

# Carmichael Elks – Troop 386

## May-June 2006 Newsletter

### Lava Beds Trip

The lava beds are a special trip that the troop goes on every other year on Memorial Day weekend. It is located up past Mt. Shasta. This year the troop had a delay in leaving due to a storm that came in and dumped a lot of snow in the area causing the roads to be unsafe to travel at night. So the troop had to leave the following day. They had finally arrived later that day. One cool thing is the older boys got to go on a midnight cave exploration. This is a cool thing. The next day the boys got up and made a pretty good breakfast for a day of exploring of some cool caves. We all had to wear helmets because of the cave being very small in some areas and if you hit your head on the lava, you will need stitches or your caving exploring would be finished for the day. There are some caves you have to get on all fours to get through and if you turn off your flashlight, you wouldn't be able to see the person right next to you. In one of the caves you have to climb, scale and slide down into this big open space and if you made it there, there was a book you sign your name to prove you had made it through. Overall it was a pretty great weekend of exploring over a hundred year old caves and learning about the villagers who lived there.



### Flags at the Cemetery

Some of Mr. Davin's Webelos from Pack 204 and some of our scouts helped out the Fair Oaks Cemetery to setup and take down American flags around the cemetery in remembrance of all our servicemen and women. I would like to say

thank you to pack 204 and the scouts from our troop for helping them out.

### Intro backpacking

Every year when we get new scouts, who join our troop, we introduce them to backpacking by taking them on at least 5 mile backpacking trip somewhere in the mountains. This gives them an idea what backpacking is all about. At first the younger boys don't realize how important it is to take only what you need until they get half way up the mountain and complain the pack is too heavy. But by the time we get to our destination they are amazed of themselves that they have conquered the mountain and now they can enjoy the scenery around them. Good job new scouts.

### Things to know

- Yosemite Trip- Aug.18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>

Here are the present troop leaders training our future leaders of the troop.

