



Cherokee Area Council
 520 S Quapaw
 Bartlesville OK 74003
 Phone: 918-336-9170
 Fax: 918-512-4789
 Toll Free 888-269-1328
<http://www.cherokeebbsa.org>

Cherokee Scouter

An official publication of the Cherokee Area Council, Boy Scouts of America

March 2012

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Council Camporee March 2-4

Location: Peoria Tribal Grounds, Miami

Theme: STONE SOUP

Activities: Sled building; knife/ax safety; Geology Merit Badge, Troop Pot-luck Dutch oven dessert contest & Much More

Cost: \$10 per person

Map:

<http://www.cherokeebbsa.org/activities/Camporee.pdf>

Questions: Randy Asbery 918-314-7241 or Doug Banner 918-344-4085

Tulsa Trade-o-Ree March 9-10

ATTENTION CUBMASTERS, SCOUTMASTERS & DEN LEADERS!

Bring your scouts to the Trade-O-Ree and see displays of Scouting memorabilia.

At a Trade-o-Ree you can buy, sell, and trade

Scouting patches and other memorabilia. It is

also a great place to purchase a unique gift for,

Eagle Scout, husband, wife, Cubmaster,

Scoutmaster, or that special Scouter.

Scouts working on collections merit badge can see how collections are displayed and talk to collecting experts.

There will be patches, uniforms, calendars, old books,

Eagle Scouts

Only 5 percent of the Scouts have achieved Eagle rank, Cherokee Area Council ranks above the national average in Eagle rank achievement.

Our congratulations go out to the following Scout who has achieved Eagle rank in the last month:

- Jeremy Bertels – Troop 3 (painting at St. James)

Cherokee Area Council is proud of this Scout's achievement.



pins, knives and many other scouting treasures.

Admission is **FREE**.

Free Special "Limited Edition Ta Tsu Hwa " Patch for 1st 200 Scouts/Scouters Attending

Friday 10 a.m. till 10 p.m. - Saturday 9 a.m. till 3 p.m.

Live Auction 12 Noon Saturday

(Auction Proceeds Benefit OA Lodge)

Econo Lodge - 11620 East Skelly Drive (I-44 at 11th Street) - Tulsa, Oklahoma

Pinewood Derby March 10

The Craig County Fairgrounds Show Building is the site this year for the Grand Lake Pinewood Derby on Saturday, March 10th. Registration is at 10 am, and the races start at 11 am. Cub Scouts race at no charge.

This is open to any Cub Scout whether they have won a race at the pack or not. There is also an Open Class for Boy Scouts, adults, Girl Scouts, or anyone who wants to race. The open class race is \$3 per car with two divisions: under 13 and over 13.

The cars need to be built in this school year, and follow the rules that come with each kit.

<http://www.cherokeebbsa.org/activities/PinewoodDerbyRules.pdf>

Please join us for lunch at our concession stand: pizza, hot dogs, chili, chips, desserts, & drinks hosted by Pack 66.

Merit Badge session at the Museum March 13

As a part of the continuing Scout Museum MB series, the Citizenship in the Nation merit badge will be offered at the Scout Service Center on March 13th. There is no cost for this merit badge, though registration is required as attendance is limited. The session will start promptly at 6:30 pm and end by 8:30.

Pre-registration is required at the Scout Office by phone at (918) 336-9170 or by e-mail to the registrar

at registrar@cherokeebbsa.org by Monday, March 12 – limited to 20 people attending

Scouts attending should complete requirement 3 prior to the event, which is "Watch the national evening news five days in a row OR read the front page of a major daily newspaper five days in a row. Discuss the national issues you learned about with your counselor. Choose one of the issues and explain how it affects you and your family." Discussion with the counselor will occur at the session.

Requirements 2 and 8 will need to be completed after the session, and these will be noted by the merit badge counselor. For more information on this merit badge, Scouts can refer to the merit badge pamphlet, and requirements for this can be found on the Internet at <http://usscouts.org/usscouts/mb/mb003.asp>.

This is one of 12 Eagle required merit badges that Scouts need to complete their Eagle rank, and these can be earned by a Scout at any point in their Scouting adventure. Join us for the fun of learning about being a citizen in our great nation!

Council Banquet March 15

A memorable evening honoring council volunteers, new Silver Beavers, the 2012 Eagle Honoree, and the 2011-12 Eagle Class is set for Thursday, March 15th at 6:30 pm at the Highland Park Baptist Church, Bartlesville, OK.

The cost is \$12.50 per person and **signups are needed by noon, Friday, March 9th**

For those who would like to sponsor an Eagle to attend the banquet, the cost is \$15 per person.

For reservations call 918-336-9170 or 888-269-1328

Outdoor Skills Training for Adult Leaders March 30-31

A Friday evening through Saturday evening course of Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills will be offered on March 30 & 31 at Camp McClintock.

This course covers the basics for the Boy Scout outdoor program, and is a training requirement for Scoutmasters, Asst. SM, and Venturing leaders for outdoor crews.

It is also a great training session for anyone going on a Boy Scout campout who wants to be able to assist in having a safe and interesting program delivered to their unit youth.

Signup is needed by Tuesday March 28 and the cost is \$20. Reservations are made at the Scout Service Center.

Get trained and make your campouts with your Scouts a load of fun. You will also meet other Scouters and be able to network and share information about what other troops are doing to make their activities more interesting for Scouts.

If you have any questions please contact Donna Copeland at 918-333-9439 or email donna@copelandappliance.com

Northern Tier Planning for 2013 Reservations April 2

Reservations for Northern Tier are taken by phone starting at 8 am CT on April 2 for the 2013 season. If your unit is interested in getting their choice reservation, then be sure to access the information at <http://www.ntier.org/filestore/NorthernTier/pdf/2013ReservationSummer.pdf>.

Several different kinds of adventures are offered. Reservations are still available for the summer of 2012 as well.

Check out their website to find out all of the different options available - and yes, you can attend during any season.



Boy Scout Forensic Workshop April 7

The University of Central Oklahoma's Student Academy of Forensic Sciences (SAFS) would like to invite you to participate in our 1st Annual Boy Scouts Forensic Science Workshop!

This workshop will give Webelos to Boy Scouts an opportunity to learn more about several different aspects of the fascinating world of Forensic Science with hands-on sessions and interactions with students and professionals in the field!

The sessions this year will give the scouts a chance to be scientists in classes like Firearm and Tool mark Examination, Blood Spatter Analysis, Forensic Anthropology, Forensic Entomology, and more, including a chance to meet former FBI agents!

This workshop is not only for the boys! Leaders and parents, please feel free to come and attend the workshops as well! It's never too late to learn something new!



The workshop will be held at the University of Central Oklahoma on Saturday, April 7th. Sign-in will begin at 8:00 am, and the workshops will last from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

The cost of the workshop is \$15 per boy attending. The fee provides supplies for the workshop and a t-shirt for boys! Registration for adults is free; however, if adults would like an event t-shirt the cost is \$10. Please note that lunch is NOT provided at the workshop, and will be left to the responsibility of the troop. This really helps to keep the cost of the workshop down for the attendants!

SPACE IS LIMITED TO ~60 BOYS per workshop so please sign up by Saturday, March 17th.

Registration form and more information are available here

<http://www.doubleknot.com/openrosters/DocDownload.aspx?id=107200>

If you have any questions please contact Marci McCloskey at 405-812-6677 or you can email her at marci.mccloskey@gmail.com.

OA Spring Fellowship April 13-15

Come out and support the Lodge's main event. There will be work projects and games. This will be great practice for playing games, and ceremonies when the Lodge competes at Section Conclave.

Fellowship will be held at Camp McClintock. Information about registration will be available soon!

Cub and One April 27-28

Attention all Cub Scouts!

The annual Cub and One camp will be held on April 27th and 28th at Camp McClintock. All Cub Scouts and their parents are invited to attend this event.

We will be camping Friday night, have a free breakfast Saturday morning, and then games and activities during the morning. Camp will be dismissed around noon on Saturday.

Friday night will feature the second annual Cub and One Pinewood Derby race at 9:00 PM. Make sure to bring your cars to win cool prizes.



Everyone attending will need to fill out a brief health history form and the registration form available at the Scout office. **Please register before April 20th.**

Cost of the event is \$10 per person and includes free breakfast, a late night snack, and prizes for pinewood derby winners.

Come join the fun!

2012 OA Section Conclave April 27-29

The Section 8 Conclave is scheduled for the weekend of April 27, 28, & 29 at Camp Rockefeller on the Gus Blass Scout Reservation near Damascus, Arkansas.

This annual event is attended by all seven lodges in the Section and is a great opportunity for any Arrowman looking to get further involved, compete in fun and exciting games, competitions and ceremony evaluations. Not to mention the fun you can have with everyone from your Lodge!

Section Conclave will include competitions in Indian events, training classes, patch trading, shows, games, and excellent food throughout the weekend. Each lodge will have the opportunity to demonstrate what makes it unique, and to gain experience from each other.

The registration fee is \$25 until March 22nd and will then jump to \$35 until April 13th. Registration may be completed online at www.sr-8.org.

MAP: http://www.quapawbsa.org/maps/state_map.pdf

Boots on the Ground June 4

America's largest outdoor-trails event, **National Trails Day**, turns 20 on June 4. It's not too early to start planning your unit's celebration. "As an organization with a rich history of service, we see National Trails Day as a time to get out and help maintain those trails for future Scouts and the public in general," says Frank Reigelman, the BSA's team leader of outdoor programs.

The nationwide event promotes access to trails for all and alerts the public to outdoor recreational opportunities. Not surprising, then, that Scouting would take a special interest in the nation's 200,000 miles of trails.

Gregory Miller, president of the American Hiking Society and a former Life Scout, says National Trails Day, which is supported by all federal land- and water-management agencies, has seen spectacular growth – a 70 percent increase in planned NTD events between 2006 and

2011. And last year, he says, more than 3,400 miles of trails were maintained or constructed.

"There are so many opportunities to get involved," Miller says. "Consider hiking, biking, equestrian activities, trail work, and environmental education. The important thing is to connect people with the trails."

Miller also notes that about 200 Scout troops took part in last year's event. "Our partnership with the BSA is very important, and we'd love to see more troops involved," he says. "Any troop can do an NTD event in their community."

For more information and to register your events, go to www.americanhiking.org

Tulsa Drillers Scout Sleepover July 27

The Tulsa Drillers 2012 Sleepover Under the Stars will be held at ONEOK Field on July 27th at 7 pm. Cost of the Campout is \$18.50 and includes:

- Field reserved seat
- Meal coupon
- Camp out on the outfield grass
- Movie on the Tulsa Drillers Video Board
- Snack after the game
- Light breakfast the next morning

Order your tickets today! Call Geoff Beaty at 918-574-8309 or e-mail geoff@tulsadrillers.com or mail the order form to 201 N. Elgin Ave Tulsa OK 74120

Order form – <http://www.cherokeesbsa.org/activities/Tulsa-Drillers-Sleepover.pdf>

Individual field reserved seats at \$8.50 (sleepover/meal coupon not included)

NOAC 2012 July 30-August 4 Michigan State University

Sign up for the Council's NOAC contingent at the Scout office. **A \$100 deposit is needed to secure your spot.**

Questions? Call the contingent leader, Sean Urban, at 918-271-4816.

Korea National Jamboree August 2-8

Host: Korea Scout Association

Age: 14-18

Contingent size: 24 Scouts/Venturers + 6 adults

Contingent gathering: July 30, 2012

Location: Jamboree site in Goseong 17th World Scout Jamboree campsite, Gangwon Province, Korea (4 hours by bus from Incheon Int'l Airport)

Cost: \$2500 (includes travel, lodging, food, event fee, tent, patches, bags and more fun!!)

Interested Scout, Venturers and adults must be nominated by International Representatives and local councils.

BSA Contingent Nomination forms:
<http://www.scouting.org/international>

Nomination Deadline: March 30, 2012

Jamboree 2013 reservations July 15-24, 2013

Scouts have been signing up for the Cherokee Area Council contingent to the 2013 Jamboree at the new high adventure Summit Base in West Virginia.

This will be a historic Jamboree, as the first time it will be held at a BSA property. You don't want to miss this one!

There are only 36 slots for Scouts on this high adventure. National Jamborees are only held once every four years, so most Scouts only have one opportunity to attend a Jamboree. Go online at www.bsajamboree.org and register now. Time is quickly running out for getting your slot.

Changes to Journey to Excellence for 2012

Several of the requirements for Journey to Excellence have changed for 2012. Listed below are the **changes** for each unit type (Pack, Troop, Crew). The current requirement is given, while last year's requirement is shown in parentheses for comparison.

For more information about Journey to Excellence check here <http://www.scouting.org/jte.aspx>

FOR PACKS – last year's requirements are shown in parentheses

Advancement – Bronze 40% (55%); Silver 55% (75%); Gold 75% (90%)

Retention – Bronze 60% (68%); Silver 65% (75%); Gold 75% (80%)

Trained Leadership – this requirement has been completely rewritten

- Bronze - Have a Cubmaster and a committee with at least three members; all dens have leaders; Cubmaster and Den Leaders have completed Leader-Specific Training or if new have completed within three months of joining; Den or pack meetings have started by October 31st
- Silver – Bronze level + all direct contact leaders must have completed Leader-Specific Training or if new completed within six months of joining
- Gold – Silver level + all committee members must have completed Leader-Specific training

Attendance at Day/Resident Camp - Bronze 30% (pack participates); Silver 45% (25%); Gold 90% (40%)

Fitness – this is a new requirement for 2012

- Bronze – Pack program regularly includes physical fitness activities
- Silver – Bronze level + Pack promotes and coordinates group fitness activities
- Gold – Silver level + Pack holds an ongoing fitness competition where members can track their performance.

To earn Bronze: complete 10 of 13 requirements + 700 points (Complete 10 of 13 requirements + 700 points)

To earn Silver: complete 10 of 13 requirements + 1,000 points (Earn Bronze award + 1,000 points)

To earn Gold: complete 10 of 13 requirements + 1,600 points (Each Bronze award + 1,600 points)

For all the 2012 Journey to Excellence requirements for Packs, click here

http://www.scouting.org/filestore/mission/JTE_Pack_Requirements.pdf

FOR TROOPS – last year's requirements are shown in parentheses

Advancement – Bronze 40% (55%); Silver 45% (60%); Gold 50% (65%)

Retention – 75% (76%); Silver 75% & 2% increase (76% & 2% increase); Gold 80% & 2% increase (80% & 2% increase)

Trained Leadership – this requirement has been completely rewritten

- Bronze – Have a Scoutmaster, an assistant SM, and a committee with at least three members; SM and all ASMs have completed Leader-Specific Training or if new completed within three months of joining; troop has put on *Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops*
- Silver – Bronze level + SM and ASMs have completed *Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills* or if new completed within six months of joining.
- Gold – Silver level + all committee members have completed *Troop Committee Challenge*

Short-term camping – Bronze 4 (4); Silver 7 (8); Gold 9 (10)

Fitness – this is a new requirement for 2012

- Bronze – Troop program regularly includes physical activities such as hiking, cycling, or some other physical activity
- Silver – Bronze level + troop promotes and coordinates group fitness activities
- Gold – Silver level + troop holds an ongoing fitness competition where members can track their performance

To earn Bronze: complete 11 of 13 requirements + 700 points (complete 11 of 13 requirements + 700 points)

To earn Silver: complete 11 of 13 requirements + 1,000 points (earn the Bronze award + 1,000 points)

To earn Gold: complete 11 of 13 requirements + 1,600 points (earn the Bronze award+ 1,600 points)

For all the 2012 Journey to Excellence requirements for Troops, click here

http://www.scouting.org/filestore/mission/JTE_Troop_Requirements.pdf

FOR CREWS – last year’s requirements are shown in parentheses

Retention – Bronze 44% (60%); Silver 44% & 2% increase (60% & 2% increase); Gold 60% & 2% increase (70% & 2% increase)

Trained Leadership – this requirement has been completely rewritten

- Bronze – Have an Advisor and a committee with at least three members; Advisor and all committee members have completed Leader-Specific Training or if new completed within three months of joining
- Silver – Bronze level + crew has at least one assistant advisor who has completed Leader-Specific Training and the crew has conducted Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews
- Gold – Silver level + hold youth officer elections and installation annually

Fitness – this is a new requirement for 2012

- Bronze – Crew program regularly includes physical activities such as hiking, cycling, or some other fitness activity.
- Silver – Bronze level + crew promotes and coordinates group fitness activities
- Gold – Silver level + crew holds ongoing fitness competition where members can track their performance.

To earn Bronze: complete 9 of 11 requirements + 700 points (complete 9 of 11 requirements + 700 points)

To earn Silver: complete 9 of 11 requirements + 1,000 points (Earn the Bronze award + 1,000 points)

To earn Gold: completed 9 of 11 requirements + 1,600 points (Earn the Bronze award + 1,600 points)

For all the 2012 Journey to Excellence requirements for Crews, click here

http://www.scouting.org/filestore/mission/JTE_Crew_Requirements.pdf

BSA Endowment Corner “WILL” YOU BE READY?

The night sky is clear and bright. You look up at the stars as you sit in front of the embers of a dying fire. The Scouts and other dads have turned in for the night, leaving you alone with your thoughts.

You have been with the Scouting program for a long time now. You’ve seen the difference it can make in the lives of boys and families. Your thoughts now turn to what Scouting would be like in the future. What it *could* be like.

The answer is as clear as the night sky itself. With thoughtful planning and a commitment to the future of Scouting – on your part and on the part of many other Scouting families – this great movement will continue to grow and flourish. One way you and your family can support your local council’s need for operating income, capital funds or an endowment is to name the trust fund of the Cherokee Area Council as a beneficiary in your will.

A bequest to your council’s endowment can take many forms. You can leave a specific item or amount of cash. You can leave a “residuary” gift, distributing to the council part of what’s left over after all your other bequests have been distributed. Or you may leave a percentage of your estate to Scouting.

If you feel that a bequest to Scouting would be beneficial to you and would like more information, contact John Howk. You can reach him at 918-293-7572 or contact the Scout Service center to arrange an appointment. Also, look for more information on our national planned giving web site - www.bsagiftplan.org. With a little planning and thought, you “will” be ready.

Please note: The information in this communication is not legal or tax advice. The BSA Cherokee Area Council # 469 is pleased to offer complimentary gift and estate planning assistance, however, we urge you to seek the advice of a competent professional before implementing any ideas we suggest to you.

ENDOWMENT RECOGNITION AWARDS

The Boy Scouts of America offers three distinct recognition awards.

THE JAMES E. WEST FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

James E. West was the first Chief Scout Executive of the Boy Scouts of America, and he served in that position for more than three decades. The West Fellowship award is available for gifts of \$1,000 and up in cash or marketable securities to a council endowment fund. The gift must be in addition to – and not replace or diminish – the donor's annual Friends of Scouting support. Many individuals and corporations make these gifts either on behalf of someone else – such as in honor of an Eagle Scout, Silver Beaver recipient, a retirement, a special accomplishment, or anniversary – or in memory of a special individual.

\$1,000+	Bronze Member Level
\$5,000+	Silver Member Level
\$10,000+	Gold Member Level
\$15,000+	Diamond Member Level

SECOND CENTURY SOCIETY

An outright gift of \$25,000 or more payable over five years, or a deferred gift of \$100,000 or more, to a local council, BSA Foundation, high-adventure base, or any BSA entity for operating, capital, or endowment

Donors making outright gifts of \$100,000 or more are designated as "Members with Distinction." Donors making deferred gifts of \$500,000 or more are designated "Legacy Members." Members in these categories receive special recognition and opportunities provided by the BSA Foundation.

PRESIDENTS LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Gifts to or through the BSA Foundation payable over five years, as part of an advised fund, designated fund, trust, or other Foundation fund structure are eligible for the Presidents Leadership Council. Gifts may be designated to benefit local councils, high-adventure facilities or other BSA entities.

Not Able to Access Internet Advancement?

If you are not able to access Internet advancement for your unit, the issue is probably that after rechartering, for some reason this is blocked until you go through the registration setup.

Instead of clicking on "returning user", just click on the "first time user" button, and then reenter the same information that you had before, and you should be reactivated for Internet advancement.

We are not sure why this is happening this year, but it is what national BSA provided to the council for units to be able to get back into their unit advancement process. While it is an extra step, it doesn't take long to enter the information again, and you will be back up and running with Internet advancement.

Welding Merit Badge



The wait is over! Your Scouts can begin working on the BSA's newest merit badge – Welding. The new merit badge pamphlets are on their way to Scout shops as we speak.

Requirements are available now at

www.scouting.org/meritbadges

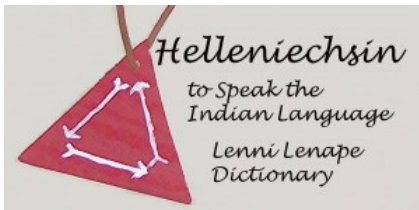
The merit badge, which was created through collaboration with the American Welding Society (AWS), the BSA Health and Safety Committee, and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, was added to the lineup after a BSA youth interest survey showed significant interest in the hands-on skill.

[Watch: The Making of the Welding Merit Badge](#)

Welding merit badge resources

- [Welding merit badge requirements on boyslife.org](http://boyslife.org)
- [Welding resources on scouting.org](http://scouting.org)
- [American Welding Society](http://AmericanWeldingSociety.com)

Scout App Helleniechsin Now on Android



Scouts and Order of the Arrow members who want to speak the language of the Lenni Lenape

(Delaware Indian) language but don't have an iPhone can now enjoy Helleniechsin on an Android based device. Dan with ScoutApps.net has spent countless hours creating and updating a easily searchable database of over 4,000 Lenape words and their English definitions.

Dan originally created the app for iPhones and iPads. "I did the Android version as there are a lot of Scouters in my area with them, and some of those Scouters had been bugging me for almost a year about when was I going to release my programs for the Android," says Dan. Good things sometimes are worth the wait. Helleniechsin is no exception. The database is easily searchable in both Lenape and English.

Looking for that perfect Vigil name? Wondering why your friend won't give the definitions of his? This app will give you the answers.

BSA Innovation Challenge launched!

The Boy Scouts of America (BSA) and official licensee Edison Nation[®] have launched the Boy Scouts of America Innovation Challenge.

The Innovation Challenge is looking to today's kids to develop tomorrow's products. Whether the invention solves a problem around the house, the yard or at school; helps you take better care of your pet; or creates a new way to learn or play, the BSA and Edison Nation[®] goal is to inspire young minds to submit creative, new product ideas.

Open to all boys and girls age 7 to 21 years, the Challenge does not require that the young person be associated with the BSA to submit ideas or be selected as an "inventor."

Edison Nation works with everyday people and inventors to turn their extraordinary ideas into products sold by major retailers. It is free to join the Edison Nation[®] online community and costs just \$25 to submit an idea (\$10 for current Boy Scouts of America members who submit an idea as a part of this challenge). Because the Boy Scouts of America Innovation Challenge is for youth inventors, a parent or guardian is required to be involved during the submission process for those under the age of 18.

The Boy Scouts of America Innovation Challenge ends May 7, 2012. To learn more about the challenge or to submit an idea, visit www.edisonnation.com/boyscouts.

BSA Launches E-Funding Website

Site provides options to donate to local council programs, support development of the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve

Irving, TEXAS (Jan. 24, 2012)—Supporting the Boy Scouts of America, one of the nation's largest and most prominent youth character development organizations, is now just a mouse click away. A new website, <http://aplacetogive.scouting.org/>, provides the ability to support Scouting programs in local communities, provide funding to send a youth to camp, and to support the development of the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve, the BSA's newest national high-adventure base and the future home of the national Scout jamboree, with online donations.

"The e-Funding website represents a quantum leap forward—both in the way it enables people to donate to Scouting and in the way it enables councils to customize their page to provide donors with a number of options," said Assistant Chief Scout Executive Brad Farmer. "Despite tough economic times, supporters continue to graciously invest their time and resources to help the BSA develop young people into the leaders of tomorrow."

Most youth members' day-to-day experiences with Scouting come through their individual packs, troops, teams, crews, and ships. These units are overseen by local councils, which receive an annual charter from the National Council. Initially, when an individual navigates

to the website, the new e-Funding site will identify where that individual is located and will automatically populate the information for the BSA local council.

In addition to supporting local council programs, visitors to <http://aplacetogive.scouting.org/> will be able to select the "Send a Kid to Camp" option, provide funding for the James E. West Endowment, and/or support the development of the Summit by purchasing new trees and sponsoring walkway paving stones, wooden sustainability benches, and stone benches. Other options will be introduced in the future, providing donors with a variety of ways to personalize and individualize their gifts to the Scouting program.

"Our supporters and members want to see the amazing Scouting program continue to grow and thrive in meeting the needs of today's youth," Farmer said. "One of the ways we are doing that is by expanding our reach in the digital realm and giving supporters and members more ways to connect with Scouting."

2012 Winter Merit Badge Festival

Over 200 Boy Scouts from across the council gathered at Tri-County Technology Center in Bartlesville the last Saturday in February for the annual Winter Merit Badge Festival. Scouts from Kansas and Missouri and Indian Nations council in Oklahoma also joined in the fun for about 300 Scouts total working on merit badges for the day.

The welding merit badge was introduced in the council at this event and was quickly filled up. TCTC welding instructor Scott Sutherland was the merit badge counselor, and the two sessions filled quickly with Scouts who wanted this new merit badge.

Most Scouts worked on four merit badges during the day, including some who shuttled off campus to take the Swimming merit badge.

All of the Eagle required merit badges were offered, and they were all well attended. Scouts in the Veterinary Medicine merit badge got to see a surgery on an animal during their session, as the VDM had a mobile lab pulled up outside in the parking lot.

Many of the sessions had requirements to be done before or after the sessions, so Scouts need to be sure to follow through and complete the requirements so the

merit badges can be awarded at their Troop Courts of Honor.

Upcoming Key Dates

Check the Council web site (<http://www.cherokeebssa.org>) for more information about these events.

- Mar. 1 – OH District Roundtable, Unit Commissioners, and OA Chapter meeting
- Mar. 2-4 – Council Camporee
- Mar. 8 – OH District Eagle Boards of Review
- Mar. 8 – GL District Roundtable and OA Chapter meeting
- Mar. 10 – Pinewood Derby
- Mar. 15 – Council Banquet
- Mar. 24 – Pinewood Derby
- Mar. 29 – OH District Committee
- Mar. 30-31 – Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills
- Apr. 5 – OH District Roundtable, Unit Commissioners, and OA Chapter meeting
- Apr. 12 – OH District Eagle Boards of Review
- Apr. 12 – GL District Roundtable and OA Chapter meeting
- Apr. 13-15 – OA Spring Fellowship
- Apr. 27-28 – Cub and One
- Apr. 27-29 – OA Section Conclave
- May 3 – OH District Roundtable, Unit Commissioners, and OA Chapter meeting
- May 5 – BALOO training
- May 10 – OH District Eagle Boards of Review
- May 10 – GL District Roundtable and OA Chapter meeting
- June 5-8 – OH District Cub Scout Day Camp
- June 13-16 – GL District Cub Scout Day Camp