

# TROOP 29 NEWSLETTER

## FEBRUARY 2005

### February Event: Scout Sunday

Scout Sunday is our day to give thanks and appreciation to the Bixby Knolls Christian Church and its congregation for graciously allowing us the use of their facilities. Scout Sunday is a National Good Turn by members of the Boy Scouts of America, to show their appreciation to their Chartering Organization for their sponsorship. This year Scout Sunday is on February 6<sup>th</sup>. This also happens to be Super Bowl Sunday. Please rest assured you will not miss a minute of football, and your presence at Scout Sunday is NEEDED. Scouts are asked to arrive at the Church at 9:30am in full Class A uniform. We will be presenting the colors and assisting with the service. We are also hosting the coffee hour that follows the services, from approximately 11:30 to 12:30. Each Scout is asked to bring finger foods similar to what we bring to Court of Honor, but no desserts (the Church will have a sheet cake).

### February Outing: Snow Day

Our first outing of 2005 will be a one day trip to the San Bernardino Mountains. In preparation for a weekend of tent camping in snow next year, we are going to spend a day playing in the snow this year. We will rent some snow shoes and hike in the snow, the participate in the usual winter events of sledding and having snow ball fights. Please signup with Robert McClure by February 7<sup>th</sup>. The outing is \$30 per person. Everyone is asked to bring a sack lunch and money for dinner.

### January Event: Leadership Training

We held our winter Junior Leadership Training outing the weekend of January 21-23 at Camp Eaton on Angeles Crest Highway. Lindon Thomas did a fantastic job organizing the weekend. And a big thank you to all the adults who participated in

### 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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the outing. Once again you made our Troop 29 Leadership Outing an event to remember. Great job!

## 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 31<sup>st</sup>. More information on Summer Camp will be available in the coming weeks, including when the next deposit is due. A special thanks to Jeff and Trevor Kellogg for finding this camp and assisting Lori Gasser in making reservations and getting information together.

## 2004 Los Fierros District Awards

Troop 29 earned Second Place in our District for our 2004 Outings. Congratulations to all our Scouts and Scouters for making 2004 a great year! And Ship 529 received Third Place for its 2004 outings, congratulations Ship 529!

## 2004 District Award of Merit

Former Scoutmaster Lonny McClure was presented a Los Fierros District Award of Merit. Only four of these are given each year, to outstanding Scouters (adults) in recognition of their work in Scouting. Congratulations Lonny!

## Letter of Appreciation

At the Court of Honor, Don Smith thanked the parents who contribute to the troop. I think it's our turn to let him know how much we appreciate everything he does. Last summer Don, Marty Zvirbulis and Harold Brightenberg, with guidance from Norm Abrahamson, formed a steering committee to develop an interim plan when Scoutmaster Phil Baustian was relocating to Ohio. During the transition, they kept the troop programs running and ultimately Don took on the scoutmaster role while Marty took over as Committee Chairman. They generously give their time and energy to coordinate the activities of a large troop.

I am also impressed with the adult leaders who volunteer in so many capacities. In addition to busy lives, you give your time and talent to contribute to the scouting experience of our sons. Thank-you so much for your dedication and hard work. You offer so many opportunities for the boys. While the scouts are enjoying new experiences, gaining new skills, learning to be accountable and having fun - your efforts are shaping tomorrow's leaders.

At times it may seem that we take your roles for granted. It takes a lot of time and effort to run such an amazing troop. I'm sure I speak for many when I say thank-you for **EVERYTHING** you do. We really do appreciate your generosity.

Sincerely,  
Dianne DeYoung

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

SCOUT SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 6

SNOWDAY

FEBRUARY, 19

BACKPACKING TRIP

MARCH 19-20

## Troop Equipment

If any Troop equipment finds it way home with you after an outing 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 will now 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: TBA, TBA

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: TBA, TBA

November: Devils Punch Bowl, TBA

# Advancement Alley

*By: Valerie Adams and Sheri Grey*

Congratulation to all who received awards at our Winter Court of Honor!

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!

And speaking of leaders there are only two vacant Committee Positions left, Troop Chaplain and Fundraising. If you have interest in assisting us by filling one of these positions please let me know.

**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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## **FEBRUARY AND MARCH MEETING SCHEDULE**

FEBRUARY 2 <sup>ND</sup>	ADULT COMMITTEE MEETING , 7:00 PM
FEBRUARY 7 <sup>TH</sup>	PATROL MEETINGS , 7:00 PM
FEBRUARY 14 <sup>TH</sup>	TROOP MEETING, 7:00 PM
FEBRUARY 21 <sup>ST</sup>	PATROL LEADERS COUNCIL, 6:00 PM PATROL MEETINGS , 7:00 PM
FEBRUARY 28 <sup>TH</sup>	TROOP MEETING, 7:00 PM
MARCH 2 <sup>ND</sup>	ADULT COMMITTEE MEETING , 7:00 PM
MARCH 7 <sup>TH</sup>	PATROL MEETINGS , 7:00 PM
MARCH 14 <sup>TH</sup>	TROOP MEETING, 7:00 PM
MARCH 21 <sup>ST</sup>	PATROL LEADERS COUNCIL, 6:00 PM PATROL MEETINGS , 7:00 PM
MARCH 28 <sup>TH</sup>	TROOP MEETING, 7:00 PM

## **SCOUTMASTER'S MINUTE**

“I received a letter in the mail. There are two reasons I got it. First, the stamp on the letter stuck to it so the post office delivered it. Second, the person who sent it was prepared and had placed my address on it.”

Scoutmaster Don

Obtained from Scouting Online @ [www.scoutorama.com](http://www.scoutorama.com) from Scouter Anthony Smith