



THE CBDCHAT

Official E-Memo of Chief Black Dog District

March Roundtable and More!

New Cub Scout Program Orientation and Training Continues...

Cub Scouting 2015 Update

We are still a couple months out from the June 1st start of the new Cub Scout advancement program. But, now is the time to roll-up our sleeves and dig in.

At last month's Roundtable, I presented a couple key points

- A reminder to have your boys finish up any Sports & Academics belt loops and pins that they may be working on. We are a very short time away from these awards being retired.
- Webelos den leaders had the following consideration...

Webelos dens that have completed their Webelos badge should dig into the Arrow of Light requirements using their current books. Webelos Scouts can finish their full Cub Scouting career using their CURRENT handbooks. The only consideration for the Webelos den leaders is the possibility of a new boy joining their den after June 1. New boys will not be able to purchase an old handbook and you should be prepared to either help them with copies from an old book.

If your den will be completing the Webelos badge closer to June 1, you may decide to delay the start of your Arrow of Light and begin using the new Webelos Handbook and the Webelos Den Leader Guide for the Arrow of Light adventures. In the new handbook, the boys

- > Must complete the four defined required adventures
- > To satisfy the requirement for three electives may utilize EITHER the new adventure electives OR activity badges earned under the current program but NOT USED TO FULFILL WEBELOS RANK REQUIREMENTS

The new Cub Scout handbooks and leader guides will be available in early May.

April and May are the months that packs should be getting their summer plans together and start their annual planning cycle for the next Cub Scouting year. Here are a pair of considerations for your planning

1. Cub Scouts that attend Northern Star Council's summer camp will complete a number of activities towards their rank advancement. However, with the new advancement program not yet being fully published, the camp staff are going to be challenged to redo their activity plans. At this time, we are unsure of exactly what type of activities will be included at this year's summer camps.
2. For annual planning, packs should prepare for advancement awards to be handed out at the March and April pack meetings. The new advancement program defines **7 adventures** that must be completed for each Cub Scout rank. Each adventure is designed to take **one month** to complete. Changes will be

necessary for those packs that currently push their dens to complete the rank advancement by February.

For those with a deep curiosity, BSA has published a wealth of information at the below website - newly included are recordings of a set of webinars that provide a full briefing of the new program...

<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsources/programupdates.aspx>

March 12th Cub Scout Roundtable - Cub Scouting 2015 Continues

At the March 12th Roundtable, Chad Cooper will be presenting the full overview of all the advancement changes that are part of this new program. After the presentation there will be time for Q&A. Please pass the invitation to ALL of your fellow pack leaders to join us for this informative evening.

Additional Cub Roundtable Topics

The March Roundtable will include a full overview of the advancement changes in the Cub Scout program

Boy Scout Breakout

The Boy Scout breakout will include a discussion of the Senior Patrol Leader's Breakout, what is it all about, who can and should attend, and how can it benefit your program. A presentation on the College of Wilderness Science is included (if your unit hasn't taken advantage of this opportunity, you really need to check this out). Also included is a discussion of camping adventures and opportunities – thinking outside the box. “BE Prepared” to share your ideas, suggestions and adventures.

Senior Patrol Leaders Breakout

Due to low attendance at the February Roundtable, this month will revisit the Patrol Method. What is it, how do you use it, are you using it, and how is it working in your troop? Please make sure your boys know of this opportunity and invite them to attend. Who can and should attend? Senior Patrol Leaders, Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders, Grey Wolf Trained Scouts, and previous Senior Patrol Leaders. Patrol Leaders can also attend.

OA Chapter Meeting

Each monthly roundtable includes the Order of the Arrow Chapter Meeting. All youth OA members and, specifically, your Unit Order of the Arrow Representative are invited to attend. This is their opportunity to provide input and suggestions for Chapter, Lodge and even Section activity. Your chapter leadership will take your ideas to the Lodge level and beyond as necessary.

Invite your OA Representative and Senior Patrol Leader as noted above to attend the next roundtable.

More Items of Interest

(Read on for an overview of other items, activities of interest. More details in the next full Chatter issue.)

Merit Badge Fair, Saturday March 21 It will be held at the LDS Church in Lakeville, 18460 Kachina Court, Lakeville. Check in will start at 8:15 am and opening flags will be at 8:45 am. The morning session will be from 8:45 - 11:15, Lunch from 11:15-11:45 (Bring your own), and the afternoon session from 11:45 - 2:30 pm. Go to [Merit Badge Fair](#) for complete details and to register.

Youth Protection Training Youth Protection Training will also be offered at this Merit Badge Fair.

Council Recognition Dinner. Please join us as Northern Star Council recognizes and thanks all Scouting volunteers, and celebrates those Individuals and Districts who have distinguished themselves during this past year. Help us celebrate and recognize Ron Lee, Chief Black Dog Advancement Chairman, who will receive the Silver Beaver recognition this year. This is the highest council level of recognition. The will be held at Robert S. Davis Base Camp, Saturday , March 21. Go to [Council Dinner](#) for more information and details.

District Dinner and Volunteer Appreciation. The Chief Black Dog (GO!) District Dinner (aka the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner) will be held on Saturday, March 28 at Shepherd of the Valley Church in Apple Valley. Go to [District Dinner](#) for information, or click [registration](#) to register. Family, friends, Scouts, and Scouters are all invited to come celebrate the Scouters who do so much for your Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, or Venturers!

Also to Note

Saturday, April 4	District Pinewood Derby
Saturday, April 18	University of Scouting
Saturday, April 25	Scouting for Food