Committee Chair Update – John Hager

Merit Badge Counselors Needed – Troop 84 is in need of parents to become merit badge counselors. Anyone who has an interest or expertise in a particular subject area can lead a merit badge activity. To see a complete list of the merit badges offered, visit the merit badge website at www.meritbadge.org. Contact Mr. Vicars or Mrs. Nichols if you are willing to help out or for more information.

Treasurer’s Report (as of Jan. 31, 2009) – Rick Martin

Past Activities

Court of Honor – Troop 84 held its quarterly Court of Honor on Tues. Jan. 27th. Two Scouts earned Eagle Palms, 12 Scouts earned rank advancements and 17 Scouts earned 22 merit badges. Congratulations to all!

Merit Badge Weekend – Troop 84’s annual merit badge weekend was held at Camp Hermis in the El Cerrito Hills on Jan. 30 – Feb. 1. It was a very successful weekend - 36 Scouts attended and six different merit badges were taught. In addition, they had beautiful weather and great food. Thank you to all the adults who helped out.

Railroad Museum Day Trip – Mike Brown led a group of 9 Scouts and family members to the California State Railroad Museum in Old Sacramento on Sat. Feb. 7th. They caught a train from Martinez and spent the day exploring the museum. Everyone had a great time and the Scouts were able to complete some of the requirements for the Railroading merit badge.

Upcoming Activities

Ski Trip to Bear Valley (Feb. 21-22) – Mark Slauson has offered to open up his cabin for a ski weekend at Bear Valley on Feb. 21-22. Scouts who participate will be able to earn the Snow Sports merit badge. See recent email for details.

Eagle Projects – There are two Eagle projects taking place in Feb. and March and several more in the pipeline. These are great opportunities for your Scout to help a fellow Scout and, at the same time, earn service hours. Look out for e-mails.

10-Mile Hikes (Brown) – Mike Brown is organizing two 10-mile hikes in the next few months: Feb. 28th (Garin Dry Creek) and Mar. 14 (Lake Chabot). These are open to all Scouts and family members. More details soon.

Upcoming Activities (Cont’d)

Alcatraz Island (Mar. 7) – It’s not too late to sign-up for the day trip to Alcatraz Island on Sat. Mar. 7th. It’s open to all Scouts and their families. See recent email from Mark Drisko for all the details – departure time, costs, etc. Email him if you’re interested.

Snow Camping (Mar. 21-22) – Troop 84’s annual snow camping trip, led by Lou Poitras, will take place on March 21-22. The only requirement in order to participate is for a Scout to have completed one overnight backpacking trip. More details in the next few weeks.

Pre-Camporee (Vicars/Tatum) – Troop 84 will hold its annual Pre-Camporee on April 18-19. This is a great opportunity for new Scouts to build new friendships within the troop and start completing and getting some rank requirements signed off. More details in the next few weeks.

Summer Camp (Lee) – Summer camp is only 4 months away, and planning efforts are well underway. This year Troop 84 is going to Camp Wente near Ukiah from June 28th – July 4th.

Merit Badges

Personal Fitness (H. Martin/Dawson) – Underway.

Personal Mgmt (Drisko) – Started in Jan. Eagle-required.

First Aid (Poitras/Lee) – Started in Jan. Eagle-required.

Hiking (Brown) – Underway. Open to all Scouts.


Citizenship in the Nation (Drisko) – Underway. Open to all Scouts in 8th grade & above. Eagle-required badge.

Communications (K. Nichols) – Starting in February.

Railroading (Brown) – Open to all. Started this month.

Dog Care (Lonie) – Open to all Scouts with a dog.

Space Exploration (Brown) – Open to all. Will start in the spring.

Scholarship (Houston) – Open to all. Email Mrs. Houston if interested.

Reading (Houston) – Open to all. Email Mrs. Houston if interested.

Key Dates for Upcoming Events (www.troop84bsa.org)

February

21-22 Ski Weekend (Bear Valley)
28 10-mile Hike (Garin Dry Creek)

March

7 Alcatraz Island – Day trip
14 10-mile Hike (Lake Chabot)
21-22 Snow Camping
28 Forest Home Farms Clean-up (San Ramon)

April

18-19 Pre-Camporee (Location TBD)

Announcements

Friends of Scouting – Thanks to all who have contributed to the Mt. Diablo Silverado Council’s annual fundraising campaign. It’s not too late to help support our local district. Please contact Umesh Apte if you are able to contribute.