



# THE RECONNAISSANCE

Boy Scout Troop 695 of Prairie Lutheran Church

December 7, 2004; Volume 9, Issue 10

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## December Activities

**Theme: 1<sup>st</sup> Year Advancement**  
**Responsible Patrol: Raptors**

### Troop Activities

Tree Lot, Tree Lot, Tree Lot!!

**Court of Honor** – December 14. All Scouts expected to be in full Class A uniform. Please keep in mind that Invitations have been extended to all Senior Webelos to visit this event!

### Troop Campout

There is no campout this month!

### January '05 Reconnaissance Submissions

Please make note that article submissions for the January '05 issue of *The Reconnaissance* are due to Lisa Songle no later than **Monday, December 20**. Thank you.

## Popcorn and Wreath Sales Wrap-Up

### Popcorn

Thanks to all the scouts who participated in the Viking Council's annual Trails End popcorn fundraiser. Your efforts help scouting on many levels - the Viking Council, our own Troop 695, and your own scout account. Way to go scouts!

If you haven't received your participation patch/prize, check your ship. Commissions to scout accounts will be deposited in January.

### Wreaths

The 2004 wreath sales were awesome! Thirty-five scouts participated, earning nearly \$3,000 for their scout accounts and almost \$2,000 for the troop. Congratulations to top salesmen Spencer Toay with sales of \$1,040 and Eric Hanson with sales of \$986. Honorable mentions go to Andrew Songle (\$829.50), Tyler Opitz (\$680) and Reed Qually (\$675). Thank you and congratulations to all scouts who participated.

### Tree Lot by Mark Jennen

The tree lot (at the corner of Highway 212 and Flying Cloud Drive by the Super America) is open through Sunday, December 19. This is one of the largest fundraisers for the troop and all scouts must sign up to work shifts. Sign up sheets will be available at meetings and by emailing me at [Mark\\_S\\_Jennen@yahoo.com](mailto:Mark_S_Jennen@yahoo.com). Put "Tree lot sign up" in the subject line. Remember, you cannot sign up on the web site. You must email me.

**Volunteers Needed:** Clean-up of the tree lot will be held on Tuesday, December 28 at 6 p.m.

Contact me if you have any questions.

## Calendar of Events

December 7	Troop & Parents' Mtgs. (6:30 pm); Webelos visit; aluminum can recycling; Troop BOR; rank adv. Info due
December 12	AAD Training, Tinucci's (6:30 pm)
December 14	SPL Mtg. (6 pm); Court of Honor (6:30 pm); Webelos visit
December 19	Last Day of Tree Lot
December 20	<i>Reconnaissance</i> articles due
December 21	<b>NO MEETING</b>
December 28	Tree Lot Clean-Up (6 pm)
January 4	Troop & Parents' Mtgs. (6:30 pm); aluminum can recycling; Troop BOR
January 6	OA Mtg. (7 pm); District Roundtable (7 pm)
January 9	AAD Training, Tinucci's (6:30 pm)
January 11	Troop Mtg. (6:30 pm)
January 14-16	Troop Campout, North Winds/Dog Sledding
January 18	<b>NO MEETING</b> ; Committee and PLC Mtgs. (6:30 pm); Committee-ASM Mtg. (7 pm);
January 22	Webelos Winter Survival Outing, Staring Lake Outdoor Center (10 am-1 pm)
January 23	AAD Training, Tinucci's (6:30 pm)
January 25	Troop Mtg. (6:30 pm)
January 29-30	Tentative 2 <sup>nd</sup> Troop North Wind Campout
January 30	<i>Reconnaissance</i> articles due

## FYI – by Mark Jennen

*FYI (For Your Information) is a new feature of The Reconnaissance. FYI is written by troop Committee members and will describe policies and procedures of Troop 695. If you have an idea for future FYI topics, please contact Julie Arthur-Sherman.*

### Acronyms and Meetings

Following are some of the key acronyms and meetings.

**ASM – Assistant Scoutmaster**, sometimes called patrol coach. There should be two assistant scoutmasters assigned to each patrol. To find out which adults are the assistant scoutmaster for a patrol look in the back page of the troop roster. Perhaps you are a patrol coach and do not even realize it! Better check. Your job is to work with the patrol to make sure they are advancing. You should also be attending campouts. You should not be doing all the monthly planning when it is your patrols turn, that should fall to other parents – you do plenty! You should attend the monthly committee/ASM meeting typically held each once a month on the Tuesday after the campout. During this meeting plans for future months and campouts are reviewed. This meeting will also help define your responsibilities. You should also attend assistant scoutmaster training. During troop meetings you should be active with your patrol during the patrol time.

**PLC – Patrol Leaders Council** – This applies to the senior patrol leader (SPL), all the patrol leaders, and any other scout who holds a leadership position. This group holds a meeting once per month, typically the Tuesday after the campout.

**Committee Meetings** – Committee meetings are held monthly, along with the ASM meeting, usually the Tuesday night after the campout. The purpose of the committee meeting is to determine troop direction, manage fund raisers, evaluate equipment needs, etc. You should attend the committee meeting if you are interested in helping run the troop.

**Parents Meeting** – This meeting is typically held once per month. It is usually held the first Tuesday night of the month. All parents should attend this meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to inform all parents of upcoming troop activities.

**JLT – Junior Leader Training.** – This is a meeting that is held twice per year to train scouts on their leadership position. All scouts who hold a leadership position should attend this meeting.

## Bulletin Board

### Reconnaissance Articles

Articles for the November issue are due to Lisa Songle no later than Monday, December 20!  
Email your articles to her at [songle19@msn.com](mailto:songle19@msn.com).

### Reconnaissance on the Web

*The Reconnaissance* is on-line. Visit [www.troop695.org](http://www.troop695.org) and go to the tab marked "Monthly Newsletter".

### Advancement Contacts

- Merit Badge Counselor Coordinator --Glenn Vanic
- Boards of Review or Advancement – Nancy Madsen
- Eagle Boards of Review – Bill Brown

Contact information can be found in your Roster.

The Merit Badge Sign Up book can be found by the "Ships" at each meeting.

*The Reconnaissance* is a monthly publication (no issues July and August) of Boy Scout Troop 695 chartered at

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[www.vikingbsa.org](http://www.vikingbsa.org)  
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### COUNCIL AND DISTRICT NEWS

Council offices Closed December 24 and December 27.

**Charter Reorganization** -- Currently, our sixty packs, troops and crews have charter expiration dates that range from December to April each year. It has been determined however, that this focused attention over the course of five months has not allowed unit commissioners to practice many of the other necessary functions related to quality unit service. For that reason, in an effort to better serve your unit now and in the future, the Mustang District is actively going through a charter repositioning plan. We will be organizing charter expiration dates so that troops and crews will renew their charters in March and packs will renew their charters in April. Among many advantages, this will significantly help packs and troops transition Webelos into Boy Scouts each spring. In order to successfully do this, we will appropriately adjust the registration fees and Boy's Life Magazine fees for the number of months needed to re-adjust the expiration date for your charter. The adjusted fees have been distributed at Roundtable, but will also be available from your unit commissioner.

**Buck Hill Ski Lock-In** - All night skiing and snowboarding lock-in on February 25. A fun night with friends, both new and old. Other activities include movies, snow football, snow camping, bonfire, tubing. Register NOW!!! Times a ticking. You need to register by group or individually, registration deadline is February 14.. Buck Hill may cancel event if we do not meet the minimum registered by this date. Questions about the Lock-In, contact Bob Thielen at [bthielen@bsaemail.org](mailto:bthielen@bsaemail.org).



### ASPL Notepad by Scott Jennen

This month we had JLT (Junior Leader Training). That went well. Now hopefully we'll have more control at the meetings and everyone will have a better time!! Oh well, the last month and campout were fun and I don't have much to say, so. . . .

### Patrol News

**BALD EAGLES: Reed Qually**, Patrol Leader -- The November campout was a lot of fun where we played lashing games. We split up into four groups and went to four stations of activities. At one of the stations we built a catapult with the material supplied to the team and launched a baseball as far as possible. For the next campout in January, everyone attending needs to wear warm clothes. Bald Eagle Patrol -- please remember we have snow removal duties this week at the tree lot.

**DRAGONS: David Jennen**, Patrol Leader -- How JLT Can Help My Patrol -- Going to JLT can help my patrol by just going to it. Our patrol has been struggling through the campouts because no one helps out. I think we will do better on the January campout because of this. Because of this training I hope it can change how the patrol leaders later on deal with the situations our patrol is struggling with, like dishes and latrine duty.

**Troop Guide: Jake Poirier**

**FALCONS: Kevin Thomsen**, Patrol Leader

**SCORPIONS: Nate Brown**, Patrol Leader

**Troop Guides: Ross Sherman & Shane Thuleen**

**THUNDER: Drew Churchill**, Patrol Leader

**Troop Guide: Tyler Herzog** This has been another good month for the Thunder Patrol. Remember to always try to come to all the campouts and meetings. If you need any requirement signed off, you can come up to me at a meeting or campout and ask me to sign it off. You can always work on the requirements at home and have me sign them off later. Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**HUSKIES: Eric Blomgren**, Patrol Leader

**RAPTORS: Eric Gatto**, Patrol Leader -- The Raptors are in charge of the month of December. There will be a troop meeting on Dec. 7 and Dec. 14 will be a Court of Honor. There will be no meeting on Dec. 21. There is tree lot clean up on Dec. 28 starting at 6 pm. The last day of the tree lot will be on Dec. 19.

**WOLVERUNNERS: Josh Clifford**, Patrol Leader

### Troop Leadership Reports

**Bugler: Open**

**Camping Instructor: Andrew Songle** -- See me, call me or email me with any questions on camping. All my contact information is in the Troop Roster.

**Ceremonies Instructor: Eric Hanson**

**Cooking Instructor: Terrence Tan**

**Chaplain's Aid: Open**

**Den Chiefs: Matt Boudreaux and Josh Issacs**

**Fire Safety Instructor: Open**

**First Aid Instructor: Patrick Tinucci** -- If you have any questions about first aid or have any requirements that need to be signed off for first aid you can come up to me at anytime or you can contact me. My phone number is in the troop roster.

**Historian: Jake Brown**

**Junior Assistant Scoutmaster: David Camerino**

**Knife, Ax & Safety Instructor: Open**

**Librarian: Open**

**Quartermaster: Kyle Kronlokken**

**Scribe: Dan Polta**

**Knots Instructor: Andrew Shawd** -- Knots a Lot of Fun --

The theme of the November campout was "knots and lashings." For those scouts who went on the campout, you know that you can do many things with knots and lashings. Examples include: making a fishing pool; rescuing a "king;" building tall towers; and making a catapult. There were also the different stations at the campout, and scouts competed for points based on speed, quality, creativity, and most of all, teamwork.

While having a lot of fun, I also hope that scouts learned some valuable lessons about the importance and use of knots and lashings in everyday life.

Keep on practicing those knots, because you never know when they will come in handy -- whether it's in fun and games, or an emergency situation.

**Troop OA Representative: Open**

**Venture President: Open**

### North Wind Winter Adventure 2005

**North Wind Winter Adventure** -- Viking Council is embarking on an exciting new winter camping program for Scouts and Venturers called North Wind Winter Adventure. **Our Troop has scheduled this adventure for January 14-January 16.** The purpose of North Wind will be to develop self-reliance, resourcefulness, learn teamwork, cooperation and responsibility by applying winter camping skills. Build yourself a winter camping adventure you'll never forget. This adventure opportunity is open to older Scouts (7th grade or older) or Venturers. Eligible Scouts need to complete the January 2005 campout permission slip and return it to Terrance Tan's ship by January 4.

**North Wind Experience Program** -- New program now for younger Boy Scouts. The Experience program is designed to be the entry level winter camping skills program and will be available for any age Scout or Venturer, but may be especially beneficial for the 6th grade Boy Scouts. The Experience program participants will arrive at the Stearns Winter Base Camp on Saturday morning. They will receive winter camping skills training, outdoor winter gear, participate in outdoor winter programs with the trained North Wind staff but sleep indoors Saturday night. The program is intended to be fun, educational and prepare the Scouts to be in the North Wind Adventure program the next year. **Our Troop has scheduled this experience for January 15-16. Since space is limited, if interest, we will have another experience January 29-30.** Scouts need to complete the January 2005 campout permission slip and return it to Terrance Tan's ship by January 4.

## Instructor Tips of the Month

**First Aid -- Patrick Tinucci --** The first aid lesson of the month is how to treat a cut in the lower arm. First you make sure there is nothing in the wound. If there is, flush it out with cold water. If that doesn't work, use tweezers to carefully remove it. Then apply direct pressure to the wound. If the bleeding stops, depending on how big or small the cut is, put on a band-aid or any kind of clean cloth to keep it from bleeding. If that does not work, apply indirect pressure by pushing on a pressure point in the upper forearm. If worst comes to worst, and ONLY as a last resort, apply a tourniquet.

### Outdoor Code

*As an American, I will do my best to be clean in my outdoor manners, be careful with fire, be considerate in the outdoors, and be conservation minded.*

**Camping -- Andrew Songle --** Keeping warm is the most important part of cold weather camping. Use the C-O-L-D method to assure staying warm.

#### - C - Clean

Since insulation is only effective when heat is trapped by dead air spaces, keep your insulating layers clean and fluffy. Dirt, grime, and perspiration can mat down those air spaces and reduce the warmth of a garment.

#### - O - Overheating

Avoid overheating by adjusting the layers of your clothing to meet the outside temperature and the exertions of your activities. Excessive sweating can dampen your garments and cause chilling later on.

#### - L - Loose Layers

A steady flow of warm blood is essential to keep all parts of your body heated. Wear several loosely fitting layers of clothing and footwear that will allow maximum insulation without impeding your circulation.

#### - D - Dry

Damp clothing and skin can cause your body to cool quickly, possibly leading to frostbite and hypothermia. Keep dry by avoiding cotton clothes that absorb moisture. Always brush away snow that is on your clothes before you enter a heated area. Keep the clothing around your neck loosened so that body heat and moisture can escape instead of soaking several layers of clothing.

## Winter Survival Outing – Recruiting Event

Mark your calendar for Saturday, January 22 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Staring Lake Outdoor Center to participate in our last Senior Webelos Recruiting Event. Enjoy a morning sharing experiences of cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, ice fishing, ice bowling and winter survival training. Contact Webelos Activities Chair Don Qually for more information or if you are interesting in assisting.

## Merit Badge Madness Is Coming by Derrick Poirier

**What is it?** We devote the month of February to working on merit badges. A mixture of Eagle-required and optional badges will be offered.

**How does it work?** Scouts will sign up for badges they want to work on (sign up sheets coming soon). We will work on requirements during the troop meetings in February and then stay at Camp St. Croix the weekend of February 26-28 for merit badge classes and skiing/snowboarding at Afton Alps. Please contact Derrick Poirier if you are interested in teaching or co-teaching badge.

**Camping in February?** We stay in heated cabins and have in door meeting space. Meals are provided by the camp and eaten in the dining hall. No tents! No cooking! No washing dishes!

**How can parents help?** We need counselors to teach classes and help the scouts lay out plans to finish badges with long-term requirements. A tentative list of badges follows. Please contact Derrick Poirier if you are interested in teaching or co-teaching one of these badges. Feel free to suggest any other badge that you would like to teach. This is a great opportunity to work with the boys that doesn't involve sleeping in a tent! In fact, Camp St. Croix is located in nearby Hudson, WI making it possible to "commute" to classes if you can't get away for the whole weekend.