



THE RECONNAISSANCE

Boy Scout Troop 695 of Prairie Lutheran Church

June 2011; Volume 16, Issue 6

May Highlights

Theme: Hiking by the Panthers

May 1	Eric Wiig Eagle Court of Honor
May 3	Troop Meeting/Parents Meeting
May 5	Mustang District Roundtable
May 10	Troop Meeting
May 13-15	Troop Campout at Superior Hiking Trail
May 17	Committee Meeting/PLC/ASM
May 18	Cory Kronlokken Eagle Court of Honor
May 23	Merit Badge Session
May 24	Brian Madsen, Jared Zemlin & Cody Munkvold Eagle Court of Honor
May 31	Patrol Night

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On The Trail

From Luke Brown:

Superior Hiking Trail

Last weekend, there was a group of 3 scouts and 2 adults who backpacked on The Superior Hiking Trail.

The first night we stayed at the Base Camp along with the boys who were not going backpacking. We started off the next morning to meet beautiful weather and pretty waterfalls. We hiked 10 miles the first day and ended up at a spectacular campsite along a river. Purifying water out of the river and eating a 5-course meal, we had an awesome night, including an awesome fire (with water nearby). The next morning we got up early, packed up camp, and hiked 5 miles to the Split Rock Light House where we met the rest of the troop.

All of us had an awesome time hiking and taking in the beautiful scenery of the woods and the humungous Lake Superior.

Luke Brown



On The Trail

From Ben Stone (Scribe):

Hi, it has been a great month. The campout at Gooseberry Falls was fun. Isaac Anderson, Luke Brown, Mr. Hoerle, Mr. Brown and I went on a 15-mile hike. It had a nice trail with plenty of good views.

I hope we have another good month ahead!



From Corey Prell (Quartermaster):

Last weekend some scouts and adults camped at Gooseberry Falls. It was a great trip. I especially liked trekking along the superior hiking trail. The views were awesome also. Though some of the tents leaked, it was overall a good camp out.

By the way, if your tent leaked please tell me what number tent you had so we can repair them.



Photographs contributed by Mr. Bill Brown



Leadership Reports

From Mr. Erich Schwab (Scoutmaster):

Scoutmaster's Corner

It's about the journey, not the destination.

I am proud of the fact that Troop 695 has always produced Scouts and young men of ambition, confidence, and character, as is evidenced by the quantity and quality of Eagle Scouts we have fostered. This year we have already welcomed Nate Brown, Eric Wiig, and Cory Kronlokken into the Brotherhood of Eagles, and at this Tuesday's troop meeting Brian Madsen, Jared Zemlin, and Cody Munkvold will join them in the Eagle Aerie. I know of at least six other scouts that are well on their way too, so I should continue to be busy for the foreseeable future.

It is great to have goals and recognition like diplomas and Eagle Scout badges, but they mean nothing without the work that goes into them. For every service project you do, remember it's worth doing in spite of the requirement. For every advancement requirement and Merit Badge you complete, remember you are learning skills that will help you later in life and are worth being proficient at. For every Eagle Project, remember to learn from the experience to so as to become a more effective, confident, and compassionate leader in your career, family, and society in general.

Congratulations to all past and present Eagles of 695, but remember it's the experiences you have that are the real benefit -- enjoy the journey!

Yours in Scouting,

Mr. Schwab



From Brandon Schwab (Senior Patrol Leader):

SPL Scratch

The month went very well ... from what I was told. I wasn't able to make it to most of the meetings or campout, but from what I was told, my ASPL Sam Rosol did a fine job leading the troop in my absence.

I do, however, feel that there has been an increasing amount of older scouts missing from the meetings and campouts. So for the next PLC, I will be leading a group discussion on how we can make it easier for older scout to get to meetings.



Leadership Reports

From Ben Giles (Chaplain Aide):

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son that whoever believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.

This verse basically tells us the meaning of being a Christian. This verse tells us God loved all of us on this world so much, that he gave his one son. He didn't give one of his many sons, he gave his one and only son, for us. That right there should tell us how much God loves us but there is more. Now he is promising us that if we believe in him we will never die. We will instead go up to heaven and be with God our father forever. This is a amazing thing. One way to explain it with a lot more meaning is through this story I heard once.

There once was a Man who worked as a bridge tender. The job was to higher the bridge for boats to pass, and lower it for trains to pass. This man and his wife have been trying to get a son for a very long time. Finally one day, after many years, the mother gave birth to their one and only child. This young boy and his father loved to go on long walks in the woods and talk and play baseball and have picnics at the bridge and stuff. This Dad loved his son more then anything in the world.

One day the Father and Son were having a picnic at the bridge when they heard a train honk. They were near the water of the river and the train was coming fast, and the bridge was left up. The son who knew what to do to lower the bridge for the train, ran up the rocks, but tripped and his leg got stuck in some gears that were for the bridge. The father then ran up to the lever which would bring the bridge down. The man knew that if he pulled that lever his son would die, but if he didn't pull the lever all of the people on the train would die. Slowly, he looked at his son one last time, and pulled the lever. The son was killed and the train made it across safely. The man tried to say "look at what I have done for you," but no one saw him or even knew what he just did, except for one little boy, who said "thank you". The Father was God. The son was Jesus. We are the people on that train that God saved. The question is, are you the little boy who noticed, or one of the others who ignored him.



Announcements

From Mr. Michael Wiig (Order of the Arrow):

The troop needs an Order of the Arrow representative. Let Mr. Schwab or Mr. Wiig know if you are interested in this leadership position. District OA meetings and the first Thursday of the month during the Roundtable meetings.

1. Mustang Chapter Conclave is September 16-18, 7:00 to 8:30 PM Friday until 10 PM Sunday. Stearns Camp (Landis Lodge). Come and provide service to Camp Stearns, earn your Ordeal/Brotherhood. Good food, fellowship.
2. Section Conclave 2011 – Join the Totanhan Nakaha Lodge and the rest of the lodges in Section C1A, September 9th-11th at the Blue Earth county fairgrounds for 2011 Section Conclave! I have attended this the last 3 years there are many fun events to choose from. Always the first weekend after Labor Day.

Turner Interview

From Mr. Tom Gunderson (Flaming Arrow Patrol Coach):

My son, Turner, participated in a special program to earn service hours for his Star rank. I believe his experience is something worth sharing with the troop, so I 'interviewed' him for this article.

Mr. G: Tell me what did you do for the service hours required for Star rank?

TG: I was a 'buddy' for a special needs kid for a basketball clinic.

Mr. G: How did you find out about this?

TG: My friend Allan's dad, who was also my assistant basketball coach. He called to ask if I wanted to help.

Mr. G: So why did you do this then?

TG: To have fun and get service hours.

Mr. G: What was fun about it?

TG: I just got to help people, and teach them one of my favorite games.

Mr. G: So who did you help?

TG: I was a buddy to a boy my age named Patrick. He was nice and he was a really good shot.

Mr. G: So what did you do?

TG: The clinic lasted for 5 Sundays. At the beginning of each session we played games to get warmed up and engage with the players. We also did dribbling, shooting, and passing; all the fundamentals of basketball. And finished up with more games.

Mr. G: Were you nervous about this?

TG: Kind of. I didn't know if I'd be able to interact with my player good.

Mr. G: Did anything about the experience make you feel happy or sad?

TG: Happy because everybody was happy. They were excited to be there. It's sad that some people do have special needs. It doesn't seem fair that some people have that to deal with and others don't.

Mr. G: And did you learn anything from this experience?

TG: I learned that I would definitely do that again.

As a parent and Scout leader, I feel Turner definitely learned more from this experience than simply that he would do it again. This clinic, and programs like it, give kids with special needs an opportunity that most of us just take for granted, the opportunity to play a game and participate in sports.

Scouts – Just a heads-up here, but sometime in the near future I will be offering a class for the Disabilities Awareness Merit Badge. I will be looking for events/programs such as this for you to volunteer and work with others in a fun and positive way.

Look for more information in the future!

Patrick and his buddy Turner in the gym



Board of Review

From Mr. Marshall "Mad" Ness (Board of Review Coordinator):

THE BOARD OF REVIEW: A BEGINNER'S GUIDE

First year parents who have heard the phrase Board of Review may think their scout will go through an interrogation and test of their scouting skills. If you think about it, "Board of Review" does sound a tad cold and corporate. Fear not new parents, because as the fellow who organizes these events, I'm here to clarify some misunderstandings and explain the process.

The Board of Review (BOR) is the final step in your son's rank advancement. After completing the requirements for a particular rank and finishing a Scoutmaster Conference, your son must arrange a final meeting with me called a Board of Review. A good way to do this is to have your scout approach me at a meeting in full uniform and set up an appointment. I can also be reached via e-mail at mness@powerhousetg.com. I'll set up a time for your scout to meet with me and two other members of the leadership committee (and occasionally other active parents), usually at church or a campout. Assistant Scoutmaster involvement will be limited due to committee oversight purposes.

Have your scout come to the BOR in his first-class uniform with his Scoutmaster Conference sheet and scout book. The three BOR members WILL NOT ask your son to demonstrate first aid techniques or how to whip and fuse the ends of a knot ... they've already passed that test in the Scoutmaster Conference. We may ask them to recite the scout oath, or tell us about some positive and negative things they've experienced since joining the troop. The questions are more arbitrary, but it will give your son the chance to think on his feet and give us feedback we can use to pass along to other troop leaders and his patrol coach. That and it helps him get a feel for what an interview is like: a skill he'll need in a few years when it's time to get a job. A typical BOR takes about 15-20 minutes.

Once the BOR members are finished with the questions, we'll dismiss your scout, quickly huddle to discuss the interview, and then inform your scout if he's completed rank advancement. In nearly all cases, rank advancement is granted. A good example of non-passing performances would include: a bad attitude, lack of respect to the board and indifference to scouting ... all behaviors I've never witnessed.

I then initial your son's scout book and sign his Scoutmaster Conference form, presenting the latter to Advancement Chair Cindy Henderson, who arranges for your scout to be recognized at the next Court of Honor.

If you have additional questions about the BOR process, hit me up at the next meeting or send me an e-mail. You can also use this link as a guide: <http://www.boyscoutstrail.com/boardofreview.asp>.



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

Troop Leadership

Scoutmaster		Erich Schwab	
Patrol Coaches	Wolverines	Joel Nichols Dan Edlund Steve Rorem	
	Flaming Arrows	Tom Gunderson Paul Kronlokken	
	Thunder Cats	Doug McKenney Derrick Poirier John Beauchamp	
	Panthers	Mike Madsen	
	Timber Cobras	Burt Boudreaux Erich Schwab Mark Kronlokken	
	Thunder Dragon/Scorpions	Bill Brown Mike Toay	
	Troop Positions	Senior Patrol Leader	Brandon Schwab
Assistant Senior Patrol Leader		Sam Rosol Ben Schliess	
Junior Assistant Scoutmaster		Reece Hoerle Josh Boudreaux Paul Henderson Brian Madsen Jared Zemlin	
Troop Guides		Lars Henderson Tyler Schwab Will Johnson Michael Watras	
Scribe		Ben Stone	
Quartermaster		Corey Prell	
Librarian		Michael Rorem	
Historian		Wyatt Edlund	
Chaplain Aide		Ben Giles	
Den Chief		Isaac Anderson	
Webmaster		<i>Open</i>	
Patrol Leaders		Timber Cobras	Niko Beauchamp
		Panthers	<i>Open</i>
	Thunder Cats	Jackson Turner	
	Flaming Arrows	Matthew Kronlokken	
	Wolverines	Austin Groe	
Instructors	Camping	<i>Open</i>	
	Cooking	<i>Open</i>	
	Fire Safety	<i>Open</i>	
	First Aid	<i>Open</i>	
	First Class	Turner Gunderson	
	Knife/Axe Safety	<i>Open</i>	
	Knots	<i>Open</i>	

Troop Committee Chair		Mike Hoerle
Finance	Chair	Collette Schleiss
	Treasurer/Scout Accounts	Tong Stone
	Check Writer	Doug McKenney John Lewis
	Christmas Tree Lot	Dan Edlund
	Fall Wreath Sales	Mary Jean Watras
	Flying Cloud Snack Shack	Annette Anderson
	Popcorn Sales	Julie McKenney
	Special Events	Annette Anderson
Advancement	Chair	Cindy Henderson
	Merit Badge Coordinator	Cindy Henderson
	BOR Coordinator	Marshall Ness
	Eagle BOR Coordinator	Nancy Madsen
	Leadership Goals Coordinators	Burt Boudreaux John Lewis Anne Kollmeyer
	Recruiting Coordinators	Burt Boudreaux Don Qually Jennifer Nichols
	Merit Badge Madness	Marshall Ness
Information & Communications	Chair	Ellen Hoerle
	Medical Forms	Karen Polta
	Newsletter	Tong Stone
	Troop Directory	Karen Zemlin
	Troopmaster	Karen Zemlin
	Webmaster	Doug McKenney
	New Scout Handbook	Ellen Hoerle
	COH Program Handout	Ellen Hoerle
	Activities	Chair
Camping		Michael Wiig
Fire Arm Safety		Paul Anderson Win Giles
Chaplain		Doug McKenney
Service Projects		Trudy Gunderson
Philmont		Don Qually
Many Point		Tom Gunderson Trudy Gunderson
Order of the Arrow		Michael Wiig
Quartermaster		David Straight
COH Coordinator		Christy Johnson
Adult Leader Training		Michael Wiig

Calendar and Bulletin Board Information

[clip and save this handy reference page]

Summer Events at a Glance

June 2	Mustang District Roundtable
June 3-5	Troop Campout, Ripley Rendezvous
June 7	Troop Court of Honor
June 13	Black Hills Preparation Meeting
June 18-24	Black Hills
July 10-16	Many Point
July 23-29	Philmont, First Crew
July 30-August 4	Philmont, Second Crew
August 28	<i>Reconnaissance</i> Articles Due

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. Please indicate size and type of payment.

Bulletin Board

Reconnaissance Articles

Articles for the next issue of this newsletter are due to Tong Stone no later than Sunday, August 28th. Please email your articles to tss.ljs@gmail.com.

Reconnaissance on the Web

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

Advancement Contacts

- Advancement – Cindy Henderson
- Board of Review – Marshall Ness
- Eagle Board 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.

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