



Troop 615 News



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Scoutmaster Minute



Good day Scouts and Scout families!

It's now just after Thanksgiving, and I wanted to highlight a couple things in recognition of the season.

1. Be thankful for all that you have! It is incredibly easy to focus on things in your life that are not ideal...that you don't have the latest game system or the most recent phone, that you don't have an idea of what you might want to do in college or where you might want to go to college. If you really think about it, focusing on the things that you don't have is pretty silly. It suggests that you are envious, that you are greedy or that you are needy. My guess is that those are not exactly traits that you want to be known as having... that's not really you.

Focus on what you do have: good health, loving family, the benefit of being born into a time and a place where there is freedom, where there is abundance of everything, and where there are amazing technologies that are available to nearly everyone and more. You exist in a world that provides you with the opportunity to live your life the way that you choose. How you choose to live that life is up to you. If you choose to be grateful for what you do have instead of what you don't have, you'll be much happier. Think about it this way: What you have now is what nearly all of the rest of the world is striving for.

2. Be thankful for your families. Think about what your life might be like without those that are close to you. Imagine what your life might be like if you didn't have that support, those voices helping you to choose the correct path, those people that guide you daily, weekly, monthly.
3. Be thankful for your friends. It was not all that long ago that for most people in the United States that friends were those that helped on the farm or those that lived on your block. Chances are those folks looked a lot like you and your family. Chances are that those folks that you interacted with were all from the same religious background. You now live in a time and a place where you can get easily together with an incredible variety of people with different cultures, different religions, and different beliefs. You know more because of these people. You experience more because of these people. You can even get to know people so without ever physically being in the same place... you can "meet" online to do "battle" against virtual monsters! These friends are going to help guide you and influence you, for better or worse. Choose your friends wisely and don't take them for granted.
4. Be thankful for the opportunities that Scouting provides. Scouting provides the opportunities to learn valuable life skills like cooking and basic first aid. Scouting also requires that Scouts learn the importance of planning...in everything from making sure that you are prepared for a cold weather outing, to ensuring that you have a water bottle so you don't get dehydrated, to eventually leading an Eagle service project. Scouting provides you with the opportunity to interact with other adults,

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

PLC (PATROL LEADERS

CONFERENCE) MEETINGS

ALL PATROL/ASST PATROL LEADERS, AND THOSE WITH A TROOP POSITIONS NEED TO ATTEND - 12/9 6:30 PM

PARENT MEETINGS

ALL ADULTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND 12/9 7:00 PM

DECEMBER OUTING – IRON

CHEF/GAMES – 12/4-12/6

END OF THE YEAR CELEBRATION –

12/16 POT LUCK

JANUARY OUTING – SKI OUTING –

SEVEN SPRINGS RESORT – 1/29-1/31

FEBRUARY OUTING – PHILADELPHIA –

VISIT TO EASTERN STATE PENITENTIARY, DOWNTOWN PHILLY, AND OVERNIGHT ON THE USS NEW JERSEY – 2/20-2/21

MARCH OUTING – WILDERNESS

SURVIVAL – 3/11-3/13

Advancements



Rank Advancements:

Jeremy Fox - Tenderfoot
Zachary Haines - Tenderfoot

Merit Badge:

Nick Benner - Citizenship in the Community
Wes Norton - Personal Management
John Parks – Chess
Leo Schafer - Personal Management

Congratulations Scouts!

Scoutmaster Minute Cont'd

to learn how to interact with adults in an appropriate and professional manner. These are important life skills that are hard to come by without Scouting. Scouting provides you with the opportunity to get outside and enjoy the world! You now know how to be comfortable when it's cold, when it's hot, when it's raining or snowing. You know what plants to avoid, you know how to start and control fire, you know how to use sharp implements. You've learned important skills that friends that aren't in Scouting probably don't know. You also have the opportunity to serve. Serving others is an excellent way to help provide perspective and to help you realize how fortunate and blessed we all are.

Yours In Scouting,
Dr. Anderson

Updates!

Team Snap - Accounts for Scouts and Adults who did not re-charter were deleted.

Troopmaster Web - Accounts for Scouts and Adults who did not re-charter were deleted. Also the history records for Scouts and Adults who did not re-charter were archived so that if they change their minds, we can easily reinstate their history so they can pick up where they left off.

Sea Base - Only 9 months until the Sea Base adventures!! Participant Guides were provided to each crew member. Look for an email in early January with payment due dates for the Sea Base adventure and transportation. Adults - be sure to complete the mandatory on-line training: Youth Protection Training, Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat.

Fruit Sales Reminder



Greetings!

Very soon we'll have the pricing for the special fruits sold only with the January orders. Look for a Team Snap email along with an attachment with the order form! That order form will also be posted to the Troop Website. We are still working to challenge every Scout in the Troop to sell 10 boxes of fruit to family, friend, and parental co-workers. (See below)

Fruit Delivery; we are transitioning to a different way to select Scouts, and Parents who will work the fruit deliveries. Moving forward those invited to work the delivery and earn between \$35 and \$40 per hour will come from the top selling Scouts. Why? We are in need of more sales and having the reward of working the delivery to earn more money for their Scout account is intended to motivate all Scouts to get out and get the new orders.

Quite frankly this fundraiser is very profitable to both the Scouts and the Troop, but it is heading to a slow death as the number of orders dwindles down year after year. The fruit is a product that sells itself and we need everyone to put the order form out there and spread the word that we are selling fresh citrus fruits and I'm quite sure when the word is spread far and wide the orders will come in!

The Fruit Sale Challenge:

There are just over 50 Scouts registered in Troop 615, and if each Scout sold just ten boxes of fruit we would double the order placed in November! Break these ten boxes down, if a family unit sold to two or three co-workers, or friend and the Scout went out and sold three or four to neighbors, well there is your ten box goal!

Who is up for this challenge?

Who wants to be the top Scout Salesman for January?

Just a reminder; for each new customer a Scout receives an order from for they receive \$2.00 per customer plus the fruit profit! For each repeat customer order the Scout receives \$1.00 per customer plus the fruit profit! A Scout could easily generate enough money to pay for his summer camp fee, monthly outing fee, OR if going to a high adventure next summer fruit sales will offset this expense.

November Outing – Maize Quest – 11/6/16-11/8/16

The Maize Quest outing was filled with fun activities. From the main maze to the corn pit and cow train it was enjoyed by the scouts. The scouts quickly set up Friday night and got to bed soon after setting up. On Saturday morning the scouts played around in front of the maze entrance waiting for it to open. Once it opened the scouts all went into the maze. Some groups finished while others just left. The scouts who left used their time to look around the park. The scouts played in the smaller bamboo maze before going back to camp. Once the scouts got back they smelled applesauce made by the older scouts who stayed behind. After quickly eating they went back out to the maze and park. There they enjoyed themselves until the call for dinner was put out. The scouts had dinner before they had the option to go into the maze in the dark. A few scouts went back into the maze while some others left early. On Sunday morning the scouts packed up and left relatively early and got back to the church soon after. – Zack Cherry Troop 615 Historian

