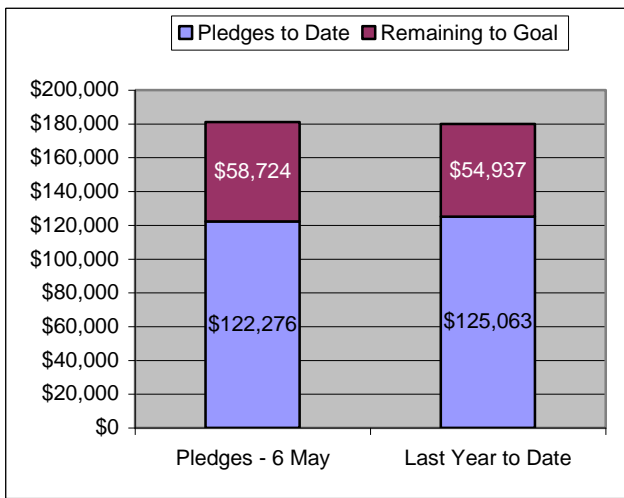


# POLARIS STAR

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

With particular thanks to the Community Breakfast in April, we've made progress closing the gap on our 2009 Friends of Scouting campaign. But, we're entering the tough part of the campaign. progress is starting to slow. As shown, pledges to date total \$122,276 compared to last year's pledges to date of \$125,063. Time remains to catch up. However, catching up is going to require a concerted effort by all of our units. Success in the FOS campaign is a key source of funding to the council's programs. Let's all pull together to make this year's campaign a success.



### Polaris District Friends of Scouting campaign progress

For questions regarding the Friends of Scouting Campaign, please contact the Polaris District Finance Chair, Debbie Jancis. Debbie can be reach by her email <[debbie.jancis@sbcglobal.net](mailto:debbie.jancis@sbcglobal.net)> or by phone 408-245-4745.

## Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars with these district and council events:

Date	Event
May 29-31	OA Spring Ordeal
June 15	Cub Scout Day Camp begins
June 19-21	Webelos Adventure Resident Camp 1
June 25-28	Webelos Adventure Resident Camp 2
July 17-19	Wolf/Bear Adventure Resident Camp

## Polaris District Camporee

Thanks to the Order of the Arrow who, along with some Venturers, combined to put on another successful Polaris District Camporee. Camporee was held 18-19 April at Camp Chesebrough.



**Polaris Camporee OA and Venturing staff**

Congratulations to Troop 606 that won the coveted Silver Axe award for the patrol with the highest cumulative score. Congratulations as well to Troop 407 that won the Bronze Hatchet award this year for best demonstration of the theme.

## Scout-o-Rama

Thanks to everyone who participated for another great Scout-O-Rama. All outstanding money from Scout-O-Rama coupon book sales should be turned in at the Council Service Center by now. If you have any remaining money, please turn it in as soon as possible.

The Polaris District had 23 Booths, 2 more then last year, to present the various strengths of our units! We are still working on collecting all of the funds for the coupon booklets that have been sold, but currently we are at \$7,500 collected out of our goal of \$14,000. Please stop by the Council Service Center to settle up your units account.

If anyone has any questions or concerns please contact the District Scout-o-Rama Chair, Peter Wong at [peter.wong@lmco.com](mailto:peter.wong@lmco.com) or 408-733-5728.

## Spring Recruiting

Someone was once kind enough to introduce your son and family to the world of Scouting. Currently, we have 34 recruitment efforts planned and more on the horizon. We are asking each Polaris unit to help out by planning their Spring Recruitment efforts, and conveying their plans to the Polaris Membership Committee.

Spring is the perfect time for Cub Scout Packs to recruit graduating Kindergarteners and others. This allows new Cubs to participate fully in the summer fun. For troops, now is the time to transition Webelos into your Troop. But, this is also the time to recruit boys from local middle schools, churches, and community groups. Our goal is to provide an opportunity for every youth to become a member of the Boy Scouts of America. As you go about your daily business, keep in mind how Scouting could benefit the families with which you come in contact.

For more information on recruitment training and resources, please contact the Polaris Membership Chair, Steve Nguyen ([steveldn@yahoo.com](mailto:steveldn@yahoo.com)). Or, you can contact the Polaris District Executive, Dylan Hendrickson, at [Dylan@SCCCBSA.org](mailto:Dylan@SCCCBSA.org) or 408-280-4088 ext. 41.

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## Commissioners Corner: Youth Retention

With a full roster, your unit has proven that it can attract young people to the scouting program. However, it is not enough just to recruit them. We must also focus on retaining 100 percent of the youth who join our programs. Thus, our objective is to improve the quality of the scouting program so we can retain our youth.

Quality not only fuels growth. Quality is our commitment to the youth who join. We must provide them with exciting programs that not only meet their expectations, but exceed them. We can do this a number of ways:

- First and foremost, keep your promises. Do not promise activities you cannot deliver.
- Second, ensure a quality program by working with your committee to recruit the right leaders. Find leaders that are willing to put in the time it takes to work with the youth.
- Third, communicate with parents to make sure they are satisfied with the program.
- Fourth, ensure that 100 percent of your leaders are trained. Finally, place an emphasis on the advancement program and allow all your leaders to participate fully in the process.

By doing each of these things, you can help ensure a quality program and continue to retain youth in scouting.

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## Cub Scout Overnighter at Great America!

Join us for a night of Cub Scout family camping followed by a fun-filled day at everyone's favorite local amusement park, California's Great America.

- Date: Friday, July 17th thru Saturday, July 18th.
- Who: Polaris Cub Scout Packs
- What: Entrance around 6pm, overnight stay, breakfast, next day admission, lunch
- Where: Great America, 4701 Great America Pkwy, Santa Clara, CA 95054
- Cost: \$48.50 per person (i.e. Cub Scouts, parents, siblings) to your Pack coordinator due by June 19th.

Don't miss the event of the summer (at this unbeatable price)! This event includes not only the Great America rides and shows. But, also included is staying overnight and enjoying breakfast and lunch at the park. Our Friday evening activities include Cub Scout songs and a movie. Join our park scavenger hunt to win 2 complementary Great America tickets. This activity is open to all Tigers, Wolves, Bears, Webelos, siblings and parents.

For more information, contact Kurt Takara: [ktakara@scualum.com](mailto:ktakara@scualum.com)

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*Scouts find creative river crossing methods at camporee*

# "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**

9 May – Council Service Center (Chinese)

## **Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO) Training**

16 May – Los Gatos Scout Hut

## **Outdoor Webelos Leader Training**

23-24 October – Camp Chesebrough

## **Boy Scout SM/ASM Leader Specific Training**

16 May – Key Point Credit Union, Santa Clara

16 May – Cupertino (Chinese)

## **Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills**

29-31 May – Camp Chesebrough (Chinese)

5-7 June – Camp Chesebrough

## **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**

19 September

## **High Adventure**

3-4 October – Sports Basement, Sunnyvale (Part 1)

7-8 November – Camp Chesebrough (Part 2)

## **Den Chief Training**

(To be announced)

## **Woodbadge**

Spring 2009:

Weekend Two: May 14-16

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

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# 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.

In the meantime, if you have questions or would like to get involved, please contact the District Program Chair, Jonathan Leder, at [wizardjel@gmail.com](mailto:wizardjel@gmail.com) or 408-455-4868.

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## Food Drive and Garden Railroad Tour

Visit twelve model railroads running through some of the most unusual backyard gardens in Morgan Hill, San Martin, Gilroy and Hollister. The open house is scheduled for Saturday, 15 August. This is an outstanding opportunity for service and fun. To participate, please bring donations of non-perishable food (canned goods, pasta, cereal, etc) and pickup a guide book at the All Aboard Junction train store at 8355 Monterey Street, Gilroy (behind Cottage Floors). Cash donations (cash or check to "St Josephs Family Center" or "the Community Pantry") are also gratefully accepted. Details are available at the Bay Area Garden Railroad Society website [www.bagrs.org/fooddrive](http://www.bagrs.org/fooddrive). Just click on "15<sup>th</sup> annual Benefit Layout Tour". For more information, please email [dalemcanally@verizon.net](mailto:dalemcanally@verizon.net) or call 408-683-4537 [days] / 408-848-1440 [evenings]. Alternatively, contact Pat DeLeon at All Aboard Junction at 408-846-4481 during the day.

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## 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.

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## May Boy Scout Roundtable

Have discussions of Health Forms, Tour Permits, etc., etc., etc. got you tied in knots? Well, at the May Polaris Boy Scout Roundtable, we are trying to untie some of those knots and learn some new ones.

This month, we still have to think. But, the focus is "hands-on". Learn how your Scouts can improve their pioneering skills, such as:

- Whipping and fusing a rope
- Basic pioneering knots
- Basic pioneering lashings

We are also talking about some fun pioneering projects to get your Scouts enthused about putting things together in the out of doors. So, bring along your Troop's pioneering project ideas to share with the Roundtable.

**JUNE COOKOUT** - Don't Forget! Plan now to come and demonstrate an outdoor cooking skill or recipe. This is an opportunity for us to learn, from each other, what's best in the world of outdoor camp cooking. The June Roundtable is "Cookout/Pig-out Month".

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## May 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.

### May RT Agenda: June's Theme: Be A Sport!

Not only is it important to do your best when you try new sports, it's also important to understand the rules of being a "good sport" no matter how the game goes. Play ball, soccer, tennis, or any sport. Learn about a sport you've never played before. Have a sports competition with another Cub Scout pack in your area. Have athletes from a local high school or college speak at your den or pack meeting. Ask them to teach you about their sport. Learn a sport you can play with your family: golf, tennis, bowling,

swimming, or skating. Have a pack sports day. Cub Scouts can create an obstacle course for the pack to enjoy while earning the belt loop and pin for Physical Fitness or any of the many Cub Scout Sports.

### May Roundtable Activities:

**Opening** Leader Of The Pack

**Song** Take Me Out To The Ball Game

### Games

Box Hockey

Hackey Sack

Fox Tail

Wobbly Ball Basket Ball

Pachinko

Super Slip And Slide

Frisbee Golf

### Pack Leader Breakouts

**Cubmaster Breakout - Campfire Prep**

**Tiger-Bear Den Leaders Breakout**

Flag Ceremonies

Make A Hackey Sack

Water Bottle Holder

Balloon and nut noise maker

### Webelos Den Leaders Breakout

Aquanaut, Traveler, Handy Man, Geologist

**Committee** Tour Permits, Facebook, Yahoo Groups

*Special note A bounty is offered to units who bring their committee chair for the first time. Don't be left out!*

**Unit Ideas/Sharing Time** What ideas/plans are your unit's program highlights?

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!

### June RT Agenda: June's Theme: A-Camping We Will Go

This month, Cub Scouts go camping! Have a backyard campout with your family. Pitch a tent or sleep out under the stars. Conduct a pack camp out at a nearby Scout camp, state park, or even the local museum. An outdoor pack meeting might include a nature observation hunt, followed by an evening around the campfire. Attend the council's Cub Scout or Webelos Scout resident camp as a den or pack. Or, participate in the council's family camp with your whole family. Camping doesn't always mean overnight. Day camp is always lots of fun. Get those boys outdoors and let them discover the fun of camping while working on their Cub Scout Outdoor Activity Award. Whatever you do, do it outside and find out what the outing in Scouting is all about. While out on the trail, you can work on the Map and Compass belt loop and pin or the Astronomy belt loop and pin.

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## April 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 12 May.

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 [2], 415 [5], 419, 433 [2], 436, 443, 450, 452, 457 [3], 462, 476 [2], 505, 508, 606, unknown

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

**Troops** 400 [2], 407 [2], 452 [4], 453 [4], 454, 463, 468 [2], 479 [2], 494, 495, 498, 508, 535, 566 [2], 581, 606 [2]

28 leaders from 16 of 23 troops for 70% of our troops represented

Please join us in celebrating the following First-Timers:

Name	Position	Unit
<b>10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</b>		
Wayne Lin	Scoutmaster	T454
Shawming Ma	Tiger Den Leader	P408

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.

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## 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](mailto:mfellson@comcast.net). The deadline for submissions for the May issue is 5 June. Earlier submissions are appreciated.

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## 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.

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## 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 5 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](mailto:SCCC-Polaris-RD-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

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