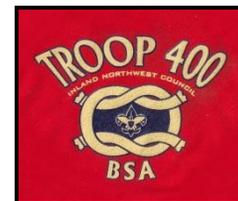


Scouting Times

Troop 400

www.troop400.net

July/September 2013



Your Troop in Action

Wow, has it been a busy summer at Troop 400!

Survival Games

We had a great turn out for our 1st annual Survival Games. This campout was like Capture the Flag on steroids! Congratulations to the Phoenix patrol for winning this event.

Camp Melita Island

Our week long summer camp was at Camp Melita Island on Flathead Lake. We had 26 Scouts attend summer camp this year. Our Troop 400 pride was on full display at camp as the Scouts really exemplified the Scout Oath and Law all week long!

Missouri Canoe Trip

Eight Scouts and four adults retraced the route of Lewis & Clark on the upper Breaks of the Missouri River. Over a 6 day period our band of adventurers traveled 68 miles and saw some amazing country.

Steven's Lake

A small but hardy group of Scouts backpacked into Steven's Lake on the Idaho/Montana boarder. Amazing scenery!

Camp Cowles

Can you waterski when it is 50 degrees and raining? You can if you're a Troop 400 scout! The Troop did a water sports themed campout for their September event. Unfortunately, Mother Nature didn't get the memo! No worries. Rain and wind can't slow down our Scouts – they still managed to have a great time!

Upcoming Events

Committee Meeting	Oct 21, 6:30 pm Nov 18, 6:30 pm Dec 16, 6:30 pm
PLC	Oct 17, 6:00 pm Nov 21, 6:00 pm Dec 19, 6:00 pm
Campouts	Oct 18 – 20 Nov 22 – 24
Overnighter	Dec 20 – 21
Court of Honor	Nov 25, 6:00 pm

Troop Leadership

Troop 400 is led by a group of young men who have been elected by their fellow Scouts to serve in a leadership capacity for a six month term. Beginning in September, the following Scouts assumed the leadership for the Troop:

Senior Patrol Leader	Ben Lobdell
Assistant Senior Patrol Leader	Cameron Blegen
Scribe	Craig Robertson
Librarian	Ethan Cantrell
Quartermaster	Matthew Nelson
Chaplain's Aide	Fraser Robertson
Historian	Scott McKinley
Den Chief	Tyler Haase Aaron Nelson Seth Wolkey

Patrol Leaders:

Geckos	Garrett Ferguson
Jackalopes	Carsten Blegen
Phoenix	Hunter Moos
Wolverines	Riley Getty

Popcorn Sales in Full Swing

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 - 2/3rds 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 Rose Gabel and Renee Moos who are our co-popcorn kernels this year. Take order sales are due back to the council by October 29th so be sure to get your orders in to Rose and Renee with plenty of time to spare. November 15th will be the day popcorn will be delivered to the Troop. Please make arrangements with Rose and Renee so you can deliver your popcorn.

Scouting for Food

This important service project to help the hungry in our area is already in the planning stages. As with prior years, Troop 400 will be collecting food in the Ridgement/Morningside neighborhoods. Bag delivery is Saturday, November 2nd at 9:00 with pickup scheduled for the following Saturday.

A Note from the Senior Patrol Leader

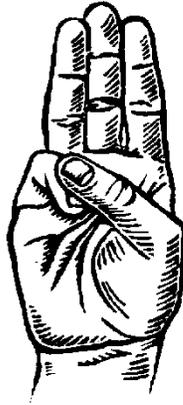
I am really excited to serve as your SPL for the next six months. I have a great core leadership group. The planning and training went great. We have so much we want to do in such a short amount of time. Compliments to the Jackalope patrol for putting on a fantastic campout in September and to the Wolverines for coming up with an outstanding skill.

Thanks again, I look forward to telling you all about all the great things we have going on in the future.

Ben



*Above
And
Beyond*



Scoutmaster's Minute

There have been many changes since the last newsletter, but none more exciting than our whole new boy leadership corps! The Patrol Leaders' Council has identified new leadership positions in the troop, and redefined old ones. Every boy in every leadership position is excited to go above and beyond in his duties, under the leadership of Ben Lobdell, our new SPL and Cameron Blegen, our ASPL.

On the adult side, I can't tell you how truly blessed I feel to be working with people who are willing to help out, and make a serious difference in these boys' lives. Even if it's just pitching in an hour a month helping the committee with Boards of Review, all the way to holding a committee position, or being part of the Scoutmaster Corps.

If you're interested in getting more involved, just ask us what some of the options are, and we'll help you find a task that matches with your time schedule, commitment level, and, most importantly, passion. Along those lines, an immediate need is parents who will simply help guide their son's patrol, helping make sure they stay on track. Please feel very free to ask me for more details.

JFK said, "One man can make a difference, and everyone should try."
Thanks again to everyone who is making a difference in Troop 400!

Terry



The Meaning Behind the Troop 400 Neckerchief

by

Terry L. Fossum, Scoutmaster, 2013

The Troop 400 Neckerchief is not like every other neckerchief. There is distinct meaning behind each feature. Every time we put it on, we are reminded of what is expected of those of us who are honored to be able to wear it.

THE RED FIELD

In heraldry, red is used to indicate courage. Troop 400 doesn't back down from a challenge; we seek them out as opportunities to grow. We don't succumb to negative peer pressure. We stand up for what is right, even if it's detrimental to ourselves. Courage isn't the absence of fear; it's acting in spite of fear. A Troop 400 member is courageous in all he does.

THE WHITE BORDER

Surrounding our red neckerchief is a border of pure white. In heraldry, white depicts faith and purity. Our belief to a Higher Being encompasses everything we do. We show reverence and humility.

We are pure in our intentions. Right is right, even if no one else is doing it. Wrong is wrong, even if everyone else is doing it. We do what is right.

White also means kindness. We are kind to all around us; most especially those who are weaker than us.

THE SQUARE KNOT

The Square Knot is the symbol of Troop 400. The term 'square' means honest. A real man is an honest man. His word is his bond. If he says he'll do something; he'll do it. You can believe that if he says something, it's true. A member of Troop 400 is trustworthy in everything he does.

A square knot will hold two ropes together, never letting go. So is our loyalty to our fellow scouts.

THE SHAPE

The shape of our every scout neckerchief has three sides, representing the three points of the Scout Oath: Duty to God and Country, Duty to Others, and lastly, Duty to Self. A Boy Scout puts others needs before his own. He is not selfish; he is selfless in all he does.

When the Troop 400 neckerchief is rolled up to be worn, the white border forms 12 white lines, representing the 12 points of the Scout Law. The Scout Law is in the forefront of what we do, and who we are.

Such is the meaning behind the Troop 400 Neckerchief. Will any of us be perfect in upholding these traditions? No. But wearing it reminds us of our duty to DO OUR BEST. And when we stumble, we will get back up again with courage and fortitude, and continue our journey toward becoming honorable men.

