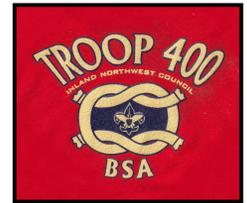


# Scouting Times

Troop 400  
www.troop400.net  
August/September 2010



## Your Troop in Action

What a summer this has been! Here has been what's going on in Troop 400 over the past few months.

### Summer Camp at Camp Easton

We set a new record (again!) for participation at summer camp this year! Thirty four scouts and multiple adults attended camp at Camp Easton on beautiful Lake Coeur d'Alene. This was the first time we've been to Easton in many years, and by the great time we had, it won't be the last!

Special thanks to our SPL, Jon, who worked so hard making sure everyone had a great time!

### High Adventure – 50 mile Backpacking Trip

Nine Scouts and five Scouters tackled a 50 mile backpacking trip in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness in Central Idaho. The trip included spectacular vistas in a classic alpine environment. In addition to the 50 miles covered, the group climbed and descended nearly 7,000 feet in one day (my feet are still hurtinging)!



## Upcoming Events

Committee Meeting	Sep 20, 6:30 pm
Campout	Sep 24 – 26
Popcorn Sale Begins	Oct 1
Board of Review	Oct 4
PLC	Oct 7
Fall Camporee	Oct 15 – 17
Committee Meeting	Oct 18
Pumpkin Plunge	Oct 31

The 2010/2011 Calendar is  
now available for viewing!

Visit our web site at

[www.troop400.net](http://www.troop400.net)

## Service Patrol

During our calendar planning meeting in August, the Patrol Leaders Council established the service patrols for the upcoming year. The service patrol has 3 main responsibilities for the month.

1. Develop skills to teach the troop.
2. Plan the month's campout.
3. Plan a service project for the patrol.

Below are the Service Patrol assignments for the year

Date	Patrol	Skill
Sep 2010	Eagles	Knots
Oct 2010	Jackalopes	Lashings
Nov 2010	Wolverines	Cooking
Dec 2010	Falcons	Snow Sports
Jan 2011	Geckos	First Aid
Feb 2011	Phoenix	Wilderness Survival
Mar 2011	Eagles	Patrol Method
Apr 2011	Jackalopes	Fire Starting
May 2011	Wolverines	Basic Scout Skills/Equipment
Jun 2011	Falcons	Cycling
Jul 2011	Geckos	Be prepared (Scout knowledge)
Aug 2011	Phoenix	Orienteering

## Popcorn Sale Gears Up

At Troop 400, we hold only a few fundraisers a year – the biggest of which is the popcorn sale in the fall. Popcorn is a great fundraiser for the Troop and a great fundraiser for the Scouts - 2/3<sup>rd</sup>s of the profits from popcorn flow right back into a Scout's personal account! With this money a Scout can buy personal equipment (stoves, tents packs) or pay their own way to camp.



Special thanks to Sharon Miranne who has agreed to be our popcorn kernel this year! As in year's past, we will be setting up a booth at a local grocery store at the start of the sale. Stay tuned for more details.

## A Note from the Senior Patrol Leader

This summer went very well. We pulled off two high adventures and had 35 Scouts attend summer camp. We earned what seemed like hundreds of merit badges as well as getting the honor troop award at Camp Easton. The scout spirit our troop demonstrated was by far the strongest in the camp. Our new Patrol, the Phoenix, did very well at their first summer camp, and the new scouts are integrating well with their new patrols.

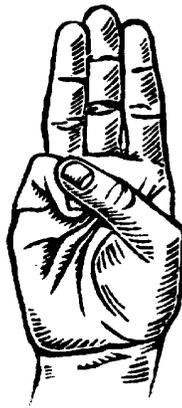
With school starting many scouts will have less time available for scouting, but hopefully we can remain active and enthused about Boy Scouting. As I have seen, we really need to work on our knots and other scout skills. Hopefully we can learn a lot during September's theme of knot tying.

I look forward to seeing this troop in action in the future; because, I know this is the best troop in the area; all we need to do is keep doing what we are doing and live the scout oath and law.

*Jon*



*Above  
And  
Beyond*



## Scoutmaster's Minute

Recently I had the incredible experience of spending a week with 9 exceptional young men in the Selway-Bitterroot wilderness.

Like many of you, I work in an office environment. When I tell my coworkers of my experiences on the trail, I typically get a somewhat quizzical look. I can tell exactly what they're thinking: "Are you mental?" They focus on the physical challenges of the trail – the blisters; the fatigue; etc.

But I look at these trips in a totally different way. I get the privilege of see a remarkable transformation occur with these young men during our time on the trail. At the start of the hike, each Scout is out to prove himself. The pace is punishing as each young man wants to prove his worth. This lasts a few days. As the physical and mental demands of the trail begin to take their toll, the Scouts begin to come together as a team. It is an amazing thing to observe. Instead focusing on their differences - whether it is age, ability, popularity - they see through all of those reasons society says we are different and begin to accept each other as valuable members of a team.

I realize that the realities of the trail are much different than the realities of the "real world." As these Scouts begin school again, they inevitably will fall back to many of their old, comfortable ways. But just for a moment, no matter how brief, these young men were able to let their guard down and find a bit of clarity. It is this clarity that I find so captivating and special about these adventures.

Oh, and the scenery isn't too shabby, either...

*Gary*

