



F E B R U A R Y 2 0 1 6

# ORION DISTRICT

Sam Houston Area Council

## NEWSLETTER

[www.oriondistrict.org](http://www.oriondistrict.org)



From the Desk of the District Commissioner: David Brown

We have another year of fun filled scouting ahead of us! This month we wrap up Scouting for Food, and we kickoff Scout Fair coupon sales, Orion District MBU, and University of Scouting training event.

### 2016 ORION DISTRICT MERIT BADGE UNIVERSITY

February 20, 2016

at Lone Star College - Tomball

Registration is closed!

Any Questions - See Debbie Okopinski

#### Schedule

8:15 AM	Registration begins
8:45 AM	Opening ceremony (Conference Center)
9:00 AM - 12 PM	Morning classes
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Lunch (meal provided)
12 PM - 4:15 PM	Afternoon classes
4:15 PM	Closing ceremony (Conference Center)



### SCOUTING FOR FOOD

Food pick up is this Saturday Feb 6th. Be sure you report your totals to David immediately following your turn in Saturday. See David Dunbar or the SHAC website for more details.

[David@DunbarOilandGas.com](mailto:David@DunbarOilandGas.com)



#### DISTRICT CONTACTS

##### District Executive

Heard Robinson 713-689-4619  
[heard.robinson@scouting.org](mailto:heard.robinson@scouting.org)

##### District Chairman

David McIver 281-414-3454  
[chairman@oriondistrict.org](mailto:chairman@oriondistrict.org)

##### District Vice Chairman

Al Blendermann 713-817-7768  
[community@oriondistrict.org](mailto:community@oriondistrict.org)

##### John Dutch

281-703-8534  
[vicechair@oriondistrict.org](mailto:vicechair@oriondistrict.org)

##### District Commissioner

David Brown 713-857-2335  
[commissioner@oriondistrict.org](mailto:commissioner@oriondistrict.org)

##### Programs Chairman

Jim Woods 713-397-9309  
[programs@oriondistrict.org](mailto:programs@oriondistrict.org)

##### Membership Chairman

Melissa Spears 832-723-4569  
[membership@oriondistrict.org](mailto:membership@oriondistrict.org)

##### Finance Chairman

Lynda Worlow 832-492-4911  
[finance@oriondistrict.org](mailto:finance@oriondistrict.org)

#### LOOKING AHEAD

##### February

- 1 Coupon Sales Begin
- 4 Roundtable
- 6 Scouting for Food Pickup
- 11 District Committee Meeting and District Commissioners' Meeting
- 13 University of Scouting
- 20 Merit Badge University

##### March

- 3 Roundtable
- 10 District Committee Meeting & District Commissioners' Meeting
- 31 Last day to register for Scout Fair

*To be prepared is to be informed*



## Scout Fair and Coupon Books

2016 Scout Fair – Take Flight with Scouting - April 16, 2016 \* 10am to 3pm \* NRG Arena

Coupon Sales has begun! Hopefully your Coupon Sales/Scout Fair Chair attended the Kickoff Meeting last Thurs (1/28/16). If they did, they will have all the details needed to sell coupons. If they didn't, please get in touch with our District Scout Fair Chairman, William Harris. For reminders and last minute updates about Scout Fair in the Orion District text **ORIONSF** to **84483**.

Just like last year, the Orion District will have a **TURN IN every THURSDAY**

Remember, there are selling incentives at both the Scout and Unit levels. The earlier you turn in money, the greater commission your Unit earns. Scouts who sell 15 books can be entered into a weekly drawings. Units that participate at Scout Fair, with a booth or as a service unit, earn an additional 10% commission on [Scout Fair Coupon Book Sales](#).

The three Scouts who sell the most coupon books in the council will receive:

- 1st Place Seller – \$800 gift card from Academy Sports + Outdoors
- 2nd Place Seller – \$600 gift card from Academy Sports + Outdoors
- 3rd Place Seller – \$350 gift card from Academy Sports + Outdoors

**iFly Bonus Prize** - Scouts who sell at least 216 Scout Fair Coupon Books will receive the prizes at the 216 level and an additional bonus: [A night at iFLY](#).

### **TURN IN DATES, TIME and LOCATIONS**

February 4<sup>th</sup> – 7:00PM District Roundtable @ Church of the Good Shepherd

February 11<sup>th</sup> – 7:00PM District Committee meeting @ Church of the Good Shepherd

February 18<sup>th</sup> – Tomball Chick-fil-A 7:00PM

February 25<sup>th</sup> – Tomball Chick-fil-A 7:00PM

March 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7:00PM District Roundtable @ Church of the Good Shepherd **5% bonus commission deadline**

March 10<sup>th</sup> – 7:00PM District Committee meeting @ Church of the Good Shepherd

March 17<sup>th</sup> – Tomball Chick-fil-A 7:00PM

March 24<sup>th</sup> – Tomball Chick-fil-A 7:00PM

March 31<sup>st</sup> – Tomball Chick-fil-A 7:00PM **3% bonus commission deadline**

April 7<sup>th</sup> – 7:00PM District Roundtable @ Church of the Good Shepherd **1% bonus commission deadline**

**PROGRAM  
ADVANCEMENT**

The Advancement of the Scout, whether he be a Tiger or a Life Scout completing his journey on the path towards the rank of Eagle depends on the support, dedication, and guidance of each of you. Thank you for all that you do.

**Merit Badge Counselors:** The position of Merit Badge Counselor is a District Position, whether you choose to work only with your home unit or all units. ALL MBC must be registered with the District/Council. This is done by completing and submitting the following:

1. An original Adult Leader Application (Identifying Code 42 and Merit Badge Counselor in the appropriate blocks) also, complete the Disclosure Page.
2. Providing a completed Merit Badge Counselor Information Sheet (Specify qualifications to teach the MB).
3. Current YPT certification (YPT is valid for two years). Please submit a copy of your YPT (Y01) to the Orion District Advancement Committee
4. Certification or qualification for the following Merit badges:
  - a. Rifle Shooting – Current NRA Training Certification
  - b. Shotgun Shooting – Current NRA Training Certification
  - c. Archery – USA Archery, NFAA (or equivalent) – Level 1 minimum
  - d. SCUBA Diving – Trained and certified by one of BSA's Scuba agencies (See the Guide to Safe Scouting)

**Submit the above to the Orion District Advancement Committee. Do NOT submit directly to Council.**

The MBC List on the Orion District Website is no longer updated a hardcopy of the Merit Badge Counselor List is being provided. Check your Unit mail folder. There will be two lists provided, one is a listing for the entire Orion District (updated quarterly) and the other is for the specific Unit (Troop).

**MERIT BADGE COUNSELORS, SCOUTS, PARENTS:**

Merit Badges are a learning experience. Scouts MUST do exactly what is stated in the merit badge handbook (Demonstrate, show, tell, etc.). If the work is NOT done or prerequisites are not provided the requirement is not to be signed off. Counselors are not to assume prerequisites have been met without some level of evidence that the work has been done. The "Blue Card" is the official way of tracking progress and completion of the merit badge. Merit Badge Counselors remember not to sign-off completion, unless the merit badge is actually completed. For partials, identify and initial only the requirements that the scout(s) have actually completed.

The Advancement Handbook is available at: <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/BoyScouts/AdvancementandAwards/resources.aspx>

Also available at this site is the **Advancement Newsletter**. There is information helpful for all types of Units (Packs, Troops, and Crews). Take a look!

**Attention Scouts, Leaders, and Parents or Guardians:**

The Eagle Scout Service Project Fillable PDF 2015 Version is available at: <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/BoyScouts/AdvancementandAwards/resources.aspx>

Please use this workbook when planning and submitting your project to District for approval. Be sure that you have provided ALL information (Names, addresses, BSA ID numbers and signatures). Submit your project in a notebook, be neat and organized. ALL Eagle Service Projects require the official Project Workbook (512-927). If you are beginning your Service Project Process, you **MUST** use the new workbook.

Reminder: Scoutmasters, Troop Advancement Chairmen, Troop Eagle Project Coordinators - You must take the Eagle Application, Project Workbook, the Candidates Letter of Ambition, and Letters of Recommendation down to Council for APPROVAL before an Eagle Board of Review is requested.

**ADVANCEMENT NEWS:** You may subscribe to "Advancement News" by sending a message to: [advancement.team@scouting.org](mailto:advancement.team@scouting.org) with "SUBSCRIBE" in the subject line. Indicate your name, email address, and council in the text message. There in information beneficial to Packs, Troops, and Crews on Advancement.

**Venturing:** A new training syllabus, "Goal Setting and Time Management", provides the Venturer with practical guidance about how to prioritize tasks and to use time well for significant projects. The syllabus is available online at: [www.scouting.org/filestore/venturing/pdf/Goal\\_Setting\\_Time\\_management.pdf](http://www.scouting.org/filestore/venturing/pdf/Goal_Setting_Time_management.pdf)

For a full link to information on the Venturing program go to: <http://www.scouting.org/venturing>

**Cub Scouting: Stay on top of the latest changes to Cub Scouting. Visit: [www.scouting.org/programupdates](http://www.scouting.org/programupdates)**

**Advancement Committee Chairman: Joe Okopinski – 281-356-2628; [doko1251@comcast.net](mailto:doko1251@comcast.net)**



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**FINANCE**

**2016 ORION DISTRICT FRIENDS OF SCOUTING CAMPAIGN**



FRIENDS OF SCOUTING 2016 - The Trail to Adventure

FOS 2016 is underway and off to a fast start. With just 3 presentations completed, our Scout Families and Community Friends have gifted the Friends of Scouting with \$11,165.00. That's already 23.51% of our total goal of \$47,500.00!! OOOOHHHH!! AAAHHHHH!!! IMPRESSIVE!!

We have a busy February with presentations for the Packs and we will finish up (mostly) in March with the Troops. Please help us by preparing your units with information and your support for what we are trying to accomplish.

Nearly 25% of the Sam Houston Area Council program is funded from the Friends of Scouting. Administrative, facility, camp upkeep, camperships and training scholarships are just a few of the costs that the Friends of Scouting Supports. All your gifts stay in our Council to help support the nearly 80,000 youth and volunteers that are making a difference now, and will make a difference for our future.

If you have any questions or would like to assist with presentations please see me at Roundtable or email me at [darwin.juvinall@gmail.com](mailto:darwin.juvinall@gmail.com)

Thank you for supporting our Scouts!!

**ORDER OF THE ARROW (OA)  
Mag Jaramillo, OA Advisor**



Thank you to Ramage Milby for his service as the OA Advisor! Going forward, Mag Jaramillo will handle all OA related items.

Items that need to be noted for the next couple of months:

February 16th --- Ordeal Weekend. Location is Baytown Nature Center.

February 19th - 21st --- SHAC Corps. Come out and help support our Council Camps. Location will be at Bovay Scout Ranch.

February 26th - 28th --- National leadership Seminar (NLS) and National Lodge Adviser training Seminar (NLATS). Location will be at Cockrell Scout Center

April 1st -- 3rd --- Colonneh Arrowman Bash. Huge weekend event open to all Scouts members of the Troop. I will have brochure for hand-out out Roundtable listing some of the program that you can enjoy.

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## **2016 Orion District Volunteer Recognition Dinner**

What a night! District Dinner was totally fun with good food and fellowship.! If you missed it, you need to make sure to put it on your calendar for January 2017! Congratulation to all award winners! We are truly blessed to have the volunteers that we have in Orion! Thank You!

Chartered Partner of the Year - Lakewood United Methodist Men's Club

Community Leader Award - Gretchen Fagan, Mayor of Tomball

### Chairman's Shining Stars

Loretta Blendermann  
Brian Keller  
Adam Chojnacki  
Chris Washburn  
Karolyn Willis

### Chairman's Choice Awards

Darwin Juvinall  
Jim Jolly  
Kenneth Berntsen

### Most Valuable Scouters

Lance Feldman  
Wendy Lewis  
Doug Wylie  
Luis Torres  
Vicki Nolan  
Sharon Hybarger  
Chad Ebbeler  
Dana Fields  
Gretchen Gray  
Greg Raskin

### John W. Dutch Courageous Scouter Award

Denise Milby

### Family of the Year

Provencer/Snyder Family

### District Award of Merit

Terry Box  
Ramage Milby

Platinum Stars - Pack 12, Troop 469

Gold Stars - Crews 42, 471, 1048; Packs 469, 471, 1178; Team 1048; Troops 471, 623, 1048, 1488;

### Commissioner Shining Stars

Ramage Milby - New Comer of the Year  
Joe Okopinski - Always There  
Rene Halbadier - Super Support (Always There)  
Richard Hermes - Compassionate Doctor



**Orion District New Eagle Scouts**



Christopher Clark (C1048)  
Nathan Bolton (C1048)  
Clay Perkins (T113)

**TRAINING**

**Tony Harrison, Training Chairman**



**UNIVERSITY OF SCOUTING**

University of Scouting - Saturday, February 13, 2016  
"Change Happens - Improve, Adapt, Overcome"  
Benjamin Davis High School  
12525 Ella Blvd.  
Houston, TX

Don't miss this excellent opportunity -  
there are a lot of great courses available.

Scouts \$20\* (includes pizza lunch for the all day  
courses)  
Adults \$25\*  
Staff \$10

\*There is a late fee of \$5 for walk-in registrations.  
ON-LINE REGISTRATION CLOSSES 2/9/16  
SEE SHAC WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS

**Online Training**

The following classes (and more) can be taken online. Check  
at [www.oriondistrict.org/oriondistrict/committees/  
training.aspx](http://www.oriondistrict.org/oriondistrict/committees/training.aspx) for links and instructions on how to take these  
classes.

- Fast Start Training for Cub Scout, Boy Scout, and Venturing  
Leaders and Unit Commissioners
- Youth Protection Training
- This is Scouting

- Troop Committee Challenge Cub Scout Leader Specific  
Training
- Weather Hazards
- Safe Swim Defense
- Safety Afloat
- Climb on Safely
- Trek Safely
- Physical Wellness
- Staffing the District Committee

**BULLETIN BOARD**

**DAY CAMP 2016**

Day Camp planning is under way and we are looking for some  
scouters to fill key staff positions in the program and promotions  
areas. Day camp will be held this June 14th - 17th.

Look for registration to open in February - your Cub Scout Pack  
should be identifying your Day Camp Coordinator.

Contact Chris Washburn and Adam Chojnacki (Pack 12) for more  
details and to volunteer to help!

**ORION DISTRICT  
UNIFORM: Locker  
Exchange**

Please help fellow Scouts in  
need. WE WANT YOUR OLD  
UNIFORMS! Please bring your  
clean, gently experienced  
uniforms to Roundtable. See  
Terry Box for more details!

**Know Someone?**

At the Patron Event planning  
meeting, we were asked with  
coming up with a list of names  
of folks in the Magnolia/Tomball  
area who are business/  
community leaders with a  
positive feeling towards  
scouting. If you know someone  
who fits the bill, please let Lynda  
Worlow know. Thank you for  
all that you do for Scouting!

**Camp-o-ree - April 8 - 10, 2016**

Camp-o-ree is a weekend camp out for troops. Patrols  
compete in various competitions such as fire building,  
cooking, sports, first aid and pioneering. Patrols are judged on  
leadership, teamwork, skill demonstration and Scout spirit.  
More Information - See Shac Website

Want to put something in the newsletter? Email Carol Bland

**BRAG WALL**  
**We need your pictures!**  
**Email them to Carol Bland**  
**cstatay@hotmail.com**