

# **TROOP 266 NEWSLETTER**

**February 2010**

## **Merit Badges News**

Five adults have stepped forward to be counselors for three of the four historic merit badges available only during the 2010 Scout year. Dan Bode, Harold (Hal) Broek, Eric Grimsted, Peter Hahn, and Dennis Davies will develop programs for Pathfinding, Tracking and Carpentry. As these are "Historic Merit Badges", you can look forward to some unique forums these adults have planned. They will make an announcement in a few weeks on "how and when" these merit badges will be offered. Stay tuned! We still need a counselor(s) for the Signaling Merit Badge. If you know Morse Code and are willing to teach it to others please see Mr. Bartruff. Review the January Newsletter for the requirements of each merit badge.

The Emergency Preparedness Merit badge will be offered on March 13 from 9 AM to 3PM at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd. Mr. Davies and Mr. Grimsted will be the counselors for this one-day class. Numerous scouts have signed up, but anyone is welcome. Please call Mr. Davies at 786-1106 or Mr. Grimsted at 357-4759 if you'd like to attend this merit badge session.

## **100th Anniversary Commemorative Patch:**

During this Centennial Year of Scouting, BSA has created a program titled "*A Year of Celebration, A Century of Making a Difference*" and has created a centennial patch that can be earned by Scouts and Adults alike. Participants in the patch program can earn recognition for making a difference in their communities due to their dedication to five of Scouting's core values: Leadership, Character, Community Service, Achievement, and the Outdoors. The document attached to this email provides the basic details of the program, and copies will be available at future troop meetings. Scouts or Adults who complete the requirements for at least one of the core value programs will earn the patch and the core value attachment. An adult volunteer is needed to coordinate the record keeping required by BSA for the ordering of these awards. The troop plans to make the awards at its Courts of Honor as Scouts earn any part of the patch program.

## **Volunteers Needed – Can you help your Troop?:**

The Troop has several positions that need adult volunteers. Please consider how you might be able to accept doing a little work for the troop that will lighten the workload for others.

Summer Camp Coordinator – Lisa Bishop, the Advancement Chairwoman, has agreed to perform this task for one more summer, but would like one or two new adults to assist her this year with the view that they will take over the responsibility for several years in the

future. Duties include making camp reservations according to the site choice of the Scouts, developing a budget, taking sign-ups from the Scouts and adults, collecting payments from participants, coordinating with the camp and making payments, arranging transportation, coordinating with the Board of Review Chairman and Advancement Chairman for their support of camp boards and merit badges, attending committee meetings from January through July and making a final financial report. If you would like to learn more about this volunteer opportunity or to outright volunteer for this important job to support the Scouts please contact Lisa Bishop or Barry Kirk.

Health Form Manager – Dave Bartruff has been doing this task as a part of his Membership Chairman duties but the effort required has increased with the change of BSA policy and form to a one-year renewal cycle for physicals and he has asked for an assistant to manage the forms. Duties include maintaining file copies of the forms, record keeping, communication with Scouts and families about need for completed health forms, providing list of the status of health form completions to event leaders and providing copies of health form to take on outings (summer camp, camporee, etc.). This process can be supported by the download of a copy of the Troopmaster database program to maintain the records. For more details please contact Dave Bartruff or Barry Kirk.

Activities Coordinator – Chris Jones and Bill Hegge have been performing this task for the past several years and will soon face the graduation of their youngest sons from Scouting. They would like to transition their jobs to a couple of new adults during the next year before their sons 18<sup>th</sup> birth dates cause them to decrease their troop activity. Duties include planning and coordinating the troop's participation in troop wide events and working with Scouts doing leadership projects as a part of the event. Examples are the semi-annual planning conferences, troop and council camporees, and troop campouts. The job does not necessarily mean that they go on each of the outings, but if not then they provide support to an adult who accepts the role of event leader. For more information on this opportunity please contact Chris Jones, Bill Hegge or Barry Kirk.

100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Patch Program Coordinator – During 2010 BSA has created an opportunity to earn a patch and core value streamers. See separate article in this newsletter as well as the attached word document. Because of the record keeping and reporting requirements established by BSA the troop needs an adult to coordinate the program. The good news about this job is that it last for less than a year, culminating with the final awards at the January 2011 Court of Honor. For more information on the position please contact Dave Bartruff.

## **New Annual Health and Medical Record forms now in Effect:**

Effective January 1, 2010 the new health form and new requirements for their completion went into effect. This change affects every Scout and Adult in the troop in some way.

The Health History, now **Part A**, and the Parental/Adult Consent, now **Part C**, are required to be completed annually. The completed Parts A and C are required to be on file in the troop before any Scout/Adult is allowed to participate in any troop event (other than a troop meeting) that are less than 72 consecutive hours, where the level of activity is similar to that normally expended at home or at school, such as day camps, day hikes, swimming parties, or an overnight camp, and where medical care is readily available. If you currently have on file an obsolete Class 2 or Class 3 Health Exam Form that was completed within the past year it will be allowed to substitute for the new Part A and C until it is over one-year since it was last completed or a new form is completed and submitted. Upcoming troop events requiring Part A & C, or the Class 2 or 3 are the Trollhaugen Snow Weekend, Troop Klondike campout, Camp Delezenne Seeker campouts, troop swim and PCT day hike. Anyone who went to summer camp in 2009 will have a form that still meets the one-year requirement at least through May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Everyone else needs to complete a new Part A & C to be eligible to participate.

The Health Examination, now **Part B**, is required to be completed annually as well, as opposed to the old Class 2 or 3 Health Exam that was good for three years for those under the age of 40. The completed Part B is required for any event that exceeds 72 consecutive hours, a resident camp setting, or when the nature of the event is strenuous or demanding. **Every Scout and Adult** that participates in Summer Camp or Summer backpacking will require a new Part B to be completed by a physician, nurse practitioner or physician's assistant before they will be allowed to participate.

The new Health Form is available on the troop website, [www.olympiatroop266.com](http://www.olympiatroop266.com) in the forms section on the Administrative tab, attached to this newsletter, or at any troop meeting. Please don't wait to make your appointments for your annual health exam if you plan to go to summer camp or into the backcountry.

## **PATROL ACTIVITIES**

Here is the patrol activity information we received this month. It may give other patrols ideas for their own activities, or give patrols a chance to include others in their plans.

**CATTLESNAKES:** No patrol activity is currently scheduled due to the fact that most of the boys in the Cattlesnake patrol are now busy planning and completing their Eagle projects.

**EAGLES:** No report.

**FLAMING ARROWS:** Patrol members are working towards Eagle rank.

**PHEASANTS:** The Pheasants are snowboarding at White Pass this month, and are planning a ski trip to Mount Bachelor, OR in March.

**LEVIATHANS:** The Leviathans are planning a bike ride & camp out with the Patriots on Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> – 7th.

**SHARKS:** The Sharks went bowling in January, and will be skating in February.

**BEAVERS:** This month the Beavers will participate in snow camping/skiing at White Pass, attend Scout Sunday, & Trollhaugen. They also plan to go skiing again in March.

**SEA TURTLES:** In January the Sea Turtles played in the snow at Mt. Rainier. In February they are participating in Snow Camping & Trollhaugen. The Klondike derby is planned for March.

**PATRIOTS:** The Patriots worked on their Boating merit badge in January. This month they will be working on the hiking merit badge at Mrs. Clark's, as well as snow camping at White Pass.

**SCORPIONS:** The Scorpions are having a Bowl Party in February and a bowling party in March.

### **Alumni Updates:**

**Michael Watkins**, Eagle, Alumni to Troop 266, has been accepted and will attend the University of St. Andrews, Scotland, to study International Relations.

**Matt Mueller** recently returned from a month studying diverse ecosystems in the Andes, the Galapagos Islands, and the Amazon Basin. He's majoring in Biology and Environmental Studies at PLU, with a minor in Spanish. The picture shows Matt hiking in the Andes in Ecuador (note the scarf around his neck).



Please send information about alumni to Kerin Kirkmire, newsletter editor, for inclusion in future newsletters.

## Advancements

The following Scouts advanced in February. Congratulations!

<b>Dale Broek</b>	<b>Life</b>
<b>Kyle Oplinger</b>	<b>Tenderfoot</b>
<b>Caleb Hou</b>	<b>Eagle</b>
<b>Greg Herschberger</b>	<b>Eagle</b>

## TROOP 266 CALENDAR 02/01/09 – 05/31/10

	<u>Type</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
<b>February</b>			
02/02/10	PLC/B		PLC/BOR/PAC
02/07/10	Event	GSLC	Scout Sunday
02/08/10	Troop Cmte	Room 115	Committee Meeting
02/09/10	Troop Mtg		Merit Badge Class #1
02/13/10	Camping	White Pass	Snow/Winter Camping
02/16/10	Troop Mtg		Klondike Prep, Pioneering Skills
02/23/10	Troop Mtg		Merit Badge Class #2
02/27/10	Event	Stampede Pass	Trollhaugen Snow-Fun Weekend
<b>March</b>			
03/02/10	PLC/B		PLC/BOR/PAC
03/06/10	Camping (1 Night)	Location TBD	Troop Klondike Campout
03/08/10	Cmte	Room 115	Committee Meeting
03/09/10	Troop Mtg		Troop & Patrol Elections
03/16/10	Troop Mtg		Merit Badge Class #3
03/20/10	Event	GSLC	Life to Eagle Workshop
03/23/10	Troop Mtg		Summer Prog.-Seekers Welcome
03/27/10	APC	Camp Delezenne	Spring Planning Conference
03/30/10	PLC/B		PLC/BOR/PAC (Special Date)
<b>April</b>			
04/05/10	Cmte	Room 115	Committee Meeting
04/06/10	No Troop Mtg		No Meeting – Spring Vacation
04/13/10	Troop Mtg		Merit Badges Class #4
04/17/10	Camping (1 Night)	Camp Delezenne	New Scout Campout #1
04/20/10	Troop Mtg		Skills Competition
04/27/10	Troop Mtg		MB Class #5/YP Training- Scouts
04/30/10	Camping (2 Nights)	SW WA Fair, Chehalis	BSA 100 Yr Aniv. Camporee
<b>May</b>			
05/02/10	Srv Proj (2.0 Hours)	Downtown Olympia	Crop Walk
05/04/10	PLC/B		PLC/BOR/PAC
05/10/10	Cmte	Room 115	Committee Meeting
05/11/10	Troop Mtg		Merit Badge Wrap-up Class #6
05/15/10	Event	Evergreen State Col.	Troop Swim
05/18/10	Troop Mtg		Game Night/YP Training-Adults
05/22/10	Camping (1.0 nights)	Camp Delezenne	New Scout Campout #2
05/25/10	Troop Mg		Court of Honor
05/29/10	Hiking (10.0 Miles)	Section 4, PCST	Pacific Crest Trail Day Hike

**Please submit your stories, items of interest, and any other contributions for upcoming newsletters to the Newsletter Editor, Kerin Kirkmire, at [kgkirkmire@msn.com](mailto:kgkirkmire@msn.com).**