

TROOP 726 FLASH

VOLUME 15, ISSUE 6 MAY 2012

Upcoming Events

Skills Weekend/Black Diamond Mines Hike-a-Thon – May 18 – 20

Long Tree Flags – May 25 and May 28

Tres Rancho Rama – June 2

Larry Whitmeyer Eagle Court of Honor – June 3

Summer Court of Honor – June 6

Sumer Camp at Wente – June 17 – 23

Summer Troop Meeting – July 11

Fishing Overnight – July 14 – 15

Troop Overnight Meeting – July 27 - 28



Meeting Dates

Annual Tres Ranchos District Volunteer Recognition Dinner Saturday - May 12, 5 pm at Stack Hall at Our Lady of Grace

Board of Review – May 21

PLC Meeting – Sunday, June 3, 7 pm at Faith Lutheran Church.

Troop Meetings –Weekly on Wednesdays 7 pm sharp at Masonic Center, Masonic Center is not available on June 27 (summer, no meeting scheduled) and Sept 26, 2012

Website



Don't forget to check out our Troop's awesome website <http://troop726.scoutlander.com>

Seamus is our Troop Website master. Please send photos from recent events to him. Please include dates and locations when you're sending pictures if possible.

Also please send him any and all permission slips for upcoming events in .doc format so they can be uploaded to the website for all to download.

Long Tree Flags– May 25 and May 28

Scout in Charge: Austin Le, Adult in Charge: Mrs. Woo and Mr. Avery



Annual Memorial Day Community Service at Lone Trees Cemetery: Scouts and parents are welcome to help. It is a great opportunity to honor our veterans and the scouts get a glimpse at some local history by reading the tombstone. This is the holiday weekend and I know many of our scout families are out of town. Please try to stop by before you leave or on your way home.

May 25: Memorial Day Flag Placement at Lone Trees Cemetery. **On Friday, we will meet at 3:30** (come right after school) to place flags on the graves of our American Veterans. This should take about 1-1/2 to 2 hours. **Class A uniform with Sash.**

May 28: Memorial Day Flag Removal at Lone Trees Cemetery. **On Monday, we'll meet at 4:30** to remove the flags. This should take about 1 hour.

Skills Weekend/Black Diamond Mines Hike-a-Thon – May 18 - 20

Scout in Charge: Mitch Avery and Jacob Schultz, Adult in Charge: Mr. Avery and Mr. Pica

The skills weekend overnight is from **Friday May 18th to Sunday May 20th**. Mitch is the scout-in-charge for the Skills weekend. It is for scouts that are not first class yet and also for older scouts who can sign off the younger scouts' books. We are **meeting at the Masonic Center on May 18th at 5:00 pm and leaving around 5:30 pm**. We'll be **returning on the 20th at the Masonic center around 1-2 pm**. It will be at Black Diamond Mines near Antioch and the cost is \$23. Also in this outing will be the hike-a-thon.

Jacob Schultz is the scout-in-charge for the actual **hike at Black Diamond Mines**. Scouts will be doing about 10.6 miles and there is a pull out point at about 6 miles for anyone that has had enough. The hike will take them past all most all of the historical sites that are a part of the Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve. Rose Hill Cemetery, Jim's Place", Air Shaft, and Stope, to name a few of the sights. Black Diamond in this case stands for Coal which was mined in the late 1860's. It was also used as a sand mine for the glass industry in the 1920's - '40's. The park has a really nice website with lots of information: www.ebparks.org/parks/black_diamond

This will be the first time our troop has gone out to this area. Scouts going should bring a flashlight as they will be going into Prospect Tunnel, they will also need multiple bottles of water as none is available in the park. Sunscreen will be called for and it can get quite windy out there. It is not usually too hot at that time of year but it can be. Class A for Travel and Class B for the hike and don't forget your hat and sunglasses. Hiking boots are called for, not just tennis shoes. (break them in ahead of time if they are new) Pack a lunch and your 10 essentials in your day bag and you should be ready for a great time.

Those that are not participating in the Skills Weekend can still do the Saturday hike. **Just meet up in the upper parking lot at 8:30 am, on Saturday, May 19.** Allow an hour+ travel time to get there from Castro Valley.

The Hike-a-thon sponsor forms and information packets has been distributed. If you have any questions about the fund raising part of this event, please contact Mr. Pica. If your scout account is running low on funds, this is the time to step up and hike. The Hike-a-thon is designed so that each scout can get out of it, what they put in. If you are work at it, you can pay for a whole year of scouting with just this one fundraiser.

Larry Whitmeyer Eagle Court of Honor

All scouts and families are invited to
Larry Whitmeyer Eagle Court of Honor
June 3, 2012, 2:30pm

International Christian Center
562 Lewelling Blvd. San Leandro, CA
Please RSVP to Katherine Mcgrue (Larry's mom)

lcktravel@yahoo.com or 520-350-3125



Volunteers Have Aloha!

All adults are invited to attend the **annual Tres Ranchos District Volunteer Recognition Dinner Saturday, May 12!** Come help us recognize and give thanks to all the hard working volunteers who support the Scout program. The cost is \$20 per adult at the door for a delicious Hawaiian themed dinner, prepared by Greg Eslick and friends. The Troop Committee will reimburse attendees \$12 (early registration price prior to May 1). 5:00pm Gathering, 6:00pm Dinner, 7:00pm Awards. **Stack Hall at Our Lady of Grace, 3433 Somerset, Castro Valley**

Contact Jennifer and Greg Eslick for additional information: zachary711@sbcglobal.net

Troop 726 – Summer Camp Week 2012



Troop 726 is going to Wente Scout Reservation June 17- 23, 2012! Wente Scout Reservation, one of the most popular Boy Scout camps in Northern California, is located among the rolling hills and woodlands about 10 miles east of the town of Willits near the headwaters of the Russian River. While the actual cost of this trip is \$418 the troop committee leadership has voted to subsidize \$100 per scout from the unit's general fund, therefore the charge is \$318 per Scout (plus special merit badge fees). **The initial deposit of \$150 and signed parental permission slip is due.** The remaining balance of \$168 and the doctor-approved BSA health form is due by March 14. Checks payable to Troop 726, cash or Scout Accounts accepted. **For further information please contact Mr. Yi**, Summer Camp Coordinator: 510-582-1673 or email myschool97@yahoo.com or **Mr. Avery**, Scoutmaster at 925-698-1514 or email pack705@earthlink.net. **Merit badge and activity schedule was handed out on May 2 Troop meeting. Scouts need to plan their merit badge classes and consult with Mr. Avery.**

Troop 726 - We have a number of opportunities coming up for a handful of scouts each that are extra to our calendar. Scouts who work these events will receive service hours. We are also looking for at least two adults for each event. I am able to volunteer for the June 30 and July 5 events.

Sunday, May 27 - Chapel of the Chimes, Oakland - Memorial Day Flag Presentation. The Native Sons of California has asked for 2 - 4 scouts to present the colors. Several of our scouts have worked this in the past. No data on the time of day yet.

Monday, June 11 - Hill & Valley Club, 1808 B St, Hayward - set up a stage from 6:45 - 7:05 p.m. and come back to break it down at 9:45 - 10:05 p.m. 4 scouts can split \$50.

Saturday, June 30 - The American Legion is looking for 4 scouts to help retire flags at their Moose Lodge, Castro Valley, tri-tip BBQ from 4:00 - 8:00. Scouts and adults who are willing to bugle will receive preference. Food will be provided. Mr. Markison will be the adult in charge.

Thursday, July 5 - The Masonic Center will host an Independence Day dinner and is looking for 4 scouts to present the flags. They will feed you.

Please contact me if you are interested in leading or attending any of these events. - Mr. Avery

Grand Canyon Trip

Scout in Charge: Will Oliveira, Adult in Charge: Mr. Avery and Mr. Maloof

Mark your calendar for an exciting trip this summer. Troop 726 is planning a program for our Grand Canyon trip. The highlights of the trip includes camping and hiking at Colorado River, Grand Canyon, Bryce Canyon, Furnace Creek, Death Valley, and Devil's Postpile. **The dates are August 4 – 12.** The approximate cost to the scouts will be **\$500** - gas, food, reservations, etc. We are limiting this trip to 12 people including the two ASM/drivers, Mr. Avery and Mr. Maloof. **Permission slips are available now.** Don't miss out, sign up early if you are interested in going.

High Adventure Trip This Summer!!

Training

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

Online Training from your computer is available for many trainings. Please check out all the online trainings. These are all free. Please go to www.SFBAC.org, and then go to training or My Scouting and then select online training for the above. You will need to register.

EVERY SCOUT DESERVES A TRAINED LEADER!

Please, inform me of your trainings. *You can email the info, mail it, put it on the sheet in your troop mailbox, place it in my troops mail box or fax it to 510 -521-7473.*

Nothing really new but please review the following. If you are a Troop Committee Member take 1 and 2, and if an Assistant Scoutmaster take 1, 3 and 4.

1. Weather Hazards
2. Troop Committee Challenge
3. Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills
4. Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster Training

These are really important for you to be considered trained and to be a leader on an outing.

From time to time new trainings are added to those on-line. Please check often.

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.

Attention All Scouts!

Is your Scout due current? Scout due is \$5.00 per month, payable by the first meeting of the month. You need to keep your due current in order to participate in outings!

Also, please check your garage for Troop equipment, clean and return them promptly.

Scout Advancements

By Donna Platou, Troop 726 Advancement Coordinator

The next Board of Review is scheduled for 5/21 at 7:00 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church. Please contact Mrs. Platou to request a review.



Scout Master Minute
By Phil Avery, Troop 726 Scout Master

Scout in Charge / Adult in Charge System

The new 2012-13 Calendar is almost finished. Dates are set and there is Committee Approval. Soon we will be looking to fill in the youth and adult leadership for each event. With the size of our Troop now, each scout will likely get to lead only one event per year unless they are in a Youth Leadership position which requires them to lead more.

Being in charge of an event is a privilege for both youth and adults. It is also perhaps the single best platform in scouting to develop leadership and organization which culminates in the Eagle Project and complements the Youth Leadership structure.

But what does it mean though to be "in-charge?"

Not every event is equal in its requirements. Some events are day events and set in time and place in advance and do not require collecting and accounting money and simply require the scout in charge to promote and lead the event such as Scouting for Food or Earth Day Clean Up. Others require months of planning, reservations for both the campsite and the activity, determining how much it will cost, collecting the money, generating drivers, choosing a pick up time and location and a drop off, and making sure we are following the Guide to Safe Scouting. Examples of such are the recent Whitewater Rafting trip and the upcoming Big Adventure and the Mt. Wittenberg Rim Rover / Kayaking outing coming up next year.

Scouts are not born knowing how to lead an outing nor do they have all the skills to arrange guides or negotiate better rates or to ask the extra questions to overcome obstacles in the event. It is the adults' job to coach the scouts. This is the scouts' time to learn and the adults' time to teach. The adult should not be doing the work for the scout as the scout should not be robbed of his opportunity to learn. The adult should benefit too by working with a youth other than his own son to see what his son will be capable of in a few years or to see how far his son has come from just a few short years ago.

Remember also to allow enough time for the scouts to plan the event and prod them as necessary. Even if it takes the scouts 2 to 6 times longer than it would take an adult, it is part of the process.

In the near future it is a goal to set up an internal Troop 726 Adult in Charge training program. We have many adults who are transitioning out and many great new adults. Much of what we have done recently has been by tradition and formalizing the process will help everyone. We will base the training on BSA resources and our own experiences to keep the good program going. In the meantime, please review the calendar when it is issued and volunteer to be either the first or second adult in charge for an outing or to simply be an adult driver / chaperone. We'll see you at the events.

Do you know how to be "in charge"?

White Water Rafting Trip

By Scout in Charge: Kyle Avery, Photo by Mr. Siu

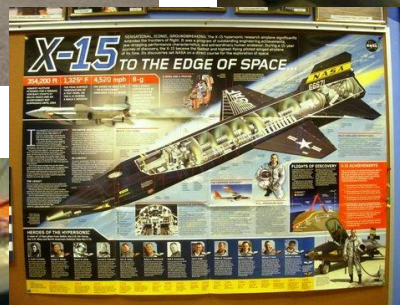
The Bats, Ravens, Cobras, Dragons, and Scorpions all have some members of their patrol who went white water rafting on April 22. We visited McClellan Air Museum and went rafting down the American River and camped overnight. We had a great turn out for this trip, thanks to Mr. Maloof who helped me plan the trip. Also thank you to the adults, Mr. Avery, Mr. Siu, Mrs. Schultz, and Mr. Maloof who drove us and make this trip possible. We all had a lot of fun!



White Water Rafting Trip - McClellan Air Museum



White Water Rafting Trip - McClellan Air Museum



White Water Rafting Trip – Camping Out



Celebrating
Jacob's 17th
birthday with style!
Cake anyone?



Earth day

By Scout in Charge: Ben Eckman, Photo by Mr. Markison

I was the scout in charge of the Earth Day Clean Up, April 28. It was fun. First I assigned the younger scouts to put compost bags in their garden at Independent school. Next, I assigned and helped the older scouts with the hillside where we cleaned all of the weeds and tall grass. Finally, I was proud of all the scouts. Most stayed for the whole time to help, and everything went smoothly. Thank you to all the scouts and adults who helped Earth Day Clean up a success.



Troop Leadership Training

By Scout in Charge: Mitch Avery, Photo by Mr. Siu

At the annual Troop Leadership Training on April 27 - 28, all the younger scouts got trained by Mitch, Raymond, and Anthony. This year, the TLT was held at a camp site at **Anthony Chabot** overlooking the lake. We brought tin foil dinners to heat up at camp. Everyone had a good time.



Troop Leadership Training - Instructions



Troop News

Bay-O-Vista Troop Meeting – Photo by Mr. Markison

A great big **THANK YOU** to **Bay-o-Vista Family Fitness Swimming and Tennis Club** for the use of the swimming pool on April 25 Troop Meeting. The club is located at 1881 Astor Drive, San Leandro, and currently has a special membership promo. Check www.bovswim.com for more details!



Cross Over of Ashir Bhalla-Levine from Pack 703

On Tuesday, April 17, at the Chabot Elementary - Ashir crossed over from Pack 703 to Troop 726. Welcome!

Welcome to Troop 726



Troop News (Continues)



Raymond and Austin as CIT at Royaneh

Summer camp is one of the biggest parts of scouting. It is up to the camp counselor to make each scout's experience the best it can be. Pools, canoes and dining halls only make up a small part of the overall experience a scout will have. A single camp counselor has the influence to determine if a scout has a great time at summer camp.

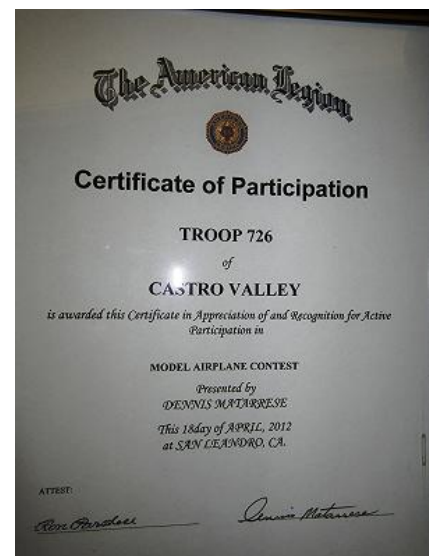
Do you have what it takes to be a camp counselor? Raymond and Austin will start their journal to become one by volunteering as Counselor-in-Training at Camp Royaneh this summer. CIT is a great opportunity to work in the outdoors, develop stronger leadership skills, improve their scouting skills and if their lucky they just might make an impression on a scout that will last for the rest of their lives.

Troop 726 Awarded Model Airplane Certificate of Participation

Post Commanders
inspecting model
diorama



Mr. Dennis Mataresse,
Activities Chairman of
District 10, awarding
Troop 726 Certificate of
Participation



Certificate of
Participation

Annual Medical Evaluation Form

The Boy Scouts of America recommends that everyone who participates in a Scouting event have an annual medical evaluation by a certified and licensed health-care provider—a physician (MD or DO), nurse practitioner, or physician assistant. For your convenience here is a link to the forms.

http://www.sfbac.org/files/images/pdfs/Annual_Health_part_C.pdf

Please contact me if you are unsure of your status. Also, I will try to follow up with scouts with outdated forms. Please return the forms to me or to Mr. Avery along with a copy of your insurance card. Thank you!

Danielle Wikler (mother of Kendall Law - Bats Patrol)

Attention All Parents!

National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)

NYLT National Youth Leadership Training June 25 to June 30

NYLT is the advanced leadership training for youth. Open to 1st class and above Scouts who will be at least 13 by October 1, 2012, this course provides the basic knowledge on how to become a better leader. The Course is also open to all Venturers and accepts Scouts and Venturers from all Councils. Cost this year is \$275 before May 1 and \$295 after May 1.

This year, NYLT will be held **June 25 to June 30 at Camp Cutter in the Santa Cruz Mountains.** Online registrations are ready NOW at www.sfbac-nylt.org. For further information, contact: info@brownsea-nylt.org.



Lowe's Partners with Boy Scouts of America

Lowe's has traditionally been a great supporter of Scout's Eagle projects. Now, they alongwith the Boy Scouts of America have partnered to make it even easier! Any Life Scout ready to begin his project and in need of some financial assistance to complete it can submit a copy of the completed *Eagle Service Project Proposal* to the San Francisco Bay Area Council along with the Lowe's National Eagle Scout Project Impact Grant form. If approved, the Scout will receive a \$100 Discover Card prepaid gift card that can be used to purchase materials. This will give the Scout a great start in securing supplies or materials. Once the project is complete, the Scout must submit the completed *Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook* with receipts of at least \$100 (entire gift card must be spent on the project) and three to five colored pictures to the San Francisco Bay Area Council.

For More information and Grant form:

<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/TrailToEagle> Please use the *Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook*, No. 512-927, as documentation. Submit any questions regarding the Lowe's National Eagle Scout Project Impact grant to lowes.grant@scouting.org

San Francisco Bay Area Council 2013 National Scout Jamboree

The National Scout Jamboree will be held at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia. This is an all new National Jamboree emphasizing high adventure activities. Be one of the first Scouts to experience all this site has to offer including whitewater rafting, zip-lining, rappelling, mountain biking, hiking, and more.

Dates: (Tentative) July 13 – July 25, 2013 including Tour Jamboree dates are July 15 - July 24, 2013

Cost: \$2,800 (estimated) for Scouts (same as 2010 National Jamboree)
\$2,400 (estimated) for Leaders

Please contact Mr. Andrews for more information.

Memorial Weekend Family Vacation Camp at Wente Scout Reservation

Where can you get a tent to sleep in, great food, swimming, boating, hiking, archery, shooting, horseback riding* and more for an unbelievable low cost. Memorial Weekend Family Vacation Camp at Wente Scout Reservation is now ready online and taking reservations! Only 450 spaces are available! Reserve now! For questions beyond the information on SFBAC website or call 510.577.9203

*small fee for horseback, shooting, and craft kits.

Owls

Bobby has officially aged out. All the Owls are going to college. Ben had committed to University of Portland. Allen is deciding between colleges. Seamus is going to George Town. Bryce is going to UC Davis. Bobby is going to SF State. Ben has earned his Eagle. Allen is working on his Eagle Project .

By Owls

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.

Bats

We went rafting at the American River on April 27. We went for fun.

By Mac Strand

Ravens

We had lots of fun this month going river rafting, helping out on Earth Day, and training some scouts during TLT overnighter at Anthony Chabot camp ground. The swimming troop meeting was fun and also fulfill our requirements for aquatics.

By Jeffery Jiang

Cobras

Two new boys came to visit troop 726 today (May 2). Their names are Sam and Philip. Philip is a scout from Troop 722 and will be joining us for summer camp this year. Sam is a friend of Matthew and is interested in joining our troop.

By Austin Xing-Le

Scorpions/ Dragons

Based on reciprocal attraction theory of psychology, you are more likely to be attracted to someone, if they are attracted to you.

By Ryan Flynn

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Troop 726

2730 Jennifer Drive

Castro Valley, ca 94546

Scoutmaster: Phil Avery

Email: pack705@earthlink.net

Website: <http://troop726.scoutlander.com>

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

Thank you to all the parents that attended the Parents Meeting on May 2. If you missed it, please see me and I'll bring you up to date on the latest.

Summer is just around the corner and this year I am approaching it with mix emotions. My daughter graduates from high school this year and 7 of our scouts will age-out; each beginning their next journey along their life path. It's a time to celebrate and a time of reflection. Scouting can be a 7 to 8 year journey, full of fun, full of learning experiences, and full of life time friendship. I wish each of our graduating Seniors the best of luck where ever their life trails take them – HAPPY TRAILS to all.

I extend a warm welcome to all our new families and invite each to get involved with the troop. For a hundred years, Scouting has been instilling values in young people and reinforcing those values in adults. For a hundred years, Scouting has been teaching leadership and life skills to both kids and their parents. For a hundred years, Scouting has been strengthening families and communities alike. For a hundred years, Scouting has been opening its doors to parents who only want the best for their children.

And now the door is open to you... Will you become involved yourself?

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. .
. .

All you have to say is yes. Scout's honor!

Troop Items for Sale

The following items can be purchased from Mrs. Lozano.

Troop Mug = \$5.00

Troop T-shirts = \$10.00

Duffle Bag = \$26.00

Mrs. Lozano. Email: Phyllis@gantel.com.

Uniform Bank

All items in the uniform bank are first come first serve. Please call Mr. Pica to check for availability. Also, if you think you can donate any items, please bring them to the meeting. Thank you!

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!

Obedient

A Scout follows the rules of his family, school, and troop. He obeys the Laws of his community and country. If he thinks these rules and Laws are unfair, he tries to have them changed in an orderly manner rather than disobey them.

