

Troop 849 Newsletter



April 2008

www.troop849.org

CURRENT CALENDAR

- April 1 – Spring Court of Honor
Pacific School
- April 3 – Neighbor to Neighbor
- April 5-6 – Backpack Hike (Mt. Lowe)
- April 5-9 – Catalina 50 Mile Hike
- April 8 – Spring Break-No Meeting
- April 12 – Spring Camporee *(Date Change!)*
- April 15 – Troop Meeting
-New Parent Orientation *(Date Change!)*
- April 22 – Troop Meeting
- April 26 – Backpack Equipment Orientation
- April 25-27 – PCT Car Camping
- April 29 – Troop Meeting
- May 1 – Neighbor to Neighbor
- May 4 – Deep Sea Fishing *(Date Change!)*
- May 6 – Troop Meeting
- May 9-11 – Various Weekend Hikes



COMMITTEE CHAIR CORNER

The Troop 849 family will grow soon with the addition of at least twenty new bridging Webelos Scouts from various Manhattan Beach Cub Scout Packs. The past two years has seen our retention rate of bridging Webelos increase dramatically (i.e. new Scouts who join us in the Spring and then re-register with us at the end of the year), and obviously we'd like to continue that trend. Our Troop can be a little overwhelming for the new, youngest Scouts and their parents. Anything you can do to make them feel welcome and to reduce their stress levels would be much appreciated. When my oldest son bridged over, his "class" of about six boys joined the approximately 20 Scouts of Troop 849; assimilating into the Troop was a little easier back then. Times have changed. Thank you all in advance for whatever you can do to welcome our newest Scouts and their parents.

- Don McLellan



SUMMER ACTIVITIES

Summer will be here before you know it so now is the time to make sure all of your planning is in order. If you are attending **Camp Chawanakee** you should have made your initial deposit and 2nd payment by this time. Final payments are due at Chawanakee Information Night on May 29th. Contact Mr. Rolandelli or Mr. Reeley with any questions.

If you are participating in one of the 3 **Long Term Hikes** offered by Troop 849 this summer be sure you have signed up and made time in your schedule for the required 3 training hikes.

A note about medical forms –

The BSA requires that all scouts and adults who participate in troop activities complete a Class 1 Medical Form annually to be kept on file with the troop.

For **Summer Camp** and other activities lasting more than 72 hours; all scouts, and adults under age 40, also need a Class 2 Medical Form completed every 3 years. Adults over age 40 are required to have a Class 3 Medical Form for the same type and duration of activity.

For high adventure activities, such as **Long Term Hikes**, all scouts and all adults, regardless of age, must have a current (within 12 months) Class 3 Medical Form completed.

A parent may complete the Class 1 Medical Form but Class 2 and Class 3 forms must be completed by a health care professional.

Troop 849 is planning a **Medical Exam Night** in June to assist in getting these forms completed. However, it is highly encouraged that you make an appointment with your own physician in order to have a more comprehensive exam.

SPRING CAMPOREE

This year, the Pacifica District Spring Camporee will be held at Firestone Scout Reservation on Saturday, April 12th. The theme is Mountain Man Games, which will include Patrol Competitions in Knot Tying, Log Pulling, Frying Pan Toss, Fire Starting, and more. This is a day event for Troop 849; we will depart the Scout House at 6:00AM and return late that evening, around 10:30PM. Contact **Mr. Reeley** for additional information.

EAGLE PROJECT

Due to a scheduling conflict with the Forest Service my Eagle Project will not take place on April 26th – 27th as previously posted on the Troop Calendar. The date for my project is still to be determined at this time. I will update you all as soon as possible.

Thank you,
Chris Bickel

MERIT BADGE CLASSES

Did you know? Cabrillo Beach Youth Waterfront Sports Center offers classes throughout the year for many different merit badges. In April there will be classes for Swimming, Canoeing, Woodcarving, and Citizenship in the Community. Other badges such as Personal Fitness and Lifesaving will be offered in May and June. Check out their website at www.cabrilloyouthcamp.org and sign up online.



PCT CAR CAMPING

This weekend car camping event is a unique opportunity to learn about long distance backpacking techniques and meet fellow hikers who have hiked (or plan to hike) the entire Pacific Crest Trail. The event takes place April 25th – 27th at Lake Moreno County Park.

Contact **Alan Slocum** with any questions. Sign ups will be posted at troop meetings.

LOOKING AHEAD

- May-** Advancement Day #1
Various Weekend Hikes
Deep Sea Fishing
Chawanakee Information Night
- June-** Advancement Day #2
Various Weekend Hikes
Medical Exam Night
Advanced Rock Climb
Uniform Inspection Night