



CUBMAIL

April 1, 2019

Below is the latest edition of **Cubmail**, Chain Bridge District's Cub Scout electronic newsletter. *I'm publishing extra early this month due to personal travel.*

All Pack Chartered Organization Representatives, Committee Chairs, Cubmasters, Unit Membership Coordinators, Unit Commissioners and District Leaders are on the distribution list, as well as other interested Scouters. **IF YOU NO LONGER HOLD ONE OF THESE KEY POSITIONS WITH YOUR UNIT, PLEASE LET ME (dandixon97@aol.com) KNOW WHO SUCCEEDED YOU, INCLUDING A CURRENT EMAIL ADDRESS.**

NOTE: These sites show information for quick reference about our district and usually have dates for events up to a year out. We recommend you bookmark them both.

Chain Bridge District Web Page - <https://www.ncacbsa.org/chain-bridge/>

Chain Bridge District Calendar - <https://www.ncacbsa.org/chain-bridge/calendar/>

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1. Cub Scout Roundtable – April 11, 2019

(from Mark Stoffel, District Commissioner, mark.stoffel@alumni.virginia.edu)

On April 11, we will provide pack leaders with the materials necessary to offer an exciting May pack meeting. Do not reinvent the Scouting program, come to Roundtable and help us help you provide a proven program. Plan to attend! Also, be sure to mark your calendar for the May 9 Program Launch, with hot dogs and lots of info for our next Scouting year, at Lacey Woods Park in Arlington in lieu of our regular monthly Roundtable.

Roundtable is for all registered pack leaders, parent volunteers and other interested parties. We provide a friendly forum to share ideas, answer questions, and support each other. Enjoy camaraderie and leave feeling inspired, motivated, and enabled. Roundtable is generally held on the second Thursday each month at the LDS Chapel at 1600 N. Inglewood, Arlington. The formal program begins at 8:00 PM, but many volunteers arrive around 7:30 to network, review special pack questions, turn in paper applications, and/or catch up with friends. We look forward to seeing you!

2. Unit Scouter of the Year Nominations Due – April 1, 2019

(from Johanna Kehoe, District Awards Coordinator, jckehoe@aol.com)

All packs have the opportunity to recognize a Unit Scouter of the Year, demonstrating their appreciation for service to the Cubs and other pack volunteers. The award is not intended to discount the efforts of other pack volunteers, but rather to allow the pack to highlight someone whose service is noteworthy. It also allows the pack to motivate others to join the volunteer team and enhance the quality of pack programs.

This year, nominations are due by April 1 and need the approval of the pack's Unit Commissioner. Once the nomination form is received, we will arrange preparation of the Award certificate, which can then be presented at a pack celebration (pack meeting, year-end picnic, etc.). If a pack wants to make its presentation earlier, just turn in the nomination form earlier.

The nomination form is available on the Newsletters tab of the Chain Bridge District web site [HERE](#). Please refer questions to your Unit Commissioner or Johanna.

3. Membership Notes

(from Ann MacPhail, District Membership Chair (annlyles@yahoo.com))

Chain Bridge District Membership Toolkit

<http://tinyurl.com/yya7o7n9>

Turn in Applications:

Get your Scouts and Leaders insured and connected. Send Adult or Youth applications to Ann by email or hand them in at Roundtable. Drop them at Ann's house or she will pick them up if you have a safe place to leave them. Youth and Adult Applications are available as fillable PDF's here: <http://tinyurl.com/yya7o7n9> The PDF applications need real signatures or verified electronic signatures from parents and leaders.

Lion recruiting:

The verdict is in: families love the easy Lion program. Please consider actively recruiting current Pre-K families who will be old enough for Lions soon. They may register beginning June 1. If you have a Pre-K program at your school, or preschools in your neighborhood, find out who is willing to circulate digital flyers or paper flyers. Let me know if you're reaching out to a particular Pre-K program to recruit Lions.

Help with My.Scouting.org, Map Pins and Online Applications:

Key 3 Leaders and New Member Coordinators, would you like a tutorial on My.Scouting.org? Are you thinking about using online applications? Contact Ann to set up a phone call or a meeting at your home, office or favorite coffee shop with Wi-Fi.

Help with My.Scouting error messages:

myscouting@scouting.org

Help with Scoutbook:

Scoutbook.support@scouting.org

4. Spring Recruitment Survey

(from Keenan Pallone, District Executive, Keenan.Pallone@scouting.org)

Pack Membership Coordinators or Committee Chairs: In order for us to gauge how we can best assist your unit with Spring Recruitment, Ann MacPhail and I are requesting you take 30 seconds to fill out this survey:

<https://forms.gle/sNp6kt54z5dWmaWt5>

We will be reaching out to units individually if we do not get a response! Thank you!

5. Help with Cubmail – Please!

(from Dan Dixon, District Vice Chair for Communication, dandixon97@aol.com)

Cubmail readership has continued to grow, and we're at the point where we desperately need help organizing distribution to the 300+ subscribers. A little research suggests MailChimp might be a good solution, but I need someone to help me learn how to use that software. If you're a MailChimp user, or have a better suggestion, and have an hour to spare, please contact me. Thanks!

6. Family Scouting Update

(from Shannon Virgadamo, Family Scouting Champion, shvirga@gmail.com)

BSA's Family Scouting info page

scouting.org/familyscouting

Adding Girls to your Pack?

Ideally, girls should have a den of their own, with at least five girls close in age, but there are other ways to do it. Here's a great resource for leading multi-rank dens: <https://www.samhoustonbsa.org/multi-rank-programs>. Can girls just meet with a boys' den? Can they complete adventures together? Find the Family Scouting FAQ in the CBD Membership Toolkit, a Google Drive folder for Leaders: <https://tinyurl.com/y5msplue>

Scouts BSA Troops for Girls

This month, we welcome Girl Troop 167 of Mount Olivet UMC to Chain Bridge District. We now have eight troops for girls with more hoping to form soon. If you know of someone thinking about joining, check with Shannon Virgadamo for guidance on finding a good fit. Thank you to the many Boys' Troops that have offered to share expertise, financial support, gear and leaders! You are living the Scout Oath and Law and teaching by example.

Contact Shannon if you have any questions!

7. Commissioner's Corner

(from Mark Stoffel, District Commissioner, mark.stoffel@alumni.virginia.edu)

Generally speaking, not enough of our registered adult leaders – Cubmasters, Den Leaders, Committee Chairs, etc. – have completed position-specific training. While we have Youth Protection Training (YPT) down pat, we have a ways to go with position-specific training.

Why is that important? Because position-specific training equips our direct contact adult volunteers to deliver the best possible program at the den and pack level, and it equips the rest of the registered adults to provide the best possible support to those direct contact leaders. It's all about making Cub Scouting fun and meaningful for the Scouts!

In the next section of this Cubmail, our District Cub Leader Training Chair, Jim Thomas, reviews how leaders can get position-specific training, either online or in person. Please take note so we can provide Cubs a great experience.

And by the way, Leader Training is one of the elements of the Journey to Excellence scorecard, too. Here are the JTE recognition levels:

- Bronze: Cubmaster, ACM or Pack Trainer has completed position-specific training.
- Silver: Achieve Bronze, plus Cubmaster & Den Leaders have completed training.
- Gold: Achieve Silver, plus two-thirds of committee members have completed training.

We hope that in 2019 every pack will achieve at least JTE Bronze for Trained Leadership. With your help, we will achieve this goal and, more importantly, your Cubs (and adults) will have more fun, your program will be more meaningful, and your packs will run more smoothly!

8. Cub Leader Training

(from Jim Thomas, CBD Cub Leader Training Chair, JPTThomasSr@verizon.net)

Expectations are that every adult Cub Leader in Chain Bridge District is position trained – the leader benefits, the youth benefit. Position-specific training, both online via the Internet and in-person, live training, offered by Chain Bridge and other neighboring districts, is available. And once completed, it never has to be renewed as long as you are a registered Scouter.

For On-line Position-Specific Training for Cubmaster/Assistant Cubmaster, all Den Leader/Assistant Den Leader positions (including Lions!), Pack Committee Chair and Committee Members, sign in to My.Scouting.org; under the Fleur-de-lis (top left) drop down to My Dashboard; Training Center (top center); Cub Scouting; click on your position-specific set of courses (i.e., Cubmaster, Den Leader, Pack Committee Chair, or Pack Committee Member) and get going. For New Member Coordinator and Chartered Organization Representative click on “Position Specific Training” once at Training Center instead of Cub Scouting. To see Position Trained Requirements for each position, sign in as above, click on BSA Learn Center (right side of home page after you log into My.Scouting.org), scroll to bottom of page, click on Position Trained Requirements for All Programs (see specific training modules to complete for each position, including how long each module takes). Once completed, the leader can download a certificate, and also My.Scouting.org automatically updates the completion in the training record. Den Leader or any other position-specific training once taken on-line or in-person is good as long as you are a registered Scouter.

For In-person Position-Specific Training for Cub Leader positions, contact Jim Thomas. We will come to you at a mutually agreed time and location convenient for you. Plan to set aside 2 hours for position-specific training for Cubmaster, Den Leaders (Lion through Webelos II), and Committee Chair and Members. Alternatively, you could attend one of our next scheduled training sessions (June 13, and September 28) to be announced in Cubmail. Den Leader or any other position-specific training once taken is good as long as you are a registered Scouter.

The National Capital Area Council (NCAC) posts an on-line, council-wide calendar that includes training opportunities. Google: “NCAC BSA calendar”. Once at the calendar place your cursor over an event of interest to see details in a pop-up box. Click on box to get additional details. Training dates and events are identified below to save you search time once at the calendar.

- May 4, 2019 – Cub Scout Leader-Specific Training, Trinity Presbyterian Church, Herndon, VA

BALOO Training: Every Pack is required to have at least one adult leader trained in Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO) in order to lead a Webelos Den- or Pack-level outdoor overnight event. Most Packs have several BALOO trained leaders in different age groups. BALOO has two parts, an on-line or classroom prerequisite and an outdoor, overnight experience. Both are required. Once taken BALOO never has to be renewed. The NCAC calendar (see previous paragraph on accessing NCAC calendar) lists the following dates and locations for BALOO training. Asterisked events below include BALOO for Cub Leaders + Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills – IOLS for Scout Leaders):

- May 8, 2019 (7:30-9:30 PM) – Gaithersburg, MD (classroom prerequisite) *
- May 15, 2019 (7:30-10:30 PM) – Alexandria, VA (classroom prerequisite) *
- May 17 (5:30 PM) – May 18 (5:30 PM), 2019 – Gaithersburg, MD (overnight) *
- May 17 (6:00 PM) – May 19 (5:00 PM), 2019 – Frederick, MD (2 overnights) *
- May 18 (5 PM) – May 19 (5 PM) – Lorton, VA (overnight) *
- June 1 (8 AM) – June 2 (11 AM) – Camp Snyder (overnight)

9. Cub Scout Day Camp – July 8 – 12, 2019

(from Keenan Pallone, District Executive, Keenan.Pallone@scouting.org)

If your pack is interested in attending Cub Scout Day Camp this year, please send me the contact info for your unit's Day Camp Coordinator! Registration is now Live [HERE!](#) And if you can help staff this event, let me know that too!

Day Camp Details

Location: 2034 Great Falls St, McLean, VA

Dates: Monday July 8, 2019 – Friday July 12, 2019

Times: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

10. Pre-Camp Swim Classification Tests – May 19, 2019

(from Charles Hochstein, NCAC Aquatics Committee, charles.hochstein@usps.gov)

This is an opportunity for your unit to have your annual BSA swim classification check done under the supervision of NCAC-approved aquatics personnel at the Camp Snyder pool on Sunday, May 19, 2019, from 1 till 4 PM. A unit swim classification record will be issued by NCAC Aquatics personnel showing the Scout's swim classification (swimmer, beginner, non-swimmer). This event is open to all NCAC Scouts and units. Units must register online at www.ncacbsa.org/aquatics for a 30 minute block. Cost is \$3 per participant. Minimum unit registration is 10. Smaller groups can either preregister or be handled on a walk in, pay-onsite, space available basis. The registration deadline is May 13.

Note: Although these swim tests are being conducted prior to summer camp, the camp Aquatics Director will review or retest any Scout whose skills appear to be inconsistent with his/her classification. Additionally, the camp Aquatics Director is authorized to retest any Scout or group of Scouts at his/her discretion. Goshen Scout Camp waterfronts require swim classification tests be conducted at Goshen in Lake Merriweather.

11. Storage Space for District Gear Needed!

(from Bob Klein, District Vice Chair for Administration, drbob@troop111.org)

Chain Bridge District is looking for a large, long term storage facility where equipment from multiple events (Cub Camporall, Cub Day Camp, Klondike Derby, Alonzo Stagg Hike, Projectoree, Fall Camporee, O/A, and District records) can be stored. As a guess, a facility of at least 600 square feet (20x30) is needed. Free would be much appreciated, but a "reasonable" long-term lease is an option. The facility would ideally be within the District's boundaries, but anywhere within a 45 minute non-rush-hour drive would also work. If anyone is aware of a commercial storage facility or other organization that could provide such a facility, or offer space within a much larger facility, please contact Bob.

12. Paddle Safety Training Game

(from Charles Hochstein, NCAC Aquatics Committee, charles.hochstein@usps.gov)

The American Canoe Association has released a new training/game application, an interactive training tool for your Cub Scouts as we gear up for safe summer fun. www.americancanoe.org/PaddleQuest is an automated family friendly way to spread the fun and excitement of paddling with Cub Scouts. It is available on the App Store and Google Play. Its features include:

- A mini game devoted to the importance of life jackets (A Scouting BSA requirement)
- A fun 'Build your boat module' which includes paddle craft nomenclature and instruction as to how to best hold a paddle
- An interactive Float Plan module
- An introduction to waterway hazard awareness and stewardship concepts
- A dynamic tilt-controlled paddling adventure which takes players through on-water hazards, interacting with other waterway users and experiencing various weather conditions. All done in a fun filled mix.