



Greater Yosemite Council, BSA

eNews!

February, 2008

www.yosemitescouting.org



COUNCIL ACHIEVES CENTENNIAL QUALITY COUNCIL STATUS FOR 2007



Greater Yosemite Council attained Quality status for the seventh time in eight years.

• **Our 6.5% traditional membership growth is second in the nation for 2007 among all councils that are similar size or bigger.**

- Our council achieved 4.9% overall membership growth, 6.5% traditional membership growth and 2.2% unit growth.
- Three districts recognized as Quality Districts: Big Valley, El Capitan and Forty-Niner

Greater Yosemite Council, BSA

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Rand Tolboe
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Michael Donnelly
Scout Executive
Robert Dees
eNews/ Editor
Ron Schell

Districts:

Big Valley

District Executive: [Rex Starr](#)
[District News](#)

Chief Tenaya

District Director: [Bill Heneks](#)
[District News](#)

Chief Tenaya North

District Executive: [Luis Jimenez](#)
[District News](#)

El Capitan

District Executive: [Matt Warner](#)
[District News](#)

Forty-Niner

Senior District Executive: [Stephen Olson](#)
[District News](#)

Golden Heritage

District Director: [Bill Heneks](#)
Senior District Executive: [Stephen Olson](#)
[District News](#)

Waukeen

Senior District Executive: [Stephen Olson](#)
District Executive: [Mike Foster](#)
[District News](#)

Wawona

Senior District Executive: [Ron Schell](#)
Scoutreach Executive: [Memo Ramirez](#)
[District News](#)



100 YEARS OF SCOUTING

Celebrating the Adventure Continuing the Journey

In February 2010, the Boy Scouts of America will celebrate 100 years as an organization. Founded as an outlet to prepare every eligible youth in America to become a participating citizen and leader, BSA has more than fulfilled its mission.

[View promotions and activities BSA is planning.](#)

ANNUAL COUNCIL DINNER



Greater Yosemite Council's Annual Council Dinner is slated for **March 1, 2008**. Dinner Chair Megan Mallory and her committee are planning a memorable event. The theme will be *Exploring into Careers*. Place this date on your calendar and plan to join us as we recognize

Scouts, plus district and council volunteers for outstanding service. Join us for a delicious tri tip and chicken dinner.

[Submit your reservation now!](#)

2007 SILVER BEAVER RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

Congratulations to the 2007 Class of Silver Beaver Recipients who will be honored at the dinner:

Ron Bjarnason - El Capitan
John Droge – Forty-Niner
Tony Fuso – Forty-Niner
Doug Evers - El Capitan
Nancy Galloway - Waukeen
Richard Kleitman - Wawona
Rick Mc Master - Big Valley
Mark Walker - Council
Donna Whitney - Chief Tenaya
Robin Wilson - Big Valley

SCOUT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3 AND SCOUT SABBATH, FEBRUARY 9

The Boy Scouts of America designates the Sunday that falls before February 8 (Scouting Anniversary Day) as Scout Sunday, which is the primary date to recognize the contributions of young people and adults to Scouting. [\[More\]](#)



PLAN TO ATTEND CAMP MENSINGER IN 2008

As your troop plans for its long-term summer camp experience next summer, we encourage you to support your council's camp. Our "new" Camp Mensinger offers many new physical improvements and a superb staff. Mike Rich is continuing as Camp Director and is already planning an expanded program. Donald Sonnefeld has completed a camp video which will soon be available for distribution. Contact the Council Service Center for more information and to place your reservations.

New High Adventure Program Announced for 2008

Camp Mensinger will host a brand new High Adventure program for Varsity and Venture Scouts this summer. Crews will spend four days and three nights on the trail, camping in a different location each night. Activities include canoeing, backpacking and mountain biking. [\[Read more\]](#)



View our new camp promotion video on the council web site!

CUB SCOUT DAY CAMP DATES SET



Cub Scout Day Camps will be "Scouting the Seven Seas" this summer. We are offering 10 day camps this year, including a new addition in Atwater. [Registration forms](#) are available on the council web site.

2008 WINTER KLONDIKE AT PINECREST



Hosted by Order of the Arrow
February 15-16 (Friday / Saturday) or
February 16-17 (Saturday / Sunday)
Limited space available. Register early!

[Flyer/Registration Form](#)

2007-2011 STRATEGIC PLAN COMPLETED



The Strategic Planning Committee has completed their five-year plan recommendations for Greater Yosemite Council. Areas of focus include Finance, Leadership, Marketing, Membership, Properties and Program. View our [5-year Strategic Plan](#) on the council web site.

JAMES E. WEST FELLOWSHIPS INSURE THE FUTURE OF SCOUTING



A [James E. West Fellowship](#) is a great way to recognize the accomplishments of a Scout or Scouter in your unit or district. Consider a James E. West Fellowship Award through the Greater Yosemite Council. By making a \$1,000.00 contribution to the council's endowment program (in addition to your Friends of Scouting contribution), you can honor a worthy individual and help create a lasting legacy to promote scouting into the next millennium. Contact the Council Service Center for more information.

CHEVROLET SPONSORS SAFETY PATCH PROGRAM



Chevrolet, in partnership with Safe Kids Worldwide and BSA is sponsoring an Automotive Safety Patch program. This interactive program teaches Cub Scouts about proper safety belt use and general safety precautions in and around vehicles. This program can be held at your local Chevy dealership. Register your pack with Safe Kids by calling 1-888-999-6752
<http://www.safekids.org>

BSA ANNOUNCES BOY SCOUT RANK REQUIREMENT CHANGES



Several Boy Scout rank requirements have been updated for 2008. [Updated requirements](#) for Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class ranks are posted on the national web site.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCES CHANGE IN ADVANCEMENT REPORT PROCEDURES

Greater Yosemite Council is implementing new procedures to help units provide awards and rank advancements to youth. Beginning March 1 Advancement Reports will be reviewed by a member of the council staff before the Scout Shop issues awards. [Read more.](#)



SACRAMENTO KINGS WILL HOLD SCOUT DAY

"Take your troop to the hoop"
Friday, March 7 vs. Minnesota Timberwolves
Every Scout in attendance will receive a Scout patch, access to meet a Kings player, and can attend a chalk talk with the Kings coaches

[Flyer/Registration Form](#)

BSA TRADEMARK AND SIGNATURE ARTWORK USAGE

Logos and symbols related to the Boy Scouts of America or its program are protected. Anyone seeking to use any symbols, words or phrases related to the BSA and its programs must obtain permission in advance for such use.

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Visit <http://www.bsalicensing.org> for additional information and a list of licensees.



NESA LAUNCHES EAGLE SCOUT SEARCH

The National Eagle Scout Association has launched a national Eagle Scout search program. If you know an Eagle Scout, please alert him about this important project. You might even contact your local council office to alert them of Eagle Scouts you know, and be sure to include their contact information.

<http://www.nesa.org/misc/essearch.html>

2008 FIRST AID TRAINING REQUIREMENT FOR PHILMONT CREWS

Beginning with the 2008 hiking season the requirement for participation is that each crew must have someone certified in a 16 hour wilderness first aid course from a nationally-recognized provider.

BEAR VALLEY RESORT OFFERS MERIT BADGE PROGRAM

Bear Valley offers a BSA approved program for Scouts to earn their Snow Sports Merit Badge. Cost is \$20.00 per Scout plus lift ticket and rental. 20 person minimum. [Read more.](#)

IN MEMORIAM

Rebecca M. Blizzard

1983 - 2008

Cubmaster Pack 17 and Assistant Scoutmaster Pack 17 in LaGrange, Cubmaster and founder of Pack 17 in Livingston. Attended Woodbadge in 2007. Recipient of the William D. Boyce New Unit Organizer Award.

Richard J. Niss

1919 – 2008

Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, Council Commissioner for Western Los Angeles County Council, Vigil member of the Order of the Arrow, Silver Beaver Award recipient. He was a Committee Member with Troop 199 in Lodi.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Commissioner Training Conference



Training for all District Commissioners, Roundtable Commissioners and Roundtable Commissioners.

February 2, 2008
Modesto Service Center
8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

[Flyer/Registration Form](#)

First Aid for Scouters



Saturday, February 9, 2008

Course includes American Red Cross certification for Adult CPR, First Aid and When Help is Delayed

This course will be especially formatted for Scouters.

Course size is limited to 30 participants. Register early!

[Flyer/Registration Form](#) (Remit to Stanislaus Chapter American Red Cross)

Cub Scout Leader Basic Training



February 23
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Ceres
For all Cub Scout leaders

[Flyer/Registration Form](#)

Boy Scout Leader Training



For all Boy Scout leaders
Session 1: February 23 in Ceres
Session 2: February 28 in Ceres
Session 3: March 7-8 at Camp McConnell

[Flyer/Registration Form](#)

Northern California Commissioners College



Training and advanced training for all commissioners
Saturday, February 23rd in San Ramon
Morning Speaker: Rick Cronk, National President
Luncheon Speaker: Wayne Brock, Assistant Chief Scout Executive

For the latest information go to www.norcalcommissioner.org and click on "College 2008"

25th Annual CPR Saturday



Saturday, March 8
Four locations – Modesto, Oakdale, Turlock Patterson
Suitable for ages 8 and up
Space is limited: pre-registration is recommended

[Flyer](#)

Basic Backpack Awareness & Leave No Trace Training



This training offers certification in high adventure leadership to adult leaders and junior leaders

Indoor session: March 14-15
Outdoor session: March 29-30

[Flyer/Registration form](#)

BSA's Online Learning Center Offers New Courses

Recently added modules: Venturing Youth Protection and Staffing the District committee. The Online Learning Center offers Youth Protection Training, Cub Scout Leader Fast Start, Boy Scout Leader Fast Start, Venturing Advisor Fast Start, Troop Committee Challenge, Safe Swim Defense, Safety Afloat and Venture Crew Orientation.

Visit the council web site www.yosemitescouting.org for more information on these training courses.

GOLD DUST SCOUT SHOP NEWS

Cub Scout Immediate Recognition Replacement Patches are Available



BSA has discovered defects in the Cub Scout Immediate Recognition Kit (Item No. 01804). We are requesting anyone who may have purchased the item to remove the Cub Scout Recognition totem badge from their children's possession.

Bring the old plastic patches to the Gold Dust Scout Shop in Modesto for exchange and receive a ticket for a chance to win one of three BMX bikes. Return the completed ticket in the self-addressed stamped envelope provided by February 29, 2008. Winners will be contacted by phone. The replacement patches may be identified by the diamond shape imprint on the back.

Watch for our 2008 catalog, coming soon to your mailbox. New items will be available in the store soon.

DISTRICT AND UNIT NEWS WANTED

News!

Send us articles and photos (.jpg format) about your district events, unit service projects and other special activities. We'll include as many as possible in upcoming issues of **eNews!** Email to RSchell@bsamail.org

See photos on Pages 8 - 9



Cub Scout Bear Den 1 Pack 3 performed their last task to complete the International Conservation Award achievement by planting trees in front of Our Lady of Fatima School on December 5.



Pack and Troop 3 marched in the Modesto Christmas Parade



Newly-formed Pack 58 won the Arts Council Award for their entry in the Los Baños Chamber of Commerce Christmas Parade

MONTHLY QUOTE

The twelfth point of the Scout law is not just about theology. It is also about community. We are a community united by a set of values, reflected on a breathtaking sea of diversity, and those values reveal our character. In our reaching up to God, we find ourselves standing closer to one another. This is the profound lesson that we, the Boy Scouts of America, teach the world."

Rabbi Peter Hyman
Chairman, National Jewish Committee on Scouting