

Buffalo Council



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Buffalo Tracks

1101 West Texas
Midland, Texas 79701
January/February/March
2006

Council Scout Executive - Lyman Gifford, CFRE
Council President - Kyle Peeler: 432-688-0209
Council Commissioner - Richard Johnson: 432-697-8544
Program Director - Warren Wallace 432-270-3507
Field Director - Brad Connel 432-570-7601 Ext 15

Welcome the New Buffalo Trail Council Scout Executive

The Buffalo Trail Council is proud to announce that we have a new Scout Executive as of December 1, 2005. Our new Executive is **Lyman Gifford**. He and his wife **Dee** have just moved from Rapid City, South Dakota, where **Lyman** served as Scout Executive for the Black Hills Area Council the past 6 years. We are excited to have them here in West Texas and look forward to great success working together in the Buffalo Trail Council.

Popcorn Recognition 2005

Top Selling units in Council: (All over \$10,000 in Sales!)

Pack 129 in Andrews \$16,956; **Pack 775** in Odessa \$14,726; **Pack 222** in Midland \$14,596;
Troop 775 in Odessa \$14,566; **Pack 84** in Midland \$13,810; **Pack 216** in Midland \$12,948;
and **Troop 84** in Midland \$11,172.

Top Council Individual Sellers

- 1) **Derek Bass**, Tr. 775, Odessa-\$5,420
- 2) **Kevin Yancey**, Tr. 775, Odessa-\$4,536
- 3) **Paras Gupta**, Tr. 84, Midland-\$3,014

Top District Individual Sellers:

Big Bend:

- 1) **Brandon Trevizo**, Pk. 30, Ft. Davis-\$1,532
- 2) **Tyler Wright**, Pk. 30, Ft. Davis-\$688
- 3) **Keller Hardaway**, Pk. 141, Alpine, \$585

Chaparral:

- 1) **Martin Lilly**, Pk. 216, Midland-\$2,002
- 2) **Colton Gage**, Pk. 216, Midland-\$1,600
- 3) **Stewart Aaron**, Tr. 84, Midland-\$1,574

Lone Star:

- 1) **Taylor Clark**, Pk. 501, Coahoma-\$620
- 2) **Austin Merrick**, Pk. 32, Hermleigh-\$583
- 3) **James Merrick**, Pk. 32, Hermleigh-\$565

Sand Hills:

- 1) **Braden Baxter**, Pk. 756, Monahans-\$412
- 2) **John Mixon**, Tr. 320, Kermit-\$380
- 3) **Hunter McNeese**, Pk. 999, Kermit-\$282

Comanche Trails:

- 1) **Nicolas Orona**, Pk. 129, Andrews-\$1,580
- 2) **Kenneth Sledge**, Pk. 91, Odessa-\$1,518
- 3) **Patrick Hooper**, Pk. 129, Andrews-\$1,220

Upcoming Events

Venturing Ski Weekend

January 13-16, 2006 (MLK School Holiday on Monday) – Join us on a fun trip to Durango, Colorado for Skiing and Snowboarding. All Venturers and Boy Scouts age 14 and over, Adult Leaders, Siblings and Scouts under 14 must be accompanied by parent. \$325 per Person all inclusive except Ski Rental. For more information contact **Randy Bell** at Home: 522-2991, Cell: 352-5974 or Email at rbell@quik.com.

Council Volunteer & Eagle Recognition Banquet

Volunteers will be recognized for their service to Scouting in the Council and Districts. Silver Beaver awards will be presented and the 2005 Class of Eagle Scouts will be recognized. To be held at Alliance Center 501 S. Adams in Odessa at 6:30pm on Saturday January 28th. Executive Board Meeting will be held at Alliance Center, 5:00pm preceding the Banquet. Please see enclosed invitation and RSVP.

Merit Badge Academy

Saturday January 21st & 28th in Midland at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. 30+ merit badges and adult leader training being offered. For more information call **Barbara Biffle** at 570-7811 or **Travis Bushman** 682-8855.

Scout Sunday Council Flag Retirement Ceremony

To be held at Midland Centennial Plaza on Sunday, February 5, 2006 at 3:00pm. Over 500 flags retired annually at ceremony! For more information call **John Crosby** 694-3408.

Scouting for Food & Coat Drive

For more information see your local District article in the Tracks or your District Executive, to be held on Saturday February 4, 2006. Will benefit the West Texas Food Bank, Goodwill in Midland & Odessa, and other area Food Banks & Soup Kitchens!

Cub Leader Pow Wow and Den Chief Training

To be held on Saturday, January 28, 2006 at Bethany Christian Church in Odessa. \$10 Fee includes registration and lunch. This is a supplemental training opportunity for Cub Scout Leaders. Come re-charge your creative batteries and soak in the idea & information bonanza. Forms at your Scout Service Center or on the Website.

Family Campout Weekend

The Order of the Arrow is hosting this camping weekend for Scouts of all ages and their families. Please make your reservation and come join us at BTR on March 10-12, 2006 for a great weekend of events! Call your Scout Service Center to make your reservation. The cost is \$20 per person with Family maximum of \$80.

College of Commissioner Science

To be held at Hughes Aquatic Base at Lake Colorado City on March 24-26, 2006. For all current Commissioners and those who might want to learn more about Unit Service. Great for Unit Leaders to Expand knowledge of Scouting program. Forms available at Scout Service Center and on Website! For more information call your District Commissioner.

Good Turn for America

The Good Turn for America website, www.goodturnforamerica.org, is a place for your unit to log its service hours. Check out the site and start recording your unit's community service. If you have lost your unit's code for website or need more information call **John Balden** at 697-6257. **Don't forget to log on and record your Unit Service Hours for Food Drive!**

BTR Summer Camp Spots Still Available

The 2006 summer season at Buffalo Trail Scout Ranch will be here before we all know it! Five weeks of camp are already full with over 1,500 participants, with more reservations on the way. **If you have not got your reservation in do so ASAP!** We hope your Troop comes to BTR this summer. Drop by your local Scout office, or log on to the Buffalo Trail Council website to find your reservation forms. Also, we are in the midst of hiring another great staff and are looking forward to serving you this summer! If you have any youth in your unit that are interested in applying for summer camp staff, you may pick up an application at your Scout service center.

BTR Summer Camp to Host Two Cavalcades per Week

New in the summer of 2005, BTR was able to host TWO Cavalcade crews during almost every week of camp! As a result of this success, BTR will once again host two Cavalcades per week. This program has always been in high demand, so to meet that demand we doubled the available crews! We have two, 10 person crews still available as of December 1st. Please check with Jana at the Odessa office to confirm availability and get your reservation forms in and reserve one of these slots for your Troop! This is an outstanding opportunity for your Troop to enjoy a high-adventure experience like no other!

Council Calendar

January

- 2 Scout Service Centers Closed
- 7-8 OA Vigil Weekend
- 13-16 Venturing Ski Weekend for Venturers and Older Scouts- See article below
- 16 Scout Service Centers closed in Observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 17 Council Cub Day Camp Meeting
- 19 Council Commissioner Meeting
- 21 Merit Badge Academy #1
- 28 Merit Badge Academy #2
- 28 Cub Leader Pow Wow & Den Chief Training
- 28 Council Executive Board, 5:00pm Alliance Center in Odessa
- 28 Council Annual Recognition Banquet, 6:30pm Alliance Center in Odessa

February

- 4 Scouting for Food Drive & Coat Drive Day
- 5 Scout Sunday - Wear your Uniform to Church
- 5 Annual Council Flag Retirement Ceremony, 3pm Centennial Plaza in Midland
- 11-12 OA Fellowship Weekend - BTR - Ordeal & Brotherhood Candidates
- 16 Council Commissioners Meeting

March

- 10-12 OA Family Campout for Scouts of all ages and their Families
- 14 Council Cub Daycamp Meeting
- 16 Council Commissioners 7pm, MSSC
- 23 Council Executive Board, 6:30pm, Odessa Scout Service Center

District Calendars & Information

Big Bend District

Dist. Chair – Dr. Dan Petrosky 729-3550
District Comm.– Harris Clanton 837-5763
Program Dir. –Warren Wallace-270-3507

District Notes:

We hope your holidays were filled with joy and peace, and that the New Year will bring much happiness and success to you and yours. Thank you for helping to make fall popcorn sales turn out so well. The money earned will certainly help to buy awards and deliver a better program to the scouts in your unit.....As the result of your willingness to volunteer as leaders in the Scouting movement, we now have good packs and troops in Alpine, Marfa, & Ft. Davis, along with a pack in Presidio and a Law Enforcement Post in Marfa.....District Structure, manpower, unit support, and Friends of Scouting will be our focus in the near term. Please continue to offer your leadership and service wherever possible. May God bless our efforts.

Chaparral District

District Chair- Charles House– 683-9527
Dist. Comm. - Barbara Biffle- 570-7757
Dist. Exec – Scott Britton-570-7601x18

January

6-7 Annual Planning Retreat
13-16 Venturing Ski Weekend
16 Martin. Luther King Jr. Day

February

4 Scouting for Food Drive Day
4 Scouting for Coats Drive Day
5 Scout Sunday
5 Annual Flag Retirement Ceremony,
3pm
20 Presidents Day
25 Pushmobile Races

March

6-10 MISD Spring Break
31-1 Scout Expo/Webelo
Crossover/Pinewood Derby Races.

Venturing Ski/Snowboarding Trip
Durango, Colorado

This Ski trip is open to all Ventures and Scouts 14yrs/ and older, Parents and Adult Leaders, Siblings and Scouts under 14 with a Parent. This is limited to the First (45) SO HURRY!!!! Don't miss out on all the Fun. Call or come by the Scout Service Center at 11011 W. Texas for Registration and Information.

Pushmobile

Mark your calendars for Saturday, February 25th from 1-3 PM to be at Grande Stadium for the Pushmobile race! Get your new boys and old boys together to create that award winning car that will take the championship trophy! This is always a fun event for the Cubs and parents alike so start making your plans

now to be there! Every boy will get to participate.

Scout Expo

Scout Expo is Just around the corner. Start planning now for your units Pinewood Derby Race. Any suggestion or units that would like to volunteer please call **Jamie Subia @ 557-6577**

District Award of Merit

Chaparral District was proud to announce the 2005 recipients at this years' annual recognition banquet: **Eddie Taylor, James Busby Craig Graves, Liz Thornton, Sam Valenzuela.**
Congratulations to all and Thanks for all you do in Scouting!

District Needs

Chaparral District is in need of Volunteers to sit on the District Committee to ensure the growth and success of Scouting within Midland and Martin Counties. Chaparral District Commissioners is also in need of Volunteers to serve as Unit Commissioners. This is a great opportunity for anyone who loves to meet people and help Units fulfill the Scout Mission.

District Planning

We are looking forward to a great year in Scouting for the District. Our Committee is looking forward to working with Each Unit in planning and carrying out a great Scouting Program. Anyone interested in sitting on the District Committee please let me know. Thanks! **Scott Britton, DE**

Comanche Trails District

Dist. Chair – Gary Deutsch- H 333-6897
Dist. Comm. – Bill Houston– H 631-3851
Dist. Exec.–Nicholas Cook- 425-9844

January 2006

8 OA Chapter Meeting 2:30pm,
775 Scout Hut
9 District Committee Meeting 7pm,
Scout Service Center
10 District Commissioner Meeting
6:30pm, 775 Scout Hut
10 Combined Cub & Scout Roundtable
7pm, 775 Scout Hut
21 District Planning Conference
21 District Recognition Banquet,
6:30pm Highland United Methodist

February

5 OA Chapter Meeting 2:30pm,
775 Scout Hut
6 District Committee Meeting 7pm,
Scout Service Center
7 District Commissioner Meeting
6:30pm in Andrews
7 Combined Cub & Scout Roundtable
7:00pm in Andrews

March

5 OA Chapter Meeting – 2:30pm,
775 Scout Hut

- 6 District Committee Meeting 7pm,
Scout Service Center
- 7 District Commissioner Meeting
6:30pm, 775 Scout Hut
- 7 Combined Cub & Scout Roundtable
7pm, 775 Scout Hut

Roundtable

Don't forget that Roundtable is held for Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts on the first Tuesday of every month. Roundtables provide additional information and training to all leaders of your unit. If you feel like you are in the dark, attend roundtable and we will give you information important for your unit!

New District Committee

The year is starting with some excitement as we have a group of volunteers that have decided to lead our District to greater heights! The following individuals have agreed to help in the respective areas:

- Gary Deutsch**, District Chairman
 - Bill Houston**, District Commissioner
 - Rav Mosley**, Program Committee
 - Laura Cunningham**, Cub Scout Training
 - Ben Mavtubby**, Boy Scout Training
 - Barry Donner**, Activities & Civic Service
 - Patti Seale**, Good Turn for America
 - Dan Wagoner**, Advancement Committee
 - Robert Orona**, Membership Committee
 - Lila Evans**, Public Relations Committee
 - Dewey Bryant**, Finance Committee
- Thanks to all and let's have a great year!

Membership

Its time to make plans! We are already planning for Spring and Fall recruiting for 2006. If you are interested in being on a team for spring and/or fall rallies, more information will be coming shortly. There is also a new knot for being a new unit coordinator (starting a new unit). For more information, contact **Robert Orona** or **Billy Johnston**.

Charter Time

It is re-charter time. Now is the time for you to make any necessary corrections to your charters. Has a leader changed their position? Check your charter and make sure that the change is reflected. Are you trained but your charter shows that you are not? Write the name and date of the training so this can be updated. If you have any questions about your charter, please contact your unit commissioner or **Bill Houston**, District Commissioner.

Banquet

This year's District Banquet is going to be held January 21, 2005 at 6:30 pm at the Highland United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. The cost is \$10 per person. If you or someone in your unit is eligible for a veterans' pin or a leadership knot, please turn in the proper paperwork at the Scout Service Center so these can be awarded at the banquet.

HEB Feast of Sharing

This was a huge success for the community, and the Volunteers that

prepared for the event. The Entire event saw roughly 5500 people come, and enjoy a meal donated, prepared, & served by the employees, and Associates of the HEB FOOD companies. We had approx. 3000 families come through the activities area. The activities included face painting, Cookie Making, Puppets Show, Watch the Weather with CBS, display from Bikers Against Child Abuse, and numerous community assistance agencies. The Boy Scout booth was the largest and had 17 Volunteers help at the six hour event. The dedication towards the community and towards scouting shows that the spirit of volunteerism is not dead, and is not a passion of the past. A total of **94** Services hours were worked the week of the event, and this shows that the Comanche Trails District is a viable part of the community. The Scouts were asked to perform a flag ceremony at the last minute because the planned color guard did not show for the event. Again, a big thank you goes to all who assisted, and made this event possible for the citizens of Odessa. - **Excerpts taken from Bill Houston's e-mail on 12/8**

Lone Star District

Dist Chr. – Brian Marlar 230-4077
Dist Com. – Marshall Horn 267-3312
Dist. Exec. – David O'Neill 263-3407

January

- 4 Snyder Roundtable, 5:30 pm
China Dragon
- 5 District Commissioner Meeting,
Service Center, 6:00 pm
- 5 Big Spring Roundtable, Service
Center, 7:00 pm
- 9 District Committee Meeting,
Service Center, Noon
- 12 District Banquet, FUMC, 6:30

February

- 1 Snyder Roundtable, 5:30 pm
China Dragon
- 2 District Commissioner Meeting,
Service Center, 6:00 pm
- 2 Big Spring Roundtable, Service
Center, 7:00 pm
- 4 Food Drive Service Project
9am, Big Spring Wal-Mart
- 5 Flag Retirement Ceremony,
3:00, Howard Cty. Courthouse
- 13 District Committee Meeting,
Service Center, Noon

March

- 1 Snyder Roundtable, 5:30 pm
China Dragon
- 2 District Commissioner Meeting,
Service Center, 6:00 pm
- 2 Big Spring Roundtable, Service
Center, 7:00 pm
- 13 District Committee Meeting,
Service Center, Noon

Fall Pushmobile A Success!

Thanks to all of you Cubs, parents, and leaders that came out to enjoy the annual

Lone Star District Pushmobile Race!
There was tons of great looking cars, and some really fast ones too!
Congratulations to the winners and we hope to see you all out at next year's race in Big Spring.

Overall Fastest Pack

1. Pack 2, Colorado City (17.30)
2. Pack 113, Garden City (17.49)
3. Pack 501, Coahoma (18.91)

Overall Fastest Cars

Tigers (First Grade)

- 1st Place – Pack 305, Big Spring
- 2nd Place – Pack 29, Forsan
- 3rd Place – Pack 29, Forsan

Wolves (Second Grade)

- 1st Place – Pack 29, Forsan
- 2nd Place – Pack 29, Forsan
- 3rd Place – Pack 305, Big Spring

Bears (Third Grade)

- 1st Place – Pack 113, Garden City
- 2nd Place – Pack 501, Coahoma
- 3rd Place – Pack 2, Colorado City

Webelos 1 (4th Grade)

- 1st Place – Pack 2, Colorado City
- 2nd Place – Pack 176, Big Spring
- 3rd Place – Pack 12, Sterling City

Webelos 2 (5th Grade)

- 1st Place – Pack 113, Garden City
- 2nd Place – Pack 176, Big Spring
- 3rd Place – Pack 305, Big Spring

Best Pushmobile Design

1. Pack 305, Big Spring – Red & Black
2. Pack 501, Coahoma – Flaming Car
3. Pack 113. Garden City – Blue & Gold

Most Unique Pushmobile

1. Pack 176 Big Spring – Halloween Skull
2. Pack 29, Forsan – Wolf Furmobile
3. Pack 29, Forsan – Big White Boxcar

District Recognition Banquet

Attention all volunteer leaders and District Committee members of the Lone Star District! Don't forget that the annual banquet was moved to January this year! It will take place on January 12th in Big Spring at the FUMC at 6:30 PM. We encourage all adult volunteers to attend and be recognized for the hard work you all do for the boys in your units. Be on the lookout for invitations are in the mail!

Food Drive Good Turn Project

This annual service project for the community will take place on February 4th beginning at 9:00 am at the grocery entrance at the Wal-mart in Big Spring. We will need help from Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, leaders and parents to canvas the city for donated canned goods. Scouts will leave notices on the doors of homes, and the newspaper will publicize our project. The Scouts and volunteers will do the rest. See you there!

Flag Retirement Ceremony

Our annual Flag Retirement Ceremony will take place once again on Scout Sunday. (Feb. 5th, 3:00 PM) The event will take place at the Howard County

courthouse in Big Spring. We will perform a special ceremony to respectfully retire US flags from all over the community. Look for more information at the Scout office as this event approaches!

Sand Hills District

District Chair-
Dist Comm.–Frank Dotson 943-3748
Program Dir.–Warren Wallace-270-3507

District Notes:

Ditto notes from the Big Bend District. Kudos for good popcorn sales and welcome to our new pack leaders in Kermit and Monahans. Thanks to each of you for helping make Scouting happen in your communities.

More Council News:

Memorials

Joe Pickle

W. R. Cregar
Sandy & Warren Wallace
Lone Star District Committee

Grady Tindol

Sandy & Warren Wallace

Bill Dillion

Margaret Cowden

Louis H. Michaelson

C. Wallace Craig
Edwin Magruder, Jr.
Warren & Sandy Wallace

Jerry Edward Lee

Jan & Neil Florer

Ned Truex

Marvin Smith

Robert N. Watson, Jr.

William G. Watson

Ride a Horse at BTSR

There are lots of horses and lots of opportunities to ride at BTSR this Spring! Boy Scout age riders can earn Horsemanship Merit Badge in One Day! Venture Scouts can ride 2-3 day Cavalcades through the Davis Mountains! Call **Ranger Dan** at the Scout Ranch for more information (432) 426-3709 or look at buffalotrailbsa.org/camping/horses

Council Eagles to Date:

Big Bend District

Travis J. Young, T-30, Fort Davis
Spenser T. Smith, T-42, Marfa

Comanche Trails District:

William Page III, T-775, Odessa
Barrett M. Harry, T-18, Odessa
Trevor D. Nichols, T-786, Odessa
Cooper Daniel, T-34, Odessa
Nick Cunningham, T-18, Odessa
Kevin Yancey, T-775, Odessa
Richard J. Gudgel, C-144, Andrews
Nolin Ty Gandy, T-178, Odessa

Chaparral District:

Donald Garrett Fulton, T-628, Stanton
Jacob D. Phillips, T-160, Midland
Robert F. Shelton, T-225, Midland
Nathaniel J. Burns, T-109, Midland
Ryan N. Edmiston, T-80, Midland
Jonathan Alexander, T-175, Midland
Michael C. Prall, C-109-, Midland
Adam C. Edelbrock, T-80, Midland
James H. Kahlich, T-160, Midland
Scott E. Runyan, T-160, Midland
Samuel J. Sirgo, T-160, Midland
Brian A. Langhoff, T-233, Midland
Kyle Sheldon, T-175, Midland
Ryan T. Scott, T-152, Midland
Travis Ice, T-152, Midland
Forest Lybrand, T-232, Midland
Jonathan Ireton, T-628, Stanton
Mark Friday, T-233, Midland
Matthew Candler, T-158, Midland
Michale Hill, T-225, Midland
David Yoxsimer, T-232, Midland
Parker Jarrett, T-232, Midland
Derek Webb, T-232, Midland
Samuel McBride, T-233, Midland
Harrison G. Prather, T-160, Midland
Kevin C. Dawson, T-152, Midland
Leonel, D. Ramirez, T-225, Midland
Michael C. Graves, T-28, Stanton
Jacob D. Nelson, T-84, Midland
Cory D. Helms, T-175, Midland
Andrew I. Tipton, T-160, Midland
Nizar Boodhwani, T-84, Midland
Christopher Blackmon, T-152, Midland
Philip T. Downing, T84, Midland
Samuel W. Nixon, T-232, Midland

Lone Star District:

Jerry Sims, T-16, Forsan
Thomas C. Hefner, T-27, Snyder
Matthew D. Buske, T-5, Coahoma
Steven Lucas, Jr., T-187, Big Spring

2006 BSA Sporting Clay Shoot

We are gearing up for our **2006**, 8th Annual, **BSA Spring Fling Shootout** on Saturday April 8th at **Windwalker Shooting Sports Complex** north of Midland.

The **Committee** will start meeting in January and will meet about four times up until the event. Any adults interested in serving on the committee please contact **Brad Connel** at 432-570-7601 ext 15. Our **Co-Chairs** are **Keith King** and **Eric Hanson**.

We will have an **Auction and reception** for Major Sponsors and Team Captains and their guests on **Friday Night April 7th** at **The Willows** between Midland and Odessa.

We need volunteers:

We will have two fun-shoots and trainings for all **older Scouts and adult leaders** who are working stations the day of the shoot. These will be on Tuesday and Wednesday before the shoot. Show up anytime between 5:30 and 6:30 to shoot clays and enjoy hamburgers and hot dogs. Please sign up at your scout service center for what night of training you will attend by Friday, April 1st.

The corporate sponsor letters and a brochure with last year's sponsors are going out as we speak. The new official brochure will go out in the first part of February with current 2006 sponsors on it. Get your sponsorship in soon to get your Company name on the Brochure.

Four person shooting teams are \$600 and individual shooters are \$150 each. We have many Major sponsorship levels. If you did not receive an early brochure please call Brad or local Scout Service Center for more information.

Also \$20 Tickets are being sold on a chance to win choice of 2 person Trophy Deer Hunt or 4 wheel all terrain vehicle. 2nd draw for 12 gauge O/U shotgun. Need not be present to win at shoot!