

# TROOP 726 FLASH

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 078

DECEMBER 2008/JANUARY 2009

## Upcoming Events

Winter Awareness	Dec 6
Presidio Historic Trail and Overnight at Fort Cronkhite	Dec 13-14
Troop Bike Ride	Dec 27
Troop E-waste Fundraiser,	Jan 3
Alcatraz Tour	Jan 10
Snow Camping	Jan 24 - 25
University of Scouting	Jan 24



Winter Court of Honor – Dec 10

ASM Meeting – Dec 15

Holiday Gathering – Dec 17

Board of Review – Dec 15 (need two adults to help, please contact Lisa Richeaux)

PLC Meeting – Dec 18

Troop Meetings – Weekly on Wednesdays (No Troop Meeting on Dec 24, or Dec 31)

Eagle Court of Honor Ceremony for Branden

Meadows and Adam Nikssarian – Jan 4, 2009

Committee Meeting – Jan 5

ASM Meeting – Jan 19

## Winter Awareness

Scout In Charge: Ben Eversole  
Adult in Charge: Mr. Wright and Mr. John Miles

This event is put on by the Order of the Arrow. It is required for Scouts participating in Winter Scout outings and Klondike Derby. On **Dec 6**, we will meet at Masonic Center at 8 am. We will leave for San Lorenzo Adult School at 8:15 am and return at 2:30 pm. The cost is \$9 to \$11. Please bring your favorite sandwich for lunch. The Troop will provide chips and salsa, drinks, fruit etc.

## Presidio Historic Trail and Overnight at Fort Cronkhite

Scout in Charge: Bryce Fong and Allen Saylo  
Adult in Charge: Mr. Guerin

On **Saturdays, Dec 13<sup>th</sup>**, we will meet at Masonic Center at 7 am. We will tour Presidio and SF and Marin headlands. The cost is \$10 per scout plus dinner and breakfast food by patrol. Bring trail snacks and a bag lunch for the hike. Scouts will return to Masonic Center on Sunday, Dec 14, at 4 pm.



## Troop Bike Ride

Scout in Charge: Bryce Fong  
Adult in Charge: Mr. Fong

**Whaaat! NO BIKE?** Borrow or tell Santa to put one under the tree along with a **SPARE TUBE and REQUIRED safety gear—GROVES AND HELMET**, and join the Troop on a safe and fun **10 and/or 20 mile** bicycle ride **Saturday, Dec. 27, 2008** on the "Iron Horse Trail." We'll all **MEET** and start from the **Dublin-Pleasanton BART station** (north parking lot off Hopyard Rd/580) **10AM** and ride 10 miles to the Danville-Iron Horse Plaza, where the 10-mile riders will be picked up by their drivers (**12 Noon**) after snacking at Lunardi's Market (bring money). Then the 20-mile riders will return to the start (**2:30 PM**) for a total of 20 miles. **RAIN CANCELS.** More info in the permission slip deadline 11/17. See Bryce Fong to sign up. Adult in charge is Mr. Byron Fong, (510) 567 8963

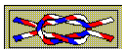


## Holiday Gathering



Troop 726 Holiday Gathering is **Wed Dec 17** during our regular troop meeting. All scouts, families and friends are invited to come celebrate the holiday season. Our patrols will entertain us with skits, songs and special treats.

## Eagle Court of Honor



This very special event will be held on **Sunday, Jan 4, 2 pm, at Masonic Center**, in honor of Branden Meadows and Adam Nikssarian in achieving the highest rank in Scouting, demonstrating their Scout Spirit, service, and Leadership. Please join us to celebrate their tremendous accomplishments.

## Snow Camping

Scout in Charge: Mathew Lozano  
Adult in Charge: Mr. Guerin



Put your winter awareness training to use! Come snow camping on **Jan 24-25**. Who knows, maybe we'll have another 18" of snow come down on us again! Details are not ready yet so stay tuned.

## University of Scouting

Scout In Charge: Steve Davidson  
Adult in Charge: Mr. Nikssarian

Event this year will be offered at the LDS center in Fremont on **Jan 24, 2009**. There are many NEW courses available. Please sign up and have fun while becoming a better scout leader.



Please visit website  
<http://www.sfbac.org/training/adult/university> for more information.

## Special Announcements

### Troop T-shirt (from Mrs. Schultz)

The new Troop T-shirt, featuring the design by our very own Marcos Andrade, will be available for sale soon. The cost for a T-shirt is approximately \$10. Both parents and kids can order shirts. We are also looking into ordering crew neck sweatshirts (~\$15). All are 100% cotton. Please let Mrs. Schultz know what you would like to order ASAP.

### Annual Medical Form Review (from Mrs. Lozano)

Mrs. Eversole will be reviewing our medical forms. **You must have a valid form on file or you can not attend outings.**

For youth scouts and adult leaders under age 40:

- Class One medical forms must be updated annually
- Class two medical form must be updated once every 36 months.

For adult leaders over age 40:

- Class Three medical forms must be updated annually

## Summer Camp 2009—SAVE THE DATE!

By Michael Andrews, Troop 726 Outdoor Program Coordinator

Troop 726 is returning to one of our favorite Scout camps **June 21 - 27, 2009**! Wente Scout Reservation, one of the most popular Boy Scout camps in Northern California, is located among the rolling hills and woodlands about 10 miles east of the town of Willits near the headwaters of the Russian River. Please mark your family calendars for the week of Sunday June 21st to Saturday June 27th, as this event is considered by most of our boys to be their finest annual Scouting experience. The troop leaders would like to see 100% participation by all patrols, especially since there are excellent merit badge programs and a wonderful lake for boating and swimming. Permission slips, payment schedule and additional details will be available during December troop meetings.



## Wente Summer Camp, Here We Come!

## Training

By Randy Wright, Tres Ranchos District Boy Scout Training Chair and Troop 726 Training Chair.

Online Training from your computer is available for Boy Scout Fast Start, Youth Protection, Safe Swim and Safety Afloat, Troup Committee Challenge and many more. Please check out all the online trainings. These are free online. Please go to [www.SFBAC.org](http://www.SFBAC.org), then go to training, >adult training, >the training program and then select online training for the above. You will need to register.

### EVERY SCOUT DESERVES A TRAINED LEADER!

The following trainings will be held:

1. Roundtable every month. Meet people and have fun learning more about scouting. Second Thursday evening of each month at the Boy Scout Center in San Leandro.
2. Did you complete any training lately? Please let me know. A copy of your training card would be the best.
3. Beginning January 2009, leaders will be required to renew Youth Protection every 2 years. This is a **new National Policy** and is required on tour permits.
4. Also, beginning January 2009, you will be required to take a training called "Planning and Preparing for Hazardous Weather Training." This is available online.
5. Also, beginning 2009, New Leader Essentials will become an online training and rewritten.
6. University of Scouting, Jan. 24, 2009. This will be offered at the LDS center in Fremont. There are many NEW courses available. Please sign up and have fun while becoming a better scout leader.

Need info about future trainings? Have questions about training? Call Randy Wright at 510-885-0527 or email [wright-s@comcast.net](mailto:wright-s@comcast.net). All fliers are on the Tres Ranchos District Web page via [www.sfbac.org](http://www.sfbac.org).

## Veteran Day Parade (By Scout-in-Charge, Edgar Woo)

On Tuesday, November 11th, 14 scouts and 5 adults participated in the Hayward Veteran's Day Parade to honor the veterans who have protected the country with their lives. The Scouts learned the basics of marching and performed several maneuvers that garnered surprise and approval from the judges. The crowds cheered our boys on, still beginners in the midst of ROTC and High School Rifle and Color Guards, but even that did not deter the group. With the experience gathered this year, the scouts know enough to really give other groups a run for the money; maybe next year!

Scouts Who Participated: Raymond Akagi, Mitch Avery, Keane Hubbard, Austin Le, Aaron Vejmola, Marcos Andrade, Bryant Ling, Adam Nikssarian, Eric Nikssarian, Kenji Pinzon, Will Oliveira, Larry Whitmeyer, Edgar Woo, Jack Zhao

Adults Who Participated: Neil Guerin, Richard Nikssarian, Bill Hubbard, Sum-Hou Woo, Audrey Huie  
Parents! Feel free to email me for photos of the event!





## Guerin Park Overnight (By Scout-in-Charge, Eric Nikssarian)

Guerin Park overnight (Nov 8 – 9) was a complete success with a showing of 16 boys and 3 adults. The boys went fishing and ate dinner a little early due to certain weather conditions. After it got dark, we all went to tents a little early so we could get a good nights rest.

Morning came and a group of about 10 boys woke up extra early to get ahead start fishing. After two and a half hours they returned with a fish about 1 foot and a half long caught by Aaron. We lazily broke down camp after that and returned to Castro Valley at around 11am. In all, everyone had an entertaining weekend and a big thank you goes out to Mr. Markison, and Mrs. Schultz for breakfast. Thank you!



Aaron and the big fish (~8 lbs) that didn't get away



Jacob, Raymond, Keane, John, and Will back from their fishing expedition



## Halloween Camporee (By Scout-in-Charge, Ryan Flynn)

The Halloween Camporee (Oct 18) was a great experience. We did well in lots of competitions. They did not announce second or third place but I am sure we would have been in them. Jack was the man of the hour because he did the cooking amazingly well.





## Scouting for Food (By Scout-in-Charge, Kenji Pinzon)

Edgar, Eric, Casey, Ben A, Allen, Steve, Bryant, Ryan, Kenji, Larry, Anthony, Aaron, Keane, Mitch, Jose, Tyler, John, Austin, Raymond, and Kiyoshi attended Scouting for Food on Nov 8<sup>th</sup> and the 15<sup>th</sup>. We passed out flyer on the 8<sup>th</sup>. On the 15<sup>th</sup>, we collected and sorted out the food items. In total, we collected over 1,000 items! I would like to thank all the scouts who attended, and adults, Mr. Guerin, Mrs. Lozano, Mr. Hubbard, and all of our drivers.



Kenji (scout-in-charge) checking in people



Cub Scouts from Pack 726 with T726's Scouts unloading food

**show  
Your  
Caring**



**By  
Volunteering**

Many hands made quick work of sorting and bagging food items



Scouts busy counting and loading food for delivery to Alameda County Food Bank



Ryan, Eric, Bryant, Casey, Edgar (in back)  
1000+ items counted and loaded

## Scout Advancements

By Lisa Richeaux, T726 Advancement Coordinator

**Hayden Payne, John Miles, and Raymond Akagi** have earned their Scout Ranks.

**Kiyoshi Ito** earned his 1st Class Rank.

**Steve Davidson** earned his Life Rank.

**Jack Zhao** earned his Tenderfoot Rank.

# Congratulations!

## Troop News

By Jacob Schultz, T726 Troop Scribe

T726 Scouts had a busy month of November with overnight camping, Scouting for Food, and Veterans' Day related activities. Thanks to all who volunteer their time and energy.

Jacob Schultz and Steven Davidson presented an outline of the **Summer 2009 Oregon Trip** at the Troop meeting on Nov 12<sup>th</sup>. Here are some high lights of their presentation.

Total number of days is **11 days**, tentatively scheduled to start at the **last week of July, 2009**. This trip is in addition to summer camp opportunity that the Troop has already planned to Wente Scout Reservation (June 21- 27, 2009).

Total cost per Scout, including meals, gas, camping fees, and incidentals is **\$650**. The cost is approximate and subject to change, and is based on at least 16 Scouts participating. Payment in full must be made by March 1, 2009 (contact Mrs, Lozano to discuss fund raising needs/ideas).

### The tentative agenda:

- Camp Makualla (on Oregon's central coast, located on Crescent Lake) – 7 days
- Crater Lake (35 mile trip by car around the lake) – ½ day
- Rafting on Rogue River – 1 day
- Spelunking at Oregon Caves National Monument – ½ day

The following websites have more information:

- [www.craterlakecouncil.org](http://www.craterlakecouncil.org)
- [www.nps.gov/orca](http://www.nps.gov/orca)
- [www.nps.gov/crla](http://www.nps.gov/crla)
- [www.noahsrafting.com](http://www.noahsrafting.com)

## Patrol News



Patrol leaders please submit your article to Ms. Chang by the last Friday of the month by phone 317-9179 or email [SandiaChang@comcast.net](mailto:SandiaChang@comcast.net), or if you prefer, put the article in her mail slot by the Wednesday before the end of the month.

### Cobras



Raymond Akagi, Mitch Avery, John Miles, Keane Hubbard, and Austin Le from Cobra Patrol went to Garin Park Dry Creek for fishing. Many weird things happened while fishing. Keane flung his pole so hard, his bait flew half way across the lake; John's pole got tangled up in a tree; Aaron fell in the water and couldn't get back up to land. Aaron also caught a fish, Indian Style, and it pooped while it was already dead. When we saw the sign that said, "Button Tree", we all sat on the tree. It was crazy...yet very, very fun and entertaining. Everyone had a great time. ☺

By Austin Le

On November 1, 2008. Keane, Aaron, and Raymond went to Little Yosemite. It was raining but it didn't bother us. We had the opportunity to use our rain gear. We ate while in a dry cave away from the rain.

By Aaron Vejmola

### Scorpions



With our new patrol positions, Larry is the assistant Patrol Leader and Marcos is still the Patrol Leader.

By Larry Whitmeyer

### Dragons



No submittal

### Owls



On December 20, 2008, the Owl Patrol is going to bike at the Marina for a patrol outing.

By Bryce Fong

### Rocks



Adam and Branden are proud to receive their Eagle rank, having completed their Trail to Eagle. Their Eagle Court of Honor will be shared, happening on January 4, 2009, at the Masonic Lodge.

By Ben Eversole

## BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Troop 726  
18507 Center Street  
Castro Valley, CA 94546  
Scoutmaster: Neil Guerin  
Email: 70torino@comcast.net  
Charter Organization: American Legion #649

## BE PREPARED



Our newsletter goal is to provide information to scouts and parents at the 1st meeting of the month. Dates and information for this newsletter are due by the last Friday of each month.

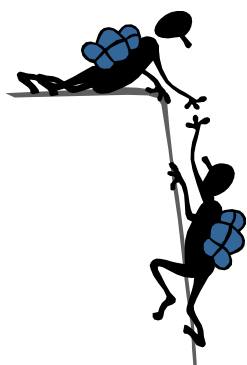
### Committee Chair's Corner

*By Phyllis Lozano, Troop 726 Committee Chair*

All is going well with the Troop as we look towards the end of 2008 and forward to 2009. The scouting year for troops in our area is September to August; however our annual re-charter with Boy Scouts of America National Council is from Jan to Dec. The re-charter process occurs in November every year and I'd like to thank Mr. Woo for taking care of our paperwork.

Each year our troop has new scouts join and older scouts age out. This perpetual process is part of the scouting program. Having boys age out at 18 is an indication of a strong program and our goal for the program is to have the older scouts pass on their knowledge to the younger scouts before they age out. A steady flow of youth into a Boy Scout troop is essential to maintaining the troop's health. New Scouts bring energy and enthusiasm to the troop program.

This perpetual process also occurs in our adult leadership. Some of our experienced Assistant Scoutmasters are less involved as their sons begin to approach the age of 17 and 18. Mr. Guerin and I are actively seeking adults to step into leadership roles as Assistant Scoutmasters, to help as patrol advisors, and to help at our Troop meetings and outing. If you or someone you know would like to play an active role in the scouting program, please let us know.



### Lost Equipment

Please check your garage for Troop equipment. Look for any tents and pans, stoves, etc, that you may have taken home to clean but forgot to bring back. Equipment is very expensive!

### Troop Items for Sale

The following items can be purchased from Mrs. Lozano.

Troop Mug	\$5.00
Duffle Bag	\$20.00

### Uniform Bank

All items in the uniform bank are first come first serve. Please call Mr. Woo or Ms Huie to check for availability. Also, **if you think you can donate your belts**, please bring them to the meeting. Thank you!

Thank you all for contributing to this newsletter, especially, Jacob Schultz, for putting extra effort in gathering Patrol news and post event write-ups from the Scouts.

*Thank You!!*

### Cheerful

A Scout looks for the bright side of things. He cheerfully does tasks that come this way. He tries to make others happy.

