

Troop 849 Newsletter



October 2006

www.troop849.org

CURRENT CALENDAR

- Oct 3 – Troop Meeting
- Oct 5 – Neighbor to Neighbor
- Oct 6-8 – **Old Hometown Fair**
- Oct 10 – Hike Prep (Joshua Tree)
- Oct 13-15 – **Rock Hike** (Joshua Tree)
- Oct 17 – Troop Meeting
- Oct 24 – Troop Meeting
- Oct 28-29 – Matt Shuler's Eagle Project
- Oct 28 – Bike Inspection
- Oct 31 – Halloween – No Troop Meeting
- Nov 1 – Hike Prep
(Advanced Rock Climb & Bike Hike)
- Nov 2 – Neighbor to Neighbor
- Nov 3-5 – **Advanced Rock Hike**
- Nov 4-5 – **Bike Hike**
- Nov 7 – Troop Meeting
- Nov 11 – **Veteran's Day Ceremony**



SPL CORNER

Hi everybody, Tim Breen here. I just would like to say a few words about the Scout Law. For those of you who aren't scouts or have forgotten, the Scout Law is the second thing we recite after the flag ceremony at our troop meetings. I know many of you just have learned it and can recite it on command, but I want you to take a minute to really think about it. This "oath" of sorts is actually far more valuable than you probably realize. The Scout Law is also a great set of parameters for a very fulfilling life. So, next time you say the Oath and Law, really think about it. Are you doing your best to do your duty? Are you trustworthy, loyal, helpful...? Really think about it.

MERIT BADGES

Mr. Slocum will be teaching a Climbing Merit Badge class in preparation for our upcoming trip to Joshua Tree. Dates are as follows:

- Oct. 6th - 6:30 PM at Marine Ave Park
- Oct. 11th - 6:30 PM at LA Rock Gym
- Oct. 13th-15th - All day at Joshua Tree

You must attend all three sessions to earn the Merit Badge. Cost will be approximately \$20 for the belay class at the LA Rock Gym. Contact **Mr. Slocum** for more information.

Scouts may also take advantage of **Pacifica District Merit Badge Days** at Wilson Park in Torrance on Oct. 7th and Oct. 28th. Parents must accompany their scout to this event, as Troop 849 does not provide Leaders to supervise. For more information, log on to the Los Angeles Area Council website at www.boyscoutsla.org then go to Districts and click on Pacifica.

Merit Badges are a fun way to explore new interests, which may become lifelong hobbies or even a career. Any scout, regardless of rank, can earn a Merit Badge but they are not required for advancement until Star Rank.



COMMITTEE CHAIR CORNER

We are fast approaching the Troop 849 fundraising season. The Old Hometown Fair is just about here. Hopefully most of you have already signed up to work a shift in our hamburger booth. We need your free labor to turn a great profit! We also would like you to buy a burger or two while you are at the Fair, and convince your friends that a T849 burger would hit the spot. We have a great location this year and are really hoping to raise much-needed funds for the Troop.

Also in early October you'll be receiving a letter asking for a donation to Friends of Troop 849 (our new official 501(c)(3) organization). We previously included a donation request in our annual re-registration letter, but have been advised to separate the FoT849 donation request. Many of you have generously supported the Troop in the past, which is greatly appreciated, and we hope everyone will consider making a small donation to the Troop when the request arrives. Thanks.

--Don McLellan

ROCK HIKE

The Joshua Tree Rock Climbing trip, **October 13th to 15th**, provides a unique opportunity for scouts and adults to rock climb in beautiful Joshua Tree National Park. The trip is designed for climbers of all levels, with a focus on introducing those that have not climbed before to the wonders of climbing and rappelling.

If you are interested in going on this trip, be sure to sign up by Oct. 3rd and plan on attending the hike prep on Oct. 10th. Contact **Mr. Filarsky** for more information.

ADVANCED ROCK HIKE

Join us **November 3rd to 5th** for a challenging rock climbing experience. This hike is for scouts and adults who want to further their climbing experiences. This trip will camp at a different campground and climb different routes than the Rock Hike going out in October. The routes will be more difficult, but climbable, for the scouts. It is expected that the scouts who participate in this trip have attended several prior rock climbs and have completed the Climbing Merit Badge. Adults should be at least belay trained. Contact **Mr. Slocum** for more information.

BIKE HIKE

849's Annual Bike Hike is on the calendar for **November 4th to 5th**. Currently, we do not have a leader for this activity. If you are a registered adult with biking experience and are interested in leading the trip, please contact **Mr. McLellan** or **Mr. Noda**. In recent years, the trip has involved mountain biking with an overnight camp on Saturday. However, it could be a touring bike trip and does not necessarily have to include an overnight.



VETERAN'S DAY CEREMONY

Each year Troop 849 participates in the Veteran's Day Ceremony held at Veteran's Parkway on 15th Street in Manhattan Beach. In the past, our Scouts have opened the event by leading the Pledge of Allegiance. The ceremony will take place on Saturday, November 11th at 11:00 AM. Scouts interested in participating in the event should see **Mrs. Bickel** for details and to sign up. This is a wonderful opportunity to honor those who have served our country.

NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR

An important part of Scouting is providing service to others. Troop 849 expects all Scouts to participate in 12 hours of service projects each year. A fun and rewarding way to do this is to attend the Neighbor to Neighbor event each month.

Scouts perform tasks such as serving dinner, clearing tables, and putting away tables and chairs. This service is provided on an ongoing basis, the first Thursday of each month, at the Church of the Brethren in Redondo Beach. Contact **Mr. Tauber** for more information.

LOOKING AHEAD

November – Bike Hike
Advanced Rock Climbing
Veteran's Day Ceremony
Ted Andreas's Eagle Project

December – Night Hike
Happy Holidays

January – Rocket Hike
Snow Trip Prep Hike

ANNOUNCEMENT

For a little over a year now Mrs. Williamson and I have been writing, editing, and publishing this **Troop Newsletter**. Now that we have the system down, we would like to turn the job over to a scout. Troop 849 is a boy led program and being responsible for the Troop Newsletter is an excellent opportunity for a scout to demonstrate his leadership. All scouts 1st Class and above who are interested in becoming the **Troop Scribe** and taking over the Newsletter should contact me for details. Thank you, ---**Mrs. Bickel**