



De Soto Scouter

Conquistador District
Loblolly District
Three Rivers District

Boy Scouts of America

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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DE SOTO AREA COUNCIL, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA, COVERING ELEVEN ARKANSAS COUNTIES

Bob Mazzuca-Chief Scout Executive Speaks at Friends of Scouting Luncheon

By HEATHER HAWLEY

Being the first group to officially gather in the newly opened El Dorado Conference Center, the Boys Scouts of America held their "Friends of Scouting" luncheon at noon on Wednesday, March 2, 2011.

Bob Mazzuca, chief scout executive for Boys Scouts of America and guest speaker, said he was ready for the next hundred years of scouting in America.

"Welcome to the second century of scouting," he said. "We have just completed the first century, with 2010 being the centennial for the Boy Scouts."

Mazzuca said there were different ways for the BSA to celebrate their centennial.

"One choice was to have the obligatory meeting in Washington, D.C. and talk about the good old days," Mazzuca said. "Option number two was to take advantage of this entire year and re-introduce scouting to the people and that was my option."

He said for far too long the Boys Scouts have allowed others to define them and now it is time for Scouts to re-invent themselves and what they stand for.

"We have so very much to be proud of so we decided to use the whole year," Mazzuca said. "We started January first with the Tournament of Roses parade for the first time since the 1960s and it actually won the President's Award."

Mazzuca also said Scouts had broken several records last year. "Nationally, we had another record year in the Scouts (with the induction of) 56,176 Eagle Scouts across this land," he said. "Right here in your council, you had 12 young men achieve the rank of Eagle Scout and in a council this size that is a marvelous percentage."



Inside this issue:

Leaders' Meeting	2
Adventure Weekend	2
National Jamboree	2
Day Camp Meeting	3
Spring Camporee	3
Junior Leadership Training	3
Day of Service	4
Pool and Camp Use	4
E-Training	4
Project Learning Tree	5
Day Camp	5
Summer Camp	5
The Rest of the Story	6
Top Ten	7
Scout Shop	7
Derby Winners	7

(continued on page 6)



We accept credit cards.
More details on page 7.

Calendar—Mark These Dates

April

- 15-17 OA Conclave - Oklahoma
- 22 Good Friday - Office closed
- 22 Earth Day - Plant a tree, recycle
- 26 Council Wide Leaders Meeting
- 29 Spring Camporee - Camden
- 30 Deadline for NYLT

May

- 8 Mothers' Day
- 14 Service Day at Camp De Soto
- 20-22 Cub Scout Adventure Weekend
- 21 Boat Float /Council Pinewood Derby
- 30 Memorial Day

June

- 13-17 Cub Scout Day Camp
@ Camp De Soto
- 14 Flag Day
- 19 Father's Day
- 19-25 Boy Scout Summer Camp
@Camp De Soto



Quarterly Leaders' / Parents' Meeting



The next quarterly leaders' meeting will be **Tuesday, April 26th, 7:00 p.m.** at the Council Office on 118 West Peach Street in El Dorado AR. The meeting is open to any and all leaders and parents. There is nothing like having an information meeting where leaders and parents can exchange ideas about what works best for them. This is especially helpful to the parents who have never been a leader in Scouting before. The leader meetings will have a mini training experience, program suggestions for upcoming months, and a forum to discuss upcoming events.

Cub Scout Adventure Weekend - May 20th-22nd



Boat Float

Build your boat out of cardboard and bring it to Camp De Soto for our 2nd Annual "Boat Float" competition. Cheer for members of your pack or troop that participate in the different categories of races. **Cost for the weekend will be \$10.00 per person**, which includes **DINNER on Saturday**, activities, craft, a patch and camp. The pool will be open for you to swim. There is no charge for children under age 6. Pre-Registration Deadline for the weekend is May 16th. Payment at the gate or payment received after the 16th is \$15.00 per person. Don't forget to bring your Pinewood Derby car.

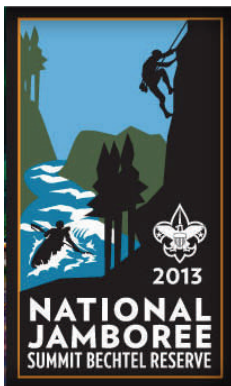


PINEWOOD DERBY

Council Pinewood Derby - May 21 @ Camp De Soto

As part of the Boat Float weekend, the Council pinewood derby will be held in the afternoon. Bring your pinewood derby car. Every one (Cubs, Adults, Boy Scouts, and siblings) can race. There will be a best of show for the Cub Scouts and for everyone else. Participants of the race will also be the judges. The entry fee for the race is your registration for the Boat Float weekend.

National Jamboree



How old will you be in July 2013? If you will be between the ages of 13-18, you are eligible to attend the National Jamboree at the Summit. Of course, you will need to be a First Class Scout too. The Jamboree only happens once every four years so it is truly a once in a lifetime opportunity. Additionally, the Summit is the new permanent home for the Jamboree and this will be the first one at the new home. Contact the office today to express your desire to attend. We only have 36 spots and they are filling fast. Only 17 spots remaining in the troop. The cost will be around \$2,000 - \$2,500 to attend.

The De Soto Area Council is looking for a few good adults to lead our Jamboree contingent. If you are interested in being our Scoutmaster or one of the assistant scoutmasters, please complete the interest form and return it to the office. To obtain an interest form and job description, contact the Scout office.

We will be making an announcement at summer camp on our selection of the Scoutmaster and assistant scoutmasters.



Day Camp Parent / Leader Meeting

Day camp cannot function with the help of volunteers. We are able to offer day camp at such a small cost because it is mainly staffed with volunteers. We are offering a \$25 discount for any youth that has their parent(s) volunteering at day camp. We are conducting a day camp meeting on:

Date: **Thursday, March 31**

Time: **6:30 p.m.**

Location: Boy Scout service center

118 West Peach St., El Dorado

Who: Anyone wishing to volunteer to help at the Camp De Soto Day Camp.



**Volunteers
Needed!**

2011 Spring Camporee - Canoeing and Conservation

The date for the Camporee has been changed. The date was changed in order for us to utilize Riverwoods for our Camporee location. The new dates are April 29-May 1. Registration and T-shirts orders are due by April 15.

Each Troop should have Safe Swim Defense Training and Safety Afloat Training prior to arriving at Camporee. Leaders please use your best judgment when pairing canoe partners. (i.e. Swimmers should be paired with non-swimmers or beginners). Please encourage your Scouts to bring their own PFD.

Each Troop will be responsible for all meals with the exception of lunch on Saturday.



NYLT - National Youth Leadership Training

Attention Scoutmasters! Have you discussed with your Senior Patrol Leader and other Scouts that hold and/or will hold leadership positions within your troop the possibility of going through this leadership course. For those of you familiar with Woodbadge, this course is the youth version.

We have 18 spots available on a first come basis. We would like to have at least one Scout from each troop represented. We need a commitment by April 30, 2011. Terry Crook, Scoutmaster of Troop 67 in Monticello, is the Scoutmaster for NYLT. Please email Sylvia Wray the names of the Scouts interested in taking this course.



The requirements to attend NYLT are:

Be currently registered as a member of the [Boy Scouts of America](#).

Be [First Class rank](#) or higher.

Be the minimum age of 14 years old.

Be a current or prospective youth leader recommended by his [Scoutmaster](#).

Must have attended long-term Boy Scout camp for a minimum of two years

Be a member of a troop whose Scoutmaster has completed the adult Boy Scout Leader Basic Training Course.



Service Day at Camp De Soto—May 14th

Due to the Spring Camporee being moved to the weekend of April 29-May 1, we have moved the work day at camp to Saturday, May 15. There will be a list of projects to be completed that day. We will list the projects in the next De Soto Scouter. If you want to volunteer for the weekend or if you want to camp overnight that weekend, please notify Hugh Bragg and Sylvia Wray respectively.



Pool and Camp Use

A new camp use permit is available. Anyone using Camp De Soto **MUST** complete this document. Camp is open to Scouts and their pack, troop, den or patrol anytime. There are no fees for Scouts to utilize Camp De Soto.

Did you know that we also can rent camp out to church groups, family reunions, weddings, church or family picnics? For more information, review the [Camp De Soto usage form](#) or contact the Scout office.



Training

Trained leaders provide a quality, fun-filled program for Scouts. When leaders understand Scouting, they are more effective in their roles. Training courses traditionally offered in a classroom setting are now available through the E-Learning site. This allows users to take training courses online at their convenience and bookmark their place in a course thereby allowing them to return at a later date and complete the course. To get started all you need is your member ID number and a connection to the internet. Go to [my scouting](#) to start or continue your training experience.

New New New >>>This is Scouting

The Boy Scouts of America proudly introduces its newest online interactive learning experience for new adult leaders—*This Is Scouting*. Picking up where Fast Start left off, the six modules of *This is Scouting* introduces participants to:

- Scouting's mission, vision, and values
- BSA programs for all ages and abilities
- How Scouting is fun
- Scouting's role in the community
- BSA Youth Protection policies
- Scouting's legacy

This Is Scouting replaces New Leader Essentials and is required of adult leaders wishing to be fully trained. The course can be found on the [Online Learning Center](#) or on DVD (No. 36118), and it takes about an hour to complete. Participants receive a certificate of completion when they correctly answer questions at the end of each module.



Project Learning Tree - Workshop

The workshop will be held on Thursday, May 26, 2011 from 8:30am until 4:30pm. The workshop is at no charge as long as there are a minimum of 15 participants with a max limit of 30. Everyone is welcome to bring a lunch or I, Shelly Jones, am willing to have lunch available for \$5 per person if need be. I do believe the workshop will be greatly beneficial to all of us. To learn more about project learning tree, download the PLT project description. I ask anyone who is interested in participating to contact me, Shelly Jones at 940-0168 or shelly.jones@netzero.net so I can add your name to the participant list. If you need directions, just let me know.

Location: Eden Baptist Church activities building, 3748 Hwy 133 N, Hamburg, AR



Cub Scout Day Camp at Camp De Soto

The week of June 13-17 will be the Cub Scout Day Camp at Camp De Soto. Every boy that attends will earn a lot of achievements towards your next rank. Camp runs from 9:00-2:30 daily. All registered Cub Scouts will receive the 2011 Cub Scout Day Camp brochure in the mail shortly. Lunch will be provided! Some of the activities will include swimming, fishing, archery, BB shooting, crafts, nature hikes, an obstacle course and much more. The cost is \$75 per registered Scout if paid on or before June 6. After June 6, the fee is \$90 per registered Scout.



Boy Scout Summer Camp - June 19-25

Have you told your Scoutmaster that you are planning on attending summer camp at Camp De Soto yet? If you are an older Scout, check out the NYLT course that we are offering during summer camp. If you are a first year Boy Scout, be prepared to earn almost everything you need to get you really close to earning First Class by the end of summer camp. Have you prepared for the search and rescue mission that will take place during summer camp? Sign up early to get into the merit badges that you want and need for Eagle Scout. Classes will fill up fast this year. Download the merit badge schedule, circle the merit badges you want to take, and give it to your Scoutmaster. Make sure that you tell him to send it in promptly. We don't need to wait on everyone from your troop to get you the merit badges you want! The cost of attending Boy Scout camp, June 19-25, is \$200 if paid prior to May 2nd. The fee goes up to \$225 per Scout if paid after May 2nd.



Internet Advancement

This tool accesses the personal records of the youth in your unit. Internet Advancement allows you to enter youth advancements, awards, and merit badges. You can also select members from your existing roster, review, update, or add ranks, merit badges, and/or awards, access an online Review Unit Roster feature and the Unit Advancement Summary and print an Advancement Report with a Unit Awards Summary to assist in purchasing.

To complete Internet Advancement, you must be connected to a printer to print the final report. Please note, any awards, advancements and merit badges that were recorded prior to you recording in internet advancement will not show up here. They are still part of the permanent record of that youth so please check with the council office for details.





Bob Mazzuca
CEO of BSA

Bob Mazzuca - continued from front page.

One of the first things a Scout learns, Mazzuca said, is the Scout Law.

“Nothing defines a Scout more than those 12 magic words in the Scout law,” he said. “When you think about a Scout you think about being trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent. Those 12 words define a Scout better than anything we could say about them.”

He also said it takes practice for these characteristics to evolve into the makings of a great man.

“No one ever sets out to embrace character flaws, no one ever chooses to go down that path, but it is like anything else we do in this life, to get better at anything you have to practice,” Mazzuca said. “We don’t just wake up and fully understand how to be trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent – we practice them.”

And the events the BSA offers its members, he said, help to further enforce the Scout Law.

“And so all across this great land young men practice these good characteristics,” Mazzuca said. “So they practice them and then they go out and participate in their council’s food drive and they get involved in collecting food for the hungry in your community and they actually deliver it to the food pantry and they get to experience and begin to understand why that feels right.”

He said the methodology of scouting is about taking those 12 words of the Scout Law and “breathing life into them” for the young men of BSA.

“It is when you are first elected patrol leader and all of a sudden there are seven other guys depending on me to make good decisions, depending on me to make the right choices and they understand what it means to be a leader,” he said. “And they will stand on that and practice that until (they) become a senior patrol leader, until (they) become a high school officer, until (they) become the things (they) have learned about in scouting to make me a better citizen in the community in which I live.”

He also said Scouts should be proud of what they learned during their time in the organization.

“The highest form of compliment is to have someone look at you and snarl, ‘You are such a Boy Scout.’” Mazzuca said. “Take pride in that.”

Mazzuca said when Richard Carmona was the Surgeon General of the United States from 2002 to 2006, he told Congress that the upcoming generation would be less healthy than their parents, less likely to live longer lives than previous generations.

“We climb trees, climb mountains and along the way we learn about ourselves, but this country, community by community, has got to come together and save our children,” he said.

A good way to help the children of this generation and those to come, he said, is to give them the opportunity to become healthy Scouts.

“It is not just about scouting, it is not just about some doctor talking to Congress, it is about every nook and cranny of this country,” Mazzuca said. “What it has to do with what I say is no child left inside. We own the outdoors. We have been climbing trees since there were trees and little boys and nobody has to lose for you to win and everybody makes the team.”



Top Ten List

Shingles Done	2 Patio Sets for Swimming Pool
Window Blinds for Staff Cabins Done	2 Portable Lifeguard Chairs
New Exterior Door for (D.H.) Bathroom	8 Picnic Tables
2 Weed Eaters	1 LCD Projector
3 Screen Doors	300 Feet of 1/2" Nylon Rope 1/2 Done



Scout Shop News

Spring has sprung and warm weather is here! Time to order your Scout shorts, t-shirts and camping gear to prepare for Camp De Soto and the great outdoors.

The District Derbies are over and the Council Derby is a couple of months away. Time to tweak your car with decals, colored wheels, flat weights and other items to make your car a winner at the big race.

Remember, we now take credit cards (Visa, Master Card and Discover) and we can order anything you see online or in the catalog. We can ship to you as well if needed. Please give us the opportunity to help you first!!

DON'T FORGET YOU MAY CALL US AT 870-863-5166 OR EMAIL YOUR ORDER DIRECTLY TO Sylvia Wray at sywwray@bsamail.org



Conquistador District Derby Winners



Loblolly District Derby Winners

E-Mail Version of the De Soto Scouter

If you would like to sign up to receive the De Soto Scouter electronically, please e-mail Rob Lavoie at rob.lavoie@scouting.org.

The De Soto Scouter is a bi-monthly newsletter produced by the De Soto Area Council, BSA. Deadline for articles or information for the newsletter is the 20th of the month.

Rob Lavoie, Scout Executive
Clint Knighton, Field Director
Hugh Bragg, District Executive
Max Aycock, Camp Ranger
Patti Dumas, Accounting Specialist
Sylvia Wray, Registrar/Scout Shop

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