



Two Lakes District

District Executive
District Chairman
District Commissioner

Wayne Schuver Jr. 665-9656
Gail Sandy 969-2553
Don Pool 499-9111

mufasa.151@netzero.net
glassjr@windstream.net
don@campmerz.com

RecharTERS are due by January 31 – You will receive your charter renewals in December.

WELCOME TO THE NEW & 101st SCOUTING YEAR!!

A Note from the Two Lakes District Chairman

It's that time of year again!!! Where did the summer go? Time to get in gear and start getting that fall program up and running. Time to set a date for your school nigh sign-up. The earlier you get going the faster your program will settle into a normal routine.

Let me begin by saying that I know that we have a lot of great units in our District and we need your help!!! Here is a short scenario to help me get my point across. If we are employed, we all know that the boss is always looking at our work and effort to see that we are doing things the way they should be done. If not, we all know what could happen. Hopefully we get called in and are told what we are doing wrong and have a chance to correct it.

In our modern computerized lifestyle it is very easy for the national office of the Boy Scouts of America see how we are performing as a District, and as a Council. If certain goals are not reached, questions get asked as to why we are not meeting those goals, and we are told to improve upon them.

The following are some items that we are evaluated on:

- ❖ Increase Membership
- ❖ Youth Retention
- ❖ Advancement
- ❖ Camping
- ❖ Community Service
- ❖ Fundraising
- ❖ Training of Unit Leaders

These things are happening, but are not getting reported and recorded. For instance, did you know that when your units does a community service project you should go online and report it. Right now, National has us with a negative figure for this. I'm sure that every unit out there has done some kind of project, but how many have let us know. If each unit has done a 5-hour project, that would be 280 hours of service that would make us look great! Are you keeping up on advancement reporting? National says we are down in Cub Scout and Boy Scout advancement compared to last year. Are we all making a special effort to get all new scouts registered in a timely fashion?

I know that we are all volunteers, but we need the help of ALL UNITS to help us make our goals and also your goals for the Journey to Excellence. If every unit helped, that would make everyone's efforts that much easier. If all the units helped, we would make our goals in a heartbeat. We are probably already doing it, but we have to show it.

If you have any questions about how to do this reporting, please contact Wayne, your Unit Commissioner, or me.

On a lighter note, we have a lot of great activities being planned for this year. We have the Cub Scout Firemuster, Monster Mash Campout, Beaver Day, Training Courses, Roundtables, our Annual Xmas Party, Klondike Derby, Cub Scout Fun Day, and much more to come.

As always, we are here to serve YOU!!! If there is anyway we can help, please let us know.

See you around the campfire.

Gail Sandy,
District Chairman

Roundtables

Our Two Lakes Roundtables are off and running. The first one of the new scout year will be Wednesday, September 14th at Sinclairville Elementary at 7 pm. This year we will be having both Boy Scout and Cub Scouts together, same night and place, but different programs.

Janet Thom will running the Cub Scout roundtable and Chuck Begert will be working on Boy Scout Roundtable. This should allow carpooling and sharing ideas on how your pack and troop can work together on similar programs. I know our roundtable commissioners have loads of great plans and resources to help your unit fulfill their Journey To Excellence and more. It will be the place to be on the second Wednesday of the month. See you there!

A note from your District Commissioner...

Hello fellow Scouters,

We have a great year of scouting coming up. With activities like the Monster Mash Camporee for Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts, the Legion Camporee, Cub Winter Fun Days, the Klondike Derby, and much, much more, there are plenty of great opportunities for our scouts to have fun and learn.

Leader training will be available in many areas so that all of the leaders will have the opportunity to get trained so they can offer the best possible program to our youth.

Finally, journey to Excellence is now in full swing. Many leaders had a chance to learn about it at camp this summer. If you still have questions or need help, contact your Unit Commissioner or myself.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at our upcoming events. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at don@campmerz.org.

Yours in Scouting,

Don Pool

Two Lakes District Commissioner

A thought from the District Executive

Man does time fly! It seems like it we just had snow on the ground and now summer is over and we're talking about Klondikes and Annual Meetings. WOW! For those scouts and scouters that came to camp, way to go! It was nice to see many of you down to Elk Lick. Preliminary numbers look like we in the district had more scouts going to camp than last year but nowhere near as many as the other district and below the national average. Our program is based in the outdoors what, and what better way than come to summer camp. But what would expect your camping DE to say!!!

On another note we have many great programs scheduled for this fall please take a look and try to plan your schedule with our programs. Many folks in our district are working hard to help your program. Don't forget the program kick off at Merritt on the 31st of Aug. See ya then.

Thank you,

Wayne Schuver Jr.

FOS

Hurray!!! and many, many thank yous to all the many genius folks in our district. As of the printing of this Highlander we are at 103% of our goal. I would also like to personally thank the many workers that made this happen from the phone callers to the letter writers and everyone that helped. It was truly a team effort!! Although we made our goal I know that some of you are still waiting for response back to some of your more generous givers. Don't let the fact that we made our goal stop anyone from making a gift to OUR council & the BSA. While our district has made it some of you workers still have folks that need to get pledges and gifts in so that you can get your president set of patches. If you haven't received your president set of patches for raising a thousand dollars please see myself, or Mr. Sandy. Don't wait the time is now to finish and ask all your friends to help by give to OUR council and the Boy Scouts of America. THANK YOU.

District Fall Camporee

You can't miss "Monster Mash VII"! October 14 - 16 at Camp Merz. Call the Service Center or email Don Pool at don@campmerz.com for more details and to reserve your troops spot. See your troop there, if you're not too scared to come! See insert in this edition of the Highlander.

District Holiday Party



I know, the holidays seem so far away, but it's time to plan. The District will be holding its annual **SEASONS GREETINGS** Holiday Party on December 14th at the Cassadaga American Legion. More details will be sent to unit leaders as the time approaches or check Two Lakes District on the information link on the council web page, www.alleghenyhighlands.org.

Klondike Derby 2011

Hi everyone!

Is everyone ready for a Klondike? Seems funny talking about a Klondike when it is summer and 80 degrees but January 21, 2012 will be here before you know it. Ashville Troop 141 is going to be hosting the Klondike this year at Camp Merz. We expect to have a good time and fun by all, more information to follow in the next Highlander. Any help or suggestions would be appreciated. Call 716-483-6041 and ask for Monica. Yours in Scouting.

Randy Rickerson, Scoutmaster

District Annual Meeting

The District Annual meeting is scheduled for December 14th. Your unit has a Chartered Organization Representative that has a vote at the annual meeting on the slate of District Committee Members.

Our District Nominating Committee will be working on a slate of new district members through the month of November and will be presenting the slate at the annual meeting. The slate will be available for Chartered Organization Representatives to review before the annual meeting.

School Night to Join Cub Scouting & Troop Open Houses

We all know that the fall is the beginning of the scouting year, and it is time to open our ranks to new members with an organized method of recruiting. With the cubs, we go into as many classrooms as possible, and get boys excited to join, give them a flyer, and they come out with their parents.

For Boy Scouts, we have a beautiful Centennial Recruiter patch for every scout who brings a friend to join. Also, we would like our Troops to consider an Open House that is publicized. To give a little incentive to you and your scouts the troop that has the

most new scouts join by year-end. (largest gain in total youth Dec 31st 2010 compared to Dec 31st 2011) Our district will buy them a Pizza party. Not to forget the troops that don't have a cub pack we will also give a pizza party for the troop that gets the most new scouts to join that are not Webelos crossovers. So you have two chances for your scouts to get pizza on us, so go and ask a boy to join.

How many of Troops have a sign out front of their meeting place that says you meet there, day and time? You would be pleasantly surprised as to the number of "drop-ins" you would get with that simple project - a sign. We've got to let the community know *WE'RE HERE*.

TRAINING-TRAINING-TRAINING

The most important part of getting involved in Scouting is the TRAINING!!!

There are various ways to become a trained leader for Cubs Scouts or Boy Scouts and to make a so-so program the BEST, trained leaders are a must. There are a few important dates that are on the calendar but I will extend a personal invitation to what you need to attend this year to improve your den/troop/pack.

- November 5, 2011- Two Lakes Super Training
- March 12, 2012 - University of Scouting
- June 2, 2012 - BALOO

The other trainings, as in youth protection and basic can be obtained at home, through the Internet. We hope to have a hand out to be given at Cub Scout sign-ups to instruct volunteers on how to access the web sites.

To really beef up your program you need to attend **ROUNDTABLE!!**

Check the calendar for dates and locations to enhance your program and retain those boys.

Cub Scout Firemuster Saturday, October 8th

The Firemuster is open to all Cub Scouts & Webelos

Program starts at 10 AM, sign-ups at 9 AM

Loads of fun for everyone, BE PREPARED to get wet and dirty

Displays of equipment, classes, games

Lunch will be provided

More information will be available on the Council web page

and the Beacon Newsletter as we finalize a location

A great way to kickoff your fall program with a fun filled

activity.

