



Heron News Flash

Sammamish Trails



UPCOMING EVENTS

September

9/10	Roundtable 7 PM Cubs, Scouts, Venturing & Varsity Huddle
	Merit Badge Clinic 7 PM Communication
	Order of the Arrow TAT Chapter Meeting 7:30 PM
9/11-13	Wood Badge
9/12	Merit Badge Clinic 9 AM Personal Fitness
9/17	Commissioner Mtg. 7 PM
9/18-20	OA Ordeal (Parsons)
9/19	OA Brotherhood (Parsons)
9/24	Cub Scout Leader Training 6PM
9/25-27	Wood Badge

October

10/1	District Mtg. 7 PM
10/3	Cub Scout Rocket Launch 4:30 PM
10/8	Roundtable 7 PM Merit Badge Clinic 7 PM Citizenship in the Community Life to Eagle Seminar 7:10 PM Order of the Arrow TAT Chapter Mtg. 7:30 PM
10/10	Merit Badge Clinic 9 AM Citizenship in the Community
10/15	Commissioner Mtg. 7 PM Christmas Tree Mtg. 7 PM
10/17	Program and Training Conference 8 AM
10/23-25	Merit Badge Weekend @ Camp Pigott
10/31	Webelos Woods

November

11/5	District Meeting
11/12	Roundtable 7 PM Cubs, Scouts, Venturing & Varsity Huddle OA Chapter Meeting 7:30 PM Merit Badge Clinic 7 PM Citizenship in the Nation Webelos Open House 7:30 PM
11/14	Scoutmaster/Asst. Scout master Leader Specific Training Merit Badge Clinic 9 AM Citizenship in the Nation
11/19	Commissioner Mtg. 7 PM



The Chair's Minute

The advertising jingle Albertson's Grocery Store played a few years back goes like this: "It's Joe Albertson's super market, but the meat department is mine." For some reason my thoughts about the district since I became District Chairman center around one phrase: "It's your district." Putting these two ideas together we have our own District jingle of: "It's The Sammamish Trails' District, but the (insert your position) is mine."

I have been blessed in life to have always had a job that was never work. I would get up in the morning and think, "Look what I get to do today." For those of you who don't know, I have been a professional photographer for 33 years..

About a month ago, as I was teaching swimming to my new 11 year old scouts, I realized that the reason I love scouting so much is that I can watch the boys grow and develop and enjoy the fun and values of scouting. I only have the boys for 1 year, but they will always be MY BOYS.

It is my hope that all who serve the boys of the Sammamish Trails District will feel the joy of knowing you are part of a great movement which is literally saving boy's lives. That you will each sing the Sammamish Trails jingle to yourself as you watch your boys grow and develop and realize the joy of seeing them become men.

"It's The Sammamish Trails' District, but the (insert your position) is mine."

Wally Kempe
District Chairman
wallykempe@gmail.com

From the (former) District Chair—Lisa Wylie

This is my last note to you. I have accepted a position on the Executive Committee for the council. I will be your Vice President of Membership. The district nominating committee found a wonderful District Chair candidate in Wally Kempe. Wally was

voted into the position at the September district meeting. The district is in very good hands. Wally has many years of scouting experience, both with units and at the district level, and is excited about the possibilities.

It has been an honor and a privilege to work with all of you. The Sammamish Trails district is considered a leader in our council and that is all due to you, the amazing volunteers. Your dedication to all of our children is so impressive. When I am asked which district I represent, and I answer "Sammamish Trails" the reaction is always the same. "You have the best volunteers!" I know, I am honored to work with them every day.

District Executive Notes

Membership

Fall Recruiting is underway, with 95% of our Packs with a set Joining Night. Troops 579 & 557 are also doing some active recruiting of 6th graders at elementary schools. It should be a great recruiting season! We have set a district goal to recruit at least 208 new Cub Scouts and 180 Boy Scouts and Venturers before the end of the year. Please contact Miranda Otjen, your District Executive, if you have any questions about recruiting of any kind, or need help with your school visit or Joining Night.

Finance

We are so close to reaching our district Friends of Scouting goal! With a BIG Microsoft Volunteer Hours gift that came in Friday, we are at 98% of goal. Keep reporting your volunteer hours if you work at Microsoft and forward the confirmation email to microsoftmatch@seattlebsa.org.

Remember, your unit now gets 10% of your Microsoft gift back for it's own use! As we head towards the end of 2009, please make sure you have paid any pledges you made during 2008-2009 Friends of Scouting. Thank you for all of your support!

Miranda Otjen
Sammamish Trails Sr. District Exec.

Popcorn

Welcome to the 2009 Popcorn Season. I'm Ross Comer and I'll be your District Popcorn Kernel again this year. There are some great new items to sell this year (the Triple Chocolate Delight is scrumptious and the Trail Mix is much, much better). Full details are at our new website for Sammamish Trails Popcorn:



<http://groups.google.com/group/sammamishtrailspopcorn>.

Our first deadline was Tuesday, **September 8th** when Show-and-Sell orders were due in the system. **If you missed this**, please contact me ASAP.

September 25th kicks off our Take-Order season. PLEASE DO NOT SELL POPCORN BEFORE THE 25th in order to make the sale fair for all scouts. Blitz Weekend will be Sept. 25-27 and the top 3 Scouts who sell the most popcorn in the Chief Seattle Council during the blitz weekend will win a \$100 cash prize!!

Commissions are up this year thanks to new bonuses of 5% if you average \$300/scout and an additional 2% more if you average \$600/scout. It's not too late to participate in Take Order sales and this option is available to all units in the district. Contact me if you are interested in learning more.

Ross Comer
District Popcorn Kernel
rossc@microsoft.com
425-836-3759



Eighth Annual Cub Scout Rocket Launch

Come celebrate new Cubs and the current Scouts who have helped with recruiting! Join us on Saturday, October 3rd from 4:30 to 7PM for a model rocket launch on the NW corner of 60 Acres Fields (fields 4, 5, 9 and 10) on NE 116th off of Willows Rd.

This event is hosted by the Sammamish Trails District and Northwest Scouters and will feature a steady stream of launches from 10 launch pads and will have the highest safety standards in force.

All Cub Scouts and their families are welcome to attend. For those who already have model rockets, we look forward to seeing the rockets you will

bring to fly. Packs and dens may want to make a project of building model rockets to fly.

For those who do not bring rockets, Northwest Scouters will have on hand a loaner fleet of ready-to-fly model rockets. These rockets, or an A8-3 engine to fly a Cub's existing rocket, will be available at \$3.00 per flight (or 2 for \$5). New Cub Scouts and current Cubs who bring a buddy or brought in a new Cub this fall will get their first two flights (their rocket engine or one of our loaners) for free.

Volunteers are required for 2.5 hour shifts from 3:30-6PM or 5:30-8PM. Every pack that participates is expected to help out with at least one shift. Parents helping while their scouts launch is fine. Please let Ross Comer know who will be attending for which shifts.

For more information contact Ross Comer at rosscomer@msn.com



Merit Badge Weekend

Do your Scouts want to do the Photography merit badge? How about Space Exploration? Cinematography? Coin Collecting? Then mark your calendars for **October 23-25** for the Sammamish Trails Merit Badge Weekend at Camp Pigott.

Troops will be able to sign up starting Friday, September 11 through October 2 on the MBW website (<http://meritbadgeweekend.sammamishtrails.org/>). **Payments will be due at the October 8 Roundtable.**

We are trying to keep the cost at \$16, but much will depend on how many scouts participate.

If you have any questions, please contact us at mbw@sammamishtrails.org.

Merit Badge Clinics

Kirkland

2nd Thursday* of each month 7-8:30 PM

Rose Hill LDS Building
(Roundtable location)
7720 126th Ave NE
Kirkland, WA 98033
Eric Carter
erichca@hotmail.com
435-821-8598

Redmond

2nd Saturday* of each month 9-11 AM

LDS Union Hill Building
7115 224th Ave NE
Redmond, WA 98052
Foyer Phone: 425-868-2956
Enter North door at end of building.

General Instructions

Open to ALL Scouts of any troop. Bring blue cards and wear uniforms.

Merit Badge Schedule

September (Kirkland) Communication
September (Redmond) Person Fitness
October (Both) Citizenship in the Community
November (Both) Citizenship in the Nation
December (Both) Citizenship in the World

*Check District Calendar for monthly exceptions

Commissioner Meeting Sept. 17

Commissioner Meetings are held every 3rd Wednesday @ 7 PM at :

Lake Washington United Methodist
7525 132nd Ave NE
Kirkland, WA 98033

All Unit Commissioners and ADCs are needed to attend to help all our units have successful programs.

Bob Palmer
District Commissioner
bob.palmer@slthermal.com

TRAINING CORNER

Webelos Woods

This is great opportunity for Webelos to learn about Boy Scouts, practice some skills, and meet members of the troops in the Redmond and Kirkland area.

Webelos Woods will be held Saturday, **October 31** at the First Baptist Church on 166th Avenue in Redmond. The first session will be from 8:00AM to 12:00PM and the second session from 12:30PM to 4:30PM. There is a small fee of \$10 for each den.

For more information please contact Russ Norman at res0kuff@verizon.net.

Cub Scout Leader Training

This training for ALL Cub Scout Leaders will be offered:

September 24

6:00 to 9:00 PM

Redmond LDS Stake Center

10115 172nd Ave NE, Redmond, WA 98052

There will be a general session followed by breakouts for each role – den leader, committee member, etc. This will help you do a better job, and make it easier for you. For information and to register contact Cassie Heaton at heatoncontrol@msn.com or call 425-246-1532. (Walk-ins are welcome, but registering ahead helps us with planning.)

Boy Scout Leader Training

Training for Scoutmasters and assistant Scoutmasters, and anyone else interested in the program for a troop, is available on November 14. This helps you take advantage of the actual Boy Scout program, help the Scouts run the best possible program, and do it all with less effort and more success. For information, check with Mark Verdeck, m.verdeck@comcast.net.

Wood Badge

Two courses are offered in 2010. It's leadership training that can be used for scouting, work, home, etc. A great way to improve your leadership abilities. It's effective small-group leadership training..

April 30-May 2 and May 14-16 (course director is Rich Wilkens)

September 16-18 and October 7-9 (course director is Linda Anderson)

Training Policy Change!

National plans to make training required for top leaders in 2011 and all direct-contact leaders in 2012. The unit will not be able to recharter unless those leaders are trained. If a unit does not recharter, the unit ceases to exist as a BSA unit.

Who is a "top leader"? Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Varsity Team Coach, and Crew Adviser.

Who is a "direct-contact leader"? Those same people, plus the assistants, plus den leaders.

What are the effective dates? It says top leaders will need to be trained "in 2011." I think that means, in order to get a charter for 2011. That would mean the leaders need get the training in 2010 or earlier, so they can report it when they turn in their re-charters in the fall of 2010. Then the "direct-contact" leaders need it in 2012, which seems to mean they have to get it in or before 2011.

What training is needed to be "trained" for this? The National website tells us "What Makes A Trained Leader,"

<http://www.scouting.org/sitecore/content/Home/BoyScouts/Adults/Training/Trained%20Leader.aspx>.

The requirements listed are Fast Start, Youth Protection (which needs to be updated every two years), "This Is Scouting," and Position Specific Training (including Outdoor Leader Skills for Boy Scout and Varsity leaders). Other than Youth Protection, I'm not aware of currency requirements, so I think that leaders with relevant long-time ago training would still be "trained."

Says who? This information is on the BSA National website,

<http://scouting.org/training/trainingupdates.aspx>.

It is a bit vague. It says "Plans are to require training for all top leaders in 2011 and all direct-contact leaders in 2012." Our Council has told us about it too, and it looks definite. Plan on it! Get trained, get the others in your unit trained.

Why?!! Trained leaders make for better units. Better units help achieve the mission of BSA, and better units do better at retaining youth in the unit. Units with trained leaders have better

retention. By the way, this notion of requiring training is not new. Some councils have been requiring it for years. Our council has been considering it. (I think Girl Scouts have long required training for you to BE a leader at all.)

More info? For more information, check with Cassie Heaton (Cub Scouts), Mark Verdeck (Boy Scouts), Larry Conrad (Varsity), Dori Ogami (Venturing), or Kris or George Taylor (district training chair & registrar).

Misc. Information

To view calendar information or to find more contact information for district volunteers or events go to seattlebsa.org and go to the district page under volunteers.