



F E B R U A R Y 2 0 1 0  
**ORION DISTRICT**



Sam Houston Area Council  
**NEWSLETTER**

**DISTRICT CONTACTS**

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District Chairman  
 Raborn Reader 281-727-6071  
[chairman@oriondistrict.org](mailto:chairman@oriondistrict.org)

District Commissioner  
 Lynda Worlow 832-492-4911  
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Vice Chair, Programs  
 Doug Strain 832-368-9511  
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Vice Chair, Administration  
 Ann Randolph 281-627-1009  
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**LOOKING AHEAD**

- 2/4 Roundtable
- 2/6 Scouting For Food
- 2/7 Scout Sunday
- 2/10 District Committee Meeting
- 2/13 University of Scouting
- 2/18 Adventure of a Lifetime
- 2/20 Merit Badge University
- 2/27 Pushmobile
- 3/4 Roundtable
- 3/10 District Committee Meeting
- 3/17 District Commissioner Meeting

**UPCOMING DISTRICT EVENTS**

- Merit Badge University - February 20, 2010
- Pushmobile - February 27, 2010



**Thursday, Feb. 18, 2010**  
**Minute Maid Park**  
**Deadline to order tickets is Feb. 8th**  
 Go to <http://www.anadventureofalifetime.org/>

**Orion District New Eagle Scouts**



Jonathan Budrean (T471)  
 Daniel McDonnell (T113)



*Happy Birthday BSA*  
 February 8, 1910 to February 8, 2010



**SCOUTING FOR FOOD**  
 February 6, 2010

On February 6, the Units will collect canned goods from the homes where they distributed the door hangers. They will then give an estimate of the amount of food collected to the District Chairman, Cheryl Strain, and then drop off the food at an assigned location.

**Merit Badge University**

February 20, 2010  
 Lone Star College - Tomball

One week left to register.  
 Go to [oriondistrict.org](http://oriondistrict.org) for more information.

Contact Debbie Okopinski at [doko1251@flash.net](mailto:doko1251@flash.net)

**PUSHMOBILE**

Date: February 27  
 Where: Magnolia High School  
 Time: 7:30 am to noon

It will be great fun for everyone. Be a part of Orion's First Pushmobile and earn the champion's bragging rights for the year 2010 - 100 years of Scouting. Much more information on Pushmobile is available online at <http://www.oriondistrict.org/orion/pages.aspx?PageID=29>.

**73rd Annual Scout Fair 2010**

Scout Fair will be held on Saturday, April 24 at Reliant Arena from 11:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. If your unit would like to participate, please see Summer Schill or Joel Rice to pick up a Unit Participation Application and register to Sell Scout Fair Tickets. Scout Fair is shaping up to be an incredible event with numerous opportunities and experiences that will make this a great activity for everyone.



FOS Presenters  
 Day Camp Staff  
 Health and Safety Team  
 Merit Badge Counselors  
 Trainers

Check out the Orion District website at [www.oriondistrict.org](http://www.oriondistrict.org)

*To be prepared is to be informed*

## ADMINISTRATION

**Friends of Scouting-The** 2010 Orion District Friends of Scouting campaign is under way. Most units have scheduled their presentation dates for upcoming Blue & Gold dinners and Courts of Honor. These types of meetings have been the best attended by parents and have proved to be the best opportunity for supporting Scouting through FOS. The Scouting program at each unit benefits through the use of Council camps, promotional items, training materials and many other activities that are supported by FOS.

If your unit has not signed up for a FOS presentation, please contact Bill Weisemann, FOS Chairman, at (281) 772-9139, or Joel Rice, District Executive, at (713) 756-3341).

**Recycling at Church of the Good Shepherd-Thank** you to everyone who has been using the paper recycling bins in the West Parking lot. We will be able to leave the bins there and encourage everyone to continue to use them. Broken-down boxes are accepted as well.

## COMMISSIONER'S CORNER

We are wrapping up our recharter season. We have several units who should be turning in their recharter tonight. If you are a January or February recharter and do not have your recharter ready to turn in tonight, please bring it next Thursday to the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd at 7:00 PM. If you have a problem with your recharter and need assistance, please contact Lynda Worlow, District Commissioner or one of the Assistant District Commissioners or your Unit Commissioner for assistance. March recharter should be working on your paperwork and preparing to submit your recharter at the March Roundtable.

Quality Unit Goals are due in by February 15. To make Quality District again next December, we need to set these goals now! According to the latest report that I have received the following units have completed the Quality Unit goals. Crews 469, 1043, and 1114, Packs 72, 113, 469, 565, 1043, and 1178, Team 1043, and Troops 469, 1043, and 1488. We need all of our units to go online and submit these goals! It only takes a few minutes and it will help your unit to determine where you are headed and how you plan to get there.

Congratulations to all of our VERY deserving award recipients! If you missed the District Dinner, you missed a great evening!!

Wow, was that a fantastic District Dinner or what? Many thanks to Pam Rogers, Dr. Todd Stephens, Father Dan Dunlap, Ann and Steve Randolph, Doug Strain, Joe Sclider, Ramage Milby, Will Milby, Lynda Worlow, Raborn Reader, Joel Rice, Chuck Wagner and the awards committee, and the Order of the Arrow for making it happen.

Our outstanding awardees include:

Chartered Partner of the Year: *The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd*  
Community Leader Award: *Dr. Susan Karr*  
Platinum Star Awards: *Pack 113 and Troop 1488*  
Commissioner Superstars: *Chuck Wagner, Eric Pope, and Steve Randolph*  
Chairman's Shining Stars: *Jeanine Holloway, Johnny Hunt, David Brown, Matt Jensen, and Summer Schill*

Most Valuable Scouters: Zach Hiett, Steve Smallwood, Rob Williamson, George Dewery, and Joe Sclider  
John W. Dutch Courageous Scouter Award: John W. Dutch  
Family of the Year: The Ramage Milby Family  
District Award of Merit: David Brown and Deborah Okopinski

Again, congratulations to all of our most worthy award recipients!!

## PROGRAM

### ADVANCEMENT

The Advancement of the Scout, whether he be a Tiger or a Life Scout completing his journey on the path towards the rank of Eagle depends upon the support, dedication, and guidance of each of you. Thank you for all that you do.

**Merit Badge Counselors** - The position of Merit Badge Counselor (MBC) is a District position, even if you choose to work only with your home unit. This position is required to be renewed annually, just like your recharter. Since this is a District position, the renewal will occur in December. **All** MBC must be approved by the Council/District Advancement Committee. Please complete and submit your application and MBC Information Sheet **TODAY** and return it to the District Advancement Committee. Complete the application in its entirety, indicating "42" in the position code box and "Merit Badge Counselor" as the position description. Please do not jeopardize the earning of a merit badge by not being registered and approved. **"A merit badge cannot be taken away, once it has been earned, provided the counselor is a registered counselor for the merit badge."**

Below is a listing of the approved merit badge counselors for Orion District. Thank you for accepting this role and all that you do.

Shawn Abbott	Magdaleno Jaramillo	Raborn Reader
Denise Bares	Christine Jones	Miichael Reynolds
Jarneia Beacham	Mindy Just	Matt Robertson
David Brown	Todd Just	Mark Rogers
Cory Burditt	Michael Majeski	Pamela Rogers
Michael Calkins	Michael McClintock	Denton Rowley
Warren Conner	Denise Milby	Leonard Russo
Richard Day	Ramage Milby, Jr.	Scott Ryan
C. Michael Dickens	John Mottershaw	Matt Schiel
Timothy Duffy	James Murray, Jr.	Michele Schilling
Christopher Evans	Deborah Okopinski	Joseph Sclider
Thomas Flynn	Frank Parker	Karen Smiddy
Joah Gorney	Duane Perego	Doug Strain
John Gorney	Thomas Petry	David Straiton
Rene Halbardier	Jared Phillips	Steve Tran
William Herben	Mark Piwonka	William Weisemann
Stacie Holt	Gary Pucci	Robert Williamson
Timothy Holt	Ann Randolph	William Wilson IV
Shannon Hutton	Steve Randolph	Patricia Witt
		Lynda Worlow

For additional information on advancement, check the Orion District Web Site

Advancement Committee Chairman:  
Joe Okopinski - 281-356-2628, [doko1251@flash.net](mailto:doko1251@flash.net)

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## ADVANCEMENT continued

**Unit Leaders and Merit Badge Counselors:**  
**Please note that there are changes to Rank and Merit Badge requirements effective 01Jan10. These changes can be found at:**

<http://usscouts.org/advance/changes/advchanges10.asp>

**If a Scout has begun work on a rank advancement or MB Prior to this date he can use the old requirements. However, if he is beginning work on a new rank advancement or MB he MUST use the new requirements.**

## ORDER OF THE ARROW (OA)

### District Dinner

Thanks to all that helped in the serving and preparations for our District Dinner.

### Opportunities for Service:

The Chapter Chief will be discussing a couple of ideas for Service during the next meeting. Troop 471 is still putting together an action plan on time and resources needed to clean-up and refurb one of our ceremony rings at Camp Strake.

Below is listed the calendar for the month:

Scouting For Food - February 6  
University of Scouting ----- February 13  
100 Years of Scouting: An Adventure of a Lifetime ---- February 18  
Chapter Ordeal (Raven) ---- February 19 - 21  
Lodge Ordeal ---- February 26-28  
Spring Fellowship ---- February 26-28

### Spring Fellowship

Orion, Phoenix and Iron Horse have volunteered to prepare and lead the Interfaith Worship Service on Sunday (February 28). We will be looking for OA members to help hand-out our printed material and help conduct the service. Please let the Chapter Chief know if you will be attending Spring Fellowship. Hopefully we will have a detailed list of events and activities to hand-out or E-Mail this week.

### OA Dues:

The payment of Lodge dues is slower than normal this year. Please review your records to make sure your 2010 Dues have been paid. There will be Dues payment forms available at Roundtable.

### Attention Webelos Leaders

The time for Arrow of Light ceremonies is approaching. The Order of the Arrow is ready to assist you in the memory of the event. If you would like for us to perform a ceremony please contact Shannon Hutton at 281-516-4658 or at [lonestars\\_yellowrose@yahoo.com](mailto:lonestars_yellowrose@yahoo.com)

## HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Orion District Health & Safety Committee is still looking for folks to round out the team.

If you have any first-aid skills or would like to learn, please contact Tim Duffy at [tsduffy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tsduffy@sbcglobal.net)

## TRAINING

### Every Scout Deserves a Trained Leader

We're looking for trainers and other staff to help make our leaders the greatest! Contact Jeanine Holloway at [oriondistricttraining@yahoo.com](mailto:oriondistricttraining@yahoo.com).

March Training: Need trainers for BALOO

If you have any leader training knots to turn in please make sure you hand them into Jeanine Holloway, Orion District Training Chair

For updates and specific classes, check [www.oriondistrict.org/orion/committees/training.aspx](http://www.oriondistrict.org/orion/committees/training.aspx).

If you have specific training needs or need classroom sessions brought to your unit, contact Jeanine Holloway at [oriondistricttraining@yahoo.com](mailto:oriondistricttraining@yahoo.com).

### Online Training

The following classes (and more) can be taken online. Check at [www.oriondistrict.org/orion/committees/training.aspx](http://www.oriondistrict.org/orion/committees/training.aspx) for links and instructions on how to take these classes.

- [Fast Start Training](#)
- [This Is Scouting](#)
- [Youth Protection Training \(YPT\)](#)
- [Weather Hazards](#)

### Spring Wood Badge

**SR- 1023** March 4-6 & March 25-27, 2010 (begins Thursday at 7:30 AM, ends Saturday at 5:00 PM)

**SR- 1024** April 9-11 & April 30-May 2, 2010 (begins Friday at 7:30 AM, ends Sunday at 5:00 PM)

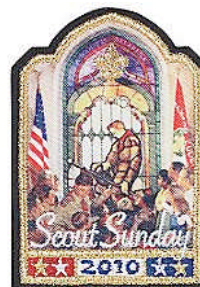
For more information, go to [www.SHAC.org](http://www.SHAC.org).

University of Scouting 2010

"Celebrating A Century"

Saturday, February 13, 2010  
MacArthur High School  
4400 Aldine Mail Route, Houston, TX.

Online registration at [www.SHAC.org](http://www.SHAC.org)



Scout  
Sunday  
Observance  
February 7