

Monday's Court of Honor is also Veteran's Day

(please read this)

By Mr. Eppestine

I think it's important for an organization like BSA to inform it's members about Patriotic holidays, so if you didn't know, Monday November 11th is Veteran's Day. Duty to Country is part of the Scout Oath. Those who served in the military and fought in a war are considered to be a Veteran. On Veteran's day, we honor all Veterans. Then, on Memorial Day we honor fallen Veterans (this is the holiday when GT Scouts put flags on the graves at Jefferson Barracks, but you knew that).

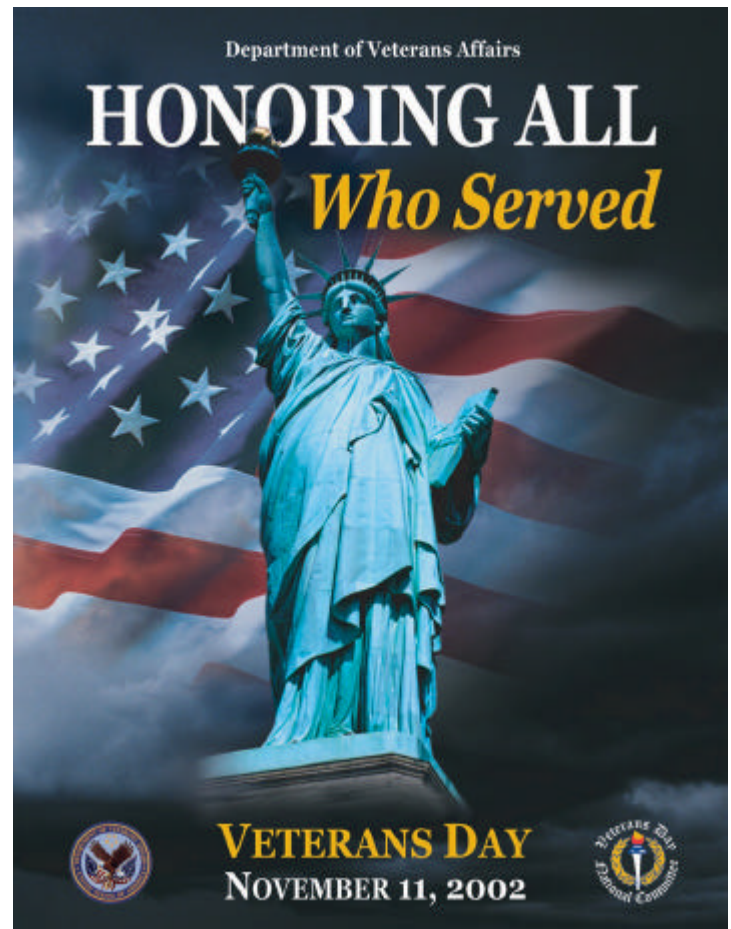
So, you might wonder what are the origins of Veteran's Day? Well, here it is straight from the VFW with permission.

Origins of Veteran's Day

In 1921, an unknown World War I American soldier was buried in Arlington National Cemetery. This site, on a hillside overlooking the Potomac River and the city of Washington, became the focal point of reverence for America's veterans.

Similar ceremonies occurred earlier in England and France, where an unknown soldier was buried in each nation's highest place of honor (in England, Westminster Abbey; in France, the Arc de Triomphe). These memorial gestures all took place on November 11, giving universal recognition to the celebrated ending of World War I fighting at 11 a.m., November 11, 1918 (the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month). The day became known as "Armistice Day".

Armistice Day officially received its name in America in 1926 through a Congressional resolution. It became a national holiday 12 years later by similar Congressional action. If the idealistic hope had been realized that World War I was "the War to end all Wars," November 11 might still be called Armistice Day. But only a few years after the holiday was proclaimed, war broke out in Europe. Sixteen and one-half million Americans took part. Four hundred seven thousand of them died in ser-



vice, more than 292,000 in battle.

Armistice Day Changed To Honor All Veterans

Realizing that peace was equally preserved by veterans of WW II and Korea, Congress was requested to make this day an occasion to honor those who have served America in all wars. In 1954 President Eisenhower signed a bill proclaiming November 11 as Veterans Day.

On Memorial Day 1958, two more unidentified American war dead were brought from overseas and interred in the plaza beside the unknown soldier of World War I. One was killed in World War II, the other in the Korean War. In 1973, a law passed providing interment of an unknown American from the Vietnam War, but none was found for several years. In 1984, an unknown serviceman from that conflict was placed alongside the others. To honor these men, symbolic of all Americans who gave their lives in all wars, an Army honor guard, The 3d U.S. Infantry (The Old Guard), keeps day and night vigil. A law passed in 1968 changed the national commemora-

tion of Veterans Day to the fourth Monday in October. It soon became apparent, however, that November 11 was a date of historic significance to many Americans. Therefore, in 1978 Congress returned the observance to its traditional date.

National Ceremonies Held at Arlington

The focal point for official, national ceremonies for Veterans Day continues to be the memorial amphitheater built around the Tomb of the Unknowns. At 11 a.m. on November 11, a combined color guard representing all military services executes "Present Arms" at the tomb. The nation's tribute to its war dead is symbolized by the laying of a presidential wreath. The bugler plays "taps." The rest of the ceremony takes place in the amphitheater. Every year the President of the United States urges All Americans to honor the commitment of our Veterans through appropriate public ceremonies.

What's Next?

The months of November and December are traditionally sparse Scouting months for Troop 824. This is generally due to the start of the Holiday season... Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Years... But, we do have some things coming up. Most notably, Scouting for Food. Patrick Fitzgibbons gives us a report about it below. Please be sure to sign-up if you haven't already. It's a worthy event and you really do get a lot of satisfaction from doing this "good turn". Service hours ain't bad, either.

Late in the month of November (the 24th) we have the Ropes Course event. If you haven't signed up, contact Mr. Schrenker or Mr. Chambers. The cost is minimal and the fun and rewards are enormous.

Then, there's nothing on the calendar until January 3rd which is when we'll have the annual WEBLOS cabin camp-out at Beaumont (this is always a lot of fun).

Scouting for Food

By Patrick Fitzgibbons

Scouting for Food is a way to collect food for the less fortunate. The Scouts collect food throughout neighborhoods and bring the food to the fire station where other scouts package it up. Scouting for food is spread out over two weekends. On **November 16**, the scouts distribute bags to homes, which the residents fill with canned food. The next weekend, on **November 23rd**, the scouts collect the food. This is a great way to give to the poor and it also counts as service hours. If you want to work at the fire station, you have to be an explorer age scout. More than 35,000 adult leaders and scouts are expected to

participate in this canned food drive. Last year, more than 1.95 million cans of food were collected by scouts. Please help to make this year an even bigger success.

A note from Mr. E

As an addendum to Patrick's article, here a link to a web page on the BSA National site.

<http://www.scouting.org/factsheets/index.html>

You might notice down towards the bottom of this page a link to a list of National BSA Good Turns

<http://www.scouting.org/factsheets/02-569.html>

This was too big to reproduce here, but I found it interesting... thought you might too.

Court of Honor

Court of Honor is Monday evening November 10th. Since we're a little light on articles for the newsletter this month (hint, hint), I thought we'd just reproduce the list of awards here to give a little added recognition to Scouts receiving awards.

Merit Badges

Archery: Falsetto, Brendan

Cinematography: Backer, Steve

Rapp, Bryan

Wang, Jason

***Cit In Community:** Schepers, Tyler
Schultz, Andy

Climbing: Haltemann, Zack

***Cycling:** Bender, Mark

Haltemann, Jacob

Haltemann, Zack

***Emergency Prep:** Schultz, Andy

***Family Life:** Rose, Adam

***First Aid:** Schultz, Andy

Fishing: Brockman, Tyler

Home Repairs: Rouse, Adam

Music: Eppestine, Peter

***Personal Fitness:** Lehn, Greg

Schultz, Andy

***Personal Mgt:** Maurath, Daniel

Pets: Rouse, Adam

Photography: Chambers, Aaron

Kinmartin, Ryan

** denotes Eagle rank required*

Rank Advancements

- Tenderfoot:** Anderson, Zak
Dunajcik, Aaron
Wohlschlaeger, Alex
- 1st Class:** Oster, Davy
- Star:** Schepers, Tyler
- Life:** Chambers, Aaron
- Bronze Palm:** Rapp, Bryan (to be presented at Eagle CoH)

Fall Pacao

Many of the senior Scouts in the Troop could not attend the fall Pacao at Ft. DeChartres this year, but many of the younger Scouts attended and had a great time. This writer didn't get to attend, but no one that did attend came forward with a newsletter article, so here we are.

As I understand it, the Troop received Merit and Honor at Pacao and we fed a lot of Webelos. All-in-all a good showing.

Mr. Biehl was kind enough to provide a few pictures from the event, but there are no comments to put into captions.

For now, these pictures will have to stand on their own.



Troop 824 Upcoming Events

(You might consider printing out this page and taping it to the fridge or other appropriate spot)

- Nov 4th** Troop Meeting at WMS
- Nov 11th** Troop Meeting Court of Honor (full Class A/sash) Dan Maurath will be MC
- Nov 16/Nov 23** Scouting for Food Drop off/Pick up; Mr. Chambers/Wohlschlaeger
- Nov 18th** PLC Meeting at WMS
- Nov 21st** Parent's Committee Meeting at WMS Art Room
- Nov 24th** Hi-Lo Ropes Course, Beaumont; Mr. Chambers/Schrenker coordinating
- Nov 25th** Troop Meeting at WMS
- Nov 28th** Thanksgiving Day

- Dec 2nd** Troop Meeting at WMS
- Dec 9th** Troop Meeting at WMS
- Dec 16th** PLC meeting at WMS
- Dec 19th** Parent's Committee Meeting at WMS Art room
- Dec 23rd** Troop Meeting at WMS
- Dec 25th** Christmas Day
- Dec 30th** Troop Meeting at WMS

- Jan 3-5th** Webelos Cabin Campout, Beaumont, Coordinators: John Dundon, Frank Efthim
- Jan 24-26th** Advancement Cabin Campout, Swift Explorer Post (at S-F)

Please Note: Parents of younger Scouts should volunteer to shadow our veteran event coordinators so the "know how" for putting on events isn't lost.

Unless otherwise noted Troop meetings are held every Monday (3rd Mondays are PLC only) at 7 PM in the Washington Middle School (WMS) cafeteria or at Suson Park during Summer when school isn't in session.

*Parents' meetings are now THIRD Thursday of the month at **WMS Art Room** (upstairs, through the gym to the far left corner) unless otherwise noted (Also at Suson Park in Summer).*

Also, PARENTS PLEASE REMEMBER: Scouts MUST be escorted into and out of the building by an adult. We must also insure that once they are on the parking lot, they are supervised until they have transportation. This is important! If we have another hallway discipline infraction, we will lose our meeting place at Washington Middle School.