

Occoneechee Council



Commissioner News

A publication for and about Scouters involved in Commissioner Service

March 2007 Issue

<http://www.campdurant.com/Commissioner/Service/news/2007/03.pdf>

Welcome First Nighters!

Our March 8, 2007 Council Commissioners' Cabinet meeting had a record breaking turnout (37 participants). We would like to recognize and welcome our first time participants:

Name	Position
John Mahoney	BSRTC
Walter Honeycutt	ADC, Cape Fear
Terri Deuger	BSRTC, Falls
Christopher Alarie	UC, Hemlock
Christina Fulton	UC, Hemlock
Ed Rohr	UC, Hemlock
Ray Daller	ADC Venturing, Tuocs

Commissioner of the Year Award

At our March 8 Council Commissioners' Cabinet meeting, Jack Nichols announced that Charles Good was the 2006 recipient and Patch Perry presented him with the award. Charles thanked everyone for this great honor and pledged to continue his service to Scouting.

No Presbyterian Point Summer Camp

We are sad to report that a land dispute with two adjacent land owners has forced us to cancel all planned activities at our Presbyterian Point facility for the summer of 2007. Our EDGE program at Camp Durant is being expanded and other programs enhanced to replace the planned programs at Presbyterian Point. The legal counsel for the Army Corp. of Engineers is trying to help our council resolve this, but it may take some time. More information will be forthcoming from the council's Executive Committee and the VP of Program.



Silver Beavers

Congratulations to the 2006 award recipients (several of whom are commissioners). To see the list, visit the following URL...

www.campdurant.com/Silver_Beavers/sb_history.html

All Aboard For Camp Tour

On May 24th, the Council is planning a special "Come With Us and Build Leaders" tour at Camp Durant. The tour is intended for donors and prospective donors to the Capital Campaign, the Council Executive Board, all District Key 3s and other key unit and district leaders. The tour will show what improvements have been made and what improvements look like for the future.

In conjunction with the tour, all commissioners are invited to help, as this will be an excellent opportunity for the entire Occoneechee Commissioner staff to be showcased "in action", providing our signature outstanding service to units, districts and the council.

Susan Long is heading up the committee to plan and coordinate this event and is looking for volunteers. Any commissioner who is interested in helping should contact [Susan Long](#).

News From Around The Council

- The Capital Campaign is gearing up its public phase. Watch for information on this.



Roundtable Program Is Growing

At our March 8 meeting, attendance more than doubled for the Council Conference of Roundtable Commissioners (CCRTC) program. [Shawnee Benane](#) is leading the Cub Scout Roundtable breakout session and [Steve Glass](#) is leading the Boy Scout and Venturing Roundtable breakout session.



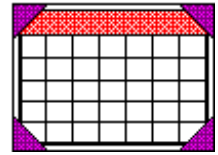
Steve encouraged all district commissioners to bring their roundtable staff and commissioners with them each month to the Council Commissioners' Cabinet meeting. Steve presented his 2007 Boy Scout and Venturing Roundtable breakout session program plan.

Our April CCRTC will feature a "Special Cooking" County Fair! Neuse River BSRT Commissioner, Eddie Wessell, will be our "master of ceremonies" (program theme manager). Our Special Cooking County Fair will showcase each of our districts presenting homemade cooking stoves, techniques and recipes. This program is a "must" for each district BSRT Commissioner and staff! In addition, each participant will receive over 60 pages of Special Cooking program theme handouts and posters to take back to district roundtables and troops. The Unit of Training will be "Successful Promotion Techniques for Your Roundtable."

Steve Glass also mentioned that as our program is growing, we will need a new place with more seating capacity and he has offered to see if a church in Cary might be willing to sponsor the meeting. Steve is looking for feedback and we have created a Doubleknot survey form for this purpose. If you are a roundtable staff member or roundtable commissioner, then please... [Take The Survey](#)

More information will be available concerning a possible site move at our April meeting.

Plan Ahead



- **Next Commissioner Basic Training (CBT)** – We have a course scheduled for May 12th at the Council Service Center in Raleigh. As agreed, District Commissioners should do unit visits with new UCs and do some of the preliminary "teaching" before the course so we can conclude CBT on May 12 and award their "Trained" patch.
- **Next Commissioners' Conference** – This event is scheduled for Friday, October 12th. Location TBD, but we hope to secure Edenton Street UMC in Raleigh. Since this date is not a holiday, we are tentatively considering a mid afternoon (3PM) start time. If you have suggestions for this year's conference, contact [Susan Long](#)
- **Next Commissioners' College** – This event is scheduled for Saturday, October 13th. Location TBD, but we hope to secure Edenton Street UMC in Raleigh.
- **Council Camp-O-Ree** – The council is tentatively looking at the last weekend in October, but this must be confirmed by the host site before it becomes a real date. However, due to military restrictions, this looks like a Boy Scouts and Venturing Scouts only event. A Cub Scout event is being considered for Camp Reeves.
- **2007 Commissioners' College Staff Kickoff Meeting** – Our college chancellor, Floyd Pattee, would like to meet with all the 2006 staff and faculty, as well as anyone interested in serving on this year's staff. Check the council program calendar for the next meeting date.
- **University of Scouting** – Our 2007 UoS event may change dates. Check the council training calendar for updates.

March Meeting Slides

The Membership & Charter Report is at the following password protected URL...

www.campdurant.com/recruitment/presentation_030807.ppt

If you have forgotten the password, contact [Charles Good](#)

HR & Training News

- Kudos to Susan Long and her staff for planning and presiding over a very successful Annual Recognitions Banquet.
- The HR & Training Committee will meet on March 13th at the Council Service Center in Raleigh. The meeting starts at 7PM.
- Our annual high adventure training event is Powder Horn. It is open to all leaders and it is ideal for both Scoutmasters and Venturing Advisors. Currently, registration is low and we must have at least 30 people signed up by March 30th or we must cancel the course. Commissioners should spread the word and encourage leaders to participate in this once a year event (to be held on April 27 and June 1).
- We are looking for volunteers to serve as Unit Trainers. All unit commissioners should encourage unit committees to nominate and recruit a unit trainer.
- Please check the [council training calendar](#) for upcoming events.

National Commissioner's Podcast

If you would like to download and listen to the Podcasts, visit the following URL to see an index of the ones available each month...

www.scouting.org/commissioners/podcast/index.html

You can either download the .mp3 audio files directly to your PC, for use on your computer or digital music player, or you can subscribe to "Commissioner Podcast" via RSS and your favorite podcast aggregator.

NOTE: *Jack Nichols has been invited to call in during the recording of the March 20th podcast so he can discuss how our council achieved a 70.5% youth retention rate in 2006.*

the Commissioner

The Winter 2007 edition of the national council's newsletter for commissioners is available on-line. This is the first edition for 2007 and the article titles are as follows:

- District Operations Online Training Coming Soon
- New Podcasts Available on Commissioner Web Site
- Special Last-Time Recognition for 2007 Quality Unit Award
- Providing a Baseline for Measurement of New Centennial Quality Unit Awards
- Critical Steps Need to Be Taken in Support of the Centennial Quality Awards Program Commitment
- Words of Wisdom
- Membership Validation Procedures Involve Commissioners
- Commissioners, Boys' Life, and Healthy Units
- Webelos-to-Scout Transition
- What Is Happening Of Interest
- Commissioner Registration—Primary or Multiple
- An Idea Worth repeating
- Annual Unit Service Plan Actions for Winter 2007
- Unit Commissioner Box Score
- 2007 Calendar Dates of Interest

The URL for the Winter 2007 edition is...

www.scouting.org/commissioners/newsletter/1-07.pdf

Unit Lifesaving

At our March 8, 2007 Council Commissioners' Cabinet meeting, Eric Ritzen discussed how the council's Unit Lifesaving Team had brainstormed on two topics: (1) the Symptoms of Units Facing Dropped Status and (2) Revitalization Unit Needs. The team felt these characteristics are prevalent in most cases. To see the list, visit the following URL... www.campdurant.com/ult_symptoms.html



The next meeting for the council's Unit Lifesaving Team is scheduled for March 13th at the Council Service Center in Raleigh. The meeting will begin at 12-noon.

If you would like to join the council's Unit Lifesaving Team or have a suggestion, please contact Eric at 919-846-8112 (no e-mail address).

Centennial Quality Award Update

At our March 8 meeting, Connie Bowes reported that only 148 of our 650 units have turned in their unit commitment forms. Connie has the numbers for each district and encourages district commissioners to work with their units to make this happen (cause it probably will not happen on its own).



Scramble – If you attended our March 8 meeting, then you got to hear about some ideas for recruiting more commissioners and youth. These included:

- **Pizza and a patch**
- **Gerber pocket knives**
- **Free Camperships**
- **Coffee and pastry tent at District Camporee**
- **District townhall meetings**
- **Camp site inspections as a first step**

Want to know more? Then come to our meetings!

Meanwhile, see if you can find these six ideas in the scrambled words puzzle?

H	L	H	E	V	U	W	F	N	Q	N	Y	A	N	H
E	C	A	M	P	E	R	S	H	I	P	S	I	V	I
S	G	T	M	L	L	A	H	N	W	O	T	C	I	N
X	T	N	A	B	V	A	T	C	U	P	U	H	W	S
E	M	T	G	P	K	N	J	E	O	D	J	B	C	P
P	R	T	M	N	D	A	U	C	Q	J	D	O	O	E
D	H	U	X	A	X	N	L	X	D	W	K	Z	E	C
I	B	I	J	N	T	B	A	E	I	V	I	K	E	T
R	L	A	S	E	A	L	N	A	D	S	U	U	E	I
U	Z	I	Y	W	Z	R	Q	V	Z	Q	Z	S	E	O
B	O	C	R	K	S	I	E	O	N	Z	O	Y	T	N
K	V	U	P	O	C	K	E	T	K	N	I	V	E	S
M	Z	S	Y	F	Y	Y	V	V	H	M	P	N	S	
X	C	M	O	C	G	M	E	T	S	T	W	N	T	P

1. **Camperships**
2. **Coffee Tent**
3. **Pizza and Patch**
4. **Pocket Knives**
5. **Townhall Mtg**
6. **Inspections**

Web Site Updates

- Our external web site (ocscouts.org) was moved by the host company to new servers last week and this caused some problems, which have now been resolved. We apologize for any inconvenience.
- Our internal web site (campdurant.com) has a new menu system. Too many users disliked the layered approach (i.e., nesting links under links in order to only have a few links on the main page). So we have created a page that shows all the links in alphabetical order, which most commissioners liked. You can get to the internal site by clicking on the large brown button on the "ocscouts" site or by using the following URL... http://www.campdurant.com/index_links.html
- We have added a special web page that lists the upcoming events for the week (both program and training). The link can be found under the "Calendars" link. The page URL is... www.campdurant.com/upcoming_events.html
- Calendar Tip – At the top of each calendar page, there is a link entitled, Event Report. This link will enable the user to view a summary listing of events in chronological order for any user-specified window of time. It will also indicate which events have on-line registration and the registration cut-off date. This is very handy and powerful.

Who Writes This Stuff?

This publication features articles written by members of Commissioner Service and Scouters like you. If you would like to submit an article or a news bite for consideration, please contact either [Jack Nichols](#) or [Charles Good](#).

Volunteer Opportunities

- The council office is looking for at least one volunteer with good PC skills to assist in an experiment to see if editing individual profiles in one district will significantly alter the percentage trained statistic. This will be essentially key entry work for a few days. If interested, contact [Connie Bowes](#).
- The HR & Training Committee ACC role is growing and Charles Good is looking for someone to serve as co-ACC. Charles will serve as ACC for HR matters and the other commissioner will serve as ACC for Training matters (to include maintaining the council's training calendar). Volunteer must have a fairly new PC with high-speed modem access to Internet (DSL or Cable). Volunteer should also be interested in helping as staff or instructor on council and district training events.