

Greater Yosemite Council, BSA

E-News!

February, 2006

QUALITY COUNCIL STATUS ACHIEVED



The Greater Yosemite Council achieved Quality Council status for 2005. Thanks to the hard work of many volunteers, units and the council staff, all goals to acquire this coveted status have been attained. Objectives are: achieving Quality Unit goals; a gain in units; youth membership growth; balanced budget; growth in endowment fund assets, maintenance of an approved staff size; adoption of a strategic long-range plan; having a functioning Key 3 (district chairman, district executive and district commissioner) in each district; and maintaining a prescribed level of youth retention.

In addition to the council achieving this prestigious status, El Capitan, Forty-Niner and Wawona Districts qualified as Quality Districts.

ANNUAL COUNCIL DINNER APPROACHES



This year's annual Council Dinner has been scheduled for March 4th. The location is the Assyrian American Civic Club in Turlock. This location offers a more formal setting including a wait staff to serve tables.

The program will include Silver Beaver awards, veteran awards, lifesaving awards, endowment recognition, the council annual report, introduction of new council officers, district volunteer recognition and more. The council dinner committee will meet on Wednesday, February 8, 7:00 P.M. at the Council Service Center. All volunteers interested in supporting this great event are invited to attend.

Our 2005 National Jamboree contingent will provide the opening and closing, plus a brief report on their Jamboree experience. Look for your Council Dinner invitation in the mail or visit the council web site. All registered leaders have received an invitation by mail. Be sure to return your reservation as soon as possible. This is an event you won't want to miss!

**COUNCIL PARTNERS WITH STATE
PHYSICAL FITNESS AND HEALTH ORGANIZATION**



On Saturday, April 22, 2006 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM the first annual health faire "Scouting for a Healthier California: Get Fit, Not Fat" will take place at Dry Creek Park and the adjacent LDS Church building - 731 El Vista Avenue, Modesto. The purpose of this event is to bring focus on the concerns of youth obesity and inactive lifestyles. Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Varsity Scouts, Venture Scouts and their families are invited.

The Governor's Office, in cooperation with the Boy Scouts of America, is encouraging all Californians to make a commitment to eat better and live a healthier, more active lifestyle. The Health Faire will have a series of four educational classes and a subsequent bicycle and walking activity. The goal is to (1) educate families, (2) provide a tangible example of how to adopt healthy lifestyle habits, and (3) serve as a health screening resource to individuals/families.

The Governor's Office, ActiveCA (a non-profit group dedicated to promoting healthier lifestyles), the Modesto Police Department, The Modesto Bicycle Club, The American Diabetes Association, The American Heart Association, local health care facilities, the Boy Scouts of America, and others are participating.

For more information on ActiveCA including the free Boy Scout patch program log on to <http://www.Activeca.org>. Please look for the Council mailer giving more details including the sign up form. This is the Council's Good Turn for America event for 2006 and we hope to see you there

**COUNCIL OFFERS NUMEROUS
TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**

The Greater Yosemite Council recognizes the fact that "every Scout deserves a trained leader". Trained leadership provides a quality program and increased tenure for both youth and adults. Scouting programs offer education, leadership experiences, youth association and FUN! The following training courses are currently scheduled:

- Council Commissioners Conference – February 4
- Cub Leader Basic Training – March 4
- Boy Scout Leader Training – March 4
- BALOO (Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation) – March 25
- Wood Badge – April 6-8 and April 27-29

For more information about these and other training opportunities visit our council web site or contact your district Training Chairperson.

2006 FRIENDS OF SCOUTING CAMPAIGN KICKS OFF



The 2006 annual Friends of Scouting campaign kicks off this month. Council Board members and Executive Committee members have already pledged or donated their contribution. District committees and Commissioner Staffs are also submitting pledge cards and contributions to complete the “Scouters” portion of this year’s campaign. Various units in districts have already scheduled or received an FOS presentation, to be recognized as “early bird” units. Thirty-eight percent of the council’s annual budget income is derived from this annual campaign.

This year each family that pledges \$125 or more will receive the council’s limited edition “LOYAL” council shoulder strip – the second patch in our Scout Law collection. Each pack, troop, team and crew that reaches its goal of \$100 per family received the following incentives:

- Free cloth advancement badges until March, 2007
- \$15 discount per Boy Scout to attend Camp Mensinger Scout Camp
- \$10 discount per Cub Scout or Webelos Scout to attend Camp Akela Resident Camp
- \$5 discount per Tiger Cub, Cub Scout or Webelos Scout to attend Cub Day Camp

Every unit should schedule a Friends of Scouting presentation during the months of January, February or March. Your generous donations and a successful campaign help to provide a quality program. Remember, it’s for our youth!

2007 JAMBORALL PLANNING UNDERWAY

The Greater Yosemite Council’s *2007 Jamborall* will provide an opportunity for Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Venture Scouts, Sea Scouts and adult leaders to experience Scouting at its best. Event Chairman, Jim Horner, reports that this council-wide event is scheduled for May 4 – 6, 2007. The “Jamborall” committee held its first meeting on January 25th with plans to meet monthly through May, 2007. Committees are being formed to facilitate all aspects of this event, including facilities, registration, midway displays, Cub Scout activities, campfires and marketing. Your active participation will help enhance this event for the youth in our council. The next committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 22, 7:00 P.M. at the Council Service Center. For more information call Jim Horner at 551-3477 (home) or 985-3065 (cell).

INTERNET RE-CHARTER NEARS COMPLETION

Internet re-chartering is the newest and most accurate way to re-charter units. While it is new to our council, it has been in use for two years. In that time it has proven to be a simpler way for units to re-charter while improving the accuracy of the records. This year our council’s Scouting units have the opportunity to correct existing records and information relating to unit members, both youth and adults.

Most unit charters within our council expire on January 31st. While many units have already completed the internet re-chartering process, some have not yet begun the process. Most volunteers report that the procedure required less than an hour. Everyone has pleased with the ease and accuracy of the process. We encourage you to complete and submit your unit’s internet re-charter as soon as possible.