



THE 342 EAGLE

www.troop342.com

The Troop Meets at Green Mountain Christian Church

10700 W Exposition Drive

Mondays 7:00 pm

A Scout is helpful!



A Scout cares about other people. He willingly volunteers to help others without expecting payment or reward.

This Month

SCOUTING CALENDAR!

3/2	Troop Meeting/PLC
3/6-8	Jakes Cabin
3/7	Chautauqua
3/9	Troop Meeting
3/16	Troop Meeting/Advancement Night/PLC/New Parent Orientation
3/23	Troop Meeting/Fertilizer sale begins
3/30	Activity meeting/Swim Check

Other Important 2008 Dates

4/24-25	Scout Show Lock-in
5/15-17	New Scout Orientation
7/12-18	Summer Camp
7/16-23	Double H Adventure Camp

JAKE'S CABIN!

The first 25 scouts and adults to sign up will be downhill skiing at Ski Cooper, one of Colorado's Gems. Get those blue cards out; this is an excellent opportunity to work on the Snow Sports merit badge. This trip is always a popular one!

CHAUTAUQUA!

Chautauqua! This is an annual Denver Area Council-level adult Scouter and youth Scout training opportunity. This year, more than 50 topics will be offered at this all-day program. Troop 342 has a conflicting schedule on March 7th with the "Third Annual Last Trip to Jake's Cabin and Ski Trip", so careful consideration should be given if planning to participate in the Troop activity. Scouts can enjoy an all-day program with Junior Leader Training (JLT), a half-day Chaplain Aide Training (CAT), as well as classes in CPR (additional fee of \$20 for book and training card), and several Merit Badges. Chautauqua is on March 7th, in Highlands Ranch, CO, and has a fee of \$30 (lunch included). Reservations are at the Council Service Center or online:

<http://www.denverboyscouts.org> Classes fill up, so please make your reservation and class choices early. Questions? Call Jim Schuyler (303)/988-5736).

DUES ARE DUE TO TROOP 342!

If you were not at the Court of Honor and have not paid your dues, please do so immediately. Dues are \$35.00 for returning scouts, \$45.00 for new scouts and \$15.00 for adults. Scouts may use funds from their troop account to pay for dues. See Mrs. Schuyler to keep current with your dues.

WELCOME NEW PARENTS!

New Parent Orientation! Parents new to Troop 342 will have an opportunity to learn more about Troop 342, the Boy Scout Program, how they can participate and help their son, and to receive the Troop 342 Handbook on March 16th. Program will begin promptly at 6:30 at Green Mountain Christian Church in the classroom wing. New Scouts will participate until 7:00, at which time they will rejoin the rest of the Scouts at the weekly Troop meeting.

FERTILIZER SALES BEGIN 3/23!

Fertilizer Sale! The Troop has been conducting a door-to-door sale of chemical fertilizers for more than 20 years. The original purpose of the sale was to provide Scouts with an opportunity to earn money for Summer Camp fees. This year, the sale will begin on March 23rd, and end on April 13th. In conjunction with the sale, Salesmanship Merit Badge will be offered by Mr. Schuyler. In the past, many Scouts have not only paid their entire way to Summer Camp, but have earned enough money to pay for more than a year of Scouting with Troop 342. Historically, this sale has provided the highest dollar return per hour for Scouts that seriously invest their time. Because of loosing the fund-raising opportunities provided by Bass Pro shops, the fertilizer sale, will likely return to being the primary means for our Scouts to earn funds for their Scouting activities.

SWIM CHECK 3/30!

This will be the annual swim check and pool party. Scouts should bring money for the recreation center. Information about location and other details will be announced soon. PV campers at summer camp are registered for aquatic classes based on skill level, so don't miss this!

✦ **TROOP ADVANCEMENT NIGHT!**

Troop Advancement Night! Beginning in February Scout Advancement Night (3rd Monday Troop Meeting of every month) will now offer at least one Merit Badge for all Scouts not already engaged in another Merit Badge or rank advancement program. Scouts should plan to be working on some form of advancement as outlined in the Troop program. This month, we will begin work on Family Life Merit Badge, with Mr. Schuyler. This is an "Eagle Required" badge, and will take at least 3 months to complete. Other Merit Badge programs are in the planning state.



✦ **KLONDIKE DERBY!**

2008 Klondike Derby! The Scouts of Troop 342 for the third year in a row, walked away with the coveted "King of Klondike" award (and special hat), including two first-place prizes, two second-place ribbons, and one third-place ribbon. Some of the comments overheard about our Scouts:

"Most outstanding Patrol of the Day" – Matthew Clark, 2008 Klondike Chairman and Advisor for Venturing Crew 130.

"The most cohesive Patrol throughout the day, they worked together better than any other Patrol-by far"
- Jeff Cozart, former Gateway District Director, sponsor of the Knot-tying station, and Eagle Scout from Troop 342.

"Outstanding leadership by the Senior Patrol Leader"
– Jim Auslin, ASM-Troop 1876.



Klondikers show off those cool hats!

✦ **OPIK HIGH ADVENTURE!**

Scouts tested their winter survival skills at Opik on 1/23-35. They towed their gear and food into the high country on sleds, spent the day building a quinzee, (a snow cave for sleeping) and enjoyed a peaceful night's sleep in their new home away from home.

✦ **SLEDDING ADVENTURE!**

Troop 342 scouts had the opportunity to play in the snow on 1/31. There was plenty of time to throw snowballs and sled! New scouts had an excellent chance to practice their winter camping and to test their gear before Klondike!



Brandon M. is ready for some winter fun

✦ **BRIDGE BUILDING CONTEST!**

Troop 342 has been attending this educational and fun day at the Federal Center in February for a number of years. Thank you to Mrs. Cameron for again stepping up to organize Troop 342's part in this great event!



✦ **HIGH ADVENTURE BASE TRIP!**

Double H! The Double-H High Adventure Activity is fast approaching. We are now up to 10 Scouts and adults that will participate in the last opportunity at this National BSA program before it closes (and receive the special patch). There is still room for two more Scouts (or one Scout and one adult). Cost is \$600, and includes transportation and meals to/from Double H. To-date, each participant should have paid \$250. If you are one of the participants that are not up-to-date with your fees, please see Mrs. Hoggatt immediately! In order to fill the total 12 slots available, we are now offering the program to Scouts outside Troop 342. If we don't have a current financial commitment from a Troop 342 member, that slot could be filled by someone else! If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Hart.

✦ **SCOUT SHOW 4/24TH-25TH!**

Scout Show! This year's Scout Show theme is "A Hero's Adventure". Troop 342 will again host an overnight lock-in at Green Mountain Christian Church beginning Friday night April 24th, with the show on April 25th. We are still looking for parents to step up and conduct the Scout Show Ticket Sale, and also lead the Scouts in creating, building and setting up our booth at the show. Please contact Marylee Hause for details on Scout Show Ticket Sales, or Mr. Cooper for volunteering to help with the Troop's booth.

♣ **TROOP 342 NEEDS YOUR PICTURES!**

Pictures! Scouts and Leaders that have taken pictures of the various activities of Troop 342 in 2008 are asked to submit those pictures to Colin Hause, so they can be incorporated into our annual CD, to be presented at the May Court-of-Honor to all Troop members. Also, please submit all of your 2009 pictures as soon as you have them. Electronic format is preferable, but printed photographs are acceptable for scanning. All printed photos will be returned to the owner.

♣ **SUMMER CAMP 7/12-18TH!**

Summer Camp! It's not too early to begin thinking about Summer Camp, at Peaceful Valley Scout Ranch's Camp Dietler. This year, camp will be led by Mr. Mortenson and Mr. Schuyler. Activity fee is \$295. Camp this year will be held July 12th thru July 18th. Fertilizer sales are specifically planned to help Scouts pay their way to camp. Merit Badge classes are reserved after payment is received. Please contact Mr. Mortenson for any questions or concerns.



January Court of Honor was well attended!

 **News Items**

♣ **WHAT'S GOING ON?**

HELP publish the individual accomplishments of our talented young men in the newsletter. Tell me what's going on via e-mail (ncojorg@aol.com). Items can be scouting or non-scouting related.

♣ **THIS IS WHAT'S GOING ON!**

Our very own, Scoutmaster, Mr. Cooper will be married on August 8th! We are so excited for the happy couple. Be sure to wish him the best the next time you see him!

♣ **THIS IS WHAT'S GOING ON!**

Patrick J, James N, Alex W., volunteered to judge a pine wood derby event for a local Cub Scouts Den! There were several categories for the Scouts to judge. The most amazing pinewood car reported, which won the award for "Best Boy Scout theme" was of a campfire scene with a tent and camping gear on the car!

BOY SCOUT ROUNDTABLE!

Boy Scout Roundtable! This district-wide meeting is held the first Thursday of every month, in conjunction with the monthly chapter meeting for Order of the Arrow. Generally, there are several adults that attend Roundtable, and would be happy to transport Scouts to the OA meeting. Roundtable is the primary forum for adult Scouters to exchange information, receive continuing education and to receive important Scouting Unit materials. Both meetings begin at 7:00 at Faith Bible Academy, I-70 N. Frontage Rd and Carr Street in Wheatridge. A special presentation by Jeff Cozart for "Big Tent", a program for online communication within a Boy Scout Troop will be held at the March Roundtable. Questions? Contact Jim Schuyler (303) 988-5736.



Scouts enjoying the big sledding adventure!



Opik home sweet home!