



**GOOSE CREEK DISTRICT
NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA
COUNCIL
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA**



**Annual Report
to
the
District
for
Program Year
2005 – 2006**

Submitted by
Drew Mrenna
District Chairman
Goose Creek District
National Capital Area Council
Boy Scouts of America
25 April 2006

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**Annual Report
of the
District Chairman
for
Program Year 2005-2006**

25 April 2006

TO THE DISTRICT:

Goose Creek District is now entering its seventh year. Although the district still had a very successful year, two major vice-chair positions remained vacant the whole year. Even without a Program Vice-Chair, every District event that was scheduled was held. The scouts had a wonderful time at each of our events. Not having a membership vice-chair greatly impacted our ability to reach more youth. Even with these obstacles, we continue to deliver the promise of Scouting to the young men and teenage young women of Loudoun County. The reports from the Vice Chairs, District Commissioner, and OA Chapter Advisor will detail our progress and successes but here are a few highlights:

- For the sixth consecutive year Goose Creek lead the Council in sales of Trails End Popcorn grossing over \$312,942 in sales. Goose Creek units retain approximately 32% of their gross sales to fund unit-level programs and National Capital Area Council retains approximately 33% of the gross to help fund operating programs.
- The Special Event honoring Rod Huebbers was well attended, setting a new Goose Creek record for attendance. All three Divisions the Friends of Scouting campaigns are winding down. For the first time in Goose Creek's history were we able to schedule a presentation in every Pack and Troop. Almost every unit was credited for a pledge.
- The Chapter was awarded Amangamek Wipit Merit Chapter. The Chapter hosted the forth annual Arrow of Light recognition ceremony. 66 youth candidates were elected and 10 adults were recommended for call out.

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- A very successful Webelos-O-Ree was held for the first time in Goose Creek District. The Pinewood Derby was brought back as a District event.
- Goose Creek ended 2005 with 3,183 youth members in 84 units. We actually have 5% less youth registered over a year ago.

As I mentioned earlier in my report that the Program and Membership vice-chairs were vacant. I am including in my report a report for these two.

Program

The Vice-Chairman for program was one of the key positions that the nomination committee was not able to fill. Attempts to fill this position during the year also failed. With the support of many fine volunteers in Goose Creek District, boys of all ages have had another full program year, both through the efforts of their individual units, and through the following District-wide efforts.

Advancement: Art Nevins, Chairman. Art has continually updated our Merit Badge counselor listing, making it available electronically to troops. The committee has had another full year of reviewing Eagle projects and conducting Boards of Review. This past year's list of Eagles since the last District Dinner includes 70 new Eagle Scouts.

Activities: <position open>. The Fall Camporee was replaced with a Webelos-o-Ree, headed by Alan Steiner. The Webelos Scout and their parent both had an outstanding time. Two weeks of Day Camp were held for the third year at the Loudoun County 4H Fairgrounds were over 500 Cub Scouts were in attendance. The District Pinewood Derby was re-instituted this year which allowed the Cubs one more chance to race their cars. The Spring Camporee was held by Troop 572.

Training: Tom Inman, Chairman. This year Goose Creek provided numerous Fall and Spring training sessions for Unit leaders, Unit committee, and outdoor training for Scoutmasters. Mike Korrigan provided Den Chief Training.

Membership

The Vice-Chairman for Membership was another vacancy left by last year's nomination committee. Membership was a critical area that not only held back Goose Creek District, but its effects were felt through NCAC. Sadly a 5% drop in membership was reported at 2005's year's end. Here are some areas that impacted the District's membership numbers.

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Incomplete Applications. NCAC established new guidelines that were put in place so that the membership rosters could not be corrupted with bogus members. In the past, a Council employee was permitted to correct the problem over the phone. New guidelines require the correction to be on the application, which in the case of missing signatures, would require the District Executive to take to the individual for signature. During our recruitment drives, more thorough review is required at all levels.

Latter Day Saints Membership. Since the Scouting program is an integral part of their religious teaching, all male youth of scouting age need to be registered. In previous years, the LDS boys were automatically registered. This is no longer possible with NCAC's new guidelines.

With a growth rate of over 5% for Loudoun County, Goose Creek District needs to attract more youth into Scouting. This is the challenge for the upcoming year.

Goose Creek still leads the council in many areas. It was an honor to serve as the District Chairman this past program year. For many reasons I have decided not to continue on as Chairman. I wish the district continued success.

Yours in Scouting,



Drew Mrenna
District Chairman
Goose Creek District
National Capital Area Council
Boy Scouts of America



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**Annual Report
of the
District Commissioner
for
Program Year 2005-2006**

April 15, 2006

TO THE DISTRICT:

The Goose Creek Commissioner Corps is pleased to have served the District in its traditional roles of friend, coach, problem solver, and advisor to all of the Scout units in the District. The Commissioners have focused on fulfilling their primary duty - servicing units. During this past year we were called upon to assist in resolution of a number of problems at the unit level most of which were resolved through counseling, coaching, or leader training.

Organization

As reported at last year's annual meeting, there were a number of Scouters that retired from the Commissioner Corps last spring. In addition, a number of inactive Commissioners were dropped. The result was some increased workload for some Assistant District Commissioners (ADC) and a number of vacancies to fill in addition to the need for an ADC for the Potomac Falls Area to take my place.

It was a very successful year for recruiting Commissioners with one new ADC, 7 new Unit Commissioners, and 2 new Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioners.

Two key ADCs will not be continuing into the next program year, one is retiring from the Commissioner Corps and the other is moving to the District Committee but plans to continue as a Unit Commissioner. Finding their replacements will need to be of high importance; one candidate has already been approached.

Commissioner to Unit Ratio

With a total commissioner staff of 30 registered commissioners (Unit, ADCs, DC, Roundtable) servicing 84 units an overall ratio of 2.8 units per Commissioner was achieved; and a ratio of 3.36 units per Unit Commissioner was achieved. Depending on which ratio is used by Council, we may or may not meet their required ratio of 3:1 for Quality District.

Unit Membership Inventory

During the months of October and November, the Commissioner staff performed their annual unit membership inventory. This inventory was successful in identifying a considerable number of Scouts not properly registered. However, even with the increase in membership resulting from the unit membership inventory, the District did not achieve the Council's expected year-end growth rate.

Charter Renewal

Like last year, charter renewal training was conducted just prior to the opening of the District's rechartering window at two separate locations, one in eastern Loudoun and one in Leesburg. Conducting the rechartering training event separate from Roundtable was a success with almost every unit having a representative in attendance.

By the end of April's Roundtable, 71% of the charters were turned in. It is expected that all units will recharter and that they should have their charter renewals turned in on time. However, it has taken a major effort on the part of the Commissioner Corps to make this happen.

Quality Unit Awards

Of our 84 units, 67% achieved Quality Unit status for the calendar year 2005. This is an increase of 7% over the previous year and surpasses the Council goal by the same amount. This was achieved by a year end push by the Commissioner Corps.

Training

The Commissioners have enhanced their skills by attending training courses at Council and District levels. Approximately ten Commissioners furthered their knowledge and honed their skills by attending the NCAC Commissioners College and one of our Commissioners served on the facility.

Conclusion

It has been a privilege to serve as the District Commissioner this past year. I am fortunate to serve with a talented group of dedicated volunteer Scouters. The Commissioner Corps served the District well, contributing substantially to the success of the District. Thank you for the opportunity to serve and I am looking forward to serving for another year.

Yours in Scouting,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas Noon". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Thomas Noon
District Commissioner
Goose Creek District
National Capital Area Council
Boy Scouts of America



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**Annual Report
of the
Chapter Adviser, Goose Creek Chapter
Amangamek-Wipit Lodge #470
for
Program Year 2005–2006**

21 April 2006

TO THE DISTRICT:

The 2005-2006 Scouting year marked the eighth year for the Goose Creek Chapter. This year saw the following accomplishments

1. The Chapter was awarded Amangamek Wipit Merit Chapter. This is like a quality unit/quality district award for an OA Chapter. Less than ½ of the Lodge Chapters receive the award of Honor, Merit or Standard Chapter.
2. The Chapter had three youth members selected for Vigil Honor: Eagle Scout and Chapter Chief Scott Yarbrough of Troop Crew 970, Life Scout (and now Assistant Scout Master) Jonathan Callen of Troop 982, and Eagle Scout Sean Twigg of Troop 982. Scott and Jonathan complete their Vigil in 2005, and Sean will complete his in May 2006. It should be remembered that this is the highest honor that a local lodge can bestow on an Arrowman for outstanding service and leadership.
3. The Chapter hosted the 4th annual Arrow of Light recognition ceremony on February 24, 2006 at The Smartts Mill Middle School in Leesburg VA. 63 Webelos attended the ceremony. As this date seemed to conflict with several Blue & Gold's we will move this back into March for 2007.
4. During the past two years, the Lodge has been undergoing a cleanup of their membership database and migration to a new database tool, this process is now nearly complete. During this process, many old member entries were removed from the database; the resulting database now contains only those members that have paid their dues in 2005/2006. As

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of December 2005 the Chapter had 266 registered members compared to 339 in December 2004, as reported on the Lodge Charter Renewal.

5. In 2005, 24 members sealed their membership in the Order by completing their Brotherhood Ceremony either at the Goose Creek Ordeal/Brotherhood weekend, or at the Fall Area Fellowship.
6. In 2005, we elected 64 youth and adults from 16 Troops. 48 Candidates became members by completing the Ordeal Requirements.
7. This year's elections are now complete. We have elected 66 youth candidates (of 138 eligible) from 19 troops. Adult recommendations resulted in 10 candidates from 9 troops. Our election percentage of 47.8% in 2006 is comparable to the National average of 50%. Past years results were:

➤ 2005	42.7%
➤ 2004	58.6%
➤ 2003	53.0%
➤ 2002	57.0%
➤ 2001	48.0%

8. The Chapter Executive Committee organization for 2004-2005 was continued in the 2005-2006 program year. The Chapter Vice-Chief was placed in charge of Unit Elections and Brotherhood conversions. For this year, the East Vice Chief was placed in charge of the Freeze O Ree and the West Vice Chief was placed in charge of the Ordeal. The Ceremonies Chairman was elected by the Chapter membership from candidates from the chapter ceremonies team. This year's executive committee consisted of:

➤ Chapter Chief	Scott Yarbrough (Vigil)
➤ Chapter Vice-Chief	Jimmy Callen (Brotherhood)
➤ Western Vice Chief (Ordeal)	Thomas Williams (Brotherhood)
➤ Eastern Vice Chief (Freeze-o-ree)	Andrew Cebulski (Brotherhood)
➤ Scribe	Andrew Schlaf (Brotherhood)
➤ Ceremonies Chairman	Michael Schaefer (Vigil)

9. The chapter will host at least one Ordeal in 2006: The spring Ordeal/Brotherhood Weekend will take place on May 12th – 14th at the Loudoun Izaak Walton League south of Leesburg, Virginia. A second Brotherhood Weekend is planned for the fall, and may also include a second ordeal if needed.

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10. Once again, the Chapter hosted the annual District Freeze-O-Ree on February 10th -12th, 2006 at the Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve south of Leesburg, Virginia. This year we had cold temperatures and snow throughout the day on Saturday, culminating in 10-12 inches of snow by Sunday morning. The event was well attended with over 270 participants from 12 troops, and the OA and District Staff. Because of the forecasted snowfall, many of the troops departed on Saturday afternoon/evening. However, three troops (T-970, T-982, and T-1550) felt that their troops were prepared to safely camp during the snow event and stayed overnight, along with the OA Staff, until Sunday morning when everyone departed. The scouts from these troops left the camporee with a greater understanding of the rigors of true winter camping. This was a Freeze-o-ree that will be long remembered.

11. The Chapter was awarded First Place in the annual Chapter display competition at the Amangamek-Wipit Lodge Banquet. Judges noted that what impressed them the most was not the format of the display that caused us to have the edge over other Chapters' displays, but our thorough documentation of the wide range of activities in direct support of the District program.

12. The Goose Creek Chapter played a major role in the annual Lodge Fellowship. The Chapter assisted with the setup for the Ceremonies Competitions and provided judges for both venues. The Chapter was also responsible for Brotherhood Conversion testing and the Lodge Rededication Ceremony. The Chapter Brotherhood Ceremonies Team was awarded Silver Medals for their second place finish in the Brotherhood Ceremonies Competition. The Chapter was represented by a full voting contingent at the Lodge elections. Scott Yarbrough was elected as the new VA West Area Chief.

13. The Chapter has continued our effort to do more community service. As part of this effort, the Chapter continues to maintain our adopted a one-mile segment of the Washington and Old Dominion Trail in Leesburg. As an additional service to the community through Scouting, the Goose Creek chapter provided support for the food depots during Scouting for Food. The Chapter also provided service by running the campfire at the fall Webelos-o-ree.

14. The Chapter looked for ways to attract more active membership this year, so they brainstormed possible activities and decided to go as a Chapter to the American Indian Museum in December, an event that attracted about 20 youth and adult Arrowmen. Chapter members concluded we should continue to do similar activities in the future.

Last years goals and results included:

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1. Continue to work on improved communications with each troop. *We continued working with the Yahoo! email group, this has proved to be one of the most effective tools in getting the word out to the Arrowmen. I have met with several Scoutmaster to encourage them to have a Troop OA Representative (TOR), have the TOR attend the Chapter meetings, and have them report back to the Troop on OA Activities. This will be an on-going goal.*
2. Unit OA elections. *The Chapter Vice-Chief trained each election team to use the same script for each election; as a result, there were no problems with any election conducted by any of the teams. Despite our efforts to communicate with the LDS units, only one of the LDS units responded to our requests to hold an election in their Troop, and that was to decline the election due to no eligible candidates. The Adviser, Chapter Chief, and Chapter Vice-Chief will continue to work towards improving communications with the LDS Troop Leadership.*
3. Continue to develop youth leadership. Work on succession planning to continue our tradition of outstanding youth leadership. *The youth leadership in the chapter are continuing to move onward an upward, not only do we have several candidates for many of our leadership positions, our current Chapter Chief has been elected to the position of VA West Area Chief, continuing a multi-year tradition for Goose Creek Chapter Officers..*
4. Continue the tradition of holding a District Arrow of Light recognition ceremony. *To encourage better attendance, this event will be moved back to March where it is less likely to conflict with any Blue & Gold dinners.*
5. Develop additional depth in our adult membership to provide a source of Advisors and Associate Advisors to our youth. *As part of the call-out process, briefed our new Adult candidates on their expected roles as an Adult OA Member. I am currently cultivating a replacement for me as the Chapter Adviser.*

Yours in Scouting,

Joseph J. Callen

Joseph J. Callen
Goose Creek Chapter OA Advisor
Goose Creek District
National Capital Area Council
Boy Scouts of America



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**Annual Report
of the
Vice Chairman for Development
for
Program Year 2005–2006**

25 April 2006

TO THE DISTRICT:

Building upon the success of the Goose Creek District Scouting program of the past few years, the Development Committee continues to implement and execute a sustainable fundraising platform, a set of campaigns that enables our District to reliably meet the financial requirements of a strong Scouting program. Our primary fundraising activities are the Trail's End Popcorn Sale, the Friends of Scouting Campaign, and the Good Scout Award special event.

Trail's End Popcorn Sale

For the sixth year in a row, the Goose Creek District led all other districts in the Council with the largest popcorn order. Popcorn Chair Cindy Connell returned for her second year and did a fantastic job. Cub Packs and Troops sold \$312,942 (gross) worth of Trails End popcorn.

2005 Friends of Scouting Campaign

A significant portion of the Council's financial support comes from the people who live in its districts. The support comes from the parents of members, from Scouting's volunteers, and from others in the community who care about Scouting. The objective of the Friends of Scouting (FOS) campaign is to reach out to the prospective donors, inform them of Scouting's accomplishments in our area, and offer them an opportunity to contribute their financial support. Three separate divisions comprise our FOS campaign.

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Scouter Division: The Scouter FOS campaign secured \$ 8,500 in pledges against our goal of \$10,000.

Family Division: Under the leadership of Dave Parker the Family FOS campaign is working on a campaign goal of \$45,000. As of 4/22/05 the District has currently raised \$44,263. There are only a couple of units left that still need a presentation. Dave initiated a letter to the parents of non-LDS crew members. We are very close to every unit being credited for a pledge being made.

Community Division: The Community campaign is still in the process of contacting local businesses.

Special Event:

The 2005 Goose Creek District *Good Scout Award Dinner* took place on October 27, 2005 at Belmont Country Club honoring Rodney Huebber. Mr. Huebber had many friends and associates. With over 120 guests in attendance provided a new goal for Goose Creek District.

Lastly, I'd like to thank the many District Scouters and the NCAC staff for their invaluable support in making our fundraising efforts successful.

Yours in Scouting,

Rich Vaaler

Rich Vaaler
Vice Chairman, Finance/Development
Goose Creek District
National Area Council
Boy Scouts of America



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**Annual Report
of the
Vice Chairman for Marketing
for
Program Year 2005–2006**

April 21, 2006

TO THE DISTRICT:

At the end of my third program year in the District, I would like to thank our Scouts and Scouters for their support. Following is a summary of our activities:

Newspaper Articles: together with help from many Pack and Troop leaders in the District, we placed many articles in our area newspapers, including articles featuring Eagle Scout advancements. Newspapers that carried Goose Creek District news articles include the Leesburg Today, Loudoun Times Mirror, Loudoun Connection, Loudoun Easterner, Loudoun Observer, and the Washington Post. Typical topics covered included (several topics were covered in multiple papers):

- Eagle Scout advancements
- Retiring a U. S. Flag
- Care Packages
- Good Scout Award
- Cub Scout Pinewood Derby
- Scouts Help at Seabase
- Cub Advancement
- Spring Camporee
- Goose Creek Dinner and Award Night
- Cub Scout Day Camp
- Scouting for Food
- Arrow of Light Ceremony
- Scouts Clean Up Goose Creek
- Cub Scout Recycling
- New District Chairman

Eagle Scout News Release Form: Art Nevins continues to include a form for new Eagle Scouts to easily submit an article about their Eagle Scout advancement. Art is providing the form to new Eagles at their boards of review.

Annual Report to the District for Program Year 2005-2006

It continues to be gratifying to work with our District Chairman, Mr. Drew Mrenna and the rest of the District Committee who continue to provide a high level of support and Scouting collegiality. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve with the Goose Creek District.

Yours in Scouting,

Nancy Smith

Nancy Smith
Vice Chairman, Marketing
Goose Creek District
National Capital Area Council
Boy Scouts of America