

# Occoneechee Council



## Commissioner News

A publication for and about Scouters involved in Commissioner Service

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June 2007 Issue

<http://www.campdurant.com/Commissioner/Service/news/2007/06.pdf>

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### News From the National Meeting

Connie Bowes provided an informative slide presentation about the feedback our National Council has received concerning the Centennial Program. The 1.6 MB PowerPoint slide presentation is online... [www.campdurant.com/recruitment/natl\\_mtg\\_feedback.ppt](http://www.campdurant.com/recruitment/natl_mtg_feedback.ppt)

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### ScoutParents

At our June 14 Council Commissioners' Cabinet meeting, Susan Long presented information of the ScoutParents program.

ScoutParents is part of the National Parenting Initiative. Currently, Flint River Council (GA) and Daniel Boone Council (NC) are serving as pilot councils for this new initiative of the National BSA.

The intent is to provide parents with information and tools to help them understand their importance in becoming more involved with their Scouts. In turn, we hope that Scouts will stay with the program longer and have a better experience hopefully working their way to Eagle Scout.

Besides have a slide presentation, Susan also had a sample box of materials that a district could use to promote the program. However, before we can launch the program in our council, the professional staff must assess the cost and we may need to find a corporate sponsor to pay for the materials.

The 2.5 MB PowerPoint slide show is online at the following URL... [www.campdurant.com/ScoutParents\\_presentation.ppt](http://www.campdurant.com/ScoutParents_presentation.ppt)

You can also read more about ScoutParents by visiting their web site... [www.ScoutParents.org](http://www.ScoutParents.org)

### Sea Scouts Update

Carroll Sasser, Vice-Commodore for Membership and Marketing for SS421, visited our June 14 Council Commissioners' Cabinet meeting. Carroll reported the Council's Sea Scouts Planning Committee and the committee's goal to organized at least one new Sea Scout unit (called a "ship") in each of the council's 13 districts. Only in this way can we provide Sea Scouting for any high school youth in our council area who wants it!



Carroll invited all commissioners to visit their web site and please encourage others in your districts to do the same. The URL is... [www.oc421seascouts.info](http://www.oc421seascouts.info)

Carroll also remarked about the enthusiasm within the program and if any district would like to have Sea Scouts come talk about the program, to let Carroll know.

Persons interested in becoming a Sea Scout, serving as an adult leader, organizing a new ship, or serving with the council committee should contact Carroll at [SasserRC@aol.com](mailto:SasserRC@aol.com)

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### New Books & Online Training

One of the things that Jack Nichols and Susan Long learned at the recent National meeting is that most of the Commissioner Service library of books is being either rewritten or updated. In addition, there are plans to offer more training online, including Commissioner Fast Start.

### Roundtable Programs

Aquatics and a Watermelonree! Our June Boy Scout CCRTC featured both, as well as a book of Aquatics resources and 14 program theme posters.

Welcome to CHARLES FENSKE, new Boy Scout Roundtable Commissioner from Great Northern district! Now eight of our districts are participating in CCRTC, along with Sea Scouts and Venturing. Attendance: 14.

The Unit of Training was Multidimensional RT Program Planning: identifying as many Scout advancement opportunities as possible, then drilling down within each for those segments that can be presented at RT. Some can be used for age/skill level appropriate presentations and others can be used during "county-fair" pre-opening stations. Still others can be presented through charts, exhibits and media. Avoid "one-trick pony" RTs; think BIG and present a large number of ideas to help troops have the best show in town each week!

Our August CCRTC will feature Athletics (the September RT and October troop program theme).

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

Several people have asked if there are ways that we can publish our newsletter sooner than we have been doing. One way is to get information sooner and for it to already be typed up. With this in mind, we would like to try letting district commissioners enter what's happening in their district each month so we can import their information into the newsletter.

On either the last week of each month or the first week of each month, please visit the following URL and send us your district's news...

[www.campdurant.com/Commissioner/Service/monthly\\_report.html](http://www.campdurant.com/Commissioner/Service/monthly_report.html)

### 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** – We are pleased to announce that Mary Hampson has agreed to serve as our year-round registrar.
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### Camp Durant Tour Was A Success!

Over 150 Scouts and Scouters participated in the May 24<sup>th</sup> event at Camp Durant and approximately 20 sponsors and corporate sponsor prospects got an excellent idea of how our council makes good use of every dollar. One youth member made a short video showing the various activities and people who were on-hand. If you would like to borrow this video for a Roundtable, contact Connie Bowes.

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### Summertime Means "Go To Camp"

Since we are **NOT** having a Council Commissioners' Cabinet meeting in July, all commissioners are encouraged to visit one of your units at camp and spend either the day or at least the evening.

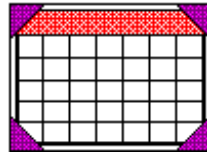
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### Rumor Control

We checked with John Roberts, VP of Program, and he has confirmed that our Council Camporee is still scheduled for Camp Reeves from the 26th to 28th of October. If anyone in your district has heard otherwise, please help squelch the rumor. Thanks.

### Plan Ahead

- **Next Commissioners Cabinet Meeting** – August 9<sup>th</sup> at the First United Methodist Church in downtown Cary.
- **Next Commissioners' Conference** – This event is scheduled begin at 3:30 PM on 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.



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### June Meeting Slides

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

[www.campdurant.com/recruitment/presentation\\_061407.ppt](http://www.campdurant.com/recruitment/presentation_061407.ppt)

**Dial-up user alert...** 1.6 MB size file.

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

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### 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](http://www.scouting.org/commissioners/podcast/index.html)

### BSA Online Learning Center

Most of us are familiar with various online training offerings, but did you know that BSA has a web site dedicated to online learning?

The BSA Online Learning Center site provides a variety of materials from quick references to complete courses designed to help members improve leadership skills and deliver quality Scouting experiences to youth. Anyone may create a user account and view the courses, which include: Cub Scout and Boy Scout Leader Fast Start, Youth Protection Training, Safety Afloat and Safe Swim Defense.

The site URL is... [www.olc.scouting.org](http://www.olc.scouting.org)

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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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### Unit Lifesaving

**Hooray!** Fred Valachovic has agreed to fill Eric Ritzen's vacancy and lead our team of 9-1-1 response commissioners.



We still need one 9-1-1 commissioner in every district. If you are interested in joining Fred's team, contact him at [fsv@mindspring.com](mailto:fsv@mindspring.com)

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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](#).