



THE COMMISSIONER

Los Angeles Council – Boy Scouts of America *August 2010*

Bill Pomeranz - Ass't. Council Commissioner

The School Year is about to start. Cub Packs are recruiting and organizing for the year. This is the best time for us Commissioners to reestablish our relationships with our Units, and assist them in getting started.

Do your Units have a School Night? If they do can you attend, and assist them in recruiting? Chat up the need for and ease of getting training. Show the new leaders some of the aids available to them to help ease their fear of having to plan good programs for the boys. Let them know that you, an experienced volunteer, is available to listen and give advice.

Can you get yourself invited to the first Committee meeting? Your experience is most valuable there, but we must be careful to let the leaders do their jobs, so we don't end up being the de facto unit leader. You might suggest that they put together an integrated scout/school/religious calendar for the Unit's parents. Planning for the year right at the start is really important. Who will do the skit at each Pack Meeting, etc? Who will Chair the Blue & Gold, the Pinewood Derby, or?

Our Districts are all short of Commissioners, so we have a lot of Units that are uncovered. Can you take a little time at the beginning of the school year to help some of those Units get a good start? If so please let your District Commissioner know when you can help.

The same holds true for your Troops and Teams, but it's a bit easier there, as there is less turnover in leadership, but now is the best time to re-contact them, and see how you can be of assistance.

As you know, with our reduced professional staff, the need for a capable Commissioner Staff in our Districts is really important. Can you help your District Commissioner recruit? How about your ex Cubmaster, or Committee Chair, or?

I just updated my Youth Protection Training online. It was really painless. As you know the requirements have recently changed. Are you up to date? The new requirements and instructions as to how to take the training is at:
http://www.boyscoutsla.org/website/home_page/YPT-Changes.pdf

Bob Shockley and his team will be offering the Commissioner Basic Training Course on September 11, at South Bay Park in South Gate. This course includes the tools that every Commissioner needs to do our job. If you haven't attended one of these sessions, I know you will find that it is worth your time. The full announcement is on line at:
http://www.boyscoutsla.org/website/Commissioner/Commissioner_Basic_Training.pdf

We hope this newsletter is helpful to you. Gary, Steve, Bob and I are dedicated to the delivery of a great program for our kids. Please let me know how we can help you do your job better. My email address is pomeranz@pacbell.net.