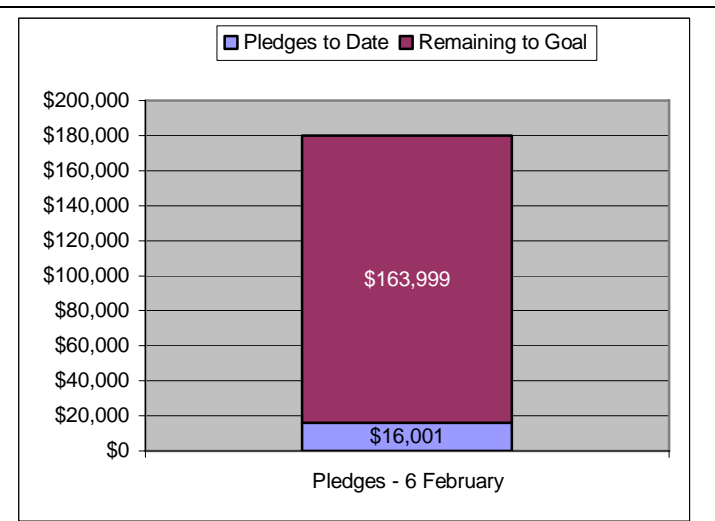




Welcome to the Polaris Star, the monthly Roundtable minutes and Polaris newsletter. You will be able to find out what the Polaris district committee is doing as well as upcoming events in your area!

## Friends of Scouting Kickoff

Our 2008 Friends of Scouting (FOS) campaign is already off to a great start. Pledges have already been submitted totaling more than \$16,000 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](mailto:debbie.jancis@sbcglobal.net)> or by phone 408-245-4745.

## Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars with these upcoming district and council events:

Date	Event
February 22-24	Bear Paw (outdoor portion)
February 23	Polaris District Pinewood Derby
February 24	NorCal Commissioners Conference
March 15-16	Spring OA Fellowship
March 15-16	CASA Camp-O-Ree
April 12-13	Polaris District Camp-O-Ree

## Commissioner's Corner

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 purpose. You can also be sure that you are trained so that you know how to best perform your job. However, once you are trained, there is much more you can do. Like any job, continuing training is always important. You need to keep up on the best practices and to help review what you should already know.

One motivation for you to provide the best commissioner service is recognition. After basic commissioner training, earning the Arrowhead Honor helps to demonstrate that you are a quality commissioner. Beyond this, earning the Commissioners Key demonstrates that you are an experienced commissioner. Ultimately, you may strive to earn the Distinguished Commissioner Service Award that demonstrates that you are one of the top commissioners in Scouting. Like any academic degree or industrial honor, working towards and ultimately receiving any of these recognitions not only helps you to be a better commissioner; it also honors you for having achieved it.

## 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 March issue is March 9. Earlier submissions are appreciated.

## Cub Summer Camp Registration

We are pleased to announce that Cub Summer camp registration is now open. We have something for everyone with 12 day camps, 3 twilight camps, 2 Webelos Resident Camps, and 1 Cub Adventure Resident Camp. Each camp has its own unique opportunities and programs. You can sign up for one or many - each is a special experience.

To get started on your online registration, go to the 2008 Cub Summer camp site at <http://www.scccbsa.org/cubcamp/>. Here, you can find all the information you need to get signed up.

Boy Scout Troops and Venture Crews, this is important to you as well. We are looking for your best Boy Scouts and Venturers to be a part of our fantastic 2008 Cub Camp Staff. Whether they volunteer for 1 week or the whole summer, we have opportunities for everyone. The staff application can be found at [http://www.scccbsa.org/files/2008\\_program\\_camping\\_Cub\\_StaffApplication2008.pdf](http://www.scccbsa.org/files/2008_program_camping_Cub_StaffApplication2008.pdf). Please download, print, and distribute as needed.

Do you have questions or need additional information? The first place to check is the Cub Camp web site at <http://www.scccbsa.org/cubcamp/>. The FAQ page ([http://www.scccbsa.org/files/2008\\_program\\_camping\\_cubcamp\\_faq.pdf](http://www.scccbsa.org/files/2008_program_camping_cubcamp_faq.pdf)) answers many of your general camp questions. In addition, you can contact the Cub camp Committee via e-mail at [cubcamp@scccbsa.org](mailto:cubcamp@scccbsa.org) or by phone at 408-280-2154 x923.

Don't miss out on a great summer - sign up today.

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## Polaris District Camp-O-Ree

The Polaris District Camp-O-Ree 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, Camp-O-Ree is the weekend of 12-13 April. Camp-O-Ree is still at Camp Chesebrough. This year's theme is "Superheroes".

Watch for details on registration and the events. Don't forget to pre-register! If your Troop or Crew pre-registers you pay lower fees, are guaranteed this year's patches, and receive bonus points at Camporee. Be aware that vehicle access to the camp is going to be very limited due to the lack of parking.

In preparation for the Camp-O-Ree, OA representatives are contacting units to schedule an election visitation. For additional information please contact the Order of the Arrow Chapter Advisor John Lucas at 408-446-3396 or [jlucas@stanfordmed.org](mailto:jlucas@stanfordmed.org).

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## Pack 457 Contributes to Sunnyvale Community Services

On February 8th, Cub Scout Pack 457 met at the Good Samaritan Methodist Church in Cupertino (their sponsoring organization) to repackage over 1,200 pounds of rice & beans into family size servings to be distributed by Sunnyvale Community Services.

While the event was a spirited and fun service project for the pack, what made it even more noteworthy was that the Cub Scouts purchased the rice & beans from money raised through the annual popcorn sale. "These Scouts, ranging in ages from 7 to 11 years old, learned a valuable lesson in the power of working together and giving of your time and other resources to support their community", said Scott Davidson, Pack 457 Cubmaster.

The meeting started with a traditional flag ceremony and pledge of allegiance, and was followed with the singing of the Star Spangled Banner, lead by Ian Davoren (10 yr old) playing our national anthem on his flute. After brief announcements by Asst. Cubmaster Riley Howard, the Scouts dug into the fifty, 25 lb bags of rice and beans, expertly measuring servings into family-sized bags. Surprisingly, over half a ton of rice and beans was repackaged in less than 35 minutes and then carefully stacked into an SUV for transport to Sunnyvale Community Services for distribution. Pack 457's service project coordinator Juliet Davoren beamed at the event's conclusion as she reflected, "The excitement and energy of those fifty plus Cub Scouts serving their community felt like riding a ferris wheel!"



**Cubs from Pack 457 with part of their food contribution**

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## Scout-o-Rama

Scout-o-Rama is coming 10 May. So, save the date! Now is the perfect time for your Pack, Troop, or Crew to start picking out a booth theme/concept. Polaris had plenty of great booths last year ranging from Troop 494's Dutch oven cooking to Pack 415's catapult castle siege! Make sure that your Scouts have the opportunity to attend the single most active Scouting day of the year. We are currently encouraging units to participate by attending, hosting a booth, and selling Scout-o-Rama ticket booklets as a fundraiser. Please contact Polaris Scout-o-Rama Chair Peter Wong at 408-733-5728 or [peter.wong@lmco.com](mailto:peter.wong@lmco.com) for further information.

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## 2008 District Pinewood Derby Race

Come join us for the Polaris District Pinewood Derby Final Races. The Cars must be inspected for impound between 7pm and 9pm on Friday 22-Feb-2008 at the scout office. The Race will be the next morning at 9am at Cupertino Square Shopping Center (Valco). We are very much in need of uniformed adult leaders for both events.

Show up to cheer on the boys and see all the hard work they have done to make the fastest and the most stylish cars in the district. We are all going to "Do Our Best" and have a great time.

Details: The three fastest scouts will represent their pack for the district competition. A fee of \$5.00 per scout will be charged on race day to cover the costs of materials and awards. Each car that races in the district competition must conform to the accepted district building guidelines as explained in the 2008 Polaris District Pinewood Derby Car Building Guidelines. For the final word on the speed competition please see The Official Polaris District Pinewood Derby Rules. The static competition will be numerous and include awards such as Most Patriotic, Best Scout Spirit, and Most Realistic."

For questions please contact [roger.burney@gmail.com](mailto:roger.burney@gmail.com) the Polaris District Pinewood Derby Chair.

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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 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@yahogroups.com](mailto:SCCC-Polaris-RD-subscribe@yahogroups.com)

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## Polaris District Committee

Position	Name
District Chairman	Ed Chang
District Executive	Dylan Hendrickson
District Commissioner	Bob Wedig
Membership Chair	<i>Vacant</i>
Finance Chair	Debbie Jancis
Program Chair	Bobby Toda
Activities Chair	<i>Vacant</i>
Advancement Chair	Wendy Glasser
Camping Chair	Roy Tsai
Training Chair	Seth Kurasaki
Cub Scout Training Chair	Steve Walters
Boy Scout Training Chair	Jerry McMillan
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
Scot-O-Rama Chair	Peter Wong
Scouting-for-Food Chair	Garrick Chang
MB Counselor Training Chair	David Ashby

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

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## District and Unit Advancement Team Coordination

Calling all unit Advancement Chairs or the Unit Leaders responsible for the Advancement process in your Pack, Troop, or Crew. Please contact our new District Advancement Chair to provide her with your contact information and for any future Advancement issues. Wendy Glasser is an involved member of Troop 508's unit leadership with a rich history of involvement in the merit badge program throughout Saratoga. She can be reached by email at [scouter54@comcast.net](mailto:scouter54@comcast.net) or by phone at 408-872-0935.

# 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 February 12th.

We would like to thank the following units for their attendance at the January Roundtable:

## UnitType [Participants]

**Packs** 406, 408, 415 [2], 433, 444, 454 [2], 457 [3], 476 [2], 480 [2], 508

16 leaders from 10 of 30 packs for 33% of our packs represented

**Troops** 407 [2], 443, 452, 453 [3], 454 [2], 457, 463, 468, 476 [2], 485 [2], 495, 498 [3], 508, 535, 566 [2], 581, 606

26 leaders from 17 of 23 troops for 74% of our troops represented

Thank you to all of our FOS contributors for helping to make Roundtable possible! A small part of FOR contributions are 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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## 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, Litter to Glitter

This month Cub Scouts will turn recycled items into treasure and learn about conservation at the same time. Using items that would normally go in the trash or recycling bin, they can build artistic masterpieces of their own design. It's amazing what some recycled bottles and paper can do when combined with glue and a little imagination. Have a gallery opening at your pack meeting with all your art displayed. Don't forget the Art belt loop and pin.

Character Connection: Citizenship

[Sunnyvale Recycling Center](#)  
[RAFT \(Resource Area For Teachers\)](#)

### February Roundtable Activities:

#### Opening (Steve)

Resource Dump  
Dance of the Trash Fairies

#### Song (Tad)

Litter to Glitter

#### Knot of the Month (Steve)

Timberline Hitch

#### Games

Raft Crafts

#### Cubmasters Breakout (Steve)

Newspaper Activities

#### Committee Breakout (Steve)

Spring Recruiting, Summer Camp

#### Den Leaders Breakout

Craft, Games - More LITTER and GLITTER (Carissa)

#### Webelos Breakout (Matt/Tad)

Graduation Ceremonies

Arrow of Light Requirements

Moving on to Boy Scouts

Future Topics Poll

#### District/Council Breakout (Dylan)

#### Closing Ceremony

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, Abracadabra

Boys discover secrets of the magician's art as they demonstrate magical illusions and learn new tricks with cards, coins and other everyday objects. Visit a magic shop or have a magician come to your den or pack meeting to teach the boys a few tricks of the trade. Prepare to watch in wonder at the pack meeting as your Cub Scouts entertain their audience with skits, stunts, and sparklers that they have practiced at den meetings. The Cubmaster uses the magic of ceremonies to pull awards from his hat at the mystifying pack meeting magic show.

[Victoria's Dance, Theatrical supplies \(magic supplies too\)](#)

Character Connections: Courage

### April RT Agenda: May's Theme, Leaf It To Cubs

[Sanborn Natural Science Museum](#)

[Gilroy Gardens \(formerly Bonfante Gardens\)](#)

### May RT Agenda: June's Theme, Go For The Gold

[Pat Tillman .42 mile kids race FREE! May 3 \(4.2 mile race \\$25\)](#)

[Mini-Muddy Buddy Race June 8](#)

### June RT Agenda: Annual Cook Out/Pig Out and July's Theme, H2Ohhh!!

[Raging Waters Group Rates](#)

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## February Boy Scout Roundtable

Adults (Scout leaders, Committee members and parents) have two very important jobs along the advancement trail for our Scouts. The Scouts do all of the work. But, a final check on their satisfaction of the requirements for rank is needed. This is accomplished in the Scoutmaster Conference and the Board of Review.

At this month's Boy Scout Roundtable, we discuss the need and goals for Scoutmaster Conferences and Boards of Review. We also discuss the key elements that make them successful. We are covering all ranks, from Scout through Eagle.

Please come to learn ways to improve your Troop advancement program. Perhaps, you will get some help from others in the Roundtable that solves difficult situations that have arisen in Scoutmaster Conferences and Boards of Review. Also, find out that there are other benefits to the Scouts than just attaining rank.

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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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## New Centennial Award

The Quality Unit award has been updated and is now the Centennial award. This 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. [Centennial Plus Application forms](#)

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

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## Trainer Development Conference

If you are going to train others, you want to be trained! The 2008 Trainer Development Conference is coming up on Saturday, 1 March, from 8:00 to 4:30. This is required experience for anyone wishing to be a trainer at any level in Scouting. The conference is being held at the LDS Church at 13900 Patt Avenue, San Jose. Your registration fee includes the full program plus lunch. For more information, contact Carmen Fuller at either 408-225-8183 or [red234cc@msn.com](mailto:red234cc@msn.com).

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## "Every Boy Deserves a Trained Leader."

### New Leader Essentials

15 Apr – Council Service Center

3 May – Council Service Center

### Cub Position Specific Training

3 May – Council Service Center

### Boy Scout SM/ASM Leader Specific Training

19 Apr – Council Service Center

### Outdoor Leader Skills

30 May -1 Jun – 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 send an email to BobbyToda@yahoo.com so he can verify your registration.)

### Venturing Leader Specific

1 Mar – Council Service Center

### High Adventure

26-27 Jan – Sports Basement, Sunnyvale (classroom)

1-2 Mar – Camp Chesebrough (overnight)

### Den Chief Training

8 Mar – Council Service Center

### Woodbadge

Fall 2008:

Orientation: August 16

Weekend One: September 19-21

Weekend Two: October 3-5

For additional information or to verify your "Trained" status, please contact Bobby Toda at [bobbytoda@yahoo.com](mailto:bobbytoda@yahoo.com).

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