

Iron Horse District Newsletter

April 10, 2014

Engineering a Brighter Future for Scouting in Our Community

www.ironhorseshac.org

April

- 3 - District Committee
- 3 - Scout Fair Coupon Closeout
- 4 - 6 - OA Arrowman Bash
- 10 - Round Table/OA Chapter Meeting/YPT Training
- 11 - SHAC 100th Birthday!!!
- 12 - Scout Fair
- 15 - Venturing Forum
- 19 - Commissioner Basic Training
- 22 - Patron Event
- 24 - Commissioner Meeting
- 26 - Sail Daze

May

- 1 - District Committee
- 1 - Silver Beaver Nominations Deadline
- 2-4 - Camporee
- 8 - Round Table/OA Chapter Meeting/YPT Training
- 15 - Commissioner Meeting
- 29 - Council Coordinated Meeting
- 30 - Community Rally for Scouting

Iron Horse District Silver Beavers



2013	Cliff Keeler
2012	Carla Burnett
2011	Bryan Talley Traci Talley
2010	Kent Davis
2008	Don Cullum

The Silver Beaver Award is the highest form of recognition that a local council can bestow on a volunteer. In 1931, B.S.A. President Mortimer L. Schiff recommended to the National Board that an award be devised for recognition of distinguished service to youth in the area of a local council and the concept of the Silver Beaver recognition was established.

Congratulations to Our Newest



Iron Horse Eagle Scouts...!

Tyler Long	Crew 1961
Matthew Dickerson	Troop 790
Patrick M.O. Weisbrod Jr.	Troop 1665
Jordan Mackenzie Bradford	Troop 263
Benjamin DuPont	Troop 355
Andrew Harden	Troop 1659
Blake Barnett	Troop 1659

Iron Horse District 2013

Legacy Award

Shep and Patty Barnum

Scout of the Year
Lane Randall

Eagle Scout Project of the Year

Cameron Arnold

March 3, 2014

A Scout is Obedient

April 6, 2014

A Scout is obedient. A Scout follows the rules of his family, school, and troop. He obeys the laws of his community and country. If he thinks these rules and laws are unfair, he tries to have them changed in an orderly manner rather than disobeying them.

Obedience and discipline go hand in hand. An obedient Scout is not someone that blindly does what he is told, but he does have the discipline to carry out tasks assigned to him, even if he does not agree with the assignment. Once he has completed his duty, doing his very best, he can then discuss the fairness or appropriateness of the assignment with his leader. Obedience is necessary for a group, such as a patrol, to be effective. The leader should have a picture in his mind of what he wants accomplished and how each task fulfilled will bring that picture together. A scout in the patrol needs to do his duty to support the overall goal, whether he completely understands that goal or not.

Unquestioning obedience is often the first casualty of adolescence. The most healthy adolescence is likely to be a messy, capricious process. Maturing minds yearning for independence naturally question authority as they search for internal moral integrity.

Many Scouts are at an age where they are experimenting with independence and that can make being obedient more of a challenge for them. They see being obedient as being weak and subordinate. When directed to do something, they may expend more energy arguing about the task than it would take to just do it. For example, "Why me?", "Why not have Charlie do it?", "Why do you need that done?", "Right now?", and so on. Boys would rather be independent, even if they are not yet mature enough, and they often interpret independent as meaning free of commitment or responsibility which is an immature interpretation. An independent person still has responsibilities, but he is able to take care of himself as well as make correct choices to honor his commitments.

With the usual exceptions for health and safety it is best to give this search a fair amount of latitude. Scouting's intriguing mix of uniformity, self determination and group dynamics centered on a set of principles provide a rich environment for discovery.

Blind obedience is as dangerous as blind rebellion. Scouts who are allowed to question authority and assert some independence are more likely to form a moral basis for their future than those expected to render unquestioning obedience.

Actually, an independent person has self-discipline enough to be obedient to his conscience. He obeys his moral and ethical honor and does what he knows is right, not because it is the easiest or most beneficial thing to do, but because his honor insists it be done. A Scout with a strong character, able to put the needs of others before his own and obey his conscience, can usually obey directions from leaders well because of his self-discipline.

By developing obedience in the family and in Scouting, the Scout is better able to handle the similar requirements of the workplace where orders are routinely given and expected to be completed. In all circumstances, whether family, school, work, or social, the obedient Scout must make sure that obeying a direction is not against his honor. If a boss tells him to cheat a client or a friend tells him to steal, he must compare the order to what he knows is right and wrong and first obey that inner compass.

Yours in scouting,

Kent Davis

Iron Horse District Chairman



Iron Horse District is Growing!

Hey Cub Scout Leaders! It's time for spring rallies. Now is the perfect time to start to plan for recruiting. We would really like for each unit to give serious consideration to this, and to have a good, strong team to make it happen and make it successful. The ideal time will be late April/early May. Any new recruits will still be able to register for Twilight Camp and will not be charged a late fee. If you have any questions or concerns, talk to Carla Burnett.

How you can help...

Get involved! Join the membership and/or training team, become a unit commissioner, mentor new leaders, join Round Table staff or the district committee, represent Scouting at school open houses and PTO meetings. Get to know the principals and APs in your local schools and find out how Scouts can perform service there. **INVITE SOMEONE TO JOIN YOU IN ATTENDING ROUND TABLE!!!**

And we are looking for ways to reach out to community leaders and get them involved, establish some solid relationships. If you know someone that you feel would be interested in being in partnership with us, please talk to Kevin Ready, Kent Davis, or Carla Burnett. There are LOTS of ways to help!!!

ORDER OF THE ARROW (OA)



Chapter Meetings - These meetings are held for the benefit of the youth OA members. Meetings typically will briefly cover upcoming OA events, and are focused on making the meeting fun and interesting.

Participation in the OA, and attending meetings and events, is a great way to strengthen leadership skills and supplement and enhance the unit program. Come check it out! Adult OA members are asked to check in with advisers so we can let you know what's coming up. Iron Horse Chapter meetings are held the second Thursday of every month at 7:30 pm at the LDS Church on Hafer Road, just about a mile south of FM 1960, the same time and place as Round Table. Leaders, please car pool with OA members from your unit.



Commissioner Service

Unit commissioners are a valuable resource and support to our units. The commissioner team is looking for some Scouters who would be interested in serving units in this capacity. If you would like to serve, or would just like to know more about commissioner service, please see Carla Burnett.



Monthly Round Table

Iron Horse District monthly Round Table is the second Thursday of each month, and is held at the LDS church on Hafer Road. This is a great place to gather information about what's going on in our district, find out about events, meet new people, get training, or find new ideas for use in your unit program. Come see what it's all about, and bring your friends or other Scouters from your unit! Gathering and fellowship begin at 6:30 pm, followed by a general session from 7:00 - 7:15, and rolling into breakout sessions by program - Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Varsity Scouts, and Venturing and Sea Scouts. We can always use help setting up and delivering the Round Table program. For more information, talk with the Round Table commissioners:

Elizabeth Creel-Olivera - Cub Scouts
Ernie Butts - Boy Scouts
Open - Varsity Scouts
Terry Hinton - Venturing and Sea Scouts

DISTRICT ITEMS OF NOTE

District Communications

Having a good communications system is critical to getting information out in a timely manner. If you're not yet signed up on the email list, please visit the Iron Horse website - www.ironhorseshac.org - and register to receive district communications. We have a lot to share, and we don't want anyone to miss out!!!

Training

Our training team needs YOU - to either train or be trained. If you are looking for ways to share your time at the district level, joining the training team is a great way to do that. We know that every Scout deserves trained leaders, and we also know that trained leaders are better able to understand and deliver the program, no matter what level they are at. If you are interested in helping in this area, please talk to Orville Neeley and he will assist with determining the best fit for different training opportunities.

IMPORTANT NOTE FOR 2014: **All** registered leaders will have to be fully trained in order for their units to be rechartered in December. If you are one who needs to take training, the district calendar will be completed very soon, and you will be able to see what and when and where the courses will be that you need. Make plans early to get all of your training needs covered. You can also contact Orville with any specific needs, maybe you have a number of people in your unit who all need the same thing - the training team can and will deliver!



DISTRICT EVENTS

Spring Camporee

Spring Camporee is coming the first weekend in May. It will be at Camp Strake, and is being planned, directed and produced by the Iron Horse Chapter of the Order of the Arrow. These Scouts have proven to be **AWESOME** event planners, and it is sure to be a great weekend. Please be sure to talk to Brett Randall, Chapter Chief, for more details. And don't forget to add it to your troop calendar as a "WE DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS!" item.

Community Rally for Scouting

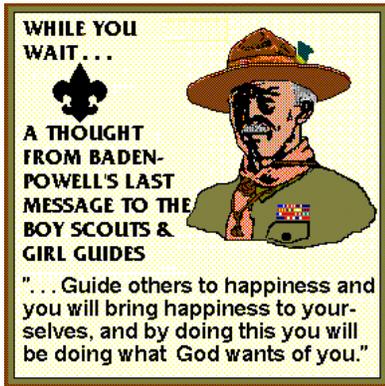
This is a "first annual" event for Iron Horse, and will be on Friday May 30th. It will be a mini-Scout Fair type set up, and all units are invited and encouraged to participate. Unit leaders will be receiving emails from Jerry Birkinshaw, who has graciously agreed to head up this effort. You may contact Jerry at jerry77388@comcast.net and you can find flyers and other information on our website at ironhorseshac.org. You will also be able to register online.

LET'S RECRUIT!!!



COUNCIL EVENTS

Wood Badge is the most advanced training course offered for Scouters. It's a great way to develop interpersonal skills that will help in all facets of life. AND it's loads of fun! Once you've been, you'll wonder why you waited so long to do it...!!! The next opportunity to experience Wood Badge Experience will be SHAC 14-2 which is a week long course in the summer (no camping - indoor accommodations!!!). The dates are Monday July 28th - Saturday August 2nd. There are also two fall courses: SHAC 14-3 - Friday September 26 - Sunday September 28 and Friday October 24 - Sunday October 26; and SHAC 14-4 - Thursday October 16 - Saturday October 18 and Thursday November 13 - Saturday November 15. Look for Scouters wearing beads and ask them to tell you more about it, and why you should go!!!



Scout Fair

It's coming! It's this Saturday, April 12 at Reliant Arena. The biggest and the best, and a HUGE celebration of the 100th birthday of Sam Houston Area Council. There will even be CAKE!!! AND... there will be a HUGE birthday card to sign – we're going for a world record – come help us reach our goal. If you haven't made plans to attend, it's time to commit. Go check it out ☺!

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS CUB SCOUT?!!!



I'm sure he must be part of your FUN and FABULOUS program... ☺

Monthly Service Opportunity

The Sam Houston Area Council uniform collection effort continues, and the Iron Horse District representative for this effort is Tammy Lawrence. She will be sending email reminders to each unit to encourage participation and donations. Thank you Tammy!!!

It's not the destination that is so important, but the journey we take to get there, and the experiences we have along the way.

From the Commissioner...

I recently had the opportunity to do weekend camping at Bovay Scout Ranch in Navasota. What a wonderful experience! It had been several years since I had been there, and it was good to go back. We had a blast - playing badminton, doing a Leave No Trace scavenger hunt, hiking, biking and fishing. And there was lots of fellowship time. If you haven't camped with your Scouts recently, JUST DO IT!!! You'll be glad you did.

YIS,
Carla



Iron Horse Eagle Honor Roll **2013 and 2014**

Jose Israel Benitez - Troop 1659
Carlos Javier Avendano - Troop 1659
Caleb Theodore Bogs - Troop 355
Conner Scott Murphy - Team 594
Samuel Lynn Hall - Team 594
George Franklin Lloyd - Troop 355
Michael Adams Goins Lone Scout
Gregory Roland Salazar – Troop 878
Matthew Aaron Gwilliam Jr – Team 994
Levi Richard Pouwer - Team 449
Jordan Matthew Brokken - Troop 331
Matthew Robert Hope – Troop 878
Ethan Doyle Bates – Troop 1665
Steven Dunk – Troop 1665
Ty Mitchell Waring – Troop 878
Matthew James Lanmon – Troop 355
Morgan Travis Wright – Troop 331
Austin Jay Harden – Troop 165
Charles Delano Stepp III – Troop 331
Lane Alexander Randall – Troop 355
Miles James Groening – Troop 594
Gavin Jameson Murphy – Troop 594
Jake Dewey Klovenski – Troop 1665
Zachary Joel Krouse – Troop 331
Cameron Arnold – Troop 1659
Maxwell Alan Gay – Troop 1659
Hunter Jacob Rodriguez - Troop 994
Lance Leavitt - Team 1961
Jacob Michael Sondergaard - Troop 900
Hunter Alexander Stanton - Troop 1565
Christopher Ryan Coomes - Troop 355
Joseph Timothy Bowlds – Troop 1665
Cullen Erie Puffer – Crew 1961
Marion Junior Sarceno – Troop 994
Harrison Cole Caddenhead – Troop 878

Iron Horse Sea Scout **Quartermaster Award**



Blair Talley- Ship 1659
Heather Schmitt- Ship 1659
Spencer Rawlins III- Ship 1659

“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.”

-Mission Statement of the Boy Scouts of America

Congratulations to
LANE ALEXANDER RANDALL
Iron Horse District
First OA Vigil Honor Recipient

