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# Troop 409 News

Sponsored by the Salem American Legion Ernest W. Young Post 63

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Volume 14 Issue 12

December 2013

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## HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Troop 409 wishes our Afro-American friends a Happy Kwanzaa, and our Christian friends a Merry Christmas and to everyone and their and our families a Healthy, Happy, and Prosperous 2014, also a great big THANK YOU for your friendship, support, and help this past year. ENJOY!!!

## THANK YOU

### MRS. LOFFREDO

Effective December 31st, Mrs. Loffredo will be stepping down as a Troop Committee Member. She has been a Committee Member since January of 2008. She will continue to lead our ski trips and be available as a Merit Badge Counselor. Thank you for all you have done for Troop 409. Mrs. Loffredo's son Michael earned his Eagle Scout Award as member of our Troop in January 2012 and is currently attending Roger Williams University in Rhode Island.

## CANS AND BOTTLES

Last month's income from cans and bottles was \$16.50 bringing our year-to-date total to \$219.55. 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.



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

## INK CARTRIDGES UPDATE

Last month, we received \$40.00 bringing our year-to-date total to \$235.00. If you have any empty cartridges from home, work, school, or wherever, please bring them to any Troop Meeting.

## WEBELOS RECRUITMENT

On Wednesday November 13th, we held the second phase of this year's effort to recruit new Scouts into our Troop. We had four Second-Year Webelos from Packs 160 and 4442 join us during our Seventh Annual Scout/Webelos Invitational Bowling and Pizza Night at All Saints Bowling

Center in Haverhill. Our final three phases are to invite Second-Year Webelos and non-Scout friends to participate in our Fifth Annual Webelos/Scout BIG Volleyball Fun Challenge scheduled for Tuesday December 10th, to visit our Tuesday January 7th 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 11th at Lone Tree Scout Reservation in Kingston NH. The recruiting of new Scouts is vital to the success of our Troop and Program.

## PLC MEETING

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

## DECEMBER MEETINGS

During our December and January Troop Meetings we will continue to review our skills in preparation for the Saturday February 1st Nutfield District Klondike Derby.

## SALEM HOLIDAY PARADE

Because of the lack of response we will not be participating, as a Troop, in this year's holiday parade on Sunday December 1st.

## LIONS TREE LIGHTING

On Thursday evening December 5th, the Salem Lions Club will conduct their Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on the Salem Center Common. 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. If you would like to participate, please contact Mr. Bohnwagner by the Tuesday December 3rd Troop Meeting.

## TROOP RECHARTERING

At the Saturday December 7th Nutfield District 2014 Rechartering we will recharter 24 Scouts and 12 Leaders for the coming year. The cost will be \$1,216.00. As in the past, each family will 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, a bottle of body lotion and "Thank You for Serving" trinket handmade by Mrs. Wildes. We are asking our families to make a \$5.00 donation. If

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your family would like to make a donation, please bring it to the December 10th Troop Activity.

## WEBELOS/SCOUT BIG VOLLEYBALL FUN CHALLENGE

On Tuesday December 10th, we will hold the second phase of our 2013 New Scout Recruitment Program. It will be our Webelos/Scout BIG Volleyball Fun Challenge at a location to be finalized starting at 7pm. Second-Year Webelos, their Leaders and parents, and non-scout friends 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.*

## TROOP COMMITTEE AND SM/ASM MEETING

The Troop Committee along with the Assistant Scoutmasters will hold a combined meeting on Monday December 16th 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 14th Troop Court of Honor. In addition, Bryan is planning to present his Eagle Project for approval. Any parent who would like to attend should contact either Troop Committee Chair Don Jr. or Mr. Bohnwagner to make either of them aware of your intentions so we will have adequate handouts. *Parents are always welcome to attend.*

## VETERANS' OUTREACH CHRISTMAS PARTY

On Wednesday evening December 18th, 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

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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 5pm and dinner will be served at 5:30pm. 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.***

### **VETERANS' HOSPITAL CHRISTMAS VISIT**

On Saturday afternoon, December 21st, we will make our 28th Annual Christmas Visit to the patients at Veterans Administration Hospital's Rehabilitation Section in Manchester. We will be leaving from the Barron School at 2pm and should return home about 6pm. 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 17th Troop Meeting.***

### **AMESBURY SPORTS PARK SNOW-TUBING NIGHT**

On Friday December 27th, during Christmas Vacation, we have scheduled a snow-tubing night from 6pm to 9pm at the Amesbury Sports Park in Amesbury Massachusetts. The cost for the 3-hour pass is \$27.00; if we have at least 11 participants the cost will be \$22.00 each. We will be meeting at the Barron School at 5pm. Please come prepared for a fun time in the snow; dress warm. ***Permission Slips must be***

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*returned by the Tuesday December 10th Troop Activity.*

### **TROOP TRIP?**

We are looking into the possibility of a week-long trip to Washington DC this summer. The cost will be about the price of summer camp. If this were to occur we need to start planning by January. To start our planning, there are two things we need. The first is who is interested in taking part and the second is which week would be best? If you are interested please contact Mr. Bohnwagner by December 15th, so we can present our plans to the Troop Committee. The option of summer camp is still available. We have reserved to week of July 13th to 19th at Hidden Valley and July 20th to 26th at Camp Bell. Your input is important to our decision.

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

### ***NEXT TROOP COMMITTEE MEETING***

Monday, December 16th  
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)
- 7th – Troop Meeting (Webelos Visit and Summer Camp Promotion)

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8th – O/A Chapter Meeting and Nutfield District Roundtable

11th and 12th – Deep Freeze Campout (Lone Tree Scout Reservation, Kingston NH)

14th -- Troop Court of Honor (FOS and Pie Presentation)

15th – Patrol Leaders' Council

20th – Troop Committee Meeting (Mr. and Mrs. Bohnwagner's Home)

21st – Family Ski Trip (Location to be Determined)

27th –Assistant Scoutmasters Meeting (Mr. and Mrs. Bohnwagner's Home)

### February

1st – Nutfield District Klondike Derby (Camp Carpenter)

2nd – Happy Groundhog Day

2nd – Super Bowl Sunday (Go Pats)

4th – Troop Meeting (O/A Elections)

12th – Abraham Lincoln's Birthday

12th – O/A Chapter Meeting and Nutfield District Roundtable

14th – St. Valentine's Day

17th – Presidents' Day

17th – Troop Committee Meeting (Mr. and Mrs. Bohnwagner's Home)

19th – Patrol Leaders' Council

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

22nd and 23rd Ice Fishing Campout (Camp Carpenter)

24th – Troop Committee and Assistant Scoutmasters Meeting (Mr. and Mrs. Bohnwagner's Home)

25th – February Vacation Activity (LaserQuest, Danvers Massachusetts)

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*“When we give it our all, we can live with ourselves – regardless of the results.”*