



THE RECONNAISSANCE

Boy Scout Troop 695 of Prairie Lutheran Church

April 11, 2006; Volume 11, Issue 4

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April Activities

Theme: Orienteering

Responsible Patrol: Cobras

April 11 – Troop and Parents’ Meetings (6:30 pm)

April 18 – Troop Mtg. (6:30 pm)

April 25 – No Troop Meeting; Viking Leader Training (6:30 pm), PLC & Committee Mtgs. (6:30 pm), ASM Mtg. (7 pm)

April Service

April 29 – Scouting for Food, Church Clean-Up, Flying Cloud and Tree Lot Clean-Up

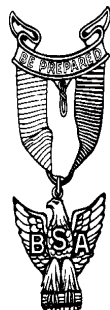
Troop Camp-Out

April 21-23 – Stearns Scout Camp departure: 6 pm at PLC, return 11-11:30 am Staring Lake Upper Lot. **Every camper needs a compass.**

Last Chance Sign-Ups

Mini High Adventure -- This is the last call for Scouts who would like to join us on our mini high-adventure to the Grand Marais area this June. We need to begin the planning process as soon as possible. I ask that all Scouts and parents interested in joining us for this trip meet after our next meeting on April 11. We are looking at a Boundary Waters Canoe trip and/or some other adventure activities. Please do not hesitate to contact Mike Toay if you have any questions! Dates will be finalized at this meeting.

Northern Star Council Star Fun 2006 – This is the Valleyfair Family Campout on May 19 – 21. If you are interested in attending, please submit the permission slip and Class 1 Personal Health History Form to John Lewis by April 11.



Eagle Court of Honor – Troop 695 is proud to recognize two more Scouts that have attained the rank of Eagle and invite you to join them at their upcoming Eagle Courts of Honor:

Nathan Haggerty – Nathan will hold his Eagle Court of Honor on May 7 at 4 p.m. at Prairie Lutheran Church

Brian Smith – Brian will hold his Eagle Court of Honor on May 12 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church.

Thanks!

A special thanks to Kelly Schwab who will be taking over the role of Reconnaissance Editor with the September 06 issue.

“Scouts, learn as much as you can. If we're doing things right, you'll have fun doing it, and you'll pick up skills you can use for the rest of your life. Skills that will set you apart from people who haven't had the privilege of being a Scout.” Scoutmaster Polta

**Many Point Scout Camp
That's The Place To Be!
60th Anniversary**



**By
Paula Boudreaux
Many Point Coordinator**

Reminders:

1. 1st payment of \$100 is due April 11. If you would like to pay the full amount of \$220, that would be great!
2. Final payment of \$120 is due May 23. I must make the final payment to the Viking Council in full by May 30. If your Scout cancels, you will be reimbursed the full amount paid minus a \$10 non-refundable fee.
3. After the PLC meeting on April 25, I would like to meet with the Patrol Coaches, the SPL and ASPLs for 15-30 minutes to hand out the Many Point Leader Packets and explain what information I need to receive from you and by what date. Listed below are the Patrol coaches I have been given:
 - PANTHERS – Send your elected Patrol Coach
 - COBRAS -- Burt Boudreaux & Erich Schwab
 - TIMBERWOLVES -- Mark Kronlokken & Paul Rosol
 - DRAGONS – Derrick Poirier & Mark Jennen
 - THUNDER – Mark Donahoe & Mike Brattensborg
 - SCORPIONS – Bill Brown & Mike Toay
 - FALCONS – Craig Beveroth & Jeff Shawd
 - BALD EAGLES – Don Qually & Mark Fairbrother
 - HUSKIES/WOLVERUNNERS/RAPTORS – Paula Boudreaux
4. Please get those medicals updates and give them to Diane Grunewald.

Calendar of Events

Apr. 11	Troop & Parent Mtg. (6:30 pm), can recycling, Eagle Preview, Christ Church Edina (7 pm)
Apr. 18	Troop Mtg. (6:30 pm)
Apr. 21-23	Troop Campout, Stearns, Leader Outdoor Training, OA Conclave
Apr. 25	No Troop Mtg.; Viking Ldr. Training (6:30 pm), PLC & Committee Mtgs. (6:30 pm), ASM Mtg. (7 pm)
Apr. 29	Scouting for Food, Flying Cloud Clean-Up, Church Clean-Up, Tree Lot Clean-Up
May 2	Troop & Parent Mtg. (6:30 pm), can recycling
May 4	OA Mtg (7 pm)
May 5-7	Troop Camp Out, Camporee
May 7	Bingo, Hopkins Care Center (1:30 pm); Nathan Haggerty Eagle Court of Honor, PLC (4 pm)
May 9	No Troop Mtg.; Viking Ldr. Training (6:30 pm), PLC & Committee Mtgs. (6:30 pm), ASM Mtg. (7 pm)
May 12	Brian Smith Eagle Court of Honor, St. Andrew's (6:30 pm)
May 14	Bingo, Hopkins Care Center (1:30 pm)
May 16	Troop Mtg. (6:30 pm); Eagle Board of Review (7 pm) United Methodist
May 19-21	Valleyfair Family Campout
May 21	Bingo, Hopkins Care Center (1:30 pm)
May 23	Troop Mtg. (6:30 pm), Merit Badges Due
May 28	Bingo, Hopkins Care Center (1:30 pm), Reconnaissance articles due
May 30	Troop & Parent Mtg. (Great Hall) (6:30 pm), can recycling, Rank Advancements due
June 1	OA Mtg. (7 pm), District Roundtable (7 pm)
June 2-4	Troop Campout
June 4	Bingo, Hopkins Care Center (1:30 pm)
June 6	Troop Court of Honor (6:30 pm)
June 15-22	Mini High-Adventure, Grand Marais
June 19-26	Sea Base



Liðsvaldr's Leadership Elucidations*

By
Mark Fairbrother

At the March Court of Honor (COH), Troop 695 saw the commitment of a large group of boys to the “concept” of leadership. I say “concept” because many of these boys associate the word leadership interchangeably with the rank and authority of the position (i.e., Star Rank, Life Rank, knife & axe instructor, historian, patrol leader, etc.). In a Scout’s view, if you have been elected and/or appointed to a position of leadership, you are then a leader within Troop 695. This is most certainly true. To those who elected you as – let’s say – patrol leader, your patrol buddies now have the expectation that you will lead them. To you, now elected the new patrol leader, you can now pick up that magical hat of leadership – the one that your patrol coach said has been covertly reserved for your moment of mystical leadership transformation – and place it squarely on your head. POOF...you can now say, “Guys, just call me sir and follow me.” Well.....maybe in the movies or in a really good book; but, not in real life. Probably, the Scout will nonchalantly say, “Cool”, and then proceed to puff out his chest like a peacock in full plumage. Deservedly so, he has earned that proud moment. Following a good two weeks of strutting around, he will think, “Hmm, now what? What do I do?” Additionally, he might think, “Hey, these guys are looking ‘funny like’ at me – like they’re expecting me to do something.”

Hopefully he will mutter to himself, “Now I have a chance to practice what I have been learning at Viking Leadership Training.” At this moment, the Scout realizes that being the patrol leader is now an opportunity to lead. This is true of all the leadership positions within Troop 695. We as parents know that a Scout’s tenure in a leadership position is really the start of a series of lifelong-connected, leading opportunities. If you wish, it is a lifelong, leadership journey.

Here is a simple truth – boys will and cannot learn leadership in a vacuum. At the COH, I asked the adult Scout Leaders to stand up. Then, parents of the participating boys were asked to stand. With the boys standing and showing their commitment, it was only fair that the adults outwardly reflect their commitment back to the boys. You can call it pageantry and symbolism. That is exactly what it was; because that is what causes people – adults and children – to remember events and concepts. “Embarking on a New Journey” was the title of the leadership training call-out at the COH. Hopefully, years from now, they will remember with pride – when and where their leadership journey began. For those who missed the COH, here is the script that was read during the leadership training call-out.

Embarking on a New Journey

These scouts have come forward to receive their “Viking Leadership Training” neckerchief slides. If you look close, the slide is a miniature three-legged stool. What instantly comes to my mind about any stool, whether it be three-legged, four-legged, or eight-legged (yes, one exists), is a farmer sitting in a barn at 5:00 a.m. milking cows. Or, a mother stepping up onto one – to reach that packing box strategically placed in the back corner of a closet shelf.

The stool actually occupies a very significant place in history. The stool is the very first piece of furniture – the earliest created during the Egyptian period around 3000 B.C. Later, the Greeks perfected the stool and the Romans immortalized it. During these periods, the stool symbolized power and authority. Only Egyptian Kings and Queens sat on stools, thus placing themselves at a level higher than their subjects. Thousands of years later, the stool was given as a gift to persons accepted into high positions of Roman government, thereby signifying their noble status.

As other types of furniture, such as chairs and benches, became more prevalent, the stool became more widely used among the “common” people. This was especially true during the Middle Ages. This neckerchief slide actually represents a scaled-down version of a “common” three-legged Viking stool of the 11th century.

So... passing almost unchanged from antiquity, the stool was a symbol of power and authority. Today, Troop 695 uses the Viking three-legged stool to transform the past symbol of power and authority into a symbol that represents our belief and commitment toward developing strong skills in leadership, common among all scouts. **(continued pg. 4)**

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Before handing you boys these slides, the leaders of this troop want to express our promise to pass onto you boys the knowledge and skills that will start you on your life-long leadership journey. You are up here because (1) you are courageous – stepping forward into something that at this point is not fully known to you and (2) you are self-directed – stepping forward of your own choosing. These are two distinct qualities of a good leader. By these actions, you are showing your commitment. It is only fair that the leaders of Troop 695 honor your vision. The adult leaders (all adult leaders stand up), senior scout leaders (all scout leaders stand up), and parents of this Troop (all parents stand up)...these people are committed to helping you find success along this path. Thank you.

Liðsvaldr is an Old Norse (Viking) name compounded from *lið* meaning war band or troop and *valdr* meaning ruler or chieftain.


Future translated runes by Liðsvaldr* will include detailed discussions pertinent to the monthly learning sessions and some easy leadership mnemonics to remember for a lifetime.

Bulletin Board

<p>Reconnaissance Articles Articles for the April issue are due to Lisa Songle no later than Sunday, April 23! Email your articles to her at songle19@msn.com.</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</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Prairie Lutheran Church 11000 Blossom Road Eden Prairie, MN 55347</p> <p>Scoutmaster: Joe Polta (952) 974-0264 Committee Chair: Mark Jennen (952) 943-1340 <i>Reconnaissance</i> Editor: Lisa Songle (952) 944-8803 Email: songle19@msn.com Troop Web Page: www.troop695.org</p>
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Upcoming Camp-Outs, Themes and Responsible Patrols

Volunteer Opportunities

<p>May 19-21 – Valley Fair, Archery Theme; Patrol: Falcons June 2-4 – Biking Theme, Patrol: Dragons July 16-22 – Many Point September 15-17 – Shooting Theme, Patrol: Huskies October 13-15 – Music Theme, Patrol: Wolverunners November 10-12 – First Aid Theme, Patrol: Bald Eagles</p>	<p>The Troop is in need to adult volunteers for the following positions:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Working with Scouts to schedule Boards of Review</p>
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Scout Law: A Scout is Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean and Reverent.

Scout News

Congratulations to "Mathlete" Chris Mueller. Chris will be one of four students representing the state of Minnesota in the National Math Competition being held in Washington DC. Way to go Chris!

Congratulations to Adam Bissonette and Chris Mueller, members of the CMS Chess Team, for winning the Junior High State Chess Championship! CMS won out over Metcaff Junior High of Burnsville who held the title for the past 16 years. Awesome work Adam and Chris!



District and Council News
www.northernstarbsa.org

Ultimate Frisbee - April 28-30, 2006 at Phillippo Scout Reservation Cannon Falls, Minnesota. \$12* per Venture Age Scout (Participating — Age 14-21) \$7* per non-participating Adult and Family Members. Plan on Camping Friday and Saturday night. BYOFAE (Bring Your Own Food And Equipment) -Check-In Friday Night 6:00-7:00 PM. For more information, visit <http://www.northernstarbsa.org/Resources/Forms/Events.asp#Frisbee>

Scouting's Report to Minnesota -- Twelve youth members from the five councils headquartered in Minnesota – Rochester, Mankato, St. Cloud, Duluth and Minneapolis/St. Paul - presented the first annual Scouting Report to the State on Monday, March 20. These members had an unprecedented opportunity to meet with top key legislative and judicial leaders to share highlights and statistics of participation, achievement, service, and support during 2005. They presented a statistical summary as well as their own personal Scouting highlights to: Governor, Tim Pawlenty; Senate Majority Leader, Dean Johnson; Speaker of the House, Steve Sviggum; and State Supreme Court Justice, Sam Hanson.

It was a terrific day to learn about state government as well as to share the tremendous positive impact Scouting has on Minnesota. For example, during 2005 18.5% of our total statewide available youth population was involved in Scouting programs and in our Scouting For Food service project, Minnesota members collected nearly 800,000 pounds of food.

Our government officials were most gracious, providing insights into the governing process as well as their personal encouragement for youth members to continue their service ethic and develop into the responsible, participating citizens our state needs. For their part, our youth representatives displayed the best of the Scout Oath and Law in their words and actions. Special thanks to our all youth representatives and Report to the State Chair, Dan Knuth.

Adult Training Opportunities by Michael Wiig

Greetings, These are some of the upcoming training opportunities for those who are think they want to become trained leaders to support the troop. Thank you for your time, consideration, and commitment.

- April 21--** Boy Scout Leader Outdoor Training, Stearns Scout Camp
- April 23** The outdoor, hands-on portion of the Boy Scout Leader Specific Training. Cost : \$30. Registrations are due no later than April 8. Cost includes meals for the weekend.

Troop Leadership Reports

<p>Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders: Eric Hanson & Ian Vanic Junior Assistant Scoutmaster: Brad Madsen Bugler: Open Chaplain's Aid: Andrew Teaver Den Chiefs: Luke Coyer, Ryan Halpin, Josh Issacs, Daniel Johnson, Brandon Schwab and Zach Poirier -- At their last meeting, Den 7 built models and stated to pick their patrol name. Brandon Schwab. Historian: Open Librarian: Eric Wiig Quartermaster: Paul Rairamo Scribe: Spencer Sundberg Troop OA Representative: Dan Polta</p>	<p>Camping Instructor: Terrence Tan Cooking Instructor: Nate Brown First Aid Instructor: Van Donkersgoed Knife & Ax Safety Instructor: Open Fire Safety Instructor: Sam Rosol Knots Instructor: Ryan Brattensborg -- I'm the new Knots Instructor for the next 6 months. If any First Years need knots signed off for rank advancement you should come see me and I will teach them to you. Also if any older Scouts need it signed off, come see me and I will teach you the knots. After you show me you can do them I will then sign it off. If anybody wants to learn knots for a Merit Badge Month come see me and if I don't know the knot I will look it up before the next meeting.</p>
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Scoutmaster's Corner by Joe Polta

Scouts, Parents, Staff: Are you doing your job?

Scouts, learn as much as you can. If we're doing things right, you'll have fun doing it, and you'll pick up skills you can use for the rest of your life. Skills that will set you apart from people who haven't had the privilege of being a Scout.

Parents, keep doing your part. Scouts who have support from home tend to be the most successful. Judging by what I see in your sons, they're getting that support. Keep up the good work. If you don't know what you might do to help the troop succeed, please ask me or any other uniformed adult.

Staff -- Assistant Scoutmasters, Committee Members -- keep helping this enterprise be a major force for good in our community. People from all over the community keep wanting to hear from us. (A Scoutmaster from Australia contacted me out of the blue just last week!) Our community and our host church are generous to us, and we want our relationship with them to continue for many years.

I'm proud to be your Scoutmaster.

SPL Scratch by Matthew Boudreaux

At the end of March, I had a meeting with the ASPL's and Scoutmaster Polta. We discussed goals and changes we wanted to make. One of the most important things I want to see change is RESPECT of the church property, adult leadership, and each other. I will discuss this with the Scouts at our next meeting. I would also like to bring back the ASM meetings after the PLC meeting. I would like the ASM's to discuss with me changes they would like to see, problems, and evaluate campouts and meetings during this time. Any Scout that has taken an instructor position needs to know their skills because the first year Scouts will be hunting you down to learn the skills and you will look like a fool if you don't know the material.

Patrol Coaches, please have ROUGH COPY of your month's plan, TWO MONTHS IN ADVANCE ! Also, don't be afraid to quiet Scouts down during a meeting.

When planning campouts, don't be afraid to leave time for fun & games and free time. Have the Scouts come up with a game that can be played at anytime and write up the rules for the game. We are planning on making a binder filled with games that we will take on all the campouts.

Patrol News

BALD EAGLES: Chris Mueller
COBRAS: Ben Grunewald
DRAGONS: Jacob Houterman
FALCONS: Robbie Beveroth
HUSKIES: Andrew Songle
PANTHERS: Jake Brown & Evan Fairbrother Troop Guides

RAPTORS: Jens Gilman
SCORPIONS: Patrick Conklin
THUNDER: Jeran Schmidt
TIMBERWOLVES: Van Donkersgoed
WOLVERUNNERS: Todd Hayen

Troop Court of Honor

The next Troop Court of Honor is scheduled for Tuesday, June 6 at 6:30 pm. 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. Please make note of the merit badge and rank advancement deadlines on the calendars.