



TROOP 510



<http://troop510.home.att.net>

August 2004



Scoutmasters Report

Tom Lenagh
Scoutmaster

One day a Scout named Bill was sighting with his compass. "Top of that hill is 045 degrees," said Bill, "I'm going to follow that bearing and end up on top".

Bill started off checking his compass now and then to make sure he was heading right. Finally he set foot on top of the hill.

He had done three things - set his objective, figured out the direction he'd have to go to get there, and then moved full steam ahead.

Like all of you, Bill set a lot of courses towards many goals in his lifetime. Maybe he said to himself, "I'm going to be an engineer". Then he would find out what it takes to become an engineer, and steer his course in that direction.

All of you should be able to set a compass course. Maybe some of you have set a course toward a career. There's another kind of course that's more important than your career. I'm talking about the character course. Your character is being formed right now by what you do and don't do.

We have a "compass" for the character course, too. It's the Scout Oath and Law. Set your character course using the Oath and Law and you'll have the best kind of character.

You'll be the kind of man that others can trust, rely upon and admire. You'll go to the top of the character hill.

Next month (September) we will be going back to wearing Class A uniforms for our weekly meeting. I hope that everyone has had an enjoyable summer. But, as usual summer comes to an end and school will be starting soon.

PLC Notes

Trevor Jenke
Troop Scribe

August

- 3 The Best Patrol has opening, closing and a game. The new scouts will work on second and first class requirements. The rest of us will plan the family campout.
- 10 Highway Clean up. We will be meeting at Christ Lutheran Church at 6:15
- 13-15 Family campout at Stillwater Water park (if you are interested call our SPL Blake Hansen ASAP)
- 17 Family Picnic at Blake Hansen's house (Come to a meeting or call Blake for directions and details)
- 24 The Dwarfs will have opening, closing and a game. The new scouts will work on more second and first class requirements. The rest of us will plan camporee and decorate the staffs.
- 31 PLC meet at Christ Lutheran Church at 6:15

September

- 7 The Dwarfs will have opening, closing and a game. We will all participate in elections.
- 14 The Old Fogies have opening, closing and a game. The troop will watch “ A time to tell” unless you have your card!
- 21 The Best Patrol will have opening, closing and a game. The new scouts will work on more second and first class requirements. The rest of us will plan more camporee.
- 24-26 Fall Camporee
- 28 PLC

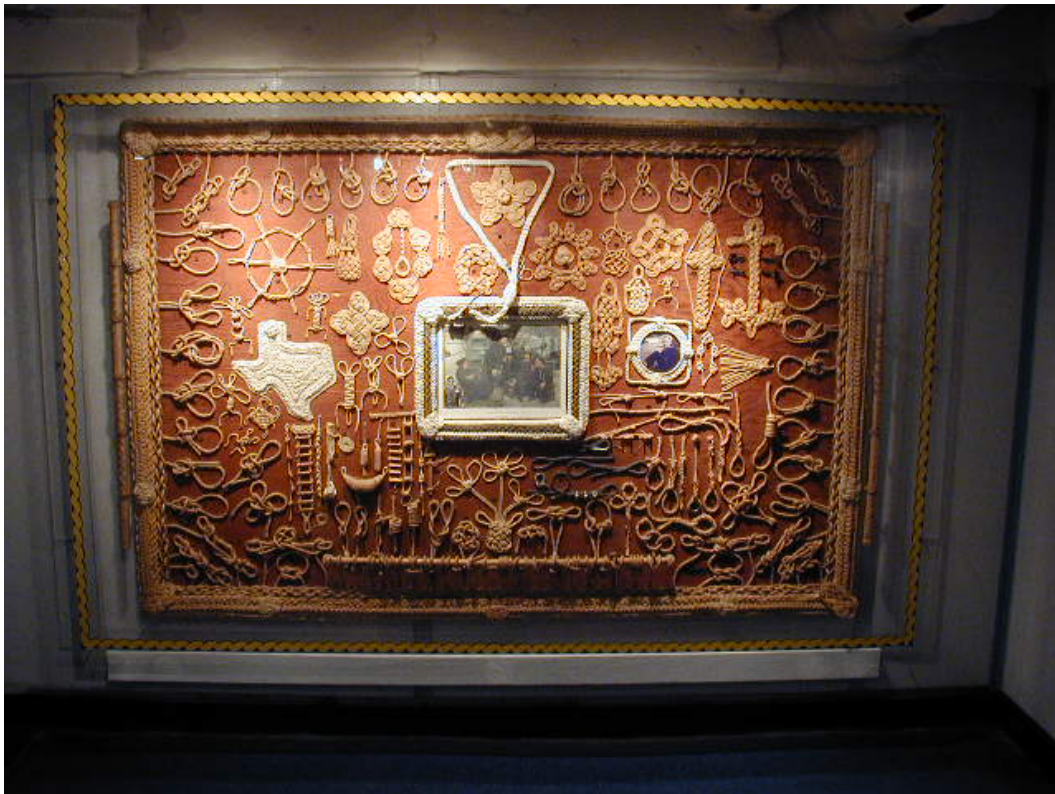
My Summer Vacation

Mr. Hammer
Assistant Scoutmaster

It seems the number of trip reports from my fellow leaders to include in the Troop 510 newsletter is getting smaller. I'll have to bug them so the rest of you know what happened if you didn't attend. In the meantime, I'll share some of my summer vacation with you!

We recently took a trip to Oklahoma, Texas and Louisiana. It is the part of vacation where we visited the USS Lexington in Corpus Christi that I write about today. The USS Lexington is the 5th such vessel by that name for the U.S. Navy. This particular ship was launched during World War II and served its crew and our county proud during the war. It is now docked in Corpus Christi and is a museum. Youth groups including Boy Scout Troops visit the ship and can even spend the night aboard the vessel. There was a board with many BSA Council Strips on board the ship.

However, that was what I found the most interesting. I found a display of knots on board. Not just a few like we learn in scouting, but 121 different knots. Can you name them all? Here is a picture for you to get started on the names:



Church Clean-up

Mr. Hammer
Assistant Scoutmaster

I can't take credit for this information nor any of the work as I was on vacation when all of this happened. It turns out some of our Troop has been busy helping Christ Lutheran Church get on track with refurbishment of the classrooms.

My understanding is that they were getting behind and asked the Troop if we could assist with the project. I guess a lot of you turned out to assist and go the project back on track. Rumor has it that Mr. Deters was going wild with his paint sprayer and wouldn't quit until the task was done.

Thanks Scouts, Scouters, parents and anyone who assisted! It is great to assist the place where we meet each week!

Tomahawk

Ms. Tunseth
Assistant Scoutmaster

Another fantastic year at Cheyenne Campsite began on July 10, 2004. After the traditional Swedish Village breakfast and a long drive, we arrived and some clever Scouts created our first service project by backing the trailer into a post. Most of the day Saturday was spent in setting up camp, having all those camp orientation sessions, and exploring Cheyenne. The most exciting event of the day was when Mr. Gries had a little encounter with a sharp stump and ended up going to the hospital for stitches.

Sunday: We got into the rhythm of camp life with formation, flags, and food, followed by church, more food, merit badge classes, still more food, and then the big campfire and the OA Callout (congratulations to Nick Boon, Blake Hanson, Rob Amundson, and Grant Erickson). Along the way we had the "three horn honk" drill and many Scouts worked on CPR. The new Scouts got introduced to the lake, learning various rescue methods.

Monday: The new Scouts learned about knives, saws, axes and fire in Brownsea, and then did Frogman. Most of them did a bird hike for Feathers. In the evening, they had an adventure in the forest with the Brownsea director, "Dr. Phil," who led them on a three mile hike through wild territory. They were exhausted by the end of the day! Experienced Scouts worked on merit badges and service projects, and spent time playing in Scoutcraft. Several guys went whitewater rafting. Water polo...well, at least it was fun.

Tuesday: New Scouts learned all about knots and lashings, maps and compasses, and then did Frogman and a hike through the bog. They also earned their Totin' Chips and Fireman Chits. Leaders also were learning this week: Ms. Lenagh and Ms. Tunseth did a workshop about Leave No Trace camping, and Mr. Lenagh got recertified in running a BSA climbing tower. Cooking merit badge Scouts got a trip to town and the DQ. Free time was spent on the archery, rifle and shotgun ranges and the tower.

Wednesday: The new Scouts learned all about first aid and preparation for the big hike the next day, and had their last day of Frogman. Most of them got to see Tomahawk on horseback and make the traditional milk carton birdfeeder for Feathers. Others tried to avoid finger carving. Everybody enjoyed Cheeseburgers in Paradise. Lots of shooting and climbing, fishing and swimming during troop activity time and free time.

Thursday: The new Scouts had a big adventure, the five mile hike to Foxfire, where they got to talk to a trapper, throw tomahawks, and get up close and personal with the trapper's pigs. Lots of work done to complete those merit badges, earn segments and advance in rank. Leaders were kept very busy doing Boards of Review and Scoutmaster's Conferences for the new Scouts. Today was a day for Outposts: Jared Erickson collected 10 or 11 ticks in his Wilderness Survival campout and Devin Tunseth collected no fish in his Fly Fishing excursion to an island. Alex Amundson camped at Foxfire. A few lucky people got to go see the bison (and get very dusty).

Friday: Polar Bear! Brownsea graduation for the new Scouts! The final flurry of Boards of Review and Scoutmaster's Conferences (all 8 of the new Scouts made it to Tenderfoot and most even to Second Class!). Amazingly, almost everyone was done with their work by lunchtime, so we went off to the Chippewa State Fair and the Beach Bash, followed by the final Chip campfire. Parents began arriving, Ms. Lenagh cooked cobblers, and the campsite was transformed into the Court of Honor. We finished our camp experience with another great ceremony, MC'd by Shawn Lenagh and Nick Boon, and a LARGE fire built by Trevor Janke and Nick Hammer. Many merit badges, rank patches and pins, segments and other awards were passed out. Devin Tunseth received the carabiner for showing the best Scout Spirit for the week. We were all entertained by great skits and speeches, and finally the evening came to a close with cobbler.

Saturday. Our adventure came to a close as we packed up camp and said goodbye to Cheyenne. But we know that next year will be even better!

Tomahawk – Part II

Mr. Hammer
Assistant Scoutmaster

Due to the long length of this month's newsletter, I will post the summary of badges, rank and other items earned in the September issue. Stay tuned for a great list from a bunch of busy Scouts!

BWCA Write-up

Trevor Janke
Venture Crew Secretary

In the second week in June venture crew 510 ventured up north to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. The Rout we took showed us almost all sides of nature. The Weather was great and everyone was in high spirits. The crew learned many things about themselves and their role with nature. Mr. Lenagh and Mr. Larsen were the leaders who took us up north to visit this beautiful wilderness. The crew Historian Trevor Janke has compiled a photo album for interested persons to view of our trip to the beautiful BWCA. Also if you are interested he also has the pictures for the crews trek in 2003 to Philmont Scout Ranch. But back to the trip we started at Snowbank Lake starting point and followed our schedule with minor changes to the plan as we make our way. Getting lost is something that is acceptable as long as we eventually find our way eventually. On day one we had the choice of portaging a 120+ roder or doing 2 80 some odd roders. Shawn wanted to do the 120+ rodder and called us all weak for not wanted to try that long of a portage on our first day out there. It came to a vote and overwhelming majority voted to portage 2 80's. After doing the first 80 all were super beat and felt like they couldn't go on. HMMM??? What about the choice to do the 120-rod portage, imagine how tired we would be then. The days passed quickly with only one incident on a capsizing canoe. (It was Peter and Brady's canoe) and only I person fell in, and that was Brady. The weather was beautiful except for one day of rain but that's still pretty good. As the trip continued the food began to get better Peter Boon and Trevor Janke proved how macho they where by sumping pots of spaghetti and beef stroganoff. Some went fishing. Shawn was the only one with a fish story as we all remember them, you know "it was huge and I almost caught it." Other than that no one caught a fish. We met other crews and groups but never stopped to chat. Numerous wild life spotting kept it exciting. The trip was full of fun. Lots of time to just sit and think of play cards. Our final day involved flying. Well at least for the person riding in front for those stories and many more consult one of us who went. And ask about the pictures.

The crew is in the process of planning the next big trip for next summer so if you are over 14 and wanna join in the fun. Come to the next Venture crew meeting. If you have any questions about venture crew 510 ask myself, Trevor Janke, or Shawn Lenagh at the next troop meeting.



The final word

Mr. Hammer
Assistant Scoutmaster

I am going to borrow the final words this month. I had the privilege of reading an e-mail from Ms. Janke at the Court of Honor. I find no better words to close this month's newsletter than to repeat her e-mail here:

Parents, Leaders and Scouts –

I wanted somehow to be a part of this Court of Honor. As a parent I wanted to be there, to support my Scout. This year my work schedule is such that I couldn't make the trip.

Well I've learned a few things recently that I'd like to share:

Learn – There is something you can learn from your elders, your peers and those coming up behind you. You never know who will be the person you will learn from – so don't disregard anyone. Take the time to learn, it is a gift.

Take risks – Risks come in many shapes and sizes. Try something new it will show you new things about yourself. Many of you did that this week. I've had to do that too. It is amazing what you can do, when you take risks.

Laugh – There is humor in many adverse situations. It can get you through some tough times. Remember to laugh.

Be proud – Be proud of who you are and what you stand for. What you do when no one is looking – tell you more about yourself than you realize.

Be your best. Stay true to the things you hold important. You never know when the things you do will really, really matter. In a big way –

Parents – You are here tonight, to share in your son’s accomplishments. Whether it is that they stayed for the first time without you for a week or earned their last merit badge toward their Eagle or a range of accomplishments in between. The boys get more involved each year, earning their merit badges and mentoring the younger scouts. But just important, is having the fun of camp and the nostalgia of returning to the same place for the same week every year. It holds a special magic. The leaders of Troop 510 have allowed that magic to continue for all the years our boys have been in the Troop.

Parents it means the world to them that you are here. Always remember that.

I wish I were sitting with you. I’ve never before missed a court of honor at Tomahawk that my son has attended. I came for the same reasons you came – to show my son that I was proud of him.

I have also learned that it takes a village to raise a son. Thank you for being in my village.

I have seen and experienced some things that have opened my eyes wider than they have ever been before. But, you don’t have to travel to the other side of the world to know how special your family is to you or to realize that we live in the greatest country in the world. We live in a place where you can gripe about the government and not only stay alive, but be held in high regard for speaking your mind. Where women can choose a profession and take part in their government at all levels. And where terrorists anger a country into action, like we saw after September 11th.

Scouts, remember to stand for something, be someone worth being, someone worth knowing.

Parents: just love them. They are awesome.