



TROOP 510



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

January 2007

Scoutmaster's Report



Tom Lenagh
Scoutmaster

January 2007

What's the Scout motto? That's right, "Be Prepared." Can anyone tell me where it came from? Well, it was started by a man who founded the Scouting movement almost 100 years ago. His name was Robert Baden-Powell. He was an English general who took the first Scouts camping back in 1907. He was a most interesting man. If you're curious about him, you can learn a little by reading the pages of your handbook.

Baden-Powell was once asked what the motto meant. What is a Scout supposed to be prepared for?

"Why any old thing," Baden-Powell replied.

That's a tall order. Life holds a lot of surprises and we can't be prepared for all of them. But in Scouting you're learning how to handle many surprises and crises. You learn how to give first aid, how to live comfortably outdoors, give service to your community and nation, clean up your environment, do good Turns for people and a host of other things.

Preparing you for life is what Scouting is all about. We're going to do our best to make you prepared for any old thing.

A few events the troop planned for this year:

12-14 January	Adirondacks
10-12 February	Eagle Cave
13 February	OA Elections
20 March	Spring Court of Honor
31 March	Shooting
4-6 May	WEBELOS Woods
7-14 July	Tomahawk

How many of these activities are you planning on attending?

January is also the time for re-charting. If you are not getting Boy's Life magazine this is a good time to start. Boy's Life (BL) has many good articles and stories of things going on in BSA. Please contact Nancy Arbogast or myself before January 9th if you would like BL.

Powder Ridge Ski and Snowboard Outing

Mr. Loher

Assistant Scoutmaster

On Dec 16th, 10 enthusiastic scouts and 3 adult leaders met at the church to head for the ski slopes of Powder Ridge Ski area in Kimball, MN for a day of skiing and snowboarding. There was a wide range of ski and snowboard abilities within the group. For a couple of scouts, it would be the first attempt at skiing, while we also had some novices and old veterans as well. The group arrived at Powder Ridge at 9:30am where we found a table in the lodge to call our own and be the central meeting place. Those that needed to be fitted for skis and snowboards did so, and then it was off to the hills! A number of boys started out with an hour lesson where they received some basic training on some of the fundamental elements of skiing and snowboarding which would carry them through the rest of the day – standing, walking, turning and yes, the all important technique of stopping!

That quick experience of basic training appeared to be all the boys needed as they bravely looked up at the large hill in front of them and one by one, headed up the hill to “tackle the mountain.”



Like soldiers on a mission, they began to attack from all sides. Some by tow rope, some by J bar, and others by chair lift. As each scout dismounted from their transport vehicle, they turned and looked with both trepidation and determination at the mission in front of them – make it to the bottom of the hill without injury to meet up again with their comrades. After some final equipment adjustments, it was time. A final look, a deep breath, then CHARGE!!! They were off! Some would fall quickly, others would soon join their fallen comrades after a valiant attempt at turning and weaving but to only end up, like their comrades, on their butts. But nothing was going to stop these brave souls! With sheer determination and pride, they rose again on their feet, to complete their mission. Some would fall again, and again, and yet again, but nothing, nothing was going to get in the way of these fine young men who would eventually make it all the way to the bottom of the mountain to meet up with their comrades! Sweet success! Everyone made it to the bottom safely, proud of what they had just accomplished. But then they began to

realize.....their mission was not quite over. No! Look, there in front of them was that same mountain, to be conquered yet again. But this time perhaps from a different angle, from a different slope. And so, off again they went. One by one, up that hill, each one went with a new mission and purpose, full of determination to make it down that beast with as much gusto as possible. And so it went, all day long, up and down, up and down. Finally it was time to call retreat. As the scouts headed back into the lodge at the end of the day, each one looked back, feeling quite proud of what they had accomplished that day and how much they had improved.

It was quite fun to hear some of the stories of the day. Like the story of Jeannie Stafford putting on her old ski boots for the first time in over 20 years. As she walked toward the chair lift thinking “I can do this,” she realized one of her boots had a crack running down the side. As she continued to walk, she watched in disbelief as her boots literally fell apart piece by piece with every step! Luckily, this happened before she got on the chair to the top of the hill! Mitchell and Mike, who tried skiing for the first time, abandoned the beginner slope and were skiing down from the top of the mountain before the day was done. Mitchell’s determination was quite impressive, as was the patience of Mark Schaenzer in helping the boys with some additional ski lessons. Some of our veteran skiers and snowboarders like David, John, and Jake made things look easy as they headed for the black diamond slope. Andy, Wes and Nick seemed to enjoy tackling some of the jumps at Kowabunga Park. Karl, who worked on mastering the techniques of snowboarding, gave Mark Schaenzer a lesson or two on the sport. It didn’t take long, however, before Mr. Schaenzer decided to put on his trusty skis again! Braden, who took a whack or two in the head from his snowboard during the day, did not let that deter him from going after that elusive prize in the “Stacker” game. Actually, that whack might have caused him to lose his senses a bit with all the quarters he fed into the machine. However, it was David that walked away with the grand prize gift card from Stacker! Six boys earned the Snow Sports Merit Badge that day: Nick Boon, John Schaenzer, Wes K., and Andy K. earned the badge for the Down Hill Skiing category. Braden T. and David S. earned the badge for the Snowboarding category.

One of the most impressive aspects of the day was how each of the scouts helped one another

in providing support and encouragement. It really helped the inexperienced skiers and snowboarders with their confidence and abilities. A Scout is Helpful! That certainly was the case for this group of scouts. Way to go! As we headed home each one realized how much fun they had that day and decided that they would set off on a similar mission again next year.



Friends of Scouting

INVESTMENT IN YOUTH

The Council theme for this year's Friends of Scouting is "Scouting Makes a World of Difference". During January we will be collecting annual contributions. This fund drive is done by Boy Scouts of American to assist in offsetting the many costs of maintaining and improving camps and programs. In 2006 20% of the council's budget was raised through contributions to Friends of Scouting with over half coming from local Scouting families. This effort is strictly voluntary. In addition, there are many area companies that will contribute to this very worthy cause. Please check with your employer to see if the Boy Scouts are on their annual giving list. Parents, remember donations are tax deductible. Each unit meeting their base goal will be given free rank advancement.

January Campout

The next troop campout will be at Fred C. Anderson, on January 12th-15th. We will be in the two Adirondack cabins. The cabins are heated but have no indoor kitchen or toilet facilities. Be prepared to cook and dine "al fresco" (outdoors). The itinerary for the weekend is somewhat dependant on snow and weather. We have had a very mild, dry winter so far but remember that weather conditions have a way of changing so be sure to pack for the possibility of snow and or cold. There are two cabins reserved and currently all cots are accounted for.



Snow Tubing

Our annual trek to Eko Baken is set for Saturday, January 20th. We have extended an

invitation to 1st and 2nd year Webelos from our partner troops to join us. Please welcome them and include them in our fun. Remember they are looking for a troop to join in the next year or two. One of promises in the oath you take as a Scout is, "kind". How they welcomed at events will have an impact on the choice they make. Information on departure time will be available at our January meetings. Unless there is a blizzard, this event will take place. Cold weather alone is not a reason to cancel. So dress for the conditions and come for the fun. Be sure and mark your calendar now.

Eagle Cave Campout

Mr. Hammer
Assistant Scoutmaster

Just an early note to Scouts and parents for the Eagle Cave Campout in February. Scouts WILL get dirty and muddy at the campout. Only pack clothes that you want to come home dirty. A good idea is to pack an empty garbage pack in your pack to put the dirty stuff in for the trip home. That way everything else like your sleeping bag doesn't get dirty.

All Scouts must have one change of CLEAN clothes for the trip home. This means everything from hats to shoes and everything in between. Adults will not let Scouts into vehicles with dirty clothing. We will duck tape dirty Scouts to a tree so that his parents can pick him up.

For those that have never been to Eagle Cave, watch for more tips and information in the February newsletter.

TROOP 510 BUSINESS

PLC Notes

PLC Notes were not available for this publication.

Committee Notes

Mrs. Arbogast
Committee Chair

I hope everyone had a nice Christmas and would like to wish you all a Happy New Year.

Please remember that we will be hosting Webelos and their parents from our partner packs at an upcoming meeting as they make their choice of

troops to join. Let's show them that we follow the Boy Scout oath by being kind and helpful. Troop 510 is a great troop, make them feel welcome.

Look for information in the February newsletter regarding spring Court of Honor which will be on March 20th.

Northern Star Council

Navigator
Council Newsletter

The theme for Ripley Rendezvous is "Brownsea Centennial, The Tradition Continues". This year, 2007, marks the 100th anniversary of the Brownsea Island encampment developed by Lord Baden-Powell. The is a Jamboree style event for Boy Scouts, Ventures, Sea Scouts and Explorers from Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Iowa and Wisconsin. It will be held at the Minnesota National Guard's Camp Ripley, near Little Falls, Minnesota, on June 1- 3. Some of the programs included:

Scouting Expo – a mix of exhibits, displays, outdoor gear, and vendors. Scouts will have a chance to learn about opportunities offered by the BSA's National High Adventure, International and Sea Scout activities.

Action Program – open to all Boy Scouts and Venturers, will include Scout skill competitions, initiative games and fun activities.

Merit Badge Workshops – new for 2007, this program will allow pre-registered Boy Scouts earn one of several selected merit badges. Registration will be limited.

Adventure Program – for Boy Scouts and Venturers 14 years of age and older and limited to the first 2000 participants who register. This program will use the actual Camp Ripley range areas for rifle, archery and black powder and will include other special activities such as climbing and orienteering.

Extreme Program – for participants 16 years of age and older and limited to the first 600 participants who register.

Saturday evening will host an entertaining stage show with a wide variety of entertainment. New for this year will be a video projection system which will allow for better visibility of the stage all around. All topped off with a spectacular fireworks show! Make plans to sign up for this fantastic opportunity

TROOP AT A GLANCE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January

2	Troop Meeting	7:00PM
9	Troop/ Committee Meeting	7:00PM
11	Troop shopping for campout – Cub	7:00PM
12-14	Fred C. Anderson campout	
16	Troop/Parent Meeting	7:00PM
23	PLC Meeting	6:15PM

February

6	Troop Meeting	7:00PM
9-11	Campout at Eagle Cave	5:00PM
13	Troop/ Committee Meeting O/A elections	7:00PM
20	Troop/Parent Meeting	7:00PM
27	PLC Meeting	6:15PM

March

6	Troop Meeting	7:00PM
8	Troop shopping for campout - Cub	7:00PM
9-11	Yukon Cabin campout	
13	Troop/ Committee Meeting	7:00PM
20	Spring Court of Honor	7:00PM
27	PLC Meeting	6:15PM

SCHEDULED CAMPOUTS

January 12-14	Fred C. Anderson - Adirondack
January 20	Eko Baken
February 9-11	Eagle Cave, Wisconsin
March 9-11	Yukon
March 31	Shooting at Phillippo Rifle Range
April TBD	
May 4-6	Webelos Woods
May 19	Climbing Tower at Phillippo
June 1-3	Ripley Rendezvous