

TROOP 726 FLASH

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 09

FEBRUARY 2009

Upcoming Events

Tres Rancho Merit Badge Extravaganza	Feb 7
Scout Sunday	Feb 8
Snow Board/Skiing	Feb 21 - 22
Klondike Derby	Mar 6 - 8
Overnight Patrol Outing ,	Mar 21 - 22



Committee Meeting – Feb 2

ASM Meeting – Feb 16

Red and Green Dinner – Feb 11

ASM Meeting – Feb 23

Board of Review – Feb 23

PLC Meeting – Feb 26

Troop Meetings –Weekly on Wednesdays (Masonic

Center not available on Feb 25, May 27, and Sept 23, alternative plan will be made for those days)

Committee Meeting – March 2

Scout Sunday

Scout In Charge: **Larry Whitmeyer**
Adult in Charge: **Mrs. Lozano**

A Scout is Reverent... This year we will observe Scout Sunday on Feb 8 at Faith Lutheran Church on Redwood Road. Troop 726 has been asked to participate and help greet the members of the congregation. The service begins at 9:00. Our troop will host fellowship time after the service (coffee, juice, and donuts)

All scouts, parents, and families are invited to attend. Boy Scouts and Adult leaders should be dressed in full uniform. The Faith Lutheran congregation supports our troop with meeting and event facilities. Please show our support by attending

Tres Rancho Merit Badge Extravaganza

District Event

Come out for an opportunity to meet merit badge counselors and work on merit badges. Many counselors for different merit badges will be available. The list of available merit badges may vary so come on by to see who is there. Date & Time: Saturday, February 7, 2009 - 9:00am
Location: Fremont at the Gatewood LDS Center
42500 Gatewood Street

Red and Gold Dinner



Troop 726 invites you to celebrate the birthday of scouting at the annual Red and Green Dinner -- a good old fashion pot luck style dinner.

Each family is requested to **bring a favorite main course** dish; please plan a dish to serve 10 – 12 people. If you have any questions, please contact Pat Schultz at the Troop meetings or call her at 925-283-1973.

Each Patrol will be providing entertainment for a fun-filled evening. This is a time for our scouts to show-off for their parents, grandparents, and extended family. So, please join us for an evening of fun.

Snow Boarding and Skiing

Scout in Charge: Casey Perrault
Adult in Charge: Mr. Guerin



We are planning to go snow boarding/skiing at Dodge Ridge on Feb 21 -22. More details about the event will be available soon.



OA Klondike Derby Weekend March 6-8

By Michael Andrews, Troop 726 Outdoor Program Coordinator

Mark your calendar for the "coolest" camping event attended every year by T726 Scouts!!! Held annually at the Snowflower Preserve and Snow Park off I-80 in the Sierra Mountains, February's winter storms will ensure plenty of snow for some chilly fun: snow-shoeing, sled-racing, competing at Scout skills, and cooking out under the tall pines. **This event is open to all Boy Scouts and adult leaders who have attended the OA Winter Camping Awareness program**, register by the February 18th Troop meeting, and are prepared for the challenges of winter camping conditions. Permission slips with further details will be available soon; or contact Mr. Andrews, Outdoor Program Coordinator (510/728-0774 or sierrascout@sbcglobal.net).

SFBAC Troop Summer Camp 2009

By Michael Andrews, Troop 726 Outdoor Program Coordinator

Several announcements have gone out during the past 2 months regarding T726 plans to attend Wente Scout Reservation from Sunday, June 21st to Saturday, June 27th. **Initial deposits of \$195 to reserve your spot at Boy Scout camp were due January 21st**, and nearly 80% of our boys are currently registered. **If you haven't paid your deposit yet, don't worry, there are still a few spaces left** for you to join your friends and share in all of the summer fun!!! For further details, please contact Mr. Andrews, Outdoor Program Coordinator (510/728-0774 or sierrascout@sbcglobal.net).



Wente Summer Camp, Here We Come!

Thank You from Branden and Adam

From Richard and Cynthia Nikssarian

Dear Troop 726

We want to thank all of you for helping us this past weekend as we celebrated Adam and Brandens Eagle Scout Court of Honor. It was a beautiful day and one that I know both boys and families will remember forever. We appreciate all of the Scouts, Troop 726 Moms and Dads & family that came to help and make the day such a success.

The past 7 years that Adam has been a scout with Troop 726, he has been able to create lasting friends; he has been given the opportunity to travel all over the US and to the UK; experience 5 different scout camps and realize that no obstacle is too high to climb and overcome. He has learned leadership qualities and knows the challenges that come with leading a large group of scouts through all kinds of different activities. Your support as we came down to the finish line is immeasurable and much appreciated from both Richard and myself.

Thank you all again and we look forward to helping with some of the future Eagle Court of Honors that are going to happen in the coming year!

From Branden Meadows

I would like to thank everyone who attended and helped with the mine and Adam's court of honor. The ceremony was very nice, and everyone worked extremely hard to make it as perfect as possible. Thank you to everyone who supported Adam and me on our trail to Eagle.

Training

By Randy Wright, Tres Ranchos District Boy Scout Training Chair and Troop 726 Training Chair.

Online Training from your computer is available for Boy Scout Fast Start, Youth Protection, Safe Swim and Safety Afloat, Troup Committee Challenge and many more. Please check out all the online trainings. These are free online. Please go to www.SFBAC.org, then go to training, >adult training, >the training program and then select online training for the above. You will need to register.

EVERY SCOUT DESERVES A TRAINED LEADER!

The following trainings will be held:

1. Roundtable every month. Meet people and have fun learning more about scouting. Second Thursday evening of each month at the Boy Scout Center in San Leandro.
2. Did you complete any training lately? Please let me know. A copy of your training card would be the best.
3. Beginning January 2009, leaders will be required to renew Youth Protection every 2 years. This is a new National Policy and is required on tour permits.
4. Also, beginning January 2009, you will be required to take a training called "Planning and Preparing for Hazardous Weather Training." This is available online.
5. Also, beginning 2009, New Leader Essentials will become an online training and rewritten.
6. University of Scouting, Jan. 24, 2009. This will be offered at the LDS center in Fremont. There are many NEW courses available. Please sign up and have fun while becoming a better scout leader.

Need info about future trainings? Have questions about training? Call Randy Wright at 510-885-0527 or email wright-s@comcast.net. All fliers are on the Tres Ranchos District Web page via www.sfbac.org.

Life Project (By Eric Nikssarian)

On Saturday January 17, 2009, I completed my life project at the Masonic Lodge. The work was not easy, and the group that attended worked very diligently and got a surmountable amount of work done. The Masons were so appreciative that our troop could work and they would be ecstatic to have the troop work there again. The adults were a huge help with Mr. Guerin working the weed whacker, Mr. Nikssarian on the hedger, the other Mr. Nikssarian a.k.a. Adam bagging weeds, Mr. Andrews and Mr. Wright sawing the stumps so they were ground level, and a huge thank you to Mrs. Lozano for keeping an exceptional eye on things, like always. The scouts also did a lot of heavy work cutting branches with the loppers, as well as bagging the weeds we had pulled out. A last thank you to everybody for helping and supporting me, keep an eye out in the next few months for a couple of eagle projects.

Presidio Historic Trail and Overnight at Fort Cronkhite (By Scout-in-Charge, Bryce Fong)

On December 13, 2008, seven scouts went across the Golden Gate Bridge and around the Presidio historic trail which was a total distance of 10 miles. The scouts who attended were Ben Andrews, Allen Saylor, Bryce Fong, Raymond Akagi, Austin Le, Jacob Schultz, and the adults that went were Mr. Guerin, Mr. Andrews, and Mr. Perrault. We got to see old forts, hospitals, unused airfield, World War 2 memorial and much more. We camped overnight at Marin Headlands at Fort Cronkhite. It was very windy the whole day and it rained in the morning.

Winter Awareness (By Scout-in-Charge, Ben Eversole / Mathew Lozano)

On December 6th many of the boys in the troop attended winter camp awareness. Normally scouts learn as they go, getting hands on, real life experience, but when you're in a place as unforgiving as the snow you need to be prepared, the scout motto. The boys spent the day going around to classes like they would at school learning all about snow camping. They learned about snow tents, cooking in the snow, dressing for the snow, sleeping in the snow (probably the most important), and that even white snow dehydrates you. And remember everyone, COTTON KILLS.

Iron Horse Trail Bike Ride (By Scout-in-Charge, Bryce Fong)

On December 27, 2008, 9 scouts went on 20 mile bike trip on the Iron Horse Trail. The scouts that attended were Steve Davidson, Ben Eversole, Bryce Fong, Austin Le, Jeremy Gilbert, Kiyoshi Ito, Anthony Sulayo, and Jose Velasco. The adults that went were Mr. Fong, Mr. Eversole, Mr. Guerin, and Mr. Davidson. The guests that went were Sarah Davidson and a guest Webelos scout from Pack 708 Joseph Panganiban also attended. We started out at the Pleasanton BART station and stopped at Lanardi's for food and a rest. Then we went back to the Pleasanton BART station. The trail was very flat with very little up hill and there was a cool breeze. There weren't very many people on the road so we could go very fast. The roads were very straight and we only stopped when we came to an intersection.

Troop E-Waste Fundraiser (By Mr. Markison)

On Jan 3, 2009 the troop held an E-waste collection fundraiser, with the cooperation of C & T Recycling. Prior to the event on December 28, we all met at the Masonic Lodge to pick up fliers to hand out in our neighborhoods. On December 30 from 5pm to 8pm, various Scouts met at the Safeway to hand out fliers, to customers as they were leaving the store. Again on Jan. 2nd we were at PW market, handing out fliers to customers. Many of the customers we contacted were interested in the event and said they would come by to recycle some electronic items. The event on the 3rd was a great success and everyone had a little fun. We would like to thank all the Scouts and Adults that participated in either the flier hand out days or the actual E-waste at the Masonic Center. The money once received will be put in the Scout's Account for use on events or approved material.



Keane, Mitch, and Jose Sorting Items



Scouts Unloading Items



Austin, Raymond, Keane, and Mitch



Anthony with lots of TV's and Monitors Collected

Troop News

Troop T-shirt (from Mrs. Schultz)



The new Troop shirt design has been approved and T-shirts are on order. If you want a troop sweatshirt please be sure to let Mrs. Schultz know by Jan 14th. Cost will be about \$15.00. They will have the same design as the troop t-shirts. I will not be reordering these anytime soon so if you don't order them now you won't be able to get one. Email: pschultz@mail.com Phone: (925) 283-1973

Troop 726 Website (from Mr. Woo)

Our Troop's very own website is now online. Check out what's happening at <http://troop726.scoutlander.com>



Visiting WEBELOS at Jan 22 Troop Meeting



Bending PVC Pipe for snow shoes, John Miles, Bryce Fong, Mitch Avery

Patrol News



Patrol leaders please submit your article to Ms. Chang by the Last Friday of the month by phone 317-9179 or email SandiaChang@comcast.net, or if you prefer, put the article in her mail slot by the Wednesday before the end of the month.

Cobras



We went to Mitch's house and talked about our Patrol Overnight Outing. We are going to stay overnight at Los Mochos Camp in Livermore, go shooting, and have fun. We planned out menu at our meeting and divided up the work.

By Raymond Akagi

Scorpions



No submittal

Dragons



No submittal

Owls



On December 20, 2008 Allen, Ben, Bryce, Seamus, Steve went on a 10 mile bike ride. The adults that went were Mr. Davidson, Mr. Fong and Mr. Guerin. The bicycle trip was at the San Leandro marina and Oyster Bay Preserve. We started out at Grant Avenue staging area in San Lorenzo. We biked to the Marina and then did two loops in the area. The weather was sunny and a little windy.

By Bryce Fong



Allen, Seamus, Steve, Bryce, and Benjamin Andrews with their trusted iron horses

Rocks



No submittal

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Troop 726

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Scoutmaster: Neil Guerin

Email: 70torino@comcast.net

Charter Organization: American Legion #649

BE PREPARED



Our newsletter goal is to provide information to scouts and parents at the 1st meeting of the month. Dates and information for this newsletter are due by the last Friday of each month.

Committee Chair's Corner

By Phyllis Lozano, Troop 726 Committee Chair

February is a time we celebrate the birthday of scouting, enjoy our winter weather events and reflect upon the scouting program. We will celebrate the birth of scouting at our annual Red and Green dinner on Wednesday Feb 11. As in the past, we will enjoy a pot luck dinner, scout entertainment, and hear about the 'State of the Troop'. The Red and Green dinner is a family event, please consider this your personal invitation to come and celebrate scouting with us.

Attached to this month's newsletter are the Aims and Methods of Scouting. This is what we are all about. Please read and remember why our program is so important in today's busy world.

Scout Advancements

No updates this month

Lost Equipment

Please check your garage for Troop equipment. Look for any tents and pans, stoves, etc, that you may have taken home to clean but forgot to bring back. Equipment is very expensive!

Troop Items for Sale

The following items can be purchased from Mrs. Lozano.

Troop Mug	\$5.00
Duffle Bag	\$20.00

Uniform Bank

All items in the uniform bank are first come first serve. Please call Mr. Woo or Ms Huie to check for availability. Also, **if you think you can donate your belts**, please bring them to the meeting. Thank you!

Thrifty

A Scout works to pay his way and to help others. He saves for unforeseen needs. He protects and conserves natural resources. He carefully uses time and property.

Jeff Stevens Spreading Holiday Cheers with Electrifying Show (Exert from Daily Review published on Sunday, Dec 21, section A4).

Castro Valley teen brings high energy to High Voltage Christmas

A quick drive around Carmel Street will reveal many homes decked out with Christmas lights. But this year's neighborhood holiday displays aren't in the same league with those from years past, according to resident Jeff Stevens. Stevens knows of what he speaks: The 17-year-old puts on High Voltage Christmas — nightly light shows that neighbors have looked forward to each holiday season for the past four years.

His display is part of an effort to keep the tradition and holiday spirit alive, he said. A sophisticated, jaw-dropping display of more than 23,000 lights blankets Stevens' home. The lights blink in sync with a custom 9-minute soundtrack produced by Stevens.

"I like seeing families come and view the display because it's magical in a way," Stevens said. "When I see a child's face light up, it makes the long, grueling year of planning all worth it."



Edgar Woo Performed at the SF International Music Festival

Our very own Edgar Woo was showcased in a piano duo as part of the Young Artist Concert which took place on January 31, 2009, at the beautiful Recital Hall of San Francisco Conservatory of Music. Congratulations, Edgar! We are proud of you!



Aims and Methods of the Scouting Program

The Scouting program has three specific objectives, commonly referred to as the "Aims of Scouting." They are character development, citizenship training, and personal fitness.

The methods by which the aims are achieved are listed below in random order to emphasize the equal importance of each.

Ideals. The ideals of Boy Scouting are spelled out in the Scout Oath, the Scout Law, the Scout motto, and the Scout slogan. The Boy Scout measures himself against these ideals and continually tries to improve. The goals are high, and as he reaches for them, he has some control over what and who he becomes.

Patrols. The patrol method gives Boy Scouts an experience in group living and participating citizenship. It places responsibility on young shoulders and teaches boys how to accept it. The patrol method allows Scouts to interact in small groups where members can easily relate to each other. These small groups determine troop activities through elected representatives.

Outdoor Programs. Boy Scouting is designed to take place outdoors. It is in the outdoor setting that Scouts share responsibilities and learn to live with one another. In the outdoors the skills and activities practiced at troop meetings come alive with purpose. Being close to nature helps Boy Scouts gain an appreciation for the beauty of the world around us. The outdoors is the laboratory in which Boy Scouts learn ecology and practice conservation of nature's resources.

Advancement. Boy Scouting provides a series of surmountable obstacles and steps in overcoming them through the advancement method. The Boy Scout plans his advancement and progresses at his own pace as he meets each challenge. The Boy Scout is rewarded for each achievement, which helps him gain self-confidence. The steps in the advancement system help a Boy Scout grow in self-reliance and in the ability to help others.

Associations With Adults. Boys learn a great deal by watching how adults conduct themselves. Scout leaders can be positive role models for the members of the troop. In many cases a Scoutmaster who is willing to listen to boys, encourage them, and take a sincere interest in them can make a profound difference in their lives.

Personal Growth. As Boy Scouts plan their activities and progress toward their goals, they experience personal growth. The Good Turn concept is a major part of the personal growth method of Boy Scouting. Boys grow as they participate in community service projects and do Good Turns for others. Probably no device is as successful in developing a basis for personal growth as the daily Good Turn. The religious emblems program also is a large part of the personal growth method. Frequent personal conferences with his Scoutmaster help each Boy Scout to determine his growth toward Scouting's aims.

Leadership Development. The Boy Scout program encourages boys to learn and practice leadership skills. Every Boy Scout has the opportunity to participate in both shared and total leadership situations. Understanding the concepts of leadership helps a boy accept the leadership role of others and guides him toward the citizenship aim of Scouting.

Uniform. The uniform makes the Boy Scout troop visible as a force for good and creates a positive youth image in the community. Boy Scouting is an action program, and wearing the uniform is an action that shows each Boy Scout's commitment to the aims and purposes of Scouting. The uniform gives the Boy Scout identity in a world brotherhood of youth who believe in the same ideals. The uniform is practical attire for Boy Scout activities and provides a way for Boy Scouts to wear the badges that show what they have accomplished.