



THE RECONNAISSANCE

Boy Scout Troop 695 of Prairie Lutheran Church

September 7, 2004; Volume 9, Issue 7

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September Activities

Theme: Wilderness Survival

Responsible Patrol: Huskies

Troop Activities

September's activities will focus on wilderness survival, including survival skills, shelter building and signaling and directions to name a few, with many of the Scouts working on the requirements for the Wilderness Survival Merit Badge. We will also be holding elections. **Scouts must now be in their Class A uniform at all meetings.**

Troop Campout

September's campout will be held at Carver Park in Victoria, Minnesota from Friday, September 17 through Sunday, September 19.

First year scouts will be going on a 5-mile hike with older scouts focusing on the requirements for the Wilderness Survival Merit Badge.

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.

Popcorn and Wreath Sales Fundraising Opportunities

Popcorn Sales – by Marthy Smoliak

Scouts will again have an opportunity to participate in the Popcorn sales fundraiser. Units receive a 33% cash commission and 5% in prizes for a total of 38% net return to the Troop. This fundraiser runs from September 25 through October 23.

A new 9-product mix will include 18/pack Kettle Corn and a 30/pack variety pack, in addition to the already popular 3-Way tin and Chocolate covered Caramel Crunch, which all make great holiday gifts.

Wreath Sales – by Barbara Hanson

Once again this year, we will be selling wreaths, door sprays, garlands, holiday centerpieces and living trees. This is a great opportunity to earn money for your scout account (70% of profits) for campouts and high adventure trips. It will also help out your troop (30% of profits). This is an optional fundraiser. Packets will be available at the troop meeting October 5 with general sales beginning October 9 and ending October 26. If you have any questions, please call Barbara Hanson at 937-5905

Many Point Scout Camp by Paul Boudreaux, Many Point Coordinator

Hope everyone had an awarding and fun Many Point experience. We ended up with 61 scouts attending Many Point this year, which is the largest group we have had so far. As usual, we started the campout in the rain, but at least it was short-lived. It rained just long enough for everyone to get thoroughly soaked while we set up the dining flies and situated the tent arrangement. The scouts did a great job with camp set-up. This is where the adult leadership really came in handy and I thank all of you for your help.

A big accomplishment for Troop 695 this year was that 34 of our older scouts completed SUPER SCOUT. The SUPER SCOUT program was initiated this year because of the large number of scouts and the fact that we could not have had all these scouts participate in the Many Point scheduled afternoon activities. Having 61 scouts wait around for a one-hour rifle range slot just didn't seem like the right direction to take. This is why we scheduled all the 1st year scouts in the Many Point afternoon programs and led the older scouts through the SUPER SCOUT program. They refreshed their memory in many skills like the Nature and Knot Tying requirements along with doing all the fun activities like Climbing Tower, Rifle Range, Sailing, Canoeing, Archery Range, Fire Tower and History Center, in addition to tie-dying at our campsite. They grudgingly took part in the Ironman and Polar Bear. We spent an evening with the counselors down at the beach for a lesson in Astronomy. This is a huge accomplishment because usually only 6 scouts complete this at Many Point all year. A special thank you to the adults who helped with this program: Mike Brattensborg, Burt Boudreaux, Dennis Isaacs, John Wolfgram, Boon Tan, Chuck Mueller, Derrick Poirier, Joe Houterman, Chuck Wunderlich, Mark Jennen, Cindy Blomgren, Don Qually, John Lewis, Craig Beveroth, Bill Brown and Mike Toay, along with all the adults who helped transport kids to and from the fire tower. As you can see by the list above, our troop is blessed with a great group of committed and knowledgeable parents. Again, I thank you all. You made my job easy!!! I would also like to thank all the scouts who participated in the program for making it successful and the parents who put in countless hours planning and participating in the program. Thank You!

Many merit badges were earned this summer at camp. Approximately 160 merit badges were completed this summer. Due to time restraints and some merit badges requiring projects that needed to be completed at home or skill requirements that needed to be achieved, some scouts were not able to complete the badge at camp. The incomplete badges can be completed before the September Court of Honor if the Scout puts the effort into the requirements and they have the parents' support and prodding (this is spoken from a parent of an older Scout). All incomplete merit badge cards will be distributed at the parent meeting tonight. Paula Boudreaux will contact you if you are not able to attend the meeting.

Again, thank you to all the parents that helped and I hope I can look forward to your help and other parents stepping up to the plate next year. It was a great experience and Chuck Wunderlich has captured many memorable photos. He was our chief photographer that week and I hope he will put together a slide show to share with everyone. The photos are priceless!

Concessions at Flying Cloud

Yes, it's still going on through October 16 and there are plenty of spots available. Check the troop website for openings.

- ✘ Hats must be worn at all times while working.
- ✘ If you leave the concession stand and come back inside, be sure to wash your hands with the Hand Sanitizer.
- ✘ If you turn the motor off on the Popcorn maker, be sure that the Heat is also turned off.
- ✘ 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).
- ✘ 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.

- ✘ 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.
- ✘ All scouts should be assisting the adults in the Clean-Up efforts.
- ✘ Don't forget to restock.
- ✘ If you notice something is running low, please write it down and put the note in the cash box so the shopper is notified.

Comments and Suggestions For Flying Cloud Welcomed

Jeff Shawd 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.

Bulletin Board

Reconnaissance Articles

Articles for the October issue are due to Lisa Songle no later than Sunday, October 3. You may email your articles to her at songle19@msn.com.

The Reconnaissance

Misplaced your copy of *The Reconnaissance* or you weren't able to attend a recent meeting to get your copy? *The Reconnaissance* is on-line. Visit 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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"But, whether you're the greenest Scout or the most decorated Eagle, you're always one of us, and you're always welcome, even if it's just for the occasional meeting or campout." Scoutmaster Polta

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

Calendar of Events

- 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 Troop Campout, Wilderness Survival, Carver Park
- September 21 SPL Mtg. (6 pm); Troop Mtg. (6:30 pm), Troop Elections; Committee Mtg. (6:30 pm)
- September 25 Popcorn sales fundraiser begins
- September 28 Troop Court of Honor
- October 3 *Reconnaissance* articles due
- October 5 Troop & Parents' Mtgs. (6:30 pm); aluminum can recycling; Board of Review
- October 7 OA Mtg. (7 pm); District Roundtable (7 pm)
- October 9 Wreath sales fundraiser begins
- October 12 Troop Mtg. (6:30 pm); Eagle BOR (7 pm) United Methodist
- October 15-17 Troop Campout, Rock Climbing, Taylors Falls
- October 19 **No Troop Meeting**; SPL Mtg. (6 pm); Committee Mtg. (6:30 pm)
- October 23 Popcorn sales fundraiser ends
- October 26 Troop Mtg. (6:30 pm); Wreath sales fundraiser ends
- October 31 *Reconnaissance* articles due
- 2005**
- July 17-July 23 Many Point

Its recruitment time for the troop. If you are interested in helping at any of the upcoming recruiting events, contact Kevin Opitz. Older boys can join scouts too! If you have a friend that may be interested, invite him along to a meeting.



Scoutmaster's Corner by Joe Dolta

Welcome back! School is back in session and so are our regular Troop activities. And now that all our schedules are filling up again, you may have some hard choices to make about where you want to be. I hope you choose family and church first and schoolwork second. As strongly as I believe in Scouting, I believe that it should come at least third on your list.

Once more. Family and church first. Schoolwork second. Scouting at least third.

Naturally I like to see as many of you as possible come to Scouting activities, but there are so many great places for young men to belong that the choice can be hard. Listen to your heart . . . and maybe even your parents. If your heart leads you, do *something*. Get involved, whether it's with Scouts, music, sports, chess, drama, math, or some other activity. But, whether you're the greenest Scout or the most decorated Eagle, you're always one of us, and you're always welcome, even if it's just for the occasional meeting or campout.

I'm proud to be your Scoutmaster.

ASPL Notepad by Brain Smith

Over the summer I went to Many Point. Although I am usually the ASPL for this camp out, I was the SPL because Taylor Nelson was at Philmont that week. I really enjoyed the experience of leading the troop. I think the first year Scouts did a great job at Many Point getting some merit badges and working towards advancement.

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

LAKOTAS: Derek Clemmings, Patrol Leader

RAPTORS: Jens Gilman, Patrol Leader -- Summer is over now and scouts is getting started again. Most of the Raptor Patrol went to both Philmont and Many Point this summer. Also, the Raptors are in charge of the months of October and December. October's theme will be rock climbing and I think it will be something all of the Scouts should enjoy very much. It should be exciting to start everything up again and I hope everyone enjoys it.

THUNDER: Tim Wolfgram & Tyler Herzog, Troop Guides

SCORPIONS: Ross Sherman & Shane Thuleen, Troop Guides

WOLVERUNNERS: Todd Hayen, Patrol Leader

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.

Troop Leadership Reports

Bugler: Jake Brown -- I had a great time at Many Point playing my trumpet. I will try to practice more so it sounds even better. I hope you all had a great time at Many Point and that you'll have just as much fun on the next camp out.

Camping Instructor: Open

Chaplain's Aid: John Lewis -- Hope everyone had a good summer. Several of us when to Philmont this summer and it was fun. The troop also had a good time at Many Point this summer. The concession stands has been started up and we will be having our first meeting since the summer break. So a lot of new things will be happening so we need to hope every thing goes well. Let pray that we have successful campouts during our Fall 2004 and Spring 2005 seasons.

Den Chiefs: Matt Boudreaux and Josh Issacs --

Fire Instructor: Andrew Shawd

Historian: Dan Polta --

Knife, Ax & Safety Instructors: Eric Blomgren

Librarian: Eric Hanson -- I want to remind everyone to return their library books to the library as scouts starts this fall. Thank You.

Quartermaster: Nathan Haggerty

Scribe: Andrew Songle -- My job was pretty easy this summer. Patrol Leaders, please see me for an attendance list if I don't give one to you at the meeting and make sure you return your completed list to me at the end of the meeting or put it in my ship. I have enjoyed being the Troop Scribe for the past six months.

Troop OA Representative: Open

Venture President: Nick Smith