

WESTERN GATE DISTRICT

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2009 What an Excellent Year it Was!!!

Western Gate is clicking on all cylinders again, not that we still don't have some tweaking to do. We want to thank all of you that helped this year.

We had record attendance at all of our activities at our Klondike Derby, thanks to Tom Geer and many others. The Webelos Klondike with Keith Date and some great information provided by Marty Stall is also growing. A good Summer Camp showing was followed by the crown Jewell of 2009 was the Fall Civil War Camporee, Thanks to Mary Stall leadership and Terry Parker's re-enactor connections.

Western Gate turned in another strong financial year. Our record setting Spring and Fall Popcorn Sales and Another solid FOS year plus a pretty good Bowl-athon showing put us on the right track for Quality District.

With all that our membership year was unbelievable, we set records in lots of towns, Angelica, Port Allegheny and Galeton just to name a few. Lets not let up, We would love to see the 100th year of Scouting 2010, be even better, but it's up to you!!!

Mush, Mush -Get your sleds ready for the Awesome Western Gate Klondike Derby, January 23rd.

Host Tom Greer and Troop 410 Mt. Jewett has the **Boy Scout** side of things ready to go. Please remember this year we will not be using Styrofoam cups or bowls. Scouts will receive a reusable cup with registration. Leaders can either purchase a reusable mug or bring their own ...this year the cost is \$6.00 + a can of soup per Scout. Please see the AHC website for additional information and requirements.

Host Keith Dart and Pack 501 Smethport have been working hard to make this the Best **Webelos** Klondike every, so get your boys ready for an unbelievable event. It is also \$6 + a can of soup per Scout and it includes Lunch and a mug. Please also see our web site for additional information.

Fun Fun Fun ...Cub Scout Fun Day at Elk Lick Scout Reserve. On February 21st starting at 9:30 am going till 1:30. The day will include a Nature Walk, Shooting Event, Sledding and a craft. Lunch and Hot Chocolate will be included for \$6 + a can of **Soup** per kid. Adults we be \$2 for Lunch. Please pre-register your Scouts, so we have enough supplies. Call the Office at 716/665/2697.

Don't forget Western Gate Charters are due in March ... Please get charters in on time it is extremely important that this is done by March 15th and turn in your Centennial Quality Unit form to get your camp discount. Yes please try to wrap up your charter by then. If you need help contact your District Commissioner Rick Price, the information is above.

Hello From Our New District Commissioner

To all within Western Gate District: I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Rick Price, and I will be serving our great district as your District Commissioner. I am looking forward to working with each one of you.

I would like to extend a "BIG THANK YOU" to Mr. Steve Allen our out going District Commissioner. Steve has done a wonderful job and I hope to continue to expand on the base that he has started. As with Steve, training is an important item to me and I plan to continue conducting training programs as often as we have a need. I will be asking volunteers to assist me in this endeavor. Don't worry; it will only take about an hour!

Our up coming year will be one of the most exciting years that we could possibly have as a Scouter or Scout. With the many events planned for the 100th year anniversary, we should try to pick the most exciting events for our units to attend. The 100th year will be full of many events and we must be careful to have our units involved with the best and within our limits. Remember, this will only come around once in a lifetime, therefore, we should make each event the best that we possibly can.

As I pen this, my first article in the Highlander, I remember starting my scouting trail. I started in Allegany, N. Y. as a youth just yesterday it seems and now have some 30 years of scouting behind me. I have been on the trail with many great scouters and have been influenced by each one of them. I pray that I can bring with me the spirit of each one of these leaders that have helped to mold me into the person that I have become and the leader that they are still developing within me.

From my family to yours, I would like to extend the warmest of Holiday greetings for Christmas and the New Year. God Bless each of you and your families.

Yours in Scout Service
Rick

Spring Camporee

Start making your plans now to attend the Spring Camporee 2010. This is the 100th Anniversary year for the Boy Scouts of America. In recognition to that fact, we have decided to do something special this year. The Camporee will be in honor of our founder, Sir Baden Powell and his "Battle for Mafeking", during the Boer War. That battle made him famous and had all the boys in England wanting to emulate him thus starting the organization of Scouting for Boys.

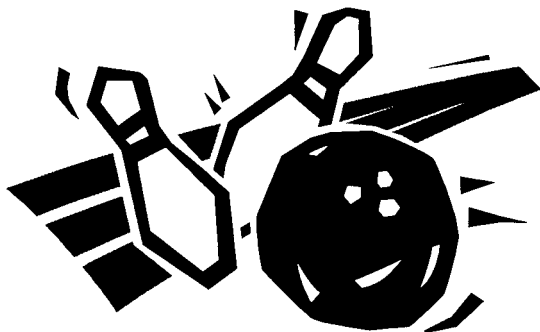
In addition to the skills portion to be held during the afternoon, the main activities will be held during the nighttime from 9PM to 2AM. This will be something new and exciting for us and we hope all will want to attend. Get your reservations in early and receive the special patch along with the regular Spring Camporee patch. See the flier included with the Highlander or check it out on the Council Web Page: alleghenyhighlands.org

This event will be at the Allegany County Fairgrounds in Angelica, New York on the weekend of May 21-23, 2010. Look for the flyer in this edition of the Highlander, and the entire information packet is available online.

SEE YOU THERE!!!

Roll-Roll-Roll the Ball Gently Down the Lane...

Yes, it's that time again, time for the Bowl-A-Thon. Make sure you turn your sign-up forms into the office as soon as possible. We have plenty of bowling alleys in our District for your scout to have a fun time. Don't forget our Awesome prize night for those Scout's raising \$100 or more.



Simply the Best

Yes, all the data is in and we had our best popcorn sale ever. 61 Units sold over ¼ of a million dollars in Popcorn. Raising \$176,000 for local scouting. The average unit put ----- into their annual budget. This year we had 19 boys fill two full pages and another 70 filled one page. We gave away 89 marshmallow blasters.

The top five Boys were:

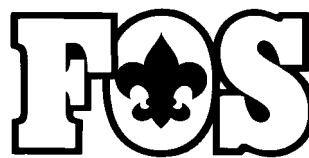
1. Zack Napora, Troop 739 - sold \$2,523
2. Jason Gage, Troop 736 - sold \$2,013
3. Ron Reynolds, Troop 739 - sold \$1,869
4. Ron Reynolds, Pack 410 - sold \$1,517
5. Corey Dart, Pack 501 - sold \$1,260

The top five Units were:

1. Pack 536 - \$10,828.00
2. Pack 501 - \$10,585.00
3. Pack 627 - \$9,575.00
4. Pack 410 - \$8,373.00
5. Pack 422 - \$7,958.00

Thanks for all your hard work!!!

FOS and Camp 2010...



Make sure you get your Unit signed up for the 2010 FOS and Summer Camp Promotion. You want to make sure that it is an event that has the most adults at it. Remember every Scout wants to go to camp and it is our job, to make sure that that dream becomes a reality.