

Troop 849 Newsletter



October 2008

www.troop849.org

CURRENT CALENDAR

- Oct. 7*-Troop Meeting
- Oct. 11-12*-Ryan Hadley Eagle Project
- Oct. 14*- Troop Meeting (Possible SPL Elections)
- Oct. 21*- Troop Meeting
- Oct. 25-27*-Desert Hike-Joshua Tree
- Oct. 27*- Troop Committee Meeting
- Oct. 28*-Greenbar Meeting
- Oct. 28*-Troop Meeting
- Nov. 1*- Bike Inspection
- Nov. 8-9* – Bike Trip
- Nov. 11* – Veterans Day Ceremony



COMMITTEE CHAIR CORNER

As I write this, our Assistant Committee Chairman, Mr. Noda, is on a U.S. Navy ship somewhere between Pearl Harbor and San Diego, joining his Troop 849 Eagle Scout son and Navy man Jonathan as the ship returns from its deployment in the Gulf. Mr. Noda met the ship at Pearl Harbor and is able to ride along thanks to a special program the Navy runs that allows a few family members to experience a brief "cruise" on a Navy vessel. To say Mr. Noda was a little excited about this opportunity would be the understatement of 2008. Jonathan has reported in the past that many of his fellow officers are Eagle Scouts, which should come as no surprise to all of us familiar with Scouting.

Our Troop will once again be participating in the Veterans Day ceremony in November held in Manhattan Beach. We encourage all Scouts and parents who are able to attend to do so. And, I encourage everyone to get the cruise details from Mr. Noda upon his return, and to thank him for all the hard work he's provided on behalf of Troop 849 for so many years.

--Don McLellan



SPL CORNER

Hi everyone, SPL Ryland here. We've just organized and added some new patrols, so I'd like to talk about what a patrol is. Some of our newer members are probably familiar with the den method of cub scouts. However, patrols are different from dens because patrols are made up of scouts of varying ages. This provides many benefits. Older scouts are able to teach the younger scouts and take on leadership responsibilities. Younger scouts have the older, experienced members of the patrol to turn to for help. I'd like this to be the main focus of our patrols. You can also participate in activities as a patrol. The annual Night Hike is coming up, and the focus on that trip is patrol activities and competition. Patrols function as much more than organizational units. See you all, and your new patrols, on Tuesday!

Veterans Day Ceremony

Among the many commitments a scout makes, pledging his duty to his country is one of the most profound. One way a scout can show he is fulfilling this duty is to honor those men and women who have done their best and served to make America great. Please join Troop 849 in participating in the Manhattan Beach Veterans Day Ceremony on November 11th. We will meet at the Scouthouse at 10:30AM to prepare for the event which takes place across the street at the Veterans Memorial in the greenbelt. Scouts must be in full Class A Uniforms. Contact **Mrs. Bickel** for more information.

Rock Climbing Instructor Training

We are planning our Rock Climbing trip for March, and we desperately need more Instructors! We have about 10 now, but we are required to have one instructor for each 6 scouts. Since we often have 40 or so scouts go, and since not every instructor can go every time, you can understand our need to have more trained people. If you are curious about the training, talk to any of our current instructors: Greg Young, Sally Bickel, Laura Kitchen, Jim Gunderman, Dave Rolandelli, Keith Williamson to name a few.

An instructor training class is starting downtown on Oct. 15th, but since 2 of the 4 teachers (they are called "Rock Climbing Directors) are in 849, we can hold our own class on our own schedule!!

If you want more information and think you might be interested, please contact **Dick Rose** at (310) 545-0668.

DESERT HIKE OCT. 25-27

This year's desert backpack is on the Boy Scout Trail. It starts near the Indian Cove Campground (where we rock climb), and goes south into the heart of the park. Much of the trail follows a dry wash up a narrow canyon. This trip will qualify for the Desert Hiking award. We'll drive out on Sat am, hike about 10 miles and camp in off the trail in the middle of the desert. On Sun we'll hike the remaining 5 miles and drive back home, arriving in MB in the early afternoon. Since this is Desert camping, everyone will carry 1 Gallon of water (8 lbs) in addition to the usual backpack. The weather will be mild so tents are optional. There will be a very small moon, so this is a great opportunity to practice your astronomy.

Cost is \$20 incl. transportation and trail food. Bring \$7 for lunch on the drive home.

Contact **Mr. Slocum** with any questions
310.384.7522

Help! We need Trained Adult Hikers!

Every February, the High Adventure Team of the LA council teaches a class called "Backpack Leader Training". In order to qualify for awards for our weekend and Long Term hikes, it is required that the Hike Leader has this training. Most of the adults that hike with us have attended this class, but we are always in constant need for more. If you have not taken this class and intent to hike with us in the future, please plan to go. The class is usually taught the third weekend in February, so save this weekend on your calendar. The class starts on Friday evening at 8:00, and lasts all day Saturday, and ends on Sunday at noon. Meals are provided. There is a cost of \$50, but if you go, the troop will probably pay for it! Also, there will be many friendly faces there since 3 of the instructors are from Troop 849!! We really are the premier backpacking and high adventure Troop in Southern California! If you are thinking about going, please contact **Dick Rose, Rich Hoesly, or Tom Thorpe!**

NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR

Just a reminder to make sure you're attending Neighbor to Neighbor as much as you can. This is a great way to earn service hours and do a good turn. Neighbor to Neighbor is held at the Church of the Brethren in Redondo Beach on the first Thursday of each month. We serve and feed the homeless. The next few times are:

Thursday, Nov. 6

Thursday, Dec. 4