

OKAW VALLEY COUNCIL BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

MAY EDITION

ECHO



SCOUT EXECUTIVE'S COMMENTS

Under the leadership of Larry Strube, the Okaw Valley Council has developed a new Strategic Plan that will be our road map for success through the year 2010. The Strategic Plan addresses each of these areas.

First is Financial Stability: every Scouter I meet has a list of needs to further improve their program area...whether it be new construction or repairs at one of our camps, better computer equipment at the Council Service Center, more inventory at the Scout Shop or more support materials for our Packs, Troops and Crews. All of these areas require a financially sound operation, which includes fiscal responsibility as well as aggressive fundraising for Operations, Capital Improvements and Endowment. Thanks to the leadership of Board Members like David Bruchhauser, John Mathes, Rick Parks, Chris Zeibold, Frank Seppi, and Mike Wenzel, we are well on our way.

Second is 100% of Unit Leaders Trained: the families that we serve deserve nothing less. The Okaw Valley Council does better than most Councils. Thanks to the vision of Gary Klemme and Evelyn Duncan, we will not rest on our laurels.

Third is an Opportunity for ALL Available Youth to Join Our Program: regardless of social or financial constraints, we must continue to reach out to our underserved youth areas. Our Vice President of Membership, Ed True and Vice President of Scoutreach, Bill Wilkins have a plan that will ensure a successful delivery system.

Fourth is volunteer recruitment: we must continue to recruit more volunteers to ease the workload and prevent burn out. As Vice President of District Operations, Robert Goodrich has spent time in each of our Districts addressing this issue and we look forward to Mark Pluff continuing that mission.

Fifth is Marketing: all families in our 9 counties need to be educated about the great programs that we offer. In order to thrive, Scouting needs support at all levels of the community. We must

talk about Scouting on the playground, in the coffee shop and in the boardroom...the people in this room are the best qualified to carry out that mission. Under Craig Harper's leadership, I am confident Scouting will have a strong presence in all of our communities.

Sixth is Properties: Steve Sears' properties committee has been hard at work. I think that most of you are aware of the wonderful new dining hall being completed at Camp Vandeventer. Any attempt at recognizing all of the individuals who have helped on that project would result in a very long article. However, I do not want to miss the opportunity to thank two individuals who have spent countless hours on this project. As the make up of the volunteer work teams changed, these three have remained the nucleus of preparation and output. Our heartfelt thanks go out to John Rule, Larry Wimpe and Tom Tucker.

2006 COLLEGE OF COMMISSIONER SCIENCE

The 2006 College of Commissioner Science will be held on Saturday May 13, 2006 at Lindenwood University in Belleville.

Commissioner College provides advanced training and information for adult leaders. Specific training is provided for Unit Commissioners, District and Assistant District Commissioners and their staffs, as well as other Unit, District and Council Leaders. All adult leaders should find the experience rewarding.

We offer Bachelors, Master, Post Graduate, Doctoral and Basic Commissioners Training. New Commissioners must complete commissioner's basic training before attending the Bachelors Program. Scouters should enjoy networking opportunities along with program updates.

The basic curriculum is general to the needs of Commissioners, there is much to offer for anyone involved in the Scouting Program.

Registration is being taken now at the Council Service center. Registration before May 1, 2006 is \$20.00 per person. (on or after the May 1, date registration will be \$25.00) Tuition includes all course materials, refreshments, lunch and awards.

For more information and class schedules, contact the Okaw Valley Council at 618-234-9111, or visit the website at www.okawbsa.org . This information for registration can be downloaded and emailed back.

The 2006 Chairman is Mike Weaver who can be reached at: mike.weaver@conti-na.com.

POPCORN !!!! POPCORN !!! POPCORN !!!!!!!

It's never too early to start thinking about POPCORN. If you are looking for a way to fund all your unit activities for 2006-2007, WE HAVE GOT A PLAN. Start planning now to get involved in the Fall 2006 Popcorn Sale. More and more information will be forthcoming through the ECHO, the WEBSITE, and the POPCORN TRAINING scheduled for early August. For right now, make your mind up to sell and mark your calendar for sale dates September 30- October 17 !!!

Fun with Son Weekends 2006

ONLINE REGISTRATION NOW AVAILABLE

This year's Fun with Son is almost here! The first session is at Camp Joy on June 9th and 10th. Session 2 is scheduled for July 7th and 8th at Camp Vandeventer. Space is limited, so sign up early. You can now register online or you can print out the registration form and mail it to the Scout Service Center. Additional information, as well as the required health form, can be found at <http://okawbsa.org/~funwithson/>.



Brownsea

WHEN: June 4-10, 2006

WHERE: Camp Vandeventer

WHAT:

- To give youth leaders the confidence and knowledge to run troop programs.
- To give youth leaders knowledge of the eleven basic skills of leadership.
- To provide the opportunity for sharing ideas and experiences with other youth leaders.
- To provide the model scout experience as a reference to improve and grow in Scouting.
- To enhance the relationship between the junior leader and his Scoutmaster.
- To have the participant learn and experience the patrol method.
- To have a whole lot of fun!!!!

WHO IS IT FOR: Any Scout that will be in a leadership position or any First Class Scout.

BACKGROUND: The Brownsea National Youth Leadership Training Course takes its name from Brownsea Island, where Baden-Powell conducted the first Boy Scout camp in 1907. The Okaw Valley Council's Brownsea National Youth Leadership Training Program will be a comprehensive camp experience for youth leaders covering a week of exciting outdoor program activities. This adventure will consist of training in a variety of areas including camp-craft skills, nature skills, hiking, pioneering, patrol games and competitions, program planning, and leadership skills.

FEE: \$115 for one week of Training, food, 2 t-shirts, cap, song book, cook book, Bolo, tie, 2 patches, and shoulder loops.

Please check out our website for an informational brochure, registration form, and scholarship application at <http://okawbsa.org/~brownseatraining/>
Scoutmaster : Dan Dickson, 588-2400 Asst Scoutmaster :Nancy Anderson, 473-2565

Outdoor Training for Adult Leaders

ONLINE REGISTRATION NOW AVAILABLE

BALOO

(Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation)

Saturday, May 20, 2006

Check in 7:30 a.m.

Opening Assembly 8:00 a.m.

Closing 5:15 p.m.

WEBELOS LEADER OUTDOOR TRAINING

Friday (optional) - Saturday,

May 19-20, 2006

Check in Friday 6:00 p.m.

Check in Saturday 7:30 a.m.

Opening Assembly 8:00 a.m.

Closing 5:15 p.m.

BOY SCOUT LEADER INTRODUCTION TO OUTDOOR SKILL

Friday-Saturday, May 19-20, 2006

Check in Friday 6:00 p.m.

Beginning Session 7:00 p.m.

Closing 5:15 p.m.

It's time to get trained! The Okaw Valley Council Adult Leader Outdoor Training course is set for Friday, May 19th and Saturday, May 20th at Camp Vandeventer. This course is helpful for any adult leader, but is especially beneficial to those who are new leaders in Scouting. The cost is \$7.00 per person. Registration forms are available on the council website and in the Scout Shop. In addition, online registration is now available. For more information visit <http://okawbsa.org/~counciltraining/> or contact Outdoor Training Coordinator Steve Turner at sxturner@charter.net.

Mark your Calendars !!!!

The Okaw Valley Council and Mrs. Fern Hettenhausen are pleased to invite you to the First Annual Wine Tasting and Vintage Fashion Show. This fundraising event will be held on June 9th, 2006 beginning at 5:30PM at the Ravissant Winery in Belleville. Tickets are \$20 per person or \$35 per couple. Included are appetizers, wine, music, and silent and live auctions. Mark your calendars and plan to attend !!!

Okaw Valley Council Sporting Clay Shoot Invitational

This will be an event to remember!!!! The Okaw Valley Council is honored to invite you to the *NEW* World Shooting and Recreational Complex in Sparta, Illinois on Saturday, August 26, 2006. This year's event will be co-chaired by Dave Butz and Frank Seppi.

SHOOTERS PACKAGE INCLUDES: \$100 each or \$400 a team of four

- Competition: 100 Targets
- Team will consist of 4 shooters
- A chance at 1st through 5th Place awards— based on individual scores.
- Unique to this Sporting Clay shoot, you can purchase mulligan(s) to better your chances for prizes
- “TOP GUN” : The one shooting the highest raw score excluding your mulligan(s).
- Exciting door prizes throughout the evening
- Snacks & refreshments on the course
- Event Luncheon (Burgers and dogs with fixings)
- A ticket to the Dinner Auction

Registration starts at 10:00am. For more information and registration form please check our website at <http://okawbsa.org/~councilactivities/>

Wood Badge C-39-06

Are you ready for Wood Badge Course C-39-06? The staff of this course is getting ready for you! And who should take Wood Badge? The new leader, the veteran leader, the leader with a little experience den leaders, troop leaders, Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, Varsity Leaders, Venture Crew Advisors, committee members, District leaders, Council leaders, Scout Professionals in short – anyone and everyone involved in Scouting who would like to increase their leadership and management abilities. You will have fun, learn skills, have more fun, make lifelong friends, have even more fun, and experience first hand how all of this applies to every level of Scouting. This training course will be held over two weekends in the fall: September 15, 16, and 17, 2006 and October 7, 8, and 9, 2006, at Camp Joy. A registration deposit of \$25 will hold a spot for you, with the remainder of the \$190 registration fee due by June. Come join us for the training of a lifetime! For more information contact Denny Wright at wright11@globaleyes.com

“Golf Tournament Will Tee It Up in May”

The 31st Annual Okaw Valley Council Golf Tournament will be held May 8th, 2006, at The Orchards Golf Course in Belleville. This year’s format will be a 4-person Scramble, and will start at 12:00pm, with lunch and registration beginning at 11:00am.

This year’s tournament promises to be full of fun, fellowship, and hopefully lots of birdies! The Okaw Valley Council hosts a dinner and silent auction after play is completed, so make sure to put May 8th on your calendar today! If you would like to play in this year’s tournament or sponsor a hole, contact the Okaw Valley Council, or Matt Wagner at 234-9111 x. 29 or mawagner@bsamail.org. Flyers are available at the Scout Shop, or online at www.okawbsa.org, on your district’s page.

A Special thanks to our Golf Tournament Committee Chairperson, Kevin Richter, a Belleville Eagle Scout who is currently a partner with Mathis, Marifian, Richter, and Grandy, Ltd. In Belleville. Mr. Richter also serves on the Okaw Valley Council Executive Board.

Cub Scout Resident Camp is a “Wild West Adventure”

The 2006 Cub Scout Resident Camp will be fun for all who attend this year’s Wild West-themed event. Space is still available for any unit wanting to experience Camp Vandeventer this summer for a 3-day/2-night stay.

Great Scouting programs await all participants, including swimming, crafts & games, nature hikes, skits & songs, and of course, BB gun & archery shooting. The best part of camp, however, is the great fun in making new friends and lasting memories. Contact the Okaw Valley Council Service Center for more information, or log onto www.okawbsa.org.

Camp Joy: 2006 Season

Reservation forms for 2006 at Camp Joy are available and space is somewhat limited in some sessions. Don’t delay; make your reservations for 2006 today, don’t miss out on an exciting summer at Camp Joy.

Leader guides are available on line at the council web site.

The 2006 Summer Camp Staff Applications are available at the Scout Shop as well as on line at the Council Web site.

For more information on Boy Scout Camp or Summer Camp staff contact Dennis Bathon at 242-8505 or bathon12@sbcglobal.net.

Camp Joy News from the Program Director

This year at Camp Joy, will be one of our best years ever. We are planning to have again five merit badge hours, with the sixth hour open for additional program. This is where a Scout can go to an area to work on the additional skills they may need, work on reports, or even just have fun working on a project or learning a new skill.

Also, this year Camp Joy will have Scout games as a planned event with more fun and games for the scouts and leaders. Come out to Summer Camp and enjoy the fun.

With all the fun I missed last year at camp, now as Program Director this year, I am ready to let the fun begin.

Program Director -Nick Schubert

Camp Joy Pre Camp Leaders Meeting

WHO: Camp Leaders for your Troop this Summer

WHEN: Saturday, June 3,2006 (Camp Joy Work Day)

WHERE: Camp Joy Dinning Hall

TIME: 2:00PM-4:00PM

PURPOSE: To answer any questions about the camp program and to help prepare your Troop for a great summer time experience.

In addition to all the great information you will receive about camp, snacks will also be served. Every leader is attendance will receive a free gift for attending.

ORDER OF THE ARROW



During our 2006 Summer Camping Season, expect the Order of the Arrow hard at work. Our tentative schedule of events are as follows:

Sunday: during check –in all troops will be asked to identify all arrowmen at camp during the week. Arrowmen will also be able to sign up for the Brotherhood Class at the Merit Badge sign in on time.

Monday: The Brotherhood Class will hold its first meeting.

Tuesday: All arrowmen will be invited to an Ice Cream Social/Movie Night for fun and fellowship. There will also be a Brotherhood rededication program for all Brotherhood members of the Lodge.

Wednesday: The OA will sponsor a Service Project open to all Campers.

Thursday: The Lodge will conduct a Brotherhood Ceremony for all Candidates who have completed the class.

Friday: OA Night at Camp Joy. All Arrowmen are invited to wear their sashes during the day, which will culminate with Family Night and OA Callout Ceremony. Remember lots of help is needed to put together an impressive Ceremony, so please volunteer.

Yours In Scouting
Chris Simms
2006 Lodge Chief

ILLINI DISTRICT

District Chairman: Stan Franklin, 482-5627
District Commissioner: Kenneth Berry, 779-5499
District Executive: Ray Coleman, 234-9111

Welcome

The In School Scouts from Lilly Freeman Elementary School, Pack 496 4th and 5th graders had a very eventful day of field trips on Tuesday, April 11th. They started the day by touring the Katherine Dunham Museum. In the afternoon in full Boy Scout uniform, Pack 496 participated in a ceremony honoring legendary St. Louis Cardinals Hall of Famer, Lou Brock. The occasion took place at Lindenwood University in St. Charles, MO. The University dedicated a baseball/softball complex in the name of Lou Brock. The kids formed a receiving line to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Lou Brock. Mrs. Brock's hometown is East St. Louis. The Scouts were treated to refreshments, got a chance to watch the college team warm up for their game, and the highlight for sure was meeting Mike Jones, formerly of the St. Louis Rams who made the famous tackle in the Super Bowl against the Tennessee Titans.

The community wide Boy Scout meeting planned for April 15, 2006 was cancelled due to scheduling conflicts. The District Committee Meeting, April 20th will be used to get out the information intended for April 15th.

At the end of the month, April 30th we plan to send at least 75 Scouts to Springfield for the Lincoln Pilgrimage. I will be in Dallas, Texas for Professional Development Training, therefore Maude Montgomery our In School Scouting Coordinator will be in charge.

May Meetings & Events

Key 3: May 4, 2006

Swimming and cleanup: May 6, 2006

Leadership Training: May 13, 2006

District Committee Meeting: May 18, 2006

Spring Camporee: May 19-21, 2006 Horseshoe Lake State Park

June Meeting & Events

Key 3: June 1, 2006

Swimming and cleanup: June 3, 2006

East St. Louis/Washington Park Day Camp: June 14-16, 2006 Kenneth Hall/Jones Park

Swimming and cleanup: June 17, 2006

Cub Scout Day Camp: June 20-22, 2006 Private Mathison Manor

GREAT ST. CLAIR DISTRICT



District Chairman: Darrell Eickhoff, 332-5400
District Commissioner: Carm Walgamott, 628-3085
District Director: Everette Sherrod, 234-9111
District Executive: Beth Eckert, 234-9111
District Executive: Dave Garris, 234-9111

May Calendar of Events

- 4th Program Preview Roundtable, 7pm, 1st Presbyterian Church, Belleville
- 8th Council Golf Tournament, 11am, Orchards Golf Course, Belleville
- 11th Commissioner Meeting, 7pm, 1st Presbyterian Church, Belleville
- 13th College of Commissioner Science, Lindenwood University, Belleville
- 15th District Committee Meeting, 5:30pm, Scout Service Center, Belleville
- 19th Scout Leader Outdoor Training (Day 1), 6pm, Camp Vandeventer, Waterloo
- 20th Scout Leader Outdoor Training (Day 2), 7:30am, Camp Vandeventer, Waterloo

June Calendar of Events

- 1st Roundtable, 7pm, 1st Presbyterian Church, Belleville
- 8th Commissioner Meeting, 7pm, 1st Presbyterian Church, Belleville
- 9th Fun with Son (Session 1, June 9th -10th), 6pm, Camp Joy, Carlyle
- 15th Cub Scout Day Camp, (June 15th – 17th), 8:15am, Quayle Club, Millstadt
- 19th District Committee Meeting, 5:30pm, Scout Service Center, Belleville

2006 Cub Scout Day Camp

Come join the Cubs in the Jungle!!!!

June 15-17

Quail Club - Millstadt

8:15am – 3:30pm

July 12-14

Horner Park - Lebanon

8:15am – 3:30pm

St. Clair District Day Camp is almost here! Sign-up early to guarantee a spot! For more information visit <http://okawbsa.org/~stclair/>

Or contact St. Clair Day Camp Chairperson Jane Becker.

See you there!

BLACK GOLD DISTRICT



District Chairman, Joe Gliosci, 246-7351
District Commissioner, Ron Wood, 806-5478
District Executive, Dennis Bathon, 242-8505

June Calendar of Events

1st- Roundtable 7PM at Dix Community Center
3rd- Camp Joy Pre Camp Leaders Meeting 2PM and Work Day
15th- Committee and Commissioner Meeting at 7P at Camp Joy
19th-21st- Day Camp at Salem City Park 8:15A-3:30P
21st-22nd-Tribe of Mannaseh at Camp Joy

July Calendar of Events

7th-8th- Fun with Son at Camp Van
30th-31- Council Venture Camp at Camp Joy

Spring Camporee

Well attended by units from Black Gold and Crooked Creek. A Big Thank You to Ed Ronat and Crew for a great weekend at Bell Smith Springs near Harrisburg. Activities included propelling, fire building, as well as other activity stations. Thank You to one and all for a great event.

Program Preview

Mark your calendar now and rally your unit leadership to attend your district Program Preview on May 4, 2005 at 7PM at the Dix Community Center. This is where your unit will receive first hand information about the upcoming 2006-2007 Scouting activities and events.

The 2006-2007 council Calendar will be available that night as will information on how to sign-up for a year's worth of Council and District level programs- such as Summer Camp, Dinners, Camporees, Popcorn, Scouting for Food, Friends of Scouting, high Adventure, and much, much, much more...

KASKASKIA DISTRICT



District Chairman: Harold Hughes, 476-3838
District Commissioner: Jeannie Scott, 476-3737
Senior District Executive: Matt Wagner, 234-9111

May Meetings & Events:

PROGRAM PREVIEW:

MAY 4TH, 2006 7:00pm Camp Vandeventer, Red Bud

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER MEETING:

May 11th, 2006 7:00pm Red Bud Regional Hospital

DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETING

May 19th, 2006 7:00pm Red Bud Regional Hospital

Program Preview Will Show off New Camp Van Digs!

The Kaskaskia District will be holding our annual "Program Preview" for the program year 2006/2007 on May 4th, 2006, 7:00pm, at the NEW Dining Hall at Camp Vandeventer in Waterloo. All units should plan to attend; this meeting will include information and discussion about all the important events during the next 18 months in the Okaw Valley Council! In addition, we will be giving away door prizes, and having lots of fun! The Kaskaskia District is providing food, beverages, and plenty of information about our upcoming Scouting year.

Make sure to put this date on your calendar, and invite all the key leaders in your unit. We plan to have over 100 adult Scouters at this event to learn about all the great Scouting events coming up, and, unless you want to be the unit chairperson for all those events, this is a great time to get your leaders excited about the upcoming Scouting year.

CROOKED CREEK DISTRICT



District Chairman, Bruce Merrell, 436-6205
District Commissioner, Lee Gross, 533-1782
District Executive, Justin Isbell, 234-9111

Upcoming Events

- May 4 – Program Preview at Roundtable
- May 8 – Council Golf Tournament
- May 11 – Commissioner Staff Meeting
- May 18 – District Committee Meeting
- June 8 – Commissioner Staff Meeting
- June 14-16 – Cub Scout Day Camp at the Centralia Moose Lodge
- June 15 – District Committee Meeting, Mannaseh Ceremonies

Day Camp and Twilight Camp

If you haven't registered your Scouts for this year's Twilight and Day Camps, then what are you waiting for? District Day Camp Chairperson Tina Ford has put together an excellent program. Our Scouts will enjoy some of their favorite outdoor activities such as; B-B gun shooting, archery shooting, learn about nature, play games, sing songs, perform skits, and more! Some of our camps even include fishing! Attending Cub Scout Day Camp is one of the requirements to earn the Cub Scout Outdoor Activity Award. It should be the goal of each Pack to achieve this award together and have some fun earning it!

Packs and dens interested in attending can sign up online at the Council's website at okawbsa.org. For more information, contact Tina Ford at 204-0402. Camps are at the following dates and times:

June 14-16	July 19-21
Centralia Moose Club	Camp Joy***
5:00pm – 9:00pm	8:15am – 3:30pm

Cub Scout Leader Training

There will be a Cub Scout Leader Training on Wednesday May 3, 2006 at the Scout Hut in Nashville followed by a New Leader Essentials training. Registration begins at 6:30. Cub Scout leaders, Cubmaster and their assistants, Committee Chairman Committee Members, Webelos Leaders and assistants, Cub Scout Den leaders and assistants for Wolf and Bear dens, Tiger Cub Leaders and assistants who have not yet received training should attend. This training will provide you with the specialized knowledge a new leader needs to assume a leadership role. To be considered trained each participant must complete the New Leader Essentials training plus the Leader Specific Training for the position they currently hold.

These sessions are essential to ensuring that we provide quality experiences for our Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts. If you have any questions about training or to register, please contact Helen Renschen by phone at 594-4431 or e-mail at garyrensch@charter.net

