

February 2003

CONGRATULATIONS

At the annual District Awards Dinner, the following were recognized for their outstanding efforts in Scouting. The District Award of Merit ("Three R" Award) is the award that can be given to deserving Scouters at District Level. The recipients this year is:

> Roy Brooks James Ecker James Chellew John Stevens

We salute these volunteers for their dedicated service to the youth of River Trails.

In order to receive this award, a volunteer must be nominated by their peers. The form asks for all the achievements of the nominee and their years of service.

Any questions about the nomination procedure may be addressed to the Advancement Chairman for the District, Randy Hetz.

CUB LEADER TRAINING

Two times each year the District Training Staff offers Cub Scout Leader Basic Training. The first part of the training is **New Leader Essentials**, which Cub, Boy and Venturing Scout Leaders will complete.

The next two items to complete is the Aims and Methods used to accomplish the Scouting Program. This part of the New Leader Essentials will also include the Mission Statement of the Boy Scouts of America.

The next Training opportunity will be on March 22, at the Fox High School Library. Registration will begin at 8:00 am and should end about 1:00pm. Cost of the session will be \$15.00.

Bring pencil, notebook paper, a snack and soda for the break. Coffee is provided but there is no soda machine.

Since the Training will be leader specific, please be sure of the position in Scouting you will need to train for. You will be asked at registration what your position will be.

UNIVERSITY OF SCOUTING

As advertised in the February edition of the *Duffle Bag*, the Council newsletter, Greater St. Louis Area Council will offer a once a year training opportunity called "University of Scouting". This will be the next phase of your Training schedule.

The place is Lindbergh High School, 4900 Lindbergh Blvd. The date is March 8, 2003.

This will be an all day session with your choice of topics to attend. You may choose up to 6 courses from those available.

Sessions will begin at 8:30am and end at 4:30pm. The cost will be \$10.00 per person and you will need to bring a sack lunch.

FAMILY CAMPING



In planning your summer activities, keep in mind the "Adventure Thru Time" family camping skills weekend. It is held on June 22nd and 23rd and will be at Cub World in Beaumont Scout Reservation.

This can count for one of your unit's summertime activities in achieving the Summertime Pack Award.

There is also a need for adults and Boy Scouts to act as staff members and be a part of the planning activity.

NEW DISTRICT CHAIRPERSONS

This year was a time for change in some of the Districts Leadership positions. We congratulate the following on their appointments:

Advancement	Larry Yates
Activities	Fred Kohut
Training	Marty Portel
Camping	Larry Yates

Lets give these Chairmen our full support.

DISTRICT HIKE

In the past the District has held a Pinewood Derby. Due to lack of attendance, the District is trying something new. There will be a **DISTRICT HIKE** on March 29. The trail will be Grants Trail and will start at I-55 and Union Rd. The cost is \$2.50 for a patch.

Be sure to break in a pair of hiking shoes in advance so there will be no blisters. More information is in the flyer.

RECHARTER

It will soon be time for each Unit to recharter for the coming year. There will be two opportunities for Units to be sure their charter is correct and save the problems of having it returned.

On Thursday, February 13, 2003, the Commissioners staff will hold a meeting to help Unit leadership with any problems. It will start at 7:30 at St. Lukes United Church of Christ.

St. Lukes is accessible from Highway M, approximately half way between I-55 and State Highway 21. Look for St. Lukes Church Rd. It will go north from Highway M.

The official recharter day is March 1, 2003. Commissioners will be at the Windsor Middle School cafeteria to finalize charters and check for mistakes before the charters are sent to Council.

The commissioners will be there from 9:00am to 12:00 noon. It is advisable to bring two (2) signed checks in case a mistake is made.

Being on time with the recharter is one of the items to be a quality unit. If you have any questions, call Dave Rolfing at 636-464-5104 or Jeff Doty at 314-361-0600.

OCOCÓCOCOCOCOCOCOCOCOCOCO QUALITY DISTRICT

We have made all the criteria to be one of the few **QUALITY DISTRICTS** in the Greater St. Louis Area Council. That makes two years in a row. It don't increase our pay, but we should be proud of this achievement.

Due to the hard work of our District Executive Bob Chavez, District Director Jeff Doty, District Chairman Jim Chellew, District Commissioner Dave Rolfing, and all the volunteers in the District, we were able to do this.

YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING

Youth protection training for adults will be held at the end of the Cub Scout Leader Training on March 22nd. Youth protection training is necessary for all leaders while in a leadership position with the boys.

The program will also be offered at the University of Scouting. Look at the schedule under the College of Cub Scouting. This one is a 90 minute program.

REMEMBER THE FAMILIES

In this time of military action overseas, please take time to remember and pray for the children, grandchildren, mothers, and fathers who will be defending our country.

If anyone has ideas that might make the stay overseas more pleasant, let us know. A letter from home means a lot for the military personnel.

DAY CAMPS

It's time to start getting ready for Day Camp. The theme this Year is **Country Fair** so you can Imagine the fun we can have with that theme.

The dates for the four day camps and the Directors are:

ARNOLD CAMP JUNE 16 – 20 Trish Saputo, Director – (636) 282-2233 BEAUMONT CAMP JUNE 23 – 27 Pam Davis, Director – (636) 677-1883 HILLSBORO CAMP (Evening) JULY 7 – 11 Vonnie Spindler, Director (636)274-2146 CRYSTAL CITY CAMP JULY 14 – 18

Renee Grobe, Director (636) 712-2728

There will be an all staff training meeting on March 22 at Wright Lodge, Beaumont Reservation. Registration begins at 9:00am and the program ends at 3:15pm. Bring a sack lunch and drinks. Youth protection will be offered at 3:30 and archery & BB's will be at 3:30 also.

Make-up date for archery and BB's is May 31. Look for more information to come.