Council Annual Recognition Dinner
“One Voice. One Heart. One Mission”
Inaugural Meal in the New Dining Hall at Camp Decorah

Honor Your 2007 Eagle Class and New Silver Beaver Recipients, and the Volunteer Leaders of the Gateway Area Council

WHO: Any Scouter, Parent, Friend
DATE: Saturday, May 17, 2008
PLACE: New Dining Hall at Camp Decorah
TIME: 6:00 p.m.
COST: To be Determined

HIGHLIGHTS WILL INCLUDE:

- Celebration of the 80th Anniversary of Camp Decorah!!
- Recognition of Eagle Scouts Class of 2007
- Recognition of Packs, Troops, and Crews who achieved Quality Unit Award
- Recognition of Districts who achieved Quality District Award
- Presentation of the Council’s highest volunteer award—The Silver Beaver

More details will be coming. Mark your calendars for this event! Seating will be limited to the first 300!!
Finance

FRIENDS OF SCOUTING
“FOS” SUCCESS BEGINS WITH YOU!

Friends of Scouting (F.O.S.) is money raised above and beyond United Way giving. The Friends of Scouting financially supports the Gateway Area Council. Contributions range from $25 to $10,000 and have come from parents of Scouts, businesses, and corporations. Your F.O.S. dollars provide for camp maintenance, School Night to Join Scouting, and other membership supplies, mailings, liability insurance for boys and leaders, coordination and development of activities like camporees, day camp, and Klondike Derbys, program equipment like canoes, boats, rifles used at camp, audio visual training aids, professional staff service, camperships, and much, much more.

“A hundred years from now it will not matter what my bank account was, what sort of house I lived in, or the kind of car I drove. But the world may be different because I was important in the life of a child.”
-Forrest Whitcraft

NEW BOY SCOUT RANK REQUIREMENTS EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2008

The National Youth Protection Committee recommended additions to Boy Scout rank requirements that were approved and became effective January 1, 2008. These changes will help us advance the importance of Youth Protection training beyond the initial Boy Scout joining requirements and keep youth informed and actively engaged in understanding the key elements of personal safety and protection.

Tenderfoot Rank (Revised requirement 9)
Explain the importance of the buddy system as it relates to your personal safety on outings and in your neighborhood. Describe what a bully is and how you should respond to one.

Second Class Rank (New requirement 8b)
Explain the three R’s of personal safety and protection.

First Class Rank (New requirement 12)
Describe the three things you should avoid related to use of the Internet. Describe a cyberbully and how you should respond to one.

The changes will be represented in the 2008 Boy Scout Requirements book and the revised ninth printing of the 11th edition of the Boy Scout Handbook.

EYES ON EAGLES

During the months of December, January and February, the following Scouts successfully completed the requirements for the rank of Eagle and passed the Eagle Board of Review:

AARON JAWSON
DAVID SCHULTZ
Troop 17, La Crosse

MARK A TRAUTMANN
ROBERT L BURGE
Troop 21, Onalaska

HUNTER J LEVAN
ALEX B KANABLE
BENJAMIN R FARRIS
Troop 22, La Crosse

BRENT E GABRICK
Troop 110, Fountain City

For questions, Email: Gordon Powell
Eagle Board of Review Chairman
E-mail: g_and_s_powell@yahoo.com.
Looking for a service project to benefit your local community? Well, here is it! The Gateway Area Council and the Riverland Girl Scout Council have teamed up for this worthwhile effort. During the month of March, local Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts will be going door to door collecting food for local food pantries.

Here’s how it works. Each community or Scouting unit will choose two consecutive Saturdays in March. During the first Saturday, Scouts will deliver door hangers describing the food drive and asking for donations to be left on their doorstep the following Saturday. The next Saturday, Scouts and adult volunteers will go back through the neighborhood and collect all of the food donations out on doorsteps and deliver the goods to a local food pantry of their choice. Sounds easy enough and it is! We provide the supplies and you supply the Scouts.

Hunger is a real and serious issue that, together, we can do something about. Unfortunately many families in our area experience food insecurity and hunger and the numbers seem to keep growing. In Wisconsin, 1 in 12 families experience food insecurity and/or hunger. Food insecurities and hunger rates increased from 2004 to 2005 in the United States with Wisconsin experiencing a higher rate of growth than most other states. Let’s work together and take care of our communities. Make plans now to participate in the annual Scouting for Food drive.

At every Pack meeting, Den meeting or Troop meeting, as Scouts and Scouters, we promise to “do my best,” “to help other people at all times,” and to “Do a Good Turn Daily.” Here is one more opportunity to live that promise or oath.

All units will receive a packet of information detailing the Scouting for Food drive. The packet will also include a Report Form so we can report our total contributions as a Council. The report form will be returned to the Scout Office by April 1 (no April Fool’s jokes, please!) There is also a sample news release that you can fill in the blanks and submit to your local newspapers with pictures of your Scouts helping their community. Take advantage of this great “human interest” story and let the community know what you are doing. Have fun with it! For more information on Boy Scout service projects nationwide, check out the website www.goodturnforamerica.org.

Local Tour Permits
Protection for Everyone

As the spring and summer camping season approaches, many units will be preparing for spring campouts, summer camp trips and other recreational outings as part of the unit’s year round program plan. One of the most important pieces of paper the adult in charge must remember to complete is the Local Tour Permit (#34428C).

The local tour permit was designed to ensure unit leadership was following proper B.S.A. safety standards as it relates to travel, aquatics activities and parental permission for Scouts to participate in the activity. It is also a protection mechanism for unit leaders, parents who serve as drivers to and from an activity as well as the Gateway Area Council and the Boy Scouts of America.

Here are just a few tips on making the “paperwork” challenge of filling out and filing the form a little easier:

- As in many other unit functions, assign a parent to be responsible for the filling out and filing of the permit. That can be his or her sole responsibility for the unit.
- Review the unit’s year round program and determine what outings will require a tour permit. Normally, anytime youth are traveling outside of the community proper and less than 500 miles, a local tour permit should be filed. Any trip over 500 miles requires the completion of the national tour permit.
- Backdate the timeliness of getting the permit to the Council Service Center so it may be reviewed, approved and sent back to the unit leader in charge (at least two weeks in advance).
- Copy the car insurance information portion of the tour permit off of the form. Begin the process of obtaining car insurance information from all of the parents of the Scouts. Create a spreadsheet from the form that can be kept on file and renewed each year at membership (charter) renewal time. The completed sheet can then be attached to each tour permit that is submitted, which should cover all drivers all of the time.
- Lack of complete car insurance information is the most common cause of delaying tour permit approval. The council cannot approve a tour permit without that information.

If you have any questions about this topic, please feel free to contact the Gateway Area Council Field Director at the Council Service Center. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation with this important and necessary safety issue.
Hey Scouters:

It is already moving into March. Where does the time go? We had our annual Camp Kick-Off in January with a great deal of success. If you are a leader still looking for a summer camp experience; please refer to the chart on the bottom of the page. I will do whatever is in my power to ensure a spot for you and your troop. We already have some great staff lined up, and we will have a few new amenities (dining hall, office, health office) to look forward to.

Yours in Scouting,

Chris Schabow

Camp Decorah in 2008

Camp Information

- The 2008 Leader’s Guides have been published. Hard copies can be found at the scout office. Digital copies can be found at GatewayAreaCouncil.org
- Also available for 2008 is a New High Adventure opportunity: “Decorah Territory”. Check it out!
- Those units registered for camp this summer should be thinking about getting their first payment of $100 per boy in; due March 1st. Upon receiving payment you will be able to sign up for your merit badges at campdecorah.org.
- A final “Thank You” is in order for troop 53 and their excellent cooking at the kickoff dinner last month. I know everyone enjoyed the evening. Thanks Again.

Camp Staff & CIT’s Wanted

Scouts and Scouters:

Over the next few months we will be interviewing potential staff for our 2008 camp season. Leaders please let your scouts know that if they are interested in working at camp this summer to fill out a copy of the application found in the Gateway, or at the Council Office. Counselors-In-Training need to be at least 14 years of age and be willing to work in any area of camp. Paid staff members need to be at least 15 years old. Those individuals 18+ years of age can be considered for directorships. We have many positions available at camp ranging from Aquatics to COPE to Scoutcraft. Please fill out those applications and get them to me ASAP.

Current Reservations

To the right is the Camp Sign-Up Schedule for the 2008 Camp Year. Please take a look at what is available and sign-up while the pickings are good. Contact Nikki at the office to hold your spot. (608) 784-4040

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What does OA mean to you?

Even if you aren't in OA yourself, your support means a lot to us, as without your positive encouragement... your young men will miss out on all kinds of opportunities to grow. The Lodge doesn't compete with you for their time... it's there to SUPPORT your program and cultivate confidence that then rubs off on the non-OA members of your unit.

**Arrowmen...** you're GETTING BACK 150% of what YOU PUT INTO OA. If you don't ACT and get involved, 150% of zero, is still ZERO. When is the last time you came to a Lodge event, that wasn't your Ordeal? We're hosting the 2008 Section Conclave at Camp Decorah. We need you to get involved in your lodge and find out what's going on. What needs to happen to have you attend more Lodge/OA events? ...we'd like to know if there's something we can be doing better: [oa@gatewayareacouncil.org](mailto:oa@gatewayareacouncil.org)

If you see someone with an OA lodge flap, ask them about OA... it's a lot easier to get involved if you bring a friend.

**CHAPTER MEETINGS - March District Roundtables**... open to all Arrowmen, wear your sash. Your unit should already be coming to the monthly Roundtables, so have your unit's Roundtable representative fill the car with all the youth arrowmen they can.

**SCOUTMASTERS**

- **OA Elections have started**

Units, please be thinking about a date for OA elections in your troop. We need to be wrapped up by mid-April and the earlier yours is complete, the less chance of having your district's team already busy that night. Callouts will be at the Spring Camporees, and no elections will be possible after that date (including Summer Camp), without the Lodge's Key-3 approval.

Your troop's OA Troop Rep can help our team with your election, but do WE know who your rep is? Please include their information when filing the election request form. ([http://www.gatewayareacouncil.org/oa/links.htm#TRRegister](http://www.gatewayareacouncil.org/oa/links.htm#TRRegister))

**Arrowcorps5 - 5 Weeks, 5 Sites, 5 Thousand Arrowmen**

This summer, OA is doing the largest BSA service project ever. We're working with the US Forest Service on major improvements to 5 national parks (VA, MO, UT, WY, CA). It's like the Philmont Trail Crew and Northern Tier Wilderness Voyage programs, except it's for a week, and adults are allowed to attend. NST has confirmed members going to both Mark Twain (MO), and Bridger-Teton (WY), and neighboring Lodges are going to the others, so we can pair any Gateway Area Council Arrowman up, where ever they'd like to serve. Cost is $250, plus transportation, for the week. The service week includes a day of safety and instruction training, 4 days of service, and a day of premium recreation at that site (e.g., rafting, horseback riding).

Adults, the Mark Twain site needs adults interested in becoming USFS-certified on chain saws. They're assembling 25 chain saw crews to do the major tree cutting. Training will be set up in this region during May, but we need to know now so that it can be coordinated.

For more information, contact Joel Lewiston ([lewistons@nelson-tel.net](mailto:lewistons@nelson-tel.net)) or Dave Long ([drlong@acm.org](mailto:drlong@acm.org))

**Lodge Dates:**

*OA Chapter meetings - March Roundtables - for all Arrowmen*

*District Camporees - May - OA Callouts*

*National Leadership Seminar - April 26-28, Oconomowoc, WI*

**Arrowcorps5**

- **June 7-14, [Mark Twain National Forest](http://www.nps.gov/marts/web/index.htm), Missouri**
- **June 14-21, [Manti-La Sal National Forest](http://www.fs.usda.gov/explore/forest/20364), Utah**
- **July 12-19, [Shasta-Trinity National Forest](http://www.fs.usda.gov/nr/forests/str/national_forest), California**
- **July 26-August 2, [Bridger-Teton National Forest](http://www.fs.usda.gov/explore/forest/20365), Wyoming**

Section Conclave, September 12-14 **CAMP DECORAH**
Polar Cub Day Camp Frontiers Day has been rescheduled for March 29, 2008. All units registered for Polar Cub Day Camp will be rescheduled for the new date. The unit can exchange names if needed. Please call the Council Service Center by March 14th with any new changes to the rooster.
WHO: Tiger Tales Archaeology Camp is open to all Tiger Scouts and their accompanying adults partner. There must be a scout to adult ratio of 1 to 1. Tiger Dens are encouraged to reserve a “site” for their entire den to attend. This camp is a great opportunity to sleep under the stars and experience worlds of the past!

WHAT: Tiger Tales Archaeology Camp is an overnight event that is packed with adventure! Campers can stay in or outside in tents. All goodies will be served in the museum (dining hall). Indoor showers and toilets are available.

WHEN: May 16th-17th, 2008.

WHERE: Camp Decorah (Make a left at the Pyramids and a right at Stone-hedge!)

PROGRAM: Activities include BB guns, ancient archery, fossil fishing, t-shirts, and much, much, more!!
**Gear to Bring:** Cub Shirt, sleeping bags, t-shirt, Raincoats, toiletries, flashlights, underwear, jeans/sweatpants, hat, jacket, bug spray, prescribed medicine.

**FEE:** The 2008 Archaeology Camp fee is $50 by April 28th. **No applications will be accepted after the 5th of May.** The fee is non-refundable. The fee covers program expenses, craft supplies, insurance, evening snack, breakfast, lunch and a patch.

**Packs must pay in full for each youth on the den roster to be considered registered.** Space is limited to the first 35 scouts for indoor accommodations! Outside camping is available as well. Register Today!

*Camperships are available for Cub scouts who have financial hardship*
Tiger Tales Archaeology Camp 2008
Reservation and Payment Form

Registration: Camp Reservations will be accepted by mail, fax or in person on this form. No reservations will be accepted by phone. No reservations are final until the health forms, unit roster and payment are submitted. No applications will be accepted after the 5th of May.

Unit Information Pack Number: ______
District: _____________________

Contact Information

Name: ____________________________________________
Daytime Phone:_____________________________________
Evening Phone:_____________________________________
Email: ____________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________

Payment Information   (Make checks payable to BSA)
Number of Scouts:   ___________
Number of Adults:   ___________
Total Owed: ($50 per scout) ___________

Mail To: Gateway Area Council
2600 Quarry Road
La Crosse, WI 54601
Or Fax To: (608) 784-4047

Important Notes
Fees are not refundable. A maximum of 35 cub scouts can be accommodated with indoor lodging at this event. More can be accommodated with outside camping. It is recommended to make your payment ASAP because there is limited indoor sleeping accommodations.
**Tiger Tales Archaeology Camp 2008**

**Pack Roster Sheet**

Pack #________

**Instructions:** A roster listing the names, emergency contact info, and rank is to be submitted in order for the reservation and purchasing process for the event to be finalized. A health form column is included to indicate that each person on the roster has a health form to be turned in accompanying the roster. If you are unable to turn in the health forms with the roster, **remember to bring them the day of the event and turn the health form in during check in.** Scouts will not be permitted to participate in Tiger Tales Archaeology Camp without a health form on file.

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Tiger Tales Archaeology Camp Schedule

Friday May 16th, 2008

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6-7PM</td>
<td>Check in!!!</td>
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<tr>
<td>7-7:30PM</td>
<td>Pre-dig Games</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30-8:30PM</td>
<td>Opening Fire ceremony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30PM</td>
<td>Evening Snack</td>
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<tr>
<td>10PM</td>
<td>To your dig sites for Bed</td>
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Saturday May 17th, 2008

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8AM</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:45AM</td>
<td>Opening Flag</td>
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<tr>
<td>9-9:40AM</td>
<td>Session 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45-10:25AM</td>
<td>Session 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30-11:10AM</td>
<td>Session 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15-11:55AM</td>
<td>Session 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00AM-1:00PM</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:05-1:45PM</td>
<td>Session 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:50-2:30PM</td>
<td>Session 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:35-3:15PM</td>
<td>Session 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:15-3:30</td>
<td>Session 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:30PM</td>
<td>Closing Flag</td>
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</table>
WHO: Akela Archaeology Camp is open to all wolf and bear Scouts. There must be a scout to adult ratio of 1 to 8. Dens are encouraged to reserve a “site” for their entire den to attend. This camp is a great opportunity to sleep under the stars and experience worlds of the past!

WHAT: Akela Archaeology Camp is an overnight event that is packed with adventure! Campers can stay in or outside in tents. All goodies will be served in the museum (dining hall). Indoor showers and toilets are available.

WHEN: May 9th-10th, 2008.

WHERE: Camp Decorah (Make a left at the Pyramids and a right at Stone-hedge!)

PROGRAM: Activities include BB guns, ancient archery, fossil fishing, t-shirts, and much, much, more!!
Gear to Bring: Cub Shirt, sleeping bags, t-shirt, Raincoats, toiletries, flashlights, underwear, jeans/sweatpants, hat, jacket, bug spray, prescribed medicine.

FEE: The 2008 Archaeology Camp fee is $50 by April 28th. No applications will be accepted after the 5th of May. The fee is non-refundable. The fee covers program expenses, craft supplies, insurance, evening snack, breakfast, lunch and a patch.

Packs must pay in full for each youth on the den roster to be considered registered. Space is limited to the first 35 scouts for indoor accommodations! Outside camping is available as well. Register Today!

Camperships are available for Cub scouts who have financial hardship.
Akela Archaeology Camp 2008
Reservation and Payment Form

Registration: Camp Reservations will be accepted by mail, fax or in person on this form. No reservations will be accepted by phone. No reservations are final until the health forms, unit roster and payment are submitted. No applications will be accepted after the 5th of May.

Unit Information Pack Number: ______
District: _____________________
Contact Information

Name:  ____________________________________________
Daytime Phone:_____________________________________
Evening Phone:_____________________________________
Email: ____________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________

Payment Information  (Make checks payable to BSA)
Number of Scouts:   ___________
Number of Adults:   ___________
Total Owed: ($50 per scout) ___________
Mail To:  Gateway Area Council
          2600 Quarry Road
          La Crosse, WI 54601
Or Fax To:  (608) 784-4047

Important Notes
Fees are not refundable. A maximum of 35 cub scouts can be accommodated with indoor lodging at this event. More can be accommodated with outside camping. It is recommended to make your payment ASAP because there is limited indoor sleeping accommodations.
Instructions: A roster listing the names, emergency contact info, and rank is to be submitted in order for the reservation and purchasing process for the event to be finalized. A health form column is included to indicate that each person on the roster has a health form to be turned in accompanying the roster. If you are unable to turn in the health forms with the roster, remember to bring them the day of the event and turn the health form in during check in. Scouts will not be permitted to participate in Akela Archaeology Camp without a health form on file.

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</tbody>
</table>
Akela Archaeology Camp Schedule

Friday May 9th, 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6-7PM</td>
<td>Check in!!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-7:30PM</td>
<td>Pre-dig Games</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30-8:30PM</td>
<td>Opening Fire ceremony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30PM</td>
<td>Evening Snack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10PM</td>
<td>To your dig sites for Bed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Saturday May 10th, 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8AM</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:45AM</td>
<td>Opening Flag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-9:40AM</td>
<td>Session 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45-10:25AM</td>
<td>Session 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30-11:10AM</td>
<td>Session 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15-11:55AM</td>
<td>Session 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00AM-1:00PM</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:05-1:45PM</td>
<td>Session 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:50-2:30PM</td>
<td>Session 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:35-3:15PM</td>
<td>Session 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:15-3:30</td>
<td>Session 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30PM</td>
<td>Closing Flag</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A Note to Scoutmasters in the Gateway Area Council:

Do you have scouts 13-16 years old?
Do you wish they would practice better leadership skills in your Troop?
Are they ready for fun and challenging activities with their peers?
Are they ready to gain confidence by showing what they can do?

The Gateway Area Council has the answer:
National Youth Leader Training

National Youth Leadership Training is the pinnacle of Boy Scout training for youth. Every troop deserves a Senior Patrol Leader that is trained and prepared for the responsibility he faces. NYLT offers training in advanced scout skills and teaches the eleven points of leadership. As an outdoor course, it emphasizes the practical challenges of leadership using the patrol method, while providing enjoyable activities to practice with. This course is supervised by adults and taught by trained boys; it emphasizes the methods of the boy-led troop. Successful graduates gain self confidence and learn how to “get things done while having fun!”

When: July 27-August NYLT Training Camp
Where: Camp Decorah
Who: Boys must be a registered Scout, attained First Class rank, and be 13 years old by July 27, 2008 to be eligible

Please consider and promote this advanced troop leadership training. Copy and distribute the application to eligible boys and/or their parents.

Thank you—the 2008 NYLT Support Staff

IMPORTANT FOR NYLT PARTICIPANTS

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SHORT FORM AND RETURN TO
Gateway Area Council, Boy Scouts of America
2600 Quarry Road
La Crosse, WI 54601

Please complete the questions below! We need to understand your camping experience, skills, and interests. This will help us find a patrol for you with other scouts to make NYLT a good experience.

Name_________________________________________________________  Birth date __________________________
Address_______________________________________________________
City, State, Zip__________________________________________________
Telephone # ___________________________ Troop #___________ District______________________________
Scoutmaster_____________________________________________________

Some of the skills in the course in addition to leadership are advanced camping techniques, Leave No Trace, wood fire cooking, pioneering and more. Are there special skills you are interested in, or a skill you want help in?

In the last two years, have you been at Camp Decorah for summer camp or similar BSA camp? ________________
In the last two years, about how many nights have you camped outdoors in a tent (not summer camp)? ________________
Have you done wilderness or high adventure camping?  Yes ___ No____ If so, where did you camp? ___________________

Registration Fee: $190.00 if received by June 1, 2008
$210.00 after June 1, 2008
Note: 50% discount on camp fee if attending summer camp as well. Contact the Council Office at registration time for details.

Please make checks payable to: Gateway Area Council, BSA

Camp Dates:       July 27 to August 1, 2008
The Basic Course for Boy Scout Leaders

Adult Training for SCOUTMASTER/ASSISTANT SCOUTMASTER (all day)
Above also good for 2nd Year Webelos Den Leaders.

…will be available on Saturday, April 5th, 2008 at Camp Decorah, Holmen, WI. Sessions will be held indoors. Bring paper and pen/pencil. Uniform encouraged.

Under the new guidelines, all adults must take NEW LEADER ESSENTIALS once during their careers before the other courses. “Essentials” is on Friday, April 4th, 2008 at Camp Decorah (8pm – 9:30pm, check-in at 7:45pm).

COST: $5 for supplies and meals. You must register by March 21st. If there are not 10 students as of that date for one of the courses, that course is subject to being canceled.

CHECK-IN: 7:45am at the Camp Decorah Training Center. Course runs from 8am through 4:30pm.

MEALS: Hot Breakfast (6:45am) and Lunch on Saturday will be prepared. Please tell us if you plan to eat breakfast so we’ll have enough food.

OVERNIGHT?: If you desire to drive in Friday, a Lodge will be available for bunking, or you can pitch your own tent. The Training Facility Showers will be available.


NAME ____________________________________    UNIT (type: Pack, Troop, Crew) ________

Address ____________________________________   Telephone __________________________

City _____________________ ST ___  ZIP_______ Email ________________________________

Taking ______SCOUTMASTER/ASST SCOUTMASTER TRAINING (3/17)
and?  ______NEW LEADER ESSENTIALS (4/4)

I WILL/WON’T be needing bunk space for Friday Night, and WILL/WON’T eat breakfast.

Any Dietary Requirements? ____________________________

>>>Return this form to the LaCrosse Scout Office (2600 Quarry Rd, 54601) by 03/21/08<<<

Every boy deserves a trained leader.
Outdoor Leader Skills for Webelos Leaders training is designed to help leaders learn how to provide a memorable camping experience for their Webelos Scouts and parents or guardians. This training is ideal for Webelos Leaders to take as well as Bear Den leaders who plan to move up in the next year and also could benefit Cub Masters and other interested leaders or parents.

When: May 16th and 17th, 2008

Check-in and tent set-up begins at 5:00 p.m. Friday the 16th. Sessions begin promptly at 7:00.

Program runs until 9:00 p.m. Saturday night.

Where: At Camp Decorah, Holmen WI (Between Holmen and Galesville off HWY 53)

Equipment list and informational letter will be sent upon registration.

Fee: covers facility expenses, insurance, meals, materials and supplies. $20.00/participant.

Training includes skills training in wood tools, fire site building, cooking and sanitation, ropes and knots, planning overnights, hiking, Outdoor activity pins, health and safety, campsite selection, tent, and bedding, flag ceremonies, Readyman, campfire planning, and Webelos-to-Scout transition.

Register by May 2nd at the Scout Service Center, Gateway Area Council, 2600 Quarry Road, La Crosse, WI 54601 by sending in this info with the $20 fee.

Name______________________________________ Pack_________ OLSWL course__(check)

Address ___________________________City___________________ ST____ Zip___________

Phone_________________________ Email__________________________ fee included ______
Ask a boy why he wants to be a Cub Scout, and nine times out of ten he’ll answer “to go camping!”

Cub Scout Packs may conduct a pack campout (overnight) activity, as long as the activity is conducted at a council-approved location and is under the direction of a leader in the pack trained to do so. Packs are encouraged to do a campout in both the fall and spring. The reasoning being that each boy will have a positive outdoor experience within 60 days of joining a Pack. The training course to prepare these leaders is called Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO for short).

Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO) is a one-day training event that introduces leaders and parents to the skills needed to plan and conduct pack outdoor activities, particularly pack camping (Not required for council and district sponsored events), properly understand the importance of the program intent; Youth Protection guidelines, health and safety, site selection, age-appropriate activities, and sufficient adult participation. A day of FUN and learning prepares pack leaders to plan and carry out "entry-level" outdoor experiences, one that is safe and appropriate for Cub Scouts. This training is not required for all Cub Leaders, but at least one member of a Pack Committee must be BALOO trained in order for their Cub Scout Pack to be authorized to go camping. This training is not designed for Committee Chairman or Cubmasters (they are certainly welcome!) but is instead focused on the Committee Member (leaders or parents) who will be in charge of Pack Camping (more than one BALOO trained leader per pack is a good idea as one would need to be present at all campouts).

When: Saturday, April 26, 2008 from 8:30 to 5:00. (Check-in is from 8:30 to 9:00) Session starts promptly at 9:00.

Where: At Camp Decorah, Holmen WI (Between Holmen and Galesville off HWY 53)

Cost: $10.00 per participant (includes noon meal, snacks, and training materials; please bring your own choice of beverages – no alcohol, tobacco, or unauthorized drugs allowed).

Uniforms are encouraged.

Contact course advisor Robin Mezera @ rmezera000@centurytel.net or Cubmaster Lisa Stenslien @ (608) 483-2580 or llstensl@gundluth.org with questions.

Register by Friday, April 18th at LaCrosse Scout Service Center, Gateway Area Council, 2600 Quarry Rd, La Crosse, WI 54601, by sending in this info with the $10.00 fee.

Name______________________________________ Pack______ BALOO course__(check)
Address __________________________ City___________________ ST____ Zip___________
Phone________________________ Email____________________ fee included _____
Adult Training for INTRO to OUTDOOR LEADER SKILLS (SCOUTMASTER/ASSISTANT SM)
A fun-filled program of hands-on skills training in the outdoors, designed to help you master basic camp skills required for Tenderfoot to First Class.

Above also good for 2nd Year Webelos Den Leaders and Venturing Leaders.

It will be offered Friday, April 25th (7pm) to Sunday, April 27th (2:30pm), 2008 at Camp Decorah, Holmen, WI.

Instructors will help you learn how to set up camp, cook, work with woods tools and about ropes, first aid, planning campfire programs, map reading and compass skills, hiking and packing techniques, nature identification, and Leave No Trace. Each outdoor session will bring to life the pages of the Boy Scout Handbook to help you deliver the promise of Scouting to yourself and the youth you serve. It will increase your comfort level and give you confidence as a trained, skilled leader. The program will also give you the opportunity to work with other Scout leaders from your area, meet new friends, and reinforce skill techniques with fellow unit leaders.

COST: $15 FOR SUPPLIES AND MEALS, but you must register by April 11th. If there are not 12 students as of that date for the course, the course is subject to being canceled.

We look forward to hearing from you and working with you in this unique and exciting program.

We will send you a map to the location, gear list, and any other information you will need to join us – and please “pass the word” to other Boy Scout leaders. We don’t want anyone to miss out on the fun since this course won’t be offered again until spring 2007.

To wear the “Trained” patch, you need “Essentials”, “Scoutmaster/Asst. SM”, and this course.

NAME ___________________________ UNIT (type: Pack, Troop, Crew) ________

Address __________________________ Telephone __________________________

City ________________ ST ___ ZIP ______ Email_______________________________


Any Dietary Requirements? _____________________________________________

>>>RETURN THIS FORM TO THE LACROSSE SCOUT OFFICE (2600 QUARRY RD, 54601) BY 04/06/06<<<
Friends Of Scouting

It’s that time of year again!

Please make sure you have scheduled your unit for family presentations in February, March, and April....Let’s aim for 100% participation.

Unit presentations are a vital part of what we do to fund Scouting. By participating in the Friends of Scouting campaign, you are supporting all of the training, material, and service that goes right back to the Scouts, and helping to keep the cost of Scouting as low as possible.

Thank you for your support!

Scouting for Food

All this March, stop in at the Service Center to pick up your flyers and sign up for your service area.

Need Service Hours?

Hillview Nursing Home can use help refilling birdfeeders outside resident’s rooms. Excellent opportunity for service hours towards advancement! Contact Kelly Kramer at 789-4800 for more details.

Spring Camporee Planning!

We are looking at Wyalusing State Park, near Prairie du Chien, for this year’s Camporee on May 1st-2nd. With an “Amazing Race” theme, Scouts will participate in activities pairing old-school Scouting techniques with exciting modern technologies such as GPS and Geocaching! There will be a Camporee Planning meeting on Tue, March 18th. Starting at 6:30 PM at the Service Center; we invite all Scout leaders to come and enjoy pizza, drinks, planning and fellowship!

District Roundtables:

Join us at the LaCrosse Children’s Museum! District Roundtables meet the second Thursday of each month. Roundtables are for all Scoutmasters, Cubmasters, and Den Leaders. We will have specific breakout sessions for Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts, and the more the merrier!

March Roundtable: Thur. 13th, 6:30-8
April Roundtable: Thur. 10th 6:30-8

EVERY SCOUT DESERVES A TRAINED LEADER

Training opportunities for Cub Scout and Boy Scout leaders are coming up in April! These training opportunities are important for taking your units out on overnight or longer campouts. They will reduce planning headaches and help you prepare for a more successful outing.

Saturday, April 5th: Scoutmaster Specific Training
Saturday, April 26th: Scoutmaster Outdoor Training
Fri-Sat, April 25-26th: Cub Scout BALOO Training (Important!)

Cub Scout Leaders—BALOO training is necessary to take Scouts on an overnight campout!

Check out the Training link on www.gatewayareacouncil.org for online training options.
The Basics
The 2008 Spring Camporee will be loosely based on the popular television show the amazing race. Scouts will work in patrols toward specific objectives to obtain the next clue, moving from one station to another. In light of our 100 year anniversary of scouting on the horizon we will be setting up activities based on days of old, as well as present day technology.

The Details
Troops should arrive for check-in between 5:30-8:00pm Friday evening. Please be aware that State Parks charge vehicle admission, we will try to arrange a deal with the park prior to the event. Upon arrival we will assign your troop to a camping area. The opening campfire will kick-off at 8:30 pm. During this time we should have an OA callout, so be sure your elections have been made prior to this event. After the fire we will hold a crackerbarrel for SPL’s and leaders to discuss the weekends activities.

Saturday morning flag ceremony will start at 8:00am followed by the start to our version of “The Amazing Race”. This will conclude in the early afternoon. Then, as a group we will offer our support to the park in the form of a service project. Following the project scouts and leaders will have free time.

Sunday we will conclude with an ecumenical service and award ceremony. At this time troops may choose to stay longer or head for home.

Troops should plan on bringing:
- Campsite necessities
- GPS units if available
- Compasses
- Pump Water Purifier
- Free time equipment
  - Fishing Gear
  - Hiking Gear
  - Geocaching Supplies
- A bugler if you have one
- A familiarity with pioneering knots and lashings.
- Fire building techniques

RSVP by April 25th to the Boy Scout Office (608) 784-4040
Please Contact Chris or Trevor at the number above with any additional questions
ROUNDTABLES
Join us at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church!!!! We meet every second Thursday of the month at 7:00PM. This hour long meeting provides lots of learning opportunities for all Scouters. Want to know what’s happening in the district? Come on down.
Any questions, contact Rich Gibbs District Commissioner rdgibbs@charter.net

YETI’S REVENGE A HUGE SUCCESS!!
This year’s Klondike Derby was great. Troops from all over the district came together to race and show off their skills at Habelman’s Cranberry marsh. Special thanks to Rod Erickson and Rich Gibbs for putting this together for us to enjoy. Thank you to all our troops for showing up on Saturday, February 16 for this fun filled day.
Congratulations to Troop 119 of Wonewoc on 1st place, Troop 7 of Sparta for 2nd place, and Troop 322 of Coon Valley on 3rd Place.

Friends of Scouting
It’s that time of year again. Thank you to everyone helping out with our annual fundraiser. This year’s Friends of Scouting goals are $18,000 for family and $30,000 for community. Let us know when your Blue and Gold or Court of Honor banquets are so we can do a five minute presentation. Big Thank You to Rosemary Whitingter for putting this together.

Congratulations to this year’s District Award of Merit recipients!!
Tom Smith of Troop 85
Rich Gibbs of Troop 285
Tracy Dechant of Pack 85

NEWS FLASH!! THIS JUST IN!!
Boy Scouts and Leaders!!! Save the Date!!!
May 2nd-4th
Troop 203 of New Lisbon is planning this year’s spring camporee. It will be held at Kennedy Park in New Lisbon. More information to come.
Welcome new Boy Scouts to a great program!!

Now is the time of season to get all your Webelos 2’s crossed over to the Boy Scout Troop. Scoutmasters, call your Webelos leaders and invite them to a Troop meeting. Webelos leaders, call your Scoutmasters and invite them to a Pack meeting!! I hope the Webelos twos understand that Boy Scouts is different then Cub Scouts. To help the boys of Soaring Eagle District, Sherri Collins and I are putting on the second annual Day at Decorah. It will be held on April 26th, 2008. Check in is at 8 am. We will get started at 9 am and go until noon. Invite all the Webelos 2’s that are crossing over this year and all the boys who have chosen not to, to a day at Camp Decorah. We are welcoming them with a taste of what Boy Scouts is all about. Rifles, Shot guns and the Climbing wall will be offered. All boys participating will have to be “registered” Boy Scouts. They may be crossing over later on, but we will have applications they can fill out at the event if they haven’t gotten theirs in yet. Invite those boys who decided not to cross over this year. If they see the fun that Scouting has to offer, they might change their minds. If they have friends who are not Boy Scouts, invite them as well. The goal is to show how fun the program is and can be!! Hope to see you all there!!

Our District Goal this year is to not only recruit, but to train 15 total Unit Commissioners!! We need a few people who would like to help the Units in their area. The position details include attending den meetings once every month or two and serving as a liaison to the District Executive and Council. They would simply offer advice, answer questions and help the unit be successful. If you are interested in helping the Cub Packs or Scout Troops around your area, please send me an e-mail at steve-topol@yahoo.com.

Unit Commissioners Needed!!

Dates to remember!!

- **April 26th** - Baloo Training and Boy Scout Leaders essentials
- **April 26th** - “Welcome New Boy Scouts to Scouting” Day at Decorah
- **May 2nd-4th** - Boy Scout Camporee
- **May 9th-10th** - Camp Akela
- **May 16th-17th** - Camp Tiger Tales

THANKS FOR ANOTHER GREAT YEAR SOARING EAGLE VOLUNTEERS!!

This was the third year in a row that Soaring Eagle District made Quality status! This is never an easy task and it was due to the hard work and dedication of all the unit leaders and volunteers throughout the area. Thank you all so much for the time you put in to making the Scouting program a success for the boys.

To celebrate our great year of Scouting in Soaring Eagle, we had the District Dinner on January 25th. It was held at the Arcadia Country Club and a special thanks goes out to Lisa S Schock of Pack 264 (soon to be Troop 64) for making the arrangements and planning the event. A bunch of awards were handed out to recognize those who worked especially hard to ensure a great program was given to the boys of the district.

**Sherri Collins** has served as our Membership Chair for two years and has helped the district grow in membership by at least 2% each year. Thanks to Sherri for putting on the training necessary to get new youth into our program.

**Lee Collins** has helped plan the Boy Scout activities and has served an active role on our Boy Scout Activities side of the District Committee.

**Paul Schaffner** has helped the Cub Scout Roundtable grow and continue to help many new leaders learn new skills and bring forth new ideas to bring to their units.

**Lisa S Schock** has helped the district in many ways and has always been able to lend a hand when needed.

**Ralph Schacherl** from Pack 61, Galesville received the “U-Turn Award”. He stepped up to the Cubmaster role a year and a half ago and has truly turned his unit around! Thanks you all for your dedication.

The two recipients of the District Award of Merit were also recognized. **Jeff Blakeley** of Troop 91, Holmen, received his for his overall dedication to the Scouting movement. Not only has he served as an assistant Scoutmaster for 14 years, but he chose to step up as Scoutmaster for a troop that desired new direction. His love of Scouting carries over to the Winding Trails District as well. He is currently the Crew Leader of a Venture Crew based on Civil Ward re-enactors.

**Dave McFarland** from Troop 54, Alma, also received the District Award of Merit. He has been an active member in Troop 54 even after his son received his Eagle in 2003. He has always been there for the troop and never lets the district down. He has helped plan sever district Boy Scout events and has volunteered much needed time when we needed him. He is currently the Order of the Arrow representative for Soaring Eagle District and continues to help plan both District and Council Scouting events. Thank you both for your continued Scout service!
Welcome New Boy Scouts!!
Rifles, Shotguns and Climbing Wall at Camp Decorah
April 26th, 8am-12pm
“*It’s not Cub Scouts anymore!*”

All the Packs and Troops from Soaring Eagle District can invite those new Scouts and Webelos 2’s who decided not to crossover, to experience the fun Scouting has to offer!!

*Parents can also come and learn what Boy Scouts has to offer!*

Call Sherri Collins @ 608-685-4030 to register and get more information