

# Greater Yosemite Council, BSA

## eNews!

### April, 2006



#### MERCED SCOUT RECOGNIZED IN BOYS LIFE MAGAZINE

At the Council Recognition Dinner, Boy Scout Bert J (BJ) Crane, a member of Troop 95 in Merced was presented the Medal of Merit for saving his dad's life. Boys Life Magazine has been impressed with BJ's actions and has published his story in the April, 2006 issue. Be sure to read BJ's story in this month's issue.

#### SEA SCOUTS ANNOUNCE OPEN HOUSE

The Greater Yosemite Council Sea Scouts are having an open house! We would like to invite all Webelos, Boy Scouts, and Venture Scouts to join us for a day on the river.

Saturday, April 22nd, 10:00AM  
Stockton Sea Scout Base  
3100 Mt. Diablo Ave, Stockton

(west of I-5, across the street from Luis Park)

There will be tours of the base, boat rides on some of our boats, a BBQ lunch, and some demonstrations of some of the unique activities that take place in Sea Scouting, and the best part – Its FREE!!! If your troop, crew or Webelos dens are interested in a little different mode of transportation to a campout this summer, we can offer a unique way to get there. There are many places around the delta and bay area for camping which can be reached by boat. If this sounds like fun to you, come to our open house and check out the best kept secret in scouting. If your den, troop or crew plan on attending, we would like to know by April 10<sup>th</sup> so we can be sure to have enough food and supplies. For more information, or to let us know your coming, call (209) 333-2732 or email us at [ptweber@pointweber.org](mailto:ptweber@pointweber.org). You can also visit one of our ship's web sites at <http://www.pointweber.org>.



#### ANNUAL EAGLE BRUNCH SEEKS SPONSORS

On Saturday **April 8, 2006**, the Greater Yosemite Council will be conducting its annual Eagle Scout Brunch to recognize Eagles who have earned their Eagle Scout rank in 2005. The brunch will be held in the Grand Ballroom of the Doubletree Hotel in Modesto. The breakfast will consist of a wide selection of brunch dishes. In addition to this wonderful breakfast Eagles will receive a certificate from the Marine Corps League and a pewter belt buckle from Greater Yosemite Council.

Sponsors are needed for this event. Sponsorships are \$100 per Eagle Scout and are payable to the Greater Yosemite Council. Sponsorship pays for the Eagle Scout and

sponsor's breakfast at the event. Please use the linked registration form to sponsor an Eagle and support the fine young men of our Council.

### NEW TROOP FORMED IN RIVERBANK



In late January, Joel and Sylvia Ramirez called worrying about their son and several other young men in Riverbank. Like all parents they were afraid that their boys would end up in gangs and in trouble. The challenge was that most of the parents were more comfortable in Spanish than in English. Thanks to Scoutreach Executive Luis Jimenez and materials supplied by BSA, a troop began to form. Father Tom of St. Francis of Rome Catholic Church made the parish hall available on

Tuesday nights for meetings thus solving one of the challenges to Scouting in Riverbank. The Knights of Columbus from the church will be the sponsor for the troop.

Luis Jimenez recently held the first of several classes for the leaders (there were sixteen volunteers). New Leader Essentials will be followed by Leader Specific Training and Outdoor Leader Skills. Thanks to the concerned parents of Riverbank and the local church, Scouting returns to Riverbank. The council extends a warm welcome and best wishes to the new Troop.



### HEALTH FAIRE APPROACHES

On Saturday, **April 22, 2006** from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM our council will participate in the first annual health faire "**Scouting for a Healthier California: Get Fit, Not Fat**". This family event will take place at Dry Creek Park and the adjacent LDS Church building on 731 El Vista Avenue in Modesto.

The purpose of this event is to bring focus on the concerns of youth obesity and inactive lifestyles. The general public, Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Varsity Scouts, Venture Scouts, Explorers and their families are invited to participate. There is no charge for this event. A safe bike ride opportunity for families on the Dry Creek bike path will be part of this program. A passport will be issued to participants and the first 100 to complete the circuit will receive a complimentary t-shirt.

For more information on ActiveCA including the free Boy Scout patch program log on to <http://www.Activeca.org>. and click on Governor's Challenge or call the Council Service Center at 545-6320. This is the Council's Good Turn for America event for 2006.

### FRIENDS OF SCOUTING CAMPAIGN SUPPORTS OUR COMMUNITY'S YOUTH

Each spring individuals, families, community businesses and organizations are asked to show their support for our program by participating in our "Friends of Scouting" campaign. This fundraising campaign enables the Greater Yosemite Council, Boy Scouts of America to continue providing an outstanding program to more than 10,000

youth in our community. Through our children, families and communities are stronger and better prepared for the future.

“Friends of Scouting” gifts support:

- Scouting programs throughout the central valley for more than 10,000 youth.
- Camping experiences for over 10,000 youth.
- Basic and advanced training for youth and adults.
- A professional staff to provide program and administrative support to adult leaders.
- Three Council Service Centers providing extensive information, supplies and materials for all volunteers.
- Camperships for youth who need financial assistance for camp.
- Maintenance and operation of three camp properties.

For more information telephone 545-6320.

### **COUNCIL CAMPS ARE ACCEPTING REGISTRATIONS**

Are there youth in your pack or troop who need financial assistance to attend camp this summer? Greater Yosemite Council offers camperships to assist with camp fees. Campership applications are due now for Camp Mensinger and are also available for Cub Day Camps and Camp Akela. Council assistance is limited and offered on a first-come first-served basis.

Camp John Mensinger will be celebrating its 30th anniversary this year. This year's camp staff, led by Camp Director Ken Moffitt, promises to make your long-term camping experience one to remember. Weekly camp sessions begin on June 18<sup>th</sup> and continue through July 29<sup>th</sup>. Our camp offers programs for Scouts of all ages: younger Scouts will have an opportunity to complete a number of requirements toward First Class rank. Over 30 merit badges are offered to older Scouts, as well as biking, hiking, sailing, boating, climbing and rappelling, and shooting sports activities.



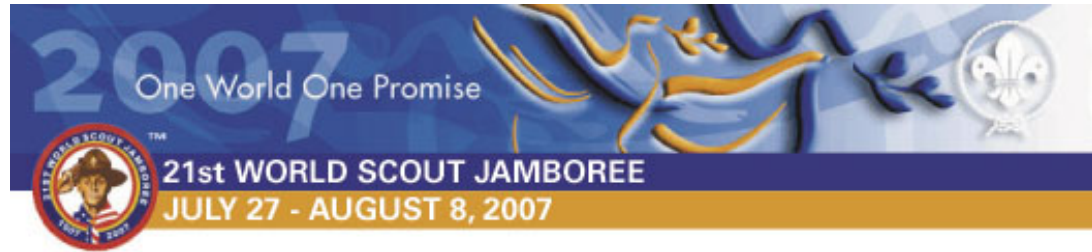
Cub Scout Resident Camp will be offered at two of our camps this summer. Cub Scouts and their adult partners can experience outdoor camping and numerous program activities at Camp McConnell, near Livingston. Beginning this year, Webelos Scouts and their adult partners will have the opportunity to attend Resident Camp at Camp Mensinger, where they will share the camp with Boy Scout campers. Both camps will offer archery, BB gun shooting, swimming, nature discovery and other Cub Scout experiences.

### **UNIT POPCORN SEMINAR SCHEDULED**

On Wednesday, **May 3, 2006**, representatives of Trails End popcorn will be presenting a seminar on “Best Methods” for selling popcorn. These seminars are fun and inspirational not to mention worthwhile in preparing for the popcorn sale. Plan to participate in the 2006 sale and select your unit's popcorn “Kernel” early. Plan to have your unit Popcorn Kernel attend this seminar. Attendance is worth an extra 5% commission to your unit and it will be the only opportunity to earn this extra commission.



**WESTERN  
REGION'S  
INFORMATION  
ON THE WORLD  
SCOUT  
JAMBOREE**



Welcome to a once in a lifetime opportunity! Scouting will be celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in England in 2007; the country where scouting began. In Western Region, our goal is to put together at least three Venturing Crews and over twenty Boy Scout Troops.

Western Region has done a great job of recruiting youth to attend the World Jamboree but there is still room for both Venturers and Boy Scouts to join. This means that the region needs everyone's help to continue recruiting the most qualified young men and young women in The Greater Yosemite Council. Cliff Bailey from the El Capitan District has been selected by Western Region as Scoutmaster for the Central California Contingent. This Troop will consist of Scouts from Nevada, Sacramento, Sequoia and Greater Yosemite Councils. Contact Cliff for current information, World Jamboree programs, the tours, and the excitement of attending the 21<sup>st</sup> World Jamboree in London, UK. He is available to present informational programs to Scout groups and District Roundtables. Give him a call at: (W) 209 667-3441 or (H) 209 634-0185, or email at [CBailey@csustan.edu](mailto:CBailey@csustan.edu)

BSA Jam Website <http://www.scouting.org/jamboree/world/index.html>

**16<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BREAKFAST OF CHAMPIONS**

Big Valley District will host its 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Breakfast of Champions fundraiser on Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. Featured speaker is Vida Blue, Cy Young Award-winning lefthander who was the ace of Oakland Athletics' pitching staff in the early Seventies. The Breakfast will be held at 6:30 AM at the Radisson Hotel, Stockton. For more information contact Darrell Pedersen at 472-9960.