

# The 890'er

B.S.A Troop 890

Helping Young Men Develop Character Since 1961

## 890 Receives Ten Philmont Treks in 2009

*Joe Taylor*

The past few years a recurring topic that has been discussed at ASM and Troop Committee meetings, as well as around numerous camp fires on campouts, has been the troop's lack of Philmont treks. Well finally, great news! The troop and venture crew has scored big and been allotted ten, yes that is ten treks, to Philmont in the summer of 2009.

"Ten treks will allow us to take all of our scouts that meet the age requirements in 2009," commented Brett Chumbley. "We have 120 slots and can take 90 scouts and 30 adults next year. That will clear the decks



for the troop to go to the National Jamboree in 2010."

Troop 890 has been

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Poptober Popcorn Sales A Great Success

*Joe Taylor*

Troop 890 had great success this year in terms of the amount of sales of popcorn as a Fall 2007 fundraising activity. "The scouts were challenged to have 100% participation by me and to sell at least one item," reported Popcorn Kernel and 890 Assistant Scout Master Doug Starkey. "The first and second year scouts really responded to my challenge and we more than doubled the total participation. Last year 20 scouts participated while this fall we had 54 boys make at least one sale. I was pleased that many of our older

scouts also jumped in and made sales. There was even one boy that sold a box of popcorn to himself to participate!"

According to Doug, total sales this year topped out at \$9,469.00 which was twice the total from the 2006 campaign. "The total commissions earned from the sales were approximately \$2,700.00. The scouts get to keep half of that and the troop the other half." Doug added. "Our top salesmen this fall were 1) Michael

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**Editor**

Kathy Mendias

**Photographers**

Joe Taylor  
 Andrew Bucki  
 Leigh Anne LeBlanc  
 Rebecca Lones  
 Jon Alspaw

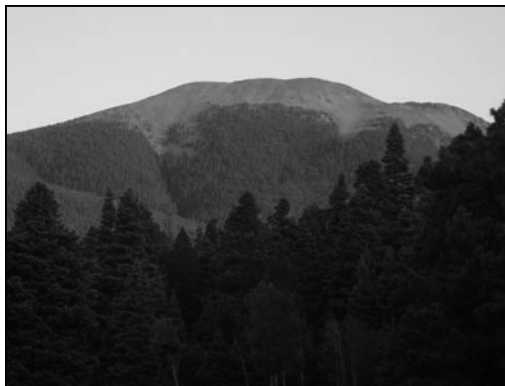
**Contributors**

Leigh Anne LeBlanc  
 Bill Wilson  
 Cindy Woolley  
 Cathleen Barnette  
 Lelani Bucki  
 Jack Merbler  
 Bill Wilson  
 Joe Taylor  
 Jared Taylor  
 Ken Meaders  
 Rebecca Lones

granted 2 treks for the summer of 2008 and, as expected, the slots for those treks have been filled. There is a great deal of excitement regarding the troop's good fortune after experiencing several summers without any treks at all.

The Philmont experience is always one of the best remembered by scouts and adults throughout their lives. This summer will mark the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my Philmont trek when I was a scout. The fun and fellowship I experienced with the other scouts on the trails in the wilderness is something I will remember for the rest of my life! According to Jon Alspaw, "The best part was the camaraderie and watching the guys work together toward a common goal."

As far as preparation for the trek, the best advice is timeless; prepare your equipment and yourself well in advance of the trek. Philmont is a strenuous undertaking. Mr. Alspaw also observed that, "The toughest part was climbing Mount Baldy, especially the old men trying to catch their breath." Further, Jon recommends that you "Be sure to start an exercise regimen at least six months before the trek."



The training plan for 2008 is for all participants to make a minimum of six ten-mile hikes prior to the departure date. Three hikes will be straight hikes and three will be with full pack to get used to carrying the gear. Having begun a workout routine for the Northern Tier trek, I have

opted to keep up the workouts to prepare for the Philmont hikes.

Ken Meaders advises participants to "hike trails that are steep and include changes in elevation to simulate the changes you will encounter on the mountain trails. The hardest part will be carrying full packs at elevations of 7,500 to 10,000 feet. The flat surfaces around White Rock Lake won't fully prepare you or your feet for that."



Proper gear is another concern and ensuring that only the necessities are packed since weight is a major issue. If you are in the process of buying gear, make sure it is light weight, wicks away moisture or is waterproof. Remember, once at Philmont there is still all of the crew gear, cooking equipment, food, water and tents that have to be included and carried. So, gear up, shape up, train and get ready for some back country wilderness fun in both 2008 and 2009!



**Newsletter  
 Deadline**

The deadline for articles and photos for the next issue of The 890er is February 25, 2008. Please submit material to the editor at [ift-hen5@yahoo.com](mailto:ift-hen5@yahoo.com). Your help is appreciated!

## Wha'zup!? Troop Calendar

### December

17-January 6 — Holiday Break! That Means NO Meetings!

### January

- 1 — Cotton Bowl Game Fund Raiser
- 4 — Order of the Arrow Annual Dinner
- 7 — Court of Honor LHUMC 7:00 p.m.
- 8 — Order of the Arrow, Yanush Chapter Meeting
- 12 — Shoreline Clean Up
- 14 — Troop Meeting / Venture Crew Meeting
- 21 — Troop Meeting
- 25 -27— Camp out at Alspaw Property "War Games"
- 28 — PLC [No Troop Meeting]

### February

- 2 — Scouting for Food Bag Distribution
- 4 — Troop Meeting / Venture Crew Meeting / Troop Committee
- 9 — Shoreline Clean Up / Scouting for Food Bag Collection
- 11 — Troop Meeting / Dad's Patrol Meeting
- 12 — Order of the Arrow, Yanush Chapter Meeting
- 18 — Troop Meeting / Dad's Patrol
- 22-24— High Adventure Camp Out
- 25 — PLC [No Troop Meeting]

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McPherson 2) Andy Knowlton and 3) Jared Taylor.” The commissions the boys earned are placed in their scout account with the troop to help pay for items such as annual dues, summer camp, and troop sponsored treks like Northern Tier and Philmont.

This year, even though the campaign is officially over, anyone desiring to buy popcorn may do so online at popcorn.com. “Each scout has a code that he can give to the customer. These are on a card that the scout can pass out. When the customer selects his products and enters the code, the order processing system will track the sales and give credit to the scout. Now, anyone can buy popcorn 24/7 from if they have access to a computer.” Doug explained.

When asked about continuing next year as the Popcorn Kernel, Mr. Starkey said that “My goal is to find a replacement although I do plan to stay on in a consultant role. I have some additional ideas to help implement to increase participation that I wasn’t able to do this year.”

## National Honor Patrol Award

Jack Merbler

All patrols in our troop have the opportunity to earn the National Honor Patrol Award. This award was started in 1986 and was originally known as the Baden-Powell Patrol Award. Its purpose is to recognize and reward those patrols and patrol members who work together to have the best patrol possible. The requirements for the award cover a three month period and a patrol can earn multiple awards for each additional three month period. The award is a small yellow star patch which is worn just above the patrol patch. The real award is the satisfaction of working together as a unit to earn this special recognition. It is not really that difficult as most of the requirements are part of our troop program; however, it does take a special effort by patrol members to work together to earn this award. Summary of requirements:

Have a patrol flag and yell

Have 2 patrol meetings per month

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## Troop 890 Receives Matching Grant Donation

Leigh Anne LeBlanc

Troop 890 would like to extend its thanks once again to Wal-Mart /Sam’s stores for giving the troop a check in the amount of \$1,000 as a matching grant. The grant is in recognition of our fund raising efforts and commitment to community service. We greatly appreciate their partnering with us in this endeavor and their continued support!

Ms. Leigh Anne LeBlanc (pictured in the center of the photo at right) recently represented Troop 890 and received the donation on behalf of all of the members of our unit. Thank you Wal-mart/Sam’s for your continued commitment to the scouting program!



## Adult Leader Training

Bill Wilson

This Fall a number of adults participated in the North Trail District’s Adult Leader Training. **Mark Hamilton, Mark Lysell, Ted Moreland & Richard Graves** took part in the New Leader Essentials, Adult Leader and Outdoor Leader Training Courses. **Mark Hamilton** also completed the Merit Badge Counselor Training and Troop Committee Training

courses. **Jeff Little** served on the Staff of Adult Leader / Outdoor Leader Training as a Troop Guide and **Bill Wilson** was the Course Quartermaster.

Troop Committee Training focuses on how the Troop Committee operates and supports the

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## Our Eagle Scouts For The 2007 Year

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- 348 Michael McPherson
- 349 John Merbler
- 350 Will Klindworth
- 351 Cameron Alspaw
- 352 Robbie Stewart
- 353 Justin Chumbley
- 354 Andrew Meaders
- 355 Scott Renkes
- 356 Cameron Gray
- 357 Ben Scheve
- 358 Richard Devero
- 359 Jared Taylor
- 360 Matt Normandin
- 361 Chad Bruneman
- 362 Billy Prude
- 363 Gregory Mitchell
- 364 Connor Neale
- 365 Kevin Rabe
- 366 John Roberts
- 367 Mark Lankford
- 368 Daniel LeBlanc
- 369 Taylor Harmon
- 370 Austin Whitsitt
- 371 Tanner Miller
- 372 Dan Matthiesen
- 373 Josh Morgan



**Congratulations to all of these young men for their great achievement!**

## Some "Fun" Facts About Your Adult Leaders

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Just for grins, this month the adult leaders of Troop 890 were asked to provide a few facts about themselves that no one else might know. Here are a few of those facts that your leaders wanted to share about themselves with you!

**Bob Barnette:** Although known in the troop as a "gun" guy, I am actually much more into Archery as my favorite shooting sport, both for hunting and competition \* I once won an archery competition on a tie-breaker by hitting a small balloon from 85 yards \* Both my wife and I are native Dallasites, and have lived here our entire lives \* Favorite vacation destination: anywhere with mountains! \* I graduated from Dallas Skyline High School, have a Bachelor of Science Degree from SMU and an MBA from the University of Dallas

**Jeff Westerheide:** Avid snow skier and boarder \* Avid cyclist of 20 years having rode across the state of Iowa twice, Hotter 'n Hell Hundred every year since 1986, a few thousand miles a year and now race mountain bikes. \* Shagged golf balls for Ben Hogan. \* Was spanked by a nun for working ahead in my math book. \* Have worked for the same company for 23 years, ever since college graduation.

**Dean Smith:** Worked on a Middle Bronze Age archeological site on Cyprus for two summers, and visited Egypt while there. \* Have visited almost every state of U.S. \* Graduated South Garland High, '74 \* Graduated UTA with BS Architecture, '80. \* Worked on Jerry Jones' house with my father as project architects. \* Built a live steam narrow gauge railroad in Garland from '71 on. Still operates on 500' of 16" gauge track of 12# rail .

**Kurt Neale:** Favorite Movie is *To Kill A Mockingbird* \* Met John Wayne \* Ran out of air while ascending from a 90 foot scuba dive \* Likes cats \* Has dyslexia

**Joe Taylor:** Eagle Scout at age 13 \* I love surfing, diving and snorkeling!! \* My favorite actor is John Wayne and actress is Alexandra Maria Lara \* I lived alone in Egypt at age 17 and worked on a dig there \* My fav musicians are *Jimi Hendrix*, *Linkin Park*, *Trapt* and *Concrete Blonde* \* I worked for Mobil Oil in Norway and while there attended a holiday celebration that, unknown to me until recently, was also attended by another 890 leader, Leigh Anne LeBlanc \* I played soccer in college and for a season in Germany.

**Mark Mills:** I earned the rank of Eagle Scout at age 13 \* I was in "Who's Who in Music" in 1980 for singing and playing cello and guitar \* I married a Delta flight attendant \* I work for the company that makes the chips in the xBox 360, the Sony PS3 and the Nintendo Wii. \* I was a computer geek before being a geek was cool (it is now isn't it?)

**Tony Radoszewski:** Born and raised in Milwaukee , WI \* I went to college at St. Mary's Univ. in San Antonio on a 4 year, full ride scholarship \* I have been to every state of the Union except Alaska and Idaho, and to 11 foreign countries \* During summers while in college, I worked in a steel foundry. \* Wanting to play piano, I started taking lessons when I was 41 years old \* I brew beer for a hobby and have won regional and national competitions \* I've run the New York and Marine Corps Marathons

**Ron Bradshaw:** Member of the FFA in high school and rode bulls in Rodeos (well got bucked off bulls!) \* 1st Summer Camp ever attended was this year at Camp Constantin \* Was ranked 7th in my age group in triathlon one year for the state of Texas \* Knows the difference between a Dado and a Rabbet \* Favorite movies include Cool Hand Luke and Mr. Hollands' Opus.

**Brian Scheve:** Attended Highland Park High School, Mascot-Scots, in Topeka, KS \* Lived in same dorm as Buster Douglas the Heavyweight Boxing Champion of the World \* Attended Washburn University in Topeka KS, Mascot-Ichabods \* Witnessed Jerry Rice, NFL Legend catch 12 passes for 333 yards and 5 touchdowns for Mississippi Valley State vs. Washburn University \* Pitched against 1993 World Series MVP Joe Carter ( Wichita State ) He hit a home run! \* Once worked on a hi-way crew that poured 1 mile of concrete in one day.

**Jeff Page:** I was an Eagle Scout in New Orleans \* I graduated from Rice University with a BS in Electrical Engineering, but I really wish I'd been a history major \* Bring on the Mexican food! \* I once was on Mt. Etna in Sicily while it was erupting.

**Bill Wilson:** I used to be an antelope - a good ole antelope too! \* Staffed Oak Leaf for 5 years. Staffed Adult Leader Training for 1 year.....

**Leigh Anne LeBlanc:** If the radio in my car quit working, I'd probably walk everywhere \* I've lived in more countries than I've visited states in the US \* I am never happier than when I'm walking at night with a sunset or a full moon \* I need to live either in a huge city, or on top of a mountain, ideally with time in both \* Love Gregory Peck (looks like my Dad) and 2 of my favorite movies are Roman Holiday and To Kill a Mockingbird \* Love *The Who* and I could use a concert right now!

**Doug Starkey:** Was an Eagle Scout \* Was valedictorian of my class for 6 months... then blew it and dropped into a 3-way tie for 3rd in the class \* Was one of 4 National Merit Scholars in the city of Mesquite in 1981... and the only one that did NOT go to Texas A&M \* Has met Lorne Greene (Ben Cartwright on Bonanza) and Tom Lester (Eb on Green Acres) (but what Scout knows these shows?)\* Favorite book is "Watership Down" by Richard Adams.

**Dave Hornstein:** I come from a basketball family. \* My father played basketball at the University of West Virginia. \* My brother played basketball at Penn State University and I also played, well dinked around at playing basketball also at Penn State. *Editors Comment*— David's son, Brian is a six-eleven junior in high school and a future college basketball star

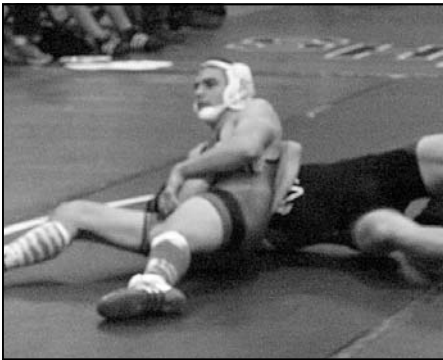
**Andrew Bucki:** I am an architect \* Designed and built my own home \* An avid hockey fan and still plays the game as a goalie in an adult league one night a week \* Enjoys working around the house, I always seem to have a good building project going on \* Believes going to summer camp is an awesome way to spend one week of vacation from work \* Not one conviction has stood up on appeal (well, maybe you shouldn't put this last one in, just go with the been married seven times to the same person).

And now you know.....the rest of the story! Thank you ladies and gentlemen for sharing those little known facts about you.

## Troop 890 Wrestlers Bring Home the Hardware for LHHS

*Joe Taylor*

Our Troop has several scouts who wrestle for their high school wrestling teams and are doing very well this season! This November 30, the Lake Highlands Junior Varsity was in action at the Rockwall Takedown Tournament. The tournament was attended by twenty-eight high school teams. Troop 890 wrestlers Connor Neale (freshman) and Jared Taylor (sophomore) won gold medals in their weight

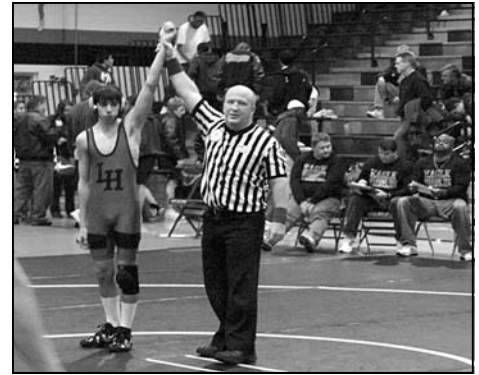


classes and Brian Mauricio (sophomore) brought home the silver while also helping the JV to

take first place in the tourney.

On December 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, Lake Highlands played host to thirty wrestling teams at the annual Tri-State wrestling tournament. There were an estimated 400 varsity and junior varsity wrestlers competing in the event. Junior Varsity wrestler Connor Neale won the gold medal, Jared Taylor came away with the silver and Brian Mauricio captured the bronze in their weight classes. LHHS Varsity wrestlers and 890 Scouts Austin Cordova and Charles Shepherd both won gold medals, while LHHS senior Greg Mitchell and St. Marks' High School senior Bill Sessions took bronze medals home.

The next weekend, Troop 890 Scouts were once again hard at work on the mats as Lake Highland played host to the "6 Way Dual" at the high school. Teams from Berkner, Arlington Heights, Richardson, Wylie and Pearce high schools competed



with the Lake Highlands Wildcats in the event. 890 Varsity wrestlers Charles Shepherd and Jared Taylor (subbing in for Greg Mitchell injured at Tri-State) helped the Wildcats finish the day with a perfect 5-0 record and win the dual meet. State Champ Austin Cordova did not wrestle due to a lingering injury. The Junior Varsity also had a productive day as 890 scouts Connor Neale and Brian Mauricio logged in wins in their respective weight classes. Congratulations to all these scouts for their athletic achievements on the mats!

## Troop 890 Scouts & the LHHS Wildcat Marching Band & Drumline

*Cathleen Barnette, Lelani Bucki, & Cindy Woolley*

A number of Troop 890 Scouts are also members of the Lake Highlands High School Wildcat Marching Band & Drumline. This fall the Band did an outstanding job not only entertaining the fans during the halftime at our football games, but at UIL and other invitational contests.

At the UIL Marching Contest in Mesquite, the Band received straight 1<sup>st</sup> Division ratings for the entertaining and precision program titled "America's Pastime"

the theme of which was baseball and American patriotism. Earlier in the season, the Band placed 5<sup>th</sup> in a field of 17 schools at the Birdville Invitational Marching Contest. And in November, the Band placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in a field of 21 schools from around the state at the Duncanville Marching Invitational also earning the "Outstanding Marching" designation at that event.

In addition, the LHHS Wildcat Band Drumline com-

peted for the first time ever in the Lone Star Drumline Competition in Lewisville on November 10th. This outstanding drumline placed 2<sup>nd</sup> with only a point separating them from 1<sup>st</sup> place in a field of 22 stand still drumlines. Clint Barnette played the bass 2 drum and Kyle Koch conducted the award winning drumline. What an outstanding performance and a well deserved honor!

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Our Scouts in the LHHS Wildcat Marching Band & Drumline include: Seniors Connor Antkowski, Kyle Koch (Drum Major) & Billy Prude; Junior Clint Barnette; Sophomores Elliot Bucki, Robbie Liebendorfer & Pearson Smith; and Freshmen David Burkhalter & Michael Woolley.

Congratulations to the Wildcat Band & Drumline, and also to our participating Scouts!

### Troop 890 Scouts in LHHS Jazz Band

Marching Band is one thing, but Jazz Band is yet another activity for several of our Scouts including Elliot Bucki playing trumpet, Kyle Koch playing guitar & Billy Prude playing lead trumpet. This fall, the LHHS Jazz Band has performed at the RISD Convocation, at Central Market on Greenville Avenue, at FMJH's Market in the Meadow, at Northridge Presbyterian Church's Veteran's Day service, and at the Highlands Café.

At the Veteran's Day performance, the Jazz Band featured vocals by our Scout Justin Chumbley who sang *Fly Me to the Moon*. The group's most recent performance at the Highlands Café was during the Thanksgiving weekend, and was a "Release Party" to celebrate the release of the Jazz Band's CD of favorites recorded last spring. In that recording, our Scout Pearson Smith played trumpet along with the others.

As one can see, our Scouts have been busy with

these "gigs" with more planned for the spring semester. Many are open to the public, so hope to see you there!

## 890 Scout Sets Rowing Record

*Rebecca Lones*

Luke Lones, a junior at Episcopal School of Dallas, is a member of the school's varsity crew team. Twelve members of the ESD Crew team traveled to Natchitoches, Louisiana to compete in the 2007 Annual Marathon Rowing Championships on November 10, 2007. They rowed in quads (4 person boats) on a 26.2 mile course on the Cane River Lake in Natchitoches.

Luke's boat set the record for Men's Junior Quads beating the prior record by nearly two minutes. The Varsity boys completed the course in three hours, five minutes, and 40 seconds! Congratulations Luke on your record setting performance!



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Participate in one scouting activity ( example: camp-out, service project ) per month in the 3 month period

Help 2 patrol members advance in rank

Have 75% of patrol members in full uniform at troop activities

Have a member attend 3 PLCs

Have a minimum of 8 members

Patrol leaders, this is your opportunity to be a true leader and get everyone in your patrol to work together. Members of an Honor Patrol will always have a special satisfaction in knowing they made the extra effort to earn this recognition.

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Troop. The next Troop Committee Training course is scheduled for **February 16, 2008**. Adult Leader Training concentrates on organization and operation of the Troop as well as planning an outdoor program and the role of adult leaders in the Troop. The Spring Adult Leader Training course is scheduled for **February 23, 2008**. Outdoor Leader Training uses the Patrol method to reinforce the Scouting experience and concentrates on basic Scout skills during a weekend camp out. The next Outdoor Leader Skills course is scheduled for **March 7-March 9, 2008**. For more information or to sign up for Adult Leader Training see the North Trail District web site at [www.northtrail.org](http://www.northtrail.org).

# The First Year Scout Report

Andrew Bucki

Our First Year Scouts have had a busy fall as one might expect with twenty nine active scouts in the program. With high attendance at all the fall campouts and troop meetings, the scouts have now completed their Tenderfoot requirements and been actively working to earn their Second Class Rank by the January Court of Honor.

The campouts have provided much excitement and the weather could not be beat for any of our fall outings. The fishing campout saw many boys earn the fishing merit badge and we enjoyed an awesome fish fry on Saturday evening. We also had an opportunity to complete our wood tools requirements and fire building as well. On the Olympics campout each patrol was able to compete in such games as football and



broom ball, as well as shoot 22's and try their hand at archery. We also continued to hone our cooking skills and menu preparations. During the cooking contest for dinner on Saturday night each patrol made a nice showing of

their dishes for the evening meal and placed well amongst the older patrols in the troop.

Our troop meetings have centered on completing the requirements for Tenderfoot and Second Class Ranks. With the assistance of our troop guides we have worked on first aid, campout menu planning, cooking skills, knots and general scouting skills.

Recently on December 1<sup>st</sup>, we had our annual winter First Year Field Day at Erwin Park in McKinney. Almost every first year scout was in attendance. While Mother Nature tried to "blow us away" with her gusty winds, we were able to complete over eight rank advancement requirements, some of which were the five mile hike, maps and compasses, lashings, knots, orienteering and cooking of a meal. The dinner was a team effort as each scout was to bring an ingre-



dient for a Dutch oven recipe. After preparing five different recipes and one by the parents in attendance, we had a smorgasbord buffet of each one for everyone to share. As we scraped the

ovens clean of every morsel of food all concurred that dinner was a delicious success. A word of thanks to Mr. Laurin and Mr. Wilson for serving as adult quartermasters and to the following parent to volunteering to lead three of the major activities; lashings and knots – Mr. James Wilson, orienteering – Mr. Jamie Peterson and hiking, maps & compasses – Mr. Richard Graves and



all the parents that assisted and supported them. We wrapped up the evening with a camp fire and of course skits by each patrol. It was a long but enjoyable day and again a big thanks to all the parents that spent the day with us helping and working to make this a wonderful event.

As we wrap up our fall semester the first year scouts have much to be proud of, as they learn and discover new things, they will continually be challenged with new tasks and fun events as we embark on being First Class scouts by summer camp.



## Troop 890 OA Arrowmen Perform Service Project for Local Historic Cemetery

*Joe Taylor & Jared Taylor*

In November, twenty eight members of the Yanush Chapter of the OA Mikanakawa Lodge participated in the One Day of Service project to clean up the Field Cemetery located in Lake Highlands. Twenty three of the participants were Troop 890 OA members. Yanush Chapter Vice Chief of Service, Jared Taylor and the Chapter Service Adviser Ken Meaders were the scout and adult leads on the project.



The Field Cemetery was first established in the 1800's by Ann Fields and her brother as a place for the interment of their family members. The land originally belonged to the Caruth family, but the site was eventually set aside and sold to Fields family members. Over the years, the area was developed and homes, businesses, schools and churches were built around the cemetery. Currently, the site is listed as an abandoned cemetery which means it does not receive any funds, state, local or otherwise for its upkeep. For many years, a few of the family members have met at the cemetery every third Saturday in the months of April to October, to perform basic maintenance and remove trash.

Armed with chain saws, hand saws, weed-whackers, limb cutters and other tools, the work

crew cut and hauled away seven large trailer loads of limbs and vines to the city land fill. The removal of the overgrowth from the grave areas not only made the routine maintenance easier to accomplish, but also improved the overall look of the property, a fact that was commented on by several of the residents of the neighborhood.

At lunch time, the hard working Arrowmen took a break for hamburgers and hot dogs pro-



vided by the quartermasters staffed by Andrew Meaders, John Merbler and Brian Scheve. Fields Family members Gerald



ine Hasket Fields, James Fields, Jr., James Robinson, Willis Fields, also joined us to share the meal.

"We family members you see here today are the ones who maintain the cemetery. We do not receive any financial assis-

tance of any kind, we just volunteer our time to do what we can to keep the property up." James Fields told us.

The family has hopes of having the cemetery designated as an historic site, but that has not been easy. "It is our goal to someday have the cemetery designated as a historic landmark,"



Ms. Geraldine Hasket stated.

Following lunch it was back to work. The family thanked the OA and Troop 890 for undertaking the project and helping them improve look of the final resting place of their ancestors. OA Members made not less than seven trips to the local landfill with a trailer filled with limbs, vines and other debris.

"We are very thankful for the service the Boy Scouts of Troop 890 and the Order of the Arrow have provided today. This is a great thing you all have done for our family." observed James Fileds. "We appreciate you so much."



## Why the Change?

Chaplain Dave Smith

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The Order of the Arrow the "brotherhood of cheerful service" and its members are considered to be honor campers and are elected by their peers. Honor campers are those scouts and scouters that best exemplify the scout oath and law in their daily lives while also performing service to give back to the community in which they live. The smiles and thanks we received from the Fields family was a great reward and more than satisfying. Our service was good.

The Adult Advisers of Yanush Chapter would like to say thank you to all of you Arrowmen and Women who gave your time and effort to work on this project, Wimachtendienk Wingolauchsik Witahemui.



The Scoutmaster asked, "I have noticed a change in you over the last year, why the abrupt change?"

"Yes sir", the scout replied, "I used to pick on people a lot. In fact, I would urge others to hurt a particular group of people. But one day, I was on the way to bully a group when something pretty odd happened. I was struck blind!"

Surprised the scoutmaster wanted confirmation. "You were struck blind?"

"Yes sir, I was walking to Damascus with some buddies when all the sudden I heard a voice asking me why I was persecuting him."

"Who asked you this?"

"Jesus! He's the one who caused the change in me."

This is the imaginary Scoutmaster conference with the Apostle Paul. It really didn't happen but there is one fundamental truth in the exchange. Jesus is the one who caused him to change. In fact, Paul abruptly changed from a persecutor and murderer of followers of Jesus into the most effective missionary for the Christian faith. This occurred through an encounter with Jesus Christ.

The study of Paul is the emphasis of a 10-lesson program

that a Scout can participate in to earn the God and Life Award. This is a non-denominational, Christian curriculum geared to help Scouts learn about and develop a deeper understanding of their faith, and perhaps show a difference in their lives.

The troop Chaplain will lead any high school aged Scouts that are interested in earning the God and Life Award. The program will be conducted during the normal Monday meetings following the Christmas break. This will be done during the two sets of merit badge classes from January through May.

Eligibility is limited to any scouts that are currently in the ninth grade or older. It doesn't matter whether you are involved in a church or not—skeptics are welcome and encouraged to participate.

Please notify the troop chaplain, David Smith, of your interest. You can contact him at [dsmith@donordirect.com](mailto:dsmith@donordirect.com) if you have any questions.

Look for the sign-ups at the next merit badge class enrollment.



## The 2007 CAPS Program

*Jeff Westerheide*

What another great year for the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual TROOP 890 CAPS program! A tradition of the troop, CAPS allows the participants to earn four merit badges – Cycling, Athletics, Physical Fitness and Sports. The 2007 CAPS roster included 21 first and second year scouts who were led by six of our boy scouts. Jeff Westerheide and David Henry and were joined in the rides by many parents. Thanks to Adam Bosch, Nathan Bucki, Bill Headrick, Conner Henry, Rich Laurin and Michael Potter for their leadership this year!

The program started June 23<sup>rd</sup> with a quick lesson on bicy-

cle safety followed by a 17 mile bike ride from Moss Park, around White Rock Lake and back to the Park. Over the next 12 week-ends, the scouts participated in weekly 25 mile rides, runs and swims while learning bicycle



maintenance, safety, how to navigate runners, and preparing for the Iron Eagle Triathlon and Waco Wild West 50-miler. The Iron Eagle, open to all scouts in the Troop, was held on Labor Day and was attended by 21 scouts. Nick Radoszewski finished first just under 2 hours for the 200 yard swim, one mile run and 25 mile bike ride. He was

followed by Andrew Little and Brian Hornstein. Zack Newman led the first year scouts finishing just under 2 hours 15 minutes and was followed by Will Irby and Jack Mikeska. Congratulations to all the boys who participated in this year's triathlon.

On September 29<sup>th</sup> the boys finished their last major activity of the program by successfully completing the 50-miler in Waco. Did any of the boys mention that there were hills on the ride? I'm quite sure they mentioned the Skittles candy factory – best rest stop on the ride. All summer long the boys did a great job and we had no injuries other than a few scrapes and bruises here and there. We were even virtually free of flats until the 50 miler where we were able to ensure our flat tire quota was met – isn't that right Mr. Graves!

Congratulations to all participants!! And a special thanks to all the helping parents!



## Food For Thought

Have you ever tried to hammer in a bent nail? Even if you straighten it out before you try to reuse it, the nail still bends very easily. Only a new, straight nail will provide the best results. A carpenter beginning a new project always starts with the best materials he can find – nails, tools, and wood. In the hands of a skilled carpenter, these materials will be used to create a beautiful table or a cabinet. Remember the lesson from the carpenter; nothing beautiful can be carved from a rotten piece of wood.

Your character is the material you're using to build your life. Twenty years from now, you will begin to see the product you are building. The question to ask yourself is this, "Is the wood I'm using now good wood or rotten wood?"

## And This Too...

Former 890 Scout Master, the late James Shepherd once made a statement to a group of ASMs that caused me to focus on what is really important in life. "Remember that every time the sun goes down, you just lost a day that you could have spent with

your son," James told us. It was a statement that will be with me always.

It was at that moment that I decided not to waste the precious time that I could spend with my son. Over the years I have had the joy of experiences with him at summer camp, CAPS, the 50 miler, staffing OA Ordeals and Camporees, and canoeing at Northern Tier. I watched his progress to Eagle and saw him change from a chaotic child into a young self sufficient young man. I took James' words to heart and will always be glad I did. So, how many sunsets have past you by?

## OA News: Andrew Meaders Called to Keep His Vigil

Andrew Meaders was called to keep his Vigil. The Vigil Honor is a high mark of distinction and recognition reserved for those Arrowmen who, by reason of exceptional service, personal effort and unselfish interest, have made distinguished contributions beyond the immediate responsibilities to the Lodge, the Order of the Arrow, or Scouting. Alertness to the needs of others is the mark of the Vigil Honor. The Honor is bestowed upon a Brotherhood member of the Order by special election. Annually, Mikanakawa Lodge elects 18 members to the Vigil Honor. Normally, just over half are youth and the balance is adults.

Andrew was elected to the Order of the Arrow, Scouting's Honor Society, and completed his ordeal in September of 2002. During summer camp the following year he sealed his membership in the order by becoming a brotherhood member. His first event to staff as an Arrowman was the September 2004 ordeal, where he served as an Elangamat. In recognition of his service and leadership during the ordeal, he was named outstanding Elangamat. Additionally, he has served



as ordeal master and ceremonialist and service corps in numerous ordeals. He was named outstanding ordeal master in 2005. In 2006 he served as Mikanakawa Lodge's Training Chairman and was responsible for planning the Lodge Leadership Development Conference. After completing the trek at Philmont Scout Ranch in the summer of 2006 he attended the National Order of the Arrow Conference at Michigan State University. He was awarded the Nischeneyit Lekhiket award for outstanding service in the area of recording secretary. In the spring of 2007, he was invited to attend the Order's National Leadership Seminar. He also served as the program chairman for the 2007 Fall Fellowship at Camp Cherokee. During Fall Fellowship, Mikanakawa Lodge bestowed on him the prestigious honor of being called to keep his vigil. Andrew was Senior patrol Leader of Troop 890 in the spring of 2005.

In the more than forty years the Troop has been in existence, only two OA Arrowmen have been bestowed the Vigil honor. Andrew Meaders stands as a shining example of leadership and dedication to service for all Arrowmen and scouts to follow.

## The Mother's Club Corner

*Cindy Woolley, President*

### **Christmas Service Project**

The Mothers' Club geared up for the Christmas Service Project in December, and we send out big thanks to Bonnie Mills & Candi Barrett for organizing it for all of us! It was another successful year of Christmas parties for the Off-Campus Ministries of LHUMC, and we can be proud of our Scouts for the job well done for our chartering organization.

### **Fertilizer/Trash Bag Sale Fund Raiser**

The Troop's annual fund raiser kicked off in December, and the Mothers' Club will be helping man the order turn-in nights on Mondays starting January 14<sup>th</sup>. Jeff Forbes is the Chairman of Fund Raising project, and Susan Smith and I will be co-chairing the payment/processing side of the equa-

tion with Mark Mills' technical systems guidance and Kenneth Hogg's financial expertise.

The date set for "Delivery Day" is Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. Lelani Bucki will be coordinating the day for us in the Mothers' Club as we feed, support, and assist throughout that busy day, as needed.

### **Winter Court of Honor**

The Winter Court of Honor is set for Monday, January 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in the LHUMC Sanctuary with the reception hosted by the Mothers' Club in the Great Hall. That's the first day back to school for Scouts in RISD, so it will get here in a hurry!

# November's Olympic Campout Is Fun For All

*Joe Taylor*

November is the month for the annual Troop 890 Olympics Camp Out. Each year, the scouts and scouters descend on the Noble's Farm near Desert, Texas for two days of fun activities.

This year, boys could compete in a football tournament, the traditional broom ball tournament, archery, or try their skills with shotgun skeet shooting and the .22 rifle range.



The events were staffed by adults leaders with Craig Liebendorfer serving as the archery master & Bob Barnette (although an avid archer) handling the gun ranges Kurt Neale was the head referee and instant replay official at the football field. Several adults



helped with the broom ball court.

In the evening, Quartermasters Dick Laurin, Dean Smith and Brian Scheve prepared fried turkeys, with dressing and green beans to serve the adults and our visitors for the annual Thanksgiving feast. It was delicious!



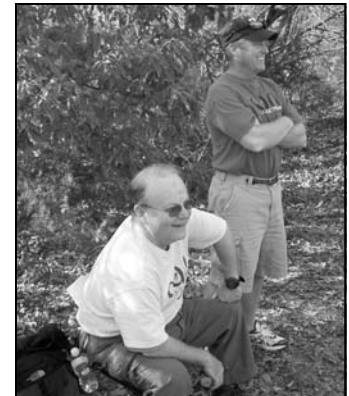
Sunday morning, the action returned to the broom ball court as the combined patrols of older scouts won the scout competition and then beat the adults in the Scouts vs. Scouters match.



Mr. Chumbley was hard at work on Saturday carving and painting special neckerchief slides in the shape of a broom as prizes.

Following the final match, SPL Tim Wall and Scoutmaster Jack Merbler assembled the troop for a church service and then dismissed

to cars for the trip back to Big D. So, the Olympic torch and flame were extinguished until the games begin again in November of 2008.



See More Campout Pictures on page 16.





## Attention Patrol Scribes!!!

If you are a Patrol Scribe these are requirements you will have to complete in order for you to satisfy the requirements for the leadership position for your rank advancement. The article requirements are as follows:

- You must write 2 major articles and at least one small.
- Each major article must be a minimum of 250 to 300 words in length.
- Only one article may be about a campout.
- You may write short articles (a paragraph in length) about the activities of your Patrol, but only one of these count toward the short article requirement.

Here are some ideas for articles. You may need to interview other Scouts and/or Adults for information for your articles:

1. Achievements by 890 Scouts (I like articles that are about our Scouts)
2. 2007 Summer Camp
3. The CAPS program
4. The Waco Wild West
5. 2007 50 Miler
6. 2007 Northern Tier
7. High Adventure Treks in general
8. OA Activities and Events
9. Golden Acorn or Oak Leaf Training

Other Scouting related articles or articles about the Troop, District, Council or National Programs (please do not use articles published in Boys Life or other Scout periodical unless 890 Scouts are involved).

A couple of years ago, there were a series of articles about adult leaders called "Spotlight on Leadership" and two or three adult leaders were interviewed for each issue. Information about the leaders included whether or not they were a cub scout, a boy scout, where, when, if they were or were not an Eagle Scout, when did they join 890, what do they in the Troop and information like that so that our Scouts and other adults will know some history about them. An article about adult leaders will count for the one short article requirement.

When you have completed an article, please email it to me at ifthen5@yahoo.com in an MS Word document using the Arial font with a font size of 11. Remember to run spell check prior to sending it to me. Please forward pictures of the event or that relate to the article you send to me as well if you have some.

Thank you!

Kathy Mendias

890er Editor

## OA Leadership In Service Award Recipients 2007

*Ken Meaders*

The Order of the Arrow strives to strengthen Scouting's foundation of service by further fostering in Arrowmen the ethic of servant leadership. By promoting and rewarding service that benefits the Boy Scouts of America's outdoor program, and the communities in which Scouts reside, the Order will be acting to support Scouting at the most important level. In this spirit, the Order has designated the Leadership in Service Award as recognition for service to camps and service to the community.

For an Arrowman to be eligible to receive the award, Arrowmen must complete the following requirements each year in which they earn the award:

- Give 8 hours of service participating in a lodge, chapter, or council service project benefiting a local council camp (lodge induction weekends do count). Service may be split over two or more events.
- Give 6 hours of service doing a community service project planned and run by the lodge

or chapter.

The following Scouts and Scouters have completed all requirements for the Order of the Arrow's LEADERSHIP IN SERVICE AWARD –

William Albert Bruck, MD

Kevin Olson Klindworth

Luke Sanford Lones

Andrew Rogan Meaders

Kenneth Meaders

Tanner Curtis Miller

Benjamin George Scheve

Brian David Scheve

Pete Anderson Sessions

Dean Worden Smith

Jared K Taylor

Joe Kenneth Taylor

Luke Hartman Smith

Kyle David Forbes

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## Introducing the OA Dirty Sash Crew

*Joe Taylor*

For the last few years, Troop 890 OA members have provided the Mikanakawa Lodge with many, many hours of volunteer work on various service projects. Now, our Scouts and Scouters who are members of the OA can be inducted into the Troop's "Dirty Sash Crew." The purpose of the crew is to recognize those individuals for their willingness to provide service to the community and to scouting by participating in OA service projects and staffing induction weekends (Ordeals) and other OA sponsored events.

An OA Arrowman is measured by the amount of wear and tear on his OA sash. The more stains and dirt on the sash, indicates the greater the amount of cheerful service that has been provided by him or her to others. The dirty

sash is a badge of honor among Arrowmen.

To be eligible for Dirty Sash Crew recognition, a troop OA member needs to work 5 ordeals and camporees, winter camp and conclaves do count toward the five, and also participate in at least 2 OA sponsored service projects such as the annual One Day of Service and ArrowCorps5. DSC members receive recognition at a Court of Honor. To date, the following three scouts and adult scouter have earned recognition to be inducted into the DSC for their selfless contribution of their time and hard work providing service to others, to the OA and to scouting in general; Andrew Meaders, Tanner Miller and Jared Taylor along with adult scouter Ken Meaders. Congratulations to each of these OA Arrowmen!

# ArrowCorps5, The OA's National Conservation Project

Ken Meaders

In 2008 we embark on one of the most ambitious service projects ever undertaken by the Boy Scouts of America. ArrowCorps5 is an event like none other ever hosted by the Order of the Arrow. This service program will make a true difference in our National Forests. We are inviting every Arrowman in the Mikanakawa Lodge and Troop 890 to pick up a saw, a rake, or work implement of his choice and join other OA Arrowmen at the Mark Twain National Forest in Missouri this June 7-14. Our goal is to have 1,000 Arrowmen participating in the project.

The Mark Twain US Forest comprises 1.5 million acres of National Forest located in southern Missouri. In the Mark Twain National Forest, cedar trees are classified as an invasive species that is taking over natural grasslands. The US Forest Service states that unless the cedar trees can be removed, in 10 years Mark Twain will become a cedar forest—and no natural grasslands will be left. The OA 2008 service project will take place in the Bateman area between Springfield and Branson, Missouri.

I'd like to point out to the parents ArrowCorps5 is a truly once-in-a-lifetime event. As a participant your son will be making history. A scout's duty to his country extends far beyond the support of his nation's government—it extends all the way to the beauty of nature that surrounds us everyday. Our national forests are our greatest preserves of the beauty of nature.

Including the Mark Twain

site, there are five sites across the country with additional locations and dates at Manti-La Sal in Utah June 14-21, the George Washington & Jefferson National Forests in Virginia June 21-28, Shasta-Trinity National Forest in California July 12-19, and finally Bridger-Teton in Wyoming July 26-August 2. If your son is interested in attending, I encourage you to look at the ArrowCorps5 website to determine the site that is right for you and your son. The Order of the Arrow and National Forest Service staff will provide a safe and healthy environment for a young man to learn about leadership, teambuilding, brotherhood, and service—all in an atmosphere of fun and excitement.

The 1000 OA members who attend will be organized into 10 Sections of 100 people each. Each Section will be made up of five crews of 20 people and each crew will be made up of squads of 5 people. Lodges have been requested to bring squads or crews of persons 14 years or older to work the forest. There is no ratio for adults to youth although we want a strong youth contingent from our lodge and from Yanush Chapter! Each squad will be assigned equipment to complete the assigned work. Each participant and staff member will undergo training to help ensure that ArrowCorps5 is a safe, enjoyable work environment. Key staff will be thoroughly trained to respond properly to any incident that may arise.

The cost to attend the Mark Twain trip is \$290.00 for the week, which includes round trip transportation and meals on the

return trip Saturday. Also included is one day of recreation in the Branson Area, for example Silver Dollar City. The highlight of the return trip will be lunch at Lambert's, the home of *Thrown Rolls*. Visit their web site at [www.throwedrolls.com](http://www.throwedrolls.com). Scouts will provide their own meal money on the way to the project. If you are ready to sign up for this great OA experience or have questions that you would like to ask, please call or email me and I will get an application to you and answer any questions you might have. Information about and costs for attending the other events are similar, and can be obtained by contacting Mikanakawa Lodge.

Additional information is available at the following web sites: [www.arrowcorps5.org](http://www.arrowcorps5.org), <http://event.oa-bsa.org>, <http://marktwainac5.org>, [www.oa-bsa.org](http://www.oa-bsa.org), and <http://arrowcorps5s3.blogspot.com/>. There are also Facebook groups related to ArrowCcorps5 and Mark Twain National Forest.



*View of the Mark Twain National Forest in Missouri, one of 5 sites for ArrowCorps5 in 2008*

## A Word from the Editor

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Happy New Year to all scouts, scouters, and parents of Troop 890! The second half of the fall was another busy time of achievements, fun, and learning, both within and outside the troop. Check out the articles about boys that made Eagle Scout this year, First Year Scouts' achievements, and our scouts' achievements in band and sports. We have some very talented young men in our troop! You will also find the "Fun Facts" article about some of our Assistant Scoutmasters quite interesting. Apparently, we have some very talented and over-achieving adults, as well. (But we already knew that we have the BEST leaders of any troop ANYWHERE!) You will also find articles about upcoming Philmont treks, the OA ArrowCorp5 Na-

tional Service Project this summer, and the OA National Day of Service project in which many of the 890 Arrowmen participated last November.

Thanks to all who contributed articles and photos to this edition. We still need articles from SCOUTS! See Mr. Merbler if you haven't yet signed up to be a scribe. Surely with as many talented boys as we have, there are a few J.K. Rowling's (in male form) out there!

Send your articles and photos to [ifthen5@yahoo.com](mailto:ifthen5@yahoo.com). Be sure to provide captions with names and the activity for photos that you send. The deadline for the next newsletter is February 25, 2008.

Look for the next issue of *The 890er* in late winter.

Yours in Scouting,

*Kathy Mendias*

Editor

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### **The 890'er**

B.S. A. Troop 890

Chartering Organization:  
Lake Highlands United Methodist Church  
9015 Plano Road  
Dallas, TX 75238