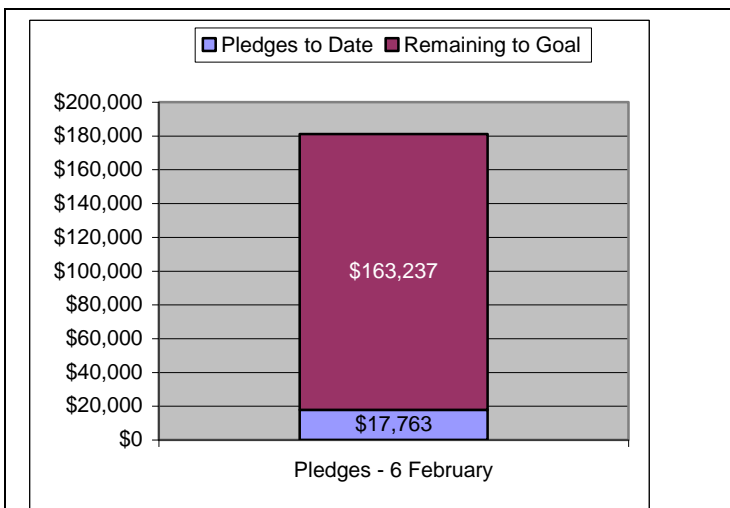




Welcome to the Polaris Star, the monthly Roundtable minutes and Polaris newsletter. You will be able to find out what the Polaris district committee is doing as well as upcoming events in your area!

Friends of Scouting Kickoff

Our 2009 Friends of Scouting (FOS) campaign is already off to a great start. Pledges have already been submitted totaling almost \$18,000 with more in the queue. Success in the FOS campaign is a key source of funding to the council's programs.



Polaris District Friends of Scouting campaign progress

If you have not already scheduled the kickoff for your unit's FOS campaign, please contact the Polaris District Finance Chair, Debbie Jancis, to schedule a presentation. Debbie can be reached by her email <debbie.jancis@sbcglobal.net> or by phone 408-245-4745.

Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars with these district and council events:

Date	Event
February 13	Council Annual Recognition Dinner
February 28	Northern California Commissioners Conference
February 28	Camp Hi-Sierra 60 th Anniversary Kick-off
April 18-19	Polaris District Camporee

Council Recognition Dinner

Please join us for the 2009 Annual Recognition Dinner: The dinner is 13 February 2009 at the Wyndham Hotel in San Jose. The dinner honors the Eagle Scout and Silver Beaver Class of 2008. The dinner also includes:

- Eagle Scout projects and displays
- 2008 Heroism and Award of Merit Recipients
- Thank the 2008 Council Officers
- Induct the 2009 Council Officers
- Special Guests and activities

Cost is \$50 per person (free for 2008 Eagle Scouts and Venture Silver Recipients).

All 2008 Eagles are asked to submit up to six photos from their Eagle Service Project to Gary Hendra for a special slide presentation. Gary's email is Gary.Hendra@Comcast.net. Eagle Scouts are also urged to present their Eagle Service project at the council dinner. A separate room is reserved for displaying Eagle projects. Displays can be in the form of a science fair-type display, a scale model, a photo album, or a PowerPoint presentation on your laptop. Please let Bobby Toda know if you plan to exhibit. You can email him at BobbyToda@yahoo.com to let him know that you are exhibiting. In the message, please provide: project name; format for your presentation (Powerpoint, display panel, photo album).

Eagle Recognition Sponsors

The annual Council Recognition Dinner is coming up on 13 February. Each year, we recognize the youth that have earned the rank of Eagle during the previous year. As honorees, we don't want to charge these youth for their meals. This is an opportunity for you to step in and help recognize those that have earned the highest rank in Boy Scouting. The council is seeking sponsors that would make a contribution to pay for a youth to attend the Council Dinner. For details of how to make a contribution, please contact the front desk at 408-280-5088 ext. #41.

SCCC Treated to One Day of Training

In January, Santa Clara County Council was treated to the annual University of Scouting/Pow Wow training seminar. "Fantastic day", "Thanks for the Training", and "I learned a lot" were just a few of the comments heard in the hallways and in the evaluations. Wayne Cunningham, chancellor for this event commented that "he could not have done it alone, and would like to thank his staff: Tina Urata, Steve & Carissa Walters, Don Larson, Kathy Denise, and Neal Osborn, who were all Deans. We cannot forget the marketing team of Steve & Carissa Walters, Tom Tate, & Cathie Larson for making sure we all heard the word and the date at every single roundtable and various other council and district functions until we were blue in the face. (Only kidding team.)"

Each year, the council sponsors this event. For the past few years, it has been held at Santa Clara High School on Benton St in Santa Clara. We must thank Kathy Denise, a teacher at the school, who has been instrumental in securing the school for us each year. The teachers there are just great because they let us use their classrooms each year.

This year reported a 24% attendance increase over last year. Some 196 Scouters participated in approximately 66 different classes such as:

- Boy Behavior,
- Fires,
- Kayaking,
- Scoutcraft,
- Magic,
- Den Chief Training, and
- Venturing for leaders.

All of the classes, old and new, were enjoyed by all. Yes, learning happened.

Neal Osborn did a fantastic job with the Midway. With groups, organizations, local businesses, and others like RAFT, and scouting events represented at some 29 plus tables, lunch was informative, exciting, and fun. Our greeters, Jason, Art and all that manned the registration table up front, thank you all. Also thanks to all the teachers.

Mark your calendars with next year's University of Scouting/Pow Wow date, 23 January 2010. Theme is to be determined soon.



A little prankster action at Pow Wow

"Every Boy Deserves a Trained Leader."

New Leader Essentials

New Leaders Essentials is in the process of being replaced by a new course called "What is Scouting". Please watch the Polaris Star for further details in future issues.

Cub Position Specific Training

14 February – Council Service Center

Outdoor Webelos Leader Training

21 March – (Location to be announced)

Boy Scout SM/ASM Leader Specific Training

16 May – Key Point Credit Union, Santa Clara

Outdoor Leader Skills

7 March – Camp Chesebrough (1st part)

13-14 March – Camp Chesebrough (2nd part)

Troop Committee Challenge

The Troop Committee Challenge is now available online @ <http://olc.scouting.org> (Please have your scout registration ID to log in. When completed, please notify Jerry McMillan so that he can verify your registration.)

Venturing Leader Specific

28 February – Council Service Center

High Adventure

3-4 March – Camp Chesebrough (part 2, outdoor)

Den Chief Training

7 March – Council Service Center

Woodbadge

Spring 2009:

Orientation: March 21

Weekend One: April 16-18

Weekend Two: May 14-16

For additional information or to verify your "Trained" status, please contact Jerry McMillan.

Centennial Quality Unit Commitments

It's time to formulate your unit goals for the new year. These goals are the basis for your 2009 Centennial Quality Unit Award commitments. This award is national recognition that your unit plans and conducts a safe and fun Scouting year. Requirements include leader training, advancement, and activities. Every unit should be able to earn this award, and be entitled to wear the Quality Unit patch on their uniforms. Being a Quality Unit is a great recruiting tool for your unit! [Centennial Award Application forms \(large file, so long download\)](#) for Packs, Troops and Crews are available on the SCCC Web Site in the "Quality" section.

In addition to the centennial award, units who earn the centennial plus award are entitled to receive free cloth advancement patches.

If your unit hasn't already returned the commitment form, there is still time. Contact your unit commissioner and submit your commitment now.

Commissioner's Corner: Commissioner Training is an Ongoing Activity

Commissioners, how can you ensure consistent quality service to your units? First, you can stay in touch with your units to make sure that you are taking care of their needs and solving their problems. But, this goes without saying since this is your primary job. You can also be sure that you are trained so that you know how to best perform your job. I just attended a new commissioner training with three of our commissioners and I am happy to announce that Rebecca Feng, Jean Long and Allen White, are now officially trained. Congratulations!

OK. Even if we have all completed basic training, there is much more we can still do. Like any job, continuous training is important so that we keep up on the best practices and to help review what we should already know. Later this month is an opportunity to further our education as commissioners. The Northern California Commissioners' College is going to be held on 28 February 2009 at Palo Alto High School. The Commissioner's College is similar to PowWow/University of Scouting in that there are many sessions on many useful topics. This is a great opportunity to learn something new or to refresh what you already know. I have already signed up for Commissioner's College.

Here is URL where you can register:

<http://www.norcalcommissioner.org/CommCollege/index.html>

I look forward to seeing you all there.

Your District Commissioner,
Bob Wedig

Polaris District Committee

Position	Name
District Chairman	Kathi Lucas
District Executive	Dylan Hendrickson
District Commissioner	Bob Wedig
Membership Chair	Steve Nguyen
Finance Chair	Debbie Jancis
Program Chair	Jonathan Leder
Activities Chair	<i>Vacant</i>
Advancement Chair	Wendy Glasser
Camping Chair	Pauli Hsueh
Training Chair	Jerry McMillan
Cub Scout Training Chair	Steve Walters
Boy Scout Training Chair	<i>Vacant</i>
Venturing Training Chair	<i>Vacant</i>
Public Relations Chair	Mark Ellson
OA Chapter Advisor	John Lucas
Boy Scout RT Commissioner	Larry Grace
Cub Scout RT Commissioner	Tad Davis
Venturing RT Commissioner	Ken Bower
Pinewood Derby Chair	Roger Burney
Scout-O-Rama Chair	Peter Wong
Scouting-for-Food Chair	Chia-Chih Ho
MB Counselor Training Chair	David Ashby
District Dinner Chair	Debbie Ward

All e-mail addresses can be found through the Council by contacting Dylan Hendrickson at 408-280-5088 ext 41.

Polaris Email Group

The Polaris District Email group is used to send this monthly Roundtable Reminder, our monthly newsletter "The Polaris Star" and between 3 and 7 special announcements a month. You can join the group if you would like to stay in the loop on all that is happening in the Polaris District. If you know a fellow Polaris Scouter who is not a member of the list, please invite them to join.

If you are not currently on the Polaris Yahoo Group mailing list and would like to receive the Star each month, please subscribe to our list by sending an email to the following address:

SCCC-Polaris-RD-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Polaris District Camporee

The Polaris District Camporee is just around the corner. Every year Scouts from the Polaris District gather together at camporee to compete with each other, meet other Scouts within the district, and, most importantly, show their scout spirit. This year, camporee is the weekend of 18-19 April. This year, camporee is at the "new and improved" Camp Chesebrough. This year's theme is "Survival".

Watch for details on registration and the events. Don't forget to pre-register! Benefits of pre-registering your troop or crew include:

- pay lower fees,
- guaranteed this year's patches, and
- receive bonus points at camporee.

Be aware that, once again, vehicle access to the camp is going to be very limited due to the lack of parking. Like last year, Scouts are expected to hike down to the camp from the drop-off point.

In preparation for the camporee, OA representatives are contacting units to schedule election visitations. For additional information please contact the Order of the Arrow Chapter Advisor, John Lucas, at 408-446-3396 or jlucas@stanfordmed.org

2009 Cub Scout Summer Camp

Join us for one or more Cub Scout Summer Camp sessions, "**How the west was FUN!**" Sign up as a pack, den, or an individual Cub. All camps require a parent/guardian volunteer for each Cub.

Day camps are open to all Wolves, Bears and Webelos.
Twilight camps are open to Tigers, Wolves, Bears, and Webelos.
Cub Adventure resident camps are open only to Webelos and Bears. Webelos Adventure resident camps are open only to Webelos

Click [here](#) for a list of camps including when and where they are held.

More information is coming soon. In the meantime, if you have questions, please contact Phu Tran, the staff adviser, at phu@scccbsa.org.

Scout-o-Rama

It's that time of year again, the biggest Scouting event of the year, the 2009 Scout-O-Rama. This is your opportunity to show off what your unit does best. Maybe your pack does a killer bike safety race, or your troop makes the best peach cobbler in the world, or your crew know the best hiking trails in the bay area. We'll also be selling coupon books to raise money for all of our units, as well as

to put on this great Scouting festival. This is your chance to shine and to see what the rest of the Scouting community is up to.

So far, we have many great units signed up to host a booth and to sell tickets. Pack 415, 433, 436 as well as Troop 400, 407, and 479 are all on board. Now it's time for you to get signed up.

The Santa Clara County Council is having a kickoff this weekend, February 14th at the old Firehouse at History Park.. You can get some food, pick up your coupon books, get some training and claim your booth. They will even have special Valentine's Day prizes and raffles. The event starts at 10am at History Park at Kelly Park at 1650 Senter Road. We can't wait to see you there.

Jonathan Leder
Program Chair - wizardjel@gmail.com

Peter Wong
Scout-O-Rama Chair - peter.wong@lmco.com

Roundtable Staffing Needs

If you are a regular at Roundtable, we could use your help as a greeter. We want two people so that we have a backup person each month. Responsibilities are:

- be at Roundtable 15 minutes before the start to make sure the sign-in sheets are out and used,
- help distribute literature, and
- assist visitors and new people to sign in and get introduced to the RT staff.

Please talk to Charlie Schrey at Cub Scout Roundtable if you are interested, or call him at (408) 725-8930.

February Boy Scout Roundtable

Motivating Inactive Parents

How often have we heard the statement "We have so many parents in our troop that don't get involved; they just don't do anything to help the troop"? Or perhaps "I wish we could get more of our parents to step up and take on a leadership role in the troop"? Would you like to find a way to motivate inactive parents and perhaps have a better operating Troop Committee?

If these questions find meaning with you and your troop, the February Boy Scout Roundtable may help provide some answers for you. "Motivating Inactive Parents" was in the top ten of the most requested subjects for discussion at our Roundtable in our interest survey this past year. So this is the month!

We will look at ways for enlisting and involving parents in the troop program, including participation in the Troop Committee. Many of our troops have achieved lots of adult and parental involvement. We look forward to them sharing their successes. If you have additional ideas (or difficulties), we want to hear them.

February Cub Scout Roundtable

Now is the time for packs to be working on transitioning in new leaders. So, if you are moving up to Boy Scouts soon, please bring your replacement to Roundtable. This helps them make connections with our District's best resources – the leaders of neighboring Packs.

February RT Agenda: March's Theme: When I Grow Up

Explore 21st century career possibilities this month. Host a pack career fair, inviting several adults to share what they do for a living and how these career opportunities might change as you grow up and technology advances. Discover how having a positive attitude is essential in reaching career goals. Den meeting plans could include field trips to learn about different occupations of interest to the boys and playing games centered on different jobs. This would be a good month to work on any of the Cub Scout Academics and Sports belt loops and pins. Let the boys vote on the one that fits best with what they want to be when they grow up. For those future astronauts, this month is a perfect time for a space derby.

February Roundtable Activities:

Pre-Opening Toys R Us Song

Opening "The Flag"

Knot of the Month Clove Hitch

Song If I Weren't A Boy Scout

Game Blue and Gold Battle (cracker whack - capture the flag)

Pack Leader Breakouts

Story Telling

(Steve)

Tiger-Bear Den Leaders Breakout (Brian & Hank)

Business Card Neckerchief slide

Blue and Gold centerpieces

Weather Rock (weatherman)

Field Trips and Tour Permits

Career Hat Relay

Dress For Success Relay

Webelos Breakout

Field Trips, Tour Permits, medical forms - Athlete and Engineer (Matt & Norm)

Committee Pack Planning

Brainstorming activities / themes

Adult volunteers - positions

Please check your "Program Helps", Pow-Wow book and "Cub Scout How To" book for additional theme ideas. Roundtable would love to hear about theme related activities that our units are planning and would like to share!

March RT Agenda: April's Theme: Jurassic Pack

Explore the land before time! Imagine living in a time when dinosaurs roamed the Earth. What have paleontologists learned about the great beasts that roamed the Earth millions of years ago? Did any dinosaurs live where you do now? Find out what they ate, where they lived, and how they moved. What could we learn of these creatures that lived so long ago? Make a model of a dinosaur or visit a museum where dinosaur fossils can be seen. Make your

own "dinosaur footprints" or "fossils" in plaster. Take a dinosaur scavenger hike by going on a hike and looking for things that might have been found during the Jurassic era. This would be a great time to work on the Geology belt loop and pin.

January Roundtable Recap

To be successful, Roundtable needs the participation of each of our units. We are asking that Cub leaders who are moving up to Boy Scouts please bring their pack's incoming leaders to the next Roundtable on 10 February.

Thanks again to all our participants! Thanks to your commitment to Scouting, we had yet another record breaking Roundtable month. To be successful, Roundtable needs the participation of each of our units. We would like to thank the following units for their attendance at the January Roundtable:

UnitType [Participants]

Packs 408, 415 [4], 419, 433, 436, 443 [2], 450, 457 [5], 462, 476, 480 [2], 505, 549, 581, 606

24 leaders from 15 of 30 packs for 50% of our packs represented

Troops 400, 407 [3], 408 [2], 452 [3], 453 [5], 454, 463, 466 [2], 468 [4], 476 [2], 485 [2], 495 [2], 498 [2], 508, 566, 606 [3]

35 leaders from 16 of 24 troops for 67% of our troops represented

Please join us in celebrating the following First-Timers and Roundtable Anniversaries:

Name	Position	Unit
First Timers		
Kathi Lucas	Advisor	C479
Joy Zhou	Assistant Scoutmaster	T452
Yee-Rong Lai	Committee Chairman	T453
Sandy Chen	Committee Member	P408
Wei-Lun Kao		T408
10th RT Attended		
Muriel Root	Parent	T463
Rahul Vadodkar	Den Leader	P433
25th RT Attended		
Debbie Jancis	Treasurer	P415
Anthony Rodrigues	Assistant Scoutmaster	T466

Thank you to all of our FOS contributors for helping to make Roundtable possible! A small part of each FOS contribution is used to fund the crafts and activities presented at Roundtable such as the New Year's dragon kits that were made and given out at January's meeting.

Note from the Editor

Thank you for reading this issue of the Polaris Star. We hope that you have found it helpful and interesting. Please send items for inclusion in future issues of the Polaris Star to Mark Ellson at mfellson@comcast.net. The deadline for submissions for the March issue is 7 March. Earlier submissions are appreciated.

Venturing Roundtable Information

There is a separate **Venturing-specific roundtable** held each month. This Roundtable, focused on the needs of Venturing Crews, is a Council-wide event. The Venturing Roundtable is the first Tuesday of every month at the Council Service Center from 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM.

Polaris District Pinewood Derby Results

1. 3.199 P505 Hunter B.
2. 3.204 P415 Scott G.
3. 3.214 P581 Graham K.
4. 3.215 P462 Mateo C.
5. 3.216 P419 Anthony F.
6. 3.257 P462 Stefan B.
7. 3.272 P415 Jie L.
8. 3.272 P408 Eric C.
9. 3.277 P457 Nicholas D.
10. 3.281 P581 Cole K.

Congratulations to all of the participants in the District race!