

# Occoneetchee Council



## Commissioner News

A publication for and about Scouters involved in Commissioner Service

May 2007 Issue

<http://www.campdurant.com/Commissioner/Service/news/2007/05.pdf>

### How Are We Doing?

- Commissioner to Unit Ratio: The Occoneetchee Council Commissioner staff has improved from a 1:15 unit commissioner to unit ratio in 2005 to a 1:5 ratio by year-end 2006. We have recruited enough new unit commissioners at this stage of 2007 to achieve a 1:3.9 ratio.
- Unit Rechartering: The Council is on track to recharter 90% or more of its units for 5 of the first 7 recharter months.
- Youth Retention: For the fifth month in a row, our council leads all other Metro Councils in the Southern Region in youth retention. Given our successes in this area, the Occoneetchee Council has been asked by the National Council Commissioner, Don Belcher, to conduct a presentation on the topic at the National Annual Meeting in Atlanta at the end of May.

### 12 More Commissioners Trained

During our May 12<sup>th</sup> Commissioner Basic Training (CBT) course, the following unit commissioners received their "Trained" patch.

William Adams  
Glenn Davis  
Michael Dooley  
Dee (Demetra)Fait  
Ashley Higginbotham  
Walter Honeycutt  
Nick Long  
Pete Marotta  
Jim Norris  
Clyde Paige  
Win Quakenbush  
Van Stewart  
Lew Talley

The next time you see them, please extend to them a hearty congratulations and welcome them aboard!

### Spring Edition of "the Commissioner" Is On-Line

The National Council publishes a quarterly commissioner service newsletter entitled, *the Commissioner*. When an edition becomes available, the Council Commissioner receives a copy in the USPS mail and we announce the edition in this newsletter.

For the Spring edition, the main articles and columns include the following:

- Youth Recruitment Critical to Achieving the Centennial Quality Award
- Achievement and Award Order Form Will Be Available in Summer 2007
- Voinovich's View -- Scouting: Celebrating 97 Years of American Values
- Words of Wisdom
- 2006: Year of Research Results
- "Reaching America's Next Multicultural Generation
- (Asian American, African American, and Hispanic/Latino)"
- Where Do You Find Your Youth Retention for Each Unit?
- Podcasts on Key Commissioner Issues Available on Web Site
- Areas Of Interest...
- Annual Unit Service Plan Actions for Spring and Summer 2007
- Unit Commissioner Box Score
- 2007 Calendar Dates of Interest
- A Scout's Shoulders (By Thomas L. Testerman)

To access the newsletter, visit the following URL:

[www.scouting.org/commissioners/newsletter/2-07.pdf](http://www.scouting.org/commissioners/newsletter/2-07.pdf)

### Roundtable Programs

Our May Boy Scout Roundtable Commissioner's CCRTC was another GANGBUSTERS program, featuring the June district roundtables/July troop theme: HIKING & BACKPACKING.

Thanks to the following districts for their outstanding presentations: Basic packing your pack – Tuocs; Hiking boots & foot care – Crosswinds; Hiking & Backpacking stoves & fuels – Neuse River; Map & Compass – Baden-Powell.

Participating district roundtable commissioners and staff received a 200+ page book compiling hiking, backpacking, map & compass and leave no trace resources, as well as 20 posters supporting this theme. [Only CCRTC participants receive these program resources materials.]

Our June 13 CCRTC theme is Aquatics!

For a complete listing of our program planning themes for 2007-08, visit the following URL:

[www.campdurant.com/Commissioner/Service/ccrtc/2007-2008\\_plan.html](http://www.campdurant.com/Commissioner/Service/ccrtc/2007-2008_plan.html)

For more information about our programs, contact either [Shawnee Benane](#) (for Cub Scout Roundtables) or [Steve Glass](#) (for Boy Scout and Venturing Roundtables).

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### News From Around The Council

- Hemlock District – Gene Lambert reports recruiting 4 more unit commissioners. His district now has 24 unit commissioners (a 2:1 ratio of unit commissioners per unit)
- Neuse River District – Ronnie Padgette reports recruiting 2 more unit commissioners. He needs 3 more to achieve his goal of a 1:3 ratio)



### Volunteer Opportunities

We have an immediate need to fill the following openings:

- **ACC for HR & Training** – You will attend one committee meeting each month and look for opportunities where Commissioner Service can help promote training, as well as, provide feedback from unit leaders to the committee. After each committee meeting, you will report back to the Council Commissioner key 3. Monthly time required: 3 hours

*NOTE: We have restructured this job so the ACC no longer has any web site or computer responsibilities.*

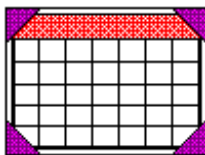
- **ACC Registrar** – You will be responsible for maintaining a Microsoft Access database that tracks the adult training records for all active commissioners. No experience with Microsoft Access is required (you will be trained). The council will provide a free copy of the software. Most months require virtually no activity, but September and October are busy months (due to our college). Monthly time required: 2 hours
- **Dean for BCS Program** – Floyd Pattee, our 2007 college chancellor, is pleased to announce that Bob Crenshaw has agreed to serve as our dean for the Bachelor of Commissioner Science (BCS) program.
- **NYLT Youth Staff** – Ken Moore, NYLT Scoutmaster, needs 8 more youth staff members for this summer's program (Sunday, July 29 to Friday, August 3). Must 14 years old or older.

*NOTE: If more youth staff are not found by the May 1 deadline, this year's NYLT program will have to be cancelled.*

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## Plan Ahead

- **Next Commissioners Cabinet Meeting** – June 14<sup>th</sup> at the First United Methodist Church in downtown Cary.
  - **Next Commissioners' Conference** – This event is scheduled for Friday, October 12<sup>th</sup>. Location is Edenton Street UMC in Raleigh. If you have suggestions for this year's conference, contact [Susan Long](#)
  - **Next Commissioners' College** – This event is scheduled for Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. Location is Edenton Street UMC in Raleigh. . If you have suggestions for this year's college, contact [Floyd Pattee](#)
  - **Council Camporee** – Oct 26 - 28, 2007 at Camp Reeves with the theme of "Back to Brownsea". This will be a Boy Scouts and Venturing Scouts only event. Webelos Scouts who attend with a Scout Troop may also attend. Tentative plans are underway to offer merit badges relating to basic camping skills, such as Camping, Backpacking, Wilderness Survival, Pioneering, Orienteering, etc.
  - **Merit Badge University** – Since the Council's Camporee will not have a Merit Badge Midway, Scouts are encouraged to attend the MBU at NCSU. The tentative date is Nov. 17 (the Saturday before Thanksgiving). For more information, contact [Ed Miller](#).
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## May Meeting Slides

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

[www.campdurant.com/recruitment/presentation\\_051007.ppt](http://www.campdurant.com/recruitment/presentation_051007.ppt)

**Dial-up user alert...** 786 KB size file.

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

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## HR & Training News

- 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.
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## Happy Retirement

At our May 10<sup>th</sup> Council Commissioners' Cabinet meeting, Eric Ritzen announced that he and his wife have made the decision to move to Rocky Mount, Virginia (which is due south of Roanoke) to be closer to their family. Eric hopes that the Lifesaving Team will continue to "grow and go."

Like many lifelong Scouters, Eric has a lot of "stuff" filed away in various parts of his house. One thing he found was an organizational chart that dates back to a time when they formed Neighborhood Commissioners or NCs.

During his time as District Commissioner, Eric made certain that no more than three NCs reported to an ADC. This ensured the ADC could spend time with a different NC each week of the month and on the fourth week, the DC would attend the district committee and Roundtable meetings.

Eric advocates using this approach with unit commissioners to ensure each UC understands his or her role and responsibilities, as well as getting the coaching they might need to properly facilitate their units. If you do not need to have a coaching session with the UC, then pick up the UC to visit one of his or her units. Such involvement will help avoid the need for unit lifesaving, as well as ensure the UC does not become overwhelmed or stagnant.

Our best wishes to Eric and his wife. Thanks for a lifetime of contribution to Scouting.

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## 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](#).