



THE RECONNAISSANCE

Boy Scout Troop 695 of Prairie Lutheran Church

October 4, 2005; Volume 10, Issue 8

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October Activities

Theme: Wilderness Survival
Responsible Patrol: Bald Eagles

Your Wilderness Survival Merit Badge can be earned this month!!!!

Activities

- October 4 – Troop and Parents' Meetings;
- October 11 – Troop Meeting;
- October 18 – **No Troop meeting**; PLC, Committee and ASM meetings
- October 25 – Troop Meeting

Troop Camp-Out

This month's campout will be held October 14-16 at Lake Rebecca Park Reserve. Parents look for mailing on this campout, but don't share it with the Scouts!!!!

It takes a lot to put on a Troop Court of Honor and we want to take a moment to recognize those who were instrumental in the success of our September Court of Honor:

Scoutmaster Joe Polta; Tim Wolfram (SPL); Huskies (responsible patrol); Timberwolves and Cobras (color guard); Kay Olson-Thomsen (refreshments); Barbara Hanson (program) and Burt and Matt Boudreaux for the exceptional video presentation.



Eagle Updates

Nathan Haggerty – Congratulations to Nathan Haggerty who has been awarded his Eagle Scout.

Jake Poirier Eagle Project – Jake's project is the building of a fire pit with benches and a wood storage container near it at Pax Christi Catholic Community. The storage container was built at the Poirier house and transported to the church on October 1. On October 8, he will build the fire pit and benches at the site as well as place a signpost near the location of the pit. If you did not have an opportunity to sign up to help Jake on October 8 and are interested in doing so, please contact Jake. Jake needs the help of six to eight scouts. Good luck, Jake.

"New Leaders: I dare you. I dare you to be more than the badge on your left arm." Scoutmaster Polta

Popcorn and Wreath Sales Fundraising Opportunities

Popcorn Sales

Scouts have an opportunity to participate in the Popcorn sales fundraiser which began September 24 and runs through October 22. This fundraising opportunity needs a coordinator. See article p. 2. In the meantime, see Jeff Shawd or Barbara Hanson for popcorn fundraising packets.

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

Wreath Sales

We are once again selling 25", 36", 48" and 60" wreaths, 26" sprays, 25' and 50' garlands, living trees and centerpieces. This year we are adding a new wreath to our offering: the Victorian wreath. Light sets for wreaths and door hangars are also being offered again. Selling these items to family and friends provides them with a quality product and puts money in your scout account (60% of profits) for campouts and high adventure trips. It will also help out your troop (40% of profits). If you are interested in this optional fundraiser, please remember to get your wreath packet from Barbara Hanson at the troop meeting. Sales began Saturday, October 1. All money and item totals will be due at the October 25 Troop meeting. Please call Barbara with any questions at 937-5905.

Troop Roster

We are currently in the process of updating the Troop roster. Please take a few moments to review your information in the Spring 2005 roster and alert Barbara Hanson to any changes, additions or deletions that may have taken place since that time. You can contact Barbara by phone at 937-5905 or email at BNEHanson @mn.rr.com. It is especially important that we have email and cell phone information. Email for distribution of information and cell phone for emergency purposes. Thank you.

Calendar of Events

Oct. 4	Troop & Parent Mtg. (6:30 pm), aluminum can recycling
Oct. 6	OA Mtg.; District Roundtable (7 pm)
Oct. 11	Troop Mtg. (6:30 pm); Eagle Preview – Christ Presbyterian Church, Edina (7 pm)
Oct. 14-16	Troop Camp-Out (Wilderness Survival), Lake Rebecca Park Reserve
Oct. 18	NO TROOP MEETING; PLC & Committee Mtgs. (6:30 pm); ASM Mtg. (7 pm)
Oct. 22	Popcorn sales end
Oct. 23	<i>Reconnaissance</i> articles due
Oct. 25	Troop Mtg. (6:30 pm); Wreath sales end
Nov. 1	Troop & Parent Mtg. (6:30 pm), aluminum can recycling
Nov. 3	OA Mtg.; District Roundtable (7 pm)
Nov. 7	Senior Webelos Wall Climbing, Bloomington REI (5-9 pm)
Nov. 8	Troop Mtg. (6:30 pm)
Nov. 11-13	Troop Camp-Out (Cooking)
Nov. 15	NO TROOP MEETING; PLC & Committee Mtgs. (6:30 pm); ASM Mtg. (7 pm)
Nov. 19	Wreath pick-up (10 am – 1 pm); Tree Lot Opens
Nov. 22	Tree Lot Training (Super America – Flying Cloud Drive and Pioneer Trail)
Nov. 27	<i>Reconnaissance</i> articles due
Nov. 29	Troop Mtg. (6:30 pm); Merit Badge information due

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.

Fundraising: Another Troop 695 Tradition by Jeff Shawd, Fundraising and Finance Chair

Our troop is fortunate to provide a wide range of activities that enrich the scouting experience for our boys. The role of our Troop fundraising program is to provide the opportunities to support these activities, and to encourage, guide and support everyone who wishes to participate in fundraising events throughout the year.

The majority of the funds accumulated through our various fundraising efforts go directly into the boys' "scout accounts." As an example, many of the boys who participated in our summer high adventure outings funded their trip solely from the funds they accumulated in their scout accounts.

The troop needs your support and involvement in our fundraising efforts, and there are numerous opportunities for scouts and their parents. For example:

- The Flying Cloud concession stand has been understaffed on numerous occasions, resulting in either shutting the stand down or extending the hours of the previous shift. The season ends on October 15, so please reference the sign up schedule on the troop website (www.troop695.org) or contact Dale Blomgren to sign up for a shift.
- Wreath and popcorn sales began October 1st and continue through October 25th. Scouts who have not already done so can get order forms and literature from Barbara Hansen.
- The Popcorn sales program needs a coordinator to step up and manage the delivery and accounting of the sales. This requires a small amount of time to organize and administer, and would be a great opportunity for the parent(s) of a one of the younger scouts to get involved. Please contact me if you are interested in this position.
- The Christmas tree lot is our major fundraising effort for the year, and help will be needed in the next month to prepare for this season. Contact Mark Jennen if you are interested in participating here.

Our troop is privileged to be able to provide many high-quality, memorable experiences that make Troop 695 so special. Please consider what you can do to help us maintain these high standards and also to keep our program affordable to everyone who joins our troop.

As the old adage goes, "If everyone does a little, no one has to do a lot." Thanks, in advance, for your support.

Tree Lot by Mark Jennen

The tree lot (at the corner Flying Cloud Drive and Pioneer Trail by the Super America) will be open from November 19 – December 18. 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 upcoming meetings and by emailing Mark Jennen at Mark_S_Jennen@yahoo.com. Put "Tree lot sign up" in the subject line. Remember, you cannot sign up on the web site.

Volunteers Needed: In addition to working the tree lot, volunteers will be needed for set-up (date to be announced) and take down/clean-up (December 27).

Training: Tree Lot training will be held at the lot in lieu of the regular Troop meeting on Tuesday, November 22. If you have not worked the tree lot before, do not sign up to work until you have been trained.

Bulletin Board

<p>Reconnaissance Articles Articles for the November issue are due to Lisa Songle no later than Sunday, October 23! Email your articles to her at songle19@msn.com. Have a great summer!</p> <p>Reconnaissance on the Web <i>The Reconnaissance</i> is on-line. Visit www.troop695.org and go to the tab marked "Monthly Newsletter".</p>	<p>Advancement Contacts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Merit Badge Counselor Coordinator --Karen Vanic ▪ Boards of Review or Advancement – Nancy Madsen ▪ Eagle Boards of Review – Bill Brown <p>Contact information can be found in your Roster.</p> <p>The Merit Badge Sign Up book can be found by the "Ships" at each meeting.</p>	<p><i>The Reconnaissance</i> is a monthly publication (no issues July and August) of Boy Scout Troop 695 chartered at Prairie Lutheran Church 11000 Blossom Road Eden Prairie, MN 55347</p> <p>Scoutmaster: Joe Polta (952) 942-0407</p> <p>Committee Chair: Mark Jennen (952)</p> <p><i>Reconnaissance</i> Editor: Lisa Songle (952) 944-8803 Email: songle19@msn.com Troop Web Page: www.troop695.org</p>
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Merit Badge Counselor Opportunity

It is time again to update our list of counselors who are available to assist scouts as they pursue their merit badges. **Please consider signing up.** You don't have to be an expert, just have an interest in the merit badge and be willing to learn and pass on your knowledge.

What do Merit Badge Counselors Do?

The counselor is the key to success in the merit badge plan. They offer their time, experience and knowledge to guide Scouts in one or more of the merit badge subjects.

What's a Merit Badge Counselors job?

Your job is to satisfy yourself that each Scout who comes to you meets all the requirements for the merit badge. In this sense you are an examiner. But, your larger opportunity is in coaching – helping the Scout over the different hurdles of the requirements and making him aware of the deeper aspects of the subject from your knowledge and experience.

What do I agree to do?

- Follow the requirements of the merit badge, making no deletions or additions and ensuring that the advancement standards are fair and uniform for all Scouts.
- Have a buddy present with each Scout at all instructional sessions.
- **Renew your registration as a merit badge counselor annually to continue to serve as a merit badge counselor.**

Please go to www.meribadge.com for more information on merit badge opportunities or contact Merit Badge Counselor Coordinator Karen Vanic with questions.

Troop Leadership Reports

<p>Assist. Senior Patrol Leaders: Matt Boudreaux and John Lewis II</p> <p>Bugler: Open</p> <p>Camping Instructor: Eric Wiig</p> <p>Chaplain's Aid: Chris Mueller -- Thanks to all the patrols for saying grace at the meals on the last campout. There is now a notebook full of ideas for The Scout's Own Service that will be in the storage room. Congratulations to the new Chaplain Aid. I will now be Camping Instructor. Outgoing Chaplain's Aid Eric Wiig.</p> <p>Cooking Instructor: Reed Qually</p> <p>Den Chiefs: Luke Coyer, Josh Issacs, Daniel Johnson and Zach Poirier</p> <p>Fire Safety: Patrick Conklin</p> <p>First Aid Instructor: Evan Fairbrother</p> <p>Historian: Ryan Halpin</p> <p>Junior Assistant Scoutmasters: Ben Cooper and Brad Madsen</p> <p>Knife & Ax Safety Instructor: Julian Kollmeyer</p> <p>Knots Instructor: Dan Polta</p> <p>Librarian: Alex Fleagle</p>	<p>Quartermaster: Nate Brown -- I would like to thank all of you for making my time as Quartermaster as good as it was. As I hope you have noticed, my term as Quartermaster has come to an end. Soon I am hoping that, if I am accepted, you will be seeing me as Knots Instructor. Please return your tents to Me or Nate Brown seeing as he will be my successor. Please show him all the respect that you have shown me. See you soon, Outgoing Quartermaster Dan Polta</p> <p>Troop OA Representative: Jake Brown -- The Mustang District Fall Conclave was held September 16-18 at Stearns Scout Camp. We had one adult and one Scout get their Ordeal – Mr. Lewis and Nate Brown. We have five Scouts get their Brotherhood – Willie McNee, Julian Kollmeyer, Dan Polta, Jake Brown and me. Outgoing Troop OA Representative Robbie Beveroth.</p> <p>Scribe: Paul Rairamo</p> <p>Venture President: Open</p>
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Scoutmaster's Corner by Joe Polta

New Leaders: I dare you. I dare you to be more than the badge on your left arm. I dare you to look for Scouts and adults who will benefit from your leadership and experience. Don't be discouraged if some of them turn you down, but don't give up looking for ways to teach and lead. It's your job.

Everyone else: I dare you. I dare you to learn something new every time we're together. I dare you to ask questions of your leaders. Don't be discouraged if they don't know the answer, but don't give up until you have your answer. It's your job.

I'm proud to be your Scoutmaster.

Outgoing SPL Scratch by Tim Wolfgram

It was a lot of fun to be the SPL the last six months, but also it was a lot of work. Things like running Many Point and other campouts was a great experience. The next SPL will be Scott Jennen and I am positive that he will do a good job. He was a good choice for the position and has experience in leadership and the Troop will certainly not skip a beat. It was a pleasure being the SPL, and a lot of fun. Thank you Scouts for being such a nice group for the last half of a year. To end my final message as SPL I would like to end with a quote. "It is not how many hours you put in, it is what you put into those hours." -Anonymous

Patrol News

BALD EAGLES: Adam Bissonette
PURPLE COBRAS: Andrew Teaver; **Troop Guide:** Terrance Tan
THUNDER: Ryan Brattensborg
DRAGONS: David Jennen
FALCONS: Andrew Shawd

TIMBERWOLVES: Sam Rosol; **Troop Guide:** Ian Vanic
SCORPIONS: Austin Artz
WOLVERUNNERS: Jake Poirier
RAPTORS: Brad Madsen
HUSKIES: Shane Thule

Recruitment

It's that time again for Troop 695 recruitment activities. As always, we are excited about the opportunity to showcase our Troop and what it has to offer the Senior Webelos.

Many activities are planned throughout the next few months. If you are able to assist at any of the listed recruiting activities, please see Don Qually or Kevin Opitz.

If you are solely responsible for the recruitment of a Scout to our Troop, you will be recognized with a recruitment badge.

If you know of any Scouts, families of Scouts or non-Scouts that are interested in scouting, please have them contact Don Qually, Kevin Opitz or Scoutmaster Joe Polta.

Contact Information:

Don Qually -- 952.944.2679 (h); 612.839.4674 (w);

qmcqually@worldnet.att.net

Kevin Opitz -- (952.975.0580 (h); 763.367,5008 (w);

kopitz@mn.rr.com).

Scoutmaster Joe Polta – 952.974.0264 (h); scoutmasterpolta@att.net

Events:

Wilderness Survival Campout, October 15, Lake Rebecca Park Reserve – Senior Webelos have been invited to join the Troop on our October campout on Saturday. Those up to the challenge can also camp overnight with us if two adults are present with a Den. Arrow of Light numbers 4 and 5 can be satisfied by attending this event.

Wall Climbing, November 7, Bloomington REI (5-9 pm) – Learn how to wear a harness, belay and rappel under qualified supervision.

Troop and Parents' Meetings, December 6, (6:30-8 pm) Join a typical Troop meeting to see what it's like and meet some parents of our Scouts.

Troop Court of Honor, December 13 (6:30-8 pm) – Attendance is required by Senior Webelos in order to earn the Summit Award. Refreshments are served.

Winter Survival Outing, January 29, Staring Lake, (noon-4 pm) – Webelos will join our Scouts for a morning of cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, ice fishing, ice bowling and winter survival training. Scouts will demonstrate how to make **your** own snowshoes.

September 27, 2005 Court of Honor Awards

Rank Advancements:

Tenderfoot: Van Donkersgoed, Ben Grunewald, Johnathan Hillard, John Kronlokken, Sam Rosol, Andrew Teaver and Ryan Williamson

Second Class: Ryan Brattensborg, Drew Churchill, Luke Coyer, Kyle Donahoe, Van Donkersgoed, Cory Kronlokken, John Kronlokken, Matt McDonald, Sam Rosol, Brandon Schwab

First Class: Luke Coyer, David Jennen, Dan Johnson, Cody Munkvold, David O'Neill, Zachary Poirier

Star: Julian Kollmeyer, Chris Mueller, Dan Polta, Ian Vanic

Life: Andrew Shawd , Terrance Tan

Merit Badges:

Austin Artz – Archeology, Geology, Environmental Science, Rifle Shooting, Wilderness Survival

Niko Beauchamp – Wilderness Survival, Woodcarving

Robbie Beveroth – Lifesaving, Leatherwork, Basketry

Adam Bissonette – Archeology, Geology, Woodcarving

Evan Blomgren – Leatherwork, Wilderness Survival, Radio, Basketry

Josh Boudreaux – Leatherwork, Woodcarving, Wilderness Survival, Swimming, Basketry

Matt Boudreaux – Indian Lore, Lifesaving

Ryan Brattensborg – Orienteering, Aviation

Jason Briest – Leatherwork, Basketry, Wilderness Survival

Jake Brown – First Aid, Camping

Nate Brown – Orienteering, Pioneering

Drew Churchill – Orienteering

Josh Clifford – Indian Lore, Climbing

Patrick Conklin – First Aid, Swimming, Environmental Science, Geology, Archeology

Luke Coyer – Orienteering

Kyle Donahoe – Orienteering

Van Donkersgoed – Environmental Science, Swimming, Fishing, Leatherwork, Basketry Aviation

Bryan Elyea-Wheeler – Leatherwork, Fishing, Environmental Science

Evan Fairbrother – Pet Care, Emergency Preparedness, Indian Lore, Nature, Archeology, Geology

Alex Fleagle – First Aid, Geology, Archeology

Nathan Haggerty – Canoeing

Ryan Halpin – First Aid, Environmental Science, Aviation, Archeology, Geology

Eric Hanson – Emergency Preparedness, Woodcarving

Todd Hayen – Woodcarving, Indian Lore

Jonathan Hillard – Leatherwork, Basketry, Weather

Jacob Houterman – Swimming, Camping, Archeology, Geology

Josh Isaacs – Computers

David Jennen – Camping, Archeology, Geology

Scott Jennen – Wilderness Survival

Julian Kollmeyer – First Aid, Camping, Archeology, Geology

Cory Kronlokken – Environmental Science, Swimming, Fishing, Basketry, Leatherwork

John Kronlokken – Environmental Science, Fishing, Basketry, Leatherwork, Aviation

Kyle Kronlokken – Emergency Preparedness

John Lewis II – Forestry, Indian Lore, Nature

Matt McDonald – Orienteering

Willie McNee – Camping, First Aid

Chris Mueller – Climbing

Fernando Nunez – First Aid, Environmental Science, Aviation

David O'Neill – First Aid

Jake Poirier – Indian Lore, Woodcarving

Zachary Poirier – First Aid

Dan Polta – Forestry, First Aid, Environmental Science, Aviation, Geology, Archeology

Tom Polta – Indian Lore, Leatherwork, Basketry

Reed Qually – Emergency Preparedness

Paul Rairamo – Geology, Archeology

Sam Rosol – Environmental Science, Fishing, Basketry, Leatherwork, Aviation

Jeran Schmidt – Orienteering

Brandon Schwab – Wilderness Survival, Basketry, Leatherwork, Aviation

Andrew Shawd – Fishing, Orienteering, Camping

Andrew Songle – Orienteering, Woodcarving, Wilderness Survival, Painting, Entrepreneurship, Salesmanship, Family Life

Shaun Sperr – Leatherwork, Swimming, Environmental Science

Spencer Sundberg – Geology, Archeology

Terrance Tan – Lifesaving, Leatherwork, Basketry, Communications, Golf, Aviation, Geology, Archeology

Andrew Teaver – Wilderness Survival, Basketry, Leatherwork, Aviation, Fishing

Kevin Thomsen – Aviation, Geology, Archeology

Spencer Toay – Environmental Science, Geology, Archeology

Ian Vanic – Orienteering, Wilderness Survival, Woodcarving

Eric Wiig – Hiking, Aviation

Tim Wolfgram – Climbing