



Troop 141 Scoutmaster's

Weekly Update August 6th, 2010



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THIS IS IT: THE NEXT SCOUT YEAR IS HERE!

Troop Organizational Workshop 2010

On Saturday, August 7th, we will be planning out the next year! We want a fun collection of adventures so that we keep the interest of older, newer and middle scouts this season. With this in mind, we should think about places and things we haven't done in years or not at all. Read the weekly thought to see why.

When 2:00 (to about 6:00)

What: Bring your bathing suit – there will be a pool. Bring your appetite, there will be FOOD/Eegees/Burgers/Dogs

Where: DIRECTIONS: **3022 N Spirit Dancer Trail**

-starting from intersection of Houghton and Tanque Verde, head east on Tanque Verde

-Turn left (north) on to soldiers trail

-Turn right (east) on to Fort Lowell road

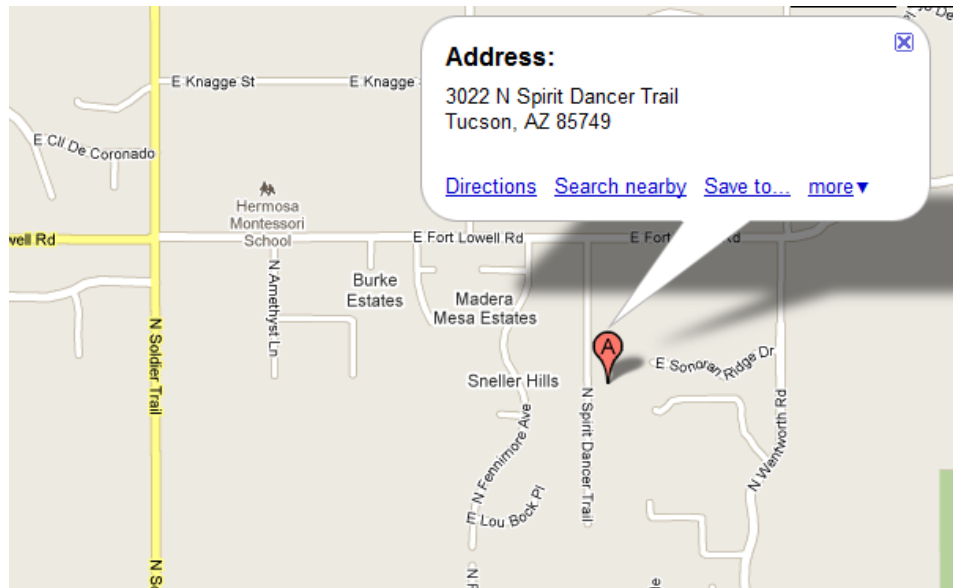
-Continue to Spirit Dancer Trail and turn right (south)

-Continue down the street until you reach the fourth house on the left

It is important to know that MAPQUEST DOES NOT WORK FOR THIS HOUSE.

Also just in case you get lost the house phone is (520) 429-7416

Who: Every Scout and parent is Welcome



SPANISH TRAILS SUPER SATURDAY, AUGUST 7TH

When: Saturday, August 7th 2010

Time: Registration starts 7:00 am,

Where: East Side Stake center,

700 N Bonanza, Tucson 85748

This is important Adult training for those seeking leadership positions in the troop. These are only offered on our side of town one time a year and this year it is very convenient at the East side stake center on N. Bonanza.

100th YEAR NATIONAL JAMBOREE!!!

As you know (Or may not know) two of our own are representing troop 141 at the 100th National Jamboree at fort AP Hill in Virginia. When Last I





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checked, they were in Washington DC. Travis and Greg have been sending us regular updates that can be seen here on the blog page:

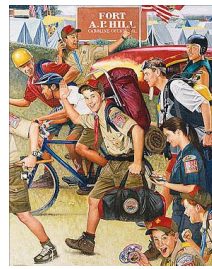
<http://www.scouttroop141.org/outings/jamboree100/jamboree100.html>





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VENTURE UPDATE:

No Update this week.



ASTRONOMY MERIT BADGE:

Everyone who started the Astronomy Merit badge shouldn't be discouraged, there is something FUN to look for next week.



The Perseid meteor shower is an annual meteor shower that is extremely regular in its timing and can potentially be visible for weeks in the late summer sky, depending on weather and location.

The Perseid meteor shower is named after the constellation Perseus, which is located in roughly the same point of the night sky where the Perseid meteor shower appears to originate from. This is a useful naming convention, but not very accurate!

The source of the Perseid meteor shower is actually debris from the comet Swift-Tuttle. Every year, the earth passes through the debris cloud left by the comet when the earth's atmosphere is bombarded by what is popularly known as "falling stars."

When and where to look for Perseids

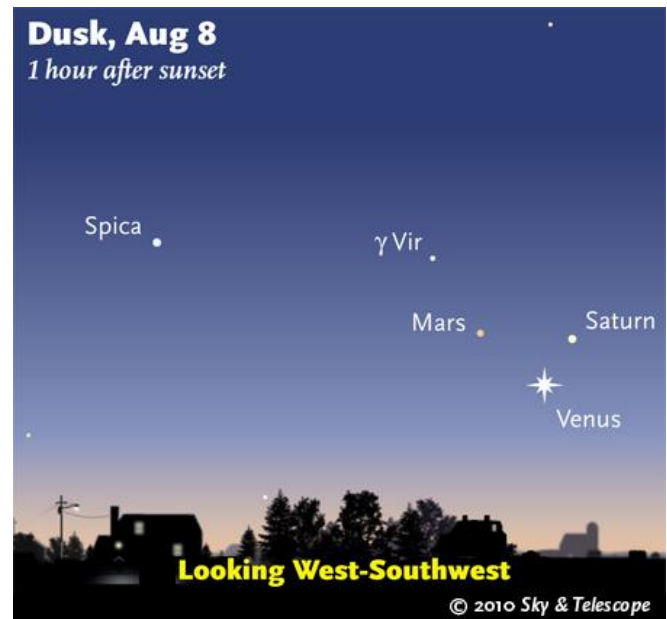
Because of the way the earth hits this debris cloud, the Perseid meteor shower is much more visible in the Northern hemisphere.

People in Canada, for instance, can see the meteor shower by mid-July, but generally there isn't much activity at such an early date. Throughout Europe, the US and the rest of North America, meteor shower activity usually peaks sometime around August 12th, when it is not unusual to see at least 60 meteors per hour streaking across the Northeast sky.

The meteors are certainly bright, but they are actually only tiny objects, usually no more than a grain of sand. They travel at speeds of 71 kilometers per second, however, which helps these small particles put on such a brilliant show year after year.

This weeks' Sky at a glance: (Three Planets Close together this Weekend!)

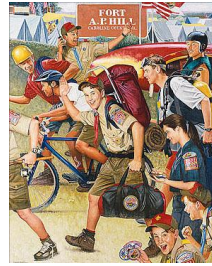
Friday, Aug. 6 # Starting this evening, Mars and Saturn spend more than a week sliding above brilliant Venus low in the west as twilight fades. # Have you seen any early Perseid meteors yet? The peak of the shower is expected to arrive next Thursday night (the night of August 12-13), so start planning now! See our article Dark Nights for the Perseids.





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Saturday, Aug. 7

Venus, Mars, and Saturn are gathered their most tightly this evening, fitting in a circle 4.8° in diameter — just small enough to qualify as a "planetary trio" (a grouping within a 5° circle).

Sunday, August 8

Keep watching the Venus-Saturn-Mars triangle as it changes shape day by day in the western twilight. Spica too is now moving in on the scene from the left, as shown above. Can you also make out Gamma (γ) Virginis, magnitude 2.7? For this you'll probably need binoculars.

Monday, August 9

New Moon (exact at 11:08 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time).

Tuesday, August 10

Bright Vega crosses nearest your zenith around 10 or 11 p.m. daylight-saving time (depending on how far east or west you live in your time zone). When you see Vega nearest the zenith, that means the Teapot of Sagittarius is at its highest in the south. # The Sagittarius Teapot has no less than eight globular clusters around its spout

Wednesday, August 11

The thin crescent Moon is a few degrees lower left of Mercury, extremely low in the west 15 to 30 minutes after sunset as shown below. This is a lovely but difficult observation, even with binoculars.

The Perseid meteor shower will be very active late tonight.

UPCOMING EVENTS (Color Coding RED TEXT is an event that has changed, Color coding /Shading other colors indicates a new event since the last email). As you can see we are getting a full schedule already. Additional details are available by viewing the Troop Calendar. As you can see we have a FULL month once again!

8/7/2010	Troop Organizational Workshop
8/7/2010	Spanish Trails Leadership Super Saturday
8/9/2010	TROOP MEETING (1 st of the Year!)
8/10/2010	Committee Meeting
8/12/2010	O/A Meeting
8/14/2010	O/A Dinner
8/16/2010	TROOP MEETING – ELECTIONS For SPL and Patrol Leaders
8/23/2010	TROOP MEETING
8/27/2010	O/A – Fall Ordeal (Camp Lawton)

LONG TERM EVENTS

9/24 – 9/26/10 - The Spanish Trails Service Weekend is Scheduled – Click here for info:
http://www.catalinacouncil.org/ST_Service_Weekend.pdf

TBD October – Spanish Trails Camporee at Double V Ranch.



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LIFE TO EAGLE:

Since this is 2010 and the centennial year, I have received many requests for scheduling Eagle projects so that Eagle can be achieved in 2010. This might be a difficult task to get everyone worked in around the regular Troop events but we will make a strong effort go get this done.

Some of you had asked where the application and Eagle packet are – So I re-posted them here:

- Here is the 12 Step Presentation for going from Life Scout to Eagle Scout:
<http://catalinacouncil.org/spanishtrails/Life-to-Eagle.pdf>
- Here is the New Application for Eagle
http://catalinacouncil.org/spanishtrails/Eagle_Application_09.pdf
- Here is an Editable version of the Eagle Workbook:
http://www.troop1631.org/forms/Eagle_Scout_packet.rtf
- Where to write for Congratulatory Letters:
<http://usscouts.org/eagle/eaglecongrats.asp>



CLASSIFIED ADS:

Wanted:

New Trailer !

Lost n. Found

The bag is FULL again after Geronimo! If you lost anything in June, please stop by and reclaim your property.

WEEKLY THOUGHT:

What will be remembered?

This last week, I had the sad duty of attending two memorial services for the three crew members of LifeLine 12 which crashed in the middle of Tucson last week. I didn't personally know any of these people but because the public safety community is small, and tight knit, I couldn't be absent from so important a function.

On Thursday, I was in Safford for Brenda French's funeral. Brenda was young, only 15 years older than some of you guys, she had her whole life in front of her. She was the Flight paramedic that died that day for reasons known only to god. As I listened to her family and friends get up and talk about the things she had done in her life, I could only reflect on the things people would say about me when it becomes my turn (in 50 years or so) to have someone describe me.

It was sobering to be sure, but I would have to say one of the pinnacle moments has been the last year I have spent with all of you.

Alex Kelly, the Pilot, Flew missions in Vietnam – He was a helo pilot there during the height of the conflict. He had over 14,000 hours of experience, and flew for the border patrol for many years. He had been flying medical choppers since 2002.



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Parker Summons was the Flight Nurse, He was an avid bicycler, and rode through Saguaro national park East loop as recently as the week before the crash. He wanted nothing more than to be a Flight nurse and in 2007, he realized his dream. He leaves behind a son.

Brenda French, the Flight Paramedic, worked for a while in Montana as a Security agent, and then in the prison system. When she returned to Arizona, she became a fire / ems captain in the Pearce/Sunsites fire department. She recently attained her Firefighter certification and had only been working on the helicopter a short time.

One message that stuck with me was "These are heroes, not because they died tragically but because they *Lived compassionately*".

Sorry to start the year off on such a downer but my goal this year is to do so many FUN/CRAZY, OUTSTANDING things that when it's time to sum things up, this year will stand out as one of the best of your time in Scouts. I look forward to making some wonderful memories with you this year.

Next time you see them, just ask Greg and Travis why this is important. I'm SURE they have not only good memories but GREAT memories.

-Mr. Long

