

November 29, 2005

Volume 2

TROOP 188 TIMES

SCOUTMASTER'S

CORNER

Hi scouts,



It's time to do the Thanksgiving thing. What are you thankful for?

As Scoutmaster one thing I'm thankful for is all the effort the adults put into this troop. Without their help we wouldn't have such an active and fun program. It amazes me at how much has to be done to run our troop. Scouts have requirements signed off. Trailers are worked on. Summer camp is organized. Patrol leaders get guidance. Tents are bought. Our website is kept up to date. Eagle projects are supported. Flag stands are made.

Campouts are organized. Service projects are setup. High adventure trips are planned. Neckerchiefs are bought. Merit badges are taught. Scouts are driven places. Meeting places are found. This handout is printed. Courts of Honor are organized. This list goes on and on.

What it gets down to is in order to have fun you also have to do some work. And the parents help a lot. So, let the Assistant Scoutmasters and other parents that help know you appreciate their work, even if it is your mom or dad. If you do it right they might give you some extra pie.

Sincerely,

Mr. Rosing

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

<http://www.troop188.org>

Senior Patrol Corner

Hello, my name is Jeff Topolski. I am the Senior Patrol Leader of the Troop. I was elected SPL back at summer camp at Camp Laramie Peak and I am enjoying every second of it.

The Troop has done a lot of fun activities since the last Court of Honor. In September, we played fun games like Party Ball, and went swimming at Epic. Many scouts met swimming requirements for 2nd Class and 1st Class during that meeting. We also got our much-needed new patrol boxes, and had a patrol planning session. We needed the planning session because of a new idea we are incorporating into the new calendar called Patrol Tuesdays. One Tuesday every 3 months, instead of meeting at Linton, each patrol sets up an activity which they can do as a group and have fun. They have to figure out a place to go, and something to do beforehand. We came up with this idea, because the patrols were having a hard time finding time to have patrol meetings outside the weekly troop meetings, so we figured why not just have them go off on a Tuesday?

During the month of October, we started off playing a variation of dodge ball called War Ball. This was a very good way to take your anger out by throwing a bouncy ball at someone. Very fun. We also had Judge Kaup come to Linton and explain how the court system works. After that, we had a mock trial that was an interesting experience. I found out being a top-notch lawyer is harder than it looks on TV. Haunted Weekends for the month of October is held at the BDSR Cub Camp like we do every year, and just like every year, it was a huge success. We also had two Eagle Court of Honors for David Mares, and Kelly Hogan.

Then we rolled up to November and started it off playing a troop favorite, Human Foosball. We also had an egg launch competition and the first patrol Tuesday. For campouts, we had one that was totally devoted to Capture the Flag, which was fun, but no one won, and both teams cheated...kind of. We are looking forward to actually finishing a Capture the Flag game someday. We also had Nick Salzgeber's Eagle Court of Honor, and Michael DeBonte's Eagle Project.

So far, the calendar has combined fun, and scout skills into activities that all the scouts can enjoy. We have a great year planned and I can't wait to see how much fun everyone has with the other activities we have planned.

I would also like to note that on the Capture the Flag campout, my team did NOT, I repeat, did not cheat, and would've won if the other team had followed the rules. If you were there, you know what I'm talking about.



Haunted Month of October

As you all know Troop 188 has been running the Haunted House again for Cub Scout Camp this last October. I would to thank everyone involved with this. THANK YOU!

Troop 188 set up the haunted house and the maze at camp and then ran it for 3 weekends. The last weekend was an archery and campout weekend where Mr. Trujillo and his daughter came up and set up a range and ran it just for our troop on Saturday morning. During this event we had 58 different people from our troop (scouts, leaders, and parents) that show up to help. In total we logged in 820 service hours. GREAT JOB EVERYBODY!!!! I know that the camp staff really appreciates our troop's effort, for it's one less thing the staff has to do and it will be done right.





Fall Camporee At Carter Lake

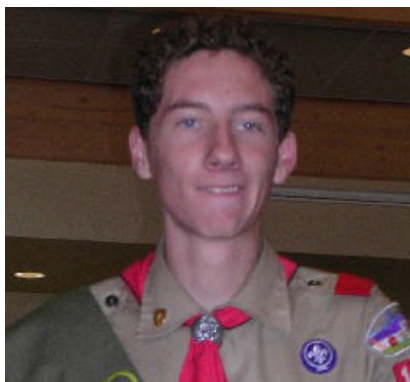
This year's water themed Fall camporee was held at Carter Lake on near perfect September weekend. The boys competed in many events including volley ball, canoe races and mud castle construction. They especially enjoyed the swamped canoe races, water skiing, swimming, and sailing. The troop got serious about winning the "skull" for two consecutive years for campsite cleanliness and camp gadgets. Boys and adults, under the capable engineering direction of Mr. Donovan, built a stone entry to camp, stone water and washing station, stone lined pathways throughout camp, and of course a fire ring. And it was a ring to challenge even Mr. Yasumura's greatest fire fantasies! Not to be outdone by the camporee campfire, he built a bonfire and stoked it with old patrol boxes. The fire provided warmth to everyone within 100 yards and reportedly its glow could be seen from Granby! It also brought out Dylan's pagan instincts as he treated us all to his "fire dance", whether we asked for it or not. The adults enjoyed Mr. Donohue's exceptional Dutch oven cooking and discovered a variety of uses for brussel sprouts including launching them at adults of other troops. The boys cooked steaks, hamburgers (rare seems like a generous description), and spaghetti. The Pedro's won Mr. Rosen's cook off competition for their chicken Alfredo. The troop took the skull home again and Mr. Rosen and Mr. Heikes had to flip to see who would get to keep it in their home. Please feel free to stop by Matt's bedroom to see it!

Allen Ginsborg



Congratulations to Our Soaring Eagle Scouts!!

Kelly Hogan, David Mares and Nick Saltzgaber have attained the rank of Eagle Scout!!! We should again honor and praise these fine individuals for their achievement to a level very few have gone.



Three Cheers to Our New Assistant Scout Masters

After several diligent weekends learning the ropes on being a good leader in scouting, we have gained five new assistant scoutmasters. Those individuals are as follows: Joe Bakel, Joe Glaser, Steve Urlocker, Gene Whitney, and Tom Yasumura. We welcome them aboard and look forward to their future involvement with our ever expanding troop.

Looking for a FEW MORE SCOUTERS!!!!



The **Canada High Adventure Trip** is looking for more people!
Date: **July 8th – 23rd, 2006**

We need **2 more adults** to commit and we can accept up to **4 more scouts**. Total cost will be \$900 each, with \$600 due on March 1st. Scouts must be 13 years old, Star rank and have completed First Aid, Camping and Swimming merit badges.

Please let **Doug Cutter** know if you can join us before **December 9th** by calling him at **282-3674**.

AND NOW FOR SOME NEWS THAT DIDN'T MAKE IT LAST TIME

Backpacking to New Heights



Backpacking, hiking on snow fields, camping below jagged mountain peaks, fishing and climbing to the summit of a 14'er... now that's a "Miles High Adventure!" Three boys (Michael Debonte, Kelly Hogan and Bobby Hyatt) and four adults (David Cranor, Robert Donahue, Bob Hyatt and Eamonn Martin) left Fort Collins on June 23 and returned June 25 for an unforgettable alpine adventure.

Driving up a memorable 4WD road to the trailhead involved a couple of creek crossings, lots of rocks and a spectacular transition from arid sagebrush flats to montane forests to subalpine forests, with plentiful wildflowers and quite a bit of snowmelt runoff.

Hitting the trail at just over 11,000' with light rain falling, we crossed several snowfields on our way to base camp just below Lower South Colony Lake at about 11,660'. After finding a good place to camp, we set up our tents and cooked up some warm vittles for dinner.

Rising just before the sun came up the next day, we had some breakfast, filtered some water and all seven of us set out to climb Humboldt Peak. Crossing a few more snowfields, we started up the switchbacks leading to a saddle at 12,800'. On the way up the saddle, we spotted a small herd of mountain goats, later reported to be near our campsite by some hikers we met. At this saddle, some who hadn't eaten breakfast ate while we all took a break, enjoying the spectacular views of the Crestones, Broken Hand Peak and some of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains heading to our north. Throughout our hike above timberline, we saw several marmots, pikas and some type of ground squirrels.

After another 1,300' of climbing, rock scrambling and route finding from the saddle, we reached the summit of Humboldt Peak at 14,064'. This was the first 14'er summit for three of our crew and the second for another. Two others have climbed from 23 to 29 of Colorado's 54 peaks above 14,000'.

Returning to camp, many were pretty exhausted and took a nap. Having never before experienced this phenomenon, we were all surprised to see two of the three fly rods that were packed up the trail having portions of their cork handles chewed by some animal. Apparently, cork is a bit of a delicacy for some animals. Some seem to think the snowshoe hare that seemed persistent to visit our campsite is responsible for the cork munching.

David Cranor was successful in catching four cutthroat trout from Lower South Colony Lake. We all were offered to sample some of the delicious trout for supper. We ate, cleaned up, started a fire and played a couple of games of Farkel (thanks to Michael for packing in the dice, pen and paper.) Having played this insidious game for years and having never won, I was ecstatic to have won **BOTH** games.

The Crestones and the South Colony Basin presented beautiful sunrises, sunsets, mountain views, wildflowers, relaxing sounds of running streams and wildlife. We were fortunate to have visited such a beautiful and unique place.

The memories of this trip have undoubtedly been imprinted upon the minds and hearts of three boys and four adults to be recounted and savored for years to come.

In Scouting,
Robert Donahue

Quote of the trip: Dr. Cranor, talking to singing birds - "You're a stupid bird, you need to shut up!"

**AAP LET THE OTHER
BIRD SING!**



Mountain Man at Camp Laramie Peak 2005

Up at summer camp you had three choices of program for the week, regular camp, the Fifty Miler and, Mountain Man. I chose Mountain man. First off, we had to get our things and throw them into a truck then hike to our camp. We stayed at a different camp the whole week, a first for CLP. Once we arrived we met the Mountain Man staff, Deer mouse, Tiger, Snake, and Jack. Each of them ran a different aspect of camp; Deer mouse taught us Indian sign language, Tiger was the camp cook and taught Cooking merit badge, Snake ran the tomahawk range, and Jack pretty much did everything else. We worked on Indian Lore, Wilderness Survival, Rifle Shooting, and Cooking merit badge most of the time, and many people, including myself, spent a lot of time at the throwing range. We also did some challenges like speed fire building and throwing challenges. We all had to choose animal names at the beginning of the week. I chose Grizzly, but some other people had strange names, most notably Emu and Jellyfish.



On one of the days, Mr. Martin challenged Jack at a hawk throwing competition that all of Troop 188 came to see. It was close until the very end, where Jack beat him on the last target. Up at Mountain Man they do something called a Mountain Man Shower if you challenge Jack and lose. Basically, everyone fills up a can with water and pours it on the loser, and as you may guess Mr. Martin experienced this when he lost. On one of the last nights, in order to finish the wilderness Survival merit badge, we slept out in the woods with only our survival packs, which actually was really fun. Tiger cooked us our breakfast, lunch, and on a few nights, dinner, but for the most part each clan or brigade (basically patrols) had to cook their own dinner with the Dutch ovens. I think the best part of the trip was the Coulter's Run. It was a team competition between all the clans and brigades where each member of each group had to do an event. The events were: hawk throwing, black powder shooting, knot tying, and the whole team participated in the last event, fire building. My clan didn't win, but we still had a great time trying. I really believe that Mountain Man was the best CLP program choice by far.

-Gage Waldron

Thanks from PFC Martinez for Troop 188 efforts

June 12, 2005

Dear Troop 188 c/o MR. Keen,

I would like to personally thank you for all the wonderful items that you've sent to the troops in Iraq. As a young soldier and my first time deployment, I came here with the necessities to what I can carry, so the items sent were greatly appreciated. There are times that I look back and all the small things you take for granted everyday back in the States do not go unappreciated out here in Iraq. During hard times like these when I'm away from my family, it just touches my heart to see that children will take the time to write some encouraging words to uplift a servicemember's spirit. For that, I thank you personally from the bottom of my heart; teaching and learning generosity, encouraging the honor and respect for our country, and most of all - lending a helping hand.

Sometimes you have to start from somewhere and just if things seem to go unnoticed, someone steps out to show you how much they care. I'm not sure how many members the box had gotten to, but by the time that it got to me, I ended up with some of the most precious things of all - you all's letters. Even with the demanding schedules that we all go through everyday, I felt that it was an honor to receive the letters and what better way to show my appreciation than to respond to each individual letter with sincerity.

So I hope that the scouts and leaders know that this one didn't go unnoticed and it made a difference in this one's servicemember's heart. I thank you again and may God bless you always.

Sincerely,

PFC Phikun Heng Martinez
502nd PSB/Delta Det
U.S. Army

P.S. It may seem strange that I would write on the letters the children wrote, but the dates show that it's been a while that it was written. So I wanted to respond personally to each letter w/out skipping anything.

June 12, 2005

Dear Jamie,

Thanks for the encouraging words. It helps out in times that I'm far away from my family. Kind words that you've given will go a long way. And that I'll always remember!

Sincerely,
PFC Phirum Heng Martinez
U.S. Army

JUNE 12, 2005

Dear Kyle,

What a smart child you are! You seem very knowledgeable and well disciplined. Thanks for all of your respect and gratitude. I'm glad that you have fun in your troop and help out the community and our armed forces. Thanks for all that you have done.

Sincerely,
PFC Phirum Heng Martinez
proud member of the
U.S. Army

June 12, 2005

Dear Gage,

Continue to be that proud American that you are. It's that spirit that keeps America and it's soldiers going. Thanks for your gratitude and kind words. The words I underlined are thoughts that yes many people have and some do not support but your right, it must be a good cause because America is willing to sacrifice. Just as you've sacrificed your time and help to support our troops in Iraq, it is greatly appreciated. Thanks again!

Sincerely,
PFC Phirum Heng Martinez
U.S. Army

June 12, 2005

Dear Alex,

Thank you and all the "Fighting Mushrooms" for your help and kindness. With all the hard work I'm sure you shouldn't be too far from finishing your 1st class requirements. Yes, the items sent were most helpful. I'm glad that I got your letter to encourage my spirit in hard times like these. Thank you and all your fellow troopers for the support. Every extra prayer helps! Thanks again.

Sincerely,
PFC Phirum Heng Martinez
U.S. Army

Dear Hannah,

JUNE
12, 2005

I love the picture you drew. I couldn't bear to write on it, but here's a BIG Thank you for the gift. I will hang it as inspiration to come home safely.

Here's a small picture for you:
(because you have such a big heart!)



Sincerely,
PFC Phirum Heng Martinez

Dear Ryan,

June 12, 2005

Thank you for putting together the boxes of goodies with your troop. I surely enjoyed them. Keep on doing a great job in trying for only the best in all the sports you love. You seem like one busy person and you still find the time to help out. Thank you.

Sincerely,
PFC Phirum Heng Martinez
U.S. Army

P.S. Although there is no snow out here, I sure would like those Klondikes too in the desert!