

TROOP 575 NEWSLETTER

Scout Resource Center: www.troop575.org
March 2007 – June 2008



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Boy Scout Troop 575, Louisville, Colorado



Upcoming Events:

- ? Sacred Heart of Mary Clothes Drive
July 23, 30, Aug. 1
- ? Ryan Dorney's Eagle Project
Aug. 9, 16
- ? Troop Elections
Aug. 12
- ? August Board of Review
Aug. 19
- ? Annual Planning Meeting
Aug. 24
- ? August Court of Honor
Aug. 26



Scout Show Review

Scouts Gabe W. and Daniel W.

The turn out to our booth in particular was very small. I don't know if it was the same for every other booth but i think it could have been better in number of people there. The food served at the concessions stand was just a tiny bit too expensive, luckily other scout-run booths had free food (the pizza stand was brilliant,) and the free food tasted better than the food that they were trying to sell anyways. I think they should bring back the big wood craft projects because those were the main draw of the scout show even though some of them were slightly dangerous if misused. Retiring the flags was quite possibly the best part of the show, the atmosphere was cool, and everyone who participated in it totally got into the mood of the whole thing.



The OA's cuisine the night before was quite good, all you can eat dinner and breakfast for that price was quite a deal. Overall the camp out was a fun way to spend the weekend, but I can only hope that in the future we will spend more time planning for next years so we can have something more scouts would want to participate in - something probably involving food...or a game of some sorts.



Memorial Day Flag Plant -- 2008

Scout Zachary N.



It was Memorial Day weekend and the scouts of Troop 575 were gathering at The Sacred Heart of Mary Church Cemetery to honor our Veterans who fought to bring us freedom.

Each of us was paired up in groups of three or four scouts. One person from each group took 10 to 12 small American flags, and another got a piece of paper with Veterans' names on them. Whenever we made it to a grave with someones name, birth, and death that matched a person on our sheet we placed a flag on the grave, took a step back, and saluted that man or woman.



It felt great being out there helping others to finish, talking, and hanging out. It makes me want to participate every time we are doing something like this. I can not wait till next year to pay honor to our Veterans.

My name is Zachary Nix and I would like to also recognize my fellow scouts that participated in this honorable event: Adam D., Brian L., Logan E., Kyle B., Wes S., Chris L., Daniel W., Gabe W., Paul B., Marty B., Logan B., and Alex D.



Micro Backpack Trip Report

Scout Logan E.

We went on this trip from June 30-July 2. To start this backpacking trip, everyone met at Kohl's to plan. We planned what food we were going to bring and we made duty rosters. After we did this we all went out and bought the food at Albertsons.

The night before we went, we had a meeting at Mrs. Maag-Brown's house. There everyone weighed the food and then packed it equally.

Monday morning the parents and Zach N., Logan B.,



Logan E., and Travis started the backpacking trip at Hessie

trailhead. When we got to the campsite after 2 hours we set up camp by Lost Lake, then for the rest of the day everyone stayed at the campsite and worked on some rank advancement activities.

The second day that we were there we decided to take a hike. First, we headed up to an abandoned mine. We ate lunch there. Then we just went all over to things such as a house that we think the miners from the mine might have slept in. After this everyone headed back down to camp.

The last day we finally packed our things and then left the camp and hiked back down to the cars. On this campout, I learned a couple new things. Since we got most of our water from Lost Lake, I learned how to use a pump water filter. I also learned how to really pack light and that freeze-dried food is a good thing to bring on trips like this. This is going

to be useful later in life. This is going to be a campout to remember!





OTHER ARTICLES

Scoutmaster's Corner

Well it has been a little over three months since I became Scoutmaster. At first I was overwhelmed but now it is settling down a little. I do not know how Mr. Brown was able to work full time and keep up with the SM job. Once again a big thanks to him for the job he has done for the troop.

I would like to ask that the Scouts take a few minutes and think about the troop activities we have done in the past. Snow Mountain Ranch, Shooting at Peaceful Valley, summer camp at Ben Delatour Scout Ranch, Florida Sea Base, the Sand Dunes National Park, the list goes on.

The Troop's annual planning meeting will be August 24th. We need your ideas for camping and events for the next 12 months. We also need immediately, your ideas for September and possibly October trips. There is no school on September 19th for Boulder Valley Schools, so that could be a three day event! Please tell your Patrol Leader your ideas for September or October and the Patrol Leaders Council can begin working on those trips.

Yours in Scouting

Jeff Love

Librarian's Article

Scout William D.

In case you didn't know Troop 575 has a library! It is labeled "Merit Badge Books". You can checkout some of those books and if you can't find the book you need, you can buy one at the Scout store. When you're done with it, you can turn it in to the Troop library and get \$1.25 deposited into your Scout account

Quartermaster's Report on Tents and Patrol Boxes

Troop 575 has recently acquired some tents. We purchased 4 new, 2 person REI half dome tents for backpacking. We also got 5 four and six man tents from Troop 63. The tents that we obtained from Troop 63 were set up, repaired, checked and are in good shape. We don't want to trash these tents; we should take good care of them. The tents will be checked by either Mr. Normen or the quartermaster to make sure that they are clean and dry before you turn them back in.

We recently organized and improved the patrol boxes. We also cleaned the stoves and got brand new pots and pans. We now have clean, organized patrol boxes and we need to keep them that way. In every patrol box is a check list of all the items, **you must have every item on the check list in the patrol boxes when you check it in!** After a camp out, Mr. Normen and the quartermaster will check every patrol box and if some of the items are not as clean as we would like them to be, the patrol has to clean the item(s) **not** the quartermaster. We intend to keep these patrol boxes the most organized system in the troop.



Troop Website

Almost certainly, you have visited the Troop website at www.troop575.org at some point. Scouts and parents alike often use the site to learn about merit badges, rank advancement, high adventure, or to access the troop newsletter. In fact, our site gets between 300 and 500 visits every month. It has become an important part of how the communicates with its members, and how it projects its image outside the troop.

Jim Snyder has been the webmaster for the troop website for the last five years. He has advised the committee that he wants to begin the process of transitioning that responsibility to another adult who would be willing to manage the site. Jim has offered to teach an interested person everything they need to know to manage the site, and to be available to assist them as needed.

Have you ever thought about publishing a website, but did not know how? Or, do you have the skills and looking place to use them? Either way, this is a great volunteer opportunity for the troop. If you are interested, please contact Jim by phone (see the troop roster).

Experienced Uniform Exchange Program

To make a uniform donation...

- ✍ We accept all BSA uniforms including Cub Scout and adult uniforms, clean or dirty.
 - ... Pants, Belts, Socks, Shorts, Shirts, Hats, Pants, etc...
 - Leave your old uniform in the “Experienced Uniform” collection bag, hanging in the troop closet.
- ✍ If you plan on replacing your uniform with a new or experienced uniform,
 - From your donated shirt, remove only...
 - ✍ ...your rank patch from the left chest pocket.
 - ✍ ...any patch on the right chest pocket.
 - ✍ ...your patrol patch on the sleeve.
 - ✍ **Please leave all other patches on the shirt!**

If you would like an experienced uniform...

- ✍ Contact David Normen, 303.666.4394 or dnormen@comcast.net, to check on availability.
- ✍ At your fitting, bring your rank and patrol patches. As a service they will be sewn on for you!
- ✍ To offset BSA's loss from the sale of a uniform, please consider making a donation to Friends of Scouting.

Why get an experienced uniform?

- ✍ Experienced uniforms are available to anyone.
- ✍ Experienced uniforms come with all the patches sewn on!
- ✍ Going to Big Horn Leadership Training and need BSA shorts or socks for only a week? Get an experienced uniform!



Volunteer – Our Troop Depends on It

Troop 575 is a "boy led" troop. Over time, the Scouts are given more and more responsibility in leading various activities in the troop. As they advance from one rank to another, they are assigned more complex duties and more is expected of them. Still, parents have a responsibility to help the boys learn by being good "guides". As in any organization, a Boy Scout troop requires a fair amount of work to be well run.

Without strong participation on the part of the adults, the troop simply can not sustain itself and could eventually fail. I think we can all agree that this would be the most unfortunate of all outcomes, but it does happen to troops all over the country every year. The troop, in effect, just runs out of gas and stops working.

Troop 575 assumes that at least one parent of each Scout will serve as a volunteer for the troop. Volunteer service can be accomplished in many ways. They may serve as an Assistant Scoutmaster, Troop Committee Member, lead a fundraiser, oversee a campout, etc. There are always numerous tasks that need to be accomplished -- some on a continuous basis, others as individual events. Whatever you decide to do, your help is always appreciated, and you can be satisfied that you are helping your son and his fellow Scouts have a better Scouting experience.

Of course, you benefit as well by being able to dedicate some time away from the household to your son's activities. You can watch him learn and grow in ways few parents are able to do, while setting a great example for him to follow. What could be better than that?

To volunteer, contact the Scoutmaster, Troop Committee Chairperson, or any committee member. If you do not know one of these, ask any uniformed adult leader at a Patrol meeting or ask your Scout.

Also, see the parents' page on our web site at: http://www.troop575.org/parents_page.htm

Board of Review Coming Up? -- Be Prepared

Scout rank advancement always involves a visit to a Board of Review (BOR). It gives the Scout an opportunity for a final review and approval for each new rank. Being prepared and knowing what to expect makes the BOR a very positive experience. There are several things to think about when planning for a BOR, all of which can be found on our web site at: http://www.troop575.org/BOR_Guidelines.htm Scouts and parents should take the time to become familiar with this web page... in advance.

Troop Calendar

Go to <http://www.troop575.org/Pages/CalPage.htm> for the current calendar.



Shooting Campout Pictures

