



M A R C H 2 0 1 8
ORION DISTRICT
 Sam Houston Area Council
NEWSLETTER
www.orion.shac.org



From the Desk of the District Chairman: Doug Strain

As many of you know, our District Executive, Heard Robinson, has been promoted to become District Director in Phoenix District. Heard has earned a reputation throughout Sam Houston Area Council as a passionate and hard-working professional Scouter, so I am pleased that he has a chance to move to a higher position.

Heard has been our District Executive for about five years, over half the life of the Orion District. To many of you, he is the only DE you've known. With Heard's steady leadership, Orion has become known as the go-to District. We were chosen last year to be the only District in SHAC to pilot the Lion program for Cub Scouts. We were the only district in the Northern Division (and one of the few in Council) to earn the Gold JTE for 2017. We couldn't have done that without the strong partnership of the many volunteers working together with Heard.

Those of you who know Heard know that, although being a professional Scouter was not his first vocation, Scouting has been his passion. In addition to working for SHAC, he has also been a long-time Scoutmaster for the Boy Scout troop at his church. I know that Heard has a passion for Orion, especially with all of the seeds he has sown in the District that will flower in coming years. He had every intention of retiring at Orion, but when he was asked to take this promotion, he consulted his family and they prayed about it. They concluded that he could do more for his family and for Scouting in this new role.

Until we have a new DE assigned to Orion, Heard's boss, Jack Jones, will be acting DE. You can reach him at john.jones@scouting.org. I expect that in the coming weeks we'll have a new DE once SHAC identifies one that is able to follow in Heard's footsteps.

Please join me in wishing Heard Robinson all the best in his new role. We look forward to his continued impact on Scouting in with our neighbors in Phoenix District.

From the Desk of the Vice-Chairman: Kagan Bosworth

Scouters – as part of an effort to improve district-wide communications, we are asking for volunteers for our communications team. To be effective as a district, our leaders need a reliable source of on-demand information as well as a way to provide time-sensitive updates. We are looking for help from Orion district Scouters to gather information for the monthly newsletter, update our official district website, update and maintain distribution lists, and assist in reaching out to our community. If you would like to volunteer, or have ideas on improvement opportunities, please call or email Kagan Bosworth at (713) 540-5653 or kagan.bosworth@technipfmc.com. Thank you.

DISTRICT CONTACTS

District Executive
 Heard Robinson 713-689-4619
heard.robinson@scouting.org

District Chairman
 Doug Strain 832-368-9511
chairman@oriondistrict.org

District Commissioner
 Robert Ausmus 979-373-1085
commissioner@oriondistrict.org

Programs Chairman
 Jim Woods 713-397-9309
programs@oriondistrict.org

Membership Chairman
 Lynda Worlow 832-492-4911
membership@oriondistrict.org

Finance Chairman
 Darwin Juvinal 281-960-8620
finance@oriondistrict.org

LOOKING AHEAD

March

- 1 Roundtable
- 1 OA Chapter Meeting
- 2-4 Camporee
- 2-4 Spring Training
- 8 Scout Fair Value Pack 5% Bonus Deadline
- 8 District Committee Meeting & District Commissioner's Meeting
- 16-18 Wood Badge Training I 8-1A
- 24 Spring University of Scouting
- 29 Scout Fair Value Pack 3% Bonus Deadline
- 31 Scout Fair participation deadline 10% Bonus

April

- 5 Roundtable
- 5 OA Chapter Meeting
- 5 Scout Fair Coupon Book 1% bonus deadline
- 6-8 OA Arrowmen Bash
- 6-8 Wood Badge Training 18-1B
- 6-8 Powder Horn weekend #1
- 12 District Committee Meeting & District Commissioner's Meeting
- 14 Scout Fair
- 20-22 Powder Horn weekend #2

To be prepared is to be informed

FINANCE

SCOUT FAIR
April 14, 2018
NRG Arena
10:00 am - 3:00 pm



Scout Books and Booths

Scout Fair Coupon Books - Turn ins every Thursday

March 5 - Deadline to turn in coupon book sales for 5% bonus commission
March 29 - Deadline to turn in coupon book sales for 3% bonus commission
April 5 - Final turn in

Sign up for a booth at Scout Fair and earn an extra 10% commission for each Coupon Book sold.
March 31, 2018 Deadline to sign up for extra 10% commission

<http://www.samhoustonbsa.org/scout-fair>

Karolyn Willis
832-764-2829

MEMBERSHIP

Lynda Worlow

Congratulations to Pack 469 for having the highest membership growth during the fall recruiting season. We look forward to seeing how they tastefully adorn the trophy! Who will be the next recipient? Could it be your unit? It's up to you to recruit new members for your unit and for our District!

PROGRAM

CAMPOREE

Last chance to sign up is at March 1 Roundtable. This year will be an exciting new style of Patrol Competitions that should be loads of fun for the Scouts. Be sure to sign up with Ray Duerer or Jim Woods and join us at Camp Karankawa Friday, March 2 - Sunday, March 4.

CAMPING CORNER

How to have camp in the rain and have responsible fun. The best way for our scouts to be successful and enjoy a rainy campout is to be prepared. If they set their tents up properly, then they should stay dry inside them. During the day, they can stay dry with the proper clothing. Along with our safety moments that we should have before any activity, be sure to prepare your scouts and adults for the anticipated weather and help them be prepared. Have a gear inspection to make sure each scout has rain gear, and rain gear that fits. Pants and Shirts are often better than ponchos at keeping scouts dry. When camp is set up, inspect tents to make sure they are set up properly, fly is out, tarp or footprint it tucked under the tent and rolled properly. It is OK to camp in the rain, it is better if your scouts are prepared, and it actually makes some of the best Scout Memories.

Order of the Arrow

Your Orion OA Chapter Ceremonial Team is off to a busy 2018 start with 10 ceremonies already conducted for everything from AOL's through Brotherhood. Also by the time you read this



Newspaper we will have already held our first off-site event with bowling on February 27th. Next on the agenda will be an Ordeal at Camp Brosig on March 2nd and 3rd.

Don't forget to register for the University of Scouting where we will be presenting a cursory overview course for Order of the Arrow Ceremonies.

You also need to be planning on your attendance at the annual Arrowman Bash to be held at Bovay on April 6, 7 & 8.

Jim Jolly, Orion Chapter OA Adviser
jollyjf@yahoo.com
832-797-6003

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; Scouting is a year round activity. Plan your Unit's (Pack, Troop, Team, Crew) accordingly.

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. Current YPT (Y01) certification is required, along with a completed Adult Leader Application, and a Merit Badge Counselor Information Sheet..

MERIT BADGE COUNSELORS, SCOUTS, PARENTS: Merit Badges are a learning experience. Scouts **MUST** do exactly as stated in the merit badge handbook (Demonstrate, show, tell, etc.)

ADVANCEMENT REPORTING:

It is important that **ALL units** report advancement. Regardless if you are a Pack, Troop, or Crew. Do this in a **timely** manner (monthly). A print out from the on-line report is required to receive the appropriate recognitions for ALL rank advancements and merit badges. **Internet Advancement** is a tool for units to report youth advancements, awards, and merit badges. Beginning the second quarter 2018, **Scoutbook** and **Scoutbook Lite** will **replace** Internet Advancement.

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 (NO LOOSE PAGES).. ALL Eagle Service Projects require the official Project Workbook (512-927) Oct 2015 printing.** Consider and recognize the significance and importance of the **Eagle Leadership and Service Project**. It **more** than just a Service Project. It requires Planning, Leadership, and Execution. You must use the current Project Workbook (**See above**). **Read it carefully.**

To be prepared is to be informed

Troop Advancement Chairman, Life to Eagle

Coordinators - When requesting an Eagle Board of Review (EBOR) District Representative please contact the District EBOR Coordinator at doko1251@comcast.net Please do this after you have received Council approval and and **two weeks** before the EBOR.If you desire a specific District Representative, please advise the District Coordinator with the name of the person.The District Coordinator will verify that persons availability.

Venturing:

For a full link to information on the Venturing program go to:

<http://www.scouting.org/venturing>

Cub Scouting:



www.scouting.org/programupdates

Committee Chairman ALL Units (Pack, Troop,

Crew) Please provide the name and email address of your Advancement Chairman/Coordinator. Include your Unit Number. Thank you to those units that have responded. Please send to: doko1251@comcast.net

Advancement Committee Chairman: Joe Okopinski –
281-356-2628; doko1251@comcast.net

BULLETIN BOARD

 <p>WANTED  Volunteers for Orion District</p>	→	<p>Commissioners Trainers Risk Management Team Merit Badge Counselors Advancement Team Day Camp Staff Communications</p>
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BRAG WALL

William Hunter Lang, Eagle Scout Troop 471,
submitted a joke that will appear in the March,
2018 issue of Boys Life