



HUNTERSVILLE, NC CHARTERED 1938

Banks' Bits

HUNTERSVILLE, NC CHARTERED 2006

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Dear Troop 19 Family:

As the Christmas season thanks to God for all that we have. This time of year those who are not so fortunate. As Scouts, we recall the words of the Scout Law,

A Scout is Helpful and Friendly. In this Christmas season, these points of the Scout Law are especially important because it helps us recall the meaning of Christmas as it was meant to be. We also must be mindful that keeping the spirit of Christmas is important throughout the year. Christmas is not just

Santa Claus, parties and exchanging presents.

approaches us, let us all give Let us recall that the reason for Christmas is to celebrate the birth of Jesus, our Lord and we also turn our thoughts to Savior and to recall the lessons Christ gave us during his life on earth.

> Most of all, I ask that you be kind and loving to all this Christmas season and to remember to be kind and loving throughout the rest of the year.

I want to thank my Junior Leaders and the Scouters of Troop 19 for all they do for the troop. I want to give my thanks also to the parents and family of Troop money for their capital pro-19 for making us so successful



and helping our program reach so many of our young

One last point I want to clear up. Last summer, the council was searching for

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Eagle Update

Troop 19 welcomes two new Eagle

Scouts to our roll of honor. Lawrence Peter Zaino, III earned his Eagle Award on November 27, 2006. Larry becomes Troop 19's 59th Eagle Scout and the 46th Eagle for Scoutmaster Banks. For his Eagle project, Larry planned and implemented a drainage plan for Hinds Creek Farm in Huntersville. Larry is the son of Assistant Scoutmaster Larry and Michelle Zaino, Jr.

Our second Eagle is **Benjamin Seth Cross**. Seth earned his Eagle on December 18, 2006. Seth is the son of Assistant Scoutmaster Keith and Kelly Cross. Seth is the younger brother of Troop 19 Eagle Scout Justin Cross (2002) and nephew of Troop 19 Eagle Scout Kim Cross (1971) and

grandson to Bennie Cross, member of the first Scouts in Troop 19 in 1938.

For his Eagle project, Seth refurbished the room used by Huntersville Presbyterian Church to dis-

play the history of the church. Seth's project in-

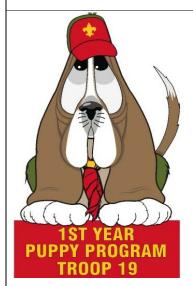
cluded updating the display case in the room and refurbishing the historical marker on display outside the Family Life Center. Seth becomes the 60th Eagle Scout from Troop 19 and the 47th Eagle under Scoutmaster Larry Banks.

Join us in congratulating Larry and Seth on their outstanding accomplishments.



Beaver Tales

Welcome to the Rising Webelos and Their Families



Dear Puppies,

I want to take this opportunity to say that Troop 19 is awaiting your arrival. Starting with the Webelos graduation in March, you will have the time of your life.

Why do we call you "puppies" instead of Rising Webelos? We use this

term to bring special attention to those Webelos who are joining us. Just like young puppies, our "puppies" are full of energy, excitement and enthusiasm. Troop 19 welcomes that spirit and wants to make your transition from Webelos to Boy Scouts a great experience.

We welcome you and look forward to many years of fun, adventure, challenges, opportunities and rewards. Scouts and parents alike will become part of the Troop 19 family. The experience is just beginning.

On the first three Tuesdays In February, the Webelos will be joining the Troop 19 meetings. The Scouts will get a chance to see the troop in action and meet many of the Boy Scouts who will be teaching, training and helping the new Puppies become members of Troop 19. Meeting times are Tuesday night from 7:00 to 8:30

PM. Please come in uniform.

I want also to remind parents and Puppies of important upcoming dates.

Puppy Parent Orientation (Attendance is required)

9 - 12 PM @ HPC March 3

Webelos Crossover

March 10 4:00 PM @ HPC

Again, we welcome you and your family to the Troop 19 family.

Lawrence W. Banks, Jr. Scoutmaster Troop 19

Puppy Parent Reminders

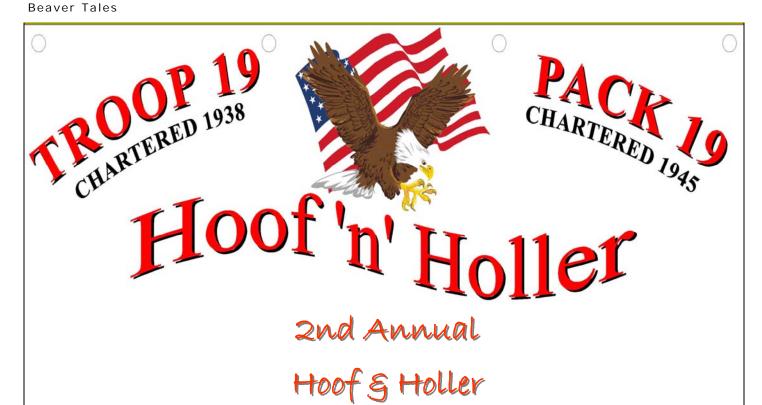
Again this year, Troop 19 will present our Hoof & Holler for the families coming up from the Webelos II and

the Pack 19 family. The events include signal towers, model campsites and Dutch oven cooking. All events are designed to show the new puppies how Troop 19 operates and many of the exciting skills they will learn. All Webelos and Pack 19 Scouts and family members are welcome to a fun filled afternoon with Troop 19. Hoof and Holler dates are March 9, 10 and 11 at Huntersville Presbyterian Church.

Webelos II Leaders

If you are planning to join the Troop as Assistant Scoutmaster, please contact Scoutmaster Banks to discuss training requirements before you join the troop. Mecklenburg County Council offers several position specific training classes this spring that will allow all rising leaders to be fully trained before joining the troop. If you are interested in joining the Troop Committee, please contact Troop Committee Chair Tanya Hartje for details on which committees you would like to assist.

See you on March 3rd and at Hoof & Holler March 9 - 11!!!



March 9 - 11, 2007

Troop 19 Venture Crew Program is now in full swing. The new Venture Crew will replace the old Senior Scout program that Troop 19 ran for older Scouts.

Venture Crew

The Venture Crew has elected their officers and adult leaders. Joining **Larry Zaino** as Crew President are Anthony Pugliese and Chris Zaino as Crew Vice Presidents, Patrick Buffum as Crew Treasurer and Danny Tito as Crew Secretary.

the adult crew advisors. Headed by Larry Zaino, Jr. as Crew Advisor, Ozzie Holshouser, Dave Ruggles and Matt Hedrick as Associate Advisors. **Tanya Hartje** has agreed to serve as Crew Committee Chair. Larry Banks and Micheal gram. They offered a chance for do-Hartje will serve as Venture Crew Committee.

If your son is 14 years of age or older, and a Star Scout he is eligible to join the Venture



ERSVILLE, NC **CHARTERED 2006**

Crew. If you would like more infor-Assisting Crew 19 youth leaders are mation, please contact the Venture Crew Advisor, Larry Zaino, Jr. or Crew 19 President Larry Zaino, III for details.

Banks' Bits Cont.

nors to sponsor campsites at Camp Grimes. Troop 19 considered this option and even had a possible private donor to cover the \$15,000 cost for the sponsorship. The private donation did not come through and the troop has not sponsored a camp site with any troop funds. To date, Troop 19 has not contributed any funds to the council's capital campaign nor pledged any participation in the council program.

May God bless each and every one of you this Christmas season. Keep an eye on the Troop website for activities, we are going to be very busy in 2007.

Yours in Scouting,

Lawrence W. Banks, Jr. Scoutmaster Troop 19

Beaver Tales



Virginia Creeper Bike Trip

Troop 19 went on its annual cold weather camping trip... or rather...its annual **bike trip** on November 3-4. Twenty-five scouts and nine leaders under the watchful eye of ASM **Brad Vice**, standing in for Scoutmaster Banks, endured temperatures in the low 20's, bundled up and headed for Damascus, VA to pickup bikes, helmets and water, then shuttled up to White Top. From White Top, the troop broke up into groups for the 17-mile descent back into Damascus.

The day turned out to absolutely perfect with clear blue skies and just a little color left in the leaves. Icicles hung in the shadier spots and the group encountered numerous deer grazing along the former railroad line. A few leaders encountered a wayward black snake in the path partaking in a sunny siesta. Apparently he didn't get the word about turning-in for the winter.

No casualties were reported and only one scout, **Justin Austenfeld**, required minor bike repairs en route. A chunk of metal punctured his back tire. Fortunately, the outfitter supplied repair kits and extra inner tubes. Mr. Tito guided Justin through the repair process and he was back in business in no time.

Back in Damascus, the troop had time to wander around the town, make a pit stop at the Dollar Store and Mount Rogers Outfitters before making the 10-minute ride back to camp. The troop camped at Backbone Rock Recreation Area just over the Tennessee state line. The camp is located along Beaver Dam Creek in northern TN. The camp gets its name from an impressive spur ridge rock formation that ends abruptly at a bend in the creek. A tunnel was drilled through the

rock in 1901 to allow railroad access. Motorists can drive through what is locally known as the "The Shortest Tunnel in the World".

With some free time in the afternoon, scouts tossed a football and built campfires to take the chill off. A contingent of scouts led by ASMs **Tom Lawson** and **John Capets** hiked to the top of Backbone Rock for an impressive view from the top and a scary look over the unprotected edge down the 100-foot cliff-face.

After dinner the troop congregated in a nearby picnic shelter for a campfire and skits. A combination of cold weather and the exertion of the day had most of the scouts in their tents by nine o'clock.

All in all, we had another successful bike trip. The general sentiment among the scouts was to plan future bike trips earlier in the year to take advantage of warmer weather. This will also permit the troop to consider other trail options that are otherwise closed at this time of year.

Troop 19 would like to extend our thanks to Assistant Scoutmaster John Capets for his help in organizing this bike trip. The trip was a great success with zero casualties and no new nicknames earned. Thanks, Mr. Capets for a job well done.

2006 Hornets Nest District Banquet Micheal Hartje awarded District Award of Merit



Our troop is truly blessed to have such wonderful adults involved with the Scouts. On December 7, 2006 the Hornets' Nest District recognized and honored the following individuals for their commitment to our

Scouts and other youth in the district:

Craig Orr was recognized as 2006 Cub Scouter of the Year in appreciation for his extraordinary service in the Cub Scouting Program. Craig has served in Pack positions and is an Assistant Scoutmaster in Troop 19.

Dave Ruggles was presented with the 2006 Scouter of the Year award. Dave has served at the Pack level, is currently an Assistant Scoutmaster with Troop 19, and is involved in the Order of the Arrow.

Micheal Hartje was honored as one of the 2006 District Award of Merit recipients. The District



Award of Merit is awarded by a District to volunteers and professional adults for outstanding service to youth in the District over many years. Normally, the award is presented for service in excess of five years. Michael was in Scouting in New Jersey as a youth, achieving the rank of Life Scout. He

began working at Camp Grimes in 1993 and was soon in charge of the Frontier Program. He built the program from just a log cabin shell to what it is today - an 1840's wilderness home with a grist mill and blacksmith shop as well as the coolest place in camp. In 2004, while working his Wood Badge ticket,

Michael had a vision for the Heritage Arts building, which today hosts the Woodworking merit badge and a variety of visiting artisan programs.

Michael has been an Assistant Scoutmaster with Troop 19 since 2003. He is Wood Badge trained and has earned the Boy Scout Training Award. He was recognized as a James E. West Fellow in 2002. He has served on staff of nearly every Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills course since the inception in 2001 and regularly helps with training events throughout the council. Michael works on staff for the district's Cuboree and Webeloree each year and regularly works with units to provide specialty programs at their meeting place or at Camp Grimes. Mike is an Ordeal member of the Order of the Arrow and a key member of the Indian Village committee. Michael's wife, Tanya, is Troop Committee Chair and their son, Ryan, is a Troop 19 Eagle Scout.

Long time Charter Organization Representative and Troop 19 Scout and leader **Bennie Cross** was honored with the Hornets Nest District Lifetime Service Award. Mr. Cross began his Scouting career in 1938. Mr. Cross was one of the original scouts joining Troop 19 when the troop was founded by our first Scoutmaster Bert Kumm and Mr. Legette Blythe.

The Hornets' Nest District also recognized the following individuals for their long-term contributions. These folks received the Golden Nest Award included **Bruce James** of Pack 19, **Michael Turner** for Troop 19 and **Larry Zaino**, **Jr.** Advisor to Crew 19.

Finally, Troop 19 Troop Committee Chair **Tanya Hartje** was recognized by the Mecklenburg County Council for her contributions to International Scouting with the **International Scouters Award.** Tanya has been recognized for her years of work at Camp Grimes with the international exchange Scouts coming to Camp Grimes to work and staff and participate in the program.

Congratulations to all of our Troop 19 honorees.

Troop 19 News and Notes

RANCH

Philmont 2007

Mecklenburg County Council is taking applications for Scouts and Leaders interested in attending Philmont Scout Res-

ervation in 2007. If you are a 1st Class Scout and interested in the adventure of Philmont, please contact **Mr. Banks** for details.

Welcome A New Family

Troop 19 would like to extend a hearty welcome to our newest Scout and Scout family. Joining the troop in November were Scout **Lee Ward** and his parents, **Michael** and **Audrey Ward**. Welcome to Troop 19 and the Troop 19 family.

Troop 19 Creek Walk

Thanks to all Scout and parents who assisted the Troop in the clean up of Torrence Creek. Thanks also to **Jamie**

Redies for coordinating the troop's ongoing conservation project at Torrence Creek.

Summer Camp

Troop 19 will be headed to Camp Grimes this summer. All Troop 19 Scouts and Rising Puppies need to bring a *\$20.00* non refundable deposit to the Troop meetings to reserve your spot at camp. Deposits are due by February 6. Make out all checks to Troop 19.

Wood Badge

Troop 19 is strongly committed to leader development and training. One of the best training courses offered by the Boy Scouts of America is Wood Badge. Each participant completes two three-day weekends (known as the practical part of the course) and a "ticket", which is a contract to

complete specific goals related to his or her registered position. All eligible registered adults, in-



cluding assistant Scoutmasters and committee members, are encouraged to attend. Please contact **Tanya Hartje** or Scoutmaster **Larry Banks** with any questions.

Congratulations to Assistant Scoutmaster **Jeff Nye** on completing Wilderness



First Aid training. Jeff chose this unique training course as part of his ticket he committed to during Wood Badge training last summer.



Merit Badge Seminar

A big thank you to Assistant Scoutmaster **Ronnie Young** for his guidance and coordination of the Merit Badge Seminar on December 2. The seminar offered Scouts the opportunity to earn two of six merit badges offered by Troop 19 counselors. Thanks to Ronnie for his leadership and to the counselors for their time.



Troop Committee Notes

Troop Recharter

With the close of another Scouting year, it is time to think about recharter. We will recharter in February 2007 with the re charter fee due at the Year End Court of Honor. The committee has reviewed the troop's expenses for the last few years and has voted to increase the recharter fee to \$125.00.

The troop has not raised the re charter fee in five years in spite of increases in the national fee, Boys' Life and other items, but we can no longer afford to absorb these costs. The recharter fee is due and **payable in full** in February. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact **Mrs. Hartje**.



Pow Wow

Remember those fun days as a Cub Scout Leader? Well, a couple of Scouts and several adults from Troop 19 returned to those days on November 19 by serving on staff for Pow Wow, the premiere F-U-N training event for Cub Scout Leaders. One participant commented, "This was the best training I've ever done!" Many, many thanks to Don Almond, Michael Turner, Brad Vice, Larry Banks, Micheal Hartje, Craig Orr, and Matt Fox.

The Cub Scout leaders were treated to a glimpse of the future as Troop 19 Scouts **Brendon Almond** and **Trent Almond** served as instructors for the Cooking sessions. Special thanks to Brendon and Trent for their efforts. The Scouts made a really positive impact on the Cub Scout leaders!

Thanks to all the Troop 19 staff who made Pow Wow 2006 a success!

Troop Auction 2006

On behalf of the troop and the crew, thanks for helping make our fifth annual auction a success! Jean Buffum, our auction czarina, did a fabulous job in leading this event, along with Julie Smith, Mary Handy, Audrey Stasky, Ann McDonnell, June Horne, Lisa Orr, Stephanie James, Sally Fredricks and family, Rick Cardenas, Kathy Tito, Michael Hartje, Keith Cross, Alicia and Anthony Pugliese, Sonja McCreary, Kim Basinger, Michelle Zaino and many others I am sure I don't know about!

Thanks also to all those who donated and/or contributed. Your Scouts will continue to have the

outstanding program for which Troop 19 is known!

Rumor has it that we may need to take a break from the auction and try a different kind of fundraiser next year. Put your thinking caps on and send your suggestions to ttinc49442@aol.com.

Tanya Hartje Troop Committee Chair



Troop 19 would like to extend our thanks to Coleman Mundy and Camping World in Statesville, NC for their donation of the awning for the Troop 19 bus.

Camping World offers camping gear and accessories, tents, awnings and outdoor needs. Camping World invites all Troop 19 families to visit them and enjoy a 10% discount on camping purchases. Ask for Coleman Mundy or tell the clerk you are part of Troop 19.

Camping World is located in Statesville at Exit 49a off Interstate 77 (turn right at the Waffle House) (888) 224 - 3059

Thank you Coleman and Camping World for your support of Troop 19.













Popcorn Sales Results

Thanks are in order for all Scouts and parents who assisted in the 2006 Taylor Turner Popcorn sales. Troop 19 had another \$ 1091.00 successful year with the outstanding leadership of Popcorn Coordinators Dan Tito and Jeff Goodman.

Sales efforts were led by our top three Scout Salesmen.

First Place

Second Place

Derek Reavis \$ 754.00

Third Place

Christian Smith

\$ 511.00

Congratulations Scouts, families and Popcorn Coordinators on another great effort.



OA News and Notes

Life Members

Sehwatu Chapter and Troop 19 announced that two Arrowmen from the troop have become the newest Life Members of Catawba Lodge. Our newest Life members are Scout **Wesley King** and Assistant Scoutmaster **Kevin King**. Life membership is available to all Arrowmen who have sealed their Brotherhood membership in the lodge. Life Members pay a one time fee of \$150 and are exempt from all future membership fees. Life members can be arranged by contacting the Troop OA Representatives, **Kyle Smith** and **Chris Zaino**.



Troop Calendar 2006

January 2007

Jan 2	Scouts Return
Jan 2	OA Elections
Jan 2	Klondike Derby Training Begins
Jan 6	OA Cold Weather Training
Jan 6	Adult Leadership Training
Jan 9	Troop Committee
Jan 19 - 21	Troop 19 Ski Trip

February 2007

Feb 3	Scouting For Food
Feb 3	Troop19 Year End Court of Honor
Feb 11	Scout Sunday
Feb 13	Troop Committee
Feb 16 - 18	Crew 19 Trip
Feb 23 - 25	Klondike Derby @ Camp Grimes

March 2007

Mar 3	Adult Leadership Training
Mar 3	Puppy Orientation
Mar 6	Crew 19 Planning @ HPC
Mar 9 - 11	Hoof & Holler

Mar 9 - 11 Outdoor Leadership Skills Mar 13 Troop Committee Mar 13 Troop Elections Mar 13 Puppies Join Troop Mar 23 - 25 Crew 19 Outing

April 2007

Apr 6	OA Callouts
Apr 10	Troop Committee
Apr 13 - 15	Wood Badge Week End I
Apr 20 - 22	Merit Badge Weekend @ Camp Grimes
Apr 26	Council Recognition Dinner
Apr 27 - 29	Dixie Fellowship, Savannah, GA



Troop 19 Huntersville Presbyterian Church Huntersville, NC 28078

WE'RE ON THE WEB!!
WWW.BSA19.ORG



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



From Troop 19