



TROOP 18 NEWSLETTER MARCH 2010

Theme: The theme this month is Carpentry. As such we will work on the Carpentry Merit Badge which is one of Four Historic Merit Badges that can only be earned this year. It was first offered in 1910 and discontinued in 1992. As part of the merit badge each scout should look up a set of plans for a piece of furniture to build for use in the home. It must be completed with minimal assistance and in a workman like manner. Ideas include stools, chests, window seats, planters and benches. All plans must be approved by the scoutmaster.



Signaling: In April the scouts will be working on the Signaling Historic Merit Badge. This one will require study at home as they must learn both Morse code and semaphore. Please note that perusing this merit badge was the PLC's idea. We will also be offering Pathfinding later in the year.

Recruiting: PLEASE download our flyer and give it to schools and businesses and ask them to display it. I would also like us to plan on attending school open houses to recruit this summer. Any help in getting us before PTO's this fall for presentations would also be appreciated.

Car Wash: This is a fundraiser to help pay for summer camp. Bring a towel to dry cars and one for yourself. All scouts should be in **green class b uniform**. We will meet at Eagle wash and lube at 9:45 and will wash cars from 10 AM to 2. PM on March 13 (thanks to Ms Beth for making the arrangements.) We are will be selling priority wash tickets for \$5 each. Also, anyone we refer for an oil change that day, will earn an additional \$5 for the troop. The day of the car wash we will again ask for donations instead of a fixed price. Scouts should bring a sack lunch

Adventurebase100: Mar. 14

As mentioned in last week's newsletter and many meetings, the National Office has put together a unique opportunity for the public to experience scouting. The Base will show off the High Adventure activities of the Boy Scouts of America.

Mark your calendars for this exciting, once-in-a-lifetime BSA experience at the Strawberry Festival! A 10,000 square foot traveling BSA "city" from National will be on display. Enjoy rope climbing, sitting in a dome entirely surrounded by nature in a camp setting, complete with a campfire you can actually smell, or "re-living" 100 years of BSA history! There is an \$10 price for entering the fair. (and Adventurebase 100 is inside the fair)



Skits: Please remind your scout: "Skits N Stuff" the books of skits on index cards I carry around has been scanned into a PDF. It (and other skit ideas) are placed in the resource section of the troop web site. You can have Acrobat print two pages in portrait mode for a hard copy. **Each boy is to look through these skits and learn one they can teach.** This way we are ready for camp outs with lots of skits. You may even want to print a couple and put it in your backpack.

Scout Handbooks: Scouts should always have there books, something to worte on (memo book) and somethin g to write with.

Powel Family Reunion: Camporee on April 23 through 25 at Big Cypress. This will be a large event. We need to put in our registration by March 12th so I need to know who is going by March 11, 5pm. Registration cost is \$30 per person. I will also need T-shirt sizes. A council centennial patch is available for \$5 pre-order or \$10 at the event. Hats can be ordered for \$12 and additional ewvent patches are \$3.00 each.

University of Scouting Arts (USA): April 9th – 11th. Registration is \$30 through March 20th, \$45 after that. USA is an **all adult** Scout Leader training weekend geared to give you the latest information to take you to the next level of Scouting. This is an alternative education program offering courses you will not find at any other venue in Scouting. It is also a lot of fun and you have the oppurtunity for some great fellowship. I would like to know how many of our aduls would like to attend. We can then camp together. I am willing to do the cooking.

Summer Camp: Let your scout know that in the next couple of weeks we will start to talk about summer camp. Please discuss with them dates they can go and any restrictions or money issues. Also I would appreciate it if parents would talk with me about camp. It would be great to go out of state, but logistics are easier and cost is less if we stay in Florida.

Ideas Needed: I am looking for ideas to recruit at gateway Charter, Versity Lakes and Lehigh Middle Schools this spring. Anyone with ideas let me know. Also I need someone to get the dates of this year's open houses at these schools and see if we can set up a booth there.

That's all for now but please keep checking our web site <http://merlincentral.com/troop18> and ask your son if he has any notices when he comes home from troop meetings.

YIS

Michael Memoli
"Golden Arrow"
Scoutmaster Troop 18

