

TROOP 266 NEWSLETTER

January 2010

Troop 266 Recharters for 2010 and Qualifies as a Quality Unit again for 2009

The troop just completed its rechartering process by registering 90 boys and 68 adults as BSA members for 2010. As the troop transitions from 2009 to 2010 it does so by losing fewer scouts to aging out at 18, moving away or losing interest than has been the history for the past several years. A new troop roster was recently distributed. And, as we close out 2009 we do so by again achieving all the goals established for the troop in program quality, leadership and advancement that qualify us to be recognized again for 2009 as a Quality Unit.

Dues Increase for 2011

Yes, we have barely started 2010 and are already making announcements for 2011. The registration fee for membership in BSA was increased by \$5.00 by BSA National Headquarters late in 2009. The troop found out about this change after our dues collection process for 2010 had already begun. The troop committee decided that we would not ask renewing scouts or adults to pay the additional \$5.00 and would cover the increase from available troop resources, costing the troop almost \$800. It was decided, however, that the troop would institute a \$5.00 increase in troop dues for any new memberships for 2010 and for 2011 when the membership renewal process takes place in October and November 2010. The dues for scouts will increase from \$50 to \$55 and for adults from \$20 to \$25.

Hiking Rules

Attached separately to the newsletter email is a copy of the troop's Safe Hiking Procedures that were documented in 2002 after the troop experienced several instances of poor hiking protocol and the near loss of a scout while on an outing. It has been a few years since these procedures have been republished and the troop committee felt that it was time to reacquaint all scouts and adult leaders with the procedures. The troop expects all hike leaders to be familiar with the procedures and to follow them on all hikes.

Winter Court of Honor, January 26th:

The next Court of Honor that will recognize the achievements of our Scouts is coming up. Everyone is expected to wear full Class A uniform (tan scout shirt, neckerchief, and slide). Merit Badge sashes are encouraged but not required. Please listen for announcements and watch for emails about opportunities to help with refreshments and the program itself. If you have any questions, you can ask Colton Welsheimer, Joseph Raines, or Mrs. Welsheimer.

Troop Merit Badge Classes:

Beginning February 9th the troop has scheduled three merit badge classes. To make the classes work we need parent help in leading/teaching the classes. The Merit Badge Classes are Citizenship in the Nation, Citizenship in the World and Emergency Preparedness. A couple of parents have volunteered, but there is still a need to have an adult be responsible for the Emergency Preparedness class. They also expect the support of parents whose sons are in the

class. If you can help out please let the Scoutmaster, Barry Kirk, or Dave Bartruff know.

Leadership Opportunities:

First Class or Star Scouts who need a leadership position for their next advancement have two opportunities this spring.

#1. The annual troop t-shirt sale should begin in March when the Seekers have joined the troop with a goal of delivering the t-shirts in June.

#2. The annual troop swim is scheduled for May 15th and requires a scout who will make arrangements with the pool and get the word out to the troop, and make sure the event happens.

Anyone interested in one of these leadership positions should let the Scoutmaster know ASAP. Your leadership time starts as soon as you volunteer. First come, first serve, but preference goes to a scout who needs leadership time and is not currently serving in a leadership position.

2009 Toys for Tots Campaign

Hello all. Here is the final tally and collection of all the statistics for the 2009 Toys For Tots Campaign. As it stands, we have assisted 1,015 families which have provided 1,907 children this Christmas with toys. We had 86 drop sites with 7 private donators which have assisted us in collecting the toys required to fulfill this mission and have collected over 23,000 toys in all. This does include the toys brought forward from last year and we have some left over for next year.

John Moysiuk and I would like to thank all you scouts and families of Troop 266 for your effort with helping in our community and would love to see you actively involved this coming year as well. It has been our privilege to assist all of you in this awesome endeavor!

John Sager and John Moysiuk

Wreath Sale Fundraiser Report

This is a short report on our troop Christmas Wreath Fundraiser recently completed. Last year, we sold a total of 722 wreaths. Our top seller was again Ryan Williams, who sold 44 wreaths. At a close second was A.J. Davies, who sold 42 wreaths. All those who sold 7 or more wreaths were invited to a bowling party. After taking into account the expenses of the fundraiser, the troop earns approximately \$6730 from the fundraiser.

This fund will be used for things such as: merit badges and awards, troop camps, annual planning conferences, scholarships and etc. These past few years, our troop has also been subsidizing some trips to keep the cost low for scouts. Two years ago, the troop spent \$6000 subsidizing the summer camp at Camp Meriwether; last year, we subsidized \$2300 when the summer camp was at Camp Easton. We also subsidized \$3000 for the Curtis trip at San Juan Islands last year. Furthermore, we were able to provide over \$900 in scholarship to help scouts with summer camp fees.

Our troop runs three fundraisers a year: coffee sales in spring, popcorn and Christmas wreath sales in the fall. Of these, total coffee sales profit go to the scouts, and similarly for the popcorn sales. These two sales are the troop's effort to help scouts earn their way to pay for scouting. Christmas wreath sale is the only fundraiser that the troop does annually to raise operating fund. We are fortunate that the troop is financially secure currently. However, the total amount of wreath sold has been on a downward trend for the past few years. In 2003, we sold 1245 wreaths. We have dropped quite a bit to 722 wreaths in 6 years. I hope we can reverse this trend and move upward from this year onward.

Advancement Requirements that are changing 1-1-10

Each year Boy Scouts of America makes changes to advancement and merit badge requirements. Some changes are minor while some are major. The overriding rule for how these changes affect Scouts is that they will not apply to any rank or merit badge that you started working on prior to the effective date of the change (unless you want to complete the rank or merit badge under the new requirements). For rank advancement, once you have completed your current rank and begin working on your next rank, the new requirements apply.

For 2010 the following significant changes have been made to rank advancements. For a complete list of changes you can view them on the US Scouting Service Project website at:

<http://usscouts.org/usscouts/advance/changes/advchanges10.asp>

Tenderfoot: A new requirement 4c was added and the wording of requirement 13 was revised. The new requirement is: 4c. Using the EDGE method teach another person to tie a square knot. The revised wording is: 13. Discuss four specific examples of how you have lived the points of the Scout Law in your daily life.

Second Class: New requirements 2 and 10 were added, existing requirements 3-8 are renumbered 4-9, existing requirements 9-11 are renumbered 11-13 and there was minor revision to the wording of new requirements 3b, 3c, 3d, 3f, 3g, 4, 9a and 11. The new requirements are: 2. Discuss the principles of "Leave No Trace." and 10. Earn an amount of money agreed upon by you and your parent, then save at least 50% of that money.

First Class: Existing requirements were renumbered, combined and revised.

Star: The list of positions of responsibility for requirement 5 were revised by adding some positions. The added positions are: Venture Patrol Leader, Troop Webmaster, Leave No Trace Trainer.

Life: A new requirement 6 was added and the old requirements 6-7 are renumbered 7-8. Also, the positions of responsibility for requirement 5 were revised by the same positions listed above for Star. The new requirement is:

6. While a Star Scout, use the EDGE method to teach a younger Scout the skills from ONE of the following six choices, so that he is prepared to pass those requirements to his unit leader's satisfaction.

- A. Second Class - 7a and 7c (first aid)
- B. Second Class - 1a (outdoor skills)
- C. Second Class - 3c, 3d, 3e, and 3f (cooking/camping)
- D. First Class - 8a, 8b, 8c, and 8d (first aid)
- E. First Class - 1, 7a, and 7c (outdoor skills)
- F. First Class - 4a, 4b, and 4d (cooking/camping)

Eagle: The list of positions of responsibility for requirement 4 were revised by the same positions listed above for Star. There were also minor changes to the wording of existing requirements.

Historical Merit Badges for the 100th Centennial Year of 2010

BSA has announced a special program in honor of the 100th anniversary of the founding of the BSA, which includes the reintroduction, for ONE YEAR ONLY, of four Historical Merit Badges

- Carpentry, first offered in 1911, and discontinued in 1952
- Pathfinding, first offered in 1911, and discontinued in 1952
- Signaling, first offered in 1910 (as Signaller) and discontinued in 1992
- Tracking, first offered in 1911 (as Stalker) and discontinued in 1952

The Basics of the 2010 Historical Merit Badge program include:

- The merit badges will closely resemble the original designs of the merit badges with the exception of the borders. The borders will be embroidered with a shiny gold thread that will be immediately identifiable as a 2010 Historical Merit Badge.
- The original merit badge requirements will be used wherever possible. Exceptions will be made when current safety or social standards dictate. Adaptations can also be made for special needs Scouts.
- The merit badges will count for towards a boy's rank advancement.
- Work on the badges is not to commence prior to January 1, 2010 and is to be finished no later than December 31, 2010.
- The Supply Division will not create or reprint pamphlets for the merit badges. Any and all material will be posted to a special section of the 100th Anniversary web site that can be accessed by the interested boys and their merit badge counselors (info on website not yet available at <http://scouting.org/100years/100years/>).
- Adult Merit Badge Counselors must be registered in the same manner as for any other merit badge.

See the separate Requirement sheets for each merit badge attached

Kyle Bell Selected as the Number One Eagle Scout of 2009 by the Capital Area District

Kyle Bell was recently notified by Sean Magnuson, District Director of the Pacific Harbors Council, that he has been selected by the leaders of the Capital Area District as the number one Eagle Scout of 2009. Kyle will join 29 other Scouts selected by their Districts from across Washington State as a delegate in the 2009 Report to the State. This report will be made to the Washington State Legislature on February 3, 2010. Additionally, the 30 Eagle Scouts and their families will be honored at a banquet the night before hosted by Attorney General Rob McKenna and Lt. Governor Brad Owen and will have an opportunity to job shadow an official from a state agency following the report. We congratulate Kyle for this great honor and the opportunity to represent scouting to our elected leaders.

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: The Eagles will perform the opening & closing ceremony for the Jan. 26th Court of Honor. They will also be participating in Scout Sunday in Feb.

FLAMING ARROWS: Patrol members are working towards Eagle rank. Flaming Arrows went skiing in Dec. & Jan. They will also be participating in snow camping over President's weekend in February.

PHEASANTS: The Pheasants went night skiing at Snoqualmie Pass in Dec. Multiple skiing trips were planned in the Cascades during the month of Jan. & Mt. Bachelor, OR in Feb.

LEVIATHANS: The Leviathans will be working with Mr. Skorpinski on Klondike Derby skills.

SHARKS: In Dec. the Sharks participated in Toys for Tots, as well as caroling. They are deciding to go glow golfing, bowling, or have a movie night.

BEAVERS: The Beavers also participated in the Toys for Tots and caroling events. They went skiing multiple times at White Pass in Jan. They plan to go snow camping & ski again in Feb.

SEA TURTLES: The Sea Turtles went caroling at nursing homes in Dec. A sledding trip at Mt. Rainier was planned for early Jan. In Feb. they are planning to snow camp at White Pass, and go to Trollhaugan. Matthew Hahn and his father helped teach Cub Scout Pack #299 how to perform a flag ceremony, and helped with a knot tying lesson.

PATRIOTS: Patriots started the boating merit badge and earned their boaters license.

SCORPIONS: The Scorpions helped at the Food Bank in Dec., played football at Kyler's house in Jan., and are planning to bowl at the Tumwater Lanes in Feb.

Alumni Updates:

Brad Ireland (Eagle 9-20-05, Cobra/Falcon Patrols) is currently a Business Management Major at Montana State in Billings, Montana and has joined the Montana National Guard's 592nd Ordinance Battalion.

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

TROOP 266 CALENDAR 12/01/09 – 04/30/10

| <u>Type</u> | <u>Location</u> | <u>Remarks</u> |
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| January | | | |
| 01/26/10 | Troop Mtg | | Court of Honor |
| February | | | |
| 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 |
| March | | | |
| 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) |
| April | | | |
| 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 |

Please submit your stories, items of interest, and any other contributions for upcoming newsletters to the Newsletter Editor, Kerin Kirkmire, at kgkirkmire@msn.com.