

TROOP 266 NEWSLETTER

October 2010

5-Point Strategic Plan

By Scoutmaster Barry Kirk

“Scouting – Celebrating the Adventure, Continuing the Journey”

As the Scoutmaster for Troop 266, I have learned this role holds different meanings for different people, depending on their respective experience or perspective in / of scouting. Likewise, in my adult life I have been blessed with the distinct honor of holding positions of authority and public trust while in public service, both in the military of the United States, and law enforcement in Washington State; where once again, role has meant different things to those I have served.

In both areas, my roles have been to serve the common good while adhering to a standard of personal conduct worthy of each of these callings. I am always amazed when a new opportunity to serve presents itself and how my previous experiences have prepared me for the next challenge. Also amazing to me is how closely my life’s course has paralleled the values of ***Scouting***, long before I could have predicted my future calling as a Scoutmaster.

Not attributing solely to my own abilities, rather, I benefitted from proven quality instruction, sage mentoring, and the experiences of others that continue to speak into my life. I take great solace that even the great leaders in the Bible often sought the counsel of those whom they led. Two such leaders were David and Nehemiah. Again, a parallel to the virtues of ***Scouting***. Now, I wish to share with you my Scoutmaster Vision for Troop 266; a course and a heading to set as we ***celebrate the adventure, and continue the journey.....***

Within any organization, it’s most valuable resource is the people who support it. Troop 266 is fortunate that we have the resources to provide the optimum in scouting experiences for our scouts. Be it the wide variety of merit badges available throughout the year, the Seeker program, multiple Summer Camp and High Adventure options, Pacific Crest Trail hiking, Winter Camping, Klondike

competitions, or opportunities for rank advancement, Troop 266 offers the potential for any scout to reach their personal goals, whatever they may be.

Troop 266 has a history for producing Eagle Scouts at a rate that well exceeds the national average. However, our troop is not now and will not be known as “an Eagle Scout mill”. We will not focus our efforts on producing record numbers of Eagle Scouts. However, we DO have at our disposal those resources making it possible for any scout so motivated to attain Eagle rank, to reach this goal. For those scouts with this goal, every opportunity will be afforded to them.

As well, recognizing not every scout’s goal is to reach Eagle rank, Troop 266 can provide the optimum scouting environment that offers and encourages fellowship outdoor adventures, leadership skills, and life- impacting mentoring. We are shaping and preparing tomorrow’s leaders.

The following is my 5-point Strategic Plan for implementing my vision, and will be reflected in our Annual Training Calendar contingent on acceptance by the elected scout leadership:

1. **Troop Competition Nights** – emphasizing patrol competitions in demonstrating those basic scouting skills learned during their days as Seekers. **Monthly.**
2. **Troop Klondike Competition Weekends** – patrol-based competitions in a camping environment that combines Klondike events with our Chile cook-off weekends. **Semi-Annually in the Fall and Spring.**
3. **Troop Game Nights** – Troop meeting nights designed for formally conducted games or athletic competitions, i.e. “Capture the Flag”, “Dog Sled Races”, etc. **Planned at and by the PLC.**
4. **Quality in Flag / Opening/Closing Ceremonies** - Senior Scouts assigned as a 6 month leadership project and designated as ***Troop Instructors*** to teach the patrols the proper conducting of flag ceremonies; raising the standard in honoring our national flag. **Weekly.**
5. **Adult Education / Patrol Advisor Education** – where the scoutmaster meets the patrol advisors and trains them how to be “effective” patrol advisors. **Semi-Annually at the Spring and Fall Annual Planning Conference (APC).**

For the Scoutmaster's Vision to be successful, it requires the complete support and ownership of the scouts who will be implementing. They must own it, must be willing to accept responsibility for it, and assign "duty patrols" in putting it to work. Further, each of the 5 points requires an adult leader overseeing their respective point.

The Scoutmaster's Vision will be presented at each Spring and Fall Annual Planning Conference for buyoff by the newly elected scout leaders.

I believe in Scouting, and I believe we, as a Troop, have the quality scouts and parents that make it possible to live up to our mantra, "*Troop 266 – World Class Scouting*".

Barry Kirk
Scoutmaster, Troop 266
Capitol Area District
Pacific Harbors Council

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Troop 266 Scouts going to PLU's home game with Univ. of Puget Sound

We're going to Puyallup to cheer on our PLU football team at their Saturday, October 24th game with UPS. We've been going to see our Lute friends for many years and they are always happy that their scout brothers are coming. We can help our EMAL (Every Man A Lute) players win another game.

We will meet at the church at 10:45 AM. Wear your scout activity shirt or other black and gold clothes. We'll take the church van to McDonalds on the way to the game so bring money for lunch. The games are at 12:30 this year. After the game we go to the PLU locker room and hear how the coach and team cheer each other (win or lose). Bring a sack lunch for dinner as we'll go from the game to the campus field house for the team afterglow. That's the inspiring family/friends meeting after the game where the coach and others relive the great moments they shared while playing their best. We will return to Olympia around 7:00 PM.

Contact Mr. Bode at dansblues@msn.com or 360-451-1832 to let him know you want to cheer on the Lutes. The sign-up sheet will be available at the next two meetings.

Troop 266 has reservations for two crews to go to Florida Sea Base in Dec. 2010

Have you always wondered what swimming in the ocean in December was like? Have you wished you could sail away during Christmas break and see some sun among tropical coral reefs and islands? Well, your big chance to do so is on December 26th, 2010. Our troop is taking two crews to the Florida Keys again. One crew will cruise the islands on a 40 ft. sailboat. For six days you will be fishing, navigating and running the boat and taking stops to snorkel the reefs they pass. The crews will return on Jan. 2nd. We have lots of openings for two adults and 6 scouts on the sailboat. This adventure doesn't take much physical preparation or endurance. The other crew will have to get scuba certified and it has a full roster.

The cost last December (2008) was around \$1,700.00 (includes air tickets, bus trip from Miami area, charter boat, fishing gear/fees, meals) and that is estimated to be the same, depending on airfares. With scouts, you get a real bargain on the cost. The troop has already made some payments, so we need to start collecting fees soon.

Ask your fellow scouts who went last time (Harrison Coleman, Brian Hegge, Grant Dunn, Austin Sager or Caleb Hou) what a great trip it is. You can ask Mr. Jones or Mr. Bode for more details and the sign-up sheet. Then make up your mind to go quickly so you will get a spot on the crew.

Dan Bode

The 2009 Popcorn Fundraiser

Important Dates:

October 20, Tuesday Last day to turn in Turn in Take Order orders and money.

November 13, Friday Take Order popcorn available for pick up and distribution.

Product Lineup:

\$10 Original Caramel Corn.

\$15 15 pack Unbelievable Butter, microwave popcorn.

\$15 15 pack Butter Light, microwave popcorn.

\$20 Gourmet Caramel Corn with Almonds, Pecans, Cashews. (Perennial favorite)

\$20 Chocolatey Triple Delight (Chocolate covered, with butter toffee glaze and vanilla yogurt drizzle)

\$20 Caramel Corn Light

\$25 Trails End Trail Mix (An all new mix)

\$25 Military donation for service personnel.

\$40 Military donation for service personnel.

\$35 Cheese Tin

\$40 3-Way Tin

\$50 Chocolate Lover's Tin

Why should you sell?

1. This fundraiser is entirely for your benefit. You get to keep 28%-30% of the sales as commission to go into your scout account. This scout account can be used to pay dues, summer camp fees, buy troop t-shirts, snow camping, scout gear, high adventure trips (over \$1200 each), ... anything that's related to your scouting activities.
2. There are cool prizes for each sales level you achieve.
3. Scouts who fill up an order form get a free ticket to a Seattle Mariners baseball game.
4. \$1500 sellers are invited to go to a special party at Bullwinkle's Family Fun Center in Tukwila.
\$2000 sellers will receive a Sony **PSP**.
\$2500 sellers will receive a Nintendo **Wii** or an **Xbox 360**.
5. You help support the Council; this is their major fundraiser of the year.
6. Where else can a 12 year old boy make \$500 or \$2000 within 2 months, legally?
7. You help other scouts in the troop when you participate. Everybody gets a higher commission if the per boy sales average increases. Even if you sell minimally to your own family and close relatives, it makes a difference. We need everyone to be involved so that every scout can get a higher commission.

Why should the parents support the fundraiser?

1. So you don't have to be the banker for all the boys' scout expenses. With dues, uniform, summer camp, troop t-shirt, equipment,, scouting can get expensive.
2. Good opportunity to teach the boys the value of hard earned money.
3. Good learning experience for the boys: talking to strangers, building confidence, taking rejection, setting goal, achieving success.
4. Other parents need your help to not be a banker for their boys. Scouts get a higher commission when the per boy sales average increases. So please help your fellow scouting families.
5. Popcorn makes good presents, buy extra for Christmas gifts, party gifts, office gifts,
Everybody likes tasty popcorn.

If you are a scout adult or alumni family who no longer has young boys in the troop actively, you can be involved too. Please support our scouts as they sell. If you would like to purchase some popcorn to encourage these scouts, feel free to contact the people below, and we will connect you with scouts living in your area.

Questions? Contact Laying Hou, sixteentonine@yahoo.com, 943-7719 (home), 481-4442 (cell)
Judy Holm, jholm2004@yahoo.com, 866-1877 (home), 970-9318 (cell)



ORDER OF THE ARROW REPORT

By Julian Dizon, O/A Troop Representative

Earlier this Summer (Aug. 1-6), we sent a local contingent to the National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC) at Indiana University. Being the second largest Scouting event in the U.S., most people agree that NOAC is one of the most FUN and EXCITING events that Scouting has to offer. We had our monthly LLC meeting on Sept. 7th in Tacoma. We planned on many upcoming events. On Sept. 11-13th, Oregon hosted their Section W-1S Conclave at Camp Baker, which is the largest gathering of OA members on the Northwest. Our Section's Conclave (W1-N) will be held at the end of April 2010. For General Conclave Information, go to <http://www.section1s.org/conclave>. On Sept 12, our Chapter held its Annual Shotgun Shoot/Chapter Planning Meeting at the Evergreen Sportsman's Club in Rochester . Anyone that didn't attend really missed out on a great time. On October 5th our Chapter held its monthly Chapter at the First United Methodist Church at 7 o'clock, where we discussed and prepared people who are running for office at our Annual Fall Fellowship taking place on October 30th to November 1st.

For more information on any of these topics or any updates on recent OA activities, contact Chehalis Chapter Advisor Jack Sergojian @ molodyetz@aol.com, Chehalis Chapter Chief Phillip Smircich @ simonware@hotmail.com, or myslef @ diznju@comcast.net.

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: In September, the Eagles participated in Taylor's eagle project. Rockwall climbing /swimming are scheduled for October, and bowling for November.

FLAMING ARROWS: The Flaming Arrows attended the Fall Planning Conference at Camp Delazine in September. A group meeting on Oct. 10th at Mr. Kirkmire's home to review together how they are doing with their eagle projects and what support they need from each other. They are planning to take part in the night hike in November.

PHEASANTS: In September, the pheasants attended the Annual Planning Conference, and helped with an eagle project. In October, they hiked to a B17 crash site & trained for hiking in Philmont. For November, they plan to go skiing & join in the night hike.

LEVIATHANS: The Leviathans will have a planning meeting in October.

SHARKS: The Sharks worked on their rock climbing merit badge in September, and will work towards their patrol patch in October.

BEAVERS: The Beavers plan to assist with Kyle's Eagle project and would like to attend rally day in November (if offered).

SEA TURTLES: The SeaTurtles went on a 25 mile bike ride on the Chehalis Western trail in September, and plan to visit the Schilter family farm in October. A game night is in the works for November.

PATRIOTS: No report..

SCORPIONS: The Scorpions joined in the Annual Planning Conference in September, and are planning to go camping in October. They are looking forward to the night hike in November.

PANTHERS: The panthers are planning a Mt. St. Helens campout sometime soon.

ADVANCEMENTS

**The following Scouts advanced at the October Board of Review.
Congratulations!**

David Drinkard	Life
Erik Meyer	Eagle
James Icenogle	Star
Spencer Kirk	Life
Jesse Stusser	Tenderfoot (not previously recognized from Summer Camp)
Lee Thibodeau	1st Class

TROOP 266 CALENDAR 10/01/09 - 12/31/09

	<u>Type</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
October			
10/06/09	PLC/B		PLC/BOR/PAC
10/12/09	Cmte	Room 115	Committee Meeting
10/13/09	Troop Mtg		Wreath Kickoff - MB Class #2
10/16/09	Serv Proj (3.0 Hours)	Millersylvania St. Park	Kyle Parnell Eagle Project
10/17/09	Serv Proj (3.0 Hours)	Millersylvania St. Park	Kyle Parnell Eagle Project
10/20/09	Troop Mtg		
10/24/09	Event	Sparks Stadium, Puyallup	PLU vs. UPS Football Game
10/24/09	Training		Den Chief Training
10/27/09	Troop Mtg		Merit Badge Class #3
November			
11/03/09	PLC/B		PLC/BOR/PAC
11/09/09	Cmte	Room 115	Committee Meeting
11/10/09	Troop Mtg		Wreath Orders Turn-In
11/14/09	Event	Camp Thunderbird	Rally Day
11/17/09	Troop Mtg		MB CI #4/2010 Mbrshp Dues
11/20/09	Hiking (10.0 Miles)	Camp Thunderbird	Night Hike
11/24/09	Troop Mtg		Wreath Delivery - Winter Camping
December			
12/01/09	PLC/B		PLC/BOR/PAC
12/05/09	Training	GSLC	Jr Leader Training (Tentative)
12/07/09	Cmte	Room 115	Committee Meeting
12/08/09	Troop Mtg		Merit Badge Class #5
12/15/09	Serv Proj (2.0 Hours)		Caroling
12/19/09	Serv Proj (3.0 Hours)	Thurston. Cty. Food Bank	Sort Holiday Food Donations