

### **Special Interest:**

#### **District**

- District Award of Merit Awards – pg 2
- Webelos-o-ree 2011 pg 3

#### Council/National

Council's Centennial
 Celebration Day – pg 5

#### <u>I raining</u>

- Boy Scout IOLS pg 8
- Webelos Leader OLSWL pg 9

### **Quick Calendar:**

- June 4 Soda Bottle Rocket Derby
- June 8 Roundtable
- June 24 Cub World Summer Programs Start
- July 11-15 District Day Camp & Twilight Camp
- Aug 5-6 Training (IOLS & OLSWL)
- Aug 10 Roundtable
- Aug 29 School Starts
- Sep 14 Roundtable
- Sep 20 Join Scouting Night
- Sep 24-25 Webelos-o-ree

Newsl	etter	Key:
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Cub Scout Interest
Boy Scout / Venturing Interest
For Everyone

# Goose Creek District Newsletter

June 2011 Volume 2, Issue 7



Why is it important to have an active summertime pack program? What are the benefits?

It keeps boys interested in Scouting. Without any Scouting activities over the summer, they tend to kind of lose their focus. It keeps the pack together and shows the boys the fun part of the Cub Scouting program – it gives them the chance to get the first experience of Cub Scouting in the outdoors with day camp programs and hopefully resident camp. It ties the who program together.

**It provides program continuity**. It facilitates the startup of the full operation again in the fall of the year.

**It keeps parents active and interested**. They find they can go and shoot archery or play a game with their boy, and have fun doing it. Parents realize, *This is a program for me, too* 

Events often involve the whole family. The siblings come along, and parents have the opportunity to experience Scouting with the kids. It gives families a chance to experience what the boys experience during the year. It's an ideal situation for the entire family to get involved.

The activities are fun, providing a good time. Summer activities can be some of a pack's best events. People like to get out in the summer, and parents are always looking for fun weekend activities for their families to enjoy.

**It provides advancement opportunities**. By working on achievements over the summer, boys keep the feeling of accomplishment going all year.

**Cub Scouting is a year-round program**. Boys get the full service of Cub Scouting and the fun and adventure that come with it. On the other hand, packs that have a three-month break during the summer and no activities risk losing the participation of youth and adults, and those members may decide to join other activities to fill the void.

The newsletter staff is taking the month of July off, the next district newsletter will be August 2011

# **District News**

District Website: www.GooseCreekDistrict.org

### **District Award of Merit**



The District Award of Merit is the highest honor that a district may bestow on a Scouter and is awarded to those who render service of an outstanding nature at the district level. The award is made available annually on the basis of 1 award for each 25 traditional units. At the Goose Creek's Annual Dinner and Award Banquet this honor was awarded to the following Scouters:

John Blackwell Norm Bird Priscilla Martinez Brad Scales Mike Sierra Dee Lloyd

# Goose Creek's Eagle Percentage



This past program year (May 2010 – April 2011) 74 Scouts earned the rank of Eagle in Goose Creek. Since its introduction in 1911, the Eagle Scout rank has been earned by more than 2 million young men. The 2 millionth Eagle was earned in 2009, and the current rate is about 50,000 per year.

So, what is the percentage of Scouts who become Eagle? Many people quote two percent. This is based on a total of 1,880,905 Scouts that earned Eagle Scout by the end of 2008; out of 83,486,083 Scouts since 1911. While this is a valid number but doesn't really tell us what the current percentage is. For this many point to the 2008 numbers where 52,025 Eagle Scout awards were presented, about 5.7 percent of the 2008 membership. This number is misleading, however, in that it based on total membership. It includes in the count boys who just joined or only been in Boy Scouts for a few years thus ignoring the fact that in a few years many of them will also become Eagles.

In Goose Creek we fortunately have a Scout database that goes back several years. Using this we can look at all of the boys joining a troop in a given program year and see how many of them have made Eagle and how many are still active and have the potential to earn it. Based on this data the number of boys who joined a Goose Creek troop back in the 2003-2004 program year and eventually made Eagle is 24%!

Program Year	# Who Joined this Year*	# Who Made Eagle	% Eagle	# Still Active, Not Yet Eagle
2003 - 2004	340	82	24.1	0
2004 - 2005	272	56	20.6	53
2005 - 2006	267	33	12.4	87
2006 - 2007	321	29	9.0	128

<sup>\*</sup> This number includes all boys who joined a troop that year, even those that signed up and dropped out immediately or within the first year.

### Webelos-o-ree 2011



This fall (Sept 24-25) our District is will be holding our 7<sup>th</sup> annual Webelos-o-ree, an overnight camping event, at Camp Snyder. This camping event is designed to introduce Webelos and their parents to the fun Scouting adventures ahead and to help make the transition into Boy Scouts exciting. Participation in the Webelos-o-ree is open to all those that will be fourth and fifth grade Webelos in September (i.e., current Bears and 1<sup>st</sup> Yr. Webelos).

The Webelos-o-ree starts off with an opening ceremony Saturday morning and wraps up Sunday after chapel services. Activities will be run by our own Boy Scout troops and can include such things as: Fire building, rocketry, cooking, monkey bridge, BB shooting and/or archery, a campfire run by the Boy Scout Order of the Arrow, flashlight tag, and much more. For the adults we'll provide plenty of Scout leaders to answer questions about camping, joining Boy Scouts, and camping equipment. We will also hold a Webelos to Scout orientation for 2<sup>nd</sup> year Webelos and an Introduction to Webelos meeting for 1<sup>st</sup> year Webelos and their parents.

# **Spring Camporee 2012**



Yes that's right, we're talking about an 2012 event that's still a year away. Why, because we want people to get it on their calendar now and to help us start planning it so that it will be a GREAT camporee!

The theme for next year's District Camporee (April 20-22, 2012) will be 'Scout Olympics' with patrols and individual Scouts competing for the Gold, Silver, or Bronze prizes in various competitions. Some of the competitions will be based on testing for basic Scout skills such as fire building, knot tying, and first aid while others will test more advanced skills such as ax throwing, orienteering, wood splitting and who knows what! We may even have some events for Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters.

And who will be determining what competitions we have? YOU WILL! We are asking each troop to submit to the camporee committee a competitive event(s) that they would like to see at the Olympics.

At the camporee the morning and early afternoon time slots will be set aside as the 'Qualifying Period' where patrols and individuals can select the events they want to compete in and see if they are good enough to qualify. The late afternoon time slot will be the Finals where the top qualifiers in each event will compete for the prize.

We asking each unit to assign a contact person (adult Scouter) to work with the camporee committee on designing/selecting the events and to serve as a conduit for further information.

For additional information or to send in the name of the unit's contact person please use **GCCamporee@verizon.net**.



Sherlock Holmes was, apparently, never a Scoutmaster. I know this because Sherlock occasionally had a clue.

### **Cub Scout Uniform Closet**



Pack 71 is stepping up to coordinate a District-level Cub Scout Uniform Closet. We're building a supply of Scout uniforms and accessories to be able to help boys throughout the District who want to be part of the wonderful experience of Scouting, but just can't quite afford the uniform.

- Uniform shirts (long or short sleeve)
- Pants, Neckerchiefs, Slides, Hats, Belts
- Anything "uniform" a Cub Scout or Pack could need
- ALL SIZES... but please, gently USED or NEW

For more information: Contact Brian Kale at bkale @ekale.com or 703-443-9648

# **Troop Participation in the Webelos-o-ree**



Over the years we have heard from several troops that one reason that they don't participate in the Webelos-o-ree is that they already have enough Webelos joining their troop and don't need to do another recruiting event. What the troops who do participate, and keep coming back, found is that this is not a recruiting event, it's a chance for their Scouts to teach skills to others. Teaching others is the best way to really acquire deep knowledge of an area. By sharing their skills, Scouts retain their knowledge better and provide service to others.

At the Webelos-o-ree each troop selects a different activity/skill that their Scouts teach the Webelos and their parents during a morning and afternoon session. Troops may elect to either camp at the event (there is space for 7-8 troops to stay over) or to just come in for the day to run their activity. And the cost? Nothing! There is no registration fee for Boy Scouts, even if they camp. The only thing required is a service project to help keep the event running (starting cooking fires at the Webelos campsites, cleanup, food prep, etc.).

If your troop is interested in participating in this year's Webelos-o-ree, even if you were at last year's, please contact *GCProgram@verizon.net* so that we can coordinate the activities to be run and see what space is available for camping.

### **District Website**



The Goose Creek District's website is, to use the kindest word for it, a mess. For the past few years it's been easier to get the resources to add in another section or two just to keep some information flowing then to try to fix the entire thing.

Well under the direction of our new District Vice Chairman for Communications, Mike Sierra, the time has come to do something about it. So over the summer the communications committee will be taking the website apart and rebuilding it. There will be a completely new menu structure that should make it easier for everyone to find the information they need and all information within it will be up to date. We will still need to work within the confines a being part of the overall Council website but everything under our control will be working with easy to find and accurate information. So if you log on over the summer and it looks a bit disorganized please imagine the sounds of saws and hammers going on in the background as we work to give you a better website.

# **News From Our Units**



Congratulations to Goose Creek's newest Eagle Scouts:

Joseph Bidinger – Troop 163 Connor Brinton – Team 663 David Graham – Crew 663 Michael Nokes – Team 1167

Mark Peterson – Troop 953 Eric Wasser – Troop 572 Matthew Wenck – Troop 961

# **Council / National News**

Council Website: www.BoyScouts-NCAC.org

### Summertime Pack Award



The objective of the Summertime Pack Award program is to conduct a quality program during the summer months. There are other benefits that will result from the program: Continued parent interest, year round leadership, and most important, the Cub Scout's eagerness to remain in the Pack. The minimum requirements to earn the Summertime Pack Award is to conduct a Pack activity during the months of June, July and August. Activities can range from family picnics to field trips, baseball games, etc. The Council offers opportunities such as Cub Scout Day Camp or Webelos Weekend. By having a monthly Pack activity in June, July and August the Pack receives an attractive streamer for the Pack flag. Each Den that has 50% or more of its boys participating in each of the three activities may be awarded a Den ribbon. Each boy who takes part in all three summer activities may be awarded a pin, to be purchased by the Pack. Having a summer program keeps a Pack healthy, parents interested, and Cub Scouts eager for the fall Scouting Program.

# **Council's Centennial Celebration Day**



NCAC is inviting all units to participate in our Centennial Celebration Day (NCAC is 100 years old now also). Those units interested in being an active part of the event and setting up an activity booth, please contact Michelle Sheahan at *michelle.sheahan@scouting.org*, and enter 'Centennial Celebration Day' in the Subject line. With approximately 1,700 units within NCAC, we are aiming for over 5,000 attendees to be a part of the October 22nd Centennial Celebration Day. Join us in a day filled with pumpkin carvings, rock climbing, the COPE course, a chili cook-off, and much more.

There is limited space for activity booths, and therefore, first-come, first-served

# **BeAScout: Putting Scouting on the Map**



Is your unit using and up to date on BeAScout! What is it? www.BeAScout.Org is the interactive website that allows people looking for Cub Scout, Boy Scout or Venturing program to find units in their area. Units can customize their "pin" which symbolizes the location of their unit. When someone clicks on the pin, a photo or logo chosen by the unit appears along with basic information about the unit and an e-mail to the unit leader can be sent easily

For Parents: Parents need to know that BeAScout is ready to help them find Scouting in their neighborhood. When parents get recruiting fliers this fall, or see yard signs or posters, or do an Internet search, they should be directed to the BeAScout Web page. From that home page, parents can link to more information about specific BSA programs. Then if they want to locate units in their neighborhood, they are directed to input their home address and zip code. And up pops the Google Map with pins representing the units in their area. Contact information will be on the pin, so the parent can call the unit, go to the next meeting, or request more information.

By clicking for more information, parents will be directed to a page where they tell us about themselves (name, address, family members interested in joining, etc.). They can send that request directly to the unit via e-mail.

# So how does a unit leader place information about their unit on the Google pin?

Initially, the unit leaders who can access BeAScout to set up the pin are the Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, or Crew advisor along with the unit committee chairperson and the chartered organization representative.

- 1. They will log into MyScouting and select BeAScout from the Unit Tools section on the left. There are two options:
  - Unit Pin Management: Unit Leaders use this to edit pin information.
  - Unit Lead Management: Unit Leaders use this to manage incoming requests for information from parents interested in Scouting.
- 2. The unit leader should first complete the Unit Pin Management screen. They will notice two important items on this view.
  - At the bottom right in the box outlined in red is a preview of the Google pin. This is what the parent will see.
  - At the bottom left is the "Fields Displayed on Google Pin" area. The Pin preview box will only display the information that the unit leader selects in this box.

### For more information:

www.scouting.org/training/adult/supplemental/beascout.aspx

# **Family Travel Belt Loop**



Summer will be here before we know it. If you are planning to travel this summer, get your Cub Scout involved and he can earn his Family Travel belt loop from the **Cub Scout Academics and Sports** program.

If you don't have any travel plans, don't worry. He doesn't actually have to take a trip for him to earn this belt loop. The requirements are all about planning.

# Scuba Certification and Scuba Diving Merit Badge



What: PADI open water scuba certification and the BSA Scuba Diving MB.

Who: For any scout-aged youth or adult leader.

#### Where:

- Camp Snyder (orientation, classroom, pool session)
- Marriott Scout Service Center, Bethesda MD (MB counseling session),
- local quarry (open water training dives)

**When**: Orientation – Aug 7 1-3pm; class/pool sessions – Aug 20&21 9am-5pm, open water training dives – Aug 27 & 28 10am-1pm; Scuba Diving merit badge counseling session - June 26, 7-9pm

**Cost**: Scuba certification class and merit badge session - \$430 (includes all equipment); Scuba diving merit badge session only - \$5

Registration deadline: July 30

To register or for more information: www.boyscouts-ncac.org/aquatics or contact Mike Meenehan (703) 400-2176 mmmeenehan@cox.net.

# ScubaJam Virginia 2011



**What:** ScubaJam Virginia program was created to provide a great SCUBA diving experience to BSA registered youths, boys and girls, ages 12-20. The event has been created by interested divers representing dive shops, scuba training operations, and various BSA Troops and various BSA Troops and Venturing Crews.

Where: Lake Rawlings, VA

When: Labor Day Weekend Sept 3-5 2011

Cost and Registration: www.scubajam-va.org (Note: ScubaJam is not an

NCAC sponsored event)

# **On-Line Resource of the Month**



www.InsaneScouter.org is a website for Scouts and Guides from around the world. They provide a vast library of Scouting resources and services including: email newsletter, e-postcards, and virtual flat Stanley. Everything provided is to "help leaders one resource at a time" in putting on better programs for their Scouts..



# **Training Opportunities**

# **Boy Scout IOLS Training**



Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) is the required outdoor training for all Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters and does involve an outnighter. The skills taught are based on the outdoor skills found in *The Boy Scout Handbook*. The course focuses on skills that build confidence and competence in leaders conducting outdoor camping experiences.

**Dates:** August 5-6, 2011 (8AM with camping overnight until 1PM the next day)

Location: TBD

The IOLS course curriculum has the topics.

- Skill 1: Campsite Selection
- Skill 2: Ropes: Knot Tying, Whipping, and Lashing
- Skill 3: Woods Tools Knife, Camp Saw, Ax
- Skill 4: Fire Site Preparation and Building
- Skill 5: Cooking
- Skill 6: First Aid
- Skill 7: Plant Identification
- Skill 8: Animal Identification
- Skill 9: Packing and Hiking Techniques
- Skill 10: Find Your Way Map and Compass Reading
- Skill 11: Leave No Trace Camping

and programs on Campfire and Interfaith Worship.

**For more information and to register**: Check the Upcoming Events section on the district webpage (bottom of main display).

This session will be held at the same place and time as the Outdoor Leader Skills for WEBELOS Leaders (OLSWL).

# **Webelos Leaders OLSWL Training**



Outdoor Leader Skills for Webelos Leaders (OLSWL) presents the 'how to' in planning and conducting successful Webelos Den overnight campouts and other Webelos outdoor activities. It reinforces - but does not duplicate - what you learned in This is Scouting, Cub Scout Leader Position Specific Training (Webelos Leader breakout session) and BALOO. The course provides a "handson" learning experience in camping and outdoor skills as done by Webelos Dens. This training provides ideas on how to present the outdoor related Webelos Activity Badges, including Outdoorsman, Geologist, Forester, Naturalist, and Readyman. Participants are provided with training and guided practice sessions topics such as camping gear selection, campsite selection, den cooking and sanitation, woods tools, fire building and safety.

Please note that this training is encouraged but not required to take Webelos camping. The course is one of the requirements for the Webelos leadership training knot.

**Dates:** August 5-6, 2011 (8AM with camping overnight until 1PM the next day)

Location: TBD

This session will be held at the same place and time as the Boy Scout Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) Training.

**For more information and to register**: Check the Upcoming Events section on the district webpage (bottom of main display).

# Nap on Safely Training



We hope all of you Scouters out there will be able to complete your Nap on Safely training during summer camp. If you are unaware of the requirements for this training we have listed the guidelines below.

**Two Deep Leadership:** It is recommended that all available adults participate in napping activities. At a minimum, ensure that at least two adults are resting at all times.

**Area**: Before engaging in any napping activities, make sure that the area is free of Scouts.

**Lookout:** At least one adult should serve as a lookout during napping activities. He must awaken the nappers from their slumber when Scouts are returning to the campsite.

**Physical Condition:** All participants should be sufficiently tired to nap.

**Equipment:** Appropriate equipment is required for napping. All nappers should have a comfortable cot or hammock. A pillow is recommended.

### **NCAC Powderhorn 2011**



Scouting leaders want to provide challenging and fun outdoor programs to meet the needs of their older youth members, but may lack the knowledge and/or resources to do so. Powder Horn responds to this problem with an exciting training opportunity that exposes Venturing, Boy Scout, and Varsity adult leaders to a wide range of outdoor, high-adventure activities. Powder Horn provides its participants with valuable resources and contacts to assist leaders in delivering the promise of Scouting's high-adventure experiences to our youth.

Powder Horn is based on the requirements for the prestigious Venturing Ranger Award. This award requires demonstrated proficiency in a challenging set of core and elective topics. During the course, presentations on Ranger topics are made by knowledgeable consultants with demonstrated skills and certifications, as appropriate. They demonstrate the skills required and explain where resources, such as equipment, facilities, guides, instructors, and certifications which can be obtained locally. Most of the presentations involve actual hands-on experience by the participants, including, shooting (pistol, rifle, shotgun), archery, kayaking, canoeing, sailing, fly fishing, mountain biking, SCUBA, land navigation, Leave No Trace, Project COPE, and much, much more.

Many participants report that they picked up a new hobby as a result of a Powder Horn class.

The course is 6-days long over 2 weekends. You must attend both parts to complete the course:

**Part 1**: August 26 – 28, 2011, at Camp St. Charles; 15375 Stella Maris Drive; Newburg, MD

**Part 2**: September 16 - 18, 2011 at Camp Snyder, 6100 Antioch Rd., Haymarket, VA.

The fee is \$275 (includes course materials, instruction, meals, recognition items). A \$75 deposit, along with the completed application will reserve your place for the course. The deposit is due by June 1, 2011 with full payment by July 15, 2011.

**For more information**: On the council website (Training) or contact **NCACPowderhorn2011@gmail.com** 

# **Wood Badge**



Wood Badge is designed to meet the advanced leadership needs of all Scouters, in all leadership positions for the BSA. The Wood Badge course incorporates the traditions of over 80 years of Wood Badge, while adding the management and leadership training necessary to become a successful leader in the 21st Century. Wood Badge is more than a classroom; it's entertaining, fun games, hands-on projects, team building, and inspirational events. You will come away with an appreciation of Scouting's heritage, as well as a vision of the role you will play in its future, and the impact you will make on the youth in your own unit, the district and our council. Participation in this course will provide skills to help you achieve success in other aspects of your life or in your career! The course starts with a 2weekend, fun-filled practical training period where the Scouter lives as a member of a team progressing through Scouting, and learning the skills of leadership. The outdoor experience is followed by a period of up to eighteen months during which the Scouter applies the skills learned during the practical experience in his or her Scouting position – at the unit, district, or council level. Through this period, each Scouter is assigned a counselor who acts as a resource, evaluator, and Scouting mentor to assist the participant in putting into action those points discussed during the course. This is demonstrated by the process known as working your ticket.

### **Prerequisite Training for Wood Badge:**

Complete the basic training courses for your primary Scouting position. Cub Leaders must have completed New Leader Essentials and the position specific training for their position. Boy Scout and Varsity leaders must have completed New Leader Essentials, their position specific training as well as Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills. Venture advisors must complete New Leader Essentials, their position specific training and Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills. Other unit, district, and council leaders must complete New Leader Essentials, plus their position specific training (e.g. Committee, Commissioners, District Chairs, or Council Chairs, ?)

# Fall Wood Badge:

Session 1: 9/9/2011 - 9/11/12011 Session 2: 10/14/2011 - 10/16/2011

Location: Camp William B. Snyder, Haymarket, VA

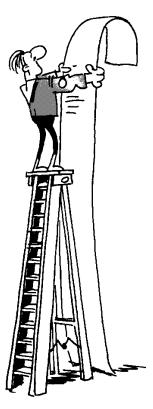
**Cost**: Total cost for Fall course is \$250.00 (participants sleep in tents). All registration fees are due at NCAC 45 days prior to the start of each course.

For more Information: On the Council website (Training → Wood Badge).

Do you have an interesting Scout article to share with the district, a notice about an upcoming event, or just want to tell others about an activity your unit has done or plan to do? If so then submit your information to Newsletter@GooseCreekDistrict.org
and we'll see about posting it in the next district newsletter. We take most file formats and even pictures.

Notice: Submissions must be received at least five days prior to the end of the month and may be edited to fit our newsletter format and available space.

# **District Calendar**



### June 2011

- 3 Goshen Camp Fee Deadline
- 3-5 OA Conclave
  - 4 Soda Bottle Rocket Derby
  - 8 Roundtable
  - 9 Commissioner Roundtable
- 15 District Committee
- 16 Last Day of School
- 19 Father's Day
- 24 Cub World Summer Program begins
- 25 Goshen Week #1

### <u>July</u>

- 2 Goshen Week #2
- 4 Independence Day
- 9 Goshen Week #3
- 11-15 District Day Camp
- 11-15 District Twilight Camp
  - 16 Goshen Week #4
  - 23 Goshen Week #5
  - 30 Goshen Week #6

#### August

- 5-6 Training IOLS/OLSWL
- 10 Roundtable
- 11 Commissioner Roundtable
- 24 District Committee
- 29 School Starts

### **September**

- 5 Labor Day
- 14 Roundtable
- 15 Commissioner Roundtable
- 20 Join Scouting Night
- 24-25 Webelos-o-ree
  - 28 District Committee

### **October**

- 1 Training Boy Scout Leader Specific
- 10 Columbus Day
- 12 Roundtable
- 13 Commissioner Roundtable
- 14 Training Boy Scout Leader Specific
- 15-16 *Training IOLS/OLSWL*
- 16-17 JOTA/JOTI
- 21-23 Hike-o-ree (tentative)
  - 26 District Committee
  - 29 Training Den Chief

#### November

- 4-6 NCAC Venturing Hike-o-ree
  - 5 Scouting for Food Bag Distribution
- 7-8 Student Holiday
  - 9 Roundtable
- 10 Commissioner Roundtable
- 12 Scouting for Food Bag Pickup
- 16 District Committee
- 19 PowWow
- 23-25 Thanksgiving Break

### **December**

- 14 Roundtable
- 15 Commissioner Roundtable
- 21 District Committee
- 22 Winter Break Starts

# January 2012

- 11 Roundtable
- 12 Commissioner Roundtable
- 16 MLK Jr. Day
- 23 Moveable School Holiday
- 25 District Committee

### **February**

- 3-5 Freeze-o-ree
  - 5 Scout Sunday
  - 8 Roundtable
  - 9 Commissioner Roundtable
- 11 Scout Sabbath
- 20 President's Day
- 22 District Committee
- 25 University of Scouting

### March

- 9 Roundtable
- 14 Commissioner Roundtable
- 28 District Committee

### <u>April</u>

- 2-6 Spring Break
  - 5 Training Boy Scout Leader Specific
  - 9 Moveable School Holiday
- 11 Roundtable
- 12-13 Training IOLS/OLSWL
  - 15 Training Den Chief
- 20-22 Spring Camporee
  - 25 Annual Business Meeting

### May

- 4-6 OA Ordeal
  - 9 Program Launch
- 10 Commissioner Roundtable
- 13 Mother's Days
- 18 District Award Banquet
- 23 District Committee
- 28 Memorial Day