

Troop 849 Newsletter



February 2006

<http://www.troop849.org>

CURRENT CALENDAR

- Feb. 7 – Troop Meeting
- Feb. 11 -13 – Winter Camp
- Feb. 14 – Troop Meeting
- Feb. 18 – Scout Swap Meet Sale
- Feb. 21 – Troop Meeting
- Feb. 24 -26 – Adult Backpack Training
- Feb. 28 – Troop Meeting
Order of the Arrow Elections
- Mar. 2 – Neighbor to Neighbor
- Mar. 7 – Hike Prep (Rock Hike)
- Mar. 8 – Beach Cities Rock Gym
- Mar. 10 -12 – Rock Hike (Joshua Tree)



COMMITTEE CHAIR CORNER

Since Troop 849 is a backpacking troop, we need trained adults to lead our hikes. One of the key steps to becoming an official, certified hike leader is to attend the once-a-year adult backpack leader training put on by the LA Area Council's High Adventure Team. This 3-day event is held in Long Beach the weekend of Feb. 24th – 26th. If you are a backpacker and have not yet attended this course, please help us out and try to make it this year. Contact **Dr. Dick Rose** or **Mr. Hoesly** for more details and to sign up.

Thanks - Don McLellan



ORDER OF THE ARROW

Order of the Arrow (OA) is Scouting's "*National Honor Society*," intended to recognize older Scouts who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives. OA is an entirely youth-led program, promoting camping, leadership and cheerful service to the council and our communities. During a troop election, all Scouts are allowed to vote for eligible candidates who they believe uphold OA ideals. An OA candidate must be 1st Class Rank or higher, have 15 nights of camping, and have proven himself a worthy candidate by showing Scout spirit, helpfulness, leadership and live the Scout Oath and Law daily.

OA elections for Troop 849 will be held during the February 28th Troop Meeting. It is very important that all scouts be in attendance at this meeting. Please make time in your schedule to be present for these OA elections.

PATROL COORDINATORS

Troop 849 is in need of adults to act as Patrol Coordinators to assist the Troop in making the Patrol system operate at its best. A Patrol Coordinator provides *support* to the scouts in areas of leadership, discipline, advancement, and communications. A patrol coordinator does not lead the patrol or develop the patrol's program; the role is one of *guidance*. Training will be provided by the Troop. Please contact **Mr. Roger Shuler** (rwshuler@verizon.net) if you can help by becoming a Patrol Coordinator.

ROCK HIKE

We have another great rock climbing trip to Joshua Tree National Park planned for March 10th – 12th. Sign ups are available at February troop meetings. If you've never rock climbed before you should attend the practice session at Beach Cities Rock Gym on March 8th. The March 7th hike prep is mandatory for everyone going to Joshua Tree. Important safety information will be covered at this meeting so be sure and attend.



NEW EAGLE SCOUT

Congratulations to **Penn Caine** for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. For his Eagle Project in August of 2005, Penn built 8 large wooden lockers for AYSO for storage of game equipment. These lockers were distributed to soccer fields in the South Bay, including the majority of Manhattan Beach elementary schools. An Eagle Court of Honor will be held for Penn at a future date.

SCOUT SWAP MEET

There will be a scout gear sale on Saturday, Feb. 18th from 9:30am – 12 noon. Everything will be available including tents, backpacks, bicycles, and clothing. (No rock climbing equipment other than shoes may be sold) If you plan on bringing something to sell, please have it at the Scout House by 9:00 am and be prepared to set a price. Bring only things in satisfactory condition. Contact **Reid Bergsund** or **Chris Bickel** for more information.



SUMMER CAMP

The second payment for summer camp at Camp Chawanakee is due February 28th. Please give your check in the amount of \$100 payable to Troop 849 to Asst. Scoutmaster **Mr. Rick Reeley**.



MERIT BADGES

Mr. Slocum will be teaching a **Climbing Merit Badge Class** in February/March. The schedule is as follows:

Feb. 25	9 – 11 am	Scout House
Mar. 8	6:30 – 8:30pm	Rock Gym (\$20)
Mar. 10-12	All Day	Joshua Tree

You must attend all three sessions to earn the Merit Badge. Scouts who currently have a partial Merit Badge are welcome to attend in order to complete their badge. Contact Mr. Slocum for more detailed information.

INTERFAITH BANQUET

The 34th Annual Interfaith Banquet will be held on Tuesday, March 28th at The Harvey Morse Auditorium at the Cedar Sinai Medical Center. All Scouts who earned their religious emblem in 2005 will be recognized and honored at this event. **Andrew Bonnano, Nathan Connolly, Tim Breen, John Gunderman, and Kirk Busby**, who earned the **Ad Altare Dei Emblem** for the Roman Catholic faith, and **Luc Suter, Matthew Reeley, and Robert Reeley**, who earned the **God and Country Emblem** for Protestant faiths, will represent Troop 849. In addition, Asst. Scoutmaster **Mr. Rick Reeley** earned his **God and Service Award** and will be recognized at the banquet.

SCOUT SERVICE HOURS

Growing Great is in need of Scouts who would like to help clear Pacific and Grandview Schools' gardens. The clean ups will take place on March 4th and 5th. Please contact **Mrs. Bergsund** at marika@growinggreat.org for more information and to sign up to help.



RECENT RANK ADVANCEMENTS

Daniel Phillips – Tenderfoot
Conor Dawson – 1st Class
Andrew Bonanno – Life

LOOKING AHEAD

March – Neighbor to Neighbor
Rock Hike
Troop Junior Leader Training
Court of Honor
Interfaith Dinner

April – Shotgun Shooting
Neighbor to Neighbor
Backpack Hike
Catalina 50-Mile Hike
Spring Camporee