

# TROOP 726 FLASH

DECEMBER 2013

## Upcoming Events

Pinnacles Day Hike – Dec 14

Serve Dinner at American Legion Post 6  
Christmas Dinner – Dec 15

Brown Bag Lunch Making and Holiday  
Gathering – Dec 19

Diablo Day Hike – Jan 4

University of Scouting – Jan 25

Native Sons Crab Feed – Jan 27

Scout Sunday – Feb 2

American Legion Crab Feed - Feb 9

Mt St. Helena Campout – Feb 8 - 9

Red and Green Dinner – Feb 12

Winter Awareness Training– Feb 15



## Meeting Dates

Board of Review –Dec 16, Jan 20, Feb 17

Committee Meeting –Jan 6, Feb 3

PLC Meeting –Dec 8 (7 pm TBA), Jan 5, Feb 15

Troop Meetings – Weekly on Wednesdays 7 pm sharp at Masonic Center, exception: Nov 27 and Dec 25 (no meeting), Feb 26 (outdoor meeting)

## Website

Don't forget to check out our Troop's awesome website <http://troop726.scoutlander.com>

**Sam Pica** is our Troop Website master. Please send photos from recent events to him. Please include dates and locations when you're sending pictures if possible.

Also please send him ([pica@batnet.net](mailto:pica@batnet.net)) any and all permission slips for upcoming events in .doc format so they can be uploaded to the website for all to download.



## Pinnacles Day Hike – Dec 14

Scout in Charge: Austin Le, Adult in Charge: Mr. Jiang and Mr. Maloof

*We will be going on a day hike at Pinnacles National Park. Make sure you bring lots of water and properly fasten your backpack straps because it will be the hike of your life.*

**MEETING LOCATION & TIME:** Masonic Center at 7:00am Saturday, Dec 14th

**ENDING LOCATION & TIME:** Masonic Center at 6:00pm Saturday, Dec 14th

**COST:** \$20 per scout (\$60 gas per car, \$5 car admission fee)

**FOOD:** Bring lunch

**WHAT TO BRING:** Backpack, 10 essentials, broken-in boots, sunscreen water.



### **Brown Bag and Holiday Gathering – Dec 19**

Scout in Charge: Aaron Lee in charge of Brown Bag, Curtis Werning in charge of White Elephant, Kendall Law in charge of Scout Band, Adult in Charge: Mrs. Lozano

When/Where: Wednesday, December 18 at Masonic Center  
Time: 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM  
Who: All Troop 726 Families (mom, dad, siblings) are invited to join in the festivities and help make brown bags for the needy

#### **Items to Bring**

**Wolverines:** each wolverine should bring 25 Juice Boxes, Capri Sun, or bottled water  
**Foxes:** Fruit each fox should bring 14 pieces of fruit: apples, oranges, or bananas only  
**Bats:** Bread enough for 100 sandwich  
**Ravens:** Peanut Butter and Jelly **Large** Jars  
**Cobras:** Brown lunch bags, Ziploc style sandwich bags, and napkins  
**Dragons/Scorpions:** Bread and cups and napkins for Troop refreshments

**REMEMBER THAT WE ARE MAKEING 100 BROWN BAGS SO PLAN TO HAVE ENOUGH**

### **Diablo Day Hike – Jan 4**

Scout in Charge: Mitch Avery, Adult in Charge: Mr. Jiang and Mr. Smith

**WHAT:** Summit hike to the top of Mt. Diablo. There might be snow!

**MEETING LOCATION & TIME:** Masonic Center, January 4th 2014, 8:00 AM

**ENDING LOCATION & TIME:** Masonic Center, January 4th 2014, 3:30-4:00 PM

**COST:** \$4.00,(gas and admission to park) Class A and B Uniform

**FOOD:** Sack lunch for the trail+trail food.

**WHAT TO BRING:** Hiking gear. Backpack with 10 essentials and lunch. Warm clothes for possible snow.

**AGENDA:** Hike to the top of Mt. Diablo and enjoy the beautiful weather and views.

Permission slips have been passed out and emailed as well. If you're interested in going, please fill out the permission slip and return it to me soon. I encourage everyone to go because it's a great way to experience the mountain. Also, there might be snow at the top for you to enjoy. **Don't miss out, sign up now!**

### **Native Sons Crab Feed – Jan 27**

Scout in Charge: Ben Eckman, Adult in Charge: Mrs. Platou and Mrs Markinson

Will be held at the Hayward Veteran's Building on Main Street from 5:30-9pm. We need 8-9 scouts and 3-4 adults to attend. All money collected is to be divided between scout accounts. Please see Ben Eckman for a permission slip.

### **No Kondike Derby! Will have Shooting Sports Instead**

Kondike Derby is cancelled this year by the council. Troop 726 will be attending the Shooting Sports Weekend. More details will be coming out.



**Mark Your Calendar!** The annual **Troop Leadership Training** (TLT) will be on Friday, April 18 will be at the El Venado campsite in Anthony Chabot. At this event, new scouts will get a chance to learn the ways of the troop and what it means to be a boy scout.

### **Training**

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

Why should you take any of these trainings?

They make you a better leader and provide a better program for our youth!

**If you take any of these trainings, please inform me of what and when taken.**

**If you have any training questions, please contact me.**

The Boy Scouts of America list the following trainings as being offered this year. PLEASE check the date you last completed Youth Protection. Must be renewed every TWO years.

1. HAT – **NRA Range Safety Officer Training** - Sat., Dec 14, 2013 Go to <http://www.sfbac.org/training/adult/hat> - click for [online registration](#). HAT stands for High Adventure Training
2. ASM/SM **Leader Specific Training**: Saturdays, Jan 11, Feb. 15, April 9 or May 3, 2014. You have many opportunities. These are being offered by the Twin Valley District.
3. **Den Chief Training**, Saturday, Nov. 9, 2013 at Twin Valley District
4. **Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills**: Wed, May 14, 2014 and May 30 to June 1, 2014 Sept 26, 2013 at 6:30 pm and Oct. 26-27, 2013.
5. **University of Scouting**, Saturday, Jan. 25, 2014. Many training opportunities.

Other trainings are offered by the Boy Scout of America online at [www.sfbac.org](http://www.sfbac.org). Proceed to the "My Scouting" section on the right side of the page. Please see [www.sfbac.org](http://www.sfbac.org) for more info.

Thanks,

Randy Wright

510-885-0527 Wright-s@comcast.net

### **Special Meeting Dates for the year ahead include:**

- 12/18/13 - Holiday Celebration Meeting - Brown Bag Lunches, Scout band, White Elephant
- 12/25/13 - NO MEETING - Enjoy Christmas
- 01/01/14 - NO MEETING - Enjoy New Years Day
- 02/12/14 - Red and Green Pot Luck Dinner
- 03/19/14 - Court of Honor
- 04/09/14 - Oakland A's Game - Subject to Schedule
- 04/16/14 - NO MEETING - Enjoy Easter Break
- 04/30/14 - Outdoor Meeting - likely Canyon
- 05/14/14 - Swimming Meeting - Subject to Availability
- 06/04/14 - Court of Honor

## **Scout Master Minute**

*By Phil Avery, Troop 726 Scout Master*

### **Goals**

Why are you in Boy Scouts? Is it to achieve the Eagle Rank? Is it to learn to be a Leader or to provide Service to others? Is it to have fun at our monthly outings, simply enjoying Scouts as a camping club? Is it to follow the Scout Oath and Scout Law and to do a Good Turn daily?

There are short term goals and long term goals in scouting.

Perhaps one of the longest goals is the pathway to the Eagle Rank which is laid out like a topographical map, complete with distances and minimum times, and elevation and steepness. The path is dynamic though. The longer you wait, the steeper the path gets. However, the steps along the way do not change: the ranks, the skills, the merit badges, the service, the leadership, and finally the Eagle project.

The goals of learning to be a leader and providing service to others are fine goals and certainly decorate and adorn the pathway to Eagle. They are also ends in themselves. Aging out without making Eagle is by no means a failure if the young man has learned to become a leader and recognizes the good fortunes that he has and when it is time to share those fortunes with others.

Being in scouts to simply attend our outdoor events may seem like a shallower goal. Perhaps it is, perhaps it is not. The Outdoor Program is just as much a part of the Aims and Methods of Scouting as are Advancement, Leadership, and Personal Growth. Scouts do benefit and become better people simply from a hike in the woods, cooking in the outdoors, sleeping under the stars, and sitting around a campfire.

Following the Scout Oath and Law and doing a Good Turn daily helps you in achieving perhaps the longest and most difficult goal in all of scouting, that of being a good person. The achievements of Ranks and the memories of events can never be taken away from you. However, it is a struggle sometimes to be and continue to be a good person. People get tired, people get hungry, people get lonely, and people develop bad habits, even addictions such as drugs or alcohol, gambling or video games and make poor decisions because of those conditions.

Making Eagle at age 17 does not insure you will be a good person for the rest of your life, it is only a snapshot in time at the end of the Eagle trail. Likewise, one great act of service to others does exonerate other acts of disservice, however minor. To be a good person is a daily goal. Good habits, the right thoughts, the right speech, and the right actions, will make that daily goal easier. If you make being a good person your daily goal, then everything else will follow, school, sports, music, drama, family, scouts, and your Eagle rank.



## Veterans Day Event

By Scout in Charge: Vincent Ruiz

This year's Veterans Day event was at the **memorial at the Castro Valley Community Center** (Quail Ave and Lake Chabot Road, by Chabot Elementary School) on Nov 11. Event started at 8 am. We helped with traffic, passing out programs, serving coffee, and setting up chairs. We had two people with traffic, Robert and Keane. Kyle and Sammy helped pass out programs. Zachary, Jeffrey, and Will got the chairs and help set them up. Zurvohn and Joshua helped pouring the coffee. After Robert, me, and Keane put practically all the chairs away. Robert was the most participating one out of everyone else. Thank you to everyone who came and help in honoring our nations' Veterans.



## Garin Park Webelos Overnight and Night Hike

By Scout in Charge: Josh Siu

We went to Garin park on November 16-17<sup>th</sup> with several Webelos joining in. When we got there, we set up our tents and stoves. We then played a football over in the field. Soon, we cooked dinner. After that, we had a little time to play some card games. At 7:00, we took a trail to get to the top of the peak. There was also a dark forest that we had gone through. After that, we went back to camp and slept.



### Troop Items for Sale

The following items can be purchased from Mr. Siu. Email: [pillmaster@gmail.com](mailto:pillmaster@gmail.com)  
Troop Mug = \$5.00  
Troop T-shirts = \$10.00  
Duffle Bag = \$26.00

### Uniform Bank

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



# Scouting for Food

By Scout in Charge: Yuri Overton



A big  
**THANK YOU**  
to everyone  
who came  
and helped  
with  
Scouting for  
Food on Nov  
9 and 16.





## Zachary Eslick Life Scout Project

By Scout in Charge: Zachary Eslick

On November 23<sup>rd</sup>, at the Masonic Center, scouts Xavier, Sam, Sammy, Kyle, Mitch, Jeffrey, Luke, Josh, Aaron, Patrick, Zurvohn, Andrew, Liam, Robert, Raymond, Ben, Austin, Keane, and Aaron Gonzalez from troop 722 assisted me with my life scout project. We removed volunteer saplings and shrubs. To remove the saplings we had the scouts simply pull them out. For the dead shrubs, we cut the branches with a bow saw, and then dug out the roots with shovels and picks. No problems were faced. With all the scouts, we worked around 70 hours. Thank you to everyone who came to help!





## Zachary Eslick Life Scout Project – Nov 23





## Winter Court of Honor – Dec 4

SPL: Will Oliveira, ASPL: Zachary Eslick, Scoutmaster: Mr. Avery





## Winter Court of Honor - Advancement



Jack Qin – Scout



Drew Mitchell - Tenderfoot



Robert Fusinati  
– Second Class

Luke Martin –  
Second Class





## Winter Court of Honor - Advancement

Aaron Lee, Patrick Lee (not pictured), Yuri Overton, Curtis Werning, and Luke Martin all made First Class. **Congratulations!**





## Winter Court of Honor - Advancement



Our new Star Scouts:  
Ben Eckman, Jeffery Jiang,  
Zurvohn Maloof, Joshua Siu,  
and Michael Yi (not pictured)





## Committee Chair's Corner

*By Jose Siu, Troop 726 Committee Chair*

Last year in December a friend asked me to start a race against a Hare. I followed her advice and proceeded slow and at an even pace; but I also stopped to ask questions from many people along the way. I stopped to smell the roses and to look at the many views along this journey. The journey as a Committee Chair for Troop 726 continues and I am enjoying it even more. It is a very rewarding experience to see our boys grow and develop into young and responsible leaders.

I encourage all adults from Troop 726 to become involve and to help the Troop in any way you can. Time goes by quickly, get involved in the present and join us in this wonderful Journey alongside the scouts of Troop 726.

Our Re-charter efforts have paid off. We re-chartered 36 scouts and 37 adults. **A special thank you goes to Mr. Pica for taking care of the youth accounting and paperwork.**

Troop 726 has done countless community services and projects in this past year. Scouting for food, Eagle Projects, Life projects, dinner events just to name a few. I am very proud of our youth's enthusiasm and dedication to helping when needed. Keep up the good work Troop 726!



### Attention All

Is your Scout due current? **Scout due is \$5.00 per month**, payable by the first meeting of the month. You need to keep your due current in order to participate in outings!

# Scout Due

### 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!

## Help Keep Our Troop Gear Ready for Use

## BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Troop 726  
2730 Jennifer Drive  
Castro Valley, CA 94546  
Scoutmaster: Phil Avery  
Email: pack705@earthlink.net  
Website: <http://troop726.scoutlander.com>  
Charter Organization: American Legion  
#649

## BE PREPARED



## ASM Patrol Advisors

Wolverines Patrol - Dr. Werning / Mr. Raynor  
Fox Patrol - Mr. Jiang / Mr. Yi  
Bats Patrol - Mr. Lee / Mr. Strand  
Ravens Patrol - Mr. Markison  
Cobras / Scorpions - Mr. Andrews / Mr. Smith  
Life to Eagle ASM - Mr. Guerin

## 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.

### Wolveries



No submittal.

### Fox



Justin, Yuri, Patrick, Curtis, Luke, and Robert came to the Scouting for Food on November 9, 2013, Rite Aid parking lot, so we could give food to the needy.

By Yuri Overton

### Bats



On November 9 a few members of the Bats patrol went to the Moose Lodge for the American Legion dinner event. We helped escort a few handicapped veterans to their tables and started serving. We all had our own assigned tables to cater to. It was very busy, we had to run back and forth to reach customers needs. We served chicken, pork, mashed potatoes, and broccoli. Although at the end of the day our feet felt numb, it was a great and enjoyable experience to all who attended.

By Matthew Kuan

### Ravens



Ravens are doing really well. Ben has advanced and many of us are working on our merit badges. We are looking forward to the Winter. And Sam Wilson has a girlfriend.

By Spencer Vanderpan

### Cobras/ Scorpions/ Dragons



The Cobra patrol is taking a crucial role in our annual brown bag event happening on Dec 18. They are bringing brown bags for the easy carriage of foodstuffs, Ziploc sandwich bags for the protection of the sacred holiday PB&J, and napkins for the maintenance of the consumer's epidermal hygiene. Austin is going to wear a Santa hat just to add a little extra holiday zest and encourages everybody else to do the same.

By Austin Xing-Le