



Up Etowah Creek...



Etowah Creek District BSA Newsletter Vol. 3 No. 9 April 2002

Welcome to Etowah Creek District [ECD] Cub Scout Leader and Boy Scout 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.) Be sure to pick up a copy of Smoke Signals, our Council newspaper, and a packet of handouts. Take a minute to read this newsletter, as that will keep the number of announcements to a minimum! This newsletter is also available online at www.etowahcreek.com/rtnews/apr02news.pdf Welcome! Lorie McGraw 750-0626 lmcgraw@sc.rr.com Webmaster for ECD

Cub Roundtable May Theme: Abracadabra

Get Your Handouts Online!

The **ECDVirtualRT** group at YahooGroups is a free, easy-to-use online service for Etowah Creek District members of Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts of America. Members will be able to share ideas, ask questions, and get the current and past packets of games, ceremonies, and crafts.



Download and print out exactly what you need each month for all program areas.

Put together your own custom packet of ideas for Den Leaders, Den and Crew Chiefs, and PLCs. Join today!

To subscribe, send an e-mail to:

ECDVirtualRT-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Public Service Recognition Week



South Carolina will join states across the nation in celebrating Public Service Recognition Week during the week of May 6-12, 2002. This celebration is to honor public employees and to educate the public about the many ways government workers make life better for all Americans. **Scouts working on**

Citizenship merit badges that must write to government officials may want to take this opportunity to thank those officials for their efforts.

Did You Know?

42.7 percent of all statistics are made up on the spot.



Correction!!!!

The address for the Etowah Creek Volunteer Recognition Banquet is on **Gunter** Circle, not Gunner.

Many apologies for the confusion. Updated information (including a map) is on the website at

www.etowahcreek.com/ecd-banq.htm



Council Program Preview

Next Year's Program Preview will be Thursday May 16, 2002 in the Moore School of Business at USC (Room 005/ Belk Auditorium). 7:00 pm. Watch for a flyer coming to your unit soon. All units should send a representative to pick up the calendar of events for 2002-2003 and all of the information packets on programs and trainings.

TIGER CUB HUNT 2002

This year's May Tiger Cub/School Night Roundup will be held at **Chucky Cheese** unless your Pack prefers to hold it at your school.

Please let Sherry Norris know before April 15th if your unit is going to recruit Tiger Cubs this year. She has all of the program and recruitment information for you.

We ask that *only the units that have planned summer time activities recruit in May* to give time for the new parents to prepare for your pack's summer fun activities. Additional School Nights will be in the fall. **The May Tiger Hunt/Roundup date will be determined by popular acclaim, so please contact Sherry Norris at oulaugh@hotmail.com or 732-5980 before April 15th to be sure that your voice is heard.**



MayFaire 2002

Special Events at Saluda Shoals Park!

"Celebrate the Spirit of Spring"

Saturday, April 27th 8 am - 10 pm

A festival for all ages that recalls celebrations in the days of old; a day filled with activities that intermingle music, art and sport. Attend Scout Expo during the day, then head over to Saluda Shoals for the rest of the evening!

<http://new.saludashoals.com/Mayfareschedule.htm>

The day's activities will include:

- * SaludaThon - A Rompin' Stompin' River Race (eco-challenge style race)
- * Arts and Crafts
- * Kids' Kamp Carnival
- * Columbia Marionette Theater
- * Music
- * Canoe Rentals
- * Climbing Wall
- * Horseback Riding
- * Sports Car Exhibit by The British Car Club Midlands Centre
- * Street Dance

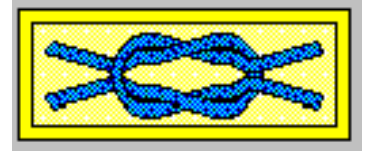
For more information about this event or to register a team for the SaludaThon, call (803) 731-5208.



A Knotty Problem

Would you like to award your adult leaders the Square Knot patch for their position, but you aren't sure how many Roundtables they've attended?

Would you like to apply for a square knot but you are not sure if you have attended enough Roundtables?



For most positions in Scouting the leader must attend at least 4 Roundtables in a 12 month period of time. We've started a new database for Cub Scout Roundtable that tracks the Roundtables that leaders have attended. Contact Sheryl Wechsler (407-1095, sherylw@sc.rr.com) for more information.

But remember that your attendance won't be recorded if you don't come and sign in!

What happens if you get scared half to death twice?

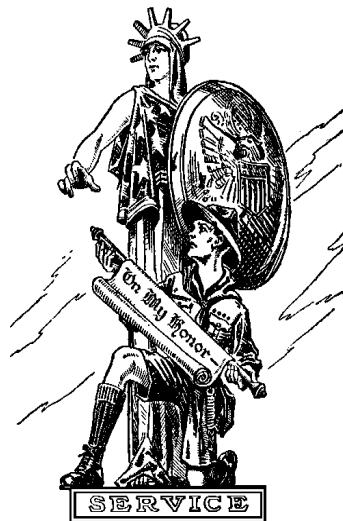
Etowah Creek District Annual Volunteer Recognition Banquet April 20, 2002 6:30 p.m.

Trinity United Methodist
Church

1132 Gunter Circle (not
Gunner Circle)
West Columbia, SC

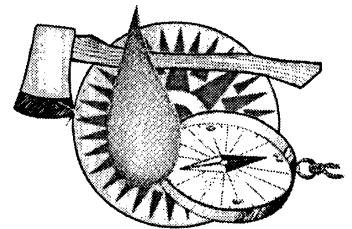
Etowah Creek District will
hold its annual Volunteer
Awards and Recognition Banquet on Saturday,
April 20, 2002.

The program will begin at 7:00 p.m. with Shealy's Barbeque. Highlighting the evening will be the presentation of awards and recognition for **scouting volunteers** throughout the district. Make plans now to attend by reserving a place at this annual event. **Your early reservations by April 11, 2002** help us plan accordingly and are greatly appreciated. Call the Scout Shop to reserve a place today! \$12.00 per person. Questions, reservations, or offers of assistance should be directed to Travis Wechsler 407-1095 or e-mail travisw@gwm.sc.edu



Calling All Scouters! Roundtable is in need of a few good men and women!

Do you have skills that you can share? **Of course you do!** Roundtable is in need of volunteers for several tasks such as: helping with skits, leading games or songs, teaching scout skills, helping with crafts, bringing door prizes or food, or being available to fill in the gaps. If there is something in particular that you'd like to assist with at Roundtable, please contact Sheryl Wechsler (407-1095, sherylw@sc.rr.com), Travis Wechsler 407-1095, or better yet, come to Roundtable on the second Thursday of the month and let me know what you'd like to do!



Pinewood Derby



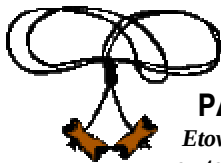
Check out www.etowahcreek.com

for Pinewood Derby links and helps.

Official Rules and Regulations for Expo Pinewood
Derby Council-Level Race and the Schedules are
online at

www.etowahcreek.com/pinewood.htm

Borrow money from pessimists -- they don't expect it back.



ATTENTION WOOD BADGE

PARTICIPANTS!

Etowah Creek District has many opportunities for you to take advantage of when you write your ticket for the Wood Badge program.

Cub Scout Outdoor Program has several slots involving the preparations and/or operation of Family Camping Weekend 2002 or 2003, Haunted Forest Weekend 2002, Cub Resident Camp 2002, and Day Camp Coordination/Evaluation for the 2003 season. Also help is needed in Cub Scout Roundtable, Cub Leader Training, and Cub Recruitment. Travis Weschler 407-1095 or Robert Croom - home 748-9011.

Boy Scout Outdoor Program is looking for help in Boy Scout Training, Teaching Outdoor Skills, Campmaster Program, Boy Scout Roundtable help, Order of the Arrow Service, and Summer Camp Improvements. Call Lorie McGraw 750-0626 or e-mail

lmcgraw@sc.rr.com and she will direct you to the proper program coordinator. Or contact your Wood Badge Counselor and staff.



The Scouting Way Scholarships

The publisher of *The Scouting Way* has available \$1,000 in Scouting Way scholarships (\$500 to a girl plus \$500 to a boy) to encourage young people to pursue their education. To be eligible, you must be:

1. A graduating senior high school student.
2. Continuing on to a university, community college, trade school, or other further education.
3. A current or former Boy Scout or Girl Scout.

To apply:

1. Write a story about how a value you learned as a Scout helped you in your personal life, school, family, etc. BE SPECIFIC. Your story should make someone say, "I want to be a Scout!" There is no minimum or maximum length.
2. Give 3 examples of what someone could do to increase that value in their life (similar to those in *The Scouting Way* book). These should be short and simple. For example, if your story is about Courtesy, one might be, "Hold an elevator door open for someone."
3. If you're under 18, you must include a note from your parent or guardian giving *The Scouting Way* permission to publish your story.
4. Mail the above to: The Scouting Way, PO Box 73302, San Clemente, CA 92673-0111.
5. Entries must be postmarked before June 30, 2002.

<http://www.scoutingway.com/scholarship.html>

Spell Potato

If GH can stand for P as in Hiccough

If OUGH stands for O as in Dough

If PHTH stands for T as in Phthisis

If EIGH stands for A as in Neighbor

If TTE stands for T as in Gazette

If EAU stands for O as in Plateau

The right way to spell POTATO should be:

GHOUGHPTHTEIGHTTEAU

Earth Day April 21 designated for reflection on world's endangered species

Among many other Earth Day Resources, the Presbyterian Church (USA)'s Environmental Justice Office has produced Earth Day materials for Presbyterian and other congregations.

They are available on the PC(USA) Web site for congregations wishing to take part in this year's observance of Earth Day on Sunday, April 22.

<http://www.pcusa.org/environment/earthday>
This year's resources - collectively titled "Protection of God's Creatures" - focus on saving endangered species, calling for "preserving biodiversity and halting mass extinction."

The resources include background information and reflections on the issues, sermon notes and a discussion guide, liturgical aids, photos and graphics and links to resources available at other Web sites.

See also **<http://www.earthday.org>** for more info, especially the teacher's corner link on the left of the page.

FREE WEB SPACE FOR YOUR Venturing/Explorer UNIT!

<http://www.exploring.org/>

EVO stands for Exploring/Venturing On-Line. The EVO is establishing a global resource for the exchanging of ideas and information about the Exploring/Venturing Programs offered by the Boy Scouts of America and other Scouting organizations around the world. EVO offers every Exploring / Venturing Unit the chance to have free web space hosting for a 15 Mb website. Check it out!

Surf's Up!

Indian Waters Council
Website is now online

www.iwc-bsa.com has a new look and information for your units. Check it out!



If you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain.

Expo is April 27th. Are you Ready??

Scout Expo is the annual Scouting Exposition held at the State Fairgrounds on April 27. Selling tickets for Expo earns prizes for the boys and money for your unit. Call Elizabeth Hinen at 345-6515 for more details.



Announcement from Boys' Life Magazine

BOYS' LIFE magazine is planning a series of special features for the September issue to commemorate the first anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attack.

We need your help.

One of our most popular features in each month's issue is called "Scouts in Action", a comic that depicts the heroic acts of Scouts. We'd like to do a special edition of Scouts in Action for September.

Ideally, we're looking for a boy or boys who performed a particular act of heroism on Sept. 11, 2001. We're also looking for special acts of generosity or patriotism performed in connection with that date.

Send relevant information -- name, age, street address, phone number, e-mail address, plus a brief description of the act -- to the address below via regular mail --or via email. Please do not call. If we're interested in your story, we'll interview the subject by phone and ask for supporting documentation. Nothing will be published without a release form signed by the parents.

Thanks.

Rich Haddaway

Associate Editor BOYS' LIFE Magazine

email: 911scouts@usscouts.org

1325 W. Walnut Hill Lane (75038)

P.O. Box 152079 (75015-2079)

Irving, Texas www.boyslife.org

Pirate Waters

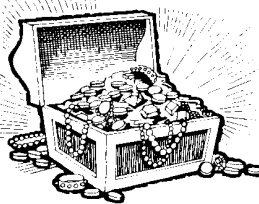
Cub Resident Camp

Join the rugged Pirate Crew on **June 7, 8, and 9** at **Camp Barstow**

This is a residential (overnight) mini-camp for ALL Cub Scouts (RISING Wolves through Webelos). Registration for camp will be by Pack only.

There is still room!!

**Flyers were mailed to your home.
Call your Cubmaster today!**



We need your talents and skills to have a successful camp! **To volunteer** with this fantastic adventure, call Travis Wechsler at 407-1095 or e-mail him at iwccubresident@yahoo.com



Adopt A Guardsman

You can support our troops here and overseas through the **South Carolina Adopt-A Guardsman program.**



Everyone across the nation has been affected by the events of September 11, but no one has been as greatly affected as have been the men and women of the armed forces. Among them are 1,000 South Carolina Guardsmen who have been called away from their families, jobs, and communities to perform vital missions in the War on Terrorism.

The **Adopt-A-Guardsman** program has been established to allow citizens, civic organizations, churches, public and private schools, as well as businesses and employers of Guardsmen to show their support for the men and women who have answered the call to active service.

Adopting a guard is simple.

Just send a letter or card to Adopt-A-Guardsman, The Sumter Guards, 2129 Cosgrove Avenue, N. Charleston, SC 29405.

For security reasons the program's directors ask that you address your card or letter to "Any Army or Air Guard Member."

You can also send items such as a music CD, movie videos, decks of playing cards, board games, inspirational books or magazines.

For more information on the Adopt-A-Guardsman program call 866-SC-GUARD.

Cub Day Camp

June 10-14 at Cornerstone

**Wild Wild West
Register Now for a Rootin' Tootin'
Cowboy Time!**



*Etowah Creek Cub Scout Day Camp
Cornerstone Presbyterian Church
5637 Bush River Road, Columbia, SC*

Your Cowpokes and Buckaroos don't want to miss this trip to the past! Go back with us to the Wild West! The Town of Cornerstone has it all! The Round up hours are 5 pm - 9 pm, June 10th - 14th. Come follow the path to the Reservation, stop by the O. K. Corral, and Kick up your heels at the Stompin' Ground. There will be fun for all, so jump on your buckboard and join us! Send your form and fee to the Scout Shop early! Don't wait, send it in today! This camp fills up quickly and there is limited space!

The Registration fee is \$40.00 by May 2nd, \$45.00 by May 24th. In the past we have had this camp fill up as early as May 5, so do not delay.

Parents and Leaders: Don't let the boys have ALL the FUN... Join the Wagon Train NOW!

Volunteers are needed to help us provide a quality camp for the boys. Contact:

Peggy Smith, Camp Director, 755-9466 mpegsmith@aol.com,

or Angela Bouknight, Program Director, 781-9094

aboukn3784@aol.com



Internet site of the Month

<http://www.getyourshirts.com/classb/resources/>

FREE Downloads to help your troop and Pack

- **Who wants to be an Eagle Scout video game** It's the hit trivia game show "Who Wants To Be An Eagle Scout?™" for you to play at home! Or use with a moderator as a troop meeting or camporee activity.
- **Wide Games made Easy** Your guide to exciting themed training events. Perfect for troop level day events or for district camporees. Robert Hilferding's years of wide game experience FREE!
- **Troop W.I.S.E. Training** - Total Package Adult Training for a boy-run troop *Now Available in PDF Format!*
- **Boy Scout Patch Standard Shape Templates v1.0** - The ClassB.com standard for patch shapes!

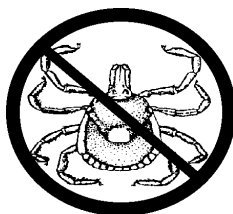


Tick Update

A long-time Scouter gave me this idea (some of you might know it, but I did not).

Instead of preserving the tick in alcohol, etc. after removal, he does the following.

- Remove tick
- Place in the middle of a file-folder label (self-adhesive sticker for labeling file folder, or other similar sticker) or clear tape.
- Fold sticker over the tick and seal firmly (sandwiching the tick in the label).
- On the sticker write the Scout's name, date, where on the body the tick was found, where the tick was acquired (geographic location), was it engorged or embedded, etc.



After the campout give the tick to parents, who place it in a Ziploc in the freezer for 1 year or more. That way if you have a complication later you can get the tick tested. This saved lots of heartache in one of his scouts, as the tick had Lyme disease that did not show up until months later. Mom remembered the tick, had it tested, Bingo. Kid is fine now.

This is much easier to record, takes up no space when backpacking, and labels do not peel off of the bottle or film canister.

Attention Troops!

Beaver Day At Barstow

May 18

Beaver Day is an opportunity for troops to set program (merit badge) schedules for summer camp, complete advance swim checks, tour Camp Barstow, perform a Beaver Day Service Project, meet the camp staff, interview for Camp Staff and CIT positions, and have a good time. Reservation forms are available in Smokes and at the Council Office



Volunteer Tips For Young People

The Prudential Spirit of Community Initiative is a series of programs designed to help rekindle America's community spirit by encouraging young people to become actively involved in making their communities better places to live. The initiative's objectives are to:

- -create visible role models for young people by recognizing exemplary community service by middle-school and high-school students across the United States.
- -help young Americans learn how they can make worthwhile contributions to their communities, through training materials and education programs.
- -promote greater public attention to the issue of community service by young people, and ways to encourage it.

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards recognize students in middle and high school grades who have demonstrated exemplary community service. The awards program is sponsored by The Prudential Insurance Company of America in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP).

This year's youth recipients can be found at: <http://www.prudential.com/community/spirit/awards/stat/cmsas1000.html>



Volunteer Tips

Prudential, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Education, has produced a booklet of ideas and information on how kids can get involved in their communities. "Catch the Spirit" includes suggested projects that interested kids can undertake in their own communities, as well as a listing of national service organizations that seek young volunteers.

You can view the contents of this booklet at <http://www.prudential.com/community/spirit/volunteer/msvz1000.html> or download the booklet at <http://www.prudential.com/download/community/spirit/volunteer/cmf3202.pdf>. It is also being widely distributed through offices of Prudential, the federal government's Consumer Information Center, and other organizations.

Scouting For Food

The final figures from Scouting for Food are in and once again Etowah Creek surpassed my expectations. As the totals were reported so too was the fact that the community was less generous. Yet our final figure was **24, 824** items, which was 551 items more than last year. We did better because we had 8 additional units placing their scouts out in the community to gather food.

Etowah proved once again to be supreme in the individual unit collections. **Pack 410** with 2384 items, came in first in the Council and **Pack 815** came in second, with 1922 items. **Troop 91** came in first in the Council with 1372 items and **Troop 326** came in second, with 1500 items. What a great job, scouts and scouters!

Of all of the districts in the Council, Catawba had a larger percent of their units participating.

Wateree's *combined Pack and Troops* came in first and second in the Council. **Pack & Troop 327** collected 2056 food items and **Pack and Troop 316** collected 2000 food items.

The Indian Waters Council's grand total was **56,198 items** or **28 tons of food**, that's a lot of food! Twenty-two shelters benefited from our efforts. Sharing God's Love, God's Helping Hands, We Care and Harvest Hope Food Bank were among the happiest. Thanks also to the many units who helped the pantries sort and shelve the large quantities of food that were brought in. The pantries really appreciated the help.

Ron Cook and I are very proud to be your Scouting for Food Captains. Etowah is truly a generous and hard working District. Many Thanks to you all --- Joan Janoch SFF

Boy Scout Leader Basic Training

2-Part Course

1) Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster Leader Specific Training (LST)

Sat. April 13, 2002 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Swearingen Center, USC

This Course provides Scoutmasters, Assistant SMs, and other adults that work with the boys with a good working knowledge of troop operations and all of the nuts and bolts of the troop program.

2) Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills

Fri. May 3-Sun. May 5 Camp Barstow

This Course is an overview of basic Scout-crafts (knots, fire building etc.), basic camping skills, BSA Camping rules and procedures, and, most importantly, how to teach these skills to 11-18 year old Scouts. The skills taught are based on the outdoor skills found in The Boy Scout Handbook.

All Fees include meals and course materials

Course size is limited to 36 participants.

Contact: Robert Sears 957-8490 or robsears@usit.net or Kathleen Shutt 957-5412 kshutt@harscotrack.com

Train your Scout Adults NOW before Summer Camp!

NLE (New Leaders Essentials) required for Trained status and patch.



Important Dates

District Calendar is Online!

Training Dates, Events, District Meeting info, Council Events, etc. Check on the www.etowahcreek.com website and click on District Calendar.

April

- 11 Expo Double Point and Booth Deadlines
- 11 Registration Deadline for Council Pinewood Derby
- 12-14 Cub Family Camping Weekend Barstow
- 13 Part 1 **Scout Leader Basic**: Leader Specific Training
- 20 **Etowah Creek District Volunteer Recognition Banquet**
- 27 Scout Expo Fairgrounds 11:00a -4:00p

May

- 3-5 Part 2 **Scout Leader Basic**: Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (for Webelos and Venture, too)
- 16 Council Program Preview .Contact Vance Lackey at 750-9868 for more information.
- 17-19 OA Ordeal/Induction
- 18 Beaver Day at Barstow Bring your tools
- 21 Lex. 2 student last day of school
- 27 Service Center Closed
- 30 Lex. 5 Last Day of School

June

- 7-9 Pirate Waters Resident camp
- 10-14 Wild West Day Camp

Webelos to Scout Transition

Are you a parent of a Webelos and not sure what to ask of the troops that you visit? Is your den only visiting one troop because you are not aware of any others in the area? A flyer called "Webelos to Scout Transition: A Guide for Parents and Leaders" is now available. Also available is a Troop Contact List for all troops in Lexington School Districts 2 and 5. Copies will be available at Roundtable, at the Scout Shop, and on the Web at www.etowahcreek.com or email at lmcgraw@sc.rr.com or phone 750-0626 and ask Lorie for a copy.

Scouters' Corner

The young man was at the end of his rope. Seeing no way out, he dropped to his knees in prayer.

"Lord, I can't go on," he said. "I have too heavy a cross to bear."

The Lord replied, "My son, if you can't bear its weight, just place your cross inside this room. Then, open that other door and pick out any cross you wish."

The man was filled with relief. "Thank you, Lord," he sighed, and he did as he was told.

Upon entering the other door, he saw many crosses, some so large the tops were not visible. Then, he spotted a tiny cross leaning against a far wall.

"I'd like that one, Lord," he whispered.

And the Lord replied, "My son, that is the cross you just brought in."

When life's problems seem overwhelming, it helps to look around and see what other people are coping with. You may consider yourself far more fortunate than you imagined.