

Troop Tidings

July, 2014 Volume 11, Issue 7

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Troop Outings 2014



Leadership **Organization Chart**

Troop 805 Danville, CA

Big Basin Redwoods Camping – August 1-3

By Mrs. Miyao Join us for a weekend of camping, hiking, campfire and nature events on August 1 - 3 at Big Basin Redwoods State Park in the beautiful Santa Cruz Mountains. We will be meeting at the Park n Ride at 5pm on Friday and return mid-day on Sunday. There will be a Mandatory Planning Meeting on Tuesday, July 29. This is a chance to practice your scout and cooking skills and enjoy nature. Permission Slips are due by Tuesday, July 29. For more information, contact the

ASM in charge, Mrs. Miyao at Barbara.miyao@gmail.com or (925) 895-7565



Whitewater Canoeing – **August 15-18**

By Mr. Gary Camp and canoe on the beautiful Klamath River in far northern California! Canoe West (our outfitter) will provide excellent equipment and instruction as we safely learn to canoe in relatively calm, warm, moving waters, and

progress to the challenge of some class 1 and class 2 rapids. We'll camp three nights, and canoe on the river two full days, working from our base camp. This is an outing you'll never forget! Due to forest service limitations. *this trip* is limited to 20 participants, on a first-come, first served basis. The permission slip is due by July 8, 2014. For more information contact Mr. Gary at todd@thegarys.net.





Help wanted...Merit Badge Coordinator

By Mr. Laubach

Are any of you wonderful parents wondering how you can help out the Troop? We need a Merit Badge Coordinator-someone to keep track of all the Adult Merit Badge Counselors. It is a position without a big time commitment. Please email me (a)izdoctor@gmail.com if you can help out the Troop.

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This Month's Theme: Summer Camp

Outings

July 4th Parade When: July 4 Where: Danville Adult in Charge: Mr. Laubach Patrol in Charge: Order of the Arrow Permission Slip Due: June 17

Summer Camp

When: July 20-26 Where: Huntington Lake Adult in Charge: Mr. Gary Patrol in Charge: None Permission Slip Due: May 20

Meetings

July 1 – Court of Honor July 4 – Independence Day July 8 – Troop Meeting July 15 – Troop Meeting July 29 – PLC / BOR July 10 – ASM Meeting

Tour Nike Missile Site -September 6-7

By Mr. Jasty

Tour Nike Missile Site SF-88 in Golden Gate National Recreational Area! Mark your calendars for this exciting tour for a brush with Cold War history. Did you know that during the tense years from 1953 to 1979, the United States Army built and operated close to 300 Nike missile-firing batteries in the United States? These missile sites were placed as the last line of defense against Soviet bombers. Today, a dedicated group of volunteers works in partnership with the Golden Gate National Recreation Area on the continuous task of restoration at site SF-88, which has been turned into a museum. This valuable historical resource is the only restored Nike missile site in the entire country.

You will also get to participate in the open house, where docents, some of them Nike veterans, tell stories about real life experience at Nike missile sites. Afterwards we will camp overnight in Mount Tamalpais State Park and do some hiking. Space is limited. Contact Mr. Jasty at cjasty@gmail.com with any questions or comments.



Update...Troop 805 30th Anniversary Celebration Party!

By Mr. Laubach Are you ready to celebrate Troop 805's 30th Anniversary in style? We have made some changes. We will be kick up out heels at the San Ramon Marriott on the evening of Saturday January 24, 2015...Please mark your calendars. Further details to come.

Educational Series: Summer Camp...Philmont

By Mr. Laubach, Adapted from Boy's Life



About Philmont The oldest of the BSA's national high-adventure bases, Philmont Scout Ranch near Cimarron, N.M., covers about 214 square miles of Rocky Mountain wilderness.

Scouts, Venturers and adult advisors go to Philmont to backpack through its rugged terrain and enjoy its numerous program activities. Most action takes place in the summer, but several programs are offered in the off-season.

Since 1939, more than 860,000 trekkers have experienced Philmont adventure. This August, Troop 805 will add 7 more Scouts & 2 Adult leaders to that list: Trek leader Garrison, Vishnu, Joshua, Jacob, Collin, Owen & Jared, along with Scoutmaster Ray Chan & ASM Alan Carstensen. The 2014 Philmont Crew will hike over 73 miles in the beautiful backcountry wilderness over a 12 day period.

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Next Month's Theme: River Adventure

Outings

Big Basin Camping / Hike When: August 1-3 Where: Big Basin Adult in Charge: Mrs. Miyao Patrol in Charge: Wolverines Permission Slip Due: July 22

Philmont Trip

When: August 1-15 Where: Philmont Scout Ranch, Cimarron, New Mexico Adult in Charge: Mr. Chan Patrol in Charge: Philmont Crew Permission Slip Due: Past due

White Water Canoeing

When: August 15-18 Where: Klamath River near Yreka Adult in Charge: Mr. Gary Patrol in Charge: Kamikaze Platypi Permission Slip Due: July 8

Meetings

August 5 – Troop Meeting August 12 – Troop Meeting August 19 – Troop Meeting August 26 – PLC / BOR August 28 – Roundtable August 14 – ASM Meeting

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Educational Series: Preparing for Summer Camp...How to keep your gear clean

By Mr. Laubach, Adapted from Boy's Life How to keep your gear clean and ready



It's important to keep your gear clean and in good working order. You've probably heard the phrase, "Take care of your gear and it'll take care of you." Well, it's true and we'll show you exactly how to do it so you'll be ready for your next adventure.

HIKING BOOTS

It's important to clean and dry out your boots after every trip. Rinse them in cool water and use a softbristled brush to brush the grime off, paying special attention to the seams and stitching.

If they are super dirty, you might try a cleaner like Nikwax Footwear Cleaning Gel (\$8; <u>nikwax.com</u>) or Granger's G-Max Footwear Gel Cleaner (\$6; <u>grangers-</u> <u>usa.com</u>). When your boots are looking especially manky, you may want to use a spray or rub-on conditioner like Granger's Paste Wax (\$6; <u>grangers-usa.com</u>).

Finally, if the boots aren't shedding water the way they should, try water-proofing them with a product like Tectron Water Repellent for boots and shoes (\$6.50; <u>rei.com</u>) or ReviveX Leather Spray Water Repellent (\$8; <u>mcnett.com</u>).

TENTS

If you take really good care of your troop tents, our Adult Quartermaster would really appreciate it. After every outing, check your tent for damage and sweep out the inside to remove all dirt, sand and debris. If it's dirty, spot- clean using a simple sponge with cold water and nondetergent soap (don't use dishwashing liquid, bleach, stain sticks, etc.) and NEVER machinewash your tent.

Also avoid putting your tent away when it is damp. It's one thing to stuff it inside your backpack because it's raining on the trail, but once you're home be sure to let it air dry. If you've indeed packed it away wet, there's a good chance it's stinking from mildew. If that's the case, try to treat it with an odor eliminator like McNett MiraZyme (\$5; mcnett.com). You can also try a water solution mixed with 5 percent hydrogen peroxide.

If your tent is leaking, seam-seal the floor seams and the rainfly with a product like McNett Seam Grip (\$7.25; <u>mcnett.com</u>). Finally, waterproof the fly and the bottom of the tent with a waterproofer like Granger's Tent Waterproofer (\$10; <u>grangers-usa.com</u>) or Nikwax Tent and Gear Solarproof waterproofing spray (\$18; <u>nikwax.com</u>), which also protects the tent from damaging UV rays. If you've got plenty of storage room, you might even consider storing your tent poles fully assembled to put less stress on the shock-cords inside.

SLEEPING BAGS

After every outing, air out your sleeping bag. And, if possible, store it on a hanger in a closet. If you don't have space for that, store it in a large, loose bag NOT compressed in a stuffsack. Then, before each camping season, wash your bag. This will help restore its loft (puffiness) and its warmth. It's best to machine-wash your bag in a front load washer because it's gentler than a top-loader; but NEVER dry clean a down bag as it'll reduce the warmth of the down inside. And don't use regular detergent. Instead, throw it in the wash with something like ReviveX Down Cleaner (\$9; mcnett.com) or Nikwax Down Wash (\$9; nikwax.com), which cleans the down and boosts its water repellency too. Be sure to run it through the rinse cycle twice. For synthetic bags, try a cleaner like Granger's Performance Wash (\$9; grangers-usa.com).

FIRST-AID KITS

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Before and after every outing, check your first-aid kit. Make sure it's clean and dry. If any medicines and ointments have expired, replace them.

COOKING POTS & PANS

This may seem like it goes without saying: Thoroughly clean your pots and pans after every outing and before you store them for the season. Nobody wants year-old omelet residue in his breakfast. When

storing Dutch ovens, place a paper towel or piece of newspaper inside to collect any moisture, and prop open the lid with a folded-over paper towel to let air circulate and prevent the oven from getting a rancid smell.

CAMP STOVES

After every outing, check your stove for damage, missing parts and any fuel leaks. At least once a season, plan on doing full maintenance on your stove. One of the simplest ways is with a cleaning kit from the manufacturer, such as this MSR Annual Stove Maintenance Kit (\$15; cascadedesigns.com/MSR).

Don't leave fuel in your stove in the off-season either. Instead, disconnect the fuel bottle and let the gas burn all the way out. If your stove has a plunger for pumping the fuel, put a little 3-in-1 oil on the pump cup. Also, check all of the seals and treat the o-rings with petroleum jelly (to prevent cracking) before storing it for the season.

RAINWEAR AND SHELL JACKETS

If your rainwear isn't really keeping you dry anymore or if it's wetting out instead of repelling water, it's time to clean it and, possibly, renew its water-repellency. A jacket's DWR (durable water repellent) coating can wear thin, and dirt and grime can clog the membranes of Gore-Tex, eVent and other waterproof/breathable fabrics, making them not-so breathable anymore.

Often, just a good washing paired with about 45 minutes in the dryer on low heat and/or a quick once-

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over with a warm iron is enough to revive your jacket. Most important, read—and follow—the care instructions inside your jacket. Some conventional detergents and fabric softeners may clog the membranes, so use a specialized treatment like Nikwax Tech Wash (\$9.30; nikwax.com) or one that cleans and renews the jacket's waterproof finish simultaneously like Granger's One Step Wash and Waterproofer (\$15; grangersusa.com). If you want to boost the DWR even further, try a spray-on waterproofer such as ReviveX Spray-on Water Repellent for Outerwear (\$8; mcnett.com). It's important to note that Gore-Tex warns against using wash-in waterproofers with their jackets and recommends spray-on products only.

Educational Series: Summer Camp...How to stay clean

By Mr. Laubach, Adapted from Boy's Life

How to stay clean at Summer Camp

This article is dedicated to all the meticulous moms out there! Clean your room! Do the dishes! Wash behind your ears! As much as it pains me to say this: Your mom's actually right. Keeping clean is a great habit to have both at home and on the trail.

Here are some tips to make it easier.

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BABY WIPES AREN'T JUST FOR BABIES

Many outdoorsmen I know carry a small pack of baby wipes on the trail. They're lightweight and contain just enough liquid to feel refreshing on your skin.



WASH YOUR HANDS

Do it religiously after you use the bathroom, before you cook a meal and prior to eating. Warm water and soap is best, but on the trail a gelbased hand sanitizer is often easier. Choose one with an alcohol concentration of at least 60 percent so it'll kill all the microbes that can collect on your skin and make you sick. Be sure to rub the gel into your hands for about 20 seconds or until dry.



BRUSH YOUR TEETH

Home. Not home. You still need to clean your chompers. Bring along a toothbrush and use it. If you're camping with the troop, consider sharing a tube of toothpaste between friends. And if you're really an

ounce-counter (a hiker who is fanatical about ultralight backpacking) cut off the handle of the toothbrush to save weight.

BATH TIME

Sure, being dirty can be fun for a few days, but if you're sharing a tent with fellow Scouts, pay attention to your stink factor. When it's bath time, get a pot of water and scrub yourself down.



If you can, use a biodegradable soap. For those scouts who don't want to shower, consider swimming. Nothing feels better than a quick dip after a long day on the trail.



DRY OFF

Obviously you need a towel to dry off after bath time, but it's silly to bring a big ol' thick towel from home. Besides being heavy, they're slow to dry. A better bet is a lightweight, quick-dry towel.

PUT ON CLEAN UNDERWEAR

If you have room in your backpack, bring along an extra set of underwear and clean clothes for wearing around camp. Once you do your sponge bath or swim, it's nice to change into clean (or sort of clean) clothes. It also gives your trail clothes a chance to air out and dry overnight.

WASHING MACHINE-A-GO-GO

For longer backpacking trips, you can wash your clothes by putting them in a drybag (turn it inside-out) or plastic trash bag with a little water and soap. Seal it up, then hike with it attached to the outside of your pack. Or simply shake it vigorously for 10 minutes or so. Drain the soapy water and refill for the rinse cycle.

WIPE YOUR FEET

Use a small folded-over towel as a kind of welcome mat for your tent to collect dirt before it gets tracked inside. Make a rule that you and your tent mates must take off your boots before getting inside.

AIR IT OUT

You are no doubt familiar with the sleeping bag stank syndrome. After several days of hiking hard and going to bed without a bath (you didn't read Bath Time, above, obviously) your sleeping bag and tent often stink. So when you can, let your sleeping bag and tent air out in the fresh air before breaking camp each day.

TROOP 805 2013/2014 Outings Activities Calendar

July (Summer Camp/Yellow Jackets)

- July 4th Parade (07/04 Fri) OA Ed L.
- Summer Camp at Kern (07/20 Sun: 07/26 – Sat) – Todd G.

August (River Adventure/Wolverines)

- Philmont trip (08/01 Fri: 08/15 Fri) Ray C.
- Big Basin (08/01 Fri: 08/03 Sun) Wolverines – Barbara M.
- White Water Canoeing (08/15 Sat: 08/18 Mon) – Kamikaze Platypi – Todd G.

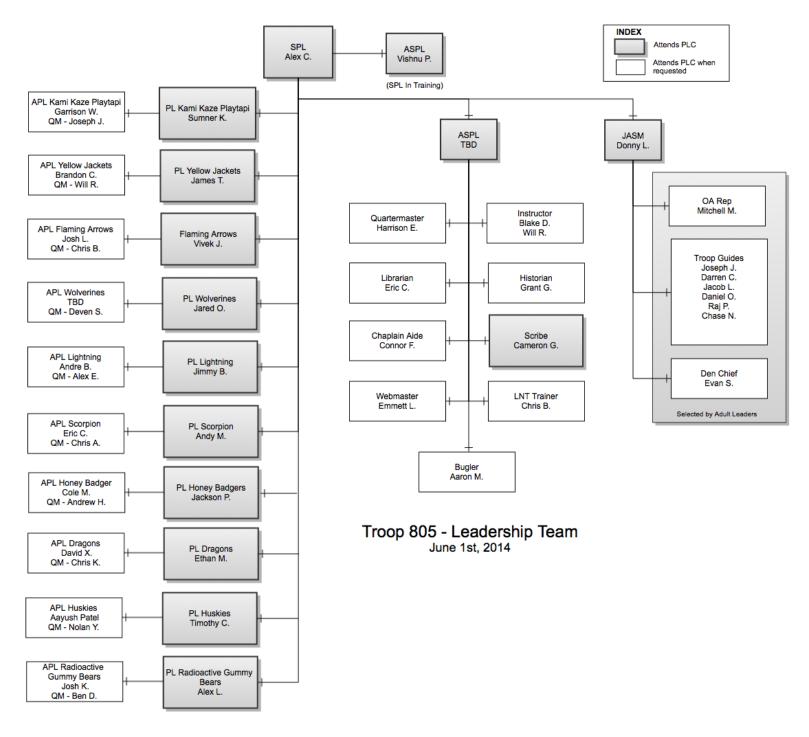
September (Archery/Kamikaze Platypi)

- Muir Woods/Nike Missile Site (09/06 Sat: 09/07 Sun) – Dragons - OPEN
- 9/11 Memorial Service (09/11) OA Harper W.
- Sequoia/Kings Canyon (09/27 Sat: 09/28 Sun) – Wolverines – Pete F.

October (Cinematography/Scorpions)

- Angel Island (10/10 Fri: 10/12 Sun) Scorpions – Todd G. and Scott E.
- Diablo Bowman Archery (10/18 Sat Honey Badgers – Sue O.
- Spelunking (10/25 Sat: 10/26 Sun) Flaming Arrows – Alan C.

Troop 805 2014 Leadership Chart



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