



Greater Yosemite Council, BSA

eNews!

March, 2008

www.yosemitescouting.org



ANNUAL COUNCIL DINNER



Greater Yosemite Council's Annual Council Dinner is slated for **March 1, 2008**. Dinner Chair Megan Mallory and her committee have planned a memorable event. The theme is *Exploring into Careers*. We will have more than 80 Explorer Scouts in attendance. Four Explorers and a Sea Scout will discuss their

Exploring experiences and career plans. Presentations include Quality District, Quality Council, James E. West Endowments, and Silver Beavers. Clint Armes, Eric Handel and their crew are preparing a delicious tri tip and chicken dinner.

2007 SILVER BEAVER RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

Congratulations to the 2007 class of Silver Beaver recipients who will be honored at the Annual Council Dinner:

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



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.](#)

Greater Yosemite Council, BSA

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[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](#)
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Golden Heritage

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

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

Wawona

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

PLAN TO ATTEND CAMP MENSINGER IN 2008



As your troop plans for its long-term summer camp experience this 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 is being distributed by Order of the Arrow chapters and your District Executives. 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.

ANNOUNCING THE 2008 COUNCIL CANDY SALE

The sale runs from March 1 through April 20. Sign up your units and start selling today.

Why Sell Candy?

Boys can help earn their way to camp

It can make it possible for your unit to afford that special trip or activity that you would like to do

It eliminates the need to nickel and dime your Scouting parents for everything from registration fees to Boys' Life to unit activity fees

You will help improve camp facilities as well as other services the Council makes available to your unit

[Link to Registration Packet](#)

UNITED WAY GOLF TOURNAMENT FUNDRAISER



Attention golf enthusiasts! United Way of Stanislaus County is inviting Scouting units to sell tickets for the Canadian Tour Spring International Golf Tournament. The tournament is April 10-13 at Del Rio Country Club in Modesto. The cost of tickets for the four-day event is \$20.00. For each ticket sold, United Way will donate \$5.00 to your unit and \$5.00 to Greater Yosemite Council. Tickets may be obtained from Robin at the Modesto Service Center.

[Sales Poster](#)

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.

SCOUTING VOLUNTEER PARTICIPATES IN THE IDITAROD

Turlock Scoutmaster Doug Marks is participating as one of the trail veterinarians for the Iditarod sled dog race in Alaska. Doug submitted his schedule:

On 2/26 I will be in veterinary meetings in Anchorage 2/27. I will be doing pre-race exams on many of the sled dogs in Wasilla, AK
2/28 more veterinary meetings; that night we will be at the Musher's Banquet in Anchorage
2/29 planning meetings of all the volunteers, mushers and Iditarod race officials in Anchorage
3/1 Race starts with an 11 mile ceremonial start in Anchorage. I will be flown out to a check point somewhere along the trail.
3/2 Official re-start at Willow, AK.
First place winner usually is into Nome in about 9-10 days
3/16 Musher's Banquet at Nome - I hope to attend
3/1 to 3/17: I'll be at different check points for 1-4 days at a time.
3/19: I'll be home.

Check points are usually in towns with a couple hundred people to maybe 700 people. We will stay in tents, post offices, community buildings, family homes and "other". The "Iditarod Air Force," which are volunteer pilots and planes, move us (veterinarians), race officials and "dropped" dogs where we need to go.

"Dropped dogs" are dogs who for many different reasons are taken out of the race by veterinarians, officials, and/or mushers. They are taken care of at the check points and transported by airplanes to safe points and picked later by the mushers or their dog handlers.

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.

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](#)

CENTRAL VALLEY RAMS "KIDS DAY"



The Central Valley Rams semi pro football team will be playing their home opener at the St. Mary's High School field on Saturday, March 22, 2008 at 2:00 PM. All youth age 0 - 18 will receive free admission with a paid adult. All Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and leaders are invited to wear their uniforms.

For more information contact Louis Byrd at (209) 405-6516 or email CVRams@yahoo.com.

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.

Units or individuals wishing to use BSA trademarks on apparel, equipment etc. must order and purchase those items from a BSA officially licensed vendor.

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>

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

Glen Backlund

Glen Backlund of Hilmar passed away on Feb. 4th at age 86. He was a long-time Scouter and active in the El Capitan District. He used to cook at many of the District BBQ's besides working with the Hilmar units.

Luis Ramirez

Luis Ramirez, 12 year old Scout from Modesto died February 12th in a hiking accident in Yosemite National Park. He was a member of Troop 112 sponsored by Modesto 3rd Ward, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. A fund has been established in Luis' name to help the family. Donations may be sent to Greater Yosemite Council.

Anthony Chojnacki

Anthony Chojnacki (4/19/1941-2/26/2008) passed away suddenly from a massive heart attack. Anthony was a member of the High Adventure Team as well as Assistant Scoutmaster with Modesto Troop 13. He served as a volunteer trainer for more than a quarter of a century, passing along his experience in backpacking knot tying, fire building and "leave no trace" camping. As was so well expressed by another of Anthony's Scouting friends, "we all wonder how long it will take for Anthony to challenge someone in Heaven to a fire building contest".

Contributed by Bill Heneks and Marty Watson

Thomas Buckley

Thomas Buckley passed away on February 21 at age 49. He was a former Assistant Scoutmaster with Troop 129 in Atwater and also worked with youth in 4H and Atwater Little League. Tom is survived by his wife and three children.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Boy Scout Leader Training



For all Boy Scout leaders
Session 3: March 7-8 at Camp McConnell

[Flyer/Registration Form](#)

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](#)

Webelos Outdoor Leader Skills



Webelos Den Leaders should attend this course before conducting Webelos overnight camping with the den. Learn outdoor-related skills through demonstration and hands-on practice

April 11 - 12
Camp McConnell

[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. 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 are available in the store. Come see our new inventory.

Watch for In-Store **WACKY WEDNESDAY SPECIALS!**
STARTED JANUARY 16!

GOING 20% OFF	GOING 40% OFF	GONE 60% OFF
New Markdowns Every Third Wednesday of the Month	Our Best Deals are Scattered Throughout the Store <small>Look for the in-store shelf tags.</small>	Catch Them Before They're Gone...Gone...Gone...

Only at participating Scout Shops. Not available on Scoutstuff.org.

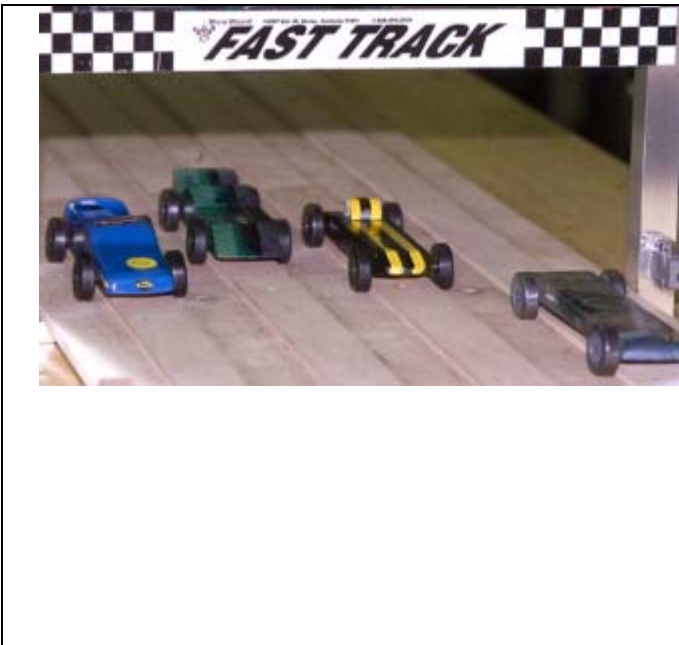
DISTRICT AND UNIT NEWS WANTED

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@bsaemail.org



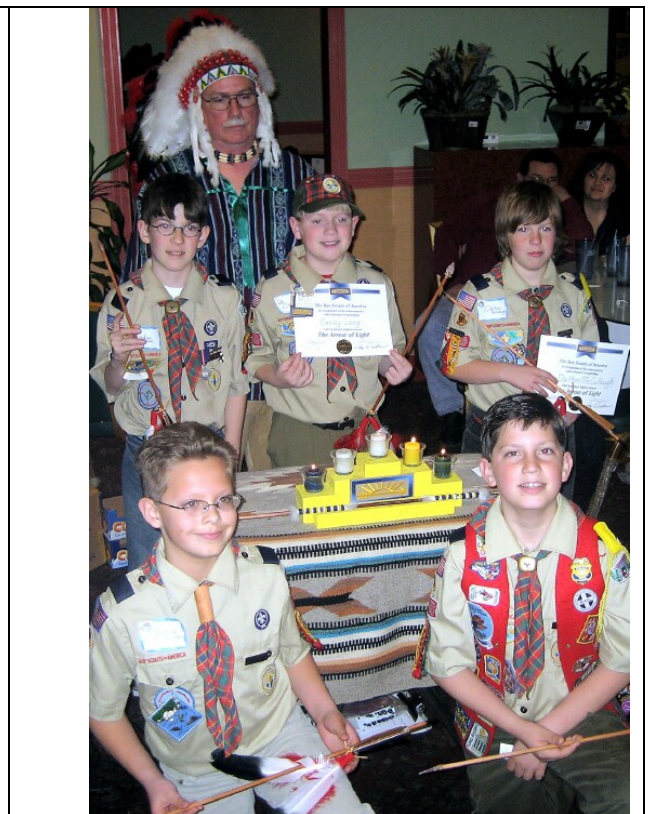
Boy Scouts from Troop 399 and 199 participated in a Mokelumne River cleanup project. 16 youth and 5 adults from these units joined other community organizations to collect 3 tons of trash, using supplies and equipment donated by the California Highway Patrol and California Waste Management. Mary Avanti was event coordinator.



Left: "Pine-car racers speed across the finish line during the Scout-O-Rama Saturday at the Grape Festival grounds. The annual event brings cub scouts, boy scouts, sea scouts, and more together to take part in events including demonstrations by the sheriff department, leather working, pine-car racing, crossing rope bridges, and firing trebuchets."

Right: "Scouts and District Commissioner Bill Blackford pull down the arm of a trebuchet before firing a projectile across the field at the Lodi Grape Festival Grounds. The large trebuchet was part of the Scout-O-Rama event held Saturday for scouts in the 49er District."

Courtesy Lodi News-Sentinel



Following traditional Chinese entertainment, Pack 14 families enjoyed a feast at Dynasty Restaurant in Modesto. The afternoon finished up with advancements for Wolves, Bears and Webelos. Akela (Tim Long) ceremonially awarded 5 of his Webelos with the Arrow of Light.



Cub Scouts from Pack 3 in Modesto visited American Chevrolet



Scouts from Troop 3 and Troop 135 participated in a bike ride. Some completed a 51 mile course.

MONTHLY QUOTE

"All children need a laptop. Not a computer, but a human laptop. Moms, Dads, Grannies and Grandpas, Aunts, Uncles – someone to hold them, read to them, teach them. Loved ones who will embrace them and pass on the experience, rituals and knowledge of a hundred previous generations. Loved ones who will pass to the next generation their expectations of them, their hopes, and their dreams."

General Colin L. Powell

Founder, America's Promise – the Alliance for Youth