

## ONE HUNDRED IDEAS FOR CHAPTER MEETINGS

The following ideas are suggestions of themes for chapter meetings. Each idea should be directed and planned by the Chapter Officers with the guidance of the Chapter Advisor. Chapter Offices should carry out the program. The more members of the chapter that are involved in helping carry out the planned program, the more activity, fun, and leadership growth the chapter can expect to see.

### CEREMONIAL IDEAS:

1. Rehearse the Ordeal and Brotherhood ceremonies with a view to the development of a chapter Ordeal and Brotherhood Team. Parts and movements should be memorized.
2. Develop and implement a Chapter "Call Out: Ceremony to be used in the District. The parts and movements should be memorized.
3. Develop and rehearse an Arrow of Light Ceremony to be used when invited to Cub Scout Packs.
4. Develop and rehearse a special flag ceremony to be used at Courts of Honor and other District events. This might be combined with an Eagle Court of Honor Ceremony. Ceremonies might include Native American dancing.
5. Fire lighting ceremonies for District events, such as Camporees, could be worked out. These ceremonies should include the devices that have been fully tested and actually light a fire. You might also consider making electric fires that can be used indoors.
6. Prepare for the Ceremonies competition at the section conference.
7. Arrange for a joint activity with another Chapter for ceremonial workshops.
8. Hold a ceremonies workshop for a troop or team focussing on troop-related ceremonies.
9. Put on a ceremonies demonstration at the Lodge Executive Committee Meeting (LECM).
10. Build Native American outfits and ceremonial equipment.

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## EVENTS:

1. Prepare for chapter service in providing contests at Camporees or the Scout-O-Rama. The chapter could run a special contest event.
2. Work out an entire campfire program with skit leaders, cheerleaders, and song leaders. Use the program for District or Lodge activities at Camporees, The Summer Fellowship, Section conference, etc.
3. Make a chapter presentation at the District Roundtable.
4. Present a skill or display at the Scout-O-Rama.
5. Usher at any of a number of District, Council, or other events, such as the Silver Beaver Awards night, Recognition dinners, etc.
6. Run a bicycle safety clinic for a Cub Pack or a Scout Troop.
7. Prepare an Honor Campfire and take it to summer camp.
8. Prepare an Order of the Arrow display and set it up at District Training events, Roundtables, Dinners, Camporees, Scout-O-Rama, etc.
9. Create an in-store display for a local business or mall to present during Scout Week.
10. Set up a teaching display on CPR at a scout event.
11. Get involved in planning and helping stage Scout Shows, Varsity events, or District Camporees.
12. Participate in the annual Silver Beaver Awards presentation.
13. Promote all Junior Leader Training Events, such as Silver Moccasin, Coup Trail, and Powderhorn.
14. Volunteer to serve on a Junior Leader Training staff.
15. Serve on a Council Summer Camp staff.
16. Promote summer camp attendance at troop and varsity meetings.
17. Develop a formal summer camp promotion event for the District Roundtable.

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## FELLOWSHIP IDEAS:

1. Schedule a chapter overnight fellowship activity at the local YMCA. Invite potential candidates and their friends.
2. Schedule a chapter cookout at a local park or canyon. You can either have the chapter leadership arrange for the food or else do a "pot-luck" everyone brings something. Use the chapter meeting to coordinate the menus.
3. Schedule a chapter meeting around the newly elected candidates to introduce them to the chapter members. Invite the new candidate's parents for a meeting with the chapter advisors. Arrange to have visual displays which show how the chapter committees operate. Recruit the new candidates for membership on empty committee assignments. Have activities scheduled for everyone to have fun.
4. Schedule a parent-son activity to introduce the parents in the District to the Order of the Arrow.
5. Schedule an overnight backpacking event.
6. Schedule a Saturday bicycling event.
7. Schedule a fishing outing complete with contests and demonstrations. Invite other scouts to attend.
8. Schedule a gun safety training course.
9. Schedule an exchange activity with another chapter from our Lodge or from another Lodge.
10. Schedule a skiing party, downhill or cross country.
11. Ask the Lodge Officers to come to a chapter meeting and make a special presentation. This should be scheduled in advance, remember the Lodge Officers are busy, too.
12. Hold a chapter banquet for the chapter members and their parents.
13. Have the entire chapter attend the section conference.

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## PROJECTS:

1. Invite a specialist to attend a chapter meeting to demonstrate beading techniques to decorate your Native American outfits.
2. Research the customs and dress of a single Native American tribe. Make a chapter presentation and use what you have learned to make your chapter's ceremonies differ from all the other chapters in the Lodge.
3. Make a special ceremonial outfit to use for "Call-out", Ordeal, Brotherhood, and Vigil ceremonies.
4. Invite a guest to discuss Native American art and symbol use for decorating your ceremonial equipment.
5. Make a display of proper camping use of equipment and use it at a Camporee or the Scout-O-Rama.
6. Build chapter equipment such as teepees, Native American game equipment, or assist in making Lodge equipment.
7. Hold a fly tying activity as preparation for a fishing outing.
8. Carve a totem pole to present to a Council Camp.
9. Publish a monthly newsletter with camping tips for the District Roundtable.
10. Visit a Native American Museum or special activity.
11. Build personal camp equipment as a chapter activity.
12. Build and place birdhouses or do some other conservation-related activity.

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### SERVICE IDEAS:

1. Adopt a forest service trail and maintain it.
2. Serve at District, Council, Lodge, and special events. Work on registration , first aid, ushers, or other needed tasks at the event. Be sure to ask what you can do before the event actually happens.
3. Develop and participate at a service project at a Council Camp.
4. Schedule a "Service Night" at a local public agency such as a hospital, senior or child care center.
5. Present special programs on camping, hiking, and equipment for these activities to a Cub Scout Pack, Scout Troop, or Varsity Team.
6. Make a presentation at the District Roundtable about places to go camping. Bring your own personal experiences to these presentations.
7. Develop a presentation on some aspect of Native American lore. Make a presentation at the District Roundtable, the Lodge Executive Committee meeting, or other scout meetings.
8. As a Chapter, offer to help with Eagle projects in your District when additional help is needed to complete the project.
9. Do unit elections for troops and teams.
10. Plan a yearly activity calendar for the chapter. Make sure the calendar includes plenty of opportunity for service.
11. Participate in or organize a Scouting for Food drive or a Red Cross Blood Bank drive.
12. Hold a overnight activity for s special needs scout troop.
13. Help organize a new scout troop, varsity team, or cub pack.
14. Organize and perform flag ceremonies for local service clubs, the PTS, Roundtables, etc.
15. Develop a campaign to encourage voter registration or a "Get Out The Vote" campaign.
16. Offer service to help a neighborhood church or community organization (library, firehouse, etc).
17. Volunteer to take charge of a Lodge event or committee.
18. Work at the annual Cub POW-WOW or at the University of Scouting.

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### **SPEAKING OPPORTUNITIES:**

- 1. Volunteer to go with a Lodge or Chapter Officer or an Advisor to make a speech to another Scouting unit.**
- 2. Make a film or videotape of special events or speakers such as a National Jamboree, the NOAC, or other regional or national events. Make a presentation of this record to other scouts.**
- 3. Learn about becoming a Professional Scout Advisor and the opportunities in this field.**
- 4. Learn about becoming a camp director and the employment opportunities in this field.**
- 5. Contact the Red Cross or other emergency services and assist them in making presentations in the community.**
- 6. Contact civic leaders or religious organizations. Find out what opportunities to serve the community they are aware of.**
- 7. Arrange to have speakers from the Forest Service or other nature conservation agencies to make a presentation in your chapter.**
- 8. Contact a Native American speaker to make a presentation in your chapter meeting.**
- 9. Ask an Order of the Arrow member from another Chapter or another Lodge to visit and make a presentation about successful ideas used in his chapter or Lodge.**
- 10. Ask a District Leader to attend a chapter meeting and tell you about planned activities during the next year. Work out plans to help in the District with this leader.**
- 11. Ask a member of the District or Council Training Committee to visit your chapter and make a presentation on training opportunities in our Council.**
- 12. Visit a radio or television station.**
- 13. Schedule a demonstration from the Audubon Society or Raptor Society.**
- 14. Schedule a presentation from a Docent at the Zoo or the Tracy Aviary.**

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## TRAINING PROJECTS:

1. Schedule training sessions for new patrol leaders. Show them how to be more effective leaders in the troop.
2. Schedule training sessions for Senior Patrol Leaders and Patrol Leaders planning to go to camp. Help them to become more informed about summer camp activities.
3. Help in promoting Junior Leader Training at District Roundtables and other training activities.
4. Train chapter members and other scouts in Native American skills such as dancing, outfitting, beadwork, leather craft, and lore.
5. Volunteer to help train new chapter officers. Show them how to be more excited about their new role as chapter leaders. Show them how to make chapter meetings fun. Show them how to involve other youth members in their chapter meetings.
6. Schedule training sessions for Troop and Team leaders in planning and implementing troop and Team events.
7. Plan a special Roundtable for training junior leaders.
8. Schedule a leadership seminar for chapter members to assist them in identifying leadership opportunities both in and out of scouting.
9. Train unit election teams.
10. Follow up and measure the results of the annual Lodge Leadership Training session in September. Help these members to apply the skills they have learned during this training in the chapter activities.
11. Schedule training for emergency preparedness, especially the type needed for campers and backpackers.

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## MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES:

1. Organize and run a District pioneering contest with prizes for the best design, best construction technique, most innovative construction, etc. Ask the District to help sponsor this event.
2. Design a chapter T-shirt, flag, or patch. Be sure to have all the correct approvals before submitting the design for production.
3. Organize a chapter fund raising project to finance chapter outfits, ceremonial equipment, and summer camperships.
4. Design and construct a chapter scrapbook.
5. Organize and prepare a slide presentation about the events your chapter participated in during the last year. Use the presentation at unit elections and Lodge events.
6. Run a camp promotion film at the District Roundtable.
7. Run a recruiting campaign to re-register former chapter members who have lapsed memberships. Schedule a night time telephone activity that is both fun and productive. Generate interest in the chapter by having an exciting schedule prepared for the next twelve months.
8. Schedule a chapter cooking contest or scout skills contest. Mix a number of Scout and Native American skills into the activity.
9. Hold a chapter banquet for member and parents.
10. Challenge another chapter to a contest. Arrange for fun, fellowship, and ceremony.
11. Hold an open house for the chartered organization representatives from the sponsoring organizations in your District. Make a special presentation about the Order of the Arrow to them. Encourage them to assist you in contacting unit leaders and youth for unit elections.
12. Schedule a new members' night with their parents. Provide a chapter calendar of events. Generate a sense of enthusiasm and excitement for your chapter membership.
13. Make a special media production of your chapter's activities during the last year.
14. Define special interest areas for your chapter, such as photography, no trace camping, backpacking, or outdoor cooking.
15. Set a Chapter, Lodge or Guinness World Record for something. Make this an exciting and challenging event for the chapter members.
16. Help your chapter to set the standard or honor chapter for the EL-KU-TA Lodge.