

## 20240311 – Placer District Connections – Notes

District Dinner recap – Michael Jacques - It was a success! We need a better distraction/solution for the younger cubs and siblings, but we didn't have a good option. Next year we will make sure we have something for them to do. Troop 4 from Grass Valley suggested that we explain the Placer Bucks auction better.

An honorary Unit Leader of the Year award was given to our new District Executive Jim Ford, and he gratefully accepted the Placer Golden Bolo Tie Award.

District Award of Merit – Was awarded to Trevor Strosnider at the dinner, and Brandon Zipp at Connections, for their contributions to their Packs and the District. Congratulations to everyone recognized for their contributions to scouting in Placer District!

Camp Cards – Jim Ford – If you sell over 20 camp cards you are entered in a drawing to win a free summer camp for you and your Akela. Camp Card sales are ongoing, and the Foothills cards are still available (they're out of the Sac Metro camp cards).

Friends of Scouting – Jim Ford – he would like to attend your Blue and Gold meetings or other regular Unit meetings to give a FOS presentation. Let him know when he can attend.

IOLS and BALOO – Mike Thabault - Rescheduled from the rain/snow weekend to NEXT weekend! 3/22-3/23 at the First United Methodist Church in Loomis on Brace Road (where Connections is held). There is still room in the BALOO class, contact Mike Thabault for more info.

Resident Camp – Kathy Neuburger – BSA and Cubs will be celebrating 90 years of scouting at Camp Lassen this summer. There's still room in the BSA weeks 1 and 3, and Cub session 4. They are also still looking for more Counselors In Training (CITs), so let your friends or family know about the opportunity.

Twilight Camp – Brandon Zipp - June 3-6 At the Placer County Fairgrounds in Roseville. Outdoor Adventure Theme. We need help from all Packs, and even Troops for this event! A happy and healthy pipeline of cub scouts is great for Placer District, and we all play a role in that.

Main Session – Michael Jacques – Recharter and Issues

There will be a 12 month membership cycle for everyone – starting April 1<sup>st</sup>. New members have been on this system since August, but all Legacy members will now be billed 60 days before their recharter date (which will be December 31<sup>st</sup> for existing BSA members). Leaders will get emails throughout the year when their members are up for recharter. There are concerns about leaders receiving excessive amounts of “nag” emails for rechartering. There is concern that there's no longer a “test” period for new recruits, since the prorated fees will now be gone. No more cheap test period for new families.

Pre-cruiting: open recruiting in April! We need to start recruiting members early- start in April to get families joined and involved in the summertime camp activities.

GEC awarded 98 scholarships in 2023. Unit leaders act as the first pass filter for this, so if you know of a family in need, please let them know about the opportunity. Units are also encouraged to set up their own scholarship for unit fees, as a potential recruiting tool or way to keep families.

Michael Jacques will send a FAQ and fee structure for posting on PlacerScouting.org, but the short version: National has increased fees by \$5 as of 4/1 – He does not know if Golden Empire Council will match the national fee raise (councils are allowed to assess a council-specific fee that does not exceed the national fee, so the Council board will need to vote on this matter).

Cub Breakout – Twilight!!!

We covered all things twilight, with a focus on stations and activities that are engaging and fun for scouts. Great feedback was received, and the camp program is shaping up nicely!