



April 13, 2009
Issue 3

www.troop-202.net

The Scoutmaster's Moment

Painting houses has been described as 90% preparation, 10% pigmentation, and so it is with most all we do, including all the various Scouting activities we have lined up for the rest of our Scouting year. The Camporee is getting closer and the boys have been preparing themselves for a challenging weekend of Scout Skills, when they will be on their own, without a whole lot of guidance from the Senior Scouts, and the Adult Leaders. They have been working hard on knots, lashings, yells and flags all with a view to doing well in an unfamiliar and competitive environment. Derrick's work as Camporee Coach is intensifying as the time approaches when his leadership will be most needed and most tested.

The Wentze Summer Camp is approaching, with preparations well under way. Our site has been confirmed, Scouts and Adult Leaders are getting ready for a busy week of Merit Badges, swimming, Kaliyama, mountain biking and camp fires. Jake has begun the work for his Eagle project when his years of preparation as a leader of Scouts will come into its own. Preparations for Philmont are advancing, with Crews picked, routes selected and confirmed. But now comes the hard work. This is when the Crews have to form, and solidify under the guidance of the Crew Chiefs, Jacob and AD. The upcoming Sunol trip will be the first chance for the Crews to work together, setting up camp, and working as a unit. There will be many more chances for the Crews to work together. By now, all the Philmont Scouts, and the Adult Leaders, should all be embarked on an increasingly challenging set of preparation (there's that word again!) hikes, getting their gear, their minds and bodies ready for a physically challenging excursion through the mountains of New Mexico. Mid-July will be on us sooner than we know, so now is the time to invest the time in making sure we are prepared, and the best condition we can be for this pinnacle of our Scouting year.

It's really all about "Be Prepared". This is the key to success in all we do as a Troop, and this lesson will serve all of us well into the future.

Stephen Will
Scoutmaster

April 2009

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Upcoming Events - April 2009

Hiking Merit Badge:

Saturday, April 4 – Lake Chabot

Saturday, April 25 – Location TBD

Troop Outing Junior Scouts:

Saturday, April 18 -Briones Regional Park.

Philmont Crew:

Friday, April 17-19, Sunol Regional Wilderness.

Parent Meeting:

Tuesday, April 21 – Mandatory meeting for parents who are sending their scout(s) to Wentze.

Troop Meetings:

6:30 Basketball, 7pm Meeting

April 7: Montera Middle School closed – No meeting.

April 14: Patrol flags, Public Speaking, Camporee prep.

April 21: Public Speaking, Wentze Parent Meeting, Cub Scout Pack 274.

April 28: Public Speaking, Camporee prep.

Upcoming Events - May 2009

Friday, May 1-3, Camporee, Bort Meadow.

Hiking Merit Badge:

May 16 – Location TBD

MAY 2009

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Hiking Merit Badge

Scout Law

*A Scout is trustworthy,
loyal,
helpful,
friendly,
courteous,
kind,
obedient,
cheerful,
thrifty,
brave,
clean,
and reverent.*

- Sat, April 4th: Hike around Lake Chabot in the Chabot Regional Park. Meet at Chabot Marina at the south end of the lake at 8:30 am (see handout).
- Sat, April 25th; Tilden Park or Wildcat Canyon.
- Sat, May 16th (Location TBD).
- The tentative date for the 20-mile hike will be June 6th and this hike will either be a troop hike, or we will participate in the Mt. Diablo Silverado Council 20-mile hike in Wildcat Canyon/Tilden Park.
- We will also do more 10-mile hikes on other than Saturday's whenever possible.

Sunol Regional Wilderness

(Philmont Crew)

Friday April 17th to Sunday April 19th.

Friday April 17th

Assemble at Montclair Teacher's Parking Lot at 10am and depart by 10:30am
Check-in at Sunol Wilderness Visitor Center by 11:30AM
Gear up and hike approx. 3.5 miles to Sunol Backpack Area campsite

and return home.

This will be a strenuous hike that will cover a good deal of elevation gain and loss and is not recommended for the more junior scouts.

Saturday April 18th

Leave the Sunol Backpack Area campsite after breakfast and hike approx 6.5 miles to Maggie's Half Acre campsite.

It is important that all scouts and adults attending Philmont this year participate in the Briones outing.

Sunday April 19th

Leave Maggie's Half Acre campsite after breakfast and hike approx. 10 miles back to the Sunol Wilderness Visitor Center

Thanks

Janice Orrego

Troop 202 Outing Coordinator

Philmont Grace

*For Food
For Raiment
For Life
For Opportunity
For Friendship and
Fellowship
We Thank Thee O Lord.*

Sunol Regional Wilderness – About the Park

Bedrock mortars used by Native Americans for pounding acorns that were found in the area are reminders of Sunol's first inhabitants. For the past century, however, the land known today as Sunol Regional Wilderness was used almost exclusively as ranch land. Under the East Bay Regional Park District's multi-use land management policy, cattle continue to graze in the 6,859-acre wilderness. Today, camping, picnicking, hiking, back-packing and equestrian trail rides attract thousands of park visitors a year. Visitors should bring drinking water because there is no drinking water in the park. (Taken from www.ebparks.org/parks/sunol)

Download a map at www.ebparks.org/parks/maps

Briones Regional Park (Pre-Philmont Scouts)

Saturday April 18 – Sunday April 19

We will assemble on Saturday April 18th at 12 PM at the Bear Creek Staging Area on Bear Creek Road and return Sunday April 19th around noon. The purpose of the outing is to provide leadership for the mid level scouts and advancement opportunities for Tenderfoots.

DIRECTIONS:

To reach the Bear Creek Staging Area on Bear Creek Road, exit Highway 24 at the Orinda/Camino Pablo exit and head towards Richmond. Turn right after 2.5 miles on Bear Creek Road and travel 4.6 miles to the staging area on the right. Allow 30 minutes travel time.

SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY APRIL 18TH:

12 noon Picnic lunch at Bear creek staging area (families welcome to join).
 1 PM Depart Trailhead at Briones. Hike 3 miles with packs (probably Deer Creek to Briones Crest Trail back on Abrigo Valley Trail to Wee-Ta-Chi Group Camp)
 3:15 Set up camp at Wee-Ta-Chi Group camp
 5 PM Demonstrate proper use of Knife, Saw and Ax
 6 PM Prepare Dinner
 8 PM Optional flag football or Zorch.

SUNDAY APRIL 19TH

Prepare, eat breakfast, break camp, and hike out.

REQUIREMENTS

Scouts are to plan all food, prepare tinder, kindling, fire tell how to transport, store and prepare food. We are backpacking in so pack light. See <http://www.troop-202.net> for information regarding what to bring on a backpacking trip. Bring picnic lunch.

All Tenderfoot scouts need to bring a personal first aid kit to knock-off second-class requirement 6b. In order to do this, put the following items in a baggie and bring it with you:

Moleskin, to prevent blisters on the hike (you'll need a knife or scissors to cut the moleskin)

Gauze pads for cleaning or larger wounds

Soap or antiseptic cleaner for cleaning wounds.

Antibiotic ointment for preventing infection for small wounds

Band-Aids for covering small wounds

Tweezers for removing slivers or ticks.

Other items are helpful (Adhesive tape, large bandages, small scissors, Tylenol, etc.) but the above is the minimum.

Briones Regional Park - About the Park

With its rolling, grassy hills and secluded, shady canyons, Briones is a secret wilderness surrounded by the towns of central Contra Costa County. Although the park is close to Lafayette, Walnut Creek, Pleasant Hill, Concord, and Martinez, there are peaks within it from which you can see only park and watershed lands for miles in every direction.

From Briones Peak, the highest point in the park, there are panoramic views of Mount Diablo and the Diablo Valley to the east, the Sacramento River and Delta to the north, the East Bay hills and Mt. Tamalpais to the west, and Las Trampas Regional Wilderness to the south.

www.ebparks.org/parks/briones. Download map at www.ebparks.org/parks/maps

Wente Scout Reservation – Summer Camp



Tuesday April 21st 7 PM at Montera

We will hold a mandatory meeting for all parents sending their scout(s) to Wente.

It will be held at the same time as the regular scout meeting in an adjoining room.

The purpose of the meeting is to explain what your scout needs to do to be prepared and how parents can assist. We will also answer any questions parents may have.

Tuesday June 2.

All Medical forms are due.

Camp Wente is **June 28 to July 4th** this year. The camp is described at www.wente.org

Aklan District Camporee: May 2-3

Hello Troop 202,

This year we will again be participating in the Aklan District Camporee. Over 400 boys from all over the area will be competing as patrols in events designed to test their scouting skills.

Last year was our first time going to this particular Camporee and it was a great experience. The boys have been preparing for the Camporee during their weekly meetings and we'll have an April outing with a full day dedicated to it. All this hard work won't amount to anything, however, if our boys are busy on the weekend of the actual Camporee. So please save May 2nd and 3rd for the Camporee!

Thanks!

David Mitchell
Assistant Scout Master

Merit Badge Counselors

If you are interested in becoming a merit badge counselor, please see Paul Bennett or John McBeth.

To qualify as a merit badge counselor, you must:

- ✓ Be at least 18 years old.
- ✓ Be proficient in the merit badge subject by vocation, avocation, or special training.
- ✓ Be able to work with Scout-age boys.
- ✓ Be registered with the Boy Scouts of America.



PHILMONT

The final and third payment for Philmont is now due. Please make your check payable to Troop 202 and give it to Mr. Barnes or Mr. Hsieh.

Please get your medical form to Mr. Barnes by the end of April to allow time to review the form to get any errors corrected. (At Philmont, it will be too late.) Please follow the instructions on the form. In particular:

1. Attach a copy of the front and back of the insurance card.
2. Include the social security number.
3. Make sure both the scout and the parent sign the form
4. Make sure the form includes the date for the most recent tetanus shot.

Thank you!

In Memory

Mark T. Dunakin - 1969 - 2009

Of the four Oakland police officers killed in the line of duty (March 21, 2009), three were Eagle Scouts.

One of those was Sergeant Mark Dunakin. Mark was a Scout in the San Francisco Bay Area Council and earned his Eagle Scout Award, March 10, 1986, while in Troop 943 in the

Twin Valley District. Mark was very active in Scouting, was a member of the Order of the Arrow Achewon Nimat Lodge and served on the summer camp staffs of Camp Royaneh and Wente Scout Reservation. Our prayer's are with Mark's family at this difficult time.

Mark's dad, Dave, was the Director of Camping at the Council Office for 15 years. A public Memorial Service for all the slain officers (was) held at the Oracle Arena on Friday, March 27th.

www.sfbac.org