



THE RECONNAISSANCE

Boy Scout Troop 695 of Prairie Lutheran Church

January 2010; Volume 15, Issue 1

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

December Highlights

Theme: Movie Night by the Tigers

Dec 1	Troop meeting and parents meeting
Dec 3	Mustang District Roundtable
Dec 8	Troop Court of Honor (Congratulations!)
Dec 18	Salvation Army Bell Ringing
Dec 28	Christmas tree lot cleanup (Great Job!)

In This Issue

December Highlights.....	1
Fundraiser Report.....	1
Leadership Reports.....	2
Scouting News.....	3-4
Troop Leadership.....	5
Calendar.....	6
Bulletin Board.....	6

Fundraiser Report

Wreath Sales Wrap-up 2009

– Mary Jean & John Watras



The wreath sales for 2009 were a huge success! We had 32 out of 58 scouts that participated. That's 56% of our scout troop that sold this year. Great job everyone! There were a total of 583 items that were ordered. Our biggest selling items were the 25" Classic & Victorian wreaths, which we sold 124 & 115 of respectively. The total sales for all of the items were \$12,230. There was an overall profit margin of 36%, with the total profits being \$4,431.86. Of that, 60% or \$2,665.06 will go into scout accounts, with the remaining 40% or \$1766.80 going to the Troop. We also had an \$8 donation to the Troop.

We did have 2 UPS orders this year, for total sales of \$62. While this isn't a lot of sales, I'm sure that the far away relatives really enjoy getting a bit of Christmas cheer from their favorite scout.

We had a good sales year; which is fantastic considering our current economy, and that everyone is cutting back. This just means that our scouts did an extra great selling.

Our wreath products arrived the week of November 16th and all orders were picked up by Friday November 20th. Thank you to *Tom Gunderson, Julie McKenney, & Diane Grunewald* for all your help with the delivery process and the wreath pickup process. We couldn't have done it without all of you!

Leadership Reports

SPL Scratch – Josh B.

This past month, although a low-key one, was filled with loads and loads of fun:

Everyone was definitely loving the movie night. *Elf* was a great choice!

We had our December court of honor, which went swimmingly. We had oodles of awards to hand out, so let's keep this up!

Hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and an (early) Happy New Year!

ASPL – Niko B.

First of all, I hope everyone had a great Christmas break! That's really all I have to say right now, as not a lot happens in December. The tree lot was relatively successful this year, although we had some trees left at the end. For all the new scouts, the tree lot and snack shed are great ways to get money in your scout account for campouts. Winter camping month in January; I hope everyone can go.

ASPL – Reece H.

In this last month of November we went on a great campout and had a lot of fun climbing at Vertical Endeavors. Many of the scouts received climbing merit badge, while the others had a lot of fun climbing.

I am looking forward to a safe, fun, and hopefully not too cold North Winds this year! It will be a great trip and the troop will get to have a good experience together. If anyone has any questions about the following months, do not be shy, just ask.

JASM – Reed Q.

Happy New Year! As we make our New Year's resolutions, let's remember to continue living our lives according to the Scout Oath.

Please let me know if you need help with your merit badges or if you have any questions about our Troop. I would be happy to help you out.

Scoutmaster's Corner – Joe Polta

Over our troop's end-of-year break, I got to attend a Court of Honor for two Eagle Scouts from another troop. Eagle Scout Courts of Honor are always a big occasion, and mark one of the biggest accomplishments of a Scout's life, at least for a long time.

I was proud to be able to celebrate with these outstanding young men. I hope each of you, the Scouts of Troop 695, will get to have this honor. Sixty of you have so far, since our troop was founded in 1995 – a remarkable testament to the young men of Eden Prairie. Statistically, most of you won't make it, but I can and do still hope. Nothing can extinguish that flame of hope, just like nothing can extinguish the flame we all have inside, the drive to be a force for good in the community.

Keep that flame burning. Keep at it. Don't give up.

I'm proud to be your Scoutmaster.



First Aid Instructor – Aaron H.

Hi, this is Aaron H., your first aid instructor. Your first aid tip for this month is always wear a hat. 90% of your body heat is released through your head, your groin, your armpits. So make sure to wear a hat to keep yourself warm.

Flaming Arrows – Ben G.

This month the Flaming Arrows are going to go to a Timberwolves game. We are really excited that this worked because this is our first patrol event. Our patrol is also really excited to go on the January camp out. Our patrol is really excited to go on our first winter campout in January!

Scouting News

District Scouting: 100th Anniversary Mustang Style

– A Message from Thomas W. Pahl, Forwarded by Jeff Shawd

On February 4, 2010, the Mustang District will be celebrating with our own district-wide 100th Anniversary of Scouting celebration at the Hopkins Center for the Arts, 1111 Main Street, Hopkins, Minnesota. See this URL link for directions and parking: <http://www.hopkinsmn.com/hca/directions.html>. The event will begin at 6:30 p.m. and will feature displays from the North Star Museum of Scouting, special guest speakers (including Eagle Scout and prominent weather personality and inventor, Paul Douglas) and other national and district award recipients. We will also have several other agenda items and guests to help honor the BSA's Year of Celebration, A Century of Making a Difference.

The Mustang District Committee would like to invite Scouts from each Unit, Troops, Packs, and Crews, and we would love to have representation from each Unit in the District for this event. Each Unit that attends should bring its Unit Flag and attending Units will receive a Unit recognition/participation banner to add to the Unit Flag. Every Scout and Scouter who attends will also receive a Special 100th Anniversary Mustang District Celebration patch. Of course, as with any fun birthday celebration, there must be CAKE and ICE CREAM to round out the night (for those who might normally attend the District Dinner, this year, we will be conducting the District awards at this event (but will not be serving our usual dinner)). The event should end approximately 8:00 p.m. for your planning purposes.

We extend this invitation to all of your Leaders, parents, families and Friends of Scouting. This event is also a great opportunity for you to reconnect with some of the Scouts and Scouters of the past who have helped make the Mustang District and BSA a great organization for 100 years. Please forward this invitation to your Unit and to anyone else that you believe should be invited. If you have any questions or need further information, contact Tom Pahl, Mustang District Committee Chair, at tpahl@foleymansfield.com or (612) 964-1879.

Annual BSA Recharter

– Jeff Shawd

'Tis the season – for 2010 National BSA rechartering, that is. All BSA units (packs, troops, teams, crews, posts) are required to renew their affiliation with Scouting each year. Through the process, chartering (sponsoring) organizations, youth member and adult leader information is updated as well as registration fees and Boy's Life subscriptions are collected/paid.

Please indicate whether or not you and your scout plans to recharter for the 2010 program. The cost is \$50. You can use the dollars in Scout accounts, provided there are sufficient funds in the account to use this method. You must also complete the Troop Information Sheet and Troop Resource Sheet.

Any NEW scouts and leaders must complete the BSA application form. I have these forms and will have them available our next parent meeting. You can also print these forms from the Northern Star Council website: www.northernstar.org/forms/membership. As a reminder, all adult volunteers are expected to complete Youth Protection training within 90 days of assuming a leadership position. It is available online at www.scouting.org.

Scouting News

Merit Badge Madness

– Marshall “Mad” Ness

As the newly appointed Merit Badge Madness czar, I wanted to give everyone a quick summary on plans for the festivities.

- 1) Merit Badge Madness (MBM) begins on Tuesday, January 26, 2010.
- 2) MBM culminates the weekend of February 19-21 at Camp St. Croix (<http://www.campstcroix.org>) outside of Hudson. We have reservations for 50 people and the cost will likely be in the \$100-\$110 range per scout.
- 3) During that weekend, we'll have the opportunity to ski at Afton Alps (<http://www.aftonalps.com>) at discounted Scout rates, and if possible, parlay a Snow Sports merit badge into the mix. For those interested, lift tickets are \$24 per person, \$18 for rentals and \$4 for a lesson.

Merit Badge options will likely be determined based on adult response, but consider the "Citizenship" merit badges to be near certainties.

Questions about specific requirements for merit badges? See

<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/BoyScouts/AdvancementandAwards/MeritBadges.aspx>

Northern Tier Canoe High Adventure

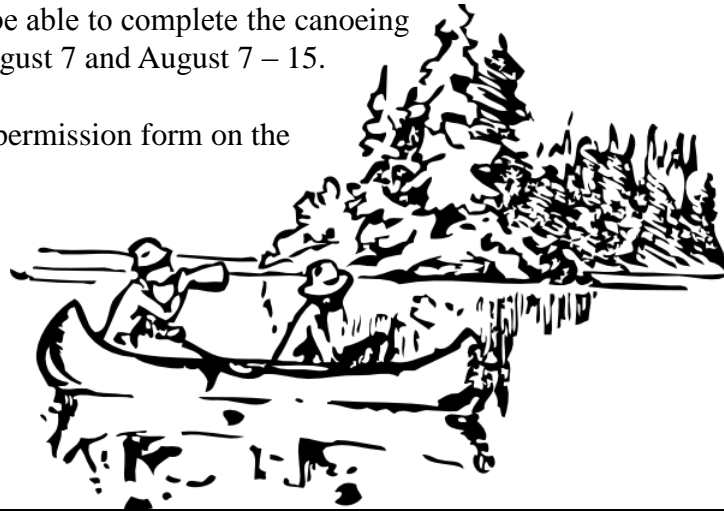
– Bill Brown

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.



Troop Leadership

Scoutmaster		Joe Polta
Patrol Coaches	Flaming Arrows	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 Qally
	Troop Positions	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		<i>Open</i>
Bugler		<i>Open</i>
OA Representative		<i>Open</i>
Troop Guide	Desmond M.	
Patrol Leaders	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.
Instructors	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>

Troop Committee Chair		Jeff Shawd
Finance	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>
Advancement	Advancement Chair	Cindy Henderson
	Merit Badge Coordinator	<i>Open</i>
	BOR Coordinator	Mike Toay
	COH Coordinator	Christy Johnson
	Recruiting Coordinators	Burt Boudreaux Don Qally
	Leadership Coordinators	Burt Boudreaux John Lewis
	Eagle BOR Coordinator	Nancy Madsen
EP Foundation Liaison	<i>Open</i>	
Records	Records Chair	<i>Open</i>
	Medical Forms	Karen Polta
	Troopmaster	Karen Zemlin
	Newsletter	Tong Stone
	Webmaster	Doug McKenney
Activities	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]

January Events at a Glance

Jan 5	Troop/parents meeting
Jan 7	Mustang district roundtable
Jan 12	Sledding at Staring Lake with Webelos
Jan 15-17	Troop campout: North Wind Adventure
Jan 16-17	Troop campout: North Wind Experience
Jan 19	PLC/Committee meeting/ASM meeting
Jan 23	Woodbadge district breakfast
Jan 24	<i>Reconnaissance</i> articles due
Jan 26	Troop meeting/Merit Badge Madness commencement
Jan 31	Friends of Scouting forms back to Jessica Poirier

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, January 24th. Please email your articles to 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 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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