



O C T O B E R 2 0 1 5
ORION DISTRICT

Sam Houston Area Council
NEWSLETTER

www.orion.shac.org



From the Desk of the District Commissioner: David Brown

We have done a great job on rallies! Another busy month is coming up. We have Bobcat Day, Webelos Woods and Recharter training/kickoff! And popcorn sales should be in full swing.

If you have any issues, don't hesitate to contact you unit commissioner or myself. We are here to support your units!

Popcorn Kernel Updates-

How are popcorn sales going? Here are some reminders:

- ✓ Show and Sell ended Wednesday, 9/30/15.
- ✓ Take Order and Online sales continue until November 10th.
- ✓ You will need to turn in your Unit's orders to SHAC by November 10th, so please plan to have your sales summary ready. You may need to have an earlier deadline for your Unit so you can consolidate the sales for turn in to SHAC.
- ✓ You will pick up your Unit's product the weekend of 11/21/15 (right before Thanksgiving).
- ✓ Have you heard about Popcorn Blitz Days? A "Blitz Day" is a designated day where units are encouraged to sell popcorn during take order as a group by canvassing areas in their neighborhood. Each Scout that meets the total items sold count indicated by each date will qualify for entry in the drawing for one of three GoPro Hero3+ Silver Edition.
 - October 3, 2015 – Sell total 20 items by this date
 - October 24, 2015 – Sell total 40 items by this date
 - November 7, 2015 – Sell total 60 items by this date
 - To enter into drawing, email a screen shot (from your cell phone) of the Scout's sales form(s) showing the total number of qualifying items sold by 7:00 pm on the designated Blitz dates and email a picture of the forms to popcorn@shac.org.
 - Please be sure to indicate Scout's name, unit type and number and contact phone number to contact in case they win.
 - The winner will be drawn and announced on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/SHAC.BSA/>) the following Monday.
 - Note: Scouts are not required to participate in Blitz Day to enter drawing. If the required number of items are sold and met by the Blitz Day deadline, a Scout may submit an entry for the drawing.



Any questions, call or email me. Carol Bland, Pack 469 - Orion District Popcorn Kernel (832) 341-1744 or cstatay@hotmail.com

DISTRICT CONTACTS

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heard.robinson@scouting.org

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 Lynda Worlow 832-492-4911
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LOOKING AHEAD

October

- 1 Roundtable
- OA Chapter Meeting
- 3 Bobcat Day
- 10 Orion District Training Day
- 13 District Committee Meeting and District Commissioner's Meeting
- 16-17 SHAC Fun with Son
- 22 Council Coordinated Meeting
- 23-25 Webelos Woods

November

- 5 Roundtable
- OA Chapter Meeting
- 6-8 OA Fall Pow Wow
- 12 District Committee Meeting and District Commissioner's Meeting
- 14 Cub Scout Leader Pow Wow
- 14-15 OA Vigil Weekend
- 21 Popcorn Distribution

To be prepared is to be informed

PROGRAM

Webelos Woods 2015

It's on! Be there!

Gospel Lake Ranch in New Waverly, Texas. October 23-25, 2015. Registration is open. We have short window with deadline 10/15/2015. Please submit form with Current BSA Health Form. Cost is \$25 for each Webelos Scout which includes adult partner and \$5 for Troop participants.

Pushmobile 2015

It's almost PUSHMOBILE time again!

This year's event will be Saturday, Dec 12. Location to be determined, but most likely Tomball High School, or Tomball Little League parking lots. Rules and fees will be unchanged for this year. Online registration will begin November 5th. Early Registration will end at Roundtable on December 3rd. Online registrations after Dec 3rd and on-site registrations will incur a late fee as in years past.

Form your teams and start practicing. Competition will be tough!

Any questions about the event can be directed to Terry Box (terry.box@comcast.net).

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),
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). Now is the time to update your YPT Certification. Please submit a copy of your YPT (Y01) to the Orion District Advancement Committee by Nov. 30, 2015**
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 I 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.**

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/scoutsources/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/scoutsources/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 with "SUBSCRIBE" in the subject line. Indicate your name, email address, and council in the text message. There is 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

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
2015-2016 Pack Meeting Plans are available on-line.

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

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Orion District New Eagle Scouts



Kyle Happe(T1114)
Matthew Spicer(T113)

Merit Badge University 2016

Merit Badge University is scheduled for February 20, 2016 at Lone Star College - Tomball. Merit Badge Counselors are the key to making this program successful. If you have a profession, hobby, or a passion about a particular subject, please consider joining the staff and share your knowledge with the scouts. if you have questions or would like to join the staff, email Debbie Okopinski at doko1251@comcast.net

**ORDER OF THE ARROW (OA)
Ramage Milby, OA Advisor**

- ▶Sept. 1st was the start of OA Candidate Elections.
- ▶October 4 LEC (Lodge Executive Committee Meeting @ Cockrell Scout Center.
- ▶Nov. 6-8 Fall Pow Wow. Lodge Officer Election
- ▶Nov. 14-15 Vigil Weekend
- ▶NOV. 16 UNIT Elections End. All election material is to be returned at this time.

TRAINING

Tony Harrison, Training Chairman

Every Scout Deserves a Trained Leader

Online Training

The following classes (and more) can be taken online. Check at 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

WANTED

Volunteers
for
Orion District

→

- Commissioners
- Trainers
- Risk Management Team
- Merit Badge Counselors
- Advancement Team
- Webelos Woods Staff
- Pushmobile Staff