

# TROOP TRAILS

*Scouting at its Finest*

<http://www.troop448.org>

Green Mountain Presbyterian Church, corner of Mississippi and Alameda; Tuesday evenings, 7:00 pm

A Scout is Obedient. A Scout follows He obeys the laws of his community laws are unfair, he tries to have them than disobey them.



the rules of his family, school, and troop. and country. If he thinks these rules and changed in an orderly manner rather

## Patrol News



**Flaming Cantalopes/ SPL's**  
written by: Royce & Tanner

The troop is going very well. Last week, on the ninth, we had one of the largest attended PLCs I have ever seen. I would like to thank all of you who attended and contributed your ideas. One of the big reasons many scouts were there may have been the calling tree, which was initiated the day before. It also informed everyone of the field trip that occurred that night to the sheriff's office. It seems like the new calling tree format is working well.



**Road Runner Patrol:**  
written by: Erik

We have been working the First Aud merit badge, and finishing up Physical Fitness. During the next few weeks we will be working on pre-merit Badge requirements for Peaceful Valley.



**Eagles**  
written by: Matt

We are getting ready for the Black Hills trip. We are continuing to work on Citizenship in the Community, and Radio merit badges. We all had a great 4<sup>th</sup> of July!



**Vikings**  
written by: Adam

We went on a field trip to the Golden Jail to take a tour and do the Fingerprinting merit badge. On the 13th we went spelunking. The weekend after that we leave for the Black Hills trip. August 4th we go to Peaceful Valley. This month has been very fun for everyone.



**Scorpions**  
written by: JD

Recently most of the scorpion patrol went on a field trip to the Golden jail for the fingerprinting merit badge. We all had a fun time on the outing and doing the merit badge. The next outing that the troop is going on is the spelunking trip (cave exploring). This is a fun outing that does not take a lot of effort to go on. After spelunking, the next weekend, we are going to Black Hills, South Dakota, we'll see some monuments, a lot of cities and trails. JD is starting his Eagle project planning, he plans to re-cement and repaint the red floor upstairs of the church. This project will be a multiple day project so all the help possible is greatly appreciated.



## Scoutmaster Minute



**Dear Troop,**

I have listened to a lot of discussions regarding the lack of involvement in the troop outings, activities and meetings. I think that most of the reasons have good merit.

However, I am afraid that there are some wrong reasons. There is an old saying, "If you do not try something new, then how do you know if it is for you?" It is like trying a new food. When you start off in life as a baby you eat only a few things. However, when you get older you try new things. Yes, some are not so good but some are good and tasty. This is the same thing in our troop. If you do not try new things then you will be unhappy in scouts, but this is your fault and no one else.

Another example: how many times do you notice people only try things that their friends try? Well, that is how advertising works, you only get one person's opinion; there is a big danger in this. There is another saying, "No two people are the same". You may have similar likes and dislikes as your friends do, but you are a unique person, so your likes and dislikes are different than even your closest friends. If you follow your friends' examples, you are not being yourself. Not everything is for you, if you only do the "in thing" or follow the crowd, how can you find out what is for you?

Part of the Scout Oath says "Do your best". It is talking about doing your best to grow and learn from trying new things. Also, there is a scout law – A Scout is Brave. I know that it is scary to be unique from your friends or that an activity may look weird or scary. Remember, you are yourself and if you are brave and follow your way - you will find a better path through life

Scott E. Johnson, Scoutmaster  
303-989-5572  
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## Committee News



written by: Mr. Randy Leger

Wow!....we just got back from the Jefferson County Sheriff's Training Center for a fun night of Fingerprinting. As usual, I'm not sure who had more fun...the Adults or the Scouts! Many thanks to Dean Davis, one of our newer Committee Members and Jeffco Sheriff for teaching us the aspects of this merit badge.

Another Adult who has planned an excellent event is Russ Mann, who has lead the Spelunking trip for the past 2+ (?) years. Although not on our original planning calender, Russ always asks the Scouts in the Spring if they are interested, and never fails to gain enough participation. I even get to go this year and I'm excited. Thanks again, Russ.

As we reach the mid-point of summer, many of the Committee members are gearing up for another year. There have been some great ideas coming forth, most notably, Karen Benigar heading up some fundraising efforts. Unfortunately, we ran into a conflict with Lakewood On Parade, Chatfield Weekend, and a few other events all coinciding on the same weekend. Not all is lost, in fact, the information obtained puts us in a stronger position to plan and execute next year. Many kudos to Karen and Olga Wells for researching into this.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the planning meeting August 18, 1:00 pm at my house.

### "Uniforms"

written by: Susan Michelle

Hey! Do you need Class B uniforms for the Summer Camps? Don't forget you have order forms for them - get them now!! Fill them out and give to Ms. Michelle (or get new papers) at the Troop meeting.

T- shirts:	s - m - l	\$12
	xl - xxl	\$15
Sweatshirts:	s - m - l	\$19
	xl - xxl	\$22
Caps:		\$16.50
Replacement Scarves:		
	Printed	\$8
	Stitched	\$18.50



## **"Meet the Committee"**

written by: Karen Benigar

When Randy asked me at the Committee meeting to “be the star” this month, I was both pleased and confused, as I didn’t feel I was actually a “Committee” member, as I am the Secretary, which I thought really wasn’t an actual “Committee” position, but apparently that qualifies me—yeah!

Here goes:

I am a Colorado native (which is rare these days!). After graduating from Lakewood High, I moved to Greeley, CO where I attended The University of Northern Colorado—(go UNC Bears!!). I graduated with a degree in Business Administration in 1979. While I was in-between jobs in 1982, My US Navy penpal, Holly, with whom I been corresponding with for several years, was stationed in England for two years, invited me to visit! Knowing that my sense of direction was very poor, and I had the fear of getting lost in England, I encouraged my mom to go with me! We went to England for two weeks. We had a fabulous time in England the first week, visiting all the famous sites, and the second week was spent in Holland visiting another Pen Pal, Greta, who I had also been corresponding with! It was really fun to meet Greta’s family, and listening to their Dutch accents. The ferry boat ride across the English Channel was no picnic!

In 1984 we went to England again, this time for 3 weeks. This trip was different, as I was a member of the Lakewood Sister Cities group, and we stayed with Sister Cities families. The first week was spent with a family in Chester, England, which is in the Northern part of England, and the second week was spent with an widowed grandma (she was so sweet!) in Portsmouth, which is in Southern England. The third week was spent on a bus tour in the Scottish Highlands—wonderful! I have always been fascinated with Scotland!

In 1990, I decided to stay home with Matthew, who was 2 years at the time, and started a day-care business, I did that until 1991 when Tommy was born. I became a stay-at-home mom for 6 years. During that time I did food demos on the weekends. I was also a member of Mothers and More (a support group for moms who decided to take time off to raise kids). I was Secretary/Treasurer of that group for 2 years. I was Secretary for Sister Cities for 1 year, Secretary for Professional Secretaries, In-

ternational for two years, and Secretary for Four-Mile Historical Park for two years! Now, I am Secretary for Scouts—I guess “once a secretary, always a secretary” is true! During that time, I was heavily involved with PTA at DeVinity Elementary. I was Box Tops for Education Coordinator for four years.

I became involved with Scouts when Tom joined Pack 548 in first grade, and Matthew joined as a First Year Webelo (he had a lot of catching up to do) Before crossover, Matthew visited several Troops, and decided on Troop 448, which has special meaning to us, as this was Bill’s (and Scott’s) Troop when he was in grade school. I feel that Scouting has been great for both boys. When Matthew first joined Scouts, I wasn’t too involved. I then started staying at the meetings and got to know some of the adults. I started going to Committee meetings, and then became Secretary after Mrs. Smart retired from the position. I have been Secretary for almost a year now, and really like it! Just last month I became “Fundraising Czar” which is a big step for me! I have always been on the other end of the volunteer spectrum. This is a challenge, and I am enjoying it!

In conclusion, I feel at home with Troop 448, the people are warm and friendly, and Matthew really likes it! I look forward to being involved in many more years to come!

## **Outdoors and Activities**



written by: Garth Boyd

Seven scouts , one sibling, and six adults will leave Sunday morning, July 21st, for a week tour of the Black Hills. Shane is the SPL for this trip. The itinerary includes: 1 night at Devil’s Tower National Monument Wyoming, 3 nights at Wind Cave National Park South Dakota, 2 nights at Fort Robinson State Park Nebraska. Planned activities include hiking around Devil’s Tower and Mount Rushmore; caving at Wind Cave and perhaps Jewel Cave; work on Camping, Cooking, Woodcarving and Photography merit badges; and lots and lots and lots of fun.



## Assistant Scoutmaster



### Summary of Results for Various Surveys on Outings Troop 448

written by: Greg Scott

Based on a perceived lack of participation in Troop outings, several surveys were conducted to see if the causes could be identified, and improvements made in the way the outings are planned and carried out. The first involved an expression of interest in the upcoming outings. Seventeen scouts and 12 adult leaders participated in this activity in late 2001. The second was a parents meeting and survey conducted in June 2002, to determine the parents' perception of our outings. Although only 7 people elected to provide written information, 14 families were represented at the meeting. The third and final survey was a participation survey completed by 19 scouts in June 2002. Since not all of the scouts participated in all of the surveys, the results of the surveys may not be totally accurate. However, it appears that a good sampling and cross-section of the scouts participated, so the results can provide some good indications.

No great revelations come out of the pre-outing interest survey. On the average, the interest hovered around the middle for all of the proposed outings. However, it appeared that Moab, bowling, and rafting would be the most well attended outings (from the Boys perspective). The only one that seemed to hold true to form was bowling.

The results of the scout survey confirmed the perception that there is a general lack of participation in the Troop outings. There is less than a 25 percent participation rate on the whole. If we look at just the overnight trips where the scouts worked on advancements, there is less than a 20 percent participation rate. This indicates the non-advancement outings are more popular or interesting than overnight trips where scouts work on advancements. The best-attended outing was the Lock-In, followed by bowling. The best-attended overnight advancement trip appears to have been the PV weekend. The Number 1 reason for not attending outings was cited as "not interested". This was cited almost twice as often as the second reason; having a "conflict". At least from the boys perspective, they generally seem to know when the outings are, and don't feel cost is an insurmount-

able obstacle (except possibly for the Snow Mtn. Ranch trip). However, there was some indication that cost is a factor, and that the word is not always getting home from the parents' perspective.

There was a general lack of participation by the adults in filling out the surveys. No clear trend came out of those that were submitted. However, there were a number of suggestions submitted. Although it's difficult to know whether some of the items submitted in writing were brought up in the parents meeting by the same person, the items that seem to have a repeat theme are: (1) plan outings during troop meetings, (2) reduce the number of outings, but place more emphasis on them, (3) clearly define the goals for each outing, (4) get more adults on the e-mail list so they are informed of the outings, (5) encourage outings to different places than the troop has always gone, and (6) put boy(s) with a parent assistant in charge of each outing.



## Announcements

### Help Wanted!

written by: Randy Leger

*Ok, so it's a corny heading, but hey, that's why I get the big bucks!*

*I spoke to Kevin Jones tonight and he is stepping aside as Quartermaster to attend to some health issues. I told him I wish him a speedy recovery and would check up on him time to time to bug him, etc. He will continue to stay on as a Committee Member and act as a resource for acquiring neat and strange artifacts, but no more depth charges.*

*I need a Quartmaster. Your Troop needs a Quartermaster. Your Son, and his friends, need a Quartermaster.*

*I can be reached via email or at 303-904-1767 if anyone is interested or needs further information about the requirements and responsibilities.*

*After all, it's only an hour a week.*

*Scouting At It's Finest!*



## Calendar

### Dates to Remember

#### July

- 13<sup>th</sup> Spelunking  
14<sup>th</sup> Swim Check  
16<sup>th</sup> Planning for Rock Climbing, 6:30\*\*\*\*\*  
20<sup>th</sup> Black Hills Shakedown and packing  
21<sup>st</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> Black Hills\*\*

#### August

- Popcorn Sales Kick-Off  
1<sup>st</sup> Roundtable  
4<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting  
4<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> Peaceful Valley Scout Ranch\*\*  
17<sup>th</sup> Rock Climbing  
18<sup>th</sup> Annual Planning Meeting  
23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> Chatfield State Park, planning July 30, Aug. 20

#### September

- 7<sup>th</sup> Heritage Square\*\*\*  
8<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting  
10<sup>th</sup> PLC  
14<sup>th</sup> JLT  
20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> Sand Dunes, planning July 3, 17  
24<sup>th</sup> Planning for Fall Camporee

#### October

- 1<sup>st</sup> Planning for Fall Camporee  
3<sup>rd</sup> Roundtable  
6<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting  
8<sup>th</sup> PLC  
10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> Fall Camporee, planning July 24, Oct. 1

\*\* Health forms due!

\*\*\* Open to all family members- we need an organizer.  
Please see Mr. Leger

\*\*\*\* This will be on an actual Mtn! Be at the Troop meeting at 6:30pm. if you wish to attend!

If you have any questions, concerns, comments or additions to make to this publication, please contact:

Codi Johnson @  
303-989-5572 or  
codi.johnson@rmnc.com



## Fundraising

written by: Karen Benigar

During the Committee meeting last Sunday (July 7, 2002), Committee members discussed the possibility of postponing the food both at Lakewood On Parade, August 23-25, 2002 for the following reasons:

There are several conflicts with the date that Lakewood On Parade is scheduled, such as:

- \* the Chatfield weekend trip is scheduled the same weekend as Lakewood On Parade
- \* several of the Scouts will be marching in the parade
- \* several of the Scouts/parent will be working at the Band Boosters food booth,

The Committee voted to postpone the food booth until next year. The Committee feels that we need as close to 100% participation as possible, to really make this food booth successful!

Discussion then turned to alternative fundraising ideas. One idea, which was proposed, is to have a pancake breakfast at the church, before and after each service. This would be a good way to prepare the Scouts for the food booth next year. The Scouts would be responsible for cooking the pancakes and serving (with adult participation, of-course!). Another idea is to try to get the ink jet cartridge recycling going.

Additional fundraising ideas are always welcome! Either call me @ (303) 980-9390, or e-mail me @ [Wbeni35227@aol.com](mailto:Wbeni35227@aol.com) with any ideas!

Thank you.

