



# BOY SCOUT TROOP 753

www.troop753.org

WIN!

## Did You Know:

- We meet Monday nights at Aldersgate United Methodist Church
- We're Boy Led and Patrol Focused
- We camp once a month!
- We hold leadership elections twice a year so everyone has a chance to lead
- In Troop & Hands-on merit badge classes: hiking, climbing, communications, camping, emergency preparedness, personal fitness, personal management and shotgun. (Just to name a few!)
- We've a proven Trail to First class program.
- We've got spinners on our trailer (usually)!
- We're active in our service to give back to our community
- Geocaching is a popular Troop Activity
- We make the best cobbler in town
- We've been known to take a couch to Winter Camp
- We've the best shotgun teacher in Carrollton!
- We're active in extreme scouting activities: Philmont Trek, World Jamboree, National Jamboree, RMHAB, etc.
- We'll be there for your Webelos crossover ceremony!

Contact Gary Darden  
Membership Chair  
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Aldersgate United  
Methodist Church  
3926 Old Denton Road

## What a year we had!

At the beginning of the year, we look back at our adventures of this past year. It was an event full year with lots of growth for both the troop and our scouts. As a troop we grew to 62 scouts and 50 scouters. This is an increase of 20 scouts and scouters over last year! We learned the difficulties and joys of working, moving and camping a large troop!

## Our troops pride! Our Newest Eagles

This year, 4 of our senior scouts received the rank of EAGLE SCOUT!  
They join the 28 scouts in our Eagles nest!  
Congratulations on this extraordinary achievement.  
They are:  
Robert Aron, Justin Hiss, Steven Murray and Alan Swain.



## Court of Honor

Here is a summary of our scouts progress:

Scouts:	10
Tenderfoot:	19
2nd Class:	7
1st Class:	8
Star:	12
Life:	3
Active eagles:	3

Merit Badges Earned in 2010: 233



## What have we done since August?

### The Breaks at Bar H Bicycle Ranch

What have we done since August? Well, we started on a soggy September morning with many scouts and as many bicycles. We left and all arrived safe at Bar H bicycle ranch. After cleaning trails and repairing fire pits and a "talk" on safety and road rules, the scouts were off. Some scouts went riding while others went hiking, after 4 hours it was back to camp for dinner and campfire.



Softly falls the rain today, as our campsite floats away.  
Suddenly each scout should ask, did I wear my scuba mask.  
Did I tie my tent flaps down, learn to swim so I won't drown.  
Have I done and will I try, everything to keep me dry!



### Shotgun shooting, Archery and Orienteering:

In October it was time to bring in the big guns...shotgun shooting, archery and orienteering! Thanks to the hard work of our shooting coaches, range officers and orienteering course builders we had a magnificent camp out. We reached a new record in our shotgun program as we managed to go through 900 rounds while getting nearly 40 boys ample opportunities to shoot.



## Centennial Camporee



Scouters and Scouts have been celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America all year. The Circle Ten Centennial Camporee in November, in Dallas was no exception. Some 6,500 Scouts and Scouters met at Dallas Executive Airport for a weekend of excitement. Activities included a human-size game of foosball, pioneering, archery, orienteering, an Order of the Arrow village, patch trading, rock climbing, and much more.

## Rock climbing and Descending

In December we left for Sid Richardson for some Rock climbing and descending. As always, we had a great time in the great outdoors - far away from civilization and our daily comforts — no mobile phone reception, no bathrooms either!



## And then there was THE TRIP to Corpus Christi...

After our adventure on the bus, suddenly we could see her, aptly nicknamed “The Blue Ghost”, especially on this foggy, rainy Saturday afternoon. We boarded the ship, were assigned our bunks and started several of our self guided tours throughout the ship (and in search of paranormal activity!).



Living on a piece of history was an unique and memorable experience. It emphasized the sacrifice that so many service men and women make every day and

has a bed and locker as their personal space! Sacrificing all comforts we take for granted. Even though we did not encounter any ghosts face to face...we might have heard some...or maybe it was just the wind....

## In a Philmont state of mind

Wow our crew departs to Philmont on June 21. That's four months away. Already the 753 crew has done a couple of shake downs with more on the schedule before that June date arrive.

We also voted on our trek and while we wait for the final results, we know that our crew voted to have a chuck-wagon dinner, shoot black powder riffles, take a mine tour, and finally do some actual gold mining and panning Food, gun and gold—now that's a good idea for a theme party, well, maybe not?

The crew also elected leadership positions for the Trek: Nathaniel is our crew leader, Curtis will be our Chaplain's aide, Zack - the Quartermaster, and Steven will serves as our Wilderness Guide Leader. We took a vote for Navigator....but the results were lost. Others on the trek include: Tom, Lee, Chase, Carlos, Seth and Jerry.

In Febuary we hiked 15 miles at Sid Richardson. Warmer weather did not make the adults Hike any faster or the boys cook any better...but that's why we're practicing. Things we've learned—5 liters of water is heavy; don't feed Lee chili if you are hiking in line behind him; don't say yes if mr Smith offers up leftover pancake batter!

We hope you'll keep track of our progress at Philmont with SPOT from our troop website and hope those of you not on this trek start to get in shape for your turn.

See you out on the Trails!



## Winter Camp @ Trevor Rees Jones Scout Camp

Troop 753 took 30 scouts and 10 adults to Trevor Rees Jones Scout Camp at Athens Texas for a week filled of fun culinary delights. At winter camp the while the scouts are off working on their rank advancements and merit badges the scouters (adults) are busy cooking up a storm. This is the only camp the scouts have every meal cooked for them, and it wasn't hot dogs and hamburgers either!



## It's that time of year again!

To be (here) or not to be (here) that is the question....actually we already made that decision. At the moment, we have several cub scouts packs visiting us looking find a troop. We love the ones who join us and are glad for those that don't, even if we wanted to—we can't keep them all!

Thanks for every one who help the Webelos find their way!



## Popcorn and yard sale

Our annual popcorn sales and yard sale. We would like to thank our popcorn kernels and yard sale organizers for a well planned and executed events. Thanks to all of you who donated their items and volunteered . We all appreciate all the endless hours you spent planning , executing and consolidating these mammoth undertakings.



## Scoutmaster's Minute

Greetings troop



It is hard to believe spring is already here. This time last year we were preparing for our largest ever group of new scouts to enter the troop. Now those scouts are about to leave the TFC program and become experienced scouts within the troop. We have another group of scouts that seemingly joined our troop just a short time ago, who are diligently preparing for a high adventure trek to Philmont. And a group of our most senior scouts are rolling into the rocking chair patrol as they reach the age of 18. These guys will soon be of to college. In the mean time we are preparing a place for the newest generation of scouts who are starting to cross over into our troop.

So here we are –a change of season, a coming of age and a changing of the guard. The troop has grown in numbers at both youth and adult level. I have noticed a new momentum in our numbers. And with that new momentum, I also detected a new focus as we hone our ability to deliver on a promise of the Boy Scout program to all who wish to share the experience with troop 753.

I can hardly wait to see what new will come of this troop this year !

Mark Murray  
Scoutmaster, Troop 753