



THE RECONNAISSANCE

Boy Scout Troop 695 of Prairie Lutheran Church

November 2011; Volume 16, Issue 9

October Highlights

Theme: Astronomy by the Wolverines

Oct 4	Troop Meeting/Parents Meeting
Oct 6	Mustang District Roundtable
Oct 11	Troop Meeting
Oct 14-16	Troop Campout at Baylor Park
Oct 18	PLC/ASM/Committee Meeting
Oct 25	Campfire/Stargazing/Recruiting at Staring Lake
Oct 29	Troop Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup

In This Issue

October Highlights	1
Leadership Reports	1-3
SPL Scratch	1
Librarian	1
October Campout	2
Historian	2
Flaming Arrows Patrol Leader	2
Raccoons Patrol Guide	2
Scoutmaster's Corner	3
From our Friends	3
Announcements	3-4
OA Fellowship	3
Wood Badge	4
Merit Badge Madness	4
Troop Leadership	5
Bulletin Board	6

Leadership Reports

SPL Scratch

From Michael Watras (Senior Patrol Leader):

Hey Troop 695,

This is Michael Watras, your new SPL. I am very much looking forward to leading this troop through the cold winter, into the spring. I plan on making sure that this troop successfully makes it through the winter with some merit badges, and rank advancements.

This troop is a lot of fun apart of.

Your SPL,
Michael Watras



From Brian Ness (Librarian):

Need a Book? Ask your Librarian!

Hi everyone,

As your new troop Librarian, please come and ask me if you need a book to finish up a merit badge.

The troop keeps a large number of merit badge books in the library at church, but please ask me before removing books so I can keep track of who has which ones.

Thank you,
Brian Ness

P.S. Did you know: you can spell my first name in the word "Librarian"?



October Campout

From Benjamin Nichols (Historian):

We had a great campout at Baylor Park. It was awesome to look through the huge telescopes. I think that we have had a great month. The Wolverines had a great time planning the month, and I think we learned a little bit about planning also. I think that Astronomy was an awesome theme, and we should do it again sometime.

I do wish, though, that you had let me get more pictures of you.

Benjamin Nichols



From Ben Giles (Flaming Arrows Patrol Leader):

Hey all,

This month the flaming arrows went on the Astronomy camp out and had a great time. My congratulations to the Wolverines for making this month a great month. The flaming arrows are also looking forward to the November camp out and the Lock in coming up. I will see you next week.

From Ben Stone (Raccoons Troop Guide):



This month of October was great. The Raccoons are really good at working with each other and I was pleased that on most meals at the campout, they would finish quickly.

Announcements

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

Order of the Arrow Fellowship

What: Fall Fellowship 2011

Where: Northern Star Council Base Camp
(<http://www.explorebasecamp.org>)

When: November 4th 7pm – Nov 5th 7am

Registration 7:00 pm

Events open at 8:00 pm

Ordeal members who did not make last falls conclave can also attend if they wish to do the conversion to Brotherhood.

Please check out the Totanhan Nakaha Lodge for details.

From Our Friends

From Mrs. Cindy Henderson (Former Advancement Chair):

Hello,

... We have not signed up with a Scout Troop here yet, but there are several to visit and choose from.

The boys are settling in. Paul is playing Varsity soccer. They both joined the Spanish Club, and Lars joined a History Club.

We all miss Troop 695!

Thanks,
Cindy

Editor's Note:

Above is an excerpt from a letter Mrs. Cindy Henderson wrote. For those of us who met and worked with Paul, Lars, Mr. and Mrs. Henderson, we all have fond memories of their family, and wish them the best in their new life.

Scoutmaster's Corner

From Mr. Erich Schwab (Scoutmaster):

“Reach for the stars” – that could have been the slogan for this month’s Astronomy themed troop meetings and campout. And thanks to all the hard work and planning from the Wolverine Patrol, what a great month it’s been.

Just like the like the Lightning Sharks and Raccoons this year, I went to Many Point for the first time when I was eleven. But unlike them, I was the only first year from my small troop, and sometimes I struggled to fit in with the older, more seasoned scouts. That year we stayed at Many Point for two consecutive weeks, and by week two I was really feeling homesick. Our Assistant Scoutmaster at camp was Mike Lynch, who would later become the meteorologist for WCCO radio, and he must have picked up on my glum feeling. He pulled me aside and asked if I’d like to work on Astronomy Merit Badge with him. I was hooked, and have been a closet astronomer ever since. Astronomy Merit Badge still holds the upper left place of honor on my sash as the first badge I earned.

Paul Douglas, the renowned Twin Cities Meteorologist and Eagle Scout, has often cited his work on Weather Merit Badge as being the genesis of his career and life long passion. Keep that in mind as you work on advancement and merit badges – you’ll never know what you might discover you can be passionate about.

Reach for the stars, gentlemen!

Yours in Scouting,

Mr. Schwab



Announcements

From Mr. Joe Polta (Assistant Scoutmaster):

Wood Badge – Advanced Training for Registered Leaders

Registered leaders (Assistant Scoutmasters, Patrol Coaches, committee members, and anyone else who wants to make Troop 695 better): if you've been on assignment with the troop for 18 months or more, it's time for you to take Wood Badge, part of the BSA's continuum of training. (Prerequisite: you must have completed position-specific training.)

Wood Badge teaches leadership, project management, conflict resolution, managing change, and many other contemporary leadership subjects, all within the context of Scouting. The course is six days long, usually over two weekends, a month apart. Along the way you meet great Scouters from other units and districts, exchange ideas with them, and form new friendships. Your "final project" for the course will be designed to improve Troop 695, or improve Scouting in general. What you learn in Wood Badge will help you in other areas of your life -- work, family, church, sports, community.

The next opportunity is the **Winter 2012 course, Feb. 3 - 5 and March 2 - 4**. Great for the non-camper – no outdoor sleeping required! No mosquitoes!

Next, there's the **Summer 2012 course, June 25 - 30** – ASM Joe Polta is helping staff this course. Six days in a row, for those who want to avoid conflicts with Sunday worship or otherwise minimize impact on their weekends.

After that, there is the **Fall 2012 course** (dates to be determined soon), for which ASM John Lewis will have a very prominent staff position.

Our children deserve trained leaders. Please enroll for Wood Badge. Please take this important step in becoming properly trained as a Scouting volunteer. Talk to Mr. Schwab, John Lewis, Joe Polta, Doug McKenney, Steve Rorem, Tom Gunderson, Don Qually, or anyone else wearing the Wood Badge beads, for more information.



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

Merit Badge Madness 2012: Now Taking Requests

Baseball has the "Mid-Summer Classic", otherwise known as the All-Star Game. Here at Troop 695, we have the "Mid-Winter Classic", a.k.a. Merit Badge Madness.

Fans get to vote for their favorite players in the All-Star Game, and now I'd like to start taking merit badge class requests for Merit Badge Madness, which starts on Tuesday, January 31 and culminates with a retreat the final weekend in February.

Please bear in mind that not all votes will make the final list of 12 classes, but if you have a merit badge you'd really like to see offered, please let me know via e-mail at mness@powerhousetg.com.

The troop is also considering a new venue for the weekend retreat, typically held at YMCA Camp St. Croix in Hudson, WI. If you have suggestions, please let me know via e-mail, even if you'd prefer to keep things the same.

Troop Leadership

Scoutmaster		Erich Schwab
Patrol Coaches	Lightning Sharks	Paul Anderson Jim Lovekin
	Raccoons	Dean Sather Justin Pratt
	Wolverines	Joel Nichols Dan Edlund
	Flaming Arrows	Tom Gunderson Paul Kronlokken
	Thunder Cats	Doug McKenney
	Panthers	Mike Madsen
	Timber Cobras	Burt Boudreaux Erich Schwab Mark Kronlokken
Troop Positions	Senior Patrol Leader	Michael Watras
	Assistant Senior Patrol Leader	Turner Gunderson Matthew Kronlokken
	Troop Guides	Ben Stone (Raccoons) Isaac Anderson (Lightning Sharks)
	Scribe	Ben Empric
	Historian	Benjamin Nichols
	Quartermaster	Cameron Lovekin
	Librarian	Brian Ness
	Chaplain Aide	David Chadwick
	Bugler	William O'Malley
Patrol Leaders	Timber Cobras	Josh Boudreaux
	Panthers	Aaron Halpin
	Thunder Cats	Nic McKenney
	Flaming Arrows	Ben Giles Isaac Welsch (APL)
	Wolverines	Logan Sperr Wyatt Edlund (APL)
	Raccoons	Duncan Sather
	Lightning Sharks	Noah Otis
Instructors	Camping	<i>Open</i>
	Cooking	Isaac Welsch
	Fire Safety	<i>Open</i>
	First Aid	Ben Schleiss
	Knife/Axe Safety	<i>Open</i>
	Knots	<i>Open</i>

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

Calendar and Bulletin Board Information

[clip and save this handy reference page]

November Events at a Glance

November 1	Troop Meeting/Parents Meeting
November 3	Mustang District Roundtable
November 4	Service Opportunity: Eden Lake Carnival
November 5	Service Opportunity: Prairie Lutheran Church Fall Exterior Cleanup
November 4-5	Order of the Arrow Fellowship
November 8	Troop Meeting
November 11-13	Troop Campout: Shooting Sports
November 15	PLC/ASM/Committee Meeting
November 22	Christmas Tree Lot Training
November 27	<i>Reconnaissance</i> Articles Due
November 29	Recruiting Event: Climbing at REI

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. 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, November 27th. 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 – 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:

Prairie Lutheran Church
11000 Blossom Road
Eden Prairie, MN 55347

Scoutmaster:

Erich Schwab 612-720-6326

Committee Chair:

Mike Hoerle 952-944-2678

Reconnaissance Editor:

Tong Stone 952-941-2100

Email: tss.ljs@gmail.com

Troop Web Page: www.troop695.org