

Direct Service E-Mail News



Issue 42

February 2008

Web Site: www.directservicebsa.orgE-mail address: intnldiv@netbsa.org2010 National Scout Jamboree: www.scouting.org/jamboree/2010

DIRECT SERVICE'S EAGLE NEST

We are honored to recognize the following Scouts who have earned the rank of Eagle since our last newsletter.

| NAME | Troop # | Location |
|--------------------------|---------|---------------------|
| John Braden Bestor | 140 | Nairobi, Kenya |
| Benjamin Durrant Dewey | 700 | Santiago, Chile |
| Stephen L. LeBrun | 1849 | Panama City, Panama |
| Christopher Ryan Lew | 1 | Hong Kong |
| Mitchell Wade Nielsen | 28 | Chihuahua, Mexico |
| Benjamin Joseph Radkovic | 140 | Nairobi, Kenya |
| Dallas Klave Romney | 28 | Chihuahua, Mexico |
| Randall Lee Robinson | 231 | Chihuahua, Mexico |

DOES YOUR TROOP, PACK, OR CREW HAVE ITS OWN PATCH?

We know that many of our units have designed their own council shoulder patch for their uniforms. If your troop, pack or crew has a design they use other than the one shown above, we would like to include it in the Direct Service exhibit we use for various activities and events, including the 2010 National Scout Jamboree. We do not require an actual patch; a scanned color copy will do. E-mail them to Terry Meyers at tmeyers@netbsa.org. Your help would be appreciated.

2010 NATIONAL SCOUT JAMBOREE

Scouts from Direct Service will have the opportunity to attend the national Scout jamboree, July 26 - August 4, 2010, at Fort A.P. Hill, Caroline County, Virginia, along with nearly 40,000 Scouts and leaders in attendance from all over the country and the world. It is the experience of a lifetime and one you won't want to miss, as the Boy Scouts of America celebrate their 100th anniversary. Imagine 10 days of fun activities - all day long - every day. Our plans are to send at least one troop consisting of 4 adult leaders and 36 Scouts to this jamboree. Applications and more information will be available later this year.

Never been to a jamboree? Why not visit the jamboree Web site, www.scouting.org/jamboree/2010, to see a video of the fun and activities that will be in store for the Scouts and leaders who will attend this event?

LEADERS RECEIVE AWARDS

Two Direct Service leaders were recently presented with the Boy Scouts of America's National Court of Honor Heroism Award. This award is presented to Scouts and Scouters who have demonstrated heroism and skill in averting serious injury or saving or attempting to save life at minimum risk to themselves.

Troop 36 Committee Chairman **David Morton** was at a lagoon near Abu Dhabi, UAE, working on the Swimming merit badge with some of the troop's Scouts. A fully clothed Indian man was attempting to swim across the 250-foot

lagoon and became too fatigued to continue. When David saw him go underwater and come back up only to go under again, he immediately jumped in the water and swam to the man's aid, arriving as he slipped under the water for the third time. Without the aid of a flotation device, Dave was able to pull the large, extremely panicked man to the surface, turn him so he could breathe, and begin moving them both toward shore. At that time, another swimmer threw Dave a life ring and then pulled them toward shore and proceeded with rescue breathing until the man coughed up the water he had swallowed and was breathing well.

Doug Smith, a leader with Troop 803 in Lagos, Nigeria, has also received the Heroism medal. While attending a birthday party at a local swimming pool, Doug noticed a small girl floating face down in the water. He jumped in, brought her to the side of the pool, and lifted her out. After performing rescue breaths, the girl began to cough up a lot of water, and began breathing on her own.

Because they knew proper lifesaving skills both, the man and young girl are alive today. We applaud both David Morton and Doug Smith for their calm response to potentially tragic situations.

Mark Powell has been awarded the District Award of Merit in recognition of the service he has provided to Troop 970 and Pack 3947 located in Doha, Qatar. Mark serves as the Cub Scout pack's assistant Cubmaster and the troop's Eagle coordinator. This award is presented to adult Scouters for their noteworthy service of exceptional character to youth within a district territory. Over the years, Mark has been instrumental in the growth of both units, especially the pack.

ARROWMEN! BROTHERHOOD AND FELLOWSHIP AWAIT YOU

This summer the chance of a lifetime is available to you. While being a part of the largest conservation project in the OA's history, you will also be part of a close-knit group of Arrowmen not only from your council and state, but from across the country. Together you will get to know each other, trust each other, and depend on each other as you work to improve a U.S. National Forest that will provide memorable experiences for future visitors.

Brotherhood, fellowship and cheerful service are awaiting you this summer! Visit www.arrowcorps5.org to learn more about ArrowCorps⁵. Although the Web site says that reservations had to be in by February 1, 2008, there are still slots available at all five sites. Lodge members who are interested in participating should fill out the reservation form and forward it, along with their reservation fee, to Terry Meyers. Contact Terry at tmeyers@netbsa.org. **Be a part of ArrowCorps⁵!**

LONE SCOUTS ATTEND 18TH NEW ZEALAND JAMBOREE

Lone Scout Orion Sidoti and his father, Lone Scout Counselor Eric Sidoti, joined nearly 5,000 other Scouts and leaders from 13 nations to attend the 18th New Zealand Jamboree held at Christchurch on the South Island, December 28 – January 5. The jamboree was the last major event to celebrate the worldwide Scouting centennial and was also the first major event in celebration of the New Zealand Scouting association's centennial. Their program began in 1908.

Attendees enjoyed many different activities such as pioneering, high-wire climbing, kayaking, go-karts, touring historic sites, and getting filthy on the infamous mud challenge. But father and son agree that the best part was the sharing of friendship with people from around the world.

PACK 3910 PERFORMS AT EMBASSY

Jesse Curtis, Cubmaster of Pack 3910 in Managua, Nicaragua tells us that the members of his pack had the honor of performing a medley of patriotic songs at the recent dedication of the new U.S. Embassy in Managua. Although only about half of the pack's members were able to attend the event, Jesse tells us they did an outstanding job and received many complements from the audience. The pack joined Direct Service's family late last year and is chartered by the American Employee Association located at the embassy.

VOLUNTEER FOR EUROPEAN CAMP STAFF

The BSA's International Division provides the opportunity for 18- to 20- year-old Scouters to volunteer in Scout centers in Europe through the European Camp Staff program. The goal of this program is to help young people develop their leadership skills and encourage intercultural learning. Applications are being accepted now for the chance to serve on staff in Scout camps in the European region. Interested Scouters should contact Esther Scoggins at escoggin@netbsa.org. The deadline to apply is March 1.

SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITIES

It's not too soon for individuals and troops to start making plans for summer activities. Here are some of the opportunities for our leaders and Scouts during the summer:

Camping at BSA Council Camps - Do you have Scouts who will be back in the States this summer and would like to attend camp? We can help make the initial contact so that arrangements can be made! Just e-mail Terry Meyers at tmeyers@netbsa.org with the Scout's name and contact information, the part of the country they'll be in, and the dates they will be there.

The Far East Council tells us that their summer camps in Korea and Okinawa will open the third week of June. They have extended an invitation to Direct Service units and individual Scouts who would like to attend. Contact Terry Meyers for more information.

WELCOME NEW UNITS

Join us in welcoming the following new units to Direct Service's family:

| UNIT # | LOCATION | CHARTERED ORGANIZATION |
|---------------|-----------------|--|
| Troop 12 | Shanghai, China | Shanghai American Middle Schools |
| Pack 12 | Shanghai, China | Shanghai Community International Schools |

DIRECT SERVICE FAMILY ASCENDS TO NEW HEIGHTS

In December 2007, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, Troop 257's Scoutmaster, John Langford, and his family successfully climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro in Tanzania. Mt. Kilimanjaro is the highest peak in Africa and, at 19,340 feet, is the tallest free-standing mountain in the world. John was accompanied by his wife, Rebecca, and their two children, John Jr. and Amanda, both students at Boston University. The climb took place over a six-day period and covered approximately 60 miles. The family's trek averaged 7 to 10 hours per day with increasing elevation, low oxygen and steadily decreasing temperatures due to the high altitude.

The final ascent to the summit began at midnight on day 5 from a base camp at 15,000 feet. The climb took approximately 7 hours to reach Uhuru peak, the highest point on the mountain, where the temperature was -5 degrees Fahrenheit. The descent from Uhuru peak required another 8 hours to reach the final camp of the trek, totaling 15 hours of hiking for the day. While John and his son, both Eagle Scouts, have participated in a two week program at Philmont Scout Ranch, and have also hiked the Appalachian Trail extensively, both agreed that this trek was the most physically challenging, but most rewarding, endeavor they have ever undertaken.

2007 YEAR IN REVIEW

As with most years, 2007 was a busy one for our members. Following is a list of the accomplishments:

- 63 Scouts new Eagle Scouts
- Awards:
 - Silver Beaver awarded to one leader
 - District Award of Merit awarded to 4 leaders
 - One leader received the Scoutmaster Award of Merit
 - One Scout received the National Court of Honor Heroism Medal
- Jamborees and Camporees
 - 7 Scouts attended the 2007 World Scout Jamboree
 - Australian Scout Jamboree attended by 6 Scouts
 - 2 Lone Scouts attend jamboree in New Zealand

- First Direct Service Mid-East Camporee held in Oman
- Singapore units moved from Far East Council to Direct Service

UNITS DUE TO RENEW

It's time for the following units to renew their charters. Renewal kits have been mailed out. If your unit is due to renew and you have not received the kit, please contact Terry Meyers.

| | | |
|------|---------------|---|
| Jan. | <u>Packs</u> | 359, Sofia, Bulgaria; 2007, Dakar, Senegal; 3950, Moscow, Russia |
| | <u>Troops</u> | 111, Accra, Ghana; 359, Sofia, Bulgaria; 777, Baku, Azerbaijan; 803, Lagos, Nigeria; 938, Safat, Kuwait; 980, Kiev, Ukraine; 2007, Dakar, Senegal |
| Feb. | <u>Packs</u> | 5, Atyrau, Kazakhstan; 3701, Cairo, Egypt; 3980, Kiev, Ukraine; |
| | <u>Troops</u> | 7, Dali, Yunnan, China; 28, Chihuahua, Mexico |
| Mar. | <u>Packs</u> | None |
| | <u>Troops</u> | 454, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia; 500, Moscow, Russia |
| Apr. | <u>Packs</u> | 960, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic; 2005, Luanda, Angola |
| | <u>Troops</u> | 2005, Luanda, Angola |

CHECK OUT THESE WEB SITES

Direct Service Units:

Pack 3060 and Troop 60: www.newdelhiscouts.org

Troop 818: www.boysc@piczo.com

Sites of Interest:

Boy Scouts of America: www.scouting.org

BSA Centennial: www.scouting.org/100years

BSA Supply online catalog: www.scoutstuff.org

Boy Scout Fieldbook Companion Site: www.bsafieldbook.org

Boys' Life magazine: www.boyslife.org

BSA Online Learning Center: www.olc.scouting.org

Boy Scout Requirements: www.scouting.org/boyscouts/rankvideo/

Good Turn for America: www.goodturnforamerica.org

Jamboree-on-the-Air: <http://www.scouting.org/international/highlights/22-218.html>

Jamboree-on-the-Internet: <http://www.scouting.org/international/highlights/22-883.html>

Join Cub Scouting: www.joincubscouting.org

Scouting magazine: www.scoutingmagazine.org

The Scout Zone: www.thescoutzone.org

Venturing: www.scouting.org/venturing

WORTH QUOTING

"In all of this, it is the spirit that matters. Our Scout law and Promise, when we really put them into practice, take away all occasion for wars and strife among nations."

— Lord Robert Baden-Powell of Gilwell