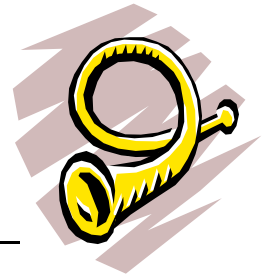


TROOP 608 BUGLE



Newsletter for Boy Scout Troop 608

December 2002 to February 2003

Workers Wanted

There will be a work day on Dec. 21 at the Scout Hut. We have been given permission to use the building over the car port to store our troop gear, but the safety inspector has made a few recommendations that we must address before that is possible. There is rotten wood on the upstairs porch, the concrete steps need to stop wobbling, and the stairs need handrails. He also recommended emergency lights. Please show up and give us a hand!!

Catholic Scout Retreat

The Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee Catholic Scout Retreat was held Nov 22-24 at St. Anne's in Belleview. Tim Hrbacek, Dan Danforth, Jay Schmitz, Paul Gotterdam, Alex Thompson and Matt Jones participated in this campout as a part of their Ad Altare Dei Catholic Religious Emblem requirements. Mr. Hrbacek and Mr. Parker worked with other scouters leading this retreat.

The awards will be presented on Scout Sunday in February.



PAY YOUR DUES SOON

2003 dues collected in December will remain at the current rate of \$4.00 per month or \$48.00 for the year. If dues are paid after January 1, 2003, the charge will be \$5.00 per month for a yearly total of \$60.00. The increase reflects an increase in our payments to the council office.

REMINDER: Those scouts whose dues are not paid by January 7, 2003 will not be re-registered with the troop for 2003.

Fundraising News

Several people still have popcorn money due. Scouts are responsible and honest.

The troop also needs help with the Mistletoe toe Give-away. We do not have a chairperson for this event, so it will probably be a bit chaotic.

The Mistletoe Event is the largest and most profitable fund-raiser we have. Last year, we made \$2,000 in one day, giving away dressed up weeds. Every boy should plan on working a shift.

The event will take place at the Walmart on Creighton, from 8am to 5 pm. on Sat. Dec. 14.

The work load has been divided into three hours shifts: 8-11, 11-2, and 2-5. The first shift sets up, and the last shift tears down. We need crews at all three doors to the store, in uniform, with bright cheery faces. We also need adults to oversee the boy's efforts.

A sign-up sheet is circulating tonight. Please sign up, or call Mr. Werre to volunteer.

Scoutmaster Minute

The December Court of Honor reminds me that it was just last year at this time that Jim Matson introduced me as the new Scoutmaster. Silly me... thinking Jim would always be a 1/2 mile away. I congratulate him on his new job and wish him the best in running 608 North. I'm beginning to realize how much Jim gave to all of us. I thank him again and again. And I appreciate all the help everyone here has given me.

I heard a couple of signs that I might be taking Scouting too seriously:

*when I raised my hand in the Scout Sign at the church council elections

*I thought about lashing together our new deck in the backyard

*I was almost arrested by airport security when I refused to let go of my knife until he said "Thank you"

*I bought my wife a mummy bag rated -15 F degrees for Christmas.

All joking aside, I'm so proud of our troop. According to the district reports, we've had more advancements that ever before.

While many troops try to hold boys past 15, we had 5 boys "age" at 18. Congratulations to Ryan Allcot, Craig Bonfield, Ian Fitzgerald, David Hrbacek, and Chris Nickinson.

We can take pride in our program. Each Scout and Scouter in this troop gives hundreds of hours (but only one per week) and I thank you! A special thanks to some stepping down and some stepping up, and some moving around:

Judy Matson will "retire" as Treasurer, but remain our Charter rep. Suzy Franklin will become our Treasurer. Michelle Schmitz will no longer be our transportation coordinator but will take over Hospitality. for Chris Robertson. Bill Oaks will become our Transportation Chair. Ron Gillette will step down as Co-Quartermaster and will assume all the responsibilities of Outdoor Chair Jerry Guidnas will assume the Co-Quartermaster's responsibilities.

It has been a great year and I am looking forward to the next...

Randy Werre

AWARDS AND ADVANCEMENT:

By: Betsy Werre & Erin Hernandez

The Eagle's Nest is growing- Congratulations to **Ian Fitzgerald** who achieved the rank of Eagle this past month. And best wishes to **Craig Bonfield & Peter Simms** who will soon sit for their Eagle Board of Reviews. Our support and wishes for success go to **Ben Marshall, Jonathan Seger and Gabe Barberi** who will soon be working on their Eagle projects.

And the **TRIPLE CROWN AWARD** goes to...**Jim Matson, Randy Werre, Jeff Stone, Chris Hrbacek, Michael Hrbacek, David Hrbacek, Craig Bonfield, Matt Couch, Chris Maynard, Chris Nickinson, Evan Robertson, Jonathan Seger, Jonathan Sutter, Alex Stone, and Ted Werre.**

How did these guys achieve this award? These Scouts and Scouters have experienced the " BSA Big Three"- Philmont, Northern Tier and Sea Base High Adventure programs. You can too- Troop 608 is planning to attend Northern Tier in June 2003 (see Mr. Stone for details) and Philmont in June 2004!

Three youth have passed the age of 18 and have requested to become adult leaders with the troop. They are **Ian Fitzgerald, Craig Bonfield and David Hrbacek.** Let's hear it for our newest ASM's

EAGLE PROJECT DISPLAY

Several Eagle scouts have brought in their books for display at tonight's meeting. Please take time to look at these projects, and get an idea for what you want to do when it's your turn to earn this award.

Historian's Log

by Chris Werre



Troop 608 has had many exciting outings and adventures since I became Historian. We attended the Fall Camporee "Night Moves Duex" in October Troop 608 and won 4 blue, 2 red ribbons. Pedros won the red/white and blue ribbon. In the "Cast Iron cook off" the Bats, Moose, Canadian Cattle, Flaming Arrows, and Road Runners won awards for taste, appearance, health and safety and nutrition.

In November, we went hiking on the Odum trail at Cheaha State Park. For many of us, this was the first real backpacking adventure of our Scouting career.

At the JLT, my instructors suggested I give cameras to each patrol on each outing. I did this at Odum and got many great pictures. These pictures will be on the website soon. (HINT: some patrols still need to give me their cameras so I can get their pictures developed.)

Committee & ASM Training

Save Sat. Jan 11 for and great social and educational event. The troop will teach youth protection, methods, and stuff Randy learned at Philmont to the ASM's and Committee members in the morning, and then have a social opportunity for adults in the afternoon. The sessions will take place at Michelle Schmaltz's beach house. Watch for specific details, or call Betsy Werre.

This event is for adults only; both adults who are registered in a position, and those who are willing to accept a position. Hey, we'll take you even if you're just curious about a position. If you have other obligations, then just try to make as much of the program as you can. (we understand.)

Look Sharp, Be Sharp

Our troop upholds the BSA uniforming policy at every official event. As of late, some boys have been coming to meetings without their uniform, or without closed-toe shoes.

If you are coming from another event, pack your uniform, and change in the restroom.

Wearing uniforms gives the group a sense of identity and purpose. Scouts who wear uniforms are usually better behaved. Uniforms help set the mood and tone of the meeting.



Northern Tier

We still have three openings for boys or adults for the trip to Northern Tier this summer. Spend a week in the beautiful fingerlakes between the US and Canada.

See Cindy Guardinas if you want to go.

These openings are not limited to members of our own troop, but you must be 14 and Star rank. High adventure trips like this one are recommended for older boys who have camping experience and endurance.



Philmont 2004

If you want to go to Philmont June 9-21, 2004, please make a sign. We have reserved 3 crews to spend a week hiking in the mesas of New Mexico. The trip will cost between \$750 and \$800 per scouter. We need a \$50 deposit by Jan. 13.

BSA Troop 608 Bugle

Send Change of Address to
 P. Hrbacek, editor
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 Pensacola FL 32503

THE BOY SCOUT PROGRAM

I P L S E R V I C E F R I E N D L Y R O S
 M P I W H E L P F U L L S E T E F I L H A
 S D R I B V T I G E R O A D O P A T R O L
 M Y K M B E S C A M P I N G T T M O D N U
 T E O M Y R D U U T L Y G O R P I T C O T
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 S T A R O E B C U K N O T S B L A R K H S
 C O B O W L I N E A G L E O U T R L A Y W

Find words, up, down, across, diagonal and backwards

BOWLINE GOOD TURN SING HELPFUL
 LARK PATCH BEST FRIENDLY

BIRDS OATH DUTY
 COURTEOUS
 COLORGUARD FIRE TIGER
 KIND
 PATROL FISH BLUE
 AND GOLD MESS KIT
 ROPE BOOK
 CUBSCOUTS TENT
 LAW INDIAN CAMPING
 DENS
 SALUTE LEARN GOD
 AND COUNTRY GAMES
 BADGE SERVICE PLEASURE
 TRY GORP EAGLE TREES
 DO YOUR BEST
 TOTEM LIFE FLAG
 REVERANT COURT SCOUT
 SKITS FUN UNIT OA
 STAR FAMILY OUTDOORS
 RAIN LASH DUTY
 YES SIR SPL CARDS
 TRUSTWORTHY FRIENDS
 HONOR COT BSA
 HIKE BEAR CHIT
 LOYAL COOK KNOTS
 SKY SWIM CPR
 RESCUE ARROW WOLF
 SASH

Q's Query
What safety equipment should be in everyone's vehicle?

A: fire extinguisher, and a road side emergency kit.