



JANUARY - MARCH 2010

Issue 4

www.troop-202.net

IMPORTANT DATES

JANUARY 2010

- 5 Troop Meeting
- 9 Troop Outing
 - Lake Chabot
 - 10 mile hike
 - Hiking Merit Badge
- 12 Troop Meeting
 - Con-way Freight
 - Trucking Transportation Merit Badge
- 19 Troop Meeting
- 23 Troop Outing
 - Montara Lighthouse
- 26 Troop Meeting

FEBRUARY 2010

- 2 Troop Meeting
- 4 Adult Committee Meeting
 - 7:30 PM
- 9 Troop Meeting
- 16 Troop Meeting
- 23 Troop Meeting
(Shakedown for winter outing)
- 27 Troop Outing (winter camping)
NOTE: New Date!!!

MARCH 2010

- 2 Troop Meeting - Court of Honor
(NOTE NEW DATE)
 - 6:00 pm Setup
 - 6:30 pm Dinner
 - 7:15 pm Program Begins
 - 8:30 pm Program Ends
- 4 Adult Committee Meeting
 - 7:30 PM
- 9 Troop Meeting
- 16 Troop Meeting
- 23 Troop Meeting
- 27 Troop Outing
 - Location TBD
 - Emergency Preparedness
- 30 Troop Meeting

The Scoutmaster's Moment

The Purpose of Scouting

I thought I would take this Scoutmaster Minute to reflect on what the purpose of scouting means to our troop. The purpose of scouting, according to the BSA, is to provide a program for young people that builds character, trains them in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and develops personal fitness. In a nutshell, I feel it is developing leadership in a supportive, fun atmosphere. Our troop has a history where the majority of our boys, with few exceptions, go onto college and challenging careers. This is further evidenced by Troop 202's track record of 20 percent of our scouts becoming eagles, compared to the national average of 3 percent. We have an unspoken expectation that if scout participates to the best of his abilities in our troop activities and service projects, he will be successful. And we will do everything we can to help.

The role of the scout adult leadership is to mentor the boys, provide an insurance policy in case something goes seriously wrong, and then get out of the way. The scout leadership, consisting mostly of the older boys, organizes our weekly meetings, service projects and outings. New scouts learn from boys only a few years older how to lead a patrol. Our program allows young men to learn at a young age that leadership is leading by example and taking the time to mentor. Maturity is helping your leaders. Leadership is not using a position of authority to boss other people around. This can be a difficult lesson for young boys -- and sometimes for adults as well.

This is not to say we do not have fun. The phrase "games with a purpose" has been attributed to the founder of Scouting, Lord Robert Baden-Powell. I can barely control my enthusiasm for the upcoming outings our boys have planned. We are going snow camping in February with Troop 206, camping in a empty office building in San Francisco in March, have reserved campsites in April on the Valley floor of Yosemite and plan to backpacking to Wildcat Campground in Point Reyes in May. Our summer is equally exciting with climbing Mount Shasta, a week at Camp Wente, and a week of high adventure including rafting class 3 rapids on the Klamath River.

My vision is that we continue to build on Troops 202 tradition of developing leadership while incorporating the enthusiasm of new parents and young scouts. We must maintain or improve our success rate while pushing the boundaries on our outdoor adventures. The responsibility of our growth and success really lies with our new scout families. Our scout leaders will soon go on to college and successful careers and we will invariably lose adult leadership with this ongoing transition. I ask that you seek small or great ways to help our troop so that not only your son, but also many around him will benefit from your involvement. Quoting Franklin Roosevelt, "We cannot always build the future of our youth, but we can build our youth for the future."

-Rick Prime

Lake Chabot Regional Park – Hawk Ridge

December 5-6, 2009

The Boy Scouts of Troop 202 woke up on an early Saturday morning and met at Montclair teacher's parking lot. Every boy was ready for some football as is the tradition at Hawk Ridge. We were joined by two Webelos from Pack 202 who are looking to join a Boy Scout troop. When every boy was accounted for we piled into the cars and drove off.

One of the benefits of Hawk Ridge is that we don't have to set up tents (except for a few adults); we get to sleep in a gazebo. When we arrived at Hawk Ridge we got our personal gear squared away, then we took a short one mile hike down to Lake Chabot. The hike down for some reason seemed shorter than the hike up which was strange. We ended up eating on a grassy lawn by the lake. After eating a hearty lunch we walked back up several hills to Hawk Ridge.

Then it was time for some football! We chose captains and they then chose the teams. The football play lasted several hours and what started out as a game of touch football eventually led to all out tackle, luckily no one was seriously hurt (joke!).

Once football was done, the cooks of each

patrol broke off and started preparing meals while the rest of the troop enjoyed a small game of capture the flag. Every patrol successfully cooked their meals and I do believe everyone enjoyed it. Once it got dark the troop experienced a game of Zorch - but on flat ground which required a lot more intelligence from the scouts.

After the dinner some of the boys decided to go on a night hike to the top of the mountain to look at a view of the Bay Area while the others stayed back and enjoyed a nice fire. Once the night hikers returned it was time for Thorns and Roses and eventually bedtime.

The next day we woke bright and early to prepare breakfast and begin packing up camp. Just like dinner breakfast went by very smoothly and soon everyone was ready to go home. But before we all left the leadership had to announce the new senior patrol leader which was Adrian Will-Orrego. In summary the outing was a great success everyone had a good meal and lots of fun playing football and I think we all can't wait to go to Hawk Ridge next year. -Diego Rocha



Merit Badge Information

Hiking

(Eagle Required)

MB coordination by Mr. Brocket and Mr. Slama. The hiking merit badge includes five 10 mile hikes and one 20 mile hike with short write-ups. We will schedule subsequent hiking opportunities over the next several months. It is a great way to get in shape for our Mount Shasta climb in **June**. Any young scouts who can complete the 20 mile hike will be considered for the Mount Shasta climb in June along with fit boys who are age 14 and older. Please review the requirements at <http://www.usscouts.org/usscouts/mb/mb061.asp>

Trucking Transportation

MB coordination by Mr. and Mrs. Wright. **Con-way Trucking Company in Hayward**. Scouts who meet all the requirements will be eligible for the merit badge. Please review the requirements at <http://www.usscouts.org/mb/mb113.asp>

Emergency Preparedness

(Eagle Required)

MB coordination Mr. Hsieh. Scouts who want to earn this merit badge must complete some homework. Participants meet at 7:10 to review what they have accomplished the week prior and what is left to be completed. Please review the requirements at http://meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/Emergency_Preparedness

Environmental Science

(Eagle Required)

MB coordination by Mr. Bostick.
Please review the requirements at <http://usscouts.org/usscouts/mb/mb007.asp>

Citizenship in the Nation

(Eagle Required)

MB coordination by Mr. Barnes.
Please review requirements at <http://usscouts.org/mb/mb003.asp>

Citizenship in the Community and Citizenship in the World

(Both Eagle Required)

MB coordination by Mr. Merritt and Ms. Oberholzer
Please review requirements at <http://www.usscouts.org/usscouts/mb/mb002.asp>
<http://www.usscouts.org/usscouts/mb/mb004.asp>

Trucking Transportation MB

Con-Way Western Express
(www.con-way.com/en/)
2200 Claremont Ct, Hayward, CA

We arrived at Con-Way Trucking Company headquarters at approximately 5:30pm. The reason for this small outing was so the boys could earn the Trucking Transportation merit badge. Organized by Mr. Wright and Con-Way employees who agreed to talk with us and teach us about their jobs. We were then given a tour of the headquarters; we saw the loading docks, trucks, cargo, and the main office building. We learned the safety procedures that the Con-Way employees have to follow. Also we got to see the employees in action, which was very interesting. After getting the grand tour we were led into a conference room, where they talked to us about what was on our merit badge sheet. They explained the rules of safe driving, and how being a truck driver can be dangerous. When we were finished going through the merit badge packet we all got together for a group photo. We then left the conference room and ended the evening looking at the trucks and their engines. Finally we thanked our tour guides and left with a new understanding of trucking. –Diego Rocha



Boy Scout Motto

Be Prepared!

Point Montara Lighthouse

January 23-24

Usually the Boy Scouts of Troop 202 make the trip to the youth hostel in Marin county, but this year we decided to go south to Point Montara Lighthouse Hostel. The boys met up in the Montclair Teacher's parking lot, then began the hour car ride. Since we couldn't enter the hostel until 3:30pm we decided to eat lunch at Moss Beach where we ate, did some beach combing and spotted harbor seals. There was one scary moment when a small cliff nearly fell on some Boy Scouts, luckily no one was hurt.

After seeing the harbor seals, we got back into our cars and drove down to Half Moon Bay Station Beach where some combed the beach and some of us played ultimate Frisbee. After ultimate Frisbee, we started a greco-roman wrestling tournament (no tackling, tripping, or holds below the waist) which was refereed by Mr. Prime. It was then time to return to the hostel where we unpacked all of our gear and got ready for dinner.

As the cooks prepared spaghetti and meatballs in the kitchen, everyone else played board or card games. After dinner, the boys read or played more card games and then it was time for bed. Everyone woke up early on Sunday to cook breakfast, clean up, and put away our gear. But before we could leave the hostel, Mr. Prime wanted us to go down to the beach and did a good turn by picking up at least one piece of trash on the beach; we left the beach better than when we found it. —Diego Rocha



Troop Information



Wente Summer Camp: July 4-10

If your Scout has not been to Wente before, we encourage him to go - he will have a great time!

The total cost for the week is \$325 and the \$150 deposit was due Tuesday, January 26. Write checks payable to Troop 202 with your son's name on the memo line. The remainder is due in March.

Some scholarships are available through the Council.

Schedule your son's physical with your health care right away and have them complete the Health and Medical Record form Parts A, B, and C (download the form at <http://www.sfbac.org/files/images/AnnualHealth.pdf>)

Wente coordination by Jennifer Oberholzer.

High Adventure 2010 - Klamath River July 17-27

Scouts and leaders met on January 30 to plan and Mr. Prime has put down a deposit for the river trip, and made a reservation for a campsite - a hike to Devil's Punchbowl as been added to the itinerary. The first four nights will be hiking in the Siskiyou Wilderness, to the Devil's Punchbowl. The fifth night we will camp at the put-in, after the zip-line experience. We will then have 6 nights on the Klamath River. The outfitter indicates that we will be in oar boats with kayaks available. We discussed breaking the trip up into two crews for both the hiking and river portions. The cost, originally set at \$750, will be slightly higher because we are adding a 6th night on the river. Mr. Prime will request a \$200 deposit for the trip to be paid by the end of February. Art Hsieh will collect the money.

Scouting for Food

Collection decreased by one-half compared to the previous year's intake. Approximately 50 scouts (including Cub Scouts from Pack 202) participated.



February Outing – February 27

Planning and final preparations are underway to ensure that Scouts are ready for the cold weather – this is a snow camping outing. A leader from Troop 206 will come to discuss preparations on **February 23rd** - *Scouts must attend the meeting on the 23rd with their gear.*

There will be a check of gear and equipment at the parking lot before we leave for the outing. Scouts who show up unprepared for the trip will not be permitted to participate.

Boy Scout Slogan

Do a Good Turn Daily!

Eagle Court of Honor - 2010

On Saturday, January 2nd, Troop 202 held an Eagle Court of Honor in special recognition of the accomplishments of our Eagle candidates, Robert Amy, Mark Bennett, Derrick Breska, and Stephen Fong. The ceremony was held at St. John's Presbyterian Church on College Avenue, in Berkeley, where it has been held nearly every year since 1994.

The trail to Eagle is long and difficult. It is started by many, but completed by few. The national average is less than 2%. Troop 202 enjoys a higher success rate: over the last sixteen years, better than 20% of the boys who joined our troop have left wearing the Eagle Badge. This is a tribute not only to those young men, but also to their parents and the leadership of the troop, both adult and youth.

To attain the Eagle Rank, a Scout must earn twenty-one merit badges, including twelve from the list of Eagle required. He must be active in the troop for six months as a Life Scout, while holding a position of leadership. Finally, a Life Scout must plan,

develop, and give leadership to others by executing an Eagle Scout Service Project which is helpful to any community or religious organization, but which may not benefit Scouting.

Over the years, we in Troop 202 have come to believe that the process of attaining the Eagle rank, and specifically of carrying out the Eagle Service Project, is most valuable for those boys who are older and nearing the end of their Scouting careers. The Eagle Project, which involves detailed planning, written proposals (in good English), the coordination of resources, the formation of a budget, and, most importantly, the practice of leadership skills, is in a very real sense a bridge beyond Scouting and into the world of adults. There are no 14, 15, or 16 year old Eagles in Troop 202; rather, our older boys remain active in Scouting until the end of their tenure, when they fly off to college. Indeed, with the proud exception of Chuck Schneider, who joined the Navy after receiving his Eagle and served two tours in Iraq, all our Eagle candidates over the past fourteen years have returned to this Court from college: Robert Amy from the University of California, Santa Cruz; Mark Bennett from Wesleyan University, Derrick Breska from Santa Clara University, and Stephen Fong from the University of California, Riverside.

In his public acceptance of the Eagle rank, each candidate was thoughtful and gracious, taking care to recognize those in the troop who have helped him along the way, as well as family members and fellow scouts. Robert Amy was presented by Ed Barnes; Mark Bennett by Jim Breska; Derrick Breska by John Brockett; and Stephen Fong by Jeff Kelley. Every presentation was poignant and comical.

If the eagle surveys the landscape from a lofty perch, then our returning Eagle candidates, for having been away from the troop, may offer us broader perspectives on the role Scouting has played in their lives. In so doing, they act as examples for the younger Scouts, reminding them that while the Eagle rank may sometimes seem an unattainable goal, it can be achieved. As our four new Eagle Scouts will tell you, if you really want to be an Eagle, you can. You must earn it, but you can do it.

Jeff Kelley
Scoutmaster Emeritus
Eagle Advisor



Robert Amy, Mark Bennett, Mr. Kelley, Stephen Fong, Derrick Breska

SFBAC-NYLT Scouts

**22nd World Jamboree
- Sweden-**

July 27-August 7, 2011

**Information Meeting
Thursday
January 21, 2010
7:30 PM**

The meeting will be at the YLTC – Council Offices – 1001 Davis Street in San Leandro from 7:30 PM to 8:30 PM. The meeting will cover what a World Jamboree is all about and what the experience is like. It will also cover how to register and the costs (\$3525) and what that covers. It is a chance to ask questions from knowledgeable leaders.

If you are a Boy Scout or Venturer who will be between the ages of 14 and 17 on July 27, 2011,

that is, specifically born between July 25, 1993, and July 27, 1997 -- you may be qualified for one of the coolest Scouting events you'll ever attend. The upcoming World Scout Jamboree in Rinkaby, Sweden, promises to be one of the best ever. With 40,000 Scouts expected to attend from six continents and more than 114 countries, it's going to be a world-class event, one you can be a part of if you start planning now.

Yours in Scouting,

Henry Allen
2011 World Jamboree
Chairman for
the San Francisco Bay
Area Council
Boy Scouts of America
510-490-5720

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

SF BAY AREA COUNCIL

JANUARY

- 16 SM/ASM Leader Specific Training
Twin Valley
- 20 Merti Badge Counselor Training
Tres Ranchos

FEBRUARY

- 6 University of Scouting
Den Cheif Training
- 8 100th Anniversary of Scouting in USA
Scouting Anniversary Week
- 13 Leader Specific Training
Golden Gate
Merit Badge Extravaganza
Mission Peak
- 17 Merit Badge Counselor Training
Tres Ranchos
- 20 N. CA Commisioners College
Council
SM/ASM Leader Specific Training
Twin Valley
- 24 SM/ASM Leader Specific Training
Peralta

MARCH

- 3 Intro to Outdoor Leader Skills
Twin Valley
SM/ASM Leader Specific Training
Peralta
- 10 SM/ASM Leader Specific Training
Session 3 (Peralta)
- 12 Intro to Outdood Leader Skills
Twin Valley
- 13 HAT Basic Backpack - Day 1
Council
Intro to Outdoor Leader Skills
Twin Valley
- 14 HAT Basic Backpack - Day 2
Council
Intro to Outdoor Leader Skills
- 17 Merit Badge Counselor Training
Tres Ranchos
- 20 SM/ASM Leader Specific Training
Golden Gate
- 26-28 HAT Basic Backpack
Council
Intro to Outdoor Leader Skills
Peralta

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.