

TROOP 29 NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2005

March Outing: Backpacking

By: Scoutmaster Don

The weather outlook wasn't good but that did not stop Troop 29 from going backpacking. What do they do in Seattle? Scouts go backpacking, so why should we be any different. It was a nice cool overcast morning when we hit the Gabrielino Trail above JPL and Pasadena. It was an easy hike down to the Arroyo Seco River, none of the scouts thinking they have to climb up the same trail the next day. The hike up the river involved crossing it six different times, which involved taking off shoes, putting on water sandals and getting everyone across the swift moving water. All of our 18 scouts and 8 adults (that's 156 crossings) got across without going swimming. An excellent feat for mid March. The final destination wasn't achieved, but the Troop found a nice place to camp after about 2.5 miles at Paul Brown Picnic Area. We arrived with a steady shower, so we quickly assembled tarps over the picnic tables for shelter. Every patrol carried one large tarp and every scout carried at least one length of rope for the purpose of erecting a shelter. (we were PREPARED) It didn't take long for shelters and tents to be set up and all changed clothes to fight off the early stages of hypothermia. Of course, after everyone got dry clothes on it stopped raining. The rest of the afternoon was spent working on knife and axe rank advancement along with a few other items. The Mountain Men Patrol received the Golden Spoon for their wonderful dinner of steaks, mashed potatoes, gravy and carrots. The Blackhawks meal probably would have won the Golden Spoon but a few of the adult leaders were seen stirring the pot a little too much. The Badgers meal was sooooo BAD (Scoutmaster Don was eating with the Badgers) Troop 29 initiated the GOLDEN TROWEL award. The Golden Trowel will be a perpetual award for the patrol with the worst meal. For those who don't know, a trowel is used to bury crap. We

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Meeting Time Reminder

All Troop meetings or Patrol Meetings start at 7:00pm. The Adult Committee Meeting is held on the first Wednesday of the month, also at 7:00pm.

Share The Wealth

Parents please share this newsletter with your sons. The information contained herein is for all members of Troop 29. Also, updated information is available on Troop 29's website, <http://www.webconnections.com/T29/home.htm>. The website has our current calendar, pictures, equipment lists, and other valuable information.

Youth Protection Training

This course covers BSA's policies on adult conduct and responsibilities. It is required for the tour leader of any outing to be Youth Protection trained. Orange County Council offers this course online, via their website: <http://www.ocbsa.org/>. Look under the section "Training " for "Youth Protection Training Online". It is very important for all adults who attend our outings to be, at minimum, Youth Protection trained.

Parent Release Forms

If any of your medical information should change, please inform Tom Reilly of the changes at the next Troop meeting to make ensure we have the proper information for your son.

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woke up to blue skies Sunday morning. Patrols cooked their breakfast and broke camp. SPL Gosh Gasser led a quick Scouts Own before departing. All in all it was a very successful weekend for all those who attended.

April Outing: Camp Three Falls

With the arrival of spring (OK it was in March, but it still works) also comes the arrival of new Scouts to Troop 29. Our April outing is all about the basics: pitching a tent, setting up camp, cooking, and learning basic Scout skills. We are heading to Camp Three Falls, near Frazier Park, which also happens to be a first time destination for Troop 29. Each patrol (including our adults) will cook their own meals and set up their own sections of our campsite. We are meeting at Bixby Knolls Christian Church at 6:00 pm on Friday, April 15th and returning to the Church around 1:00pm Sunday, April 17th. More information is available on the flyer distributed by our outing leader, John Eastman. Go Camping!

Summer Camp 2005: Camp Whitsett

By: Lori Gasser

Our destination for summer camp this year is Camp Whitsett, north of Lake Isabella on the Kern River. The first deposit of \$100 was due on January 31st. The 2nd payment of \$125 is due on Monday, April 25th. More information on Summer Camp will be available in the coming weeks from both this newsletter and on Troop 29's website. You can also visit Camp Whitsett's website at <http://www.whitsett.org/>. A special thanks to Jeff and Trevor Kellogg for finding this camp and assisting Lori Gasser in making reservations and getting information together.

Ship 529

By: Lonny McClure

Hello all I am the Skipper of Ship 529, our High Adventure Sailing program. Just a reminder to all the patrols that with the weather getting warm again it's time to go sailing! If any group wants to go day sailing please contact me at lonnyjay@earthlink.net.



UPCOMING EVENTS

CAMP THREE FALLS

APRIL 15-17

WHITE WATER RAFTING

MAY 21-22

SCOUT-O-RAMA

JUNE 4

SUMMERCAMP @ CAMP WHITSETT

JULY 24-30

Troop Equipment

If any Troop equipment finds it way home with you after an outing (especially backpacking trips) please return it at the next Troop or patrol meeting. It is important we keep a good inventory of all our gear and its current condition.

Board of Review Coordinator

As every Scout should know you need to have a Board of Review before advancing a rank. Tim Mournian has graciously volunteered to become our first Board of Review Coordinator. Instead of calling the Committee Chairman to schedule a Board Scouts shall call Tim. It is the Scouts responsibility to call and schedule a Board of Review, not his parents.

2005 OUTING ORGANIZERS

January: Leadership Training, Lindon Thomas

February: Winter Camp, Robert McClure

March: Backpacking, Marty Zvirbulis

April: Camp Three Falls, John Eastman

May: River Rafting, Bob Hagle

June: Scout-O-Rama, TBA

July: Summer Camp, Lori Gasser

August: Mt Whitney outing, Stephen Adams

September: Backpacking, TBA

October: Camporee, TBA

November: USS Midway Sleep Aboard, TBA

Advancement Alley

By: Valerie Adams and Sheri Grey

Our next Court of Honor is approaching fast. The upcoming outing to Camp Three Falls is an excellent time to finish up those last few requirements for you next rank. And don't forget to bring your Scoutbook so you can get your hard earned advancement signed off!

Everyone who has earned a merit badge was given a portion of their blue card back, along with the badge itself. **SAVE THAT BLUE CARD!** Many Eagle Scout candidates go through unnecessary troubles when either council or we have trouble finding proof of an earned merit badge. These blue cards are proof that you did earn the badge, and can save you many hours of phone calls and running around trying to find records. Baseball card sleeves work great for storing blue cards.

All Scouts are asked to bring your Scout book to every meeting so we can keep the Troop records up to date. Remember, should you lose your book the only official record is the Troop's Advancement report. If our records don't match yours you could find yourself repeating requirements for no reason.

Committee Corner

By: Marty Zvirbulis

Adult Committee Meetings are held the first Wednesday of every month at 7:00PM at the Church. Everyone is encouraged to attend and give your input on the direction of Troop 29.

Every Scout deserves a trained leader! Training opportunities are available through Long Beach Council, Orange County Council, and other neighboring councils. If you don't know where to start, come talk to us and we can get you pointed in the right direction!

Reimbursements for driving on outings. The organizing adult for each outing sets a budget for the cost of the outing, including transportation. If you intend to submit for reimbursement for gas please do the following. 1) Start the trip with a full tank of gas, 2) when you come back into town, immediately refill your gas. That refill receipt on the date you return (and any in between) is what you will be repaid. You can also donate your fuel to the troop, what doesn't get paid out in reimbursement goes into the general account. Recent reimbursements have either been for some cars with really poor gas mileage, or excessive gas. Please be honest when submitting receipts, Troop 29 is not the company you work for, we don't need to be in the business of auditing expense reports!

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APRIL AND MAY MEETING SCHEDULE

APRIL 4 TH	PATROL MEETINGS , 7:00 PM
APRIL 6 TH	ADULT COMMITTEE MEETING , 7:00 PM
APRIL 11 TH	TROOP MEETING, 7:00 PM
APRIL 18 TH	PATROL LEADERS COUNCIL, 6:00 PM PATROL MEETINGS , 7:00 PM
APRIL 25 TH	TROOP MEETING, 7:00 PM
MAY 2 ND	PATROL MEETINGS , 7:00 PM
MAY 4 TH	ADULT COMMITTEE MEETING , 7:00 PM
MAY 9 TH	TROOP MEETING, 7:00 PM
MAY 16 TH	PATROL LEADERS COUNCIL, 6:00 PM PATROL MEETINGS , 7:00 PM
MAY 23 RD	COURT OF HONOR, 7:00 PM
MAY 30 TH	MEMORIAL DAY - NO MEETINGS

SCOUTMASTER'S MINUTE

Welcome to all our new Scouts and their parents. I have a few words about the Scouting chain of command. It starts with your patrol leader. Should you have any questions Scouts (and not parents) should first contact their patrol leader. If he can't answer the question, Scouts should next call their adult patrol advisor. If he can not answer the question, then the patrol advisor will call me to resolve the situation. This chain of command minimizes the amount of traffic one person has to deal with as well as gives Scouts several persons to contact to answer his question. Please keep this in mind.

Just a reminder to all Scouts that there are only two more Board of Reviews until our next Court of Honor. Once you finish all the requirements for a rank, you will need to call me to set up a Scoutmaster Conference. After the Conference, you will call Tim Mournian to set up the Board of Review. Please remember to be in full class A Scout uniform for both of these events.

Scoutmaster Don