

Up Etowah Creek...

Etowah Creek District BSA Newsletter

Indian Waters Council in the Midlands of South Carolina, USA



Vol. 6 No. 7 February 2008

Welcome to Etowah Creek District [ECD Scout Roundtable in Columbia, South Carolina.

This showcase for Leaders and older youth is held on the 2nd Thursday of every month, starting at 7:00 p.m. We meet at Ashland Methodist Church on Ashland Rd. (off of St. Andrew's Rd.). Take a minute to read this newsletter, as that will keep the number of announcements to a minimum! This newsletter is always available at Roundtable, through your Unit Commissioners and Training Team, and from your DE, Tom McGrath. Please photocopy and distribute this freely to your units and leaders. Call me or email me if you need additional hard copies or an electronic copy, or if you spot an error.

Welcome!

~~ Editor Lorie McGraw 750-0626 lmcgraw@sc.rr.com BSRT Commissioner and Editor "Up Etowah Creek" Tom McGrath District Executive tmcgrath@bsamail.org 750-9868 Ext 110 Cell (803) 622-8029

Next Month at March Roundtable: International Scouting Opportunities for Youth and Adults

A report from Japan and how to Go International with your troop or crew

Plus:

- * Conservation and Environment Theme
 - ♦ Where to go hiking in SC and NC
 - Getting Ready for Summer Camp
- Bonus: How to Geo-tag your photos

Note: March Roundtable has been moved to

March 20 so that Scouters and Eagles in our district may attend the Council Banquet on the 13th

Coming in April: Scouters Cook-off and Show-off

Prizes will be given for dishes that are voted as the best in each category. Voting will be done by the Roundtable participants. All Unit Levels are invited to participate.

- Desserts
- Main Dish
- Dutch Oven Dishes
- Foil packs
- Backpacking (dehydrated) dishes

If you have an item for the newsletter, please submit it by the second Monday of the month to lmcgraw@sc.rr.com

Silver Beavers and Eagles to be honored at Council Banquet March 13

Two Scouters from Etowah Creek District among the selected awardees

Scott Janoch and Billy Griffin will be among those recognized for their dedication and commitment to the Boy Scouts of America at the annual Indian Waters Council Recognition Banquet at Embassy Suites on March 13. The Silver Beaver Award is the council-level distinguished service award of the Boy Scouts of America. Recipients of this award are registered adult leaders who have made an impact on the lives of youth through service given to the council and is given to those who implement the Scouting program and perform community service through hard work, self sacrifice, dedication, and many years of service. The award consists of a silver beaver suspended from a blue and white ribbon worn around the neck. Recipients may wear the corresponding square knot, with a white strand over a blue strand, on the BSA uniform. The Eagles from our district will also be honored. Please attend and show our thanks and support for the hard work and achievement of these fine Scouts and Scouters. Please register in advance at the Scout Office

Note: Scout Roundtable has been moved to March 20.

One of the sanest, surest, and most generous joys of life comes from being happy over the good fortune of others. ~ *Robert Heinlein*

Scouting Green Tip

Digital textbooks are becoming more and more common. Weighing in at around 5 lb (for the laptop you'll need to view them), not only are they lighter than paper textbooks, they're dog-ear-immune, and they're tree-free. An innovative way to end the textbook-induced hunchback problem and no trees are harmed in the making of them!

Physically Strong and Mentally Awake

Council Pinewood Derby registrations are due March 27. Please have your unit contact the council by that date.



Millennium Goals

To help combat social injustice, we need to help develop greater awareness of human needs (access to water, health care, human rights, etc.). Each of us can take action to help bring about social changes that can make the world a more just and human place.

~WOSM – Youth Of The World/Scouts Of The World www.youthoftheworld.net

Calling All Unit Commissioners

On March 20, at the same time and location as the Roundtable, the Training Committee will be conducting Session 1 (of 3 Sessions) of Unit Commissioner Basic Training. This training is required for Unit Commissioners



to teach them their assigned job and how to accomplish the tasks assigned. Each Unit Commissioner must complete this training to qualify for the Trained Parch, as well as the Silver Arrowhead Honor and the Commissioners Key (both awarded after tenure). There is no special

preparation for this first Session - just bring yourself and a pen. This Training Session is limited to 6+/- and, while open to all Districts, the ECD training committee reserves the right to offer the limited number of spaces to those from Etowah Creek District first.

If you want to attend this Training Session(s), contact Emmitt Sherron, -- 803-405-0885 --- sherrone@bellsouth.net --- P O Box 236 Newberry, SC 29108.

Furman Miller of Chapin Awarded Lamb Award

On February 17, 2008, during the worship service at Mt. Horeb Lutheran Church, Chapin, SC, **Furman A. Miller, Jr.** was presented with the **Lamb Award**.

The Lamb Award is a national recognition bestowed on Lutheran adults by the Lutheran Committee on Civic Youth Agency Relations, to acknowledge the distinguished service of Lutheran adults such as Miller in fostering the spiritual growth of youth through church and civic youth serving agency programs such as the Boy Scouts of America. The requirements for the award are stringent, including 10 or more years as an active member of a Lutheran Congregation and volunteer service to the church and to the BSA, serving as a Christian role model and leader to young people and promoting the religious growth programs in Scouting.

Miller also exhibited leadership and is fully trained in the BSA, helped to build, organize, or reorganize units, recruited youth and promoted full involvement of members in the program and encouraged units to support group service projects in response to community or congregational needs.

Miller has been a member of Mt. Horeb Lutheran Church since 1992, served on the Sunday School Committee, Usher Committee and several standing committees. He is an **Eagle Scout** and is an active adult leader in **Boy Scout Troop 411**, **Cub Scout Pack 411** and **Venture Crew 411**, and is well-known and respected in the Scouting Community. Congratulations to Furman Miller for his long and dedicated service to his church, community, and Scouting.

Record your "Good Turn" hours on the web

The BSA, through their **Good Turn for America** program, are focusing on supporting issues connected to food, shelter, and good health habits. Their project is a call to service to help provide adequate food and shelter and to develop good health habits in the country. The Scouts can record their service hours and to inform people of what they have done on the project's website **www.goodturnforamerica.org**

Etowah Creek District Scouter joins BSA National Contingent to Japan

BSA/SAJ Friendship Exchange a Huge Success



"It was a dream come true."
Scouter and Etowah Creek Roundtable
Commissioner **Lorie McGraw** had an unusual
birthday present this year. She celebrated it
twice as she flew over the International Date
Line on the way to Japan.

It was part of the trip of a lifetime. On January 31 she traveled to Dallas to meet with a contingent of 32 youth and 7 other adults from Boy Scouts, Venturing, and Sea Scouts. The

next day (her birthday) the group flew to Tokyo, where they joined youth from the Scouting Association of Japan (SAJ) in a Youth Forum on World Issues.

The BSA/SAJ Friendship Exchange was started in 1998, and each year one or more contingents go to Japan and exchange ideas and learn about each other's culture and traditions. After spending two days of discussion and problem solving, the youth provided the World Organization of Scouting Movement (WOSM) with resolutions on ways that the WOSM can help Scouts from around the world address and solve issues in disaster aid, community service for housing and clean water, health issues, and more.

Then it was off to see Japan for 8 days, as they visited temples, hot springs, and rode the Shinkasen (Bullet Train), and immersed themselves in Japanese culture and history during a homestay with Scouts in Kyoto and Osaka. It

snowed in Tokyo and in Kyoto, and was the first time that two Scouts from Florida had ever seen snow.

SCOUITS of the world - du monde

"We ate sushi (raw fish) and learned how to pray at a Buddh

learned how to pray at a Buddhist temple and a Shinto shrine. The Scouts of Japan were perfect hosts and friendships among the youth and adults have been forged that will last a lifetime. These youth and adults had their eyes opened to the World Brotherhood of Scouting in a way that was unparalleled", said Lorie. "Every Scout should have

an opportunity to see beyond all of our country's borders, for Scouting is truly worldwide."

Lorie will have a presentation on her trip at the March 20 Roundtable. She will include ways in which your, your Scout, and your troop or crew can travel to visit Scouts in other lands as a Scouting Ambassador.

Eagle Application News: Changes for 2008

The new printing of the Eagle Scout Rank Application, No. 58-728, has a notable change. Now, under Requirement 5, the name of the candidate's Eagle project is required, as well as the grand total of hours devoted to it (from page 10 of the Eagle Scout Leadership Project Workbook). The new application will be required beginning May 1, 2008.

Notes from Tom



Tom McGrath, our District Executive, wants to make sure that you remember the following items:

Centennial Quality Units:

Make sure you recharter on time, as it is part of the Centennial Quality Unit (CQU)

goals. Call or email Tom.

- Make sure you turn in your 2008 commitment form for CQU. Also, note that at the end of the year you must inform the DE if you meet your goals and are a CQU or not.
- Make sure to get your registration in for Summer Camp (both Troops and Packs) as the weeks are starting to fill up. There is a \$50/ Troop deposit for the reservation. Also, a \$55/boy deposit is due by February 29, 2008.

Tom McGrath District Executive tmcgrath@bsamail.org 750-9868 Ext 110 Cell (803) 622-8029

PhilBreak for PhilPholks!

Last Chance! Sign Up Now! For those of you who love

Philmont and are over 18 but under 26: In March of 2008, Philmont Scout Ranch will be offering an alternate Spring Break program for those who want to want to experience Philmont while doing conservation work at the Ranch.

Philbreak will have 3 sessions, each a week long: March 3-7; March 10-14; March 17-21. There is a limit of 50 participants and the cost is only \$100.

This program is open to all (male or female) who are registered in either the Boy Scout or

Venturing programs and are between the age of 18 and 26. This is NOT an OA Program, but a Philmont Program. You also must met Philmont's physical requirements.

Full info on the program is on the application form at adventure.oa-bsa.org/files/applications/PHILBREAKApp08.pdf

Spring 2 Camp Coupons are now on sale

If your unit has not picked up their Spring2Camp coupons, please contact Rosemary Teed as soon as possible. This is a perfect chance for the youth in your unit to make money, earn prizes, and provide some great discount coupons for their family and friends.

Triple Prize Points deadline is March 6, 2008, so be sure to get your sales turned in by that time. The next deadline will be on March 27, 2008, for double prize points.

For more information, please call Rosemary Teed at 772-3682

Have Fun and Get Paid, Too!

Be on the Summer Camp Staff Ages 15 and up. Go to the Camp Barstow website for an application.

www.campbarstow.org





Beyond Wood Badge!

The New **Philmont Leadership Challenge** brings Wood Badge skills to life in a majestic Philmont setting. Just as NAYLE hones and expands upon skills taught to Scouts in NYLT, **The Philmont Leadership Challenge** takes adult leadership to an exciting new level through experiential learning in the outdoors. The



Philmont Leadership Challenge simultaneously immerses you and your team in challenging scenarios that require the application of Wood Badge leadership skills for success.

Learn to inspire, motivate, and help others succeed.

Prerequisite: Must have completed WB for the 21st Century and meet Philmont's stringent Level A physical requirements. Pilot Course! Be the First!!

Sept 21-27, 2008 philmontleadershipchallenge.org

Other Philmont Training opportunities are available at the Philmont Training Center.

Check the website at www.scouting.org/philmont/ptc/courses/

Each summer, the Philmont Training Center offers weeklong courses that cover every aspect of the BSA's program—from Tiger Cubs and Scoutmasters to Endowment and Scoutreach. **Attendance is by invitation only**. Your local council must make arrangements with Philmont for a Scouter to attend these courses. If you are interested, please contact DE Tom McGrath at the Scout Office.

Dates to Remember!

Check the Council Calendar! www.indianwaters.org Online Training is also available on the Council Website

February

- 21- Roundtable at Ashland
- 26 **New Leader Essentials** & **Youth Protection** Training Call Joan Janoch 345-5700 orl youthprotection@etowahcreekbsa.com

March

- 1 Boy Scout Leader Basic Training: Call Joan Janoch 345-5700
- 6 Triple Points Deadline for Spring2Camp sales
- 7-9 Nat'l Youth Leadership Training cancelled
- 13 Council Recognition Banquet
- 20- Roundtable Ashland UMC Date Change! 7:00 pm
- 27 Double Points Deadline Spring2Camp sales
- 29 Merit Badge University (online registration now)

April

- 10 Roundtable Ashland UMC 7:00 pm
- 11-13 Family Camping Weekend
- 17 Life to Eagle Seminar- see www.indianwaters.org
- 19 Cub Leader Basics, O'burg see www.indianwaters.org
- 26 Pinewood Derby Championship Races

May

2-4 - Shooting Sports Camporee

Etowah Creek District Trainings: Call Joan Janoch 345-5700 for more info

Etowah Creek Eagles Fly High

39 Scouts in Etowah Creek District pass their Eagle Boards of Review in 2007



Congratulations to all of our new Eagle Scouts, and to all of their Troops, families, friends, Scoutmasters, and adult leaders. The world is proud of you!

January

Erik Meredith T-91

February

Jake Drumrey

March

Tyler Bundrick T-870 Chip Bowman T-312 Mark Bebber T-312 Greg Burroughs T-91 Chris Follmann T-870 Jimmy Joy T-326

April

Alexander Lourie T-15 Scott Harmon T-15 Josh Nunn T-15 Ethan Gray T-411

Mav

Chris Tevepaugh T-870 Russell Baker T-870 Adam Curtis T-870 Kyle Corey T-411 Bryce Moyers T-91

June

Mark Tevepaugh T-870 Richard Westheimer T-413 John W. Thompson T-15 Brice Reynolds T-312

August

Fredrick Moore T-95 Ben Rickman T-411 Tanner McLeod T- 95 Shaun Hinen T-870

September

Nick Rainey T-326 Andy Miller T-91 Tyler Krumrey T-95 Taylor Sams T-95 Will Burn IV T-95

October

Fredric Travis T-314

November

Steven Keowa T-413 Nick Zamboni T-48 Christopher Beym T-411 Tyler Cook T-312 Mike deKozlowski T-91 Christian Baker T-870

December

Trent O'Conner T-576 Colin Murphy T-815

Parents of Webelos Scouts: Looking for a troop?

www.etowahcreek.com/downloads/W2Stransfinal2.pdf Download this handy pamphlet!



How to Find a Troop for your Webelos Scout.

What questions should you ask?
What should you look for in a troop?
Do you have to go to the troop that your
Webelos Den Leader chose for her son?

The answers to these questions and more are in this special pamphlet designed to help parents and Webelos leaders decide what troop is best for your son.

Free on the www.etowahcreek.com website and at Roundtable.

Free Online Scouting for Boys

The Baden-Powell original work that started it all

http://www.thedump.scoutscan.com/s4b.html
The definitive manual for Scouts. This is the book that started Scouting. Complete with illustrations by Baden-Powell Free to download and share.



"The Dump"

Resources For Free Vintage Scouting Books

http://www.thedump.scoutscan.com/other.html http://www.thedump.scoutscan.com/scouts.html



Southern Region Venturing Website srventuring-bsa.org





Includes Facebook Link

Powder Horn Training

Opportunities:

http://srventuring-bsa.org/newsite/training/powderhorn.php

March 28-30 and April 11-13, 2008 Greater Alabama Council

March 14-16 and April 11-13, 2008 Pine Burr Area Council

April 25-27 and May 9-11, 2008 Colonial Virginia Council

GeekCreek:

Up Etowah Creek's Scouting picks for techies, electronic entertainment, and the web.

Geek Creek Free Tools of the Month Do you Meebo?

meebo.com is a website for instant messaging on all platforms at once from absolutely anywhere. Whether you're at home, on campus, at work, or traveling foreign lands, hop over to meebo.com on any computer to access all of your buddies (on AIM, Yahoo!, MSN, Google Talk, ICQ and Jabber) and chat with them all at one time on one platform, no downloads or installs required, for free!

Interactive Digital Panorama Photos for Free from your camera with CleVR

www.clevr.com

Do you have a great picture from the top of Mt. Baldy at Philmont? Want to share the view from all directions with your troop? CleVR is a seriously easy way of creating and sharing panoramic photos. It not only helps you create

stunning panoramas, but it also lets you turn them into interactive images that you can move around and navigate. If you haven't tried making panoramas before, this is the place to start. If you have, you should find this the easiest and best way of making them. Best of all it's totally, 100% free.

Spoof Patrol Patches and more

Looking for the Killer Rabbit Patrol patch? How about a spoof "Cat Herder" Merit Badge for retiring Scoutmasters? Or an "Un-Trainable" strip for your Committee Chair?

http://quartermasterstore.com http://www.boyscoutstore.com/

Cubcasts! CubScout Leader Podcasts:

New on the SCOUTING.ORG site!

Cubcast is an audio podcast from BSA featuring a variety of how-to and information topics for Cub Scout leaders and parents. www.scouting.org/cubscouts/podcast

Subscribe to the RSS automatic feed or download individual episodes.

Litter to Glitter, Academics and Sports [MP3 -

10.4 MB] **February's podcast** covers the **March** Cub Scout theme of **Litter to Glitter**. Get great ideas for how to implement the theme from Ray Alverson, an assistant council commissioner in the Houston area. Then learn the details of the **Academics and Sports program** from Bruce Hopper, a Cubmaster and District Committee Chair for the Mohican Council in central Massachusetts. **(February 2008)**

For **Cub Scout** Resources

Monthly on the web

Scouting the Net

www.scoutingthenet.com/Training/Roundtable/Handouts/

Baloo's Bugle:

http://usscouts.org/usscouts/bbugle2007-2008.asp

Thrifty Fun http://www.thriftyfun.com

ScoutParents mission is to develop and implement methods which encourage and empower Scouting participants to help maximize the number of Dedicated Scouting youth and parents and mentors as Dedicated Scouting volunteers who participate with their Scouts. Join in today! **www.scoutparents.org/**

Youth Protection Resources Family Watchdog.us

Check for the presence of sex offenders in your neighborhood, near your schools, and near your pack, troop, or crew meeting sites and get email alerts if one moves nearby. Free.

www.familywatchdog.us

Do Something

www.dosomething.org

Site creators believe that "young people have the power to make a difference." This site gives them tools to do so: ideas, message boards, info on grants, a zipcode-searchable database of volunteer opportunities, and more.

Ways to support American Soldiers and Their Families

Operation Quiet Comfort

"Honor and Comfort for Our Wounded Troops" www.operationquietcomfort.com

Numerous ways for units and individuals to help.

Send a Card or a package to a Hero!

Visit http://www.anysoldier.com

Cards and notes to our service people are prayers in action.

America Supports You

http://www.americasupportsyou.mil/

Can Cub Scouts shoot BB guns at a Pack Meeting? Can Webelos use axes while camping or in a Den Meeting? There is an official BSA publication that tells Scouts of all ages what is appropriate. The Guide to Safe Scouting is Free Online!

www.scouting.org/pubs/gss/ageguides.pdf
Remember that you must have a copy
of the Guide to Safe Scouting
with you at all outings! Buy one at the
Scout Shop or download it for free.

Etowah Creek District Web Site www.etowahcreek.com

Youth Protection Issues: Urgent Information to be shared

Recent events in our council regarding the sexual exploitation of a Scout by a trusted volunteer have increased the urgency of educating our parents and youth about the Youth Protection Policies of the BSA.

In addition, the burgeoning use of electronic communication such as cell-phones and text-messaging/photo sharing has created a new wrinkle and loophole that can be exploited by possible abusers to your child and the youth in your program. Technology has us playing 'catch-up' in many ways.

Careful leadership selection through background checks, letters of recommendation, and reputation are simply not enough. However, the barriers that BSA erects are 5-fold, with careful leadership selection being only one of them. The good news is that if all BSA policies are followed and known by the unit and the parents, the opportunity for abuse will likely be removed or be made so risky that the perpetrator will not risk involvement.

The solution is to have every adult and youth educated as to what is allowed and what is not allowed in the BSA program. The BSA has it covered in the unit and youth-appropriate Youth Protection Training (YPT) videos, online and in-person training, and in the Guide to Safe Scouting and other documents (available for free online).

So how will you protect yourself and your adult leaders from false accusation, your child from exploitation, and the unit from scandal and humiliation, and yet still give the everimportant adult contact and role-modeling that is so important to our program?

Some items that you should be aware of:

- 1) Recent changes in the **Boy Scout Requirements** (January 2008) include information about bullying and Internet abuse by cyber bullies and others.
- 2) New Youth Protection videos (that supplement the Youth Protection Training available online and through your training teams) are now available on DVD for both adults and youth in all sections (Cubs, Scouts, and Venturing) and will be available for free at Roundtable for all units and interested persons. (VHS versions may also be available upon request). The training team is always available to help you with presentations or to answer questions.
- 3) Electronic threats to your child's personal, physical, and mental well-being should be identified and discussed by your unit committee and the adults in your unit. Roundtable and the training team will have information about ways that Scouters, parents, and youth can safely use the Internet, text messaging and other electronic communications that proliferate in our culture.

Scout Roundtable and the *Up Etowah Creek* Newsletter will also have information on ways that parents can find out if their child is being abused/bullied by others or is abusing others, behavioral tell-

tales to watch for, how to track usage of cell phones and Internet site visits, establish security barriers for communication devices (computers, cell phones, PDAs, etc) and more.

4) Safety in Traveling: Know how and <u>when</u> to properly file a Tour Permit, know what the council has on updates on Tour Permits, and upcoming changes in the filing of Tour Permits (there is the possibility of online filing in the future).

What Every Unit Should Be Stressing:

Youth Protection Training is important for <u>all</u> members of the unit, adults and youth alike. **Get your unit trained**, in person or online. And if your unit leaders say that you do not need to be trained, they are wrong. Protect yourself and your children by knowing and enacting the policies and procedures of the BSA.

- ALL youth must be told that one-on-one contact of any sort (in person or electronically) with an adult who is not their parent is not allowed in the BSA, and what they should do if it happens.
- ALL youth need to be encouraged to watch out for each other and be made aware that bullying and/or harassment is not tolerated in the BSA, from adults or from youth.
- ALL parents must be educated so that they know what the rules are and what to look for: for example, that if a leader brings their child home from a meeting, there must be another child (the leader's son for example) or 2 adults in the car with them
- ALL parents, youth, leaders, and volunteers need to know what to do and who to contact if suspicions are raised.

All Youth Protection Videos are available for free in DVD and/or VHS format from the Scout Shop, your training team, or your Unit Commissioner. Training materials, helps, and guides and a complete list of available publications are also available online at http://scouting.org/pubs/yp/index.html

Online Youth Protection Training is available for all levels through the council website at www.indianwaters.org. Create an account and be sure to print off the final page when the training is completed, so that you will get credit through your unit (pack, troop, or crew) for being currently trained. The next in-person Youth Protection Training will take place on February 26 at 7:00 pm at Faith Presbyterian Church. Register online through the council website. Cost is \$3: pre-register and pay at the Scout Shop, or on-line by February 22, 2008.

For more information, to arrange a Youth Protection Training for your unit, or to air a question or concern about Youth Protection in a pack, troop., or crew, please call Etowah Creek District YPT specialist Joan Janoch 345-5700, or email

youthprotection@etowahcreekbsa.org

If you have a suspicion about abuse in your pack, troop, or crew, or elsewhere in the BSA, please contact Scout Executive **Larry Brown** at lbrown@bsamail.org, IWC 715 Betsy Drive, Columbia, SC 29202 (803)750-986