



# THE RECONNAISSANCE

Boy Scout Troop 695 of Prairie Lutheran Church

March 2010; Volume 15, Issue 3

## February Highlights

**Theme: Merit Badge Madness by the Thundering Dragons**

- Feb 2 Troop meeting and parents meeting
- Feb 4 Mustang District celebration of 100 years of scouting
- Feb 8 **100th Anniversary of Scouting**
- Feb 9 Troop meeting: Merit Badge Madness
- Feb 12-15 Dog sled expedition
- Feb 16 Troop meeting: Merit Badge Madness
- Feb 19-21 Merit Badge Madness weekend at Camp St. Croix
- Feb 23 PLC/Committee meeting/ASM meeting
- Feb 27 Klondike Derby at Murphy's Landing

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## Eagle News

### Three Scouts to be Honored in Eagle Ceremony on March 9th

– Karen Brown

Robbie Beveroth, Chris Mueller and Jake Brown will be honored at an Eagle Court of Honor at Prairie Lutheran Church on Tuesday, March 9th at 6:30 pm. All Troop 695 scouts and their families are invited to attend the ceremony and the reception following the ceremony.

Robbie, Chris and Jake have all been in Scouting for over nine years. Robbie and Chris started in Tiger Cubs while Jake joined Scouting as a Webelos. All three scouts have been part of Troop 695 for their entire Boy Scout careers.

To accomplish the rank of Eagle Scout, Robbie, Chris and Jake not only completed over 21 merit badges each, but each of them also completed a challenging Eagle Scout project.

Robbie Beveroth led the construction of a 150 foot trail and swing bench in the Butternut Hill area at the Mount Olivet Retreat Center in Farmington, MN. The Retreat Center is an ecumenical outreach of Mount Olivet Church in Minneapolis.

Chris Mueller organized and led a "green and clean" project. Chris, assisted by other scouts, collected over 2008 shoes in 2008 to be either reused, or recycled and made into oil spill kits. The reusable shoes were donated to the Eden Prairie PROP Shop. By recycling and reusing shoes the shoes were kept out of landfills.

Jake Brown designed and led the construction of nine ski racks to be used at the City of Lakes Loppet, the largest urban Nordic ski race in North America. He was assisted by fifteen people who sawed, drove screws, drilled and ate soup on a cold day in December 2008.

Thanks to all the Scouts, Scoutmaster Polta, and parents who helped encourage and support Robbie, Chris and Jake through scouting ... all the way to Eagle Scouts!

## Merit Badge Madness

– Marshall “Mad” Ness

Now that Merit Badge Madness 2010 is in the rear view mirror, I wanted to send a broadcast to say thanks to everyone for participating.

I definitely enjoyed the process, and achieved one of my goals of getting to know troop members a bit better. I especially want to acknowledge the counselors: their volunteer time teaching the merit badge classes made the entire event possible.

Now, I would like to hear honest feedback from the parents and scouts regarding the Tuesday classes and weekend retreat...good, bad or indifferent.

I am planning to tackle this task again next year and would appreciate any ideas you may have.

I've already started my own list of things that could be changed or improved upon, so I'd like to compare your responses to that.

Feel free to reply to this message or talk to me at Tuesday's parent meeting.

## Who Is This?

– Don Qually



Scoutmaster Joe Polta lives it up at Wood Badge training

# Leadership Reports

## **SPL Scratch** – *Josh B.*

This February has been an extremely busy month!

There was dog sledding trip up at Okpik in Northern Tier which was a blast! There is nothing like dropping your pants to poop in -15 degree weather! We all got to spend many hours commanding a sled team and it was an overall fun and memorable experience!

The following weekend included Merit Badge Madness, organized by Mr. Ness this year who did a phenomenal job! I'd have to say that this time, the change was for the good, and it appeared that everyone had a great time and made some memories!

And last but not least, we had the Klondike Derby. The turnout was great, and 8 teams competed for the trophy. The Saturday was filled with some hilarious infomercials and intense sled races! Let's hope more months like this are in the future!



## **Scoutmaster's Corner** – *Joe Polta*

– *Excerpt from the Scoutmaster's reply to a message looking for a Scout's jacket*

... I'm more worried about the parents who drop their son off with no jacket or other warm clothes at all -- in the Minnesota winter! Last night there was a Scout standing outside with no jacket, waiting for his ride. I see this way too often. (And it was already 8:15 ... and everyone knows that meetings are over by 8:00, don't they?) "Well, my Mom just drops me off and picks me up, so I don't need one." "But what if the car breaks down?" I asked. "And what is the Scout Motto?" The Scout got it.

Parents and guardians need to be mindful of this basic need. We're a Boy Scout troop, and we do go outside in the winter. And cars do break down, and sometimes we're late in picking our children up for any number of reasons, and sometimes those children will stand outside in the cold and wind, not knowing that they're in for a 10 or 15 minute wait. Be prepared!



## **Troop Guide** – *Desmond M.*

In January I attended North Winds with some of the younger scouts. We did the Experience. We camped at base the first night, and on Saturday we went on a hike and had lunch in a parachute. After that we packed up and went to go play some games out on the lake. We played pie tag and some people were skiing. When we were done with games, we went back to base camp and had supper and then reflection time. The next day we packed up and went back home.

In February I went to Merit Badge Madness to supervise some of the younger scouts and help them if they needed help with there classes. The classes I chose were Computers, Personal Management, and Genealogy. After lunch we played Vancouver Volleyball and snooker. After dinner we had OA elections then we went back to our cabins for free time then lights out. The next day we packed up and did our service project and headed home.

On Saturday, February 27th I will be attending the Klondike Derby with some of the younger and older scouts. We will be graded on our clothing and different tasks that we have to overcome to become the winner of the derby. I will try my best to see to it that we win because I as well as the other people attending would love to win.



# Leadership Reports

## ASPL – *Niko B.*

This month had a lot of fun opportunities to be involved with scouts. There were several cub scout Blue and Golds, where webelo scouts advanced into boy scouts. Merit Badge Madness was also this month, which was a great opportunity to get more merit badges. The Klondike Derby was a lot of fun; I was the mayor of Skagway, the commercial town. The participating scouts had a great time from what I could see, and we will be doing it again next year. I encourage everybody to participate.

\*\*\*\*\*

## First Class Instructor – *Fernando N.*

Hey boys, Fernando here. If any of the new scouts need help in rank advancement, come find me during on of the meetings! I promise I won't bite. Keep working hard!



## Historian – *Brian M.*

Thanks to all who participated in another MBM. I took pictures of volleyball, goofing off and other exciting things. I will submit them to the web site and I hope they will be available for viewing. I did not take pictures of scouts working on their merit badges, but hopefully many will be able to complete their merit badges by the March Court of Honor.

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## Flaming Arrows – *Ben G.*

In the month of February the Flaming Arrows went to their first Merit Badge Madness. The preparation for Merit Badge Madness was super fun, getting a small taste of what we were going to do at Merit Badge Madness. The Flaming Arrows had a lot of fun up at camp, doing our merit badges, skiing/ snowboarding, and watching movies. We all had a lot of fun and can't wait to go again next year.

# Scouting News

## Northern Tier Canoe High Adventure

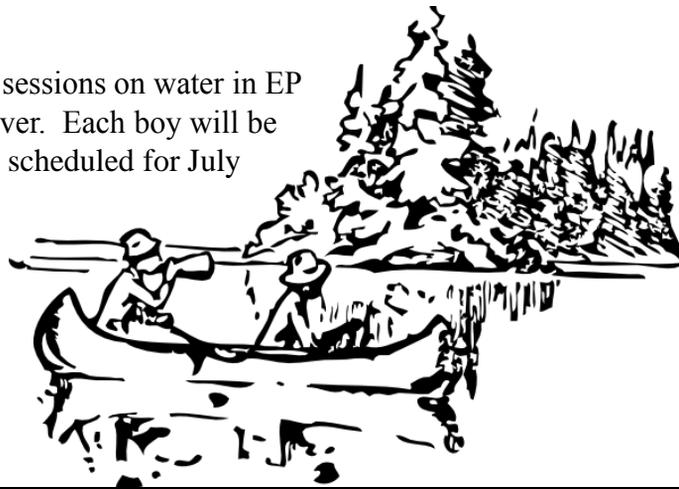
– *Bill Brown*

This summer we will have two crews traveling to the Charles Sommers Canoe Base in Ely. This is one of the three national BSA high adventure camps. (The other two are Philmont and Sea Base.)

We will canoe for a week in the BWCA and Quetico Wilderness. Two Troop 695 troops went two years ago and had fabulous adventures. Each crew consists of 6 scouts, 2 adults and an “interpreter” from the base camp. The crews set their own itinerary and are able to get far into the wilderness to truly enjoy the unspoiled beauty of the region. There's still plenty of time for fishing, swimming and just having fun.

We'll prepare before the trip by having a few canoe skill sessions on water in EP and then a later “shake down” overnight trip on a local river. Each boy will be able to complete the canoeing merit badge. The trips are scheduled for July 30 – August 7 and August 7 – 15.

There are still a couple of spots open. Please see the permission form on the web site and feel free to contact Bill Brown.



# Scouting News

## Upcoming Leader Training

– Michael Wiig

## Merit Badge Finishup

– Michael Wiig

### Upcoming Leader Training!!!!

#### We need more trained leaders.

#### Convenient location.

#### April 10th Boy Scout Leader Specific

Location: Pax Christi Catholic Church, Room 212,  
Eden Prairie, MN

Time: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

For Scoutmasters, Assistant Scoutmasters and Committee Chairs to learn the basics of BSA troop meetings, advancement, methods, mission, and outdoor experiences. Registrations due by April 1st. \$20.00 fee includes handouts, books, lunch & refreshments.

#### May 8th Boy Scout Leader Outdoor Training

Location: Rum River Camp

Time: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

This is the outdoor, hands-on portion of the Scoutmaster Leader Specific Training. This training will be held at Rum River Boy Scout Camp. \$20.00 fee will include handouts, books, lunch & refreshments. Dress for the weather. We will be outside. Registrations due by May 1st.

### Scouts Mark your calendars!!!!

What: Partial merit badge clean-up/finishing/work

When: Monday, March 22, 2010, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Where: Hennepin County Library - Eden Prairie,  
Small meeting room.

Why: I know everyone has partial merit badges to work on and possibly complete.

The small meeting room can accommodate 20 people at a time. Please let me know at the upcoming meetings prior to March 22 of which merit badges you might like to work on. If the demand for time is high we might schedule this again.

We will probably be able to research some of requirements that need to be finished on the libraries computers, such as looking up careers in certain areas, finding out who famous scientists in nuclear science are/were, etc. We obviously won't be working on Swimming, Lifesaving, and Rowing merit badges (large areas of water necessary). We certainly can find something for many of you to work on even if you started the merit badge three years ago at Many Point.

Make sure you bring your blue cards!!!! Make sure you bring a copy of the requirements you started on. Why? Some merit badge requirements change every so often and we probably won't have time that night to go back and look them up. Remember, we will do no more and no less than what is required.

If you have questions please contact me. I will be at most meetings.

## Class B Shirts Available

Class B scout shirts are in stock and available for \$10.00 each. Shirts can be ordered in Small, Med, Large or XL. Payment can be made by check made out to Troop 695 or your payment can be deducted from your scout account. If you are interested in ordering a class B shirt, please email Mary Munkvold at [Munkvold1@hotmail.com](mailto:Munkvold1@hotmail.com). Please indicate size and type of payment.

# Troop Leadership

<b>Scoutmaster</b>		Joe Polta
<b>Patrol Coaches</b>	Flaming Arrows	Paul Kronlokken Tom Gunderson
	Siberian Tigers	Erich Schwab Doug McKenney
	Bobcats	Derrick Poirier John Beauchamp
	Panthers	Mike Madsen
	Cobras	Burt Boudreaux Erich Schwab
	Timberwolves	Paul Rosol Mark Kronlokken
	Scorpions	Bill Brown Mike Toay
	Falcons	Craig Beveroth Boon Tan
	Bald Eagles	Mark Fairbrother Don Qually
	<b>Troop Positions</b>	Senior Patrol Leader
Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders		Luke B. Niko B. Reece H.
Junior Assistant Scoutmaster		Reed Q.
Quartermaster		Tyler S.
Scribe		Ben P.
Historian		Brian M.
Librarian		Tom P.
Chaplain's Aide		Lars H.
Bugler		<i>Open</i>
OA Representative		<i>Open</i>
Troop Guide	Desmond M.	
<b>Patrol Leaders</b>	Flaming Arrows	Ben G./Isaac A.
	Pirates (Bald Eagles/Falcons)	Terrance T.
	Thundering Dragons/Scorpions	<i>Open</i>
	Timber Cobras	Brandon S.
	Panthers	Ben S.
	Bobcats	Lars H.
	Tigers	Michael W.
<b>Instructors</b>	Camping	Cory K.
	Cooking	Will J.
	Fire Safety	<i>Open</i>
	First Aid	Aaron H.
	Knife/Axe Safety	<i>Open</i>
	Knots	<i>Open</i>

<b>Troop Committee Chair</b>		Jeff Shawd
<b>Finance</b>	Finance Chair	Mike Hoerle
	Treasurer	Bob Olson
	Check Writers	Jessica Poirier John Lewis
	Friends of Scouting	Jessica Poirier
	Fundraising	Annette Anderson
	Flying Cloud	Kurt Humfeld
	Fall Wreath Sales	Mary Jean Watras
	Popcorn Sales	Dixie Rairamo
	Christmas Tree Lot	Mike Toay
	Special Events	Annette Anderson
	Aluminum Cans	<i>Open</i>
<b>Advancement</b>	Advancement Chair	Cindy Henderson
	Merit Badge Coordinator	<i>Open</i>
	BOR Coordinator	Mike Toay
	COH Coordinator	Christy Johnson
	Recruiting Coordinators	Burt Boudreaux Don Qually
	Leadership Coordinators	Burt Boudreaux John Lewis
<b>Records</b>	Eagle BOR Coordinator	Nancy Madsen
	EP Foundation Liaison	<i>Open</i>
	Records Chair	<i>Open</i>
	Medical Forms	Karen Polta
	Troopmaster	Karen Zemlin
<b>Activities</b>	Newsletter	Tong Stone
	Webmaster	Doug McKenney
	Activities Chair	John Lewis
	Many Point	Kim Teaver
	High Adventure	John Beauchamp
	Quartermaster	Aarne Rairamo Boon Tan Mike Hoerle
	Camping	Mike Wiig
	Fire Arm Safety	John Beauchamp
	Order of the Arrow	Mike Wiig
	Adult Leader Training	Mike Wiig
Chaplain	Doug McKenney	
Service Projects	Trudy Gunderson	

# Calendar and Bulletin Board Information

[clip and save this handy reference page]

## March Events at a Glance

Mar 2	Troop/parents meeting, Troop leader nominations
Mar 4	Mustang district roundtable
Mar 9	<b>Eagle Court of Honor</b> for Robbie Beveroth, Chris Mueller and Jake Brown
Mar 16	Troop meeting
Mar 19-21	Troop campout: Eagle Cave
Mar 23	PLC/Committee meeting/ASM meeting
Mar 27	Junior Leadership Training Council Recognition Dinner
Mar 28	<i>Reconnaissance</i> articles due
Mar 30	Troop Court of Honor

## Bulletin Board

### **Reconnaissance Articles**

Articles for the next issue of this newsletter are due to Tong Stone no later than Sunday, March 28th. Please email your articles to [tongshilijinshu@yahoo.com](mailto:tongshilijinshu@yahoo.com).

### **Reconnaissance on the Web**

The latest issue of the Reconnaissance is always available online on our Troop 695 website. Visit [www.troop695.org](http://www.troop695.org) and click on the "Newsletter" link in the left side column.

### **Advancement Contacts**

- Boards of Review or Advancement – Mike Toay
- Eagle Boards of Review – Nancy Madsen

Contact information can be found in your Roster.

The Merit Badge Sign-Up book can be found by the "Ships" at each meeting.

The *Reconnaissance* is a monthly publication of Boy Scout Troop 695 which is chartered through:

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