

# Skookum District Newsletter

March 2009



## Merit Badge Roundup

On February 21<sup>st</sup>, a Merit Badge Roundup was held at the LDS church on 38<sup>th</sup> street in Yakima. Approximately 125 scouts participated in this event. All merit badges were 3-month requireds and non-requireds. We will reconvene the second half of the Merit Badge Roundup on May 16<sup>th</sup> so Scouts can pass off merit badges.

2009 Centennial  
Quality Unit Award  
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## The 2009 Centennial Quality Unit Award



### District Committees

**Training Committee:** Laura Larsen

**Activities Committee:** Holly Hall

**Camping Committee:** Rick Johnson

**Advancement Committee:** Stephani Kinney

**Membership Committee:** Roger Short

**Finance Committee:** Scott Borgelthaus

**Order of the Arrow Committee:** Mark Stripes

**Commissioner Reports:** Stormye Presnell

**District Chairman:** David Packard

**District Executive:** Frank Villanueva (509) 830.5665 cell  
Frank.villanueva@scouting.org

We are once again reminding all units in the district to work on the Quality Unit Award application. The award is based on setting goals. These goals, if set by the unit, qualify the unit for the 2009 BSA Centennial Quality Unit Award. Our goal is to have all units in the district achieve this patch, which identifies us as coming from a unit that cares about the quality of the programs

that we are providing for our boys. Each year we should be having a year planning conference with our boys and the unit leaders. As part of this conference, goals should be set. If this format is followed, you will qualify for this award. Any questions, please contact Frank Villanueva (509) 453.4795 or frank.villanueva@scouting.org

## District Committee Reports

**Training Committee:** Baloo Training will be held 4/25/09 at the Scout office. Cooking will be part of the training.

**- Outdoor experience** -For the last couple of Scoutmaster trainings that we have had. Will be at Eschbach Park. Date is May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Experience is an overnighter and will finish by noon. A \$12 charge may be assessed for site rentals, food, training supplies and insurance.

Training committee will get together to have a budget meeting soon to go over the costs of all upcoming Baloo.

**- District Committee Training** – Scheduled for May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009

**Activities committee:**

The District Pinewood Derby will be held on March 14, 2009. The event will be held at the Living

## District Committee Reports (continued)

Care Retirement Center. Westside Medcenter donated \$600.00 to finance the event! Thanks! On this same day (sorry for the conflict) we will be holding the district's **Membership Kickoff** in Quincy. We are looking for a troop, team or crew to give service with setup, cooking and cleaning. If anyone would be available to do this, please contact Frank Villanueva at the Scout office at **(509) 453-4795**.

**-District Good Turn Event** – scheduled for May 9, 2009 at 8:30 am. Clean up of BLM Campsites in the Ellensburg Canyon. Please call the Yakima Scout Office (509) 453.4795 or 1.800.572.8603 to register your Pack, Troop, Team or Crew. This event is mainly for Scouting units and their families, but community participation will be welcomed.

**District Cub Scout Day Camp** – to be held on June 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. We are looking for monetary donations as well as two golf carts that could be available for the entire three day event. Anyone who could help with either of these requests, please contact Holly at the Scout office through her e-mail at [holhall@bsamail.org](mailto:holhall@bsamail.org).

Our annual **Yakima Bears game night** will be July 3, 2009. Scouts will be the color guard and lead the stadium audience in the pledge of allegiance. The cost of a ticket will be \$10.50 and include a hotdog, chips and beverage. After the game scouts and families will be invited to come down onto the playing field and watch fireworks and meet Bear players. Please purchase your tickets at the Scout Office before May 15 to lock into this special deal.

### **Camping Committee:**

The camping committee has been calling leaders in our Boy Scout troops who do not appear on the council camps schedule for 2009. There is still time to take advantage of Friends of Scouting discounts \$25 per boy. Call the council office and sign your boys up for a summer camp experience that will last a life time.

**WashJam** registration is online on the Council website. Deadline is June 1<sup>st</sup>. The dates are Aug. 20<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

We have noted that there seems to be some confusion between WashJam and Scout camp. WashJam is more of a get-together to celebrate scouting within our state. It is NOT scout camp. Scout camp is designed for advancement. Let's all take advantage of the advancement opportunities offered within our own council camp.

**Spring Camporee:** To be held May 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> at Indian Camp Campground. This campground is located in the middle fork of the Tanneway River. Troops should be registered by May 10<sup>th</sup>. .22 rifle qualifying will be one of the events at the camporee. We should all be taking our units to these events. It is a great time for the boys to get some outdoors experience, along with healthy competition that challenges them to learn Scout skills.

**Finance Committee:**

Seth Shea is the new District Finance Committee chair. He welcomes questions and would love to see more participation at the district level on this committee. His cell phone number is **509-385-4155**. His e-mail address is [shea.seth@hotmail.com](mailto:shea.seth@hotmail.com).

Skookum District's financial goal this year is \$96,200.00.

**Friends of Scouting:** LDS stakes commitment is \$30,000.00. Non-LDS troop's commitment is \$45,975.00. Any troop that meets the unit FOS goal will have several advantages in the coming year. 1) A \$25.00 per boy discount on camp fees. 2) All cloth patches are free from the Scout office. 3) Cub Scouts receive a \$10 fee discount for Day Camp or Cub Resident Camp.

**Community Friends of Scouting Campaign** invites area business, government, education and industry who believe in Scouting values to financially support the organization at a luncheon or similar event. Ellensburg May 14, 2009 @ Moose Lodge Cle Elum June 20, 2009 @ Cle Elum Park Shooting sports event – September, 2009 – This year, we earned \$3,700.00. For our next event in 2009, we are proposing a combination event that will include activities for the entire family, culminating with a crab feed dinner, silent auction, door prizes, etc.

**Membership Committee:**

Welcome Steve Arnold as Skookum Districts new Membership Chairman. Steve is the Cub Master for Pack 266 Christ Lutheran Church. Welcome to New Pack 230 Moxee Knights of Columbus.

**Membership kickoff event:** To take place on **March 14, 2009** in Quincy. Our Council Membership Vice President is Bob McLaughlin. Bob will be in charge of this event. Membership is a critical element to the success of the council and district. Membership growth sustains all activities with increase participation and energy. Anyone interested in attending or helping should contact the Scout office or Frank Villanueva for more details.

**Candy Sales:** Candy has been delivered and distributed to all the units in the district. Thank you for supporting the scouting programs with your participation in council product sales. You are a big reason for our success. Keep up the good work.

**Order of the Arrow**

We will be pushing membership numbers in 2009.

**Conclave** is scheduled to be held the third weekend in September.

**Commissioner Report:**

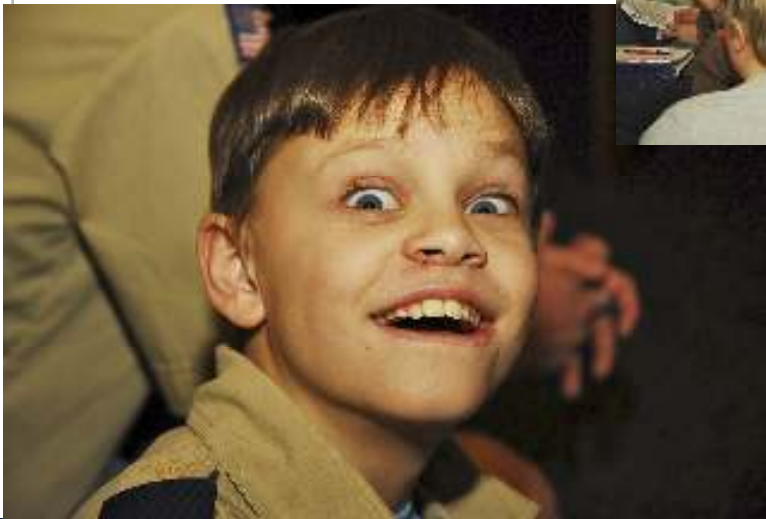
We have set an immediate goal for the recruitment of ten new commissioners

We will be meeting as a body of Assistant District Commissioners the second Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM at the Wesley Methodist Church on 48<sup>th</sup> and Chestnut. Anyone who has friends who can be persuaded to help out in this endeavor, bring them along. We will provide training to new commissioners so that they understand the parameters of their assignments and how to best fulfill this function.

Continued...



## Merit Badge Roundup 2009



### The Scoutmaster's Minute: *The "Why" of Things*

*Sometimes, when it seems like there is no place to go, the only way the Scout should consider is forward. We may not understand the "why" of it at the time, but in later years, we will see how moving ahead helped us to arrive, even when we could not see the goal. Go forward in faith. Never look back.*