



September, 2007
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Troop 805
Danville, CA 94526
USA

Troop Tidings

2007/2008 Vision, Mission & Goals

By Troop Leadership Team

Vision:

A Troop with a continued dynamic recruitment plan and an outstanding record for participation at all Troop meetings, outings and events that actively uses the Patrol Method of operation.

Mission:

- ❖ Continued Webelos recruitment efforts to successfully enlist Webelos scouts into the Troop.
- ❖ Increased participation by focusing Troop activities to be sufficiently varied to ensure all levels and ages of scouts are having FUN.
- ❖ Focus the Troop to use the Patrol Method to enhanced leadership accountability and improve the operation in general.

Goals:

- ❖ Continue our recruitment plan that includes opportunities for each scout to participate in the efforts and results in the recruitment of between 8-12 Webelos scouts.
 - Bring the recruitment effort to the Packs rather than leaving it solely to them visiting the Troop.
 - Get Den Chiefs or older scouts with 1st year scouts to go to Pack meetings and announce our Open House and events.
 - Schedule a Troop open house and ensure the maximum participation of the Troop membership. Schedule second open house or possible dinner/other event if first open house turnout is low.
 - Follow up on visits to keep links between Webelos and the Troop active by using emails thanking them and asking them if they have any questions or concerns.
 - Make multi-media presentations available to the Webelos after a Troop visit.
 - Derive a list of possible Webelos/Scout activities and include 2-4 on the calendar throughout the year. Advertising these opportunities to the Packs, and look for ways to participate with Packs on their events.
 - Determine a list of key Packs we should focus our attentions on for recruiting so as to spotlight them in our efforts.
 - Utilize both adults and scouts in the recruitment effort.
- ❖ Increase Patrol participation to 70% at Troop meetings and outings by adding more variety to the sessions and making them more enjoyable to all participants.
 - Utilize "Troop Resources Features" (aka "Wood Wisdom") as the basis of Troop meetings and outings wherever possible.
 - Develop the plans so that all Patrols have a role in the production of the meetings.

This Month's Activities

Theme: Fishing

Outings

Bike Ride (15- miles)

When: September 8th

What: A mostly flat 15- mile bike ride from Alamo to Saint Mary's College in Moraga. We will do a short bike check before we start and if you get hungry a lot you can bring a snack.

Adult in Charge: Mr. Mahoney

Permission Slip Due Date: Patrol

Leaders will collect the permission slips on the September 4th troop meeting.

Patrol: Eagles

Brannan Island / Fishing

When: Sept 22nd to 23rd (Sat. Sun.)

What: One night fishing and camping

Adult in Charge: Mr. Huen

Patrol: Ligers

Meetings

September 4th

Troop Meeting at Sycamore School
7:15- 8:30 pm

September 11th

Troop Meeting at Memorial Park San Ramon for 9/11 Ceremony
4:30-6:00 pm

September 18th

Troop Meeting / Parent Meeting at Sycamore School
7:15-8:30 pm

Opening: TBD

Activity: TBD

Patrol Corners: Each patrol decide what food to bring for Brannan Island trip

Closing: TBD

September 25th

PLC 7:15 pm

- Include Patrol Corners at 50% of all the monthly meetings and encourage the Patrols to have separate meetings once a quarter to plan outings (Patrol and/or Troop).
- Include inter-patrol activities/competitions at least once during each quarter.
- Incorporate advancement opportunities such as merit badges and scout skill requirements in to the monthly program. Try to include unique merit badges for older scouts.
- Patrol Leaders to follow up with their Patrols at least monthly to evaluate the meetings and causes of none attendance. They will report on their findings at the PLC.
- Use the Patrol Outings timeline sheet to help plan permission slips/ deadlines/activities with adult ASM to help encourage participation.
- ❖ Educate the Troop on the Patrol Method and vigorously encourage its use and leadership accountability for putting it into practice.
 - Require the Troop leadership team to attend Troop Leadership Training (TLT) to educate them on Patrol Method.
 - Establish goals for all leadership positions which emphasis Patrol Method usage.
 - Establish ways to "hand off" previous Troop goals to new leaders
 - Improve Patrol effectiveness within the Patrol by holding the leadership accountable for following the Patrol Method (Have Patrol reports at PLCs generated at Patrol Corners).
 - Increase communication on outings and Troop meetings by ensuring the Patrol Leaders have sufficient information the week prior.
 - Outing sponsors will provide details at meetings and the PLC on plans. Outing leaders to attend PLCs for planning and communications purposes.
 - Set up a process to measure/report (by the end of September) so Patrols can be rewarded for their effort on setting the example: by wearing full scout uniform, participating in Troop, showing scout spirit and outwardly using the Patrol Method.
 - Attendance and uniform reviews will be taken by the Patrol Leaders at the start of meetings with impromptu uniform inspections being announced by the SPL. Scribe will tally this information and report out at the PLC.

Fremont Peak Campout

By Rand Mahoney

Question: What is more fun than having a day off from school?

Answer: Taking the day off plus the weekend to go camping, hiking the Pinnacles and star gazing with a 30-inch telescope!

We will have a fantastic 3-day, 2-night campout on October 5-7 at Fremont Peak State Park near Hollister. On Saturday we will do the Rim of the Bay hike at Pinnacles National

Monument, followed by an evening astronomical program by the Fremont Peak Observatory Association. The Pinnacles is the eroded leftovers of half of an ancient extinct volcano. The Monument is divided into East and West divisions by the rock formations and are only connected by trails. The east side has shade and water, the west side has high walls.



The rock formations provide for spectacular 'pinnacles' that attract rock climbers (however, we will do NO rock climb at this event). Peregrine Falcons live in this area and the California Condor has recently been reintroduced. Fremont Peak is the place that serious astronomers go to escape the light pollution of the Bay Area and get above the coastal stratus (since it is over 3000 feet high). It is also home to the Fremont Peak Observatory, which includes a 30" Newtonian-design telescope (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Newtonian_telescope).

The permission slip and additional details will be available on our website in early September.

Reference websites:

Fremont Peak State Park (<http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/564/files/FremontPeak.pdf>); Pinnacles Rim of the Bay hike (http://www.sfbac.org/activities/act_rob_pinnacles.cfm), and Fremont Peak Observatory Association (<http://www.fpoa.net/>).

Popcorn Sales Start In October



Troop 805 will again be participating in the Trails-End Popcorn sales this year. This is a great opportunity for the scouts to earn money in order to offset next year's registration and pay for scout outings and even summer camp which will be more expensive next year since we are going to Cherry Valley. Flyers with order forms and available prizes will be handed out to the Patrol Leaders in September. The selling period will be from October 1st through October 28th. The great part about the sale is that there is no cost to the Troop to participate and the popcorn

tastes great! There are ten different products including tow different three way tins, chocolately caramel, gourmet caramel, gourmet caramel light (new this year), microwave butter, butter light and Kettle Corn. In addition, your scout can earn some great prizes; the first prize level being only \$100.

More specific information will be available at the parent meeting on September 18th. Questions? Contact POPCORN CHAIR at Latha Ramesh and Eileen Chew (eileen_chew@hotmail.com).

October Troop Shooting Outing

Did the sharpshooter in you wake up at summer camp? If so you will want to mark Saturday, October 20 on your calendar. This is the date for the troop's shooting outing. We will be going to a rifle range in Concord, run by the United Sportsmen Club. In addition to use of their range the members of the club will provide 3-4 NRA certified instructors for the event, use of their personal rifles, hearing protection, safety glasses, targets and ammunition. The only thing you will need to bring is your enthusiasm and some water (the water at the range is not potable). We will meet at the Sycamore Park 'n Ride at 8:30 and probably return about 1:00.



This outing has a strict limit of 20 people shooting, so get your permission slip in quickly as participation will be on a "first come first served" basis. The permission slip is available on the troop web site and is due no later than Tuesday, October 9.

Any questions about this outing contact Neal Matsunaga at 838-1617 or nkmats@aol.com.

Next Month's Activities Theme: Shooting Sports

Outings

Fremont Peak Campout.

When: Friday 10/05/2007 – Sunday 10/07/2007
What: Campout at Fremont Peak State Park, Rim of the Bay hike at Pinnacles
Adult in Charge: Mr. Mahoney & Mr. Church
Patrol in Charge: TBD

Rife Shooting.

When: 10/20
Adult in Charge: Mr. Matsunaga

Meetings

Oct 2nd
Troop Meeting
7:15- 8:30

Oct 9th
Troop Meeting
7:15-8:30 pm

Oct 16th
Court of Honor
6:30 pm

Oct 23rd
Troop Meeting
7:15 pm

Oct 30th
PLC
7:15pm