### April, May, June Pine Tree Council Calendar

**Albany**  
- April: District Committee Meeting  
- May: District Committee Meeting  
- June: Spring Camporee  

**Bar Harbor**  
- April: District Committee Meeting  
- May: District Committee Meeting  
- June: OA Camporee  

**Casco Bay**  
- April: Pinewood Derby  
- May: District Committee Meeting  
- June: District Committee Meeting  

**Downeast**  
- April: Pinewood Derby  
- May: District Committee Meeting  
- June: District Committee Meeting  

**York**  
- April: Pinewood Derby  
- May: District Commissioner Meeting  
- June: District Commissioner Meeting  

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**Pine Tree Council Scout Shop**  
125 Auburn St. • Portland, ME 04103  
For fast service by phone call: 207-797-5441 or toll free: 1-877-PTC-SHOP  
Fax: 207-797-7183  
Please fax large orders.  
HOURS: Mon., Tues., Wed., & Fri.: 9 A.M.- 5 P.M.    Thursday: 9 A.M.- 8 P.M.  
Saturday: 10 A.M.- 2 P.M.  Closed Sunday  

**Your One-Stop Scout Shop For:**  
- Uniforms  
- Awards  
- Literature  
- Derby  

**Pine Tree Council Scout Shop**  
125 Auburn Street  
Portland, Maine 04103  
(207) 797-5252  
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**Your One-Stop Scout Shop For:**  
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- Awards  
- Literature  
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**Pine Spills**  
Spring 2005  
Pine Tree Council, Boy Scouts of America  
www.pinetreebsa.org  

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**The Alton E. “Chuck” Cianchette Scout Service Center**  
Opening May 18th, 2005  
See Insert in this Issue for Office Layout and Details
As you can see, the common theme throughout my article is enhancing the ability to better serve the youth and volunteers in the Pine Tree Council. These efforts are certainly some exciting times in the Pine Tree Council. I look forward to working all of you to help make Scouting the best it can be!

Yours in Scouting,
Paul Spellman
Pine Tree Council President

Race to Scouting 2005

This year, the Boy Scouts of America is hoping that you are getting ready to Race To Cub Scouting. This year's recruitment program will work with chartering organizations to bring in more kids than ever to the Scouting program. Every child should be invited to join Scouting.

Did every youth rejoin scouting when you completed the re-charter of your Scout unit this spring? The Pine Tree Council wants to remind you that after you have completed your re-charter paperwork for the year, to make sure that the boys that have not stayed with the program are asked to rejoin. Please make sure that as a leader, you take the time to find out why a youth left the program. What was the reason, and did anyone ask them to stay, or did we assume that they just wanted something else?

Hundreds of kids leave Scouting each year because no one asked them to stay. They may have missed a few meetings and it was assumed they were not interested in Scouts. Make sure that each boy that doesn’t re-charter with your unit is asked why he left, and is asked to rejoin.

Has your unit realized the value of spring recruiting? Many kids are active in extra curricular activities and learning positive values that will last a lifetime. Spring recruiting is a great opportunity to introduce new kids to the Scouting program until they get involved. Don't forget that when the kids join the Scouting program, the parents need to come along. Make sure you help if asked. Big and small tasks need to be completed for your unit this year, and identifying parents early will help the unit run smoothly.

Watch for more Race to Scouting info at your district events or contact your district executive for more information.

Spring Retention and Recruitment 2005

START preparing now for late spring and fall recruitment by asking a unit leader to organize everything from the location of the recruitment night to the publicity that will be placed in the local paper inviting kids to join.

Information will be distributed at roundtables in the coming months on how to hold a successful recruitment event. Don’t forget that when the kids join the Scouting program, the parents need to come along. Make sure you help if asked. Big and small tasks need to be completed for your unit this year, and identifying parents early will help the unit run smoothly.

Watch for more Race to Scouting info at your district events or contact your district executive for more information.

For more information about these improvements in the Council News section of this issue of Pine Spills.

Our camp properties. You can read more about these improvements in the Council News section of this issue of Pine Spills. These capital improvements will allow us to better serve all of the youth and volunteers in the Pine Tree Council.

Another exciting aspect of the Capital Campaign, is the capital improvements to our camp properties. You can read more about these improvements in the Council News section of this issue of Pine Spills.

These are certainly some exciting times in the Pine Tree Council. I look forward to working all of you to help make Scouting the best it can be!

Yours in Scouting,
Paul Spellman
Pine Tree Council President

Re-charter time is here once again and it will be a busy time for the entire Commissioner staff.

We all have to keep in mind that just because a Scout has not been fully active for some time it does not mean he is intending to drop out of the Scouting program. We should all make the effort to visit with our unit leaders and assure that pertinent contact is made with each Scout rather than assume that one of our Scouts is not intending to stay involved. We should be making an effort to learn why a Scout has become less active and determine whether there is anything that can be done to keep this youth as a valued member of the pack, troop or post.

Another big event for every second year Webelos is also at hand. That is the Webelos to Cub Scout transition. This graduation should be taking place in all of our packs during February and March. As Commissioners, we should be making sure that every second year Webelos is personally invited to join a Boy Scout Troop.

Please, let's work to make sure that this story is not repeated here in Pine Tree Council by assuming that every second year Webelos is personally invited to join a Boy Scout Troop.

We should also be meeting with our unit leaders to explain the benefits of Spring Recruiting. By conducting a spring recruiting program, we can help our units become stronger and make the great Scouting program available to more youth. This is a great time to bring in new Scouts, just in time for summer camp and summer activities.

All of the above-mentioned efforts to keep our youth in the Scouting program, and also to recruit more youth into the program, are important for the continued success of the Scouting programs, but more importantly, these efforts are of critical importance to the youth themselves. In this day of so many outside negative influences that our children have to face every day, the opportunity to be part of a totally positive activity, such as Scouting, is vital to their personal growth.

This growth in character, values, leadership, and the reinforcement in the ideals of God, Family and Country are just the ideals that our youth need to grow into the strong leaders of tomorrow. Let’s all work to “Keep the Scouting Promise” to our children.

Yours in Scouting,
Bill Coffin
Pine Tree Council Commissioner

As you can tell from the cover of this issue of Pine Spills, the opening of the new Alton Center is something that we are very excited about. We will be paying tribute to a man who helped make the Pine Tree Council, and the State of Maine, a better place for our youth. The New Service Center will allow us to better serve all of the youth and volunteers in the Pine Tree Council.

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What’s Inside...
Abnaki District . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 11
Casco Bay District . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 11&12 Council Calendar . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 16 Downeast District . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 12 Explorer/Learning for Life . . . . . . . . . . . . . 14 Finance . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 6 Health & Safety Corner . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8 K-Valley District . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 13 Membership . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 15 Scout Shop . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 6 Training at a Glance . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8 Turtle Speaks . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 9 Venturing . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 7 Wood Badge . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8 York District . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 13
Exploring/LFL

District News

Learning for Life Auction

On Thursday, May 12, 2005 Learning for Life will be conducting the 4th Annual Learning for Life Auction at the Pavilion in Portland, Maine. This event is the key fundraising event for Learning for Life and proceeds from this fundraising effort directly supports school-based character and career education programs throughout the Pine Tree Council. Learning for Life, through its school and work-based programs serve and support over 8,900 youth. If you or your company would be interested in donating to this auction, please contact Michael Dyer at 797-5770 or through e-mail at midyer@lflmail.org.

Explorer Law Enforcement Academy

During the week of June 20 through June 24, 2005, law enforcement Explorers throughout Maine will be attending the Explorer Law Enforcement Academy that is hosted by the Maine Criminal Justice Academy in Vassalboro. If you are a Boy Scout that is interested in attending this week-long event, please call Michael Dyer at 797-5770. We invite both Explorers and Scouts (interested in pursuing either military or law enforcement careers) to participate in the academic experience. The cost for this weeklong training session is $185.00. This program will be held at about 2:00 p.m. on Friday, June 24th.

Youth Leadership Development Training

Learning for Life is currently working on developing youth leadership development workshops for Explorers and other senior high school youth. This program will be offered in the fall and in the spring. While planning is still in the initial stage, we wanted to let our schools and our posts know about this planning stage. We are looking for Explorers that would like to participate in the planning stages of these events to contact Michael Dyer at 797-5770 or through e-mail at midyer@lflmail.org. We are looking for 3 to 4 youth members (ages 14 to 20) to participate as members of the Youth Leadership Development Training Committee.

Camps for Summer Camps

Financial assistance is available on an individual basis for Scouts who could not attend camp without assistance. Individual campership applications must be submitted and approved by the unit leader and the Pine Tree Council Campership Committee. Applications are available through PTC. Please call 797-5252 and ask for a campership application. The campership application deadline is May 15th, 2005.

Council Camping Award

The Pine Tree Council ~ Council Camping Award was established to promote the use of the camping facilities at the Pine Tree Council Camps and to recognize those units that utilize at least four camps in their yearly program.

To qualify for the Council Camping Award, a unit will need to have utilized 4 out of the 5 Pine Tree Council camps for a unit activity during a consecutive 12-month period. Activities must be for at least 24-hour period, and each activity must be attended by no less than 25% of the registered youth in the unit.

Each unit that qualifies for the award will receive a streamer for their unit flag and a certificate. A special patch is available for members of the qualifying unit if they attended all 4 unit camping activities! The Camping Award application form is available on the web site www.pinetreebsa.org.

New Cub Scout Activity Award

Tiger Cubs, Wolf and Bear Cub Scouts, and Webelos Scouts have the opportunity to earn the Cub Scout Activity Award. Boys may earn the award in each of the program years as long as the requirements are completed each year. The first time the award is earned, the boys receive the pocket flap award, which is to be worn on the right pocket flap of the uniform shirt. Each successive time the award is earned, a wolf track pin may be added to the flap. Leaders are encouraged to build on skills and experiences from previous years when working on the award for a successive year.

The requirements for the award are rank specific and details on the award can be found on www.pinetreebsa.org or by calling your District Executive at Pine Tree Council.

What’s New

Cub Scouts ~ Join us at Summer Camp and become a Knight in Akela’s Kingdom!!!

Join us for a Funpack Weekend, an overnight camping experience for parents to enjoy the outdoors with their Cub!

2005 Funpack Dates

At Camp Hinds:
July 9 & 10
July 16 & 17
July 23 & 24
July 30 & 31
Aug 6 & 7
Aug 13 & 14

Webelos Resident Camp will be offered at Camp Hinds in Raymond!

2005 Webelos Schedule

4 Day Resident Camp
Session 1 Aug. 14 - 17
Session 2 Aug. 17 - 20

Webelos Crossing to Boy Scouting

How to go to Summer Camp

2nd year Webelos customarily cross over to a Boy Scout Troop in the spring and often wonder how to go to summer camp. A troop traditionally chooses a week to attend summer camp together as a troop with the Scoutmaster and other leaders or parents going along to provide leadership. Sometimes a troop can’t attend together and Scouts can go as a provisional camper to any week of camp where the camp provides a provisional Scoutmaster with assistants to provide camp leadership!

As a new Boy Scout, check with your Scoutmaster to see what plans the troop has made to attend summer camp so that you can be part of the fun!

Trailblazer Day coming again in October

Cub Scouts and families, mark your calendar for October 1st for Pine Tree Council’s next Trailblazer Day! The Trailblazer Day will be held at Camp Hinds in Raymond, in conjunction with the Sportsman Alliance Association, and will be a fun filled day filled with activities like BB and archery, fishing, wildlife groups and more! More information on the Trailblazer event will be out in June!
The Boy Scouts of America is pleased to announce the new Youth Leadership Training (YLT) can be done in a one-week course or in two weekends. The course features more hands-on training for our youth leaders with an emphasis on team building, leadership skills, confidence building and much more. Dave Sinclair, Tr. 356 Scoutmaster, and David Collins, Tr. 83 Scoutmaster, attended the 2-day training course last fall at camp Alpine and are anxious to present the new course in Pine Tree Council. Watch for more information on the new “YLT” coming out soon!

Science (formerly Atomic Energy), Plumbing, Scholarship, Small Boat Sailing, Space Exploration and Surveying. These new requirements are now in effect!

Activities to include:
- Sailing a Tall Ship over 70 foot long
- Learning onboard navigation
- Snorkeling & exploring the Florida Keys’ reefs
- Salt-water Fishing
- Sailing with dolphins and sharks
- Day visit to Key West
- Escaping a week of winter in Maine!

During the weeklong odyssey, you will snorkel several reefs as you sail the Florida Keys, while along the way enjoying salt-water fishing for barracudas and mahi-mahi, learning on board navigation, studying the shores, and enjoying the warmth of the Keys! Join us for this once in a lifetime experience!

Do you want to be part of this rugged voyage on a large vessel? Call Cathy Gosselin at Pine Tree Council 797-5252 x 14 to reserve your spot!

York District News

District Commissioner
Matthew Randall
446 -3113
mamalyon@gmail.com

Pine Tree Council Philmont Trek 2006

As in 2004, the Pine Tree Council will be sending a contingent of scouts and scouter s to the Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, NM in 2006. We will be sending 24 participants, including leaders, on the trek from July 15-27, 2006. Participants must be in good physical shape and be at least 14 years of age by January 1, 2006.

Our trek will be a backpacking expedition for 12 days and nights through the Sangre de Cristo Mountains of Philmont Scout Ranch ranging in elevation up to 12,441 feet. Discover the wonder of this scouting paradise by

Advancement

Merit Badge Updates for 2005

The BSA has announced some changes and revisions in the following merit badges:

K-Valley District News

District Chairman
Charles Matthews
453-6944
candr@midmaine.com

District Executive
Matthew Randall
797-5252 ext. 27
home: 725-9760
mrandall@bsamail.org

York District Web Address: www.yorkdistrictptc.org

Folks, get your new leaders to training! It is the most important factor in creating successful units and happy youth. The K-Valley District is pleased to announce that Earl Stevens, from Pack 600, will be assuming the role of Cub Scout Leader Chair this winter! Please refer to the district website for further details on the location and dates for our training events.

Unit Recruitment

Spring time is a good time to recruit new youth into our programs! Campung, unit activities, etc., all help to lock-in interested youth into the values-driven program of the Boy Scouts of America. You will be receiving e-mails, letters, and reminders at Round Tables about considering and preparing for a spring recruiting drive. The District Committee and the District Executive are available to help you in these endeavors.

Pine Tree Council has confirmed a date for our 1st PTC Contingent Crew Set to Sail at the Florida Sea Base

Activities to include:

- Sailing a Tall Ship over 70 foot long
- Learning onboard navigation
- Snorkeling & exploring the Florida Keys’ reefs
- Salt-water Fishing
- Sailing with dolphins and sharks
- Day visit to Key West
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Do you want to be part of this rugged voyage on a large vessel? Call Cathy Gosselin at Pine Tree Council 797-5252 x 14 to reserve your spot!

Training

For more information on how to volunteer at day camp and get a reduced rate for your Cub Scout, please contact our Day Camp Director Dhana Vermette at 724-2582 or 4vermette@mtn.com, or Frank Gilcreast at 797-5252 ext. 24 or fgilcreast@bsamail.org.

York District Spring Camporee Time is fast approaching for the York District Spring Camporee. The camporee is going to be located at Spring Hill in South Berwick and is being sponsored by Troops 338 and 340. Mark May 22-2005 as the dates for this spring time ritual. As our camporee is the same weekend as “Armed Forces Day”, we will be preparing “Care Packages” to send to our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. More information will be coming out over the next couple of months at the roundtable meetings, on the York District website or call Jeffrey Koch at 439-8513 or Jassen King at 384-5069.

York District Pal & Me Cub Scout Family Campout Mark June 10-12, 2005 as the time for the York District Pal & Me Campout at the Acton, ME Fairgrounds. Last year we had great weather and participation from our York District Cub Scout Families. This year should be better than last year with new activities for the scouts and families to do and a wild campfire for Saturday night. More information will be available at the April and May Roundtables and on the district website. We are currently looking for a pack or two to help run the program. Please contact Ed Guptill at 696-3162 if you would like to help out with this event.

Unit Inventory

Crew, Pack and Troop Leaders please mark Wednesday, May 11, 2005 as the time for the York District Unit Inventory night. Each unit will be contacted to verify the youth that are in your program. This is vital to make sure each youth is accounted for in York District. For more information, please contact our District Commissioner, Ernie Wiswell at 439-2668.
Casco Bay District News continued

Downeast District News

Downeast District Spring Camporee

Troop 8214 Thomaston will be hosting the Spring Camporee at Casco State Park from May 20-22, 2005. Please note that this is a change from the date in the council program calendar. The troop has organized a full slate of activities and promises an action-packed, fun-filled weekend. Scouts will build Catapults, participate in Quaint Jousting and Tag of Wars, as well as test their skills during the much-anticipated Highland Games.

The troop is coordinating a Live Steel Demonstration as well as planning on a Haggis Presentation to be given by the St. Andrew's Society. Registration, campsite and scheduling information will be available at Roundtable.

Downeast District Pinewood Derby

The Pinewood Derby season is upon us and most packs have had their races to determine who will make it to the district. This year the district will be hosting the derby on April 2, 2005 at the Wiscasset High School on Route 27. Each pack can send the top 4 finishing Tigers Scouts and top 4 finishing Cub Scouts to the race. Packs are also allowed to send a "Best of Show" for Tigers and Cubs. The Downeast District has a separate race and "Best of Show" judging for the Tigers. Please have two standby racers ready in case one of the top finishers cannot make it on the day of the big race. There is a $5.00 fee for all racers and "Best of Show" participants. Registration forms have been sent to all Cubmasters. Completed forms will be due at the Pine Tree Council Service Center. Registration will begin at 8:00am, with races beginning at 9:00am sharp. There will be a contact person available throughout the day with proceeds benefiting the Downeast District Family Friends of Scouting Campaign.

Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills Training Course

Continuing with the success of the fall course, we will be hosting another Intro to Outdoor Leader Skills weekend. This past fall proved to be very beneficial for about a dozen or so Scouters and Assistant Scoutmasters. It will be held on April 9 & 10, 2005 in Nobleboro at Camp Kieve. The fee for the course will be $150.00, which includes meals. Registration forms will be available at Roundtable or by calling the Pine Tree Council. This course is designed to sharpen your outdoor teaching skills, including knots, orienteering, woods tools, fire building and outdoor cooking. The staff that we have put together possesses an extensive knowledge in all these areas and is willing and excited to share this with you.

All Scoutmasters and their assistants that have not been through this course are strongly encouraged to attend. Without this course, you will not be fully trained! The course is designed to help SM, ASM and SMs, but anyone is welcome to attend. For further information, contact Jeremy Lucas at 797-5252 or jlucas@bsamail.org.

District Annual Recognition Dinner

Join us for a fun-filled, action packed evening of socializing and recognition. Do you know someone who deserves the prestigious District Award of Merit, maybe the Distinguished Scouter Award? Nominations are needed for recipients of these two great honors. The Planning Organization has gone out of their way to support your pack or troop, are they deserving of the Chartered Partner of the Year Award? We encourage you to come to this dinner to show that we can all work together to show our appreciation for what they do. The Annual Recognition Dinner will be held April 23, 2005 at the West Bath Volunteer Fire Department. The cost for the evening is $5.00 per person and a "potluck" dinner will be served. Get out the casserole dishes, dust off the Dutch ovens and bring your most famous dish for all to enjoy. As always there will be a secret guest speaker to lighten up the evening. A flyer with registration information will be available at Roundtable or by contacting Jeremy Lucas at 797-5252 or jlucas@bsamail.org. Hope to see all of you there!

Calling all Knights, Kings and Dragon’s

If you have not registered for the Provisional Week at Summer Camp, now is the time to do it. Once again, we will be hosting two weeks of Provisional Week at Summer Camp. Day camp is Monday through Friday and the cost is $90.00 with an early bird discount of $10.00, if registration fees are paid in full by June 1, 2005. All Cub Scouts will have the option of attending either of the locations. Camp in Union will be July 11-15 and will be held at the Union Fairgrounds. Downeast offers the same exciting programs as the Southern half of the district as well as Trail To Eagle Week. Topsham Day Camp will be during the week of July 18-22 at the Topsham Fairgrounds. Saddle up and get ready to enjoy a fun filled week of sports, nature, archery and BB shooting. The boys will earn different Activity Pins and Belt Loops throughout the week. Information about all of the Pine Tree Council’s Cub Camping Programs has been mailed to all registered house-holds. If you did not receive your copy, call today to get yours.

Merit Badges included in Trail to Eagle week include Citizenship in the World, Community and Nation, Communications, Personal Management, Personal Fitness, Swimming, Lifesaving, First Aid, Environmental Science and Emergency Preparedness. Scouts who attend Trail to Eagle can stay with their own troop if they attend Week 1 or can come as a provisional scout where they will be assigned to a troop. Trail to Eagle Provisional Troop TTE Provisional Scout applications are available online at www.pinetteatrebsa.org or on the PTC Camp CD sent out to all Scoutmasters!

TRAIL TO EAGLE ADVANCEMENT WEEK

Camp Hinds will again offer it’s popular Trail to Eagle week during Week 1 this summer, which runs July 3rd - 7th. This camp is open to all Boy Scouts 13 + year old, and who are a minimum of 1st Class Rank. Trail to Eagle Scouts will select from Eagle required merit badges in this intensive program that will include training for Badges of Distinction by giving a service hour to camp in order to put their lessons to practical use.

The Pine Tree Council Website Update

The Pine Tree Council Website, www.pinetteatrebsa.org, has recently gone through some structural and organizational changes. The result? Some resources may not be in the same place they were last time you visited the site! Please take some time to review the new site and see where everything is now. Some of the enhancements include an expanded forms section (now under the Resources link) as well as streamlined menus. Highlighted programs and initiatives are on each page, such as the Eagle Scout Search initiative- and yes, the Boy Scout and Cub Scout summer camping forms are on the site.

As always, if you find errors, typos, or missing information, or would like to suggest additional content for the site, please send a note to webmaster@pinetteatrebsa.org.

Camping continued

In 2005 the BSA will be holding your National Jamboree!

Most Scouts have the opportunity to attend only one National Jamboree in their life and the 2005 Jamboree is your chance to go! A few openings for Scouts from the Casco and Downeast Districts exist. Please have your written approval of your Chartering Organization if you have had all your Scoutings days put together. At the Jamboree you will meet Scouts from all over the world and from every state in the USA, share campfires and fun with them, and see incredible souvenirs!!

Provisional Week at Summer Camp!

Boy Scouts ~ are you not able to attend summer camp this year your troop is attending? Do you need merit badges? Would you like to attend camp for a second week? Or go with a friend from another troop? Every week of summer camp is open for provisional Scouts to attend camp. All Scouts attending camp without their own troop leadership will be in the provisional troop with the camp Scoutmaster!

This is a great way for Scouts to attend summer camp, earn merit badges, make new friends and enjoy the summer! Provisional Scout reservation forms are available on our web site at www.pinetteatrebsa.org.

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Matching Gift Programs

Can Help Double Your Support to Scouting

It is that time of year when Friends of Scouting presentations are taking place within your district. As volunteer presenters travel around and make these important presentations, we hope that you will show your support. Please remember that in some cases you may be able to double your support of the Scouting program. The following is a list of some companies that have matching gift programs in place within your district. This is not a complete list, and if you have any companies to add to the list, please call 797-5252 ext. 21.

Matching Gift Companies

Agilent Technologies
Albertsons (Shawn’s Market)
Albaste Insurance Company
Allstate Group, Inc.
American Express
Analog Devices
Automatic Data Processing (ADP)
BankAmerica Corp.
Chase Manhattan Corp.
Citicbank Citicorp, N.A.
Coca Cola Company
Embassy Suites
EQUATE Financial Co.
Fairchild Semiconductor
Gap Stores
General Dynamics
Genetech
Georgia Pacific
Hartford Company
Home Depot
J.C. Penny
Johnsson Controls, Inc.
K-Mart Corp.
Kemper Group
Key Bank
Mass Mutual
MBNA
McDonald’s Corp.
McKesson Corp.
Mead Westvaco
Merrill Lynch & Co.
Minnesota Mining & Minerals(3M)
National Semiconductor
PepCo, Inc.
Pitney Bowes, Inc.
Price Waterhouse
Ryder
Sappi
Sherwin Williams
Simplex Grinnell
State Farm
Tandy/Radio Shack
Unum Provident
United Parcel Service(UPS)
United Technologies(Pratt Whitney)
Verizon
Walmart
Waste Management

Matching Gift Programs

Abnaki District News

Quality Performance

I want to thank all of the unit leaders and district volunteers who helped us achieve the Quality District Award for 2004. Because of your efforts, we were able to have growth in membership in all programs, provide excellent district program planning and make our financial goals. Great work everyone!

Spring Camporee

We will be having our Spring Camporee at Camp Gustin in Sabattus from Friday, May 13th to Sunday, May 15th. Registration is $6 per Scout and Leader. The theme will be Scouting through the Ages.

Friends of Scouting Family Presentations

You can still sign up for a Friends of Scouting presentation at your next Blue and Gold Dinner, Court of Honor or any other unit function. Our presentations are brief and give parents and leaders a great opportunity to invest in the Scouting program.

Funpack Weekend

Abnaki District is looking for adults and Boy Scouts (13 or older) to come help out during our weekend to host Fun Pack Weekend at Camp Hinds on Saturday, July 16th and Sunday, July 17th. If you are interested, please contact our district’s coordinator Mary Jane Vachon at 375-6614.

Program Launch and Kickoff

We will only be having one Program Launch this year and it will be in August. Look for information to come out before summer. Also, we will not be doing a Safe Swim Defense/Safety Aidclass. If you or your leaders need it, let Matt know and we’ll help arrange for you to get it.

Casco Bay District News

Spring Camporee

The Casco Bay District Spring Camporee will be held May 20-22 at the Cumberland Fairgrounds. This year’s theme is “Medieval Times” and Troop 41 of Portland will host the event. The district activities committee, along with Troop 41, has been busy putting together a medieval themed program that is sure to excite and enthrall all those who attend. Don’t miss this opportunity to participate in what will undoubtedly prove to be an unforgettable camporee. Register early so that you don’t miss out on the fun and excitement. Any questions should be directed to Sherry Berry at 642-2991 or Jonathan Widmark at 797-5252 ext. 23.

Day Camp Volunteers Needed

Casco Bay District will be hosting two weeks of Cub Scout Day Camp this year. The first week will be at Ingallsides Recreational Area in Scarborough from July 18th through July 22nd. The second week will be at Camp Hinds in Raymond from July 25th through July 29th.

This year’s theme is Medieval and there is no question that the kids are going to have the time of their lives. As always, the district needs volunteers to come and lend a hand at camp for the week and help run our programs. Anyone who is willing to volunteer for the week at camp may register his or her son for the bargain price of $10. Don’t miss out on the experience of being a knight in Akela’s kingdom this summer! Any questions should be directed to the following:

Camp Ingallsides (Scarborough)-Missy Bell 839-8421
Camp Hinds (Raymond-Jonathan Widmark)-797-5252 ext. 23

Scout Shop Feedback Needed

Now that we’re moving into the new Alton E. “Chuck” Cianchette Service Center, we will be able to better serve our loyal customers with an expanded Scout Shop. In order to provide the best possible service, we are asking for your feedback. Please fill out the following form, clip out, and mail back to the Pine Tree Council at 125 Auburn Street, Portland ME 04103.

Please circle one: PACK TROOP CREW POST

Name __________________________ Address ____________________
City ______________________________________________________
State_ ZIP Phone ____________________
E-Mail ______________________________________________________

Please provide suggestions of items/merchandise you would like to see offered in the new Scout Shop:

Scout Shop Clerk Wanted

The Pine Tree Council is looking to hire a full-time Scout Shop Clerk. Scouting and retail background are a plus, but not necessary. For more information about this opening, please contact Jason Agren at 797-5252 ext.21.

District Chairman
Michael Celeste
524-1131
mceleste@bathsavings.com

District Commissioner
Jonathan Widmark
797-5252 ext. 23
jwhelme@maine.rr.com

District Executive
Matt Mower
797-5252 ext. 33
mmower@bsamail.org

Casco Bay District News

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District Commissioner: Jonathan Widmark 797-5252 ext. 23 jwhelme@maine.rr.com
District Executive: Matt Mower 797-5252 ext. 33 mmower@bsamail.org

Abnaki Web Address: www.abnakidistrict.org

ABNAKI CASCO BAY

2005 www.pinetreesba.org

Matched Gift Programs

Pine Spills

SCOUT SHOP NEWS

6 www.pinetreesba.org

Pine Spills

Spring 2005 www.pinetreesba.org

11
COUNCIL NEWS

Funtown/Splashtown USA

Attention All Scouts & Scouting Families!

Once again, the Pine Tree Council will be offering discounted Funtown/Splashtown tickets so that Scouts and their families can enjoy a fun day together! Come join the fun and live stage shows. The prices for the 2005 season are as follows:

- Splashtown Pass..........$13.50
- Funtown Pass..........$16.50

The tickets will be available for sale at the Pine Tree Council Service Center May 15 through August 15, 2005. As with last year’s ticket sales, these tickets can be used anytime during the 2005 Funtown/Splashtown USA season.

Tickets are available on a first come first served basis. Please do not wait for the last day to purchase your tickets as they sell out quickly. If you have any questions, please call Jo at 797-5252.

Pine Tree Council Shoulder Strap for reaching the rank of Eagle Scout. This shoulder strip will also be available to purchase for past Eagle Scouts.

Don’t miss the opportunity to recognize the achievements of our youth and adult volunteers as we celebrate the accomplishments of these leaders.

2005 Council Recognition Banquet Registration

Name: ____________________________

__(Please check if ‘04 Eagle Scout or ‘04 Silver Beaver Recipient)

(Class of ’04 Eagle Scouts and ‘04 Silver Beaver Recipients attend at no charge)

Number of guests (not including ‘04 Eagle Scout or ‘04 Silver Beaver) __________

_X $16 per person __________

Make check payable to: Pine Tree Council

Mail registration form and payment to: 125 Auburn Street

Portland, ME 04103

What’s New

Venturers and Sea Scouts now eligible for VFW Scout of the Year Scholarship

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States rewards excellence with recognition and scholarships.

For more information or to submit an entry, please visit www.vfw.org. Click on the program icon, then youth development, then Scouting program, then the Scout of the year award icon on the right side of the screen.

The winner of the National competition receives a $5,000 scholarship and a trip to the VFW’s National Convention, which is held annually at a select host city. Second- and third-place winners are awarded $3,000 and $1,000 respectively.

Changes for Venturer Scouts working on Boy Scout Advancement

There have been some minor updates to the Boy Scout advancement ranks regarding Venturer Scouts working on Star and Eagle ranks.

Advancement

The following positions are now approved positions of leadership that can be used for the positions of responsibility for completing the Star and Eagle ranks: president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, boatswain, boatswain’s mate, yeoman, purser, or storekeeper.

Camping

High Adventure Treks at Hinds ~ 2005

Basic Information for Patrols & Crews

Do you have what it takes to Trek!!!!

Camp William Hinds has been serving Scouts with outstanding resident camp programs for over 78 years! Now in 2005– The High Adventure programs will move to Camp Hinds so that we may continue to serve Scouts the best way possible! A High Adventure program for Venture & Boy Scouts 14 years and older to challenge them! Programs designed around Maine’s great lakes, rivers, coastline and mountains!

The P.T.C. High Adventure Base will operate out of the Training Center and run simultaneously with mutual support of the Camp Hinds resident camp so that troops can bring their Scouts and have a progressive program for all!

The high adventure patrols will check in on Sunday and meet their trek leaders! After med & swim checks, it’s off to prepare for your trek! Treks will leave out of the Training Center on Monday and return on Friday afternoon in time for the Camp Hinds closing campfire with their parents!

2005 Hinds High Adventure

DATES & PROGRAMS:

7/10 - 7/15 ..........WEEK 2

7/17 - 7/22 ..........WEEK 3

7/24 - 7/29 ..........WEEK 4

7/31 - 8/5 ..........WEEK 5

8/7 - 8/12 ..........WEEK 6

PROGRAMS AVAILABLE:

- Survivor Island

- 50 Miler Wilderness Canoe Trek

- Sea Kayaking Trek

- Maine Rafting Trek

OTHER TREK OPTIONS:

"Design your own Trek" Groups do have the option of designing their own trek with their adult leaders and High Adventure Guide. Take one of the featured treks and add elements to it to fit your group’s personality and needs! Options include a day of rock climbing, whitewater rafting, and backpacking!

TREK registration forms are online at www.pinetreesba.org.

www.pinetreesba.org

www.pinetreebsa.org

Spring 2005
April
1-3 York Scouting Rendezvous at Camp Nutter
2 Downeast New Leader Essentials with Cub & Boy Scout Leader Specifics
15-17 PTC Introduction to Outdoor Leader Training at Camp Hills

May
7 York BALOO & WLOT
21 Casco Bay WLOT - Webelos Leader Outdoor Training/BALOO

April is Youth Protection Month!

The Boy Scouts of America believe that all adults and youth members should be informed on how to keep the youth of America safe! Join us in recognizing April as the National Youth Protection Month! The B. S. A. has many publications, videos and trainings to assist both its youth and adult members in youth protection. Here are some of the trainings and resources available to leaders and parents at Pine Tree Council. The videos can be checked out at PTC:

- "It Happened to Me" video for children ages 6-11 deals with sexual abuse.
- "A Time to Tell" video for boys ages 11-17.
- "Be Safe on the Internet" Power Pals coloring books for ages 6 - 10 are available to units at PTC! Supply is limited and distributed on a first come, first serve basis.

Help do your part in keeping our youth safe! These great resources are available free to you! Call Cathy Goosselin at Pine Tree Council at 797-5252 ext. 14 with any questions!

Wood Badge NE-1-237

Pine Tree Council is pleased to announce that the Boy Scouts of America's premier training program called Woodbadge, open to all registered scout leaders (Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Venture, Varsity) is being offered this weekend of fellowship. The clock is ticking and there are only 48 openings on Friday, Saturday and Sunday on September 16, 17, 18 and October 14, 15, 16, 2005.

It is a definite commitment on your part to attend all six days and also meet the registration fee of $200.00; however, this is the one training that you will never forget. The skills learned in this National BSA training program are skills that you will use not only in your scouting position, but also in your home, job, and any other group to which you may belong. You must be a registered scout leader, have completed the Basic Leader Training for your scouting position, and receive an invitation to attend the training. There are no tenure or time requirements. The uniform for the course will be the standard full field uniform for your registered scouting position.

If you wish to receive an invitation or would like an invitation extended to someone in your unit, please send your request including name, address, telephone number, scouting position, and scout unit by mail or e-mail to Woodbadge Scoutmaster Dick Morris, 698 Bath Road, Wiscasset, Maine 04578 or survival@gwi.net.

The workshop is 48 openings on the Wood Badge Course so please do not be left out. Help do your part in keeping our youth safe! These great resources are available free to you! Call Cathy Goosselin at Pine Tree Council at 797-5252 ext. 14 with any questions!

Spring 2005 www.pinetreebsa.org 8

Health & Safety Corner

Fire Safety

As we enter the summer camping season, here are some helpful reminders regarding fire safety. All scouts need to practice and take precautions to ensure everyone is safe around fires.

- When camping, make sure you follow the following tips:
  - Build ground fires only in established fire rings.
  - Use fire barrels to keep fires off the ground where ground fires are not allowed.
  - Do not cut live trees for firewood.
  - Make sure all fires are completely out and cold to the touch before leaving.
  - Do not leave any fire unattended.
  - Keep fires small and controllable.
  - Follow all local laws - fire permits are not needed for cooking fires or small warming fires. All other fires need a fire permit from the local fire department.

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To commemorate the 90th Anniversary of the Order, approximately 12 lodge members will travel to Philadelphia during July 14-18th to join Unami Lodge in celebration of this event. Planned through the direction of York Chapter Chief Noah Lemire, and with the direction of York Chapter Adviser Phil Taschereau, the troop will fly from Manchester, NH to Philadelphia for this three day weekend of fellowship. Watch for news of this trip in upcoming issues of the Lodge newsletter, Turtle Soup!

Scoutmasters and lodge members should review their Troop's unit election results and make sure that elected candidates pre-register for one of the three Ordeal Weekends scheduled at Camp Hinds this year. Two weekends are scheduled during June, and a final fall Ordeal weekend during September. Registrations and invitations to these Ordeal weekends are mailed to all elected candidates during May, so don't delay!

Thanks to York Chapter and the Lodge for a very successful 2004 Annual Banquet! Our guest Speaker, former Unami Lodge 1 Chief Mark Chiluti provided a poignant story of leadership and service despite significant odds! Congratulations go out to Mike Price of Casco Bay Chapter and Phil Taschereau of York Chapter as the 2004 Founders’ Award recipients, and to Casco Bay chapter for the Ione Honor Chapter award last year!

Also, if you have been an Ordeal member for at least 10 months, please remember that you are also invited to register for Brotherhood Conversion, both at the Spring Ordeal weekends, and during summer camp. Watch for your registration material in April!

Explorers Attend Inauguration

Learning for Life would like to thank the Eliot Police Explorers (Post 903) and the Scarborough Police Explorers (Post 883) for representing the State of Maine at the Presidential Inauguration in Washington D.C.

A contingent of 19 youth from these two youth programs marched in the inaugural parade. Joe Burns of the Scarborough Police Explorers carried the American Flag. Participation in an event like this requires lots of preparation and Dawn Tripp, Eliot Explorer Post Advisor, as well as Joe Giacomantonio, Post Advisor for the Scarborough Police Explorer Post, ensured that these kids were prepared to represent the State of Maine, their respective police departments, and the Learning for Life and Exploring program. Very special thanks, as well, to Sergeant John O’Malley of the Scarborough Police Department for providing detailed marching instructions and assistance with providing directions to the event. We thank you for your time, your mentoring, and your commitment.
Training at a Glance - Upcoming Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>April</th>
<th>May</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-3 York</td>
<td>7 York</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Downeast</td>
<td>Casco Bay</td>
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<tr>
<td>15-17 PTC</td>
<td>WLOT BALOO</td>
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</table>

For more information on training, contact your District Executive at 797-5252 and use the extensions listed below:

Abnaki Ext. 33 Casco Bay Ext. 23 Downeast Ext. 28

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Here are some of the trainings and resources available to leaders and parents at Pine Tree Council. The videos can be checked out at PTC.

- “It Happened to Me” video for children ages 6-11 deals with sexual abuse.
- “A Time to Tell” video for males and females ages 14 - 20 delivers important messages on protection including date rape, vehicle safety and much more.
- Youth Protection Online training for all adults to help them recognize child abuse. Go to www.pinetreebsa.org and click on the training icon.
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- "The Turtle Speaks" News from Madockawanda Lodge 271

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Council Annual Dinner

The Pine Tree Council is proud to announce the 2005 Council Annual Dinner to be held on April 29, 2005, 6:30 PM at the Portland Elks Lodge located on outer Congress St., across from the Portland Jetport's main entrance.

This will mark the first year that the Silver Beaver Award, which is the highest honor given to a council volunteer, will be presented at this event, along with recognition of the 2004 Class of Eagle Scouts.

At this event, we will recognize over 130 youth that received the rank of Eagle Scout in 2004. Thousands of hours of volunteer service have been completed under the direction of these scouts and this recognition is very much deserved.

Registration is from 5:30-6:30 PM. The dinner starts at 6:30. Cost of this year's dinner will be $16. There will be no cost for the 2004 Class of Eagle Scouts' meals, thanks again to the Portland Elks Lodge, and also no cost for the 2004 Silver Beaver recipients. The District Advancement teams will be contacting the 2004 Class of Eagle Scouts to remind them of the upcoming event.

Once again, all 2004 Eagle Scouts will receive a limited edition Pine Tree Council Shoulder Strip for reaching the rank of Eagle Scout. This shoulder strip will also be available to purchase for past Eagle Scouts.

Don't miss the opportunity to recognize the achievements of our youth and adult volunteers as we celebrate the accomplishments of these leaders.

2005 Council Recognition Banquet Registration

Name: ____________________________________________

(Attn: all 2004 Eagle Scout or '04 Silver Beaver Recipient) (Class of '04 Eagle Scouts and '04 Silver Beaver Recipients attend at no charge)

Number of guests

Make check payable to: Pine Tree Council

Mail registration form and payment to: 125 Auburn Street Portland, ME 04103

Attention All Scouts & Scouting Families!

Attention All Scouts & Scouting Families!

Funtown/Splashtown USA

The Pine Tree Council has teamed up with Funtown/Splashtown to offer an exciting overnight opportunity to Scouts and their families at Hadlock Stadium in Portland.

The cost of the event is TBD, but admission will include a general admission to the 6:00PM Sea Dogs game, overnight stay on the outfield of Hadlock Stadium, a movie shown on the jumbo screen that night, and breakfast on Sunday morning. This event will be on a first come-first served basis, and is open to all family members. Please see the lookouts for informational and registration flyers that will be mailed to all registered Scouts, available at Roundtables, and at the Scout Shop.

Funtown Pass—$16.50
Splashtown Pass—$13.50
Combination ticket—$21.50

The tickets will be available for sale at the Pine Tree Council Service Center May 15 through August 15, 2005. As with last year’s ticket sales, these tickets can be used anytime during the 2005 Funtown/Splashtown U.S.A. season.

Tickets are available on a first come-first served basis. Please do not wait for the last day to purchase your tickets as they sell out quickly. If you have any questions, please call Jo at 797-5252.

What’s New

Venturers and Sea Scouts now eligible for VFW Scout of the Year Scholarship

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Camping

High Adventure Treks at Hinds - 2005

Basic Information for Patrols & Crews

Do you have what it takes to Trek?!?

Camp William Hinds has been serving Scouts with outstanding resident camp programs for over 78 years! Now in 2005 - The High Adventure programs will move to Camp Hinds so that we may continue to serve Scouts the best way possible! A High Adventure program for Venture & Boy Scouts 14 years and older to challenge them! Programs designed around Maine’s great lakes, rivers, coastline and mountains!

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50 Miler Wilderness Canoe Trek
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TREK registration forms are online at www.pinetreebsa.org.

*VFW's National Convention, which is held annually at a select host city. Second- and third-place winners are awarded $3,000 and $1,000 respectively.*
Matching Gift Programs

Can Help Double Your Support to Scouting

It is that time of year when Friends of Scouting presentations are taking place within your district. As volunteer presenters travel around and make these important presentations, we hope that you will show your support. Please remember that in some cases you may be able to double or triple your support of the Scouting program. The following is a list of some companies that have matching gift programs in place on Tree Council. This is not a complete list, and if you have any companies to add to the list, please call 797-5252 ext.21.

Matching Gift Companies
Aigleion Technologies
Albertsons (Shawn's Market)

Alate Insurance Company
Altria Group, Inc.
American Express
Analog Devices
Automatic Data Processing (ADP)
BankAmerica Corp.
Chase Manhattan Corp.
Citibank
Citicorp, N.A.
Coca Cola Company
Embarq Services
Equitable Financial Co.
Fairchild Semiconductor
Gap Stores
General Dynamics
Genetech
Georgia Pacific
Hartford Company
Home Depot
J.C. Penny
Johnson Controls, Inc.
K-Mart Corp.
Kemper Group
Key Bank
Mass Mutual
MBNA
McDonald's Corp.
McKesson Corp.
Mead Westvaco
Merrill Lynch & Co.
Minnesota Mining & Minerals(3M)
National Semiconductor
PepsiCo. Inc.
Pitney Bowes, Inc.
Pricewaterhouse
Ryder
Sappi
Sherwin Williams
Simplex Griinnell
State Farm
Tandy/Radio Shack
Unum Provident
United Parcel Service(UPS)
United Technologies(Pratt Whitney)
Verizon
Wal-Mart
Waste Management

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Coca Cola Company
Embarq Services
Equitable Financial Co.
Fairchild Semiconductor
Gap Stores
General Dynamics
Genetech
Georgia Pacific
Hartford Company
Home Depot
J.C. Penny
Johnson Controls, Inc.
K-Mart Corp.
Kemper Group
Key Bank
Mass Mutual
MBNA
McDonald's Corp.
McKesson Corp.
Mead Westvaco
Merrill Lynch & Co.
Minnesota Mining & Minerals(3M)
National Semiconductor
PepsiCo. Inc.
Pitney Bowes, Inc.
Pricewaterhouse
Ryder
Sappi
Sherwin Williams
Simplex Griinnell
State Farm
Tandy/Radio Shack
Unum Provident
United Parcel Service(UPS)
United Technologies(Pratt Whitney)
Verizon
Wal-Mart
Waste Management

Scout Shop Feedback Needed

Now that we’re moving into the new Alton E. “Chuck” Cianchette Service Center, we will be able to better serve our loyal customers with an expanded Scout Shop. In order to provide the best possible service, we are asking for your feedback. Please fill out the following form, clip out, and mail back to the Pine Tree Council at 125 Auburn Street, Portland ME 04103.

Please circle one:

Pack Troop Crew Post #________

Name __________________________ Address ____________________

City __________________________ State________ ZIP Phone ____________

EMail ______________________________________________________

Please provide suggestions of items/merchandise you would like to see offered in the new Scout Shop:

Scout Shop Clerk Wanted

The Pine Tree Council is looking to hire a full-time Scout Shop Clerk. Scouting and retail background are a plus, but not necessary. For more information about this opening, please contact Jason Agren at 797-5252 ext.21.

Abnaki District News

Quality Performance

I want to thank all of the unit leaders and district volunteers who helped us achieve the Quality District Award for 2004. Because of your efforts, we were able to have growth in membership in all programs, provide excellent district programming and make our financial goals. Great work every- one!

Spring Camporee

We will be having our Spring Camporee at Camp Gust in Sabattus from Friday, May 13th to Sunday, May 15th. Registration is $6 per Scout and Leader. The theme will be Scouting through the Ages.

Friends of Scouting Family Presentations

You can still sign up for a Friends of Scouting presentation at your next Blue and Gold Dinner. Contact your District Commissioner to sign up.

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Casco Bay District News continued

Downeast District News

Casco Bay District Commissioner Staff Welcomes New Members

The Casco Bay District would like to extend a warm welcome to several new members of our District Commissioner Staff. John Fallan, Bob Butt, Jason Beever, Allan Crabtree, Dean Zeigler and John Schottling have joined the commissioner ranks as Unit Commissioners. In addition, Tim Lambke has been promoted to unit staff and is now our new Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioner. Please join us in extending a warm welcome to these dedicated Scouters.

Sea Scouting is a co-ed program for youth ages 14 to their 21st birthday. Founded in 1912, Sea Scouting offers participants a traditional advancement program, tempered with the opportunity to learn the traditions of the sea while at the same time developing leadership and seamanship skills. If you have ever wanted to learn how to sail, or how to operate a power boat, if you are interested in developing your leadership skills, or if you are interested in becoming another Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioner please join us in extending a warm welcome to these dedicated Scouters.

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What’s New

Youth Leadership Training

The Boy Scouts of America is pleased to announce the new Youth Leaders Training that will replace the Junior Leader Training. The new course is designed for 12 days and will be held at Piney River Camp in late June.

Science (formerly Atomic Energy), Plumbing, Scholarship, Small Boat Sailing, Space Exploration and Surveying. These new requirements are now in effect!

Advancement

Merit Badge Updates for 2005

The BSA has announced some changes and revisions in the following merit badges:

- Astronomy, Canoeing, Chemistry, Citizenship in the Community and Nation, Electricity, Electronics, Family Life, Fire Safety, Fish and Wildlife Management, Nuclear Science (formerly Atomic Energy), Plumbing, Scholarship, Small Boat Sailing, Space Exploration and Surveying. These new requirements are now in effect!

- Camporee staff will be at least 14 years of age by 9/1/06. Four adult leaders will accompany the crew! All participants must be at least 14 years of age by 9/1/06.

- Openings in this high adventure program are available for all who have not been to Philmont a chance to attend. For more information, please contact our Day Camp Director Diana Vermette at 324-2582 or by email at dvermette@akela.org. Please look for the K-Valley District news for more information.

- Pine Tree Council has confirmed a date for our 1st council contingent to attend the Sea Base for February 2006! Openings are now available for Feb. 18 - 25, 2006 (school vacation week) in the P.T.C. crew for the "Sea Exploring Adventure" on a seventy foot tall ship in the Florida Keys. The crew will learn how to sail and work with the boat's captain on operating their vessel.

- Pine Tree Council Philmont Trek 2006

As in 2004, the Pine Tree Council will be sending a contingent of scouts and their leaders to the Philmont Scout Ranch in Carmar, NM in 2006. We will be sending 24 participants, including leaders, on the trek from July 15-27, 2006. Participants must be in good physical shape and be at least 14 years of age by January 1, 2006.

- Our trek will be a backpacking expedition for 12 days and nights through the Sangre de Cristo Mountains of Philmont Scout Ranch ranging in elevation over one thousand feet. Discover the wonder of this scouting paradise by

- on team building, leadership skills, confidence building and much more. Dave Sinclair, Tr. 356 Scoutmaster, and David Collins, Tr. 83 Scoutmaster, attended the 2 day training course last fall at camp Alpine and are anxious to present the new course in Pine Tree Council. Watch for more information on the new “YLT” coming out soon!

Camping

PTC Contingent Crew Set to Sail at the Florida Sea Base

Pine Tree Council has confirmed a date for our 1st council contingent to attend the Sea Base for February 2006! Openings are now available for Feb. 18 - 25, 2006 (school vacation week) in the P.T.C. crew for the "Sea Exploring Adventure" on a seventy foot tall ship in the Florida Keys. The crew will learn how to sail and work with the boat's captain on operating their vessel.

Activities to include:
- Sailing a Tall Ship up over 70 foot long
- Learning onboard navigation
- Snorkeling & exploring the Florida Keys’ reefs
- Salt-water Fishing
- Sailing with dolphins and sharks
- Day visit to Key West
- Escaping a week of winter in Maine!

During the weeklong odyssey, you will snorkel several reefs as you sail the Florida Keys, while along the way enjoying salt-water fishing for barracudas and mahi-mahi, learning on board navigation, studying the stars, and enjoying the warmth of the Keys! Join us for this once in a lifetime experience!

Do you want to be part of this rugged voyage on a large vessel? Call Cathy Gosselin at Pine Tree Council 797-5252 x 14 to reserve your spot!

K-Valley District News

York District News

York District Cub Scout Day Camp 2005:
Greetings Knights of Akela’s Kingdom!!

Join the Medieval Days of Day Camp fun from July 11-15, July 18-22 and July 25-29, 2005 at Nutter Castle (aka Camp Nutzer) in Acton, MA. Please look for the Cub Scout Camping brochure in your mailbox for information on how to register your son for day camp.

For more information on how to volunteer at day camp and get a reduced rate for your Cub Scout, please contact our Day Camp Director Diana Vermette at 324-2582 or 4vermette@csn.net, or Frank Gilcreast at 797-5252 ext. 24 or fgilcrea@bsamail.org.

York District Spring Camporee

Time is fast approaching for the York District Spring Camporee. The camporee is going to be located at Spring Hill in South Berwick and is being sponsored by Troops 338 and 340. Mark May 20-22, 2005 as the dates for this special spring time ritual. As our camporee is the same weekend as “Armed Forces Day”, we will be preparing “Care Packages” to send to our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. More information will be coming out over the next couple of months at the roundtable meetings, on the yourk district website or call Jeffrey Koch at 439-8513 or Jason King at 384-5869.

York District Pal & Me Cub Scout Family Campout

Mark June 10-12, 2005 as the time for the York District Pal & Me Campout at the Acton, MA Fairgrounds. Last year we had great weather and participation from our York District Cub Scout Families. This year should be better than last year with new activities for the scouts and families to do and a wild campfire for Saturday night. More information will be available at the April and May Roundtables and on the district website. We are currently looking for a pack or two to help run the program. Please contact Ed Guptill at 696-3162 or by email at yog@comcast.net.

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Exploring/LFL District News
On Thursday, May 12, 2005 Learning for Life will be conducting the 4th Annual Learning for Life Auction at the Pavilion in Portland, Maine. This event is the key fundraising event for Learning for Life and proceeds from this fundraising effort directly supports school-based character and career education programs throughout the Pine Tree Council. Learning for Life, through its school and work-based programs serve and support over 8,900 youth. If you or your company would be interested in donating to this auction, please contact Michael Dyer at 797-5770 or through e-mail at: midyer@lflmail.org.

Explorer Law Enforcement Academy
During the week of June 20 through June 24, 2005, law enforcement Explorers throughout Maine will be attending the Explorer Law Enforcement Academy that is hosted by the Maine Criminal Justice Academy in Vassalboro. If you are a Boy Scout that is interested in attending this week-long event, please call Michael Dyer at 797-5770. We invite both Explorers and Scouts (interested in pursuing either military or law enforcement careers) to participate in the academic experience. The cost for this week long training session is $185.00. The program will be held at about 2:00 p.m. on Friday, June 24th.

Youth Leadership Development Training
Learning for Life is currently working on developing youth leadership development workshops for Explorers and other senior high school youth. This program will be offered in the fall and in the spring. While planning is still in the initial stage, we wanted to let our schools and our posts know about this planning stage. We are looking for Explorers that would like to participate in the planning stages of these events to contact Michael Dyer at 797-5770 or through e-mail at midyer@lflmail.org. We are looking for 3 to 4 youth members (ages 14 to 20) to participate as members of the Youth Leadership Development Training Committee.

Camperships for Summer Camp
Financial assistance is available on an individual basis for Scouts who could not attend camp without assistance. Individual campership applications must be submitted and approved by the unit leader and the Pine Tree Council Campership Committee. Applications are available through PTC. Please call 797-5252 and ask for a campership application. The campership application deadline is May 15th, 2005.

Council Camping Award
The Pine Tree Council ~ Council Camping Award was established to promote the use of the camping facilities at the Pine Tree Council Camps and to recognize those units that utilize at least four camps in their yearly program.

To qualify for the Council Camping Award, a unit will need to have utilized 4 out of the 5 Pine Tree Council camps for a unit activity during a consecutive 12-month period. Activities must be for at least a 24-hour period, and each activity must be attended by no less than 25% of the registered youth in the unit.

Each unit that qualifies for the award will receive a streamer for their unit flag and a certificate. A special patch is available for members of the qualifying unit if they attended all 4 unit camping activities! The Camping Award application form is available on the web site www.pinetreebsa.org.

New Cub Scout Activity Award
Tiger Cubs, Wolf and Bear Cub Scouts, and Webelos Scouts have the opportunity to earn the Cub Scout Activity Award. Boys may earn the award in each of the program years as long as the requirements are completed each year. The first time the award is earned, the boys receive the pocket flap award, which is to be worn on the right pocket flap of the uniform shirt. Each successive time the award is earned, a wolf track pin may be added to the flap. Leaders are encouraged to build on skills and experiences from previous years when working on the award for a successive year.

The requirements for the award are rank specific and details on the award can be found on www.pinetrebsa.org or by calling your District Executive at Pine Tree Council.

Camping
Day Camps run 9:00 to 4:30 and give your son a chance to see the Cub Scout program come alive during the summer at many locations throughout the council.

2005 Cub Day Camp Dates:
- Ahnako District: Camp Gustin Aug 1 - 5
- Casco Bay District: Scarborough - July 18 - 22
- Camp Hills - July 25 - 29
- Downeast District: Union Fair - July 11-15
- Topsham Fair - July 18-22
- Kennebec Valley District: Camp KV - Aug 1 - 5

See more Cub Scout camp information with registration forms on our website at www.pinetrebsa.org

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Cub Scouts ~ Join us at Summer Camp and become a Knight in Akela’s Kingdom!!

Join us for a Funpack Weekend, an overnight camping experience for parents to enjoy the outdoors with their Cub!

2005 Funpack Dates
- At Camp Hinds: July 9 & 10
- July 16 & 17
- July 23 & 24
- July 30 & 31
- Aug 6 & 7
- Aug 13 & 14

2005 Webelos Schedule
4 Day Resident Camp
- Session 1: Aug 14 - 17
- Session 2: Aug 17 - 20

Webelos Resident Camp will be offered at Camp Hills in Raymond!

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- Session 1: Aug 14 - 17
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Webelos Crossing to Boy Scouting
How to go to Summer Camp
2nd year Webelos customarily cross over to a Boy Scout Troop in the spring and often wonder how to go to summer camp. A troop traditionally chooses a week to attend summer camp together as a troop with the Scoutmaster and other leaders or parents going along to provide leadership. Sometimes a troop can’t attend together and Scouts can go as a provisional camper to any week of camp where the camp provides a provisional Scoutmaster with assistants to provide camp leadership!

As a new Boy Scout, check with your Scoutmaster to see what plans the troop has made to attend summer camp so that you can be part of the fun!

Trailblazer Day coming again in October
Cub Scouts and families, mark your calendar for October 1st for Pine Tree Council’s next Trailblazer Day! The Trailblazer Day will be held at Camp Hills in Raymond, in conjunction with the Sportman Alliance Association, and will be a fun filled day filled with activities like BB and archery, fishing, wildlife groups and more! More information on the Trailblazer event will be out in June!
Spring Retention and Recruitment 2005

Did every youth rejoin scouting when you completed the re-charter of your Scout unit this spring? The Pine Tree Council wants to remind you that after you have completed your re-charter paperwork for the year, to make sure that the boys that have not stayed with the program are asked to rejoin. Please make sure that as a leader, you take the time to find out why a youth left the program. What was the reason, and did anyone ask them to stay, or did we assume that they just wanted something else?

Hundreds of kids leave Scouting each year because no one asked them to stay. They may have missed a few meetings and it was assumed they were not interested in Scouts. Make sure that each boy that doesn't re-join and learn positive values that will last a lifetime. Give every kid a chance to become a Scout.

This spring your unit is invited to get more leaders involved with their kids doing spring recruitment. Families are deciding what to do in the summer and Scouting offers numerous camping opportunities. Special Scouting events this year include: an overnight event with the Portland Sea Dogs available to Scout families only, discount tickets to Fun Town Splash Town, and great camping opportunities just to name a few.

Give every kid a chance to become a Scout and learn positive values that will last a lifetime.

Message from the President

Re-charter time is here once again and it will be a busy time for the entire Commission staff.

We all have to keep in mind that just because a Scout has not been fully active for some time it does not mean he is intending to drop out of the Scouting program. We should all make the effort to visit with our unit leaders and assure that parents are kept informed about their child’s contact is made with each Scout rather than assume that one of our Scouts is not intending to stay involved. We should be making an effort to learn why a Scout has become less active and determine whether there is anything that can be done to keep this youth as a valued member of the pack, troop or post.

Another big event for every second year Webelos is also at hand. That is the Webelos to Scout transition. This graduation should be taking place in all of our packs during February and March. As Commissioners, we should be making sure that every second year Webelos is personally invited to join a Boy Scout Troop. Please, let's work to make sure that this story is not repeated here in Pine Tree Council by assuming that every second year Webelos is personally invited to join a Boy Scout Troop.

We should also be meeting with our unit leaders to explain the benefits of Spring Recruiting. By conducting a spring recruiting program, we can help our units become stronger and make the great Scouting program available to more youth. This is a great time to bring in new Scouts, just in time for summer camp and summer activities.

All of the above-mentioned efforts to keep our youth in the Scouting program, and also to recruit more youth into the program, are important for the continued success of the Scouting programs, but more importantly, these efforts are of critical importance to the youth themselves. In this day of so many outside negative influences that our children have to face every day, the opportunity to be part of a totally positive activity, such as Scouting, is vital to their personal growth. This growth in character, values, leadership, and the reinforcement in the ideals of God, Family and Country are just the ideals that our youth need to grow into the strong leaders of tomorrow. Let’s all work together to make Scouting an activity that our children can be proud to be a part of.
## Pine Tree Council Scout Shop Calendar

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