

May 20, 2008

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Todd Rand	Steve Urlocker	Gene Whitney	Tom Yasumura

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<http://www.troop188.org>

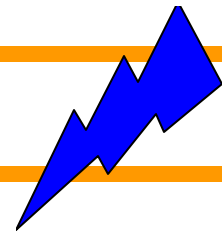
Congratulations to our new Eagle Scouts!

Jeff Topolski

This past weekend, Jeff Topolski was awarded the highest rank a scout can achieve. His Eagle Court of Honor was held at St. Elizabeth Seton Parish on Saturday, May 17. For his Eagle Scout project, he planted trees, bushes and flowers in a wetland area at a local park. He also installed birdhouses in the park.



TROOP 188 TIMES



Jeff Topolski (cont)

When asked what lessons he will take away from scouting, he replied, "Aside from the knots and first aid, I have learned the importance of a positive, spirited attitude. After attending JLTC, I changed my outlook on spirit and what it truly meant with scouts, and I think it helped me make more friends, be a great leader to the troop, and teach and bond with the first year camper kids at CLP."

Jeff was always having fun joking around with the other scouts. Some of his favorite activities on campouts were snipe hunting and sending kids off to find left handed smoke shifters. His leadership and planning in the Troop 12 peach cobbler incident were legendary and will certainly not be forgotten any time soon.

Jeff worked several seasons at summer camp and was always a favorite counselor with many of the cub scouts. He will leave scouting with a lot of great memories from working up at CLP, the best ones from when the troop was up there. He loved having everyone screaming at him in the dining hall and having to pick who to sit with for that meal. Another highlight in his scouting activities was attending the World Jamboree and meeting scouts from all over the world.

Kyle Zimmer

For his Eagle Project, Kyle organized the collection of over 3,200 pairs of shoe to benefit Souls4Soles, a nonprofit group that distributes used shoes worldwide wherever a natural disaster has struck.

Kyle's Eagle Court of Honor will be on Saturday, May 31, at 2pm at The Evangelical Covenant Church, 4825 S. Lemay Ave, Fort Collins. All are invited! He'd loved to see everyone there!

His most favorite memory about scouting is all the friendships he has made. He also said, "The best skill scouting has taught me is not to procrastinate, but I'm still working on it."



Josh Ginsborg

For his Eagle Project, Josh coordinated the installation of new landscaping at an area park.

Josh's Eagle Court of Honor will be on Friday, June 6, at 5pm at his home.

Congratulations to our all of our new Eagle Scouts!

Winter Campout at Michigan Lakes

By Trevor Mueller

On this campout we had two cabins. The cabins were heated and furnished. The beds were very nice and the automatic gas stoves were amazing. On Saturday we played in the snow for hours. We went sledding on a hill across the road from our cabin. The snowplow dumpsite at the bottom of the hill was cool because it made an awesome jump. When we came in from the snow we ate lunch in our warm cabin and then played board games for the rest of the day. It was definitely a great campout.

New Scouts Get Taste of Winter Camping

by Josh & Joey Ginsborg

Although many people argue that our world is suffering from global warming, anyone who went on the new scout campout would probably challenge your beliefs since, last time I checked, anything below thirty-two degrees in mid April is not warm. For the New Scout Campout this year, me and a handful of other kids from the troop, most of them new scouts (hence the name), as well as some adults, drove up to Ben Delatour Scout Ranch to spend a weekend tying knots.

The majority of the scouts toughed it out inside the lodge where it was much colder, however, the adults, and a few others, were pansies and slept in a nice warm tent outside.



After we settled in, Paul Colasuonno built a campfire and we boggled the new scouts and their dad's minds with a game of cross sticks. We then went to bed, only to wake up to the adults shaking us in our sleeping bags at ungodly hours.

After breakfast, we demonstrated the basic knots and lashings to the new scouts and set out on building a tower. The younger scouts decided to go their own way and built a swing which entertained them for quite some time. Finally we finished the tower, and satisfied with their work, Paul, Eric and John went and had lunch at the top of it.

The afternoon brought many small happenings. The older scouts went on a hike leaving the younger scouts to entertain themselves. One of them got the idea in his head to have a snowball fight which took up the latter part of the afternoon. New scout, Joey Ginsborg really enjoyed the snowball fight and the campfire with its games. "The snowball fight was fun because there was lots of snow and it was

hot."

It was soon campfire time again, and everyone sat down around the fire ring to watch the few who hadn't caught on to cross sticks go crazy.

When we woke up the next morning, we went through the usual 188 Sunday morning routines and headed back to town.

Spring Jamboree at Tip Top Ranch

By Alan Nash

Spring Camporee started out typical – windy and cold. But, Saturday was a clear, sunny and warm day.

There were many things to do at Spring Camporee. In the morning, there were five different activities for the troops to compete in. My personal favorite was the stretcher obstacle course- mostly because I was being carried. After that there was a memory game. Then an orienteering course which my team failed. We got completely lost and ended up in a field somewhere near the parking lot. Then we completed a flag signaling course where you had use semaphores to signal a message to the other half of your team using flags. The last game was a timed game. The object of this one was to set up a tent, and while that was going on one person had to put on many layers of clothes. Once the tent was up they had to get in the tent and zip it up. Then the person had to get in a sleeping bag and zip that up. After that he had to undo all that work and get it back into the bag. One of the layers of clothes was a dress which I had to put on. Let me tell you guys - dresses are not comfy if they are really small as was the case, and it looked pretty silly.



Then in the afternoon there was mountain biking. The trail was 5 miles of pain and torture with 45 degree slopes and a sprinkle of fun. One of the bike guides volunteers with search and rescue, so the trail was very easy for him. The other leader was an avid mountain biker, so he climbed the hills with ease and thought it was fun too. I disagreed though because I ended up hiking up most of the hills. This trail was definitely not for wimps.

Later that evening we gathered all the troops together for some skits, songs and fun. At Order of the Arrow call out, Tyler Thull and Nathan Nash were nominated to join the group. Now they will have to complete their ordeal to become a member of OA. Another memorable award was presented to Ryan Nash. On the stretcher obstacle course, he ended up tripping and rolling in some souvenirs left by the horse grazing in the meadows. He was presented with a ziplock baggie containing some fragrant reminders of his run through the obstacle course. (Thanks for the thoughtfulness Mr. Heikes!)



May Court of Honor

LIST OF RANK ADVANCEMENTS

Oscar Anaya	Rank :	Scout
Chris Arnott	Rank :	1st Class
Marshall Boyton	Rank :	2nd Class
Cody Carlton	Rank :	Scout
Armond Dai	Rank :	Scout
Matt Dietz	Rank :	Scout
Daniel Elder	Rank :	2nd Class & 1st Class
Eric Fischer	Rank :	Life
Joey Ginsborg	Rank :	Scout
Austin Horne	Rank :	Scout
Kobie Kulesa	Rank :	Scout
Chad Maltby	Rank :	1st Class
Conor Meersman	Rank :	Tenderfoot
Nathan Steketee	Rank :	2nd Class
Reid Urlocker	Rank :	2nd Class

Congratulations to all for a job well done!