

Greater Yosemite Council, BSA

eNews!

May, 2006

2006 Greater Yosemite Council Friends of Scouting Campaign as of April 27, 2006			
District	Goal	Actual	Percentage
Big Valley	\$109,500	\$80,440	73%
Chief Tenaya	\$113,500	\$68,195	60%
El Capitan	\$86,500	\$59,624	69%
Forty-Niner	\$76,500	\$26,451	35%
Golden Heritage	\$23,500	\$25,977	111%
Waukeen	\$61,000	\$49,915	82%
Wawona	\$58,000	\$32,372	56%
Scoutreach	\$5,000	\$0	0%
Executive Board	\$55,000	\$15,425	28%
Council Total	\$588,500	\$358,399	61%

BRUNCH HONORS 2005 EAGLE SCOUTS



On April 8th the fifth annual Eagle Brunch was held to recognize 46 Eagle Scouts, representing the Eagle class of 2005. More than 90 family members joined the Eagle Scouts in the Grand Ballroom of the Double Tree Hotel and Convention Center in Modesto. The highlight of the event was hearing short speeches by Eagles from the various districts of the council. Gregg Hamilton, 49'er District; Nicholas Howell, Chief Tenaya District; Mitchell Wallace, El Capitan District, Joshua Pixton; Waukeen District and Alex Gisler from Wawona District each gave a moving account of their Eagle projects and the impact that their projects have had on the communities in which they live.

The Marine Corps League presented a Good Citizenship certificate to the Eagles present. Eagle belt buckles were also presented to the Eagles as a gift from Greater Yosemite Council.

We offer a special "thank you" to the families and Scoutmasters of these fine young men. Thanks also to the 30 individual sponsors and to Dr. William Wilson, DDS, for again being the corporate sponsor of the event.

NATIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING TEACHES LEADERSHIP SKILLS

National Youth Leadership Training Course is an intense weeklong youth oriented leadership training experience sponsored by the Greater Yosemite Council and held annually at Camp John Mensinger. The training is conducted by highly qualified youth staff under the supervision of adult advisors using the National Youth Leadership Training Course syllabus, as published by the National Council, Boy Scouts of America.

The course models a month in the life of a troop – three meetings (one each day for the first three days) all leading up to a big outdoor experience (an overnight outpost camp). The course uses the patrol method and presents model Patrol Leader Council meetings.

Patrols are challenged early in the week to present to the troop at the end of the week their “Quest for the Meaning of Leadership.” While the challenge is designed to have them go through the four stages of team development, it will help patrols and individual Scouts internalize the leadership skills and concepts being presented to them along the way.

Throughout the course, the staff will be modeling the concepts and skills that are the core content of the course. The focus of each session is not only knowledge but giving the youth a “Toolbox of Skills’ that equips them with the “how.”

Has your troop selected youth leaders and potential leaders to sponsor? Additional information and an application are available on the council web site.

GOOD TURN FOR AMERICA

Since the BSA's inception in 1910, Scouts and Scouters alike have learned to live the principles of the Scout Oath and Law through community service and "helping other people at all times." With our rich history in mind, we have developed Good Turn for America.

What began with a singular act of service on a foggy London night quickly evolved into daily Good Turns and then into more encompassing national initiatives. These have included selling war bonds, collecting rubber and scrap metal, growing victory gardens during World War II, and more recently, Scouting for Food.

We now have an opportunity to raise our levels of community service and increase awareness of the Scouting program within our neighborhoods. Nationally, the Boy Scouts of America has partnered with The Salvation Army, Habitat for Humanity, and the American Red Cross to increase our efforts in meeting the challenges of the 21st century.

Good Turn for America builds on our members' and participants' current service efforts and includes important partnerships with other community service organizations. These partnerships provide many additional avenues for all of our members and participants to provide community service in their neighborhoods.

For more information, visit www.goodturnforamerica.org.

TROOP OPEN HOUSE LEADER RECOGNITION

A new leader recognition patch is available to be presented to the one key person in the troop who organizes and hosts a troop open house. The ring-shaped patch is designed to encircle the recruiter patch and is now available at council service centers.

You can find more information on the Troop Open House at <http://www.scouting.org/boyscouts/resources/18-706/index.html>



SEA SCOUT BASE HOLDS OPEN HOUSE

The Stockton Sea Base held an Open House on Saturday, April 22nd. Visitors received a guided tour of the facility, including meeting rooms, classrooms, the “knot” room, navigation training room and various storage areas.

Following the facility tour, visitors were escorted through the three ships docked at the base. The SSS Point Weber and SSS Tuolumne are currently active ships while the SSS Morris is undergoing renovation.

Following the tour, visitors received an hour-long boat ride on the delta and were returned to the base in time to enjoy a barbecue lunch.

For more information about the Stockton Sea Scout Base and Sea Scouting visit <http://www.pointweber.org/>

SOCCER AND SCOUTING PROGRAM CONTINUES TO EXPAND

Attention all Scouters: we want to invite you to visit and/or participate in our Soccer and Scouting programs which are currently operating in Turlock at Osborn Elementary School and in Salida at Dena Boer Elementary School. This new fun and exciting Cub Scout program is for boys and girls at the elementary school age level. We would like you to come out and join the adventure, “Únete a la aventura”. Come and join Cub Scout Soccer, “Únete a Fútbol y los Scouts.” For more information on how to sign up or on how to be part of this new fun and exciting program call the council office. We are

also looking for volunteers and financial support from those who are interested in helping our youth.

We currently have over 70 youth participating in Turlock from Osborn, Wakefield, Cunningham and Madeiros Elementary Schools. More than 60 youth have joined the program in Salida. Soccer and Scouting is wrapping up its second season in Merced.

UNIT PROGRAM PLANNING—DON'T FORGET THE OUTDOORS!

Program planning helps ensure units have outdoor activities throughout the year to keep youth active and engaged in the program. Encourage your packs to include overnight camping in their program through family/pack camping or Cub Scout resident camp. Cub Scouts who attended overnight camping (98.5 percent) are more likely than those who never camped (90.7 percent) or those who only attended day camp (85.7 percent) to say they will stay in Scouting next year.

Also, encourage troops to have an active camping program that includes summer resident camp. More than one-fourth (28 percent) of youth who drop out of Scouting never attended summer camp. In addition, almost half (49.1 percent) of the youth who drop out say their units went on five or fewer camping trips per year.

Unit program planning can help ensure that the promises made when recruiting youth—fun, outdoor adventure, exciting activities—are promises kept!

Source: Boys' Life Survey of Cub Scouts and Parents, 2004 and Boy Scout Retention Survey, 2003.

Camping by the Numbers

Type of Camping	Percentage of Youth Participating in 2005
Cub Scouts	
Council family/pack camping	17.5%
Council resident camp	8.1%
Boy Scouts	
Long-term resident camp	23.6%
High-adventure camp	8.0%
Venturing	
Long-term resident camp	4.3%
High-adventure camp	6.1%

Source: 2005 Camping Report

2006 CAMP MATERIALS AVAILABLE

Reservations are being accepted for Greater Yosemite Council's three popular summer camp opportunities. Registration forms and informational materials are available at the Council Service Center and on the council web site. Local Cub Day Camps feature a wide variety of activities. These can include crafts, archery, BB guns, leather work, woodworking, and swimming. Every day camp is different and so is the fun!

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.

Camp John Mensinger will be celebrating its 30th anniversary this year. 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 MONTHLY THEMES PUBLISHED THROUGH 2009

The National Cub Scout Committee has published the Cub Scout Monthly themes through year 2009. Now packs, dens and Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioners can plan in advance. Here is a look ahead at the monthly themes for the Cub Scouting program: <http://www.scouting.org/cubscouts/resources/themes/>

Varsity Scouting

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA'S BEST-KEPT SECRET

Varsity Scouting holds special appeal to older boys. Its unique leadership approach involves all adult and youth members, and this flexible program challenges boys who want a rugged outdoor experience. It is well-suited for boys who have outgrown the traditional Boy Scout program and are ready to move on to a more challenging high-adventure program. Varsity Scouting can be a resource for community organizations, a high adventure program or a sports program. For more information visit <http://www.scouting.org/>

COUNCIL SCOUT'S HEROISM RECOGNIZED IN BOYS' LIFE

Heroism Award recipient Bert Crane Jr. (BJ), with Troop 95 in Merced, is recognized in the April, 2006 issue of Boys Life Magazine. The magazine's *Scouts in Action* page portrays BJ's quick thinking to prevent his father from serious injury.

BJ's father, Bert, and an employee were attempting to unload a fuel trailer from the trailer transporting it. Unexpectedly the fuel trailer began rolling down the unloading ramps, pinning Bert between the trailer and a pickup bumper. First Class Scout BJ jumped into the pickup and moved it forward, freeing his father and preventing Bert's legs from being crushed.

BJ was presented the BSA Heroism Award at a Wawona District Roundtable and again at the Annual Council Dinner in March. Once again we salute Bert Crane Jr. for his quick actions to prevent his dad from sustaining serious injury.

“DUTY TO GOD PATCHES” AVAILABLE

“Duty to God” is at the heart of the Scouting movement. Religious emblems reinforce this spiritual component and promote many of the values found in the Scouting program. The purpose of this “Duty to God Promotion Patch” is to encourage youth and adults to learn about and promote the religious emblems programs.

For more information visit www.praypub.org/



SCOUT SHOP NEWS – EXPLORE THE STORE

Each month the National Supply Group provides the National Store with six new items. This is a program known as **Explore the Store**. Be sure to check out our web page each month to see our new and exciting items.

<http://www.yosemitescouting.org/sections/GoldDustScoutShop>