
Troop 409 News

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WE ARE READY, ARE YOU READY?

We held our 2012/2013 Program Planning meeting on Thursday August 16th. I believe we have planned an exciting program and I am looking forward to a year of advancement, camping, adventure, and fun. All that we need now is to have everyone actively participate. Our new program starts on Tuesday September 11th; we hope to see you there.

SUMMER CAMP

During the week of Sunday July 15th to Saturday July 21st, thirteen Scouts along with Assistant Scoutmasters Jim Garbenis, Steve Gilks, and Dave LaBranche spent the week at Hidden Valley or Camp Bell at Griswold Scout Reservation in Gilmanton Ironworks NH. The five Hidden Valley Scouts under the leadership of Bryan and Mr. Gilks earned seven merit badges, four partial merit badges. In addition Ryan and Tyler took part in the First Year Camper Program, completing many Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class Requirements. The eight Scouts who attended Camp Bell were under the leadership of Troy and Mr. Garbenis and Mr. LaBranche enjoyed an adventuresome week earning seven partial merit badges in Water Sports. Because they were vacationing in Europe while the Scouts



*“Character is what you do
when no one is looking.”*

attended Hidden Valley and Camp Bell, Kieran and Rhys attended Hidden Valley along with Troop 267 of Salem during the week of Sunday July 22nd to Saturday July 28th. Thank you, Scoutmaster Kevin Griffin and those Scouts from Troop 267 who attended for your cooperation. Kieran and Rhys earned three merit badges and one partial merit badge. Rhys also took part in the First Year Camper Program during the week. We have reserved Week 4 at Hidden Valley and Week 5 at Camp Bell for summer camp next year. Great going guys!

YOUR EMAIL RESPONSE IS IMPORTANT

Response to Email messages is very important in the planning of meetings and activities. Please respond, when required. Most campouts and activities require a reservation and deposit. If they do not happen, it usually means a financial loss to the Troop. Therefore when canceled, an activity or campout not only does not occur but the Troop loses money.

CANS AND BOTTLES

Last month's income from cans and bottles was \$15.00 bringing our year-to-date total to \$261.35. Once again if you helped, thank you. If you did not and would like to help in the future, please bring your clean aluminum beverage cans and refundable plastic soda bottles to any of our weekly Troop Meetings. Please note – Not all

plastic and glass bottles are refundable; please check them for the refund statement before including them.

INK CARTRIDGE UPDATE

Last month, we received \$20.00 bringing our year-to-date total to \$135.00. If you have any empty cartridges from home, work, school, or wherever, please bring them to any of our weekly Troop Meetings.

FOOTWEAR AT INDOOR TROOP MEETINGS

The Janitors at the Barron School have once again asked that we wear sneakers at our Troop Meetings. This would help eliminate the black scuff marks on the cafeteria and gym floors. If necessary, please change into your sneakers before the meetings.

BOARDS OF REVIEW UNIFORM REQUIREMENT

Just a reminder, all Scouts who go before a Board of Review are required to wear their uniform shirt *and* neckerchief. There will be *NO* exception to this requirement.

POPCORN FUNDRAISER

Once again this year, we will be selling Trail's End Popcorn. Denis Bryer will return as our Popcorn Kernel to coordinate the fundraiser. As we did in the past, this year the fundraiser will be conducted in three phases – a Blitz Sale, a Take Orders Sale, and three Show N' Sell Sales. The Blitz Sale started with the availability of the order forms and will end on Tuesday September 11th Troop Meeting. The second phase of the fundraiser is the Take Order Sale which runs concurrently with the Blitz Sale, but ends on Tuesday October 16th. The third phase is three Show N' Sell Sales during which we will be selling popcorn at Wal-Mart in Plaistow on Saturday and Sunday October 13th and 14th and at the Salem Dump on Saturday October 20th. Our goal this year is \$6,750.00. All Scouts have received an information packet with complete

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details. We need the help of all Scouts and their families to make this year's fundraiser a huge success. Please sell to your families, relatives, friends, and neighbors. Parents may also take the order form to work and sell to co-workers. We will hold our formal Popcorn Sales Kick-Off at the Tuesday September 11th Troop Meeting. New this year, Scouts are asked to bring their order forms to each Troop Meeting so Mr. Bryer can record weekly sales; Scouts selling popcorn during the week will receive an entry into a special drawing for a \$25.00 Wal-Mart Gift Card at the January Troop Court of Honor.

POPCORN BLITZ SALE GIFT CARDS

The Top Blitz Salesman will receive a \$25.00 Wal-Mart Gift Card to be presented at the January Troop Court of Honor. All Scouts who fill an order form will also receive a \$25.00 Wal-Mart Gift Card. Please note the Fill-A-Sheet Prize continues until the end of the fundraiser.

SCOUT POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

With the Presidential Election coming up in 2012, it is a good time to restate the BSA's long-standing policy regarding the participation of Scouts in political rallies and other political events. Uniformed unit members and leaders may participate in flag ceremonies at political events and may lead the Pledge of Allegiance; however they should leave after the ceremony and not remain on the speakers' platform or in a conspicuous location where their presence could be interpreted as an endorsement or symbol of support for a candidate or policy. In addition, photos of candidates with Scouts in uniform or BSA logos are not allowed in any political materials of any kind. Volunteers must be alert to situations that would imply the BSA favors one candidate over another.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations Joey. On Tuesday September 4th, Joey had his Eagle Project approved by the District Advancement Board. His project is to erect a gazebo at the American Legion Post on Millville Street, our sponsor. He will be needing help from members of the Troop, friends, family, and adults raising funds, preparing the site, and erecting the gazebo. Please help him whenever possible. This is an opportunity to earn Community Service Hours.

ORDER OF THE ARROW FALL ORDEAL WEEKEND

During the weekend of Friday, September 7th to Sunday, the 9th, the Passaconaway Lodge of the Order of the Arrow will hold its Fall Fellowship and Ordeal Induction Weekend at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation in Gilmanton Iron Works NH. This is the last opportunity for those candidates who were elected in February, Lukas and Kieran, to complete their Ordeal Membership Requirements. If they are unable to do so, they will need to be reelected next February.

JOEY FERRARO'S EAGLE PROJECT FUNDRAISER

Joey has scheduled his Eagle Project Fundraiser Carwash for Saturday July 8th from 8am to Noon at the BP Gas Station (formerly R&J Getty) on Main Street in Salem. The Raindate is Sunday, the 9th. Your help is essential and will be needed to make it a success. We will be setting up at 7:30am. A reminder, carwashes tend to be wet fun, please bring a towel to dry yourself off with. Joey will be contacting the members of the Troop with details and a work schedule.

FIRST INDOOR MEETING

We will hold our first indoor meeting of the 2012/2013 Program Year on Tuesday, September 11th at the Barron School from 7:15pm until 8:45pm. In addition to reviewing

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everyone's Current Advancement Status and Partial Merit Badge Requirements, we will continue to complete the First Aid, Home Repairs, and Personal Fitness Merit Badges. It will also be our Popcorn Fundraiser Kick-Off Meeting. Parents are invited to attend to find out more about our 2012/2013 Program and Popcorn Fundraiser. Members of the Troop Committee will be there to conduct Boards of Review for those who need it.

LAKE STREET GARDEN CENTER FUNDRAISER

Once again this year, the Lake Street Garden Center in Salem has offered us the opportunity to sell refreshments during their Harvest Festival Open House on Saturday September 15th from 9am to 3pm. We are planning to sell donuts, hotdogs, beverages, chips, and popcorn during their open house event which will also include pony rides and live music. We will also have Trails End Popcorn available and will be doing a Popcorn Show N' Sell during the fundraiser. Plus there will be lots of fabulous sales across the Garden Center. Patrols will be scheduled to help with this fundraiser. We will also need adult help. All profits from the refreshment sale will be applied to the Troop General Operating Account to help defray the cost of Advancement and Camping; Sales of Trails End Popcorn will be applied to the Popcorn Fundraiser with 10% being applied to the Individual Scout Accounts who help sell.

SEPTEMBER TROOP COMMITTEE MEETING

The Troop Committee will meet on Monday September 17th at Mr. and Mrs. Bohnwagner's home, 19 Robie Lane in Atkinson. As usual the meeting will start at 7:30pm. We will be reviewing our Lake Street Garden Center and Popcorn Fundraisers and discuss our 2012/2013 Program and Joey's Eagle Project. Any parent who would like to attend should contact either Troop Committee Chair Don Bohnwagner Jr. or

Mr. Bohnwagner to make him aware of their intentions so we will have adequate handouts. *Parents are always welcome to attend.*

PATROL LEADERS COUNCIL MEETING

The Patrol Leaders Council will meet on Wednesday September 19th at Mr. and Mrs. Bohnwagner's home from 7pm to about 8:30pm. We will be reviewing our October and November programs and continue to fine-tune our 2012/2013 Program. *This is an important meeting; please plan to attend.*

SPECIAL FIELD GAMES

Once again this year, the Service Club of Andover has teamed up with the Massachusetts Council of the Knights of Columbus to sponsor the Thirty-Second Annual Special Field Games for special needs individuals of Merrimack Valley on Saturday, September 22nd at the Haverhill Campus of Northern Essex Community College. As we have done since its beginning, we will help with the overall set-up, inflate helium balloons for the Opening Ceremonies and for distribution to the contestants, and provide a Color Guard for the Opening Ceremonies. Please plan to attend, your help is needed. This is a rain or shine event. I promise this will be a heartwarming and rewarding experience for all who attend. We will be leaving from the Barron School at 6:30am and should return home about 3pm. If you cannot make it at 6:30am, please join us at the college, as soon as you can (the closer to 7am, the better). This is an excellent opportunity to earn Service Project Hours and to help other people at the same time. The Andover Service Club and Knights will provide donuts and beverages in the morning and a lunch for all participants and helpers. "Class A" uniform shirts and Troop Neckerchiefs are required for the Opening Parade and Ceremony, after the ceremony you may change into your Troop T-shirt. If you need a replacement neckerchief and/or T-shirt, please contact Mr. Bohnwagner.

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Parents are invited to participate. *Permission slip must be returned by the Tuesday, September 18th Troop Meeting.*

SM/ASM MEETING

On Monday September 24th, we will hold our September Scoutmaster/Assistant Scoutmasters Planning Meeting at Mr. and Mrs. Bohnwagner's home. The meeting starts at 7pm and should last about an hour and a half. The agenda for the meeting is to review our October, November, and 2012/2013 Programs and Joey's Eagle Project. *All Assistant Scoutmaster are asked to attend; your input is important to the success of our troop and program.*

SEPTEMBER TROOP

COURT OF HONOR

On Tuesday, September 25th, we will hold our first Troop Court of Honor of the new program year. We have many merit badges and awards to present, including those earned at Summer Camp. Refreshments will be served at the end of the evening. The program starts at 7:15pm. *Please wear your uniform shirt and neckerchief and ask your parent(s) to attend.*

A DAYPACK ON MY BACK

On Saturday September 29th, Mr. LaBranche will lead a 10-mile hike to an unknown destination. Plans are to leave from his home, 13 Beverly Avenue in Salem at 8:30am and to return before dinnertime. Participants will need to bring a daypack containing a bag lunch and beverage and raingear. Everyone needs to bring drinking water and to wear comfortable footwear, preferably hiking shoes or boots. *Permission slip and money (\$15.00) are due at the September 25th Troop Court of Honor.*

**PARTICIPATE
INVITE-A-FRIEND
AND
RECRUIT**

NEXT TROOP COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, September 17th
Mr. and Mrs. Bohnwagner's Home
19 Robie Lane Atkinson, NH
7:30pm

TROOP 409 MEETING AND ACTIVITY CALENDAR

October

- 8th – Columbus Day
- 10th – O/A Chapter Meeting and Nutfield District Roundtable
- 13th and 14th – Popcorn Show N' Sell Sale (Wal-Mart, Plaistow)
- 16th – Popcorn Take Orders Fundraiser Ends, Orders and Prize Selections Due
- 17th – Patrol Leaders' Council (Mr. and Mrs. Bohnwagner's Home)
- 20th – Popcorn Show N' Sell Sale (Salem Dump)
- 23rd -- Troop Open House (Second Year Webelos and their Leaders and Parents Will Be Invited)
- 22nd – Troop Committee and SM/ASM Meeting (Mr. and Mrs. Bohnwagner's Home)
- 27th and 28th – 10-Mile Hike/Campout (Zion's Camp, Raymond NH)
- 30th – Trick or Treat (NO Meeting)
- 31st -- Halloween

November

- 3rd – Scouting for Food Distribution
- 6th – Presidential Election (NO Meeting)

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- 8th -- Webelos and Scout Invitational Bowling and Pizza Night (All Saints Parish Bowling Lanes, Haverhill)
- 10th – Scouting For Food Bag Pick-Up
- 10th – Veterans' Mass (Mary Queen of Peace Church)
- 11th – Veterans' Day Ceremony (Salem Center Common)
- 13th – Popcorn Take Order Distribution
- 14th – O/A Chapter Meeting and Nutfield District Roundtable
- 17th and 18th – Survival Campout (Camp Carpenter)
- 19th – Troop Committee Meeting (Mr. and Mrs. Bohnwagner's Home)
- 21st – Patrol Leaders' Council (Mr. and Mrs. Bohnwagner's Home)
- 22nd – Thanksgiving
- 26th – SM/ASM Meeting (Mr. and Mrs. Bohnwagner's Home)
- *** – Veterans' Thanksgiving Dinner (Veterans Outreach Campus, Haverhill)



“We don't need more strength or more ability or greater opportunity. What we need is to use what we have.” – Basil S. Walsh