

Troop 849 Newsletter



April 2010

www.troop849.org

CURRENT CALENDAR

April 6 – Troop Meeting
April 6 – New Parent Orientation
April 10 – Shotgun Shooting
April 13 – **Medical Exam Night**
April 16-18 – **Catalina Hike**
April 20 – Troop Meeting
April 24 – Backpack Equipment Orientation
April 24 – Interfaith Banquet
April 27 – Troop Meeting
May 1 – **Surf Trip**
May 2 – **Deep Sea Fishing**
May 4 – Troop Meeting
May 6 – Neighbor to Neighbor



SPL CORNER

~Tanner Bernard

No fooling, it's April and it is time to plan for Summer Camp. We are fortunate this year that we have two opportunities to go to Camp and in vastly different locales. June 27th-July 3rd we return to Camp Emerald Bay on Santa Catalina Island. And then in August from the 1st-7th our Troop goes again to Camp Chawanakee in the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

At our Troop meetings in the weeks ahead we have some important occasions relevant to these Summer Camps. On April 13th we have our annual Troop Medical Exam night. This year BSA has a Medical NEW FORM; and, the completed form is required for most of our Troop activities including Summer Camp. So everyone needs to have the new form completed!

Also, Sally Bickel and Asst Scoutmaster Rick Reeley will be available for you all to talk about Merit Badges sign-ups for the Camps as well as about the other arrangements – registration, transportation and payments – necessary for Summer Camp attendance. Just reminders to our current Scouts ... payments are already past due. And, new Scouts, you need to make pay the requisite monies as soon as possible.

There are a myriad of Merit Badges and other activities that you can take advantage of at both BSA Camps. New Scouts, seek out older Scout in the Troop to talk to them about what they have accomplished and enjoyed working on at Summer Camps past; and, older Scouts be sure to tell them as much as you can about the Summer Camp experience.

Summer Camp is one of the best activities in Scouting and our Troop has two super opportunities before us in 2010. I encourage everyone to go to Camp ... you will really enjoy it and will have memories of what you did with your Troop friends there for the rest of your life! See y'all at Camp!



COMMITTEE CHAIR CORNER

I am amazed at all the great volunteers we have, making Troop 849 the best troop. It does not stop with the volunteers in place, they need your assistance. We have many people doing some incredible jobs for us. On medical night we have Doctors and specialists making sure we are in good health and compliant with the BSA policy. We also have hike leaders, merit badge counselors, and an equipment management team known as quartermasters. The list goes on, advancement, Eagle project mentor, finance, assistant scoutmasters, patrol coordinators and communications and last but not least, our Scout Master. There are many more positions I am not mentioning, please thank all volunteers, for all that they provide to us. It is amazing that it takes so many great folks to run a successful troop.

In the future as a leadership position we will include a troop historian for troop 849 and we will produce a journal, scrapbook, CD complete with pictures and past articles. Any parent volunteers willing to mentor a scout or scouts in this project? We will be asking our scout parents to get involved and take on one of the many different positions, guaranteeing our future success. Please let me know how you can help!

With appreciation,
Michael Tauber
mtauber@troop849.org

NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR

Neighbor to Neighbor is a monthly service opportunity for Troop 849. On the first Thursday of each month scouts and adults from Troop 849 help serve meals to those in need at the Church of the Brethren in Redondo Beach. Lately, we have noticed a drop in the participation from our scouts. Service to others is one of the core values of scouting and we encourage all of our scouts to “do a good turn daily.” Please consider participating in the Neighbor to Neighbor program as a way to do your good turn. Contact **Mr. Mike Tauber** if you have any questions.

MEDICAL EXAM NIGHT

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

The BSA has a new medical form, which is required in 2010. This form is in three parts, A, B, and C. Parts A and C can be completed by a parent and must be done annually for all registered scouts and adults. Part B must be completed by a medical professional and is required with parts A and C for any event that exceeds 72 consecutive hours, or when the nature of the activity is strenuous and demanding such as high-adventure outings or weekend backpacking or when emergency medical care is not readily available.

Most of Troop 849's outdoor programs fit the criteria when Part B is required.

It is preferred that the scouts have their personal physicians complete the exam and Part B of the form. However, as a courtesy, Troop 849 offers Medical Exam Night for our scouts where we are fortunate to have several physicians who volunteer their services to complete the necessary exams.

If you are unable to have your family physician complete the exam and plan on attending Medical Exam Night, please follow these instructions -

- 1) If you did not turn in Parts A and C with your Troop re-registration, please complete them prior to arrival at the Scouthouse for your exam.
- 2) Bring a copy of your immunization record.
- 3) Scouts with last name beginning A - L arrive at 7:00PM, Scouts with last name beginning M - Z arrive by 7:45PM.

Contact **Dr. Rick Hoft** (310) 200-6890 with questions regarding the exams. Contact **Mrs. Sally Bickel** (310) 372-7842 with questions regarding how to download the BSA medical form or to check if you already have one on file with Troop 849.

SUMMER CAMP PREP

It is time to get organized for summer camp. Scouts should download the **merit badge forms** for the camp they are attending and begin planning what badges they want to work on while at camp. Forms can be found on Troop 849's website on the Summer Camp page. New scouts should consider working on 3 to 5 badges and older scouts should challenge themselves to complete 5 badges or take advantage of programs such as C.O.P.E. and BSA Lifeguard.

There will be Summer Camp prep/info nights for scouts and parents in May. Currently, the prep night for Emerald Bay is scheduled for Thursday, May 20th and for Chawanakee on Thursday, May 27th. Details to follow.

For questions concerning merit badge signups please contact **Mrs. Sally Bickel** or **Mrs. Maureen Lull**.

SURF HIKE

Surf's Up! This is a must do trip for the water lovers in the troop! Activities will include surfing, camping, cooking, and campfires! Plenty of fun in the sun and opportunities for advancement. We will leave early Saturday AM on May 1st and return early afternoon on Sunday, May 2nd. Overnight camping is on the beach at Doheny Beach, near Dana Point. Experienced older scouts as well as adults will provide surfing instruction so this trip is good for the novice surfer as well as the seasoned expert. Please contact **Mrs. Diane Faustgen** or **Mr. Bret Bernard** for more information.

DEEP SEA FISHING

Troop 849's annual deep sea fishing trip is coming on Sunday, May 2, 2010. Come on out and enjoy the ocean air, catch some fish, and even work on the fishing merit badge. This day event is perfect for new scouts, old scouts, moms, and dads.

Where: Redondo Beach Sports Fishing
233 N. Harbor Drive Redondo Beach

When: Sunday May 2, 2010 6:30AM

Cost: Approximately \$35 per person for the boat (fishing license, pole rental, sinkers, and hooks extra)

Any questions? Please contact **Mr. Mike Tauber**.

EAGLE PROJECTS

There are many good reasons to stay involved in scouting. There are great outdoor adventures, community service events, skills to learn, and leadership opportunities as well as just having fun with friends.

Something that incorporates all of these things is helping out on a fellow scout's Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project. There are currently 3 Eagle Projects scheduled on the Troop calendar....

Ryland Miller's project - May 22-23

Greg Schnuckel's project - June 5-6

David Copeland's project - June 26-27

These Eagle Candidates will be asking for your help soon so please do your part and help your fellow scout succeed on his path to Eagle!!