

February 26, 2008

Volume 1



Congratulations on a job well done! On September 9th, 2007, our very own **Nathan Keen** held his Eagle Ceremony at Lory State Park. We would like to extend our congratulations on this fine achievement. Good luck Nathan on all your future endeavors!



WHO TO CONTACT

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Assistant Scoutmasters:

Mike Clayton	Doug Cutter	Allen Ginsborg	
Joe Glaser	Tim Kinney	Ed Kotsides	Terry Martin
Tom Mueller	Steve Urlocker	Gene Whitney	Tom Yasumura

Visit us on the Web for updates, calendar, images & more:

<http://www.troop188.org>

TROOP 188 TIMES

Christmas Service Project at the Open Door Mission

Twenty scouts and family members had fun spreading some cheer and helping out the less fortunate on a cold, snowy Christmas Day. They spent part of Christmas preparing and serving a



holiday feast at the Open Door Mission in downtown Fort Collins. Families and scouts were divided into two different shifts. The morning crew did all the food preparation and stayed to

help with serving. The afternoon group helped with serving as well as kitchen cleanup and delivery of some meals to individual residences. This was the first time Troop 188 has helped at the mission and everyone agreed - it'd be a great project to do again next year.

Finding frost points and gold nuggets at Klondike

by Austin Rand

Klondike was awesome this year! It looked like it was going to snow all night that first night because of the snow and blowing snow on the drive up the Poudre Canyon. During the drive up we watched the temperature drop and drop on the car thermometer, the temperature was in the single digits by the time we arrived.

We set up our tents in the dark but with headlamps and lanterns, it wasn't too bad. By the time the tents were set up, we were tired and ready to jump into our sleeping bags. However, before turning in there are a couple important rules to follow when winter camping and they take preparation before even leaving home. First, insulate your nalgene bottle so you can fill it with boiling water to shove in the bottom of your sleeping bag. If done properly you'll be warm all night, this means making sure the lid is tight so you stay dry too. The second is to brave the cold and change into dry





long underwear and dry socks. Being dry is key to being comfortable. The first night was -10° below zero, the second night was -6° below zero, that's 80 frost points for the weekend.

Saturday was the Iditarod challenge. It was lots of fun with paintball slingshots and snowball launchers plus all the other



activities to earn gold nuggets. The weather couldn't make up its mind that day, it started sunny then got cloudy and snowy and then clear again. During the Iditarod, the famous suicide stew was being prepared. The stew was really good. In addition on Saturday, some of the older scouts built quinzees. This year they didn't collapse and the scouts slept in them Saturday night. In fact the quinzees were so strong we could stand on them the next day, just see the troop pictures. The auction with the Iditarod gold brought lots of sugary prizes Saturday night but we were too tired to stay up late. No one got too cold; we got 80 frost points and had lots of fun.

Chillin' Out at The Jane

By Ryan Nash

On February 19th, a couple dozen scouts and family members decided to get up at 5 am to spend the day skiing. After a two and a half hour drive through twisting mountain roads and mountain passes high in the sky, we reached our destination - Winter Park. The PLC picked a very cold weekend to visit the mountain. It was zero degrees as we crossed Berthoud pass, and slightly warmer at the base.



Once everyone had bought their tickets and found who we wanted to board or ski with, we decide which side of the mountain we wanted to ride. A group of seven of us decided to challenge ourselves and out do the adults by cruising the chutes. Most of it was pretty easy, except for the cliffs and 45 degree slopes. We all got to the bottom - alive and OK, when Neil spotted a massive rock and decided to take it. Nathan and I saw Neil land it, so we decided to take the jump too. After climbing back up the hill for ten minutes in order to get to the jump, we were ready. I went first, took the jump and went tumbling back to the earth, followed shortly by Nathan. Alive and in one piece, we went down the rest of the run with more massive jumps and bumps. We then decided to stop to warm up and get all of the snow



out of our gear. Our group got back on the mountain and charged down the chutes a few more time before heading over to the easy side of the mountain to hit the terrain park once and then meet up with the rest of the troop.

A small group of us decided to ride a second day where we spent a lot of time on the terrain park due to us being very sore from the previous day. The most memorable event of the day was when Alex fell off of the massive rail onto his back. He started off perfectly, jumped onto the rail and began to slide down it. It just so happened that a gust of wind hit him from behind and began to push him off. He angled his board to the right in preparation for the fall when he somehow managed to fall backwards. I laughed until I realized he really was hurt. He spent a moment on the ground before hopping up like a true boarder and continued down the mountain

showing no signs of being hurt. Overall it was a great weekend and anyone who didn't come missed out on a lot of fun.

Summer 2008 – High Adventure Trips

This summer, Troop 188 is planning two high adventure outings for the older scouts. From the mountains to the oceans, scouts have two exciting and very different expeditions being offered. Troop members can choose to bicycle 114 miles of the Mickelson Trail in the Black Hills of South Dakota or do some island hopping aboard a tall sailing ship in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of Los Angeles.

MTB High Adventure Update



Plans are shaping up for the Troop 188 mountain bike high adventure trip, riding the Mickelson trail in the Black Hills of South Dakota. We're leaving on Sunday, June 8th and will return on Saturday June 14th. We will start riding the "Mick" on Monday, at the trailhead in Deadwood. Our first night on the trail will be outside of Hill City. The second day of riding will take us to Pringle. The third and last day of riding the Mick will finish in Edgemont, 114 miles, 4 tunnels and over 100 bridges later. After finishing up our ride in Edgemont, we will have 2 more days of fun in the Black Hills, seeing the sites and visiting the cool attractions. You scouts get to plan this, so start coming up with ideas now. Don't force me to

call a meeting, and make you stay in a cramped hot room until you get it all planned!

Scouts must be 13 years old, 1st Class, and have First Aid and Personal Fitness merit badges by the start of the trip. In addition, all scouts must have or currently be working on Cycling merit badge. In conjunction with Cycling merit badge, we will have some



training sessions to prepare for the trip. These will be mandatory, but there will be enough sessions that you won't have to attend all of them. The training rides and Cycling merit badge

work will start in the spring, around early April. Stay alert for more information on this. Don't forget, Personal Fitness merit badge takes a minimum of 12 weeks to



complete, so don't delay!

All participants will be responsible for providing their own bike and bike gear including helmet, hydration pack or water bottles and repair kits, as well as all personal camping gear.

The trip costs have been estimated at \$180. Payment schedule for all participants is as follows:

- \$50 – Due immediately to reserve your spot on the trip
- \$130 – Due April 1st

We currently have about 20 scouts and adults signed up. There will be more information as we finalize some details and as we get closer to the event. If you have signed up, subscribe to the Mickelson High Adventure wiki page at <http://www.troop188.org/mywiki/MickelsonHA>. Then you can keep updated as we finalize our plans as well as adding your own ideas for other things to do during our last 2 days in the Black Hills.

Please contact Steve Urlocker at steve_urlocker@agilent.com or at 970.226.1961 with any questions!

Tall Ship Sailing on the High Seas

The Lost Angeles Maritime Institute (LAMI) High Adventure is July 28th - August 1st and is located off the coast of southern California on a large sailing ship called "The Irving Johnson". The ship is 110 feet long, 88 feet tall and has 4540 square feet of sail. Best of all, Troop 188 scouts will be learning and doing most of the sailing around the Pacific Channel Islands. The Institute will provide 2 captains and 2 staff members but the rest of the work/fun will be done by roughly 30 folks from Troop 188. There is still room to sign up if you want to learn navigation, nautical knots/terms and SAIL a large ship. The cost will be around \$700 and that includes airfare, food, and passage on the ship. Please contact Terry Martin or Tim Canney if you have questions or want to sign up. Meanwhile, for those of you who have signed up... check out the LAMI web site at



www.lamitopsail.org to see a picture of The Irving Johnson. Scouts must be at least 14 years old, first class or above with swimming and lifesaving merit badges.

February Court of Honor

LIST OF RANK ADVANCEMENTS

Alec Baker-Carr	Rank:	2 nd Class
Ian Barry	Rank:	Star
Tor Bomgardner	Rank:	Star
Jacob Clark	Rank:	2 nd Class
Matthew Clayton	Rank:	2 nd Class
Jonathan Collins	Rank:	Tenderfoot
Charles Dietz	Rank:	Scout
Dylan Glaser	Rank:	Tenderfoot
Jake Helzer	Rank:	Scout
Joe Helzer	Rank:	Scout
Nathan Nash	Rank:	Star
Ryan Ramirez	Rank:	Life
Ryan Sanders	Rank:	1 st Class

Congratulations to all for a job well done!

Scoutmaster Corner



Hi Troop 188,

Most people want to have fun, be successful, try new things, have adventure, or better yet, do all this with a group of friends. Rock climbing, building a big pioneering tower, or becoming an Eagle scout are all adventures. Now, talking about adventures happens to be real easy. Making adventures happen is the challenge, and this is a big part of Scouting.

Behind all the enthusiasm and excitement is a very mundane skill called setting goals. A goal is really a plan of action. In August the troop leadership gets together and creates the calendar for the next year. This is really just a set of goals for the troop. The troop has always done this and it is why we are a very active troop. I want to take that very same idea and have each scout create, and follow through, on their own goals. If you're trying to reach Tenderfoot then you might need to figure out when you're going to complete requirement 11, describing local poisonous plants. If you're trying to complete Star, you might need to figure out what merit badges you will complete and when you will do them.

A good goal has a specific thing you will complete and a specific time you'll have it done by. Each goal also has to be simple, and this is where most people have problems. The hard part of setting goals is to break big problems down into smaller problems, or sub-goals. Just saying you want to complete Star by June is not realistic if you don't know how many merit badges you have left to do.

To help scouts with this we have goal sheets at meetings with everyone's goals written on them. A copy of this is also on the troop wiki (<http://www.troop188.org/mywiki>). For each scout there is a table with four rows and 13 columns. Each row corresponds to a major goal, such as completing a rank or merit badge. Write that in the first column of the row. The next 12 columns correspond to months and you should write for each sub-goal the item you need to complete in the month you're going to have it done by. Scouts are encouraged to set goals. We will also have one adult for each patrol to review these goals with the scouts to ensure they are realistic. After that, it's up to each scout to follow through on what they said they'd do.

This is all building towards your Eagle project. Completing ranks and merit badges, organizing patrol week and troop activities, and leading Venture patrol activities are all designed to teach you the skills needed to complete your Eagle project. That's where you show leadership and that's a skill you will use long after you've left scouts.

Thanks,

Mr. Rosing