

## Scoutmaster Update, April 20, 2010

Contributed by Scoutmaster Payette  
Wednesday, 21 April 2010  
Last Updated Wednesday, 21 April 2010

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Be Prepared!

Plan your Scoutmaster Conference and Board of Review early

Monday, Apr 26:

- Camping, Weather, Oceanography, & Reptile MB, 7pm
- Troop Meeting, 7pm
- Bring your Scout Handbook
- Scout Show \$ and unsold tickets are due
- Parents: please sign up for Cottonwood duty
- Scouts: please sign up for summer camp merit badges

See Also

Time to Sign Up for Summer Camp 2010

Philmont Update - April 16, 2010

Weather, Oceanography, and Reptile MB  
Completion Offered

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Hello Scouts and Scouters,

Be Prepared&hellip;

Our April campout at Mr. Raney&rsquo;s ranch was a wet one. We were fortunate that Saturday was fairly rain free and we still were able to have all of our planned activities.

Congratulations to James M. for winning the skeet shooting contest, America&rsquo;s Patrol for having best dessert, and to the Swol Patrol for being named Honor Patrol for the weekend. The Boys did a great job with the dessert cook-off and Mr. Raney was very happy to act as judge. Special honors go to first-time shooter Ben R. who almost never missed a shot and even managed to beat Mr. Raney in a shoot off!

Although we discussed the weather and how to pack for a rainy weekend we found that many scouts weren&rsquo;t prepared. Those who followed advice of keeping rain jackets with them, wearing waterproof boots, packing dry clothes in waterproof bags in their backpacks stayed dry. Those who didn&rsquo;t follow this advice found themselves wet and cold. Extra coats, socks, and sleeping bags were loaned out to unprepared scouts. This is the first real rain we have had during a campout in several years and it&rsquo;s easy to believe this preparation is unnecessary. We will have another meeting before summer camp to demonstrate proper gear and packing for different weather conditions.

Parents &ndash; We need your help to ensure your boys leave home ready for a weekend outdoors. Too many boys showed up in sneakers, with no rain gear, and some without coats. The older scouts know better and should be expected to pack their own gear properly. The younger scouts need your assistance to ensure they are ready for the elements.

This experience should help reinforce the importance of the Boy Scout motto &ndash; &ldquo;Be Prepared&rdquo;.

Advancement

There are three more meetings before Court of Honor! Don't wait to work on your advancement requirements. You still have to schedule a Scoutmaster Conference and Board of Review. There isn't enough time to have these conferences for everyone in the last meeting before CoH. If you want a BoR on 05/03 it will only be possible between 6:00 and 7:00 by special appointment with Mr. Miller. Plan ahead!

Scouts &dash; Bring your books to the troop meetings!

Patrol Leaders &dash; Make sure you know what each of your scouts needs to advance and make sure they have the opportunity to complete their requirements. Remember &dash; &ldquo;First Class in the first year&rdquo; is our goal.

Elections &dash; 05/03

May 3 will be our annual elections night. It's that time of year again when Scouts will be running for Patrol Leader and Senior Patrol Leader. These are very serious positions that will be a great learning experience for those Scouts who make the commitment. Are you ready to step up and continue to make Troop 1001 the best it can be? You must be First Class or above to run for office and must also complete Oak Leaf and NYLT training before or during your time in office. We will need eight Patrol Leaders so I encourage all scouts who are willing to put in the extra effort to run for these important positions.

BSA Swim Test &dash; Monday, 05/10 &dash; for Scouts AND ADULTS

In order to participate in some of the activities during our May campout each scout AND ADULT will have to pass the BSA swim test. This is also required for any water-related activities at summer camp. We will hold this meeting at a local pool during our normal troop meeting. Details will be posted soon.

Next Campout &dash; Lake Texoma, fishing, boating, Island adventure

May 21-23 is our Lake Texoma campout. Details will be posted soon. You must pass the BSA swim test in order to participate in the boating activities.

Next meeting &dash; 04/26 &dash; Troop Mobilization

Our next meeting will include a troop mobilization. This is a disaster scenario where the troop must respond to a large-scale medical emergency with varying levels of injuries to address. The nature of the disaster will be announced at the start of the event. This is a requirement for those working on the Emergency Preparedness merit badge. This activity should be taken very seriously by all who participate.

Yours in Scouting,

Scoutmaster Payette