



De Soto Scouter

Conquistador District
Loblolly District
Three Rivers District

Boy Scouts of America

September
2011

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

The Main Thing

What is the Main Thing? It is to serve more youth with a quality Scouting program. That is quite a simple thing to say but what does a quality Scouting program look like in the eyes of a youth member or in the eyes of a youth that has not been in the program yet? Is it going camping, fishing, hiking rappelling, or swimming? How about a pinewood derby, space derby or rain gutter regatta? I would venture a guess it is a little of all of those things and much more. An active program where the youth meet and actually do activities at their den or troop meetings is what they really crave. The best way to keep a boy active is to give him immediate recognition. Make sure that at every meeting he is working towards an achievement. Present those immediate recognition beads for Cub Scouts at each den meeting. Provide each boy with a sense of accomplishment. What do you think a quality Scouting program looks like?

What are the biggest obstacles we face in achieving the Main Thing? There is a variety of answers to this question and each parent and leader will have their own personal obstacle. Some of the biggest obstacles are a lack of money to provide a quality Scouting program, training opportunities, and Scouting knowledge. How can we overcome these obstacles? Communication is the key to overcoming any obstacle in our way. If you have an obstacle or if you know of someone that is having difficulty in Scouting, please help them out or direct them to someone that can help them.

The Main Thing is for us to serve more youth with a quality Scouting program and that opportunity begins with each of you. Please keep this in mind as we help each of you kick off this Scouting year. There are a lot of exciting things waiting for you just around the corner. Check out some of the articles like the Fall Camporee, the Cub Scout Fishing Derby or the National Jamboree. Let's all do our part in delivering a quality Scouting program to the Main Thing....our youth!

New Uniform Package
15% Off
(Cap, neckerchief, slide, shirt, belt, patches, and handbook)
Offer valid thru October 31, 2011



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We accept credit cards.
More details on page 8.

Calendar—Mark These Dates

September

- 5 Labor Day- Office Closed
- 9-11 OA Summer Pilgrimage
- 16-18 CS Adventure Weekend
- 26-30 Scouting for Food – bag distribution.

October

- 1 Scouting for Food Pick-up
- 14 All Popcorn and Battery Orders Due
- 15 Sporting Clays Event
- 21-23 Cub Scout Adventure Weekend
- 26-28 Popcorn and Battery Pick-up
- 28-30 Fall Camporee-Petit Jean Mountain



Click here to download the SCOUTStrong PALA Challenge Overview



Click here to download the SCOUTStrong PALA Activity Log

We, the Staff of De Soto Area Council, challenges every registered Scout and Scouter, BSA Parent, BSA Volunteer, BSA Alumni, Board Member and Friend of Scouting to earn the SCOUTStrong PALA Award.

PALA stands for the **P**residential **A**ctive **L**ifestyle **A**ward, an activity challenge of the President’s Challenge program. The President’s Challenge is a program of the President’s Council on Fitness, Sports and Nutrition (PCFSN). PALA is designed to motivate participants to be physically active on a regular basis by allowing them to participate in activities they enjoy. *Earning a PALA is definitely doable by ANYONE at ANY fitness level.*

What is the Scoutstrong PALA Challenge? It is a Scout-specific PALA challenge. Each BSA local council will have its own PALA group. The **entire** BSA organization is being encouraged to earn their Scoutstrong PALA Challenge award. To earn this award, you are required to meet a daily activity goal of 30 minutes a day for adults and 60 minutes a day for kids under 18 for at least five days a week, for six out of eight weeks. Stick with the program and you’ll earn an award in less than two months. For more detailed information, click on the icons above.

CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

Coming Soon to Your Local Council



Scouting’s NOVA Award

Starting early 2012, Scouts of all ages can earn the Boy Scouts of America’s trailblazing NOVA Award, based on the STEM program—Science Technology, Engineering, Mathematics. Go to www.scouting.org/STEM for more information about this unique opportunity.



OA Summer Pilgrimage September 9-11

Arrowmen! Do You Want to Dance?

We are trying to organize a dance team to perform at scouting events and compete at conclaves. We have a special guest coming to our Summer Pilgrimage to teach us how to dance and proper etiquette when visiting a PowWow. We will also be doing some repair work so bring your costumes/regalia if you have them. You will also need them for the Ordeal Ceremony.

Check-in will begin Friday at 5:00 p.m. Be sure to bring your tent, camp chair and water bottles. We will be doing some service projects Saturday so please bring your work gloves; all other tools will be provided.

I have been told there will also be fun and "games in the field". Your guess is as good as mine but I'm sure we will have a good time.

Hurry and send in your registration forms. The late date is just around the corner.

- Early/On-Time Registration \$25.00
Registration must be received by 9/02/2011 to be considered on time.
- Early/On-Time Registration and Ordeal \$50.00
- Late Registration (After 9/02/2011) \$40.00
- Late Registration and Ordeal (After 9/02/2011) \$65.00



Cub Scout Adventure Weekend Sept. 16-18

Are you ready to go Fishing! We are having our Fishing Derby on September 17th during the Adventure Weekend. Will you be the one to catch "The Whooper" or "The Hawg"? Or maybe you will be our "2011 Angler". Come enjoy a weekend of nature with your Scouting friends. There will be a movie night with popcorn for Friday night. Saturday morning we will have the usual activities such as canoeing, archery, BB gun shooting, leatherwork and crafts.

Cost for the weekend will be \$10.00 per person, which includes lunch on Saturday, activities, and a patch.

Stuff to bring: fishing pole and bait, camping equipment: i.e. sleeping bags, camp chair (we have tents you may rent); snacks, food and drinks for your family for Friday night, Saturday and Sunday morning (cooking equipment if needed); insect repellent; comfortable clothes; personal items; walking shoes; rain gear.

Preregistration Deadline is September 14th
Payment at the gate or payment received after
September 14th is \$15.00 per person

Check-in/Registration will be Friday, 5:00 to 11:00 p.m.
Saturday, 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

If arriving later, please see staff at the camp office

Any Questions please contact the council office at 863-5166





Rock Your Sales!

Are You Rocking Yet?—2011 Popcorn Sale

The Kick-Off has come and gone. The sale has begun. How are you doing so far?

We are sorry if you missed the kick-off and Michael Beck's presentation. It was very informative. Popcorn packets are at the council office full of important information about popcorn (of course) but also a new product; Interstate batteries. We have also included the new Council Calendar and flyers for future events to be held in the council. Please come by and pick them up. Or we may be able to deliver them.

The popcorn sale is not only about raising funds for your Scouting experience but it also provides the boys with some valuable life lessons. First and foremost, we are not selling popcorn....we are selling ourselves, and the Scouting program. We also learn or reinforce the idea of being polite (please and thank you!) There are many reasons to support the sale but remember all of the activities that you get to do because of the popcorn sale. Remind other parents, leaders, and youth at various events that your pack or troop conduct that, "This event was made possible because of their help with the popcorn sale". What better way to retain your scouts than to provide them and their parents a sure fire way to pay for their year of Scouting. The annual popcorn sale is a proven way to make that happen!

1st Annual Boy Scout Sporting Clay Tournament

October 15, 2011—Red T Farms in Magnolia, Arkansas

The Boy Scouts of America is pleased to announce our first Annual Boy Scout Sporting Clay Shoot-Out. This event will be held on Saturday, October 15th at Red T Farms in Magnolia, Arkansas and will help fund the Boy Scouts of America.

Check-in will begin at 7 a.m. and the first flight will begin at 9 a.m. The second flight will start at 1p.m. Shooters will be allowed to register as they arrive and start shooting after a safety briefing is conducted. Pre-registration is strongly recommended to ensure shirt sizes. Walk up registration will begin on Saturday morning at 7:15 a.m. There will also be a practice round on Tuesday, October 11, 2011 at a cost of \$40 per round payable to Red T Farms. Practice course will open at 9 a.m. All shooters must provide and wear Eye and Hearing protection!

Shooters must provide their own shells for the sporting clay event. Shells will be available for purchase from Red T Farms if needed. Shooters are welcome to bring golf carts or UTVs for transportation around the course. Golf carts will be available for rent.

The entry fee is \$125.00 per shooter in the adult division. A team will consist of four shooters. Flights will be determined on a first come first serve basis. All scorecards must be turned in at the conclusion of the assigned flight.



**Entry deadline for pre-registration
Tuesday, October 4, 2011**

For More Information Contact De Soto Area Council
(870) 863-5166 or Hugh Bragg (870) 918-0659



Scouting for Food—October 1st

The “Scouting for Food” Drive is almost upon us. This year’s date is Saturday, October 1st. The bags and fliers are available at the Council Office. Please keep track of your hours and the number of boys who participate as you distribute and pick-up the bags of food. Also try to keep track as to how many pounds you collected.

Your information and hours can be used for “Journey to Excellence.”

Unit Leaders: Be sure to place your order for the “Scouting for Food” patches to award the boys for participating in the food drive.

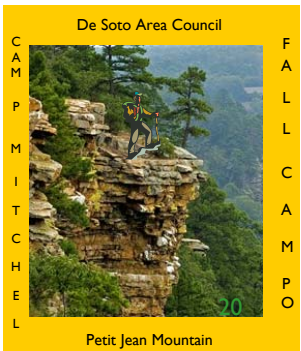


Fall Camporee—A Mountain Top Experience October 28th-30th

We will be heading north to Camp Mitchell on Petit Jean Mountain for our Fall Camporee. Some of us will hike the 12 mile Winthrop Rockefeller Boy Scout Trail. Some of us will hike the Cedar Falls Trail or the Seven Hollows Trail or a combination of multiple trails. There are 20 miles of hiking trails from which to choose with difficulty ranging from easy to strenuous. The Scoutmasters will match each boy’s ability to the proper trail.

Troops are responsible for all meals except Dinner on Saturday, October 29th. “Potluck” soup or stew will be provided by the council. If you don’t want “Potluck”, bring something else to eat. The council would like to go green and not buy plastic or Styrofoam. Please bring your mess kits, eating utensils, cups and water bottles.

“Be Prepared” to participate in the campfire activities; (scout appropriate please) put on a skit, teach/lead a song, do a troop/patrol yell.



Cost: \$20.00 Registration Fee and T-Shirt Or \$10.00 Registration Fee (no T-Shirt)

Only two free adults per troop (shirt not included) All other adults must pay registration fees. Registration should be in no later than October 16th T-Shirts can not be ordered after the 16th!!!



PowWow

November 5th & 6th, 2011

Rocking “R” Arena

3864 Morning Star Road, El Dorado

Come join us in a traditional Native American Event!

There will be traditional Native American singing, dancing, and lots of vendors!

Admission: Adults and Children (12 & up) \$6.00 per day or \$10.00 for a two-day pass. Children under 12 are FREE!

Saturday Schedule: 10 AM Gate opens, 11 AM Gourd Dancing, 12 PM Lunch, 1 PM Grand Entry, 5 PM Supper, 7 PM Grand Entry

Sunday Schedule: 10 AM Gate opens, 11 AM Gourd Dancing, 12 PM Lunch, 1 PM Grand Entry,

Bring your lawn chairs. We look forward to seeing you at the PowWow!



National Jamboree - Only Nine Spots Left!

Once every four years Scouts from around the Country converge for a week long campout that is truly a once in a lifetime opportunity. The next jamboree starts on July 15, 2013. Since the early 1980's the National Jamboree has been located at Fort A. P. Hill in Virginia. Early last year, 2010, the Boy Scouts of America broke ground building a brand new jamboree site located in West Virginia. For details on the site go to [Summit Bechtel Reserve](#).

The Council has selected the following adult volunteers to serve as our contingent leaders for the Jamboree. John Ziegler will be our Scoutmaster. Dan Noonon and Mike Stratton will be the Assistant Scoutmasters. Andishaeh Dadgar will be the Third Assistant Scoutmaster.

We have space for 36 youth to attend the Jamboree with our contingent. Currently, we have 27 spots filled. ONLY 9 spots remain. The cost to attend is \$2,500 which includes the flight to and from Washington D.C., several days touring our Washington D.C, and a week at the Jamboree. All youth and adults that are currently registered with the De Soto Area Council contingent need to formally register for the Jamboree through the [2013 National Scout Jamboree at Summit Bechtel Reserve](#)



[Journey to Excellence—10/13](#)

“Scouting’s Journey to Excellence” is the BSA’s new council performance recognition program designed to encourage and reward success and measure the performance of our units, districts, and councils. It is replacing the Centennial Quality Awards Program as a means of encouraging excellence in providing a quality program at all levels of the BSA. Please click on the Journey to Excellence title to go to that page. We encourage every unit to utilize the appropriate scorecard. There are 13 requirements but you only need to do 10.

Service Projects—Journey to Excellence Objective

Another objective is the pack participates in service projects, with one benefitting your chartering organization. You will notice a service hours link for you to log all service hours your pack, den, troop or patrol do anytime during the year. If you have any questions, please contact us.

Leader Training—Journey to Excellence Objective

Did you know that leader training is one of the 13 requirements for the new recognition program? This one should be easy to complete because all training is provided “free” online and can be accessed through www.myscouting.org?

Does your unit have someone keeping track of who is trained and who is not trained? Every unit should conduct an inventory of training in their unit. Like everything in Scouting, someone has to keep track of who advanced, who has training, who is going on the campout, who has paid their dues, etc. For any questions please call the council office at 866-5166.



2011 Eagle Scouts

William Barker—Troop 99/Lone Scout

Sateh A.J. Hampton—Troop 39

Ryan Mann—Troop 39

Nathan Odom—Troop 18

John Schonefeld—Troop 18



Are you an Eagle Scout?

If you know of any other Eagle Scouts, please tell them ...

All of you are invited to join NESAs

NESA is the National Eagle Scout Association, a 40-year-old organization made up of Eagle Scouts of all ages. It awards scholarships to Eagle Scouts and honors others with the NESAs Outstanding Eagle Scout Award and Distinguished Eagle Scout Award. Local council NESAs members organize events and activities for local Eagle Scouts.

Benefits of your NESAs membership include:

- Eagle Scout Magazine—a full-color, quarterly magazine
- The member section at NESAs.org, which includes an Eagle Scout alumni search tool, discussion groups, a career center, a permanent NESAs e-mail address, and more
- Monthly e-mail newsletters from the national NESAs office about things important to Eagle Scouts
- And more!

Go to www.nesa.org. Click on Join to get started!



The Alumni Connection

Reconnecting Scouts, Rekindling Memories

You, too, should register as BSA alumni!

BSAs alumni include ... everyone positively and personally impacted by the Boy Scouts of America—former Scouts, family members of Scouts past and present, volunteers past and present, community leaders, and the millions of Americans who benefit from Scouting in their communities every day.

Benefits for alumni include:

- The Alumni Alive! Quarterly electronic newsletter
- Access to the online Alumni Scrapbook, where you can post your own Scouting Stories
- A free one-year membership to the National Scouting Museum
- Free cell phone ring tones of familiar bugle calls
- A discounted subscription rate for Scouting magazine
- And more!

We invite you to explore the web site and participate in new BSA alumni activities. Find friends, share stories, and re-engage in Scouting.

Join us now! Go to BSAalumni.org, to register. It's easy and free!





Top Ten List

- ~~Shingles~~ **Done**
- ~~Window Blinds for Staff Cabins~~ **Done**
- New Exterior Door for (D.H.) Bathroom
- 1 ~~2~~ Weed Eaters
- 3 Screen Doors
- 2 Patio Sets for Swimming Pool
- 2 Portable Lifeguard Chairs
- 7 ~~8~~ Picnic Tables
- 1 LCD Projector
- ~~300 Feet of 1/2" Nylon Rope~~ **Done**



Scout Shop News

School Round Ups have started and new cubs are being recruited. The Scout Shop is well stocked to fill all your needs for uniforms and books. For anyone **new** to scouting, we will once again offer our 15% discount on complete uniforms (from the belt up). Be sure to tell your buddies.

Have you seen the new rain gutter regatta boats and raceway. They are awesome and look really fast. Be sure to ask your Cubmaster if they can be used in your pack raingutter regatta races.

We are still having a sale on all Day Camp and Summer Camp T-shirts. - \$5.00 each. All black and white merit badge books are still \$1.00 each.

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



Coming Soon!
Chess Merit Badge

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
Hugh Bragg, Senior District Executive
Michael Dirks, District Executive
Max Aycock, Camp Ranger
Patti Dumas, Accounting Specialist
Sylvia Wray, Registrar/Scout Shop

FOR LOTS OF NEW SCOUTING INFORMATION
www.youtube.com/bsa100years
www.joincubscouting.com
www.usscouts.org
www.scoutingbsa.org
www.scouting.org

