



Welcome to the Polaris Star, the monthly Roundtable minutes and Polaris newsletter. You will be able to find out what the Polaris district committee is doing as well as upcoming events in your area!

Friends of Scouting Campaign Status

We want to thank everyone for their contributions so far to the 2018 Friends of Scouting (FoS) campaign. The official 2018 campaign wrapped up 30 June. But, we still haven't reached 100% of our goal for the year. If your unit still has pledge cards that haven't been turned in, please do so immediately. Your strong commitment to Scouting aids us in offering our youth the quality program of which we can be proud. If you haven't contributed to FOS yet, your gift can still contribute to maintaining a strong Scouting program for our youth.

If we are to offer the kind of program that we all want to offer to our youth, we need the support of all of our units in working toward their unit FoS goal. Meeting your FoS commitment is also a significant factor in reaching the JTE recognition levels. By now, every unit should have received its Friends of Scouting presentation. Many of you have turned in your pledges. But, many of you still need to turn in your FOS pledges. We need those pledges so that we know that we have the resources to offer a program of which we're all proud.

We are still accepting FoS contributions online at the [Donate Now](#) link. If you make a contribution online, don't forget to notify your unit FOS Coordinator so that your unit can be credited.

For any questions regarding the FoS campaign, contact the Polaris District FoS Family Campaign Chair, Brian McCrone. You can also contact the Polaris District Director, Jose Martinez at 408-638-8321 or email jose.martinez@scouting.org.

New Youth Protection Training

The BSA is rolling out new mandatory "Youth Protection Training (YPT)" to all adult leaders. This course replaces the former YPT training that is no longer recognized beginning 1 October. The new training encompasses Venturing and Exploring Youth Protection. Therefore, those videos are no longer available. Now is the time to get your registered adults certified with the new training. The old YPT certificates are not acceptable for re-chartering in the fall. Avoid problems and get your leaders re-certified now. The course is available online. Or, once someone in your unit has completed the class, they can teach a live class to the rest of your registered adults. For more information, contact Jose Martinez, the Polaris District Director.

Last Chance for 2018 Cub Camp

Space remains for Cub Scouts to attend camp this summer. Polaris District has one remaining session with some space available at Stevens Creek Park –23-27 July. Remember that participation in a Cub camp experience is one of your pack's Journey to Excellence (JTE) goals. For more information visit the council website svmbc.org, or contact Camp Director Michelle Ray.

Note from the Editor

Thank you for reading this issue of the Polaris Star. We hope that you have found it helpful and interesting. Please send items for inclusion in future issues of the Polaris Star to Mark Ellson at mfellson@comcast.net. The deadline for submissions for the August issue is 3 August. Earlier submissions are appreciated.

Fall Recruiting Kickoff

The 2018 Cub Scout Recruitment Summit is being held Tuesday, 24 July from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM, at Santa Clara High School. The high school is at 3000 Benton Street in Santa Clara. Every pack recruiting chair needs to attend this meeting. By attending, you are going to learn the best and latest practices that ensure your Pack has a great fall recruitment including recruiting new adult volunteers. Each pack is asked to notify either Jose Martinez or Dave Holt with the name of your pack's representative that is attending. Attendees are going to see samples of the latest available recruiting materials. Successful fall recruiting is key to getting more families in your unit. This is a great opportunity to learn about:

- Promotion & advertising techniques to market your Pack;
- Conducting effective (and FUN) joining events;
- Recruiting more help;
- Exciting school classroom or lunchtime promotions; and
- The New Lion Program (Cub Scouts for Kindergarten age youth).

This year, a special emphasis is recruiting for Family Scouting.

Now is the time to:

1. Secure a recruitment coordinator for your pack
2. Encourage boys to invite their friends to summer pack activities
3. Conduct a Pack program planning conference. Prepare a calendar to share with new families in the Fall.
4. Order your recruiting materials. They can be ordered online at [recruiting material](#).

If your unit participates in the "Be a Scout" service on the Internet, this is a great time to update your unit's information there.

Some of the recruitment methods that packs have used include:

- Fliers
- School boy talks (classroom visit, assembly, lunchtime talk, after school presentation)
- Yard signs for the school (with permission of the principal) or in their yard
- Stickers
- Pack information sheet that highlights meeting times, contact information, & major activities the pack conducts throughout the year
- Peer to peer - cub scouts can invite their friends
- Work with school to be included in the school newsletter, website, etc.

Your District Director, Jose Martinez is available to help you figure out the recruiting tools that work for your pack.

Popcorn Universities Are Here!

Popcorn University is a 75 to 90 minute training on how to harness the "Power of Popcorn" to support your unit's program for the upcoming year. You learn how to sell like the best by learning tips from experienced popcorn veterans.

This training is recommended for all parents giving leadership to their unit's sale. Unit leaders are also welcome to attend.

Remember that participation in Popcorn University qualifies your unit for an extra 3% commission on your sales.

Below are the seven announced university opportunities:

- Pioneer – 2 August
- San Benito – 7 August
- Polaris – 8 August
- Santa Lucia – 8 August
- Loma Prieta – 9 August
- Quicksilver – 14 August
- Coyote Creek – 16 August

For more information about popcorn sales, contact the Polaris Popcorn Kernel, Linda Brooks. Linda can be reached by phone at 408-257-1584 or by email at lsbrooks@mac.com.

Planting New Units

Today, Polaris District serves about 2,100 youth in 63 units. But, parts of the district are still underserved. One underserved area is northern Sunnyvale. To address this, we are seeking to expand with new units, especially packs, in this part of the district. To help with this initiative, we are seeking Spanish-speaking current leaders that would be willing to help as part of the district's Membership Committee. If you can help, or if you know of a candidate to help, please contact our district director, Jose Martinez. Total youth membership depends on Cub Scout membership. Please help!

Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars with these district and council events:

Date	Event
July 23-27	Stevens Creek II Cub Camp
August 8	Polaris District Popcorn University
August 17	Popcorn "show and sell" unit order due
September 7	Show and sell popcorn distribution
September 20	Boy Scout Invitational Golf Tournament
September 27	Silicon Valley Sporting Clays
October 6	WeST Fair NEW* (More Details)
October 12	"Take order" popcorn unit orders due
October 15	Show and sell popcorn return deadline
October 19	Show and sell popcorn payment due
November 2	Take order popcorn distribution
November 30	Take order popcorn payment due

Garden Railroad Tour

Visit five stunning in spectacular south county backyard gardens on 18 August from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. These layouts range from 20-ft x 20-ft up to the entire backyard in size. Cub Scouts are welcome with appropriate supervision. This is a food drive to benefit the St. Joseph's Center and Community Pantry. So, the admission is a canned food donation. For more information, contact nigel@candntractors.com.

Join the Polaris Training Team!

The training team consists of more than instructors. Besides trainers, we also need people to help with administration (course records and registration), course promotion, and event coordination. The Training committee needs your help more than ever with the BSA's push towards mandatory training for all direct-contact leaders. Serving as a trainer fulfills a requirement for the Journey to Excellence award by providing service at the district and/or council level. Earning a Journey to Excellence award provides benefits to your unit and recognition for a job well done. Please consider joining the Polaris Training Team and make it the best in the council. If you have questions, contact Jose Martinez.

Polaris Email Group

Please note that the address for the Polaris email group is changing to reflect the new council name. For submissions to the district mailing list, please send them to: SVMB-Polaris-RT@yahoogroups.com.

The Polaris District Email group is used to send this monthly Roundtable Reminder, our monthly newsletter "The Polaris Star" and between 3 and 7 special announcements a month. You can join the group if you would like to stay in the loop on all that is happening in the Polaris District. If you know a fellow Polaris Scouter who is not a member of the list, please invite them to join.

If you are not currently on the Polaris Yahoo Group mailing list and would like to receive the Star each month, please subscribe to our list by sending an email to the following address: SVMB-Polaris-RT-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Camping Resources

This time of year, most Boy Scout troops are trying to figure out where they are going to go camping this year. Two existing resources are available to help you find places that you may not have been to before. The first resource is a booklet titled "Bay Area Camping/Hiking/BackPacking & others activities" that is brought to us by Troop 468. You can download the booklet from [here](#). The second resource is a website created by our own Bobby Toda called scoutingoutings.com.

Join the Polaris District Committee

Are you looking for an opportunity to get involved with Scouting at the district level? With the new year beginning, its also the beginning of a new year for the Polaris District Committee. Two openings are available on the district committee: Membership Chair, and Social Media Chair. If any of these sound like the job for you, contact the Polaris District Director, Jose Martinez, at 408-638-8321. You can also talk to the District Chairman, Dave Holt.

July Cub Scout Roundtable

With the school year ending, many of your leaders are going to be moving up to Boy Scouts with their sons. Now is the time to train the successors for those leaders. Participation in the Cub Scout Roundtable is a great step toward training those new leaders. So, if you have leaders that are new to their positions or need development to prepare to assume a new role, please bring them to Roundtable. This helps them make connections with our district's best resources – the leaders of neighboring packs.

Cub Scout Roundtable is an ongoing supplementary training that gives leaders the skills, ideas, and resources to deliver an outstanding and fun program for our Cub Scouts. Roundtable teaches fun activities for their use at Den and Pack Meetings through demonstrations, activities, games, songs centered on the core values established by the National Scouting Program. This training is designed for adults, not for youth. Please refrain from bringing Scouts with you. While the National Scouting Program provides literature, our Roundtable provides alternatives for consideration that supplement this program. We welcome all leaders and parents to join in the fun with us.

July Roundtable – (To Be Announced)

This month, the Cub Scout Roundtable is addressing August program themes. Expect the usual breakouts for Cubmasters, Cub Den Leaders, and Webelos Den Leaders.

Remember that Roundtable is an adult learning experience. Please do not bring your kids. They impede the learning process (not to mention if they see it at Roundtable then it won't be fun at your Pack meeting). Please get a babysitter and come without the kids.

Roundtable would love to hear about theme related activities that your units are planning and would like to share!

Polaris Joins Facebook

Polaris District has a new page on Facebook. You can find Polaris District at <https://www.facebook.com/PolarisDistrictSVMBC/>. Postings to the page are moderated to eliminate inappropriate items. If you have news of interest to Polaris District scouts, take advantage of this new forum.

July Boy Scout Roundtable

With youths, sometimes things get carried away. We hope it never happen to us. But, on occasion, an argument may cause someone to get physical or shout inappropriately. Worse, sometimes a youth may engage in regular abuse of fellow scouts. Today, we also need to recognize the possibility of on-line harassment (cybwe bullying) or sexual harassment.

How does a leader respond in these situations? Do we ignore it and hope it goes away? Do we immediately punish the accused (zero tolerance)? Is there something in between? How do we judge when an incident is someone being a little too sensitive and when is it serious enough to be defined as bullying?

At our July Roundtable, we have Campbell MacInnes one of our council bullying interventionist on hand to answer these questions and more. Campbell has been involved in sorting out several incidents in our district. He can be a big help if you ever have to deal with bullying. Please make sure someone from your unit attends to get first hand input before you need it!

Looking forward, we plan to discuss Drug Awareness in August.

Monthly Roundtable Location

Polaris District holds a monthly Cub Scout and Boy Scout Roundtable meetings on the second Wednesday of each month at Good Samaritan United Methodist Church, 19624 E. Homestead Rd., Cupertino, CA. The meeting runs from 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM.

Venturing Roundtable Information

The VOA meets on the first Tuesday of the month in even months. In odd months, Venturing Roundtables are held instead. These meetings are held at the Council Service Center from 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM. Participation by an officer representative of every crew in the council is encouraged. Observers are welcome. The next meeting is the Venturing Officers Association on 7 August.

"Every Boy Deserves a Trained Leader"

Polaris District Committee

This Is Scouting

"This is Scouting", the replacement for New Leader Essentials, is now online at <http://olc.scouting.org>. Make sure that your e-learning profile includes your BSA ID number so that your completed courses can be matched with your leader registration.

Cub Leader Specific Training

8, 15, & 22 September – (To be announced)

Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO) Training

(To be announced)

Outdoor Webelos Leader Training

(Course merged into BALOO training)

Boy Scout SM/ASM Leader Specific Training

(To be announced)

Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills

7-9 September –Chesebrough Scout Reservation

Troop Committee Challenge

The Troop Committee Challenge is now available online @ <http://olc.scouting.org> (Please have your scout registration ID to log in. When completed, please notify Shawming Ma so that he can verify your registration.)

Venturing Leader Specific

17 November – (To be announced)

Den Chief Training

6 September – (To be announced)

20 October – (To be announced)

Woodbadge

14-16 September – Boulder Creek Scout Reservation (Weekend 1)

12-14 October – Boulder Creek Scout Reservation (Weekend 2)

For additional information or to verify your "Trained" status, please contact Shawming Ma.

Position	Name
District Chairman	Dave Holt
District Director	Jose Martinez
District Commissioner	Robert Lupfer
District Vice Chairman	Terry Bohlen
Finance Chair	Brian McCrone
Program Chair	Ken Bower
Activities Chair	Laurie Hecker
Pinewood Derby Chair	Daniel Lee
Scout O Rama Chair	John Lin
Popcorn Kernel	Linda Brooks
District Dinner Chair	Stephanie Bownas
Scouting for Food Chair	Alvin Chen
OA Chapter Advisor	Dave Low
Camping Chair	Kathleen Thurgate
Cub Day Camp Chair	Michelle Ray
Cub Day Camp Program Chair	Jo Young
Training Chair	Shawming Ma
Cub Scout RT Commissioner	Eric Hsu
Boy Scout RT Commissioner	Mark Fisher
Membership Chair	<i>Vacant</i>
WeST Chair	Greg Spears
Friends of Scouting Leadership Chair	Bob Wedig
Friends of Scouting Family Chair	Richard Lahey
Friends of Scouting CASA Chair	Yvonne Wang
Friends of Scouting Community Chair	<i>Vacant</i>
Advancement Chair	Hersh Bhargava
Communications/Public Relations Chair	Mark Ellson
Social Media Chair	<i>Vacant</i>

All e-mail addresses can be found through the Council by contacting Jose Martinez at 408-638-8321.

June Roundtable Recap

This time of year, many Cub Scout and Boy Scouts leaders are preparing to transition to new units as their children age. Now is the time to be lining up successors for those leaders and getting them trained. One of the best ways to start training new leaders is by getting them engaged in the relevant Roundtable. We also need to make sure that new Cub Scout leaders know that they have a place to come for support and assistance. We are looking forward to meeting you the remainder of this year and next year as we share ways to keep our units, District and Council a great source of fun with a purpose for our boys.

We would like to thank the following units for their attendance at the June Roundtable:

UnitType [Participants]

Packs 408 [3], 409, 411, 419, 453 [2], 468, UNK

10 leaders from 7 of 26 packs for 27% of our packs represented

Troops 404, 407 [3], 408, 452 [2], 453, 463, 466, 468 [2], 479, 485, 489, 498 [2], 508, 566, 606

20 leaders from 15 of 27 troops for 56% of our troops represented

Please join us in celebrating the following Roundtable First-Timers and Roundtable Anniversaries:

Name	Position	Unit
First Timers		
Hua Shu	Assistant Scoutmaster	T453
Hong Liu		P408
Balvie Aguilera	Den Leader	P409
Xiaoling (Becky) You	Assistant Scoutmaster	T606
Patrick Lynch	Pack Committee Chair	UNK
Frank Liu		T489

Thank you to all our FOS contributors for helping to make Roundtable possible! A small part of each FOS contribution is used to fund the crafts and activities presented at Roundtable.