council copy of the application and is blacked out on the other copies. The position of the National BSA is that the social security number information is required in order to be registered as a leader in the Boy Scouts of America. This is a national BSA requirement, which means that the Chief Okemos Council – BSA must comply with the rule.

The youth protection training for adults is becoming available on the web. We will have a link to the training attached to the Council website in the very near future.

The program specific training for the different ages of Scouting related to abuse continues to be available. Copies of the videos are available to show your Cubs, Scouts, and Venture members.

What does this mean to you?

1. Be sure to have enough people in your unit trained in youth protection so that you can go on outings. Be sure to use tour permit forms, which have been updated to include youth protection training information.
2. Destroy old copies of the adult application. Have someone review adult applications to be sure that they are filled out properly.
3. Explain to prospective leaders the purpose of the social security number is to do a background check. This helps ensure the safest possible Scouting program.
4. Schedule the youth protection training and “Drugs a Deadly Game” programs into your units’ programs for youth.
5. Do a safety check of your units’ meeting place. Be an advocate of properly rested drivers on all Scout outings.
6. Remember one very important rule in Scouting....there is no one-on-one youth contact with adults. Encourage the buddy system with your Scouts.
7. Utilize Safety Afloat and the Safe Swim Defense. Practice safe practices in handling of food, proper refrigeration, dish washing, and winter camping.

Tour Permits should be submitted in advance of your outing, not just one or two days before. National Tour Permits require a 30-day advance. The best and safest Scouting activities are those that are planned in advance. Don’t take this to mean that a 2 mile trip to the zoo can’t take place in two weeks but this means that events planned in advance usually have better communication and safety issue attention.

Capital Area United Way



I would like to encourage all of you to continue your support of the United Way. The recent theft is very disturbing. However, the United Way needs to continue, as it is the key payroll deduction format to raise dollars to support much needed community programs including Scouting.

Roughly 16% of the Chief Okemos Council operating budget comes from support from the Capital Area United Way, Eaton County United Way, and Portland Community Fund. If we factor out income related to activity fees, camp, and our council store, the United Way funding would be nearly 23% of our annual operating budget.

The Chief Okemos Council Staff was awarded a Diamond Award at the recent Capital Area United Way Reception.

Some recent developments in the situation at the Capital Area United Way as their board and staff work to rebuild the organization and the community's trust:

1. Dr. Richard J. Liles was appointed Interim President. He has met with agency directors and is actively engaged in dialog with companies, donors, agencies, and community leaders to address concerns, hear suggestions, and seek input.
2. A special committee has been appointed to help conduct a nation-wide search to find a new president. The selection committee is seeking suggestions for selection criteria.
3. Ms. McGreggor has admitted guilt to the Grand Jury. A total of 1.88 million dollars is suspected to have been embezzled between 1996 and 2002. The United Way has asked the Assistant US Attorney to require disclosure of all the funds stolen and their use prior to sentencing. Sentencing has been set for mid-May.
4. The United Way has hired a legal firm to help recover the stolen assets. Liquidation of the perpetrator's assets has begun. The three carriers are paying insurance proceeds for theft coverage totaling \$610,000. Over \$400,000 of the dollars received from the Insurance companies is being added to the funds being distributed to agencies.
5. A series of major changes are underway to fiscally strengthen the organization. A blue-ribbon panel reviewed internal security measures and endorsed enhanced financial controls. They will continue to meet to be sure the controls are implemented. A separate Finance Committee was formed with a change of the organization bylaws at the February meeting. In addition to the controls changes there are significant changes in staff and volunteer leadership, and restructuring in how the Capital Area United Way does business.
6. John Zaworski, Vice President of Enterprise Rent a Car has been selected to lead the 2003 campaign.
7. If you or any of the people that you are involved with have questions regarding the Capital Area United Way feel free to call their office at 203-5000 and to check their web-site for updates.

Through this ongoing process of improvement and involvement, the United Way will be strengthened and the important programs which help meet key community needs will continue to do their important work.

CAMPING

2003 NORTHWOODS SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM SCHEDULE

MAY

23 – 26 FAMILY CAMP (MEMORIAL WEEKEND)

JUNE

20 – 22 CUB SCOUT PARENT & SON CAMP #1

22 – 28 BOY SCOUT RESIDENT CAMP #1

29 – JULY 5 BOY SCOUT RESIDENT CAMP #2

JULY

6 – 12 BOY SCOUT RESIDENT CAMP #3

13 – 19 BOY SCOUT RESIDENT CAMP #4

20 – 26 BOY SCOUT RESIDENT CAMP #5

31 – AUGUST 3 CUB SCOUT RESIDENT CAMP

AUGUST

8 – 10 CUB SCOUT PARENT & SON CAMP #2

AUGUST 29 – SEPTEMBER 1 HOLIDAY FAMILY CAMP (LABOR DAY WEEKEND)



2003 CUB SCOUT DAY CAMP SCHEDULE

DAY CAMP #1	JUNE 16 – 19	CAMP KIWANIS, MASON
DAY CAMP #2	JULY 14 – 17	SLEEPY HOLLOW CONSERVATION CLUB, ST. JOHNS
DAY CAMP #3	JULY 21 – 24	FITZGERALD PARK, GRAND LEDGE
TWILIGHT CAMP	AUGUST 11 - 14	CAMP KIWANIS, MASON

CAMP IS A “MUST ATTEND” FOR ALL CUB SCOUTS.

WHEN CUB SCOUTS ARE ASKED WHY THEY JOIN SCOUTS – THE MOST OFTEN HEARD ANSWER IS “CAMP FUN.” WHY NOT SHARE IN THE FUN THIS SUMMER? ATTEND ONE OF THESE GREAT CAMPS WITH YOUR SON! YOU’LL NEVER REGRET IT AND HE’LL NEVER FORGET IT!

WHEN BOY SCOUTS ARE ASKED WHY THEY STAY IN SCOUTS – THE MOST OFTEN HEARD ANSWER IS “ADVENTURE.” THEY MEAN CAMP! PLEASE INSURE THAT YOUR SON GETS HIS ADVENTURE THIS SUMMER. WHILE HE’S IN CAMP, WHY NOT JOIN HIM AND SHARE IN THE ADVENTURE?

NORTHWOODS SCOUT RESERVATION UPDATE

It's not too late to apply for staff positions for the 2003 summer camp season! Scoutmasters – tell your Scouts that being on staff at Northwoods is one of the best things they can do for summer adventure! Most positions are still open for qualified people. And remember – the salary schedule has been significantly increased recently making this opportunity more inviting than ever before.

BOY SCOUT TROOP RESERVATIONS AT NORTHWOODS BY WEEK: If you don't see your Troop number here – you're not too late to reserve your week. Get your reservation in before someone else takes your spot!

Campsite	Camp Session #1	Camp Session #2	Camp Session #3	Camp Session #4	Camp Session #5
Algonquin	10	417	157	316	121
Blackfoot	763		104	645	252
Chippewa North	779	648	901		96
Chippewa South	911	654	133		190
Deleware	21			87	8
Erie					
Fox	111		43	309	
Huron	141		188	63	4011
Iroquois			288		
Mohawk	67	64	70	164	711/795
Ottawa				109	
Potawatomie					
Dan Boone*	2	520	777	3	33
Kit Carson*	180	46	299		52
Dan Beard		407		705	
Baden Powell*	141	46		97	916

Plan to take your troop to camp – it's the best time of the year!



Chief Okemos Council Philmont Contingent for 2004

For the summer of 2004 the Council has the good fortune of having a reservation at Philmont High Adventure Scout Ranch. This means that any scout in the Council meeting the age requirement has an opportunity to participate up to our limit of 36 people. Philmont is a 137,430 acre ranch in the Rocky Mountains of northern New Mexico. It involves a 12-day backpacking trek of about 70 miles through very beautiful scenery in the rugged mountains. Each day of the trek provides special activities including panning for gold, black-powder rifle shooting, blacksmithing, rock climbing and rappelling, trap shooting, spar pole climbing, and learning the ways of mountain men and western Indians, loggers, and miners. We will climb to the top of some of the highest peaks in the Rockies such as Baldy Mountain (12,441 ft.). It will be a most enjoyable and challenging trip and one that you will long remember fondly. Philmont is the ultimate high adventure!

A pre-Philmont excursion is also planned to help you become acclimated to the thinner air encountered at Philmont. Thus, we will spend three days in southern Colorado doing such activities as driving to the top of Pikes Peak, visiting the Garden of the Gods, the Cave of the Winds, the Royal Gorge, and an old gold mining town, and white water rafting the famous Browns Canyon. These activities really add to the Philmont experience.

The trip is scheduled for June 26 to July 12. This includes four days before Philmont, 12 days at Philmont and a return travel day. The cost of the trip will be about \$1200. There will be the opportunity to reduce this cost by participating in several fund-raising activities and by earning scholarships.

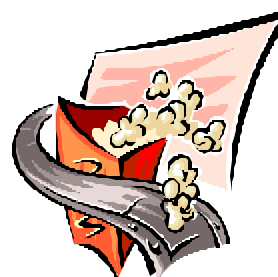
If you think you are interested, contact Steve Harsh at 517/349-1674 to obtain additional details.

2003 Spring Popcorn Sale

The Chief Okemos Council Spring popcorn sale is going great. Many Pack, Troops, and Crews are having great sales. The special "*Pay Your Way to Camp Spring Popcorn Sale*" is a big hit with units going to summer camp programs. A 10% bonus commission, plus a quick and easy way to pay for camp for all or half of camp; it is a great way to help every Scout attend camp.

Important Dates for units participating in the Spring Popcorn Sale:

- April 17th** Last day to for FREE popcorn returns
Thursday Take Order Due and Summer Camp Popcorn Orders due
Show-n-Sale payments Due
Distribution at the SOS warehouse 3-6pm
- April 25th** Final Distribution of Popcorn
Friday Take Order and Summer Camp sales distribution
at SOS warehouse from 3-6pm
Posted date check payable on May 16, 2003 is due



May 16th Checks cashed and successful end of Spring Popcorn Sale

Ojibwas District Spring Camporee

May 16 – 18, 2003

Northwoods Scout Reservation

Theme: Let's Go Fishing!

It's SPRING! It's WARM! It's TIME to get out and do something fun! And what could be more fun in the spring than a genuine fishing trip/contest with prizes for winners and a great time to be had by all?

Activities will include:

Campfire

A relaxing weekend

Fishing and other contests mentioned below

Awards will be given for:

Camp pioneering projects

gateways

Camp Wide Dessert buffet contest

Fire Building one Match competition

And of course, results from our fishing contest (several categories)

Check your mailboxes for more detailed schedule and activity information. And plan to attend! Your boys will thank you!

RESERVATION FORM

Please reserve a site for Troop _____ to attend the Ojibwas District Spring Camporee

Troop Contact _____ phone _____

Address _____ city _____ Zip _____

Number of Youth Attending _____ * \$10.00 per person = _____

Number of Adults attending _____ * \$10.00 per person = _____

Total Fees submitted by Troop _____

Return to:

Ojibwas Camporee Registration
Chief Okemos Council
4000 West Michigan Ave.
Lansing, Mi. 48917



The Travels and Adventures of Eager the Beaver

Got my tools out and I'm ready to get the camp ready to go for summer. Hope to see you there the first weekend in May 2003. I promise that we will have some fun too. You know the old saying "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." Did anyone ever figure out just who Jack is anyway? I think I'll ponder that one for awhile. See you in May.



Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills Training

Dates: *Wednesday, April 9, 16, 2003*
Weekend of April 25-27, 2003
Wednesday Registration: 6:00 p.m.
Weekend Begins Friday at 5:00 p.m

AT CAMP KIWANIS

What will you learn?

Patrol Method
Hiking & Packing
Woods Tools
Running Games
Map & Compass

Proper Flag Etiquette
Campfire Planning
Backpacking Stoves
Dutch Oven Cooking
Animal & Plant Identification

Leave No Trace
Ropes
First Aid
Utensiless Cooking
Worship Services

What Does It Cost? \$40.00

What Does It Include?

All the food, including cracker barrels
Handout materials
A walking stove
A completion certificate
Lots of FUN and many new friends



Who Is It for?

All Scouters who want to increase their knowledge of outdoor skills. It is a must for those who assist with the outdoor program and is required for Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters to be certified as trained.

You will be instructed by some of the council's top trainers who have many years of experience. You will be introduced to the "*Effective Teaching*" methods, so your Troop can be more proficient in their skill instruction.

REGISTRATION FOR OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP SKILLS SPRING 2003

Name _____ Unit _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Please write a brief note regarding previous camping experience and outdoor skills. (Attach a sheet of paper to the back of this page.)

Make checks payable and send to:

Chief Okemos Council
4000 W. Michigan Ave.
Lansing, MI 48917

CAMPING

2003 CUB SCOUT CAMP LEADER/PARENT ORIENTATION MEETING

When: Wednesday, April 24
Registration starts at 6:30 p.m.
Program starts at 7:00 p.m.

Where: St. David's Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Drive (1/4 mile north of the Lansing Mall, west side of road next to Elmwood School)

Who: All volunteer leaders and parents/guardians are encouraged to attend

What: We will be discussing:

- Planning and Preparation for Cub Camps
- Parent & Son Camp Presentation
- Cub Scout Resident Camp Presentation
- Questions and Answers
- Scout Fun and Fellowship



Cost: FREE

Questions: Contact Clarence Smith at the Council Service Center (#517-321-9400, ext. 109)

Clip and Return by Friday, April 19, 2002 (Please Print)

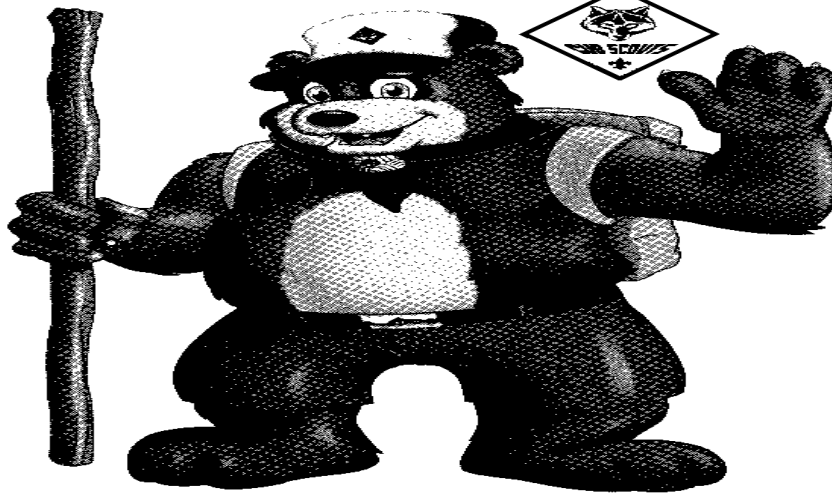
Pack Number _____ **District** _____ **Date** _____

Names of Adults Attending:

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 10. _____ |

Return to: **Cub Scout Camp Leader's Meeting**
Chief Okemos Council, BSA
4000 West Michigan Ave.
Lansing, MI 48917
(or FAX to #321-7298)

CUB SCOUT
BALOO
BASIC ADULT LEADER OUTDOOR ORIENTATION



BOY SCOUTS  OF AMERICA

WHAT? COUNCIL BALOO TRAINING

WHO? ADULT LEADERS GIVING LEADERSHIP TO PACK OVERNIGHTERS, ESPECIALLY NEW CUB SCOUT ADULTS (EACH PACK MUST HAVE AT LEAST ONE MEMBER TRAINED)

**WHEN? SATURDAY, MAY 10TH
8:30AM-5:00 PM**

**WHERE? CAMP KIWANIS
MASON, MI**

COST? 10.00 PER PERSON

BALOO TRAINING SPRING 2003

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____ POSITION _____

UNIT _____ TELEPHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

QUESTIONS? CLARENCE SMITH 321-9400 EXT 109
COURSE DIRECTOR, GARTH SIMS

**2003 Whitney M. Young, JR Service Award Reception
Event Specifics**



Whitney M. Young Jr. Service Award Reception
Michigan Library and Historical Center
Thursday, April 17, 2002
6:30PM to 8:00PM



Purpose of the Whitney M. Young Jr. Service Award

The purpose of the Whitney M. Young, Jr. Service Award is to recognize outstanding services by an adult individual or an organization for demonstrated involvement in the development and implementation of Scouting opportunities for low-income, inner city or rural youth. This is in fulfillment of Dr. Young's dream of justice and equality for all.

Richard D. Letts Leadership Award

The Richard D. Letts Leadership Award was started to honor the life of Richard D. Letts, a longtime friend of the Chief Okemos Council, BSA and of the entire community. This award is given to a student who exemplifies qualities Richard stood for, such as how his/her life models the points of the Scout Law, provides leadership to others through his/her actions, provides/ed leadership to a community service project in his/her community, provides/ed through personal achievements and deeds, a civic and charitable role model for others.

Individual ticket \$25.00

Whitney M. Young, Jr. Service Award Reception

RSVP by calling Clarence or Kathy at 321-9400, fax to 321-7298 or by sending this reservation to:

Chief Okemos Council
4000 W Michigan
Lansing, MI 48917

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Tel _____

E-Mail _____

Number of Reservations _____ \$Amount _____

EMPLOYEE PHONE EXTENSION & E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Council Service Center Phone 517-321-9400 Fax 517-321-7298

Pete Shannon, Scout Executive
Extension 116
Pshannon@bsamail.org

John Hogg,
Assistant Scout Executive
Extension 104
Johogg@bsamail.org

Bob Vergamini
District Director
Ojibwas District
Extension 110
Rvergami@bsamail.org

Clarence Smith,
Senior District Executive
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Nwaters@bsamail.org

Jason Kerschke
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Extension 106
Jkerschk@bsamail.org

Don Walker
District Executive
Migisins District
Extension 107
Dwalker@bsamail.org

Kathy Pelky, Secretary
Extension 101
kpelky@bsamail.org

Carol Bancroft, Registrar
Extension 103
Cbancrof@bsamail.org

Nancy Houghtaling, Bookkeeper
Extension 115
Nhouta@bsamail.org

Orville Turner, Ranger
Northwoods Scout Reservation
989-473-2305
olt@m33access.com

Mike Ames, Ranger
Camp Kiwanis
517-676-6101
RangerGord1@juno.com



Chief Okemos Council
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Lansing, MI 48917

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