

The Voyageur



Volume 14, Issue 1

www.vac-bsa.org

Winter 2008

2007 FALL POPCORN SALES A HUGE SUCCESS FOR UNITS



Barry Bergquist announced that the 2007 Fall Popcorn Sales were the largest ever in the

Voyageurs Area Council. Over \$190,000 in commissions and prizes were earned by 134 units in the Council this fall. Match those unit commissions with the Council's and over \$380,000 was raised to provide program funds for our youth. With gross sales of

over \$604,000, Council units averaged over \$4,500 in gross sales. Congratulations to all the units for bettering their programs through the Council popcorn fundraiser. Barry also thanked the District Popcorn Chairs for their leadership in this record year.

Below is the Council Popcorn Sales Honor Roll of the unit's with the best per-Scout-average in sales and the district's per-Scout-average in sales:

Unit Honor Roll – Top Ten Units in Average per Sales by Youth

Unit Type	Unit Number	District	Gross Popcorn Sold	Average Sales per Scout
Troop	4116	Sleeping Giant	\$3,461	\$577
Troop	4129	Sleeping Giant	\$7,765	\$518
Troop	176	Great Bear	\$1,984	\$496
Troop	25	North Star	\$8,437	\$444
Troop	4128	Sleeping Giant	\$4,631	\$421
Crew	4161	Sleeping Giant	\$826	\$413
Pack	4171	Sleeping Giant	\$5,604	\$400
Troop	4020	Sleeping Giant	\$3,418	\$380
Troop	120	Great Bear	\$2,581	\$369
Pack	4018	Sleeping Giant	\$9,150	\$352
		Council Average	\$4548	\$166

District Totals

District	Popcorn Gross Sales	Sales per Scout	% of Units Selling	Average Gross Sales per Unit
North Border	\$24,574	\$289	80%	\$6,144
Sleeping Giant	\$159,844	\$234	91%	\$5,156
Paul Bunyan	\$71,115	\$195	76%	\$4,445
Council Average	\$604,906	\$166	79%	\$4,548
North Star	\$181,638	\$154	90%	\$4,909
Gitche Gumees	\$51,180	\$144	75%	\$4,265
Great Bear	\$69,530	\$140	65%	\$4,635
Wah Da Bong	\$28,184	\$101	53%	\$3,132
Appelget	\$18,841	\$92	75%	\$2,093

2008 Family Friends of Scouting Campaign

Basic Information: The annual Friends of Scouting Campaign is an opportunity for communities, businesses and families to support the Scouting movement in Northern Minnesota, Northern Wisconsin and Gogebic County in Michigan.

During the months of January through March, each Pack, Troop, and Crew should schedule a "Family" Friends of Scouting presentation. This presentation explains to parents how our Council is financed and educates them about our wonderful facilities.

The annual "Friends of Scouting" drive raises approximately 15% of the Council's operating budget each year. On average, \$150 per youth is needed to provide programs for one year.

2008 Theme: "It's the Journey, not the Destination."

A BOY WHO JOURNEYS along the Scouting trail will experience much more than the destination would lead one to expect. As he makes decisions along the way from one adventure to the next, he develops life skills and timeless values that will be his moral compass forever.

The adventure will lead him over many paths and trails and - in the end - will help him become a better citizen, with strong character. He will gain, with skills in cooperation, respect of himself and others, a firm foundation of ethical behavior.

Scouting helps him to build strong Character, Values, Community and Family.

No one will argue that the destination is not important. But it is the many adventures and experiences that make up the journey that help to realize the final destination, the complete individual.

Silver Beaver Award It's Time For Nominations

The Silver Beaver Award is the highest commendation our Council can give to a volunteer Scouter who contributes to improving the Council's Scouting program at a high level. The Selection Committee would like you to consider someone you know who has given to Scouting above and beyond just being a great parent to a Scout and then nominate that person for the Silver Beaver Award. According to our membership, we are allowed to give only a few of these awards each year and, of course, we would like to give them to the most deserving Scouters out there.

Established in 1931, the Silver Beaver Award is presented for distinguished service to young people within a BSA local council. More than 50,000 recognitions have been conferred to date. The

Silver Beaver Award is the highest council recognition awarded to registered adults for distinguished service to youth, upon nomination by the Local Council to the National Court of Honor of the Boy Scouts of America.

Carole Hawkinson will chair the 2007 Silver Beaver Selection Committee. Nomination forms can be found on the Council website at www.vac-bsa.org.

Send your completed nomination form to the Council Service Center as soon as possible. Our Volunteer committee will make the selections and the awards will be presented at the Voyageurs Area Council Annual Meeting and Recognition Dinner.

The Annual Meeting and Recognition Dinner will be held at the Great Room of the Radisson Hotel, May 3, 2008.

Annual Council Scouter Recognition Dinner set for May 3, 2008

The Voyageurs Area Council Annual Meeting and Recognition Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, May 3rd in the Great Hall at the Radisson Hotel in Duluth.

The Annual Recognition Dinner is our opportunity to recognize those Scouters who have made 2007 so successful for the Voyageurs Area Council.

A registration form will be available in March on the council website at www.vac-bsa.org.

The Council Annual Business Meeting will be held at 5:00 PM prior to the dinner. The Annual Meeting will also be held at the Radisson.

Silver Beaver Club - Are You A Member?

A new "club" was started during this past year - a way for those who have received the Silver Beaver Award to continue making it possible for our Council to give these awards in the future. The mission of this new Silver Beaver Club is to promote the Silver Beaver Award, maintain the high quality of the selections through identifying worthy candidates and to sponsor the annual Silver Beaver Class. Annual dues are a mere \$20 or \$100 for a lifetime membership. Your name will be listed with other recipients in the Annual Silver Beaver Program Booklet that is distributed at the Annual Meeting, which you are encouraged to attend. Join this year by the Annual Meeting and Dinner and you will be considered a Charter Member. Applications can be found on the Council website at www.vac-bsa.org.

2008 FAMILY FRIENDS OF SCOUTING RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

Family Individual Recognition

Level	Recognition
· Supporter (\$99 or Less)	Thank you letter and Lenticular Postcard
· Century (\$100)	Letter, postcard, plaque (or year tag)
· Family (\$125)	Letter, postcard, and Norman Rockwell mug
· Leadership (\$250)	Letter, postcard, plaque (or year tag) and mug
· Voyageur (\$350)	Letter, postcard and Wildlife Art Print
· Patron (\$500)	Letter, postcard, plaque (or year tag) and print
· Guardian (\$1,000)	Letter, postcard, plaque (or year tag) and print
· Sponsor (\$2,500)	Letter, postcard, plaque (or year tag) and print
· Benefactor (\$5,000)	Letter, postcard, plaque (or year tag) and print

Unit Recognition

Level	Recognition
· Presentation held Jan.-March	2008 FOS Banner
· \$1,000 Family FOS unit	Red, White and Blue FOS banner
· FOS Growth Unit – 10% increase over 2007	Free Camping Weekend at Council camp (10% over Actual)
· Gold Card Unit-See requirement sheet	15% Scout Store discount on unit purchases. 25% off Equipment Rental (canoe & trailers, leather working kits, map & compass kits, Eagle box & Banner and Tiger suit, i.e.) \$50 off weekend rental rate and \$25 off weeknight rental rate of a Council operated camp



**Commissioner's
Corner**
Rock Gillson
Council Commissioner

Hello,
Winter is here and the thrill of new adventures. Looking back to fall, we

remember the great Fall Camporees' and Webelos Action Camp, as well as the benefits of the successful food drives held across the Northland. The popcorn sale had a new approach, but we had a very successful product sale--Thank You to each Scout participant and volunteer. School Night was a tremendous event, but we want to continue to invite boys and their parents to join the fun of Scouting. Keep the welcome door open for those who would like to jump in and look forward to summer camp. Each unit should have posted their service hours on the goodturnforamerica.com site.

The new year brings an opportunity to do on-line rechartering. Don't forget the value of having 100% *Boys' Life!* This is a perfect time to recruit new parents to help and be a part of the new charter system, as well as any new Scouts. All units need to

strive to be a Centennial Quality Award recipient--be sure to call your Unit Commissioner for help. As we get busy with paperwork, don't forget the program!! Here are some of the events of the near future: Klondike is always a huge winter event and of course, Scout Expo will be here sooner than you think. Lastly, be sure to make plans for your summer resident camp week, and encourage eligible Scouts to look at the High Adventure opportunities that are available this summer.

New guidelines, new recording methods, new ways to sell popcorn, and a new look at the future are signs of forward thinking. Program is always advancing, creating new avenues to keep Scouts wanting another day of adventure, learning, and growing. You have taken them to limits that others fail to see, and the knowledge you give Scouts will empower them to make a difference. Continue your good work!!

Keep the spirit burning!

Rock Gillson

MyCouncil Feature Launched on Council Website

MyCouncil® is a new feature of the Voyageurs Area Council web site. It is a membership system where you can create a member account on the Council website (vac-bsa.org). Your member account will allow you to receive electronic communications from the Council in the form of emails and e-newsletters. You can specify your interests and choose the type of communications you want to receive so that you get information that is both relevant and timely.

In the near future, your MyCouncil account can be used to collect and store favorite pages and events from the website, create a personal calendar, and will also be used in the future to register for events. Your MyCouncil page will become your personalized Home Page on the council website (vac-bsa.org).

Join Today! - Becoming a member is fast and easy!

1. Just click the **Join** link in the upper right corner of any page of the website (www.vac-bsa.org).

2. A short dialog will collect your information and will create a personal profile with your interests. You can change your e-mail address, password and interest choices at any time.

MyCouncil will provide for better communications with the 2,000 plus volunteer leaders, 4,000 plus parents and others involved with the Voyageurs Area Council.

Current Subscription Features - *you can receive general e-mails and announcements from the Council regarding up-to-the-minute news about council happenings and events.*

Council E-Newsletter - volunteers can now subscribe to the newsletter online. Advantages include:

- Receive electronic notification that a new newsletter is available
- Reduce printing and postage costs, allowing more resources for youth and leaders

EAGLE RECOGNITION BANQUET

David Marshall, Chairman of the Voyageurs Area Council National Eagle Scout Association, announced that the Council Annual Eagle Scout Recognition Banquet has been tentatively scheduled for Monday, May 13, 2008 at the DECC in Duluth. The date and location may change due to speaker availability.

All Scouts who have received their Eagle Award during 2007 will receive an invitation in the mail to register for the banquet. Scouts will be sponsored by community leaders who are also Eagle Scouts. The sponsor will pay the fee for the Eagle Scout at the banquet.

For additional information on the Eagle Scout Recognition Banquet, contact the Council Service Center at (218) 729-5811.

MATT BISBEE RETURNS AS THE SLEEPING GIANT & NORTH BORDER DISTRICT EXECUTIVE



K e v i n Nichols, Scout Executive, announced that **Matt Bisbee**, Orr, was re-employed on November 1, 2007 as the

District Executive to serve the Sleeping Giant and North Border Districts of the Voyageurs Area Council after an extended military assignment in Afghanistan. **Bisbee** will be responsible for giving direction to the Scouting program in the Sleeping Giant District which serves over 1,000 youth members and 300 adult volunteers throughout the communities of Hibbing, Chisholm, Virginia, Eveleth, Cook, Orr and Ely in northern St. Louis County of Minnesota. He will be working closely with District Chairman **Jace Trramontin**, Hibbing, and District Commissioner **Chad Buggert**, Eveleth.

Matt will also be giving direction to the North Border District, which serves 85 youth members and 25 adult volunteers in Koochiching and Lake of the Woods Counties of Minnesota. He will be working closely with District Chairman **Lois Averill**, International Falls, and District Commissioner **Julie Joslyn**.

Matt has spent the past year and a half training for or serving in Afghanistan with the US Army Reserve. While there, he trained and mentored an Afghan National Army Infantry Company. **Matt** graduated from Inver Hills Community College with an Associate of Arts degree in Social Studies and the University of Wisconsin-River Falls with a Bachelor of Scienc Degree in Broad Field Social Studies-Secondary Education. **Matt** is currently

pursing a Master of Science Degree in Special Education from Bemidji State University. **Matt** originally came to us from the education field after spending seven years teaching mathematics, social studies and special education in public, private, and charter schools. Concurrently, Matt has completed 22 years of military service, having spent time on Active Duty and in the US Army Reserves, Wisconsin Army National Guard, and Minnesota Army National Guard.

Matt is still serving with the Army Reserve as a Sergeant First Class.

Matt formerly worked for Indianhead Council (St. Paul, MN) as their Special Needs Coordinator and has served as a Den Leader, Webelos Den Leader, Cubmaster, Pack Committee Chair and Troop Committee Member with Pack 138 in Glenwood City, WI, Pack 122 and Troop 427, both in Orr, MN. Matthew and his wife, Paige, have seven children (5 boys and 2 girls).

The family live on a hobby farm south of Orr, MN. They also breed AKC registered dachshunds.

2008 COUNCIL CAMP RENTAL FEES

In order to bring the rental fees in line with the cost of maintaining the camps, the Properties Committee has initiated a rate increase as of January 1, 2008. Please review the rate information and if you have any questions, please call The Scout Service Center. This is the first rate increase in five years.

This rate increase includes all reservations made before January 1, 2008.

Council Units	<u>Per Night</u>	<u>Weekend (2-night Minimum)</u>
Normal Rate*	\$ 75.00	\$ 150.00
Voyageurs Wilderness Corp**	\$ 60.00	\$ 120.00
Gold Card Units	\$ 50.00	\$ 100.00
Combination VWC and Gold Card	\$ 40.00	\$ 80.00
Council/District Activities	\$ 40.00	\$ 80.00
Out of Council BSA***	\$ 100.00	\$ 200.00
Non- Scout	\$ 100.00	\$ 200.00

* Effective January 1, 2008

** Voyageurs Wilderness Corps camp service day

Unit annually participates in one camp service day

A minimum of 6 hours per person with a minimum of 5 youth and 2 adults.

Unit must attend scheduled service day to be eligible for rate.

Camp Service Days (tentative schedule)

Newman –In May & September

Horace Johnson – In May & September

Barksdale – In Spring

Nushka – In Fall

Discounts are applicable from July 1 through June 30th annually.

Please review the rate schedule and make the adjustments to what fees you will owe for the camp according to how the rate schedule applies to your unit. If you have any questions please call **Susan Meyer** or **Al Braff at 218-729-5811**.

**ADAM HAGLIN ASSIGNED TO
SERVE AS DISTRICT
EXECUTIVE FOR GITCHE
GUMEE AND WAH DA BONG
DISTRICTS**



Kevin Nichols, Scout Executive, announced that **Adam R. Haglin**, Superior, WI, has been reassigned to serve as District Executive to

the Gitche Gume and Wah Da Bong Districts of the Voyageurs Area Council. The Districts serve the communities of Douglas, Bayfield, Ashland and Iron counties of Wisconsin and a major portion of Gogebic County in Michigan. **Haglin** will be responsible for giving direction to the Scouting program in those areas which serve over 640 youth members and 100 adult volunteers in 34 Scouting units. He will be working closely with the District volunteers to serve those units. The area volunteer leadership are under the direction of the following: District Chairman – **Rick Klun**, Gitche Gume and Judge **Pat Madden**, Wah Da Bong; and District Commissioners – **Lynne Smith**, Gitche Gume and **Ron Zaleski**, Wah Da Bong.

Adam started his new position on December 1st.

THE VOYAGEUR

Published by

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Voyageurs Area Council Officers

Dave Sauer - President

Rock Gillson - Commissioner

Kevin Nichols - Scout Executive

Al Braff - Editor

MEMORIALS

The Voyageurs Area Council Tribute Fund is a program through which donors may acknowledge a friend, relative, or business associate in the form of recognition or congratulations or as a memorial in the time of sorrow.

The Voyageurs Area Council has received the following memorials:

IN MEMORY OF DR. DALE AMUNDSON

- Beverly Goldfine
- Alan & Dorothy Johns
- Gervaise Westerman
- Dr. John & Rae Janis LeVasseur
- Pauline Elder
- Warren & Barbara Tyacke
- John & Christine Peterson
- Robert & Jacquelyn Johnson
- Paul & Mary Gunderson
- Lois Wamsley
- Carol Tumini
- Michelle LeMasurier
- Barbara Preston
- Carole Grams
- Cynthia Fochs
- Dr. Robert & Kathleen LeVasseur
- Robert & Deborah Braye
- Janet Young
- A. William & Ellen Hedenberg
- Susan & Mark Larsen
- Robert S Mars III
- Michael & Susan McKinney
- John & Joanne Evans
- Iris Larson
- Roselyn Erickson
- William Leneau
- Northeastern District Dental Society
- Lillian & Manley Goldfine
- Leroy & Marlene Engen

- Naomi Meints
- Millie Shank
- Frank & Laura Budd
- Kathleen Bujold-Arras
- Adler & Phlaine Johnson
- Michael Spencer
- Connie & Bill Dinan
- Don & Nancy Moline
- Matt & Mary Seppo
- Eikill & Schilling LTD
- Robert & Teresa Falsami
- Michael & Susan Wolz
- Judge & Mrs. Donald Alsop
- George & Marian McCall
- Larry & Mary Haugen

IN MEMORY OF CLARENCE GRAHMA JR

Bill Betzler

IN MEMORY OF MARIAN MELDAHL

Roger & Marian Braff

IN MEMORY OF MRS VERZL M. O'BRIEN

Bill Betzler

IN MEMBORY OF GEORGE SUTHERLAND

- Keats & Marianne Hunt
- David & Julieann Beal
- Anthony & Suzanne Paar
- Duane & Rachel Jacobson
- David Halseth
- Marguerite Larsen
- Aaron Gross
- Carolyn Porter
- Norman Dinse
- M & C Tucci

IN MEMORY OF IRENE WINKLER

Bill Betzler

SCOUTING CONFERENCE 2008

Learning is a discovery process and every youth deserves a well-trained leader who will help him or her discover the promise that is in each of them.

The purpose of the Scouting Conference (formerly known as University of Scouting) is to promote learning and interaction between the different program areas, while enabling Scouters to prepare themselves to put forth a quality program in the units. It offers a large variety of training sessions for all Scouters whether they are Cub Scout leaders, Boy Scout leaders, Venture leaders or District volunteers. The Conference also offers Den Chief

Training for Boy Scouts who are working with area Cub Scout Packs.

The Scouting Conference is scheduled for Saturday, February 2, 2008 at Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College in Cloquet. The registration fee is \$25.00 when registered by January 28, 2008.. If you register by January 11, 2008, the fee will be discounted to \$18.00.

Please check out the website for registration materials at: **http://www.vac-bsa.org/Events/ScoutingConference**

Cub Scout Adventure Camp At Camp Chicagami

So Cubs, are you ready for this: Located on Pleasant Lake in Eveleth, Minnesota, with a mile and a half of shore line and 140 acres of boreal forest, Camp Chicagami offers a small camp environment in the North Woods.

Be ready and get your reservations in for Voyageurs Area Council's first of it's kind, Overnight Cub Adventure Camp. You and your adult partner (One Adult per one Cub) will spend July 11 and 12, 2008 doing things like pitching your tent, spending time on our activities ranges, wildlife, outdoors, craft and other projects. You will get an opportunity to work on some of the requirements for your badges, and use the waterfront as you enjoy this great outdoor setting. We supply the location, the food and the fun. You supply yourself and your adult partner.

Look for more information coming to you soon.

Spring Webelos Action Camp

Come and join us June 13-15, 2008 for a great weekend of fun and activities at our Spring Webelos Action Camp at **Camp Chicagami**. Camp out with your fellow Webelos and cook a couple of your meals in the open, enjoy the Campfire and the competition in the field activities.

Experience the wonders of camping out in a beautiful setting. Enjoy working on parts of your Webelos and Arrow of Light Badges, while camping with fellow Webelos and their adult leaders.

Look for more information to be sent to every Bear and Webelos in February.

Everyone on the committee is working hard to make this year's Spring Webelos Action Camp the best yet.

Olympics 2008 "Excellence in Sportsmanship"

It happens every two years. They are world class. They work their whole life to achieve the result that they are after. Just to be known as a participant tells of the work, devotion and sacrifice to be where they are in their life.....
OLYMPIC ATHLETES .

Welcome to your time, your chance, and your opportunity to show just what you are made of at Cub Scout Day Camp.

All Day Camps are two days. The registration fee is \$50 per Cub Scout. If your unit registers and pays for all Cub Scouts by Noon, May 21, 2008, your unit will qualify for the Early Bird fee of only \$35 per Scout.

You won't want to miss a single fun-filled minute exploring the games and adventures of the Olympics 2008 "Excellence in Sportsmanship". All of this is coming to a location near you. Now is the time to start warm-up plans and put them in motion. Plan now to be on hand at your Day Camp as you challenge yourself and other Cubs on this quest. Be with us for all the fun, adventure and excitement of your Olympics 2008 "Excellence in Sportsmanship".

Is Your Unit a Trailblazer?

The Voyageurs Area Council has created a new recognition for units that meet the level of "Trailblazer." The Trailblazer Unit Award recognizes outstanding packs, troops, crews, and ships that go "above & beyond" the objectives for the Centennial Quality Award, thereby achieving a high level of premier programs for their youth. The Council encourages all the units to strive for these premier standards for their unit.

Major Features

- Units must meet 10 of 12 objectives to qualify as a Trailblazer Unit (Six objectives are required, plus four additional objectives = ten total.)
- The unit can earn the Trailblazer Unit Award every year, which is based on a January-December timeframe.

- Only a unit that achieves the Centennial Quality Unit award can earn Trailblazer Award.
- The unit can apply for the award at the same time it applies for the Centennial Quality Unit award.

Unit Recognitions

- Streamer: A pennant streamer for unit flagpoles or room display is awarded to each unit-free.

Individual Recognitions

- Patch: Each youth member and adult leader qualifying for the Trailblazer Unit Award is eligible to wear the emblem as a temporary patch. One center patch per lifetime.
- Segments: A yearly segment can be worn around the outside of the base patch.



RED LANTERN AWARD

Congratulations to **Shawn Halverson**, who is the latest recipient of the Council Red Lantern Award.

Shawn helped organize Boy Scout Troop 427, sponsored by Calvary Lutheran Church, Orr, MN.

Congratulations to Shawn for the great work he has done organizing this new unit and providing the Boy Scout program to youth in the Voyageurs Area Council.



2010 NATIONAL SCOUT JAMBOREE YOUTH CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF SCOUTING HOLD-A-SPOT APPLICATION FORM



The 2010 National Scout Jamboree will be held from July 21 - August 5, 2010 at Fort A.P. Hill near Fredericksburg, Virginia. This is the historic area of Washington D.C., Colonial Williamsburg, Yorktown, Richmond, and Norfolk, Virginia.

The anticipated cost per Jamboree participant will be \$1,600 - \$2200*. Every effort will be made to bring this fee in at as low a price as possible, while preserving the quality of the Jamboree experience. The 2005 National Jamboree fee included transportation to and from the Jamboree, meals on route, a tour of Washington D.C., Colonial Williamsburg and Yorktown area. \$100 will hold a spot for you for the 2010 Jamboree. This fee is refundable (with a \$15 administrative cost reduction) through October 1, 2009*. After that, it is transferable, but not refundable. Later, there will be scheduled payments, with the total fee due February 1, 2010.

The Voyageurs Area Council is planning to send up to three troops consisting of 36 youth and 4 leaders per troop to the 2010 Jamboree.

Overwhelming response is expected due to the 100th Anniversary. It is anticipated a Scout will need to apply early to ensure a spot in the contingent, as the slots will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. If you want more information on the Jamboree, or want a spot held for you, please return the form below with the required information and we will see that an official Jamboree Application is sent to you. **Anticipated Jamboree participant's qualifications are as follows:**

1. Be a Scout who has completed the sixth grade or be at least 12 years of age by July 1, 2010, attained the rank of First Class by July 1, 2010. His 18th birthday must not be before August 2, 2010.
1. Participates in pre-Jamboree Training.
1. Have a completed Class "3" National Jamboree physical issued to each participant by the national office of the B.S.A.
1. Have been active in his Troop for at least six months prior to July 1, 2010.
1. Be approved by his Scoutmaster and the Voyageurs Area Council Jamboree Committee.

**All items on this sheet are subject to change based upon future cost clarifications and announcements by the National Council, BSA. This current text is based upon previous Jamboree experiences and local projections of costs to 2010. Final Voyageurs Area Council Jamboree Contingent cost and itinerary will be announced by June 2008.*

Return to: **2010 Jamboree Committee
Voyageurs Area Council
3877 Stebner Road
Hermantown, MN 55811**

_____ Hold-a-spot for me in the 2010 Jamboree Troop. Find enclosed my check for \$100, payable to the Voyageurs Area Council, BSA. I understand that an official application will be sent later.

_____ Please send me more information on the 2010 National Scout Jamboree when available.

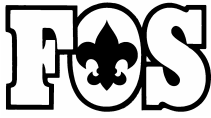
Name: _____ Troop# _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip _____

Email: _____ Date of Birth _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian _____ Date _____

Scoutmaster Signature: _____ Date _____



2007 FAMILY FRIENDS OF SCOUTING DISTRICT AND UNIT HONOR ROLL

The Family Friends of Scouting campaign is conducted each year to give every Scouting family an opportunity to learn about and financially support the programs and services of the Voyageurs Area Council.

In 2007, Scouting families pledged and paid more than \$66,800 to this important campaign. Every unit leader and the parents of the scouts are encouraged to support and become a Friend of Scouting donor. The council has to raise over **\$150 for every registered Scout** to provide one year of quality program in the Voyageurs Area Council.

What does Friends of Scouting provide?

- Local programs and activities throughout the council territory
- Camp scholarships, uniforms and registration fees for at-risk youths
- Scout Service Center that coordinates Scouting activities and provide customer service to members
- Accident and liability insurance to protect both youth and adult members
- Professional staff who counsel, guide and inspire volunteer leadership
- Camps and facilities available for year-round camping and Cub Scout family outdoor events
- Opportunities to attend summer camp and high-adventure events
- Advancement programs where Scouts are recognized for learning and making progress on goals they set and attain
- Literature and training-material development and distribution
- Leadership training for young people who will become future community leaders

Next, we present the 2007 Family FOS Honor Roll, representing the achievements of our Districts, Units and the families' support of the Voyageurs Area Council's character education program – Scouting. Thank you to the unit leaders that invited a FOS Presenter to a parent meeting this year. A big **Thank You** to all the families that gave and helped provide financial help to the Scouting programs of the Council, District and their Units. Without their financial gifts, Scouting in our communities would have a far less positive impact on the lives of young people. If you missed the presentation, your family can still make a difference in 2007 by sending in a donation to the Council Service Center.

In 2007, 118 of the 162 (or 73%) registered Scouting Units in Voyageurs Area Council had families that donated to the Family FOS campaign. The average family gift raised per Scout was **\$22 per Scout**. Our Family Gift Level for 2007 was \$85. Individual recognition gifts have been or are being distributed. Unit Honor can be found on page 9.

District Honor Roll

<u>District</u>	<u>Average Family Gift per Registered Scout</u> (6/30/07)
Paul Bunyan	\$31
North Star	\$30
Sleeping Giant	\$26
North Border	\$21
Appelget	\$17
Great Bear	\$15
Gitche Gumees	\$14
Wah Da Bong	\$11

THE GOLD CARD CHALLENGE!

Receive the following:

- A 15% discount on all unit purchases at the Scout Shop
- A 25% discount on all Equipment Rental Fees by the unit.
- \$50 off the weekend rental fees of a Council operating camp or \$25 per night on weekday.

GOLD CARD REQUIREMENTS AND INFORMATION

All of us know how important Scouting is for our kids. We all believe that Scouting is instrumental in developing good character, citizenship skills and personal fitness. But it does take money to keep the Scouting program strong, and we do rely on our Scouting families for support.

This year, every unit that averages a \$75 (tax deductible) contribution per Scout from its membership through Family Friends of Scouting will qualify as a Gold Card Unit. (Based on the number of youth registered at most current re-charter).

The Gold Card will be issued providing **all current pledges are paid in full** by June 30, 2008. Cards will be valid from July 1st to June 30th.

WHY SHOULD YOUR UNIT SUPPORT THE COUNCIL?

Because to continue to provide the best possible program, activities and short term camp facilities, the best possible training and support for leaders and all of the other things that bring a quality Scouting experience to our children, we need everyone's support.

(Continued on page 9)

Unit		District	Average Gift Per Family
\$100 and Up			
Troop	180	Great Bear	\$163
Troop	4017	Sleeping Giant	\$121
Troop	4025	Paul Bunyan	\$112
\$50 to \$99			
Troop	9	North Star	\$81
Troop	4128	Sleeping Giant	\$71
Troop	28	North Star	\$66
Pack	4126	Sleeping Giant	\$65
Pack	228	Gitche Gumee	\$63
Troop	7	North Star	\$62
Troop	4129	Sleeping Giant	\$61
Pack	152	Great Bear	\$60
Troop	4114	Sleeping Giant	\$58
Pack	43	North Star	\$56
Troop	342	Wah Da Bong	\$55
Pack	9	North Star	\$54
Troop	171	Great Bear	\$53
Troop	229	Gitche Gumee	\$50



Unit		District	Average Gift Per Family
\$40 to \$49			
Troop	4023	Paul Bunyan	\$49
Troop	213	Gitche Gumee	\$48
Troop	15	North Star	\$48
Troop	84	North Star	\$46
Troop	29	North Star	\$46
Troop	25	North Star	\$44
Pack	4103	Sleeping Giant	\$43
Pack	4032	Paul Bunyan	\$43
Troop	4144	Appelget	\$43
Crew	4161	Sleeping Giant	\$43
Troop	4053	Paul Bunyan	\$40
\$30 to \$39			
Pack	343	Wah Da Bong	\$39
Pack	4062	North Border	\$38
Troop	323	Wah Da Bong	\$36
Pack	4045	Appelget	\$36
Pack	4056	Paul Bunyan	\$36
Troop	4001	Sleeping Giant	\$34
Troop	152	Great Bear	\$33
Troop	4020	Sleeping Giant	\$32
Pack	4053	Paul Bunyan	\$31
Pack	29	North Star	\$31
Troop	4013	Sleeping Giant	\$30
Troop	4041	Appelget	\$30

Gold Card Challenge (Continued from page 8)

When your unit participates in the Friends of Scouting campaign and the Popcorn Sale, you will be helping to ensure a bright future for your unit and for the entire Voyageurs Area Council.

WHAT IS FRIENDS OF SCOUTING?

The Voyageurs Area Council will support more than 168 local packs, troops, crews, and posts. 7% of that money will come from our United Ways and some will come from activity and camp fees and from the Council Trust Fund. However, these sources fall short of providing all of the income necessary to support the programs and services of the Council. The Council has to raise an additional **\$150 per Scout** to provide the program your Unit's Scouts enjoy.

To make up the difference, the Council conducts an annual family fundraising campaign (Friends of Scouting) to give parents of Scouts the opportunity to support their local Scouting program.

Gold Cards will be issued to all units who qualify by:

- ◆ Having a full "Friends of Scouting" presentation for unit's Scouting families during January, February or March.
- ◆ Average a \$75 contribution per Scout to the campaign from its membership (based on the number of youth registered from the most recent re-charter).
- ◆ Having all the unit's current total pledges paid in full by June 30, 2008. No cards will be issued until payments are recorded.
- ◆ Participated in the previous Fall Popcorn Sale (2007 sale for 2008 gold card and so on) with a minimum of \$1000 in total gross sales.

Gold Cards are valid from July 1st to June 30th.

2008 Centennial Quality Commitment And Achievement Form For Unit Award

"To improve the QUALITY of program in every unit in America!"

Type of Unit _____ Unit Number _____ District _____

Chartered Organization _____

As leaders of our unit we are dedicated to achieving the following criteria for the 2008 Centennial Quality Award: Reviewed

Criteria for Award	2007 Actual	2008 Goal	2008 Actual	Yes/No Achieved
1. We will have ____ percent of our direct contact leaders complete Basic Leader Training and Youth Protection Training.				Yes / No
2. We will provide excellent programs to achieve our goal of _____ percent youth retention.				Yes / No
recharter on time, and				Yes / No
will recruit _____ new members.				Yes / No
3. In the spirit of the National Parent Initiative, we will recruit _____ new parents / adults to assist our unit program.				Yes / No
4. We will have ____ percent of our youth earn advancement awards.				Yes / No
5. We will have _____ percent of our youth participate in at least ____ outdoor experiences or group activities during the year.	_____	_____	_____	Yes / No
6. We will conduct annual program planning and will provide the financial resources to deliver a quality program to all members.	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes / No
(The two items listed below are not required to quality.)				N / A
We received ____ visits from our unit commissioner this year.				N / A
We will support the council by participating in Friends of Scouting, and the annual product sale.	Yes/No Yes/No	Yes/No Yes/No	Yes/No Yes/No	N / A N / A

and accepted on this date _____ by:

Unit leader/Unit chair

Unit commissioner/
District representative

District Executive

Based on our evaluation of the criteria (To be completed between October 31 and December 31):

___ Yes, we have achieved the 2008 Centennial Quality Unit Award.

___ No, we have not yet achieve the award for 2008, but have developed an action plan to accomplish it by year-end.

The action plan includes: _____

Reviewed and approved on this date _____ by:

Unit leader/Unit chair

Unit commissioner/
District representative

District Executive

(1st page — council copy; 2nd page — commissioner/district representative copy; 3rd page — unit copy)

2008 Centennial Quality Commitment and Achievement of Unit Award Interpretation of Criteria

“To improve the QUALITY of program in every unit in America!”

Use this information to guide your understanding of the criteria. Use actual numbers from the previous year to guide your improvement as you establish your goals. The unit leadership should meet with the district leadership to discuss what the unit wants to accomplish. Together you can develop an action plan for excellence. (If any of the criteria are at an agreed-upon number, then the goal might be to maintain them for this year.) Additional details and other resources in support of the Centennial Quality Awards program can be viewed by going to the www.scouting.org Web site.

After you have completed the form, submit it to the council for recording and filing. The first page is the council copy; the second page is the commissioner/district representative copy; and the third page is the unit copy.

- 1. We will have ____ percent of our direct-contact leaders complete Basic Leader Training and Youth Protection Training.** Direct-contact adult leaders include: Cubmaster, den leaders, Webelos leaders and all assistants; Scoutmaster and assistants; Varsity coach and assistants; crew Advisor and associates. These are adults who meet with youth regularly. You identify how many are registered and develop a plan to have them trained. If in the fall a new leader is registered within the past two months, their training status will not keep the unit from qualifying. To help with this achievement, each unit should have a **unit trainer** to work with all adults who need training. The job description can be found on the Web site under the Centennial Quality Awards program details.
- 2. We will provide excellent programs to achieve our youth membership goal of ____ percent retention, recharter on time, and recruit ____ new members.** The youth retention goal and the number of new youth should be set with the commissioner and unit leadership at the beginning of the calendar year. You should also work with your commissioner to recharter on time.
- 3. In the spirit of the National Parent Initiative, we will recruit ____ new parents/adults to assist our unit program.** The purpose of the National Parent Initiative is for each unit to involve more parents/mentors with their unit’s program. Every parent should be asked to help with at least one specific task. Go to www.scoutparents.org for more details and tools available to support these efforts. Other adults who do not have children in the unit can also be recruited as mentors.
- 4. We will have ____ percent of our youth earn advancement awards.** This includes the basic rank awards in Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, and Varsity Scouting. For Venturing, this includes the earning of individual core requirements and electives in the Ranger, Quest, Trust, Bronze, Gold, Silver, and Quartermaster awards, as well as completion of the Venturing Leadership Skills, Kodiak, Kodiak X, or SEAL courses.
- 5. We will have ____ percent of our youth participate in at least ____ outdoor experiences or group activities.** Specify in advance the events that will be used and how many are required to qualify. For Cub Scouting, this could include pack meetings. For Boy Scouts or Varsity Scouts, the emphasis is outdoor activities, not meetings. The types of outdoor activities may vary for each type of program. Venturing crews can develop an activity schedule centered on their planned programs of emphasis.
- 6. We will conduct annual program planning and will provide the financial resources to deliver a quality program to all members.** Your unit should develop an annual program plan and share it with all members. The unit develops a budget of expenses and a plan to provide the finances to achieve quality programs, through unit fund-raisers and member dues.

Additional Goals: When commissioners meet with unit leaders as part of the **annual action planning meeting**, they can review other important areas. Use the **unit self-assessment** tools as a part of this process. To include, but not limited to: 100 percent of families subscribing to *Boys’ Life*, service projects recorded on the Good Turn for America Web site, two-deep leadership, active committee, youth training for Boy Scouting and Venturing, use of patrol method for Boy Scouting, and other important items

2008 Scout Sunday, Sabbath & Scout Week

Scout week celebrates the founding of the Boy Scouts of America. It begins with Scout Sunday (3rd) and ends with Scout Sabbath on Saturday (9th).

Scout Sunday—February 3, 2008

Scout Sabbath—February 9, 2008

Scouting IS service! Scouting Anniversary Week is an excellent opportunity to highlight the many ways Scouting benefits the community. The following are ways to maximize your efforts at the Council, District, and Unit levels.

Scouting Anniversary Week Ideas for Districts and Units

- Conduct a service project for your chartered organization as a way of thanking them for their support of Scouting.
- Hold a special flag-raising ceremony at a high-profile location in the community, or make a special presentation to the local school board, mayor, or city council. Invite chartered organizations, supporters, police, fire and rescue personnel, and government officials to participate.
- Have dens create birthday cards or handicraft items to display in store windows, school trophy cases, etc.
- Make public appearances at worship services, service club programs, chartered organization events, city council meetings, parades, etc.
- Conduct unit family events such as Blue and Gold banquets, courts of honor, parents' nights, alumni recognitions, etc.
- Plant a tree in honor of the anniversary.
- Use this opportunity for packs and troops to work together. This will also provide Webelos Scouts with an opportunity to work with the troop into which they will be moving .

Unit Charter Renewal Is Easier Than Ever

You should receive your Unit Recharter packet approximately 60 days before your charter expires. You should begin the process immediately in order to complete it by the 1st of the month in which your unit charter is due to expire. Within the packet, you will find the 2007-2008 Internet Rechartering Handbook. It will be your guide to the annual recharter process. With the assistance of your unit commissioner, this book will lead your unit, step by step, through rechartering.

Use the Internet to Recharter Your Unit

Internet Rechartering is a Web-based method for units to renew their charters from any online location such as the office, home, or public library. It's easy, convenient, and accurate because you enter the information yourself!

A representative of your unit can complete the paperwork for renewing a charter online. From Internet Rechartering, you can indicate returning members, add new members, and update information for an individual or the chartered organization. Here's an excellent chance to make sure that the information in the Scoutnet database reflects your unit's information.

Electronic Rechartering

Electronic Rechartering (E- Rechartering) offers fast, accurate, and easy rechartering. Listed below are the software packages which have been certified and approved for E-Rechartering:

- Troopmaster Millennium Edition provided by Troopmaster Software, Inc., version 2.00a and higher
- Packmaster Millennium Edition provided by Troopmaster Software, Inc., version 2.00a
- Troopmaster 2000 provided by Troopmaster Software, Inc., version 1.11
- Packmaster 2000, version 1.06a and higher Rank N File provided by Hart C. Enterprises, Cub Scout version 2.06, Boy Scout version 4.07
- Scoutmate provided by Scoutmate, version 5.12 Scoutsoft provided by SBF Publication Company, Inc., version 3.5
Note: Versions earlier than these WILL NOT work with ScoutNET interface, please check with your software vendor's website for updates.

You don't have one of these packages? Don't worry. It's optional. Many units do use these programs to maintain their records. You will still be able to download the information for your unit from the Scoutnet data in our computer.

How to Use Internet Rechartering Overview

This year, the packet includes information for Internet Rechartering, including an access code especially for each unit. The unit selects an adult to complete the online process (Only one adult to help avoid confusion in data entry). This renewal "processor" uses the access code to log onto internet charter renewal system through the Council's website, selecting whether to start the process with current ScoutNet data or data from unit-management software. At anytime, the renewal processor can suspend the electronic rechartering process and return later to the last complete screen.

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The system lets you enter new members, renew current members and update information for any registrant. When completed, the new unit roster is submitted to ScoutNet and a Unit Charter Renewal Report Package is printed. This package includes the unit charter application. Acquire the signatures for the application, attach applications and fees and take entire package to your District's "Recharter Turn-in Meeting". Additionally, anyone who wants to learn more about how Internet Rechartering works can take the interactive Internet Rechartering tutorial on the Council website and view the Online Help. Please note that you will need to have Internet Explorer 5.5 or better to use this new Internet Rechartering feature.

*Please be advised that ScoutNet shuts down from 9 pm Saturday through 6 pm Sunday, occasionally, for routine system maintenance. There are also up grades performed quarterly that last slightly longer.

To renew a charter online:

- Sixty days before your unit's expiration date, select an adult renewal processor. The internet rechartering system will operate from two months before your unit's recharter date and for two months after. All charters are due the first day of the month you recharter.
- Sixty to Forty Five days before the unit's expiration date, the renewal processor goes online and begins the process.
- When the online process is completed, the renewal processor prints the completed charter renewal application.
- The unit leader and the Executive Officer (Institution Head) sign the charter renewal application. Bring the charter renewal application along with the material you received in your recharter packet, any new adult or youth applications and all appropriate fees to your District's charter turn-in meeting.

The New Internet Advancement

Online advancement entry is here! The Voyageurs Area Council is excited to announce that units can now use Internet Advancement to record their youth member advancements from any online location – at home or at your office. You will find this new method to be easy, convenient, and accurate because **you** enter this information.

Here's how it works: Our Council has an internet advancement page and link on the home page at our website, www.vac-bsa.org with instructions.

Internet Advancement makes it easy for unit leadership to record awards, ranks and merit badges to youth via the online process. The system is related to the new Internet Rechartering, but is separate from it. The unit uses a separate access code which you can obtain from your District Executive. At any time during the year, the Unit's advancement processor will be able to record the Units advancements into our Scoutnet system.

The Internet Advancement system will also allow Units to print the

following reports:

- Unit Advancement Summary that shows ranks, merit badges and awards for each currently registered youth in their unit.
- Advancement Report lists each youth member that has new ranks, merit badges or awards, if any. This is the official report that is to be signed and submitted to the office.
- Unit Awards Summary
- Current Unit Roster

There is a tutorial on the Council website at www.vac-bsa.org.

Scout Shop Open House And Clearance Sale Jan 26, 10-1pm

The Voyageurs Area Council's first annual Scout Shop open house and clearance sale will be held on

Saturday, Jan. 26th from 10am – 1pm.

Come see what's new for 2008 and check out the many items that will be sold at clearance prices.

See you there.

Centennial Quality Unit Award

Beginning in 2007 and continuing through 2010, the **Centennial Quality Awards program**, named in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America, will replace the traditional Quality Awards program for Units, Districts, and Councils.

By focusing on unit leaders working closely with commissioners to set specific goals and then monitoring progress toward them, the new award is designed to have a greater impact on improving the quality of the program in every Pack, Troop, Team, and Crew in the BSA.

"The revised award program enables us to salute those who truly deliver exceptional programs to youth members at all levels of the organization," said Keith Christopher, director of Leadership Support Service in the BSA Program Group. "By earning this award, a Unit, District, or Council makes a statement that they have provided the highest quality program experience possible."

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As the first step in achieving the Centennial Quality Award, every Unit, District, and Council will establish annual goals in key areas of program delivery.

For Packs, Troops, Teams, and Crews, the process begins with the start of the calendar year when Unit leadership met with an assigned Unit Commissioner or a District-level volunteer in consultation with the District Executive to complete a *commitment form*.

On the commitment form, unit leaders agree to goals that will indicate sufficient progress in areas such as:

- percentage of leaders completing Fast Start and Basic Leader Training
- number of new youth members and active parents recruited and percentage of youth members retained from the previous year
- unit rechartering on time
- percentage of youth advancing in rank and having

an outdoor experience or monthly activity

- conducting a program planning session and carrying out adequate money-earning activities to support that program.

After Oct. 31, 2007 and through January 15th, the unit leader, committee chairmen, and unit commissioner can review the total progress made toward each goal and determine if the unit qualifies for Centennial Quality status.

For each year of the award, a recognition patch is available in a different color: 2007, red; 2008, white; 2009, blue; and 2010, red, white, and blue.

Individual members of qualifying Centennial Quality Units wear the appropriate patch in position three on the right sleeve of their uniform (for Packs and Troops, below the Den or Patrol emblem).

Unit awards for Packs, Troops, Teams, and Crews include a free unit ribbon, lapel pins for leaders, and a plaque for each year qualifying that units can order.

NORTH STAR

District Chair	Dean Minardi
(H) 218-728-5099	(B) 218-729-8001
District Commissioner	Ann Clark
(H) 218-721-3125	
Sr. District Executive	Stephanie DeVlieger
(H) 218-393-9177	(B) 218-729-5811
E-mail: sdevlieger@vac-bsa.org	

January 2008

- 12 New Leader Essentials and Cub Leader Specific Training, CSC, 10a-2p
- 12 Scout Night with UMD Bulldog Hockey, 7:05PM, DECC, Duluth
- 17 Re-Charter Party, 5-7PM, Council Service Center
- 17 All Leaders Roundtable, 7-8:30PM, Council Service Center
- 24 District Volunteer Recognition Dinner, 6PM, Lakeside Pres. Ch., Duluth
- 26 Fishing Derby, TBA

February 2008

- 3 Scout Sunday
- 21 District Meeting, 6PM, Council Service Center
- 21 All Leaders Roundtable, 7-8:30PM, Council Service Center
- 23 First Aid Merit Badge Clinic, TBA

March 2008

- 8 Klondike Derby, Cloquet Forestry Center
- 20 District Meeting, 6PM, Council Service Center
- 20 All Leaders Roundtable, 7-8:30PM, Council Service Center
- 29 Tri-district EXPO at Mariner Mall, Superior

April Calendar 2008

- 4-5 Spring Camporee - Scouts in Flight
- 8 Spring Life to Eagle Seminar, Council Service Center, 7 pm
- 17 District Meeting, 6PM, Council Service Center
- 17 All Leaders Roundtable, 7-8:30 PM, Council Service Center
- 18-20 Boy Scout Leader Training & Outdoor Leadership Skills Course, Camp Horace Johnson

News and Event Information

Thanks to:

-**Ken Stafford** for his help with Race to Cub Scouting.

-**Scott Greaves** for help with the Good Turn for America - Scouting for Food collection.

-**Dave Blazevic & Troop 13** for leadership with the Fall Camporee in October.

-All who helped pick up slack while I was out on maternity leave. Thank you!

All Leaders Roundtable Update

- This School-year the Leaders Roundtable meetings will be held on the Fourth Thursday of every month. The Roundtable is a monthly help/information meeting for Den leaders, Webelos leaders, Cubmasters, Scoutmasters and Assistants. Handouts include Pack & Troop Program Helps,

and ideas for helping plan the next months' den, pack and troop meetings, upcoming activities and events. Often we have special guest speakers. Troops - feel free to bring your youth leadership as well.

Friends of Scouting Campaign.

In the months of January, February or March, the North Star district would like to conduct a Family Friends of Scouting (FOS) presentation at your Blue and Gold Banquet, Court of Honor or Parent Meeting. If you have the date when you would like the presentation to be made, please contact **Stephanie** at 729-5811 as soon as possible.

During the *short* FOS presentation, parents will be asked if they can make a commitment to financially support the Voyageurs Area Council in 2008. It *is not* a high-pressure sales pitch and payment of pledges is not required that evening. The Council will use the money that is contributed to provide support services to your unit. For example - paying for expenses related to roundtables,

(Continued on page 15)

(Continued from page 14)

training sessions, the Council Service Center, Council camps and Council staff – all of which are in place to help your leadership offer a quality program. If your unit has a high percentage of families that contribute, your unit might also be eligible to earn the “Gold Card” which will entitle your unit to a discount on all purchases at the Service Center.

Charter Renewal Reminder – Our Commissioner Staff would like to remind all units that their annual charter renewal applications should be completed and turned in to the Council Service Center no later than mid-January. To make it easier, we’ve scheduled a Re-Charter Party on Thursday, January 17, 5 pm through 7 pm at the Council Service Center (All Leaders Roundtable starts at 7 PM). If you’re having trouble- bring your packet, your unit roster, and your unit checkbook to the party. Commissioners will be there to help you complete your packet on a first come, first served basis. The process should take about 15-20 minutes. Who knows, there might even be snacks and a soda for you to enjoy.

Please join us for the annual

North Star District Volunteer Recognition Dinner- Thursday, January 24th, 6:00 PM, Lakeside Presbyterian Church. As part of the program, you can present “Spark Plug” awards to volunteers from your unit that have done much to make Scouting happen this year. Other awards that will be presented include the “Big Paddle”, “Big Hat”, “Polaris Award” and the District Award of Merit - the highest award that can be presented by the District. Nomination forms for any of these awards are available from the Council Service Center, and are available on the website, www.vac-bsa.org.

Fishing Derby – The Cub Scout & Boy Scout Fishing Derby

returns this year on Saturday, January 26, tentatively on the St. Louis River Bay off Minnesota Point, Duluth. Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts (along with their family members) from the North Star District are invited to participate in the event. **Scott Byykkonen** is coordinating the derby this year and is looking for some people to help with first aid, judging, etc. If you are available to help, please e-mail him at sabyykkonen@charter.net.

Would you like to receive Scouting related news by email? If so, send a message to **Stephanie DeVlieger** at sdevlieger@vac-bsa.org and she will add you to her address book and send you important North Star District updates and reminders. This is great way to keep up to date and saves the Council many dollars on postage.

Klondike Derby, Chris Campbell Chairman - The North Star / Great Bear District Klondike Derby is scheduled for Saturday, March 8, at the Cloquet Forestry Center. At this time, the facility has been reserved and the mayors are being selected to staff various challenging outdoor stations, but we are still in need some more help. If you’d like to help please contact **Stephanie** at the Council Service Center. Invite the Webelos to attend as guests of your troop! On March 8th we want to see you and your boys at the Klondike!

Scout Expo & Pinewood Derby - The Scout Expo & Pinewood Derby creates a great deal of positive awareness of Scouting, and can be a real fun project for your group. We are again combining the North Star, Gitche Gumee, and Great Bear Districts’ Expo events. We hope that every Unit will be able to participate. The Expo will be held at the Mariner Mall in Superior on Saturday, March 29. Packs, Troops, Crews and Posts that participate will receive a Scout Expo ribbon for their unit flag. A special Scout Expo

brochure, including booth ideas, Pinewood Derby Championship information and a registration form, will be sent to all units in the beginning of February. To help us in planning the Expo, we ask that you select your booth idea and return the completed registration form before March 14th. For more information contact - **Scott Tollefson** (218-628-3580).

Boy Scout Leader Basic Training with Outdoor Leader Skills - April 18-20 - Camp Horace Johnson

Who should attend? The Boy Scout Leaders Basic Training with Outdoor Leader Training Skills is part of the recently revised Adult Leader Training program of BSA. This training program is open to all registered adult leaders including Scoutmasters, Assistant Scoutmasters and Committee Members.

Council Cub Scout Day Camp - The Day Camp programs are designed to teach skills and develop attitudes that make every Cub Scout more self-reliant and more at home in the out-of-doors. Boys that have completed first, second, third and fourth grade will have FUN! Some of the activities that will be included in the Day Camp programs this year are: Nature, Crafts, Archery, BB Guns, Games, Songs and Cheers, and Skits. Some camps will also offer swimming. Day Camp will provide a memorable experience in the life of every boy that attends.

A packet of information will be mailed to each Cubmaster and Committee Chairperson, and brochures will be mailed to each registered Cub Scout in March. If you don’t receive this information, please contact the Council Service Center to get a copy. It is important that every Pack appoints a Pack Day Camp Coordinator as soon as possible. We can’t pass along information to your coordinator if we don’t know who they are! As in the past, we are looking for volunteers to staff

the activity areas, which are BB Guns, Archery, Nature, Crafts, Cooking, and Swimming. If you are interested in serving on the Day Camp staff in your area, please contact the Council Service Center (218-729-5811).

Boy Scouts Needed for Day Camp Staff - We would like to have more Boy Scouts serve on the Day Camp staff this year as Activity Station assistants and Den Guides. If you know of any Scouts that are 14 years old or older and would be good staff members, please encourage them to consider volunteering for a staff

position. They would be required to provide their own lunch and transportation to and from Day Camp. Read on for the dates & locations. Please have them confirm with **Stephanie** at the Council Service Center.

2008 Spring Camporee - "Scouts in Flight" April 4-5. This year's Camporee will be held at the Duluth International Airport. The theme is "Scouts in Flight" and the focus is on aviation. There will be tours of the Duluth International Airport, Cirrus Aviation, demonstrations by Julius Salinas of Lake Superior

College, an opportunity to earn the aviation merit badge, and possibly a tour of the Air Guard Base.

Your sleeping arrangements will be out doors and utilize your own patrol cooking methods.

Cost for this event is being finalized. Sign up your unit at the Council Service Office before March 17th.

For more information or to be a staff member contact: **Scott Tollefson**, Spring Camporee Chairman. 218-628-3580

GREAT BEAR	
District Chair	Mark Quiram
(H) 218-879-3916	(B) 218-879-2101
District Commissioner Ted Peterson	
(H) 320-233-0215	
Sr District Executive	Stephanie DeVlieger
(H) 218-393-9177	(B) 218-729-5811
E-mail: sdevlieger@vac-bsa.org	

January 2008

- 10 All Leaders Roundtable, 7 pm, Our Savior's Luth. Ch., Cloquet
- 10 District Meeting, 8 pm, Our Savior's Luth. Ch., Cloquet
- 12 New Leader Essentials and Cub Leader Specific Training, CSC, 10a-2p
- 12 Scout Night with UMD Bulldog Hockey, 7:05PM, DECC, Duluth
- 26 Fishing Derby, TBA

February 2008

- 3 Scout Sunday
- 14 Re-Charter Party, 5-7PM, Our Savior's Luth. Ch., Cloquet
- 14 All Leaders Roundtable, 7 pm, Our Savior's Luth. Ch., Cloquet
- 14 District Meeting, 8 pm, Our Savior's Luth. Ch., Cloquet

March 2008

- 8 Klondike Derby, Cloquet Forestry Center
- 13 All Leaders Roundtable, 7 pm, Our Savior's Luth. Ch., Cloquet
- 13 District Meeting, 8 pm, Our Savior's Luth. Ch., Cloquet
- 29 Tri-district EXPO at Mariner Mall, Superior

April Calendar 2008

- 4-5 Spring Camporee - Scout in Flight Duluth
- 17 All Leaders Roundtable, 7 pm, Our Savior's Luth. Ch., Cloquet
- 17 District Meeting, 8 pm, Our Savior's Luth. Ch., Cloquet
- 18-20 Boy Scout Leader Training & Outdoor Leadership Skills Course, Camp HJ

News and Event Information

Roundtable & District Meeting Update

- This School-year the Leaders Roundtable meetings will be held on the Second Thursday of every month at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Cloquet, starting at 7PM. The Roundtable is a monthly help/information meeting for Den leaders, Webelos leaders, Cubmasters, Scoutmasters and Assistants. Handouts include Pack & Troop Program Helps, and ideas for helping plan the next months' den, pack and troop meetings, upcoming activities and events. Often we have special guest speakers. Troops - feel free to bring your youth leadership as well. Immediately following the Roundtable (8PM) we will have the District Meeting for all Scouters that do not work directly with youth, especially the Committee Chair and Chartered Organization Representative. It is the business meeting of the District. Hope to see you there!

Friends of Scouting Campaign.

In the months of January, February or March, the Great Bear District would like to conduct a Family Friends of Scouting (FOS) presentation at your Blue and Gold Banquet, Court of Honor or Parent

Meeting. If you have the date when you would like the presentation to be made, please contact **Stephanie** at 729-5811 as soon as possible.

During the **short** FOS presentation, parents will be asked if they can make a commitment to financially support the Voyageurs Area Council in 2008. It **is not** a high-pressure sales pitch and payment of pledges is not required that evening. The Council will use the money that is contributed to provide support services to your unit. For example - paying for expenses related to roundtables, training sessions, the Council Service Center, Council camps and Council staff - all of which are in place to help your leadership offer a quality program. If your unit has a high percentage of families that contribute, your unit might also be eligible to earn the "Gold Card" which will entitle your unit to a discount on all purchases at the Scout Service Center.

Fishing Derby - The Cub Scout & Boy Scout Fishing Derby returns this year on Saturday, January 26, tentatively on the St. Louis River Bay off Minnesota Point, Duluth. Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts (along with their family members) from the Great Bear District are invited to participate in the event. **Scott Byykkonen** is coordinating the

derby this year. Scott is looking for some people to help with first aid, judging, etc. If you are available to help, please e-mail him at sabyykonen@charter.net.

Charter Renewal Reminder – Our Commissioner Staff would like to remind all units that their annual charter renewal applications should be completed and turned in to the Council Service Center no later than mid January. To make it easier, we've schedule a Re-Charter Party on Thursday, February 14, 6 pm through 7 pm at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Cloquet (Roundtable starts at 7PM). If you're having trouble- bring your packet, your unit roster, and your unit checkbook to the party. Commissioners will be there to help you complete your packet on a first come, first served basis. The process should take about 15-20 minutes. Who knows, there might even be snacks and a soda left for you to enjoy.

Would you like to receive Scouting related news by email? If so, send a message to **Stephanie DeVlieger** at sdevlieger@vac-bsa.org and she will add you to her address book and send you important Great Bear District updates and reminders. This is great way to keep up to date and saves the Council many dollars on postage.

Klondike Derby, Chris Campbell Chairman – The Great Bear / North Star District Klondike Derby is scheduled for Saturday, March 8, at the Cloquet Forestry Center. At this time, the facility has been reserved and the mayors are being selected to staff various challenging outdoor stations, but we are still in need of some more help. If you'd like to help please contact Stephanie at the Council Service Center. Invite the Webelos to attend as guests of your troop! On March 8th we want to see you and your boys at the Klondike!

Please join us for the annual District Dinner

Mark your calendar! Join us on March 13, 2008 as we congratulate some of the outstanding Scouters in the Great Bear District. The Dinner will take the place of Roundtable for the month. We are still working out the details, but if you have some ideas or suggestions please contact **Mark Quiram** at 218-879-2101, and let him know your thoughts.

Scout Expo & Pinewood Derby - The Scout Expo & Pinewood Derby creates a great deal of positive awareness of Scouting, and can be a real fun project for your group. We are again combining the North Star, Gitche Gumee, and Great Bear District's Expo Event. We hope that every Unit will be able to participate. The Expo will be held at the Mariner Mall in Superior on Saturday, March 29. Packs, Troops, Crews and Posts that participate will receive a Scout Expo ribbon for their unit flag. A special Scout Expo brochure, including booth ideas, Pinewood Derby Championship information and a registration form, will be sent to all units in the beginning of February. To help us in planning the Expo, we ask that you select your booth idea and return the completed registration form before March 14th. For more information contact - **Scott Tollefson** (218-628-3580).

Boy Scout Leader Basic Training with Outdoor Leader Skills - April 18-20. Camp Horace Johnson

Who should attend? The Boy Scout Leaders Basic Training with Outdoor Leader Training Skills is part of the recently revised Adult Leader Training program of BSA. This training program is open to all registered adult leaders including Scoutmasters, Assistant Scoutmasters and Committee Members.

Council Cub Scout Day Camp
- The Day C a m p

programs are designed to teach skills and develop attitudes that make every Cub Scout more self-reliant and more at home in the out-of-doors. Boys that have completed first, second, third and fourth grade will have FUN! Some of the activities that will be included in the Day Camp programs this year are: Nature, Crafts, Archery, BB Guns, Games, Songs and Cheers, and Skits. Some camps will also offer swimming. Day Camp will provide a memorable experience in the life of every boy that attends.

A packet of information will be mailed to each Cubmaster and Committee Chairperson, and brochures will be mailed to each registered Cub Scout in March. If you don't receive this information, please contact the Council Service Center to get a copy. It is important that every Pack appoints a Pack Day Camp Coordinator as soon as possible. We can't pass along information to your coordinator if we don't know who they are! As in the past, we are looking for volunteers to staff the activity areas, which are BB Guns, Archery, Nature, Crafts, Cooking, and Swimming. If you are interested in serving on the Day Camp staff in your area, please contact the Council Service Center (218-729-5811).

Boy Scouts Needed for Day Camp Staff- We would like to have more Boy Scouts serve on the Day Camp staff this year as Activity Station assistants and Den Guides. If you know of any Scouts that are 14 years old or older and would be good staff members, please encourage them to consider volunteering for a staff position. They would be required to provide their own lunch and transportation to and from Day Camp. Read on for the dates & locations. Please have them confirm with Stephanie at the Council Service Center.

WAH DA BONG

District Chairman Pat Madden
(B) 715-561-3434
District Commissioner Ron Zaleski
(H) (906) 663-4453
District Executive Adam Haglin
218-393-9784 (B) 800-939-5811
Email: ahaglin@vac-bsa.org

January

- 5 Nominations for District Awards due to Judge Madden, Ron Zaleski, or Adam
- 12 Finance Campaign Kick-Off
- 21 District Dinner, Knights of Columbus, Ironwood, 6p - 9p
- 24 HURLEY - Recharter Party **and due date**, Hurley Courthouse, 5:30p - 6:30p
- 24 ASHLAND - Recharter Party **and due date**, Presbyterian Church in Ashland 7p - 8p

February

- 3 Scout Sunday
- 9 Boy Scout Klondike Derby, Ironwood, MI, 9:00 AM
- 21 District Meeting, Presbyterian Church in Ashland, 7 PM

Events & Information

Awards Extravaganza- Don't miss the 2007/08 Wah Da Bong District Dinner and Awards Ceremony. This year we will be celebrating another great year of scouting by gathering at Columbus Hall in Ironwood, MI, on January 21st for a festive evening with the greatest Scouters in the Voyageurs Area Council. Registration forms are still being accepted, and don't forget to nominate those who have done the most for your pack/troop

(Please submit by Jan. 7). For more information contact Adam Haglin.

Leader Training - The Wah Da Bong District Training Team reminds all unit leaders the National Quality Unit requirements state that the Cubmaster and 50% of the Den Leaders and Webelos Leaders must complete Leader Specific Training. The Scoutmaster and 50% of the Assistants also must complete Leader Specific Training. Also, don't forget to get yourself and other leaders in your group signed-up for Scouting Conference this February! Send Marlene Zaleski an e-mail if you need training, she can let you know when some possible training dates are coming up or arrange for a trainer that can meet your needs. Marlene can be reached at snowbird2606@hotmail.com.

Incoming... - Please check your Council/District Calendars for event and meeting dates in 2008. Klondike Derby, Rechartering, District Dinner, Scout Expo, and so much more...

Pioneering Merit Badge, Three-Councils, Scouts and an Eagle Ceremony - On the weekend of October 5,6, and 7, 2007 - Troop 212 of Lake Linden, Mi. - Troop 209 of

Ontonagon, Mi - Pack 209 of Ontonagon, Mi - Troop 255 of Mosinee, WI - Pack 255 of Mosinee, WI, all gathered at Little Girl's Point for a campout of fun and learning. This event was sponsored by Troop 337, Pack 337, and Pack 300 of Bessemer and Wakefield, MI.

The campout centered on the Pioneering Merit Badge. Erected was a 30 foot signal tower and 2 monkey bridges, one of which was over a hundred feet long. Rope making and splicing were also taught. The younger Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts enjoyed crossing the monkey bridges along with agate hunting, instructed by the older Scouts, along the shore of Lake Superior. A high point of the camp out was an Eagle Court of Honor, held for Charles Magley. His Eagle project was worked on by all of the visiting units at the spring campout.

On Saturday night, a turkey dinner with all of the trimmings was served, which included a Dutch oven dessert cook off, which ended in a tie. A fun and moving camp fire ended the day. Sunday morning included a pancake and sausage breakfast - a Vesper Service - and fond farewell until spring of next year. Over a hundred Scouts and leaders attended the three day event.

GITCHE GUMEE

District Chair Rick Klun
(H) 715-394-2171 (B) 218-722-2770
District Commissioner Lynne Smith
(H) 715-392-6752 (B) 218-728-4293
District Executive Adam Haglin
218-393-9784 (B) 218-729-5811
E-mail: ahaglin@vac-bsa.org

January

- 4 Leader Roundtable (**Charter turn-in** (Cub Scout), United Presbyterian, Superior 5:30
- 7 Scout Swim, Superior High School Pool, 7p - 8:30p
- 10 District Leader Meeting, United Presbyterian, Superior 5:30 p.m.
- 14 Scout Swim, Superior High School Pool, 7p - 8:30p
- 15 Leader Roundtable (**Charter turn-in** (Boy Scout), Concordia Lutheran, Superior 5:30
- 19 Klondike Derby, Superior School Forrest, 9 am

- 21 Scout Swim, Superior High School Pool, 7p - 8:30p
- 28 Scout Swim, Superior High School Pool, 7p - 8:30p

February

- 3 Scout Sunday
- 6 Leader Roundtable (Cub Scout), United Presbyterian, Superior 5:30 p.m.
- 12 Leader Roundtable (Boy Scout), Concordia Lutheran, Superior 5:30 p.m.
- 14 District Leader Meeting, United Presbyterian, Superior 5:30 p.m.
- 18 Cub Scout Basic Leader Training, TBA

Events & Information

Incoming... - Please check your Council/District Calendars for event and meeting dates in 2008. Scout Swim nights, Klondike Derby, Rechartering, District

Dinner, Scout Expo, and so much more...

Boy Scout Klondike Derby - The Derby will be held at Superior School Forest this year on January 21. Flyers will be sent out with details and directions. This year Webelos are invited to participate. The registration fee will be \$5 for Scouts and \$3 for adults if received in the Council Service Center by January 11, 2008. (Note: Any adults that volunteer to serve, as judges at one of the cities, do not have to pay!) Please send Troop number, patrol names, and a roster of Scouts by patrol with your registration fees.

Scout Expo & Pinewood Derby

- The annual Scout Expo and District Pinewood Derby will be held on March 29th, at the Mariner Mall from 9 AM to 4 PM, 8:30 AM for setting up. This year we have invited North Star and Great Bear Districts to join us once again on our turf. To race in the Pinewood Derby Units will have to have a booth at the event. Boy Scouts, adults, and non-Scouting regulation (Outlaw Division Race) cars will also be eligible to participate in the Pinewood Derby if their Unit has a booth at the Expo. Information

will be out in February. For more information please contact **Brad Edstrom** or **Adam Haglin** at the Council Service Center.

January Scout Swim - The last four Mondays in January at Superior Senior High School, we will be holding our District swim event. The dates are the 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th. We have the pool from 7-8:30 PM.

Scout Ski & Swim - The Gitche Gumee District is sponsoring another weekend ski trip. The

dates will be March 1st and 2nd. We will be heading to Ironwood, MI for some skiing and some swimming at Gogebic Community College that evening. There will also be plenty of pizza, free time and hopefully a good nights' sleep in the area. After breakfast on Sunday we leave for home. Contact your Scoutmaster for more details.

Congratulations to everyone for such a great year. You helped to make the Voyageurs Area Council the best in the Central Region.

SLEEPING GIANT

District Chair	Jace Tramontin
(H) 218-263-5541	(B) 218-262-0497
District Commissioner	Chad Buggert
(H) (218) 744-5114	
District Executive	Matt Bisbee
(H) 218-591-9181	800-939-5811
E-mail: mbisbee@vac-bsa.org	

January Calendar

- 3 Roundtable (FOS Kick-off/Day Camp)
- 10 Commissioner's Huddle
- 10 District Committee Meeting
- 19 District Recognition Dinner

February Calendar

- 2 The Great Scouting Conference
- 7 Roundtable (Recharter Packet Handout)
- 9-10 Klondike Derby
- 14 Commissioner's Huddle
- 14 District Committee Meeting

March Calendar

- 1 Merit Badge Extravaganza
- 6 Roundtable (Recharter Celebration)
- 8 Merit Badge Extravaganza
- 13 Commissioner's Huddle
- 13 District Committee Meeting
- 15 Merit Badge Extravaganza

April Calendar

- 1 Spring Popcorn Sale Begins
- 3 Roundtable
- 10 Commissioner's Huddle
- 10 District Committee Meeting
- 12 New Leader Essentials Training
- 12 Cub Scout/Boy Scout Leader Specific Training
- 26 Scout Expo, Virginia Thunderbird Mall
- 26 Spring Popcorn Sale Ends

District Adult Volunteer Recognition Dinner

- Come one, come all! Help us celebrate another great year of scouting in the Sleeping Giant District by gathering at the Messiah Lutheran Church on Saturday, January 19th at 6:30 PM with the greatest scouting volunteers in the

northland. Pre-registration is required and registration forms are still welcome. Don't forget to nominate those who have done a great job in your Pack/Troop/Crew. For more information, check out the district website or contact either **Matt Bisbee** or **Ione Martin** (218-741-3846).

Klondike Derby

Dust off your winter gear and get ready for the most unique camping experience that the District has to offer. We will be holding the Klondike Derby and 3rd annual Winter Camporee on February 9th and 10th at Camp Chicagami. The Camporee is only open to Boy Scout Troops and Venture Crews, but 2nd year Webelos Dens are welcome for the derby as guests of their affiliated Troop (Contact the Scoutmaster). This has been great fun in the past and it looks like we will continue that tradition again this year. For more information, visit the Sleeping Giant District page on www.vac-bsa.org or contact either **Chad Buggert** or **Matt Bisbee**.

Merit Badge Extravaganza

- Attention all Boy Scouts! Mark your calendars for the Sleeping Giant Merit Badge Extravaganza to be held on March 1st, 8th, and 15th. This is a great opportunity to earn additional merit badges by working with some excellent merit badge counselors. Adults, if you have knowledge that you would like to share with some eager

young minds, contact **Natalie Pankratz-Leff** (218-735-8513), **Shirley Otterson** (218-735-8736), or **Matt Bisbee** to sign up as a merit badge counselor for this event. Look for more info at Roundtable or on the Sleeping Giant District webpage.

District Executive's Diatribes

- After a fifteen month vacation in scenic Afghanistan, I would like to start by saying how wonderful it is to be back and working with such great volunteers. Sleeping Giant District has had a good year, but 2008 presents many opportunities to grow as a District. We face the dual challenges of declining enrollment in our area schools and a regional/nationwide economic downturn. Sleeping Giant District has always been known for providing a quality scouting experience and with the quality in our volunteer ranks, we can anticipate great things to happen in northland scouting. I want to welcome aboard the two newest District volunteers; **Lisa Rosemore**, our new Communications Coordinator, and **Jeanette Curry** as our new Training Chair. We still have room on the District Committee for you. Our greatest need is for a Day Camp Director and Day Camp Program Director. These positions are required to be filled in order to offer a Cub Scout day camp in Sleeping Giant District. If you have a desire to help out, please contact **Jace Tramontin**, **Chad Buggert**, or myself.

Congratulations to Sleeping Giant's newest troop, Orr's **Troop 427**, for winning the Fall Camporee Traveling Trophy. This unit was organized only two weeks before the Camporee. This shows great leadership and scout spirit in Scoutmaster **Shawn Halverson** Senior Patrol Leader **Shane**, and all of the **Troop 427** Scouts. I also

want to congratulate our District Popcorn Kernel, **Jerilee Buggert**, on another job well done for coordinating this year's Trails End Popcorn Sale. Sleeping Giant Scouts sold over \$162,000. I would also like to congratulate the following units and individuals: Troop 1 for winning the \$50 Early Bird Sign Up Drawing; Pack 171,

Troop 129, Troop 114, and Troop 126 for winning the Blitz Week Den/Patrol Ice Cream Party; and the three scouts who won the weekly Fill the Sheet Drawings. Great job, everyone!

In Scouting,

Matthew Bisbee

PAUL BUNYAN

District Chair	Bob Woodke
(H) 21 8-444-9546	(B) 218-759-1673
District Commissioner	Bill Weis
(H) 218-751-9296	
Sr. District Executive	Allison Barta
(H) 218-335-6650	(B) 800-939-5811
E-mail: abarta@vac-bsa.org	

JANUARY CALENDAR

10 Pepfest
 19 Polar Daze Build Your Own Sled Derby
 19 "Scouts Rule" Annual District Dinner

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

3 Scout Sunday
 14 Pepfest
 16 Klondike Derby - Hosted in Appelget District

MARCH

4 - Recharter Night
 13 Pepfest
 18 District Swim
 22/29 Scouting For Food Bags out and Pick up

Happy New Year Paul Bunyan District - Welcome to 2008 all Leaders, Parents, and Scouts of Paul Bunyan District. Our District had a great year in 2007 and 2008 will prove to be even better! With our new District Chairman, **Bob Woodke**, and our new District Commissioner, **Bill Weis**, Wow! 2008 will be a fantastic year for our District!

Paul Bunyan Kicks Off Friends of Scouting and Day Camp In January - Attention all Scout leaders! Watch your calendars and don't miss attending the January Pepfest meeting. This is an important one! Not only will we kick off our 2008 Friends of Scouting Campaign and Day Camp "Olympics, we will also have CHARTERS to distribute. Every unit needs to be in attendance!!

District Dinner Goes to China?

- Have you heard? This year Paul Bunyan District Dinner is going Chinese! Yes, "Scouts Rule" at the Super China Buffet in Bemidji, January 19, at 6:00 We will celebrate our 2007 year of Scouting by having a great meal and having the honor of presenting the District Award of Merit and Silver Scout Awards to deserving leaders of our District. Don't miss this event! Cost is \$12.00 per person if paid by January 14th. So make your reservation by e-mail, snail mail, or phone **Donna** at the council office today. 1-800-939-5811.

Polar Daze Build Your Own Sled Derby - It's here again! January 19, Yes the same day as the District Dinner! Time to make another sled and join in the fun of the Polar Daze Build Your Own Sled Derby. This is the 8th year that the leaders of Paul Bunyan District are hosting this event for all the children of the Bemidji area. We have had a lot of fun with this event. The Derby starts at 1:00 in Bemidji at the Library Park sledding hill. Registration fee is now \$3.00 per sled entrant. As usual, participation ribbons are given to all children and medals will be awarded to creative sleds in three age groups 5-12 yrs of age. Come join the fun!

SCOUT SUNDAY - Feb. 3rd is Scout Sunday Is your unit observing it? It's time to talk to your church and plan that day. Don't forget to contact the Council Service Center and order your church inserts!

Klondike Derby to be Held in Appelget District - Attention all

Webelos Leaders and Scoutmasters. The 2008 Klondike Derby is just around the corner. **Rick Barta** of Grand Rapids is the chairman. He's planning a great Klondike for the weekend of February 16th. Webelos Leaders, your Webelos need to attend a Boy Scout event for their Arrow of light requirements. The Klondike Derby is an event they will never forget. Hook your boys up with a Boy Scout Troop and come join the fun. Any questions, call Rick at 1218-326-1547 or email him at ribarta@cpinternet.com

Recharter Night - Paul Bunyan Recharter night will be March 4th at the West side Burger King in Bemidji. Our new District Commissioner and his team will be there to collect your charters. This year we're pretty excited to have electronic chartering set in place. This will be a new experience for us all. PLEASE!!! Pick up your Charter at January Pepfest, take it home, open it up immediately and get it done. With this new system we all need to be attentive and plan ahead... Let's have a record breaking turn-in night!!!

District Swim Night - At the December Pepfest night, The Scout Leaders of Paul Bunyan District voted to have another District Swim. It will be March 18th at Bemidji High School, same place as last year. We changed the time so Scouts from farther away can come and enjoy this Night! New times will be 6:00 - 8:00 PM. Start planning now. Last year we had about 70 people attend. It was really fun! We will have Swim belt loop earning for Cub Scouts...

Aquanaut pin earning for Webelos, and Boy Scout Swimming challenges!

Scouting for Food - March is the month that Paul Bunyan District conducts its Annual Scouting For

Food Drive. We want every unit to participate. All food stays in the community in which it was collected in. Start talking about what your unit wants to do this year to make This drive another

successful one!! Our communities depend on us & we always do a great job at this!! Thank you everyone...Let's do it again in 2008.

APPELGET

District Chair

District Commissioner Rick Barta
(H) 218-326-1547
Senior District Executive Allison Barta
(H) 218-335-6650 (B) 800-939-5811
E-mail: abarta@vac-bsa.org

JANUARY CALENDAR

3 Roundtable, Recharter Night
12 District Dinner

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

3 Scout Sunday
7 Roundtable
16 Klondike Derby

MARCH CALENDAR

1 Roundtable
"Scouting For Food"

Happy New Year Appelget District! - Congratulations and Happy New Year to all Leaders, parents and Scouts of Appelget District. Wow! We did it! For the first time in over six years, Appelget District achieved over 100% of its Friends of Scouting Goal! Hats off to Appelget!

I enjoyed getting to know all of you in 2007, and looking forward to a great 2008! We're starting out the new year with electronic rechartering, 2008 Friends of Scouting and Day Camp kickoffs at January Roundtable, an award winning District Dinner, and the pleasure of hosting the 2008 Klondike Derby.

I'm looking forward to great successes in all these areas!

Your Sr. District Executive
Allison

Recharter - Electronic rechartering is here! Your unit will now have the chance to sign in and create your own recharter update information. We're all pretty excited about this new opportunity, and want this transition to go

smoothly. Looking at Appelget's 2008 calendar, recharter night was scheduled for January 8th. Unfortunately, all of the professional staff will be gone on a planning conference. In lieu of that, recharter night will be January 15th. This night Allison would like all units to come to the Grand Rapids Burger King 4:30 - 6:30 PM and turn in their completed charters. Please do not wait until the day before to undertake this task. Everyone should have their charters now. Please open them up and begin the process. Last years first recharter night was great! Let us make this one even better. Be Prepared!! Thanks!

Annual District Dinner and Awards - Appelget District Dinner will be January 12 at United Methodist Church in Grand Rapids. Once again it is a potluck. Please bring a dish to pass and a desert or salad, and your own drink, (coffee and McDonald's juice will be provided). Please bring your own plates and silverware. This is our night to celebrate our 2007 year of Scouting. The highlight of the evening will be the presentation of the District Award of Merit and Silver Scout Awards! Don't miss this night, come enjoy the potluck and honor those Scouters who are receiving these prestigious awards. Any questions contact Dinner Chairman, **Jeff Toonstra** at 245-2023

New Training Team Forming in Appelget District - Excitement about a new training team is whispering in the winter winds of Appelget District. **Denise Engel**, our new Cub Scout Training Chairman, is busy calling all the units figuring out which leaders still need to be trained. The team is

almost complete With some pretty talented people such as **Carol Herdegan**, and **Cindy Shevich** on board. Stay tuned for a new year and a NEW GREAT TRAINING TEAM !!

Council Day Camp Kick Off - Don't miss the January Roundtable Meeting. **Tina Comstock** and **Julie Halvorson** will be presenting 2008 Day Camp kickoff information. This years, theme is "Olympics," and I'm sure that Julie and Tina are planning another fantastic day camp!

Scout Sunday - Attention all Appelget Scouters. Don't forget that February 3, 2008 is Scout Sunday. This is a great time for all Packs, Troops, and Crews to participate in local Church services to observe this day. Call your churches and make plans today. Remember also, that there are attractive Scout Sunday inserts that may be purchased through the Scout Shop. Call today and place an order to get these in time!

Klondike Derby - The 2008 Boy Scout Klondike Derby will be hosted by Appelget District. Chairman, **Rick Barta** is planning this event which will be held on the weekend of February 16th at Balsam Community Center. Put a fresh coat of paint on your Klondike sleds, wax the skis, and don't forget your snow shoes! If you have any questions you may call Rick at 218-326-1547

Scouting For Food - I know March seems a long way away, but time flies. Let's not forget that Appelget District moved its Scouting For Food to March to get the maximum benefits for our local food pantries. Please mark your calendars and start planning so this event will be a big success !

NORTH BORDER

District Chairman	Lois Averill
(H) 218-285-7604	(B) 218-285-7550
District Commissioner	Julie Joslyn
(H) 218-286-5636	(B) 218-283-9477
District Executive	Matt Bisbee
(H) 218-5919181	800-939-5811
E-mail: mbisbee@vac-bsa.org	

January Calendar

15 Roundtable (FOS Kick-off/Day Camp)

February Calendar

2 The Great Scouting Conference
12 Roundtable

March Calendar

11 Roundtable

April Calendar

1 Spring Popcorn Sale Begins
8 Roundtable
12 Scout Expo
19 New Leader Essentials Training
19 Cub Scout/Boy Scout Leader Specific Training
26 Spring Popcorn Sale Ends

2008 Friends of Scouting Campaign - January 15th is the kickoff date for the Friends of Scouting Campaign in North Border District. North Border has historically been the first district to meet our goal. Let's take the lead again!

Klondike Derby/Winter Camporee - Plans for the North Border Klondike Derby are coming together. Dates and registration information will be sent out as soon as everything is finalized. Sleeping Giant District again extends an invitation to all Boy Scout Troops in the Great North Border District to join them on February 9th and 10th at Camp Chicagami for a weekend of wonderful winter camping and scouting fellowship. For more information, visit the Sleeping Giant District page on www.vac-bsa.org or contact either **Chad Buggert** or **Matt Bisbee**.

District Executive's Diatribes - As you may now know, I have been granted the honor of serving as North Border District Executive. After a 15 month paid vacation in scenic Afghanistan, I would like to start by saying how wonderful it is to be back and working with such great volunteers. North Border District has continued to grow under the leadership of **Lois Averill** and 2008 presents many opportunities to continue this growth as a District. We face the

duel challenges of declining enrollment in our area schools and a regional/nationwide economic downturn. With the help of **Allison Barta, Adam Haglin** and many dedicated volunteers, North Border District has gained the reputation for providing a quality Scouting experience. With the quality in our volunteer ranks, we can anticipate great things to happen in northland scouting. If you have a desire to help out, please contact **Lois Averill** or myself. We would love to have you.

I also want to congratulate our District Popcorn Kernel, **Leanne Guba**, for a job well done in coordinating this year's Trails End Popcorn Sale. North Border scouts sold over \$24,500.00. I would also like to congratulate the 2 North Border Scouts who won the weekly Fill the Sheet Drawings and Pack 145 for earning the \$12,000 Sales Pizza Party. Great job, everyone!

In Scouting,

Matthew Bisbee

ADULT LEADER AWARDS

Cubmaster Award

Scott Byykkonen North Star

Tiger Den Leader Award

Dwight Day North Star

Den Leader Award

Josh Elder	North Star
Julie Godfrey	North Star
Tricia Riel	Great Bear
Terri Schultz	Appelget

Boy Scout Training Award

Andrea Tchida	Great Bear
Ron Cline	Wah Da Bong

Distinguished Commissioner

Ted Peterson	Great Bear
Marlene Zaleski	Wah Da Bong

SCOUT SHOP HOURS

The Scout Shop will be open only the second and fourth Saturdays of the month during January through May. Listed below are the dates the Scout Shop is open:

January 12
January 26 - Open House
February 9
February 23
March 7
March
April 12
April 26
May 10
May



EAGLES' NEST

We are proud to announce that the following Boy Scouts have earned the rank of Eagle Scout in the Voyageurs Area Council since September 2007:

Jonathan Gall	S0009	Duluth
Jarod Trevena	S4017	Chisholm
Daniel Gil de Lamadrid	S0204	Superior
Wyatt Anderson	S0152	Esko
Eric Stevenson	S0028	Duluth
Phillip Brede	S0342	Ashland
Allan Johnson	S0162	Duluth
Ryan Gustafson	S0337	Bessemer
Brandon Ojutkangas	S0152	Esko
Ross Priolo	S0029	Duluth
Ryan Stupca	S0029	Duluth
Kyle Ilenda	S0213	Superior
Ryan Rands	S0084	Duluth
Dalton Johnson	S0007	Duluth
Zachary Baumann	S0167	Grand Marais

We congratulate these fine young men on earning Scouting's highest honor.

Voyageurs Area Council HELP DESK

Kevin Nichols knichols@vac-bsa.org
Scout Executive - Ext 12

Al Braff abraff@vac-bsa.org
Program Director - Ext 11

Susan B sberg@vac-bsa.org
Office Manager/Accounting Specialist -
Ext 14
Accounts Payable, Popcorn, Friends of
Scouting, Golf

Donna dhickok@vac-bsa.org
Program Administrative Assistant -
Ext 17
Eagle Scouts, Events Registration,
Training, Popcorn

April abykkonen@vac-bsa.org
Registrar - Ext 18
Membership Registration, Boys' Life
Subscriptions, Order of the Arrow,
Unit Rosters

Sue M sumeyer@vac-bsa.org
Scout Shop Manager - Ext 15
Awards, Supply Orders, Unit Ac-
counts, Camp Reservations, Advance-

Registrar's Top 10 List of Recharter Errors

1. No signature on Unit Leader Certification line on last page of recharter roster - please be sure this is signed.
2. No Executive Officer signature on front page of recharter roster. Also, unit reps do not sign on Council Representative signature line. Be sure the Executive Officer signs form on correct line.
3. Failure to follow guidelines for leadership. Carefully review and follow the Rechartering Instruction Sheet.
4. Money ~ incorrect calculations and insufficient amount remitted. If in doubt, send more, any excess will be deposited into your unit account.
5. Failure to change information on recharter roster, particularly grades and addresses - be sure to verify all information.

SCOUT SHOP HOURS

8:30 AM—5:00 PM
Monday - Friday

The Scout Shop will be open the 2nd
& 4th Saturday - January - May

10:00 AM—1:00 PM

Scout Shop Closed on Saturdays
June-August

Check the Council website for dates.

6. Multiples - if someone is registered with another unit, please indicate which unit that person is registered in by writing it by their name on recharter roster.
7. Boys' Life - failure to indicate which youth are to get subscriptions. Make sure that everyone that is supposed to get the magazine has the proper designation by his or her name.
8. Using ink that obliterates information, a black marker for instance. Information to be deleted should have a single line drawn through it.
9. Adult applications submitted without necessary signatures or without social security numbers (required). Make sure they are filled out correctly with all signatures and the social security number.
10. Not calling for help. Voyageurs Area Council staff is here to serve you and answer your questions. Please call if we can be of assistance at 218/729-5811 or 1-800-939-5811.

UPCOMING COUNCIL EVENTS

JANUARY CALENDAR

- 1 New Year's Day - Office Closed
- 5 Scout Shop Closed
- 6-9 Staff Planning Conference
- 11-13 OA Winter Conclave
- 12 Scout Night with UMD Hockey Bulldogs
- 12 Scout Shop Open
- 15 Council Properties Committee Meeting
- 15 Executive Board Meeting
- 19-21 Martin Luther King Day - Office Closed
- 26 Council Camping Committee Meeting
- 26 Scout Shop Open House

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

- 2 Scouting Conference, Fond du Lac Community College
- 3 Scout Sunday
- 5 Council Advancement Committee Meeting
- 9 Scout Shop Open
- 10 OA Lodge Executive Committee Meeting
- 16-18 President's Day - Office Closed
- 23 Scout Shop Open

MARCH CALENDAR

- 7 OA Lodge Leadership Development
- 8 Scout Shop Open
- 8 OA Lodge Executive Committee Meeting
- 18 Executive Board Meeting
- 21-22 Good Friday - Office Closed

Scouting in the Voyageurs Area Council is supported by:

- **United Ways** of Bemidji Area, Gogebic Range, Hibbing, N.E. Minnesota, One Thousand Lakes, Carlton County, Superior-Douglas County and Greater Duluth.
- **Friends of Scouting** - People with a special interest in Scouting.

Remember the Voyageurs Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, in your Will.

