



# THE RECONNAISSANCE

Boy Scout Troop 695 of Prairie Lutheran Church

June 8, 2004; Volume 9, Issue 6

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## May Activities: Canoeing/Fishing Responsible Patrol: Bald Eagles

### Troop Court of Honor

All Scouts are expected to be in full Class A uniform. The next Court of Honor will be held on September 28. Class B uniforms can be worn to all meeting and/or activities after tonight until September 1. No Troop meetings until Tuesday, August 31.

### Troop Campout

June's campout was held June 4-6 at Rum River.

"So this summer, while you're out of uniform and away from Scouting for a few weeks, remember that you have the words of the Oath and Law to guide you." Scoutmaster Polta

A Scout is Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean and Reverent.

## Many Point Scout Camp by Paul Boudreaux, Many Point Coordinator

Many Point 2004 is right around the corner...Sunday, July 18 - Saturday, July 24! All registered Scouts were given an information packet in their "Ship" in April.

### Here are a few reminders:

- Make sure you shop early for the mosquito netting for your cot. The outdoor stores sell out quickly!
- Scouts should be preparing for their Merit Badge classes. Read the Merit Badge book and check to see if there are any requirements that need to be done before camp.
- Scouts are again being asked to bring a daypack. When the Scouts leave the campsite in the morning, they will pack up everything they need for the morning and take it with them. They will return for lunch. After lunch, they must pack up everything they need for the afternoon and take it with them. Always remember your water! Each Scout will have to be organized and ready to go. There will be no returning to the campsite after each individual session. If you must return to camp, you risk missing Merit Badge requirements and other activities. BE PREPARED!
- Parents: The Many Point 2004 Leaders Guide, the green booklet given to each patrol, will provide you with a lot of information. Try to read it before coming to Many Point. It will also tell you about any adult programs offered throughout the week. Scouts and Parents, please take the time to read over the packet of information you were given. Contact Paula Boudreaux, 952-906-9604, for other information.

**REMINDER -- WE WILL LEAVE FROM STARING LAKE PARK ON JULY 18 AT 7:30 AM AND WILL RETURN HOME ON SATURDAY JULY 24 AT APPROX 3 PM AT PRAIRIE LUTHERAN CHURCH. IT WOULD BE WISE TO SHOW UP BETWEEN 2-3 PM BECAUSE SOMETIMES WE ARRIVE EARLIER THAN SCHEDULED!**

## Calendar of Events

June 8	Troop Court of Honor (6:30 pm); Troop, Parents' and Many Point Mtgs. (7 pm); aluminum can recycling
June 14	Flag Day – Display American Flag
June 13-19	Pine Tree Session I
June 15	Philmont Mtg. (6:30 pm)
June 20-26	Pine Tree Session II
June 20-July 3	Philmont Trek
June 22	Gathering of Eagles Alumni Dinner, Interlachen Country Club (6 pm)
July 18-24	Many Point – leave Staring Lake on July 18 at 7:30 am; return Prairie Lutheran Church on July 24 at 3 pm
August 6-8	Woodbadge
August 17	District Steak Fry
August 27-29	Woodbadge
August 31	Troop Mtg. (6:30 pm)
September 2	OA Mtg., District Roundtable (7 pm)
September 5	Reconnaissance Articles Due
September 7	Troop & Parents' Mtgs. (6:30 pm); aluminum can recycling; Board of Review
September 14	Troop Mtg. (6:30 pm), Troop Nominations, Patrol Elections; Eagle BOR (7 pm) United Methodist
September 17-19	Tentative Troop Campout
September 21	SPL Mtg. (6 pm); Troop Mtg. (6:30 pm), Troop Elections; Committee Mtg. (6:30 pm)
September 28	Troop Court of Honor
<b>2005</b>	
July 17-July 23	Many Point

### Reminder About The Ins And Outs Of Concessions at Flying Cloud/Staring Lake

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✘ Hats must be worn at all times while working.</li> <li>✘ If you leave the concession stand and come back inside, be sure to wash your hands with the Hand Sanitizer.</li> <li>✘ If you turn the motor off on the Popcorn maker, be sure that the Heat is also turned off.</li> <li>✘ If you wish to eat food during your shift, you must pay for it. Nothing is free (except left-over popcorn instead of throwing it out – is free).</li> <li>✘ If you wish to eat during your shift, you must wait until there is a lull and then ask permission to take a short break. You must leave the concession stand to consume your food.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✘ Please do not place out any Tip cups encouraging tips from customers. The Troop is already receiving nice profits for the items we sell and we should not be encouraging our patrons to give us more. If a customer decides to donate a portion of their change without any prompting, say "Thank You" and put it in the Cash Box along with the rest of the money.</li> <li>✘ All scouts should be assisting the adults in the Clean-Up efforts.</li> <li>✘ Don't forget to restock.</li> <li>✘ If you notice something is running low, please write it down and put the note in the cash box so the shopper is notified.</li> </ul>
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### Comments and Suggestions For Flying Cloud Welcomed

First off, special thanks to Jeff Shawd for doing such a remarkable job with Flying Cloud concessions this Spring/Summer. We have laminated signage, new coolers and a traveling concessions wagon.

However, there is always room for improvement and Jeff and the Troop are interested in "The Good, The Bad and The Ugly" of Flying Cloud. We are interested in your suggestions for improving the shopping, scheduling, product selection or anything related to the operation of the concession stand at Flying Cloud. In other words, if you've been a shopper, worker or customer, we'd like to hear ideas about what could be improved. Email Jeff at [jeffshawd@msn.com](mailto:jeffshawd@msn.com).

### Bulletin Board

<p><b>Reconnaissance Articles</b> Articles for the June issue are due to Lisa Songle no later than Sunday, September 5. You may email your articles to her at <a href="mailto:songle@mn.rr.com">songle@mn.rr.com</a>.</p> <p><b>The Reconnaissance</b> Misplaced your copy of <i>The Reconnaissance</i> or you weren't able to attend a recent meeting to get your copy? <i>The Reconnaissance</i> is on-line. Visit <a href="http://www.troop695.org">www.troop695.org</a> and go to the tab marked "Monthly Newsletter".</p>	<p><b>Advancement Contacts</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Merit badges - Glenn Vanic</li> <li>▪ Boards of Review - Pam Thuleen</li> <li>▪ Eagle Boards of Review - Joe Polta</li> <li>▪ Other - Nancy Madsen or Mark Fairbrother</li> </ul> <p>Contact information can be found in your Roster.</p> <p><b>Found</b> – Blue Motorola Talkabout T5720. Left in tent at April campout. Contact Andrew Songle @ 952.944.8803.</p>	<p><i>The Reconnaissance</i> is a monthly publication (no issues July and August) of Boy Scout Troop 695 chartered at</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Prairie Lutheran Church 11000 Blossom Road Eden Prairie, MN 55347</p> <p>Scoutmaster: Joe Polta (952) 942-0407</p> <p>Committee Chair: Julie Arthur Sherman (952) 975-0264</p> <p><i>Reconnaissance</i> Editor: Lisa Songle (952) 944-8803 Email: <a href="mailto:songle@mn.rr.com">songle@mn.rr.com</a></p> <p>Troop Web Page: <a href="http://www.troop695.org">www.troop695.org</a></p>
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### What's Up With Staring Lake Concession Trailer June-August? By Cindy Blomgren

<p>Our Troop sells concessions whenever there is an event or performance at the E.P. amphitheater -- most Sunday, Wednesday and Friday evenings!</p> <p>Open shifts are posted on the Troop Website. You cannot sign up online, but you can peruse the signup list for openings. Then email <a href="mailto:blomgren1@aol.com">blomgren1@aol.com</a> with your shift request. A confirmation will be emailed back to you.</p> <p>Note that your shift actually begins <u>one hour before the event performance time</u>. The prep-hour is necessary set-up time. Pop and cold water need to be hauled up the hill from the amphitheater refrigerator to the sales trailer and it takes time get the popcorn popper running.</p> <p><b>Adults on duty for first shift (if two shifts are scheduled back-to-back)</b> Before your shift begins, you will need to come to either the Blomgren or Weegemann home. Maps and directions to both homes are included within the Staring Lake schedule shift. This form is posted on Troop's website. You must</p>	<p>pick up the cashbox, keys and hot water thermos</p> <p><b>Adults on Duty for Second shift (if two shifts are scheduled back-to-back)</b> Return cash box, keys and water thermos to the Blomgren or Weegmann home immediately after cleaning up and closing.</p> <p><b>Only one shift scheduled (most evenings)</b> Adult on duty is responsible for picking up and returning cashbox, keys and water thermos.</p> <p><b>Hats must be worn at all times while working.</b></p> <p><b>Please wear your Class A uniform or Class B T-Shirt.</b></p> <p>Take down and clean up after your shift takes at least half an hour – Scouts help adults with this. Parents picking up a Scout after his shift, please arrive at least ½ hour after the event performance is over.</p> <p>Remember to restock pop and water in fridge so they're cold for next shift.</p>	<p>Always keep fridge locked with chain - always!</p> <p>Any food eaten during your shift must be paid for and eaten outside of the trailer.</p> <p>The 'caretakers' of Staring Lake Concession Trailer will be Blomgren's June 9 – 18; Weegman's from June 20 through July 31; Blomgren's August 1-31.</p> <p>Thank you to the Husky Patrol for taking responsibility for this fundraiser.</p> <p><b>Flying Cloud/Staring Lake</b> While the Troop doesn't meet during the summer months, there are still plenty of opportunities to get together with Scouts and adults alike by working at the Flying Cloud and Staring Lake concession stands. Working either of these stands is money in your Scout account. At the end of each season, the net proceeds are divided among the Scouts and hours worked. Last summer Scouts earned an average of \$8.50 an hour at Staring Lake and \$12 at Flying Cloud. Visit the Troop website at <a href="http://www.troop695.com">www.troop695.com</a> for openings.</p>
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**Scoutmaster's Corner by Joe Polta**

It's the end of the school year and I bet you're excited to start a summer full of friends, relaxation and travel.

Many of you may even be traveling on Boy Scout "business," to Many Point Scout Camp, Pine Tree Leadership Camp or Philmont Scout Ranch. In those places where Scouts gather from all over, it's obvious that the Scout Oath and Law guide our actions. Signs on the road into Many Point give the Oath and Law.

But at some time this summer all of us will get a break from Scouting activities. Do the Oath and Law still apply? Of course they do. We may only wear the uniform for an hour or two a week for nine months out of the year, but we're still Scouts 24-7-365 (24-7-366 in leap years!). As a Scouter and former Scout, when I'm faced with a difficult choice, whether at a Scouting activity or elsewhere, I almost always rattle through those twelve points of the Scout Law silently

as I decide what to do. If I can't find guidance in the Scout Law, I go through the Scout Oath. Not once have I failed to find something in those words to guide me in the right course of action. At every Scout gathering you promise to do your best on behalf of God and country, others and yourself. That doesn't mean you have to advertise that you're a Boy Scout wherever you go. But it does mean that you have to make an effort to live those words. When you do, you're improving yourself, your family and your community.

So this summer, while you're out of uniform and away from Scouting for a few weeks, remember that you have the words of the Oath and Law to guide you.

I'm proud to be your Scoutmaster.

**SPL Scratch by Taylor Nelson**

During the past month we have accomplished a lot of things, the largest one being the first years advancing very rapidly. I would like to congratulate them on their success. I would like to welcome Mr. Polta as our new Scoutmaster, and I would like to give best wishes to the Brennamans in Pennsylvania even though Mrs. Brennaman and McLeod have not left yet. Since school is almost out, we will be able to wear our Class B shirts to Troop meetings and activities from June 9 through August 31.

**ASDL Notepad by Jason Smoliak**

Again we find each other at the end of another scouting year. School's out and summer vacation is just beginning. For many of us, that means trekking off to Philmont. For others, it means fun in the sun at Many Point. And for Mr. Brennaman, it means embarking on a new journey with many new people. Yes, this time of the year is a point where there are new beginnings and new ends. And as most of us know, every beginning has an end. Mr. Brennaman, we will miss you. I think I speak for the whole troop when I say that we will be missing an important aspect of the Troop when you are gone. You are a big part of not only the Troop, but the community as well. You have touched so many people in so many ways, and I can only hope that you can touch as many hearts in your new community as you have here. So, this is a farewell Mr. Brennaman, not only to a great man, but also to a person with the qualities we all strive for. Thank you Mr. Brennaman.

**Patrol News**

- BALD EAGLES:** Evan Fairbrother, Patrol Leader
- DRAGONS:** Jake Poirier & Brad Madsen, Troop Guides
- FALCONS:** Brian Wunderlich, Patrol Leader
- HUSKIES:** Ian Vanic, Patrol Leader -- During the month of May the Huskies accomplished a lot of things. But, the best part was all of the kids in the Shotgun Merit Badge class passed. We gave all of the kids in our Troop a chance to shoot and they all acted safe. It was a good month for the whole Troop.
- LAKOTAS:** Derek Clemmings, Patrol Leader
- RAPTORS:** Jens Gilman, Patrol Leader

- THUNDER:** Tim Wolfgram & Tyler Herzog, Troop Guides -- Wow! What a month. We had another great campout as the Thunder patrol. Everyone had a great time shooting shotguns, making dutch oven pizzas and advancing a lot in rank. This was a great campout for Mr. Brennaman to go out on. We all wish you luck Mr. B! Also congratulations to Mr. Polta on becoming the next Scoutmaster. Hopefully the month of June will be just as fun, if not better than May. Tim Wolfgram.
- SCORPIONS:** Ross Sherman & Shane Thuleen, Troop Guides

**WOLVERUNNERS:** Todd Hayen, Patrol Leader

## Troop Leadership Reports

**Bugler: Jake Brown**  
**Camping Instructor: Open**  
**Chaplain's Aid: John Lewis**  
**Den Chiefs: Matt Boudreaux and Josh Issacs** -- Den Chief Matt Boudreaux Pack 347, Den 5 -- We just finished up the Forester badge. A couple of weeks ago we had the egg drop that was a splat and just the other day we had a rocket launch that was a blast. Well, let's just say that several of the kids will be joining the Troop next year, so that's pretty cool.  
**Fire Instructor: Andrew Shawd**  
**Historian: Dan**  
**Knife, Ax & Safety Instructors: Eric Blomgren**  
**Librarian: Eric Hanson** -- Hi everyone. I want to wish you a wonderful summer. If you find a library book at your house over the summer, you can bring it to me on one of the campouts or just call me. If we can get all the library books in by early fall we should be good.

**Quartermaster: Nathan Haggerty** -- I recently heard there was talk about the Troop buying some kayaks. So, when I was up north in Ely to their annual SunSplash event (there was no sun, but there was splash), I checked out some of their recreational kayaks and found one that I thought would be good for our Troop (\$500 alone, \$600 with equipment). Then I went to try out one of the high-end ones that were not very stable. I tipped in the freezing cold Ely waters of May. But, I found out what I wanted so it was a success. P.S.--If the guides tell you how to get in a kayak, don't try your way!  
**Scribe: Andrew Songle** -- At the April 13 meeting, we had 48 scouts in attendance. Not reporting attendance were the Dragons and Falcons. At the May 4 meeting, I have 53 in attendance, not reporting Dragons and Wolverrunners. The May campout had 56 scouts and 19 adults and the June campout had 25 scouts with 15 adults.  
**Troop OA Representative: Open**  
**Venture President: Nick Smith**

## Quartermaster Update

Fred Haggerty, Adult QM  
 A few reminders. Please remember to put the trailers back in order as they are reloaded at the end of the campout. A number of items, such as pots, water jugs, and such that belong in patrol boxes were placed in the trailer. Several wet tents were not taken home to be dried but put in the trailer. This will result in moldy tents and damage them. Also some shelves were overloaded causing them to bend because items were improperly placed on them and will now need to be repaired. Labels are put in the trailer to help in knowing where things go. It will take teamwork on everyone's part to help ensure the equipment is in good order and ready for use for our next outing.

Some comments have been made about leaky tents. Usually it is not the tent that is the problem but the parties setting up the tent. Two key items to consider when setting up your tent: First, pick a good location. How does the wind blow, water run from or pool, any deadfalls or trees that might fall on you, how is the drainage, and do you have enough room? These are all some of the things to consider. **Second, set it up correctly!** This is the most common mistake. A well set up tents can still keep you dry and safe even if a location that is less than ideal. If in doubt, ask for help.

Lastly, we are looking for small rod and reel fishing pole donations for the trailers. We go on a lot of campouts with lakes or rivers near by and kids are often looking for things to do. Some own fishing gear and some don't. Many times no one remembers to bring it but we talk about it once we are there. This would provide a solution. Due to storage restrictions in the trailer though, we need poles no longer the 5 feet max. (4 to 4.5 long would be best) and preferably spin cast (ones with the button). They should be in working order. Dirty or dusty is fine, they can be cleaned up. So, if you have a pole sitting around that needs a home, give it to me to put in the trailer. Three or four per trailer would be nice. Also, a few very small tackle boxes to store hooks and bobbers in would be great too!

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.

## Q=MC2

Fred Haggerty, Adult QM  
 Ten reasons to go on a campout:

- 1) Bad weather. Thunder, lightning, wind and rain that scours your soul with tons of excitement thrown in free.
- 2) Hitting the trail before dawn and watching the birds get up.
- 3) Toasting marshmallows.
- 4) Outhouses with a view you can't get that a home.
- 5) Discovering mice never crawl through the top of your pack to find food when they can chew a hole in the bottom quicker.
- 6) Camp food after a long day hike or pigging out and not have to worry about dieting.
- 7) Simple pleasures: Dry socks and toilet paper.
- 8) Stars & northern lights – things that can never really be seen in a city. It's like having fireworks that never stop.

- 9) Wildlife, finding out a moose up close is a lot bigger that you ever thought.
- 10) Adventures. Wow, they really are better for real than on TV.

Factoid: The white stuff on the end of a tick when you pull it out is not your skin but a latex like material they extrude to hold them in place.

Questions of the month: In canoeing and kayaking, what is a "brace" used for and how is it done? (hint: it is a type of stroke)

## New Webmaster Announced

Many thanks to Jim Sundberg who has volunteered to be the Troop's webmaster. If you have any comments, corrections or additions for the web site, please contact Jim at [sundbjx@parknicollet.com](mailto:sundbjx@parknicollet.com).

## Many Point 2005

Mark your calendars! Many Point Scout Camp 2005 will be the week of July 17 - July 23. We will be in the Voyageur Camp, but in the Savannah Portage and Fort William Campsites. Due to our size, we reserved 2 campsites for next year so we won't be so crowded. This campsite is on Round Lake. Family Camp 2005 reservations are also being taken at this time. Contact Paula Boudreaux for a reservation form.