Santa Clarion May—June 2011

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Message from our Scout Executive

Santa Clara County Council

As we approach our halfway point for the year I begin to get excited for summer!

There are endless opportunities for youth in Scouting, but summertime is probably the most anticipated time in Scouting – the days are longer, the weather is warmer; the perfect combination for summer camp!

Santa Clara County Council has plenty of camping opportunities for everyone and I hope you and your son have already decided which camp to attend:

**Cub Scout Day Camp** – The best way for your Cub Scout to spend their summer. We offer seven different camps between June and August. At each day camp, expect to have an action packed agenda from arts & crafts, BB guns, sports, Scout Skills, and more! Your son will have the opportunity to enjoy time outside while making life-long memories with old and new friends.

**Boy Scout Camp at Hi-Sierra** – If you have not visit Hi-Sierra, I challenge you to make it a priority this summer. Located in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, near Pinecrest Lake, Boy Scouts can attend one of five week-long camps. Expanding our programs at camp, Scouts will enjoy earning merit badges while participating in activities such as aquatics, climbing, foxfire, rifle range, ad sailing at Pinecrest Lake. Boy Scout summer camp truly is an unbelievable experience at Hi-Sierra!

If you haven’t already made camping plans for your Scout yet, I encourage you to sign up for one of our camps. The skills they learn and the friendships they make will have a lasting impression on them. After-all, summer is the time of year to enjoy more time outdoors.

I too enjoy this time of year as I make weekly visits to Camp Hi-Sierra. It is great opportunity for me to enjoy the outdoors while visiting with Scouts and Leaders attending camp. I hope to see you there!

Yours in Scouting,

Jason Stein
Get your Cub Scout Pack in the game with Spring Recruitment!

Congratulations to the qualifying Packs for the Recruitment Incentive Drawings on May 6th!

- Pack 606, Polaris District qualified for 1 entry by recruiting 5 boys in April
- Pack 610, Coyote Creek District qualified for 2 entries by recruiting 9 boys in April
- Pack 577, Pioneer District qualified for 2 entries in the Tiger Den drawing by recruiting 2 Tiger dens.

Winners for the May drawings are:

- Pack 610 winning the Earthquakes Fan Package (10 signed player cards and 2 game tickets)
- Pack 577 winning 2 game tickets and a $100 gift certificate for any SCCCBSA Cub Scout Day Camp or Camp Chesebrough program

All non-winning entries will also be included in the final drawing on June 17th

Your Pack can qualify too, check out the Pack recruitment incentives for this Spring! (http://www.scccbsa.org/files/INCENTIVES_2011_Cub_Scout_Spring_Recruitment.pdf)

It’s simple, follow these steps and check out the guide (http://www.scccbsa.org/files/PackRecruitmentGuide.pdf)

- Schedule a sign up meeting/event
- Order materials to promote the meeting to new families (http://www.scccbsa.org/files/Recruitment_Material_Order.pdf)
- Hold a fun (for the boys) and informative (for the parents) event and register new families (Your District Executive can help you with this)
- Turn in applications and registration dues to the Council Service Center. For every 4 new boys registered, your Pack gets an entry in the drawing on June 17th. Start a Tiger Den with 5 boys and 1 registered leader and your Pack gets an entry in the new Tiger Den drawing.

Incentive Details can be found at:
Summer is approaching and with it comes another season of our terrific Cub Scout Day Camps and Resident Camps! Get your Cubs to at least one of our Day Camps that are located throughout the Santa Clara Valley as well as at our own Chesebrough Scout Reservation. A week of fun and activity awaits them as they get a head start on their next years advancement, play a number of sports and games, participate in a variety of crafts and even get to shoot BB Guns and Archery (please check the Cub Camp website for the specific activities at your favorite camp). For even more adventure, check out our Resident Camps that are held at Cheseborough Scout Reservation. Resident camps include either two or three nights of tent camping and full days of Scouting fun. Meals are served in the beautiful Lodge and activities include Scout skills, archery, BB Gun shooting, climbing wall and crafts.

7 Day Camps to Choose from:
- Lake Cunningham #1—June 13—June 17
- Twilight Camp—June 20—June 24
- Chesebrough Provisional Camp—July 11—July 15
- Los Gatos Creek Park—July 11—July 15
- Stevens Creek Park Provisional—July 18—July 22
- Stevens Creek Park—July 25—July 29
- Lake Cunningham #2—August 1—August 5

Day Camp is truly the best part of a Cub Scout's summer. Day Camp is a five-day experience for Wolf, Bear, and Webelos Cub Scouts (boys who are entering grades 2 - 5 in the fall of 2011).

We are also offering a popular Day Camp "Provision Camping Program" at both Cheseborough Scout Reservation and Stevens Creek Park where Cub Scouts can attend camp without the usual parent participation requirement.

Individual sign-ups are being accepted at the Scout Service Center on Julian Street and regular registration rates will apply until the end of May. Remember to bring your completed registration form, full payment and for Day Camps a completed Medical Form. Resident campers will bring their medical form (including the signed physician section) to camp with them. Several of our programs are nearly full so do not delay in reserving your spot for this summer's adventures!

For more information, please visit our Cub Day Camp website http://www.scccbsa.org/cubcamp/
It is time to get Camp Hi-Sierra ready for another great season. We need your help to complete this task. In the past many troops have “Adopted a Campsite” at camp and performed work to maintain and improve that site. This year we plan on replacing the main campfire circle and we are starting this weekend.

The tentative schedule for the weekend:

Saturday, May 28
1:00 pm Arrival in Camp, 1:30 Opening Ceremony
Afternoon – Setup of campsite (level tent platforms, setup tents, clean area)
Evening – Campfire program

Sunday, May 29
Morning – Scouts Own Service
Morning – Work on larger project for campsite or Camp
Afternoon – Continue with project or troop activity
Evening – Tribe of Hi-Sierra Ceremony

Monday, May 30
Depart camp by 10:00

Meals will be provided starting with Saturday dinner through Monday breakfast. Cost is $20 per person, with everyone departing with a special Memorial Day Weekend Rocker Patch!

Since there are several units who have adopted the same campsite it will be first come first serve on reserving your campsite.

Major projects for your adopted campsite must be submitted for review and approval by May 15th. Units will then be notified shortly afterward. Please send requests to Michael Wilson at 970 W. Julian St, San Jose, CA 95126, Fax 408-280-5162, or chs@sccbsa.org.

The Tribe of Hi-Sierra weekend is to complete outstanding tribe service requirements. This is also an opportunity to work on projects for this coming summer. A scout will not have the ability to start and complete their first rank at this event.

For more information on this weekend and about Adopt-a-Campsite program, please visit: www.CampHi-Sierra.Org/adopt
Camp Hi-Sierra’s 2011 season is shaping up to be the most exciting one in recent years! We’re seeing record attendance in camp from both in and out of Council units. We’re getting positive feedback on this year’s program offering. We’re finding more and more Scouts who want to experience the spirit and excitement that Camp Hi-Sierra already provides to so many of us.

What’s the result of all this growth? For starters, in the 2012 season, we will be adding a sixth program week to the camp season. We’re acquiring more materials to expand our most popular program areas, such as Foxfire, Trail to Eagle, and Sports. We’re also expanding our staff to accommodate the growth of the CHS program, and this is why we are contacting you today.

Demand for the 2011 season has grown so rapidly that we are creating and adding new positions to the Hi-Sierra program staff. We’re looking for young men and women sixteen years of age or older in possession of the following characteristics:

- A love of the outdoors
- A desire to teach young people from across the state
- The ability to have fun (and sometimes be a little wacky!)
- The ability to make responsible choices
- Interest in having fun while learning something new
- Knowledge of spelling (k-ki-kiosk!)

As well as the desire to be a part of a team of people who view themselves as more of a family, who care about each other as much as they care about the Scouts they see year after year.

If you know of young men or women who meet the above qualifications or are interested in learning more, please direct them to www.camphi-sierra.org/staff, or contact the Program Director, Rohan Shahani at RJ_Shahani@yahoo.com.

We look forward to seeing you all at Camp!
Family Camp - June 10 - 12

Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Venturers...come join us for a weekend of Family Camp at Chesebrough Scout Reservation! The entire family may attend Family Camp weekend, including your grandparents, siblings, and best friends. Family Camp opens on Friday, June 10 at 5:00 PM. You can choose to camp one or two nights. Meals will be served as follows: breakfast is at 8 AM, lunch is at 12 PM and dinner is at 6 PM. If you have dietary restrictions, please inform us in advance by writing the details on your registration form. For those arriving Friday evening, a buffet dinner will be served from 6 PM—7 PM. You will enjoy a variety of activities, including nature walks, climbing, archery, shooting sports, and campfire program. Do no miss out on this fun-filled camping weekend with your family. Registration is available at $35 per person. To sign up, please visit us on-line at: http://www.scccsbsa.org/html/calendar.html

Provisional Camper

Camp Hi-Sierra understands that Scouts might not be able to go to camp the same week as their troop. Sometimes a Scout just wants to have a second week of camp to finish up merit badges or complete a rank. To help out these Scouts, Camp Hi-Sierra provides a provisional program for them. The Scout will be paired up with another troop during the week he wants to come. He will stay in their campsite and work with his adopted unit for the entire week. The fee is $310 per Scout. This is a great way to meet new friends from the entire council. Applications and full fees are due by June 15. Cancellations after June 1 will be made, less a cancellation fee. Space is limited.

Register now http://camphi-sierra.org/provisional.html

CHS Trekking

Five days & four nights doesn’t sound like much...until you’re out in the wilderness!

Explore yourself and your surroundings in Hi-Sierra’s most action-packed and thrilling program, Trekking! Open to all Scouts and Venturers (male or female) 14 and up, this program combines backpacking, mountain biking, kayaking, and rock climbing within the intense and inspiring terrain of the Sierra Nevada mountains. Leave your Troop in Camp and your inhibitions behind as you take to the hills in search of limitless mountains and unforgettable ridge top views...

We still have space for provisional trekkers during the following weeks:
Week 1 – July 3 ~ July 9
Week 2 – July 10 ~ July 16
Week 3 – July 17 ~ July 23
Week 5 – July 31 ~ August 6

For more information please visit us online at http://camphi-sierra.org/trekking.html
We would like to ask that you jump on board to support Friends of Scouting!

**Where Friends of Scouting funds go…**

- Continued service to Scouts
- Growth of Scouting through new units and school recruitments
- Maintain camping facilities at Camp Chesebrough and Hi-Sierra
- Leadership training for youth and adults
- Supply program equipment including: canoes, boats, archery equipment, and cooking/camping equipment
- Maintain service center records and information
- Provide supplementary programs, such as Camporee, Day Camp, and Scout-O-Rama

Santa Clara County Council has been chosen to participate in the Voice of the Scout pilot program by the National Organization! The Voice of the Scout will be the first initiative of its type that reaches out to all our volunteers, parents, chartering organizations, and Scouts over the age of 13.

The Voice of the Scout pilot program is a customer satisfaction survey that will help us determine what drives continued loyalty of our membership, and conversely what needs improvements or solutions for long-term viability. Results from the survey will make us aware of the expectations and experiences of the members in our service area and make us more proactive in providing the very best program according to our localized needs.

Our biggest challenge will be collecting e-mail addresses. Over the next 2 weeks we will be focusing on a campaign, collecting e-mail addresses from any and all sources available. Our goal is to collect a 75% saturation rate for our leaders and members by May 20th.

**As a Unit Leader, we are asking you to share the attached spreadsheet with your unit roster, have them fill out all the information and return the completed spreadsheet to you.** After receipt of everyone’s information, please e-mail Shannon Shaffer your complete unit spreadsheet to Shannon@scccbsa.org.

Your privacy is important to us and your information will be secured and encrypted. Your information will be added to our membership database which allows us to contact you if you request so in filling out the survey.

We are excited to be a part of this pilot program and hope to improve our Scouting service in Santa Clara County. Please help ensure our council’s success by sharing your information to be a part of The Voice of the Scout.

If you have any questions you may contact the staff advisor, Shannon Shaffer at 408.280.5088 or Shannon@scccbsa.org.

For a copy of the spreadsheet, please visit us at http://www.scccbsa.org/html/VoiceoftheScout.html

You may also view an FAQ from the National Office at http://www.scccbsa.org/html/VoiceoftheScout.html
April 23rd wasn’t just a regular work day at Chesebrough Scout Reservation, it was one of our first trail building days at the camp in a long time, and boy was it a success!

Let me go back in time. A couple of years ago a small group of Scouters wanted to re-open some of the trails, logging roads and other pathways that wind through Chesebrough. There is plenty to see at the camp, just no way to get to those places.

The first idea was to make a loop from camp down toward Oil Creek then turn off south to Red Mountain then to the Skyline to the Sea trail back to camp.

This first trail is now being reopened due to a crew of 43 Scouts and Scouters working hard moving downed wood, brushing and starting some treadwork along the trail.

It was a beautiful morning and everyone was ready to work. They brought water, snacks and work gloves, the camp supplied the saws, pruners, shovels, ax matics, McLeod's and rakes.

The campmasters were supplying lunch from Togo’s along with water.

After lunch they all when back at it again, moving more brush and clearing out a eight foot wide corridor so the trail itself can be put down without any trees, plants, rocks or roots in the way.

A special thank you to Jim Loweecey, George Denise, Bill Flood, Stan Searing, Lilia Kilmer, Casey Larson, Sam Tanizawa, Troop 20 from SFBAC, Troop 452, Crew 610, Crew 260 and the Memorial Foundation for supplying the tools.
On March 26, our Council held our annual Leave No Trace Trainers course. We had a total of 17 very enthusiastic participants on a cold and wet weekend. Eight youth and nine adults spent a two days at Camp Chesebrough so they could bring a Leave No Trace program to your units.

Pictured above from the left are Alan, Alex, Erik, Caleb, Ali, Teren, Tim, Vik, Mark, Jim, Tina, Luke, Don, Huy, Corey, Serena, John, co-instructor Lilia Kilmer, and instructor Jim Loweecy. Not shown, co-instructor Art Wong.

You can now enter your service hours at scouting.org/awards/journeytoexcellence. Scroll down the page to see the link on the right hand side. Users of www.goodturnforamerica will be re-directed to the Journey to Excellence page. You are encouraged to use the Journey to Excellence Service Hours.

The Council Service Center and Scout Shop will be closed on Monday, May 30 for Memorial Day.
Upcoming Courses:
CSLT April 16th @ Council Office
CASA CLST April 23rd (In Chinese)
Spring Wood Badge weekend #1 April 28th-30th @ Boulder Creek Scout Reserve
CASA BSLT April 30th (In Chinese) @ Council Office
Bear Paw Trek – April 30 to May 1. Bear Paw Trek is ON!! Please contact Joe Madden for a gear check at joe@mobile-experts.net
CASA OLS May 13-15th (in Chinese) @ Chesebrough
BSLT May 16th @ Council office
OWL 20-21st @ Chesebrough

TRAINING AWARDS

Tiger Cub Den Leader Award
One year of tenure and other requirements.

Den Leader Award
One year of tenure and other requirements.

Webelos Den Leader
One year of tenure and other requirements.

Cubmaster Award - Two years tenure and other requirements.

Pack Trainer Award - Two years tenure and other requirements.

Cub Scouter Award - Two years tenure and other requirements for Cubmaster, Assistant Cubmaster and Pack Committee members

Scouter’s Training Award - Basic Training and other requirements for Boy Scout, Varsity, Venturing, Sea Scout and District/Council Scouters

Scouter’s Key - Three years tenure and other requirements - Scoutmasters, Venturing Advisors, Varsity Coaches, District Committee, Roundtable Commissioners, Unit Commissioners

Devices are worn on the knot for Scouter’s Training Award and Scouter’s Key to denote the program for which the knot was earned.
Trainers Wanted!

The training committee is always seeking trainers who want to share their love of Scouting and learning with both new Scouters and those being trained for new positions. Just as our Scouts bridge to new programs, we find our trainers often bridge to new district, council and even regional positions, creating a need for new district trainers. Do you want to help with training, but don’t want to instruct? We also need help with administration & logistic and promotions. We need help with registration and records as well as helping prepare course flyers and communicating to various stakeholder groups like the district round tables, commissioners and newsletter editors. To find out more, contact your district training chair or you can visit us on the 4th Wednesday each month at 7:00 PM at the council service office or contact BobbyToda@yahoo.com for more information. Besides earning credit for your unit’s Commissioner Plus award, you’ll find that you will leave an impact on the many Scouters that you are helping.

NAYLE and PLC (Philmont Leadership Challenge)

Save the Date! July 5-9, 2011

Marin Council will host the first National Pilot offering of a side-by-side NAYLE and the Philmont Leadership Challenge (PLC). These courses have only been available at Philmont. This is a great opportunity to take the course by driving across the Golden Gate.

NAYLE and PLC are identical action-packed courses that use exciting hands-on experiences to teach leadership skills beyond those learned in NYLT and Wood Badge.

There is NO classroom teaching. Learn new powerful leadership lessons beyond those learned in NYLT and WB as you learn Wilderness First Aid, GPS navigation, Search and Rescue techniques and more. Youth must be age 14-20 and have completed either NYLT or the NYLT to NAYLE Bridge course (can be self study). Adults must have completed Wood Badge for the 21st Century.

Registration will be available at the Marin Council website.
Don’t miss out on Wood Badge, May 19—21

This is an amazing, fun, hands-on training course put on by a dedicated group of Scout volunteers who are well trained & highly motivated. You will develop your leadership and team-building management skills. Our staff is dedicated to providing you with the highest quality training and personal growth experiences. The Aims of Scouting are met through trained, dedicated and enthusiastic Scouters, who make a difference in the lives of our youth.

For more information, visit http://www.scccbsa.org/html/program/training/woodbadge.html

Bristlecone

National Youth Leadership Training Conference is open to:

- Registered Scouts and Venturers who are age 13 or older, who are First Class in rank or have acquired equivalent training in Venturing by July 31, 2011
- Who are expected to hold positions of leadership within the troop or crew in the future

The conference will be held at Chesebrough Scout Reservation July 31—August 6. Total fees are $245 if paid by may 31; $260 thereafter. A $50 deposit is due with the application.

To register on-line visit http://www.scccbsa.org/html/program/training/youthleader.html

Master Trainer Certification at PTC

Delivering dynamic and relevant program means raising the bar for youth and adult training! We want to deliver training opportunities that will intrigue, excite, and invigorate both youth and adults. The Master Trainer Certification course will be offered for the first time this summer at Philmont Training Center during week one (June 5–11) and during the Fall Conference (Sept. 18–24). It is an opportunity to become a Certified Master Trainer for the BSA.

Save the Date!

Popcorn 2011 Extravaganza

Wednesday, June 15th
Children’s Discovery Museum
(180 Woz Way, San Jose 95110)

Please join us to experience how your unit can be “Powered by Popcorn!”

In 2010 over $225,000 went into the bank accounts of local units selling popcorn. On average units raised $4,500 for their programs, field trips and camp scholarships. It’s easy and it’s fun!

Information on how to register will be mailed out to committee chairmen, Cubmasters, Scoutmasters and Crew Advisors by May 15th.

www.scccbsa.org/popcorn
The Santa Clara County Boy Scouts of America Law Enforcement Exploring program has partnered with South Bay Regional Public Training Consortium to hold their 6th annual Law Enforcement Explorer Academy.

The Explorer Academy operates as a micro-version of the actual basic police academy for young men and women who are 14 to 20 years old. Law Enforcement Explorer posts help youth to gain insight into a variety of programs that offer hands-on career activities. The program is designed for young men and women who are interested in careers in the field of law enforcement.

The Explorer Academy is a two week career-academic academy that focuses on bringing public safety professions with youth in our community. The Exploring program promotes character asset development including leadership, communication, and life skills for young people.

The Explorer Academy will be held at the South Bay Regional Public Training Consortium in south San Jose beginning Monday, July 11th thru Friday, July 15th and Monday, July 18th thru Friday, July 22nd. The academy will be held from 0730 hours-1430 hours daily, except on Friday, July 22nd. The graduation ceremony will be held on July 22nd on the campus of Evergreen Valley College at 3:00pm.

The curriculum is age appropriate and includes courses in physical training, report writing, forensics, criminal law, narcotics, crime scene investigation, team building activities, code of ethics, hostage negotiations, and much more! Organizations from eleven different police agencies from the Santa Clara County and Santa Cruz County have sent their Explorers to this academy in previous years. Additionally, the Explorers attending will receive two units of college credit and receive a certificate of completion once they graduate from the Explorer Academy (if they complete the required paperwork), along with receiving their first aid and CPR certification.

Please contact Sally at 408-280-2154 ext. 22 for an explorer academy application!
Learning for Life Mission Statement:
It is the mission of Learning for Life to enable young people to become responsible individuals by teaching positive character traits, career development, leadership, and life skills so they can make ethical choices and achieve their full potential. Learning for Life offers seven programs that focus on career and character education for grades K through 12th. The program uses age-appropriate and grade specific lesson plans to help make academic learning fun. Learning for Life assists youth in our society with their character development, establishing positive personal values, social and life skills.

Exploring:
Exploring is Learning for Life’s career education program for men and women who are 14 years old (and have graduated from 8th grade) through 20 years old. Adult advisors are selected by the participating organization for involvement in Exploring. Explorer posts specialize in a variety of career skills. Exploring programs are based on five areas of emphasis: career opportunities, life skills, citizenship, character education, and leadership experience. There are over 100 different types of Explorer Posts, ranging from accounting to zoology. Law Enforcement is the largest nationwide.

We are looking to connect with teachers, businesses and administrators, and share with them the strength of our program. If you are active in a school or are interested in any of our character education programs, please contact Sally at 408-280-2154 ext. 22.

Hispanic Initiative
In Santa Clara County Council we have re-established the Hispanic Initiative.

So far we have only a few units involved but, they are very active. Those units attended our Great Scout-O-Rama event this past May 7, 2011 at Kelly Park. In addition to that the HI units will attend Roundtable in order to provide better programs to the units.

Pack 988 from St. Maria Goretti Church had Spring Recruitment and invited five more Cubbies, ready for fun! Pack 918 from George Mayne Elementary recruited two more boys and finally Pack 211 will have their Spring Recruitment on May 24, 2011 at the School library.

We have some new prospect’s to help recruit new Scouts: Hubbard Elementary, San Antonio Elementary, and Sionaker Academy all within Alum Rock School District. We have also spoken with the Church “Luz Del Mundo.”

If you have any question do not hesitate to contact our Hispanic Initiative Director, Salvador Diaz Falcon at 408.280.5088 ext 26 or Salvador@scccbsa.org.
A snappy Scout salute to Chris Riding (OA Chapter Chief), Steve Goldammer (Camporee Chairman) and Larry Litchford (OA Chapter Advisor) for a great Coyote Creek District Camporee that was held at Chesebrough Scout Reservation on the weekend of April 29- May 1 with ten troops and over 170 Scouts and Scouters had a great time under the redwoods.

Friends of Scouting

Coyote Creek District is working hard on its Friends of Scouting (FOS) Campaign. This year’s goal is $96,000 and we are at 75% of our goal with $71,300 pledged. As a district we would like to give everyone the opportunity to contribute to FOS and invest in the future of our Scouts so please help your fellow Scouters as they call each unit to schedule a presentation date. This year we are asking for 100% participation by April 30th. If you can only give $1 or $2,011, it will help out the entire district and council.

The Coyote Creek District is excited to kickoff the 2011-2012 program year! You may be more familiar with this event occurring in July; however, we have cranked it back a month to give units more time to plan their programs during the summer months. A tremendous amount of resources will be given out, including the new Council and District Calendars and helpful Unit Program Planning training will be given as a part of the evening’s festivities.

There will be promotional tables for camping, popcorn, district events, advancement, training and more set up, so that you can make the most of what Scouting has to offer your unit. Encourage other adult and youth leaders within your unit to join you at the kickoff, there will be too much information for one person to manage alone. Your attendance will help you to be able to “Plan your work and work your plan!” and better understand what the Coyote Creek District is adding to your tool box of resources in 2011.

Mark your calendar, because you don’t want to miss this critical event:

Coyote Creek District Program Kickoff
LDS Church, 3060 Patt Avenue, San Jose
7:30 to 8:30 PM

For more information or questions call:
Michael Olsen, District Commissioner (408) 937-8804 or
Gary Varano, Sr. District Executive (408) 280-2154 x34

This Unit Program Planning Kickoff will occur in place of the June Roundtables and is designed to help your unit “Be Prepared” for a great year of Scouting fun.
Hi my name is Izzy Morrish and I am Pioneers District Commissioner. We have been very busy this year recruiting quality Commissioners to send out to Pioneers Packs Troops and Crews. I am very proud of the 45 wonderful men and women who are presently serving in this valuable role. As we look to the future, Pioneer District will continue to grow and improve with the support of our Commissioners Corps. Of course the fact that we have so much fun when we get together, only enhances being a Commissioner. For more information please see http://www.pioneer-district.org/commissioners-2/

We have an amazing Commissioners BBQ coming up on June 8th. All Pioneers leaders are invited to attend, there will be free food, live music, a fun quiz and lots of prizes to be won. There will also be lots of booths with lots of great information to take back to your units, this truly is an event not to be missed!!

After a two-year absence, the Pioneer District Camporee event returned to Camp Lehi to the delight of over 210 Scouts, Scoutmasters and Scouters! Thanks to the generous contribution of time and talent of many Units, Camporee featured 16 separate events, including the games, skits, the ever-popular Dutch Oven cook-off, and, according to Staff and the participants, the “best Dodge Ball tournament ever!” This year, we saw the introduction of two brand new challenges: the Friction Bridge hosted by Troop 577, and a very successful Geocaching event hosted by Troop 390. The Geocaching event not only was a fun challenge for the Scouts, but helped introduce the basic skills to the Adults for one of the newest Merit Badge offerings. This year’s theme was “Campfire – the original social networking site.” Special thanks to Venture Crew 501 for pitching in to set up the Tipi and help with the skit tryouts; to Norm Phillips for all of the helpful signs; and to Alan White for making sure the facility was available for us. Tip of the Hat to Dillon for stepping up to serve as MC for Campfire, and to Carl for organizing both the Dodge Ball tournament and a very brief but reverent Scouts’ Own. Look forward to a new date and location for Camporee 2012!

Friends of Scouting

Polaris District is continuing to make great progress on our Friends of Scouting (FOS) campaign. As shown below, we are at about 77.6% of our goal. But, we’ve entered the tough part of the campaign. Now, we need to encourage those last stragglers to return their pledges. That’s what it takes to put us over our goal for the year and ensure a program of which we can all be proud.

Please join us in congratulating the 26 units that have already reached 100% of their goal for 2011. Time remains to add your unit to the 2011 list. But, it’s disappearing fast. Remember that your Friends of Scouting results are one of the key elements as you work to earn the new Journey to Excellence quality unit award.

As you are all aware, the FOS campaign is a key source of funding to the council’s programs. Let’s all pull together to make this year’s campaign a success.

For questions regarding the FOS campaign, please contact the appropriate Polaris District Friends of Scouting Chair for your unit. Points of contact are:

- Packs – Robin Melnick, robin@melnick.us
- Troops – Peter Huttlinger, plhutt@aol.com
- CASA units – CS Goh, csgh@mac.com, or Arthur Chih, arthurchih@gmail.com

Packs | Troops | Crews
--- | --- | ---
411 | 462 | 400 485 453
415 | 476 | 407 493 479
419 | 492 | 408 522
444 | 499 | 443 566
450 | 508 | 453 606
452 | 566 | 454
457 | | |

On April 9 & 10, the troops of Polaris District came together for a weekend of hard fought Scouting skill competition. The results from that weekend have been collated and the winners have been announced. For the top patrol award, the winners are:

1. T476 Thundersharks
2. T452 Minotaurs
3. Tie—T400 Eagles
4. Tie—T453 Sharks

For the Silver Axe troop award, the winners are:

1. T452
2. T476
3. T454

The winner of the coveted Bronze Hatchet Award is Troop 407.

Please join us in congratulating all of the award winners.

All of you have benefitted from the mentorship of district level volunteers as you’ve learned what it takes to offer a quality program in your unit. Now is the time to give back some of that expertise that you’ve developed. Opportunities exist on the Polaris District Committee for volunteers to fill the following openings:

- Cub Scout Training Chairman
- Boy Scout Training Chairman
- District Popcorn Kernel

This is your chance to share some of those skills that you’ve developed in your unit and develop some new skills. For more information about these opportunities, contact Tracey Devereux, Polaris District Executive, at 408-280-5088 ext. 55 or tracey@scccbsa.org.
Friends of Scouting

Quicksilver District has a $110,000 Friends of Scouting goal. So far, $84,000 has been raised towards supporting programs for youth. Packs 204, 207, 213, 227, 281, 282, 286, 700 and Troops 207, 212, 220, 233, 260, 262, 286, 290 have reached their unit goals, and have completed that part of their Commissioner Challenge Award. Congratulations! See the link on the Council website for the Award requirements:

Want to give more boys and their families a chance to benefit from the Cub Scout program? Get your new Tiger Den formed now to be entered for great incentives and prizes this Spring! Now is the time to invite graduating kindergarten boys to join your pack in time for summer camps and your pack’s Summer Time Pack Award activities. This is an ideal time to recruit new Den Leaders to allow them a chance to get training and on the job experience with a less hectic meeting schedule. We have flyers that we can customize for you, yard signs, banners, stickers, Boys’ Life mini-magazines, and parent information guides available to support you. Get in touch with our Membership Chair, Eric Hudson at ejhudson@aol.com or Dylan at Dylan@scccbsa.org to get your supplies!

Save the Date

June:
1—Commissioners meeting, LDS Cherry building, 150 Bernal Rd, San Jose, 7:30pm
2—District Committee meeting, LDS Bernal building, 150 Bernal Rd, San Jose, 7:30pm
7—Program Planning Kickoff! District Roundtable and Order of the Arrow Chapter meeting, LDS Bernal building, 150 Bernal Rd, San Jose, 7:30pm
June 20th - June 24th Cub Twilight Camp, Morgan Hill- Morgan Hill Bible Church

July:
6—Commissioners meeting, LDS Cherry building, 1336 Cherry Ave, San Jose, 7:30pm
7—District Committee meeting, LDS Bernal building, 150 Bernal Rd, San Jose, 7:30pm
12—District Roundtable and Order of the Arrow Chapter meeting, LDS Bernal

Don’t forget about summer programs! Quicksilver District is hosting the Council’s only twilight camp
http://scccbsa.org/cubcamp/
Santa Clarion

Save the Date

May 2011:
5/14 Boy Scout Leader to Outdoor Skills (CASA)
Boy Scout Leader Specifics
OK Corral
5/15 Boy Scout Leader to Outdoor Skills (CASA)
5/19-21 Wood Badge
5/20-21 Outdoor Webelos Leader Skills
5/24 Merit Badge Counselor Orient.
5/25 Coordinated Program Mtg.
5/30 Memorial Day (Council Office & Scout Shop CLOSED)

June 2011:
6/1 Pioneer Committee Mtg
Quicksilver Committee Mtg
Polaris Committee Mtg
6/2 Polaris Commissioner Mtg
Quicksilver Commissioner Mtg
Coyote Creek Committee Mtg
6/3-5 Boy Scout Outdoor Leader Skills
6/4 Den Chief Training
Sheriff & Deputy
6/9 Coyote Creek Commissioner Mtg
6/10-12 June Family Camp
6/11 Wilderness First Aid
6/13 CPR for Wilderness First Aid
www.scccbsa.org

Would you consider going on a vacation trip without some advance planning? Selecting the destination and travel itinerary, making the needed reservations, choosing the appropriate clothing and notifying friends or neighbors of your plans are important elements of a pleasant vacation experience.

One item that many people overlook is the need to review your will/trust prior to departing for vacation. Has your family situation, or other factors, changed such that it would warrant the appropriate changes in your will/trust?

Many people find it difficult to face their own mortality. As a result, they put off doing something that could greatly benefit the people and organizations they love and who rely upon them. Preparing for the future and protecting your loved ones is an important way to apply the Boy Scout Motto, "Be Prepared". This small investment in time will ensure that your desires with respect to family, friends, and worthy organizations, like Scouting, will be carried out. If you have any questions please contact Jake Carlson at jake@scccbsa.org

Contact Shannon Shaffer at Shannon@sccbsa.org if you would like to include an announcement in the Santa Clarion.

Scout Out the Boy Scouts of Santa Clara by joining our own private social network, www.scoutnow.org. Whether you are a new member or returning one, this is the place to stay connected!

Start your own blog, join or start discussions, post information about your Eagle project or read about someone else’s, and post and check out upcoming events. Whatever you decide to do, Scout It Out and don’t forget to get your badge!