

The Red Lantern

Troop 294's Newsletter

MAY 2007

To: The Boy Scouts of Troop 294 and their Families
From: Joanne K
Date: May 21, 2007
Web Page: <http://www.troop294.net> E-mail – ellen@troop294.net

Upcoming Troop 294 Calendar

June 1-3	all weekend	Ripley Rendezvous meet at St Pascal's at 6 pm Wear Your Scout Uniform
June 5	7:30 – 8:30 pm	Venture Crew Meeting, Bakers Square
Jun 30 – July 7	Summer Camp at Tomahawk Scout Reservation	
At Tomahawk		Troop elections
July 8	1:00 pm	Clean Tents and Equipment
Aug 1 - 5		Troop 294 Summer High Adventure Trip, Cave Exploring
Aug 19	4 – 7 pm	Youth Leadership Training at Aeling's – Required for scouts elected to leadership positions at Summer Camp
Aug 19	7 – 8 pm	Youth Annual Planning Meeting at Aeling's
Aug 26	5 – 8 pm	Adult Annual Planning Dinner at Aeling's
Sept 10	7 – 8:30 pm	Scout Meeting, Welcome Back

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Scouting for Food: The annual Scouting for Food drive food bag pick-up was Saturday April 28. Monday night bag delivery had a great turn-out of volunteers and the work was completed quickly. Saturday the volunteer turnout was a little light...Thanks though to those who could make it and help make it another successful year! We collected 1152 lbs of food for the Merrick food shelf. **Great job!!**

The Aeling's are moving – Best way to contact them is to call cell #'s

Youth and Adult Planning Meetings scheduled for August.
Plan now to make next year another great scouting experience!

Youth Leadership training on Aug 19 – Training for Scouts elected to leadership position at summer camp is **Sunday, August 19 from 4 – 7 pm.** at the Aeling's house and will be followed by the Annual Youth Planning Meeting. ***This training is required***; please do not run for a position if you cannot make it. Descriptions of positions are available at summer camp and upon request. **Come in uniform.** Questions please call Ellen Aeling.

Annual Youth Planning Meeting: What do you want to do in Boy Scouts in 2007-2008?? – Come and help plan the year on **Sunday, August 19 from 7 to 8:00 p.m.** **Scouts in leadership positions are expected to attend.** – **All interested scouts are encouraged to come.** This will be at the A's house. Questions please call Ellen Aeling.

Adult Annual Planning Dinner at A's: Sunday, Aug 26, from 5 – 8 pm. Parents please reserve the date now for this annual dinner. The youth have planned what Merit Badges and activities they would like and now we parents gather to coordinate and organize the adult leadership and volunteers to make it all happen throughout the year. Each year we need adults for Merit Badge Sessions, Fall Popcorn Sales Fundraiser, Christmas Wreath Fundraiser, Gander Mountain Gift Wrapping Fund Raiser, Courts of Honor, Campout Chaperones and Drivers, Campout Food Coordinator, And Advancement and Awards Coordinator. Other opportunities always arise. Come to the meeting and help keep the Troop running smoothly!

TROOP 294 PATROL NEWS

LEADERSHIP:

Andrew S	Senior Patrol Leader
Ian B	Asst Senior Patrol Leader
Gideon K	Historian
Sue M	Scribe
Peter M	Quartermaster
Miles D	Patrol Leader
Chris G	Patrol
Spencer P	Patrol Leader
Adam S	Patrol Leader
Nick P	OA Representative

REPORTS:

Troop 294 ASPL Report – Ian B, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader - no report received.

Miles of Smiles Patrol: Members: Ian B, Miles D, Stephen K, Gideon K, Daniel M, Peter M, Joseph M, Sue M, Nick P, Charles P, Sal R. **Patrol Report:** This month we worked on space exploration and pioneering. In space exploration we build rockets and shot them off at Battle Creek Middle school last Monday. Report by Sal R– Miles D, Patrol Leader.

Coalition of Gears Patrol: Members: Tyler E, Chris G, Andrew S, Eddie S, Jim S. **Patrol Report:** No Report Received – Andrew S for Chris G, Patrol Leader.

The Patrol Patrol: Members: Ian B, Ian D, John H, Andrew H, Spencer P, Dominic R. **Patrol Report:** This month in the Patrol, we had some new merit badges, campout, and the annual food drive. The two merit badges offered this month were rocketry and pioneering, some members of the Patrol took each of these merit badges. The rocketry merit badge launched rockets they themselves built and had a great time. The pioneering merit badge didn't finish at the meetings but are finishing the badge up at the Webelos Woods campout. Members of the Patrol went to the monthly campout and all said that it was relaxing and fun. The Scouting for Food drive took place this month. Lots of scouts including many from our patrol participated in the bag drop off and one went on Saturday for the food pickup. This year we collected 1123 lbs of food! All the scouts that helped out with that, deserve to be thanked because their help will be greatly appreciated. The next big event coming up is the Webelos Woods campout at Fred C. Anderson and already Patrol scouts are lined up to go and help the newcomers see what scouting is all about! – Spencer P, Patrol Leader.

Golden Vampire Patrol: Members: Ignatius B, Caleb B, Ryan J, Andy M, Calvin R, Adam S, Austin W. **Patrol Report:** We have been working on physical fitness. We have been running around the school and doing push ups. Report by Ignatius B – Adam S, Patrol Leader.

CAMPING

Area-Wide Camporee: Ripley Rendezvous, June 1-3. We will meet at St Pascal's at 6 pm and return on Sunday early afternoon – **Come in uniform and no camouflage clothing allowed**

Summer Camp is scheduled for June 30-July 7 at Tomahawk Scout Reservation. **Final payment is due tonight (5/21).** Adults are needed to attend to help as cooks, guides, merit badge record keepers and drivers to and from camp. Please help with the planning now – let us know your plans and how you can help!

Summer High Adventure - Troop 294 Summer High Adventure Trip – Cave Exploring at Maquoketa Caves August 1-5. Sign up and a \$25 deposit is due ASAP This will be an adventure to the Maquoketa caves in Iowa with limestone formations and rugged bluffs. Caves vary from the 1,100' Dancehall Cave with walkways and lighting system to very snug Dugout Cave. Some caves can be explored by walking while others can best be seen by crawling. The park contains more caves than any other state park in Iowa. A trail system links the caves, formations, and overlooks providing an exciting hiking experience. Highlights include the "Natural Bridge" which stands nearly 50 feet above Raccoon Creek, and the 17-ton "Balanced Rock". Connie E. will be leading this trip. Cost about \$70. The adventure is open to all age scouts of Troop 294. **We need more adults to come.**

MERIT BADGES

MERIT BADGES for next year. What do you want? What do you need for advancement? What are you interested in? Now is the time to **start thinking about what sessions you want to have next year!** Think about it over the summer, talk about it with your fellow scouts at Summer Camp and attend the **Youth Planning Meeting at the Aeling's on Aug 19!** Check the Scout Handbook for MB requirements for advancement to Eagle Scout or go to www.meritbadge.com for more info on specific merit badges and requirements.

VENTURE CREW 294 NEWS

Venturing is a youth development program of the Boy Scouts of America for young men and women, 14 years old (and have completed eighth grade) through 20 years old. Join us for a good time. **Crew meetings** are held once a month, often at Baker's Square. Service opportunities and activities are also planned in conjunction with Troop 294.

Youth Leaders - Alex W and John H. Crew Advisor: Ellen Aeling. More adult leaders needed.



thank you thank you thank you thank you thank you thank you thank you thank you thank

YOUR MARK - WHICH WILL IT BE?

If you look around when you walk in the woods you see tracks of the animal that live there. You can make a casting of those traces and make permanent the print of the animal. Before a cast was made, the track was temporary - a few hours of wind and rain and all signs of the animal's passing would be erased. By making the cast, we preserved the track.

Our lives can make a temporary or permanent mark in the world according to the way we live. Most of us probably never will be great leaders of nations or famous in the arts or sciences, but we can still leave a permanent mark on this earth by the things we do for others.

The daily Good Turn is one way to start making your mark, because as you give of yourself to others in unselfish service, you are making changes in their lives and yours. Those who change the lives of others make a permanent mark in the world, because the good they do live on long after they have passed along the way.

Has each of you done his Good Turn today? Have you decided to consciously seek out opportunities for service to others and not just wait until you happen to see a need?

Decide now to leave your permanent track as you pass through the years.

Troop 294 is very grateful for all the help so many of you give to the troop. Each time you drive scouts to an activity, teach a merit badge, go on a campout or just show up you are changing lives and making a permanent mark in the world.

thank you thank you thank you thank you thank you thank you thank you thank you thank



TROOP 294 WEB PAGE: Everyone can keep up-to-date on Troop 294 by visiting our troop website at <http://www.troop294.net> - The yearly calendar, the latest Red Lantern, pictures of recent activities and other helpful information and links can be found. Check it out! **See if your picture is on the web!**