
Troop 409 News

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS

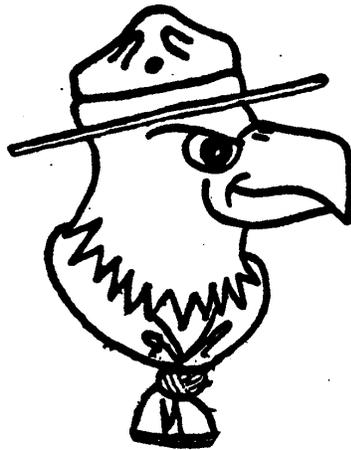
Troop 409 wishes our Jewish friends a Happy Chanukah, our African-American friends a Happy Kwanzaa, and our Christian friends a Merry Christmas and to everyone and their families a Healthy, Happy, and Prosperous 2013, also a great big THANK YOU for your friendship, support, and help this past year. ENJOY!!!

THANK YOU MR. LES, MATTHEW, AND PATRICK

Effective December 31st, Mr. Les, Matthew, and Patrick will be stepping down as Assistant Scoutmasters. Mr. Les has been an Assistant Scoutmaster and Merit Badge Counselor since March of 2004. He will continue to be available as a Merit Badge Counselor. Thank you for all you have done for Troop 409. Both Matt and Patrick earned their Eagle Scout Awards as members of our Troop and have served as Assistant Scoutmaster since they turned 18 years old. They are both attending Syracuse University in New York State. Thank you and good luck, Matt and Patrick.

PLC MEETING

Because of the busy holiday season, there will be **NO** Patrol Leaders' Council in December.



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

CANS AND BOTTLES

Last month's income from cans and bottles was \$23.00 bringing our year-to-date total to \$410.30. 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.

INK CARTRIDGES UPDATE

Last month, we received \$10.00 bringing our year-to-date total to \$234.00. If you have any empty cartridges from home, work, school, or wherever, please bring

them to any Troop Meeting.

NEED A LAST MINUTE CHRISTMAS GIFT

Are you looking for a last minute Christmas gift for a relative, friend, teacher, or a stocking stuffer? How about a spiral-bound First Edition Copy of “You Can Do It”; Troop 409's very own cookbook? We have a limited number of copies remaining and you can purchase one for only \$5.00. The book is “*user friendly*” for new or experienced cooks. It makes a great gift for those relatives or friends who are at college living on their own. If you would like one, two, or even several copies, please contact Mr. Bohnwagner.

WEBELOS RECRUITMENT

On Wednesday November 7th, we held the second phase of this year's effort to recruit Webelos into our Troop. We had twelve Second-Year Webelos from Packs 160 and 409 join us during our Sixth Annual Scout/Webelos Invitational Bowling and Pizza Night at All Saints Bowling Center in Haverhill. On Saturday November 17th, five Second-Year Webelos from Pack 160 visited our Survival Campout spent the afternoon with us followed by dinner and a campfire. Our final three phases are to invite Second-Year Webelos to participate in our Fourth Annual Webelos/Scout BIG Volleyball Fun Challenge scheduled for Tuesday December 11th, to visit our Tuesday January 8th Troop Meeting during which members of the Order of the Arrow will conduct their Summer Camp Promotion, and to visit us during the day and be our guests for dinner during our Deep Freeze Campout on Saturday January 19th at Lone Tree Scout Reservation in Kingston NH. The recruiting of Webelos is vital to the success of our Troop Program.

DECEMBER MEETINGS

During our December and January Troop Meetings we will review our skills in preparation for the Saturday February 2nd Nutfield District Klondike Derby.

CUB PACK 409

As of January 1st Cub Pack 409 will no longer be registered with the Boy Scouts of America. They will merge and become part of Pack 4442 sponsored by the Bishop Peterson Knights of Columbus of Salem. We wish them and Pack 4442 the best as they continue along Scouting and pledge our continuing support.

TROOP RECHARTERING

At the Saturday December 1st Nutfield District 2013 Rechartering we rechartered 23 Scouts and 15 Leaders for the coming year. The cost to recharter was \$883.00. Each family will

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continue to receive Boys' Life Magazine. We are looking forward to a great program year.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

Donations are needed to help defray some of the cost of our annual Christmas visit to the Veterans' Hospital in Manchester. Each of the patients will receive a gift bag containing two boxes of tissues, a deodorant stick, and a bottle of body lotion. We are asking our families to make a \$5.00 donation. If your family would like to make a donation, please bring it to the December 11th Troop Activity.

LIONS TREE LIGHTING

On Thursday evening December 6th, the Salem Lions Club will conduct their Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on the Salem Center Common. They have invited us to attend. Although they are no longer our sponsor, the Lions have been very supportive of our Troop over the 37 years they had sponsored us. We will be meeting at 5:45pm at the Common, please dress for the weather and wear your neckerchiefs over your jacket. Don't forget your gloves. The ceremony starts at 6:30pm.

BYOR THANK YOU

BYOR (Bring Your Own Rake) and come dressed for yard clean-up on Saturday December 8th at the Salem American Legion Post at 38 Millville Street in Salem. It is an opportunity to say thank you to the Post for sponsoring our Troop. We will start at 10:30am; the more participants the faster we will get it done. Pizza and beverages will be served during lunch break. It will also be an opportunity to see Joey's Eagle Project for those who were unable to help with his project.

WEBELOS/SCOUT BIG VOLLEYBALL FUN CHALLENGE

On Tuesday December 11th, we will hold the third phase of our 2012 Webelos Recruitment Program. It will be our Webelos/Scout BIG

Volleyball Fun Challenge at a location to be finalized starting at 7pm. Second-Year Webelos and their Leaders will be invited to participate and compete against Scouts and Leaders of our Troop in a friendly, but competitive volleyball game using an oversized ball. ***Refreshments and fellowship will follow after the game, parents are invited to attend.***

VETERANS' HOSPITAL CHRISTMAS VISIT

On Saturday afternoon, December 15th, we will make our 26th Annual Christmas Visit to the patients at Veterans Administration Hospital's Rehabilitation Section in Manchester. We will be leaving from the Barron School at Noon and should return home about 3pm. If all is well at the North Pole, Santa Claus will be joining us for the visit. Because it is a hospital and the closeness of the halls, we are limited to five Scouts. Those Scouts who need Service Project Hours will be given "first preference"; others will be taken on a "first come, first serve" basis. Please wear your uniform shirt and troop neckerchief along with a cheery smile and your holiday spirit. ***Permission slips must be returned by Tuesday, December 11th Troop Activity.***

TROOP COMMITTEE AND SM/ASM MEETING

The Troop Committee along with the Assistant Scoutmasters will hold a combined meeting on Monday December 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 December and January programs and start planning for our January 29th Troop Court of Honor. Any parent who would like to attend should contact either Troop Committee Chair Don Jr. or Mr. Bohnwagner to make her or him aware of your intentions so we will have adequate handouts. ***Parents are always welcome to attend.***

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VETERANS' OUTREACH CHRISTMAS PARTY

On Wednesday evening December 19th, the Veterans' Outreach Campus in Haverhill will hold their annual Christmas Dinner and Party for their residents. Campus Director John Ratka has asked for our help serving dinner and distributing the gifts and sharing the Christmas Spirit as we had done over the last several years. Scouts and family members are invited to help serve dinner to and eat with the residents as we did during their Thanksgiving Dinner. Setup is at 4:30pm and dinner will be served at 5pm. After dinner Santa will distribute gifts to the residents and lead us all in a few holiday songs. If you and/or your family would like to help, please contact Mr. Bohnwagner. ***Scouts and Leaders should wear their uniform shirt and neckerchief.***

PINBALL WIZARD ARCADE ACTIVITY

On Thursday December 27th, during Christmas Vacation, we have scheduled a game night at the Pinball Wizard Arcade in Pelham NH. The arcade features many classic and state-of-the-art pinball machines and video games, air hockey and pool tables, and even Skee-ball. We have reserved their party room from 6:30pm to 8:30pm so that those who wish may bring a sandwich and beverage for dinner. The games require one, two, or three tokens to play. Participants will need to bring their own money. Mr. LaBranche estimates that individuals can play for the two hours for about \$15.00. All tokens will be purchased individually. If you plan to participate, we will be meeting at the Barron School at 5:45pm. ***Permission Slips must be returned by the Tuesday December 18th Troop Meeting.***

DISABILITY AWARENESS PETALWORKS VISIT

On Friday December 28th, Scouts who are working on the Disability Awareness Merit Badge will be visiting Petalworks Adult Day Program Facility for Special Need Adults in Amesbury Massachusetts. The visit is part of the Disability Awareness Merit Badge. Mr. Bryer, who works there, has arranged for us to visit from 10am to Noon to see their operation and visit with their attendees. We will be leaving from the Barron School at 9:15am and will be returning home after lunch. The Troop will provide a special lunch. Scouts will need to wear their uniform and neckerchief. Because it is a work day for most of our leaders, we will need help with the transportation. If any parent can provide transportation it will be a big help. **Permission slips are due at the December 18th Troop Meeting.**

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

NEXT TROOP COMMITTEE MEETING

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

TROOP 409 MEETING AND ACTIVITY CALENDAR

January

1st – New Year's Day (Happy New Year)

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8th – Troop Meeting (Webelos Visit and Summer Camp Promotion)

9th – O/A Chapter Meeting and Nutfield District Roundtable

16th – Patrol Leaders' Council

19th and 20th – Deep Freeze Campout (Lone Tree Scout Reservation, Kingston NH)

22nd – Family Ski Trip (Location to be Determined)

28th – Troop Committee and Assistant Scoutmasters Meeting (Mr. and Mrs. Bohnwagner's Home)

29th -- Troop Court of Honor (FOS and Pie Presentation)

February

2nd – Happy Groundhog Day

2nd – Nutfield District Klondike Derby (Camp Carpenter)

3rd – Super Bowl Sunday (Go Pats)

5th – Troop Meeting (O/A Elections)

12th – Abraham Lincoln's Birthday

13th – O/A Chapter Meeting and Nutfield District Roundtable

14th – St. Valentine's Day

18th – Presidents' Day

18th – Troop Committee and Assistant Scoutmasters Meeting (Mr. and Mrs. Bohnwagner's Home)

20th – Patrol Leaders' Council

22nd – George Washington and Lord and Lady Baden-Powell's Birthdays

23rd and 24th Ice Fishing Campout (Camp Carpenter)

26th – February Vacation Activity (LaserQuest, Danvers Massachusetts)



*“A word to the wise – A good Scout is a doer,
not a watcher.” – Daniel Carter Beard*