

Great Eastern District "Roundtable Bullets"

November 2011

Roundtable Bullets are a collection of announcements and information and while every effort is made to ensure accuracy; errors are possible. Please point out any needed corrections to me at: dennis_gleason@alumni.nd.edu.

- **IMPORTANT:** *This issue of our "bullets" is being delivered through both our Yahoo Group and through the Council's Constant Contact System. You should receive 2 copies, one from the Yahoo Group and one through Constant Contact. NEXT MONTH, THE YAHOO GROUP EMAILS WILL BE DISCONTINUED AND WE WILL SWITCH TO CONSTANT CONTACT. If you did not receive this message from Constant Contact, YOU NEED TO GO TO THE COUNCIL WEBSITE (WWW.YCCBSA.ORG) AND SCROLL DOWN TO THE "JOIN OUR MAILING LIST" LINK. From there you can sign up for constant contact emails.*
 - Enter your email address
 - If you are registered it will confirm and ask if you want to update your profile
 - If you are not registered, you will be asked to create a profile. Within the profile you can request what type of information you want to receive. **Make sure you select Great Eastern District.**
 - You can "opt out" at any time.
- **Next Roundtable session:** Thursday Dec. 1, Second Congregational Church (corner of Conant St. and Rt. 97). 7-8:45 PM.
 - December Theme: "COOKING, MEALS AND SNACKS". Dinner this month will be sampling "pot luck" contributions from all roundtable participants. What meals/snacks that are both "youth appealing" and "healthy" work in your unit? What camping/hiking meals are favorites among your Scouts -- challenging enough but not too difficult for their skill level, that are enjoyable and healthy at the same time. Bring meals to share, we'll provide salads and drinks. Bring recipes so your fellow units can replicate your successes.
- **Charter Renewal is underway for the December Recharter Units, but many units have not yet logged on!** Please get started. **Goal is on-line completion at the end of November.**
 - **Adults who changed positions MUST submit an adult application for the new position.**
 - *This is a CORI year, new CORI forms must be submitted, **FOR ALL ADULT LEADERS, start this process early!***
 - Score your Journey to Excellence results! These should be submitted at charter renewal time.
 - Membership Growth Status -- I was in error at the District Staff Meeting, stating that the "or above average unit size" category in membership growth scoring related to National Averages. In fact, this relates to the *average unit size within the district*. We will send all units these average numbers (for packs, troops and crews) -- Units may meet bronze, silver or gold status here by being larger than the average unit in the district and gaining only a few members, vs. the percentage gain figures.
- **Membership:** Did you meet your targets for signing up new Scouts (and Adults)? If not, consider staging a "bring a friend" activity. Plan it well and consider offering some incentive

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to Scouts who bring a friend. "Bring a friend" activities are a good way to increase membership.

- **Boy Scout Troop Chaplain Aide Position Training** was provided by Rev. Podlozny. He also provided the district with meal prayer (grace) cards, printed on water resistant "map" paper. These will be distributed (one to a troop) at the December Roundtable.
- **New Uniform Shirts** are available at the Scout Shop, and were shown by our Scout Shop Manager. The "electronics" sleeve pocket has been eliminated, emblem lettering is again embroidered, and material is still "outdoor friendly" -- breathable and quick drying.
- **District Nominating Committee:** Cards were distributed asking for suggestions for people who could help at the district level. Please send any additional suggestions for Commissioners to our District Commissioner, Charlie Cochrane (CCochrane@cochraneventilation.com), and for other positions to the District Nominating Chair, Mike Vicari (mvicari@berry.com).
- **Advancement:**
 - The BSA has issued a revision to the Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook, which will take effect in January 2012. TROOPS SHOULD HAVE RECEIVED AN EMAIL FROM THE DISTRICT ADVANCEMENT CHAIR CONCERNING THIS. **There will be a presentation during the Boy Scout Breakout on the new workbook.** Please try to have your unit represented!
- **Friends of Scouting Campaign Incentives:** *See the September Bullets for the procedure to "collect" on your incentive.*
 - **Plan the date for your 2012 presentation!** Unit presentations are very important to this campaign, our District Goal is to have a presentation at each of our units. We will supply the presenters, you need to plan the date. Courts of Honor, Blue and Gold Banquets, or other events where Scouts' parents will normally be present are the best times to hold these presentations which should take no more than 15 minutes of your agenda.
- **Adult Leader Training:**
 - Training events are listed on the calendar at yccbsa.org.
 - Upcoming Events - contact District Training Chair, Sherry Rust (cherrust@aol.com) with questions, sign up on-line using the calendar at YCCBSA.org:
 - Great Eastern District Leader Training Expo, Nov. 19, 8-1:30, Holten Richmond Middle School Danvers. Training to be offered includes all Cub Scout Leader Position Specific training, Troop Committee Challenge, Weather Hazards, Safety Afloat and Safe Swim Defense, Venture Youth Leader, Den Chief and Red Cross First Aid with Adult and Pediatric CPR (Red Cross course limited to the first 10 who sign up, cost \$35 for certification). Register on-line
- **National Summertime Pack Awards** were distributed at roundtable *if your pack met the requirements, submit the application!*
- **Activities:**
 - Klondike Derby January 27, 28, 29, Endicott Park, Danvers
 - RESERVE THE DATE -- **MASSJAM: October 12-13-14 2013**
 - WAH TUT CA 75th Anniversary celebration (camping at Wah Tut Ca included) June 22-23-24. KEEP THIS ON YOUR PROGRAM CALENDAR, more information to come.

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- **POPCORN -- The BSA’s Unit and Council Fund Raiser.**
 - Take Order Popcorn Distribution: Dec 1-2
 - Final payments due: Dec 16
 - Questions: rdsarkmail@yahoo.com
- **“Culture of Camping” DVD’s**, viewed at the October Roundtable were distributed to those who requested them. If you would like a copy, see me at the December roundtable to request one.
- **Breakout Sessions** on “Our Best Activity” were highly interactive, with considerable information sharing. If you are looking for some new ideas for your unit’s program, contact your colleagues who attended the November session!
 - Troops -- information on OA elections was distributed, contact the OA representatives to arrange elections in your unit. Also, information on the Wah Tut Ca 75th celebration was presented.
- **Tour Plans:** *As you are firming up your calendar, remember that tour plans must be filed with the council office at least 21 days in advance of the trip.* The tour plan form and council policy on requirements are available on the council website, www.yccbsa.org.
- **Health and Medical Forms:** Remember recent BSA policy revisions require that *Parts A and B of the Health and Medical Form Must be completed at least annually by participants at all Scouting events.* This health history, parental/guardian informed consent and hold harmless/release agreement, and talent release statement is to be completed by the participant and parents/guardians. A member of the Unit Committee should be designated to be the record holder. *Due to privacy concerns, forms should NOT be transmitted electronically.* **If your unit does not have health/medical records on file for all Scouts and Leaders, you are behind and should address this right away.**