



Troop Tidings

January, 2015
Volume 12, Issue 2

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Troop 805
Danville, CA

Ten Mile Bike Ride – February 8

By Mr. K. Chan

There will be a 10-mile bike ride along the Iron Horse Trail. With a bike and a helmet, you are welcome to join, you will learn bike safety, basic maintenance and have lots of fun.

Date: February 8th (Sunday)

Time: 1:30pm – 4:30pm

Place: Sycamore Park and Ride

Cost: Free

Attire: Flashy bike shirt or Class-B

Required: permission slip, bike, helmet

Important Dates:

01/20 (Tue) – ABC Bike check

02/03 (Tue) – Permission slip due at Troop meeting

02/08 (Sun) 1:30pm – Meet at Sycamore Park and Ride, start the ride after ABC check

02/08 (Sun) 4:30pm – Scouts have to be picked up at Sycamore Park and Ride.

Contact Mr. K. Chan (925-785-3303) for questions.

Kiwanis Youth 2 Youth Service Project – March 7

By Mr. Matsunaga

SUPPORT OUR SPONSOR

The Kiwanis will be providing breakfast for staff at the annual Youth To Youth conference for middle school students. Troop 805 will be working with them to set up, serve and clean up after the breakfast. Details are:

Date: Saturday, March 7

Time: 6:30 - 12:00 or so

Place: Monte Vista High School

All scout groups need a sponsoring organization and we have been fortunate to have the Kiwanis sponsor us for a number of years now. One of the ways we show our appreciation for their sponsorship is by helping out with their service projects, first the Youth to Youth conference and second the 4th of July parade.

So, mark this date on your calendar and watch for a permission slip and announcements at the troop meeting.

MANDATORY February Parent Meeting

By Mr. Laubach

We are having a MANDATORY parent meeting for all T805 parents on Tuesday February 17th, right after flags in the library. We are discussing some important changes in our Troop. We need at least one parent from all the families to attend! Please contact me at cc@Troop805.org if you cannot attend, so I can get you the information.



This Month's Theme: Winter Sports

Outings

10 Mile Bike Ride

When: February 8

Where: TBD

Adult in Charge: Mr. K. Chan

Patrol in Charge: Yellow Jackets

Permission Slip Due: January 27

Introduction to Snow Camping

When: February 15 – 16

Where: Carson Pass

Adult in Charge: Mr. Screechfield, Mrs.

Miyao

Patrol in Charge: Honey Badgers

Permission Slip Due: January 27

Intermediate Snow Camping

When: February 14-16

Where: Carson Pass

Adult in Charge: Mr. Gary, Mr.

Mahoney

Patrol in Charge: Kamikaze Platypi

Permission Slip Due: January 27

Meetings

February 3 – Troop Meeting

February 10 – Troop Meeting

February 17 – Troop Meeting /
Parent Meeting

February 24 – PLC / BOR

February 26 - Roundtable

February 12 – ASM Meeting

Snow Camping

By Mr. Mahoney and Mr. Gary

QUIZ TIME

Question: Camping in the snow can be: (A) fun; (B) a new experience; (C) a chance to practice new skills; (D) an opportunity to utilize team work; (E) all of the above

Answer: (E) All of the above!!!!

We anticipate having three levels and opportunities for snow camping/ snow camping skills this winter.

- Introduction to snow camping – Feb. 15-16
- Intermediate snow camping – Feb. 14-16
- Advance snow camping – March 13-15

Introduction to snow camping skills – Feb. 15-16

This outing will emphasize learning snow shelter building skills, staying dry and warm while working in the snow, and sleeping over in a nice, heated cabin.

Prerequisites: Sixth grade or older scouts with a priority for 7th graders.

Intermediate snow camping – Feb. 14-16

The intermediate snow camp is similar to “car camping” in the snow. We will set up camp after a short 100-300 yard hike from the parking lot. We will build snow shelters over two days and then sleep in them the second night. The first night we will sleep in a nice, heated cabin. We will cook and eat a couple of meals in the snow environment.

Prerequisites: Seventh grade or older scouts, and must have attended Introduction to Snow Camp/Snow Shoe outing.

Advanced snow camping – Mar. 13-15 (tentative)

The advance snow camp is “backcountry camping” in the snow. This is the ultimate in snow camping in the mountains! The first night we will sleep in a nice, heated cabin. The second day we will get an early start and hike with backpacks 2-5 miles into the backcountry on snow shoes. We build snow shelters that we will sleep in. We will cook and eat a couple of meals in the snow environment. This is a tentative event and will occur if we get sufficient interest by older qualified scouts. **Prerequisites:** Eighth grade or older scouts, and must have attended intermediate snow camp outing.

Training and preparation for all our snow camping outings are paramount to ensuring that these will be fun and safe events for all. To this end we will have training during some of our troop meetings and a clothing/gear check. These will be mandatory for the participating scouts and adults. Space is limited for each event and is on a first come, first serve basis. The permission slips for these events will be on the website shortly. The permission slips for the introduction to and immediate snow camping outings need to be returned by Tuesday, January 27. For more information, contact Mr. Mahoney at 925.899.3840 or randmaho@pacbell.net, or Mr. Gary at 925-518 9896 or todd@thegarys.net.

Next Month's Theme: Trek Lightly

Outings

Kiwanis Service Project

When: March 7

Where: TBD

Adult in Charge: Mr. Matsunaga

Patrol in Charge: Order of the Arrow

Permission Slip Due: February 27

Shooting Sports Day

When: March 7

Where: Rancho Los Mochos

Adult in Charge: Mr. Huen

Patrol in Charge: TBD

Permission Slip Due: February 17

Advanced Snow Camping

When: March 13-15

Where: Carson Pass

Adult in Charge: Mr. Mahoney

Patrol in Charge:

Permission Slip Due: March 3

10 Mile Bike Ride

When: March 21

Where: TBD

Adult in Charge: Mr. Gary

Patrol in Charge: Lightning

Permission Slip Due: TBD

Scout Skills

When: March 27-29

Where: TBD

Adult in Charge: Mr. Marshall

Patrol in Charge: Wolverines

Permission Slip Due: March 17

Meetings

March 3 – Troop Meeting / Parents Meeting

March 10 – Troop Meeting

March 13 – No School

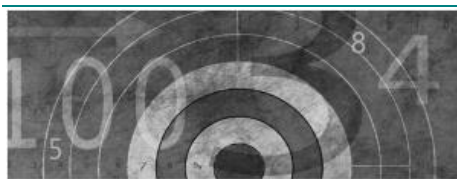
March 17 – Troop Meeting

March 24 – PLC / BOR

March 26 – Roundtable

March 31 – Court of Honor

March 12 – ASM Meeting



Shooting Sports Day – March 7

By Mr. Huen

Sharpen your Marksmanship Skills! BSA Range masters will open the Rifle, Shotgun and Archery Ranges for Scouts to practice their marksmanship skills. Two permission slips are required an [outing permission slip](#) and a [firearm permission slip](#). The outing permission slip has further details on exact departure times and locations. Permission slips are due February 17th.

10 Mile Bike Ride – March 21

By Mr. Gary

Save the date for an awesome 10-mile bike ride! Remember, to participate in this year's later bike rides (15 miles, 25 miles, 2X25 miles, and 50 miles), you must have participated in at least one of the two 10-mile bike rides (Feb 08, and Mar 21). More details and permission slip coming soon.

Scout Skills Weekend – March 27-29

By Mr. Marshall

New and experienced scouts save the date for Scout Skills Weekend!

The Wolverine Patrol is sponsoring the 2015 Scout Skills Weekend on March 27-29 at the fabulous Sugar Loaf Open Space right up the road in Walnut Creek.

The event is traditionally intended to teach basic scout skills and encourage Patrol spirit in the form of inter-Patrol competitions. The event offers younger Scouts a chance to work on their Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class rank requirements.

What skills? Think rope bridges, cooking, compass course, fire building, axe safety, Zorch, and more.

After the scouts learn & practice their skills, the Patrols challenge themselves and each other to see how well the skills have been learned. Older scouts hone their skills and leadership by signing up to teach a skill or run a competition.

New scouts will stay Saturday night while the older scouts will stay for both Friday and Saturday.

More details are available in the [permission slip](#). The permission slip is due March 17th.



Jelly Belly Fundraiser

By Mrs. Kim

Everyone loves Jelly Bellies, right? Our troop will be raising funds selling Jelly Belly candies. More details will likely be available at the February 17th troop meeting.

Educational Series: Cold Weather Checklist

By Mr. Laubach, Adapted from *Boy's Life*

Checklist for a basic cold weather outing & winter sports and camping tips

You're frantic. Panicked even. In exactly one hour, your troop is heading out the door on a cold weather outing — and you're struggling to pack. What clothes do you need to bring? How about extra gear?

No worries.

Just take a deep breath and use this handy checklist. In addition to the basic camping gear, you'll also need:

- Long-sleeved shirt
- Long pants (fleece or wool)
- Sweater (fleece or wool)
- Long underwear (polypropylene)
- Hiking boots or sturdy shoes
- Socks (wool or synthetic)
- Warm parka or jacket with hood
- Stocking hat (fleece or wool)
- Mittens or gloves (fleece or wool) with water-resistant shells
- Wool scarf
- Rain gear
- Extra underwear (for longer trips)

COLD-WEATHER EXPERT ESSENTIALS:

From Joe Mattson, program director, Northern Tier National High Adventure Bases, Ely, Minn.

- **Bandana.** “In the cold, your nose tends to run. To keep your mittens, sleeves and jacket clean and snot-free, use the bandana to wipe your nose.”
- **Sorel boots.** “Boots or shoes will not keep you warm and dry if you're in the snow. And if it gets well below freezing, regular hiking boots or shoes won't keep your feet warm either. Wear Sorel boots for



wet snow conditions and mukluk-style boots for dry snow.”

- **Wind parka with hood.** “A long wind parka that covers the upper torso down to your mid-thigh will help keep you much warmer than a regular jacket. The heat generated by the lower body and groin area moves to the upper body and then out the neck and head keeping those areas much warmer, much the way a chimney works.”
- **Side-attaching suspenders.** “Using suspenders to keep your pants up instead of a belt is less constricting and allows heat from your lower body to rise freely to the upper body. The side-attaching type allows you to remove your pants without having to take layers off and are easier to reattach.”

TWO THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW YOU NEEDED:

- **Rubberized gloves.** “When filling liquid-fuel cooking stoves in really cold weather, wear rubber gloves. If it's below zero degrees, the fuel will still be liquid at that temperature and can cause instant frostbite if you spill it on your mittens or hands.”
- **Headlamp.** “Daylight is short in the winter, and using a headlamp allows you to use both hands when you do anything from cooking to eating to searching for something in your pack. Plus, if you put your metal mini-Maglite in your mouth when it's really cold, it'll freeze to your tongue or lips instantly—ouch!”

WINTER SPORTS TIPS

- **Stay Hydrated!** You might not be sweating and you might not feel thirsty, but your body probably is. Cold weather and active winter sports can dehydrate you quickly, so be sure to drink enough water while skiing or riding. Some guys even wear hydration packs to keep liquids close by.
- **Take a Lesson.** No question, the fastest way to get past the beginner blues is to take a ski or snowboard lesson or two. Most ski resorts offer lessons.
- **Shop in Summer or at the Annual Ski Swap.** One of the best ways to get a good deal on ski or snowboard gear is to shop during the off-season — most snow shops have good sales starting in March.

You can sometimes find quality used gear in your local newspaper classified ads or online. Best value, however, is to volunteer at the San Ramon High School Annual Ski Swap which is held typically in early November & get first dibs on excellent bargains!

- **Rent First.** If you're unsure about what type of skis or board would be best for you, rent your gear. Most shops have rentals and demo equipment, and some might even offer full season leasing of a whole setup for around \$150 to \$200.

WINTER CAMPING TIPS

- If you have to visit the latrine in the middle of the night, eat a snack afterward to help warm up your body and get back to sleep. Don't worry about keeping the snacks in your quinzee — when you camp in winter, you don't have to worry about bears.
- Jell-O gelatin mix makes a great hot drink. Store Jell-O powder in refillable backpacking tubes and add it to hot water. Try cherry Jell-O in instant hot chocolate!
- Eat your meals from their packages. Vacuum-sealed meals and packages of oatmeal can be opened and used as "bowls." If you don't rip the top off completely, you'll have only one piece of trash to dispose of.
- Bury your water jugs in a snowdrift. The snow insulates the water and keeps it from freezing.

Educational Series: Fun Games to Play in the Snow

By Mr. Laubach, Adapted from *Boy's Life*

Winter camping is serious business and Troop 805 Snow Camping is right around the corner. You know the routine: Dress properly, build the right kind of shelter (or buy the right kind of tent), eat the right kind of food and drink plenty of water.

Dress in layers, watch your buddies for frostbite, don't leave your water bottle in the snow overnight, and, whatever you do, do NOT allow yourself to get wet. If you do, change into dry clothes immediately!

Yes, there are a lot of rules, but that doesn't mean you can't have some serious fun, too. Snow camping provides a good opportunity for activities unique to this time of the year.

Here are a few fun activities we came up with. Can you think of more?



TUG OF WAR

Try a tug of war with a twist — the losing team crashes through a wall of snow.

It's easy enough to execute. Build a wall of snow at least chest high, split into two teams with hands on opposite ends of a rope and start pulling. Overachievers will build a taller wall, get it nice and compact, then carve out a hold through which the rope can run.



SNOW BASEBALL

Set up a baseball diamond with a mound of snow representing home plate and first, second and third bases. Place an empty water bottle on the top of each mound.

The "pitcher" stands in the middle of the diamond and

hurls snowballs first a home plate, then around the bases. Whoever knocks down the bottles with the fewest pitches wins.



RACING

It's one of the oldest sports of all time, but snow adds a whole new element. In the snow, you don't race on your feet. Instead, try scooting on cross-country skis, sleds, skates and, if you're really cool, your belly. You can also try sliding down a slight incline on garbage-can lids, inner tubes, plastic flying disks or heavy cardboard.



SNOW GOLF

Take some time to smooth out a "fairway" and a "green." Take an open can and plant it in the snow—this is the hole. For golf balls, use hockey pucks. For clubs, use hockey sticks or real golf clubs.



ALASKA SERUM RACE

The doctor needs this serum in order to save the patient, and time is running out.

Split into patrols of two or more Scouts. Each patrol gets a sled with a rope tied to the front.

All patrols must transport the "serum" to the doctor by crossing four stations (landmarks spread across the campsite). Each patrol starts with one Scout pulling the rest on the sled. At each station, the Scouts rotate so a different one is doing the pulling.

First patrol to reach the doctor wins.

For an added twist, compete as individuals, and make the serum a cup of water filled to the brim that sits on the sled. If the serum spills, you're done.



SNOW CARVING

The snowmen you built as kids aren't good enough anymore. We demand a masterpiece.

Split into patrols and compete in a snow-carving competition. Out of a mound of snow, create a work of art. (Hint: It doesn't have to be a sculpture of a person.)

The patrol with the most creative snow sculpture (as judged by the unbiased adult leaders) wins the competition.

TROOP 805 2014/2015 Outings Activities Calendar

November (Service/Kamikaze Platypi)

- 5 Miles Easy Hike (11/1 – Sat) – **Yellow Jackets** – J. Garrahan
- Webelos Open House (11/04 – Tue) P. Alexander
- Scouting for Food (11/08 – Sat: Distribute Flyers – 11/15 – Sat: Food Pickup) – OA – B. Miyao
- Mini Golf (11/15 – Sat) – **Kamikaze Platypi** – P. Alexander

December (Easy Holidays/Scorpions)

- CO2 Car Racing (12/6 – Sat) **Dragons** – P. Alexander
- Bowling (12/7 – Sun) - **Yellow Jackets** C. Jasty, G. Natesen
- Sacramento Tour (12/13 – Sat) – **Scorpions** – R. Chan, J. Marshall

January (Blasting into the New Year/Yellow Jackets)

- New Year – Easy Hike (01/10 – Sat) **Huskies** – New ASM
- 30th Anniversary CoH (01/06)

February (Winter Sports/Kamikaze Platypi)

- 10 Mile Bike Ride (Sun 02/08) **Yellow Jackets** – K. Chan
- 30th Anniversary Party (Sat 02/07)
- Intermediate Snow Camping (Sat 02/14 – Mon 02/16) – **Kamikaze Platypi** – T. Gary, R. Mahoney
- Beginner Snow Camping – Snow Shoe (Sun 02/15 – Mon 02/16) – **Honey Badgers** – K. Screechfield, B. Miyao

March (Trek Lightly/Dragons)

- Kiwanis Service – Youth to Youth (Sat 03/07) – OA – N. Matsunaga
- Shooting Sports Day (Sat 03/07) – TBD – T. Huen
- 10 Mile Bike Ride (Sat 03/21) – **Lightning** – T. Gary
- Scout Skills (Fri 03/27 Sun 03/29) **Wolverines** – J. Marshall

April (Skillz/Wolverines)

- School Service Project (Tue 04/07) – OA – T. Huen
- Sunol Backpacking & Sunol to Del Valle (Sat 04/11 – Sun 04/12) – **BPs** – K. Screechfield, R. Mahoney, R. Chan and T. Gary
- 15 Mile Bike Ride (Sat 04/18) – **Huskies** – TBD
- Camporee (Fri 04/24 – Sun 04/26) – **Scorpions** – J. Garrahan and R. Chan

May (Water Fun/Lightning)

- 15 Mile Bike Ride (Sat 05/09) – **Dragons** – S. Kim
- Art & Wind Festival – Food Booth (Sun 05/24 – Mon 05/25) – OA – E. Laubach
- Relay for Life (Sat 05/30 – Sun 05/31) – OA – K. Screechfield
- Pt. Reyes – 10 Mile Backpacking (Sat 05/30 – Sun 05/31) – **BPs** – T. Gary and R. Chan

June (Camping/Huskies)

- Fages II (Sat 06/06) – OA – A. Carstensen
- **Camp Cherry Valley (Sun 06/21 – Sat 06/27)**

July (Fishing/Radioactive Gummies)

- July 4th Parade (Sat 07/04) – OA - S. Evans
- 25 Mile Bike Ride (Sat 07/11) **Lightning** - TBD
- **Camp Wente (Sun 07/12 – Sat 07/18)**
- Pulmas 25 Mile Backpacking (Fri 07/24 – Mon 07/27) **BPs** - R. Chan
- Donnor Fishing (Fri 07/24 – Sun 07/26) – **Radioactive Gummy** – G. Aikin, G. Coughlin

August (Science/Honey Badgers)

- Hiller Aviation (Sat 08/01) - **Honey Badgers** – New ASM
- Emigrant Wilderness 50 Miler Backpacking (Sun 8/09 – Sat 8/15) – **BPs** – R. Mahoney, R. Chan
- 2 x 25 Bike Ride - (Sat 08/22 – Sun 08/23) **Flaming Arrows** - T. Gary, R. Mahoney

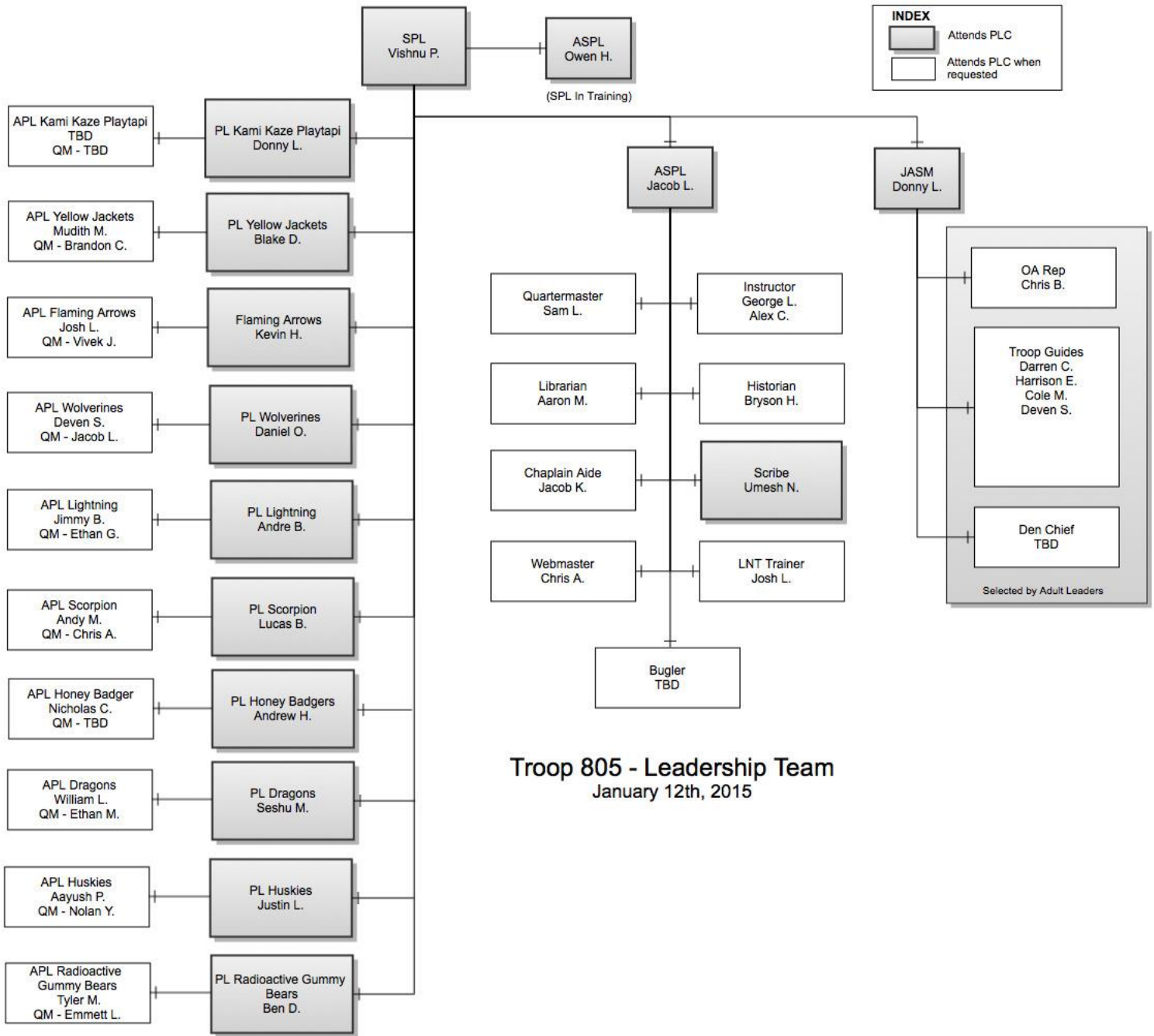
September (Rocking it/Dragons)

- 9/11 Memorial Service (09/11) – OA – S. Kim
- Advance Camp – (Sat 09/26) **Dragons** – S. Kim

October (Haunted/Scorpions)

- Black Diamond Mine (Sat 10/10 – Sun 10/11) – **Radioactive Gummy** – T. Huen
- USS Hornet (Sat 10/17 – Sun 10/18) – **Scorpions** – New ASM
- 50 Mile Bike Ride (Sat 10/24) – **Wolverines** J. Marshall, R. Chan

Troop 805 2014 Leadership Chart



Troop 805 - Leadership Team
January 12th, 2015