



This special edition is mailed to all families as well as Scouters. Thank you Casey Printing for your printing and mailing services.

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The Mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

Our council's vision is to create a brighter future for our diverse communities by sharing Scouting's positive core values with all the youth and families of our Tri-County area.



## Good Turn for America Challenge to Units

**What is Good Turn for America?** Good Turn for America is the national community service emphasis of Boy Scouts of America. Good Turn for America provides an avenue for the packs, troops, and crews (units) to acknowledge and report the community service efforts that youth and adult members are providing in our communities.

**Why this initiative?** The BSA is especially concerned about alleviating the concerns we have for people experiencing serious needs regarding hunger, shelter, and personal health. It is estimated that 13 million people go to bed hungry each night. 3.5 million people (one-third children) will experience homelessness in the USA this year. And according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention 64% of adults are overweight or obese.

**What you can do?** The Monterey Bay Area Council (MBAC) has developed the Good Turn for America Challenge to encourage all of our units to participate in this service emphasis. You can partner with local organizations such as The Salvation Army, Rebuilding Together, the American Heart Association, local food banks, and others to organize quarterly service projects in your community.

**What is the Challenge?** Here is what your Unit must do to participate in this Challenge:

Login and Register: you will need your Unit ID (five to 11 digits), and your unit number (four digits, no letters).

- Go to the GTFA web site at [www.goodturnforamerica.org](http://www.goodturnforamerica.org)
- Click on "Tell Us About Your Project" on the left side of the screen.
- Choose "Click here to log in or create an account."
- First-time users select "Click Here" to register, complete the requested

information form and select a user name and password.

- Returning users enter your user name and password, then login.

*(GTFA Challenge continued on page 7)*

## Get "Hooked on Scouting" at May 4-6 Camporee

This year's annual council camporee will be on May 4-6 at Camp Pico Blanco, and the 2007 theme is "Hooked on Scouting." Council Vice President **Reneé Forrest** and her committee have planned an outstanding event.

Participant fees are \$15.00 per person if paid in advance by April 23, and \$20.00 per person if paid late or on-site. Fees cover all recognitions and camporee activities (except troop meals).

Friday night is check-in and the evening will feature an ice cream social. Most activities will take place on Saturday. The evening will include a Dutch Oven Dessert contest and a campfire for all.

Be sure to bring the usual patrol and troop equipment, and be aware that campsite inspection is part of the program. Awards will be given at the campfire so that troops that have to be in church on Sunday can leave Saturday evening.

A complete packet of council camporee information was mailed to all Scoutmasters in March. If you still have questions after reading all of the information in the packet, by all means, contact a member of the camporee committee, and they will be glad to help you prepare for what promises to be a very fun weekend in the great outdoors.

## *Thoughts from new council president Tim Morgan*

Thank you for all the support I've been receiving as I begin my Council Presidency.

My many years leading other volunteer organizations and my past nine years as a Scout leader, including service as Scoutmaster, district chairman, and council Vice President, have been preparing me for this day. I am exceedingly grateful to be able to follow Ernie Mill, who did so much during his term as President to put the Council on a strong footing.

My immediate goal is to help all of you who deliver the Scouting program realize just how important your work is – not just for individual boys and their families, but for our whole country. Nothing can top Scouting's ability to build character, which sad to say, seems in pretty short supply these days, given that so many institutions that traditionally taught values, like families, schools and churches, have either abdicated

this responsibility, or have become largely irrelevant in a predominantly secular culture.

I am also determined to reenergize our Executive Board, the body charged with council governance, through a series of meetings with individual board members to ensure they understand their responsibilities and feel a heightened sense of mission. A companion effort will be made to lay the groundwork with our chartered organization representatives so they feel they have a greater stake in our success.

We will best serve our Scouts and our nation if we approach what we do with a renewed sense of urgency. Time is not on our side, and if we are to assure the survival of the Scouting movement well into the 21st century, we must move swiftly to recruit additional Scouts and leaders and to put the Council on a sounder footing



financially. We are stewards of a great tradition. Let us honor our past by excelling in the future!

*Tim Morgan*  
*Council President*

## *From the Desk of Scout Executive Albert Gallegos*

These are exciting times in the Monterey Bay Area Council! First of all, we ended 2006 with a balanced budget. The 2006 audit is underway and is expected by the June 1<sup>st</sup> target date. We recently hired a new Assistant Scout Executive, **Charles Howard-Gibbon** who comes to us with over 23 years of experience as a professional scouter. **Todd Bullman** has stepped up to the plate to play a major role working with the many individuals necessary to open and operate camp this year. **Desiré Brown** rejoined our staff as the camping secretary.

Plans are in the final stages for improvements to our water system at Camp Pico Blanco. **Stan Haynes** of Cinderella Floors has made the commitment to fund this necessary improvement. We could not open camp without this important update to the system. The new dining hall at Pico Blanco is nearly complete. The Friends of Scouting Campaign has kicked off with a strong start in January. In February the council officers voted to subscribe to the National Council service for our units to use the Internet Rechartering program, and included with

this is the new Internet-Based Advancement reporting module. The Building Future Leaders Recognition Dinner, honoring **Tom Mill** and chaired by **Kate Gustavson**, set new records in attendance and dollars raised for Scouting, and **Jim Otto** of Oakland Raiders fame was the keynote speaker. Council Commissioner **Michael Milligan** and our commissioners recently participated in a very successful Northern California Commissioners College.

Manpower is the backbone of Scouting. **Shannon McCann** was recently recruited to serve as our Council Camping Chair. **Reneé Forrest** just agreed to serve as the Council Vice-President for Program. At the council dinner in February **Ernie Mill** passed the gavel of council president to **Tim Morgan**. Tim is looking forward to a successful term and is pleased to take on this role in addition to his new duties with the Republican National Committee. In addition, we have added several new Executive Board members: **Ron Crates** of the Hollister School District, **Joseph Heaton** of KSBW Television, **Michelle Malone-Keith** of

Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare, and **Ben Tinkey** of Pacific Valley Bank. Many thanks to everyone for their time, talent and resources.

Work has been underway to strengthen each of our council level committees. The success of our council and the quality of the program our kids receive depends greatly on the outcomes of their work.

The National Council has launched the new Centennial Quality Award program in commemoration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America in 2010. This update of the well known Quality Unit, Quality District and Quality Council Awards is different in many ways. The primary difference is that units, districts and councils set the standard for achieving the award. We have a lot of work to do as a council to qualify this year for this new award but I am confident it can be accomplished.

I am proud to serve as your Scout Executive. Proud to be part of a great team of dedicated leaders. Thank you for all you have done and continue to do in service to the youth of our community.

*Albert J. Gallegos*  
*Scout Executive*

## *Berry, Forrest, Rodriguez receive Silver Beaver Award*

At the council dinner on Saturday, February 3, over 110 Scouters were present to recognize and congratulate our three newest recipients of the Silver Beaver Award. This award comes from the National Court of Honor of the BSA, and recognizes noteworthy service to youth over an extended period of time.

**Reneé Forrest** of Salinas River District, **Michael Berry** of Ventana District, and **Ray Rodriguez** of San Benito District were our 2007 Silver Beaver recipients. A special committee selected them for this recognition from among a number of candidates nominated last December. All three Scouters have contributed many hours of service through unit, district, and council programs, and we were pleased to see Reneé, Mike, and Ray recognized for their distinguished service.



Left to right, Albert Gallegos Scout Executive, and Silver Beaver recipients Reneé Forrest, Michael Berry, and Ray Rodriguez.

## *Council Commissioner's Corner*

The National Boy Scout Division has told many of us that "85% of all Boy Scouts come from Cub Scouts."

It's that time of year to complete the Webelos-to-Scout Transition. It's a total move: Scouts and Parents. What should already be happening OR will hopefully be happening very soon:

- 1) Each Webelos Den has a Boy Scout who serves as a Den Chief. This Scout helps the Webelos Scouts with their rank advancement, and helps them prepare to become Boy Scouts in his troop.
- 2) The Troop has scheduled and invited the Webelos Den to a troop campout. If you haven't had your den come out with your troop, one upcoming opportunity is the Camporee on May 4-6 at Camp Pico Blanco.
- 3) Second year Webelos Scouts with their parents attend an open house with the Troop. Each Webelos Scout is assigned to a Boy Scout and each parent is assigned to a uniformed leader or troop committee member.
- 4) Troop members should attend the Blue and Gold Dinner. Every time a Boy Scout shows up in uniform, it really promotes the troop.

- 5) Highly Recommended: Each Unit ensures that a Committee Member, such as the Cubmaster or Assistant Cubmaster, is on the Troop Committee, and an Assistant Scoutmater or troop membership coordinator is on the Pack Committee. This will assure great communication.
- 6) The graduation ceremony should be a very nice ceremony. Sometimes it's held at the same time when the "Arrow of Light" is given. The Scoutmaster and Senior Patrol Leader help with this ceremony, and parents should also be "crossed over" with their graduating Webelos Scouts.
- 7) An easy campout should be scheduled right away for the NEW SCOUTS. It helps get them ready for Summer Camp. This also is the fastest way to First class Rank.

A reminder: Adult leader training is coming up again in April. Please consult the council calendar, or call your district executive at the Haruda Service Center in Salinas for more detail.

*Michael Milligan*  
*Council Commissioner*

## April-June 2007 MBAC Calendar Highlights

Wednesday, April 11  
**New Unit Organizers Workshop**  
**Haruda BSA Service Center**

Friday-Sunday, May 4-6  
**Council Camporee at**  
**Camp Pico Blanco**

Friday-Monday, May 25-28  
**Scouters' Family Retreat at**  
**Camp Pico Blanco**

Saturday, June 23  
**National Youth Leadership Training**  
**Orientation for Scouts at**  
**Paul F. Sujana Scout Lodge, Monterey**

Check the council website for the latest information on training courses, council and district activities, resources, and the complete calendar of BSA council and district events and meetings.

**Scouters: Take one or more online training courses through the Online Learning Center.** First time users are encouraged to enter the BSA membership identification no. during login.

## *Internet Advancement Reporting Now Available to Units*

The Monterey Bay Area Council is excited to announce that units can now use Internet-based Advancement (IA) to record their youth member advancements from any online location—at home or at the office. You will find this new method to be easy, convenient, and accurate because you enter the information. This new support service for units has been purchased by your council thanks to support from Friends of Scouting (FOS) donors.

Internet-based Advancement makes it easy for Scouters to record awards, ranks, and merit badges to youth via an online process. This system was created by the National BSA Council and is licensed by our council to be used through our website [www.boyscoutsmontereybayarea.org](http://www.boyscoutsmontereybayarea.org). It is part of the National software package that includes Internet-based Charter Renewal (ICR), which will be rolled out to units this fall.

At any time during the year, the unit advancement coordinator will be able to record advancements to youth member records. Your unit will be able to print a current unit roster at any time, and print replacement membership cards if needed.

Reports available from the IA software module include:

- **Unit Advancement Summary**, which shows ranks, merit badges, and awards already saved for each current unit member in ScoutNET records.
- The **Advancement Report** lists each youth member that has new ranks, merit badges, and awards, if any. This is the official unit Advancement Report to be signed and submitted to the council office.
- **Unit Awards Summary** lists the number of new ranks, merit badges, and awards by name as a shopping list.

- **Advancement Update Summary** lists any ranks, merit badges, and awards that were already in the member record and were updated online.

Data entry is structured according to BSA advancement requirements, and no additional software is needed. The only requirements are that the user(s) for each unit must use the National Unit ID number, one login address and password, and internet access with Internet Explorer browser 5.5 or above.

IA reporting cannot include nominated awards (such as heroism awards), religious emblems, and rank advancements that require national approval (such as the Eagle Award). All other standard BSA awards can be recorded through IA, and the submission process concludes with the printed reports needed to purchase badges from our Haruda BSA Council Service Center.

## *Loma Prieta District News*

District Chairman Mark Tracy  
District Commissioner Jim Adams  
District Executive Jeff Woolery

### **Congratulations to District Award of Merit Recipients**

The “World Scouting Centennial Luncheon” and Annual Loma Prieta District Banquet was held Sunday, March 18 at the Corralitos Grange Hall. We honored a number of people giving time and energy to Scouting, and three long-time dedicated Scouters with the District Award of Merit.

**Audrey Kavanaugh, Mary Empson, and Jeffrey Wallace** have all given many years and long hours of volunteer service to Scouting. The District Awards of Merit are national awards presented by the district with council approval, and we were happy to honor these three Scouters for their outstanding service.

Congratulations to all of our Scouters who were recognized for their service to the Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Venturers of Loma Prieta District, and thank you to all who came to celebrate their service and our 100th anniversary of World Scouting.

### **Skillicorn Barbeque a Big Success**

The Skillicorn Barbeque, an annual tradition in the Watsonville area, again raised over \$15,000 for the Friends of Scouting campaign to support the youth of the Watsonville area. This year’s honoree was our own **Don W. Hagerly**, a man who has contributed leadership and service to many civic activities in addition to many years of Scouting service.

Our district wishes to thank the many volunteers who made this year’s barbecue a success, especially **Harry Wiggins, Trina Coffman-Gomez, Frank “Chico” Castro, Tony Scurich, Mark Clough, and Bud Mann.**

### **Friends of Scouting Drive Continues**

As of March 15, our district was approaching one-third of the 2007 goal in total dollars raised. Thank you to all those Scouters and families who have contributed during our January, February, and early March presentations.

We still have a few packs, troops, and crews that need to schedule their FOS presentation for an upcoming meeting or court of honor. Please contact **Jeff Woolery** at (831) 422-5338 and let him know what your unit’s date will be.

### **Day Camp: Is Your Pack Signed Up?**

Once again, Loma Prieta is hosting two day camps for all Cub Scout packs to sign up to attend. Camping chair **Susan Von Schmach** has directors and plans in place for both camps, and looks forward to seeing your pack at either camp.

Information about both camps is coming in the mail to pack leaders. Look for it, and call on the camping committee if you have questions.

**Calling All Scouts, Venturers, and Scouters:**

### **Photos Wanted!**

Do you have recent Scouting photos that you would like to see in *The Knapsack* or other council promotional materials? For example, photos of Scouts at Pico Blanco, Venturers at a community service project, Tiger Cubs enjoying the Pinewood Derby, etc.?

If so, e-mail your digital photos of Scouts in action to Desiré Brown at [debrown@bsamail.org](mailto:debrown@bsamail.org). Who knows, maybe your photo will be selected for the cover of the next issue of *The Knapsack*.

## *San Benito District News*

District Chairman Mary Damm  
District Commissioner (vacant)  
Sr. Dist. Exec. Todd Bullman

### **Padrick receives District Award of Merit at San Benito District Dinner**

All who attended the San Benito District Annual Recognition Dinner had a good time. Crew 400 conducted the opening and closing ceremonies.

The high point of the evening was the presentation of the District Award of Merit to **Jan Padrick**. Thanks to the keynote speaker, **Joe Paul Gonzalez**, for his report on the newly formed Soccer & Scouting program in the San Benito District and of course, special thanks to **Mary Damm** for coordinating the event.

### **Scout-O-Rama Set for April 21**

Our annual district Scout-O-Rama will be on Saturday, April 21, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at Memorial Park in Hollister. The Scout-O-Rama is that special time where all of our Cub Scout packs, Boy Scout troops, and Venturing crews show off one of their favorite activities to the general public.

Units should arrive at 9:00 am to set up their activities for those attending to enjoy beginning later that morning. The Scout-O-Rama will also feature the districtwide Pinewood Derby, which will include the top five racers from each pack, and their will also be an open race.

Contact any member of the district committee to learn of the latest details,

or contact Shari Hastings at (831) 801-3618.

### **Fort Benito Day Camp June 18-22**

This day camp this year will June 18-22 at Bolado Park, eight miles south of Hollister on Hwy. 25. We will have, crafts, and will work on a variety of advancements for every rank. We will have a family picnic and of course there is the famous Webelos overnighter with songs, stories and lots of fun games for parents and Scouts alike!

All participants' parents are required to volunteer in some capacity. We are still in need of volunteers in a variety of positions, from den leaders to session leaders, so sign up now to secure your choice of a volunteer role.

## *Salinas River District and Ventana District News*

SR District Chair Keith Woodard  
VE District Chair David Willoughby  
SR Dist. Commissioner Leslee Bell  
VE Dist. Commissioner Brian McCoy  
Acting D.E. Charlie Howard-Gibbon

### **Cub Scout Training in Greenfield**

On Saturday, January 27, a small, but experienced cadre of trainers brought Cub Scout Adult Leader Training to Greenfield to 14 Cub Scout leaders from South County and beyond.

Attendees experienced a fun filled day of learning what Cub Scouting is all about. At the end of the day each trainee was equipped to go back to his or her pack and present a KISMIF Cub Scout Program to his/her boys. **Hats off to our training team: Pat Friedrich (Princess Pat), Al Friedrich (Captain No-Boat), and Maria Papurello (trusty sidekick Scurvy-Dog).**

### **Eagle Requirements Review**

Everyone is reminded that with the Eagle rank (as with all other Cub Scout, Boy Scout, and Venturer ranks) that troops, districts, and councils do not have the authority to add to, or subtract from, any of the specific requirements established by the National Council.

A special workshop to review the process of Eagle rank advancement will be held by the districts' advancement committee members at the April 19 Boy Scout Roundtable. We will also have copies of *Advancement Policies and Procedures*, the comprehensive BSA pamphlet on BSA youth advancement and adult recognition available for purchase.

### **San Lorenzo Park Day Camp in July**

This day camp this year will be July 9 to July 13 at San Lorenzo Park in King City. Directors are **Jill Hanneman** (831) 385-3087 and **Kelly Roylance** (831) 385-6244. We will have lots of activities, crafts, games, and shooting sports.

Parent volunteers are welcomed at this camp also. We are still in need of volunteers in a variety of positions, from den leaders to session leaders, so if you can find some time to help out during the week (even if just for a day or two), please give us a call.

### **Ventana District and Salinas River District Working Together**

At the March 15 council executive board meeting, the council approved the

proposed consolidation of the two districts contingent on the development of a leadership transition plan. This plan is currently being developed based on the input of a number of unit, district, and council volunteers.

For the months of April and May, the district volunteers of both districts will be cooperating on almost every project concerning Scouting and unit support. The two committees and commissioner staffs will be working on common approaches so that the proposed merger will go as smoothly as possible.

A district nominating committee is being appointed to recruit candidates for district chair and three district vice chairs. Recommendations from all Scouters are welcomed, and can be sent to the nominating committee in care of **Charlie Howard-Gibbon** at the Haruda BSA Service Center.

Chartered Organization Representatives should watch the mail for an invitation to the meeting at which a new district name will be selected following final merger approval from the council executive board.

## *Building Future Leaders Dinner Achieves Goal*

Over 500 people attended our fourth annual Building Future Leaders (BFL) Dinner to celebrate achievements of the construction industry, honor community leader **Thomas D. Mill** of Mill Construction, and raise over \$194,000 (gross) for MBAC Scouting programs.

**Jim Otto**, former Raider center and NFL Hall of Fame player, spoke to the audience and greeted Scouts and guests. We had a wonderful video presentation to honor Mr. Mill for all of his contributions to our tri-county community.

Special thanks to an outstanding committee (see photo right) led by **Kate Gustavson** for an outstanding event that raised significant money for our efforts to reach more youth in Scouting.



## *New Eagle Scouts—July 2006 to February 2007*

Paul Leland Johnson, Troop 600  
Devin William Driscoll, Troop 558  
Gregory William Wimsatt, Troop 609  
Davis Wallace Giedt, Troop 93  
Robert John Pessagno, Troop 93  
Skylar Luikart McKinley, Troop 609  
Nelson Pollard, Troop 604  
Collin Charles Walch, Crew 606  
Andrew Skillicorn Luksik, Troop 43  
Patrick Nelson Minerva, Troop 43  
Everett Kodiak Reed, Troop 43  
Rory Patrick Winn, Troop 609  
Cody Taylor Huckvale, Team 606

Elliott Michael Ortega, Team 606  
Daniel P. Goodman, Troop 504  
Brady O'bannon Dibble, Troop 609  
Thomas Keith Cline, Troop 618  
Mark David Shisler, Troop 600  
Raywat Piphatchukiat, Troop 134  
Corey Selwan Hamza, Troop 43  
Stephen Douglas Hoefler, Troop 642  
Evan O'Keefe Fuller, Troop 674  
Gabriel Thomas LaHue, Troop 609  
Alexander Nielson Hicken, Crew 607  
Sean Elliott Hodges, Troop 504  
Richard John Isom, Team 602

Michael Anthony Papurello, Troop 232  
Kollin Geoffrey Crane, Troop 73  
Kasey Paul Mathew, Troop 599  
Garrett Jackson Landon, Troop 614  
Robert Russell Puccinelli, Troop 275  
Kent Detrick, Crew 521  
John Anthony Poje, Troop 609  
Samuel Charles Salamon, Troop 609  
Elliot Gordon Rowe, Troop 43  
Ross Henry Whitlock, Troop 609  
Cody Troy McAlpine, Team 523  
Andrew John Calhoun, Troop 600  
Matthew Paul Laredo, Troop 90  
Taylor Vincent Hattori, Troop 127

## *New Assistant Scout Executive Joins Staff*

Council Scout Executive **Albert Gallegos** is pleased to announce that our council has employed **Charles Howard-Gibbon** as the new Assistant Scout Executive. Charlie is filling the position previously held by Ron Walsh until 2005.

Charlie is a 39-year veteran of Scouting, beginning with 3 years as a Cub Scout, 7 as a Boy Scout, 6 as an adult volunteer during college, and 23 years as a professional Scouter. He grew up in the Sacramento area (Golden Empire Council), and his professional service has been with the San Francisco

Bay Area and Mount Diablo Silverado Councils. He has also served as a volunteer leader in his children's Cub Scout pack, Boy Scout troop, and Venturing crew during the last 10 years. He is an Eagle Scout and a recipient of the Order of the Arrow Vigil Honor and the Saint George Award.

The council has asked Charlie to be responsible for all district operations in the council and for a number of council-level functions and committees. He is providing supervision and support to senior district executive **Todd Bullman** and district executive **Jeff Woolery**. Charlie is also

currently serving as the acting district executive to the Salinas River and Ventana districts in Monterey County.

The Howard-Gibbon family has lived in Concord since 1989 and is looking forward to moving to the greater Salinas area. Charlie and his wife Bernie have three children who are all active in Scouting and Venturing units: Elizabeth, age 19, Matthew, age 17, and Charlotte, age 15.

Please introduce yourself to Charlie when you have a chance, either when stopping by the Haruda Service Center, or with a telephone call to invite him to one of your unit functions.

## *International Scouting Opportunities Abound*

### **Venturing Crew 44 gears up for 2008 visit to Scotland Jamborette**

The 2008 Scotland Contingent from MBAC is already in the planning stages. The application cut-off day was February 14, 2007, and now the selection of Scouts is already in progress.

The 2006 Scotland Contingent attended the 30th Scottish International Patrol Jamborette at Blair Atholl, Perthshire, Scotland, UK. Our International Contingent organized themselves into Crew 44 chartered to the Salinas Kiwanis Club. Council treasurer **Al Friedrich** serves as the key leader of this contingent.

### ***GTFEA Challenge to Units***

*(continued from page 1)*

Once you login, you will be able to record a new project, view previously recorded projects or report an Eagle Service project.

Each unit must participate in one service project per quarter to qualify, and keep track of all of your service hours through the GTFEA website. The website also has project ideas and suggestions for promoting your efforts in the community.

The unit in our council with the greatest number of service hours logged at the end of the year, and the unit in our council that has best demonstrated their promotion of

Crew 44, made up of 12 Venturers and four adult leaders, spent four days in London, four days in Edinburgh and Stirling, and then ten days camping on the castle grounds of Blair Atholl with 1,142 International Scouts and Leaders from all over the world.

After camp, the Crew spent five days with separate Scottish families situated throughout Scotland.

#### **European Camp Staff Opportunities**

Older Scouts and Venturers may be interested in learning about Scouting in Europe by working at a European Scout center.

All participants in the European Camp Staff program must be between 18 and 30 years of age and must be volunteers registered with the Boy Scouts of America. To ensure that the experience is a worthwhile one, participants should be prepared to commit themselves to work for a minimum of six weeks. Potential applicants can contact the International Division at the BSA National Council for more information and an application.

For more information about International Scouting opportunities, contact our council representative **Norcliff Wiley** by e-mail at [norcliff@gmail.com](mailto:norcliff@gmail.com).

their service projects throughout the year will each win the first annual Monterey Bay Area Good Turn for America Unit Award, and will be recognized at the 2008 Annual Council Dinner.

#### ***Special Space Patch Program Announced by BSA and NASA***

Charles Simonyi, Ph.D., will be the next civilian to travel to space, and he has, with the help of NASA, created a unique learning experience just for

Scouts. He is scheduled to launch on April 9 aboard Soyuz TMA-10 en route to the International Space Station, returning to Earth on April 20.

He wants Scouts, to learn from his experience, so Scouts can participate at the website [www.charlesinspace.com](http://www.charlesinspace.com). Click on "Kid's Space" and then the "Scouts" button. Scouts who participate in the website and complete the quiz will earn a instantly printable certificate, and also qualify for a patch that your unit leader can obtain free at the Haruda Service Center.

## ***Tour Permits needed—whether across the county or across the world***

### **Purpose of Tour Permits**

Tour Permits have been used by the BSA for almost its entire history to help units plan and manage the outdoor adventures that youth members want as part of their Scouting experience.

The main purpose of tour permits is to help units properly plan trips and outings using National BSA safety guidelines. Tour permits also allow the council to know where you are going and how you are getting there, which is vital if there is an emergency or when a parent calls the council looking for your unit.

Tour permits reinforce and remind each of us of the requirements for trips and outings of the BSA. For example, if swimming is part of your outing, then the permit asks for the Safe Swim Defense certification. If your unit is going on a

long-trip, the travel and menu plans need to be attached.

### **Filing two weeks or more in advance**

By filing your tour permit at least two weeks in advance, your unit committee and leaders are taking the time to adequately prepare for your trip. You are also giving yourself extra time needed if the tour permit is missing information, to complete a certification, or to modify the plan.

Failure to turn in a tour permit and receive council approval requires that your unit postpone its outing until the adult leadership is properly prepared.

Tour permits are not required for in-town day trips, but parent permission must still be secured for youth members to participate.

### **National Tour Permits**

National Tour Permits require approval by both the local council and the Regional Office in Arizona. National tour permits are required for tours or trips 500 miles or over one way. Filing for National Tour Permits requires processing time of at least **one month** in advance.

### **International Travel**

All travel by BSA units outside of the United States requires approval by the International Division of the National BSA Council. The procedures for approval of these types of outings are very specific so contact the International Division at least one year in advance.

**MBAC-BSA  
Council Officers**

*President*

**Tim Morgan**

*Commissioner*

**Michael Milligan**

*Scout Executive*

**Albert Gallegos**

*Immediate Past President*

**Ernie Mill**

*Vice Presidents*

**John Alexander**

**Don Chapin, Jr.**

**Mary Damm**

**Bob Evans**

**Jennifer Evans**

**Reneé Forrest**

**Eric LeTowt**

**Harry Robins**

**Pete Scudder**

*Treasurer*

**Al Friedrich**

*Assistant Treasurers*

**Bob Bianchi**

**Kerry Varney**

**Council Staff**

*Scout Executive*

**Albert Gallegos**

*Assistant Scout Executive*

**Charles Howard-Gibbon**

*Senior District Executive*

**Todd Bullman**

*District Executive*

**Jeff Woolery**

*Office Manager*

**Pam Jenkinson**

*Office Staff*

**Desiré Brown**

**Pat Friedrich**

**Maria Papurello**

*Ranger Camp Pico Blanco*

**Gordon da Silva**

## **2007 Camping Season Approaches**

### **“Scouters’ Retreat” Family Camps set for Memorial Day and Labor Day Weekends**

Once again, our council camping committee has planned two wonderful weekends for Scouters and their families to enjoy the programs and facilities of Camp Pico Blanco.

The Memorial Day Scouters’ Retreat begins on Friday, May 25 and continues through Monday, May 28. The Labor Day Scouters’ Retreat begins on Friday, August 31 and continues until Monday, September 3.

Both retreat weekends will have program areas open in the morning and afternoon on Saturday and Sunday. Featured activities include archery, hiking, rifle and BB gun ranges, and nature programs. Each weekend includes a Saturday night campfire where we hope to have all families present and participating.

The only things you need to bring, besides your family, are your own tents and the food you will cook for yourselves in the campsite. We recommend that you bring portable tables and chairs if you desire. Do not bring pets, firearms, or alcoholic beverages into camp.

Fee per person is \$25.00 per weekend, with children age 5 and under free. Be sure to get your registration in early. Groups of 20 or more people can reserve a preferred campsite.

### **Boy Scout Summer Camp and Cub Scout Resident Camp both held at Pico Blanco**

We are pleased to announce that a top-notch staff is forming for the summer. Come experience one of the nation's best camps located in a world-class setting this summer. The experience will stay with your boys for a lifetime.

Our council camping committee chaired by **Shannon McCann**, and a top-notch camp staff will be actively promoting camp. The 2007 Camp Leaders Guide has been mailed to unit leaders. Program director **Eric Horman** has incorporated new programs for 2007 including Pico Pathfinders for older Scouts, Adventure Day, and the return of

the popular Surfing and Kayaking programs. This year’s theme for Cub/Webelos Resident Camp is CSI: Cub Scout Investigators.

If your pack or troop hasn’t yet made its deposit for Pico Blanco 2007, get yours in to the Service Center as soon as possible, and make sure we save a spot for your unit.

### **Greetings from Order of the Arrow Chief Michael Wilson**

Greetings from Order of the Arrow Esselen Lodge 531. We have some great things going on in the near future.

It is the time of the year for unit elections. Please contact us to schedule an election for your troop/team. Every troop/team can have an OA unit election once each calendar year.

We will have our largest event in recent memory this summer at Pico Blanco, August 17-19, celebrating 50 years of service. Our past lodge advisor **Jim Bowles** is coordinating many of the preparations. We will have many fun activities that are typical (swimming and shooting sports) and others not so typical. We will have a couple of guests from the national level to speak to us at the banquet. Please keep these dates on your calendar, and plan to celebrate with current and past Esselen members.

The lodge also plans to attend the Section Concave, April 20-22, so all OA members are welcome to join the Esselen lodge for a weekend of training, fellowship, and fun. We will also have a Vigil Honor weekend on May 11-12 in conjunction with the lodge dinner (lodge members look for information in the mail).

We wish to thank **Michael Soto** for his hard work with the lodge during the transition period. We would also like to welcome **Jim von Schmacht** to his new role as Lodge Adviser. Thank you for your support of our lodge, and we look forward to serving beside you! Visit us at our website: [www.esselen531.org](http://www.esselen531.org).

## **Monterey Bay Area Council, Boy Scouts of America**

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