

# **TROOP 266 NEWSLETTER**

**May 2008**

## **COURT OF HONOR May 27<sup>TH</sup>**

Our Spring Court of Honor will be held at the regular troop meeting on May 27, 2008. Please bring your whole family to this important troop event. It is the opportunity to honor scouts for their accomplishments, recognize rank advancements, and present merit badges. We will also be saying goodbye to our graduating seniors. There are always special awards for outstanding scout spirit, and plenty of refreshments will be served afterward.

## **The Pacific Crest Trail and Troop 266**

**Submitted by Dave Bartruff**

In 1994 Troop 266 consisted of five scouts and their parents. These boys decided that they would like to challenge themselves by backpacking the Washington Wilderness. They created their challenge by deciding to hike as much of the 500+ mile Pacific Crest Scenic Trail in Washington State as possible. To reward their efforts the troop created the Troop 266 PCT Challenge Patch. For the next couple of years these five boys recruited more boys to join the troop, in part using the incentive of joining them in this hiking program.

This year, 2008, the troop embarks on its 15<sup>th</sup> season of conducting hikes along the Pacific Crest Trail. Since 1994, 172 Scouts and 124 Parents have logged over 13,800 miles of hiking on this trail system. This year is also the 40th anniversary of Congressional approval of the National Trails System Act, which established the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT).

While it is impossible to pinpoint when the PCT was first proposed, there are records from the 1920's that document various discussions between mountaineers and Forest Service personnel about completing north and south mountain trails within Oregon and Washington. Clinton C. Clarke, founder of the Pasadena Playhouse and chairman of the Mountain League of Los Angeles organized the Pacific Crest Trail System Conference in 1932 to promote the concept of a border-to-border trail.

The conference served to unify the many hiking clubs and youth groups to work toward developing an interconnected system of existing trails and new trails that would extend all the way from Canada to Mexico on or close to the crest of the mountainous western states. Members of this conference included the Boy Scouts, YMCA, Sierra Club, Los Angeles County Department of Recreation, Alpine Club, Mazamas of Portland, Mountaineers of Seattle, Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, and the Shasta-Cascade Wonderland Association.

During Clarke's 25 year tenure as president of the conference (with renowned nature photographer Ansel Adams was a member of the executive committee) he recruited Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) members to help plan and build trails, bridges, and structures to link together six already existing trail segments (the Cascade

Crest Trail in Washington; Skyline Trail in Oregon, Lava Crest Trail in northern California; Tahoe-Yosemite and John Muir Trails in central California, and the Desert Crest Trail in southern California.

Clarke also organized the YMCA PCT Relays, held during the summers of 1935 through 1938. During these relays, 40 teams of young hikers (ages 14-18) under the direction of a young YMCA outdoorsman named Warren Rogers scouted a route for the trail. The hikers carried a logbook north from the Mexican border, recording their adventures and route. On August 5, 1938, the final relay team reached milepost 78 on the Canadian border. The PCT Relays demonstrated that hikers could traverse the mountainous spine of three states using the available combination of trails, roads, and open country. Today, portions of the PCT follow the exact route walked by the YMCA relays. Rogers became the Conference executive secretary and began a life-long mission to organize support for a border-to-border trail along the Pacific Crest. He is credited with keeping the dream of the PCT alive until the 1960s when hiking and trails began to receive more national attention and garner enthusiasm.

On February 8, 1965 President Lyndon B. Johnson called for development and protection of a balanced system of trails to help protect and enhance the total quality of the outdoor environment, as well as to provide much needed opportunities for healthful outdoor recreation. Soon after, the Secretary of the Interior, Stewart L. Udall requested the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation to take the lead in a nationwide trail study. A four-member steering committee, representing four federal agencies, was appointed to conduct the study. The results were documented in a volume entitled "Trails for America" and were published in December 1966. Trails for America formed the basis for the original language of what was to become the National Trails System Act, passed by Congress on October 2, 1968.

The Act established policies and procedures for a nationwide system of trails consisting of national recreation, scenic, historic, and connecting or side trails. The Appalachian Trail and the Pacific Crest Trail were designated as the nation's first national scenic trails.

A Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail Advisory Council was appointed and held its first meeting in 1970. Members included hiking association leaders, equestrians, cattle ranchers, timber and mineral interests, youth organizations, Native Americans, and each of the trail states. At its second annual meeting in May 1971, the Council recommended approval of the Pacific Crest Trail "Guide for Location, Design, and Management." This guide became the management plan for the trail and has been used by the U.S. Forest Service ever since. On January 30, 1973 the Forest Service published in the Federal Register the selected route of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail.

The current Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) was first chartered as the Pacific Crest Trail Conference in 1977. It is the natural outgrowth of the Pacific Crest Trail System Conference and the Pacific Crest Trail Club (an individual membership group that Rogers founded for hikers and equestrians). In the early 1980's the Club was merged into the Conference. The name was changed to the Pacific Crest Trail Association in 1992 to reflect the focus and voluntary structure of the new group as an individual membership organization, rather than a federation of outdoor clubs. The board of directors developed new bylaws for volunteer governance of the organization and took

over the responsibilities of serving the membership. The first full-time, paid executive director was Bob Ballou, a former Boy Scout executive.

In 1993, the PCTA signed a memorandum of understanding with the Forest Service, National Park Service and the Bureau of Land Management. This agreement recognizes the PCTA as the federal government's major partner in the management and operation of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail. In June of the same year, the Pacific Crest Trail Association joined the Forest Service and other land management agencies in celebrating the completion of the trail with a "Golden Spike" ceremony near Soledad Canyon in the Angeles National Forest. While the trail was declared complete, approximately 250 miles remain on private land and thus at risk of urban encroachment and impacts on resources. In some areas, the PCT runs through private land via right-of-way easements as narrow as just eight feet. Other portions of the PCT exist without easements, and work continues to secure the trail in optimal locations.

History continues to be made with each hiker and equestrian who travels the trail. If your life has been touched by the PCT, you are apart of its history and significance.

*Portions of this article were taken form "The Trailhead, Our History" by Liz Bergeron, PCTA Executive Director, in the PCTA Communicator magazine from April 2008*

## **OTHER NEWS**

### **TROOP SWIM**

All Troop 266 Scouts are invited to attend the annual troop swim at The Evergreen State College Recreation Center on Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup> from 7-9 pm. The cost is \$2.00 Per Scout (siblings may attend at this price) and \$3.00 Per Adult. If you have question, please contact Spencer Kirk at 360 352-1764 or [RMLKirk@msn.com](mailto:RMLKirk@msn.com).

### **EAGLE COURT OF HONOR**

You are invited to an Eagle Court of Honor for **Andrew Paul Moreno**. It will be held on Saturday, June 14, 2008 2:00 pm Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd. Please RSVP to 360-943-0668 or [mjmoreno@comcast.net](mailto:mjmoreno@comcast.net).

### **JOINT EAGLE COURT OF HONOR FOR EIGHT SCOUTS**

You are invited to an Eagle Court of Honor and for **Brett Bell, Tiluck Bhatt, Nico Garcia, Erik Luetkehans, Patrick Lockard, Justin Privette, Karl Sergiojan, and Volk Sergiojan**. It will be held at Camp Thunderbird on Fathers Day, Sunday, June 15, 2008 at 1:30 pm. R.S.V.P. for the Court of Honor and Reception following by June 8<sup>th</sup> to Jack Sergiojan at 360-495-4446 or [molodyetz@aol.com](mailto:molodyetz@aol.com).

### **BOY SCOUT NIGHT AT TACOMA RAINIERS**

For a fun patrol activity, why not enjoy baseball with the Tacoma Rainiers. The annual Boy Scout night will be held on Friday, August 15<sup>th</sup>, starting at 7 pm. You have two choices: Ballgame and dinner for \$11 or Ballgame, dinner, sleepover, breakfast and patch for \$21. Register with Tacoma Rainiers at 3560 Bridgeport Way West Ste 3E, University Place, WA 98466 or fax to 253-752-7135. Registration deadline is August 1, 2008. For questions, Beth Mager at 253-722-1048 or [bmager@tacomarainiers.com](mailto:bmager@tacomarainiers.com).

## TROOP 266 WILD WAVES TRIP

Our troop has received a prize from the Council for being the top selling troop in popcorn fundraiser last year. To celebrate, we will be going to Wild Waves Park on Thursday, August 28, 2008. All the boys who sold popcorn last year will be treated to a Wild Waves pass and receive a food stipend for the day. Other scouts, as well as siblings, parents and scoutmasters, are also welcome to come along for the group rate of \$15 per person. We need to have payment by next Tuesday, May 27, to reserve tickets at this Early Bird group rate. Please make your check to Troop 266 and be ready to pay next Tuesday. Questions? Contact Mr. Ermelindo Escobedo 273-2496 or Mrs. Laying Hou 943-7719, [sixteentonine@yahoo.com](mailto:sixteentonine@yahoo.com).

## EVERGREEN TREK-FLOOD RELIEF CAMPOREE

There will be a new twist to the Evergreen Trek this year. The December 2007 floods damaged the trail we hike on for the Evergreen Trek. "A Scout is Helpful" is part of our Law; so to do our duty and also to acknowledge the great support of the State Parks system for the past Evergreen Trek experiences, we are holding a Service Project Camporee in place of the Trek! Come join the fun, June 20-22, 2008. We will work on Service Projects during the day and have lots of Scouting fun in the evenings, while camping at Rainbow Falls State Park! Full Event costs just \$10 per person and if you can work for only 1 day, the cost will be just \$8 per person. Help Us Restore the Trail for Evergreen Trek 2009!

## MORE SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

More flood relief service is needed for Lewis County. Contact Maureen Shulie at 253-759-6677 or cell 253-691-0496 or email [shul123@yahoo.com](mailto:shul123@yahoo.com).

## NATIONAL EAGLE SCOUT REGISTRY ROLL CALL

The National council of the Boy Scouts of America is looking for all Eagle Scouts. Be sure you are registered as an Eagle and listed with up to date information in the Directory of Eagle Scouts to be published in October of 2008. To update information call: 800-917-2270 before June 16, 2008.



## ORDER OF THE ARROW REPORT

By Karl Sergiojan, O/A Troop Representative

Congratulations to the newest members of the Order of the Arrow from Troop 266. **Julian Dizon, Ian McKenzie, and Paul Raines** completed their ordeal earlier this month and are now officially Arrowmen.

There are only a few spots available at Shasta-Trinity this summer for the once in a lifetime opportunity of ArrowCorps5, the largest national service project since World War II. The fun will include mountain biking, canoeing, and white water rafting. Our Lodge is sending a contingent to the Shasta-Trinity site in California. For more information, contact Karl or Jack Sergiojan or visit [www.ArrowCorps5.org](http://www.ArrowCorps5.org).

Please join us for the Gathering of the Bear Service Week at Camp Hahobas June 15 at noon to June 22, 2008 at 3 pm. You may come any or all of these dates. RSVP and questions to Ranger Darren Bouta at [dbouta@pacificharbors.org](mailto:dbouta@pacificharbors.org) or call 360-372-2701.

### MAY BIRTHDAYS

The following scouts are celebrating their birthday in May. Please join us in wishing them a happy birthday!

<b>William Landon</b>	16
<b>Ben Williams</b>	13
<b>Jonny Buehler</b>	14
<b>Greg Herschberger</b>	15
<b>Evan Lankford</b>	15
<b>Adam Golden</b>	12
<b>Taylor Kirk</b>	15
<b>Ralph Woodruff</b>	16
<b>Colin Evans</b>	14
<b>Jimmy Jacobs</b>	13
<b>Ian Crinean</b>	18

### MAY ADVANCEMENTS

The following scouts advanced at the Board of Review in May. Congratulations!

<b>Clayton Woodruff</b>	Life
<b>Joseph Jacobs</b>	First Class
<b>Riley O'Callaghan</b>	First Class

## COMING UP

- 1) May 27: Court of Honor and Farewell to Graduating Seniors;
- 2) May 30: Troop Swim at The Evergreen State College;
- 3) May 31: Pacific Crest Trail Day Hike;
- 4) June 3: PLC / PAC / BOR;
- 5) June 7-8: Whitewater Rafting;
- 6) June 10: Troop Meeting and Family Summer Camp Orientation;
- 7) June 13-15: Order of the Arrow Ordeal at Camp Thunderbird;
- 8) June 14: Eagle Court of Honor for Andy Moreno at Good Shepherd;
- 9) June 15: Joint Eagle Court of Honor at Camp Thunderbird;
- 10) June 15-22: Order of the Arrow Gathering of the Bear Service Week at Camp Hahobas;
- 11) June 17: Troop Meeting;
- 12) June 20-22: Evergreen Trek Camporee, Rainbow Falls State Park;
- 13) July 1: PLC / PAC / BOR;
- 14) July 12-19: Order of the Arrow ArrowCorps5 National Service Project at Shasta-Trinity National Forest in California;
- 15) July 12-19: Summer Camp #1, Camp Meriwether, Oregon
- 16) July 26-August 7: Philmont Expedition;
- 17) August 9-16: Summer Camp #2, Camp Meriwether, Oregon
- 18) August 15: Tacoma Rainiers Boy Scout Night;
- 19) August 22-24: Order of the Arrow Late Summer Ordeal at Camp Hahobas;
- 20) August 28: Troop 266 Wild Waves Popcorn Sales Trip.

Please submit your stories, items of interest, and any other contributions for upcoming newsletters to the Newsletter Editor, Jack Sergiojan, at [molodyetz@aol.com](mailto:molodyetz@aol.com).

## QUOTES TO PONDER

This above all: to thine own self be true, and it must follow, as the night of the day, thou canst not then be false to any man. - William Shakespeare

We cannot fight against anything, unless we fight for something -- and what we must fight for is the supremacy of reason, and a view of man as a rational being. - Ayn Rand

No virtue is more universally accepted as a test of good character than trustworthiness. - Harry Emerson Fosdick

Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power. - Abraham Lincoln

Blessed are those who can give without remembering and take without forgetting. - Elizabeth Bibesco

Develop a passion for learning. If you do, you'll never cease to grow. - Anthony J. D'Angelo

Nothing is as frightening as ignorance in action. {this quote is above the entrance to the Naval Academy} - Goethe

There is no knowledge that is not power. - Ralph Waldo Emerson

It is much simpler to buy books than to read them and easier to read them than to absorb their contents. Too many men slip early out of the habit of studious reading, and yet that is essential... - Sir William Osler

The line between failure and success is so fine that we scarcely know when we pass it - so fine that we often are on the line and do not know it. - Ralph Waldo Emerson

The successful people are the ones who can think up stuff for the rest of the world to keep busy at. - Donald Marquis

The victory of success is half won when one gains the habit of work. - Sarah Bolton

The toughest thing about success is that you've got to keep on being a success. Talent is only a starting point in business. You've got to keep working that talent. - Irving Berlin

We succeed only as we identify in life, or in war, or in anything else, a single

overriding objective, and make all other considerations bend to that one objective.  
- Dwight D. Eisenhower