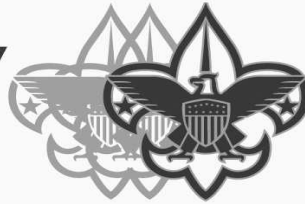




TROOP 75

Boys Scouts of America
Naperville IL



Troop 75

Volume 2, Issue 2
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Elliot receives his Eagle pin from his mother as his father and Scoutmaster Thomas look on with pride.

Congratulations to Elliot F. who received his Eagle Award at the January Court of Honor.

Congratulations are also extended to all of our Scouts who received rank advancements and merit badges at the Court of Honor.

Thank you to Mrs. Thomas for making the delicious ham and for bringing the television so we could watch the Bears play!

Thank you to our Troop families for all the delicious food that was contributed for our celebration!

Trailer Update

Mr. Thomas worked very hard for two days to put the tiles on the floor of the trailer and has them waxed to perfection. The floor looks great. We have six shelving units on order and as soon as they arrive, they will be installed and the trailer will be ready for our Trailer Work Night on March 2nd. Scouts are asked to meet at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in the gym at 6 pm on Friday March 2nd. We will work until 10 pm taking everything out of the small trailer, taking inventory of all the equipment, cleaning all the equipment, making any necessary repairs, and organizing the equipment in the new larger trailer.

We would like this to be a fun, working evening for the Scouts, so if any parents would like to donate sodas or snacks, it would be

appreciated! Please let Mrs. Thomas know if you'd like to donate a snack for the cause.



Troop Recharter Time

It's that time again...2007 Charter Renewals for Troop 75. Registration began January 23rd and will end March 6th.

If your scout sold 4 selling sessions for the Troop 75 Pancake Breakfast, the fee is \$75.00. If your scout did not participate in 4 selling sessions for the Pancake Breakfast, the fee is \$150.00.

Parents of new Loons: The check you wrote when your son bridged over to Troop 75 included the \$75 re-charter fee, so no additional funds are required from you at this time.

Please make your checks payable to Troop 75 for the renewal fee and give to Kathy Lybrand by March 6, 2007. If you have questions concerning

Charter Renewal, please call Kathy Lybrand at 630-618-4558.

Thank you for supporting Scouting and Troop 75!

A Scout is Reverent

The Boy Scouts of America designates one Sunday each year as Scout Sunday, which is the primary date to recognize the contributions of young people and adults to Scouting. This year, Good Shepard Lutheran Church will be celebrating Scout Sunday on March 4th.

We would like to celebrate as a Troop at the 11 am Service. Please have your Scout wear his Class A uniform and arrive at the church no later than 10:45 am. We will sit together as a Troop.

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Upcoming Troop 75 Events:

- March 2nd Trailer Work Night @ Good Shepherd Lutheran Church 6 pm – 10 pm
- March 4th Scout Sunday @ Good Shepherd Lutheran Church 11 am
- March 6th Troop Elections and Recharter Checks Due
- March 16th-18th Camping @ Jake Wolf Fish Hatchery Sand Ridge State Park
- March 27th No Troop Meeting – Enjoy your spring break!
- April 13th-15th Loons Basic Training
- May 4th-6th Troop Camping @ Owaspippe



Troop 75 2007 Calendar

Please keep in mind that no matter how hard we try to plan, sometimes unexpected conflicts arise. If any of these dates should change, we will communicate that to you as soon as possible. Please check this section of the newsletter each month for new activities added and any possible changes. The Troop calendar can also be found on the Troop website at:
www.napervilletroop75.org.

2007 Troop Dates:

- March 2nd** Trailer Work Night @ Good Shepherd Lutheran Church 6 pm – 10 pm
- March 4th** Scout Sunday @ Good Shepherd Lutheran Church 11 am
- March 6th** Troop Elections and Recharter Checks Due
- March 16th-18th Camping** @ Jake Wolf Fish Hatchery Sand Ridge State Park
- March 27th** No Troop Meeting – Enjoy your spring break!
- April 13th-15th** Loons Basic Training
- April 21st or 28th** (date to be finalized soon) Troop Car Wash
- May 4th-6th Troop** Camping @ Owasippe
- June 1st – 3rd** Mother/Son Campout @ Rainbow Council

July 7th-14th Summer Camp @ Owasippe Scout Reservation in White Hall Michigan. Cost will be \$230-\$260.

August 5th - 11th High Adventure Backpacking on the Current River Trail in the Ozark Trail in Missouri. Cost will be \$350-\$370. Four training hikes or campouts will be offered for conditioning. Each Scout planning to attend will be required to attend 3 of the 4 with the final hike on the River Ridge Back Pack Trail at Forest Glen Preserve in Danville, IL being mandatory for all High Adventure Participants.

August 26th Court of Honor/Picnic at Von Oven Scout Camp

September 7th-9th (tentative dates) Illini Jamboree

Uniform Requirements

Unless otherwise stated, Scouts are required to wear their Class A uniform to all Troop meetings. A Class A uniform consists of: a neatly ironed and tucked in tan shirt (with appropriate patches and epaulettes), green Scout trousers, green socks, neckerchief or bolo, and Troop hat. Boys who attend a Troop meeting without the appropriate uniform **will receive one warning**, if they attend again without their proper Class A, **they will be sent home**.

If you have questions about your uniform, please talk to your Patrol Leader or Mr. Thomas.

I need a.... I've outgrown my....

Lost your hat? Misplaced your neckerchief? Outgrown your Class B T-Shirt? These items are always available for sale new at a cost of \$10 each. Please make checks payable to Troop 75.

Out grown your Scout pants? Scout shorts too short? Class B t-shirt too small? Not sure what to do with them now that they don't fit? Turn them in to the Troop Recycle Bin. All items in the bin are available for purchase at a cost of \$2 each.

If you are looking for a specific item, please ask Mrs. Thomas to show you the recycle bin at a Troop meeting.

Merci! Gracias! Thank you!

Thank you goes out to...

- To all the parents whose donations made the trailer finishing touches possible.
- To the parents who helped with the cooking & cleaning at Klondike.
- To Naperville Township Highway Commissioner Stan Wojtasiak and his crew for not only allowing us to store both trailers in their lot, but for leveling the ground and putting down a layer of gravel under the trailers. This makes storage for the trailer better and makes it easier to get the trailers in and out.
- To Toni, Walter and Mike at Water Werks II Marina and Tackle Shop (Rt. 59 and Butterfield Rd. in Warrenville) for letting us use their heated garage for 2 days so we could install the floor tiles in the new trailer.
- To Rob Williams from Home Depot for getting us a discount on the new trailer shelving.
- To all the Committee members who, month after month, work so hard to keep the Troop running.



Scoutmaster Corner

Troop 75,

Well, Klondike has come and gone and I must say that we should be holding our heads very high. Our sled team (The Panthers) came in 2nd Place. This means that there was only one Patrol in the District with better skills that day. Our Scouts scored 77 points out of a possible 80. The other Patrol scored 79 points. Our Scouts who ran our station should also feel very proud. The feedback that I received was all very positive. I would like to see more Scouts participate in Klondike next year. Once again, all of the Scouts who challenged themselves and came out did a great job. It was a very proud moment for me, when the other Scoutmasters told me what a great job my Scouts did, and how well they conducted themselves.

Looking ahead, we have our ski trip coming up. That is always a lot of fun. In March, we have the trip to the Jake Wolf Fish Hatchery. That should be an interesting trip. I hope that we will be able to help with the harvesting. I am looking forward to that trip. That campout will be the maiden voyage of our new trailer. Troop 75 Scouts should be very proud of themselves. For one, setting the goal to get a larger trailer, and two, going out and doing the work to get it.

We are also in the middle of our Webelos crossover season. We have had 6 Scouts join from Pack 543, 6 Scouts from Pack 533/534,

and it looks like we will get Scouts from Packs 5 and 75. We have also had a younger brother join that was not in Cub Scouts. We could possibly end up with around 20 new Scouts. It is such a great feeling that these young men chose Troop 75 over all of the other troops available to them. It says a lot about the character of **our Scouts** and **our Troop**. I am very happy to welcome our new Scouts and parents to the Troop.

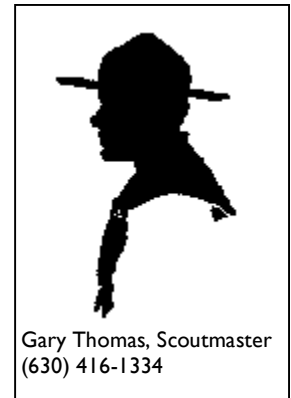
Changing gears, we will be having our OA election on February 20th. It is quite an honor to be elected by your fellow Scouts into this organization. In March, we will also have our Troop elections. The future of **your Troop** is in **your hands**. This Troop needs for its Scouts to step up and take ownership of the Troop. I am curious to see who is interested in being the leaders of this Troop. I will be talking to the patrols on an individual basis to see in what direction they want to take the troop.

Once again, I want to say thank you and also welcome to all of the new Loons and all of the Loon parents to Troop 75. I am looking forward to a great year.

Proud As Always,

Gary L. Thomas

Scoutmaster



Gary Thomas, Scoutmaster
(630) 416-1334



Troop 75 Takes 2nd Place at
Klondike

Leadership Positions Open

Looking for a way to contribute to our Troop? The Troop Committee is always looking for adults to help in a variety of ways. Like to work behind the scenes? The Troop is in need of a Training Chair—someone who will keep track of training the adults have completed, remind them when they need a refresher, and keep everyone posted on upcoming training sessions. Please contact Dani Seaton if you have questions or would like to jump into this role (dani@4buddies.net)!

Other Leadership and Committee roles will be opening up in the next few months. Please see Ana if you would like to learn more about ways you can help the Troop.

Got Space To Spare?

Have some extra space in your garage or shed? There are some Troop properties in need of temporary homes: the Klondike Sledge, the bridge logs and ropes and a few other odds and ends. You don't have to store all the items, just what you have room for. Please let Gary or Ana know if you can spare the Troop some space!



2007 Ski Trip to Cascade Mountain



Merit Badge Program

Background and Purposes

As chartered by the Congress of the United States, the Boy Scouts of America is a movement dedicated to supplementing and enlarging the education of youth. The merit badge program, which provides opportunities for youth to explore more than 120 fields of skill and knowledge, plays a key role in the fulfillment of this educational commitment.

A vital part of the BSA's advancement plan, the merit badge program is one of Scouting's basic character-building tools. Through participation in the program (which may begin immediately upon registration in a troop or team), a Scout acquires the kind of self-confidence that comes only from overcoming obstacles to achieve a goal. Instruction is offered in everything from animal science and public speaking to swimming and communications, providing a young man with invaluable career, physical, and interpersonal skills.

Merit Badge Pamphlets

Each merit badge subject is outlined and explained in a pamphlet that contains short introductory information written for Boy Scouts/Varsity Scouts by recognized authorities. More than a million pamphlets are sold yearly, and many are used as approved reference texts in libraries and school curricula.

Counselors

People who are knowledgeable about the various merit badge subjects are selected, approved, and trained by council and district advancement committees to serve as merit badge counselors. For example, a dentist might be asked to serve as a counselor for the Dentistry merit badge. A counselor must not only possess the necessary technical knowledge but also have a solid understanding of the needs, interests, and abilities of Scouts. A counselor must also be a registered adult with the BSA. For a list of merit badge counselors, check the Troop Library or go to <http://homepage.mac.com/darylmonge/indianprairie/> and click on the Advancements link.

Procedure

When a Scout has an interest in earning a particular merit badge, he obtains his Scoutmaster's/Varsity Scout Coach's approval and identifies another Scout with similar interests to become his partner. They are then directed to the appropriate merit badge counselor. The counselor reviews the badge requirements with the young men and decides with them what projects should be undertaken and when they should be completed. After the counselor has certified that the Scouts have qualified for the merit badge, it is presented to them at a troop/team meeting and can be applied toward rank advancement.

Badges for Eagle

To qualify for the Eagle Scout Award, Scouting's highest advancement rank, a Scout must—along with meeting five other requirements—earn a total of 21 merit badges, including First Aid, Citizenship in the Community, Citizenship in the Nation, Citizenship in the World, Communications, Personal Fitness, Emergency Preparedness OR Lifesaving, Environmental Science, Personal Management, Camping, Hiking OR Cycling OR Swimming and Family Life.

For more information about the merit badge program go to: <http://www.meritbadge.com/>

Merit Badge University

Potawatomi District, Saturday March 3rd

Merit Badge University is an opportunity for Boy Scouts to accomplish many of the requirements needed for various Merit Badges that are part of the rank advancement for scouting. This is their 12th year, and they expect it to be the best yet!! Approximately 1000 youth registered last year and they expect a large turnout this year as well. **MBU will be held at York High School in Elmhurst, IL.** Scout check in is at 8 am and the \$25 fee covers the University and a hot lunch. The University ends at 4 pm.

The following web site is now accepting applications for MBU. Go to <http://PotawatomiDistrict.com> and click on the badge or go to <http://38.234.180.27/mbu/mbumain.htm> to register for Merit Badge University 2007. Please note you can make online payments this year. There will be a link on the registration confirmation page where you can go to pay by credit card, debit card or check. You'll be required to enter your registration confirmation number during the payment process.

If you are 1st Class or above, Merit Badge University is a good opportunity to work on any of the Citizen merit badges or the Communication merit badge.

Famous Left Handed Scouter: Lord Baden Powell

Two theories exist as to why left-hander Lord Baden Powell chose the left hand for the Boy Scout handshake. One is that the left hand is nearer to the heart; the second is that using the non-weapon hand was a sign of trust.