

Troop 677 Parents,

As next weekend's Ropes Challenge course outing at Beaumont draws near, I felt it timely to send this note. Simply stated, we have a real need for trained Ropes Challenge and Rocks & Rappelling instructors.

Our troop has approximately 120 registered scouts. We currently, however, only have three active Low Ropes-trained instructors (only two of which are High Ropes-trained). I've had to recruit members from other smaller troops over the last three years (including this year) to get enough instructors for our annual April Challenge Course outing. And, we currently only have four Rocks & Rappelling-trained instructors. We will need at least this many and perhaps more for our upcoming RRRR May outing at S-F. Simply put, we must have more parents take Challenge and Rocks/Rappelling course training this spring (or fall), so they can be ready for next spring's outings. Without more trained instructors, it's very possible that this will be the last year we'll be able to accommodate the entire troop.

The BSA training website is a bit difficult to navigate, so I've enclosed a spreadsheet to help you find your way. Links to sign up for Challenge and/or Rocks & Rappelling instructor, as well as Adult Leader training are highlighted in green. For quick access - the dates are:

Ropes Challenge training: (April 20 evening and April 30 & May 1 weekend, 2011)

Rocks & Rappelling training: (May 25 evening and June 4 & 5 weekend, 2011) or (July 27 evening and August 6 & 7 weekend, 2011)

Adult Leader training: (May 7 afternoon and May 13 & 15 weekend, 2011)

For the on-line courses, click on the hyperlinks on the spreadsheet. When you get to the "BSA Online Learning Center" home page, you'll have to create an account with a user name and password. Once logged in, click on "E-Learning" on the left hand side to get to the actual courses. At a minimum, all registered adults must take Youth Protection training (required by the Boy Scouts) to be active in the troop.

The more trained we are as a troop, the better we'll be able to carry on the tradition of offering our boys the most fun and challenging activities possible!

Please don't hesitate to call me if you have questions or need help.

Yours in Service,

Mr. Miller