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Message from the President

I would like to take a moment to introduce myself. My name is Paul Spellman, and I am the newly elected President of the Pine Tree Council. I have been involved as a volunteer with the Pine Tree Council for several years, holding various positions on the Council Executive Board. During this time, I have met and worked with some great people, which I am happy to call my friends. This is just one of the positive benefits of the Scouting program.

Since 1927, the Pine Tree Council has been serving Maine youth. During that time, adult volunteers have helped build character in our youth, while providing quality programs. The Pine Tree Council is one of the largest youth serving organizations in the State, serving over 14,000 youth members and 5,000 adult leaders in the ten southern and central counties. It is the commitment and dedication of all the volunteers that has helped the Scouting program continue to be an important and

meaningful program in the lives of young people.

The fact that so many Maine parents have chosen to involve their sons and daughters in Scouting is a powerful testament to Scouting's effectiveness in building character in our youth. I am extremely happy and proud to be serving as the President of the Pine Tree Council. Like all those before me, I am committed to helping expand and improve the programs of the Pine Tree Council, so that we can more effectively serve the young people of this great State.

Thank you for all that you do to help prepare our young people to be responsible and productive adults. I look forward to working with all of you to achieve this important and common goal.

Yours in Scouting,
Paul Spellman
Pine Tree Council President

Message from the Council Commissioner

Charter renewal time is already happening for some districts and close at hand for the remainder of the districts. This is just a reminder that for the first time all of our units will be able to complete their charter renewal work on line. (Of course, the old fashioned paper and pencil option is still available.) This should prove to be a real time saver for both the units and also the Council. Take it from someone who is not the most computer literate person in the Council, on line charter renewal is really user friendly and should prove to be a much more accurate means of completing this yearly task. I would urge all units to at least give it a try. You might find that it will save time in the long run and also give you a great management tool for keeping accurate track of all your unit information in one place. If you feel that you need a little help or guidance, please give your unit commissioner, district commissioner or district executive a call.

This is what I consider to be one of the most important pleas that I will put out this year. To all unit leaders and unit commissioners, please don't overlook your Quality Unit application. Many, if not most, of our units will qualify for the Quality Unit

recognition. Being a Quality Unit shows that as unit leaders, you are really working to keep the promise and truly serve the scouts in your unit. This is important, not only to your unit, but to your district and council in their quest to achieve district and council Quality status. This is as simple as filling out the paperwork (one page) and does not cost the units any money. Let's make the effort to complete the paper work. Achieving Quality Unit can inspire much pride in both the scouts and scouters in your unit. Also, think how your chartered organization will feel when they learn that they charter a Quality Unit.

Commissioners, please make sure that all of our units and leaders take a close look at the University of Scouting catalogue. This is going to be a great opportunity to share some great scouting fellowship and also a learning experience like no other this year. Also, commissioners don't forget your registration for the College of Commissioner Science program.

Yours in Scouting,
Bill Coffin
Pine Tree Council Commissioner

What's New



Help Celebrate Cub Scouting's 75th Anniversary

In 2005, Cub Scouting turns 75 years old! To help celebrate and recognize this event the Pine Tree Council and the B.S.A. has several new awards and patches!

- Earn the new Cub Scouting 75th Anniversary Award, for Cub Scouts, Families, Leaders and Packs. To earn the patch, you must complete 6 out of 10 requirements, all focused around the 75th anniversary. Find the specifics of the award at Roundtable or on the website www.pinetreesa.org
- New Cub Scouting 75th Anniversary Emblem- available at the PTC Service Center
- Limited Edition PTC Cub Scouting 75th Anniversary Council Strip—available at the PTC Service Center.

Looking for help for your Blue & Gold Banquet?

Most Packs hold their annual Blue & Gold banquet in

February as a highlight of the Cub Scouting program. Need ideas and resources? Use the 75th Cub Scouting Anniversary as the theme! Celebrate and have a birthday party, this can count towards the 75th Anniversary Award! Use the 2005 Cub Scout summer camp theme of medieval to help excite your Scouts about attending summer camp. Have a summer camp promotional night, ask your district about having guests come in and tell your families about summer camp! Use the summer camp blue & gold placemats available free at P.T.C. Complete your Blue & Gold Banquet with balloons, napkins and plates available at the PTC Service Center store!

Free Blue & Gold Placemats

Again this year, Pine Tree Council will have B & G placemats available free to Packs! The placemats use the medieval theme to help families know about summer camp programs like Day Camp, FunPack Weekends and Webelos resident camp! The placemats have puzzles and games on them to help entertain your Cubs during your Blue & Gold! Please contact your district executive to reserve them for your pack and to make arrangements to receive them!

Advancement

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.pinetreesa.org or by calling your District Executive at Pine Tree Council.

Camping

Cub Scout Day Camp Patch Contest

Calling all Cub Scouts! Do you like to draw? Here's your chance to design the patch to be used this summer at Day Camp! Draw your idea for a cool day camp patch using the summer theme of the "Medieval." The winning patch artist will receive \$50.00 in Scout Bucks! Scout Bucks can be used for summer camp or at the Scout Store in Portland! Some contest rules:

- Designs must use the "Medieval" theme!
- Artist must be a Cub Scout!

- Can be in black & white or color.
- Patch design can be any size up to 8" x 10"
- Don't worry about any words or lettering- they will be added!
- Entries must be received by April 20, 2005

Send designs to: Pine Tree Council
Attn: Day Camp Patch
125 Auburn St.
Portland, ME 04103

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

Dear Cub Scouts, Leaders and Parents,

Looking for a great way to enjoy the Cub Scouting program all summer long? Then sign up for a Cub Scout camping program! Our programs will use the fun filled theme of Medieval to bring Scouts together to meet new friends, explore the great outdoors, learn new skills and enjoy being a kid!

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

*Funpack weekend fee is
\$20 per person.*

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

2005 Webelos Schedule

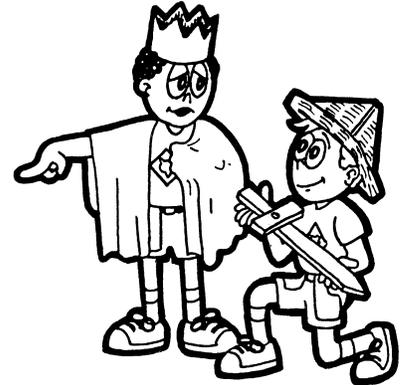
4 Day Resident Camp

Session 1 Aug. 14 – 17

Session 2 Aug. 17 – 20

Webelos Camp Fee \$150.00

**MORE CUB CAMPING
INFORMATION & REGISTRATION
FORMS WILL BE MAILED TO ALL
CUB SCOUTS AND ARE AVAILABLE
ON THE PTC WEB SITE AT
www.pinetreebsa.org**



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:

Abnaki District:

Camp Gustin Aug 1 - 5

Casco Bay District:

Scarborough - July 18 – 22

Camp Hinds – July 25 – 29

Downeast District:

Union Fair – July 11-15

Topsham Fair – July 18-22

Kennebec Valley District:

Camp KV - Aug 1 - 5

York District:

Camp Nutter July 11-15

July 18 – 22, July 25-29

Day Camp Fees

\$90 per week

Early bird discounts are available for camp programs.

Information on registration forms!

What's New

Counselor In Training Program

Pine Tree Council offers a CIT program for interested Scouts, 15 years old, at Camp Hinds that will introduce them to life at camp as a staff member. The course encompasses 3 weeks of the summer, and requires the candidates to work and live at Camp for the three weeks. Scouts completing this program will gain valuable on the job training in the program areas of camp, practical experience in leadership, communication, teaching, campfire etiquette, basic counseling, decision-making, and teamwork skills.

While taking the program, Scouts will be able to participate in parts of the camp program & earn Merit Badges,

as well as visit the many areas of camp. Scouts who complete this program will be able to apply for staff positions the year following their CIT experience.

Cost of program is \$100.

Dates

Session 1 - Weeks 2-4 July 10 - July 29

Session 2 - Weeks 5-7 July 31 - Aug. 19

To apply for the CIT program, fill out a Pine Tree Council Staff Application. Applications available by calling PTC at 797-5252 ext. 14, on the web site www.pinetreesa.org or on the 2005 PTC Camping CD.

Advancement

Trail to Eagle Advancement Week

Camp Hinds will again be offering it's popular Trail to Eagle week during Week 1 this summer, which runs July 3rd - 8th! This program is only open to 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. Trail to Eagle Scouts will also

participate in a daily Leadership Seminar - learning communication, teamwork, and leadership skills. The seminars will also include a service hour to camp in order to put their lessons to practical use. Scouts not attending with their troop during the week will be assigned to a Trail to Eagle Provisional Troop.

Camping

Winter Camp

During the deep snows of February school vacation, Pine Tree Council will be hosting Winter Camp 2005 February 20th - 25th at the Rotary Training Center at Camp Hinds.

Winter Camp is a weeklong resident camp program for Scouts 13 years and older and at least First Class Rank. Scouts can earn merit badges, participate in outdoor winter skills, meet new friends and have fun! Planned activities include a night of snow tubing, building and sleeping in quinzees (snow shelters), along with snowshoeing and cross-

country skiing.

Merit Badges being offered are:

Citizenship in the World, Wilderness Survival, Auto Mechanics, Safety, Radio, Astronomy, Woodworking, Winter Sports, Architecture, Energy, Photography, Fire Safety, Theater and Art.

Cost for Winter Camp is \$220.00 per person and includes a night of snow tubing. Enrollment is limited! Contact the Pine Tree Council Camping at 797-5252 x 14 to sign up! What a great way to spend school vacation!

Camp Hinds Summer Camp 2005 Dates & Programs

July 3 - 8 WEEK 1

- Traditional Summer Camp for Troops & Provisional Scouts
- Trail To Eagle

July 10 - 15 WEEK 2

- Traditional Summer Camp for Troops & Provisional Scouts
- BSA Lifeguard
- Mountain Man & High Adventure Trek Programs
- CIT Session 1 - for 3 weeks

July 17 - 22 WEEK 3

- Traditional Summer Camp for Troops & Provisional Scouts
- High Adventure Trek Programs

July 24 - 29 WEEK 4

- Traditional Summer Camp for Troops & Provisional Scouts
- BSA Lifeguard
- Mountain Man & High Adventure Trek Programs

July 31 - Aug. 5 WEEK 5

- Traditional Summer Camp for Troops & Provisional Scouts
- CIT Session 2 - for 3 weeks
- High Adventure Trek Programs

Aug. 7 - 12 WEEK 6

- Traditional Summer Camp for Troops & Provisional Scouts
- BSA Lifeguard
- Mountain Man & High Adventure Trek Programs

Aug. 14 - 20 WEEK 7

- Webelos Resident Camp Session 1 & 2

Older Scouts, Explorer & Venture Crews - Are you looking for something different this summer? Are you ready to break away from your troops traditional week at a camp? Are you ready to Trek??? Try a week of High Adventure!

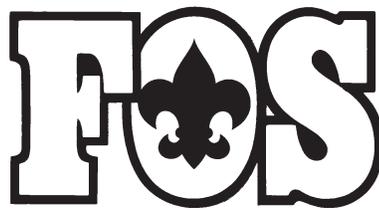
More camp information and registration forms are included in the Camp Hinds Camp CD on our web site, or by calling PTC at 797-5252 ext. 14.

www.pinetreesa.org

BOY SCOUTS

Friends of Scouting 2005

For 94 years the Scouting program has been alive and well in America. One of the major reasons for the success is volunteers that devote at least one hour a week to make sure that kids have a good time playing games, learning new skills, and becoming better youth. Another reason for the success of the



program is the volunteers that not only devote their time to the program, but also make the financial investment in our future leaders, through the Friends of Scouting Fundraising program.

The Annual Friends of Scouting Program starts in January with both a community and family campaign. The community campaign includes donations from businesses and community leaders and the family campaign allows parents and family members to make a contribution.

The Family Campaign consists of a ten-minute unit presentation that will be done at a Blue/Gold Banquet, Pinewood Derby, or a Court of Honor. This year, as with the last two years, your unit will have the chance to get money back from your presentation.

Please contact your District Executive, or sign up at

Roundtable, to host a Friends of Scouting presentation for your unit.

Units that have a presentation where over \$500 is raised and paid in full by May 20, will receive 15% of that total returned to the unit account in the Pine Tree Council Office to use for awards, advancements, or anything

camp related. Families that donate \$120 or more will receive the 2005 limited edition Pine Tree Council Shoulder strip for their Scout uniform. Units that hold a presentation will receive a colorful recognition streamer for their unit flagpole, and a Friends of Scouting sticker will be given to every family that donates. Individual donations of \$1,000 or more will receive a special recognition award.

The 15% unit recognition will be awarded after the May 20 deadline.

We hope that every family will give \$120, but we appreciate any donation that you feel is appropriate. Please support the Pine Tree Council Boy Scouts of America by making a tax-deductible contribution to keep the program available to every youth in Maine.

2004 Trail's End Popcorn Sale

Congratulations to all the youth and Units that participated in this year's popcorn sale. We had record sales this year with over \$240,000 in commission, prizes, and incentives going back to the Units to help them continue to offer a quality Scouting program in their community. Thanks to all the parents that helped organize and support the sale within each unit. Thanks again to the District Kernels, who helped train, inspire, motivate, and inform all Unit volunteers. Thanks again for your commitment!

Abnaki Norm Martin & Mike Fournier
Casco Bay Brian Hazelwood
Downeast Melissa Fortuna
K-Valley Luanne Chesley
York Tracy Grogan & John Vermette

The following is a list of the District Top Unit sales:

Abnaki, Pack 160, \$23,562
Casco Bay, Pack 805, \$12,708
Downeast, Pack 200, \$9,222
K-Valley, Pack 599, \$8,775
York, Pack 338, \$6,560

The following is a list of the District Top Sellers:

Abnaki- Jared Lussier, Pack 160, \$2,052
Casco Bay- Nicholas Purinton, Pack 155, \$2,323
Downeast- Tyler Totten, Troop 639, \$2,168
K-Valley, Jason Goggin, Troop 479, \$4,067
York - Bernard Deshaies, Pack 308, \$2,006

Overall Council Top Seller:

K-Valley, Jason Goggin, Troop 479, \$4,067

"Prepare the Way" Capital Campaign

"Prepare the Way" is a campaign to raise \$4,000,000 to serve the future Scouting needs of central and southern Maine. Funds raised during the campaign will be used to build the new Chuck Cianchette Scout Service Center, to make improvements at Camp Hinds and Camp Bomazeen, to build a new Cub World program and to bolster our endowment.

Last year, Scouting served 18,000 young people in central and southern Maine. Thousands of additional youths will be served as a consequence of this campaign. The funds raised will allow us to significantly improve the quality of the Scouting program and increase the number of Scouts staying with the Scouting program through their late teenage years. In addition, our volunteers will be much more adequately served by the council.

For more than two years, members of the council's board of directors have been evaluating the needs and services of the

council, preparing for major improvements, consulting with independent professionals and deliberating all aspects of Scouting. The campaign goals have been well thought out and are worthy of your confidence.

Currently, the campaign has raised approximately \$2,400,000 of the \$4,000,000 goal. Improvements to our camps are already underway and the construction of the Alton E. "Chuck" Cianchette building, on Johnson Street in Portland, across from the Airport, is moving right along. All of these improvements will help deliver a quality Scouting program, to more youth, throughout the Pine Tree Council.

For more information about the "Prepare the Way" Capital Campaign, please log onto www.pinetreebsa.org and click on the link in the resources section. If you are interested in contributing to the campaign, please call Jason Agren at 207-797-5252 ext-21.

Venturing

As we start 2005, the Pine Tree Council is hoping that it will be a big year for the Venturing program. This is a co-ed program that allows older youth to do high adventure activities. A Venture Crew is a

great compliment to your Boy Scout Troop because it helps to keep older boys involved with the program. Make sure that you talk to your District Executive about starting a Venturing Crew in your area.

What's New in Venturing

The Venturer Handbook and the Ranger Guidebook have been combined so that two separate books are not needed for the program.

Venturing Fast Start is available at the National Boy Scout web site Scouting.org

to units up and running or to just find out more about the program.

Also available online is scholarship information from the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. Don't miss out on an opportunity to help your college career.



Rock Climbing Center
127 Marginal Way
Portland, ME 04101
www.merockgym.com

Boy Scout Merit Badge Program

We are the only climbing center in Maine qualified for this program

Group Bookings

Packs & Troops of up to 35 people can have private use of gym
Discounted charge for scout troops

Birthday Parties

Minimum 6 climbers

Climbing Teams

Come and learn to advance your climbing skills
Competition climbing is an option
Sessions January-March & April-June

5000 sq. ft. Indoor Rock Climbing Gym

22 top rope stations
Exciting new bouldering area

25ft Mobile Climbing Wall

Available for any Pack or Troop event

Spring & Summer Climbing Camps

Spend a week learning new skills.
Climbing is both indoors and outdoors

Outdoor Guided Climbing

Join us in New Hampshire, Arcadia etc.

Extended opening hours at school vacation times

**Telephone 207-780-6370 for details of these
and our other programs**

Scout Shop Order Reminder

Please remember that when placing an order with the Scout Shop, whatever the items, you need a lead-time of 5-10 business days. Many times we do not have certain items in stock and we need to order them. We realize that there are instances in which you will need to make a last minute order, but we cannot guarantee that we will have it in stock or that we can get you the items before the 5-10 business day time period.

Thanks for your cooperation.

Training at a Glance - Upcoming Dates

February			
	12	K-Valley	New Leader Essentials with Cub Leader Specifics & Boy Scout Leader Specifics at LDS Church in Farmington
March			
	5	Casco Bay	New Leader Essentials with Cub Leader Scout Specifics & Troop Committee Challenge
	5	York	New Leader Essentials with Cub & Boy Scout Leader Specifics
	12	Casco Bay	Scoutmaster & Asst. Scoutmaster Specific Training
	19	PTC	University of Scouting at CMCC in Auburn
April			
	1-3	York	Scouting Rendezvous at Camp Nutter
	2	Downeast	New Leader Essentials with Cub & Boy Leader Scout Specifics
	15-17	PTC	Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills at Camp Hinds

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
K-Valley	Ext. 27	York	Ext. 24	Exploring	797-5770

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 coming fall 2005! The course will be offered in two 3 day weekends on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, September 16,17,18 and October 14,15,16, 2005.

It is definitely a 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 clock is ticking and there are only 48 openings

on the Wood Badge Course, so please don't be left out of this truly great experience. Send in your invitation request today. For those of you that have already received your invitations, remember to get them back in as soon as possible so as not to be left out.

Wood Badge Reunion

The annual Wood Badgers reunion called "KANTANKI" was postponed from November this year to a new date in 2005. Many attendees requested the date be moved to later in the winter since so many had other commitments during the month of November.

I am happy to announce that "KANTANKI" will be held on February 5, 2005 at St. John's Parish Church at 39 Pleasant Street in Brunswick, Maine. Please bring a main dish, salad, or dessert to share. Since beverages, condiments, and paper products will be provided, and there is a cost for building rental, it has been necessary to raise the cost from \$3.00 to \$5.00 per person. The fee will be collected at the door. The church will be open at 5:30 p.m., with dinner beginning promptly at 6:00 pm. If you have a uniform, please feel free to wear it.

I will make every attempt to contact Wood Badgers via e-mail. Since I am sure some e-mails have changed, please feel free to forward your current e-mail to lstark@gwi.net or gerrystarkme@gwi.net. You can also call me, Lisa Stark, at 207-353-6293.

Have a wonderful scouting year! I look forward to seeing all of you in February!

Health & Safety Corner

Hypothermia Prevention

How many times have we all gone out on a late fall or winter event and realized that not everybody attending was properly dressed. One of the most fundamental struggles that the human body tries to overcome, and hopefully regulate, is heat loss. Many Scouts who attend cold weather events without proper gear, suffer body heat loss and the event turns into one of those "I am cold and I am wet, and need to go home" exercises.

A person's tolerance to cold depends on temperature, wind, clothing worn and wetness. It is important to note that it does not take an extremely cold temperature to produce hypothermia after energy depletion. As mental function decreases, the person cannot respond to the rising threat of hypothermia. Judgment is impaired, and the person seldom takes the necessary precautions to prevent fur-

ther disaster.

Excellent physical conditioning and adequate rest and nutrition are a must. Hikers and skiers should wear effective thermal insulation. Wet inner garments should be changed immediately. Dehydration must be avoided. All areas with a large surface area/volume ratio should be well insulated. The uncovered head can lead to a significant body heat loss. Excellent synthetic materials include Gore-Tex and Thinsulate.

The army mnemonic "COLD" in reference to insulation with clothing is Clean, Open during exercise to avoid sweating, Loose layers to retain heat, and Dry to limit conductive heat loss. Common sense and basic awareness, along with proper trip and event clothing planning, will help prevent heat loss and hypothermia. And remember, always travel with a buddy or a group.

The Turtle Speaks

News from Madockawanda Lodge 271

• Thanks to all the brothers who attended the 2004 Lodge Leadership and Development ("LLD") weekend which was held at the China Lake Conference Center in K-Valley chapter. Over 70 members attended, and participants were treated to



some excellent training cells, as well as a computerized Saturday evening theme show. The lodge also kicked in with some "cheerful service" by completing a service project for the conference center when a large group of brothers helped to carry canoes from the waterfront boating area to the storage building at the Center.

• The Lodge held its Annual Business Meeting and election of officers for 2005 on Sunday at the LLD. Again in typical Madockawanda fashion, brothers from throughout our lodge ran for the four lodge office vacancies. Congratulations go out to our new slate of officers for 2005! Paul Froman of K-Valley Chapter was re-elected to a second term as lodge chief, while Dan Warner of Abnaki was newly elected as Vice Chief. Tom Kester, also of Abnaki Chapter was elected to his first term as Lodge Secretary, while Kirk Gagnon of York Chapter was re-elected to a second term as Lodge Treasurer. Congratulations to all, and a sincere thank you goes out to outgoing three term lodge officer Andrew Buckley and to Ben Gleason for their service as lodge officers during 2004!

• With every end comes a new beginning. The Lodge Executive Committee would like to thank outgoing Lodge Adviser Wayne Holden for his four years of service in this

position, not only to the Order and to our lodge but to our scouting movement. Wayne is one of just two members to hold both a youth officer position (back in the 70's) and the lodge adviser position! We would also like to welcome Bruce Rueger

from K-Valley chapter as the new Lodge adviser for 2005. Look for more information and stories on our newly elected officers and both Wayne and Bruce in the January issue of Turtle Soup!

• Hey, it's a new year so please remember to pay your dues for the lodge. A dues coupon was mailed to all active brothers in the November-December issue of Turtle Soup, and a coupon can be found on the downloads page of the Lodge Website: www.pinetreebsa.org/lodge. Please keep the Order and the lodge strong in Pine Tree Council, since paying your dues is the single most important task you can do as a member of the Order.

• Just a few statistics from the recently completed 2004 Lodge year....did you know that Madockawanda Lodge has over 530 active members, with 129 new members completing their Ordeal during 2004! In addition, a record 65 members sealed their membership at the Brotherhood level, while four members were presented with the Vigil Honor during 2004! The lodge completed three ordeal weekends at Camp Hinds, a 60th Anniversary weekend and service project, and continued its tradition by being the largest visiting contingent at the Section NE-1A Conclave!

Unit Features Section

This is a new section in the Pine Spills that is dedicated to the Units. We want to hear about all of the great activities, service projects, camping trips, etc. that all of the Units in the Pine Tree Council are participating in. This section will be dedicated to featuring these stories.

To submit a feature story for your Unit, please do the following:

• Write a summary of the activity in no more than a quarter of a page, in Microsoft Word Format

• Include pictures or photos

• Mail to Pine Tree Council, attention Jason Agren, 125 Auburn Street, Portland, ME 04103

If this is a service project, please remember to log onto www.goodturnforamerica.com and log in the project information.

Please do not submit more than one entry per issue. Space will be limited, so only a limited amount of feature stories will be selected for each issue. The selection process will be random, and there is no guarantee that your Unit feature will be selected.

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 P.M. 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 recipients will be recognized at this event along with the 2004 Class of Eagle Scouts.

The Silver Beaver Award represents the highest honor given to a Council volunteer. This award is selected from applications received prior to February 2, 2005. If you would like to nominate an outstanding adult volunteer, contact Michael Dyer at 797-5770 or email at midyer@lflmail.org for an application.

During this event, we will also recognize over 100 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.

Check-in 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: _____

_____ (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

Scout Sunday and Scout Sabbath Celebrations

The Boy Scouts of America designates the Sunday before February 8, Scouting Anniversary Day, as Scout Sunday. The Friday night and Saturday that follow Scouting Anniversary Day are designated as Scout Sabbath. These are the primary days to recognize the contributions of young people and adults to Scouting.

However, religious chartered organizations can celebrate Scouting Anniversary Day in other ways, including designating a different Sunday or Sabbath more acceptable to local clergy. The purpose of a Scout Sunday or Scout Sabbath is to strengthen the relationship with faith groups.

When planning a worship service that recognizes Scouting, involve youth members as much as possible. Tasks may include singing, ushering, greeting, praying, or reading. Announce the date far enough in advance to allow all Scouts and Scouters to wear their uniforms.

Good Turn for America

From barn raisings to soup kitchens, ordinary Americans have always made an extraordinary difference in the lives of their neighbors and in their communities by lending a helping hand. Today, America needs the service of its citizens more than ever. Hunger, lack of adequate shelter, poor health-these are issues that affect all of us. The Boy Scouts of America believes that we can do something about these issues-if we work together. That's why we've created Good Turn for America. Good Turn for America is a collaboration with The Salvation Army, Habitat for Humanity, American Red Cross, and thousands of other community organizations that focuses the power of volunteerism on these important community issues.

Good Turn for America has a website in which units can find out more information about the initiative and can use this site to report projects that they participate in. The website is www.goodturnforamerica.org

Reporting Procedures

Every unit was mailed a postcard, which listed an ID number specific to their unit. A leader from the unit can log onto the Good Turn for America website and select the "data collection" but-

ton on the left side of the screen. Follow the step-by-step instructions to enter your project information. If you need to find out your unit ID#, please contact your District Executive or Jason Agren at 797-5252 ext-21.

Congratulations to the following Units that have logged onto the website and submitted their Good Turn for America projects

Abnaki District:

Pack 111, Auburn

Casco Bay District:

Pack 70, Westbrook

Pack 10, Portland

Troop 800, Raymond

Pack 63, Portland

Troop 367, Baldwin

Downeast District:

Troop 201, Wiscasset

Troop 207, Union

Troop 216, Jefferson

Kennebec Valley District:

Troop 497, Jackman

York District:

Pack 306, Waterboro

Troop 320, Shapleigh

Pack 301, York

Pack 312, North Berwick

Troop 356, Wells

Troop 399, Lyman

District Chairman <i>Joseph Liguori 753-1535</i> <i>jliguori@androscogginbank.com</i>	District Commissioner <i>Dale Hutchinson 224-7354</i> <i>dhutchin@tcms.org</i>	District Executive <i>Matt Mower 797-5252 ext. 33</i> <i>mmower@bsamail.org</i>	Abnaki Web Address <i>www.abnakidistrict.org</i>
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Abnaki District News

Snow Sports Clinic

The 2005 Lost Valley Snow Sports Clinic will consist of three parts. Part 1 is a skills session for brand new skiers on Saturday, January 15th (afternoon). Part 2 is a skills session for both new skiers and intermediate skiers on Saturday, February 12th (afternoon). Part 3 is the indoor requirements and outdoor testing session on Sunday, February 27th (morning and afternoon) where Scouts will complete the merit badge work. *Information will be sent to troop leaders.*

Klondike Derby

Richie Philbrick has set a tentative date of Saturday, February 26th to hold it at Black Mountain in Rumford. At this point, it looks like the event will be on Saturday, and the overnight camping (optional) will take place on Friday night. More information to be sent to troop leaders soon.

Pinewood Derby

Saturday, April 9th. We are looking for a location and a unit to host this year.

Merit Badge Counselor List

Available at www.abnakidistrict.org. Please let us know if you would like to be added or removed from the list.

District Award Winners

District Chairman Joe Liguori, Troop 111, Committee Chair/District Popcorn Kernel Norm Martin, and Troop 110 Committee Member/ Asst. Camp Ranger for Gustin Gino Camardese. *Congratulations for your service to Scouting!!!*

District Chairman <i>Michael Celeste</i> <i>874-7277</i> <i>michael_w_celeste@keybank.com</i>	District Commissioner <i>John Hume</i> <i>797-2154</i> <i>jhume@maine.rr.com</i>	District Executive <i>Jonathan Widmark</i> <i>797-5252 ext. 23</i> <i>jwidmark@bsamail.org</i>
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Casco Bay District News

Friends of Scouting

The Friends of Scouting Campaign will be kicking off in January. Our Family Chairman, Joe Howes, has put together a fantastic team of volunteers to assist with this year's campaign. Every unit in the district will be contacted to schedule a presentation. Please help support our efforts by having a date already scheduled with your unit committees. This is the single most important fundraising endeavor in the District. The same incentive as last year will apply this year. If your unit raises a minimum of \$500, you will receive 15%, returned to your unit account at Pine Tree Council, on the total amount of money raised, provided that the minimum of \$500 is paid by May 20th. Thank you all for your support with this year's campaign. We are confident it will be a resounding success. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a presentation, please call Joe Howes at 625-3667 or Jonathan Widmark at 797-5252 ext. 23.

Klondike Derby

This year's Klondike Derby will be held on February 5th at Camp Hinds. The Casco Bay Chapter of the Order of the Arrow will be hosting. As always, this event promises to be a fun filled experience that is sure to test the skills of even the most seasoned Scout. Any questions should be directed to Sherry Beety at 642-2991 or John Trott at 642-2373.

District Re-charter Time

As winter looms, we find that it is re-charter time again. The majority of Casco Bay units re-charter in January and February so it is important that you contact your Unit Commissioners and work together with them to insure that

your charters are filled out correctly and completely. It is essential that all our scouts are officially registered and on your charters, so as to insure that they are covered by our insurance and they can enjoy a safe and productive scouting experience. Also, check out our new Internet re-chartering! If you have any questions regarding the re-charter process feel free to contact District Commissioner, John Hume at 797-2154 or Jonathan Widmark at 797-5252 ext. 23.

Casco Bay District Pinewood Derby

The Casco Bay District Pinewood Derby will be held on April 2nd at the Jordan Small School in Raymond. In anticipation of this event, we want to make sure that all units are using the same set of regulations. These rules will be followed at the District Derby and we cannot encourage you enough to use them at the unit level as well. The regulations will be distributed at Roundtables, via e-mail, and will be available on the District Activities website www.cascobayptc.org. If you have any questions, feel free to contact either Sherry Beety at 642-2991 or Jonathan Widmark at 797-5252 ext. 23.

New District Chairman Appointed

The Casco Bay District Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the appointment of a new District Chairman, Michael Celeste. Michael is a Vice President with Key Bank in Portland and comes to Scouting with lots of great ideas and plenty of enthusiasm. We look forward to working with Michael in the months that follow to strengthen and grow Scouting in the Casco Bay District.

ABNAKI

CASCO BAY

District Chairman <i>Richard Fortuna 785-5669</i> <i>rf101@midcoast.com</i>	District Commissioner <i>Susan Kennedy 798-7920</i> <i>scouter@blazenetme.net</i>	Senior District Executive <i>Jeremy Lucas 797-5252 ext.28</i> <i>jlucas@bsamail.org</i>
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Downeast District News

Help Support High Adventure, Outdoor Education and Citizenship in our Communities

With all of our programs and support comes a need for financial support. It takes \$120 to support one scout in the program for a year. In the past few years, our United Way support has dwindled to almost nothing and that is why we are asking for your support. Please schedule your Pack, Troop or Crew's Family Friends of Scouting presentation at your next Court of Honor or Blue & Gold Banquet. The Downeast District has a Family Goal of \$16,000 to raise by June 30, 2005. This is an attainable goal, however we need as much support and participation as we can get. Freida Carpenter, our Family FOS Chair, has set the standards high and feels that we can get 100% participation by having all 50 of our units schedule presentations. We will be offering the Unit Incentive Plan again this year, which will put 15% of the total raised (if over \$500) back into your unit account at the Service Center, provided that it is paid in full by May 20th. Please do not say no for the families in your unit; give us an opportunity to do a 10-minute presentation at your next function. To schedule a presentation, please contact Jeremy Lucas at the Service Center or Freida Carpenter at 785-4607, carpenters3ofclaryhill@hotmail.com.

January is Downeast District Recharter Month

Annual Recharter packets have been distributed to units throughout the past two months. This signifies that it is our district's time to renew our annual membership and charter with the Pine Tree Council, Boy Scouts of America. Charters are due on January 15, 2005 to your Unit Commissioner, Sue Kennedy (District Commissioner) or Jeremy Lucas (District Executive). This will allow time for processing or problem solving. This year will be the first year that the Pine Tree Council has used Internet rechartering. If you feel that you would like to process your charter via the Internet, please visit www.pinetreebsa.org for more information and a tutorial.

Please make sure that all proper signatures have been obtained and that the registration and Boy's Life fees are correct. If you have questions or would like to turn in your charter renewal packet, contact District Commissioner Susan Kennedy at 798-7920 or scouter@blazenetme.net.

Downeast District's Annual Recognition Dinner

Save the date of April 23, 2005 for our Annual Recognition Dinner. Once again, we will have a mystery guest speaker (who will it be?), District Awards of Merit, Scouter of the Year Award, dinner and great camaraderie. We are currently working on a new location for the event and should have it secured by the time you read this. Registration flyers will be available at Roundtable and through the "Beacon". The cost will be \$5.00 per person and it will be a "potluck" dinner. The District Activities team will provide plates, utensils, beverages and a phenomenal program. We look forward to seeing you there. For more information, attend Roundtable, look for a "Beacon" or contact Jeremy Lucas at 563-5769 or jlucas@bsamail.org.

Downeast District Pinewood Derby

Racers ready! Start your engines! It is that time of year to get started on your derby cars. The Downeast District will be holding our annual district wide derby for the top 5 finishers and best of show cars from your pack. The derby will be held on Saturday, April 2, 2005 at a location to be determined. Registration will begin promptly at 8:00am with races beginning at 9:00am. We are working on a location in the central region of the district and will have more information at the February Roundtable. Flyers will also be mailed to all of the Cubmasters. The cost for the race will be \$5.00 per racer and official rules will be available at Roundtable or by contacting Jeremy Lucas at 797-5252 ext.28 or by email at: jlucas@bsamail.org.

District Chairman <i>Charles Matthews 453-6944</i> <i>candr@midmaine.com</i>	District Commissioner <i>Lynn Corson 446 -3115</i> <i>Mamalynn@skow.net</i>	District Executive <i>Matthew Randall 797-5252 ext. 27</i> <i>home: 725-9760</i> <i>mrandall@bsamail.org</i>
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K-Valley District News

Spring Recruiting

Recruiting is not a "once a year" deal - organizations that do not grow, eventually cease to exist. Everybody likes to talk about playing the "numbers game" with regards to membership, and they are correct, it is about the numbers. Each and every "number" we gain - whether it is a Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Venture Scout, Explorer, or Learning for Life participant, is another person who has gained the opportunity to benefit from the time-tested program of the Boy Scouts of America.

Please take the time to consider the following concepts and ideas with your unit's adult and youth leadership over this winter:

- Plan two events with your local Pack or Troop for the year. One needs the other in order to be successful and prosperous.
- Help at a district event. Assisting the district is the quickest way to learn about all the great things the Scouting program has to offer, as well as opens an entirely new world of resources and knowledge for your use.
- Plan a spring event for 2005 where you can invite the community to see what your unit does. It is great for public rela-

tions and may gain you some new adult and youth members.

- Plan for a late spring recruiting drive in May or June. Kids hungry for summertime activities would have plenty of options if they were the part of a scout unit.
- Make sure you have at least 5 -7 "big trips" planned for your unit. Visit a museum, hike a mountain, take over a YMCA for an afternoon, or attend summer camp. Kids need to stay active, and if your unit is active it will grow.

These are just a few things to get your unit thinking about growing and being successful. The last piece is training - but that is explained in the article below. If you have any questions, please contact the District Membership Chair, Rick Lees, at 923-3185.

Training

A trained leader is a successful leader. Training dates will be presented at the round tables. In the Cub Scout packs, you can get one of your adult volunteers to act as a Pack Trainer. This person is qualified to teach all your new leaders the New Leaders Essentials course. If you have any questions, contact the District Training Chairman - Joe Levasseur at 495-2673.

District Chairman <i>Wallace H. Nutting 284-7842</i>	Vice Chair <i>Fred Chellis 698-5977 fchellis@attbi.com</i>	District Commissioner <i>Ernie Wiswell 439-2668 ewiswell@comcast.net</i>	District Executive <i>Frank Gilcreast, Jr. 797-5252 x 24 fgilcrea@bsamail.org</i>
York District Web Address: www.yorkdistrictptc.org			

York District News

Friends of Scouting

Time has arrived for Pine Tree Council's annual Friends of Scouting (FOS) fundraising campaign. In 2004, York District exceeded its district goal again and we hope to do the same in 2005. Please note that the 15% rebate program utilized in 2004 will be available again in 2005. Over \$2,100.00 went back to York District units in 2004. If you have not scheduled your unit's Family presentation, or would like to help give a presentation for a unit, please contact Frank Gilcreast at 797-5252 ext. 24 or FAX # 797-7183 with your date, time and location.

Klondike Derby 2005

Mark Saturday, February 5, 2005 on your calendar as the date to brave the ice, cold and snow for the York District Annual Klondike Derby. The location for the Klondike Derby was still being finalized at time of this article's submission. More information will be available at the January 2005 Roundtable. Please contact Dave Wade at 636-2937 or dmwade@metrocast.com for further information. Storm date for the Klondike Derby is Saturday, February 12, 2005.

Re-Charter

As it has been in the past, all troops re-charter in **February**, packs re-charter in **March** and crews re-charter in **April**. Re-

chartering in 2005 will also be available to do on-line via the Pine Tree Council website. You will need an access code number in order to re-charter online. You will find this code number in your re-charter packet. In 2004, 74% of the units in York District were Quality Units. Please work with the Commissioner so we can raise our percentage to 80%+. If you use a Packmaster or Troopmaster software program, please submit your roster information on a floppy disc with your re-charter. It will make the data entry easier for the registration office. If you have any questions about your charter, please call Ernie Wiswell at 439-2668. **Remember OTTO!!!** (On Time charter, Two Deep Leadership, Trained Leadership, Outdoor Program)

Fourth Annual York District Scouter's Rendezvous Weekend

Mark your calendars for April 1-3, 2005 as the date for the 4th Annual York District Scouter's Rendezvous Weekend at Camp Nutter in Acton, ME. Join us for a great adult weekend of scouting. The cost of the weekend will be around \$10.00 and is payable at the door. Bring your own food to eat and something to share for the Saturday Night Cook Off. Bring your tent or just bring your sleeping bag. For more information or to sign-up, contact Dave Wade at 636-2937 or dmwade@metrocast.com.

VP Learning for Life/Exploring & District Chairman
*Roxane Cole 773-3531
rcole@ramharnden.com*

Senior District Executive
*Michael Dyer 797-5770
midyer@lflmail.org*

Exploring/LFL District News

Cumberland Fire Department Explorer Post 1

The Cumberland Fire Department Explorer Post 1 is a group of young adults ranging from the ages of 14 to 18 years old that have an interest in the fire service. This program, that started in 1994, has been an extremely valuable resource for recruitment and retention within the Cumberland Fire Department, and has brought the department many skilled and valuable personnel as a direct result of their participation in the Fire Exploring program.

In addition to attending regular department meetings and trainings, the Explorer Post also meets weekly. They have a different activity each week and conduct regular business meetings. They also have a training night, a night of physical training, and planned outings. Over the past year, the Post has trained in the following areas: ladder company operations, engine company operations, extrication, thermal imaging and several other specialties.

Don Moody, a Fire Explorer, completed a project, "Smokey Bear" fire danger sign, for Chebeague Island. He recently earned his Eagle Scout Badge. Three Explorers, Jess Hodsdon, Kevin Foster and Josh Turina participated in a Global Information Systems project in conjunction with the high school health program in which the Town Manager did a test study of the usefulness and benefits of "GIS" program to the fire department.

Two Explorers, Don Moody and Chris McCollom recently stepped down from their positions as Post Captain and Lieutenant to assume the role of junior advisors. Learning for Life commends these youth for their dedication to the Fire Service and to their Explorer Post. We would also like to acknowledge the quality and dedicated leadership of their Post Advisor, Kristen Kloth. Congratulations to you all for keeping this program running for 10 years!

Explorers at the DCAD

Learning for Life would like to thank the two Explorer Posts that were represented at the Distinguished Citizen Awards Dinner held at the Holiday Inn By The Bay in honor of this year's DCAD recipient Mr. Vincent Conti, CEO of Maine Medical Center. Captain Andrew Flynn of the Scarborough Law Enforcement Explorer Post participated as a member of the honor guard during opening ceremonies and Joe Canarie, a member of the Maine Medical Explorer Post spoke before a gathering of approximately 600 at this event. The professionalism and participation of these two posts is greatly appreciated. What a great job - to all of you!

Learning for Life Program Chair - Paul Conley

The Learning for Life Committee has a Program Chair. Paul Conley, EMS Chief at Freeport Fire and Rescue has graciously accepted the responsibilities of Program Chair. Paul brings with him lots of history, experience and program ideas. We look forward to his contribution throughout the Exploring and Learning for Life community.

YORK
EXPLORING/LFL

Camperships for Summer Camp

Limited 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 the 4 unit camping activities! The Camping Award application form is available on the web site www.pinetreebsa.org.

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 Florida 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.

Openings in this high adventure program are available for currently registered Venturers, Sea Scouts or Boy Scouts interested in becoming Venture Scouts, and who will be at least 14 years of age by 9/1/06. Four adult leader positions are also available. Leaders must be age 21 and above.

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, on board navigation, studying the stars, and enjoying the warmth of the Keys!

Leaders who want to attend the Sea Base, along with the Council Crew, must submit an application to be a Sea Base leader. Leadership will be selected by a volunteer committee based on references, experience and leadership qualities.

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 and for more information; but don't wait, space is limited!

Pine Tree Council Philmont Trek 2006

As in 2004, the Pine Tree Council will be sending a contingent of scouts and scouters 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 traveling with the Pine Tree Council contingent. A deposit of \$100.00 per person is required by 4/20/05 to secure a reservation for this trek. After that date, the crew may be reduced in number depending on the response on the trek reservations. Those interested in more information, please contact Frank Gilcreast, Philmont contingent advisor at 797-5252 ext. 24.

Summer Camp Staff WANTED

Camp Hinds is looking for motivated and high-energy individuals with a love for teaching and the outdoors! Are you interested in spending your summer away from home, teaching scout skills, making new friends and memories of a lifetime while earning a paycheck? Then give us a call!

Positions are available for youth age 15 and up, adults and even retirees! Skill areas include waterfront, boating, nature area, archery and shooting sports, ropes courses, camp commissioners and more. The high adventure programs at Camp

Hinds are looking for trek guides at least 21 years old with a strong outdoor background and junior guides age 18 and older!

Camp Staff applications can be downloaded from our web site: www.pinetreebsa.org or contact Matt Randall, Camp Hinds Director, at 797-5252 ext. 27 or email mrandall@bsamail.org or Matt Mower, Camp Hinds Program Director, at 797-5252 ext. 33 or email mmower@bsamail.org

Youth Retention

Each year, numerous recruitment efforts bring youth to the scouting program. All of our units have worked hard to bring new youth into this wonderful organization. This means more youth are doing positive activities in their communities rather than negative things.

The hard thing is to retain these youth for a second year, third year, and beyond. Unit leaders need to remember that the boys join because the program sounds fun and exciting. They leave because they didn't have fun or the program wasn't exciting. Work hard to deliver what we promise them when they join and make sure that each youth feels welcome and wanted in the unit.

Here is information for youth retention for 2004, by district, during the charter renewal period:

- Abnaki District retained 69.5% of Cub Scouts and 77.9% of the Boy Scouts

- Casco Bay District retained 65.9% of Cub Scouts and 79% of the Boy Scouts
- Downeast District retained 70.8% of the Cub Scouts and 72.3% of the Boy Scouts
- Kennebec Valley District retained 61% of the Cub Scouts and 74% of the Boy Scouts
- York District retained 59% of the Cub Scouts and 74.8% of the Boy Scouts

Seventy percent retention looks pretty good when you consider all the activities that kids are doing today, but consider a unit that has 100 Cub Scouts and 30 of them leave. This is a lot of boys that are missing out on a great program.

Remember, when your unit re-charters for 2005, every scout needs to be asked to be a part of the fun. If they are not asked, they may leave because they don't feel wanted. Work for 100% retention of your youth because they deserve the great program that Scouting provides.

Spring into Scouting 2005

Has your unit realized the value of spring recruiting? Many youth are active in extra curricular activities, but many of the boys and parents don't understand the value of the Scouting program until they get involved.

This spring, your unit is invited to get more leaders involved with their boys doing spring recruitment. Families are deciding what to do in the summer and Scouting offers numerous camping opportunities. A spring training session, including the University of Scouting, is the perfect chance for new adults to prepare for the fall. Why wait to get boys and their parents involved in the fall just because that is when we have always done recruitment. Scouting is a year round program and the recruitment of new families should be also.

Don't forget that with your spring recruitment also comes retaining the youth already in the program. Any unit that holds a spring recruitment effort will receive a Spring Recruitment Achiever ribbon for their unit flagpole and for each youth that recruits a friend will receive a recruiter patch.

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125 Auburn Street
Portland, Maine 04103

(207) 797-5252

January, February, March Pine Tree Council Calendar

Abnaki

January

- 4 District Committee Meeting
- 12 Roundtable/OA
- 26 District Commissioner Meeting

February

- 1 District Committee Meeting
- 9 Roundtable/OA
- 23 District Commissioner Meeting
- 26 Klondike

March

- 1 District Committee Meeting
- 9 Roundtable/OA
- 30 District Commissioner Meeting

Casco Bay

January

- 5 Roundtable/OA
- 5 District Commissioner Meeting
- 12 District Committee Meeting
- 14 RecharTERS Due

February

- 2 Roundtable/OA
- 2 District Commissioner Meeting
- 5 Klondike Derby
- 9 District Committee Meeting
- 15 RecharTERS Due

March

- 2 Roundtable/OA
- 2 District Commissioner Meeting
- 9 District Committee Meeting

Downeast

January

- 5 District Committee Meeting
- 9 Charter Renewal Clinic
- 12 Roundtable/OA
- 29 Klondike

February

- 2 District Committee Meeting
- 9 Roundtable/OA

March

- 2 District Committee Meeting
- 9 Roundtable/OA

K-Valley

January

- 5 District Commissioner Meeting
- 5 District Committee Meeting
- 12 Roundtable- Winslow
- 14 OA-Winslow
- 18 Roundtable- Strong

22-23 Klondike Derby

February

- 2 District Commissioner Meeting
- 2 District Committee Meeting
- 9 Roundtable

March

- 2 District Committee Meeting
- 2 District Commissioner Meeting
- 9 Roundtable
- 15 RecharTERS Due

York

January

- 5 District Commissioner Meeting
- 6 Roundtable / OA
- 13 District Committee Meeting

February

- 2 District Commissioner Meeting
- 3 York District Roundtable / OA
- 5 Klondike Derby
- 10 York District Committee Meeting
- 12 Klondike Derby Alternate Date

March

- 2 District Commissioner Meeting
- 3 York District Roundtable / OA
- 5 New Leader Essentials and Leader Specific Training for all Scouting Leaders
- 10 York District Committee Meeting

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