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Cherokee Scouter

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

October 2013

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Camp Closure

Camp McClintock will be closed starting November 1, 2013. Camp should reopen by April 1, and may actually open before that date. Updates will be posted on the council website www.cherokeesbsa.org

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:

- Colton Burns – Troop 3 (Kiddie Park)

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



2013 Popcorn Sale Incentives

Each Scout has the opportunity to **win prizes** based on the total dollar amount of their sales.

Popcorn Fill It UP drawings for full order forms turned in by Noon on October 17. Scouts will be eligible to win a \$100 gift card or a Nintendo DS Lite. Filled up forms must be dropped off at the Scout Service Center (520 SE Quapaw, Bartlesville) or faxed (918-512-4789).

Popcorn Incentive Day at Camp McClintock October 19 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. - a day of shooting sports, wall climbing and zip-lining exclusively for those Scouts turning in **TWO filled up popcorn order forms.**

Vouchers for Day Camp/Summer Camp - Cub Scout Day Camp FREE with \$400 in personal sales. Boy Scout Summer Camp - \$150 voucher - with \$900 in personal sales.

Incredible Pizza \$1000 Popcorn Club Party on December 15 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Youth selling \$1000 or more in popcorn earn: one ticket in a drawing for additional prizes, an additional \$200 in popcorn sold gets Scout another ticket in the drawing. The Top Seller

in the Council earns first choice of any prize and is also entered in the drawing. **Scout MUST BE PRESENT to win.**

The Incredible Pizza party is open to all units at a discounted price. See the flyer for more information. <http://www.cherokeesbsa.org/activities/Incredible2013.pdf>

MYSTERY HOUSES Click here for hints to discover where cool prizes are hidden. <http://www.cherokeesbsa.org/activities/PopcornMysteryLocationsWeek5.pdf>

The first Scout - in uniform - to ask the home or business owner to buy popcorn, earns a cool prize!

Important Dates to Remember

Fill-It-Up Deadlines.....October 17 by Noon

Popcorn Orders Due at Scout Office.....October 14 by Noon

Prize Forms Due at Scout Office.....October 14 by Noon

Camp Incentive Forms Due at Scout Office.....October 14 by Noon

High Achiever Forms Due at Scout Office.....October 14 by Noon

Popcorn Incentive Day at Camp McClintock.....October 19, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Popcorn Pickup.....Grand Lake October 31; Osage Hills November 1

Popcorn Money Due at Scout Office.....December 6

Payments received after December 6 will result in a 5% commission loss each week payment is past due.

BSA membership fee increase

Across the country, millions of Scouts rely on support from the National Boy Scouts of America to provide the world-class programming and training that makes Scouting the nation's foremost youth program.

The National BSA is funded directly by the membership fee you pay when you register to be a Scout or leader. In order to maintain their support of local Scouting, the national organization has announced an increase in their annual membership fee from \$15 to \$24 effective January 1, 2014.

This new fee has immediate implications for fall youth recruitment and for rechartering, so we want you to know what steps will be necessary to make a smooth transition to this new fee structure, given that current materials are now outdated. We also want to share the rationale for the change and its timing.

In a letter to Scouting professionals, Chief Scout Executive Wayne Brock explained the reasoning behind the increase.

“First, I want to make clear that the Boy Scouts of America maintains a strong financial position,” he wrote. “In order to continue to deliver the nation’s foremost youth program, it is occasionally necessary to increase membership fees so that we can offset rising administrative costs.” These costs are in the areas of support to local councils that include technology, liability insurance, communications, program development/standards/supplies, and national high-adventure bases/events. As you know, the membership fee is collected locally, but transmitted to the National Office to pay these costs.

The BSA’s last fee increase — to \$15 from \$10 — was in 2010, and since then, the organization has taken steps to control and reduce costs. But “administrative costs have continued to rise faster than projected,” Brock wrote. “As always, our focus is to build the future leaders of this country by combining adventure, educational activities and lifelong values. The fee increase is a step we must take in order to continue providing the services you and our members expect and need.”

The National BSA Executive Board appointed a special committee in May to thoroughly review current and future budget needs. The August 30 fee increase announcement was the result of their recommendation which was approved by the BSA Executive Committee.

WHAT DOES YOUR \$24 BUY?

What exactly does your \$24 annual fee pay for? And how does that \$24 fee compare to other youth organizations and activities?

Simply put, the Boy Scouts of America National Council provides program materials and support for 280 local councils that administer the Scouting program, with each

covering a specific geographic area. To be more specific, the following are the key functions of the national council:

- Provide liability insurance to registered adult members, local councils, chartered organizations and the national organization
- Provide technological platforms for the Scouting movement
- Provide local councils with program as well as tools for camp and office planning and evaluation, extensive financial counseling, planned giving and fundraising information, and professional personnel support
- Coordinate a communications network through magazines and literature (handbooks, merit badge pamphlets, brochures, training materials, and professional development training)
- Make available uniforms, equipment, and program supplies
- Develop and maintain year-round national high-adventure bases and execute national events (jamborees, National Eagle Scout Association and Order of the Arrow conferences, and National Council meetings)
- Maintain communication with chartered organizations that use the Scouting program (religious institutions, civic organizations, labor unions, professional organizations, business, and industry)
- Maintain liaison with Scouting associations in other countries as a member of the World Scout Conference
- Set and maintain program standards (e.g., Advancement, health and safety, etc.) to ensure consistency of the brand throughout councils across the country.

WHAT FEES DO OTHER YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS CHARGE?

Scouting’s a steal. That \$24 a year works out to \$2 a month or roughly 6.5 cents a day.

Look at what you’ll pay for other youth activities. Here’s a small sampling. *Note: The costs in bold are just the fee*

to join and don't include equipment, travel costs, uniforms, etc.

- **Tackle football, \$140:** In Plano, Texas, second-through sixth-graders who play tackle football pay \$140 for a three-month season. That fee doesn't include equipment.
- **Youth orchestra, \$1,000:** Members of the prestigious Los Angeles Youth Orchestra pay \$1,000 annually and must buy their own instruments.
- **Select soccer, \$400:** In Cleveland, select youth soccer players age 15 to 18 pay \$400 a season, plus \$135 for uniforms.
- **Youth basketball, \$500:** In Queens, N.Y., boys age 8 to 13 pay \$500 a year, not including uniforms.
- **4-H Program, \$25:** Participants of the 4-H Program in College Station, Texas, pay \$25 a year, not including fees for individual activities.

The annual membership fee is the only direct cost from the National BSA to youth and adult members. All other services from the National BSA are without additional charge. Scouting remains the best value among the many activities your family could choose to take part in. Even with this fee increase, it only costs \$2 per month to be part of the once-in-a-lifetime adventures and leadership development programs you can only find in Scouting.

At \$2 per month, Scouting continues to be a great investment compared to other choices, providing unique, life-enriching experiences that develop leadership, character, citizenship and fitness. This change will put Scouting in an even stronger position to continue to be a positive influence in all our communities.

As always, our focus is to build the leaders of this country by combining adventure, educational activities, and lifelong values. This fee increase ensures that the National BSA will be able to continue providing the excellent services you and your family count on - and will make sure that we can continue doing great things for the young people and communities we serve.

For questions about the National BSA membership fee, please check with your unit commissioner or District Executive.

District Award of Merit

Volunteer Recognition Banquets in both districts will be held on January 9th. Nominations are now open for the District Award of Merit. Previous recipients of the District Award of Merit are listed on the each district web site.

Grand Lake District

http://www.cherokeesba.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=118&Itemid=227

Osage Hills District

http://www.cherokeesba.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=87&Itemid=179

The nomination form is available here

<http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33720.pdf>

Jamboree on the Air/Internet October 19-20

The Jamboree-on-the-Air, or JOTA, is an annual Scouting event that uses amateur radio to link Scouts around the world, around the nation, and in your own community.

The Jamboree-on-the-Internet, or JOTI, is an annual Scouting event sponsored by the World Organization of the Scout Movement. This event utilizes the Internet and the numerous devices that are used to get

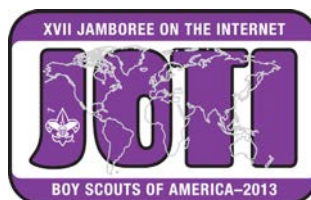


online, from your home computer to iPad tablets, to link Scouts from around the world. Last year, JOTI had almost 16,000 Scouts and leaders registered in the worldwide JOTA-JOTI database in 146 countries!

Held on the third full weekend of October each year, this worldwide jamboree requires no travel.

Scouts of any age can take part, from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts and Venturers. Scouts can participate at home with the help of an adult, or they can participate in a Scout group at a councilwide event. Each event allows Scouts to "meet" other Scouts from around the world via

a variety of communication devices and share more information than just "Hi." The exchanges can include such information as name, location of event, Scout



rank, age, and hobbies. Some exchanges lead to long-lasting friendships. Another great idea is to use JOTI participation to help fulfill a Citizenship in the World or Computers merit badge requirement!

For more information -

<http://www.scouting.org/JOTA.aspx>

<http://www.scouting.org/joti.aspx>

<http://www.jotajoti2013.org/>

OA Fall Fellowship

October 25-26

Fall Fellowship will be held at Camp McClintock October 25-26. Registration is now open. There are two ways to register – online or a printed form.

Online registration –

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1mKtYkp9UlopXArAqM67x5en8GkWOMn0LimkXsd80aY0/viewform>

The printed form is available on the Lodge web site

<http://www.cherokeesba.org/oa/index.html>

Either way, be sure to register by Thursday, October 24th. Payment for dues or Fall Fellowship registration can be made at the Scout Office.

In addition to classes, games, and fellowship, we will elect Lodge and chapter officers for the coming year. Come join in the fun!

Council Camporee

November 8-10

What: Osage Hills District is hosting this year's Fall Camporee at Woolaroc Museum and Wildlife Preserve

When: November 8-10, 2013

Where: Woolaroc Mountain Man Camp. Woolaroc is located on OK 123 South, between Bartlesville and Barnsdall.

From Bartlesville – 10.5 miles southwest of US 60 (Adams Blvd.) and OK 123 South.

Who: Troops/Teams/Venturers are invited to join this activity. Submit sign-up sheet to the Scout Service Center

Webelos Dens are invited to join and camp, provided they are camping with a Troop. **Camping Webelos will camp as a Den with Pack Leadership, and accompanied by a parent/guardian.** Submit sign-up sheet to the Scout Service Center.

Cubs and Webelos not camping are limited to the first 100 to register. They are invited to join the activities on Saturday. Submit sign-up sheet to the Scout Service Center.

- 10AM to 3PM – Explore Woolaroc Museum, trails, and grounds. Earn Woolaroc patch.
- Lunch and water will not be provided for Cubs. Arrangements can be made with a Troop or bring a sack lunch or purchase a meal at the Woolaroc Buffalo Hunt Snack Bar.
- 1PM to 3PM – Cubs are free to visit Troop demonstrations
- 3PM to 5PM – Cubs activities at Camp-o-Ree site
- 5PM - depart

Registration: Submit form with payment to Scout Service Center by October 18 – early bird deadline has been extended.

Cost: Early-bird fee: \$8.50 per adult or youth camper to cover fees and patch. **After October 18 fee is \$10 per adult or youth camper.**

\$1 per non-camping Cub or Webelos to cover patch.

Troops are asked to staff an activity of their choosing, so start planning now what your unit might want to do.

Details, including registration information, are posted on the Council web site at

<http://www.cherokeesba.org/activities/2013-CAMP-O-REE.pdf>.

Cub Leader Specific Training

November 14

This training session will be held at the Scout Service Center. Details will be posted to the Council web site <http://www.cherokeesba.org>. Details will also be sent out via e-mail blast.

To ensure that you get information about this event and other Council and District events and other news, be sure you sign-up for the Council e-mail blasts. Go to the Council web site at <http://www.cherokeesba.org/> and look for the “Join Our Mailing List” box on the right. Or send your e-mail address to cherokeesba@cherokeesba.org and include your name, city, and program area of interest (Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Exploring, or Venturing).

OA Lodge Leadership Development & Winter Banquet

December 6-7

Details will be sent out via e-mail blast and posted on the Lodge web site at

<http://www.cherokeesbsa.org/oa/index.html>

To ensure that you get information about this event and other Council and District events and other news, be sure you sign-up for the Council e-mail blasts. Go to the Council web site at <http://www.cherokeesbsa.org/> and look for the “Join Our Mailing List” box on the right.

Or send your e-mail address to

cherokeesbsa@cherokeesbsa.org and include your name, city, program area of interest (Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Exploring, or Venturing) and whether you’re an adult or youth member of the OA Lodge.

“Duty to God” Patch Contest

Submission deadline December 31

Here’s a chance for a Scout to design a new patch!

The patch will be presented at the Council Recognition Banquet each year to those Scouts who have earned their Duty to God religious award during the previous year.

All Scouts are eligible to enter the contest by designing a patch honoring the “Duty to God” theme.

The template and guidelines to design the new patch are available here

<http://www.cherokeesbsa.org/activities/Duty-to-God-Patch-contest.pdf>

Deadline for submissions is December 31, 2013.

Winter Merit Badge Festival

February 15

The schedule of merit badges that will be taught will be published in early November. Registration begins as soon as the schedule is posted. There are a limited number of spots available.

In-council registrations should be submitted to the Scout Service Center no later than January 15th. A drawing will be held on January 16th for out-of-council registrations to fill any remaining open spots.

Registration closes January 31st or when the maximum number of registrations has been reached. No late registrations will be accepted.

National Youth Leadership Training

June 2014

Cherokee Area Council will be conducting the National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) program in June 2014.



We are beginning the process of identifying youth and adult staff for this program. Stay tuned for more information.

If you have questions about NYLT, please contact

Paul.Huttenhoff@gmail.com.

SCOUTStrong™ PALA

BSA Unit Leader Quick-Start Guide

What is the SCOUTStrong™ PALA?

The SCOUTStrong™ Presidential Active Lifestyle Award (PALA) Challenge will help your unit members add physical activity to their lifestyle, as well as help them improve their eating habits.

Who should be involved?

This challenge is for Scouts and their entire families, as well as for leaders and their families.

How is the SCOUTStrong™ earned?

To earn the SCOUTStrong™ PALA Challenge Award, participants are required to meet a daily activity goal of 30 minutes a day for adults and 60 minutes a day for kids under 18 for at least five days a week, for six of eight weeks. Also, each week they will focus on a healthy eating goal. There are eight to choose from, and each week they will add a new goal while continuing with their previous goals. Stick with the program, and participants can earn a SCOUTStrong™ PALA award patch in less than two months.

How do I get my unit started?

Participants can enroll and track their progress wither online with a free online activity tracker or on a paper

activity log available at

www.scouting.org/SCOUTStrongPALA

Online activity tracker participant directions

Visit www.scouting.org/SCOUTStrongPALA.

- Use the appropriate dropdown menu to pick the appropriate state based on desired council location.
- Use the appropriate dropdown menu to pick the desired council.
- Click the START YOUR PALA CHALLENGE! button.
- At the PALA page of the affiliated council, click CREATE AN ACCOUNT.
- Complete the required fields and click REGISTER.
- The activity tracker home page is what will appear at each login. The home page allows participants to track their activities, join a group, see their award progress, and adjust their account preferences.

For more information, including access to completion certificates, please go to

www.scouting.org/SCOUTStrongPALA

Write on! Constitutional essay contest gives Eagle, Life Scouts a shot at cash

(Reprinted from Bryan's Blog on Scouting <http://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2013/09/13/write-on-constitutional-essay-contest-gives-eagle-life-scouts-a-shot-at-cash/>)

You the Life Scouts and Eagle Scouts of the Boy Scouts of America, in Order to form a more perfect understanding of the U.S. Constitution, establish awareness of our nation's Founding Documents, and secure some Free Money, do indeed need to enter this Bill of Rights Institute Eagle Scout Competition

OK, so maybe my version of the Preamble doesn't match the original, but it still contains an important message.

That message: The Bill of Rights Institute, a nonprofit educational organization "whose mission is to educate

young people on the ideas of the Constitution and the rights it protects," has launched its [second annual Eagle Scout Competition](#).

One grand prize winner will score \$1,000 for himself and \$500 for his unit. Two runners-up get \$500 for themselves and \$250 for their units.

To enter, Life Scouts and Eagle Scouts between the ages of 14 and 19 must write two short essays based on the topics listed below. The deadline — Feb. 10, 2014 — will be here before you can say "more perfect Union," so send this to your Life Scouts and Eagle Scouts right away.

- **Who:** Life Scouts and Eagle Scouts between the ages of 14-19
- **What:** Answer two short essays on the ideas of the Constitution
- **Deadline:** Feb. 10, 2014
- **Win:** Grand Prize – \$1,000 for one Scout *and* \$500 for his Unit
 - 2 Honorable Mentions – \$500 *and* \$250 for their Units
- **Apply Online:** <http://billofrightsinstitute.org/eaglescout>
- **Contact:** bbyrd@billofrightsinstitute.org

The Competition is structured around two short essays (500 word maximum) related to the Constitution and the Founding Principles. The topics are:

1) James Madison, often referred to as the Father of the Constitution, said in Federalist 51 that:

"If men were angels, no government would be necessary. If angels were to govern men, neither external nor internal controls on government would be necessary. In framing a government which is to be administered by men over men, the great difficulty lies in this: you must first enable the government to control the governed; and in the next place, oblige it to control itself."

Read the U.S. Constitution and find 2 examples of "controls on government." Explain why these specific controls are important and their relevance today.

2) Consider the following quote – "The First Amendment is dramatically inconvenient. It requires us to tolerate the very bad in order to protect the unpopular

but good.” Do you agree or disagree? Defend your argument using examples.

Voice of the Scout

Look for an email from the Boy Scouts of America in your inboxes!

The fall 2013 Voice of the Scout survey cycle will launch in late September and be open through late October. Parents, Scouts & Venturers over 14, volunteers and chartered organizations will begin seeing surveys delivered into their email inboxes for Voice of the Scout.



The surveys have been designed to be very brief but will give needed insight into the variety of experiences at the unit and district within our council. Surveys will stay open for three weeks, then information will be referenced for making key decisions to drive Scouting forward, as guided by the people that matter most—our members.

Voice of the Scout is how you will help guide our decision-making for our future programs and operational delivery. Please take a few minutes of your time to participate!

This Is Not a Test

By Mark Ray
Illustration by Tristan Elwell
(Reprinted from *Scouting Magazine*)

A board of review should gauge the quality of a Scout's troop experience and encourage future advancement, not ask him to pass rank requirements -- again.

In the classic Disney movie *Follow Me Boys*, Fred MacMurray plays a small-town Scoutmaster. When his troop gets caught up in a war game, MacMurray becomes a POW. To prove he really is a Scoutmaster, not an enemy spy, MacMurray is challenged to tie a sheepshank — the one knot he's never mastered.



Unfortunately, that comic scene is repeated in not-so-comic ways each time a board of review member tosses a rope on a table and asks a Scout to tie a knot. In these moments, the board of review becomes a board of retesting, and the troop misses out on an opportunity to grow along with the Scout.

According to *The Scoutmaster Handbook*, the purpose of the board of review is “not to retest a Scout, but rather to ensure that he has completed all of the requirements, to determine the quality of his troop experience, and to encourage him to advance toward the next rank. Each review should also include a discussion of ways in which the Scout sees himself living up to the Scout Oath and Law in his everyday life.”

Now let's take a moment to look at each of those elements.

Checking requirements

By the time a Scout reaches the board of review, he has completed all of the requirements for his next rank (including the Scoutmaster conference). All the board needs to do is make sure that nothing has been overlooked.

Board members can use this records check as an opportunity to learn more about the boy's experience in Scouting, according to Dan DiBiase, committee chairman for Troop 888 in Dayton, N.J.

“We'll talk to him about some of the merit badges: What was the most difficult one? What was the simplest one? Why?” DiBiase says.

Boards focus on different topics depending on the rank in question. “Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class

are primarily concerned with requirements and Scout skills,” DiBiase says. “As they get older, you’re doing less of that and talking more about leadership.”

Board sessions also get longer as Scouts advance in rank. A Tenderfoot board should take about 15 minutes, while an Eagle board might last 30 minutes or more.

Review experiences

Next comes what DiBiase considers the most important aspect of the board of review: assessing the quality of the Scout’s experience in the troop.

“I like to ask, ‘If you were Scoutmaster for a day, what one thing would you change about the troop?’” he says. Since the board consists of troop committee members — not assistant Scoutmasters — Scouts are often more willing to speak openly.

Taking action on any problems is essential, according to Barry Bingham, a Life-to-Eagle coordinator with Troop 677 in Ellisville, Mo. “Sometimes the troop meetings get called out as an issue, and we’ll jump on that,” Bingham says.

DiBiase notes that the key is to make sure any feedback (positive or negative) represents the views of most Scouts.

“We try to look at trends,” he says. “You could have three Scouts say A, and a fourth Scout say not A but B.”

Encourage advancement

Every board of review should point toward the next rank. At a First Class board, it’s helpful to talk about positions of responsibility and merit badges, which are key requirements for Star. At a Life board, potential Eagle Scout service projects are an ideal topic.

The board can also discuss other Scouting opportunities. Bingham’s troop promotes its Venturing crew at boards of review.

“As a Scout gets to his 14th birthday, he is clearly aware of that Venturing crew and what it is doing,” Bingham says.

Discuss everyday life

Much like the Scoutmaster conference, the board of review is a great chance to draw connections between Scouting and everyday life.

“There are a million and eight things you can talk about that have nothing to do with Scouting,” DiBiase says. “It’s important that you get to know the boys a little bit — not just the Scouting stuff.”

Recruit board members

While it might seem hard to recruit no uniformed adults to serve on boards of review, Bingham’s troop finds them simply by being observant.

“When adults are standing around, that’s a clue to put them to work,” he says. “A great way to put them to work is to send them to where the boards are meeting.”

Since board members don’t need to know a lot about Scouting, on-the-job training is often sufficient for new volunteers. DiBiase does encourage all his troop committee members to complete the Troop Committee Challenge (available through the Online Learning Center at www.scouting.org). He also has occasionally distributed sets of suggested board of review questions.

In the end, however, the board of review is not about the questions. It’s about the Scout and his growth through Scouting’s advancement program — sheepshanks notwithstanding.

Mark Ray is a former professional Scouter and the author of The Scoutmaster's Other Handbook.

For more information about Boards of Review see Section 8 of the *Guide to Advancement* <http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf>

Upcoming Key Dates

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

- October 3 – OH Roundtable, Unit Commissioners, and OA Chapter meeting
- October 10 – OH Eagle Boards of Review
- October 10 – GL Roundtable and OA Chapter meeting
- October 24 – OH District Committee
- October 25-26 – OA Fall Fellowship
- Nov 1 – Camp McClintock closed until April 1
- November 7 – OH Roundtable, Unit Commissioners, and OA Chapter meeting
- November 8-10 – Council Camporee
- November 14 – GL Roundtable and OA Chapter meeting
- November 14 – Cub Leader Specific training
- November 15-16 – OA Vigil weekend
- December 5 – OH Roundtable, Unit Commissioners, and OA Chapter meeting
- December 6-7 – OA LLD and Winter Banquet
- December 12 – GL Roundtable and OA Chapter meeting
- January 9 – OH District Banquet
- January 9 – GL District Banquet
- January 16 – CPR/First Aid certification, Bartlesville
- January 17-19 – Trappers Rendezvous, near Newton KS
- January 25 – Scouting for Food, flyer distribution, Bartlesville
- February 1 – Scouting for Food, food pickup, Bartlesville
- February 15 – Winter Merit Badge Festival
- February 27 – FOS Patron Dinner
- March 7-8 – OA Ordeal
- March 8 – Helpful Day
- March 27 – Council Banquet
- March 29 – Pinocar Derby
- March 29 – OH Cub Scout Fun-o-Ree
- April 1 – Camp McClintock reopens
- April 4-5 – OA Spring Fellowship
- April 9-10 – SM/ASM Leader Specific Training
- April 11-12 – Cub and One
- April 12 – Boy Scout recruitment event