

Troop 1548

Presents

PeaceLight 2011

November 30 to December 6



What is PeaceLight? The PeaceLight, or "Light of Peace", started many years ago in Vienna Austria. A radio station sponsored an orphanage to travel to the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem. An eternal flame is kept lit by donations of oil from around the world in the Grotto of the Church. A candle was lit from this flame and taken back to Vienna as a symbol of Peace.

Since that time, Scouts from around the world gather, annually, in Vienna to become bearers of the Light. After traveling to Bethlehem and receiving the Light, the Scouts return to their native homes via automobiles, planes and trains. Yes, even by plane. The Scouts and airlines have made special considerations for transporting the light across the oceans.

Scouts stop along the route and light the candles of people who want to carry the PeaceLight to their own communities.

When is PeaceLight? Troop 1548 will arrive with the PeaceLight in Northern Virginia late on November 29th, 2011.

How do we get the Light? Troop 1548 plans to hold a Peace Light ceremony to celebrate the passing of the Peace Light to other scouting units. Event details are under development. Please plan to send 3 representatives from your unit to the ceremony – 1 flag bearer, 1 reader and 1 lantern bearer. Contact Phil Quinn (scouter.quinn@gmail.com) or Steve Klosky (sklosky@cox.net) to sign up for the ceremony. If your unit cannot attend the ceremony, please contact Phil or Steve to make alternate arrangements.

Groups other than Scouts can also obtain the Light by appointment from Troop 1548 from

November 30th until December 6th, 2011. Contact Steve Klosky (sklosky@cox.net) The light may also be available at several local churches after they receive the flame. You can find more info at www.peacelightusa.org

Is PeaceLight only for Scouts? No, Scouts are transporting the vessel so that all may take part in its message of Peace. Once Troop 1548 (the Travelers) lights a candle, the bearer becomes the messenger who takes the Light back to his/her community and shares the wish of Peace.

Is this a Christian only event? No, the PeaceLight is available to all faiths.

How do we Transport the Light? Please remember safety when transporting the Light. A person other than the driver should hold the light while in a car. Ensure the lamp can be transported safely and not knocked over.

Jim Hunter has offered to provide technical assistance. He can provide advice with setting up lanterns and building containers for safe transport of lanterns. Please contact him at jimhunter@cuprunbuilders.com

What do we do with the Light? The PeaceLight event is what you make of it. There are no set rules (except safety) for receiving and passing along the light.

If this is your first time receiving the Light, it is always helpful to have someone read to the group the story of the PeaceLight and the journey it has taken to arrive at your location.



1548

The All Weather Troop



Where Eagles Soar!



Transporting the Light

Lantern

- You must have a lantern to transport the Light
- Make sure the Lantern is safe for travel in a vehicle.

By Car

- When using a car to carry the light, please note the following:
 - Where possible, Night Light Lanterns and Paraffin lamps should be contained in a canister
 - Ensure there are at least two people in the car, one to concentrate on driving and the other to look after the light.
 - Minimize the risk of fire and travel within reach of a fire extinguisher.
 - Refueling of lanterns or changing of nightlights should not be done while the car is moving, On a long journey, plan stops to refuel the lantern.
 - Keep the light away from all fuels and other combustible materials.

Sample words for a Peace Light Ceremony

This year Scouting is 101 years old. To celebrate, we would like to present a special gift of Peace, the PeaceLight flame and symbol, as a salute to Scouts around the World.

The journey began in November when a team of Scouts traveled from Vienna, Austria to Bethlehem to receive the Peace Light.

We continue the effort as Scouts transport the Light throughout the world. As the light arrived by train and car today, so it arrived in America by plane.

We invite you and your family to join in receiving the flame and become bearers of the "light".

IDEAS FOR THE LIGHT:

- 1) Take to a local hospital for the sick and injured.
- 2) Take to a church and invite members to receive and pass along the light to others.
- 3) Invite the community to come out to a PeaceLight ceremony.
- 4) Host a Scouting event.