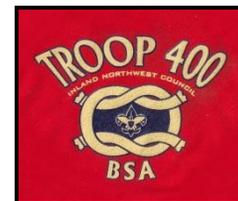


Scouting Times

Troop 400

www.troop400.net

October/November 2012



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 August, the following Scouts assumed the leadership for the Troop:

Senior Patrol Leader	Garrett Major
Assistant Senior Patrol Leader	Mathew Nelson
Scribe	Logan Wolkey
Librarian	Cameron Blegen
Quartermaster	Adam Tveit
Den Chief	Tyler Haase
	Ryan VanSteenkist

Patrol Leaders:

Geckos	Brad Barclay
Jackalopes	Andrew Miranne
Phoenix	Josh Patchett
Wolverines	Ben Hutchens

Summer Camp Update

Mark your calendars for the week of July 28 – August 3! This is the date Troop 400 will be going to summer camp at Camp Melita Island on Flathead Lake in Montana. Our Troop has never attended summer camp at Camp Melita Island 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 26th

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 6:00 pm. A potluck dinner will be held immediately following the Court of Honor. Stay tuned for more information.

Popcorn Pickup

Carolyn Holley, our popcorn chairperson will be picking up popcorn from the Council on November 16th. Please make arrangements with Carolyn to pick up your popcorn on the 17th.



Your Troop in Action

Here's what's been going on in Troop 400 over the past few months

Camp Easton

Our week long summer camp this year was held at Camp Easton on beautiful Lake Coeur d'Alene. It was an amazing week. Here were some of the week's highlights:

- Troop 400 won the Commissioner's Award for the entire camp
- Wolverines took 3rd in the entire camp in the major event - the skills race.
- Jackalopes and Phoenix's both took second place in the entire camp in events

Great job Troop 400!

Eagle Cap Wilderness

Six scouts and 4 adults spent 5 days hiking over 50 miles in the Eagle Cap Wilderness. Several troop records were broken including highest elevation (over 9,500 ft.) and total elevation (over 22,000 ft.)!

Ball Lake

We had a great turnout for our annual September backpacking trip. This year 16 scouts and 7 adults headed up to Ball Lake outside of Bonner's Ferry, ID. The weather was FANTASTIC and the lake was COLD!

Fall Camporee

We had a great time at Camp Sunrise (next to Camp Cowles) on beautiful Diamond Lake. This was the 1st time our Troop had participated in the Thunderbird District Fall Camporee. The weather was a challenge, but our Scouts showed what they were made of and placed high in several of the competitions. Way to go Troop 400!

Food Drive

We had one of the best turnouts in memory for the two weekends in November where the Scouts went door to door collecting food for the 2nd Harvest Food Bank. Scoutmaster Gary's truck was completely full (both the bed and the cab!) Thank you to everyone that participated in this important service project!

A Note from the SPL

Hello,

I am Garrett Major, your new Senior Patrol Leader. My term began in September and runs through February. I am in the 10th grade at West Valley High School.

My goal for this term is to make our troop the skilled troop that I remember being a part of when I was a new scout. While I know that we look back on the past with rose tinted glasses (and being a new Scout, I viewed everything our older Scouts could do with amazement) I believe that if we strive for that perfection then there will be nothing our Troop can't accomplish.

Our troop is one of the best in the whole district. My goal is to keep it there and take it to the next level. I want Troop 400 to be the best at cooking, scout skills, hiking, etc. and also be accepting to all people who want to be a part of our Troop. In this journey, we will gain new Scouts and lose Scouts, but the journey continues.

We may never reach destination, but our efforts will make us better people and will never be in vain.

Garrett



Upcoming Events

Patrol Leaders Council Meeting	Nov 1, 6:30 pm
Boards of Review	Nov 5, 7:00pm
Veteran's Day – No Meeting	Nov 12
Popcorn pickup	Nov. 17
Committee Meeting	Nov. 19, 6:30 pm
Court of Honor	Nov. 26, 6:00 pm
November Campout	Nov 30 – Dec 2
Boards of Review	Dec. 3, 7:00 pm
Patrol Leaders Council Meeting	Dec. 6, 6:30 pm
Scout All-Nighter	December 14
Committee Meeting	December 17, 6:30 pm

Scoutmaster's Minute

In August I had the incredible experience of spending 5 days with a group of exceptional young men in the Eagle Cap wilderness.

I love these trips for many reasons: the physical challenge of pushing myself to the limit, the wonder of seeing what's over the horizon, unplugging from the world, just to name a few. Probably the biggest reason I love these trips, though, is I get the privilege of seeing a remarkable transformation occur with the young men I get to share this experience with. 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 valued 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 leave the trail, they inevitably 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 rewarding about these adventures.

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

Gary

