



TROOP 510



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

December 2005



Scoutmasters Report

Tom Lenagh
Scoutmaster

Christmas and Hanukkah are, for the most people, the most joyful holidays of the year. The holiday parties, the exchange of gifts, and the brilliant lights of the Christmas trees make a guy glad to be alive at this season.

Sometimes we forget that these holidays are really religious festivals. It's well to remember that the real holiday spirit is cast by the Star of Bethlehem and the Hanukkah candles, reminding us of the miracles in times past.

In the 12th point of the Scout Law we say that a Scout is reverent. That doesn't mean that he has to go around all the time with a long face or with hands folded in prayer. It means that he does his duty to God, which includes doing things for God's other creatures.

Also remember that money cannot buy everything, all of you recognize this and know that it will buy certain things. It can purchase a candy bar, a stamp, or a little time on a parking meter. Add more money and you can do bigger things.

However, there are many things that money, no matter how much you have, cannot buy. Some of these include the love of your family, freedom friendships, and the great out-of-doors.

People can't pay us for the Good Turns we do. Such payment would take away the good feeling that we have when we do things for others.

A Merry Christmas and Hanukkah to all of you and your families.

PLC Notes

The Unknown Scout
Troop Scribe

Dec 6 – Ghostbusters have Opening, Closing. Bacon have a game/skill. Holiday Party planning.

Dec 13 – PLC at 6:15 and the Holiday Party at 7:00

Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Ms Lenagh
Troop Committee

On Saturday, December 3 several scouts and parents spent 4 very cold hours ringing bells for the Salvation Army. It may have been cold but it was very rewarding to know that we were doing a small part to help others who are less fortunate.

A great big thanks to Grant Erickson, Bryce Erickson, Greg Boon, Alex Amundson, Rob Amundson, Cynthia Amundson, Mike Amundson, Daniel Arbogast, Kyle Unzicker, Linda Offerdahl, Wesley Kimball, Lori Kimball, David Salter, Isaac Mensink, Jake Chicos, Tom Lenagh and Phyllis Lenagh.

Thanks again to all who gave up a few hours during a very busy time to help others.

Stearns SR – Diamond Lake Lodge (18/20 Nov)

Mr. Loher
Assistant

Cracker Barrel, Pioneering, First Aid, Orienteering, Treasure Hunt, Cooking, Football, Capture the Flag, Golf, 500 Rummy, Worm Wrestling.....

All part of the action packed weekend enjoyed by the ten Scouts, one Webelo, and four adults at Diamond Lake Lodge, Stearns Scout Camp the weekend of Nov. 18th, 19th, and 20th. Luxury accommodations greeted the group as we arrived at Diamond Lake Lodge on Friday night. Indoor plumbing was an added treat! Yes that even meant no cold outdoor toilet seats! After the customary Friday evening cracker barrel, there was free time for relaxing, playing cards, or worm wrestling. Worm wrestling?? I need to look that one up in the scout handbook!

Saturday was a fun filled day of a variety of activities. Five scouts were working on First Class cooking rank over the weekend, so these scouts served as the cooks for breakfast, lunch and dinner. The day began with a delicious breakfast of pancakes and sausages. Some of you heard of the game Mega Base, but did you ever hear of Mega Pancake? As the young chef's confidence grew, so did the size of the pancakes. Their final pancake creation "Mega Pancake" needed three hands and three spatulas to flip it! After a hearty breakfast, it was time to step outdoors for some pioneering work. The older scouts worked with the younger scouts to teach lashings. One of the camp gadgets created was that of a tripod lashing. This was no ordinary tripod lashing. Hanging from the tripod was a "weather rock" which comes in very handy on camping trips. If you want to know how a weather rock works, you'll need to talk to Dan Arbogast. After learning some lashings, it was time to come inside to learn the A, B, C's. The A, B, C's of CPR that is. The scouts learned the five major symptoms of a heart attack as well as what to do if someone should stop breathing or someone's heart stopped beating as a result of a heart attack or other injury. After first aid, it was then time to get everyone's hearts pumping with a rousing game of football before lunch. I think some of the adults came close to needing CPR by the time the game ended for lunch!

Orienteering was the focused scout activity for the afternoon. The scouts learned how to orient a map, read a legend, understand contour lines, and find their way using a map and compass. Brice Erickson planned a fun orienteering course and the group split up into three teams. Each team was given a map of the camp, a compass, and several designated points on the map that they needed to find. At each designated point, there was a marker and a question that needed to be answered. The scouts spent a good part of the afternoon navigating their way around camp moving from one marker to the next. They eventually all made their way back to Diamond Lake Lodge where they received their final coordinates from Mr. Erickson. A little hidden treasure surprise awaited each team at the final site! Each scout was a winner in that they came out much more knowledgeable in working with a map and compass than before. Afternoon free time after orienteering allowed scouts time for some more football, golf, 500 rummy, and

more worm wrestling! The First Class cooks didn't disappoint for the evening meal as they put together a fine dinner of spaghetti, meat sauce, and garlic bread.

Capture the flag in the dark was the activity after dinner. Both sides search feverishly for the other team's flag, but to no avail. Finally both teams threw in the towel and came inside to spend the rest of the evening's free time relaxing, playing cards, or getting into the worm wrestling action.

After a brief devotional on Sunday by our Chaplain, Dan Arbogast, it was time to pack up and head back to Eagan. Overall, it was a very fun weekend and a good time was had by all. (I never did find worm wrestling in the Scout Handbook!). Guess you'll need to ask one of the Diamond Lake campers about that.