

Occoneechee Council



Commissioner News

A publication for and about Scouters involved in Commissioner Service

August 2007 Issue

<http://www.campdurant.com/Commissioner/Service/news/2007/08.pdf>

Reports From Philmont

Several of our commissioners attended courses in July at BSA's Philmont Training Center in Cimarron, New Mexico. Here are two of their reports.

- Doug Branson went twice this summer. Once for the Cub Scout Leader program and once for the Venturing week. Doug is excited about starting Kodiak here.

If you are unfamiliar with Kodiak, visit the following URL...

www.scouting.org/venturing/training/kodiak.html

- C.F. Farmer went to Philmont last week as part of our council's district key 3 program. Among other things, they developed an enhanced district plan and they got ideas for revitalizing roundtables.

NOTE: *This is our fourth year of offering district key 3's and all expenses paid trip to Philmont. Every district key 3 that has participated has reported a positive experience and their districts have shown a marked improvement.*

Active Commissioners Inventory

Susan Long, our ACC for Administration, needs each district commissioner to send her a list of names and contact information for all active commissioners in your district. Susan also needs to know if they have had CBT and if so, when they took the course last.

Please e-mail your list to Susan at ilong7@nc.rr.com

Fall CBT

Based on the anticipated recruitment of new unit commissioners in August and September, we are tentatively planning to have a Fall Commissioner Basic Training (CBT) course at the Council Service Center on Saturday, September 22nd. Jack Nichols will be the course director. There is no cost and you can register on-line at...

<https://www.doubleknot.com/registration/calendardetail.asp?ActivityKey=295626>

Registration Open For Commissioners' College

On-line registration is available effective August 14th. Visit the following URL to register for college.

<https://www.doubleknot.com/registration/calendardetail.asp?ActivityKey=273178>

NOTE: *Please make certain you have made your primary and alternate course selections before you try to register.*

If you do not have access to an Internet accessible PC, then you have four options:

1. Ask a fellow commissioner, who does have a PC, to help you register.
2. Many public libraries have Internet accessible PCs that you can use to register.
3. You can go to the Council Service Center and register there.
4. You can contact our college registrar, Mary Hampson, and make arrangements to register using mail-in paper forms.

Site Survey

We have been going to Cary UMC for about six months and the ComSvc key 3 want to know what you think. Visit the following URL and take the survey. We will discuss the results at our September Council Commissioners' Cabinet meeting.

www.campdurant.com/csss.html

Recruiting Tip

Unit Commissioners should work with units to identify and contact aging out parents.

On the Pack level, look for parents of Webelos who do not plan to be active in the Troop. Ask them to help new leaders by sharing their knowledge and experience as a Unit Commissioner.

On the Troop level, look for parents of recently awarded Eagle Scouts. Ask them to give back to Scouting by helping units that seldom have any Eagles.

Cracking the Bowes Code

Several people have asked what the annotations mean on the spreadsheets that Connie Bowes gives district commissioners each month. We asked Connie and here are the answers:

1-Load Roster – This is when a unit either uploads their roster to ScoutNet or downloads the existing roster from ScoutNet.

2-Review Roster – This is the stage when a unit reviews their roster and makes updates.

3-Check Roster – This is the final registration stage in which they check the updated roster and make any final corrections.

S/R – This shows up in the “Dropped Unit” column. It means separated/reregistered which, in most cases occurs with a unit that has minor issues that have not been resolved in time to avoid a dropped status. That designation may also appear if we have had any internal challenges in getting a unit processed, but in those cases, the unit is still counted as on time (if it was, in fact, on time).

Commissioner Roles

When you took Commissioner Basic Training (CBT), you learned that commissioners serve several roles: friend, representative, unit doctor, teacher, and counselor (see page 11 of the “Commissioner Fieldbook for Unit Service”). At our August 9th Council Commissioners' Cabinet meeting, Susan Long led a discussion about three of these roles: friend, representative, and counselor. Susan emphasized the following points that all commissioners should re-emphasize back in their districts.

- Being a friend means you sincerely care. Not just about the unit, but the person you are working with. Most of all, you genuinely care about the Scouting movement and the integrity of the program.
 - Never forget that you, as a commissioner, represent BSA more than any other volunteer in the mainstream program. You are the frontline diplomat for the council and Scouting. You lead by example and the impressions you make are critical to unit leaders having confidence in BSA and our council.
 - As a counselor, don't do – guide. Be prepared to provide facts or obtain the facts and follow up. Listen more than you talk. Most of all, don't give advice. Instead, help the unit leadership solve their own problems and find their own answers (what we call being a facilitator and enabler).
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Self Guided Tours

If you were unable to make the May 24th tours of Camp Durant, you can still walk the tour routes. The next time you are going to be at Camp Durant, take along the tours map and walk any or all of the four routes.

For dial-in users...

www.campdurant.com/Council/camp_tours2.pdf

For high speed modem users...

www.campdurant.com/Council/camp_tours.pdf

District Nominations

Our Council's Annual Business Meeting is scheduled for November 29, 2007. 90 days prior to this meeting (which will be August 31), each district should form a 2008 district nominations committee.

The nominating committee has a major responsibility mandated in *Standard Local Council Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws*, No. 337368.

This committee should consist of three to five members. The council president has the discretion to add or delete names for the nominating committee from the council executive board or the community at large.

When committee approval is received from the council president, the nominating committee meets with the district executive (as adviser) to form the slate of 2008 nominees for the following positions: district chairman, one or more vice chairmen, and district members at large.

The district nominations committee carries out procedures as outlined in the *District Nominating Committee Worksheet*, No. 33157D. Each year, they should view "*The District Nominating Committee*" video, AV-06V006 (which is available from the council service center).

District Commissioners are approved and appointed by the council executive committee. However, the district nominations committee may submit a recommendation via the district chairman for council executive board consideration. ADCs are recruited and appointed by the district commissioner and unit commissioners are recruited and appointed by the ADC or DC they report to.

News From Around The Council

We have none because no one used the following web page to send us your district's news...

www.campdurant.com/Commissioner/Service/monthly_report.html

Roundtable Programs

Ice Cream-O-Ree!! What a way to beat the heat!

Fourteen Boy Scout Roundtable Commissioners/Staff participated in our August CCRTC. This session featured a troop/district roundtable program planning session on the theme: Athletics. Small group (patrols) brainstorming sessions produced lots of ideas for troop meeting and roundtable activities. All participants received a program theme resource book, program theme posters, a CD containing the complete set of Woods Wisdom and a copy of the 2007-2008 Boy Scout Roundtable Planning Guide. Kia Kima's Roundtable Commissioner, Tony Garcia, was elected Scribe for the CCRTC.

All council districts, except Moore, Orange and Cape Fear, plus Venture and Sea Scouts participate in the Boy Scout Roundtable CCRTC!

Next month's program theme will be Science – an excellent opportunity to put into practice our growing program planning capabilities to help troops deliver quality troop meetings and monthly highlight events!

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

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

Adopt A Campsite

Bill Lappin discussed this program and distributed a copy of the letter that was published on page 4 in the July 2007 edition of our council's Scout Sign newsletter ...

www.campdurant.com/Council/news/2007/07.pdf

Volunteer Opportunities

We have an immediate need to fill the following openings:

- **ACC Registrar** – We are pleased to announce that Mary Hampson has agreed to serve as our year-round registrar.
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Plan Ahead

- **Next Commissioners Cabinet Meeting** – September 13th at the First United Methodist Church in downtown Cary.
 - **Next Commissioners' Conference** – This event is scheduled begin at 3:30 PM on Friday, October 12th. 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 13th. 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 activities relating to basic camping skills, such as Camping, Backpacking, Wilderness Survival, Pioneering, Orienteering, etc.
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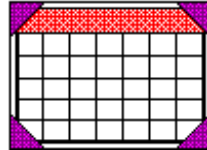
August Meeting Slides

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

http://www.campdurant.com/recruitment/presentation_080907.ppt

A smaller 1.5 MB monochrome version in PDF is at the following URL...

http://www.campdurant.com/recruitment/presentation_080907.pdf



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

Training Calendar Needs Help

If you have noticed, the current council training calendar ends in December 2007. The reason for this is we are not getting any feedback from the districts.

Every other month, we have a Coordinated Council Committee Meeting. At this meeting, the HR & Training Committee dedicates the time to working with district training chairpersons and service area training coordinators to review and expand the 18-month training calendar forecast. Unfortunately, participation at these meetings has been sparse.

District commissioners are members of the district key 3. Commissioner Service needs you to make the district training calendar an item for review every month during the district committee meeting. In addition, as a key 3 member, you need to encourage your district training chairperson to either attend the HR & Training Committee meetings or at least provide regular updates on what the district is planning to offer.

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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Commissioners' Conference Registration

The on-line registration has been activated. Just visit the event on the training calendar and register...

<http://www.doubleknot.com/registration/calendardetail.asp?ActivityKey=298129>

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](#).