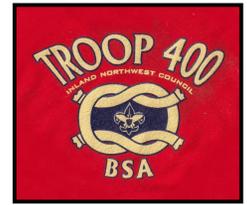


Scouting Times

Troop 400

www.troop400.net

October/November 2009



Your Troop in Action

Here has been what's going on in Troop 400 last month

Fall Camporee – Camp Cowles

A group of energetic Scouts represented Troop 400 in the annual Fall Camporee at Camp Cowles 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. Based on feedback from both scouts and parents, everyone had a great time and are excited about continuing their adventures beyond cub scouting

Congratulations Scouts on your accomplishments at the Fall Camporee!

Summer Camp Update

Mark your calendars for the week of August 1 - 7! This is the date Troop 400 will be going to summer camp at Camp Easton on beautiful Lake Coeur d'Alene.

Our Troop hasn't attended summer camp at Easton for many years so this year's experience will sure to be memorable. 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).



Court of Honor is November 30th

Our next Court of Honor is approaching. This special event showcases the achievements of our Scouts since our last Court of Honor. We will be conducting the ceremony in the church worship center starting at 6:30 pm. A potluck dinner will be held immediately following the Court of Honor. Stay tuned for more information.

*Above
And
Beyond*



Poinsettia Sale Begins

Outfitting a Scout can be an expensive proposition. A good tent, sleeping bag, and other gear (not to mention summer camp fees) can get expensive. Scouting shouldn't be available for only those whose families can afford it. This is the reason why we conduct fundraisers throughout the year. Not only does the Scout earn money for the troop, but he earns money for himself. Two thirds of all profits raised by a Scout through our fundraisers go back to the Scout himself to be used for outdoor gear or camp fees. In anticipation of the upcoming holiday season, Troop 400 is selling beautiful poinsettias. Order forms and details were handed out at the last few scout meetings. Additional details can be found on our website at

<http://www.troop400.net/fund-raiser>

Food Drive

Thousands of Scouts from across the Inland Northwest Council will participate in the annual Scouting for Food drive. The council goal is to collect 200,000 lbs. of food this year in support of 2nd Harvest and other local food banks. This is the Inland Northwest Council's annual "Good Turn" event!



Troop 400 will be delivering bags in the Upper Ridgmont/Morningside neighborhoods. We will meet at Redeemer at 8:30 am on Saturday, November 7th to deliver bags and again on the 14th to pick up. *We are also in need of drivers to deliver Scouts to these neighborhoods!*

Please contact Adam Blykert for more information.

Upcoming Events

Food Drive Bag Drop Off	Nov. 7, 8:30 am
Patrol Leaders Council Meeting	Nov. 12, 6:30 pm
Food Drive Bag Pick Up	Nov 14, 8:30 am
Committee Meeting	Nov. 16, 6:30 pm
Popcorn pickup	Nov. 21
November Campout	Nov. 20 – 22
Court of Honor	Nov. 30, 6:00 pm
Boards of Review	Dec. 7, 7:00 pm
Patrol Leaders Council Meeting	Dec. 9, 6:30 pm
Committee Meeting	December 14, 6:30 pm
Troop Overnighter	Dec. 18

A Note from the SPL

In the past few months our troop has been quite active. We went on several campouts and had a lot of fun. We held the popcorn sale and volunteered at Redeemer's Pumpkin Plunge at Halloween. Just recently we started the food drive. A poinsettia sale is also happening right now. This is a new and promising fundraiser. As promised, our summer camp location has been decided. We are going to Camp Easton the first week of August. As a troop, we haven't been there, or at least not recently. Our High Adventure committee is in high gear, figuring out what we will do this summer. This December a Christmas Tree Disposal is all set to go.

You may be asking why we are having so many new fundraisers. The answer is simple: we are a growing troop! We need funds to provide for all of the scouts - more scouts require more money.

I have thoroughly enjoyed being Senior Patrol Leader and will certainly continue to give back to the troop in one way or another. Thanks to everyone who helped me in my role. You've all been great. I couldn't have done it without you!

Adam



Scoutmaster's Minute

The leaves have turned. The air has that unmistakable feel to it. Sure signs that we are in the fall season. Fall is one of my favorite times of the year. The weather is just about perfect. It is a great time to be outdoors.

Fall is also the time when we do one of our most important service projects – the food drive. Scouts from all over Spokane are out collecting food for area food banks. This is the second largest food drive in Spokane (next to the Postal Service drive) and one that is vitally important to families here in the Inland Northwest.

Everyone understands the tough times we're in. You can't escape the negative news coming out every day. Sometimes it seems overwhelming. How can I, just one person, have any impact on such a large, complex problem? But as the saying goes, every journey begins with a single step. That's a good analogy for Scouting as well. Through all of the experiences a Scout has – be it the food drive, or assisting on an Eagle project – it is steps along the journey to adulthood. It is these experiences that help shape a Scout into the person he will ultimately become.

Community service, while benefiting the community as a whole, benefits the Scout just as much, if not more. It is through these experiences that a Scout begins to learn how large and diverse the world truly is. He also learns the satisfaction of being part of something larger than himself.

We have many opportunities in the month of November to give back to our community, so let's roll up our sleeves and get busy!

Gary

