

# The Reconnaissance



Boy Scout Troop 695  
of Prairie Lutheran Church

November, 2013;  
Volume 18, Issue 11

## October Highlights

## Month's Overview

### ***Theme: Rock Climbing***

- Sept. 13-15: Campout at Phillpo Scout Reservation
- Oct. 1: Scout and parent/committee
- Oct. 5: New leader training
- Oct. 8: Scouts
- Oct. 11-13: Rock climbing campout
- Oct.15: PLC
- Oct. 22: Recruiting event
- Oct. 29: Scouts

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This October was a packed month. The leadership positions changing

was a huge part of it. We also had the recruiting event on a cold night at Staring Lake. The wreath forms were turned in at Staring Lake, too. On October 11, we packed up and went to the rock climbing campout. After staying at camp for a little, we drove to the climbing wall. The rock climbing campout was the main event this month. Many scouts earned or got close to getting the Rock Climbing Meritbadge. This month was a productive month.

# Scoutmaster's Corner

By Scoutmaster Tom Gunderson



## Troop 695

One of the key responsibilities of the SPL and his PLC for this term is the development of the "Annual Plan". The Annual Plan is the list of monthly themes and assigned patrols in charge of that month. This is your chance to create the program for YOUR troop!

**Scouts:** What do YOU want to do? Think of ideas or themes we haven't done before. Talk to your patrol and especially your Patrol Leader, as he represents your patrol in the PLC.

**Patrol Leaders:** Talk to your patrol. Is there some activity your patrol really wants to do for a certain time frame? That would be fine, but YOU have to present your case for that theme and month to the PLC. Make some initial plans or at least generate some possible activities. For example, don't say "my patrol wants to hike", DO say "My patrol wants a hiking theme for May, so we can hike on the Superior Hiking Trail. We can set up a base camp and give scouts the option of staying at base camp for 2 nights and doing a day hike or the option of hiking and camping Saturday night on the trail". Including more detail helps others understand your suggestion, and hopefully supports it!

**Parents and Adult Leaders:** Scouts CAN (and should!) look to us to throw in ideas as well. Do you have a special skill or hobby that would tie into a monthly theme (e.g. Aviation)? Do you know of a great destination or camp that would be great for a troop campout? Please share your ideas with your scout!

The Annual Plan becomes our guide for an entire scouting year... Let's make the 2014-15 plan the best one yet!

# Leadership Reports

**From Kyle Weatherly, Troop Historian**



Hello, and thank you to the scouts for electing me as Historian. Since the last Reconnaissance, the scouts have gone to a rock-climbing campout. Many scouts got the climbing Merit Badge. At the camp, the scouts played capture the flag, and football. As always, there was some free time, and rank advancement. This month was a great month.

## ***Austin Groe, SPL***

Hey Everyone,

It's your SPL, Austin Groe. First off I hope that all of you who took part in either the climbing or the campout two weeks ago enjoyed yourself. As you most likely know the next campout will be the last campout of the year. The theme of November will be Iron Chef Cooking. Since the theme is cooking I highly recommend you earn the Cooking merit badge because when January 1<sup>st</sup> hits, Cooking will be an Eagle required MB and the requirements will be tougher because of this.

The theme of December will be Snow Sports. Instead of doing a regular campout like we do Jan.-Nov. We will be having a lock-in. The lock-in will be similar to last year except we'll be doing some different activities. In addition to the lock-in, there will be a Court of Honor. The COH will be on December 17. I encourage you to set a goal for yourself like earning First Class, get the Cooking merit badge, or something of that nature to help you on the road to earning Eagle.

Best wishes ahead Troop 695,  
Austin Groe

## ***Varun Saini***

Hi, Varun here from the Phoenix patrol! I'm going to share some things about Vertical Endeavors (VE). As you all know, we went to Vertical Endeavors on the 12<sup>th</sup>, during our October campout. The majority of the scouts that went to VE got their Climbing Merit Badge. At VE, we learned the history of rock climbing; we learned which ropes to use when climbing; we learned some climbing methods; and we climbed! We climbed using the top rope method, the auto-belay method, the bouldering method, and we repelled! Vertical Endeavors was fun for everyone—especially my patrol—and I hope we have a chance to go again!

## **Announcements**

### **Tree Lot Training:**

Christmas Tree Lot Update

By: Dan Edlund , Tree lot  
Coordinator

The Troop 695 Christmas tree lot will once again be located next to the Super America located at Pioneer Trail and Flying Cloud Drive.

Here is the first update on the Christmas tree lot fundraiser for the troop. The trees have been ordered and the permit has been granted. I am working to confirm the delivery date of November 23 at approximately 10:30 AM.

### **SETUP**

Tree lot setup will be on November 23 starting at 9 AM. We will need help from as many scouts and parents as are available that day. The set up will involve getting the tree and wreath stands set up, moving the camper on site, stringing the lights, getting signs constructed and lit, and unloading the truck when the trees arrive. This is a big project, but this is also a big fundraiser!!!! Things to bring on that day include socket sets, cordless drills with phillips head screwdriver bits, and hammers. I will send out additional reminders about the set up as the date approaches.

### ***Blake Heyman***

Hi, this is Blake Heyman from the Cobra Patrol. The October Campout was my first campout as a Patrol Leader. Although only 2 people from my patrol were there, we still had a great time. Even with the bad weather, people remained optimistic and found ways to have fun such as capture the flag and football. On Saturday morning, we all got in cars and went to Vertical Endeavors to rock climb. We all had a great time, and everyone there got the Merit Badge. Overall, I think the October campout was great.

### ***Benjamin Nichols***

Hi Troop 695, this is Benjamin Nichols, the Patrol Leader of the Wolverines. I'm sorry that I haven't been able to come to the meetings. I had some grade issues that I really had to take care of, but I should be able to start coming again soon. I was on Facebook tonight, and I saw a picture that ManyPoint had posted of ethics in action. It was the zipper challenge where all of the boys make a line with their arms out, and one boy runs into them, and at the last second, everyone either drops their hands or raises their hands. I remember being the one who ran through at ManyPoint and I was thinking, "Umm... what are they doing? Are they going to let me through, as I sprinted toward the line?" Well, ManyPoint was looking for a caption for this particular picture, and the first suggested caption was, "Guys... trustworthy." I read this and thought about the scout law and how this was a great demonstration of that. Especially since almost every other suggested caption was negative. Remember to be trustworthy.

### **SHIFTS**

Starting this Tuesday, I will be getting shifts assigned to scouts and parents throughout the selling season. I will request that all scouts provide 4-5 possible shifts that they are eligible to work. Not all shifts require a parent to work with the scout, but that is how most shifts will be assigned. The Phoenix and Scorpion patrols will not be able to sign up for any of the shifts on November 23rd through November 26th. But can certainly sign up for any shifts after that date

### **TRAINING**

Training for the tree lot will be on November 26 during the normal Troop meeting time from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. Parents are encouraged to attend to learn how to do things like start the generator, light the furnace, and run the chainsaw. Scouts will learn how to identify trees, carry trees, and trim trees for the display stands, tie trees to cars and other needed skills.

### **TEAR DOWN**

Tear down of the lot will likely be on December 28th. This will be when any remaining stands are disassembled, and all materials are hauled to the church for storage until next year. Additional details will be sent as the date approaches.

### **Connor Pesheck**

This November the Raccoons will be running the campout. I invite everyone to come because we have a great activity planned at a great campsite. In case you had second thoughts due to the cold there will be a heated building so that you won't get cold. The theme of the campout is cooking! There will be a competition too! Whichever patrol gets the most points will get a free prize! Points are earned by the judging of your meals. Breakfast and lunch are graded on taste and looks, respectively. They will be given a score of 1-10. So, if you get an 8 on the lunch you make, you earn 8 points. In between lunch and breakfast there will be a fire competition, worth five points. Whoever burns the string first wins. Finally, dinner will be judged on taste, looks, and how you incorporated a SECRET INGREDIENT. Dinner in total is worth 30 POINTS! There will also be games including 'infected', mass hide and seek, and *possibly* capture the flag. Hope I see you there!

### **Connor Weatherly**

The recruiting event at Staring Lake this year was successful. This year a total of at least six of the ten scouts who RSVP'd showed up. At the event, the scouts that participated got to feel a snake's skin, what it sheds, and got to see some cool snakes too. At the fire pit, we designed and performed skits. My favorite was the evil bucket of gravy, although everyone had a good skit. It was cold outside, but I think we all had a good time.

### **Ben Giles**

Hello Troop 695,

The Arrows have had a great month of rock climbing this last month. It is great to see the entire Troop again after a long summer. The Troop is still looking good after our time apart. We all look forward to a great year with the Troop this year and a great month full of cooking this next month!

Thank you to everyone that will assist in making the tree lot successful again this year!!

If you have any questions or concerns about the tree lot feel free to contact me at [Treelot695@hotmail.com](mailto:Treelot695@hotmail.com)

### **Wreath orders:**

Wreath orders have all been compiled and sent in to Mickmans for delivery on **Tuesday November 12**. Scouts and parents can stop by 9933 Balmoral Lane to pick them up. Volunteers to assist with the delivery and distribution are always welcome. Please contact Kelly Lindquist at [Kjlindquist@msn.com](mailto:Kjlindquist@msn.com) or 612-670-2790. Confirmation of the pickup times will be distributed before Tuesday. We had another successful fundraising this year. In total 38 scouts participated which is up slightly from last year. Group sales topped \$16,400 which is also higher than last year and the 3 years previous. The average sales per scout were \$433. There were three scouts who sold over \$1000 –Riley Pratt and Kieran Thompson, with Austin Groe selling over \$2000!! Thanks to everyone who got their orders in on time and helped with the money counting. Special thanks to Mr. Stone who helped keep all the finances straight.

# Troop Leadership - Elected Positions:

SPL	Austin Groe
ASPL	Michael Rorem
ASPL	Isaac Welsch
Historian	Kyle Weatherly
Scribe	Stefan Schultz
Quartermaster	Jacob Anderson
Quarter master	Connor Weatherly
Patrol Leader- Scorpions	Mac Zarling
Patrol Leader- Phoenixes	Varun Saini
Patrol Leader - Cobras	Blake Heyman
Patrol Leader - Lightning Sharks	Sam Horn
Patrol Leader - Raccoons	Connor Peshek
Patrol Leader - Wolverines	Benjamin Nichols
Patrol Leader - Flaming Arrows	Ben Giles
Patrol Leader - ThunderCats	-
Patrol Leader - Panthers	-
Chaplain Aide	Nathan Claver
First Class Instructor	-
Troop Guide	-

## Troop 695 Adult Leadership Positions

Position	Name	Home	Cell / Work	email
<b>Committee Chair</b>	Justin Pratt	303-5680	612-719-8689	<a href="mailto:jpratt@shopnbc.com">jpratt@shopnbc.com</a>
Secretary (Scribe's Advisor)	Cindy Pratt	303-5680	727-415-3285	<a href="mailto:cpratt1@comcast.net">cpratt1@comcast.net</a>
<b>Financial</b>				
Controller	Collett Schleiss	941-4142	952-807-3056	<a href="mailto:schleiss@comcast.net">schleiss@comcast.net</a>
Treasurer	Tong Stone	941-2100	952-212-8966	<a href="mailto:tss.ljs@gmail.com">tss.ljs@gmail.com</a>
Check Writing	Jim Lovekin Dean Sather	944-1537 934-1614	612-708-3118 701-200-8410	<a href="mailto:jlovekin@msn.com">jlovekin@msn.com</a> <a href="mailto:dean.scout@gmail.com">dean.scout@gmail.com</a>
<b>Recruiting/Public Relations</b>				
Recruiters	Jennifer Nichols Kelly Zarling Dean Sather	974-0088 303-3406 934-1614	-- -- 701-200-8410	<a href="mailto:nichols.jenni@gmail.com">nichols.jenni@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:kellyzarling@hotmail.com">kellyzarling@hotmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:dean.scout@gmail.com">dean.scout@gmail.com</a>
Unit Commissioner	John Lewis	294-9689	612-250-5343	<a href="mailto:jlewis12@comcast.net">jlewis12@comcast.net</a>
Public Relations Coordinator	Dean Sather	934-1614	701-200-8410	<a href="mailto:dean.scout@gmail.com">dean.scout@gmail.com</a>
EP Foundation	Mike Wiig	934-1207	612-619-4604	<a href="mailto:fawiigy@yahoo.com">fawiigy@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Fundraising</b>				
Friends of Scouting	Dean Sather	934-1614	701-200-8410	<a href="mailto:dean.scout@gmail.com">dean.scout@gmail.com</a>
Christmas Tree Lot	Dan Edlund	943-5356	612-304-0703	<a href="mailto:daedlund@hotmail.com">daedlund@hotmail.com</a>
Fall Wreath Sales	Kelly Lindquist	942-5884	612-670-6970	<a href="mailto:klindquist@msn.com">klindquist@msn.com</a>
Flying Cloud Snack	Connie & Paul Groe	942-0977	952-250-9724	<a href="mailto:groe@usfamily.net">groe@usfamily.net</a>
Special Events	Kelly Lindquist	942-5884	612-670-6970	<a href="mailto:klindquist@msn.com">klindquist@msn.com</a>
Popcorn Sales	Ann Rorem	937-4788	--	<a href="mailto:annrorem@gmail.com">annrorem@gmail.com</a>
T-Shirt Sales	Sally Weatherly	405-6959	612-501-9932	<a href="mailto:sweatherly2@gmail.com">sweatherly2@gmail.com</a>
<b>Advancement/Records</b>				
Board of Review Coordinator	Marshall Ness	944-5994	651-485-6598	<a href="mailto:marshall.ness@yahoo.com">marshall.ness@yahoo.com</a>
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Leadership Coordinator	Anne Kollmeyer Jim Lovekin John Lewis	944-1785 944-1537 294-9689	-- 612-708-3118 --	<a href="mailto:dogowner@comcast.net">dogowner@comcast.net</a> <a href="mailto:jlovekin@msn.com">jlovekin@msn.com</a> <a href="mailto:jlewis12@comcast.net">jlewis12@comcast.net</a>
Merit Badge Coordinator	ASM Core			
Troopmaster Base, BSA Internet Advancement, Troop Directory	Cindy Pratt	303-5680	727-415-3285	<a href="mailto:cpratt1@comcast.net">cpratt1@comcast.net</a>
Advancement Records	Julie Thompson	829-9563	952-212-8542	<a href="mailto:jules9563@aol.com">jules9563@aol.com</a>
Training & Activities Recorder	Vicky DiGiovanni	941-7274	952-913-6349	<a href="mailto:vickyhdig@gmail.com">vickyhdig@gmail.com</a>
Medical Forms	Annette Anderson	944-6907	515-689-7839	<a href="mailto:Anderson1292@gmail.com">Anderson1292@gmail.com</a>
<b>Activities</b>				
Service Projects	Mike Hoerle	944-2678	612-850-2832	<a href="mailto:mike_hoerle@q.com">mike_hoerle@q.com</a>
Many Point Coordinator	Trudy Gunderson	947-9235	--	<a href="mailto:trudy@gundersonsoftware.com">trudy@gundersonsoftware.com</a>
Equipment (QM's Advisor)	Jim Horn	--	612-910-5236	<a href="mailto:jim@jimhorn.biz">jim@jimhorn.biz</a>
Merit Badge Madness Coordinator	Luigi Colaiani	934-0822	952-426-8303	<a href="mailto:miluigic@gmail.com">mluigic@gmail.com</a>
Court of Honor Coordinator	Jennifer Nichols	974-0088	--	<a href="mailto:nichols.jenni@gmail.com">nichols.jenni@gmail.com</a>
Aquatics Certification	Kelly Lindquist	942-5884	612-670-6970	<a href="mailto:klindquist@msn.com">klindquist@msn.com</a>
Chaplain's Aid Advisor	Debbie Brandt	934-1998	952-334-5934	<a href="mailto:Deb_brandt@att.net">Deb_brandt@att.net</a>
<b>Communication</b>				
Troop Directory	Cindy Pratt	303-5680	727-415-3285	<a href="mailto:cpratt1@comcast.net">cpratt1@comcast.net</a>
Webmaster	Jim Horn	--	612-910-5236	<a href="mailto:jim@jimhorn.biz">jim@jimhorn.biz</a>
Newsletter (Historian's Advisor)	<b>OPEN</b>			
New Scout Welcome Binder	Sally Weatherly	405-6959	612-501-9932	<a href="mailto:sweatherly2@gmail.com">sweatherly2@gmail.com</a>
Merit Badge Counselor List	Cindy Pratt	303-5680	727-415-3285	<a href="mailto:cpratt1@comcast.net">cpratt1@comcast.net</a>
Court of Honor Program Handout	Sally Weatherly	405-6959	612-501-9932	<a href="mailto:sweatherly2@gmail.com">sweatherly2@gmail.com</a>

## Bulletin Board

### **Reconnaissance Articles**

Articles for the November Reconnaissance will be due on Monday, November 18. Please e-mail your articles to [kwweatherly19@blakeschool.org](mailto:kwweatherly19@blakeschool.org). If your computer isn't working, you can hand your article handwritten and I'll type it up.

### **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**

- Advancement – Cindy Pratt
- Board of Review – Marshall Ness
- Eagle Board of Review – Win Giles

Contact Information can be found in your Roster or on the Troop 695 Website under the Leadership link. Any ASM can help you with starting a Merit Badge blue card.

## Coming up In November...

**Theme: Cooking**

**November 5:** Scout Meeting

**November 8-10:** Campout

**November 12:** Scout Meeting

**November 19:** Rock Climbing recruiting event

**November 26:** Tree Lot training

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

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## Class B Shirts Available

Class B scout shirts are in stock and available for \$10.00 each. T-shirts can be purchased in small, medium, large or XL. Class B sweatshirts are also available for \$25.00 each. Please send an email to Sally Weatherly ([sweatherly2@gmail.com](mailto:sweatherly2@gmail.com)) for size availability on sweatshirts. Payment can be made by cash 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 Sally Weatherly at [sweatherly2@gmail.com](mailto:sweatherly2@gmail.com). Please indicate size and type of payment.