

NORTHWEST NEWS



NORTHWEST SUBURBAN COUNCIL'S
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER JULY 2007



Spring Fellowship

The Annual Spring Fellowship held at Camp Napowan in May was one of the most productive in the history of the Council. Nearly 400 Scouts and volunteers gathered to help repair the camp from the damages of the winter and to ready the camp for the start of summer camp.

Scores of projects were identified ranging from simple repairs to a major construction effort of replacing the porch on the Trading Post. Coordination of these tasks was performed admirably by Tavis Tackett who secured volunteers, arranged for supplies, and coordinated the on-site efforts.

Combined with the repairs, the Lakota Lodge co-hosted the event as the Spring Fellowship where nearly 100 Ordeal Candidates joined the Lodge and more than 50 earned their Brotherhood honor. The following Lodge members were announced as having been selected to receive the Vigil honor at one of two upcoming Fellowships:

Matthew Cottrell, John Emigh, Thomas Jung, John Kowols, Robert Moore, Scott Paczosa, Tony Pierucci, Eric Poczatek, Eric Rodriguez, Jeffrey Schneider, Steven Treutler and Anthony Stiava. Adult selectees included Charles Aldridge, Dennis Bohm, Kevin Cutts, Dick EnGbrecht, William Hogan, Cindy Kunzer, Elaine Masciale, Ray Okigawa, Glenn Peters, H. Ronald Shagrin and Michael Stanbary.

Units Start Your Engines... The Race to Scouting has a Green Flag....

On May 21st, 50 Cub Scout and Boy Scout Leaders attended the preliminary membership kick-off heat and drove away with Fall Recruitment packets. The unit Membership chairs were greeted with the Official Wolves Racing Car sporting a BSA decal.

The evening's announcer, Marie Diffley, Vice President of Membership, related a story about the Value of Scouting and the opportunity ahead for this membership team; that of inviting youth of all ages to join our family of Scouting. The very core and essence of Membership begins with a promise of a program that is fun, exciting, and full of adventure while at the same time giving boys the opportunity to grow (achievements, electives), teaching values through Characters Connections, the Scout Oath and Law, giving them tools to make decisions and guiding them to be leaders (Denners, Assistant Denners, Patrol Leaders, Assistant Patrol Leaders). All of which happens in a safe environment led and mentored by adults and just as importantly offering camping opportunities and activities with their families, the memories of which last a lifetime. Marie commented "Sometimes...membership is about numbers...but to me and our entire team...those numbers are the face of each youth we recruit and retain in this Scouting movement...each Scout that races off to learn, do, grow...begins with the vital work that each of you do....what you're here for tonight".

This years Racing Team were introduced: Pit Crew: Ted Begley- Blackhawk, Jim Ray- Northwoods, Laura Camiliere-Pathfinder, and Lori Motisi- Signal Hill (though absent); Crew Chief: Advisor and Assistant Scout Executive Randy Toland; Experienced Pit Crew Advisor: Don Hough, Central Region OA (Order of the Arrow) Chief; Race Officials: District Executives: Derek Hartley-Blackhawk, Jon Wilson-North woods, Dan Gatica-Pathfinder, and Frank Chlebek-Signal Hill.

Once again Chevrolet is sponsoring BSA's effort to bring Scouting to the youth of our communities. The Chicago Wolves continue to sponsor the Northwest News and Scout Night with the Wolves. "We sincerely appreciate the recognition and support that Chevrolet and the Wolves give to the Boy Scouts of America and to our Council,

NWSC" said Rich Politowicz, Council President, "but we're especially grateful for your efforts in recruiting the boys and their families to join in this exciting and worthwhile program".

Rick Romani, Council Commissioner, spoke about the entire Commissioner staff ready to offer support and service to the Chairpersons and the units in their recruitment efforts. He also reminded all that although an emphasis is placed on Spring and Fall Recruitment drives, recruitment is year-round and no better time to kick-off the drives than right now when Scouts can attend summer camp and take part in summertime activities almost immediately following their joining.

Membership recruitment materials were available and leaders were able to tap the knowledge and experience of the District Chairs and District Executives. Taking advantage of the 20 minute pit-stop, leaders reviewed the membership plan and began formulating their units approach. One leader was overheard saying "this evening's been fun and being totally new to this, I learned a lot about recruitment, got all this neat stuff to help me, and even learned about signing up for training. I feel like a scout at his first meeting, now I can't wait for camp."

Steve Taylor, Scout Executive, recapped NWSC's effort to bring Scouting to more youth in our communities. Steve shared the Council's recent successes and NWSC's standing in the Region for Membership Recruitment, Retention, and Unit Growth. He reiterated that The Race to Scouting is not just about tonight but about the future in this Council, in our communities, and in this great nation.

The evening was closed out with the following to the leaders....Tonight's heat is over...the Race to Scouting begins...so tune your engines...Your tools are enthusiasm, promise, values, and fun...Your track is the seamless Scouting program from Tigers to Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts to Venturing/Exploring...Your laps run through the achievements, electives, activities and outdoor programs....Your cars...are your units...SO...the race is Yours to win...Recruit!

July 2007 Scout Executive's Minute

Dear Friends:

Here we are at the "Scouting Halftime" --- of being mid-way through the year. It is a time of success and reflection. It is a time to recognize what we have done well and what we need to improve throughout the rest of the year in order to have a successful 2007.

What did we do well during the first half of 2007? We're serving more youth in each one of our sub-component programs of Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Venturers, and Learning for Life. We have more local active units than compared with last years. We have organized and chartered several new units and re-chartered a higher percentage of the existing units. We have raised more Friends of Scouting dollars than we did compared to a year ago. Ninety percent of our local units conducted an FOS Family Enrollment Presentation. Our youth retention rate continues to be the highest in the Central Region. Camp Napowan looks full for the summer season 2007. Thanks to Lakota Lodge of the Order of the Arrow --- Camp Napowan has had many physical improvements to the property and its buildings that will make camp experience better for 2007 and for many years to come. Thanks to the Capital Campaign, we are "in progress" on several construction projects at Camp Lakota that will also make that camp better for the balance of 2007 and for the future. Both camps look better, have lots of items that have now been repaired or are new, and are in

better overall shape for use by our Scouts.

What did we do poorly in the first half of 2007? We didn't even try to conduct "on-line rechartering" or take advantage of "on-line advancement." We still don't have enough District Committee volunteers or Unit Commissioners to adequately support our local units. We took too long to conduct our FOS Campaign and still have a large number of families that are benefiting from the local Scouting program, but are not financially supporting our efforts. We didn't communicate our changes in travel options to Cub Scout Day Camp early enough for local Cub Scout Packs to make their plans. We didn't get enough people to our "Hometown Scouting" events to tell the Scouting story.

What are we going to do to improve during the second half of 2007? The overall story would be that we're going to do a better job of communicating and executing our plan during the remainder of 2007. We will continue to focus on "The Main Things" throughout 2007 --- RECRUIT MORE YOUTH, RETAIN MORE YOUTH, SERVE PEOPLE ABOVE THEIR EXPECTATIONS, and GROW FINANCIALLY.

Best regards,

Stephen J. Taylor, CFRE

Scout Executive

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3 MONTH OF COUNCIL-RELATED EVENTS

July

Napowan Week #3 1-- 7
 Cub Day Camp, Week 2 2- 8
 Pro Staff Meeting.....2
 Independence Day (Office Closed) 4
 Cub Resident Camp, Session 2 5- 8
 Hometown Scouting.....5
 Napowan Week #4 8 -- 14
 NWSC Golf Classic 9
 Cub Day Camp, Week 3 9 - 15
 Cub Resident Camp, Session 3 12 - 15
 Napowan Week #5 15 -- 21
 Cub Day Camp, Week 416 - 22
 Council Key 3.....16
 Napowan Week #6 22 -- 28
 Council Executive Committee 18
 Everybody Wins Committee 18
 Cub Resident Camp, Session 4 19 - 22
 Hometown Scouting.....19

Napowan Week #6 22 -- 28
 WB Staff Development #3 23
 Scout Night With the Schaumburg Flyers . 24
 Council Executive Board 25
 Popcorn Sale Committee 25
 Cub Resident Camp, Session 5 26 - 29
 Venturing Weekend 27 -- 29
 Napowan Week #7 29 - Aug 1

August

Hometown Scouting.....2
 Pro Staff Meeting.....6
 Council Key 3 6
 WB Staff Development #4 9
 Council Key 3 10
 Webelos Weekend - Lakota 10 - 12
 Council Executive Committee 15
 Pro Staff Meeting.....20
 Popcorn Sale Committee 22
 Endowment Committee 23
 Wood Badge Session #1 24 - 28

Popcorn Fair & Orientation 29
 Family Camping - Napowan 31 - Sept. 3

September

Labor Day (Office Closed)..... 3
 New Unit Blitz.....5-6
 Pro Staff Meeting..... 7
 Popcorn Consignment Orders Due 7
 OA Fall Fellowship Weekend (Lakota) ...7 - 9
 Council Key 3.....10
 NWSC Ask Event.....12
 Rosh Hashanah 12- 13
 Wood Badge Session #2 14 - 16
 Executive Committee Mtg. 19
 Popcorn Consignment Re-orders 21
 Popcorn Consignment Order Pick-up...21 - 22
 Yom Kippur 21 - 22
 Executive Board Mtg 26
 Heritage Society Event 27
 Popcorn Consignment Re-order Pick-up 28

Recognition Dinner – One of the Best

Camaraderie during Social Hour, happy conversations during a great dinner, dignity and appreciation during the award ceremony and a howling audience during the guest speaker's presentation all combined to make the 2007 Annual Recognition Dinner "one of the best."

The event took place on Friday, May 18, at the Cotillion in Palatine where 158 Scouters, families and professional staff gathered to honor Silver Beaver recipients, Units of Distinction, a William A Hornaday Award recipient, a Silver Antelope recipient and Scouters receiving the James E. West Fellowship Award.

Master of Ceremonies Paul Meincke introduced Guest Speaker Dr. Robert Payne as "a Washington insider" who served under 4 Presidents as the Director of Special Communications and Relationships for the President's Joint Task Force on Inter-Governmental Affairs and Public Policy, and a holder of multiple degrees from 3 universities.

But, Paul spoke with "forked tongue" in cheek! Initially, the audience listened politely to "Dr. Payne's" interweaving of Washington bureaucratic workings. Snickers soon broke out and turned into roars of laughter as "Mr. Doubletalk" of national TV fame gently unleashed his confusing, oral barrage of comedy.

Getting his start on the old "Candid Camera" TV show, "Payne" is really Durwood Fincher who has been on the comedy speaker circuit for 26 years. A true Eagle Scout, he gave assurance to the Scout audience that the NWSC's Strategic Long Range Plan was valid, at least, until the end of May.

Capping his presentation was the projection of 1-on-1 video "surveys" with 8 unsuspecting Scouters who attempted to answer some complex, unintelligible questions about ??????. A big "Thank You" goes to Ken

Becker, Lori Motisi, Patti Polities, Barb Rubenstein, Don Harris, Cindy Kunzer, Jay Haack and Brian Mulcrone for being such good sport interviewees.

The formal part of the evening followed with council Key 3 members, Council President Rich Politowicz, Council Commissioner Ray Okigawa and Council Scout Executive Steve Taylor making the presentations.

Highlighting the agenda was the awarding of a record 10 **Silver Beaver Awards** to: Ken Becker, Jay R. Haack, Bill Kaisling, David Kite, Bob Koscielniak, Lori Motisi, Tom Nelson, Joe Schluep, Tavis Tackett and Jim Tierney.

Receiving the **2006 Unit of Distinction Awards** by district were 79 units:

Blackhawk: Packs 14, 24, 46, 55, 74, 85, 105, 151, 154, 173, 201, 222, 228, 263, and 997. Troops 1, 6, 22, 38, 50, 84, 160, and 175.

North Woods: Packs 37, 39, 43, 118, 119, 129, 130, 140, 161, 235, and 336. Troops 32, 149, 159, 161, 270, and 468.

Pathfinder: Packs 100, 194, 195, 196, 199, 290, 293, 294, 297, 392, 493, and 496. Troops 193, 194, 196, 198, 290, 295, 297, 392, 399, and 497.

Signal Hill Packs 59, 91, 92, 209, 237, 239, 282, 286, 309, 335, and 348. Troops 92, 96, 168, 209, and 335.

To receive this Council Award, a unit must: Earn the National Quality Unit Award, have youth membership growth, participate in the current Friends of Scouting campaign, participate in at least one of the two Council Product Sales, participate in Council and District activities, and attend our Council Camps.

Attention Venturers! Are you a survivor?

Then join us for a Napowan Venturing Weekend

Our annual weekend of fun at Camp Napowan is rapidly approaching. It's set for Friday July 27th to Sunday July 29th, 2007. This year's theme will have you going Tribal! Be prepared to race in a variety of challenging completions. No one will be voted off, but you will have to wait until Saturday night to find out who will survive. The fees will include camp fee, tribal memorabilia, all meals for Saturday as well as breakfast on Sunday.

Bring a tent, a sleeping bag and your bathing suit for a great weekend. Additional information and registration forms are available at <http://venturing.nwsc.org/forms/NVW2007.doc>

Questions: Dominick Nudo, VAC President 847-923-5264 or nudedo83@comcast.net or Joanne Bilas, Adult Coordinator 847-991-0704 or purplejobo22@yahoo.com

July Scouter of the Month—Alfonso Ybarra

Alfonso Ybarra is the Northwest Suburban Council Scouter of the Month from the Aguila (Scoutreach) District.

Alfonso has been the Committee Chairman for Pack and Troop 707, chartered by Amigos de Orchard Place School in Des Plaines for the past 5 years. He is dedicated to the youth in the commu-

nity and is constantly recruiting youth into the Scouting program to involve them into a worthwhile cause rather than sacrifice them to the streets.

Alfonso is also active at the District level in the planning and improvement of the Scouting program for the youth and families. He con-



tinually seeks ways to involve parents.

Alfonso and his wife Eva have three children, one each in Orchard Place School, Algonquin Middle School and Maine West High School. He and his family are members of St Steven Catholic Church in Des Plaines.

Outside of Scouting, Alfonso enjoys volleyball and soccer to include being on a volleyball league. He enjoys his Harley Davidson motorcycle. He is currently attending night school to continue his education.

Our Newest Eagles

Daniel Bergren	Troop 50
Luke Burns	Troop 149
Cullom Cahill	Troop 235
John Knoepfle	Troop 32
Andrew Kowalewski	Troop 493
Kenneth Lobacz	Troop 38
James Toland	Crew 477
Edward Tolle	Troop 10

