

Troop 10 Times

December 2003

Scoutmaster Minute

By Mr. Mike L., Scoutmaster

As I begin my first Scoutmaster's minute I would like to take moment to thank the Troop for their trust and confidence in bestowing the honor Scoutmaster upon me. The boots left to fill by Hank, Ryan, Vern and 75+ years of previous Scoutmasters are huge and I am expecting some blisters. As you have granted your confidence and trust, I also ask your patience and assistance in the process of growing into the new role. We are blessed with some terrific young men and a great program with the best years still ahead of us.

November has been a busy month. The boys have been busy with popcorn and wreath sales. We have had many visiting Webelos and are looking forward to their cross-over to the troop. The boys had a meeting dedicated to working on advancement followed by a meeting with presentations from Hank S. on cooking and Katie E.'s Venture crew sharing their experiences backpacking in Canada.

We just returned from our annual family campout at Starved Rock State Park. The initial count was 38 scouts enjoying the company 47 guests for a total of 85 adventurers. The weather was warmer than last year with the rain holding off until the final morning. Special thanks Ron P., Jeff S., Steve R., Fred S., George F. and a host of others for putting together a great time for all in attendance. The Park was beautiful with its majestic bluffs and great views of the Illinois River and tributaries. The scouts and family members enjoyed hiking, visiting the nature center, free-form ball games, campfires, an orienteering course, the monkey bridge and working on advancement. We had plenty of firewood provided by the axe yard crew honing their skills under the watchful eye of Bob H. to keep everyone warm during down time. Our venture crew, along with the eighth-grade scouts were especially helpful with set-up and take-down chores.

I would like to take a moment to welcome the new scouts and parents to the troop. We have both transitioning Webelos and some new veterans. It was great to spend some time together at the last few meetings and thank you for joining us for the campout. We can look forward to spending more time together in the years to come.

December is coming-up very quickly. We have our December Cabin Campout scheduled for the first weekend in December. This year's activity will be centered on the Space Exploration merit badge. Each scout will be building and launching their own rocket. To get an overview of this or any other merit badge visit www.meritbadge.com. We close the 2003 portion of the program with a red shirt meeting on December 15th. Please have a happy and healthy holiday season. Your participation and support is the reason our boys have such a great opportunity to learn and grow as members of Troop 10.

Finally, a very special thanks to Ryan J. for generously sharing his friendship, experience, and expertise to ensure the transition is a positive experience for all.

Yours in Scouting, Mike L., Scoutmaster

December

1	Class A Meeting
5-7	Hoover Educational Center Cabin Campout
8	PLC/BOR/SMC
15	Red Shirt Meeting
15	Newsletter Deadline
18	Committee Meeting
Dec. 22 – Jan. 2	Winter Break

January

5	Class A Meeting
12	Red Shirt Meeting
15	Committee Meeting
15	Newsletter Deadline
23	No School
23-25	Winter Campout
24	Klondike Derby

February

2	Class A Meeting
5	District Roundtable
9	Red Shirt Meeting
12	Newsletter Deadline
13-15	Devil's Head Ski Trip
16	No School
19	Committee Meeting
23	Court of Honor

Check our website for further information –
<http://units.nwsc.org/users/troop10>

SMC = Scout Master Conference
BOR = Board of Review
PLC = Patrol Leaders Conference

MISSISSIPPI PALISADES THOUGHTS...

Mississippi Palisades

On October 17-19, we went to the rock climbing campout near Rockford, Illinois. We met at the church then departed to the camp site. When we reached the camp site, everyone unpacked their bags and set up tents. In the morning it was sort of cold. We ate breakfast and got ready to climb. We were driven close to the site and some of us put on gear. Those who wanted to climb got to, and some of us got to repel. Climbing was a lot of fun. Most people thought it was fun because of the thrill going down. Some people were scared, but it seemed like everyone loved it. After climbing, we went back to the campsite. It was warmer and we got to have free time. The next morning we all packed up and left to go home. Overall, it was a great campout.

Brent R.

Hi, I am Kevin J., the Troop Librarian. I just want to remind you about merit badge books.

Our troop owns over 100 merit badge books that scouts can borrow. If you need a merit badge book, call me at home or contact me at a Troop 10 meeting. A deposit of \$3.00 is required for each book that a Scout borrows.

Scouts may borrow the books for an unlimited period of time. When the book is returned to me, your deposit will be returned to you. The deposit will be kept only in the event of a lost book. If you have recently borrowed a book and are finished with it, please return it so that others can use them.

Thank You, Kevin

MISSISSIPPI PALISADES CAMPOUT

Even though I was not at the rock climbing trip I learned that it was really fun but at the same time very hard. I learned that it was a 3 day trip and that you had a lot of gear to carry. I heard that the meals were pretty good also. I know I wasn't there but I was glad to share the experience with the other scouts. I am glad I heard all about it.

Ryan W.

As we all know, cold weather comes with the holiday season. I have decided to list a few things every camper needs on a cold campout. Of course, there are many more items that are not listed, so don't limit your duffel to just these! And always remember, cotton is rotten! It soaks up water and sweat, and expedites the lowering of one's body temperature. Here are some things that have helped me keep warm over the years:

- A couple of winter hats that fully cover the ears
- Heavily insulated mittens (gloves will work, too, but not as well)
- Glove liners (just in case the mittens don't cut it)
- Neck Gator
- A couple sets of long underwear
- Warm sweaters (wool or materials of the sort work best) and/or Polar Fleece
- Snow boots
- Winter jacket
- Ski socks (wool socks will keep your feet warm, too, but will not allow moisture to escape as well)
- Snow pants
- Mummy bag or other cold weather sleeping bag
- Sleeping pad
- Hand and feet warmers
- Plastic bags (if your boots ever get wet, you will need these for your feet!)
- Food and lots of water...Food provides your body with the energy to keep you warm, and lots of water keeps you from dehydrating. Drink plenty of water even if you don't think you are thirsty!

It is also necessary that you dress in plenty of layers. As the day passes, you will want to take layers off and, later in the day, want to keep warm with more layers.

Jon S.

Troop 10 Committee Chairman's Report By Tom K.

It was great to see so many scouts and parents at our first Court of Honor for this scout season. Most of the advancements and merit badges were earned as a result of the work completed at Camp Napowan. Mr. Hank S. did a great job in presenting the scouts with their various awards. Thanks Hank! As Mr. S. leaves his position of Scoutmaster for personal and family reasons, special thanks to Mr. Michael L. for his willingness to assume his new role as Scoutmaster and Mrs. Alison Z. for her willingness to take on her new role as Treasurer. Troop 10 is very fortunate to have so many talented, qualified and, willing people to serve in our troop.

Mr. S. had indicated previously that he and Adam will be involved with Troop 10 as much as possible and as their time permits. It was certainly nice to see Hank back at our Monday meeting before the November campout presenting to the scouts the topic of "camp cooking". This certainly is one of the scout skills that can always be improved upon. Just listen to a few patrols creation of a camping menu sometime and you'll know I mean... e.g., Frosted Flakes and bacon for breakfast...

Best wishes to all and hope to see many of you at the next upcoming campouts.

If anyone has any questions, please feel free to call or e-mail me anytime. I can be reached at home or via e-mail.

YOU ARE ALWAYS INVITED

It was great to see so many parents participating in the family campout. Your presence and support mean so much to your scout's development. The concept of "many hands make light work" keeps everyone fresh and makes for a more enjoyable experience. You do not have to wait for an invitation to attend any Troop 10 activity; simply fill out the parent attending information on the bottom of the permission slip. The schedule of events through 2004 is available on the troop website. Visit www.nwsc.org, we are in Signal Hill district under unit links.

For those who want to make their participation official, please see Tom K. for information of becoming a registered adult leader.

Christmas Wreath Sales are Complete!

It was a successful sales effort. Sales of wreathes were up 27% over last year. All scouts who sold even a single wreath will receive a small but cool prize. Details to come.

Please plan to pick up your Christmas wreathes at Hagers on November 25th between 3:00 P.M. and 6:00 P.M. Or November 28th between 8:30 and 10:30 A.M.

If you have any questions regarding the wreath pick up, please do not call Hagers. Call Jeff or Judy T. at 847.382.2641

NEWSLETTER INFO

All Historians are required to submit an article for the newsletter each month to fulfill their position of responsibility.

Other Scouts, especially those in Troop Leadership positions, are also welcome to submit articles concerning their area of responsibility.

Adult Leaders and **Committee Members** are asked to submit timely articles as well.

Articles should be e-mailed to Mrs. Carole Z.

Deadline for next issue is *December 15*

Outing Corner - The "In's and Out's"

by Ron P., Outing Chairman

At the time of writing this, many of us are getting ready for the Family Campout at Starved Rock State Park. Hopefully, it will be as successful as the Rock Climbing campout at Mississippi Palisades State Park. The weather at Mississippi Palisades was beautiful and the rock climbing and rappelling was a challenge, even for the most advanced climbers in our troop. My personal thanks go to our trained troop climbing experts (Mr. J., Mr. F., Mr. T. and Mr. S.), in addition to Rick and Adam (our Napowan acquaintances). Thanks to all of their efforts, we were able to climb numerous different rock faces and have a great time. Finally, the patrol skits on Saturday evening, were quite entertaining.

We will shortly be heading out to Hoover Outdoor Educational Center for our December Cabin Overnighter (December 6-7). This should be an interesting outing, because we will be making and launching rockets. Depending on the number of participants, we may have to alert local air traffic controllers about the large number of "UFO's" in the local skies!!! In any event, it should be a lot of fun.

Mark your calendars for the upcoming outings:

Klondike Derby: Jan 24, 2004: Lot's of fun winter activities

Devil's Head Ski Trip: Feb 13 - 15, 2004: Great downhill skiing (at least for the Mid-west!).

2004 Summer Venture Trips

Again this upcoming summer, those scouts who will be 13 years old or older by Jan 1, 2004, will be able to participate in two fantastic venture trips. We will be returning to Sea Base for an exciting sailing trip in the Florida Keys (Aug 12 - 19, 2004). This year, we will be having 2 crews! While both crews are presently filled, we are accepting names for a wait list. For first hand information on this trip, contact Scott A., Matt B., Bill T., Kevin K., or Robert S.

In addition to Sea Base, we have signed up for the Blue Ridge Mountain New River Adventure (July 24 - Aug 1, 2004). We will be camping in the Blue Ridge Mountains and activities will include: 2 days of COPE (with a High Ropes Course, 200 foot zipline, and an exciting G-force event), one day of Whitewater Rafting, one day of Whitewater canoeing, and one day of either caving, wall climbing/mountain biking, or mountaineering (backpacking and rock climbing). We have signed up for 2 patrols (24 attendees) and we are presently taking names for this terrific trip (15 spots still available, but they are going quickly).

If you are interested, see me at the scout meetings (Ron P) or give me a call.

Starved Rock State Park Family Camp Out Utica, Illinois



Boy, I sure wish we had some some-mores!

More Starved Rock Memories...



E-Mail Philmont@Covad.net for copies of pictures from Starved Rock State Park

Boy Scouts of America
Troop 10
Barrington, IL 60010
<http://units.nwsc.org/users/troop10>

**“Coexistence ... what the farmer
does with the turkey - until
Thanksgiving.”**

