

Troop 849 Newsletter



February 2008

CURRENT CALENDAR

- Feb. 2- James Roth Eagle Project –**
Prep for MB Botanical Garden
- Feb. 5-** Troop Meeting
(Webelos Visit Troop)
- Feb. 7-** Neighbor to Neighbor –
Church of the Brethren
- Feb. 9-10- James Roth Eagle Project –**
MB Botanical Garden
- Feb. 12-** Hike Prep for Snow Trip
- Feb. 16-17- Backcountry Snow Trip**
- Feb. 19-** Troop Meeting
- Feb. 26-** Greenbar Meeting
- Feb. 26-** Troop Meeting
(2nd PAYMENT DUE FOR CHAWANAKEE)
- Feb. 29-2- Adult Backpack Training**



COMMITTEE CHAIR CORNER

The annual Los Angeles Area Council dinner, to be held this year on Thursday February 7th, will include the presentation of **The Silver Beaver Award** to Troop 849's **Dr. Richard Rose**. The Silver Beaver Award is the Council's highest award that can be given to a volunteer Scout leader, recognizing years of service to Scouting and the Council. This award is long overdue for Dr. Rose as he has been involved as a valuable member of the Council's High Adventure Team (HAT) for many years, in addition to his 30+ years as a leader in Troop 849, including his three stints as our Scoutmaster. If you wish to join many of Troop 849's leaders at this dinner in downtown Los Angeles on February 7th please contact Mr. Ketterer for details and to obtain your ticket(s). The deadline to get your dinner ticket through the Troop at a cost of \$30 is January 29th. After this date you can obtain tickets through the Los Angeles Area Council at \$45 per person. Please join me in congratulating Dr. Rose for having earned this prestigious award.

-- Don McLellan



SPL CORNER

Hey Troop!

First of all, I am honored to be your new SPL and I am interested to hear of any new ideas or recommendations that you have. Although it is now February, it is never too late to consider a New Year's resolution. I realize that many of you have already made commitments for 2008, but we should all focus on increasing the attendance at our weekly meetings. There are always lots of activities and information that can only be acquired by being present on Tuesdays. In addition, the backpacking season is coming up and I hope that all of you will be participating in our troop's many outings. For those of you who haven't been on any weekend trips, definitely consider signing up and experiencing something you've never tried before. I hope to see you all on Tuesday.

-Ryan Hadley

ADULT BACKPACK TRAINING

The **Los Angeles Area Council High Adventure Team** will conduct backpack training for all interested adults on February 29th through March 2nd at **Cabrillo Beach Youth Waterfront Sports Center** in San Pedro. A backpack outing to complete the training will be arranged at a later date.

It is essential for the success of Troop 849's outstanding backpack program that the troop has many trained leaders. The training fee of \$50 will be paid by the troop for all who sign up. Contact **Mr. Slocum, Dr. Rose, or Mr. Hoesly** for more information or log on to the LAAC Website at <http://www.boyscoutsla.org/>, click on HAT, and follow the links to training.

BACKCOUNTRY SNOW TRIP

It's a special trip! Fresh snow. Snowshoeing!

Camping in tent or snow cave - your choice. If you are a skilled camper with backpacking experience, plan on coming. We will leave very early Saturday February 16th to catch the 8 AM Palm Springs tram. We will then snowshoe to Round Valley, having lunch along the way. Once there, we can build snow caves and play in fresh wilderness snow. Sunday we will explore the back country without trails on the way back to the tram. If you can, reserve your snowshoes at REI, Sports Chalet or other rental outlet. (Pick up your snowshoes Friday night before the trip and plan on returning them Monday. We hope to find some snowshoes we can just borrow from other troop members, but be prepared). Come to the troop meeting for answers about equipment and the trip or contact **Mr. Vahey**.

This is one of the most exciting trips of the year!

2008 BACKPACKING PROGRAM

Be sure to get a 2008 Backpacking Information Packet from the Scouthouse. Read it and plan out your 2008 backpacking hikes. Fill out the signup form and return it to you Scoutmaster. He will add you to the hikes.

It is important that everyone signs up for the hikes they would like to do. This applies to adults too so have your parent sign up too. You can always change your mind later. Some hikes have limited attendance so it will be first come, first served. So sign up early to insure a spot.

Two longterms hikes will involve climbing Mt. Whitney. The hikes will be the same except for the departure dates.

Mt. Whitney is the highest point (14,495') in the continental U.S. Don't miss a chance to climb it. This is a beautiful longterm that only comes around every 5 years or so. Everyone that has been hiking with the Troop should be able to quality for this hike. Talk to the hike leader if you are interested or have any questions.

Thank you, **Mr. Thorpe**.

NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR

Scouts, don't forget your monthly opportunity to participate in the Neighbor to Neighbor program at the Church of the Brethren in Redondo Beach. The first Thursday of each and every month is your chance to be helpful and complete service hours.

EAGLE PROJECT

James Roth's Eagle Project will be held on Saturday, February 2nd and Saturday and Sunday, February 9th & 10th, 2008. The project will be at Manhattan Beach Botanical Garden. The project itself will include building and installing a message board, planting plants, pruning, and weeding.

What to Bring: Your 10 essentials, hat, sun screen, work gloves, water bottle and a yellow card. Breakfast, lunch, and drinks provided on both days.

Your help is needed and ALL are welcome to come. Come on down to James's Eagle Project for some work and community service hours. Please sign up right away as February 2nd is right around the corner.

Contact **James** for details.

ATTENTION SCOUTS!!

Mark your calendars - we are going to **Philmont Scout Ranch** in the summer of 2009. The exact dates are August 12th to 21st. (Add travel days on both ends.) This will be a 9 day short trek. Philmont is very popular and is "the thing" for all Scouts to do at least once. It is the BSA's oldest national high-adventure base. Philmont's 34 staffed camps and 55 trail camps provide an unforgettable adventure in the high country along hundreds of miles of rugged, rocky trails.

Up to 36 people may attend. Scouts must be at least 14 by January 1, 2009, or have completed the 8th grade and be at least 13 years of age prior to the trek. The cost will be about \$470 per person plus the cost of transportation.

LOOKING AHEAD

March Rock Climbing Trip
LAAC Interfaith Dinner
Order of the Arrow Elections

April Spring Court of Honor
Mt. Lowe Hike
Catalina 50 Mile Hike
Spring Camporee
Chris Bickel Eagle Project
PCT Car Camping