



TROOP 510



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

February 2008

Scoutmaster's Report



Tom Lenagh
Scoutmaster

It's February already, time to start planning for the March Court of Honor. Every patrol needs at least one skit or song. Also, it's time to finish up that last requirement on your merit badges or rank.

February also is the time for OA elections. Order of the Arrow (OA) is an honor camper society within Boy Scouts of America. It promotes cheerful service and fun. We will need at least one half of the troop present to hold elections on February 12. This is not a popularity contest.

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 you are expected as 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.

When we go hiking we spend most of our time on trails. Sometimes the going is easy because the ground is flat and smooth. Other times it's all uphill - steep and rocky.

The Scout advancement trail is like that, too. Some of the requirements for the skills and merit badges are easy for you. Some are tough like an uphill climb with a 40 pound pack.

This month can we concentrate on helping each other up those steep, rocky hills to earn skill awards and badges. Why bother? Because by mastering more skills we grow to be a better person, more independent, better able to take our place as a responsible citizen.

Help the Boys and Get a Weekend of Fun

Mrs. Vieths
Newsletter Editor

The weekend of February 15 - 17, our troop will be heading to one of their favorite camping venues. It is Fort Rice, which is part of Camp Phillips in northwestern Wisconsin. This facility was built to resemble an old frontier front on the outside but the inside is more like a dormitory complete with running water, inside toilets and showers on the inside! In other words, this is a 5 star campground! Why the hype you ask? Due to the popularity of this event, we are in need of drivers for this weekend. If any parents are interested in seeing what a camping adventure is like, or would just like to spend enjoying the north woods wilderness, this campout is for you. Please sign up on the Fort Rice campout sheet. You will need to indicate the number of passengers, including yourself that your vehicle can carry. By the way, this is a great venue for camping novices.

FCA Campout - Adirondack Cabin Jan. 11 – 13, 2008

Mr. Loher
Assistant Scoutmaster

Leadership and Teamwork. These two go hand in hand. You can't have good teamwork without strong individual leadership! The 12 scouts and 4 adult leaders that attended the weekend campout to Adirondacks Cabins at Fred C. Anderson Scout Camp had an opportunity to practice both their individual leadership and teamwork skills. The theme for the weekend was Leadership – “The Leader in Us”. The boys quickly learned about one of the myths of leadership: that you don't have to have a title or position to be a leader. Everyone is a Leader! After a group brainstorming exercise on Friday evening by the group to identify various leadership attributes, it was time to chow down for some cracker barrel, followed by some card games.

The first “team” exercise on Saturday morning was “Survivor.” Each team was presented with the scenario of a family lost deep in the north woods of Maine. Each team needed to decide on the 15 most important items (out of 30) that they should bring with them to help them find their way out. Each

team did a great job trying to reach a consensus on the things they felt were the most important.



“Mission Impossible” was the team building activity for the afternoon. The mission: A “search and rescue mission” to find two lost hikers. Each team had to decide what equipment to bring with them, hike to an outpost campsite where the lost hikers were last spotted, set up a command post with shelter, and then form a search party for the lost hikers. In addition, they needed to prepare for the possibility of injuries. Once again the teams came through, showing both their leadership and team skills. Luckily our lost hikers were found, treated for injuries and brought back to the command posts safely. (Next time Mr. Mensink and Mr. Hultquist will need to use the buddy system before they go wandering in the wilderness alone!)



After a dinner of hamburgers and french fries, it was time for the final activity of the day. The evening's activity was rather unique - Saturday Night at the Movies! Yes the scouts had a movie night and gathered around the “big screen” to watch “Remember the Titans”. Sure were plenty of

leadership and teamwork examples in that great football classic! There sure were plenty of leadership and teamwork examples throughout the weekend from the scouts in Troop 510 as well! Everyone returned home proudly displaying their “leadership necklaces” sporting lots of leadership beads.

Troop 510 Business

PLC Notes

Karl V.
Troop Scribe

Tuesday 5th – The Waka Waka patrol has opening and closing. Plan spring Court of Honor. Theme for COH is the Olympics.



Tuesday 12th – Fogies patrol have opening and closing. New scouts will be working on Scout badge. Older scouts will plan Gebhearth Lodge campout and do OA elections, all OA members wear sashes. Inter-patrol activity will be looking at rockets to order.

Thursday 14th – Shopping at Cub for Fort Rice campout.

Tuesday 19th – Knights have opening and closing. We will be finishing the planning for Gebhearth campout. Inter-patrol activity – Waca Wacas have 1st Aid skill.

Tuesday 26th – PLC, all patrols need to be represented.

Thursday 28th – Shopping at Cub for Gebhearth Lodge campout.

Committee Notes

Mrs. Arbogast
Committee Chair

The Committee is busy planning for the Spring Court of Honor. It will be held on March 18th at the church. Please mark the date on your calendar. The boys are also busy planning their activities. We will be having volunteer sign-up sheets at the COH, so please start thinking as to how you would like to help the troop. It will be a catered dinner and invitations will be sent out.

We are also starting to plan for the Fourth of July booth. Remember to save stuffed animals and any other small prize-like trinkets for our duck pond game.

Please remember to ask your scout if they are signed up for any upcoming activities. If your son is unable to attend any activity with the troop, they must let a leader know. We end up having to call scouts who signed up, but aren't at the activity. Dan Suiter retains the sign-up sheets, so you can always contact him to see if your son has signed up for an activity. If you are in doubt as to whether or not an activity is cancelled, contact Tom Lenagh. Unless you hear from myself or Tom, assume the activity is on.

As always, parent meetings are the third Tuesday of every month. We meet at 7pm and they usually last 15-20 minutes.

Parent Meeting

Mrs. Vieths
Committee Secretary

The spring Court of Honor will be on Tuesday, March 18th at Christ Lutheran Church. Dinner will be served. Watch for your invitation in the mail and please R.S.V.P. so the committee knows how much food to plan for.

In the next several weeks we will have new scouts and parents joining our troop. Let's remember to welcome them and assist in answering questions they may have.

We are at the time of year that it becomes very important to attend parent meetings. In the upcoming months information and discussions regarding spring Court of Honor, fundraisers and summer campouts are frequent. Remember the parent meeting is held the third Tuesday of each month from 7:00 until about 7:20, depending on the amount of information and discussion. Please know that you are also welcome to sit in on any scout meeting that you would like to.

The troop is always in need of parents to volunteer to drive on campouts, chair or co-chair special events as well as new trained leaders. If you are interested in taking an active role there are many things that you can be part of.

It is that time of year again for the Northern Star Council's Family Friends of Scouting campaign. One hundred percent of all funds raised goes directly to the council. Monies from this event are used for scout programs, training, scholarships, camper insurance, campgrounds and equipment maintenance throughout our region and many, many other events.

You will be receiving your pledge card soon. All pledge cards must be returned whether you are able to make a pledge or not. Some of you may have employers that have a match or contribution program, if so, please include them in this very worthwhile cause.



Scouting for Food Date is Set

Mrs. Vieths
Newsletter Editor

The kick – off date for the annual Scouting for Food drive has been announced. Saturday, **April 26th**, is the date that Scouts throughout our Council will be going door to door gathering food for local food shelves and shelters. 2007 marked the 20th year that Scouts in Minnesota participated in this event. Last year nearly 400,000 pounds of food was collected in the Northern Star Council alone. This was a new record and one we hope will be broken soon! Mark this date on your calendar and plan on being part of this great day. Remember Scouts, this is a super way to get some service hours needed for rank advancement.

TROOP AT A GLANCE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February

5	Troop Meeting	7:00PM
12	Troop/Committee Meeting	7:00PM
14	Shopping for campout	7:00PM
15-17	Camp Phillips – Fort Rice campout	TBD
19	Troop/Parent Meeting	7:00PM
26	PLC	6:15PM
28	Shopping for campout	7:00PM
29-2	Gebhearth Lodge campout	TBD

March

4	Troop Meeting	7:00PM
11	Troop/Committee Meeting	7:00PM
18	Spring Court of Honor	5:00PM
25	PLC	7:00PM

April

1	Troop Meeting	7:00PM
8	Troop/Committee Meeting	7:00PM
10	Shopping at Cub for campout	7:00PM
15	Troop/Parent Meeting	5:00PM
22	Troop Meeting	7:00PM
26	Scouting for Food	TBD
29	PLC	7:00PM

May

6	Troop Meeting	7:00PM
13	Troop/Committee Meeting	7:00PM
15	Shopping at Cub for campout	7:00PM
20	Troop/Parent Meeting	7:00PM
27	PLC	7:00PM

SCHEDULED CAMPOUTS/EVENTS

February 15-17	Camp Phillips – Fort Rice
Feb 29-Mar 2	Gebhearth Lodge, Camp Decorah La Crosse, WI
April 11-13	Igloo Lodge at Norseland
April 26	Scouting for Food
May 16-18	Bear Head State Park – Sudan Mines
June 20-23	Gooseberry Falls State Park
July 3-5	July 4 th activities
July 12-19	Tomahawk – Rice Lake, Wisconsin