



THE RECONNAISSANCE

Boy Scout Troop 695 of Prairie Lutheran Church

October 31, 2006; Volume 11, Issue 8



November Activities
Theme: Music & Annual Planning
Responsible Patrol: Wolverrunners

*Work on your
Music
Merit Badge
this month!*

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Activities

- Nov 7: Troop and Parents' Meetings
- Nov 14: **No Troop Meeting**; PLC, Committee and ASM Meetings;
Viking Leader Training
- Nov 18: Tree Lot Opens; Wreath pick-up
- Nov 21: Tree Lot Training (no troop meeting)
- Nov 28: Troop Meeting; Merit Badges Due

Troop Camp-Out

Nov 10-12: Carver Park Reserve – Zumbra Campsite

Fundraising Opportunities

Wreath Sales – by Barbara Hanson

Scouts who turned in wreath orders are reminded that all items will be available for pick up between 10 a.m. and 12 p.m. on Saturday, November 18th at Barbara Hanson's house (6445 Grand View Drive). Maps are available in Eric H's ship. Please call Barbara at 937-5905 if you need to make alternative arrangements for pick up.

Flying Cloud Updates

Flying Cloud shed season is now over. Please get all your receipts in to Barbara Hanson for the shed and Staring Lake so we can finish out the season. - by Ryan H.

Another Soccer Season is over and our scouts did a tremendous job working at the snack shack over the fall. The season covered 45 days and one rainy dreary day out at the Riley-Jacques Farm for Sunbonnet Days. 23 families participated and helped sell several carloads of supplies. Here is a quick sample of our sales from the fall season. We sold:

- close to 300 pounds of popcorn
- over 950 hot dogs
- over 1000 airheads
- 300 hot chocolates (including almost 100 on the last day)
- and almost 500 ring pops

The next time you see them, remember to give a special thank-you to Ryan H. and his family for taking care of the cash box all season long. If anyone is interested, we have a small supply of drinks and candy that I will be bringing to the next couple of Troop meetings, selling at discounted prices for all to enjoy! – Kurtis Humfeld

Popcorn Sales – by Dixie Rairamo

Congratulations to those who participated in POPCORN SALES during October. Don't forget to notate the prize you wish to receive for the level of sales you made. ALL money & orders have to be in by October 31st. You can either place your money/order forms in the Rairamo ship (remember there is no scout meeting on the 31st) or drop it off at the Rairamo house at 9810 Cromwell Drive. We are unable to accept any orders after November 1st. Popcorn will be available for pick-up at the Rairamo house November 18-20th. Call us if you have any questions @ 952-941-7408."

Volunteer Opportunities

Hopkins Care Center

This year we will continue staffing the Sunday afternoon bingo at Hopkins Care Center. We will begin on Sunday November 5th and staff bingo on an every other week basis. The dates we will be staffing are 11/5, 11/19, 12/3, 12/17, 12/31. Each week we will need 5 or 6 Scouts and 2 or 3 adults. Volunteers should plan to arrive at the Hopkins Care Center at 1:30 pm and will be done at 3:00 pm or shortly after. Service hours earned will be the 1 ½ hours working at the Center plus ½ hour for commuting. If you are interested in helping or have questions, please contact Paul Rosol at prosol@mn.rr.com or by phone 952-944-6015..

Campsites – by Michael Wiig

We are set with campsites though February. Any patrol needing to make an early reservation at a Three Rivers Park for 2007, reservations can be made in January. So, if you know where you want to go make an early call to get the site you want.

Patrol News

COBRAS – Joshua B.

Hey troop 695 this is Josh B. from the Cobra patrol. Four scouts from my patrol attended the October campout. We really enjoyed football the first night. We also really enjoyed the mock disasters, good job on the makeup bald eagles. The Saturday night campfire was good and contained a lot of good skits and songs. Great cobbler Mr. Polta.

HUSKIES – Matt B.

Hello troop 695. This is Matt B. the patrol leader for the Huskies. We were unable to make it to the camp out due to getting scuba certified. The Huskies will be going to Sea Base this spring break, we will be doing some scuba diving in the Florida Keys. My dad probably talked to you about this if you were at the campout. I heard that many a Webelos attended the campout and had a blast.

DRAGONS – Cody H.

The Dragon patrol has been doing well lately. A good amount of us have been able to go to campouts. We do not have a month coming up that we are in control of. Our patrol leader is Cody H, and our assistant patrol leader is David J.

Three scouts were able to go on the shooting campout and stay the whole time, Cody H, Cody M, and David J.

Two scouts were able to go to the first aid campout the whole time, Cody H, and Cody M, and two scouts were able to come some of the time, Zack P, and David O. Mr. Poirier also came late to the first aid campout.

People Active in Patrol

Scouts: Cody H, Cody M, David J, David O, Zack P, Dan J, Alex F, Jacob H, with our adult leader, Derrick Poirier.



WOLVERUNNERS – KC H.

SO, here's my article... I'm not that good at writing up this kind of things, so tips are appreciated! Hey, I'm KC, patrol leader for the Wolverunners.

On the seventh, we'll start off the meeting with annual planning, which we've been informed is must for this month. Afterwards Jake will give an overview of the merit badge and hand out a syllabus. Then we'll break up into groups for a round robin, and we'll wrap up the meeting with patrols planning for the campout.

On the campout itself we'll finish the annual planning and work some more on the merit badge. Mr. Lewis has reserved Lake Zumbra site #2, which come with a 20x30 shelter, for us at the Carver Park Reserve.

The next two meetings will be the PLC and tree lot training, so scouts will have to finish the syllabus at home to get the badge. On the twenty-eighth we'll be collecting the syllabus and finishing the last requirements, hopefully anyway. I wish all participating scouts luck!

TIMBERWOLVES – Cory K.

Most of our patrol missed the campout this month at Hyland Park due to a confirmation retreat, but I heard it was fun. Our patrol went to the patrol meetings and learned about wilderness first aid. Some of us in the patrol have also been busy selling wreaths and popcorn. I thought the month went great, and November sounds like it will be fun.

PANTHERS – Troop Guide Dan P.

As the Panthers' new troop guide, my goal is to help you advance as far as you can. I would like to get everyone to second class and well on their way to first class by the end of March. We had lots of fun at the October campout and you did very well on your first aid challenges.

Please try to show up to every meeting and the campout this month so I can help you advance in rank and learn things. Even if you can't make it to every meeting, please try to make it to as many as you can.
See you next Tuesday.



Leadership Reports

SPL Scratch – by John L. II

This is John L. I am glad to be the new SPL for Troop 695. This weekend the campout was a lot of fun learning new skills like First Aid techniques. We got to demonstrate on other scouts with life like injuries and real situations. This campout really showed you what to do when someone is in trouble. Also Weblo scouts joined us at the end of the day on Saturday. I really think they had a good time. Some adults joined us for the campfire on Saturday night. We had crescent roles over the fire and this was something new that I had never tried and turned out good. We also had a JLT meeting that taught a lot about leadership. Also there was a competition between two teams red and blue. The blue team won but it was very close. They got the Klondike Award. Congratulations to the blue team on winning the competition.



Next month the Wolverrunners will be doing the music merit badge which should be a lot of fun. The camp out will be in Victoria.

Thank you and have a good week.

Scoutmaster's Corner – by Joe Polta

Scouts, I especially encourage you to participate in meetings and the Troop campout this month. In addition to the activities the Wolverrunners have planned, we'll be working on the Troop's Annual Plan. The Annual Plan is where you, the Scouts, plan another year's themes, activities and campouts. That's right, you plan it. You choose the themes, you decide which Patrol will host which month. It's one of the cornerstones of the Boy Scout program. If you participate, you truly will have done it yourself.



So you've got a few good ideas, and you're going to share them with the group. Is that all there is to do? Here's an extra step you can take: call a Patrol buddy who hasn't been attending regularly, and ask him to come. Remind him of the fun and learning we have, and that he's always welcome here.

Parents, please do your part in the annual planning process. Get your Scout to Troop meetings, and help him participate in the campout. November's campout location will be conveniently close.

I'm proud to be your Scoutmaster..

ASPL – Kyle K.

This month we had some fun learning first aid. We had some first aid instruction at the meetings and, at Hyland, on the campout the scouts had to put their knowledge to the test through various first aid challenges. We turned that into a recruiting event and even had some webelos "victims" for one of the challenges. On top of that we had the lucky parents who got to sleep at home come to camp and enjoy a Saturday night dinner and a nice campfire. Overall this month was great, I look forward to next month and a great time.



Knots Instructor – Eric W.

Here is a good web site to get some help with your knots. www.animatedknots.com has some good animated knots under the "Scouting" button.



Chaplain's Aide – Cody M.

The campout this weekend was great. It was a little chilly but fun. As Chaplain's Aide, I was able to be involved in the Sunday worship at camp. As part of the worship, I talked about reverence and how important it is to be reverent (show honor and respect) to each other, to our scout leaders and to God. So remember to show reverence in all areas of your life.

Den Chiefs:

Brandon S: This month my den worked on Communicator. When they worked on their pin, they learned codes and sign language. They are planning on saying the pledge of allegiance in sign language at an upcoming pack meeting where they will be leading the flag ceremony.



Troop Leaders

News & Features

Troop Positions	
Senior Patrol Leader	John L II
Asst Sr. Patrol Leader of PLs	Kyle K
Asst Sr. Patrol Leader of Staff (Historian, Librarian, Scribe, QMs)	Evan F
Asst Sr. Patrol Leader of Instructors and Chaplain's Aide	Terrance T
Quartermaster	Ben G
Scribe	[Open]
Historian	Andrew T
Librarian	Ryan H
Chaplain's Aide	Cody M
Bugler	Drew C
OA Representative	[Open]
OA Camping Leader	[Open]
Troop Guides	
Panthers	Jake B
	Dan P
Patrol Leaders	
Huskies	Matt B
Raptors	[Open]
Falcons	Spencer S
Thunder	Kyle D
Wolver Runners	KC H
Bald Eagles	Julian K
Dragons	Cody H
Scorpions	Fernando N
Cobras	Josh B
Timberwolves	Cory K
Panthers	Gabe M
Instructors	
Camping	Sam R
Ceremonies	[Open]
Cooking	Paul R
Fire Safety	John K
First Aid	Ryan H
Knife/Axe Safety	Josh C
Knots	Eric W
Den Chiefs	
	Niko B
	Luke C
	Daniel J
	Zak P
	Brandon S

Northwinds Adventure and Experience

The Northwinds Adventure for Troop 695 will be held on the weekend of January 5th – 7th this year at Stearns. This weekend will cover both the Adventure and Experience programs. *[See the website for details.]*



The Experience Program is for first year scouts or older who would like an introduction to winter camping. The session runs from Saturday morning to Sunday afternoon. The boys are introduced to the winter outdoors requirements, participate in winter activities but actually sleep indoors on Saturday night.

The Adventure Program is for older scouts who are in at least 7th grade, have attended the Adventure program and want to spend a night in one of 5 different outdoor structures; a quinzee, polar dome, parachute, thermal shelter or igloo, as well as participate in outdoor activities during the day.

[Please note - the boys will spend Friday night indoors.]



www.troop695.org

Lost your Campout Permission Slip? Need directions to camp? Want to email the Scout who's promoting his Eagle project this weekend? Need to call a Merit Badge Counselor? You can find all of this information on your friendly neighborhood website at www.troop695.org. If you need the web password to access documents containing email addresses, telephone numbers, and other personal information, your Patrol Coach can get that for you. And, if you still can't find it or open it, or if the link is broken, click the "Contact Us" link and let us know. We'll direct you to the right link or make sure that the missing information gets posted to the right page.

News & Features

Pushing Buttons – *anonymous* *a Scout mom's musings*

We all have them, buttons that is. And, unless you're wearing a tee shirt itemizing your list of "buttons" right out there for all to see, it is likely that one of us will push at least one of them unintentionally. That's because we all come with a certain set of tolerances and intolerances based on our upbringing and our life's experiences. And we pass these "buttons" on to our children, like it or not. For example, in our house, napkins are to be used at the dinner table. I think this gesture of civility should be required by law. But, not everyone cares about napkins as I do. And, I don't think my kids are headed for juvenile detention for neglecting to use one. Just the same, I go nuts asking them time and time again to please use a napkin at the dinner table.

Many of you are thinking, "Pick your battles, lady," and to a certain degree, I agree with you. But, consider the idea that each person's battles to pick are not the same as the next person's. In Boy Scouts, we have many adult leaders who are paired with young Scouts. These two groups may have very different button histories.

You, as an adult leader, may go ballistic if a Scout:

- talks back
- uses levity in an inappropriate situation
- doesn't have his shirt tucked in properly
- is late
- is touching another Scout
- has his hands in his pockets
- forgot his book
- doesn't seem to take his responsibilities seriously
- is fidgeting
- didn't bring a pencil
- walks around while eating
- chats during the Pledge of Allegiance

Did one of these push your button? Would you have "gone off" on a boy who committed one of these infractions? If the answer is, "yes," then I would ask you to think about the effect your admonition might have on an impressionable young man.

Did you succeed in arresting this behavior forevermore, or will the Scout simply think you're a mean ol' codger and write you off?

Did you think about the fact that this young man could have come from . . .

- a family full of lawyers in which bantering back and forth is an acceptable and enjoyable form of communication
- a family that loves to laugh and tease one another
- a family in which the normal chaos precludes using an ironing board or fussing about clothes
- a family in which there is only one parent who has a difficult time getting places on time because of work demands or other children's schedules
- a family that's full of boys who can never seem to keep their hands off of one another and has accepted constant "hands on" as a way of life
- a family that simply doesn't "sweat the small stuff," like hands in pockets
- a family that often loses track of details but is really trying to remember what is needed for each activity
- a family that is going in six directions every night and meals are always on the fly
- a family that doesn't display the flag on holidays or days of mourning

When we come together with different tolerances and intolerances, there are likely to be sparks. As the adults in the crowd, it is up to us to set the tone. So, the next time you feel that familiar finger on one of your buttons, take a deep breath, and visualize how you will handle the situation with the Scout in question. If he isn't in imminent danger, then there is no need to holler. When the time is right, tell the Scout that you would like to have a word with him privately, and tell him what is expected of him.

"One of the things that Boy Scouts do is show respect for the flag – the symbol of the United States of America. When we pledge our allegiance to the flag, we stand at attention and salute the flag. Please make sure that you don't give the impression that you disrespect our flag and our great free nation by chatting with another Scout during the pledge. Okay?"

Button pushed; nuclear reaction averted.

Calendar and Bulletin Board Information

[clip and save this handy reference page]

Calendar of Events

Nov 2	Roundtable and OA Meeting (7pm at Christ Presbyterian in Edina)
Nov 7	Troop and Parents' Meetings (6:30pm), Can Recycling
Nov 10-12	Troop Camp-Out
Nov 14	No Troop Meeting; PLC Meeting (6:00pm), Committee Meeting (6:30pm), Viking Leader Training (6:30pm), ASM Meeting (7pm)
Nov 18	10:00am-12:00pm Wreath Pickup; Tree Lot Opens
Nov 21	Tree Lot Training (at tree lot)
Nov 26	<i>Reconnaissance</i> articles due
Nov 28	Troop Meeting (6:30pm); Merit Badges Due
Dec 5	Troop and Parents' Meetings (6:30pm), Can Recycling, Rank Advancements Due
Dec 7	Roundtable and OA Meeting (7pm at Christ Presbyterian in Edina)
Dec 12	Troop Court of Honor (6:30pm)
Dec 17	Last Day of Tree Lot
Dec 24	<i>Reconnaissance</i> articles due
Dec 26	Tree Lot Clean-up (6:00pm)
Every Sunday	Service Project: Hopkins Care Center – Bingo (1:30-3:30p)

Bulletin Board

Reconnaissance Articles

Articles for the next issue of this newsletter are due to Kelly Schwab no later than Sunday, **November 26!** Please e-mail your articles to her at kschwab@mn.rr.com.

Reconnaissance on the Web

The latest issue of the *Reconnaissance* is always available online on our Troop 695 website. Visit www.troop695.org and click on the "Newsletter" link in the left side column.

Advancement Contacts

- Merit Badge Counselor Coordinator – Karen Vanic
- Boards of Review or Advancement – Mike Toay
- 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.

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