

February 22nd - Last Troop meeting in Feb:

Tomorrow's troop meeting will be at the Provo Recreation Center. Scouts will work on swimming requirements and then have a "ducky" race after. Drop off and pick up will be at the Provo Rec Center. 6:30 - 8:30 pm.

March Troop meetings:

The theme for the month of March will be cooking. Scouts are going to focus on 1st & 2nd class cooking requirements. Alonzo has a list of the plans for each troop meeting this month. Older scouts will be teaching cooking skills at troop meetings. One of the troop meetings will be a potluck night and EACH scout will be expected to cook something at home using the skills he has learned and bring it to troop meeting.

March campout - 25th -26th Utah Lake:

Drop off the boys at Utah Lake at 5:30 pm, Friday the 25th. Each patrol will prepare to cook a dessert for everyone the first evening. Saturday the scouts will do a service project for Utah lake. They will be doing spring clean up in the nature trail area. Parents pick up your boys at Utah Lake around 4:00 pm on Saturday the 26th.

Flag Retirement Ceremony - March 30th, 7:00 pm, in American Fork:

James has been asked to speak about the flag for the first 30 minutes. After, those attending will be going outside the church to have a flag retirement ceremony. James will need help from scouts and Parents with the retirement ceremony. They may be burning about 15 flags. There is an sign up sheet on the website for those who would like to come and help. Location: 250 North 900 East, AF

April campout - Goblin Valley:

The Troop leaders have been "planning" a 3-day trip to Goblin Valley as our April

campout. Their original plan was to go down on Thursday 14th AM and return on Saturday 16th PM. The complication with that idea is that we don't have a lot of ADULTS who can get off on Thursday and Friday; 14-15-16 April. (Spring Break for the kids). Bear is NOT off that weekend, his break is the following weekend. The alternate option is to leave on Friday 15th and return on Sunday 17th; ... with a church service held down in a desert hideaway on Sunday the 17th. The complication with that is that some folks are not comfortable with us camping on Sunday. Parents PLEASE respond as to whether either option is workable or acceptable. If we go w/ the Thursday-Friday-Saturday option, we have got to have parents who can go down for the first 2 days. If we go on Friday to Sunday, we need to know what boys would NOT be able to attend that option. PLEASE RESPOND ASAP.

Comments from James about Advancement Rewards :

We have a new advancement reward that started last week...

At each court of honor we will reward the PATROL that has the most advancements during the preceding quarter with their choice of one of the following:

- a) a 30 minute game of laser tag,
- b) an all you can eat pizza party (Pizza Pie Café, Docs Pizza, etc.),
- c) two hours playing online video games in "the cave" at Adobe.

These rewards will be scheduled on a Saturday or other non-troop time.

The fine print: To qualify for the prize, a minimum of 70% of the scouts in the patrol must have at least one advancement during the quarter (this is a team effort, one scout can't carry his patrol). An advancement is defined as a rank for anyone working toward first class; or a rank, palm, or merit badge for anyone first class or above. Merit badges do not count for scouts under first class (any merit badges earned AFTER completing first class count). The contest is based on the total number of advancements not on percentages / advancements per scout (go recruit more scouts into your patrol). In case of a tie, the

patrol with the most rank advancements wins. If there is still a tie, the patrol with the most required merit badges wins. If there is still a tie, the patrol with the lowest number of members (the most advancements per scout) wins. If there is still a tie, flip a coin.

The troop will keep a chart listing each scout, grouped by patrol, showing how many advancements he has earned in the current quarter. You get to stamp the chart each time you earn an advancement. We will display the chart and announce the current placement of each patrol at the end of every troop meeting to encourage a little competition between patrols.

The prize (if any patrol qualifies) is awarded and the contest resets at each court of honor.

BSA has changed requirements for tour permits:

James informed us that the BSA is changing the requirement for tour permits beginning in March.

From now on we will only need a tour permit if we are doing something that is considered High adventure

by the BSA - swimming, Hiking, rock climbing, rifle shooting or if we are traveling long distances such as

going to Oregon for summer camp. If we go swimming, rock climbing, etc at a place that has a licensed

instructor running the place such as the Provo Rec center or "The Quarry" rock climbing, we do not need a

tour permit.