



# SQUARE KNOT NOTES

Monthly Edition

*From your Sam Houston Area Council Commissioner Team*

May 2016

## A SCOUT IS KIND

A Scout treats others as he wants to be treated. He never harms or kills any living thing without good reason.

## MY ANIMAL FRIENDS

A Scout knows that there is strength in being gentle. It is important to be kind to all creatures, great and small. Be kind to our animal friends!

## HOUSTON MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCE

The Museum's Summer Scout program offers a wide variety of different merit badges and adventure badges during weeklong summer scout classes at HMNS. Each class meets from 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM, Monday through Friday at the Houston Museum of Natural Science in Hermann Park or at the Houston Museum of Natural Science in Sugar Land.. Class pricings are listed in the Summer Scouts Catalog (<http://www.hmns.org/>) and in the HMNS eBoxOffice Classes are targeted to fulfill 100% of the requirements for all badges. If a class requires outside work, this will be listed under the class description. Merit Badge classes are taught by counselors registered with BSA. A completed Scout Health Record Form must be on file with the Scout Office prior to each scout beginning class. If a scout is participating in more than one week of class, the Health Record Form must be submitted for the first class, but duplicate copies are not needed for the following classes. Patrons who cancel a class or wish to switch their child from one class to another will receive a 50% refund of the cost of a cancelled or dropped class if notification is received at least 10 working days before that class starts. There are no refunds for classes cancelled or dropped less than 10 working days before class begins. Cub Scout camps include "Wolf Pack", "Bear Necessities", "Webelos World Pioneer", and "Webelos Science Explorer". Boy Scout camps include "Be Prepared", "Blue Planet", "Captured Light", "Code Talkers" and many more. Classes are also available for Girl Scouts. Before and after camp supervision is available from 8:00 am to 5:30 pm for a small fee.

## SALES TRAINING/POPCORN

The council is using a new vendor for popcorn this year. Campmasters is the new vendor and they are excited to be working with the Sam Houston Area Council this year. Sales training will be held at Cockrell Scout Center on Jul 21 and 23, 2016. This sales training will help participants learn how to increase unit fundraising efforts. The training is being conducted by Michael Beck, a professional sales coach and creator of a program that has helped many units stop worrying about raising funds year-round and concentrate more on the FUN of Scouting. He has helpec units across the country increase their sales revenue dramatically (an average of 14 percent). Skills learned apply to all types of fundraising including popcorn, Scout Fair tickets and unit money earning projects. Every unit should send at least one representative. Hundreds of thousands of dollars go back to the Scouting program in the Sam Houston Area Council as a result of the annual popcorn sale. 70% of all dollars collected during the sale support local Scouting. The popcorn sale is a way for a Scout to support his or her way through the various activities during the year. There are three options to sell popcorn: traditional take order sales, sell online to friends and family out of town and show-and-sell. Every unit mus send at least one representative to the kickoff training on August 16, 2016. Please attend the location for your district. At the popcorn kickoff, unit leaders will receive, sales materials, training, and leader tools. Kickoff locations vary. For more information, contact your district popcorn kernel or district executive.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- 5/15 New Eagle Scout Reception
- 5/19 Council Coordinated
- 6/1 Venturing Leadership Awards Nominations Due
- 6/4 Corporate Dodgeball Challenge

## UNIT STRONG

Strong units have an annual calendar and an annual budget. As we approach summer, now is an excellent time to make sure that you have these in place for the upcoming school year.