



# Up Etowah Creek...



Etowah Creek District BSA Newsletter

Vol. 2 No. 4 December 2000

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. Please 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/ecd-1200news.htm](http://www.etowahcreek.com/rtnews/ecd-1200news.htm)

Welcome!

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Webmaster for ECD



## LET'S THINK BIG

"Thank you Scouts, for having the food collection in February when we **really** need it."  
 "I don't know why, but the demand for food is already very great this year and we don't know how we are going to meet the demand."

"We expect to have empty shelves in our pantry by the end of January."

These are just some of the remarks I am hearing from the food pantries.

**Is there a need for Scouting for Food this year? YES!!!**

### Lets Beat Last Year's Record!

Last year, only 11 Cub Packs and 8 Boy Scout Troops participated in Scouting for Food, but they collected almost 10,000 pounds of food items. *We currently have about 58 Packs and Troops in Etowah, can you imagine the number of families we could feed if most of them helped with the Food Drive? We could easily collect 30 to 50 TONS of food!*

### Scouting is Helping Others in Need.

This year please consider the importance of helping more of the hungry in our community. Boys who handed out 10 bags last year could increase to 50 bags this year.

### LAND RUSH

On Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001 Etowah will conduct a LAND RUSH for distributing the collecting territories. Units should send a representative to Ashland United Methodist Church at 6:30 PM to stake a claim on the territory that the unit will work. We will initially place each unit within a designated boundary determined by one of the elementary school districts from which they recruit their boys. The representative can select the roads that their unit wishes to work. Unlike last year, attention will be paid to working as many areas as possible and not just around the homes of scouts.

Plastic bags, sample of bag notes, and a list of pantries that will be open on February 10 and maps for getting to these pantries will also be at the Land Rush. Your unit is free to select any pantry for their donation of food but they must make their own arrangement if they choose a pantry not on the list.

### Special Collector's Patch!

**Patches must be ordered by February 24, 2001.**

Orders must be placed with Joan Janoch (345-5700) or Ron Cook (794-8560) and the patches will be available in March or April. The patches will be \$1.

(Are Your Scouts Helpful?)

## January Cub Theme

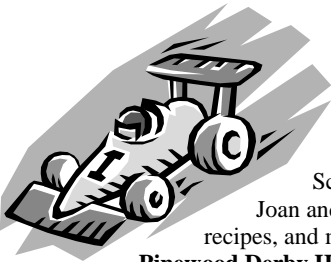
### "When I Grow Up"

Please pick up your packet of handouts

The December Theme for Cub Scouts is **"When I Grow Up"**

Joan and the gang will have great craft ideas, recipes, and more at tonight's Roundtable. Plus

**Pinewood Derby Hints and How-tos** and more. We will discuss those and more during tonight's Roundtable.



## Reminder!!

January Roundtable is on Thursday, January 11, 2001 We will look at the February Theme: "Passports to Other Lands"

Spend your time with the boys as they learn about Far-Away places. The Midlands has many resources for putting an International Flavor to your den meetings this month. Come learn what resources are in our area to make your den meetings memorable and fun!

Also get some ideas for **Blue and Gold Banquets!** Bring some ideas and props to share. **Come early for Youth Protection Training (6:30)** [Webelos: Scholar, Engineer, Crossover Ceremonies]

See the last page of the newsletter for more information on upcoming Roundtables.



## Nominate your Volunteers!

### Awards are Due Soon

Awards season is here! At this Roundtable you should be getting information on how to nominate your fellow Scoutmasters, Cubmasters, Den Leaders, Scouters, and Scouting Families for the annual Volunteer Awards. These are Unit Awards and District-wide, too.

**Remember to nominate these**

**hardworking Volunteers! Recognize their efforts!**



## Abuse and Sexual Molestation in Scouts Programs? *Fight Back!*

### YPT to be offered in January

In January we will be offering **Youth Protection Training (YPT) for all parents** (not just leaders) before our monthly Roundtable (January 11, 2001 at 6:30 at Ashland).

*" I just don't have the time to attend."*

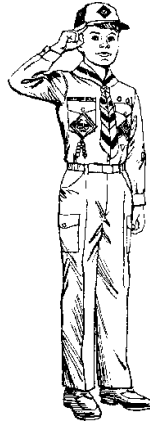
Youth Protection Training is only 60-90 minutes, or less time than 1 football game or 2 shows of Oprah. If you don't know what BSA policy is, how can you make sure that your den or pack is following it?

**Thanks to Youth Protection training and the policies that BSA has enacted, our sons are safer in Scouting than they are in just about any other venue for youth.** You will come away with a better understanding on how to protect your scouts, yourself, and your pack. The bottom line is this: **The most important way that you can be sure that your den and pack are following current policy, and therefore doing your best to protect your son from abuse and molestation, is to make sure that you and your unit's parents are trained in current Youth Protection.**

What will you do if a boy is harmed or an adult accused in your unit????

Get your adults and yourself trained NOW!

All Training is done at Ashland United Methodist Church  
For additional information, call Joan Janoch at 345-5700



Is your pack or troop doing something for the community that you'd like to brag about? Submit all news and kudos to Lorie McGraw at [llmcgraw@worldnet.att.net](mailto:llmcgraw@worldnet.att.net) or mail them to **Up Etowah Creek** 500 Shadowbrook Dr. Columbia SC 29210

"Do not let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do." -- John Wooden

### NATIONAL AWARD NOMINATIONS ARE DUE

There are many awards that are available for Scouts and Scouters that are National or Regional awards and Religious Awards. Some of these have deadlines of Dec. 31!!!

Please take a moment to look over the descriptions below and ponder as to whether one of the Scouters or youth in your unit deserves to be recognized. Then check with the Council Office to get the proper forms. Some of these are already past deadline.

\* Young American Award — Check with the Council for requirements. For outstanding Youth, in Scouting or not, who serve their community. They may get nothing but the council's plaque, or may be eligible for one of the five grants from National.



\*Venturing Leadership Award—this comes out at several levels - council, regional and national. It's a bin item, get it and fill it out.

\* Silver Buffalo, Silver Antelope— For Outstanding Adult Volunteers and Service to Scouting. Check with the Council Scout shop, should have a deadline of 12/31/00.

\* Spurgeon Award—This is still being given out at the council (and I assume national level) to people AND ORGANIZATIONS that are long-term supporters of Exploring.

\* Adult Religious Awards. Recognize someone for their service to Scouting and to their Church. Contact P.R.A.Y. (Applications for the adult awards for some religions are free from there -- (800) 833-7729, just ask for some).

Children are natural mimics, who act like their parents despite every effort to teach them good manners.

## Internet Sites of the Month

### Knot Cheat Sheets

"The rabbit comes out of the hole, goes around the tree, and crawls back into his hole." That's the traditional mnemonic for tying the bowline. But if you can barely remember how to tie your shoes, let alone where some imaginary rabbit is supposed to go, you need a knot cheat sheet. Pro-Knot summarizes 12 basic outdoors knots on six plastic cards that weigh less than an ounce for the set. The company also offers two sets of fishing line knot cards. \$5 per set. <http://www.jesherry.com>



### We Have A New Domain Name!!

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

(Opening soon!)

The old web page address is still working until we get the new one up and going.

<http://home.att.net/~llmcgraw/etowah/ecd-indx.htm>

### Scout Links for all levels and for all things scouting

<http://www.greatplainsbsa.org/links.htm>

Cleaning your house while your kids are still growing is like clearing the drive before it has stopped snowing.

# Day Camp is coming in June

More info in the next newsletter. If you want to volunteer call Carol Caulk and Angela Boughknight.

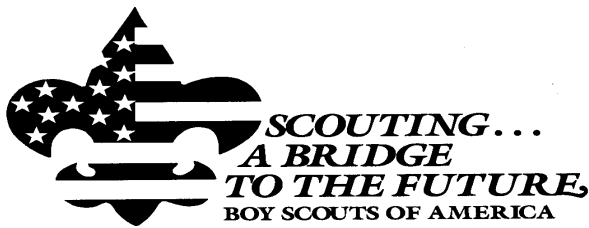
## Your Son Deserves a Trained Leader!!

Attend Scout Leader Basic Trainings, Youth Protection, and Roundtable whenever you can, and get your son's leaders to attend, too!

## 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? Help is on the way. A new flyer called "Webelos to Scout Transition: A Guide for Parents and Leaders" will be mailed to all 5<sup>th</sup> grade Webelos and their parents. Included will be a Troop Contact List for troops in Lexington School Districts 2 and 5. Please call 750-0626 and ask Lorie McGraw to provide a copy to you if you have not received one by Nov.14. Copies will also be available at Roundtable, at the Scout Shop, and on the Web at [www.etowahcreek.com](http://www.etowahcreek.com) or email at [llmcgraw@worldnet.att.net](mailto:llmcgraw@worldnet.att.net).



Children will soon forget your presents, but they will always remember your presence

### Have you viewed the BSA Fast Start Tape?

Check with your Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Unit Commissioner, or call the Scout Office today for a copy for your Unit. Additional Copies are available at Roundtable. Fast Start Training is also available online at

<http://www.bsa.scouting.org/cubscouts/faststart/>

**My son's Scout Leaders are trained.  
Are yours?**

## Important and Interesting Dates

### December 2000

- 14 Roundtable
- 25-28 Scout Shop Closed

### January 2001

- 12 Roundtable with Youth Protection (6:30)
- 12 Scouting for Food Land Rush (get your areas assigned for Scouting For Food) 6:30 before RT
- 20 University of Scouting (a great training opportunity!)

### February 2001

- (Nominations for District Awards Due this month)
- 3 and 10 Scouting For Food
- 17 Expo Ticket kickoff

### March 2001

- 10 District Banquet 6:30 at Ashland

I love to give homemade gifts ...which one of my kids do you want?

May those that love us, love us.  
And those that don't love us,  
May God turn their hearts.  
And if he doesn't turn their hearts,  
May he turn their ankles,  
So we'll know them by their limping.

-----Celtic Blessing

*Thank you to  
Pack 91  
for the Roundtable food  
last month.  
It was Delicious!*



The beauty of Scouting is what it does in developing the whole person with self-esteem enough to make good life decisions. But we are dealing with young people who are not perfect, and that requires much understanding on our part.

Go To University of Scouting Jan.20

"Come to the edge," He said.  
They said, "We are afraid."  
"Come to the edge," He said. They came.  
He pushed them...  
and they flew.  
-- Guillaume Apollinaire

## Coming Up at 2001 Etowah Creek District Cub Scout Roundtable

### January Roundtable

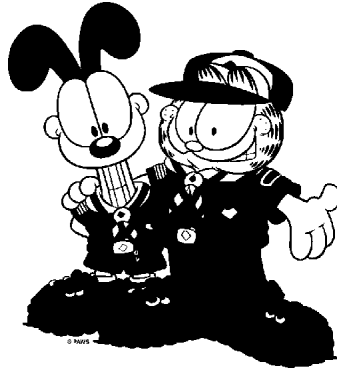
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### February Roundtable

February 8, 2001 **March**

#### Theme: "Man's Best Friend"

Man's best friend isn't always a dog! When Scouts learn to take care of animals, it leads to a lifetime of kindness to the creatures in our world. Come join us as we explore how to involve the boys in your den with animal care (including mammals, reptiles, birds, and insects), including how to keep small wild animals for a short time. Animal related crafts and games will also be presented. [Webelos: Athlete and Engineer]



### March Roundtable

March 8, 2001 **April Theme: "Save it for Us"**. Most boys have advanced in rank, so it is time to get them outdoors! Develop an appreciation for the environment through recycling and environmental awareness, plus earn the World Conservation Award. Resources for environmental games, speakers, and fun abound in the Midlands. Come let us share some of the secrets with you for your den. [Webelos: Sportsman Family Member]

### April Roundtable

April 19, 200 **May Theme: "Happy Trails"** What a great time of year for looking at the forest! Take your den for a hike and learn about nature. Also Forestry games, ideas and crafts. Special section on ceremonies and graduations. [Webelos: Outdoorsman, Handyman] \*\*Come early for Cub Pack Administration Encore for all new Cub Masters, Committee persons and Charter Reps. (6:30) [Webelos: Outdoorsman Handyman Boy Scout Skills for Webelos]

### May Roundtable

May 11, 2000 **June Theme: "Wet and Wild"** [Webelos: Traveler, Artist] BLAST OFF the summer with lots of ideas for your Summer Pack activities. Water Safety, Day camp Preview, How to Camp with Cubs, Nature Crafts and Games, and much more. [Webelos: Traveler Artist]

The best inheritance parents can give their children is a few minutes of their time each day.

## Editor's Corner

How do you recognize the volunteers that make your unit run? **Too many people think its someone else's job to apply for it.** Every volunteer should be out there now looking around for someone they can nominate. Heck, they should be looking every day! **First, recognize that nobody really wants to come out and say, "I want one of those awards!"** We've been trained since childhood to be meek and to not boast or cause personal attention to ourselves. Very few Scouters will come right out and say "I want to be put in this year for the District Award of Merit" or some other award.

So how do you find those "clovers in the grass"? There's not a foolproof way...but think about the following:

- **When you have a problem with your unit or with district operation, who do you call?** That person deserves a nomination.
- **Who helps you with execution of your unit's program?** That person deserves a nomination.
- **Who "sweats Scouting";** that is, who do you know is working so hard on Scouting, that you can "see" the Scouting ooze from every pore, every other word he or she speaks, and in their attitude toward everyone? That person deserves a nomination.
- **Who has stuck it out through a hard year of Scouting...**ready to give it up one week and the next is on "cloud nine"? That person deserves a nomination.
- **Has there been a chartered organization or a business** or a group of people who have not only assisted but made it easy for you to take advantage of their good graces by asking them to help out again and again...yeah, sure, you gave them a piece of paper or a plaque, but they too need to be nominated for an award.

**Second, Do not take it granted that others have seen the same things that you have seen!** Nominations are nothing but paper... it will not do any nominating committee anything but good if they receive two, three, seventeen nominations from people about one or two individuals. As a matter of fact, the additional nominations may "fill in the blanks" between what the first person said and the second, third, etc. So nominate them yourself even if you think, heard, or feel that others will do so, too!

**Third, Please be complete when filling out the application.** If the award requires the Scout Executive to sign, don't go around him and have a District Executive to sign...make the effort. The same goes for signatures from other officials...church officials, volunteer organizations, etc. Each year many nominations are missed because they were not completely filled out. Ask someone at the Council office to help you out.

**Fourth, Make an effort to note the awards that the nominee already has.** There are ways to ask what awards he/she has received. And don't forget activity in groups outside of Scouting or other youth programs. The more information, the better the decision of the nominating committee will be.

**Fifth, Please do not tell the person(s) that you have nominated them for an award.** "I've got something special for you, but I'm not gonna tell you..." **Don't** do this to those people you've nominated. The award may not be approved for a variety of reasons:

- The person may have already asked the nominating committee not to consider any awards for him or her for several reasons
- The award may be delayed and not presented at the District Banquet in favor of another, more important occasion instead
- A higher or better award may be in the offerings for this person.

The BSA asks their volunteers NOT to advise people that they have been nominated for an award until after the date of the award presentation. Don't spoil the surprise.

Do what you can, and let's see if we can recognize the efforts of lots of people who truly make Scouting work.

