

MEMBERSHIP

The BSA has a year round growth plan which is designed to facilitate Scout recruitment and pack-troop relations. The South Mountain District Membership Committee supports the individual units as they implement their yearly growth plan and will offer monthly advice to units in this column to give your unit leaders some ideas and suggestions.



Please recruit a parent volunteer to be the Pack Membership Chair. Many district units have already done so but we want to reach all units. Once becoming a registered youth leader and taking youth protection training the volunteer provides leadership to the following activities:

Works with the Membership Committee and Pack Committee Chair to drive the year-round plan for unit membership growth.

Organizes and hold a "Scout recruiting night" in the Spring and the Fall and report those dates to Arby Beisel at the council office four weeks before the planned event. A separate night needs to be set up just for parents aside from the regular Pack meeting to provide all the information about your unit.

Work with your school principal to reserve a table for your Pack representative at "Back To School Night" and hand out materials to prospects and publicize all these event.

Attend periodic District and Council held trainings about Membership.

February:

Preparations for the cross over of your second year Webelos should be well underway. Identify all those scouts who will be crossing over and assist them to find a Troop that best suits their individual and family needs.

February Activities:

Plan the cross over ceremony and contact the local scoutmasters who will be accepting the Webelos into their troop. If you had a den chief assigned to a Webelos den be sure to thank them for their service.

Have a pinewood derby planned? Why not invite other school age children out to the Pack for a day of excitement. Have some applications on hand and someone to answer parent questions. This event can serve as an early-spring recruitment drive.



February:

The first step for any recruitment effort is to appoint a troop committee member to serve as the troop membership chair. This person will develop and implement a year-round growth plan that incorporates all methods of recruitment, working closely with Cub Scout packs in the community, the district membership committee, and the unit commissioner.

February Activities:

Host Webelos scouts and their parents at a troop meeting. Collect email addresses and add them to your email distribution list for announcements. Make sure they have an opportunity to meet the scoutmaster and ask questions. Help them feel comfortable with the process. As you meet parents ask them if they are interested in a specific troop committee function or perhaps helping as an Assistant Scoutmaster or merit badge counselor.

After crossover add new scouts to your unit roster.

Let us know your successes and your challenges with youth recruitment. The district Membership Committee wants your feedback so please drop us an email with your thoughts to: Mark Firth, SMD Membership Committee Chair at: Stee1cty@yahoo.com