TROOP 202 OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

November 2009
Issue 3
www.troop-202.net

NOVEMBER 2009						
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TROOP MEETINGS
Nov 3, Night hike at Sibley Volcanic Regional Preserve.

Nov 10, Orienteering and preparation for Big Basin.

Nov 17, Board of Review and follow up from Big Basin.

Nov 24, No Meeting.

NOVEMBER EVENTS
Adult Committee Meeting- Thursday, November 12, 7:30pm

Troop Outing:
November 14, Big Basin Redwoods

Scouting For Food
Door Hanger Drop-Off
Saturday, November 14, 8am

Scouting For Food
Bag Pick Up
Saturday, November 21, 10am

DECEMBER EVENTS
Troop Outing - Dec 5, Hawk Ridge, Anthony Chabot Regional Park.

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The Scoutmaster's Moment

In a recent Scoutmaster's minute, I reflected on how I liked the Nike commercial of "Just Do It!" because it is more important to try than to never try at all, or worst, criticize without trying. This notion of action over inaction is not original. It was pointed out to me that Teddy Roosevelt, the 26th President of the United States, captured this idea succinctly in a speech he gave at Sorbonne in Paris, France on April 23, 1910. The title of this speech was "The man in the Arena" and is most notable for the following passage:

"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat.

Rick Prime
Scoutmaster

Pinnacles National Monument

October 9-11, 2009

The Pinnacles trip can be described in two words, “a blast.” Arriving on Friday night, a meal of Chicken Noodle Soup was available for the scouts. After everyone arrived we were debriefed on tomorrow’s plan, followed by a short leadership meeting.

In the morning, continuing our M.O. of a more patrol-oriented troop, each patrol fixed its own breakfast. After eating breakfast we loaded into cars and headed to the trails head for hiking. This year because of the weather we were able to explore not only the mid and lower sections of the caves, but also the most upper regions. Around mid-afternoon we stopped for lunch where we all enjoyed delicious sandwiches. After lunch we split into two groups: “low adventure” bound and the younger scouts. The younger scouts headed down a shorter and quicker route, while the older scouts continued along a hotter and more rugged trail. It took the older scouts an additional 45 minutes to complete their hike. Eventually, we reunited as one group and continued through another set of caves, ending back at the starting point. At the end of the hike, as a troop tradition, we all met at the general store for ice cream. After finishing our treats we returned to camp. At camp each patrol prepared its own meal: the Cobras had Mac N Cheese with hot dogs, while the Beavers ate Spaghetti with Meat Sauce. The adults and senior patrol enjoyed a fantastic meal of Rotisserie-Chicken Green Curry cooked by our senior patrol leader. After dinner we enjoyed free time. Later when the sun set we played *Zorch,* a classic troop game. After two rounds we returned to camp and performed *Thorns and Roses*, and went to bed.

In the morning we woke up, ate breakfast, packed up, and headed home. Overall this trip was another success.

-Spencer Wright

Pinnacles Nat'l Monument - Anthony Wright

Pinnacles Nat’l Monument - Art Hsieh

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SF BAY AREA COUNCIL

November 7, 08:00 - 17:00
HAT Basic Backpack Awareness

Merit Badge Counselor Orientation
09:00 Twin Valley

November 18, 19:00
Merit Badge Counselor Training
Tres Ranchos

December 12, 9:00-17:00
HAT Snow Camping Awareness

December 16, 19:00
Merit Badge Counselor Training
Tres Ranchos

EAGLE REQUIREMENT CAMP

Summer Session: June 21-26, 2010
Eagle Requirement is a special camp focusing on the merit badges required for Eagle. Even though the focus of the camp is advancement there will be opportunities for many other activities and a few other merit badges as well.

Who's Eligible:
Boy Scouts who are at least 14 years or older by the first day of the session he is attending and a Star or Life rank.

Cost:
$285 per Scout

Contact info:
JoAnn at (510) 577-9203
or joanns@sfbac.org

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Troop News

Scouting for Food

November 14 and 21

One of Troop 202's main service projects during the year is Scouting for Food - the food we collect is contributed to the Alameda County Community Food Bank where each month the Food Bank's network of over 300 hunger-relief agencies provides approximately 120,000 meals to low income and working poor families, children, the elderly, abuse survivors, people with AIDS and the homeless; Scouting for Food is the single biggest source of food donations for the Food Bank.

On Sat Nov 14, we will meet at 8 AM for donation card drop offs; after completing the drop off, we will return to the teachers' parking lot at Montclair Elementary to depart for our outing.

On Sat Nov 21, we will meet at 10 AM at the teachers' parking at Montclair Elementary and depart for food pick up.

Uniform Policy: **Class A—full dress** (Scout pants, belt, socks, shirt (tucked in), and current ranks.

This event takes place rain or shine!

Night Hike

November 3

The troop leadership decided to mix it up a little and in lieu of our regular meeting we will be doing a night hike in Sibley Park Tuesday November 3rd at 7 PM sharp.

The address is 6800 Skyline Blvd, Oakland, CA 94611 -from Highway 13, take Park Boulevard exit and go west on Mountain Boulevard. Turn right on Snake Road and follow it carefully (many turns). Turn left at Skyline and it is about 446 feet on your right. The hike will take an hour to an hour and 15 minutes. We hope to visit the Bard Maze.

Please where class B uniforms (troop t-shirt), dress weather appropriate, bring water and a flashlight. The Park is dog friendly so you can walk your pet if you desire.

See you Tuesday night!

Rick

The Outdoor Code

As an American, I will do my best to -

- Be clean in my outdoor manners
- Be careful with fire
- Be considerate in the outdoors, and
- Be conservation minded.