



THE RECONNAISSANCE

Boy Scout Troop 695 of Prairie Lutheran Church

September 6, 2005; Volume 10, Issue 7

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John and Patrick Tinucci Have Moved!

John accepted an engineering position in Golden, CO. He and Patrick moved mid-August. Their new address is: 16466 W 14th Place, Golden, CO 80401. For the time being, John can still be contacted by email at jtinucci@pantecnica.com and by cell phone at (952) 250-3628. Patrick's cell phone is (763) 350-3538. Colorado is on Mountain Time, one hour earlier than Central Time. They would love to hear from you, and visitors are welcome!

September Activities

Theme: Shooting

Responsible Patrol: Huskies

Activities

September 6 – Parents' Meeting; Troop Nominations; Basic Firearm Safety training and testing.
 September 13 – Troop and Patrol Elections; Basic Firearm Safety training and testing; camp-out preparation; merit badge information due.
 September 20 – **No Troop meeting**; PLC, Committee and ASM meetings; rank advancements due.
 September 27 – Court of Honor.

Troop Camp-Out

This month's campout will be held September 16-18 at Cleary Lake Regional Park in Prior Lake. Those interested may also participate in shooting on Saturday at the Horse & Hunt Club. All Scouts participating in shooting portion of campout must return a new signed Firearm Parental Authorization form and have successfully completed Basic Firearm Safety training and testing to be held at troop meetings on September 6 and 13. See permission slip for more information. Permission slips must be turned in to Andrew Songle no later than Tuesday, September 13.

Troop Court of Honor

A Troop Court of Honor is scheduled for Tuesday, September 27 at 6:30 p.m. All Scouts are expected to be in full Class A uniform. A sign-up sheet will be available during meetings requesting adults to bring beverages, appetizers and desserts.

Uniforms

Class A Uniforms must now be worn to all meetings and/or activities until June 2006. You may wear your Class B t-shirt while working at Flying Cloud.

"In another 20 or 30 years, I hope at least one of you gets hold of me to tell me whether or not Many Point still issues canvas wall tents, cots, and shepherd stoves. Which of you will it be?" Scoutmaster Polta

Popcorn and Wreath Sales Fundraising Opportunities

Popcorn Sales

Scouts will again have an opportunity to participate in the Popcorn sales fundraiser. This fundraiser runs from September 24 through October 22. This year the council is providing the opportunity for our Troop to focus our efforts on a Show & Deliver sale in addition to the traditional Take Order sale. The council is making products available for our Troop to have in hand during the sale. Show & Deliver is selling door to door with the take order form and delivering the product immediately if available. Studies have shown that door-to-door sales with product in hand sell up to 4X more than those sitting in front of a storefront or church. Look for more information regarding this opportunity in your ship.

Wreath Sales

Yes, it really is time to think about wreath sales – already! This year, in addition to traditional wreaths, door sprays, garlands, holiday centerpieces and living trees, we will be offering a special 25" Victorian wreath. This is a great opportunity to earn money for your scout account (60% of profits) for campouts and high adventure trips. It will also help out your troop (40% of profits). This is an optional fundraiser. Packets will be available at the troop meeting October 4 with general sales beginning October 8. If you have any questions, please call Barbara Hanson at 937-5905.

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

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.

Many Point News by Paul Boudreaux, Many Point Coordinator



Over the week at Many Point the Scouts worked hard and completed 110 merit badges. I want to take this time to thank all the parents and older Scouts who assisted the younger Scouts in completing the 4 or 5 merit badges they set out to accomplish at the beginning of camp. The Scouts were pretty good about keeping track of their belongings. The school backpacks really helped keep their stuff together. Many of the incomplete merit badges were requirements that the Scouts had to complete at home or were requirements out of their control to complete at camp; i.e., catching fish, making required accuracy shots in archery and rifle shooting, and obtaining a specific number of nights camping to complete the camping merit badge. Many of the Scouts will be able to complete these before September and receive the merit badge at the September Court of Honor. I have returned some of the incomplete blue cards to parents. Please keep these cards in a safe place because it is very difficult to obtain the information to make a new card. I will return remaining incomplete blue cards at the first meeting in September. I handed out Ziploc bags filled with a large Many Point patch and smaller segment patches to the Scouts that rode the bus home. Please go to the Troop website, click on Many Point, and it will show you where to sew the patches on the uniform (I believe it can be found on page 9). Keep scrolling until you come to the correct page. If a Scout has not received his segments or Many Point patch it is because I was not able to find you home when I made my deliveries this summer. I will put these in the ships and you can pick them up at the first meeting. We were able to complete rank advancement for 14 Scouts at camp. I would also like to thank all the parents who helped out with Board of Reviews. Without all the parent support camp would not have run near as smoothly. You guys were great!

Also I would like to thank Derrick Poirier for getting all the medical information pulled together prior to camp.

Finally, I would like to commend our OA ceremonial team. This was the first time they had performed the ceremony and they did a great job. Ben Cooper (one of our senior OA scouts) guided the boys through the set up and the ceremony. I thank you for your support, Ben. This year at camp I was also blessed with a great group of senior boys: Tim Wolfgram, Jake Poirier, Matt Boudreaux, John Lewis, Ian Vanic, Andrew Songle, Ben Cooper, Scott Jennen and Nathan Haggerty. They attended Many Point meetings, played a great part in the planning and implemented their plans successfully.

LOST AND FOUND ITEMS:

- Reebok Flip Flops (pretty small in size)
- Blue towel
- The leg bottoms to a pair of zip off pants (navy blue in color)
- Size 7 khaki "Faded Glory" shorts
- Size 7 khaki "Old Navy" shorts

Please call the Boudreaux's if any of these items belong to you (906-9604)!

Calendar of Events

- Sept. 6 Troop & Parent Mtg. (6:30 pm), Troop nominations, aluminum can recycling
- Sept. 9-11 Wood Badge Session 2
- Sept. 13 Troop Mtg. (6:30 pm), Troop & Patrol elections, Merit Badge information due
- Sept. 15 Join Scouting Night
- Sept. 16-19 Troop Camp-Out, Cleary Lake Regional Park
- Sept. 20 NO TROOP MEETING; PLC & Committee Mtgs. (6:30 pm); ASM Mtg. (7 pm); Rank Advancements due
- Sept. 24 Popcorn sales start
- Sept. 25 *Reconnaissance* articles due
- Sept. 27 Troop Court of Honor (6:30 pm)
- 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 – Time & Location TBD
- Oct. 14-16 Troop Camp-Out (Wilderness Survival)
- Oct. 18 NO TROOP MEETING; PLC & Committee Mtgs. (6:30 pm); ASM Mtg. (7 pm)
- Oct. 22 Popcorn sales end
- Oct. 23 *Reconnaissance* articles due
- Oct. 25 Troop Mtg. (6:30 pm); Wreath sales end

Bulletin Board

<p>Reconnaissance Articles Articles for the October issue are due to Lisa Songle no later than Sunday, September 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 --Glenn 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: Julie Arthur Sherman (952) 975-0264</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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Eagle Court of Honor Volunteer Opportunities

It is a tradition in Troop 695 to assist Eagle Scout families in their planning for their son's Eagle Court of Honor (COH) and to host the reception. The following adult volunteer opportunities have been identified to assist with the coordination and celebration of these events. Previous experience is not necessary, as Karen Tinucci and Debra Clemmings are happy to provide support for the next couple Eagle COH's, and responsibilities are documented.

The time commitment is relatively small when the responsibilities are split as follows:

- **Eagle Liaison** – to Eagle Scout and Family (*Open position – Recommend this be filled by a parent of an Eagle or Life scout, but does not have to be – Karen Tinucci filling in.*)
Job: To act as a mentor to the Eagle Scout and Family, in the planning of the Eagle COH. (1 hour meeting with Eagle Scout and parents to explain process and forward planning materials. Also assist with setup for Eagle COH ceremony, if possible. If not, coordinate to have an experienced Eagle parent there to assist in setup.)
Note: This position could be done by the family whose son has most recently celebrated his Eagle COH. A parent of a Life Scout would also be an ideal volunteer candidate.
- **Internal Liaison** – to Troop Patrol and/or Crew 695 for Eagle COH Reception (*Open position – Debra Clemmings filling in.*)
Job: To appoint (or find a volunteer) from the Eagle Scout's Patrol to take on the leadership role of planning the Eagle COH Reception and ensuring that the appropriate items are purchased beforehand, set up at the appropriate location, adequately staffed and cleaned up afterwards. Communicate the Patrol families' responsibilities regarding the reception and act in a support role as needed, to answer their questions. Need not be present for Eagle COH reception, but if not, to coordinate to have an experienced Eagle parent there to assist. *The expenses will be reimbursed by Troop 695.*
- **Troop Gifts Liaison** – to Engraver (for engraving the Plaque), to National Eagle Scout Association (for 5-yr NESA Membership) (*Open position – Karen Tinucci filling in.*)
Job: To get the Eagle Scout's full name (first, middle and last) and Eagle BOR Date engraved on the plaque, and submit a check to the NESA. *The expenses will be reimbursed by Troop 695.*
- **External Liaison** –to EP Foundation (for donation of \$100 to a non-profit organization of the Eagle Scout's choice) (*Filled – Tom Herzog*)
Job: To notify the EP Foundation of upcoming Eagle Courts of Honor, and to fax to them the completed EP Foundation form, once completed and returned to you by the Eagle Scout.

Karen Tinucci can be contacted at karen.tinucci@merrillcorp.com or by phone at 651-632-4277 (work) or 612-384-6712 (cell).

Troop Leadership Reports

<p>Bugler: Chistopher Mueller Camping, Ceremonies, Cooking, Fire Safety, First Aid, Knife, Ax & Safety and Knots Instructors: Open Chaplain's Aid: Eric Wiig Den Chiefs: None Historian: Eric Hanson Junior Assistant Scoutmaster: David Camerino and Ben Cooper Troop OA Representative: Robbie Beveroth -- At Many Point we had three more people elected into the Order of the Arrow. They were Nate Brown, Mrs. Boudreaux and Mr. Lewis. I attend the monthly Round Table meetings where OA also meets. I've been keeping 695's OA members informed about any District events such as conclaves. I will have more information after the September OA meeting.</p>	<p>Librarian: Kyle Kronlokken (see article, pg. 4) Quartermaster: Dan Polta -- First of all I would like to ask you to turn in any tents that are still checked out because many tents got checked out over the summer and Troop 695 would not like to have to buy more tents than we need. I say this in particular this month because the upcoming shooting campout in September is going to be attended by more Scouts than usual, so we really need all tents back so everyone has a shelter to sleep in! Let me know if any equipment is not working the right way. My E-Mail address is Dan@Polta.com. Lastly please let me know if your patrol box is missing anything so I can have it replaced so that you can use it. Venture President: Open Scribe: Terrence Tan</p>
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Scoutmaster's Corner by Joe Polta

If you're a member of Troop 695, you probably went on a major expedition this past summer: the Black Hills, Alaska, Many Point Scout Camp, the National Jamboree, or Philmont Scout Ranch. Some of you went on more than one.

By coincidence, the Troop's Black Hills expedition arrived in the Badlands 28 years (minus one day) after future-Scoutmaster-Polta arrived there with his boyhood Troop. I know that because I took along the journal I kept as a Scout. (Keep a journal!) As I traveled this summer, I could read what I was experiencing in the same places as a young man. I read and saw how some things change, like the observation deck and amphitheater at Mount Rushmore, and how some things don't, like the tents, cots and shepherd stoves at Many Point.

In another 20 or 30 years, I hope at least one of you gets hold of me to tell me whether or not Many Point still issues canvas wall tents, cots, and shepherd stoves. Which of you will it be?

I'm proud to be your Scoutmaster.

SPL Scratch by Tim Wolfram

I was the Crew Leader for the Husky patrol who went to Philmont this summer. It was really an experience of a lifetime! We did some awesome things like shoot black powder rifles, climb an 11,736 ft. mountain, and tour a real gold mine. We all had a lot of fun and I would encourage everyone, once they are physically able to go, to plan a trip. It was very difficult though and some of the days were really difficult hikes, but it was worth it.

Pine Tree this year was also great, even though it rained half of the time that we were there. Building ballistas is always a hit and so was the movie night, with popcorn! Yes, you will learn a lot about leadership while you are there, but we always make it a lot of fun. Hopefully Matt and I will be on Staff next year because it was great.

Patrol News

BALD EAGLES: Evan Fairbrother, Patrol Leader -- Our patrol was very busy this summer. In June three of our members went to our neighboring State of South Dakota for the Black Hills expedition while at the same time two of us went all the way up to Alaska for the Alaska expedition. In August when four of us were at the familiar camp Many Point, the other five went all the way to A.P. Hill Virginia and Washington D.C. for the National Jamboree. And now you understand how busy our patrol was this summer.

PURPLE COBRAS: Josh Boudreaux, Patrol Leader; **Matt Boudreaux & John Lewis**, Troop Guides -- The Cobras had a great time at Many Point. They pretty much finished all of their merit badges. In late August we went over to the Donkersgoeds. They put on a pool party for the Cobras and Timberwolves patrols, but it wasn't all fun. We worked on rank advancement, which helped us all get up to speed. Thank you Mrs. Donkersgoed for the party and the use of your house for advancement. Josh and Matt Boudreaux

THUNDER: Luke Coyer, Patrol Leader

DRAGONS: Adam Reden, Patrol Leader

FALCONS: Spencer Sundberg, Patrol Leader

TIMBERWOLVES: John Kronlokken, Patrol Leader; **Andrew Songle & Ian Vanic**, Troop Guides -- Many Point was a great success for the Timberwolves. Most Timberwolves will advance to Second Class rank. Congratulations. Andrew Songle

SCORPIONS: Spencer Toay, Patrol Leader

WOLVERUNNERS: Nathan Haggerty, Patrol Leader -- My patrol has taken part in two trips over this past summer. Most of us went to Many Point. Jon and I went to Alaska. All of us have had an awesome summer and are not looking for school to start.

RAPTORS: Jason Smoliak, Patrol Leader

HUSKIES: Tyler Herzog, Patrol Leader -- This summer was a busy one for the Huskies. We had people go to Alaska, Many Point and Philmont. Alaska and Philmont are high adventure trips. The people that went on the high adventures had tons of fun. The Alaska people went fishing for Halibut. At Philmont everyone was able to shoot black powder rifles and do blacksmithing. I hope everyone had a great summer and are ready to go back to school.

National Jamboree Notes by Kyle Kronlokken

I know that the National Jamboree is not part of my leadership role, but I thought that I could share about it anyway. We were gone a total of 16 days, from July 19-August 3. For the first 6 days we toured the Washington, D.C. area. It was crazy to think that in 6 days we did a lot, but barely touched what the area had to share. After that we spent the next 10 days at Fort A.P. Hill at the National Boy Scout Jamboree. During Jamboree, we could do anything they offered, as long as you had enough time to do it during the 10 days you were there. Some of the activities they offered were S.C.U.B.A. diving, snorkeling, biking activities, they had a 5k run one morning, they allowed us to go through an army training obstacle course including a zip cord. I could go on and on, but I think that to find out more you might just have to go to the 2010 National Jamboree and experience it yourself.

Troop Leadership Reports

Bugler: Chistopher Mueller
Camping Instructor: Open
Ceremonies Instructor: Open
Cooking Instructor: Open
Chaplain's Aid: Eric Wiig
Den Chiefs: None
Fire Safety Instructor: Open
First Aid Instructor: Open
Historian: Eric Hanson
Junior Assistant Scoutmaster: David Camerino and Ben Cooper
Knife, Ax & Safety Instructor: Open
Troop OA Representative: Robbie Beveroth -- At Many Point we had three more people elected into the Order of the Arrow. They were Nate Brown, Mrs. Boudreaux and Mr. Lewis. I attend the monthly Round Table meetings where OA also meets. I've been keeping 695's OA members informed about any District events such as conclaves. I will have more information after the September OA meeting.

Librarian: Kyle Kronlokken
Quartermaster: Dan Polta -- First of all I would like to ask you to turn in any tents that are still checked out because many tents got checked out over the summer and Troop 695 would not like to have to buy more tents than we need. I say this in particular this month because the upcoming shooting campout in September is going to be attended by more Scouts than usual, so we really need all tents back so everyone has a shelter to sleep in! Let me know if any equipment is not working the right way. My E-Mail address is Dan@Polta.com. Lastly please let me know if your patrol box is missing anything so I can have it replaced so that you can use it.
Knots Instructor: Open
Venture President: Open
Scribe: Terrence Tan

Alaska Bound

Several Scouts of Troop 695 took on a big task! These Scouts decided they wanted to take a high adventure trip to Alaska. These Scouts were told often that they couldn't do it – it was too big a task! Well, these Scouts proved these skeptics wrong – because on June 17 at 5:30 am they started arriving at Humphrey Airport to start their journey to Alaska and this adventure wouldn't end until June 26 when they arrived back in Minnesota!

In true Troop 695 fashion the Scouts had a lot to do before these ten days of action-packed fun. Eleven Scouts started meeting in February. The first task was to pick a date. After the dates were picked, the fun stuff started – WHAT SHOULD WE DO? The list started with almost 20 exciting things to do. But the Scouts quickly decided that \$225.00 for a helicopter sight seeing trip and a \$175.00 train rides from Anchorage to Denali was too expensive. Ice climbing and visiting Kodiak Island too far out of the way. Scouts did research (mostly online and with the help of Mrs. Blomgren's family who live near Anchorage) to get outfitters, pricing, and availability information to bring back to the group to help in making decisions. After we got to this point, several adults (Mr. Jennen, Mr. Lewis, and Mr. Qually) stepped up to negotiate prices and give credit card numbers to hold the dates for us. By early May, most of the adventure was booked but this was not the end of the planning – we had to plan out our menu 'for the whole 10 days! The Haggertys coordinated this task and were joined by the Gattos to package all the food by day and by meal.

What does one do in Alaska when you have only eight days? How about hiking in Denali & on a glacier, white water rafting in category 3, 4, & yes 5 rapids, fishing for halibut and salmon, and clamming (as the tide is coming back in), kayaking and mountain biking. Every day was a new adventure. We were in a new campsite every night except for one campsite we stayed in two nights to compensate for the 300 miles we traveled that day. Every night was spent camping and we only ate in two restaurants. Four of the nights were fresh fish – yes the boys actually ate the halibut and salmon cooked by non other than chef Reed Qually and I must say Reed did a great job of cooking the fish!

But what did the Scouts think of this trip?

"Alaska was the best high adventure that this Troop has done," says Scott Jennen. "The whole thing was great – even the mishaps on the back country trip." Scott is talking about our backcountry hike in Denali, which was very trying for even the most advanced and experienced hikers.

For John Lewis II, traveling around Alaska and seeing things he has never seen before was the most memorable. For instance Mt. McKinley was breath taking. Mt. McKinley is the highest point in North America – it's over 20,000 feet above sea level. The next highest mountain near Mt. McKinley is 4000 feet shorter – it's a very impressive site.

Eric Blomgren stated a common response from many of the Scouts, "I remember the scenery, it's so cool to see mountains that you don't normally see." Eric also had a great time on the mountain bikes, which was an eight-mile ride that took us up over 1500' on a narrow forest trail.

Andrew Shawd remembers the fishing the most "this is the most fish I've caught at once," says Andrew.

Nathan Haggerty, who was our grub master for the trip, says, "The Alaskan wilderness was fun." "My favorite part of the trip is when Mr. Jennen fell out of the raft and bushwhacking thru the bog. "I would do this trip again!"

Alaska Bound (continued)

One of the great outcomes of all the high adventure trips was stated by Tyler Opitz “the best part of the trip is spending time with my friends.” But even more rewarding is what was stated by Tyler & Andrew “the best part of the trip is being with my dad.” Now it doesn’t get any better than that!

On the last night we had a refection that was the best one that I have had the opportunity to a part of. In addition to the great comments that we received from Andrew and Tyler Brad had a great observation for the younger Scouts: Brad stated, “This is the reason I joined 695, to go to Alaska. For five years we were told we could not go to Alaska: it was too far, too expensive, you won’t get support, it can’t be done – well we did it! Good luck trying to beat this one but go for it!”

Mrs. Blomgren may have summed it up best: “Every thing was to the extreme! Jam-packed action with unsurpassed settings, the ultimate outdoor challenge! The boys’ survival skills were truly impressive and best of all was their camaraderie for on another well as their respect for the adults. What great kids!”

Finally, a special thank you to Mr. Schawd who put the article in the EP News. For those of you who have not seen it – Troop 695 took up almost a full page, which talked not only about Alaska but the National Jamboree, and the Black Hills trip.

What a summer for Troop 695!

Reflections On Philmont

Matt Boudreaux, Ian Vanic, Tim Wolfgram (Crew Leader), Andrew Songle, Shane Thuleen, Patrick Tinucci, Tyler Herzog and Ross Sherman, accompanied by Adult Leaders Tom Herzog and John Wolfgram, trekked 70 miles at Philmont Scout Camp in New Mexico from August 1 through 14. The crew summited three peaks, including Mount Philips at 1,733.

Words From The Wise

“Need rainpants. It was exciting and fun hiking in the rain.”

“I liked building dams, especially those to stop flash floods from flooding the campsite.”

“Look on the brighter side – build a bridge.”

“Need to do tie making and Spar Pole climbing at Crater Lake.”

“Try to do as many activities as you can.”

“Go to the top of the mountain – you can see forever.”

“I liked the kind of invisible mountains.”

“Don’t pass up the showers.”

“Shooting Black Powder Rifles was one of my favorite things.”

“Climbing Mt. Philips was hard but worth it.”

“How close you could get to the wildlife was amazing.”

“Philmont was an experience of a lifetime. We did amazing things that the normal person would never even dream of doing.

All in all it was a fantastic experience, one that I will never forget.”

Philmont 2006

Interested Scouts should see or contact Mark Jennen for more information and to let him know of your interest. Scouts must be 14 years of age or completed the eighth grade.