

Troop 1424

Journey to Excellence Gold Award 2012 & 2013

New Hope Lutheran Church • 1424 FM 1092 Missouri City, TX 77459 • www.bsatroop1424.com

January 2014 Newsletter

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Meeting Schedule

Troop Meetings are held Tuesdays at 7:30pm.

Patrol Leadership Council (PLC) meetings are held once a month on the Tuesday following the monthly campout starting at 7pm.

Committee Meetings are held once a month on the Tuesday following the monthly campout at 7:30pm.

ASM Meetings are held on the first Sunday of the month from 1-2pm immediately preceding the FCE class.

First Class Emphasis (FCE) events are held the First Sunday of every month from 2-4pm.

Three Month "Unofficial" Calendar

(remember the OFFICIAL calendar is always maintained on the Troop website www.bsatroop1424.com)

January 2014

Schoolhouse final clean-up.....	Jan 01
Winter Camp	Jan 01-05
Troop Meeting	Jan 07
Campout #6	Jan 10-12
Location: Quintana Beach Park (w/ Webelos)	
PLC / Committee Meeting	Jan 14
Pack 1401 AOL Ceremony	Jan 18
Troop Meeting	Jan 21
New Parent Orientation.....	Jan 23
Scouting for Food - Flyers	Jan 25
New Parent Orientation #2	Jan 26
Troop Meeting	Jan 28

February 2014

Scouting for Food - Pickup	Feb 01
ASM Meeting / FCE.....	Feb 02
Troop Meeting	Feb 04
University of Scouting	Feb 08
Troop Meeting	Feb 11
Campout #7.....	Feb 14-16
Location: Farley Ranch (Merit Badge campout)	
PLC / Committee Meeting	Feb 18
Pack 282 AOL Ceremony.....	Feb 22
Troop Meeting	Feb 25

March 2014

ASM Meeting / FCE.....	Mar 02
New Parent Orientation #3	Mar 02
Troop Meeting	Mar 04
Troop Meeting	Mar 11
Campout #8	Mar 14-16
Location: Lost Maples, Hill Country, Guadalupe River, etc	
PLC / Committee Meeting	Mar 18
Troop Meeting	Mar 25

Fundraising

Jim Jarecki, Fundraising Coordinator

CAR WASH!

Troop 1424 is having a CAR WASH on two Saturdays - January 18th and January 25th from 10 AM to 2 PM at the WALGREENS located at 6120 HIGHWAY 6. Missouri City TX 77459 (Hwy 6 & Murphy). Please sign-up to help with the car wash for two or more hours on Jan 18 or Jan 25. Contact Jim Jarecki to sign-up (Email: jim.jarecki@halliburton.com or Cell: 281-536-1306). Please encourage your friends, family, & church to come by for a squeaky-clean car wash.

SCOUT FAIR COUPON BOOKS

Pick up your Scout Fair Coupon Books at the January 28 Troop Meeting. We will have a few opportunities to sell in front of Kroger in February, but you can start selling to friends, neighbors, & family as soon as you get your coupon books. They are small and easy to sell since they cost only \$10 and provide OVER \$500 in savings. Scouts can earn a 40% commission to their troop sub-account for each coupon pack sold to raise money for Summer Camps, High Adventure Camps, troop dues, & camping fees. Each scout should plan to sell at least 15 books.

2014 SCOUT FAIR

Join us for the 2014 Scout Fair! Our troop and thousands of other scouts will converge on Reliant Arena on Saturday April 12th from 10am to 3pm. Troop 1424 will host our own food booth and compete with other troops to see who can make the best Dutch Oven desserts and campfire cuisine (Our Big-Wok Quesadillas are always a HUGE success). Loosen your belt and sample food from all the booths, then visit hundreds of other booths where scouts showcase skills, new merit badges, and fun activities.

Committee decision on future Garage Sales

Joe Alcorn, Committee Chair

The Troop has struggled recently to find volunteers to lead the Garage Sale. The last two sales were on the verge of cancellation due to the difficulty finding a leader. Thankfully, at the last minute leaders accepted the challenge and the garage sales were held. Thank You to Karin Belding and Alex Fuhrmann for leading these important fundraisers. Participation in the garage sale has been low and the earnings have been lower than in years' past.

During the last couple of Committee meetings we have discussed this issue and have decided to hold the garage sale only once a year in the Fall rather than twice a year. In addition, Billy Sturhan has graciously volunteered long term storage space for any large high value items that we accumulate between now and November. Please contact Billy if you are aware large high value items to be stored.

Service Projects

Jason Dean, Service Projects Coordinator

Schoolhouse Clean-out

On New Years' Day we met at NHLC at 10:30am to finish going through all the gear in the Schoolhouse. All the Troop gear has not been consolidated into the Trailer shed. The Schoolhouse will be demolished to make room for the new storage shed where we will keep the Troop Trailer.

Scouting for Food

Beginning in 2010, the Sam Houston Area Council joined forces with the Houston Food Bank and the Souper Bowl of Caring. On Super Bowl Saturday over the past four years, our Scouts gathered and delivered thousands of pounds of food directly to neighborhood pantries. Our service to the community continues again this year. On Saturday, January 25, 2014 our Scouts will pass out door hangers throughout the council describing the need in our community to feed the hungry; it will also announce the door-to-door collection the following week. So on February 1, 2014, our Scouts will again canvas the same neighborhoods, knocking on doors and collecting items that will be delivered directly to food pantries within our community.

This year Scouting for Food will be the first of four major council activities (including Scout Fair, Camping, and Community Service/Land Stewardship) highlighting and celebrating our 100-year anniversary of the SHAC. We will be doing a segmented patch program for our century of service. Scouts will receive a patch segment for each of the four activities. When the celebration year is complete, and one does all the designated activities, it will create a larger unified patch.

**Sprint for Life**

Our Troop has supported this event since its inception. We typically participate in the flag ceremony and hand out water to the runners. This event takes place on a Saturday in early May.

**Missouri City Fallen Officers Ceremony**

Our Troop has partnered with Pack 282 to support this event the past two years. The service project has two parts - first is tying blue ribbons on trees in the median along Cartwright the week before the ceremony and then the ceremony itself held at the MCPD Headquarters on Cartwright Road. This event takes place in mid-May.

TRAINING

Training Requirements for Adults

Assistant Scoutmaster

Youth Protection Training (YPT)
ScoutMaster Specific (SMS)
Intro to Outdoor Leadership Skills (IOLS)

Committee Member

Youth Protection Training
Troop Committee Challenge

All Adults attending a Campout are required to have YPT Training.

Training for Youth Leaders

Intro to Leadership Skills for Troops (ILST)
National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)
(NYLT is recommended for current and future Senior Patrol Leaders, Asst Senior Patrol Leaders, and Patrol Leaders)

Training Opportunities & Calendar

University of Scouting

Over 100 information sessions taught by Leaders from all over the Council. This is the best way to find out what the program can do for you as a Parent, for your Scout, and for our Troop. Saturday, Feb 8th.

Troop Committee Challenge

Training can be accomplished online. We are planning a group team-building version of this training for March 2014.

Scoutmaster Specific

Thunderwolf District Training, Saturday, April 5, 2014,

Introduction to Leadership Skills

Thunderwolf District Training, Friday, May 02 - Sunday, May 04

Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops

Troop level training will be held for our new Youth Leaders after Troop elections in April.

National Youth Leadership Training

Current and Future Youth Leaders will be attending Summer session #1 in June 2014

Webelos Woods Campout Feedback

Robby Frank, Leader

Webelos Woods was a big success, we had a total of 15 Webelos join us for the weekend. With the large contingent of Webelos, Parents, and Troop Scouts, there was a total of 55 at the campout.

The weather was good, Mike Schultz taught the Forester Pin, Billy Sturhan and Stefan Roosa worked with our T1424 Scouts on rank advancement and FCE. Mike McNeff showed up on Saturday and cooked some awesome cobbler and Flan.

Continuing our tradition of bringing home awards from Webelos Woods, our Troop took home First place in the song category performed at the campfire and also Second place in the First Aid Event. It was a great time!

**February Campout Plans**

Doug Farley, Leader

The February 14th Campout is at the Farley Ranch located near Crockett, Texas. This will be primitive style camping but there is a camp house located at the front gate with restroom facilities. In the past we have held the orienteering and fishing merit badges followed by a nighttime capture the flag competition. I also have some old flags that need to be retired so if some of the Scouts could organize this ceremony I believe this is a requirement for the communication merit badge.

December Campout Feedback

Mike Schultz, Leader

For our December campout we went to Brazos Bend SP to do some cycling. Saturday morning we took off on a 6-7 mile ride taking gravel trails around Elm Lake and 40-acre Lake with a brief stop to climb the observation tower. On the way back around Elm Lake everyone came to a sudden stop because of an 8-9 ft alligator lying next to the trail. The 'gator never moved but you knew he was the real thing and at the top of the local food chain. We skirted by on the other side of the trail. The ride was capped off by a stop at the nature center to see the live baby gators.

In the afternoon a smaller but more ambitious group took off on an 8-9 mile ride past Hale Lake and along the Brazos River to the canoe launch point at the NE corner of the park. The trail then took off through the woods and several mud holes as it looped back to the main campground. We saw a couple of feral hogs in this part of the park. Upon our return to camp, we built up a nice fire to keep away the chill of a cool December night. Sunday dawned cold and clear with frost on the tents as we headed back home. Many thanks to Mr. Sturhan for transporting the bicycles in his cargo trailer.



January Campout Plans

Robby Frank, Leader

The January Campout is booked for January 10th through 12th. We will be leaving NHLC around 6:30 pm on Friday 01/10 and returning around 1pm on Sunday 01/12. We should arrive at Quintana County park by 8:30 pm and setup camp on the north side of the dunes, right on the beach in Freeport, Texas. This is a great campsite and an annual service project for the park. We will be doing some fishing and working on FCE advancement. This is also the best campsite for playing Capture The Flag (CTF). Don't miss this one!

**March Campout Plans**

Mike Schultz, Leader

The March campout is scheduled for the week of spring break when we can take a longer trip. Potential destinations are still to be determined by the PLC, but it is a prime opportunity to head to the Hill Country. Locations under consideration are Lost Maples SP, Hill Country SNA, Guadalupe River SP, Natural Bridge Caverns (where we can combine a zip-line adventure with a visit to the cave).

If you are interested in any of these locations, talk to your Patrol Leader or any PLC member and let them know!

Summer Camp Plans

Mike Schultz, Leader

**Preliminary Itinerary:**

- Leave June 27 and drive to Fort Stockton.
- Go to Carlsbad Caverns on June 28 and travel on to Gorham Scout Ranch. Stay at camp that night.
- Half day rafting on the Rio Grande on June 29. Check into camp that afternoon.
- June 29-July 5 Summer camp activities.
- Depart camp for Wichita Falls on July 5.
- Arrive home on July 6.

Costs

Camp fees are \$340 or \$290 if paid by April 15
 Adult fees are \$270 or \$230 if paid by April 15
 Chimayo High Adventure \$360 / person
 Rafting is about \$55 / person
 Carlsbad Caverns is free
 Lodging during travel should be free
 Transportation costs should be \$200-250

High Adventure

Scouts age 13 and up are eligible to do high adventure in the New Mexico mountains. Potential treks include several days of backpacking in the Pecos Wilderness Area or a multi-day float trip on the Rio Grande. Please let Mr. Schultz know if you are interested in high adventure.

Scoutmaster Minute

Mike Schultz, Scoutmaster

We recently recognized two new Eagle Scouts from Troop 1424: Dylan Allotta and Travis Crissman. These young men push the number of Eagle Scouts from Troop 1424 to more than 40, and we will soon recognize several more Eagles in early 2014. Congratulations to Dylan, Travis, and the other Eagles who are soon to follow. Many of our new scouts and families might wonder what does it really take to become an Eagle Scout?

We know that only 3% of boys who enter Scouting will eventually reach Eagle. The merit badges and other rank requirements are spelled out clearly enough in the Scout Handbook, but what is the key? Perseverance. Perseverance is hard. It takes time. Just as young Tiger Cubs aren't ready to wear the Arrow of Light until they become Webelos, so Eagle doesn't come in a season, or a year, or sometimes not even in several years.

I have reviewed the Scout Handbooks of many Eagle candidates who have been Life scouts for 2, 3 or even 4 years. These scouts persevered, working through the requirements, completing their project, providing leadership to their fellow scouts, always keeping their eye on the mark, until that day they achieved Eagle Scout.

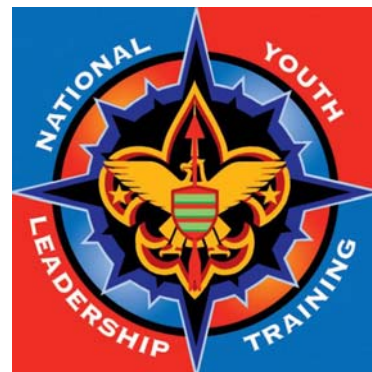
National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)

Mike Schultz, Scoutmaster

Scouting has three levels of youth leadership training. Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops (ILST) is a 2-4 hour session taught by the Troop every 6 months to the boy leaders. ILST is a prerequisite for the next level of youth leadership training called NYLT.

NYLT is a 5-day training session taught at the Council level by older scouts 3-4 times per year. Every NYLT class is full with a waiting list. That's how good this training is. Our 13-year and older scouts are invited to NYLT for the June 8-13, 2014 session at Camp Strake. Cost is \$225. Registration opens in late January, so please let Mr. Schultz or Mr. Alcorn know soon if you would like to attend.

Don't miss this opportunity to become all of the leader you can be. The pay-off to NYLT is the opportunity to attend the National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience (NAYLE) which is a week-long session taught at Philmont.



Adult Leader Opportunities
Joe Alcorn, Committee Chair



Open Committee positions:

- Assistant Committee Chair
- Journey to Excellence Coordinator
- Secretary
- Quartermaster (1 of 2)
- Membership / New Parent Coordinator



Scoutmaster Corps Open positions:

- 5 open spots for Patrol ASMs
- 3 open spots for General ASMs
- 4 open spots for FCE Coordinators

In addition to standing positions on the committee and Scoutmaster Corps, volunteers are needed for the following events:

- Campout leaders for April and June campouts
- Board of Review members
- Merit Badge Counselors
- Scout Fair Leader
- Scouting for Food Leader
- Fall Garage Sale Leader

We would ask that at least one Adult from each Troop family volunteer for one of the positions above. It takes an enormous amount of participation to keep our Troop operating and continue to make it a safe and fun activity for our Scouts.

Congratulations to our newest Eagle Scouts*:

Lloyd F.
Kevin McN.



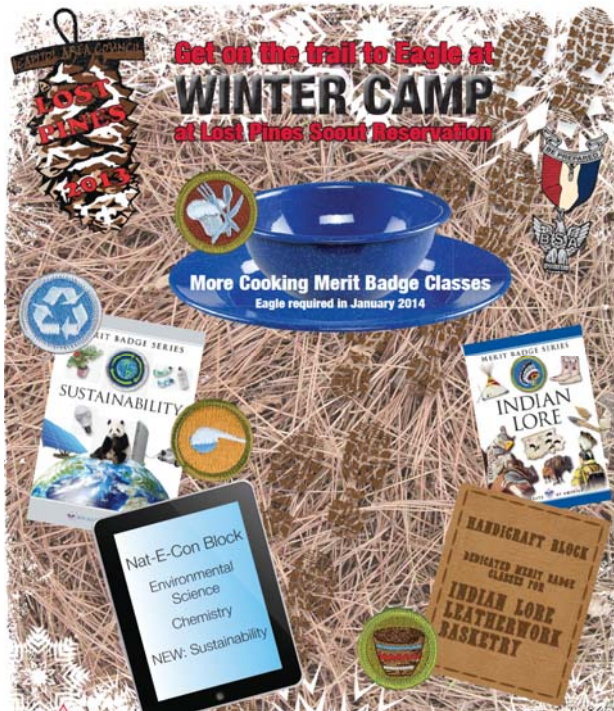
*pending National BSA approval of applications

Being an Adult leader in Boy Scouts is about more than just spending time with your Scout. It is about participating in the lives of those around you. It is about developing all the Youth in the Troop. Boy Scouts is the largest Youth development program in the US.

Mr. Schultz

Winter Camp

Mike Schultz, Leader



We will be leaving for Winter camp on Wednesday, January 1st and returning on Sunday, January 5th. We will be attending Lost Pines Scout Ranch near Bastrop. This is an opportunity to attend a long-term campout and work on merit badges during the school break. Looks like it will also be an opportunity to practice our cold weather camping skills!



High Adventure Program

Dean Gore, High Adventure Coordinator

We have developed a preliminary high adventure plan for the next several years. For Scouts to participate in high adventure activities they need to be 14 years old or have finished the 8th grade prior to the start of the activity.

Summer 2014

High Adventure options at Gorham Scout Ranch

Summer 2015

Bechtel Summit Reserve High Adventure base in West Virginia. Some of the activities available are mountain biking, whitewater rafting, rock climbing, and backpacking.



Winter 2015

OKPIK Winter High Adventure at Northern Tier High Adventure base in Minnesota.

Summer 2016

Sea Base High Adventure base in the Florida Keys. Activities include sailing and scuba diving.



Summer 2017

Philmont High Adventure base in New Mexico.