

Nov/Dec 2015

The Millennium

The Newsletter of Troop 1000

Troop 1000 Plano Texas Chartered by Resurrection Lutheran Church

November Calendar

Theme: Backpacking
Program: Bald Eagles
Service: Panthers
These Patrols should arrive at 7 pm for set up and stay after for cleanup.

- 21 Movie Making MB
- 23 No Troop Mtg
- 30 Troop Mtg, 7:30 pm

December Calendar

Theme: Scout Heritage
Program: TBD
Service: Bald Eagles

- 7 Troop Mtg, 7:30 pm
Open House, 7:30 pm
- 8 Buffalo Mtg, 7:30 pm
- 14 Troop Mtg, 7:30 pm
Holiday Party

January Calendar

Theme: Railroading
Program: Silver Foxes
Service: PLC

- 4 Troop Mtg, 7:30 pm
- 11 Troop Mtg, 7:30 pm
- 12 Buffalo Mtg, 7:30 pm
- 16 - Railroading Campout
- 18
- 23 University of Scouting
- 25 Troop Mtg, 7:30 pm
- 29 - Wilderness Survival
- 31 Campout

Check the [online calendar](#) and [home page](#) for new calendar items and upcoming events.

GRAND Adventures for the First Quarter of 2016



January will bring our first Grand Adventure of the year, with a **Railroading**-themed campout. Planning is underway for a program that would include riding on Amtrak, to a destination away from the Metroplex – possibly to San Antonio. This program is currently set to occur over the MLK three-day weekend.

We will seek more adult support as drivers may not be traveling in both directions with the Scouts who will ride the train. Drivers may return Sunday, with the Scouts returning Monday. If you would like an opportunity to join the Troop on an adventure, without giving up showers and a comfortable bed, this is the one for you. Don't tell the Scouts we could put you up in nearby hotels! More details to be available in December. The month will also include a visit to a railroad museum. January also includes our rescheduled Wilderness Survival campout.

February takes us on a **WILD adventure to Longhorn Caverns** where the Scouts (and a few Scouters) will have the opportunity to get **DOWN** and **DIRTY!** It's called Wild Caving, and it takes the Scouts through dark and often muddy passages that the tourists never see. Outfitted with hardhats, headlamps, knee and elbow pads and gloves, they will crawl their way around in tight passages where the sun **NEVER** shines, to where clean clothes await their arrival. This is a favorite for the youngest Scouts! We'll take reservations beginning in early January.



March will bring our **GRANDEST** adventure of the year: our long awaited **Space**

(Continued on page 4)

One Grand Holiday Party on Dec. 14

Our annual ONE GRAND Holiday Party is on Monday, December 14. Scouts bring a wrapped gift valued about \$10. This isn't white elephant. Bring something a Scout would want. **No gag gifts please.** Scouts will get a number. When the number is called, he can either unwrap a gift or steal someone else's gift. A gift can be stolen up to two times, and then it's no longer available. Each patrol will bring root beer and cookies – enough to serve 10 to 15 Scouts.

And finally ... please NO GAG GIFTS!

happy holidays



New Rank Requirements Effective Jan. 1, 2016

On January 1, 2016, BSA's new Rank requirements will go into effect. All new Scouts will follow the new requirements. While most of the changes affect Scout through First Class ranks with a reshuffling of existing requirements, some have a greater impact. The most significant are:

- Scout becomes a full rank.
- Fitness requirements for Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class.
- Participation in service projects for all Ranks except Scout.
- Tell how you've done duty to God and how you've lived four different points of the Scout Law for all ranks except Scout.
- Earn the Cyber Chip for your grade is a new requirement for Scout and Star.

Do I use the old requirements or the new requirements?

For Scouts who joined prior to January 1, 2016:

- Scouts working on Tenderfoot through First Class may continue working on the existing requirements, but must start using the new requirements upon attaining First Class.
- Scouts having completed First Class may complete the rank they're working on using the existing requirements, but must use the new requirements for all subsequent ranks.

In 2017, ALL Scouts must use the new rank requirements regardless of rank or progress. Questions? Email info@t1000.org.

Visit the following rank pages to see the differences highlighted:

Scout	Tenderfoot	Second Class
First Class	Star	Life
Eagle		



Feed the Clothes Donation Box

The troop gets \$100 per month for feeding the clothes donation box. Although we do this after a garage sale, we need to continue doing it throughout the year. The box is located in the Church parking lot by the back entrance/exit.



Shop at Tom Thumb?

Did you know that Troop 1000 is signed up with Tom Thumb's Good Neighbor Program? You can have up to three charities linked to your reward card.

Sign up is easy! Just go to your local Tom Thumb store, and have the Customer Service department add our Troop Good Neighbor Number to your account. **Our number is: 2075.** The Troop will start earning a percentage of what you buy automatically. Start raising money as you shop for us today!



Where Are T1000 Pictures?

You want pictures? We'll give you pictures ... thousands and thousands. Well, maybe that's an exaggeration. Just a little. The Troop posts photos to a Flickr account which you may join. You must have a Yahoo account or sign up for one to join Flickr. As part of your request to join, please send a note to the administrator and include the name of your Scout in the note. Your request is approved by a human, so expect to wait about 24 hours for approval.

These photos are posted shortly after the various events and are available only with an approved membership on the Flickr account.

Ready to flip through our digital album? Head on over to:

<https://www.flickr.com/groups/t1000photos/>

Troop 1000 Plano Texas Chartered by Resurrection Lutheran Church

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T1000.org

From the Scoutmaster

One of my favorite tidbits of advice came from Charles R. Swindoll. "Life is 10 percent what happens to you and 90 percent how you react to it," he writes. Boy, can I stand behind that quote.

Event after event I see the Troop volunteers create that initial 10 percent of good or even great stuff. One of my goals is to help mentor scouts to use that 90 percent of reaction to turn something good into something amazing. I have no doubt that every one of the adults that volunteer for our Troop feel the same way.

As we go through the coming weeks of holiday delight and disappointment, think back to the quote from Mr. Swindoll; and use your next reaction to make it into something positive for you and your family.

Dale Leonard
Scoutmaster Troop 1000



Happy Holidays from the Leonards!

Thank You

I find it very difficult to adequately say thank you to everyone who came to the Court of Honor to celebrate the boys' achievements and to wish me well. Your kindness and generosity genuinely left me speechless. I want to express a special thank you to Rich Bails and Sharon Luker for somehow discovering the fact that I had a dream of owning a drone and being able to teach the boys how to fly it. All of you have made that dream possible, and the boys are already asking if we can use it for upcoming campouts. I assured them we will.

I have been blessed to be a part of this Troop for many years, and I look forward to many more years in service to this wonderful Scouting family. I ask that each of you support Dale in his duty as Scoutmaster, and remember we do this not for ourselves, but for the boys. May all of you be blessed as I have, and may we all continue to meet on the Scouting trail.

Yours in Scouting,

Rick Diamond
Scoutmaster Troop 1000 – retired



Final Open House

We have one more Open House left for this year. It'll be on **Monday, December 7**. This gives potential Scouts the opportunity to meet our Troop and see what we're about. If you know someone who might be interested, please invite them to the Open House.

Guests should arrive at 7:20 pm and please contact Karen Richards at info@T1000.org to let her know who is attending.



Do You Have a Son in 5th Grade?

Calling all families with sons in 5th grade. T1000 WANTS YOU. If they're interested in joining T1000, get them signed up early. Contact Karen Richards at info@t1000.org for more information or to schedule a visit with your Den.



Latest Issue of Abilities Digest

[Check out the latest Abilities Digest newsletter](#) [pdf]. *Abilities Digest* is the official e-letter of the Boy Scouts of America National Disabilities Awareness Committee.

(GRAND Adventures continued from page 1)

Exploration Trip — a 5-day-ish Spring Break trip to Houston. Currently, the plan is to include a night INSIDE Space Center Houston, sleeping under the artificial stars and Space capsules hanging overhead — just steps away from the Moon Rocks. After completing much of the Space Exploration Merit Badge requirements, the Scouts will explore the Johnson Space Center, visit the Saturn 5 Rocket and view the Space Shuttle Trainer.

The Grandest part of this trip takes place at the Challenger Center where they get an opportunity to take part in a very realistic **Simulated Mission to the Moon and to Mars**. The Scouts split up into two teams — one on the ground and the other in space — as they try to overcome the many obstacles that can occur while traveling over 17,000 miles per hour in an outer space environment. Did I mention running out of oxygen or radiation overload? The Scouts on both teams must learn to communicate vital information back and forth, and work together to ensure the survival of the Astronauts. Once safely on the Moon, the sides switch and the mission continues to Mars. A trip to the Houston Museum of Natural Science, the most popular museum in Texas is included, along with a visit to the George Observatory, and a special stop on the way home. The month will also offer the opportunity to build and launch model rockets. Reservations for this trip will also begin in January.

Watch *The Millennium* and T1000.org for the latest information and reservation forms.



Merit Badge Updates in 2016

A few Merit Badges will have updated requirements in January 2016. During the time between when new requirements appear in a Merit Badge pamphlet and the effective date in January when the requirements book comes out, Scouts have two options.

Unless otherwise stated in the requirements book or in the Merit Badge pamphlet, Scouts who have already started on a Merit Badge when a revised pamphlet is released may switch to the new requirements or continue with the old ones until the badge is completed.

Once the new requirements book is released, Scouts who have not already begun work on a merit badge must work with the new requirements and the new pamphlet. There is no time limit between starting and completing a badge, although a counselor may determine so much time has passed since any effort took place that the new requirements must be used.

According to the Fall 2015 issue of *Counselor's Compass* from Boy Scouts of America, Merit Badges expected to get major requirement revisions include Cooking, Lifesaving, and Photography. Badges with less extensive updates include Archery, Camping, Citizenship in the Community, Citizenship in the World, Emergency Preparedness, Environmental Science, First Aid, Mammal Study, Mining and Society, Personal Management, Railroad, and Water Sports.



Wilderness Survival Campout Rescheduled: Jan. 29 - 31

Wilderness Survival has been rescheduled for January. It's an experience you won't forget! We'll be heading down to Hickory Hills Hideaway in LaRue, TX. There, the Scouts and Webelos guests will need to find food and water, treating all accordingly for a meal or two. Then, they will build their own shelter using nature's very best pine furnishings.

With a little luck, we may have VIP visitors Hipshot (Landowner Mr. Wooten's ancestor from the 1800s) and his wife for dinner. Western wear will be the dress code for the campfire. Coyotes beware – Scouts in the house!

Watch the website and email for the permission slip and prepare yourself for an unforgettable adventure!



Volunteers Needed at the Church

Scouts can give back to Resurrection Lutheran Church and earn service hours by helping hang the greens on **Sat., Dec. 5 from 9 am to noon**. They can also help take down the decorations on **Sat., Jan. 2 from 9 am to noon**. Please wear blue shirts.



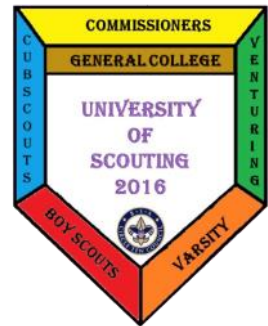
Monthly Scout Dues

On the first Monday of the month, Scouts need to bring \$5 for their monthly dues. Some Scouts are behind on their dues. If you're not sure of your Scout's dues status, contact the Daniel Stevenson, Troop Scribe, to find out how much is owed.



Get Trained: University of Scouting Saturday, Jan. 23, 2016

The University of Scouting is an adult leader's learning adventure! It is an action-packed, fun-filled single day of supplemental training. Sessions are led by experienced volunteers and professionals who will help you enhance your ability to deliver a fun and exciting program to the Scouts.



Classes run from 7 am to 5 pm at [SMU](#) on Saturday, Jan. 23, 2016. You attend only the classes you want to take. The cost is \$25 before Dec. 15. From Dec. 1 - 20, the cost is \$30. Walk-in registration is \$40. You pay one fee regardless of the number of classes you take.

For more information, [check out the Program Overview](#) [PDF] or visit <http://circleten.org/university-scouting>.

Notice! 2015 Order of the Arrow Dues Due!

We desperately need all OA members who haven't paid their \$15 2015 OA dues to pay them ASAP by going to www.miki.org/events/2015-lodge-dues and, when asked, enter Chapter as: Wakaree. The chapter and the lodge are very close to getting the Journey to Excellence (JTE) award. This award is a big deal.



Dues help fund Circle 10 camps. This means new bathrooms, campsites, and maybe a new dining hall. National's policy is that if you don't pay your OA dues, you ARE NOT ALLOWED to wear your OA patch/flap on your uniform and you CANNOT wear your OA sash to any OA events until you pay your dues.

Do What the Scouts Do

"Imagine, for a moment, there is nothing called 'Scouting,' no program, no troops, no councils, no districts, no uniforms, no badges.

"Someone comes up with an idea for helping young people develop character by getting outdoors and going camping."

If we do what Scouts do when camping, swimming, boating, participating as citizens, hiking, and helping others, we'll always be doing the right thing!

[Read the story at ScoutmasterCG's blog.](#)

