

Troop 849 Newsletter



January 2007

www.troop849.org

CURRENT CALENDAR

- Jan 4 - Neighbor to Neighbor –
Church of the Brethren
- Jan 6 - **Eagle Court of Honor**
- Jan 9 – Troop Meeting
\$50 deposit due for Long Term
\$100 deposit due for Summer Camp
- Jan 16 – Hike Prep (Rocket Hike)
- Jan 20-21 – Rocket Hike
- Jan 23 – Troop Meeting -
Webelos visit the Troop
- Jan 25 - Troop Committee Meeting
- Jan 27 – Michael Rolandelli's Eagle Project
- Jan 30 – Troop Meeting (Greenbar)
- Feb 1 - Neighbor to Neighbor –
Church of the Brethren
- Feb 6 - Troop Meeting
- Feb 13 - Hike Prep (Snow Hike)
- Feb 20 - Hike Prep (Snow Hike)
- Feb 22-25 – **Snow Hike** - Sequoia
- Feb 23-25 - **Adult Backpack Training**
- Feb 27 - Troop Meeting (Greenbar)
OA Elections
Second payment due for Chawanakee



SPL CORNER

Hello everyone, Tim Breen here. Hopefully you have all had an enjoyable and relaxing winter break and I wish all of you and your families a very happy New Year. I hope to see you all soon back at our Troop Meetings. I also just want to remind you of a few events coming up during these first few months of the new year. Don't forget our legendary Rocket Hike coming up in January. This is when we really roll out the red carpet for all the Senior Webelos of the local Packs. So, I would like to encourage all of you to come on this great trip and show the Webelos all the great aspects of our troop. I hope that all of you are able to go.



COMMITTEE CHAIR CORNER

Our very own Mr. Rick Reeley, a long time Assistant Scoutmaster in Troop 849, has been chosen by the Los Angeles Area Council, BSA, to receive the prestigious Silver Beaver award. The Silver Beaver is the highest award a volunteer can earn from the Council. Rick has been very active in Council activities, including acting as the Scoutmaster for the Council's National Jamboree Troop and participating over the years in the Junior Leader Training program and University of Scouting. Rick will be honored, along with the other L.A. Area Council Silver Beaver award winners, at a dinner in downtown L.A. in February. More details about this event will be provided to the Troop soon. Please join me in congratulating Mr. Reeley on this fine achievement.

--Don McLellan

ROCKET HIKE

The Rocket Hike is a yearly event when Troop 849 invites the Senior Webelos to come along and participate with the troop in an overnight camping event. On Saturday, Troop 849 scouts will teach the Webelos various scouting skills including orienteering, rock climbing, knot tying, backpacking, campfire building, and football. The highlight of the weekend will be the launching of model rockets on Sunday morning. We will leave the scouthouse at 7:00 am 1/20/07. Hope to see you there!

" The most important object in Boy Scout training is to educate, not instruct." -- Robert Baden-Powell

MERIT BADGES

The Backpacking merit badge class will be given on February 1 at the scouthouse. This merit badge is for scouts that will complete any of the troop long-term hikes including the Catalina tip-to-tip hike. The requirements include completing 3 training hikes and planning a trip. Sign up at the troop meeting. Please see Mr. Slocum prior to attending this class.

The rock climbing merit badge class will be given in 3 parts: classroom, belay class, rock climb. The classroom will be on March 9 at the scouthouse, March 14 at the Rock Gym, and March 16-18 at the Joshua Tree troop event. Sign up at the troop meeting. See Mr. Slocum with any questions.

ADVANCEMENTS

Star – Peter Simonsen

TRAIL TIPS

Tent Tips:

When arriving in camp, set up your tent quickly before it can rain.

Pick your tent spot carefully. Avoid ditches and bowls. Try to figure where the rain water will go and then set it up elsewhere.

Don't let the ground cloth stick out from under the tent or it may act as a rain scoop and flood your tent. Fold it over and back under to form a rain barrier. (Don't dig a ditch around your tent as it is very hard on the environment.)

Don't pitch your tent under a tree with dead limbs, lest one fall on you.

Pine needles and leaves make a very soft bed.

-Tom Thorpe

NEW MERIT BADGE COUNSELOR

We are pleased to announce that Mr. Bernard, father of scout Tanner Bernard, has just become an approved merit badge counselor for Environmental Science, Lifesaving, Surveying, Landscape Architecture, Engineering, and Architecture.

Also, Mr. Rick Reeley is now a merit badge counselor for Communications, First Aid, Music, and Personal Management.

EAGLE COURT OF HONOR

All troop members and their families are invited to attend an Eagle Court of Honor on Saturday, January 6th at American Martyrs Church, O'Donnell Center. This ceremony will honor Bob Blaschke, Penn Caine, Matt Karatsu, and Matt Reeley. The ceremony begins at 3:00 pm, and refreshments and cake will be served immediately following the event. Scouts should wear their complete Class A uniform.

LOOKING AHEAD

February - Snow Hike
March - Rock Climbing Hike
April - Shotgun Shooting

NEW EAGLE SCOUTS

We are also pleased to announce three new Eagle scouts. Matthew Reeley made Eagle on 11/24/06. For his project he constructed 2 storage sheds for the after school program at Pennekamp Elementary School. Sam Mullin made Eagle on 11/24/06. His project was to refurbish the campgrounds at Horse Flats in the Angeles National Forest. Robert Lesniowski made Eagle on 12/14/06. His project involved painting at an area Catholic school.