

# Troop 849 Newsletter



March 2006

[www.troop849.org](http://www.troop849.org)

## CURRENT CALENDAR

March 7 – Hike Prep (Joshua Tree)  
March 8 – Rock Wall – Beach Cities Rock Gym  
March 10-12 – Rock Hike (Joshua Tree)  
March 14 – Troop Meeting (OA Elections)  
March 18 – Troop Equipment Spring Cleaning  
March 21 – Court of Honor  
March 25 – Troop Junior Leader Training  
March 28 – Troop Meeting  
March 28 – Interfaith Banquet  
April 1-2 – Mark Harrington's Eagle Project  
April 4 – Hike Prep (Mt. Lowe/Catalina)  
April 6 – Neighbor to Neighbor  
April 8-9 – Backpack Hike (Mt. Lowe)  
April 8-12 – Catalina 50 Mile Hike



## COMMITTEE CHAIR CORNER

I've found over the years that parental support is one of the keys to retaining boys in Scouting. All parents should plan to attend the upcoming Court of Honor. It's a great way to show how proud you are of your Scout's achievements! Bring the entire family. The Courts are completed in an hour or less so Scouts and their siblings will have time for their schoolwork. Hope to see you there!

- Don McLellan

## COURT OF HONOR

The spring Court of Honor will be held at O'Donnell Center, American Martyrs Church, on March 21st at 7:30 PM. This event replaces the regularly scheduled troop meeting. Scouts and their families are encouraged to attend. Rank advancement, Merit Badges, and other honors will be awarded. Class A Uniform is mandatory.

**All rank advancements and merit badges must be completed by the end of the March 7<sup>th</sup> troop meeting to be awarded at this Court.**



## SPL CORNER

Salutations, Fellow Scouts! Two of the largest events of the year, the **Rock Hike** and the **Court of Honor**, are coming up this month, and it's important for everyone to participate as much as possible in the preceding weeks. That means that all who are interested should attend the Hike prep meeting and the Troop outing to the Beach Cities Rock Gym. Additionally, this is an excellent opportunity to earn the Rock Climbing Merit Badge (See **Mr. Slocum** for details (the first class is over, but you might be able to catch up)). Everyone should continue to advance in preparation for the Court of Honor, and advancement opportunities will be provided at the upcoming meetings and during the Rock Hike Prep Night.

In other news, we will be continuing to improve on the patrol structure. As it stands, some of the patrols formed in the last attempt at re-organization have fallen apart due to a lack of attendance. This will necessitate another re-organization, but great consideration and scout input will be required before any major changes are made. Anybody with any suggestions or re-organization requests should contact myself, the ASPLs, **Matt Shuler** and **Tim Meyers**, or the patrol leaders. The goal will be to form relatively small, cohesive patrols of about six scouts each. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each meeting to help us understand which patrols are functioning properly and which ones require attention.

Other than that, I'd just like to remind everyone to take full advantage of the **Merit Badge instruction** that will be provided at the upcoming meetings. First up is **Bird Study with Mr. Roth**, with more merit badges to follow. It is also recommended that patrols members pursue merit badges as a group in order to aid in their completion and build patrol coherency.

I hope everyone has a great month of Scouting.

- Sam Mullin



## MT. LOWE HIKE

Hiking season has officially begun! This annual hike to Mt. Lowe takes place on April 8 – 9 and is just the hike to begin the season. The trail is easy leading you about 3 miles in to the camp which is at the site of the historic Alpine Tavern, renamed the Mt. Lowe Tavern in 1924.

Sign ups are available at troop meetings. For details please contact **Ryan Hadley** or **Mr. Noda**.

## RECENT RANK ADVANCEMENTS

Star – **Reid Bergsund, Chris Bickel**

1st Class – **Sean Harger, Brett Salazar**

2nd Class – **David Copeland, Austin Edmonds, Conor Griffin, Daniel Phillips, Kevin Tsao**

## JUNIOR LEADER TRAINING

Troop Junior Leader Training will take place at the Scout House starting at 9:00AM on March 25<sup>th</sup>. Training is available to Scouts who are First Class and above or who hold a leadership position within the Troop. All Patrol Leaders who have not yet had this training should attend. Please contact Asst. Scoutmaster **Mr. Reeley** for more information.

## INTERFAITH BANQUET

The 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Interfaith Banquet will be held on Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at The Harvey Morse Auditorium at the Cedar Sinai Medical Center. All Scouts who earned their religious emblem in 2005 will be recognized and honored at this event. **Andrew Bonnano, Nathan Connolly, Tim Breen, John Gunderman, and Kirk Busby**, who earned the **Ad Altare Dei Emblem** for the Roman Catholic faith, and **Luc Suter, Matthew Reeley, and Robert Reeley**, who earned the **God and Country Emblem** for Protestant faiths, will represent Troop 849. In addition, Asst. Scoutmaster **Mr. Rick Reeley** earned his **God and Service Award** and will be recognized at the banquet.

## EAGLE PROJECT

**Mark Harrington** will be having his Eagle Project on April 1-2. Mark's project will consist of painting a mural at St. Raphael Catholic School in South Los Angeles. All Scouts are encouraged to sign up to help Mark complete this worthy project.

## SUMMER ACTIVITIES

If you haven't already paid your second installment of \$100 for **Camp Chawanakee**, now is the time. Please get your check to Assistant Scoutmaster **Mr. Reeley** as soon as possible. This is the only summer camp for Troop 849 this year. There are 20 more spots available so sign up now!

Also, remember, if you are going on a **Long Term** hike and this is your first time, you need to participate in three weekend training hikes. Look for sign ups at Troop Meetings soon.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this Troop Newsletter please contact either **Mrs. Bickel** or **Mrs. Williamson**.

Please don't hesitate to make suggestions on content you would like to see in future newsletters.

## LOOKING AHEAD

**April-** Mt. Lowe Hike  
Catalina 50-Mile Hike  
Backpack Equipment Orientation  
Spring Camporee  
Shotgun Shooting  
**May-** Advancement Day  
Various Weekend Hikes  
Deep Sea Fishing  
**June-** Various Weekend Hikes