



# TROOP 510



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

February 2004

---



## Scoutmasters Report

Tom Lenagh  
Scoutmaster

Its February already, time to start planning for the March Court of Honor. Every patrol needs at least one skit or song. Also its time to finish the last requirements for your next merit badge or rank.

March also brings troop elections. As we elect a new Assistant Senior Patrol Leader (ASPL), he will serve as the new ASPL for six (6) months before becoming Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) for six (6) months. The new ASPL must be at least first class rank and active in the troop. This is **not a popularity contest**. The scout elected into this position will have a huge influence on how and what the troop does for the next year. So choose carefully when voting.

Keep in mind that a leadership position is required for every rank above first class. Now is the time to talk to the new SPL for the leadership position you are interested in. The troop will also need at least four (4) troop guides to work with the new scouts that are crossing over this month. Don't forget that the packs are always looking for Den Chiefs. This is also a leadership position. If you are unsure of the responsibilities of any of these positions please see the SPL or myself.

It won't be long now before we'll be adding several new Scouts to this troop, the Webelos Scouts who will be graduating from Cub Scouting.

It goes without saying that I expect you Scouts to give them a warm welcome. How you treat them during their first couple of meetings and outings with us will determine whether they stay in the troop.

Remember that they are young kids. Some of you will look like giants to them and if they are a little timid, they are going to be a bit afraid of you. So I would like all of you and especially you older Scouts to go out of your way to help and meet the new scouts.

Let's all remember that and give a warm welcome when our new Scouts join.

Have any of you ever seen a car key - such a small item. Yet it will open the door to a car, and when properly placed and turned it will start the engine. With a little key I can visit faraway places, see wonderful sights, and do so many things that were impossible two generations ago. Is it any wonder that I always carry my key with me?

Your Boy Scout Handbook is a lot like my car key. It is a small item, yet it will open the door to Scouting and will speed you on your way to adventure. Sure, you probably could get by without using your handbook. I could get by without my car key, too, but I'd have to walk and it would be slow going. I certainly wouldn't get to see all those places I can reach by car.

Let's not leave our key behind as we enjoy Scouting. Use your handbook regularly. Take it with you to meetings and on hikes and camping trips. Let your handbook open the door for you.

# Council Court of Recognition Dinner

**Mr. Hammer**  
CCR Dinner Committee

For three years in a row I have been involved with the Indianhead Council Court of Recognition Dinner. In fact last year I was the Chair of the event. The event honors adults from all over the Council who help bring the Scouting program directly to the youth. There are many awards of many types for the various levels of scouting.

This year one of our own is being honored with the Silver Beaver award. The Silver Beaver was established back in 1931 and is presented by distinguished service to young people within a local council. The award is down without the awardees knowledge by a peer. There are other "silver" awards but for this award the individual must be a registered adult member of BSA. Only a very limited number of awards are given out each year with a local council.

Our Troop 510 adult being honored this year is Assistant Scoutmaster Kevin Schwarzbauer. If you would like to see him receive this award, the Council Court of Recognition Dinner is being held on 6 March 2004 at North Heights Lutheran Church in Arden Hills. The dinner starts at 6:00 p.m. and is \$21 if you pay before 20 Feb (\$25 after that). It is a good meal and a good time. For more information, contact myself or visit the Indianhead Council Web site at [www.indianhead.org](http://www.indianhead.org).

## PLC Notes

**Trevor Jenke**  
Troop Scribe

Feb 3 – The Smile Patrol has opening, closing and the game. Everyone will be planning the Norsland campout. The Smile Patrol will present a Winter First Aid Skill.

Feb 6 to 8 – Snow Base

Feb 9 – OA Elections for Troop 345 @ Northview Elementary.

Feb 10 – The Moogles Patrol have opening, closing and the games. The scouts will plan the Court of Honor. The Moogles will teach an orienteering skill.

Feb 10 – Pack 104 has their Blue and Gold Banquet.

Feb 16 – Pack 517 has their Blue and Gold Banquet.

Feb 17 – The Hawks Patrol has opening, closing and a game. OA Elections for our Troop. The Spring Court of Honor will be finalized. The Hawks will teach us our knots.

Feb 17 – Pack 109 has their Blue and Gold Banquet.

Feb 20 to 22 – Camping trip to Egloo at Camp Norseland.

# Eco Backen

“I”

The Unknown Scout

After a late start due to some misunderstandings, we drove up to Eco Backen. While the leaders entertained themselves with paper work inside, we scouts, Chris, Braden, and I, grabbed tubes and hit the hills. It was moderately warm for a mid January day, so after several face plants and a number of collisions, we decided it was time to take a break. We headed inside and had some chili dogs while cooling off. Between tubing and waiting in line for the two rope, and waiting in line to tube again, it was soon 2:30. We left Eco Backen and headed home, taking naps on the way, but not without having chili cheese fries before going. If you didn't go, you missed out on some excellent tubing and chili!

**Editors note:** While trying to plan and coordinate the Fort Rice campout at the PLC meeting, the above trip report was handed to me without a name on it. I wish I could give credit to the writer but there isn't time to find out who wrote it before publishing this masterpiece of a newsletter. My only clue is that the article was written by “I” so that is who gets credit. My only hope is that the writer puts his name on his homework assignments before turning them in at school!

## The very end story

Mr. Hammer

Editor

Planning out the summer months all ready? Well, here is one for you to look at including in your plans. It is the Grand Excursion 2004 which celebrates the renaissance of the upper Mississippi River region, by recreating the 1854 train and steamboat expedition that brought worldwide attention to what was then America's wild, western frontier. During the Grand Excursion 2004 Flotilla, communities all along a 400-mile stretch of the Mississippi River -- from the Quad Cities of Iowa and Illinois through the bluffs of Wisconsin, to the Twin Cities of Minnesota -- will host celebrations and recreational, educational and cultural events.

The original Grand Excursion of 1854 celebrated America's first railroad connection to the Mississippi River. This event hosted more than 1200 dignitaries, politicians, journalists, business leaders and artists, including the 13th United States President, Millard Fillmore, on a journey that began on rail from Chicago to Rock Island, Ill., then by steamboat up river from Rock Island to Saint Paul, Minn. and Saint Anthony Falls in Minneapolis, with several stops in riverfront communities along the way. Grand Excursion 2004 will retrace this historic adventure. Participants in Grand Excursion 2004 will have hundreds of opportunities to participate in special events, festivals, parades and programs showcasing riverfront improvements, pathways and tourist attractions in the participating communities in this four-state initiative (Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota).

The event concludes in St. Paul over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend when the Grand Flotilla arrives into the Port of Saint Paul on Saturday afternoon, July 3, to a welcome of incredible pomp and circumstance. The weekend will include a Governor's Reception, Mississippi River Salute, Mingling of Waters Ceremony, fireworks and paddleboat cruises. On Monday, July 5, the community will gather for a special farewell as the Grand Flotilla departs.

Now doesn't that sound like summer fun? Now that you will be in town for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, don't forget to help work the Troop 510 Food Booth at the Eagan 4<sup>th</sup> of July Festival!

It took me a long time to get to the point of this story and I suspect you didn't expect this twist at the end! Help raise funds for your Scout account by planning on working the Arts & Crafts Festival in June and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Festival! There might even be a hot dog sale thrown in during the month of May.