

Northern Star Council
Chief Black Dog (GO!) District
Scoutmaster:
Dan Schliesman (952.432.9024)
Committee Chair:
Kurt Terry (952.432.4962)

www.troop290mn.org

Boy Scout Troop 290



January 2011

Stearns Scout Camp

Save the weekend of Jan 28-30 for a troop outing to Stearns Scout Camp. We will be sleeping on the floor of a lodge building- bring your sleeping bag and a camp cot or pad. Also pack extra layers of warm clothing for outside activities- sledding, snow shelter building, cross country skiing, snow shoeing- depending on the weather. Bring your own sled and snow shoes. There will also be an opportunity to work on the Snow Sports Merit Badge. The lodge has a kitchen for our cooking. Remember to bring your completed permission forms and payment for the Troop Stearns Campout, January 28 to 30, to the next Troop meeting on Monday, January 24th. We will be working on the meal plan that evening.

Friends of Scouting

Thank you to all families for their continuing support of Scouting. Last year we exceeded the goal set for the Troop. As a result, the Troop was awarded 20 new Merit Badge books and Rank Advancement badges with a value of almost \$500. The campaign will start Monday, February 7th. We need every family's support.

North Wind Camp

If any Scouts 7th grade or older are interested in attending the North Wind "Adventure" Winter Camp at Stearns Scout Camp February 11 to 13, please contact Mr. Meffert <<mailto:mmeffert@msn.com>> ASAP. That weekend is full, but there may be space for one or two additional boys if we let them know immediately. The cost is \$75 per participant. Additional details about the North Wind "Adventure" Winter Camp are online at <http://northernstarbsa.org/Camping/BoyScout/Winter/NorthWind/Default.aspx>

Remember:

All current permission forms and newsletters and any other vital information can be found on the Troop 290 website:
www.troop290mn.org

Calendar

Meetings are held at Scott Highland Middle School (SHMS) from 7:00 -8:30pm
Courts of Honor are held at Shepard of the Valley Lutheran Church

January

- 24 7-8:30 PM-Troop Meeting-SHMS
- 31 7-8:30 PM-Troop Meeting-PLC-SHMS
- 28-30 Lodge Campout -Stearns Scout Camp

February

- 7 7-8:30 PM-Court of Honor-SOTV
- 11-13 Northwind Winter Camp-Stearns Camp
- 21 School Holiday-No Meeting
- 14 7-8:30 PM-Troop Meeting-PLC-SHMS
- 28 7-8:30 PM-Troop Meeting-SHMS

March

- 7 7-8:30 PM-Troop Meeting-SHMS
- 14 7-8:30 PM-Troop Meeting-Gym Night
Scott Highlands Middle School Gym
- 21 School Holiday-No Meeting
- 28 7-8:30 PM-Troop Meeting-PLC-SHMS

April

- 4 7-8:30 PM-Troop Meeting-SHMS
- 11 7-8:30 PM-Troop Meeting-SHMS
- 16 Scouting for Food-Meeting place TBD
- 18 7-8:230 PM-Troop Meeting-SHMS
- 25 7-8:30 PM-Troop Meeting-PLC-SHMS
- 29-May 1 Scoutmaster Event/Webelo Woods
Phillipo Scout Camp

May

- 2 7-8:30 PM-Troop Meeting-SHMS
- 9 7-8:30 PM-Troop Meeting-SHMS
- 13-15 Bike Trip-TBD
OA Event TBD
- 16 7-8:30 PM-Troop Meeting-SHMS

Fall Popcorn Sale Summary

Another successful popcorn sale brought total sales of \$2,449.00 and a total of \$612.00 to the Camp Funds of the participating Scouts. Our troop will again participate in this fundraiser in March. Watch for more details on this opportunity.

Wreath Sales Wrap Up

Congratulations to all the Scouts who took advantage of this wonderful opportunity to EARN money for their Troop and for their own personal Camp Fund! This fundraiser brought total sales of \$9,772.00 and the total profit that was deposited into the various sellers' personal Camp Funds was \$2,555.38.

Kudos

Chris T placed 2nd in the FRMS Geography Bee. **Chris R** was Student of the Month at SHMS. **Brian T** brought home 2 ribbons from Science Olympiad: 1st place in SumoBots, and 3rd in rubberband powered helicopters. **Seth T, Michael D,** and **Devon M** were on Lego Robotics teams that competed in tournaments in Dec and Jan. **Devon M's** team won the "Innovative Design" award. **Michael S** won 1st place in "Experimental Design". **Adam T** placed 2nd in the South Suburban Conference freestyle race on Jan. 4 (Nordic skiing). He placed 5th in the MLK Invitational. **Sean T** came in 2nd in the Twin Cities High School Chess League individual competition this fall. He was also 2nd in the School Chess Association Gobbler Open. **Sean T** also received an Outstanding Player award for chess for his performance on Eastview's chess team. This is the chess equivalent of the all conference award they give out for sports. **Stephens** was in the Jazz Band for Eastview's Bravo!. **John S** has also been accepted at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. **Sam E** and **Michael S** won 3rd place in Science Olympiad in Wisconsin - Boyceville in the event "Mouse Trap Vehicle" in December. **Jack S** and his teammates won the ERAVE 2010 Football Championship. He was also selected to play on the All-Star team in the Metrodome.

Please review your school, church or other club announcements for achievements by our Troop members. We'd love to share the good news in this newsletter. Email information to patty.schliesman@charter.net.

Do You Review?

Reminder: A Board of Review meeting is required before rank advancement. A review will last 10-15 minutes and can often be completed during troop meetings. Scouts (not parents) - please contact Mrs. Pam Krause to schedule your next review ASAP so that you can complete it before our Feb. 7th Court of Honor.

Adult Leader Training

A great part in ensuring our scouts have a rewarding experience is the development of our adult leaders. As adult leaders we are also expected to continue to grow through the required and additional courses offered through by the Boy Scouts. Many of the courses are available online and some are scheduled over the course of the year through Northern Star Council or the Chief Black Dog District. Even though you might have taken some of these courses while with the Cub Scouts please go ahead and update them as soon as possible. All adult Troop Committee members and Leaders are required to complete the Youth Protection online course (about 30 minutes).

Upon completion of a course, please make a copy of the certificate and give to Keith Elinson for tracking.

The following are the required trainings for all adult leaders:

- This is Scouting (online)
- Youth Protection (online)
- Leader Specific Training/Ass't Scoutmaster
- Introduction to Outdoor Leadership

There are additional courses that are helpful and sometimes required for opportunities like high adventure trips and camping in general:

- New Leader Essentials
- Safe Swim (online)
- Safety Afloat (online)
- Weather Hazards (online)
- CPR
- Basic First Aid
- Wilderness First Aid

Please visit the following site to get started with online training or to register for live training...<http://chiefblackdog.nbsa.org/train/default.aspx>

Thanks for all you do to progress the Scouting program, for all of our sons.



New Tents

For the last couple of years we have been having increasing problems with our old Timberline tents. The zippers are broken on 3-4 tents, the floors and screens are getting threadbare and they are not really waterproof anymore. The Adult Leaders have had many conversations about the style of tent we wanted and needed for our Troop. The decision was made to purchase our new tents this Winter while tents were on sale. Some of the features that were attractive to the group were a larger Dome style, Aluminum Poles, Heavy Duty Zipper, Full rainfly with a Vestibule, tub style waterproof floors. We purchased six Kelty Grand Mesa 6 tents for about \$900.00 when they were on sale at 40% off.

They will be available for the scouts to use at camp this coming Spring. We ask that Tarps be used under the tent as well as inside the tent to keep them as new and clean. We want these new tents to last as long as possible so we ask the scouts that use them to treat them with respect.

Grey Wolf

Troop 290 wants to nominate Scouts to attend Grey Wolf and the forms, along with other detailed information, can be found at www.training.nbsa.org/info/GreyWolf.aspx (one form per Scout). To be eligible, Scouts **must be 13 years of age and have earned the rank of first class by June 1, 2011**. Scouts should hold the position of Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, or have the potential to serve in one of these leadership positions. Scouts must be self-motivated and willing to wear the Official Scout Uniform.

Links

Click on any of the red links throughout this newsletter to go directly to that site!

Stray Gear?

If you have tent parts, cookware, or any other Troop gear from past campouts or events, please return it to our Troop Quartermaster: Mr. Al Tuff

Troop 290 Eagle Scouts

Congratulations again to all of our 2010 Eagle Recipients. Impressive efforts, gentlemen!

Steven Albers

Justin Hill

John Sampers

Adam Tuff

Well Done

The following Boy Scouts received merit badges at the County of Honor held at SOTV on November 15:

Carpentry- Adam T

Cooking- Sean T

E Prep- Michael M

Mammals- Adam G

Nuclear Science- Charlie C, Michael T

Pathfinding-Charlie C, Collin D, Michael M, Aaron O, Caleb O, Alex R, Michael T, Adam T, Sean T

Personal Fitness- Nathan C, Jack S, Michael T,

Personal Management- Erick B, Nathan C

Signaling- Nick K, Jack S, Adam T

Recruiter- Noah D

Scout/Tenderfoot- Levi H, Peter K, Caleb O,

1st Class- Michael D, Noah D

2nd Class- Nathan T

Life- Jack S, Eric T