



May, 2008  
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## Inside this Issue

- 1 Kiwanis Service Project  
Day Hike-Mt. St. Helena  
SPL and PL Elections
- 2 This Month's Activities  
Urban Backpacking  
Next Parent Meeting  
Meridian District Dinner  
Bike Rodeo
- 3 Next Month's Preview  
Leadership Training  
Summer Camp
- 4 15-Mile Bike Ride  
Canoeing Outing  
Friends of Scouting  
Code of Conduct
- 5 Camping-Now What?
- 6 Useful Email Addresses
- 7 Yearly Planner

Troop 805  
Danville, CA 94526 USA  
[www.troop805.org](http://www.troop805.org)

# Troop Tidings

## Kiwanis Service Project - May 3

We will be doing a service project this Saturday, May 3rd from 9:00 AM - 1:30 PM at Las Trampas Regional Park. This project is a single day event put on each year by our Chartering Organization, the Kiwanis. We will likely be doing trail and park area cleanup, so please dress in Boy Scout class B uniforms. We can use all the scout and parental help that we can get.

Lunch and tools will be provided by the Kiwanis. Scouts should bring their own water and work gloves. This service project counts for advancement and community service.

Please fill in the permission slip and parents please indicate if you can help us, and if you can drive on the date (see the permission slip on our website. . If you can not get the permission slip to the meeting or your patrol leader by that time, I will accept permission slip on Saturday 5/3 at the Sycamore Park and Ride, but you will need to bring two copies of the permission slip, as well as sending me an email at [oki@sbcglobal.net](mailto:oki@sbcglobal.net) letting me know you can come and if your parents will participate.

<http://troop805.org/forms/2008-05-03KiwanisServiceProject.pdf>

**Return Time:** 2:00 PM  
Approximate and drivers will return scouts to their home.

## Mt. St. Helena Day Hike- Sunday, May 4

A day hike at Mt. St. Helena will be held on Sunday, May 4, 2008. This will complete the Mt. St. Helena leg of the Rim of the Bay hike series. This day hike in Sonoma County covers about 11 miles with an elevation gain of 1384 feet. The hike takes you to the top of highest peak in the San Francisco Bay Area.

You will want to add the Mt. St. Helena rocker patch to your collection. (Be sure to order the round Rim of the Bay patch if you don't have one.) We'll learn land navigation skills, use a contour map and compass. We meet at the Sycamore Park & Ride at 7:30 a.m. and the boys will be returned to their homes about 7:00 p.m. Bring \$10 for dinner. More Details and the permission slip are on the Troop 805 website. Questions: Terry Church (925) 389-8820, [tnchurch@pacbell.net](mailto:tnchurch@pacbell.net).

## SPL and PL Election

Our SPL and PL elections are scheduled for **May 13th**.

The job descriptions for all leadership positions can be found on the Troop Website at:

<http://www.troop805.org/Resources/jltjobs.html>.

It is critical to have good representation and troop leadership. Please make your vote count by attending this important meeting.

All scouts interested in running for

## This Month's Activities Theme: Citizenship

### Outings

#### Kiwanis Service Project

**When:** Saturday, May 3  
**What:** Trail and park clean-up  
**Where:** Las Trampas Regional Park  
Adult in Charge: Mr. Oki/Mr. Mahoney  
Patrol in Charge: OA  
Permission slip due: Now or 5/3 (two copies)

#### Day Hike

**When:** Sunday, May 4  
**Where:** Mt. St. Helena  
Adult in Charge: Mr. Church  
Patrol in Charge: Pine Trees  
Permission slip due: Now

#### Urban Backpacking

**When:** May 17/18  
**Where:** Sacramento/Folsom Lake  
Adult in Charge: Mr. Carstensen  
Patrol in Charge: Eagles  
Permission slip due: May 13

### Meetings

#### May 6 Troop Meeting

**Where:** Sycamore School\*  
**When:** 7:15pm-8:30pm  
**Opening:** Panthers  
**Activity:** Citizen Nation Merit badge  
**Patrol Corners:** Yes-talk about the positions you want for upcoming elections  
**Closing:** Road Runners

#### May 13

**Where:** Sycamore School  
**When:** 7:15-8:30 pm  
**Opening:** Dragons  
**Activities:** SPL & PL elections; troop elections  
**Patrol corners:** No  
**Closing:** Pine Trees

#### May 20

**Where:** Sycamore School  
**When:** 7:15-8:30  
**Opening:** Ligers  
**Activities:** Summer camp bus deposit due; Citizenship in the community merit badge  
**Patrol corners:** Yes  
**Closing:** Eagles

#### May 20 – Parent mtg

#### May 27 - PLC/Board of Review

\* 2200 Holbrook Drive, Danville, CA 94506

the SPL position **MUST** meet the Scoutmaster before or at the May 6th troop meeting.

The new leadership team is **REQUIRED** to attend **Troop Leadership Training (aka TLT) on June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008**. There they learn about their positions, share ideas and are asked to establish at least one goal for their leadership position. Goals are activities or tasks relevant to their position of office which helps them make a difference; a mechanism by which they can help the Troop and themselves.

## Community Bike Rodeo-May 17th

A Community Bike Rodeo will be held at Iron Horse Middle School on Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup> from 11 to 3PM to help promote Bicycle Safety and Awareness in the Communities of Alamo, Danville and San Ramon. The City of San Ramon, Boy Scouts of America, and the San Ramon Unified School District will join forces to host this event.

This is a great opportunity to show scouts at work in the community, recruit new Boy Scouts and to build relationships with SRVUSD, City of San Ramon & local law enforcement agencies

Troop 805 has been asked to run a station during the event. The stations will range from a bike safety check to how to repair a flat tire. There also could be an opportunity to work on the cycling Merit Badge. Please contact the SPL at [spl@troop805.org](mailto:spl@troop805.org) by May 6<sup>th</sup> if you are interested in helping out.

## Urban Backpacking— Be There--May 17/18

*By Alan Carstensen, ASM*

Get ready for our upcoming Urban Backpacking outing scheduled for May 17th through May 18th. This outing will be a combination of "Urban Backpacking" through Sacramento (focusing on Old Town Sacramento and Capitol) along with an overnight camp at Folsom Lake. Not only will this outing satisfy one of the requirements for the merit badge "Citizenship in the Nation," but it should be a great overnight camp. We will meet on Saturday at the Sycamore Park & Ride at 8:30 a.m. promptly and return the boys to their homes on Sunday at about 1:00 p.m. \$12 for each adult/scout. See permission slip on our website ([www.troop805.org](http://www.troop805.org)) for more specific details.

## Next Parent Meeting

The May Parent Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 20, at 7:30 p.m. All parents are encouraged to attend. Our education portion of the meeting will address "advancement." The meeting ends prior to the end of the troop meeting

## Meridian District Dinner 2008

Recognition is a critical tool in achieving success in the Scouting program. We wouldn't think of not recognizing the achievements and contributions of our youth. Recognition is just as important for our adult volunteers.

## Next Month's Preview Theme: Athletics

### Outings

#### Troop Leadership Training (TLT)

**When:** June 7

**Who:** New Leadership

**Where:** Woodranch Clubhouse

**Adult in Charge:** Mr. Screechfield

**Patrol:** Senior Leadership

#### 15-mile Bike Ride

**When:** June 14/15

**What:** 15-mile Bike Ride

**Adult in Charge:** Mr. Mahoney

**Patrol:** Ligers

#### Canoeing

**When:** June 28/29

**Adult in Charge:** Mr. Aiken

**Patrol:** Panthers

### Meetings

June 3 Troop Meeting

June 10 Troop Meeting

June 17 Parent Meeting

June 24 PLC/Board of Review

Only once a year, each unit has the opportunity to formally recognize the adults who have significantly contributed to the Scouting program at the Meridian District Recognition Dinner.

This year's dinner is on Wednesday, May 21, 2008 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at the San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church, 902 Danville Boulevard, Alamo, California.

If you'd like to attend this event and support our unit's outstanding volunteer, contact the committee Chair at [cc@troop805.org](mailto:cc@troop805.org) no later than May 6.

## Leadership Training (NYLT)

*By Kent Screechfield*

This is your chance to nominate yourself to attend the summer National Youth Leadership Training scheduled for July (the June course is now full). This training course is an intensive practical experience in Scoutcraft and Leadership Skills set in a model troop situation. It is intended for mature Scouts who are at least 13 years old by the start of the course, and have achieved the First Class rank. The remaining summer course offered by the Mount Diablo Silverado Counsel is as follows:

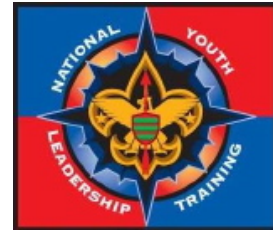
John Muir NYLT:

Weekend #1: July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
(Saturday) thru July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
(Monday)

Weekend #2: July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
(Saturday) thru July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2008  
(Monday)

The cost to attend the course is \$200.

The class starts to fill up in early May if you'd like to be **CONSIDERED** as a candidate for NYTC. We are only able to send two scouts to the course. If you'd like to hear more about past experiences, talk to one of the scouts who attended in a prior year: Thomas V., Michael G., Nick R., Will V., Trevor W., Adam H. or Colin G. Remember, if you'd like to be **CONSIDERED** as a candidate for NYTC, contact the Scoutmaster.



## Troop 805's 2008 Summer Camp

*By Kent Screechfield*

Troop 805's 2008 Summer Camp is scheduled to take place the week of **July 27<sup>th</sup> through August 2<sup>nd</sup>** and the bus transportation deposit of **\$125** is due at the **May 20<sup>th</sup>** Parent meeting. The deposit increase reflects a fuel surcharge that the bus company has now added. In addition, please get your Class 1/2 form signed by a doctor and turn it in to our Summer Camp Coordinator, Joan Martin. Your son must have a current Class 1/2 form signed by a doctor within 36 months from the last day of camp. For those who went to camp last year and completed a new Class 1/2 form, you would only need to correct the information on last years form and sign it again for it to be valid.

Questions? Please contact Joan Martin at (925) 736-1186 or [joaniemart@comcast.net](mailto:joaniemart@comcast.net).

## 15-Mile Bike Ride-Save the Date

By Rand Mahoney

Put June 14 on your calendar now for a great bike ride with your fellow Scouts. We'll go from Walnut Creek to Danville. Get those bikes ready. Details to follow!

## Canoeing!!

By Glen Aiken

Row the boat! Save June 28/29 for our upcoming canoeing outing. Look for details soon!

## 2008 Family/Friends of Scouting

Troop 805 families have received their 2008 pledge cards for the Mt Diablo Silverado Council Family/Friends of Scouting (FOS) campaign.

We are hoping for 100% participation from our troop for this important effort to raise funds to offset the cost of providing Scouting to scouts within the Mt Diablo Silverado Council. The true cost of scouting is much greater than our T805 dues, and FOS support ensures that quality scouting can continue to be experienced by our scouts.

The true cost of additional support the Council provides for each scout is \$175 annually. Some may wish to give more, some less, but participation by every family, at any level, is our goal. Contributions are tax-deductible, confidential, and can be paid in installments, by pledge, or on your Visa or Master Card.

Indeed, we thank you for your consideration of participating in this important 2008 FOS campaign for the Mt. Diablo Silverado Council. Ira Hillyer, (925) 743-0480.

## Code of Conduct and your Scout

By Susan Oki

How do we ensure our scouts treat one another appropriately? Is boisterousness always acceptable? There are multiple answers to these questions and I am sure each one of us likely has our own interpretation. Bad behavior is not condoned by BSA and certainly not acceptable in Troop 805.



What are the rules we follow as a scout Troop?

### RULES OF CONDUCT

As scouts we have rules that we agree to, to hopefully avoid confusion on our code of conduct. We have the Scout Law, Scout Oath & Youth Protection guidelines we can refer to for what is appropriate.

#### SCOUT LAW

At each Troop meeting we recite the Scout Law and Oath and commit to follow them. Baden-Powell derived these rules of life in the early 1900's and they still hold true today. In the law some of the things our scout's pledge themselves to are, to be Trustworthy, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, and Obedient.



#### SCOUT OATH

In the Scout Oath we hear the words, "To help other people at all times."

#### YOUTH PROTECTION

Youth Protection is just another process that we adhere to as scouts, and parents. Each year the adult leaders are required to take this training. The rules of Youth Protection also apply to the scouts however. The basic principles that apply to conduct are to mindfully be aware of others and their feelings,

and it also covers the issues of diversity - what might be alright for one person may not be acceptable behavior to others.

If we think about these statements & words whether an adult or a Scout we can answer any question on how we are expected to behave. Whether scouts or just individuals we need to think of the consequences of our action; not let our boisterousness lapse into something others would find negative or interpret as hazing. After all we all want to have FUN but this should not be at the expense of others.

### CONSEQUENCES

It is important that each scout and family too is aware of what might result from inappropriate actions. Every action has a consequence; it could be just a reprimand, a Troop reflection on how to improve the situation, an adult leader discussion with parents, or even being sent home.

### PROBLEM ESCALATIONS

Each situation has to be evaluated at the time. What might be a small issue at one event could be an extreme issue at another. The first step is always to talk to the scout in an attempt to address the situation. Beyond that it depends if the issue continues. In a scout Troop whether on an outing or at a Troop meeting our scouts will be held accountable for their behavior. A single boy not adhering to the code of conduct can make it a sad event for everyone else. As a Troop we can not afford this. When an incident goes beyond normal boisterousness parents will be alerted either on the Troop's return or if called for during the event. When necessary, parents (or a scout's emergency contact) will be contacted to deal with a situation and if a scout is too disruptive parents will be asked to come get their child.

The role of the parents is not an easy one. We reinforce good behavior and are held accountable for our children's actions. Your help to encourage and support appropriate manners is

essential. The last thing anyone wants is a phone call asking for a scout to be picked up because of non-scout like behaviors.

## Camping—What Now?

*By Neal Matsunaga*

Are you new to camping and trying to figure out what equipment your son will need, to participate in troop outings? There are lots of resources to help you get your son off to a successful experience.

Sources for information:

1. A good start is to look at pages 224 & 225 in the Boy Scout Handbook. These two pages list the personal overnight camping gear that each scout should have.
2. Other equipment that may be needed is described on pages 226 & 227 of the Handbook. This is equipment that each patrol, not necessarily each scout, will need to have for an outing. Out of this list the troop provides tents, camping/backpacking stoves, cooking kits of pots and pans (aka “red kits” because of the red nylon bags they are stored in) and cooking utensil kits (aka “green kits” because of the green nylon cases the utensils are stored in). Patrols are able to check these out for outings.
3. Pages 228-231, of the Handbook, talk a little bit about criteria for picking a pack, packing it and a simple idea for a pack cover. for his size now
4. Additional information, for making purchase decisions, can be found at website [www.50miler.com](http://www.50miler.com), developed by the Meridian district camping chairman.
5. Our troop website at [www.troop805.org](http://www.troop805.org) also has information on items #1 and 2 above as well as a list of clothing that would be appropriate for warm and cold weather camping.
6. Any of the adult leaders of the troop.

### Additional hints and suggestions:

- a) Your scout will grow and so some equipment will need to be purchased for his size now (e.g. clothing, sleeping bag) while others could be sized to allow for his growth (e.g. sleeping pad). Some items, like backpacks, are difficult to size for a 10 year old and a 15-16 year old at the same time. It is important to get a backpack that fits your scout so he can comfortably carry it. If you get one that is adjustable it may work for him as he grows, otherwise you may be looking at buying a pack now and another in a couple of years as your scout grows.
- b) Remember that scouts are expected to pack and carry all their own equipment, so the weight and size of what you purchase is an important consideration.
- c) Sleeping bags take a lot of abuse early on, especially during extended outings like summer camp. A recommendation is to purchase a relatively inexpensive bag, sized for your scout now, with the thought that as he grows, needs better equipment (e.g. able to handle temperatures 0degree temperatures) and has worn out his first bag you will get another one. Sleeping bags should be good to 20-30 degrees Fahrenheit temperatures and sized appropriately for your scout. Too big a bag means more space for him to heat up to get comfortable, as well as a more bulky bag to carry. Make sure the bag comes with a stuff sack and if not get one that the bag will fit into.
- d) Scouts must wear their full uniform for most outings, changing into a class B (troop t-shirt and pants) when at the campsite. Class B t-shirts can be purchased from the troop.
- e) When you have 20 plus boys camping, it is not unusual to have equipment get mixed up. It is important to mark all equipment so your son can identify his. f) Scouts may pack but are not allowed to use pocket knives or axes until they have

completed the requirements for Totin’ Chip (page 85 of the Boy Scout Handbook). These requirements cover the safe use and handling of these tools.

g) With regards to personal eating utensils, stay away from the official Boy Scout metal eating utensils and personal cook kit. They are more than your scout will need and are heavy. It would be better to get a lexan bowl (can be used as a plate or bowl), fork and spoon (can also get a fork/spoon combination utensil) and cup; knives are not needed since scouts carry pocketknives. Your scout should be able to use them for a long time, including when he goes on backpacking trips in the Sierras.

h) If at all possible try to get synthetic or blended t-shirts and clothes. They wick moisture away from the body better and dry more quickly after getting wet. Camouflage clothing is discouraged.

Places to shop

- Costco (sleeping bags)
- Target (sleeping bags and some equipment)
- Sporting goods stores (e.g. Any Mountain, Big 5, REI, Sunrise Mountain Sports)
- Online (e.g. Campmor at [www.campmor.com](http://www.campmor.com))
- Council stores (e.g. Mt. Diablo Council store in Pleasant Hill)

If you think you would like help/information while making your purchases, stores such as REI are good at providing help. However, they are usually the most expensive source. I hope this information has been helpful. If you have specific questions please feel free to call or see me. Otherwise here’s to a great camping experience for your scout.

# January - December, 2008

## Troop 805 - Yearly Planner

Jan 2008						
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27	28	29	30	31		

### January

- 12 15-Mile Bike Hike
- 26 Skiing - Bear Valley
- 27 Skiing - Bear Valley
- 28 Skiing - Bear Valley

### February

- 9 Day Hike
- 16 Winter Campout
- 17 Winter Campout
- 18 Winter Campout

### March

- 1 10-Mile Bike Hike
- 15 Rockclimbing
- 16 Rockclimbing

Feb 2008						
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### April

- 4 Scout Skills - Sugarloaf
- 5 Scout Skills - Sugarloaf
- 6 Scout Skills - Sugarloaf

May 2008						
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### May

- 3 15-Mile Bike Hike
- Kiwanis Big-K (TBD)
- 4 Kiwanis Big-K (TBD)
- 16 Yosemite w/Pack 802

Jun 2008						
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### June

- 7 Troop NYLT
- 14 Day Hike
- 27 Canoeing
- River Rafting
- 28 Canoeing
- River Rafting
- 29 Canoeing
- River Rafting

Jul 2008						
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### July

- 4 4th July Parade
- 12 25-Mile Bike Hike
- 13 25-Mile Bike Hike
- 27 Cherry Valley - Summer Camp
- 28 Cherry Valley - Summer Camp
- 29 Cherry Valley - Summer Camp
- 30 Cherry Valley - Summer Camp
- 31 Cherry Valley - Summer Camp

### August

- 1 Cherry Valley - Summer Camp
- 9 Annual Planning Mtg.
- 10 Day Hike
- 16 Beach Campout
- 17 Beach Campout

### September

- 13 Rifle Shooting
- 27 Spelunking
- 28 Spelunking

### October

- 11 Day Hike
- 25 Sea Kayaking
- 26 Sea Kayaking

### November

- 8 Sunol Backpacking
- 9 Sunol Backpacking
- 15 Scouting for Food

### December

- 6 Troop NYLT
- 7 Bowling
- 13 15-Mile Bike Hike

Jul 2008						
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