

TIMES

FEBRUARY 2005

188

TROOP



This year's Christmas tree fundraiser was another big success. We had 23 Boy Scouts, 3 Webelos and 11 adults helping to hand out 3000 flyers on December 11. On January 3 we recruited another 22 Boy Scouts and 10 adults to help drive around the neighborhoods and pick up approximately 230 trees to be recycled. Not including the adult time, we spent a total of 126.5 scout hours and raised \$1884. After doing the math, each scout earned \$14.89 per hour worked. If a scout worked the entire 3.5 hours during the flier

handout they earned \$52.13. If they worked the entire 3 hours during tree pickup they earned \$44.68 and if they worked both days they earned a total of \$96.81. This money will go directly into the boys' scout accounts and can be used to help pay for summer camp, either of the high adventure trips or to purchase camping equipment for scouting activities. Anyone interested in the exact amount they earned can see Mr. Keen or for the total amount in their scout account they can see our troop treasurer, Mr. Canney. For those who wish to make a withdrawal from their scout account to help pay for any of these trips, they should go to the Troop 188 website and print out a "Troop 188 Scout Account Withdraw Request Form", fill it out and turn it in to the appropriate trip leader when payment is due.

If anyone would like to email Sgt. Joseph Wankelman, the soldier that visited our Troop on February 15th, he can be reached at sir_joe81@yahoo.com

Longs Peak Council Honors Kerry Waldron & Troop 188 with the Volunteer of the Year at Camp Jack Nicol

Assistant Scoutmaster Kerry Waldron was recognized as "Volunteer of the Year at Camp Jack Nicol" for his work in organizing the scouts and leaders of Troop 188 during the last 3 years Haunted weekends. These weekends are a huge success only because of the work of volunteers, and the Haunted Castle is a big part of that. Over the last 3 years Mr. Waldron has organized hundreds of scouts and scouters logging thousands of volunteer hours for the members of the Troop.

GAGE'S EAGLE PROJECT

On Saturday, February 19, Gage Waldron pulled together 16 boys and 8 adults to help him work on his Eagle project. Gage's project involved building 19 bat houses that will be put up at various locations throughout the community. These bat houses provide a place for bats to live. The bats eat an amazing number of insects and this project will in the end help to reduce the Fort Collins insect population. For his Eagle project, Gage worked with government agencies, pulled together the bat house design, obtained the building materials, and organized two work days. On the first day, Gage directed a team of adult leaders to use their power tools to cut the bat house materials which consisted of cedar and poplar woods. Scouts are not allowed to use power tools. This past Saturday, Gage directed 5 patrols of boys on how to assemble the bat houses. The patrols worked together as a team to staple and nail the houses together. The patrol lead by Michael DeBonte assembled an amazing 5 bat houses in a 3 hour period. After the houses were completed, pizza was served and everyone took a well deserved. break.



Gage would like to thank everyone that helped.

At the annual Thompson-Poudre District Recognition Event on February 4th, 3 leaders from Troop 188 were honored with awards:

Craig Heikes—Bronze Bighorn Award
Terry Martin—Committee Chairman of the Year
Norm Bastian—Scouter of the Year

Congratulations to all these leaders, and thank you for all of the work you do for the scouts in our Troop, District, and Council!

SNOWY RANGE SKI TRIP

In December Troop 188 went to Snowy Range ski area. Over 30 scouts, parents, and siblings had a lot of fun. Special mention goes to Philip Adams as this was the first time he'd been on skis. I spent most of my time snow boarding with a group of scouts interested in jumps and tricks. As I have no desire to miss any landings I was given the job of cameraman, and I filmed the scouts biffing their jumps. The highlight of the trip, however, was when Reid, brother of Neal, son of Steve, Urlocker got major huge air when he jumped off the lift. Shaken but not stirred. we were glad he wasn't hurt. We were also relieved it wasn't an adult who, if they had fallen only a foot, not to mention ten to fifteen, would have torn their ACL.

WHAT SCOUTING HAS DONE FOR ME

by Matthew Rosing

Scouting has taught me that every Sunday after a scout camping trip I'm going to take a nap. Between playing hard, having fun, fresh air, and a sleep number pad of 165, I'm tired. Scouting has also taught me many new games. A game the scouts came up with is called Stratego-capture-the-flag. This involves sprinting through snow at 8000' with boots on and teenagers chasing you. This is usually followed by another game called Trying-to-breath-without-coughing-up-a-lung. Another, more cerebral game I've learned, is called Farkel. This is a sophisticated game based on strategy, skill, cunning, and whether the guy next to you is rolling lucky.

Scouting has also taught me about volunteering. Volunteering has two phases. The first phase is not saying no when someone asks for help. The second phase is to figure out what you got yourself into because volunteers are usually clueless. One example is helping to cook for several hundred people. Another is when Colleen Martin, who so graciously puts this newsletter together, calls up begging for articles and I naively ask about what and she says how about what scouting has done for you, you get this Ward Churcillian stream of consciousness that needs to be completed before I take a nap. You get what you pay for. You also get a description of the Snowy Range Ski Trip because I didn't say no when someone said, "hey, do you like to ski?"

Scouting has also given me an opportunity to work with scouts of all ages. Scouts bring a fresh view to many situations. They have an innate ability to figure out how to have fun under any circumstance. They also have an innate ability not to clean under any circumstance.

But I digress. Scouting has given me an opportunity to put lots of mileage on my car, hurt an old body with young games, politely listen to Irish rap, and organize medical forms. But mostly it's fun helping boys learn new skills and develop character.

REMEMBER

This weekend is the
Scouting for Food Collection

- Leave some food out for the Scouts
- Meet at Linton at 9:30 am Saturday
- See Mr. Waldron for sign up



LET'S MEET JEFF "TOPO" TOPOLSKI

Rank: *Star*

Age: *15*

Favorite Movie:

The Matrix

Favorite Book:

Barney Coloring Book

Favorite Hobby:

Coloring in Book

Favorite Sport:

Hockey

Favorite Quote:

*Do you think anybody wants a
roundhouse kick to the face while
I'm wearing these badboys?*

SENIOR PATROL LEADER

CORNER

One of the most exciting meetings that I experienced this winter was when Sgt. Wankelman from the U.S. Army came to visit out troop at our February 15th meeting. We had organized a Christmas Care Package to be sent over for his troop in Iraq. Then shortly after the care package arrived, his unit was released from the war. When Sgt. Wankelman was in town he contacted Mr. Keen to come thank our Troop for the package. He came in last Tuesday to talk to us about what the American Flag means to him. Also he discussed about how the flag means freedom and choice for Americans. Things like just getting in your car and driving where ever you want is a special privilege to Americans. Iraqis don't have this privilege along with lots of other freedoms they aren't allowed to have because of government or insurgents or just law. Scouts also asked him questions about what it was/is like to be a soldier in the war. He told us about the living conditions and what they did for fun and other things. We also presented a flag to Sgt. Wankelman and a Troop 188 neckerchief. This whole presentation was a very cool opportunity to be a part of and an experience I will never forget.

– Kelly Hogan

Troop 188 Honor Guard

In November of 2004 Monte Porter passed away, and Rose Porter asked if we could pull together a Color Guard for his funeral. We gladly did even though we had a little over a day to get it ready, but we still had people coming up to us and saying "that's the way it is supposed to be done". Which gave us a idea, we could start an elite Color Guard. So far we have done a Color Guard at the Council Dinner and the District Dinner and both times we have had people come up to us and say "that's the way it is supposed to be done". So I would like to say congratulations to all the OA Participants and keep up the good work.

- Eamonn Martin