

# Up Etowah Creek..

## Etowah Creek District BSA Newsletter

Indian Waters Council in the Midlands of South Carolina, USA

Vol. 7 No. 6 January 2009



Welcome to Etowah Creek District [ECD] Leader Roundtable in Columbia, South Carolina. This

showcase for Leaders 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. It will be available online 2 weeks after Roundtable (so come to RT and get it!) Call me or email me if you need additional copies or if you spot an error. **Welcome!**

~~ Lorie McGraw 750-0626 [roundtable@etowahcreek.com](mailto:roundtable@etowahcreek.com)  
 BSRT Commissioner and Editor "Up Etowah Creek"  
 Tom McGrath District Executive [tmcgrath@bsaemail.org](mailto:tmcgrath@bsaemail.org)  
 750-9868 Ext 110 Cell (803) 622-8029



## Not Trained? No Tour Permit!

January 1, 2009 Tour Permits will be issued only if new training standards are met.

### "Planning and Preparing for Hazardous Weather" is now required for all Tour Permits

The new course to go with the new Tour Permit Requirements is now online at the Online Learning Center [olc.scouting.org](http://olc.scouting.org) Remember! Don't wait until the last minute! Tour Permits must be submitted 2 weeks in advance. If plans change, updates can be made.

**Important Note:** if you file the Tour Permit late, it may not be returned to you in time for your trip. If you are camping without a signed and filed Tour Permit and an accident happens, you and your Chartered Organization may be liable for any injury, damage, or lawsuits resulting from your unit event. Please follow all guidelines and procedures to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for your Cubs, Scouts, and Venturers. See Council "Smoke Signals" for details.

## New Tour Permit Online

[www.etowahcreek.com/forms/34426-TourPermit-Editable-Rev2007-2008Printing.pdf](http://www.etowahcreek.com/forms/34426-TourPermit-Editable-Rev2007-2008Printing.pdf)

Next Month at the  
**February 12, 2009**  
**All Scout Leaders Roundtable:**  
 Tracking! It's more than just footprints  
 Plus the Leave No Trace Award and Hazardous Weather Training



Also at the February Roundtable will be Recipes, Make-It Gadgets and Neckerchief Slides, Games, Outings reports, Songs and Skits and more.

**All Units Come Together for this event!**

**Come and Bring a Friend!**

To see what Games, recipes, ceremonies, and outings will be shared next month at Roundtable, go to [www.mysignup.com/etowahroundtable](http://www.mysignup.com/etowahroundtable)

## Honor the Etowah Creek Volunteers!



Nominees for District Award of Merit, Scoutmaster and Cubmaster of the Year, Scouter, Den Leader, Crew Advisor, and Assistant Scoutmaster of the Year are due to Tom McGrath by

February 13 at noon. Please

honor your volunteers and nominate your best and brightest stars. Nominate them online at [www.etowahcreek.com](http://www.etowahcreek.com)

## Etowah Creek Awards Dinner for Volunteers

March 12, 2009

Bring a snack to share

Nominate your Volunteers

Pick up forms at Roundtable

## Etowah Creek District is a Quality District for 2008

Our excellence in serving the youth of our area is shining through!



### Quality Unit forms

The deadline for filling out the '09 commitment form is January 31, 2009



**Scouting Stories Needed**

**A Scout Is.. By Todd Shaw**

The son of our very own MB Shaw, Eagle Board Chairman Emeritus, Tom Shaw (Eagle Scout class of 1980) is writing a book based on the Scout law. "The goal of the book is to encourage Boy Scouts (both young & old) to apply the principles of Scouting to their life. As adult leaders, our life lessons can encourage the next generation of scouts to remain true to the principles that Scouting teaches.

It will be written in a motivational / inspirational style book that includes famous quotes or sayings that go along with each theme of the Scout Law and/or Scout Oath, and (this is where Todd needs your help) stories from adults who went through Scouting and who have applied the principles of the Scout Law and Oath to their life."



If you have any stories to share with him, please visit [www.ascoutis.com](http://www.ascoutis.com) and download the form. And Please, as part of our 100<sup>th</sup> year celebration, please share the stories with the Up Etowah Creek newsletter, too. Email your stories [newsletter@etowahcreek.com](mailto:newsletter@etowahcreek.com)

Please have the questionnaire back to Todd before March 31st, 2009.

*Todd is also the author of "Out of the Box and Loving it". This engaging and motivating book brings new meaning to the phrase "outreach". Out of the Box will help you discover a personal plan of service that will impact others. [www.outoftheboxandlovingit.com](http://www.outoftheboxandlovingit.com)*

**Sharing God's Love: Painless giving!**

Pick up a Bi-Lo Bonus barcode from **Sharing God's Love Food Pantry** when you drop off your Scouting for Food donations. When you shop at Bi-Lo just scan the barcode with your bonus card and Sharing God's Love receives 1% of what you spend through May 31, 2009.

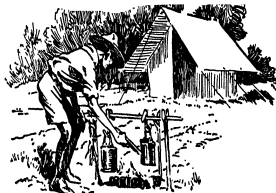


**Welcome to our new Council Scout Executive!**

**Doug Stone** will be settling in as our new Scout Executive. Please take a moment when you are at the Scout Office to say Hello! More on Doug online at [www.etowahcreek.com](http://www.etowahcreek.com)

**Summer Camp at Barstow Register Now!**

Weeks 1 and 2 at Barstow are full and weeks 3 and 4 are filling up fast. Get your \$50 deposit in now to reserve your spot.



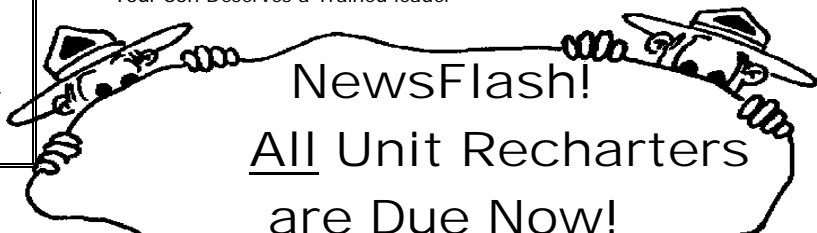
**Scoutmasters and Boy Scout Leaders: Trainings in February**



There will be a **New Leader Essentials (NLE) Training** and a **Youth Protection Training** given on **Tuesday evening, February 17, 2009**. This training is for Boy Scout, Varsity, Venture and Explorer Leaders. **It is not for Cub Scout Leaders who now take New Leader Essentials Equivalent Training.** It will take place at Faith Presbyterian Church in Ballentine, from 7:00 PM until 10:30 PM with check-in beginning at 6:45 PM. There will be a \$2.50 fee and a light supper will be served. Pre-registration is required. This can be accomplished online or at the Scout Service Center. The deadline for pre-registration is February 13, 2009.

**Also there will be a Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster Leader Specific Training on Saturday, February 28, 2009.**

It will be held at Faith Presbyterian Church from 8:00 AM until 4:30 PM with a check-in beginning at 7:45 AM. There is a \$15 fee which includes breakfast items and lunch. Pre-registration is required. This can be accomplished online or at the Scout Service Center. The deadline for pre-registration is February 25, 2009. **For training information call Joan Janoch at 345-5700**  
Your Son Deserves a Trained leader



From the DE's Desk:

**Notes from Tom:**

- All troops need to let me know where they will be attending summer camp at in 2009
  - Units still need to schedule their Family FOS presentations.
  - All Recharter dates have been moved to December and January. File Quality Unit 2009 goals now
- Recharterers should be turned in ASAP no matter what month they are due. Every unit should have received their Charter Renewal packets in the mail. Our new Scout Executive wants things to move more smoothly in our council, so ALL units must recharter in either December or January, even if your unit does not normally recharter in those months. Check your recharter packets and also be sure to check your Quality Unit goals - If you have any questions, feel free to call or email Tom McGrath so that your unit can get on the road to charter fulfillment. Contact your Unit Commissioner or DE Tom McGrath at [tmcgrath@bsamail.org](mailto:tmcgrath@bsamail.org) or at the Scout Shop.



**Scouting For Food Dates for 2009**

Bags set out Jan 31  
Bag Pick Up Feb 7

Jerry Hilbish, District Coordinator 750-0626

# GEEKCREEK

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

## GeekCreek Cool Website of the Month



[www.thescoutmasterminute.com](http://www.thescoutmasterminute.com)

A great blog to peruse. Plus he has podcasts. The latest one is on **Winter Camping** "Teaching Scouts winter camping skills. Winter Camping can be a rewarding and exciting experience for your Scouts, but knowing how to camp in an cold weather climate makes all the difference in the world. Set your Scouts up for success by training them in skills for winter camping"

## Safer Internet Day February 10, 2009

Interested in what is being done to make the Internet a safer place? [www.saferinternet.org](http://www.saferinternet.org)

## Lights! Action!

**New Good FREE tools for videos and sound**

### KEEPVID

Insert any video link from Google, YouTube, iFilm + 40 other video sites and download directly the requested video clip to your HardDisk. You may play the downloaded video with SUPER© or even encode it into another format <http://www.erightsoft.net/KVik.html> (or follow the directions to put a button on your toolbar that will do it automatically) Free

**SUPER** <http://www.erightsoft.net/SUPER.html>

**SUPER © (Simplified Universal Player Encoder & Renderer.)** If you need a simple, yet very efficient tool to convert (encode) or play any Multimedia file, without reading manuals or spending long hours training, then SUPER © is all you need. It is a Multimedia Encoder and a Multimedia Player, easy-to-use with 1 simple click.



Check out the new DVD from Scouts - the Scouting TV Show "Scouting For Adventure" :

Buy it tonight at Roundtable and take it home now! Only 2 copies available at RT. What a great Thank You gift for your

favorite Scouter!! See Lorie for details or order on the web a

**South Carolina Digital Library** - An amazing new resource! Features online collections of historic photos, letters, maps, and more from a coalition of SC schools, libraries, archives, and museums. Excellent source for Citizen badges, SC History, Genealogy, etc. [www.scmemory.org](http://www.scmemory.org)

Safety in your Hometown and near your meeting sites: [www.Criminalsearches.com](http://www.Criminalsearches.com)

## Headwhack of the Month:

If you want to make sure that long links are useable by everyone that you send it to, start converting them to small links at the free TinyURL.com site!

## GeekCreek : Cool Toolz of the Month:

**www.sandboxie.com** If you have the slightest doubt about a program or e-mail attachment you downloaded, install the program or open the file in a sandbox or other virtualized environment before you load it on your PC. Then run suspicious programs in the sandbox. If the program you install happens to be infected, the infection is confined to the sandbox and cannot affect your PC. Any infection can be removed by simply deleting the sandbox or its contents. My favorite sandbox app is the excellent free program called Sandboxie [www.sandboxie.com](http://www.sandboxie.com).



## Geekspeak of the Month: Geotagging

The process of adding geographical identification "metadata" to various media such as photographs and video. The data usually contains longitude, latitude, altitude, bearing or even the type of camera used to take the image. Google Earth and Microsoft's Virtual Earth are two popular places for geotagging your photographs.

[earth.google.com](http://earth.google.com)

[www.microsoft.com/VIRTUALEARTH](http://www.microsoft.com/VIRTUALEARTH)

## Free on the Web

### Creative Whack Pack



Just like in Soccer, where you can show a player the yellow or red card, the idea is that we can use the same concept ...but with a new twist. On this site are the scanned copies of the 64 cards included in the *Creative Whack Pack* created by Roger von

Oech. Here you can either use the cards for introspective purposes, team building, or just for fun.

[www.radio-subterranean.com/atelier/creative\\_whack\\_pack](http://www.radio-subterranean.com/atelier/creative_whack_pack)

**Free Podcasts, videos, etc about the outdoors, Scouts, Cubscouts, and more**

## Cubcasts!

### CubScout Leader Podcasts:

New on the SCOUTING.ORG site!

Check each month for new podcasts for Cub Leaders

[www.scouting.org/CubScouts/Cubcast](http://www.scouting.org/CubScouts/Cubcast)

**Other Cub-related Podcasts:**

[www.cubmasterchris.com](http://www.cubmasterchris.com)

[akelasadventure.com](http://akelasadventure.com)

**Scout Pod casts:**

Early Rank Requirement Videos for Tenderfoot-First Class

<http://scouting.org/applications/rankvideo.aspx>

The Scoutmaster Minute Podcast

<http://thescoutmasterminutepodcast.wordpress.com/>

## What is your favorite Podcast?

Please share with Up Etowah Creek - email your suggestions to [newsletter@etowahcreek.com](mailto:newsletter@etowahcreek.com)



**MySpace + Facebook:  
Social Networking  
with the  
Scouting Community**



BSA Network community.scouting.org  
For News about Scouting www.scoutingnews.org  
Get connected on ScoutFace www.scoutface.com

**Everything that you need to know about  
Boy Scouts Resources and the Outdoor Program**  
www.scouting.org/BoyScouts/Resources

**Scout Green -Thrifty, too!  
www.Freecycle.com**

Online Free local stuff- keep it out of the landfill! Great way to get craft supplies, too. Anyone need 200 bathroom tissue tubes for Cub Scout Shakers? How about 200 tiles for Eagle Project building materials? Need uniforms? Ask and you may receive! A huge community effort and great way to score FREE stuff and get rid of yours! Different lists for Columbia, Irmo, Lexington, etc.

**Secret Good Deed Activity**

*This Activity is meant for Boy Scouts. Decide for yourself if it is appropriate for your younger scouts or not.*

Put every Scout's name in a bag. Each Scout in turn pulls out a name and memorizes it. When all are pulled out, put them all back in. Now, every Scout has the name of a Scout for whom he should do a good deed. When he completes his good deed, he reports what he did to the GameMaster (or Patrol Leader/Senior Patrol Leader/Crew Leader) and then picks another name. This continues all day or all week with the game leader keeping tally of good turns done. If the leader feels it was not an adequate good turn, he can tell the Scout to try again. Or if it was an exceptionally good turn the GameMaster can give extra credit. At the end of the event, add up all the credits for each patrol to determine the Good Deed Patrol.

**Need a Camp Song, Grace or Game?**

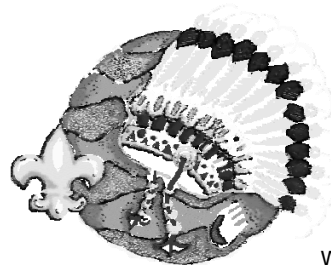
www.ultimatecampresource.com  
(Caution, some songs and games are not suitable for all Scouts)

**Superman Grace**  
*(to the tune of the "Superman" theme song)*

Thank you Lord, for giving us food! *(Raise right fist, then put down)*  
Thank you Lord, for giving us friends! *(Raise left fist, then put down)*  
For the food that we eat! *(Raise right fist again)*  
For the friends that we meet! *(Raise left fist again)*  
Thank you God, for every good thing.  
*Bum, bum, bum, bum! (Imitate pounding both fists on the table)*

**Rock You Grace**

*(Tune of "We Will Rock You")*  
Heavenly Father, Lord and King,  
You provide us with everything.  
We've got food on our plate,  
Tastin' great.  
Thank you for the food that we already ate.  
Singing thank you Father, thank you!  
Thank you Father, thank you!



**Important!**

The Etowah Creek District Site will email you when there are updates to the site.  
Check it out!  
All information is at  
www.etowahcreek.com

**Look to Nature**



**13** Let nature be your guide. The sticky hooked spine of the common burr inspired the man who invented Velcro fastener. The "spinning wing" feature of the maple seed served as a model for more efficient windmills and helicopters. Bell created the telephone by imitating the ear. **Imagine that you are an animal (beaver), a plant (dandelion), or perhaps an insect (bee). How would you go about solving your problem?**

*From Creative Whack Pack - See GeekCreek for details*

## Pyromomma's Easy Scout Recipe

Excellent Hot Drink for Cold Camping

### Russian Tea

- 1 1/4 cup Tang/ Orange Instant Breakfast Drink
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/3 cup instant tea - unsweetened
- 3/4 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon cloves
- 1/4 tsp nutmeg
- Dash of salt



Mix together. Put 2 to 2 1/2 teaspoon of mixture in cup and add boiling water over it. May be served cold with ice. Store in air-tight container. Note: This is very soothing for a sore throat or a cold.

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

### Free CPR Course

Lexington County Residents: Free CPR Courses  
Free Red Cross Adult and Infant CPR courses. Limited to residents of Lexington County. To sign up for a class please call Major Patty Labbe, 785-8148 or email [plabbe@lex-co.com](mailto:plabbe@lex-co.com) Space is available in Feb as of this printing.

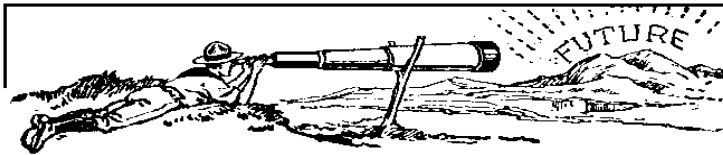
### Attention Scoutmasters:

Basic training for your troop leaders is offered now.  
Register online [www.indianwaters.org](http://www.indianwaters.org)  
This training will not be offered again this year.  
Your son deserves a trained leader!

**Feb 17 Troop Leader NLE**  
**Feb 28 Scoutmaster/ASM Leader Specific Training**




Reminder:  
Next Roundtable is February 12



## Etowah Creek District Calendar Highlights

Not all dates are on this calendar, please come to Roundtable each month and get the updated events calendar

(see Council Flyer for other training dates/times in other districts - Remember - you can attend any training in any district anywhere)

### Dates to Remember!

#### January

- 2-31 Scout History Display Irmo Library
- 15 (Date Change!) Scout Roundtable Ashland UMC 7PM
- 24 University of Scouting Training And Fun!
- 31- Scouting for Food - Bag Drop off

#### February

- 1-28- International Scouting Display - Irmo Library
- 7 Scouting For Food - Bag Pick up
- 12 Roundtable AUMC 7PM
- 13 District Awards Nominations due
- 17 NLE for Scoutmaster/ASMs Faith Pres 7pm
- 28 Scoutmaster and ASM Training Faith Pres. 8am

#### March

- 12 Etowah District Awards Dinner and Roundtable AUMC (Please Note Change!)
- 19 Council Banquet and Volunteer recognition
- 28 Merit Badge University

#### Mark Your 2009 Calendars:

- 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](mailto:bcannon3@sc.rr.com)
- Etowah Creek District Trainings:  
Call Joan Janoch 345-5700 for more info



### National Venturing Youth Cabinet

[www.nationalventuringyouthcabinet.org](http://www.nationalventuringyouthcabinet.org)



Venturing Southern Region is on Facebook. Go to Facebook.com and search for Souther Region Venturing These groups were designed by Venturers and Advisors to get information about Venturing out on a site that many of today's teenagers and college age youth are using.

Please, think about the Venturing Oath, Sea Scout Promise, and Scout Law before you post anything.

### Non-registered Boy means No Advancement and Un-Insured


Do you have Webelos that just crossed over to your troop? Is there a new Cub in your pack that will be going on the outing next week?

Many Scoutmasters and Cubmasters wait until they re-charter to register the new Scouts. This is dangerous for you and the boy.

If you have not registered them at the Scout office, either as a transfer from a pack or as a new Scout joining your troop or pack, the boy is not covered by BSA insurance if they go to meetings or camping. **You May Be Personally Liable!!**

Also boys who are not registered will be ineligible for rank advancement.

**Do not wait.**  
Please check with Felicia at the Scout office to make sure that all gaps in registration are filled in.





## Reminder

Have you registered for an event or training online? Until you pay your fees online or in the Scout Shop you are not listed as registered. Credit card information can be taken over the phone or faxed and you don't even have to drive to the Scout Shop. **Don't forget!** Whether it is a Program or Training, your name will not be added onto the registration forms until payment is made. Registration links are on [www.etowahcreek.com](http://www.etowahcreek.com)

## Free pamphlet for Leaders and Parents of Webelos Scouts:

Looking for a troop?

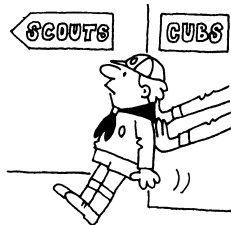
Download this handy pamphlet!

*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.

[www.etowahcreek.com/downloads/W2Stransfinal2.pdf](http://www.etowahcreek.com/downloads/W2Stransfinal2.pdf)

Free on the [www.etowahcreek.com](http://www.etowahcreek.com) website and at Roundtable.



## Adopt a Soldier

[www.anysoldier.com](http://www.anysoldier.com)

### Send a Care Package to a unit -

"AnySoldier Inc. started in August 2003 as a simple family effort to help the soldiers in one Army unit; thus, the name. Due to overwhelming requests, on 1 January 2004 the Any Soldier effort was expanded to include any member of the Armed Forces in harms way. Links are on this page for AnyMarine, AnyAirman, AnySailor, and AnyCoastGuard.

All the Soldiers involved in this effort are stationed in areas that are in harm's way. You send your support (letters and/or packages) addressed to them and when they see the "Attn: Any Soldier" line in their address they put your letters and packages into the hands of Soldiers who don't get much or any mail first. Everything is shared. We have volunteer Soldier "contacts" on the "Where to Send" page. Click through the names and select the one(s) you wish to support. They list what the folks they represent want and need. We even have a search capability so you can easily identify what the troops need most."

## Share Videos with the Troops

[www.trooptube.tv](http://www.trooptube.tv)

YouTube is one of the hottest Web sites on the 'Net. But not everybody is enamored with the video-sharing site. The Defense Department has banned soldiers from using YouTube. Why? It's all in the interest of national security. Fortunately, the military has launched its own video-sharing site.

Videos posted to TroopTube are screened by Pentagon employees. They're checked for copyright violations and taste. National security is also considered, of course.

**Why not post a video from your Scout Troop or Den or Crew to all of our troops.** Thank them for all their hard work and the sacrifices they have made!

## A Scout Is Kind, Helpful, and Loyal Scouts and Scouters: Help is Needed in Support of Our Injured Troops [www.OperationQuietComfort.com](http://www.OperationQuietComfort.com)

Operation: Quiet Comfort is gearing up for its Holiday and Christmas Shipment 2008. Mailing Deadlines for Holiday delivery are past, but the Soldiers and Medics need your support all year around. With many of our troops in their third and fourth deployment in the war zones of Iraq and Afghanistan, the strain is very obvious. The patients and hospital staff we are supporting are in need of gifts from home that will make their days a little brighter.

If you or your unit would like to help please contact Corinna Jones at <[scoutercorinna@comcast.net](mailto:scoutercorinna@comcast.net)> or through the website link above and she will be happy to provide you with the details of how to get involved.

## Scout Day: Discovery at the Museum

Saturday, January 31 10 a.m. - noon

Hampton-Preston Mansion 1615 Blanding Street

Columbia, S.C. - Historic Columbia Foundation invites Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts to the historic Hampton-Preston Mansion for

"Discovery at the Museum. The program is an opportunity for Scouts to earn a merit badge and learn about Columbia's significant past on Saturday, January 31 from 10 a.m. to noon at 1615 Blanding Street. During the day of discovery, troops will take a behind-the-scenes tour at the Hampton-Preston Mansion, which is one of the preeminent 19th-century sites in South Carolina's capital city and home to many. Scouts will learn about museum standards for storage pieces such as textiles, ceramics, metals, wood, and paper. Visitors are encouraged to bring an object from home and learn the five steps of interpreting material culture.

Admission is \$7 for children and \$4 for adults.

**Troops must register by January 26. Space is**

**limited.** To reserve your spot, please call 803.252.1770 ext. 24.

For more information, please visit [www.historiccolumbia.org](http://www.historiccolumbia.org).

