

# TROOP 849 NEWSLETTER



November 2012

Editors: Jake Faustgen/Eric Furth

<http://www.troop849.org>

## CURRENT CALENDAR

Nov 13: Troop Meeting  
Nov 17: Scouting for Food Collection  
(Location TBA/ 10:00 AM)  
Nov 20: No meeting- Happy Thanksgiving!  
Nov 26: Troop Committee meeting  
Nov 27: Greenbar and Troop meeting  
Webelos visit  
Dec 4: Hike Prep  
Dec 6: Neighbor to Neighbor  
Dec 7-9 Night Hike-Henninger Flats  
Dec 11: Troop meeting-Scoutmaster Fun  
night  
Dec 15: Rifle shooting  
Dec 18: no meeting-Happy Holidays  
Dec 25: no meeting-Happy Holidays

## SPL corner

With the year coming to its end, there are only a few activities left on the calendar. However, that is not to say that there is nothing important coming up. This coming weekend, we have a bike hike going out to Cabrillo beach. It should be an exciting trip, and it is something a bit different from the usual weekend backpacking excursions. We also have our annual night hike at Henninger Flats coming up, where we will be entertaining Webelos and having them participate in activities, which are being arranged at the troop meetings. Additionally, we will be having Webelos visiting the Scouthouse on November 27th, where scouts will teach them various scout skills as they move around to different stations. These are scouts that will be considering joining our troop, so be sure to impress them. And be sure to attend some of our final activities before the year draws to a close!

-Bram Osterhout

## Neighbor to Neighbor

Thursday, December 4th, 2012 is our next Neighbor to Neighbor service activity from 6:00 - 7:00 pm at the South Bay Church of the Brethren located at 2761 190th Street in Redondo Beach.

Neighbor to Neighbor gives you an opportunity to volunteer to help those who are less fortunate. Scout and registered adult participation counts for two community service hours.

All scouts must be in full Class A uniform. Any questions, please contact Vishnu Karukonda

## Hometown Fair October 6-7

We had another success selling hamburgers at the Hometown Fair this year. Thanks to the many who volunteered their time, adults and scouts. And a special thanks to Mr. Lambert for coordinating it all!



## Fall Shotgun Shooting Event

The fall shotgun shooting event for Troop 849 was held on Saturday, 20 October, at A Place to Shoot in Santa Clarita. Eight scouts and three adults participated as well as SM Rick Reeley (Rangemaster) and ASM Harry Andreas (Instructor). Although the skies were grey and misting, after the mandatory safety briefing, shooting commenced with an array of 12 gauge and 20 gauge Shotguns. Mr. Reeley managed the experienced shooters while Mr. Andreas taught the new shooters the basics and got them hitting targets. We shot clay pigeons from 9:30 until 12:30. In that time we used 600 clays and 2 1/2 cases of ammunition. Most shooters became proficient and several became quite expert at breaking targets. This range allows Boy Scouts to shoot for free under the proviso that they police the area after shooting, so we spent the last half hour cleaning up the range and collected a large amount of trash, much to the delight of the range manager. Any scout who wishes to earn Shotgun Shooting Merit Badge may contact Mr. Andreas.

- Mr Andreas

## Strand Bike Trip Nov 27:

Everyone arrived at the Scouthouse around 7:30 AM on Saturday. The day prior to this trip, I had stopped by Helen's Cycles and purchased an aluminum-framed, 10-gear, hybrid bike that I desperately needed (Ironically, it was sold to me by the Helen's Cycles spokesperson that came to the Troop that Tuesday). The group went over bike safety, etiquette, and the route we were going to take. Everyone, eager to head out, departed at once, biking down Ocean Avenue, to the strand near the pier, and down towards El Segundo. Everyone stopped at a bridge about a mile from the park we were set to arrive at, to catch up with everybody. We kept on biking, and eventually reached the park. Everyone

enjoyed a good lunch and chat with one another. Every Scout participated in a Mario Kart-esque race around the park that fellow Scout Travis Grady held. It was extremely fun. About two hours later, everyone mounted their bikes and began to ride back to Manhattan Beach. However, everybody stopped at the same bridge to catch up and split up. It was there that Mr. Vahey expressed how he was interested in teaching the Radio merit badge to everyone after many Scouts noticed the ham radio that was mounted on the back of his bike. My partner, Matt (a Scout that entered this Troop from his former Troop 658) and I rode along until we reached a food stand in El Segundo. We then stopped, ordered smoothies, and went on our way. Everyone returned home satisfied and tired.

-Eric Furth



## Joshua Tree Rock Climbing Oct 12-14

A few Scout families had departed for Joshua Tree on late Friday, but I arrived there on Saturday, after a long drive and a brief stop at the infamous Randy's Donuts. I arrived just in time for the safety speech that Dr. Rose, his son, and a few fathers from another Troop camping nearby were giving. I applied sunscreen, and, with friend Drew Boettner, began to boulder at a nearby mountain. I then departed for a nearby climbing course that the two Troops had set up, made it up, and then repelled with help from Mr. Bickel and Dr. Rose. I chatted with my friends, and then helped prepare lunch with help from my patrol. Shortly after being stung by a bee, the Troop transported some Scouts to a pre set-up course called "Little Rock".

Joshua Tree continued:

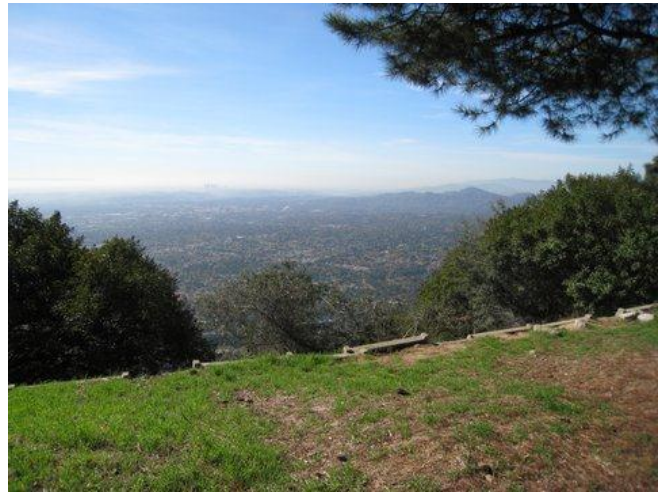
Everybody enjoyed it's challenge and it's surroundings. Shortly after, everybody returned back to the original campsite to climb more and prepare dinner.

Come nightfall, both adults and Scouts were enjoying themselves by their respective campsites and fires. The adults demanded that the Scouts put on a showcase of skits. After about 20 minutes, the skits were ready and MC'd by our very own Evan Suarez. Everything went well, and Evan was a fantastic MC.

Eventually, a few adults put on some skits, which were also entertaining. As a reward for our hard work, the adults rewarded us with special "waffle cookies".

After that, everyone went to bed and enjoyed a good rest. The next brisk day, everyone woke up cheery and ready to climb. I collapsed my tent, and all departed for home (not before stopping at a Big Boy Burgers, that is)

-Eric Furth



The view from Henninger Flats looking at Los Angeles

Don't miss the hike to Henninger Flats December 8-9. Patrols are busy making plans for competitions and activities to teach and entertain the Webelos who will be joining us. Hiking up the fire road in the dark is an experience not to be missed. The campground offers a beautiful view of Los Angeles. The campsites are great and we also have an opportunity for some service work. Sign-up at the Scout House.

## LOOKING AHEAD

December – Neighbor to Neighbor  
Night Hike – Henninger Flats  
Scout Master's Fun night  
Rifle shooting

January – Rocket Hike – tentatively planned for  
26-27<sup>th</sup> Saddleback Butte. Brrrrr!