

# The Reconnaissance

Boy Scout Troop 695  
of Prairie Lutheran Church

May 2012; Volume 17, Issue 5



## April Highlights

*Theme: Sports  
Flaming Arrows*

- Apr 1-7**      **Seabase**
- Apr 10**     **Parent/Troop Meeting**
- Apr 12**     **Mustang District  
Roundtable**
- April 17**    **Troop Meeting**
- Apr 20-22**   **Campout!**
- Apr 24**     **PLC, Committee, ASM  
Meetings**

## Roar of the Unicorns a YouTube Sensation!

Several Troop 695ers have taken their musical talents to the Internet, posting the first of a series of new head-banging songs.

Brian Ness, Turner Gunderson, Isaac Anderson, Jacob Anderson and Ben Stone have formed their own version of Spinal Tap with Brian on bass and vocals, Turner on rhythm guitar and vocals, Isaac running the camera, Jacob on lead guitar and Ben on drums.



Their rockin' self-titled debut performance has already garnered more than 250 views on YouTube! If you have some spare time and feel like rockin' out, head over to YouTube and search for "The Roar of the Unicorns!" Let's make this thing go viral!

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## Scoutmaster's Corner

By Scoutmaster Tom Gunderson



If April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring? Well, if the old adage is true, then based on the weather from our campout in April I expect to see a TON of flowers this May! Twenty-nine scouts and 11 adults attended the weekend campout on April 20-22 at Stearns Scout Camp. While the weather could have been better, the scouts did a great job of keeping their spirits up and making the best of it. We (adults) were very impressed with the scouts and their attitude on this campout. I am looking forward to many more!

And speaking of campouts, here are a few tips for scouts, both new AND experienced:

- **Write your name on your gear!** Many scouts end up with the same brand and color of a lot of gear (mess kits, coats, even sleeping bags), so labeling your gear is the only real way to indicate that it's yours.
- **Rain Gear.** A decent rain jacket is your best bet, buy a size or two larger than the scouts usual size. Ponchos rip and don't really keep an active scout dry. Winter coats will get saturated and not keep a scout dry. It's usually not IF it will rain, it's WHEN it will rain; good rain gear is a must.
- **Gloves.** In order for gloves to be most effective, they should be worn on the hands. When kept in a coat pocket, or a duffel bag, they do NOT keep your hands warm. J
- **Water Bottles.** FILL your water bottle at home before you go. Always a good idea.

And lastly, in case you didn't know, "Mayflowers" bring pilgrims of course!

I am proud to be your Scoutmaster.

## Leadership Reports

### *From Ben Schleiss, Senior Patrol Leader*

Hello Troop 695. This is my first article submission so I'll have to introduce myself. I'm Ben Schleiss and I'm the new SPL of the troop. I first want to say what an honor it is to be the leader of such a well-maintained and behaved troop. Even on this campout the majority of scouts proved themselves to be a cut above the rest by keeping your composure throughout the rain. It's stories like these that when I hear them give me a bright outlook for the future of the troop after I'm gone. Lets just hope I can keep it intact in the mean time.



### *From William O'Malley, Flaming Arrows Patrol Leader*

Summing up the month of April...

Last month we covered some things for getting the Wilderness Survival merit badge. We went over fire building skills, survival facts, and how to make a wilderness survival shelter. I am now quite sure that we have a 99% survival rate for our troop. Just remember, if you weren't paying attention, you are now part of the 1%!



We also went over allergies, primarily Ben Nichols' peanut/tree nut allergy, which is probably pretty widely known to the people who read the Eden Prairie News, as he made an appearance on the front cover. We learned that allergies are serious things and not to be joked about, so I won't. I do think a sniffer dog would improve troop hygiene by 100%. (I mean, do you really want a dog barking at you the whole time?)

I didn't go on the camp out (I was a reverent scout that weekend) but heard three main things about it from April's PLC: 1) it rained; 2) the new tents were great; and 3) not one person complained. I have concluded that 2/3 of this is likely; can't imagine which one might be false (cough)\*\*complaining\*\*(cough.)

Overall, I'd say this last month went pretty well, but that's just my opinion. Now I'm not so sure... hmmm. Well, before I start arguing with my own thoughts, somebody better inform me as to how it went. This month's "Stats and Projections for 2012" says that those who are uninformed have a higher chance of losing the game. Wait... I think I just lost... so it's true...

### *From Turner Gunderson, Troop Guide*

First of all, welcome to the Troop Cobras! We had a hopefully somewhat fun, and for sure a 'learning' experience at your first campout last weekend. You guys did great handling the weather and were quick learners for cooking, cleaning, and setting up tents. I hope you are looking forward to May and the campout, and also getting more requirements signed off towards your Tenderfoot rank.



### *From Austin Groe, Chaplain Aide*



Hey everyone! Our troop had a lot of fun on this past month's campout! We played capture the flag, made forts out of wood and sticks that we found in the forest to get a requirement for the wilderness survival merit badge done, we also did rank advancement, and had a special 2 hour long campfire to welcome in our new first year patrol, Cobras.

There was one thing that kept us from having a better time though, the rain.

It rained most of Saturday. We ended up going into a shelter near the campsite and we played board games, did more rank advancement and drank hot chocolate. When it came time for our campfire we did all the skits inside and went back out to our camp site to do the final ceremony.

On Sunday we packed up, had an interfaith worship service, it was the first one I ever did! then we left. Over all it was a fairly good campout despite the rain.

### From Wyatt Edlund, Fire Instructor



A wise man once said: "The fire is the main comfort of the camp, whether in summer or winter, and is about as ample at one season as at another. It is as well for cheerfulness as for warmth and dryness." ~Henry David Thoreau

So next campout have a nice cheerful fire, socialize, and have lots of fun but remember to be safe because "Only you can prevent wildfires" ~Smokey Bear

### From Ben Stone, Cobra Patrol Troop Guide

Hi Troop 695!



It has been a fun month with the Cobra Patrol. The campout was great, and the Cobras were working hard on requirements and did very well on the campout, despite the cold weather.

Keep up the good work, Cobras!

### From Benjamin Nichols, Wolverines Patrol Leader

Today I'm writing a mini-Scouter's minute for you.

Tonight is the night before I go on my Iron Man bike ride. Tonight, I am remembering how Mr. Ness and Mr. Gunderson challenged all of the scouts to do the biking merit badge, when I was 11 years old. The merit badge consists of doing five 10 or more mile bike rides, two 25 or more mile bike rides, and one 50 or more mile bike ride. My dad thought that we could not do it. I decided to try, and I proved him wrong. Now I will ride thirty miles tomorrow, and I know that I can make it (even though I have my new dog trailer attached).

I proved some important things to myself that year by earning the biking merit badge. I learned that I could handle pain. It hurt to go on the fifty mile bike ride, just like it will hurt when I bike tomorrow. I have learned, however, that the human body can handle pain for an extremely long time. You just have to decide in your head that you are not going to give up. What I look forward to when I bike is not the ride (although I enjoy that too), but it is when I get home and prove to myself that I could handle the pain and meet my goal. I saw an inspiring quote on the back of a tee-shirt recently, that I would encourage everyone to try to live by. I even try myself. The quote read, "Next time you want to give up, remember why you held on this long."

Thanks Mr. Ness, Mr. Gunderson, and all my scout friends who help me achieve my goals.

### IRON MAN BIKE RACE A HUGE SUCCESS

#### From Joel Nichols, Roving Iron Man Reporter

The rains held off after what looked like a terribly stormy start, and Benjamin very successfully rode the 30 mile Iron Man last Sunday. He handled all the hills without ever stopping to walk, even while pulling the trailer.

We had a fun and successful ride, even though it was hard. Not counting our breaks, we were able to keep up a 10.5 mph pace when we were actually riding, which was pretty good considering we were pulling the trailer.

**Congrats on your cover story, Benjamin!**



## Troop Leadership

<b>Scoutmaster</b>		Tom Gunderson
<b>Patrol Coaches</b>	<b>Lightning Sharks</b>	Paul Anderson Jim Lovekin
	<b>Raccoons</b>	Dean Sather Justin Pratt
	<b>Wolverines</b>	Joel Nichols Dan Edlund
	<b>Flaming Arrows</b>	Tom Gunderson Paul Kronlokken
	<b>Thunder Cats</b>	Doug McKenney
	<b>Panthers</b>	Mike Madsen
	<b>Timber Cobras</b>	Burt Boudreaux Mark Kronlokken
<b>Troop Positions</b>	<b>Senior Patrol Leader</b>	Ben Schleiss
	<b>Assistant Senior Patrol Leader</b>	Ben Giles Brian Ness
	<b>Junior Assistant SM</b>	Luke Brown
	<b>Junior Assistant SM</b>	Michael Watras
	<b>Troop Guides</b>	Turner Gunderson (Flaming Arrows) Isaac Anderson (Flaming Arrows) Ben Stone (Flaming Arrows)
	<b>Scribe</b>	Thomas Sather
	<b>Historian</b>	Issac Welsch
	<b>Quartermaster</b>	Mike Rorem
	<b>Librarian</b>	Matthew Jacobson
	<b>Leave No Trace Tnr</b>	Riley Pratt
	<b>Webmaster</b>	Tony Dungan
	<b>Chaplain Aide</b>	Austin Groe
	<b>Bugler</b>	Open
<b>Patrol Leaders</b>	<b>Raccoons</b>	David Chadwick
	<b>Lightning Sharks</b>	Jacob Anderson
	<b>ThunderCats</b>	Benjamin Empric
	<b>Flaming Arrows</b>	William O'Malley
	<b>Wolverines</b>	Benjamin Nichols
<b>Instructors</b>	<b>Camping</b>	Open
	<b>Cooking</b>	Logan Sperr
	<b>Fire Safety</b>	Wyatt Edlund
	<b>First Aid</b>	Open
	<b>Knife/Axe Safety</b>	Open
	<b>Knots</b>	Open

## Troop Leadership cont.

<b>Troop Committee Chair</b>		Mike Hoerle
<b>Activities</b>	<b>Chair</b>	John Lewis
	<b>Camping</b>	Michael Wiig
	<b>Fire Arm Safety</b>	Paul Anderson Win Giles
	<b>Chaplain</b>	Doug McKenney
	<b>Service Projects</b>	Trudy Gunderson
	<b>Philmont</b>	Don Qually
	<b>Many Point</b>	Tom & Trudy Gunderson
	<b>Order of the Arrow</b>	Michael Wiig
	<b>Quartermaster</b>	David Straight
	<b>COH Coordinator</b>	Jennifer Nichols
	<b>Adult Leader Training</b>	Michael Wiig
<b>Advancement</b>	<b>Chair</b>	Jim Horn
	<b>Merit Badge Coordinator</b>	Jim Horn
	<b>BOR Coordinator</b>	Marshall Ness
	<b>Eagle BOR Coordinator</b>	Nancy Madsen
	<b>Leadership Goals Coordinators</b>	Burt Boudreaux John Lewis Anne Kollmeyer
	<b>Recruiting Coordinators</b>	Burt Boudreaux Don Qually Jennifer Nichols
	<b>Merit Badge Madness</b>	Marshall Ness
<b>Records &amp; Communications</b>	<b>Chair</b>	Ellen Hoerle
	<b>Medical Forms</b>	Annette Anderson
	<b>Newsletter</b>	Tony Compton
	<b>Troop Directory/Troopmaster</b>	Shenglan Long
	<b>Webmaster</b>	Doug McKenney
	<b>New Scout Welcome Binder</b>	Ellen Hoerle
	<b>COH Program Handout</b>	Ellen Hoerle
<b>Finance</b>	<b>Chair</b>	Collette Schleiss
	<b>Treasurer/Scout Accounts</b>	Tong Stone
	<b>Check Writer</b>	Doug McKenney John Lewis
	<b>Christmas Tree Lot</b>	Dan Edlund
	<b>Fall Wreath Sales</b>	John & Mary Jean Watras
	<b>Flying Cloud Snack Shack</b>	Kelly Lindquist Connie & Paul Groe
	<b>Popcorn Sales</b>	Julie McKenney
	<b>Special Events</b>	Connie & Paul Groe
	<b>T-Shirt Sales</b>	David Straight

## Bulletin Board

### Reconnaissance Articles



Articles for the next issue of this newsletter are due to Tony Compton no later than Friday, June 1st. Please email your articles to [tonycompton@comcast.net](mailto:tonycompton@comcast.net)

### 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 – Jim Horn
- 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.

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

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## Coming up in May...

*Theme: Dutch Oven Cooking - Thundercats*

**May 8** Troop meeting

**May 15** Troop meeting

**May 18-20** Campout!

**May 22** PLC, Committee, ASM meeting

**May 29** Patrol meeting

## 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 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 David Straight at [straight\\_david@yahoo.com](mailto:straight_david@yahoo.com). Please indicate size and type of payment.

