

## *The Dulaney District Cub Advancement Committee News*

**4 March 2020**

Most of the following items are excerpted from the September-December 2019 and January-February 2020 National Advancement News:

### **1. Volunteer Recognition:**

Human beings of all ages love recognition. We might not always want to admit it, or we might think some recognitions are silly, but we still want to be recognized for a good effort or a job well done. Research and leadership theory backs that up.

- The Gallup Organization says one of the most important elements of a successful team is when a member answers “Yes” to “Have I received recognition or praise for doing good work?” (1)
- One favorite learning organization, the Disney Institute, says: “Recognition can be empowering, often propelling people to higher levels of engagement.” (2)
- The psychology blog *Exploring Your Mind* says, “If we are recognized and respected, our self-esteem blossoms. But be careful! Just as we accept it, it is also essential to know how to offer recognition to others.” (3)

Baden-Powell recognized the value and importance of recognition for youth, e.g., badges of merit, as well as adults, e.g., a wooden bead on a leather thong, in Scouting from its earliest days. The founders of the Boy Scouts of America followed this concept, too.

Most of us are well aware of the elements and importance of youth recognition, but at times we forget the value of adult recognition. As troop and district leaders we really need to make an effort to recognize our volunteers for their efforts. And, since many volunteers are not seeking recognition, other volunteers might have to be the ones who *make* it happen rather than let it happen or hope it happens.

Recognition is the “psychic paycheck” we seek when we volunteer. It keeps volunteers motivated and, in the case of recognition for units such as the Journey to Excellence, it helps to promote a good feeling among Scouts, leaders, parents, and the chartered organization regarding their Scouting program: “WE are a Gold JTE Unit!”

Do you make sure training and service awards are applied for and presented to deserving Scouters in your unit or units?

- Do you present some of these awards in public, or do you present them in private? Or worse – by mail? Banquets, pack meetings, courts of honor, and service area meetings are great venues for recognition. Use them or create events in your service area to facilitate recognition.

Furthermore, when volunteers who contribute in an outstanding way are recognized, we as troop and district leaders who helped to make it possible, feel good too. We might not be the ones who get that certificate or square knot, but we know we played a role in making sure the right person did – and in seeing the good that will likely happen in the future because of the recognition.

**Section 3.0.0.0 of the *Guide to Advancement*** has some points on how you can recognize youth and volunteers. You can also find valuable information about the multitude of BSA awards available on [Scouting.org](http://Scouting.org) on the Advancement and the Awards-Central pages.

In Dulaney District we recognize adult and Scout awards recipients at the annual Awards Banquet in early June. We need you to submit nominees for these awards by the middle of April. You can find the proper forms for making these nominations at the following location: [www.baltimorebsa.org](http://www.baltimorebsa.org) Districts, Dulaney, Program, Recognition Packet.

Make sure you remember to recognize!

## 2. Cub Scout Advancement 2019: A Useful Primer/Refresher:

As the new program year began in the fall, packs everywhere welcomed brand-new families into Scouting. It is always good to review how the advancement process works so we can help our families and volunteers to build a successful program.

All Cub Scouts complete several adventures to earn their advancement. With the exception of Lions, the Advancement Trail includes a combination of required and elective adventures. Cub Scouts complete the minimum number of required and elective adventures to earn their badge of rank. In addition, they may also choose to complete any number of elective adventures, for which there is no limit!



- The **Lion** program serves our kindergarten youth. Lions work with an adult partner to complete five adventures.

- The **Tiger** program serves youth in the first grade. Tigers work with an adult partner to complete seven Adventures. Six are required and one is chosen from the available electives in the handbook or from the Preview Adventures.



- Second graders work toward the **Wolf** rank. Wolves earn their rank by completing seven Adventures with six required and one elective. The elective Adventure is chosen from the those available in the handbook or from the Preview Adventures.

- Third graders work toward the **Bear** rank. Bears earn their rank by completing seven Adventures. Six are required and one is an elective. The elective Adventure is chosen from those available in the handbook or from the Preview Adventures.



- **Webelos** are in the fourth grade. Their rank is earned by completing six adventures with five required and one elective. The elective adventure is chosen from those available in the hand-book or from the Preview Adventures. There is also an “active member” component.

- **Arrow of Light** is the final rank in the Cub Scout program and is designed for youth in fifth grade. Rank is earned by completing four required Adventures and one elective. The elective Adventure is chosen from those available in the handbook or from the Preview Adventures. In addition, there is an “active member” requirement.

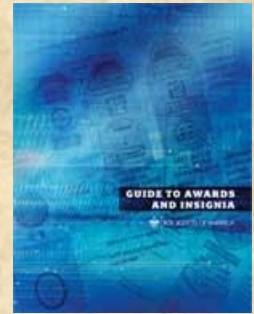


Every Cub Scout, except for Lions, earn their Bobcat award in their first year. First graders who began their journey as Lions will earn their Bobcat as Tigers. Additionally, all Cub Scouts will spend time with their parent or guardian to complete the exercises found in the [\*How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent's\*](#)

**Guide.** Cub Scouts in ranks other than Lion may choose to earn their Cyber Chip or complete the Protect Yourself Rules Preview Adventure.

### 3. 2019 Guide to Awards and Insignia:

The *Guide to Awards and Insignia* has been updated for 2019 and is available now both in print (stores item 648215) and online. Although, minor updates have been made continuously online, this is the first new printing since 2015. The 2019 revision contains significant changes relating to and aligned with all program changes that have previously been rolled out.



If you're new to this document, the *Guide to Awards and Insignia* describes the uniforms of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) for all programs -- Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing, and Sea Scouts, and the proper wearing of all insignia and awards or recognition items. The guide articulates uniforms and insignia for youth and adults, including volunteers and professionals, which includes those outside a unit such as commissioners or Scouters at the council, area, region, or national level.

The Guide also contains a wide variety of useful information for Scouters and parents, including:

- details on who is authorized to wear what awards, and when
- information on all nationally recognized award and recognition programs
- official policy with respect to uniforms
- Specifications for official flags of the BSA

Updates for a future printing of the guide are already in progress. Questions can be submitted through Member Care at 972-580-2489 or send an email to [myscouting@scouting.org](mailto:myscouting@scouting.org)

### 4. Scoutbook: Den Leader Meeting Planning Resource:

Den leaders have a new tool to help them with den meetings and record advancement. By using Scoutbook, with a few clicks den leaders can set up the program year with required adventure den meetings. What to do before, during, and after each den meeting is all laid out. Using the attendance feature, *advancement is automatically updated*. Absent youth are notified of the requirements to be completed at home.

### 5. Hands-on Experience Opportunity:

A demonstration environment has been established where you can get a hands-on experience for the new Scoutbook for den leaders without disrupting the real business of your den.

To access, please visit <https://leaderpp.scouting.org> . At the log in page, a set of credentials to choose from is presented to you in the top-left corner. Simply select a user and click “log in”. The experience is best accessed and viewed from your smart phone.

For an app-like experience that provides you immediate access, be sure to “add to home screen” from your device. Instructions are below.

For iOS Users:

1. In your Safari browser, click the upload symbol.
2. Scroll to the right until you find “Add to Home Screen”.
3. Click “Add” in the top right corner.

For Android Users:

1. Click the Create Bookmark icon.
2. Click the “Add to” drop down and select “Home Screen”.
3. Click “Ok”.

A quick note, as this is a demo environment with multiple people accessing, you may see some changes or find some meetings may be moved, etc. This is to be expected. A how-to-guide can be found here <https://help.scoutbook.com/knowledge-base/den-leader-experience-demo-environment-sb/> There are also pre-setup den meetings. You can see the walkthrough via the guide.

## 6. Den Leader Experience Tool:

The Den Leader Experience tool now allows for meetings to be scheduled for required and elective Adventures! Den leaders have the ability to create a calendar for the entire program year that includes both required and elective adventures. In addition, this tool will allow den leaders to quickly complete logging advancement, receive updates on adventures that were completed at home and easily communicate with parents when someone is falling behind.

To schedule *elective* adventures, den leaders must first calendar *required* adventures. Scheduling required adventures can be accomplished quickly with just a few button taps. In the future, den leaders will be able to schedule:

- only required meetings OR
- only elective meetings OR
- create a calendar that includes both

Want to try the Den Leader Experience yourself? You do not have to be a registered den leader when using this test site.

Protecting our youth is paramount to our program. This includes helping our children speak up when they encounter an uncomfortable situation. Cub Scouting now has two ways to accomplish this goal. In addition to completing the Parent Guide, “How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse” found in each Cub Scout handbook:

Complete the Cyber Chip

OR

Complete the Protect Yourself Rules Preview Adventure\*\*

If you choose to complete the Protect Yourself Rules Preview Adventure, we would love to hear your thoughts. Please complete this survey, it takes less than three minutes.

Yours in Scouting;

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