



TROOP 510



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

July 2005



Scoutmasters Report

Mr. Lenagh
Scoutmaster

Everybody loves the Fourth of July. In many communities it's a time for parades, fireworks, ball games and picnics.

Real fun! But we ought not to forget what the Fourth of July really is - the birthday of our country - because that's when the Declaration of Independence was adopted in 1776, over 200 years ago. Here's a trick question for you. How many stars were in the US flag on the first Fourth of July? You're probably going to say 13, because there were 13 colonies in America then, but that's wrong.

In fact, there weren't any stars in the flag. The colonists were using the Grand Union Flag, which used the British union symbol and 13 red and white stripes. You can see a picture of it in your Boy Scout Handbook. Stars representing the states first appeared in the US flag 11 years later. Since then, stars have been added each time states have joined the union.

Today we honor this emblem of our country with its 50 stars and 13 stripes because it is the symbol of the nation's unity. We use flag ceremonies so often that it's easy to forget what the flag means and what the Fourth of July means in this country's history.

Now let's think about the brave men who signed the Declaration of Independence and the love of country they passed on to us.

Next week we'll be outdoors again, and it's good to remind ourselves that Scouts obey the Wilderness Pledge whenever they are hiking, camping, or on other activities away from the meeting place. You should be familiar with the Wilderness Pledge. It says, "Through good camping and hiking practices, I pledge myself to preserve the beauty and splendor of Americas' wilderness, primitive and backcountry areas. I commit myself to:

- Set a personal example in following the Outdoor Code.
- Train those I lead in the skills and attitudes needed to protect and preserve wilderness for future generations.
- Assure that parties of which I am a part observe the camping and hiking standards that will leave no trace of our passing."

It seems to me that what it boils down to is that in the Wilderness Pledge we commit ourselves as Scouts not only to preserve the environment but to make it better. For example, not only don't we leave litter ourselves, we pick up other peoples litter. And we not only build safe (small) fires, we try to make sure that others do, too. In other words we take responsibility as Scouts to do whatever we can to keep America beautiful.

That may seem like a tall order. Nobody enjoys picking up other peoples litter. It's a lot easier to just say, "Boy, what a mess!" and pass it by. But that's not the Scouting way.

On all our hikes and campouts, let's leave the land better than we found it. That's Scouting's way.

4th of July

Mr. Hammer
Assistant Scoutmaster

Thank you to all who came to work the 4th of July booth and other activities. Also, thank you to those who stopped by for a delicious caramel apple, chocolate covered banana or a refreshing drink. And, don't forget those flashing necklace items. We sold them ALL on the fourth.

Money will be posted to the Scouts account soon. I'll have an update of the dollars per hour in the August newsletter.

Chocolate anyone?

Ms Lenagh
Troop Committee

- 1 cup chocolate chips
- ½ cup Karo syrup
- Melt 4 minutes in a medium microwave
- Add:
 - 1 T margarine
 - 1 tsp vanilla
 - ¼ cup milk

Madeline Island Campout

Ms Vieths
2nd in charge



On Friday morning, June 24th we met at the church to begin the journey to Madeline Island. The day was sunny and bright which was replicated in the scouts. They were all packed, charged and ready for a great weekend. Our caravan made its first stop in Amery, Wisconsin where we would pick up Mrs. Timms, our hostess for the weekend. Mr. and Mrs. Timms had extended the invitation to set up camp on their land, use the kitchen and bathroom of their cabin and experience one of the Apostle Islands first hand. A short drive later we were in Turtle Lake where a rumbling from scouts' stomachs prompted us to pull into the Dairy Queen for lunch. We continued on a tour of northwest

Wisconsin through small towns with another "sugar boost" stop until we arrived at the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center on the outskirts of Ashland, Wisconsin. Following a short video of the area and a tour of the beautiful facility, we headed north along the west coast of Chequamegon Bay. Upon our arrival in Bayfield we had a brief stop while waiting to board the ferry that would carry us to Madeline Island. The ferry crossing, although the first for many in our group was thankfully uneventful and within minutes we were at our campsite. Tents were pitched and dinner completed in plenty of time to get in some games and a campfire before calling it a day. I couldn't help but think of the "The Walton's" TV show as I listened to the boys exchange conversations between tents before falling asleep.



The days that followed were filled with awesome weather, swimming in the cold Lake Superior waters, island exploration, several games of megabase (ask some of the boys about it) and genuinely a great time. A morning in the Madeline Island Museum gave us a look at the history and daily living from the fur trading days to the present. The group consisted of twelve junior scouts that handled their tasks very well and managed to complete several rank advancement requirements too. A few forgot insect repellent and have the spots to prove it but this too presented a learning experience for them.

Monday morning sent us back across the bay as we began the voyage home. After a stop in Duluth for a walk around Canal Park and lunch we gassed up the vehicles and headed back Eagan. When asked if the boys would consider return trip to the island there was a resounding “YES” proving that this was another successful campout.



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PLC Notes

Various Scouts
Troop Scribe Standin

July

- 5 Old Fogies have opening, closing and a game. Everyone will do the bear talk. Finish Tomahawk.
- 9/16 Tomahawk
- 19 No Meeting
- 26 **PLC @ 6:15**

August

- 16 Family Picnic – Site to be determined
- 23 Highway cleanup

July 20/August 4: National Jamboree

Bagging groceries

Mr. Hammer
Assistant Scoutmaster

This article is supposed to be by Mr. Cherland. He wrote me a nice note about bagging groceries at Cub Foods back in June. However, I misplaced the note so there isn't an article. Sorry Mr. Cherland. I suspect it was a nice article.