



TROOP 776 NEWS

September 2007

White Buffalo District - Quivira Council

www.goddardkansas.org/troop776

www.quivira.org

September

- 4: Troop Meeting GUMC
- 8: 9AM-2PM
Car Wash, Dillon's
135th and Maple
- 8: Pizza Hut Fundraiser
- 11: Troop Meeting GUMC
- 14-16: Elk City Campout
- 17: Comm. Meeting 7PM
- 18: PLC only 7PM GUMC
- 25: Patrol Meeting Night

Scoutmaster Message

August was a busy month for the troop and once again **thank you** to all that participated. Your involvement, both scouts and Scouters, is what helps to keep our troop strong.

We began August with our annual after summer camp, meaning lots of awards, Court Of Honor. Eric about ran out breath on several scouts as he was reading off what they had earned since the last COH. We had around 100 merit badges awarded, approximately 20 rank advancements and two new awards. Dakota S. earned the Flint and Steel medal and Weston L. earned the Knot Tying medal. We also had two scouts prove that it's never too late to advance in rank. I won't mention names but great job Corey P and Austin. Austin, you have about 10 months... and counting....down....fast!!! Also at the COH we had our new troop leadership announced. Corey P and Derek B are our new SPL and ASPL and have already laid out some goals and plans for this next six month.

Next we had 21 scouts and 9 adults attend Alabaster Caverns near Freedom, OK. The weather was a little warm and sticky but in the caves it was nice and cool...and wet...and muddy...and sometimes really muddy. Several of the scouts hit almost all of the caverns while one group hit all 5 caverns non-stop.

With the change in troop leadership came another Troop Junior Leader Training session. Fifteen of the new leaders were present to spend a day outdoors learning leadership, team building and communication skills. They also spent time reviewing key leadership traits of their new SPL and ASPL, brainstorming ideas for patrol activities and made commitments to themselves and to the troop to fulfill their responsibilities for their positions. One outcome from that commitment is that the troop leadership will ask a scout to step down from their position if they are not upholding their attendance responsibilities. Meaning, they expect their leadership to be present and active in troop activities.

The last troop activity of the month was just last week when about 10 scouts attended the Scouting Roundup helping to setup, tear down, flag ceremony and helped with activities to keep the new recruits busy while their parents were filling out the paperwork. By the end of the evening, Pack 775 and Pack 776 had 26 new scouts between them and the troop gained one new scout as well. Thank you, gentlemen, for unselfishly giving of your time to help out with that event. The more we can help the packs to recruit new Cub Scouts the stronger it will help us to be in the future.

In closing I'd like to pat all of the new Patrol Leaders on the back for a job well done. When we had our patrol meeting week, 6 patrols had meetings and/or activities that were planned. Several used the meeting time to plan

All adults are welcome
and encouraged to
attend!

Committee Meeting

Sept 17th@ 7 PM

Goddard UMC

upcoming patrol activities like a backpacking trip. Others decided which merit badge(s) to work on as a group. Overall based on what I've heard I think all of you did a great job in getting your guys together and using the time effectively to plan for your next six months. Let's keep up the great work and make this next six months extremely productive.

Patrol Activities

During a recent patrol meeting, the Phoenix Patrol met with Kevin Brink, the Patrol's Troop Guide, at Pawnee Prairie Park to tackle some Tenderfoot and Second Class Rank requirements. They took a hike and spent the evening identifying native plants and animals, as well as poisonous plants. The Patrol is working hard to earn their "First Class in a Year" award.



The Falcon Patrol, along with a few members from the Mamba and Roadrunners Patrols started work on the Auto Mechanics Merit Badge. Anthony P. taught the boys the importance of maintaining the fluids, how to change a tire, and how to change the oil. Our Scoutmaster was kind enough to allow the boys to work on his beautiful 1969 Carnival Red Firebird, and Anthony was kind enough to encourage the boys to keep their sweaty paws from marring the paint job! The group plans to get together again soon to finish off the requirements.



Uniform Closet

The committee will soon be deciding whether to make a full uniform, including official scout pants and shirt, the standard for our troop. Seeing a scout troop looking so sharp in full uniform is breathtaking. Wouldn't we love for the world to see Troop 776 in that way?! In an effort to defray the cost, the troop would like to start a uniform closet. The committee has been considering the idea for some time, and has yet to make a definite decision on how it will work, but it is known that we need someone who would be willing to be responsible for storing and handing out uniforms when a scout has outgrown his current one. This is a perfect job for a parent who, up until this point, maybe hasn't figured out where to squeeze into the troop. If you'd like to help, email the scoutmaster, cliffp@wichita.executrain.com. If you have gently used uniform pieces you'd like to donate, email me mk2thcleaner@aol.com.

Fundraising

It may seem like the troop has an awful lot of fundraisers in the works this year. All of it is in an effort to equip a new trailer. While it's been talked about for years, the order for the trailer has finally been placed. Before we can use it, however, we need to properly equip it so that things are easy to access. Shelving systems and new patrol box items are needed, so rather than dip into the boy's profits come popcorn and greenery, the committee decided to have a few more fundraisers to help with the cost. Don't forget to pass out those Pizza Hut flyers for September and October!

October will also bring the Fall Festival. Once again we will be having a cobbler booth, which has been very helpful in raising money to replenish the troop fund. We need each scout family to supply the ingredients to make cobbler, including cake mix and pie filling (any kind you like), and butter. These items can be brought to upcoming troop meetings. In addition, we need Scouts and Scouters to work the cobbler booth throughout the day. There will be a sign up sheet soon. Please be generous with your time as were it not for this, the troop may not be able to allow the boys to keep all of their profits during individual fundraisers.

Open Committee Positions

The troop's Life to Eagle Advisor and Committee Chair will be stepping down in December. We need new Scouters who are willing to volunteer to keep this organization running. If you'd like to guide the boys on their often bumpy but always rewarding path to Eagle please email the scoutmaster cliffp@wichita.executrain.com. If you'd like more information on the duties or are interested in chairing the committee, which includes the power to cut-off the often overly-windy committee members (you know who you are) so that the meeting can stay on schedule email Leo at trophyhunter@cox.net.



Troop Photo Sharing

Don't forget, If you'd like to add to the photo collection, please email your photos to MK2thcleaner@aol.com. We'd all love to see them! To see pictures previously added to the newsletter and others, go to http://s203.photobucket.com/albums/aa12/Troop776_photos/.



Ethan L.	9/2
David B.	9/3
Andrew C.	9/7
Marcus P.	9/16
Ryan P.	9/16
William M.	9/17
Jonathan H.	9/22
Ethan B.	9/25
Lawrence	9/26

"Be prepared" for the events you wish to attend!