



Troop 423 Times



“The Place To Be”

December, 2011

Christmas Tree Recycling Coming Up Soon

Troop 423's biggest fund raiser is coming up soon with our annual Tree Recycling event. Everyone in the Troop is required to volunteer for 2 of the 4 days that we'll be collecting trees. Be sure to inform the Troop ASAP on to what days you'd like to work. Several weeks ago pre-sale packets were handed out to the Scouts. Be sure to work on those pre-sales as they get the Troop off to a good start. Key dates include the following:

12/10	Flyer Canvassing done by Patrol
12/12	Driver Training
12/19	Final pre-sales deadline
12/31-1/1	First weekend of actual tree pick ups
1/7-1/8	Second weekend of actual tree pick ups

The Troop would like to thank all those volunteers organizing and supporting this huge endeavor, especially outgoing 2 year chairperson Scott White and the new Chairperson going forward David Klein.

Advancement, Merit Badges and Special Awards

It's been a busy three months for Troop 423! Since June, scouts and adult leaders have earned over **213** awards!

122 Merit Badges

Most of these merit badges were completed at Camp Baldwin and cover the span from Animal Science to Wood Carving. The most commonly earned badges were Canoeing (10), Environmental Science (10), Horsemanship (17) and Swimming (14). Great job on the hard work boys!

24 Rank Advancements

The boys were busy working on rank requirements this summer as well. Here are the boys who advanced:

3 Scouts – Carter Frainey, Hunter Klein, Jakob Ruff

11 Tenderfoot – Zachary Carter, Adam Klein, Christian Morejon, Max Morgan, Liam Myers Jacob Roberts, Austin St Clair, Jacob Stollberg, Karthik Tiruvallur, Kyle Van Velkinburgh, Miles Wineland

3 First Class – James Lindsay, Kevin Skurdahl, Jeffrey Sharp

3 Star – Chase Ford, Andrew Ratchen, Frankie Redfern

3 Life – Nathan Bauer, Bryan Miller, Scott Skurdahl

1 Bronze Palm – Kevin McVicker

67 Special Awards

Of the 67 Special Awards earned, 38 of them were 50 Mile Patches. This means that 38 scouts and adult leaders **hiked, biked, rafted** or **rode** (horseback) *at least* 1900 miles collectively – that's quite an accomplishment folks! There were also 27 Nights of Camping patches earned ranging from 25 nights to 125 nights. Kevin McVicker completed the Mile Swim at Baldwin and has nearly completed all the requirements for the National Outdoor Achievement medal. Whew – awesome job everyone!!

Eagle Scout News

Courts of Honor

Congratulations to **Nathan Ratchen and Gregory Gould** and families who celebrated their Eagle Court of Honor together on September 17 at Calgary Presbyterian Church.

Congratulations to **Nicholas Zenzano** and family who celebrated his Eagle Court of Honor on October 22 at the Tigard Church of God.



Eagle Projects

Nicholas White completed his Eagle Project in September which involved installing bark chips on 10 trails and removing unwanted weeds and ivy at Alberta Rider Elementary School. Good job Nicholas and thanks to those who showed up to help out.

Tim Fellin completed his Eagle Project August 14th at St. Anthony School. He led members from Troop's 423, 208 and 146 as well as family and friends in refurbishing and cleaning the 6th Grade patio and picnic tables. Tim built 2 new picnic tables and benches and was bolted down into the new concrete pad that was just installed. Tim's group also laid down fresh bark in the area.

Alec Trecker completed his Eagle Project in September if which a large outdoor patio structure was power washed and painted. In addition, six planter boxes were built and installed, horseshoe pits were refurbished and an original Tigard Legion engraved sign was refurbished and reinstalled. The members of the Tigard Legion 158 organization were very appreciative of the work performed by Alec and his fellow Troop 423 members.

Jake Garcia Elected New SPL

Congratulations to Jake Garcia from the Flying Foxes Patrol in being elected our new Senior Patrol Leader. Jake takes over for our outgoing SPL who happens to also be from the Flying Foxes Patrol, Zach Bigej.

Committee News

Required Training Needing to be Completed

Cascade Pacific Council is currently in the Re-Charter process for BSA. In that, Troop 423 is attempting to clean-up our training records. Having not completed all the courses - our troop's "snapshot" shows a low percentage of trained leaders.

Please take a moment and log onto CPC's on-line training site and complete the courses (Fast Start; This is Scouting and Troop Committee Challenge). I will be happy to provide your BSA Membership No, please let me know. Please let me know once you've completed the training - so as I may update our records.

Our desire is to accomplish this task prior to the November 10th charter turn-in date.

Please let me know if you should have any questions or concerns.

Thank you, Kimberly Zenzano, 503-684-9057
Troop Membership Chair

Eagle Service Projects

The procedure for Eagle Service Projects will change starting in 2012. If you get your Project approved before the end of the year, the current procedure will be used. If this is your desire, you must take action ASAP to get your Service Project approved before the end of the year. The Scout Master, Eric Shultz must approve all Eagle Projects.

TCC Leaf Cleanup

A special thanks from TCC and the Troop for those Scouts who helped with the recent leaf cleanup project here at TCC. Work started early in the morning and many Scouts stayed until 3:30 in the afternoon to get the work done.

Quartermasters Hard at Work

Our Troop Quartermasters Eric Bauer and Clay VanRiper have been working hard on our storage unit as we are in the process of expanding into the new addition recently built by David Oleson's Eagle Project. Several Troop members have been working hard to prepare this new addition and soon we'll be able to utilize the new space. The new space will relieve the cramped area we've been using for years.

Boards of Review

Just a reminder that if you're requesting a Board of Review, it must be pre-arranged in a timely manner; i.e. not the night of the Troop meeting that you're requesting the Board. Also, if you want to get your advancement recognized at a Court of Honor, the deadline for your Board of Review is 2 weeks prior to the COH. And finally, remember that for advancement you must have held a leadership position in the PLC within the 6 months leading up to your Board of Review. Cathy Garcia is the person to contact to schedule a Board of Review.

Keep your Dues up to Date

One of the duties of all of our Scouts to keep your Dues up to date. Currently there's only one Patrol that has all of its members completely up to date. As a Troop about 50% of Scouts don't have their dues up to date. Not having your dues up to date will keep you from participating in some activities and will also prevent a Scout from advancement when their ready. So going forward, check your dues status and get them up to date.

MAIN TROOP EVENT SCHEDULE INFORMATION

Troop Calendar website www.troop423bsa.org

Except for Courts of Honor which start at 7:00PM, Troop Meetings are scheduled to begin at 7:30PM and end at 8:45PM. PLC meetings run from 7:00PM to 8:00PM. ASM meetings run from 8:00PM to 9:00PM. OA Chapter meetings, Roundtable meetings, and Committee meetings normally start at 7:30PM and end by 9:00PM.

Mon, Dec 5:	Court of Honor – 630pm TCC
Thurs, Dec 8:	OA Roundtable/Chapter Mtg – 7pm
Sat, Dec 10:	Tree Recycling Flyer distrib by Patrol
	Skating night activity
Mon, Dec 12:	Troop Mtg - 730pm TCC
Wed, Dec 14:	Key 5 Mtg – 7pm Max's
Wed, Dec 14:	Venture Crew Mtg – 7pm TCC
Thurs, Dec 15:	PLC/ASM Mtg – 7pm TCC
Mon, Dec 19:	Troop Mtg – 730pm TCC
Thurs, Dec 22:	Venture Crew Mtg – 7pm TCC
Mon, Dec 26:	No Troop Mtg
Sat-Sun, Dec 31-Jan 1:	Tree Recycling
Mon, Jan 2:	No Troop Mtg
Thurs Jan 5:	Committee Mtg - 7pm TCC
Sat-Sun, Jan 7-8:	Tree Recycling
Mon, Jan 9:	Troop Mtg – 730pm TCC
Wed, Jan 11:	Venture Crew Mtg – 7pm TCC
Thurs, Jan 12:	OA Roundtable/Chapter Mtg – 7pm
Mon, Jan 16:	Troop Mtg – 730pm TCC
Wed, Jan 18:	Key 5 Mtg – 7pm Max's
Thurs, Jan 19:	PLC/ASM Mtg – 7pm TCC
Fri-Sun, Jan 20-22:	Nanitch Snow Lodge/Snow Campout
Mon, Jan 23:	Troop Mtg – 730pm TCC
Thurs, Jan 26:	Venture Crew Mtg – 7pm TCC
Mon, Jan 30:	Troop Mtg – 730pm TCC

Summerfield Flag Ceremony on Veteran's Day

A big thank you to the Scouts who showed up to honor our Troop's on November 11 this Veteran's Day. We had a great turnout by all ages of 423 Scout's. The ceremony was performed with Scouts from Troop 419 and some Cub Scouts. Troop's 423 and 419 worked together to perform the ceremony and the Cub Scouts handed out carnations to the residents. I want to especially thank our SPL Jake Garcia and fellow PLC members who showed up to lead our Troop in the activity.

Venture Crew 423 Looking For Members

Venture Crew 423 is a BSA program that is geared to young adults ages 14-21. This is a coed program, so girls are welcome. The program is adult led and provides opportunities to advance skills and knowledge in High Adventure activities. Even though the group is separate from the Troop, TCC does sponsor the organization. High Adventure activities include Snow Sports, Backpacking, C.O.P.E., Canoeing/Rafting and Rock Climbing. The Crew meets twice a month to plan outings and conduct business and is not just for Troop members; anyone can join. Coming up on Dec 19 is an information night and on Jan 9 is a join night. If you're interested in Venture Crew, come to the Dec 19 info night and/or email the Committee at venture423@gmail.com.

OA News

Wapiti Chapter Meetings

The next OA chapter meeting is

Thursday, December 8

OA Lodge Members,

Be sure to check our Lodge website:

www.oe-442.org

Bound in Brotherhood, Separated Through Service

Elections are coming up in January.

Venture Patrol Backpacks Eagle Cap Wilderness

Venture Patrol leader Craig Smelter led a group of Scouts and Adult leaders to the Wallowa Mountains in Northeast Oregon and the Eagle Cap Wilderness on a 55 mile backpack trip from August 7-14. Scouts who participated were Zach Bigej, E.J. Delacruz, Jake Garcia, Andrew Hungerford, Trevor Lusk, Alec Malnati, Andrew Smelter and Scott Skurdahl. Adult Leaders who went were Craig Smelter, Doug Malnati, Bruce Skurdahl and Ted Trecker.

The group met at the Smelters' home early on Sunday, 8/7, bright eyed and bushy tailed and hit the road. After stopping for lunch along the way and spending some time in the town of Enterprise, the group set up camp at the Bowman Trailhead along the scenic Lostine River just south of the town of Lostine. Spirits were high as we prepped our backpacks and relaxed in camp. Mr. Smelter and Mr. Malnati prepared a great supper that included grilled chicken breasts. It would be another 6 days before we would enjoy our next regular meal.

On Monday morning we broke camp and finished prepping our backpacks for departure. Everyone was taken by surprise how heavy our packs were and that fact would be a factor all week as we progressed on our trek. The plan was to hike 9.8 miles on day one to Minam Meadows. The weather was perfect, the scenery was gorgeous and we crossed crystal clear streams. As we progressed up the trail, it quickly became apparent that the trail elevation coupled with our newly packed packs resulted in expending a lot of energy. Some were getting cramps and blisters were starting to develop. The goal was to get to the pass at about 5 miles and re-evaluate our destination goal. We felt we accomplished quite a feat when we got to the pass, but knew we probably needed to adjust our goal of getting to Minam Meadows. We proceeded to trek down the ridge towards the North Minam River drainage and found a great camp site along a creek with a fire ring. After day one on the trail everyone had a new realization how much work it required to carry a heavy pack up a ridge for almost 5 miles. But everyone kept a great attitude and helped each other when needed.

On day two, the plan was to make it to Steamboat Lake, but we had to add the un-trekked mileage from day one to day two's mileage. Again the weather was perfect and the trail was downhill, then flat along the North Minam River. Soon enough the trail started to elevate as we trekked up the ridge over streams and through switchbacks as we left Minam Meadows in our rear view. Along the way we found a snowy hillside to slide down. Filling our water bottles from crystal clear streams running over granite rock beds, we approached Steamboat Lake. The lake was crystal clear, surrounded by large granite outcroppings and in the evening had lots of brown trout surfacing for food. When we got there everyone enjoyed dipping into the very cold water, washing up and enjoying the scenery. Mr. Smelter got his fly rod out and Mr. Malnati showed off his outdoor surviving skills by cleverly using string found on the trail to mend his boats that were coming apart. If not for the mosquitoes, we could have stayed for an extra day relaxing. But we knew we had to move out the next morning and keep going.

On day three the plan was to hike to Moccasin Lake and then day hike to the summit of Eagle Cap. The leadership of Mr. Smelter and Mr. Malnati made a great decision and decided that we needed to regroup a bit. As we climbed up out of Steamboat Lake, we had to negotiate snowy mountain sides to reach the pass to hike down the Lostine River Canyon. After crossing snow fields, we hiked past the head waters of the Lostine River and headed north along the West side of the Lostine River towards



Two Pan Trailhead. Along the way we found that going downhill can be as challenging as going uphill. Major obstacles were streams that we had to cross by using fallen trees or shedding our socks and boots and having to walk through the stream. We had some hairy moments coming close to getting soaked falling into icy stream waters. At Two Pan we were able to lean up and shed some un-needed weight, fix our blisters and prep for the rest of the hike.

On day four our goal was Mirror Lake, near the trailhead to ascend to the top of Eagle Cap. Again, the weather was perfect and the trail had a 1500 ft elevation in the first 1.5 miles. But we all had our sea legs at this point and steadily hiked towards our next campsite. As we followed the beautiful Lostine River Canyon, the trail flattened out as we entered a scenic, glacial carved valley with Eagle Cap Mountain in the distance. Entering the Lakes Basin area, we found a camp site near Mirror Lake. We built a great camp fire and relaxed, anticipating our ascent of Eagle Cap the next morning.

On day five, the Eagle Cap ascent was finally here. Again, the weather was perfect, with not a single cloud in sight. Hiking up the Eagle Cap trail with just a day pack was like heaven. Some of us had to overcome our fear of heights along the trail. Reaching the top of Eagle Cap revealed an amazing 360 degree view of the entire Wallowa Mountain Range. We took tons of pics, fed a hearty chipmunk and even discovered that we had cell phone coverage. After spending quality time at the top of Eagle Cap, we hiked back down to Mirror Lake and quickly hit the trail to our next destination, Horseshoe Lake. Along the way we passed by unbelievably scenic lakes with Eagle Cap in our rear view the whole way. We knew we were on the downhill side of our adventure and that fueled our motivation to keep truckin'. Horseshoe Lake was amazing with a small granite island reachable by a huge log. We were able to get into the pristine water and clean up, got our fly rods out and generally relax as we looked forward to getting to our final destination the next day.

On our final day on the trail, we had a long downhill trek to Wallowa Lake trailhead and camp ground. Again, the weather was perfect and the rabbits of our group took off to get to Wallowa Lake as soon as they could. Passing fellow hikers along the way, we finally made it to the bottom and make it to our camp site where the wonderful Lusk and Bigej families had tons of food and drink waiting for us. They had fruit, cookies and cheeseburgers to name a few of the goodies they had for our tired and hungry hikers and food never tasted so good. We all got out of our dirty clothes, got hot showers and enjoyed talking about the week's adventure sitting next to a camp fire. The next day we drove home to our loved ones after stopping at a Dairy Queen along the way. It's amazing how good creature comforts are after a week on the trail.

Finally, we want to recognize how great the Scouts were during the trip. Never complaining, always moving forward, helping each other out and maintaining a great attitude. Congrats fella's, you were great. We also want to thank Mr. Smelter, Mr. Malnati and Mr. Skurdahl for their great leadership, planning, expertise and calming influence when we were all very tired, sore and mosquito bit. We have great adult leaders in our Troop. Also, a special thank you to the Lusk and Bigej families for driving all the way out to Wallowa Lake and have food and drink ready for our group when came off the trail. What a great adventure planned and supported by great families and outstanding Scouts.



Hunter Owls Patrol Outing Sept 2- Sept 6

Three years ago the Hunter Owls left Barlow pass and headed north for 50+ miles to the Bridge of the Gods. This year we headed south to Olallie Lakes with a few side trips- Timothy Lake and Upper lakes, completing 54.1 miles.

Anthony Micallef, Kevin McVicker and Rico Micallef started on Friday Sept 2 at Barlow Pass and followed the PCT to Timothy Lake, where we met up with Brian, Yolanda, Kathleen and Sammy McVicker. On Saturday the plan was to do some kayaking on Timothy Lake but the weather did not participate. It blew all day so we took a side trip to little Crater Lake and just relaxed around camp. In addition we caught over dozen crawdads that we feasted on. We camped at Timothy Lake until Sunday Sept 4. Brian McVicker, Rico Micallef & Kevin McVicker proceeded south on PCT to Olallie Lakes with a side trip to Upper lakes. As we hiked away from Mt Hood we could see the smoke from the fires burning around Mt Hood. As Mt Hood got smaller Mt Jefferson got larger. At Olallie Lakes we had an incredible view of snow capped Mt Jefferson. In the morning the Mt Jefferson reflected off the lake. Below are two photos one of Mt Hood from Timothy Lake and other of Mt Jefferson from Olallie Lakes. In addition we met several Pacific Crest trail (PCT) thru hikers, one of them was going to attempt the Timberline Challenge 55 miles from Olallie Lakes to Timberline lodge in one day, and we had done roughly that in 3 days. Needless to say we were impressed! Regardless of whether he completes the challenge or not, the mere attempt is impressive!

I need to give honorable mention to Tanner and Cassie (my dogs) who completed 4 nights of camping and a 50 miler! Tanner's 3rd patrol outing and his second 50 miler with the BSA! This is the last and final patrol outing for the Troop 423 Hunter Owls, all of the Hunter Owls will age out this year. Troop 423 we have enjoyed the last 7 years and will remember fondly the memories of our patrol outings:

2011- Barlow Pass to Olallie Lakes
2010 - Around Mt St Helen's and then to top!
2009 - Alaska!
2008 - Barlow Pass to The Bridge of the God's
2007- Sparks Lake (3 Sisters Wilderness area)
2006- Ramona Falls & Yocum Ridge (Mt Hood)
2005- Twin Lakes (MT Hood)

Thanks to our Scout Masters and ASM's who have made our time at Troop 423 so memorable!



Eagle Service Projects

Our Life Scouts are reminded of the process for getting projects approved:

- 1). Develop a project idea that you think fits the "plan, develop and give leadership to others" general guideline.
- 2). Talk the idea over with the Scoutmaster or troop Eagle Advisor. During this developing stage you can also discuss ideas with the District Eagle Coordinator.
- 3). Discuss with your project sponsor & get their approval/agreement for the project.
- 4). Review the project plan and plan write up with the Scoutmaster for approval.
- 5). Schedule a Troop committee review for committee approval.
- 6). Present your project plan to the District Eagle Coordinator for approval.
- 7). Do your project.
- 8). Obtain approvals from sponsor & Scoutmaster.
- 9). Be prepared to turn in your Project workbook with signatures as part of your Eagle Application.

Eagle Projects Approval Location Change

As of October 1, Eagle Scout Boards of review and Eagle service project District reviews and approvals will be done at Tigard Methodist Church on **TUESDAY EVENINGS**. Mr. Young, our District Eagle Advancement Chair is generally their starting at 7PM. Note this is a change from the traditional Wednesday evenings.

Attention Life Scouts

Plan to present your Eagle projects at the committee meetings which are held the 1st Thursday of each month.

A Note to New Eagle Scouts

Once you have picked up your Eagle Certificate, please contact me. In order to update Troopmaster with your Eagle rank, I need to know three dates. These are the **Eagle Project** completion date and the dates of your **Scoutmaster Conference** and **Eagle Board of Review**. Please call Cathy Garcia at 503.684.8219.

Service Hours

For the purposes of rank advancement, the troop does **not** keep track of service hours. It is the responsibility of each scout to record this information.

Boards of Review

Here are a few points to remember before scheduling a Board:

1. Complete your Scoutmaster Conference first before contacting Cathy Garcia.
2. Be caught up with dues.
3. Wear full Class A uniform, including socks and belt.
4. Make sure you know the Scout Law, Oath, Motto and Slogan.

TROOP 423 ACTIVITY SCHOLARSHIPS

GENERAL

It is a goal of Troop 423 and its Committee, to provide a significant number of opportunities for Scouts to participate in outdoor activities organized by both the Troop and by Patrol. These activities include campouts at local Scouting properties, backpacking trips in State and National Forests and National Wilderness Areas, cabin campouts at Scout properties and State Parks, overnight events at athletic centers, and of course, weeklong Summer Camp. Through the Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmasters, and the Patrol Leaders Council, our activity program is planned, often 12 or more months in advance.

The Troop considers the possible costs before scheduling these activities, which may include:

- Registration and use fees for Scouting facilities (example: the various cabins on Mt. Hood).
- Use fees at Scouting facilities that are charged to units that did not achieve "Presidential" level in the annual Friends of Scouting fundraising program.
- Campsite fees at State and Federal campgrounds.
- Rental/use fees at non-Scouting facilities (example: Portland Athletic Club overnight rental).
- Summer camp fees.
- Transportation/fuel costs for driving Scouts to activities.

It is also a goal of Troop 423 and its Committee that the cost of an activity should not be the reason a Scout does not participate.

TROOP 423'S SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

In addition to the Troop's annual budget which includes an amount for scholarships, the Troop occasionally receives donations specifically to be used for activity scholarships. The funds available vary each year depending upon the success of the Troop's annual fund-raising activity: Christmas Tree Recycling. **The Troop's activity Scholarship Program is a need-based program administered by the Troop Committee.** It is separate from the Cascade Pacific Council Scholarship Program which can provide funding help to Scouting families for summer camp. Although all activities are eligible for scholarships, the Troop Committee emphasizes participation in summer camp.

HOW TO APPLY FOR A TROOP SCHOLARSHIP

Requests for Troop activity scholarships are submitted to the Committee Chair and a small sub-group of the committee reviews the request and makes a determination.

Although there are no specific forms to complete, requests should be made in writing. All requests, and the names of those Scouts that receive Troop scholarship, are treated confidentially.

HOW REQUESTS ARE EVALUATED

The Scholarship Committee considers factors including:

- The available funds in the Troop's budget.
- The specific activity. Summer camp scholarships are a priority.
- The individual need of the family making the request.
- The amount of funding requested. Requests for partial funding enable the Troop to provide scholarships to a greater number of Scouts.
- How active the Scout has been in Troop activities. The Committee believes a Scout needs to be active to get the greatest benefit from the Scouting program.
- How active the Scout's family has been in supported the Troop's program. The Troop's program is the most successful when there is a strong family involvement.
- The timeliness of the request; last minute requests are difficult to review.

HOW SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING IS PROVIDED

After notifying the Scout family of the proposed scholarship amount, and learning that it is accepted, the Troop Treasurer is instructed to credit scholarships to the specific activity. Scholarship amounts are not paid directly to the Scout or family.

QUESTIONS? Contact the Troop Committee Chair for a confidential discussion of any questions.