



# THE RECONNAISSANCE

Boy Scout Troop 695 of Prairie Lutheran Church

January 2011; Volume 16, Issue 1

## Happy New Year!

### December Highlights

**Theme: Movies by the Timber Cobras**

- Dec 2 Mustang District Roundtable
- Dec 6 Merit Badge Night
- Dec 7 Climbing at REI
- Dec 14 Troop Movie Night
- Dec 21 Troop Court of Honor
- Dec 26 Tree Lot Tear Down

### In This Issue

December Highlights .....	1
Scoutmaster's Corner .....	1
Fundraiser Report .....	2
Leadership Reports .....	2-3
Announcements .....	4-5
Troop Leadership .....	6
Calendar .....	7
Bulletin Board .....	7

## Scoutmaster's Corner

*From Mr. Erich Schwab (Scoutmaster):*

### Scoutmaster's Corner

Happy New Year, Scouts and Scouters! 'Tis the season for Resolutions – the time when we make self-commitments based on the optimism of a brand new year. Diet plans and health clubs make their fortunes based on this tradition, and if I were so inclined to participate in said ritual, I would probably list one of mine as getting my *Reconnaissance* article in early enough for our poor editor to have time for proper review ...

What is a resolution anyway? A resolution is a promise to be resolute, firm, and determined in some action. I would argue it is what each of you does every Tuesday when we start our meetings with the Scout Oath and Law. We are voicing our resolution to “Be Prepared” and strive to meet these noble goals. It is certainly worth reminding ourselves of our stated principles, and worth living by them daily.

So I make the case the scouts of Troop 695 are covered for another year. I wish you all good luck with your continued adventure!

Yours in Scouting,  
Mr. Schwab



# Fundraiser Report

*From Mr. John & Mrs. Mary Jean Watras (Wreath Sales):*

## 2010 Wreaths Sales



The scouts did a great job selling Mickman Brothers Wreaths this year. This year we had 23 scouts participating, which is 9 less than last year. However, the average sales per scout was \$433, compared to last year's average of only \$385. The total group sales were \$9,968.75. The prices remained the same this year,\* which helped with the profits, which were \$3,636.81. Of that, \$2,545.77 went into the scout accounts. This year our split for profits was 70% to the scout and 30% to the troop (as opposed to 60/40 last year).

We had 3 scouts who sold Mickman Brothers UPS products, which totaled \$150. When you sell the UPS wreath products, they are shipped with a personal note that you write. It's a nice option for scouts with relatives in other states.

We had a total of 461 products ordered this year. Our most popular products were the Victorian Wreath, closely followed by the Classic Wreath. Interestingly enough, last year our Classic Wreath was number one followed by the Victorian.

The spreadsheet with the amounts to be deposited into the scout accounts is complete. If you would like to know how much has been deposited into your scouts account, feel free to contact John or Mary Jean Watras.

A big thank-you to *Marshall Ness* and *Tom Gunderson* for helping unload and organize the orders. Also, thank-you to *Lijin Shu*, *Ellen Hoerle*, *Ann & Michael Rorem* and *Eric & Corey Prell* for helping to recheck and distribute the orders, when the scouts came to pick them up. We appreciate all of your help and couldn't do it without you! Thank you for your time and efforts.

\* UPS products did incur a slight increase this year.

## Leadership Reports

*From Paul Henderson (Senior Patrol Leader):*

Hey troop! As your SPL I just want to recap on another successful month for our troop.

The tree lot has been doing well, thanks to the hard work of the scouts and their knot tying skills, but do not forget to say thanks to your parents for driving to where you need to be. The next time you see Mr. Toay tell him thanks for organizing tree lot to make it possible.

As I recall this month started with our recruiting event at the REI climbing wall, and the week after we had fun at movie night and accomplished several rank advancements that night. In the final week the webelos visited us at our COH that went smoothly. Tell Josh he is a rocker at the next meeting for setting up the Christmas carols. Thank you everyone for participating this month.

Thanks,

Paul Henderson



# Leadership Reports

*From Lars Henderson (Thunder Cats Patrol Leader):*

December was an overall success.

On movie night we watched *Karate Kid* and had plenty of snacks and soda, except for the Dr. Pepper. The tree lot also went well, although more people could have come to take it down. Everything was pulled up and packed away.

\*\*\*\*\*

*From John Kronlokken (Timber Cobras Patrol Leader):*

Merry Christmas!!!!

We have been in charge of the month of December. The first Tuesday we had a recruiting event at REI. Thanks to all that attended! Then, we had a movie night and watched *Karate Kid* (the only one worth watching....the original.....). Lastly, we had the Court of Honor and many scouts got some well deserved recognition.

Our patrol is in charge of the month of April and we are going to do a shooting theme, so look out for that!!!

\*\*\*\*\*

*From Brian Ness (Flaming Arrows Patrol Leader):*

## March Campout Update

The March campout, originally scheduled for Eagle Cave, has been changed. The Flaming Arrows voted for an archery campout, and there will also be a merit badge included. Once we reserve a site, we will make an announcement at a troop meeting with more details.

The Eagle Cave campout will return in 2012.



*From Ben Stone (Cooking Instructor):*

## Gingerbread Waffles



### Ingredients:

- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 4 teaspoons baking powder
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 2 teaspoons ground ginger
- ½ teaspoon grated nutmeg
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 4 large eggs
- 2/3 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 cup canned pumpkin puree
- 1¼ cups milk
- ½ cup molasses
- ½ cup (1 stick) melted butter, plus some to butter the iron
- Syrup, whipped cream or fresh fruits for topping, to pass at table

### Directions:

1. Preheat waffle iron.
2. In a large bowl combine flour, baking powder, cinnamon, and ginger, nutmeg and salt.
3. In a medium bowl, beat eggs and brown sugar until fluffy, then beat in pumpkin, milk, molasses and melted butter. Stir the wet into dry until just moist. Do not over stir the waffle batter.
4. Brush the iron with a little melted butter and cook 4 waffles, 4 sections each.
5. Serve with toppings of choice.

Enjoy!

# Announcements

*From Mr. Joe Polta (Assistant Scoutmaster):*



As Troop 695's most-recent former Scoutmaster, I often get the question: "how's retirement going?" Well, I've come to think of it not as "retirement," but as a job change. In addition to coming to as many troop events as I can, I've become involved in Northern Star Council's premier training program for adults: Wood Badge. So far, I'm booked to staff courses through June of 2012.

Northern Star Council strongly suggests that every adult leader get position-specific training within six months of the start of his or her assignment, followed by Wood Badge training within two years. (District Executives and other Scouting professionals are expected to go, too.)

Leaders, please get trained for the benefit of the youth we serve. If our leaders are not trained, how do we know they're delivering the Scouting program in the best way possible? Our troop has been blessed with many fine adult leaders. Think of how much better it could be if all of us took full advantage of the available training.

When you get Wood Badge training, it will help you in your Scouting role, at home, at work, and in your other contacts in the community. I can guarantee you will have fun during the course.

A special winter course is coming up soon, February 4 – 6 and March 4 – 6, 2011. This could be especially attractive for the non-camper – you'll stay in cabins for both weekends. No mosquitoes, either. John Lewis and I are helping staff the spring course, April 15 – 17 and May 13 – 15, 2011. (One weekend in cabins, and one weekend camping outdoors.)

More information here: <http://training.nsbbsa.org/info/WoodBadge.aspx>. And you are always welcome to ask me ([joe@polta.com](mailto:joe@polta.com)) questions.

I'm proud to be a part of Troop 695. We are doing a great job of preparing young men for adulthood. Let's work together to improve our Scouts' experience by getting every adult leader fully trained.

Joe Polta  
Assistant Scoutmaster



# Announcements

*From Mr. Marshall Ness (Merit Badge Madness Coordinator):*

## **Merit Badge Madness 2011: THE OLYMPICS STRIKE BACK**

It's time to mark your calendars for one of the winter's truly great scouting events: Merit Badge Madness.

Like last year, scouts will pursue three merit badges on Tuesdays during February, capped off with a weekend retreat February 25-27 at Camp St. Croix in Hudson, WI.

There will be 12 merit badges offered, including six required for Eagle Scout rank.

The weekend retreat promises more madness, with merit badge studies, an optional skiing night at Afton Alps, and clever Olympic-style events marking the end of the meteorological winter.

Scouts will be given merit badge options to choose from in January, and classes begin February 1.

More details are coming soon, but contact Marshall "Mad" Ness if you absolutely can't wait to get the information:  
[mness@powerhousetg.com](mailto:mness@powerhousetg.com).



### **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>		Erich Schwab
<b>Patrol Coaches</b>	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
<b>Troop Positions</b>	Senior Patrol Leader	Paul Henderson
	Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders	Aaron Halpin Tom Polta Ben Schliess
	Junior Assistant Scoutmasters	<i>Open</i>
	Webmaster	Tyler Schwab
	Quartermaster	Will Johnson
	Scribe	Benjamin Nichols
	Historian	Turner Gunderson
	Librarian	Brian Madsen
	Bugler	<i>Open</i>
	Troop Guides	<i>Open</i>
	<b>Patrol Leaders</b>	Thundering Scorpion Dragons
Timber Cobras		John Kronlokken
Panthers		<i>Open</i>
Thunder Cats		Lars Henderson
Flaming Arrows		Brian Ness
<b>Instructors</b>	Wolverines	Wyatt Edlund Benjamin Nichols
	Camping	<i>Open</i>
	Cooking	Ben Stone
	Fire Safety	<i>Open</i>
	First Aid	Michael Watras
	Knife/Axe Safety	<i>Open</i>
	Knots	<i>Open</i>

<b>Troop Committee Chair</b>		Mike Hoerle
<b>Finance</b>	Finance Chair	Collette Schleiss
	Treasurer	Tong Stone
	Check Writers	Jessica Poirier John Lewis
	Friends of Scouting	Jessica Poirier
	Fundraising	Annette Anderson
	Fall Wreath Sales	Mary Jean Watras
	Flying Cloud	Annette Anderson
	Special Events	Annette Anderson
	Christmas Tree Lot	Dan Edlund
	Popcorn Sales	Julie McKenney
	Aluminum Cans	<i>Open</i>
<b>Advancement</b>	Advancement Chair	Cindy Henderson
	Merit Badge Coordinator	Cindy Henderson
	BOR Coordinator	Marshall Ness
	Eagle BOR Coordinator	Nancy Madsen
	Merit Badge Madness	Marshall Ness
	Leadership Goals Coordinators	Burt Boudreaux John Lewis
	EP Foundation Liaison	<i>Open</i>
	Recruiting Coordinators	Burt Boudreaux Don Qually
<b>Information &amp; Communications</b>	Information & Comm. Chair	Ellen Hoerle
	Medical Forms	Karen Polta
	Troop Directory	Karen Zemlin
	Troopmaster	Karen Zemlin
	Newsletter	Tong Stone
	Webmaster	Doug McKenney
	New Scout Handbook	Ellen Hoerle
	COH Program Handout	Ellen Hoerle
<b>Activities</b>	Activities Chair	John Lewis
	Many Point	Trudy Gunderson Tom Gunderson
	High Adventure	John Beauchamp
	Quartermaster	David Straight
	Service Projects	Trudy Gunderson
	COH Coordinator	Christy Johnson
	Camping	Michael Wiig
	Fire Arm Safety	John Beauchamp
	Order of the Arrow	Michael Wiig
	Adult Leader Training	Michael Wiig
	Chaplain	Doug McKenney



# Calendar and Bulletin Board Information

[clip and save this handy reference page]

## January Events at a Glance

January 2	Tree Lot Cleanup
January 4	Troop Meeting/Parents Meeting
January 6	Mustang District Roundtable
January 9	Troop Recruiting Event: Staring Lake Outdoor Center
January 11	Troop Meeting
January 18	Troop Meeting
January 22-23	Troop Campout at Lake Mille Lacs
January 23	<i>Reconnaissance</i> articles due
January 25	Patrol Leaders Council/Junior Leadership Training/ Committee Meeting/Assistant Scoutmaster Meeting

## Bulletin Board

### **Reconnaissance Articles**

Articles for the next issue of this newsletter are due to Tong Stone no later than Sunday, January 23rd. 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**

- 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.

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

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