



THE RECONNAISSANCE

Boy Scout Troop 695 of Prairie Lutheran Church

March 2007; Volume 12, Issue 3

March Activities

Theme: Personal Management
Responsible Patrol: Scorpions



Activities

- Mar 1 Swim Qualifications – Oak Point Pool (6:00-8:00pm)
- Mar 6 Troop and Parents' Meetings (6:30pm)
- Mar 13 Troop Meeting (6:30pm); Troop Elections – *Merit Badges Due*
- Mar 15 Swim Qualifications – Oak Point Pool – 6:00-8:00pm
- Mar 20 Troop Meeting (6:30pm); *Rank advancements due for COH*
PLC Meeting (6:00pm); Committee Meeting (6:30pm);
ASM Meeting (7:00pm)
- Mar 22 Swim Qualifications – Oak Point Pool – 6:00-8:00pm
- Mar 23-25 **Troop Campout** – Fred C. Anderson
- Mar 27 Troop Court of Honor (6:30pm); Friends of Scouting

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Friends of Scouting Campaign Still in Process

by Jeff Shawd

Pledges are being accepted for the 2007 Friends of Scouting Campaign for the Northern Star Council through March. It is important that all Troop 695 families complete and return the pledge form to me, even if you are not contributing to the campaign this year. If the troop receives 100% participation, all advancement badges we purchase from the Northern Star Council are free for the year.

If you have misplaced your original pledge form, I will have blank forms available in my folder in the Ship.

If anyone has questions about the Friends of Scouting campaign or about the process, please feel free to email or call me. As always, thank you for your support.



FRIENDS OF SCOUTING

Campsites & Training – *by Michael Wiig*

Let me know if you need help with a reservation for a campsite, or ideas of where to camp. I will also help with the tour permit if necessary.

Upcoming training opportunities include:

- March 1 - New Leader Essentials
- March 24 - Boy Scout Specific
- March 24 - University of Scouting, Hudson, WI
- March 31 - Trainer Development Conference
- March 30 to April 1 - Outdoor Training
- April 24 - Youth Leader College (for Scouts and Scouters!!)

Please check the links through the troop website. More information/registration is available through the Northern Star Council website, and the Mustang District page of the council website.

Troop 695 Website – *by Casey Quinn*

Have you checked out the website THIS WEEK? If you haven't, you may have missed valuable and timely information and new activity photos. We have added two new links: Parents and Training. On the Parents page, we've posted just the stuff that you, as parents, need to know. On the Training page, we have links to training sites for both Scouts and Adult Leaders. So, get on over to the website – there's something for everyone! www.troop695.org

Leadership Reports

SPL Scratch – *John L. II*

In the month of February we had Merit Badge Madness. It was a lot of fun getting to see all the scouts working hard for their badges. Hopefully a lot of scouts gained merit badges from working hard at Merit Badge Madness. Also I want to thank all of the parents for helping with directing the classes and helping this camp-out go so smooth. A special thanks to Mr. Poirier for putting the MBM camp-out together for the scouts. The month of March will be my last month as the SPL and I would like to thank the scouts and the leaders for their support while I served as SPL for Troop 695. I learned a lot while holding the position as SPL. Thanks to all..



Scoutmaster's Corner – *Joe Polta*

Scouts, Scouters, and parents, tonight is a big night in several ways. First, let's all welcome our new Scouts and their families! We have many adventures ahead of us, and I hope each of them will give you many reasons to stay with this group for at least the next seven years.



Second, it's a particularly action-packed month, with a troop meeting every Tuesday. Check the calendar on the troop website, and please call me if you have questions.

Last, this is also the month when you, the Scouts, choose new troop leadership. If you are seeking a leadership position, please consider your commitment carefully. (In other words, be willing to commit to it.) When you vote, listen to what the candidates have to say, but think for yourself. Newly-elected and selected Scout leaders will be invited to Troop Leader Training (formerly known as JLT, or Junior Leader Training), which will take place on the morning of Saturday, March 17. Exact time and location to follow.

I'm proud to be your Scoutmaster.

ASPL – *Kyle K.*

Well another year of MBM over and done with, I hope each scout had some form of success. Looking ahead we have new scouts coming to the troop and a change over of leadership. I always get a little excited when new scouts join the troop because that means I have one more year of scouting under my belt. As far as new leadership I am planning on running for SPL if i get nominated to do so (no pressure on anyone, seriously). Keep up the good scouting experience!

Knots Instructor – *Eric W.*

Please let me know if you need help with your knots.

I can help you at the meetings and the March campout at Anderson. You will get a real test at the April campout which has the theme Pioneering.

Chaplain's Aide – *by Cody M.*

As we are approaching elections for new leadership positions, I wanted to tell you that the role of Chaplain's Aide is a great position. Some of the responsibilities for this position is handling the services at each campout and submitting a monthly article in the newsletter. Being Chaplain's Aid can be very rewarding. When preparing for a service at the campout or writing an article for the newsletter you can't help but reflect on the spiritual parts of being a scout. I am thankful that I had this opportunity to be Chaplain's Aide; I would recommend this position for everyone to try.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; his love endures forever – Psalm 107:1

Leadership Reports

Troop Leaders

TIMBERWOLVES – *Cory K.*

Our patrol all went to the merit badge madness campout. We shared a cabin with the Cobra patrol. Lots of crazy things happened. But we managed to get enough sleep. Our patrol all went to Afton Alps and we had lots of fun. Of what I heard all of the merit badge classes went great. The Timber Wolves and the Cobras had a very quick clean up on Sunday. Overall the campout went well and we all survived.

COBRAS – *Josh B.*

The cobra patrol had a great time at Merit Badge Madness last weekend. Skiing was great! Wished Andrew could have come, but he broke his leg skiing with his ski team earlier that week. Get your merit badges done so you can be awarded them at the COH. Thank you Mr. Poirier for all your hard work!

HUSKIES – *Matt B.*

Thank you Mr. Poirier for putting together another great year at Merit Badge Madness and coordinating a great trip to Afton. I would like to thank the scouts this year for not breaking anything, that is always a pleasure. For the scouts I would suggest to work on your merit badges so that you can get them by the March Court of Honor. Please make the new scouts feel like a part of the troop at the first meeting in March. Remember the first meeting you attended, a little scary!! Don't be afraid to chit chat with the new scouts, they won't bite!

DEN CHIEF – *Brandon S.*

This month my den hosted a very special event called Blue & Gold. A few members of our troop came to help cross over the new scouts. We had 5 scouts from Pack 342 that joined 695.

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	Spencer T
Historian	Andrew T
Librarian	Ryan H
Chaplain's Aide	Cody M
Bugler	[Open]
OA Representative	[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
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

Troop Events

Many Point 2007 – by Paula Boudreaux

Sign up for Many Point 2007 will be in full swing starting in March. The date for summer camp is July 15-21, 2007. The cost of camp this year is \$250.00, with an initial payment of \$100.00 due March 27, 2007.

Swim qual dates are as follows: March 1, 15, and 22nd from 6:00-7:45 p.m. at the Oak Point Pool. Please remember the swim qual is mandatory for all scouts and adults in the troop. The troop has many High Adventure Trips planned this summer and a swim qual is required for each of the activities, therefore, pick a night and be at the pool to swim your 4 lengths. The troop will pay for admittance to the pool. I will have a sign up sheet at the desk.

On March 6th a few of the older scouts will be putting on a short skit for the scouts and adults at the end of the parent meeting. It should be very insightful and entertaining. The theme of the skit is "A meal at camp-beginning, middle, and end". The scouts will give you their interpretation of how a typical meal goes and then show you the ideal interpretation. There should be many giggles from the scouts and much head nodding (in agreement) from the adult leaders in the troop.

I would also ask at the end of the parent meeting for the new scouts and their parents to stick around for a 10 minute video presentation of Many Point. If any scouts and parents of the Cobra and Timberwolve patrols would like to stick around they will be able to see what the High Adventure Programs entail. The Cobras and Timberwolves will be able to participate in the High Adventure programs that Many Point has to offer this year.



Service Project Update – by Paul Rosol

The Troop continues to be busy with service projects in February and March.

Hopkins Care Center

On February 11th we had 11 Scouts and 13 siblings and parents participate in our Sunday Bingo and Valentine's Day Party at the Hopkins Care Center. We had 28 residents participate in the day's events. As a part of the Valentine's Day Party some of the Scouts and their parents and siblings entertained the residents. Thanks to all who performed. Check out the pictures on our Troop's Website.

On Sunday February 25th and March 8th the Scouts participating in the Citizenship in the Community Merit Badge will be coordinating and running the Bingo Program.

Beginning with the March 25th Bingo we will be assigning specific patrols to work on this service project.

Feed My Starving Children

On Friday, March 2nd and Saturday, March 3rd Scouts participating in the Citizenship in the Community Merit Badge along with their parents will be volunteering and serving at Feed My Starving Children in Chanhasseen. The groups will be putting together meals and packing them for shipping.

Thanks to all who have agreed to participate. It is great to provide these services to our community.

Scouting for Food

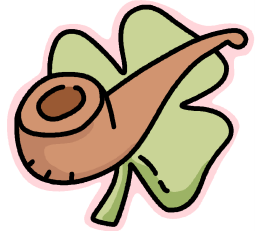
Saturday, April 28th has been designated as the Council's Scouting for Food Day. Please put this date on your calendar as our Troop will participate. More information will be disseminated as it is available.

Calendar and Bulletin Board Information

[clip and save this handy reference page]

Upcoming Events – February/March

Mar 1	Swim Qualifications – Oak Point Pool – 6:00-8:00pm Roundtable and OA Meeting (7pm at Christ Presbyterian in Edina)
Mar 6	Troop and Parents' Meetings (6:30pm), Can Recycling
Mar 11	Service Project: Bingo at Hopkins Care Center
Mar 13	Troop Meeting (6:30pm); Troop Elections – <i>Merit Badges Due</i>
Mar 15	Swim Qualifications – Oak Point Pool – 6:00-8:00pm
Mar 18	<i>Reconnaissance</i> articles due
Mar 20	Troop Meeting (6:30pm); Rank advancements due for COH PLC Meeting (6:00pm); Committee Meeting (6:30pm); ASM Meeting (7:00pm)
Mar 22	Swim Qualifications – Oak Point Pool – 6:00-8:00pm
Mar 23-25	Troop Campout – Fred C. Anderson
Mar 25	Service Project: Bingo at Hopkins Care Center
Mar 27	Troop Court of Honor (6:30pm); Friends of Scouting
Apr 3	Troop and Parents' Meetings (6:30pm), Can Recycling
Apr 5	Roundtable and OA Meeting (7pm at Christ Presbyterian in Edina)
Apr 8	Service Project: Bingo at Hopkins Care Center
Apr 10	Troop Meeting (6:30pm)
Apr 15	<i>Reconnaissance</i> articles due
Apr 17	No Troop Meeting; PLC Meeting (6:00pm); Committee Meeting (6:30pm); ASM Meeting (7:00pm)
Apr 17	Eagle Preview – Christ Presbyterian Church – 7:00pm
Apr 20-22	Troop Campout
Apr 22	Service Project: Bingo at Hopkins Care Center
Apr 24	Troop Meeting (6:30pm)
Apr 28	Service Projects: Annual Grounds Cleanup, Flying Cloud Concessions Cleanup & Scouting for Food



Bulletin Board

Reconnaissance Articles

Articles for the next issue of this newsletter are due to Kelly Schwab no later than Sunday, **March 18!** Please e-mail your articles to her at kelly.schwab@comcast.net.

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.

The *Reconnaissance* is a monthly publication of Boy Scout Troop 695 which is chartered through:

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