

# April, 2009 Commissioner Newsletter

## Training

MyScouting.org now offers the following training online:

ScoutParents Unit Coordinator Fast Start

Unit Commissioner Fast Start

### Basic Training

This is Scouting

Youth Protection Training

### Supplemental Training

Climb On Safely

Safe Swim Defense

Safety Afloat

Staffing the District Committee

Trek Safely

Weather Hazards

This Is Scouting is a new course that replaces New Leader Essentials.

**National Youth Leadership Training** August 3 – August 8, 2009 Camp Mattatuck  
National Youth Leadership Training is an exciting, action-packed program designed to provide youth members of the Boy Scouts of America with leadership skills and experiences they can use in their home troops and in other situations demanding leadership of self and others. Cost this year will be \$225.00

The course has space for 64 youth participants. Two youth per troop, crew, or post will be accepted as participants. Participants must be 13 years of age and 1st class or its equivalent. Contact Marcia McClain; 8 Powder Mill Lane, N. Granby, CT 06060 860-653-3945  
mpmclain@cox.net

### Commissioner Basic Training

**COMMISSIONER BASIC TRAINING**

**SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2009**

**8:45AM – 3:30 PM COUNCIL SERVICE CENTER 60 DARLIN STREET EAST  
HARTFORD, CT.**

**REGISTRATION FEE \$15.00 (INCLUDES LUNCH)**

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## DC and ADC Training

**District Commissioner & ADC Training**  
**Saturday May 2, 2009 8:45 am - 4:15 pm**  
**Council Service Center**  
**60 Darlin Street East Hartford, CT**  
**REGISTRATION FEE \$15.00 (INCLUDES LUNCH)**

**Commissioner Administration of Unit Service.** This new 210 page manual has been completely revised and is a must for all Commissioners and is available for download or reading on the [Marktwaincommissioners.com](http://Marktwaincommissioners.com) web site

## Summer Camp Early-Bird Deadline

Leaders are reminded that the “early bird” payment deadline for discounted camp fees is May 22<sup>nd</sup> for Boy Scout camps. Any payments received after May 22<sup>nd</sup> will be subject to a \$25 per person charge. Please plan accordingly and don’t rely on the postal service.

## Happenings

**Mark Twain District**  
**2009 Spring Camporee**  
**Camp Strang, Goshen, CT**  
**April 24-26 2009**

**Extreme Bowling Camp In**  
**April 25, 2009**  
**Bradley Bowl 129 Ella Grasso Turnpike Windsor Locks.**  
**860-623-2597**  
**\$35.00 / person**

**AdVenture Camp 2009**  
**Camp J. N. Webster**  
**August 9-15 2009**

**Venturing Odyssey**  
**Camp J. N. Webster**  
**August 8-9 2009**

**Cape Cod Island Maritime Trek**  
**Camp J. N. Webster**  
**July 12-18 July 19-25 July 26- Aug 1, 2009**

**Summer Time Pack Award** Cub Scouting is a year-round program....September thru August. As such, it is the responsibility of every Scouting unit to ensure a quality Cub program, even during the summer. During the months of June, July, and August Cub Scouts and their families can participate in Scouting activities that are educational and fun! A full summer program keeps a pack healthy, parents interested, and Cub Scouts eager to register for another year. Participating in these summertime

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activities also gives the Cub Scout, his Den, and the Pack an opportunity to earn the National Summertime Pack Award, an important component of the *Quality Unit Program*.

**Parade Season Safety** With parade season approaching, units are reminded of the need to apply all safety rules. Suggested rules have been posted on the web site.

**Safety on the Road** The BSA's *Guide to Safe Scouting* provides guidelines and policies addressing the transporting of Scouts and adult leaders during Scouting-related activities. The first general guideline is that safety belts are required for all occupants and must be worn correctly. Wearing the safety belt correctly means the shoulder strap should not be behind the occupant's back. Here are other important guidelines.

- The driver must be currently licensed and at least 18 years of age. All drivers must have a valid driver's license that has not been suspended or revoked for any reason.
- An adult leader (at least 21 years of age) must be in charge and accompany the group.
- All driving, except short trips, should be done in daylight.
- Obey all traffic laws, including the speed limit.
- Do not travel in a convoy. Travel requirements can be found in the "Leadership Requirements for Trips and Outings" section of the *Guide to Safe Scouting*.
- Driving time is limited to a maximum of 10 hours and must be interrupted by frequent rest, food, and recreation stops. Do not drive drowsy.
- All passengers should be in a vehicle seat. Passengers should not ride in the back deck of station wagons or SUVs.
- Trucks may not be used for transporting passengers except in the cab.

Refer to section XII, "Transportation," in the *Guide to Safe Scouting*, for a full listing of guidelines. The complete source for planning safe activities can be found in the *Tours and Expeditions* publication. Well-thought-out plans help ensure the full enjoyment of the trip for everyone. Include everyone during planning, not just the leader. Involving everyone in the planning makes each member responsible and gives each person a stake in the success of the activity.

\*Source: NHTSA's National Center for Statistics and Analysis; Traffic Safety Facts, 2006 Data.

**Involving Parents.** Several new resources are now available for assisting in recruiting parents. They include:

**Parent Orientation Video**  
**Scouting Builds More Than Campfires**  
**Scouting Orientation Guide**  
**Growing Up Right, Growing Up Strong**  
**Getting Parental Involvement**  
**Mission Family PowerPoint**

All of these are available at [www.Marktwaincommissioners.com](http://www.Marktwaincommissioners.com)