



# T485 Newsletter *June 2018*

## Flag Planting Reflection

*Forest Yang*

### What's the best thing you did?

- Making sure everyone went to the same cemetery (Golden Gate National Cemetery in San Bruno). Everything went pretty smoothly.

### What's the biggest mistake you made?

A few things to remember for next time:

- Bring the troop flag so it's easier to find our party in the crowds.
- Collect drivers' phone numbers beforehand.
- Rendezvous area after arrival should be *ceremony* area (only SICs need to go to registration area to check-in pick up pokers).
- AiCs should bring medical forms.

## How do I join Slack?

Slack is now our main channel of unofficial communication within the troop, and every scout should be active on it. If you'd like to know how to join slack, here are a few simple steps:

1. Send an email to your patrol leader (or any other slack administrator, such as another patrol leader, if your patrol leader is unavailable) requesting an invite.
2. You'll be automatically added to the #general channel, this is for troop-wide communication, mostly announcements.
3. On the left hand side of the screen is a navigation panel. On the top you'll see a list of channels you're in. Click on the header "Channels" to see the available channels for

## Troop Announcements

- Summer Camp medical forms, waivers, and permission forms are due on Monday, June 4
- Summer Camp prerequisite forms are due anytime before the start of camp
- SPL elections are coming up!
- If you are interested in featuring an article in this newsletter, join the [#newsletter](#) channel on [slack](#).

## Future Events

- June 2 - Kayaking (Jack Tian)
- June 4 - Entrepreneurship merit badge
- June 8-10 - Philmont Shakedown (David Qiao, Glen Chen)
- June 17-23 - Summer camp (Jacob Nie, Richard Liu)

## May Advancement

Congratulations to the following scouts for advancing in May:

- Samuel Wong, Life
- Joshua Yin, 1st class
- Landon Yang, Scout
- Franky Zheng, Scout
- Jeremy Pan, Scout

## Fun facts

you to join -- Your patrol slack channel is always a good first choice. Your patrol slack channel might be private -- in that case, DM your patrol leader to get an invite.

4. On the bottom is a list of direct messages you're involved in. Click "Direct messages" or click on anyone's username to start a direct message. These private chats, containing up to 8 people, are great for merit badge groups, questions and clarifications, and small group, less focused, discussions.

- Dynamic warm ups are better than static stretching before exercising.
- Mexico City sinks about 10 inches a year.
- The first fax machine was patented in 1843, 33 years before the invention of the telephone.
- Shakespeare invented the word "assassination" and "bump".

## New #sellyourthings channel on Slack!

*Richard Liu*

Have something you no longer want or need? Sell it on the new [#sellyourthings](#) channel! Join this channel and find great 2nd hand items on sale, which is a great way to practice being thrifty.

This is also a good option for new scouts trying to buy new tents, sleeping bags, sleeping pads, etc.

## A Scout is Thrifty

*Richard Liu*

We need equipment for every event, big or small. That equipment doesn't last forever, and you'll eventually need to fix it. Whether it's patching a hole in your tent or fixing a sleeping pad, self repairs are quick and easy, allowing you to continue using it for years to come. During Mother and Son a tent was ripped by a raccoon. It was pointless buying a new 200 dollar tent when the old one only had a small tear in it, so instead I bought [tent repair tape \(Amazon \\$4.34\)](#) online and fixed it with my friends. Instead of buying brand new equipment, try fixing it yourself (don't tell your parents to do it!). Remember, a scout is thrifty!

Obviously, this doubles as a reminder to never leave food or smellables inside your tent at night.

## Sleeping Bag and Tent Maintenance

*Jacob Nie*

Since many scouts are new, this subject is worth reviewing. Whenever a sleeping bag is washed in the washing machine, the down or synthetic material loses its loft. This means that the sleeping bag won't be as warm! When you come back from a campout, your sleeping bag could have dew or other moisture on it. The best way to keep your sleeping bag as clean as possible while maintaining longevity is by drying it out for a day every time you come back from camping. Remember, never store your sleeping bag inside its compression sack for weeks at a time. When you buy a sleeping bag, it should have come with a big sack—use that instead.

After a lot of repeated use, your sleeping bag will eventually start to smell and become disgusting. This is when you might want to wash it. There are two ways of washing it, and choosing which one to do depends on how dirty it is. Method 1: Use a toothbrush and some soap and water to gently wash and rinse the outside fabric without getting the down or synthetic fill wet. Method 2 involves using a washing machine. You will want to use a gentle soap, preferably one that's designed for washing down. When you put the bag inside the dryer, add two or three tennis balls---this will help with maintaining the sleeping bag's loft.

Tent maintenance is easy! When you come back from a campout, your tent will most likely be somewhat wet with dew. Since we usually don't have time to dry it out before we have to leave, you probably pack the tent back in its sack while it's still wet. The moment you get home, go to your backyard or any space outside and set up the tent to dry it out. If it's not completely dry before you store it back in its bag, you run the risk of a bad case of mildew which can damage the waterproof lining of your tent.

## Gallery



Memorial Day Flag Planting





Mt Dana Summit ft. Jacob Nie

Past issues: [May 2018](#) | [April 2018](#) | [March 2018](#) | [All](#)

*The next installment of this monthly newsletter will come out on the first day of July. If you would like to make an announcement or write an article to be featured in the next newsletter, please send us a message at the [#newsletter](#) channel on [slack](#).*