



CHEROKEE AREA COUNCIL
520 S QUAPAW
BARTLESVILLE OK
74003

PHONE: 918-336-9170
FAX: 918-512-4789

TOLL FREE 888-269-1328
[HTTP://WWW.CHEROKEESBA.ORG](http://www.cherokeesba.org)

Cherokee Scouter

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many great Scouters. Scouting really is the same everywhere.”



Photo courtesy of Ray Peaster

Russ Bone works with Troop 21 at Grace Community Church in Bartlesville. He recalls, “I learned so much more about the Scouting program and it reinforced my belief in the need to work with our young people.”

Wood Badge SR-749

Two area Boy Scout leaders have received the prestigious “Wood Badge Leader Training Recognition” from the Boy Scouts of America. The recognition was presented at the Osage Hills District banquet held Dec. 7 at First Presbyterian Church in Bartlesville.

Mark Borst of Wichita and Russ Bone of Bartlesville were recognized by Wood Badge Course Director Donna Copeland for their recent completion of the 18-month program.

Mark Borst is an assistant council commissioner with the Quivera Boy Scout Council in southeast Kansas. He says, “As someone coming from another Scout council, I was so pleased to meet and become friends with so

Wood Badge SR-898

Wood Badge is Scouting's premier training course for Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, and Venturing Leaders, as well as council and district leaders. The primary purpose of the Wood Badge experience is to strengthen Scouting in packs, troops, crews, districts, and the council.

Wood Badge for the 21st Century teaches the latest team leadership skills and gives each participant the opportunity to put their newly learned skills into practice through the patrol method.

This is a two weekend outdoor experience where participants will live Scouting. The course begins at 8:00

AM on Friday morning each weekend and concludes at 5:00 PM on Sunday afternoon. The 1st weekend of the course utilizes a classroom environment and practical exercises to teach the essentials of leadership. The 2nd weekend offers classroom and outdoor experiences to help participants apply the leadership skills they have learned.

Participants must attend both weekends and participate in all sessions. In addition, participants will need to attend one or more meetings their patrol schedules between the course weekends. Finally, participants will write and complete a Ticket. The Ticket consists of five written goals. These goals connect the participant's new leadership knowledge to their role in Scouting.

Participants are invited to attend Wood Badge if they are at least 18 years of age and are a registered Scout leader. This includes Men and Women Scouters in a Pack, Troop, Crew, Team, District or Council position that have completed the basic training courses: New Leader Essentials and Position Specific for their scouting position in Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Venture, or Varsity Scouting.

The course fees are \$195 if paid in full before May 30, 2008. Balances paid after May 30 will be \$220. The fee covers meals for both weekends, course hat, course T-shirt, supplies, materials, camp and copyright fees.

For more information, including application forms, please see the Wood Badge SR-898 web site at

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

Centennial Patch set contest winners

Centennial patch sets were presented to the winners at the Osage Hills District Banquet.

Shane Whitchurch, Troop 1, won the contest for the most new Boy Scouts registered between April 16, 2007, and November 16, 2007.



John Tobola, Troop 3, won the contest for the most merit badges earned between November 17, 2006, and November 16, 2007. Congratulations to both Scouts!

District News

Grand Lake District



Photo courtesy of Barbara Helms

Cub Scout 78 Pack Master Woody Greenfeather presented the Grove Cub Scouts their Pinewood Derby kits for Christmas.

Osage Hills District



Photo courtesy of Ray Peaster

Tami Lewis received the District Award of Merit from Charlie Daniels, District Chairman

Scouting for Food in Bartlesville

January 19 and 26, 2008

Arvest Bank is sponsoring the 2008 Bartlesville Area Food drive. Flyers and maps will be available at the January 3 OH District Roundtable. Units should distribute the flyers on January 19. Food pickup is scheduled for January 26.

All food donations will be donated to the Salvation Army and Concern to help restock their food pantries after the holidays.



2008 Philmont Trek FREE!

Yes, not only might you have the opportunity to attend Philmont in 2008, but you might be one of a select few Scouts to join the first ever 2008 Philmont International Scouting Trek with Scouts from around the world - and it's FREE!

The International Division of the Boy Scouts of America is organizing the first 2008 Philmont International Scouting Trek to be held June 18 to June 29, 2008. The ages of eligible Scouts are 16 to 19 years (Scouts and Venturers) by the date of the trek (June 18, 2008.)

Selection of participants for this very special event will be made on the basis of the best essay written with the topic "As a Scout, I could convince more young people from my community (and surrounding communities) to join Scouting by organizing a membership recruitment plan that included these important steps/elements."

The local council will select a single Scout based on the best essay written. Essays must be limited to 1,500 words in length.

The BSA International Division will choose the top 10 essays from around the world and the top 10 essays from the USA. This will define the 20-member team that will be invited to Philmont.

All expenses will be paid by the Boy Scouts of America, to include all domestic and international travel.

This special Scouting event will be conducted in conjunction with the International Division's International Scouting Conference. The Philmont International Scouting Trek will be a trek/forum to allow discussions based on the topic of the essay. At the conclusion of the trek, the Scouts will give a report to the International Scouting Conference based on the discussions they had during their time together.

Deadline for essay submissions is January 19, 2008, and they should be turned in at the Scout Service Center. Please supply your contact information - name, address, telephone, e-mail - with your essay.

Did we mention that it is FREE! Don't delay, start today!

You can contact the council international representative, Dale Copeland, at dale@copelandappliance.com with any questions.

Silver Beaver Award

Established in 1931, the Silver Beaver Award is presented for distinguished service to young people in the Council. More than 50,000 recognitions have been conferred to date.

The recipient must be a registered adult member of the BSA. The nomination form is available on the BSA National web site at <http://www.scouting.org/forms/92-103.pdf>

Nomination forms are due in the Scout Office by **January 31, 2008**



Arrow of Light Ceremonies



Cub Scout unit leaders should contact Jonathan Harrison at 918-335-1108 or

spectrum_256@yahoo.com to schedule an Arrow of Light Ceremony at their Pack's Blue & Gold Banquet.

Wilderness First Aid February 2-3, 2008

Beginning with the 2008 hiking season, Philmont will require that each crew have someone certified in Wilderness First Aid, in addition to CPR.

Wilderness First Aid is a 2-day 16 hour first aid training course. It includes instruction, participation, and many scenarios. The course will be taught by Venture Crew 911.



Participants should be at least 15 years old. Knowledge of First Aid and CPR is very helpful for this class, but not required.

Cost for this course is \$40 for Scouts and \$50 for others. Class is limited to the first 24 participants

Watch the Council web site for more information <http://www.cherokeebsa.org/> or email Charles Lewis at charlielewis@yahoo.com.

Scout Sunday February 3, 2008

The BSA designates the Sunday that falls before February 8 (Scouting Anniversary Day) as Scout Sunday, which is the primary date to recognize the contributions of young people and adults to Scouting.

However, each chartered organization can use either of two other options to celebrate this special day. An

organization can adopt a specific Sunday to celebrate. In the instance of the United Methodist Church, Scout Sunday is celebrated on the second Sunday in February. It also is permissible for a local church to celebrate on the Sunday most acceptable to the pastor and congregation.



Recommendations for a Scout Sunday observance is available on the BSA's web site <http://www.scouting.org/relationships/05-961/index.html> Other Resources, including hymns, prayers, program covers and inserts, and a newsletter article, are also available.

Friends of Scouting Annual Patron Dinner February 8, 2008

To honor all FOS patrons and to encourage new members, the Cherokee Area Council is pleased to

announce the featured artist for the 2008 Friends of Scouting Annual Patron Dinner is Rod Taylor, singer, song writer, and authentic cowboy.



Rod Taylor is originally from Lubbock, Texas. He has been a cowboy thirty years, mostly

on northeastern New Mexico ranches of over one thousand acres. Since 1983, he has worked for the Philmont Scout Ranch near Cimarron, NM, where he has responsibility for the cowherd.

Rod Taylor has played music for over 30 years and has released three albums. He has performed in Alpine, Prescott, the Cowboy Hall of Fame, and other gatherings around the country. He has also appeared in videos, commercials, television and film. He is active in the

Cimarron Maverick Club, which presents rodeos and benefits for communities and charities.

FOS patrons giving \$125+ for 2007 constitute the backbone of financial support for Scouting in Northeast Oklahoma. The FOS dinner raises a substantial amount of the Council's operating budget for the year.

Please reserve attendance at the annual patron dinner at 918-333-9170 or toll free at 888-269-1328 by Tuesday, January 30, 2008.

Troops with older Boy Scouts who can help with serving the dinner should contact Ed Harvey at the Scout Office.

Winter Merit Badge Festival February 16, 2008

The Festival will be held at Tri-County Technology Center in Bartlesville. Scouts can earn merit badges in four areas. Adult training classes will be held as well.

Check in begins at 7:30 a.m. on February 16, and the event will be over by 5:15 p.m. A light lunch is included in the \$10 registration fee.

This is a unique opportunity for Scouts to earn some of the harder to get Eagle-required merit badges, as well as earn some of the other merit badges in widely varied interest areas.

Check the Council web site <http://www.cherokeesbsa.org> for the class schedule and registration information. Alternate class selections are needed in case a requested class is full. **Registration closes February 4**

Tulsa Trade-o-Ree February 29-March 1, 2008

Bring your scouts to the Trade-O-Ree and see displays of Scouting memorabilia from years past. 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 the Collections merit badge can see how collections are displayed and talk to collecting experts. There will be patches, uniforms, calendars, old

books, pins, knives and many other scouting treasures. Admission is **FREE**.

The first 250 attendees will receive a special issue Ta Tsu Hwa lodge patch. For more information, check the flyer on the Council web site <http://www.cherokeesbsa.org/activities/TulsaTOR2008.pdf>

Quartz Mountain Nature Park March 29, 2008

Quartz Mountain Nature Park (Lone Wolf, OK) will be a hosting MAJOR Trash Off event on Saturday March 29th and they need your help!

They're hoping to get at least 200 scouts (both boy and girls) to come out for the event.

If 200 scouts DO attend...camping is FREE for both Friday AND Saturday night!!

Here are some details

Opening ceremony at Group Camp at 8:45 AM (Saturday March 29th)

Trash pick up from 9:00 -11:45 AM

FREE lunch at noon (at Group Camp- probably hot dogs, beans & chips)

Prizes will be awarded for:

- Troop that travels the furthest
- Troop with most number of scouts attending
- Troop with greatest % of scouts



attending

- Most unique trash object found

For more information, contact Sue at 405-319-8382 or sue@quartzmountain.org

Boy Scout Weekend at Silver Dollar City April 19-20, 2008

Don't miss the 10th annual **Boy Scout Weekend** at **Silver Dollar City!**

Your troops will experience 1880s America complete with a working homestead, **over 100**



demonstrating craftsmen, guided tours of Missouri's deepest cave and over 30 rides and attractions. Plus, scouts will be immersed in cultures from around the globe as **America's Largest International Festival** takes place during your trip!

Valuable achievement and merit badge opportunities will be available on Saturday (April 20), as well as a scavenger hunt and much more fun.

For more information, call 800-417-7770 or see the Silver Dollar City web site <http://www.silverdollarcity.com>

ArrowCorps5 Summer 2008

This summer the Order of the Arrow (OA), in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service, will conduct five national service projects in a program dubbed ArrowCorps5. Five thousand physically fit OA members (both youth and adults) are being recruited to set an example of service leadership for those who value our national forests.



The National Order of the Arrow Committee and key sponsors will fund these projects. Participants will pay a \$250 fee to help pay for accommodations, meals, and a full day of recreational activities during the projects.

Dates and locations are:

- ▶ Mark Twin National Forest, MO, June 7-14
- ▶ Manti-La Sal National Forest, UT, June 14-21

- ▶ George Washington and Jefferson National Forests, VA, June 21-28
- ▶ Shasta-Trinity National Forest, CA, July 12-19
- ▶ Bridger-Teton National Forest, WY, July 26-August 2

For more information, go to <http://event.oa-bsa.org>

Kwahadi Kiva Indian Museum Amarillo TX

Located on the High Plains of Texas, the Kiva is 238 miles from Philmont and convenient to numerous mountain camps. Over 6000 Scouts have stayed at the Kiva since it opened on June 12, 2004!

The Kiva can be a fun and uplifting event for your Scouts with a performance, meals, and lodging provided for your group, or you can just stop by on your journey for a travel break, museum tour, and/or a Kwahadi performance!

The Kiva is home to the Kwahadi Indian Dancers, Venture Crew 9, BSA. Kwahadi performances are scheduled on most Friday and Saturday nights in the summer or on other nights when we have sufficient visitors.



You can also see the Kwahadis on many Monday nights at the Philmont Training Center at 7:00 PM! Over 100 Native American artists and artisans are represented in the Kiva Trading Post. Fine art, jewelry, Katchina dolls, pottery, rugs, and craft supplies, as well as souvenir patches, and Indian goods available.



You are always welcome at the Kwahadi Kiva! The air-conditioned Kiva has 9 showers. Enjoy the adobe ambience of the Plaza, Kiva, Santa Fe Room, Taos Room, and Patio. Walk the Eagle Trail around the Kiva through the landscaping, play on the west lawn, or enjoy volleyball on the sand court. Ladies have their own shower area. Bring your own air mattresses, cots, and bedding. For fly-in groups, the Amarillo International Airport is nearby.

For lodging reservations for your group, call or email Charles Ritchie: charles.ritchie@amaisd.org Office: 806-326-1335, Home: 806-353-1505, Cell: 806-654-4890 <http://www.kwahadi.com>

Scouting safely resources now online

The BSA has a new online resource regarding questions of health, safety, and risk management. The information can be found on BSA's web site, <http://www.scouting.org>

By clicking on the "Scouting Safely" tab along the left-hand side of the home page, volunteers can access risk management, health, safety, and training information. The Guide to Safe Scouting, as well as health and safety alerts and other health- and safety-related publications, will be available. A frequently asked questions (FAQ) section will be updated periodically with new information.

Online training for troop committee members



Members of a troop committee can now take training online by completing **Troop Committee Challenge** at the BSA Learning Center (<http://olc.scouting.org>)

The fun and interactive training is a vital tool for both new and veteran troop committee members. It is designed to help the troop committee work as a team to improve the Scouting experience for adult and youth members while also helping to build the commitment of individual committee members.

The Troop Committee Challenge will take about an hour to complete and can be taken individually or with a small group. Upon finishing the training, a Scouter can print out a certificate of completion.

The BSA Learning Center includes a variety of online training opportunities, such as Cub Scout Leader, Boy Scout Leader, and Venturing Advisor Fast Start; Youth Protection Training; Safety Afloat; Safe Swim Defense; and Venturing Crew Orientation.

Troops can earn the National Camping Award

Boys join Scouting to go camping and have fun with their friends, and boys stay in troops that go camping.

BSA research has proven that troops that camp monthly are larger and retain more boys than troops that don't camp monthly.

The BSA's National Camping Award recognized troops that deliver a year-round camping program to their members. It is available for two levels: annual camping and cumulative camping.

The **annual National Camping Award**, a green ribbon for troop flags, is available in four categories:

- ▶ 10 days and nights - Unit Award
- ▶ 20 days and nights – Bronze Award
- ▶ 30 days and nights – Silver Award
- ▶ 50 days and nights – Gold Award

The year for earning the annual award may be a calendar year, charter year, or any 12-month period that best serves the troop's program goals.

Summer camp, district camporees, and weekend campouts are all included in a troop's total days and nights camped in a year. As explained in the application form, at least 50% of members must attend summer camp and at least 33% must attend weekend campouts, to count toward the award.



The **cumulative National Camping Award**, a white ribbon for troop flags, has four categories for all camping since January 1, 1999:

- ▶ 100 days and nights – Unit Award
- ▶ 250 days and nights – Bronze Award
- ▶ 500 days and nights – Silver Award
- ▶ 1,000 days and nights – Gold Award

In troops that earn the National Camping Award, individual National Camping Award patches are available for Scouts and leaders. Camp-outs with patrols, families, or other groups can be counted when qualifying for the individual award.

The award application, "Our Camping Log" (BSA no. 33690A), includes requirements, suggestions for planning an effective outdoor program, a chart for tracking individual troop member camping records, and a form (which must be signed by the district camping chairman or unit commissioner, Scoutmaster, and senior patrol leader) for submitting to the council camping committee when an award level has been achieved.

Cherokee Scouter publication schedule

Do you have news to share? Please submit your news and information to the Cherokee Area Council. You can e-mail webmaster@cherokeesbsa.org .

Issue	Issue Deadline
February	January 24
March	February 21
April	March 20
May	April 17
June	May 22
August	July 31

Upcoming Key Dates

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

- Jan. 1 – Scout office closed
- Jan. 2 – Registration for Winter Merit Badge Festival opens
- Jan. 3 – OH District Roundtable, Eagle Boards of Review, & OA Chapter meeting
- Jan. 10 – GL District Roundtable
- Jan. 19 – Scouting for Food in Bartlesville – flyer distribution
- Jan. 21 – Scout Office closed
- Jan. 26 – Scouting for Food in Bartlesville – food pickup
- Jan. 24 – Deadline for February issue of *Cherokee Scouter*
- Jan. 31 – Silver Beaver nomination forms due at Scout Office
- Jan. 31 – OH District Committee
- Feb. 2-3 – Wilderness First Aid class
- Feb. 3 – Scout Sunday
- Feb. 4 – Registration for Winter Merit Badge Festival closes
- Feb. 7 – OH District Roundtable, Eagle Boards of Review, & OA Chapter meeting
- Feb. 8 – Friends of Scouting Annual Patron Dinner
- Feb. 8 – Scouting Anniversary
- Feb. 14 – GL District Banquet
- Feb. 16 – Winter Merit Badge Festival, Tri-County Technology Center, Bartlesville
- Feb. 18 – Scout office closed
- Feb. 21 – Deadline for March issue of *Cherokee Scouter*
- Feb. 28 – OH District Committee
- Mar. 1 – OA Tribal Council
- Mar. 6 – OH District Roundtable, Eagle Boards of Review, & OA Chapter meeting
- Mar. 13 – GL District Roundtable
- Mar. 14-16 – Spring Camporee
- Mar. 20 – Deadline for April issue of *Cherokee Scouter*
- Mar. 21 – Scout Office closed
- Mar. 25 – Council Banquet
- Mar. 27 – OH District Committee
- Mar. 28-30 – OA Spring Fellowship
- Apr. 25-27 – OA Section Conclave, Will Rogers Scout Camp