



Up Etowah Creek...

Etowah Creek District BSA Newsletter
Indian Waters Council in the Midlands of South Carolina, USA



Vol. 6 No. 7 April 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 May Roundtable:
Summer Camp Follies!**

- ◆ Whiners
- ◆ Mamma's Boys!
- ◆ Crybabies! !
- ◆ And those are the Scoutmasters!



What to do for the summer? Come have some fun as we look at Summer Camp and Summer Fun!



Calling all Cub Scouts

Join us as we "travel" the world learning about new cultures.

Cub Scouts

Around the World

T willight Camp

July 14-18, 2008
5-9pm

Registration available online at www.iwc-bsa.com or <http://tinyurl.com/482z4s>

Fees: \$60 before May 1. \$65 After May 1.

Tiger Cubs and an adult Partner are welcome!

Crafts—Map and compass—GeoCache—Games—BB's and Archery Ranges each night plus a World's Fair!

Questions? CubDayCamp@etowahcreek.com

See you there!



DISTRICT AWARDS BANQUET APRIL 24

**Who will be the Scouter of the Year?
Scoutmaster or Cubmaster of the Year?**

Is there someone that you think should be awarded the District Award of Merit? How about that family of Scouts and Scouters? Shouldn't they be honored as Scouting Family of the Year?

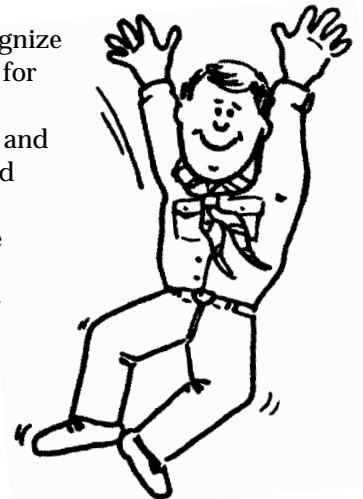
The volunteers that deserve recognition most will likely never think to ask about awards. Do you want to say Thank You to the folks that help you bear the load? They will not win if you do not nominate them! **Nomination forms are due** to Tom McGrath at the Scout Office by **April 18**.

Take a few moments to recognize the folks that labor mightily for your Scouts, Cubs, and Venturers and for the youth and adults of the District. Reward their efforts by recognizing them and then attending the Banquet.

**April 24 at 6:30 pm at
Ashland**

\$10 per person

**Forms are now on the
District website at
www.etowahcreek.com**



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

Attention

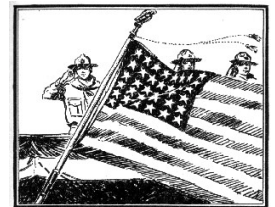
**Barstow Summer Camp
Online**

**Registration for
Summer Camp**

Merit Badge Classes starts online

at 8 am April 14

See www.indianwaters.org



Cub Scout Twilight Camp Needs Your Help!



Wanted: Energetic, fun loving volunteers to help out at the upcoming Cub Scout Twilight Camp in July.

We're looking for assistance in the following area; crafts, nature, games, Archery and BB gun range, Den Leaders and Assistants for the Den Leaders.

Boy scouts 14 or older are welcome as Den Walkers (escorting Dens from and from the program areas), Runners/Messengers and for general assistance in crafts, games, and other program areas.

A list of needed supplies has been gathered. We're looking to borrow **canopy type shelters** to provide shade on the range.

Also, looking for donations of

~ men's neckties ~ Fluorescent glow-sticks for kids ~ newspapers ~ wooden drumsticks ~ 2x2 gauze bandages for First Aid Skills ~ alcohol wipes ~ maps of the local area (age-graduated for different ages and skills)

Decorations Needed: posters and items related to **France Mexico Germany China**

Our final night will encompass a World's Fair including dinner. **We're looking for a restaurant or caterer that will be willing to donate or discount food and drinks.**

If you are willing to help us out please contact Malanie DeVore, Camp Director at 781-5340 or Kim Johnson, Program Director at 528-3612

Daycamp email: CubDayCamp@etowahcreek.com

CUB SCOUTS AROUND THE WORLD TWILIGHT CAMP

July 14-18, 2008 5-9pm

There will be a discount available to Parents who stay and help out for the week.

A SCOUT IS HELPFUL!

Scouting Green Tip

It may seem like idling uses less gas than turning your car off and on again, but it usually doesn't. So turn your engine off if you're gonna stay put for more than 10 seconds, and BTW: Driving warms up your car much faster than idling.

***Less air (and ear) pollution.** An idling car creates twice the emissions of a car in motion.

***Saving money.** Idling 15 min per weekday can cost you up to \$100 in wasted gas over the course of a year.

***Saving oil.** American drivers use more than **2 billion gallons of fuel each year** while idling.

A Scout is Thrifty!



ATTENTION SCOUTMASTERS AND SENIOR PATROL LEADERS

A power point presentation of "Troop Leadership Training" (TLT) is now available on the National BSA training website:

www.olc.scouting.org/resources/index.html

www.olc.scouting.org/resources/TLT.ppt

This training replaces the old Junior Leadership Training (JLT) Troop-level leadership training for your Leadership Corps.

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

Ultra Light backpacker's pad

You can make an excellent lightweight mattress by packing several empty heavy-duty trash bags. Fill them with soft leaves, and lie down on top. If a cold front moves in, fill several more and use them as comforters to augment your bag.

Eagles in ECD

February 2008

Wilt Boone	Troop 411
Bryan Riddick	Troop 95
Trey Huey	Troop 411
Edward Mungo	Troop 312



March 2008

Zack Bregovi	Troop 48
James T. Hillian, III	Troop 330
Harrison S. Hall	Troop 95
Scott A. Aebersold	Troop 95
Jeremy Berry	Troop 330
Andrew Foreman	Troop 521



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.**



Unit Advancement Records

Some Tips and Hints for Troops

Two things are almost guaranteed in the life of a Scouter.

- 1) Murphy was an optimist!
- 2) No matter what method(s) you use (computer or manual), records will be lost or messed up sometime during a Scout's career.

Be Prepared:

1) Encourage Scouts to take good care of their books (cases are cheap), and check during every Scoutmaster conference that they have their name in the book and that all things are properly initialed and dated. A completed book will be sufficient proof for all non merit badge related requirements if there is a discrepancy when doing Eagle Paperwork. *Note: the name checking trick is also a good way to help your memory along when you have problems remembering the names of the 20 crossovers.*



2) Troops handle blue-cards differently, so explain to the boys that they really need to hold on to their portion or at least a copy of their blue cards. Again, this will be more than enough proof if there is a discrepancy.

3) Have Troop Merit Badge Counselors turn in all their blue-cards or copies to the troop for consistent, safe, and organized (hopefully) archives.

4) After a Scout reaches Star, encourage parents to call the

Council Office to get a copy of their boy's official record. Review it! Fixing issues is easier closer to the event. This should be done again after they reach Life. Encourage them to keep those reports!

5) If a Scout transfers from another council, get a copy of that official record from the old council, and make sure it is transferred properly. Have the Scout or parents keep that record safe.

4) Use an automated manner of tracking advancement (TroopMaster, Internet only, etc., whatever works) but remember, **things do go wrong**. However, the Council office will always work with you if you have a good paper trail, even if the "official process" broke down. They always favor the scouts in these sorts of situations.

5) The automated systems can help make sure your dates balance, but they are not infallible. There have been cases where MBs were not allocated properly and the Scout had to postpone moving forward as a result. For your sanity, check the reports.

6) Don't forget to have fun with all of this!



 Etowah Creek District
Website is now updated!
www.etowahcreek.com

Calling All Unit Commissioners

What does a Commissioner do?

Commissioners are district and council leaders who help Scout units succeed. They coach and consult with adult leaders of Cub Scout packs, Boy Scout troops, and Venturing crews. scouting.org/commissioners.aspx

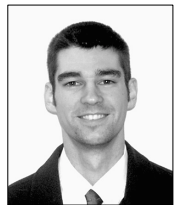
Unit Commissioners are appointed by the district commissioner with the approval of the council executive board.



Unit commissioners should

- Have excellent people skills
- Have a Scouting background or be fast-track learners
- Know and practice Scouting ideals

If you wish to be considered for a position as a Unit Commissioner, or want more information about it, please email our District Commissioner, Milton Quattlebaum mpqandrhc@bellsouth.net or call Emmitt Sherron (803)405-0885 sherrone@bellsouth.net to see about availability and training.



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.

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

Spring 2 Camp Coupons are now due

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

Have Fun and Get Paid, Too!

Staff is needed for Archery Range, Rifle Range, and Camp Medic.

Counselors In Training (CIT) slots are still open, but closing fast!

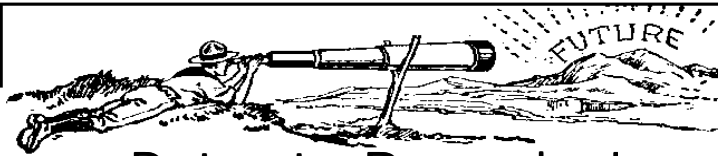
Apply today

Be on the Summer Camp Staff

Ages 15 and up. Go to the Camp Barstow website for an application. www.campbarstow.org

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





Dates to Remember!

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

April

- 10 Roundtable – Ashland UMC 7:00 pm
- 11-13 - Family Camping Weekend
- 14- Online Registration for Summer Camp Merit Badge Classes – see www.indianwaters.org – starts at 8 am
- 17 Life to Eagle Seminar- see www.indianwaters.org
- 18 Nominations due for Volunteer of the Year Awards
- 19 Cub Leader Basics, O'burg see www.indianwaters.org
- 24 ECD Volunteers Banquet Ashland UMC 6:30 \$10
- 26 - Pinewood Derby Championship Races

May

- 2-4 - Shooting Sports Camporee

June

- 12-15 Cub Scout Resident Camp
- 16-28 Camp Barstow Summer Camp weeks
- 29-July 2 – Webelos Waters session 1 Barstow

July

- 2-5 Webelos Waters session 2 Barstow
- 6-12 Camp Barstow Summer Camp Week 3
- 14-18 Etowah Twilight Cub Day Camp – Cornerstone 5-9pm

August

- 14 - Program Preview and Kickoff – Ashland UMC 7 PM

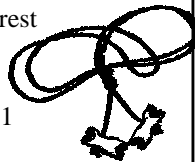
November

- 21-23 Etowah Camporee – Harbison State Forest

Mark Your Calendars:

2009

- March 20-22 Woodbadge Training weekend 1
- April 17-19 Woodbadge Training weekend 2
- Call Bruce Cannon 787-5763 or email bcannon3@sc.rr.com
- Etowah Creek District Trainings:**
Call Joan Janoch 345-5700 for more info



Youth Protection Resources

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.

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

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>

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.

Leaf it to Cubs, Youth Protection - April 2008

Spring has sprung and April's Cubcast features ideas for getting outside with the boys to experience **Leaf it to Cubs**, the theme for May. And, since April is Child Abuse Prevention month, we'll be talking about Youth Protection and the timely release of a brand new DVD resource on the topic.

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.

Southern Region Venturing Website
srventuring-bsa.org

Includes Facebook Link
Powder Horn Training Opportunities:
<http://srventuring-bsa.org/newsite/training/powderhorn.php>



GeekCreek

 Up Etowah Creek's Scouting picks for techies, Electronic Entertainment, and the web.

Free Tools of the Month

Make your own FREE professional You-tube Music Video using your pictures from Scouting

Animoto.com



Animoto.com is a web application that creates MTV-style videos with the click of a button. Users simply choose a song and images. Animoto then automatically generates a unique video for them. No two videos are ever the same. Many of the post-production techniques that the founders used while working as producers for MTV, Comedy Central & ABC are used in Animoto's patent-pending Cinematic Artificial Intelligence developed to think like an actual editor and director. The resulting video is produced in a widescreen format, containing the visual energy of a music video and the emotional impact of a movie trailer.

Animoto.com is a website that takes your pictures and turns them into a music video. Created by a bunch of former TV producers, the concept behind Animoto is that you upload images to the site, either from your computer, or online photo sites, such as [Flickr](#), [Facebook](#), or [Photobucket](#), pick a song to go along with it, and Animoto will automatically create a cool video for you. Animoto is definitely a slick, fun, easy way to compile your photos into energetic videos. After Animoto analyzes, produces, and creates your video, you can tweak it by adding or deleting images, or changing up the soundtrack. Free for 30 seconds of video per session and with unlimited session, you can then download your music video, post it on your website or blog or send to YouTube.

Use the videos to celebrate a special Scouting award, a Court of Honor, a camping trip, and more. How would your troop like to have a canoeing music video on Facebook or your crew use a high-energy rock climbing trip to recruit new members? And for those crossover Webelos, a "Goodbye to the Pack" video will be worth saving! This is a great site and well worth visiting.

Facebook application ~ apps.facebook.com/animoto

Lost and Found? Not Likely!

We are all carrying around one or more thumb drives (portable USB flash-drives). I carry my Roundtable Powerpoints, pictures, songs, and more. It looks like all of the other ones out there, and is easy to misplace or run through the washer. And what about my digital camera and the memory card that is on it with all of my pictures from the Court of Honor, Johnny tying his first knot, and the sunset at Philmont? If I set it down, someone could steal it. Or it could fall out of my pocket, or be left on a bus. How will I ever have a chance of getting it back?



Here are some tips that apply to both gadgets.

Use the extra address labels that you get in the mail and put one on your gadget. Cover it with clear tape to make it stick well.

If you are using a Flash Drive, **remember to back it up**, because you can lose it. Download the info to your computer and a stand-alone portable hard drive, or upload it to a web-based server. And while you

are at it, save it to a DVD and send a copy to your friends. That way if your house burns down, you will have a chance of seeing that info again

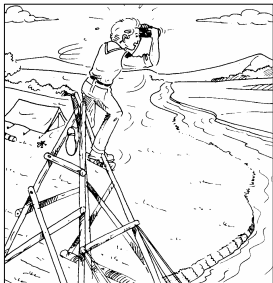
And while backing up is a good idea, recovery is better. Because they are so portable, what happens if you lose it or leave it stuck in the computer at the library? Is your name, address, phone number on it? How are you going to prove it is yours or get it back if you leave?

If an honest person finds your flash drive, you have a chance to get it back if you follow this suggestion: Whenever I get a new flash device or memory card, I always **store a plain text file on the root folder** with the file name **!Owner-Info.txt**.

I create it with *Notepad* and **list my name, e-mail address, and phone number** along with a statement requesting anyone who finds it to contact me. I repeat the information in the file in French, German, and Spanish using Babelfish (babelfish.altavista.com) and save it on my desktop as a **Read Only** text file [right-click on Properties, then check the box that says Read Only] so I can't mistakenly erase it. The exclamation point (!) in the file name makes the file appears at the top of the list when someone views the files. The plain text format (.txt) lets the file be read on any computer.

Of course, all this assumes that your lost device is found by an honest person. But, even if it was stolen, an honest person may end up with it before long. Also, you might recover a flash card but not the device it was in, but that's better than nothing. So now whenever I get a jump drive or digital camera memory card, **I put this in the main directory of the flash drive or memory card.** And my first picture on my camera is of **my business card.** So perhaps one day, if I lose the camera, it may make it's way back to me. (Adapted from www.windowsecrets.com)

FamilyWatchdog.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.



Cool Pioneering Site

ropesandpoles.blogspot.com

Great ideas for pioneering and good photos, too. Get inspired!

For Cub Scout

Monthly Resources on the web

Scouting the Net

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

Baloo's Bugle usscouts.org

ScoutParents Join in today! www.scoutparents.org



April is BSA Youth Protection Month

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 ever-important 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 when to properly file a Tour Permit, know what the council has on updates on rules regarding 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 all 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, jazzing, and/or harassment is not tolerated in the BSA, not from adults and not 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.

The BSA Youth Protection Policy is not just to protect the youth; it is also to protect the leaders from unfounded rumors, allegations, or suspicion. Lives, reputations, families, and units have been ruined by innuendo and false accusations. By following the policies, knowing the rules, and understanding reason for them, your unit will be a Safe Haven for your son and the sons of your Scouting friends.

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. If your unit desires an in-person Youth Protection Training, please contact Joan Janoch (see below) or the Scout Office.

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) 750-9840*

FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE
WWW.Scouting.org OR
WWW.ETOWAHCREEK.COM