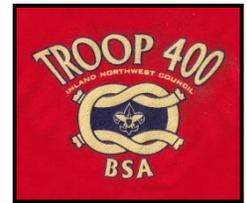


Scouting Times

Troop 400

www.troop400.net

December/January 2012



Troop 400 Outdoor Program: We put the "Outing" in "Scouting"

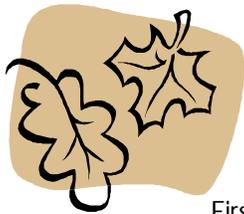
Here are a few things that have been going on in Troop 400!

St. Regis Lakes

September found our Scouts hiking into the Idaho/Montana border country. 7 fearless scouts and 2 Scoutmasters scrambled up the ridge that divides Montana with Idaho. It was a great trip!

Fall Camporee - Camp Easton

A group of energetic Scouts represented Troop 400 in the annual Fall Camporee at Camp Easton in October. The



Camporee consisted of competitions between the various Troops in our Grizzly district. We had the pleasure of hosting Webelos from Pack 420 and 485. Special recognition to the troop for bringing home the 1st place ribbon in

First Aid!

Food Drive

Once again the Troop participated in the annual Scouting for Food drive by delivering bags in the Upper Ridgmont/Morningside neighborhoods as well as a new territory between Evergreen and McDonald. The Scouts were out the morning of November 5th dropping off bags and picking up food on the following Saturday.



Special thanks to Pack 420 2nd year Webelos for pitching in to help us with the increased territory! It was a great example of the can-do attitude of Scouting!

Porcupine Bay

Our November event was a "no stoves" campout held at Porcupine Bay. Only cooking over an open fire or in a Dutch oven was allowed. This campout usually results in the best eating of any of our monthly events and this one was no exception!



Scout All-Nighter

This perennial favorite of the Scouts was held on the night of December 16th. Activities included advanced video-gaming and midnight battle ball.

Summer Camp Update

Mark your calendars for the week of July 29 – August 4! This is the date Troop 400 will be going to summer camp at Camp Easton on the shores of Lake Coeur.

Our Troop has great memories of their last adventure at Easton and this year's experience will sure to be memorable as well. We're still in need of adults who want to spend a week acting like a kid again! For more information contact Gary (570-3721).



Annual Physical Requirements

As with all long term camping (over 72 hours) you need to have a current physical on file. These have to be updated annually and only the BSA forms can now be used. Plan now to get your annual physical! Follow the link below to obtain the current BSA physical forms.

<http://www.troop400.net/documents/MedicalForm.pdf?attredirects=0>

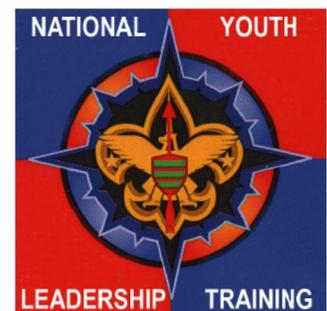
National Youth Leadership Training

National Youth Leadership Training is an intense, 6 ½ day outdoor experience for youth leaders. Training will be held at Camp Cowles the week of June 17. Now is the time to start planning if you want to go. Minimum criteria to be considered for this training are:

- 13 years old and 1st Class by June 17
- Be a first class scout and completed Troop Leadership Training
- Currently hold, or eligible to hold, a unit level leadership position in the troop (SPL, ASPL, etc.)
- Have at least 15 days and nights of Scout camping experience including at least one long term camp
- Submit a completed interest form and a \$25 nonrefundable interest fee to the Council

Deadline for nominations is coming up so act soon! For more information click on the following link:

<https://www.doubleknot.com/openroster/s/ViewOrgPageLink.asp?LinkKey=4723&orgkey=778>



Upcoming Events

MLK Holiday – No Meeting	Jan 16
Committee Meeting	Jan 23, 6:30 pm
Klondike Derby	Jan 20 – 22
Patrol Leader's Council	Feb 2, 6:30 pm
Webelos Invitational	Feb 11, 9:00 am
President's Day – No Meeting	Feb 20
Committee Meeting	Feb 13, 6:30 pm
Troop Day at Silver Rapids Water Park	Feb 18

A Note from the SPL

Hello again this is your SPL, Hunter Simpson; hope everybody had a great Christmas and a Happy New Year! So far everything has turned out magnificently well. All the campouts went smooth without any accidents and the Court of Honor was memorable. Through the last few months we have been working on Klondike Skills, Backpack cooking, Dutch oven cooking and even lashings. We have improved in these skills greatly; But all I hope now, is that the information in their heads will stick there.

Now it's 2012, a start of a new year and we have more skills to learn and do. January is where we will continue off on our Klondike skills. This teaches us how to survive the winter from numerous amounts of danger. We will be focusing mainly on Hypothermia and Frost bite this month. The Klondike Camporee is coming up soon, so we need to be prepared. When we arrive there we must have great scout spirit and show off to the other troops who will be watching us.

All these skills are taught to us for a reason; it could save a life or it could simply make your food taste better. No matter what the benefit is, it will always turn out good. I hope to improve our first aid through my last few months of SPL. Also I hope to continue to do my best in every way possible in everything that I do.

Hunter



Scoutmaster's Minute

I love snow. There, I said it. Call me a heretic, but I do enjoy everything you can do in the snow. Don't get me wrong, while I love snow, it can get to the point where I've had enough of it. While it may not look like it now, the long range forecast is calling for a heavy snow year for our area. And while I consider myself a die-hard snow fanatic, by the end of the season I begin to wonder if it would be better to live in Arizona!

Even though I occasionally grumble about our weather, this area we call home is truly amazing. Not only are we blessed with four distinct seasons, but in just a few hours, we can experience the mountains, the desert, or the ocean. We truly are blessed to live in the Inland Northwest.

Right now we are heading into the depths of winter. A lot of people hunker down during the winter and just try to get through it. Winter, though, can be a magical time. Not only is there an abundance of recreational opportunities, such as skiing, snowboarding, and snowmobiling, but winter is a great time of year to go camping.

I know what you're thinking, and trust me, I used think the same thing. "Camping in the snow? I don't think so..." The reality though, as many of your sons can attest, is that winter camping can be a great adventure. If you are prepared and have the right equipment, winter camping can be a blast.

It can be a little intimidating for someone to go winter camping for the first time, but that is what Scouting is all about – pushing yourself beyond what you thought you were capable of doing.

So get out there and enjoy the snow. It will be spring before you know it!

Gary

