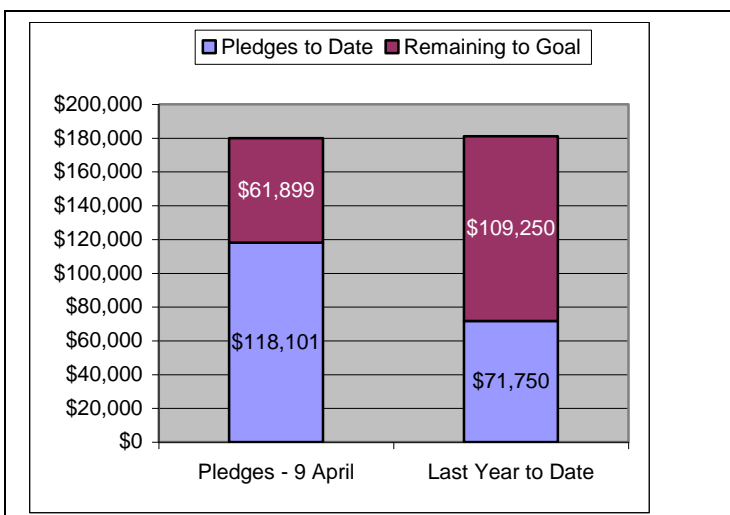




Welcome to the Polaris Star, the monthly Roundtable minutes and Polaris newsletter. You will be able to find out what the Polaris district committee is doing as well as upcoming events in your area!

Friends of Scouting

Polaris District is continuing to make great progress on our Friends of Scouting (FOS) campaign. As shown below, we are at almost 65.6% of our goal.



Polaris District Friends of Scouting campaign progress

Please join us in congratulating the 23 units that have already reached 100% of their goal for 2010. Plenty of time remains to add your unit to the 2010 list.

Packs	Troops	Crew
127	457	127
419	480	454
433	492	457
436	499	466
443	505	443
444	549	493
450	581	

As you are all aware, the FOS campaign is a key source of funding to the council's programs.

For any questions related to FOS, please contact the Polaris District Friends of Scouting Chair, Andy Brockman. Andy can be reached by email at andy.brockman@gmail.com or by phone at 408-373-9943.

Scout-o-Rama

Scout-o-Rama is coming 8 May. Once more, Scout-o-Rama is being held at History Park in San Jose. So, save the date! Now is the perfect time for your Pack, Troop, or Crew to start picking out a booth theme/concept. Make sure that your Scouts have the opportunity to attend the single most active Scouting day of the year. New at Scout-O-Rama this year is a push cart derby. Twenty-three of your fellow Polaris District units have already committed to participate by attending, hosting a booth, and selling Scout-o-Rama ticket booklets as a fundraiser.

You still have time to join in by committing to a booth or to ticket sales. Tickets for sale can still be picked up at the April Roundtable or at the Council Service Center. For each \$10 ticket sold, your unit earns \$3 commission. Sign ups for booths are being accepted through 15 April. You may reserve a booth by filling out and returning the Unit Participation form found at <http://www.scccbsa.org/sor>. Please contact Polaris Scout-o-Rama Chair Peter Wong at 408-733-5728 or peter.wong@lmco.com for further information.

Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars with these district and council events:

Date	Event
April 15-18	Northern California Jamboree
April 24	Cub Scout Water Rocket Derby
May 5	Council Strategic Plan Fireside Chat
May 6	Community Leadership Breakfast for Friends of Scouting
May 7	Miwok Lodge Dinner
May 8	Scout-O-Rama
May 10-21	Spring Recruiting
May 29-31	Camp Hi-Sierra Adopt a Campsite
June 4-6	OA Spring Ordeal
June 3	Eagle Scout Reunion
July 4	Camp Hi-Sierra opens for season

Cub and Webelos Camp – 2010: 100 Years of Adventure!

Cub camps are filling rapidly. But, you still have a chance to sign up for your preferred camp. Lower registration fees apply through 31 May.

See the Cub Camping Website <http://www.scccbsa.org/cubcamp> for information on the new options available for your Cub including Polaris District's own Stevens Creek camp. This day camp is being held 2-6 August. The camp director for Stevens Creek is Angela Gorospe of Pack 333. Angela is assisted by her program co-directors, Terri Boyanich and Jo Young of Pack 419. Also new this summer at Chesebrough Scout Reservation – three weeks of day camp, includes lunch, extended hours and optional bus transportation. Plus, if a parent can't attend, Cubs can attend as a provisional camper.

The Council Service Center is accepting additional Pack and Den registrations until the sessions are completely filled.

This is an exciting opportunity for your son or sons to experience the outdoors while taking part in the many activities offered at each of the camps. These activities include crafts, games, archery, BB guns, sports, and Scout skills. There are opportunities to earn belt loops, pins, and activity badges.

Spring Recruiting

Just as this is the Chinese year of the tiger, so too is it the year of the Tiger for Spring recruiting. Recruiting new youth at Tiger Cubs now ensure a healthy flow of Cubs through your unit for years to come.

Three incentives are being offered for meeting Spring recruiting goals. Every newly registered youth receives a special "Year of the Tiger" patch. Every newly registered youth earns one free admission to any 2010 Council Family Camp (siblings and parents must still pay). If your pack gains a Tiger Den, your unit earns two "Year of the Tiger" council shoulder patches (CSPs).

Help from the council is available to print flyers advertising your recruiting event. If you need flyers, please provide the pertinent information (location, date, time, contact information) to the council office at least two weeks before the event. The council also has posters and yard signs available. Start planning now for your Pack's recruiting event during Spring Recruiting from 10 May through 21 May. For more information, contact Teresa Lorenzen, Polaris District Spring Recruitment Chairman, at teresa.lorenzen@bsa566.com.

Strategic Plan Fireside Chat

Periodically, Santa Clara County Council undertakes a long term strategic planning project. Right now, the council is working on creating the 2011 – 2015 Strategic Plan. To obtain input from the districts, the council Key 3 are having a fireside chat with the leadership of each district. The Polaris District Fireside Chat is scheduled for Wednesday, 5 May, at 8:00 PM. The meeting is in the community room at the Sunny View Retirement Community. The address is 22445 Cupertino Rd, Cupertino.

This is your chance as the leadership of our district to express how you want our council to evolve over the next five years. Coming to hear your ideas are the Council Key 3 (Jason Stein, Art Williams, and Dick Noack). Joining them is Doug Erickson who is helping prepare the plan.

This is meant to be a forum for YOUR ideas, so please come ready to talk!

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

Adopt a Campsite

Join us Memorial Day weekend at Camp Hi-Sierra for a special "adopt a campsite" event. Camp opens Saturday, 29 May, at 1pm and closes Monday, 31 May, at 10am. During this service weekend, we are replacing the main campfire circle among other things. Registration fee for this event is \$20 per person. Please register by May 14th. For more info, see <http://www.camphi-sierra.org>.

"Every Boy Deserves a Trained Leader"

This Is Scouting

"This is Scouting", the replacement for New Leader Essentials, is now online at <http://olc.scouting.org>. Make sure that your e-learning profile includes your BSA ID number so that your completed courses can be matched with your leader registration.

Cub Position Specific Training

1 May – Council Service Center

Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO) Training

15 May – Camp Chesebrough

Outdoor Webelos Leader Training

23-24 April – Camp Chesebrough

Boy Scout SM/ASM Leader Specific Training

1 May – Council Service Center (Chinese)

15 May – Council Service Center

Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills

4-6 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

4 December – Council Service Center

Bearpaw

6 November (indoor)

High Adventure

2-3 October (indoor)

6-7 November (outdoor)

Den Chief Training

30 October – Council Service Center

Woodbadge

2010 Course:

Orientation: 21 August

Weekend 1: 24-26 September

Weekend 2: 8-10 October

Reunion: 23 January

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

Commissioners Corner: Meeting Moved

Commissioners, I know that you are all working very hard to provide service to your units. For that, I thank you. However, I need to ask you to do one more thing as part of your commissioner service. I need each of you to make an effort to come to our monthly commissioners meeting. We have traditionally held this meeting at 6:30 PM on roundtable night. However, I have heard lots of comments about how this was not a convenient time because it was so early. Also, we were forced to finish by 7:30 PM because OA needed to use the room. So, we are experimenting with changing the night of our monthly meeting.

Starting with April, I am moving the night, time and location of our monthly commissioners meeting. The new schedule is the first Thursday night of each month at 7:30 PM. This is immediately after the district committee meeting which is held on the first Wednesday of the month. However, if the first day of the month is a Thursday, the meeting is on the second Thursday of the month so we are still the night after the district committee meeting. The new meeting location is the Brenner Group at 19200 Stevens Creek Blvd., Suite 200. This is near the intersection of Stevens Creek and Tantau. Hopefully, this time is more convenient for many of you. While we will not be forced to vacate the room after one hour, I will still strive to finish the meeting in one hour.

Please note this change on your calendars. Let me know if this change has created a conflict for you. If we do not have good attendance at this meeting, we will try something else. I want to make sure that we can all get together at least once a month so your attendance is important. Thank You.

Your Humble District Commissioner,
Bob

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 May issue is 7 May. Earlier submissions are appreciated.

Polaris District Committee

Position	Name
District Chairman	Kathi Lucas
District Executive	Tracey Devereux
District Commissioner	Bob Wedig
Membership Chair	Steve Nguyen
Finance Chair	Debbie Jancis
Program Chair	Jonathan Leder
Activities Chair	Jill Lin / Jean Long
Advancement Chair	Wendy Glasser
Camping Chair	Lillie Yee-Fong
Training Chair	Jerry McMillan
Cub Scout Training Chair	Paul Jancis
Boy Scout Training Chair	Thomas Su
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	Melissa Garnica
Scout-O-Rama Chair	Peter Wong
Scouting-for-Food Chair	<i>Vacant</i>
MB Counselor Training Chair	David Ashby
District Dinner Chair	<i>Vacant</i>
Cub Camp Chair	Cathy Bobier
Friends of Scouting Family Chair	Andy Brockman
Friends of Scouting CASA Co-Chair	Arthur Chih
Friends of Scouting CASA Co-Chair	CS Goh
Membership Team	Mary Enright
Advancement Team	Sally Erickson
Spring Recruitment Chair	Teresa Lorenzen
Advancement Team	Will Smith
Cub Scout Training Team	Steve Walters
Webelos to Scout Transition Chair	Debbie Ward

All e-mail addresses can be found through the Council by contacting Tracey Devereux at 408-280-5088 ext 55.

Camp Hi-Sierra Reservations

If your troop hasn't made its plans for summer camp yet, act before it's too late. Weeks 2, 3, and 4 are already full at our council's camp, Camp Hi-Sierra. Limited space remains for week 1 (4-10 July) and week 5 (1-7 August). The reservation request form is available on line at http://www.camphi-sierra.org/files/2010_chs_bsa_resv.pdf. Don't allow the summer to pass without giving your troop the opportunity for an extended summer camp experience.

March 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 13 April.

Thanks again to all our participants! 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 March Roundtable:

UnitType [Participants]

Packs 286, 408, 411, 419 [2], 443 [3], 444 [2], 450, 452 [2], 453, 457, 462, 476, 480, 499, 505, 522, 606

Troops 407 [2], 408 [3], 452 [5], 453 [4], 454 [3], 457, 466, 476, 479 [2], 493, 495 [3], 498, 508, 566, 606 [2]

31 leaders from 15 of 26 troops for 57% of our troops represented

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

Name	Position	Unit
First Timers		
Chunkai Huang	Assistant Scoutmaster	T606
Alvin Chen	Cubmaster	P606
Dong Cheng	Committee Chairman	P453
Wayne Lin	Scoutmaster	T454
10th RT Attended		
Harry May	Den Leader	P443

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.

April 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.

April RT Agenda: May's Theme: In The Spotlight

Its time to perform and be in the spotlight! Dens can make musical instruments to be used in the pack meeting variety show. The variety show could include skits, songs, puppet shows, magic tricks - you name it. Have the boys and their families participate in the variety show and record the show. Dens can create posters announcing the show and make programs listing the acts. "Commercials" could be videotaped during den meetings and shown between acts. Involve the parents. Take a photo for the local newspaper or a video clip for the local TV station and put Cub Scouting in the spotlight. Visit a television, radio, or cable station to see how they produce shows. Attend a play or musical production. Work on the Music belt loop and pin.

April Roundtable Activities: Learn to make your Pack more interesting and fun through skits, songs and props! The staff has prepared several scripts and simple props for you to learn and share through participation.

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!

May RT Agenda: June's Theme: Hoop-de-Doo

This is a good time to learn and play basketball while you learn about sportsmanship. Have a member of the high school basketball team (preferably a Boy Scout or Venturer) teach the boys the rules of basketball. Then, play a game in the pack with older boys and younger boys balancing each team. Play other games such as ring toss, hoop games, soap bubble contests, and hoop obstacle course. Start working on the National Summertime Pack Award or Cub Scout Outdoor Activity Award. The boys can earn the Basketball belt loop and pin or another Sports belt loop and pin of their choice, including the Physical Fitness belt loop and pin.

April Boy Scout Roundtable

At the April Boy Scout Roundtable, we address two major topics:

- Where to go camping
- Nor Cal Jamboree update

Where to go camping. With the cold wet winter months drawing to a close, our interests turn to the outdoors for hiking and camping. Scouts in the Polaris District, and Santa Clara County Council in general, are very fortunate to live so very close to so many terrific places to hike and camp. Now is the time to really enjoy that advantage.

What is your troop's favorite camping site? Which site would your Scouts NEVER go back to, under any conditions? What special features have your Scouts enjoyed at the camping sites they have used? What special restrictions have your Scouts encountered in their camping experiences?

These are some of the discussion points for the April Polaris Boy Scout Roundtable. We'll try to provide some resources and information for you to take to your troop for their outdoor planning sessions. But, more importantly, we want you to share with the Roundtable some of the camping experiences of your Troop.

Please come to the April Roundtable prepared to tell us something about you Troop's camping trips. Both the GOOD and the BAD helps all of us improve our own troop's future camping plans.

No. CA 100th Anniversary Jamboree. Get the latest update on the No. CA 100th Anniversary Jamboree, scheduled for April 15-18, 2010 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton. Your troop should be excited about participating in this "once-in-a-lifetime" Scouting event!

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. The next Roundtable is Tuesday, 4 May. The May roundtable is a meeting of the Venturing Officers Association.
