



## *News of the Troop #5*

**Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to the scouts and families of Troop 1983! I hope everyone is enjoying their time off from school, work, and the daily stresses of life. With the New Year we have a number of activities coming up that I hope most of you can attend.**

- √ **Troop 1983 Mud Bowl:** For those of you in town on the first day of 2008, join members of the troop for a friendly father/son touch football game. We'll be gathering "rain or shine" at Waples Mill Elementary on the upper field (use common sense if it is real cold and nasty). Time to gather is 1:00. Hot chocolate will be available to help provide some warming. This is a good opportunity for those working toward First Class to invite a non-scout friend and dad to join the troop for a fun activity.
- √ **Eagle Court of Honor:** A very special event will occur on January 5 that I hope the entire troop will have the time to attend. Three of our scouts, Mike Arndt, Matt Ellis, and Steve Howard have successfully achieved the highest rank in scouting and will have their Eagle Scout badges presented in a special ceremony. The Court of Honor will occur at Little River United Church of Christ, 8410 Little River Turnpike, Annadale. The ceremony begins at 5:00 with a reception to follow. All scouts should of course wear their best scout uniform.
- √ **Ski Trip:** The troop ski trip is fast approaching and a few slots are still left. Scouts do not need to be advanced skiers – a basic-level ski instruction is included in the fee and other lessons can be arranged. We will group scouts by skill levels and monitor their skiing during the day. Let Mr. Roger Christ know as soon as possible if you're planning to go. The troop is limited to 25 attendees.
- √ **Citizenship in the World Merit Badge:** Mr. Donn Smith will provide an opportunity starting in January for 5 or 6 First Class and above scouts to earn the Citizenship in the World merit badge. The merit badge sessions will occur during a portion of the January troop meetings. Scouts should contact Mr. Smith if interested. You also need to review the requirements and acquire a merit badge pamphlet before the January 7 troop meeting. Depending on the number of interested scouts the sessions may be limited to those scouts working on Eagle.
- √ **Merit Badge Counselors:** The troop is looking to recruit more merit badge counselors. News of the Troop #4 has more information. If interested, reply to the email that forwarded this document. A troop resource survey form is also attached to the forwarding email which lists all the merit badges to help in your decision. The following website also provides merit badge information:  
<http://www.usscouts.org/usscouts/meritbadges.asp>.