



Texas Trails News

Volume 1, Issue 3

Jun – Aug 2003

Camp Tonkawa Closed

Dec 13, 14

Abilene Scout Office Closed

Sep 1
Nov 27, 28
Dec 24, 25, 26, 31

Brownwood Scout Office Closed

Sep 1
Nov 27, 28
Dec 24, 25, 26, 31

NOTE: The Abilene Scout Office closes at 4:00 p.m. every Wednesday for a staff meeting.



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ONE LODGE

During a special vote following The Gathering on July 27 at Camp Wood Lake, both Kotso and Otena Lodges approved the joining of both lodges by December 31, 2003. This means that the Texas Trails Council will charter a new lodge for 2004.

Meetings are underway to make the joining as smooth and seamless as possible with little to no interruption of current lodge plans and activities. It is currently planned that both Lodges will operate as Chapters in the new Lodge, with current Lodge Chiefs and Vice Chiefs being Chapter Chiefs and Chapter Vice Chiefs.

There will be an election for Lodge Officers on December 13th, and a celebration afterward as the new Chief signs the charter for the new Lodge. The place and activities are still being worked out but everyone needs to attend this historic event!

All members are eligible to run for a Lodge office, even if you are currently an officer in Kotso or Otena. If you plan on running, please submit a letter from your parents permitting you to run. This also makes them aware that you will have extra meetings to attend. The letter should be addressed to Kent Brown, Supreme Chief of the Fire, at the Abilene office.

Everyone who wants to hold a Lodge office needs to be elected, and to be elected you need to be known. You should make every effort to be at all functions of Otena and Kotso Lodges with flyers promoting yourself and the position you would like to hold. The more publicity and exposure you get, the better your chances are of being elected. The first officers of the new Lodge have a big and historic job. A chance like this does not come around often.

CONTEST

The new Lodge needs a name, totem and flap and all members are encouraged to submit their ideas and designs! Each member who submits a design should tell what the Lodge name is and what it means, what the totem is and why they chose it and how it represents us, and a flap design. We will have a separate flap for Ordeal, Brotherhood, and Vigil so you may want to submit all three with a variation in design.

Otena Lodge members should send their submissions to the Brownwood office and Kotso Lodge members should send their submissions to the Abilene office. You can also submit on-line by e-mailing your designs to lodgeflap@texastrailsbsa.org. All designs must be submitted by Friday, September 26th, at 5:00 p.m.

NOW is the time to get creative!



Texas Trails Council Officers

President—Pat Leatherwood
 Immediate Past President—None
 President Elect—H. Miller Richert
 Scout Executive—Kent Brown
 Commissioner—Stanley Walker, Jr.
 Treasurer—Charles Wolfe
 Legal Counsel—Dan Fergus
 VP Administration—Larry D. Smith
 VP Endowment—Dan Garrett
 VP Finance—John Estes
 VP Membership—Gary Stephenson
 VP Program—Steve Ellis
 VP Properties—Robert (Bob) Rider
 National Council Representative—
 Jerry Strader

Double Mountain District Committee

Chairman—Randy Smith
 District Commissioner—
 VP Finance/Membership -
 Kenneth Patton
 VP Program—Russell Dressen
 VP Training - Denise Smith
 VP Advancement/Recognition -
 Sammy Ferguson
 VP Activities/Civic Service -
 Dan Bryley
 VP Outdoor/Camp Promotion -
 Rudy Tolentino

Kickapoo District Committee

Chairman – Bob Rider
 District Commissioner-Roy Curbo
 VC Program – Pam Rider
 VC Training – Shirley Teague
 VC Advancement/Recognition –
 Hubert Swann
 VC Finance/Membership –
 Laura Stair
 VC Activities—

Noreast District Committee

Chairman—
 District Commissioner—Ray
 Easterling
 VC Finance/Membership – David
 Cleveland
 Program Chairman – Butch
 Wakefield
 Training Chairman - Ray Easterling
 Advancement/Recognition
 Chairman – Larry D. Smith
 VC Activities—

BROWNWOOD PINEWOOD DERBY

Brownwood's annual pinewood derby was held on March 1st at the Heartland Mall. Sixty-three cars, representing 7 counties in the Noreast and Kickapoo districts, raced against each other for the top honor of being the fastest car in the area.

When the dust settled, Justin Miller of Pack 18 in Stephenville (on left, looking at photo) was in First Place. He was followed closely by Tanner Hawkins of Pack 55 in San Saba (middle) – 2nd place and Tommy Kauffman of Pack 5 in Goldthwaite (right) in 3rd place.

Congratulations and Good Racing!



Philmont Trek

(Note: This story is from one of the four Philmont treks that represented the Texas Trails Council this summer at Philmont.)

On July 16 a group of Boy Scouts began a backpacking trek at Philmont Scout Ranch, nestled in the mountains of northeastern New Mexico near Cimarron.

Covering 92 miles in 11 days, the crew experienced horseback riding, black-powder rifle shooting, shotgun shooting, and tomahawk throwing. They used burros to carry their gear for two days and took a day hike to Mount Baldy, the highest point on the ranch at 12,443 feet.

Lucky Simmons-Leuders from Troop 203 was the crew leader. His crew members were Brody Andrews (Abilene, Troop 203), Jordan Parrish (Abilene, Troop 203), Jonathan Neble (Eula, Troop 203), Jim Bayless (Abilene, Troop 201), Jay Tindal (Abilene, Troop 201), and Robert Putnam (San Angelo, Troop 374). The Adult Advisers were Darrell and Miriam Parish (Abilene, Troop 203).

"Spirit of the Eagle Award"

The Spirit of the Eagle Award was presented to the parents of Eagle Scout Zachary L. Swann during special awards ceremonies held at Boy Scout Camp Billy Gibbons Friday, June 20, 2003, by Pat Leatherwood, President of the Texas Trails Council, Boy Scouts of America.

This award was created by the Boy Scouts of America as an honorary posthumous special recognition for a registered youth member who has lost his/her life in an accident of through illness. The award is bestowed by the National Court of Honor as part of the celebration of life of Zachary L. Swann. It recognizes the joy, happiness, and life-fulfilling experiences the Scouting program made in this person's life. The award is limited to registered youth members who were under 21 years of age at the time of death and must be submitted by the unit committee within six months of the youth member's death.

This is the first time that this special award has been presented in the 19 county Texas Trails Council area. Some 300 Scouts, Scouters, parents and camp staff members

were present for the presentation. Also in attendance was Kent Brown, Scout Executive of the Texas Trails Council.

Zachary L. Swann, a member of Troop 14, sponsored by First United Methodist Church died March 10, 2003 as the results of heart failure caused by an illness. He has served on the Camp Billy Gibbons Summer Camp staff for the past two years on the rifle range and was an active member of the Otena Lodge, Order of the Arrow.

The 2003 Summer Camp Staff wore a fishhook on their staff caps in memory of Zach. This was his personal trademark as he always wore a fishhook on his caps. In addition, the Camp Billy Gibbons Summer Camp patch, presented to each Scout and Scouter who participated in Boy Scout Summer Camp, has a ghost "ZS" embroidered on the patch in memory of Zach.



CONGRATULATIONS

Ryan Shahan - Crew 26
 Michael Bretzke - Troop 14
 John Hale - Troop 77
 Carson Padgett - Troop 77
 Michael Simons, II - Troop 99
 Marcus Smith - Troop 99
 Caleb Carver – Troop 161
 Alexander Grannan – Troop 201
 Korey Kennedy – Troop 217
 James Grissom, Jr. – Troop 220
 Arthur Sayre – Troop 245
 Stephen Haynie – Troop 258
 Michael Young – Troop 258
 Jeffrey Teal – Troop 277



Summer Camp at Camp Billy Gibbons

Since 1931 a summer camp program has been offered to area Scouts at Camp Billy Gibbons. Situated on the banks of Brady Creek, Camp Billy Gibbons is one of the last wilderness camps in the United States. Scouts swim in the same “waterhole” as their grandfathers did, while Plum Hollow offers a natural but challenging rappelling and climbing adventure. Rugged campsites and camp traditions add to the overall CBG experience.

Two weeks of Boy Scout camp were held at Camp Billy Gibbons this year, with 20 troops bringing 192 Scouts and 51 adults. A total of 28 merit badges were offered as well as Nakona, a first year camper program. Snorkeling, instructional swim, CPR and BSA Lifeguard were also offered. Adult leaders took advantage of Youth Protection Training, Safe Swim Defense, Safety Afloat, Leave No Trace Camping, and CPR. Each week was rounded out with campfires, SPAM night, Scoutmaster Appreciation Dinner, parent night, awards ceremony and Otena Lodge OA callout.

This year was an exciting year and next year is expected to be even more exciting as new experiences are being planned. Don't miss out on the Camp Billy Gibbons experience – sign up as soon as possible!

Boy Scout Roundtables

Roundtables are for any Scouter who wants to keep up on current Scouting events, get new ideas for their Unit Program, share ideas and concerns, and enjoy the company of fellow Scouters! Each Scout Unit should be represented at each Roundtable, it's a great way to stay in touch

There are two Kickapoo Roundtables each month, one in Brownwood on the second Tuesday, and one in Lampasas on the third Tuesday of each month. The Brownwood Roundtable will be at the Conference Room at the Brownwood Scout Shop, starting at 7:00pm, and ending before 8:30pm. The Lampasas Roundtables will be at the First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, and also run 7:00 to 8:30.

The NorEast District will be having a second Roundtable in Eastland, on the second Tuesday of each month.

White Buffalo Roundtables are in Abilene on the second Thursday of each month and Double Mountain holds theirs on the first Tuesday, usually in Hamlin.

Call the Scout Office for more information.

White Buffalo District Committee

Chairman – Blair Haynie
 Treasurer – Bill Thompson
 District Commissioner-B.J. Pollan
 Roundtable Commissioners:
 Boy Scout – Paul Brown
 Cub Scout – Donna Yost
 VC Program – Dr. John Dearing
 VC Training – Larry Beville
 VC Advancement/Recognition –
 Terry Yost
 VC Activities/Civic –
 VC Camping/Outdoors –
 VC Membership –
 Religious Programs—Carroll Osburn

Council Office Personnel

Scout Executive—Kent Brown
 Assistant Scout Executive—David Foil
 Sr. District Executive—James Myers
 District Executive—Doug Paxton
 District Executive—Dave Coffield
 District Executive—Les Zimmerman
 Ranger—Jeremy Moon
 Office Manager/Accounting
 Specialist - Darline Jurkin
 Brownwood Registrar/Store Manager -
 Sheila Seale
 Abilene Registrar/Store Manager—
 Cindy Webb



FROM THE OFFICE

VOLUNTEERS!

We now have a computer for you to use at the Council office in Abilene.

If you are the chairman of an activity and need to put out a flyer or newsletter, you no longer have to hunt for a computer.

If you wish to take the on-line Youth Protection Course, it is now possible!

The computer is connected to the internet and also has Microsoft Office loaded to meet most of your computing needs. It is currently intended for Council and District business only but on-line Youth Protection Training is allowed.

Contact the Abilene Scout office for more information.

UPCOMING EVENTS**September 2003**

Sep 1 – NE Roundtable – Eastland
 Sep 2 – DM District Committee Mtg
 Sep 4 – W.B. Commissioner's Mtg
 Sep 4 – W.B. District Committee Meeting
 Sep 7 – Kotso Tribal Council
 Sep 9 – NE Roundtable – Stephenville
 Sep 9 – DM Roundtable – Hamlin
 Sep 9 – KP Roundtable – Brownwood
 Sep 10 – Nolan County UW Blackout begins
 Sep 11 – WB Roundtable – Abilene
 Sep 13 – OA Council of Chiefs
 Sep 13 – Abilene Sign up for Scouting
 Sep 15 – Popcorn – SNS Orders Due
 Sep 16 – KP Roundtable – Lampasas
 Sep 19 – 21 – Brownwood Feels Like Home Reunion
 Sep 19 – School Night for Scouting ends
 Sep 19 – 21 – DM Softball Tournament
 Sep 20 – 21 – Kotso Lodge Vigil
 Sep 20 – WB Akela's Kiva
 Sep 20 – DM Fishing Tournament
 Sep 25 – 26 – Popcorn – SNS Pickup
 Sep 27 – KP New Leader Tng – Brownwood
 Sep 28 – Otena LEC – Brownwood
 Sep 30 – WB Akela's Kiva

October 2003

Oct 2 – WB Akela's Kiva
 Oct 2 – W.B. Commissioner's Mtg
 Oct 2 – W.B. District Committee Meeting
 Oct 3 – 5 – WB Cub Family Camp
 Oct 4 – 5 – NE & KP Cub Fun and Son
 Oct 4 – WB Den Chief Training
 Oct 5 – Kotso Tribal Council
 Oct 6 – NE Roundtable – Eastland
 Oct 9 – WB Roundtable
 Oct 10 – 12 – KP & NE Eagle Outdoor MB Weekend
 Oct 11 – Popcorn Kickoff
 Oct 11 – WB Akela's Kiva
 Oct 14 – NE Roundtable – Stephenville
 Oct 14 – DM Roundtable – Hamlin
 Oct 14 – KP Roundtable – Brownwood

**Webelos Camp at
Camp Billy Gibbons**

Camp Billy Gibbons hosted one week of Webelos camp this year. The camp was filled with 63 Webelos and 24 adults from nine packs. Eight activity pins were offered and earned as well as rowing, BB's, and archery.

ALL VIGIL MEMBERS

Don't miss out on VIGIL weekend, September 20 & 21. Be at camp Tonkawa by 9:00 p.m. to help honor Josh Ivie and Jack Harper as they complete their Vigil. This would be a good time for anyone else to rededicate themselves by holding their Vigil again.



DUES: If you have not paid your dues for 2003, please do so now. Paying your dues is the only way to keep up on OA Activities and to make sure you keep receiving the newsletters.

West Texas Rendezvous V

Over 2,500 Boy Scouts, Webelos, and leaders will gather at San Angelo State Park on the weekend of April 23 – 25, 2004. The Rendezvous is a multi-Council "Scouting Jamboree".

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

The participation fee is \$6.00 per person if paid for before April 10, 2004. After that date, and registration at the event, will be \$8.00. There is no entry fee for Cub Scouts and their leaders.

A T-shirt is available through pre-order at \$10.00 each. You must pay for it no later than April 10, 2004.

You should be getting information soon. Check with your unit leader to sign up NOW.

IT IS NEVER TOO EARLY TO SIGN UP!**Texas Trails News Distribution Changes**

To increase availability and distribution to better serve you, we are changing the way the Texas Trails News is being distributed. We are currently mail copies of the Texas Trails News to all registered families of the Texas Trails Council. While this may sound good, it is not the most efficient method.

The Texas Trails News will be available in three formats: On-line on the Texas Trails Council web site for reading, downloading, and printing; An electronic copy e-mailed to anyone wishing direct distribution; Paper copy mailed to your post office address. These options are available to you at no additional cost.

To continue receiving the Texas Trails News we need to know what format you want it in. While the on-line version is available to everyone at any time (and does not require any additional response from you), we need to know if you would like a copy e-mailed or sent to you. We will need your e-mail address if you want it e-mailed to you, and your physical mailing address if you want it mailed to you via the UP Postal Service. You may e-mail me at ajurkis@cox.net with the information, or give the information to anyone at the Abilene Scout Office. If we do not hear from you then we will assume you will access it on-line and do not wish a copy sent to you.

If you have already told us how you want to receive the Texas Trails News you do not have to tell us again. If you have not told us, then please do so as soon as you can. Thank-you.

Dear Scouting Family:

The annual **Scouting Popcorn Sale** is coming! Money raised during this one fund-raising activity can be used to fund your entire **"Ideal Year of Scouting"!**

Our goal is for each Scouting Unit to be able to pay for their entire Ideal Year of Scouting with this one fundraiser! By participating in the Popcorn Sale, you not only raise money for your Pack or Troop, your Scouts will have the opportunity to earn achievements while having fun, gaining self-confidence, and learning valuable lessons in salesmanship and financial management.

NOTE: This year, each Scouting Unit will receive a Prize Commission on their Sales to use in developing its own sales incentive plan. Have a Pizza Party, go to Six Flags, or buy your own Prizes! You know your Scouts best, the decision is yours!

Besides the Commission and Prize Money that your Pack, Troop, Post, or Crew earns, Top-Selling Scouts will earn prizes such as Gift Certificates, Camp Cash, and even money for a College Scholarship. Top-Selling Scouts will also have a chance to win a **Go-Kart!**

Your local Council uses its revenue from the Popcorn Sale to fund its activities, which include:

- Scout Leader Training Courses
- Boy Scout Summer Camp
- Cub Scout Day Camp
- Webelos Camp
- Camp Billy Gibbons and Camp Tonkawa Maintenance and Development

Key Dates for this year's Popcorn Sale:

9/15/2003	Show-N-Sell Orders Due
9/25/2003	Show-N-Sell Pickup
9/26/2003	Show-N-Sell Pickup
10/11/2003	Take-Order Sale Kickoffs
10/20/2003	Show-N-Sell Dollars Due
11/12/2003	Take-Order Sale Orders Due
11/21/2003	Take-Order Unit Pickup
12/10/2003	Take-Order Dollars Due

Set a sales goal and Do Your Best to achieve it. Last year, 4 out of 5 consumers who were asked, purchased popcorn, and they are sure to want even more this year.

Good luck on a successful Popcorn Sale!!!

For more information, call the Texas Trails Council at

Abilene - (915) 677-2688

Brownwood - (325) 646-0616

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 2003

- Oct 16 – KP & NE District Committee & Commish Mtg
- Oct 17 – 19 – WB Webelos Woods
- Oct 18 – NE New Leader Tng – Stephenville
- Oct 20 – Popcorn – SNS \$ Due
- Oct 21 – KP Roundtable – Lampasas
- Oct 23 – WB Akela's Kiva
- Oct 24 – 26 – DM Camporee
- Oct 24 – 26 – Otena Fall Fellowship
- Oct 30 – WB Akela's Kiva
- Oct 31 – Brown County UW Blackout ends

November 2003

- Nov 1 – Popcorn- Brown County Kickoff?
- Nov 1 – KP – New Leader Training – Lampasas
- Nov 1 – Otena 1 Day of Service
- Nov 2 – Kotso Tribal Council
- Nov 3 – NE Roundtable – Eastland
- Nov 4 – DM District Committee Mtg
- Nov 6 – WB Commissioner's Mtg
- Nov 6 – W.B. District Committee Meeting
- Nov 9 – DM Pushmobile
- Nov 11 – DM Roundtable – Hamlin
- Nov 11 – KP Roundtable – Brownwood
- Nov 11 – NE Roundtable – Stephenville
- Nov 12 – Popcorn orders due
- Nov 13 – WB Roundtable
- Nov 14 – 15 – Akela's Wonderland
- Nov 18 – KP Roundtable – Lampasas
- Nov 18 – Brown County Popcorn orders due
- Nov 21 – Popcorn – Take order unit pickup
- Nov 21 – Pick up unit recharterers
- Nov 22 – Kotso Food Drive
- Nov 25 – Popcorn – Brown County pickup

UPCOMING EVENTS***December 2003***

Dec 1 – NE Roundtable – Eastland
 Dec 4 - WB Commissioner's Mtg
 Dec 4—W.B. District Committee Meeting
 Dec 5 – 7 – Kotso Winter Fellowship
 Dec 7 – Kotso Tribal Council
 Dec 9 – NE Roundtable – Stephenville
 Dec 9 – DM Roundtable – Hamlin
 Dec 9 – KP Roundtable – Brownwood
 Dec 10 – Popcorn dollars due
 Dec 11 – WB Roundtable
 Dec 16 – KP Roundtable – Lampasas
 Dec 19 – Popcorn – Brown County \$ Due?
 Dec 26 – 30 – NE & KP Venturer & Explorer Ski Trip

Webelos Woods

Webelos Woods is fast approaching for the White Buffalo District. It is on October 17 – 19 at Camp Tonkawa. Make sure you sign up for a campsite and indicate what your Troop will be presenting.

Merit Badge Seminar

It's not too early to start thinking about the McMurry Merit Badge Seminar. This year it is on January 10th and 24th. Scouts should be in the 7th grade or be at least 2nd Class to attend.

If you are taking a merit badge that requires some time (Family Life, etc) then you may want to start now so you can finish in January. Go to the Scout office and get any merit badge books you may need or for more information.

Basic Leader Training Opportunity

The Kickapoo District of Texas Trails Council will be hosting adult leader training, September 27 at the First United Methodist Church, 2500 11th Street, in Brownwood. All new leaders throughout the council are invited to attend. The new Basic Leader Training comprises two parts: New Leader Essentials for all unit-level leaders and Leader Specific training, which is based on the leader's unit-level position. The New Leader Essentials will be taught from 8:30 am to 10:00 am. The Leader Specific Training will begin at 10:30 and will end at various times depending on the course taken.

Training courses that will be offered are:

New Leader Essentials (90 minutes):

New Leader Essentials is an introductory session that highlights the values, aims, history, funding, and methods of Scouting. It addresses how these aims and methods are reached in an age-appropriate style within Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Varsity Scouting, and Venturing. Videos, discussions, and hands-on reinforcement are presented during the 90-minute training session.

Cub Scout Leader Specific Training (3 hours):

Tiger Cub den leaders, Cub Scout den leaders, Webelos den leaders, Cubmasters, and pack committee members can complete this training in one day or two or three evenings. The leader is considered trained upon completion of New Leader Essentials and the Leader Specific training for that position.

Boy Scout Leader Specific Training (6 hours):

For Scoutmasters and assistant Scoutmasters, this training is divided into four parts. The first three parts concentrate on troop operation and can be completed in one full day or three evenings. The fourth part, which focuses on outdoor skills, lasts approximately a day and a half, depending on the skill level of the new leader. The leader is considered trained upon completion of New Leader Essentials, Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster Leader Specific Training, and Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills. (The outdoor skills portion will be offered March 5-7, 2004.)

Venture Leader Specific Training (5 hours):

Developed for Venturing Advisors, assistant Advisors, and crew committee members, this training incorporates Venturing's current adult leader training. New Leader Essentials and Venturing Leader Specific Training can be completed in one day, after which the leader is considered to be trained.

It is imperative that leaders interested in taking any of the above courses call the Brownwood office and sign up. Make sure you specify which of the Leader Specific Training you will be attending. If we have no one sign up for a particular session then we will not have trainers available for walk-ins. Deadline for reservation is September 23. The Brownwood Scout office number is 325-646-0616.

HEADS UP!!!

It's almost time for the Cub Scout Fun & Son, or the 2003 Kickapoo Trails Indian Adventure at Camp Billy Gibbons!

Who? Cub Scouts and their Parent(s) who want to spend time together doing FUN stuff!

What? Adventure! BB guns! Archery! Crafts! And be sure to bring a light-colored t-shirt, you're going to get to silk-screen your own shirt! Patches!

When? October 4th and 5th, Arrive 10:00 a.m. Saturday morning, head home around 11:00 a.m. Sunday morning, after Chapel services and a final activity.

Where? Camp Billy Gibbons, on the shores of beautiful Brady Creek.

Why? fun, Fun, FUN! Parents, it's a great weekend for you to spend some time with your son, making memories that will last a lifetime! Cub Scouts, it's a weekend of excitement and adventure in the woods, spending time with your Mom and/or Dad, learning and doing lots of fun activities.

How? The cost is \$15 per person, Cub Scout or Parent, so you and your son would be \$30. The cost includes registration and a patch, Saturday Supper, a Saturday night crackerbarrel, Sunday breakfast, craft and program supplies. Watch your mailbox for a registration form and flyer with additional details! See you there! (Did we say it would be fun?)

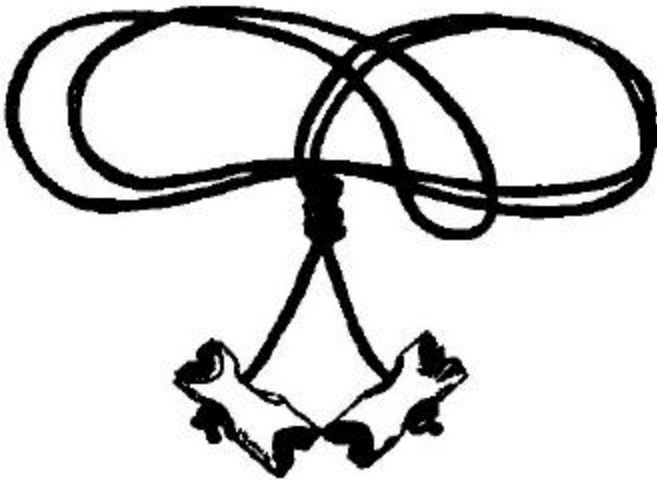
WOOD BADGE

Wood Badge training is one of the most highly sought after training courses in the Boy Scouts of America and typically fill up fast. Only 48 participants will be able to attend the next course in the Texas Trails Council.

At the conclusion of six days of practical training, each participant has up to 18 months to complete the application phase. This application phase puts into action everything you have learned, and is your Wood Badge Ticket. The ticket represents your commitment to complete a set of personal goals relating to your Scouting position.

The only requirements to attend this course is that you have to be a currently registered adult Scouter, be at least 21 years old, and have completed Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, or Venturing basic adult training. Of course you will need to be able to attend both full weekends.

The next course in the Texas Trails Council is October 1 – 3 and 22 – 24 2004 at Camp Tonkawa. Call Blair Haynie, Course Director, at 325-692-2639 (home) or 325-829-0500 (work) for more information. You may also pick up an application at either Scout office.



TEXAS WILDLIFE EXPO

Begun in 1992 as a tribute to hunting, fishing and the Great Outdoors, the Texas Wildlife Expo will celebrate its twelfth anniversary this year! Saturday and Sunday, October 4 & 5, Texas Parks and Wildlife headquarters in Austin will once again be transformed into the site of the largest event of its kind in the nation. Last year over 44,000 visitors enjoyed Expo!

What is the Texas Wildlife Expo? It's an outdoor experience where visitors fish, shoot, kayak, rock climb, mountain bike, see and touch wildlife, learn about recreation in the Great Outdoors and see and buy the latest in outdoor gear and services. Most importantly, visitors can learn how they can help to conserve this precious resource.

Presented by Texas Parks and Wildlife and a coalition of conservation organizations, agencies and sponsors, Expo celebrates the diversity of the outdoors experience in Texas. From camping and outdoor skills to shooting sports and fishing, from bird watching to paddle sports, Expo visitors have an opportunity to try their hands at two full days of fun in the outdoors. Catch a fish, shoot clay targets, learn how the Buffalo Soldiers survived in the Texas frontier, scale a climbing rock, or ride a mountain bike, there is something to do or see for everyone!

In return for volunteer service, each Scouting unit can earn an Expo Volunteer Patch. Scouts can earn an hour of service work, earn a neat patch and help the Expo stay clean. What more can you ask for!

Youth under 17 are eligible for the Outdoors Kids Challenge prize drawing that includes complete fishing, camping, or hunting packages.

For more information call 800-792-1112, visit their web site at www.tpwd.state.tx.us/expo, or contact Laird Fowler at 512-398-8083 or laird.fowler@tpwd.state.tx.us.

THE BALLPARK AFTER DARK

Looking for great Scout Camp-In? The Ballpark After Dark is the thing to do! The program is designed for Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts in grades 1 – 5, but is great for Councils, Packs, Dens, and Troops also. Some of the activities are: Hit and Pitch in the batting cages, Visit the Rangers media room, Join in a scavenger hunt, and many more. The evening winds down with a snack and a movie. The morning will bring a tour of the ballpark.

The program runs from November – July and the cost is only \$35.00 per child. One adult is required for every 5 children and there is no cost. Additional adults can attend for \$20.00 each. Please call 817-273-5087 or e-mail Rena Vannoy at rvannoy@texasrangers.com for a reservation packet.



Boy Scouts of America
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Web page: www.texastrailsbsa.org
BSA Web page: www.scouting.org



Memorials

IN MEMORY OF

Jay Bethany - by Eldon Sehnert

Reba Bowman - by Tommy, Judiann & Derek Hixson

Ronnie C. Edwards - by Dr. & Mrs. Billy I. Dippel
Dr. & Mrs. Bryce Reid

James Schoenecker, MD - by Brownwood Regional Medical Center

Zach Swann - by Brown County 4-H Horse Project
Helen Crews
Elda Lindly
Dana & Lana Smith
Steve, Debby, John & Joey Ellis

W. B. Wright, Sr. - by Scott Bailey

Billy Joe Toombs – by Russell Beard

Manly Ballard – by Russell Beard

Inez Ferguson – by Russell Dressen and Henry McGinty