



Wolf River District Newsletter **“Smoke Signals”-December 2013**

Wolf River District, BSA – The Wolf River District covers Bartlett, Bolton, North Memphis, Raleigh, Millington, Austin Peay, Covington Pike, and Stage Road in Tennessee.



Wolf River District Banquet

With the close of the current year the leaders of the Wolf River District Scouts will celebrate a year of accomplishments within the District and recognize the many adult Scouters who have made exceptional contributions to the youth in our District as well as the Scouting program as a whole. On Friday, January 31, 2013 at 7pm, the adult leaders from all levels of Scouting will gather at the Bartlett Woods Church of Christ, 7900 E. Old Brownsville Road, Arlington, TN 38002 for good times and laughs as well as some moving and inspirational messages. The cost will be \$20 per person or \$150 for a 10 person table. Following a great meal we will recognize the leaders within the District with the various awards. Leaders within the District can come from any unit, including Cub Scout Pack, Boy Scout Troop, Varsity Team or Venturing Crew, which includes young men and women. Each adult leader within the District is a volunteer and receives no compensation other than the reward they get when they see their hard work make a positive difference in the life of a Scout. The running joke within the Scouting organization quotes an old line from a time long gone; Volunteering only takes “one hour per week”. All Scouts leaders work hard to provide a great program. They do this for the love of the Scouts and the belief in the Scouting program. We will also recognize those leaders who have gone “above and beyond” in the scouting program as well as maintained a positive attitude and work in cooperation with the district and council with the awarding of the District Award of Merit. We will also award the new Unit Award of Appreciation to those unit volunteers who exhibit these same qualities in their units. All nominations for these two awards are due no later than December’s roundtable on December 12, 2013.

Boy Scouts of America Chickasaw Council

Wolf River District Leadership

District Executive: Jay Hassman

Jay.hassman@scouting.org

District Chairman: Benjamin Moulder

District Commissioner: Francis Boyer

Find us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/WolfRiverDistrict

LDS Celebrates 100 Years with BSA

The Church of Jesus Christ Latter-day Saints was the first sponsor of the Boy Scouts of America way back in 1913.

One-hundred years later, the LDS church brings hundreds of Scouts into the movement each year in the Wolf River District.

In November, “Century of Honor” was presented by the Stave within our district in which they aired a special re-broadcast of the live production held in Salt Lake City on October 29th. There was something in the show for Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Varsity Scouts, Venturers, Scouters,

Scouting families and non-Scouting families of any religion. The broadcast celebrated Scouting and not just the LDS church. To date, “Century of Honor” has been watched by more than 2 million people. You can go to www.scouts100.lds.org to watch this historical event that featured original music and historical reenactments.



District Chairman's Minute

From the Wolf River District to all the Scout Leaders, Charter Organization's, Parents and Youth we serve:

Merry Christmas!
Happy New Year!
Enjoy the holidays,

Benjamin Moulder
District Chairman



District Commissioner's Corner

The Commissioner Staff would first like to wish each and every leader, parent and volunteer in the Wolf River District an enjoyable and happy holiday season. It has been a great year for Scouting and 2014 will only be bigger and better for the Wolf River District.

I am asked many times, "What does a Commissioner do?" Commissioners are friends from the district who help scout units stay strong and succeed. They will coach and consult with leaders of Cub Scout Packs, Boy Scout Troops, Varsity Teams and Venturing Crews.

Commissioners help maintain standards of the Boy Scouts of America. They also oversee the unit's charter renewal plan so that each unit registers on time with an optimum number of youth and adult members. We want every unit to feel free to contact your Unit Commissioner or the District Commissioner if you need any assistance



District Executive's Comments

It was almost one year ago that I went from a Cubmaster and a District Volunteer to the Wolf River District's District Executive. I worked with some fantastic volunteers within my units, Pack and Troop 27 and still do to this day. However, what I didn't realize until my becoming the District Executive was the number of awesome volunteers that our District has. During the last year as I have come to work with more and more of the volunteers in this District I realize what a dedicated group of adult's we have. So, as we enter the Holiday season, I would like to wish each and every one of you a special Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! I have enjoyed working with each and every one of you this year and can't wait for 2014 as our district will get even bigger and better. Thanks for all you do!



Camp Masters Popcorn Information- Chickasaw Council

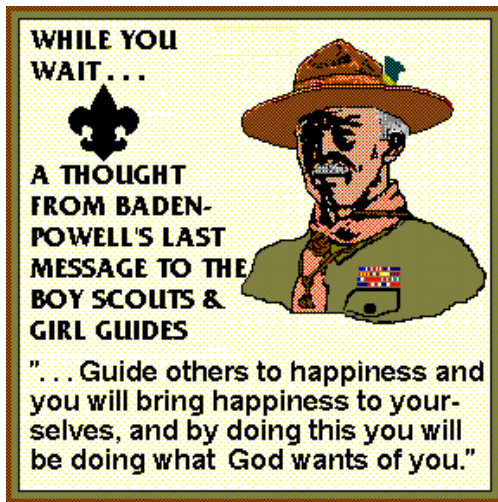
Take Order Money and Prize Orders due to Council:
December 12, 2013

Please check with your unit for additional
dates and times.



Friends of Scouting

Friends of Scouting is the annual giving campaign of the BSA and provides the necessary funds to ensure a quality Scouting program for our youth. It helps to keep the cost of our council camps affordable, the council camps and facilities in great condition and keep the promise of a quality program to all our scouts. Please let our FOS chairman Lawrence Ellis know when the date of your Blue and Gold Banquet or Spring Court of Honor will be so a presentation for this vital campaign can be made. The money raised helps to offset the cost of resources to all our units.



Wolf River District Roundtable

Decatur-Trinity Christian Church
 2449 Altruria Rd. Bartlett, TN 38134
 Second Thursday of the Month
 December 12, 2013 at 7pm
 Why come to roundtable?

Roundtables play a significant role in providing continuous supplemental training for all unit, district, and commissioner leaders. This monthly event provides program topic guidance and structure suggestions for all leaders. Come and meet Cubbie our newest Scout and find out who gets to take Cubbie home for a visit. Also everyone bring a finger food item to share after roundtable for a holiday celebration.

Cub Scouts Focus

December Core Value: Positive Attitude
 Theme: Lights, Camera, Action

Boy Scout Focus

Program Feature: Wilderness Survival

Perfect Attendance Pin

Cub Scouts may be awarded, and wear, above the left pocket on their uniforms, the Perfect Attendance Pin as shown below. There are NO formal requirements for these pins. Each unit establishes the procedure for awarding the pin. For example, one unit considers scouts to have perfect attendance if scouts notify their den leader each time they will not be able to attend an activity before the event occurs. A cub scout may earn this pin once every year



Commissioner's Basic Training

Instructor: Linda Strickland
 December 7, 2013
 9am-12pm at the Scout Office
 171 S. Hollywood



Scouting for Food 2013 "Feeding Kids Campaign"

This year's Scouting for Food 2013 "Feeding Kids Campaign" begins November 9, 2013 and runs through December 14, 2013. We will have collection bins located at the following Kroger stores:

- Kroger 7735 Farmington Blvd, Germantown, TN
- Kroger 540 S. Mendenhall Road, Memphis
- Kroger 2835 Kirby Road, Memphis

The finale collection date of December 14, 2013 is when we will all go door to door in neighborhoods to collect donated food items. The most needed items are canned soups, canned stews, peanut butter, canned soups, canned vegetables and any non-perishable food items. We hope for 100% participation by all units for this most worthwhile service to our community. If you collect food and it goes to your church food pantry please let Lawrence Ellis know how many pounds you collect as we count those pounds towards our final totals.



Tuck or Not to Tuck

Does the Boy Scouts of America require uniform shirts to be tucked in? The question is specifically referring to field uniforms (known to some by the unofficial name “Class A”) and not activity uniforms (“Class B”). Problem is there hasn’t been an official policy in the past. The requirement was that the uniform-wearer must be “neat in appearance.” Most packs, troops, and crews interpreted that to mean tucking the shirts in, but a few didn’t. Now we’ve got our final answer. Effective Oct. 1, 2013, the official stance on the Boy Scouts of America’s uniform policy is that shirts are to be worn tucked in, regardless of whether the wearer is a Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, Venturer or adult Scouter. All Sea Scout uniforms are designed to be tucked in except youth dress whites and youth dress blues. In the past, guidelines have simply stated the uniform wearer should be neat in appearance. Neatness includes tucking in the shirt. This update will appear in related resources, such as the uniform inspection sheets, as they are revised and printed. So there you have it: Tuck those uniform shirts in! Though the official stance is new, the practice is old as the BSA itself. Any time you see a Scout wearing a uniform in an official BSA-printed publication, his shirt is tucked in. Just look through the Boy Scout Handbook, Scouting or Boys’ Life magazines, a BSA Supply catalog or any merit badge pamphlet and you’ll see exclusively tucked-in shirts.



Introducing the Cub Hub!

The Cub Hub is the new online gateway into the world of Cub Scouting. Cub Scouting goes beyond the uniform. It's about fun and doing your best. And the Cub Hub is all about showing that through vivid pictures, videos, and stories. We're always searching far and wide for the best of Cub Scouting on the Web and elsewhere. Think of it like a giant idea factory! Here, you'll find amazing and creative ideas to bring more fun to your pack. Ideas to [put a little zing](#) in your meetings, Sweet [contests](#), Super fun projects for parents and Cub Scouts, Amazing images and [videos](#) sure to get you and your Scout fired up, And some just plain cool Cub Scout-related content from all over the Web

PLUS:

Links to everywhere Cub Scouts are on the Web! You can [connect with your fellow Scout leaders and parents](#) on the Cub Scout social channel of your choice - Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, or Pinterest. Basic information including [guidelines](#) and how-tos to help parents and leaders do their best. It's the new home of the Cub Scouts. It's online at <http://cubscouts.org>. Check it out now! Don't forget to tell family and friends so they can join in the fun, too!

Upcoming District Events

- *Scout Night at the Grizzlies-December 7, 2013 at 7pm at the Fed-Ex Forum. The Memphis Grizzlies vs. the Golden State Warriors. Each scout in attendance will receive a commemorative patch and special scoreboard welcome message.
- *Bartlett Christmas Parade-December 7, 2013 at 4pm. This is a great way to recruit new scouts to your unit. You can participate by walking, riding in a decorated trailer or competing in the float competition. The theme this year is “I’m Dreaming of a “Green” Christmas”. Let’s see who can come up with the best recycling ideas to show how scouts reduce, reuse and recycle.
- *District Annual Business Meeting: December 12, 2013 at 6pm
Decatur Trinity Christian Church, 2449 Altruria Rd., Bartlett, TN 38134

*Kia Kima Winter Camp-Date: December 27-30, 2013. This is a mini long-term camping experience where participants will be able to work on advancement while enjoying the beauty of winter in the Ozarks. Winter Camp Leaders Guides are available at the scout shop or online at the Kia Kima website.

*Delta Merit Badge College: January 4, 2013 at Delta State University at 8am-4pm. For more information contact Ray Roberts at roberts10@suddenlink.net

*University of Scouting: February 1, 2014 at 7:30am-4pm

*Wolf River Academy: Merit Badge College on March 1, 2014 and Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills on February 28-March 2, 2014 at Centennial Park behind the Millington YMCA.

* **Webelos Outdoor Weekend 2014:** We have some major scheduling conflicts with Camp Currier due to all the capital improvements currently happening there therefore Webelos Outdoor Weekend has been moved from April 11-13, 2014 to May 2-4, 2014. Many more details on WOW! 2014 will be forthcoming in the coming weeks.



Thank you for being a part of the Wolf River District.

Newsletter Puzzle Entry:

Entrants Name: _____ Unit type and # _____

Find and circle all the words in the puzzle and bring it to December's roundtable. All entries with the correct responses will be entered into a drawing to win a prize.

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AKELA BOBCAT CAMPING DEN DUTY FLAG FUN GROW HANDBOOK
HELPER LAW LEARN PACK PROMISE SAFE SALUTE SCOUT TRAIL
UNIFORM WEBELO WOLF