

Advancement News

Jim Matson, Advancement Chairman

As you can see from the advancement report, which is a summary of awards earned in the troop since the last Court of Honor in December, our Scouts have been pretty busy.

In addition to the regular boards of review, which are conducted each month by the troop committee, we have also begun some new tasks that will hopefully enhance advancement opportunities for Scouts within the troop.

- *Boards of Review for scouts not advancing.* We have begun to identify Scouts who, for whatever reason, have not advanced in a while, and we are scheduling “impromptu” boards of review to talk to them and find out why they have not been advancing. These boards shouldn’t be thought of as punitive, but rather as a little jump-start for advancement.
- *Merit Badge Counselor Training.* On Monday, March 6, we conducted an orientation session for all those adult leaders interested in serving as merit badge counselors. Attendance was very good; we had 17 adults present for the training. As a result of this training, we have updated our merit badge counselor listing. We will offer this training as needed for individuals wanting to serve as merit badge counselors. As a part of the process for updating our merit badge counselor information, the troop committee has approved monies to be used for updating the troop’s merit badge pamphlet library. We are in the process of getting the library stocked with more of the up-to-date merit badge pamphlets for Eagle-required and most commonly earned badges. If you have any “experienced” merit badge pamphlets you would like to donate, please bring them to a troop meeting and give them to Alex Thompson, Troop Librarian.

Any Scout who wants to begin working on a merit badge should first see Mr. Verge to obtain a blue card. After receiving the signed blue card, the Scout should contact a merit badge counselor to set up an appointment and begin working on the merit badge. Scouts are encouraged to use the buddy system when working on merit badges – recruit a friend to work on the merit badge with you.

If you are interested in becoming a merit badge counselor, but were unable to attend the training, please contact Jim Matson, Troop Advancement Chairman, at troop meetings, via e-mail at jmatson73@cox.net, or phone (850) 516-9500.

Advancement Report

Erin Hernandez

Ranks Earned This Quarter:

Eagle :	Couch, Thomas Ward, Patrick
Life :	Roberson, Gabriel
Star :	Kimmel, Jacob Nesvik, Doug Schmitz, Michael Thompson, Alex
1st Class :	Gemmill, Ian Hileman, Adam Hileman, Luke
2nd Class :	Gillette, Mike Pahalek, Chris
Tenderfoot :	Lengyel, Jimmy
Scout :	Calder, Corey

In addition, twelve merit badges were earned.



Scouts building grass fort at the Camporee.

Bat & Barn

Chris Hrbacek, Troop 608 ASM

During the season of Lent the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart Men's Group hosts a Fish Fry on Fridays. This is an excellent opportunity to earn service hours and the best part is that you even get fed. Troop 608 has been instrumental in the success of these events serving food and cleaning up afterwards. All are welcome. To participate contact Mr. Hrbacek, ASM Troop 608 by phone at 968-3922 or by email at chris.hrbacek@santoprene.com.