



De Soto Scouter

Conquistador District
Loblolly District
Three Rivers District

Boy Scouts of America

February
2011

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

Scout Executive Message

Chief Scout Executive to visit De Soto Area Council

On Wednesday, March 2nd the Chief Scout Executive (CEO), of the National Council Boy Scouts of America, will be the keynote speaker at the Friends of Scouting luncheon in El Dorado. Since the inception of the Boy Scouts here in Southeastern Arkansas, the Chief has never visited this area. The Chief is coming here to help raise the needed funds to support Scouting in our local area. If you are interested in attending this fundraising luncheon, please contact the Scout office.



Bob Mazzuca
CEO of BSA



Inside this issue:

<i>Family Friends of Scouting</i>	2
<i>Eagle Banquet</i>	2
<i>OA Spring Ordeal</i>	3
<i>District Pinewood Derbies</i>	3
<i>Cub Scout Day Camps</i>	4
<i>District Boundaries</i>	4
<i>Summer Camp</i>	4
<i>Junior Leadership Training</i>	5
<i>National Jamboree</i>	6
<i>Youth Protection</i>	6
<i>Top Ten List</i>	7
<i>Scout Shop</i>	7

Friends of Scouting Luncheons - Loblolly District

The Second Annual Friends of Scouting Luncheon in Camden will occur on Wednesday, February 23rd, Noon at Riverwoods.

The Magnolia Luncheon will happen on Monday, March 14th, Noon in the Reynolds Center on the SAU Campus with Beth Anne Rankin as guest speaker.

These luncheons provide an opportunity for are supporters of Scouting to contribute funding to our Council. We are seeking some table hosts for both events. A table host is a person that recruits other people to join them for the luncheon. This event is open to anyone that wants to attend as long as you make a donation to Scouting.

We are looking at the three luncheons to raise over \$57,000 for the De Soto Area Council. Please help us make these luncheons a success.

Please contact Hugh Bragg, Clint Knighton, or Rob Lavoie for more information about these luncheons.



We now accept credit cards. More details on page 7

Calendar—Mark These Dates

February

- 21 President's Day—Office Closed
- 23 FOS Luncheon in Camden



March

- 2 FOS Luncheon in El Dorado
- 4-6 OA Spring Ordeal
- 12 Conquistador District PWD
Loblolly District Pinewood Derby
- 13 Daylight Saving Time begins
- 14 FOS Luncheon in Magnolia
- 21-25 Spring Break

April

- 1-3 Spring Camporee - Camden
- 15 -17 OA Conclave - Oklahoma
Tom Hale Scout Ranch
- 22 Good Friday - Council Office closed
Earth Day - Plant a tree, recycle
- 24 Easter Sunday
- 30 Workday at Camp De Soto

2011 Family Friends of Scouting Presentations



As most of you know it is that time of year. A time for Blue and Gold Banquets, Pine-wood Derbies and opportunity to help support Scouting. It costs the Council roughly \$300 per registered Scout to provide programs and resources throughout the year. The Council serves between 1,500 and 1,600 members annually.

The Council requests that every unit allow someone from the council to make a brief presentation at your Pack's Blue and Gold or Troop's Court of Honor. These are usually the best times because all of your parents are there. The monetary value can never be placed on the value of Scouting to a young man's life, but we want to give every parent and leader the opportunity to help ensure the Scouting programs you have come to love will continue in South Arkansas.

Unit Leaders please contact Hugh Bragg @ 870-918-0659 or Clint Knighton @ 870-918-0658 to schedule a date and time for these presentations. Thank you all for your dedication and effort to ensure the values of Scouting are reaching the next generation.



2010 Class of Eagles

Rhett Davis	Benjamin Goodwin	Nich Miller
Jonathan Dillard	Anthony Grummer	Ivan Murphy
Joseph Gardner	Clark Hale	Tyler Primm
Lance Garrett	Kyle Hargis	Robert Weih, III



2010 Eagle Class Honoree
Harvey Thomasson

2011 Eagle Banquet

The 2010 Class of Eagles was honored on Saturday February 5, 2011 at First United Methodist Church in Monticello, AR. The evening was full of food, fun, and celebration of those who attained the rank of eagle in 2010, and volunteers that have gone above and beyond. Tammy and Greg Downum were presented with the coveted Silver Beaver Award, and the following District Award of Merit were presented: Conquistador Award: Mike Stratton; Loblolly Award: Tim Osteen; Three Rivers Award: Bob Weih. Every year the Eagle class has an honoree. The honoree is someone that has provided exceptional service and support to the program of Scouting. This year's honoree was Harvey Thomasson of Monticello who has been involved in several areas of Scouting for more than 55 years. As always, the show ended with Crew 399 closing video containing photos and video footage from all events throughout the previous year. Dr. Bob and his team do a fantastic job with this video, and will be making copies available. Copies will be available at the council office in the coming weeks. If you were there thanks for coming, if you weren't you missed out on a great evening!



Silver Beaver Award
Greg and Tammy Downum



Spring Ordeal 2011

By Truitt Key, Lodge Chief

Howdy, fellow Arrowmen.

Spring Ordeal is fast approaching, and I know that everyone's already cleared their schedules, right? Well, it was worth a try. If you haven't yet, you should definitely make plans to attend this year's spring ordeal at our very own Camp De Soto. March 4-6. 19 candidates will be starting a journey that each of you has already undertaken, the Ordeal. As brothers in this organization, it should be your obligation to be there and support them. Whether you serve as an Elangomat, help out in the kitchen, serve on the Ceremony Team, or just show up to assist in any way needed, your presence will enhance the candidates' experience more than you can imagine. Aside from the Ordeal taking place at this event, Brotherhood will also be offered Saturday evening. To qualify for Brotherhood, you must have a firm knowledge of the Order and be an Ordeal member of at least 10 months. So, if you're wishing to seal your membership and dig a little deeper into the mysteries of our Order, its strongly encouraged that you to register for the Brotherhood. Since the candidates spend the day in arduous labor, don't you all think it's only right for us to devote a few hours to service projects? I mean we ARE a service organization. Great! I'm glad everyone agrees. This year at Spring Ordeal, our service project will consist of replacing roofs on a few of the smaller buildings around camp (adult project). As far as the youth go, we'll be busy installing blinds in all of the staff cabins as well as a few other smaller projects around camp. For these projects to go smoothly, any tools you have that could be of use would be greatly appreciated. These could include shovels, roofing guns, possibly a small Cub Scout, and whatever else you can think of. Whoa, whoa, whoa. Don't start thinking all we're going to do is work; afternoon activities are planned to consist of fun and games. As long as I'm around, you can count that there will be no more of the work, eat bad food, work, work, work, at OA events. Cooks have already volunteered for the event, so make sure you thank them as you go through the serving lines. All in all, this event is definitely going to be one to be reckoned with. I hope to see each of you this year at Spring Ordeal 2011. It's going to be a blast!

Hey guys,

Just a quick reminder for everyone who is showing up at Spring Ordeal; everyone is sleeping in tents, so make sure you bring your own! We will all be camping out in the field!

Brett Carter

Its Pinewood Derby Time!

Cars are on the roll and I have seen some really close races. Sure am glad we have the new track with the electric eye to decide the winners. The new track is available for any unit to use on a first come, first serve basis. Just call the Council Office to reserve it.

Three Rivers District had their derby this past weekend with a good turn-out.

Conquistador District Derby is March 12th at College Ave Church of Christ in El Dorado. Weigh-in starts at 9:30am, races begin at 10:00am with a \$5 entry fee.

Loblolly District Derby will also be on March 12th at the First Presbyterian Church in Camden. Weigh-in starts at 9:30am, races begin at 10:00am with a \$5 entry fee. A concession area with snacks and drinks will be available. Why not make a day of it and check out the Daffodil Festival downtown!

Please send us pictures of your pack / district derby winners and of other events that you are having.



Pinewood Derby Winners



Cub Scout Day Camps

Camp De Soto

Day Camp is right around the corner! The Day Camp Planning Committee is currently being organized. The De Soto Area Council staff encourages all to be a part of this committee. The Loblolly and Conquistador Day Camp will be held at Camp De Soto June 13th – 17th. The activities will begin at 9 a.m. and end at 2:30 p.m.

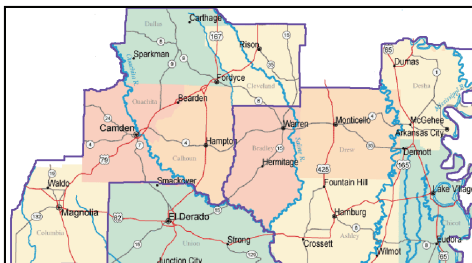
Three Rivers Camp

Discussions have been happening about whether or not Three Rivers will have its own Day Camp Event for the summer of 2011. Well, the short answer is, it depends.

One suggestion was made to have a 3-day resident camp at Chemin A Haut State Park in North Louisiana. This would be a great experience, but would only be possible with many volunteers. The camp would be limited to the first 40. Last year I believe we had right around that at the Day Camp in Monticello.

Having a resident camp with cub scouts, means that parents must be present. This would most likely knock several people out of participation. Basically I NEED to hear from you what you think about this idea, and if you have any others. Three Rivers needs its own summer event. It is too far to Camp De Soto! Shelly Jones did a fantastic job with Day Camp last year, and I think she may be willing to HELP this year, but we need to make this a district wide effort for it to be a success.

Please respond ASAP to Hugh Bragg- (870) 918-0659



District Boundaries

Conquistador District— Union County

Loblolly District— Calhoun, Cleveland, Columbia, Dallas, Ouachita

Three Rivers District—Ashley, Bradley, Chicot, Desha, Drew

Summer Camp June 19th - 25th



As you all know Summer Camp is only a few short months away. Summer Camp provides an opportunity for Scouts of all ages to progress along the trail to Eagle. Camp De Soto also provides lasting memories of the fish that got away, epic water balloon fights, and gazing at the beautiful Arkansas sky. We look forward to you joining us at Camp De Soto for 2011 Search and Rescue! If you need another copy of the 2011 Summer Camp Leaders Guide you can download it from the website. If you have any questions, please contact Hugh Bragg at 870-918-0658 or hughwilderbragg@yahoo.com.



National Youth Leadership Training



Junior Leadership Training is now called [National Youth Leadership Training](#) .

Our program will run in conjunction with the 2011 Summer Camp, but it will be an entirely separate program for those boys that are interested in learning how to lead. Even though some boys are born with natural leadership skills, these skills still have to be honed and cultivated. National Youth Leadership Training or NYLT is just the right opportunity.

This program will only be offered to the first 18 boys that meet the specific standard. Again, they will be at camp during Summer Camp 2011, but they will be participating in a completely different program. They will be camping with the National Youth Leadership Training Troop and will conduct themselves as a completely separate troop.

NYLT is a one-time training experience. Boys who attend it must meet specific standards:

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](#).

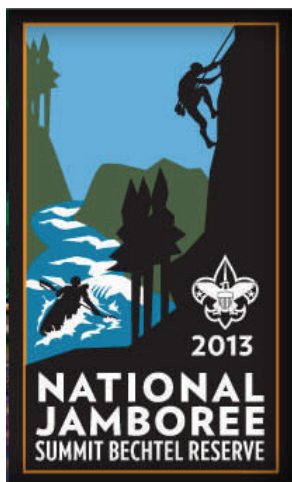
[The manual strongly discourages allowing younger boys to attend the program because their physical and emotional immaturity would lessen the value they would receive from attending the program. Some councils add other requirements.]

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.

In order to offer this program with the best possible results, we need 18 boys that meet the requirements. No more, no less. This program is largely dependent upon a decent size troop with at least three patrols. In order to ensure proper preparations and accommodations, we need a commitment from these 18 boys no later than [April 30, 2011](#) . This is a great opportunity for older boys to return to Camp De Soto. This program will be a great addition to our camping program. The fee will be the same as if the boy was attending the [traditional summer camp](#).

We are looking forward to the promise that this program provides to further the leadership skills of our Scouts. Please let us know if you have any questions or comments. If any of you would like to help implement this program please let me know. Terry Crook, Scoutmaster of Troop 67 will be the Scoutmaster of the NYLT course. He will be enlisting help from other leaders.



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.



Important Changes to the Boy Scouts of America's Youth Protection Training Policies

Recently, the Boy Scouts of America announced important changes to its Youth Protection policies. The purpose of these changes is to increase awareness of this societal problem and to create even greater barriers to abuse than already exist today in Scouting.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2010: Youth Protection Training is required for all registered volunteers regardless of their position in Scouting.

New leaders are required to take Youth Protection Training before they submit their application for registration. The printed certificate of completion for this training must be submitted at the time as an application is submitted and must be done before volunteer service with youth begins.

Youth Protection Training must be taken every two years. **If a volunteer's Youth Protection Training record is not current at charter renewal time, the volunteer will not be re-registered.**

Go to <http://www.scouting.org/Training/YouthProtection/QA.aspx> to view answers to some of the questions we have received about these important changes.

To find out more about the Youth Protection policies of the Boy Scouts of America and how to help Scouting keep your family safe, see the *Parent's Guide* in any of the Cub Scouting or Boy Scouting handbooks, or go to <http://www.scouting.org/Training/YouthProtection.aspx>.



Top Ten List

Shingles	2 Patio Sets for Swimming Pool
Window Blinds for Staff Cabins	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



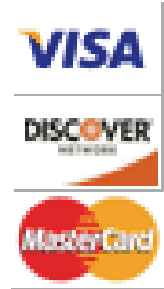
Scout Shop News

Can you believe we are halfway through February! Blue and Gold celebrations are upon us. Did you forget to order your plates, napkins, table cloths and decorations? Its not too late.

Come check out the Pinewood Derby display in the Scout Shop. We have decals, colored wheels, flat weights and other items to make your car a winner for the pack derby. Or maybe you want to tweak your car to get it ready for the District Derbies. And don't forget that Dad (or any family member) can race too. We even have extra its in case the dog decided he just had to have a new chew toy. (Been There)

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@bsaemail.org



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.

FOR LOTS OF NEW SCOUTING INFORMATION

www.youtube.com/bsa100years

www.joincubscouting.com

www.uscouts.org

www.scoutingbsa.org

www.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 Aycok, Camp Ranger
Patti Dumas, Accounting Specialist
Sylvia Wray, Registrar/Scout Shop

