

Troop 165
Boy Scouts of America
Lancaster, Ohio
Sponsored by Fairfield Christian Church



February 2010 Newsletter

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One of the eight methods of successful scouting programs is wearing uniforms. Lately, as a group, the troop could improve when it comes to wearing the proper uniform. As a reminder, Troop 165's field uniform (Class A uniform) includes the neckerchief and slide, Class A shirt, Troop activity shirt (Class B), Scout or olive green pants or shorts, scout belt, Scout hat, and scout socks. Adult Leader uniform includes everything that the boys wear except for the neckerchief. Unless told in advance, the full troop uniform is to be worn at each meeting/outing.

Troop 165
Boy Scouts of America
Lancaster, Ohio
Sponsored by Fairfield Christian Church



February 2010 Newsletter

Troop Happenings - The troop welcome's our newest Scouts Matt and Dillon Raynes. The Raynes brothers joined the troop on January 11th. Matt will be in the Flying Eagle Patrol and Dillon will be in the Dragon Patrol.

Court of Honor - The Court of Honor is approaching quickly. It is February 22, 2010 at 7 pm in Highway 45. Be sure to invite your family to attend.

Troop Open House - On February 27, 2010 from 9 am to 12 pm the troop will hold our Annual Open House. Invite friends who are Boy Scout age to come take a look at the great things our troop does throughout the year!

Scouting Information - Mr. Darnell came across a website with some fantastic information on cold weather camping. This information is posted on the troop's Scout Info page or you can go to the website at: <http://www.princeton.edu/~oa/winter/wintcamp.pdf>

Upcoming Council Events

1. **Boy Scout Merit Badge Boot Camp at Camp Lazarus** - April 5-9, 2010. Cost: \$150.00/Person (Includes camping fees (cabins), food, program, materials, recognitions, Merit Badge Boot Camp patch, and Tshirt.) **You must have parent and Scoutmaster approval to participate. The flyer is on the troop website (Scout Info Page).**

Upon successful completion of Merit Badge Boot Camp, the enlistee will earn the following: Cooking, Disabilities Awareness, Fly Fishing, Woodcarving, Farm Mechanics, Environmental Science, Fish and Wildlife Management, Soil and Water Conservation, and Sports Merit Badges. Enlistee's will also earn the Donor Awareness Award, Paul Bunyan Award, Crime Prevention Award, and the new Camp Lazarus Hike Trail recognition. Enlistee's will also be able to register to earn the Coin Collecting, Stamp Collecting, Collections, Reading, Radio, and American Cultures Merit Badges. 5 enlistee's will be *selected* to work on the Journalism, Cinematography, and Surveying Merit Badges. (5 each Merit Badge) Merit Badge Boot Camp is open to enlistee's between the ages of 12 and 17.

2. **Calling All Photographers!** - Our Scouting Story - A Year of Scouting Through Pictures We want you to catch Scouting in action during our 100th Anniversary year. If you enjoy taking pictures while at Scouting events, then this is for you! All Scouts and leaders are encouraged to participate and submit photos that represent the following categories: Leadership, Character, Outdoors, Achievement and Service. Guidelines can be found at: <http://www.skcbasa.org/documents/callingallPhotographers.pdf>. Select photos submitted before July 1, 2010 will be on display and voted on at the Ohio State Fair Scout Booth. Pictures will be posted on Simon Kenton Council's web site as they are submitted. All photos must be taken during the year of 2010 (a Scout is Honest) and must be submitted by November 1, 2010.

Troop Committee Meeting - The monthly troop committee meeting will be February 11, 2010 at 7 pm in room 513. Committee members and all other registered adult leaders and parents are encouraged to attend.

Test Your Scout skills online: There is a website where Scouts and Scouters can go for a wide range of resources and information. For the Scouts, there is a page for each rank that provides key resources and information to help you as you go down the scouting trail. Go to www.boyscouttrail.com. There is even a link on the left side of the main page where you can do online tests.

Merit Badge Information

These are the steps a Scout takes to earn a merit badge:

1. Get a signed blue card from Mr. Marshall and the name and phone number of the merit badge counselor.
2. **Before starting the merit badge**, contact the merit badge counselor to arrange a meeting. Go with a buddy, parent or relative to see the counselor to find out what is expected.
3. Get the merit badge book on the subject.
4. When complete, call the counselor again to make an appointment. Along with a buddy, parent or relative, bring the things necessary to meet the requirements or proof of what you have done. The counselor will spend time to make sure you know your stuff. When the counselor is satisfied that the Scout has done what is required, The Scout's merit badge card will be signed.

General Information

1. All merit badge counselors must be registered with the BSA.
2. A Scout cannot be counseled for more than four (4) merit badges from any one counselor.
3. Family members cannot counsel a Scout for Eagle-required merit badges.

Merit Badge Counselor Guidelines

1. Be aware of all up to date requirement changes (**check www.meritbadge.com**).
2. Follow the requirements of the merit badge, making no deletions or additions, ensuring that the advancement standards are fair and uniform for all Scouts.
3. Have two or more Scouts present at all instructional sessions.
4. Understand that the Scout is expected to meet the requirements as stated- no more and no less. Furthermore, he is to do exactly what is stated. If it says, "show or demonstrate," that is what he must do. Just telling about it isn't enough. The same holds true for such words as "make", "list", "in the field", and "collect, identify, and label."
5. You cannot require more of a scout than what is stated.

Merit Badge Cards - There are three parts to a blue merit badge card. The counselor keeps one part, the advancement chairman keeps the second part, and the third part is returned to the scout (sometimes this portion is kept by the advancement chairman and returned with the merit badge at Courts of Honor). This is the scout's only record that he completed the merit badge. At his Eagle Board of Review, the District Advancement Chairman will ask to see all of his blue cards. Please keep all blue cards that are returned to you by your merit badge counselor.

Monthly Permission Slips and Camping Fees

If you are intending to go on the monthly campouts, please have your fees and permission slips at the beginning of the meetings on the Monday night that they are due. If you are unable to attend the meeting but plan to go on the campout, please get you money and permission slip to your patrol leader.

Cancellations

Any time a scout meeting or activity is cancelled due to inclement weather, scouts will be notified via their patrol leader. If school is cancelled but the roads clear up and adult leadership feels that there are no safety concerns, we will generally have our meeting as it is the easiest way to hand out and collect permission slips.

Troop Website

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