



TROOP 510



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

March 2006



Scoutmasters Report

Tom Lenagh
Scoutmaster

Scouts, what would you think of a policeman in proper uniform except for trousers which were of bright plaid material? How about a hospital intern wearing a sport coat over his white uniform while on duty? Or what would you think of a train conductor wearing a fireman's cap or, even more absurd, an airline pilot wearing the silks of a jockey as he boarded the plane?

They'd all be "out of uniform," wouldn't they? With some of the outfits mentioned, you would not be sure what they really were.

Scouts, we have a proper uniform, too - **not just a neckerchief or just a shirt**, but like the people I just mentioned, we have a proper uniform. When we don't wear the proper uniform, we are just as "out of uniform" as the policeman with the plaid pants.

The Flag Code says that when we are "in uniform" we salute the flag with the Scout salute, but when "out of uniform" we salute by holding our right hand over our heart.

How do you think a Scout should salute the flag if he's wearing his shirt not tucked in or no neckerchief or some other non-official dress along with part of the uniform? He's not "in uniform," is he?

Troop 510 has a standing policy that all scouts and leaders attend meetings and travel for outings in full uniform (shirt and neckerchief). Please come to these events in proper uniform.

Probably all of you know some guy who is grouchy all the time. His neighbors try to be nice to him, but he just won't be friendly. Maybe he'll build a great wall around his house to keep people away.

Let me tell you about another kind of neighbor I heard about. There was no wall around his property, and somebody noticed that a strip of grass between his yard and his neighbor's yard was unusually green. How come? He was asked.

"Oh," he laughed, "my neighbor and I are so afraid we'll cheat each other that we always water and fertilize the grass across the line on the other fellow's side. That strip of grass down the property line gets twice as much water and fertilizer as the rest of our yards." Instead of a fence to keep each other away, that man and his neighbor had a vivid green reminder that they were friends.

The point of this story is that if you want to have friends, you can't build walls between yourselves and other people. Instead, cultivate that space between you by being as fair to the other guy as you'd like him to be to you. A Scout is friendly, and the way to have friends - and keep them - is to be friendly yourself.

PLC Notes

Trevor Janke
Troop Scribe

Mar 7 – Bacon Patrol has Opening, Closing and a game. We will be having elections. We will also be finishing planning for the Polaris campout. We are also planning the Court of Honor.

Mar 10/12 – Polaris Campout

Mar 14 – The Dragon patrol has opening, closing and a game. We will be planning Seeonee and will be watching a “time to tell” and Tomahawk videos. We are also planning the Court of Honor.

Mar 17/18 – JLT

Mar 21 – Court of Honor

Mar 28 – PLC; all patrols must be represented

Mar 31/Apr 2 – Seeonee Campout

May 19/21 – Scouts and families are invited to Valleyfair. We must pre-register by April 14th.

Merit Badges – Finishing up. No Merit Badges this month. In April there will be Personal Fitness and Woodworking.

Circles

Dan Vieths
Second in charge

Friday night, February 10th: As our caravan pushed northward on Highway 63, I thought about how many times I’ve traveled this road. I grew up in Cumberland, Wisconsin, a town not far from our destination. As one travels north on 63, the rolling farm fields give way to pine tree forests and lakes. I wondered how many times I’ve traveled this road. A hundred? Two hundred? Enough anyway, to force me to see that this time, Highway 63 was more than a line on the map. The highway was part of a circle now, but more about that later. We were headed for Fort Rice, a grand, awe-inspiring structure deep in the woods of Barron County, near a village called Haugen. The word ‘fort’ is an apt description, as the compound has the appearance of a nineteenth-century fur trading post. Fort Rice is a part of Camp Phillips, a sprawling Scout complex encompassing lots of woods and several lakes.

As a teenager, I spent a week each summer at Camp Phillips, as both a Cub Scout and a Boy Scout. We’ve all heard the expression “Life is a circle.” One could interpret this to mean we are all connected in some way, and how we connect forms a continuum; a circle of sorts. The word circle is used because events and people are connected in ways that are often repeated from one event to another, or one generation to the next. Maybe this is part of what the reverent means in the Boy Scout motto. Coming to this place now, in the middle of winter with my Boy Scout son, reconnected me to experiences and places from my days as a Scout. As we unloaded the vans, I thought about all the fun times I had at Camp Phillips, over 30 years ago. At that time I stayed in platform tents at assigned campgrounds. My Troop traveled here in the winter too, but we stayed in an old barn, which was not nearly as nice as Fort Rice. According to our maps though, the fort was in the same vicinity.

Fort Rice is a relatively recent addition to Camp Phillips. It’s essentially a compound, with a lookout tower in each of four corners and a lodge on one end. The walls are made of tree trunks, buried in the ground and ranked side-by-side. All very impressive, even in the moonlight as we parked and unpacked. We made quick work of bringing in all the luggage, which formed a huge mound in the middle of the dining area. Before long we had everyone’s gear in place and had a nice snack before bedtime. The adults had rooms off the dining hall, and our Scouts bunked upstairs in a nice barracks setup. We had all the conveniences of home, including a very clean, modern kitchen and large bathrooms. This was camping I thought, as I recalled the Troop trip exactly one year ago. At this same time on that Friday night, I was

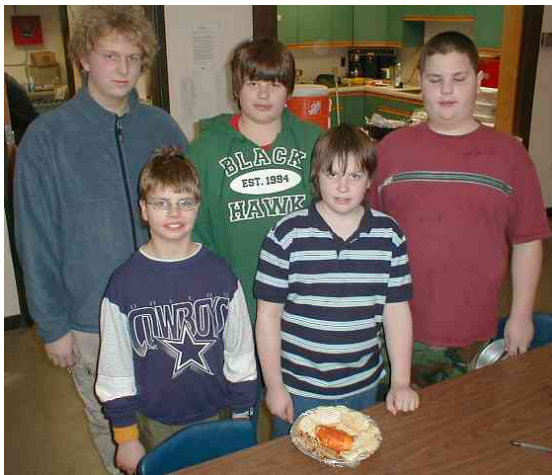
looking for a little bit of real estate on the cold, damp floor of a cave; enough to put down my sleeping bag. What a contrast, but the cave trip turned out to be fun too.



Saturday was a fun day. Our breakfast came from dutch ovens and was very tasty. We had enough fuel from that to start in on an active day. While a large group frolicked in the snow banks outside the fort, I went hiking with my son, Mr. Loher, and our New Scout. We were on a mission to find the Trading Post. The woods were silent, and the velvet blanket of snow was broken only by deer tracks as we hiked through a ravine and dense woods.

After a quarter mile or so we came upon a small road, and there it was. It looked just as I remembered it some 30 years ago. The little 2-story shanty looked forlorn now, empty and surrounded by snow banks. Standing there in the cold breeze, I could still remember warm summer afternoons, when I came to the Trading Post with buddies to buy long strands of colored plastic string. We'd stand around the store and weave key fobs, using a technique taught in the store basement.

A few yards down the path, Mr. Loher took a picture of Karl and I in front of the campground signs. Birch Point and Pine Ridge were the two campgrounds used by Troop 24 of Cumberland. After some persuading, Mr. Loher and the boys agreed to follow me as I hiked another few hundred yards to look



for the dining hall I used as a young Scout. Nostalgia had a grip on me now, as I told the other hikers about my days in Troop 24. Alas, the dining hall I remembered was gone, but replaced with a newer and bigger one. We could see Camp Phillips was prospering, which means many thousands of scouts since my time have been to this place and now have memories of their own.

We then hiked back to Fort Rice and did some work on ropes and lashings. Mr. Schwarzbauer was able to put me to use as his assistant teacher. The younger Scouts had a good time with this, but soon it was time to work on supper. What a treat that was, as each patrol made a meal which was judged by the leaders. A great

time was had by all, and these young men did some very creative things with ingredients as diverse as Spam, parmesan chicken, and potato chips.

The Scouts did an excellent job of cleanup on Sunday morning, and we had our gear packed up in short order. The Camp Phillips ranger checked us out and told us that after many years of work there, he was retiring from his duties at Camp Phillips. Troop 510 was one of the last groups he was to work with, so we are now a permanent part of his circle too.

On the way home was a chance to reflect on the whole weekend, and the Scouting experience as a whole. I'm grateful for the older and former Troop 510 Scouts that continue to stay active and offer their time to the Troop. I hope all our Scouts are able to see the big picture, and how Scouting builds not only character, but great memories too.



OA Winter Event

Mr. Hammer
Assistant Scoutmaster

OA Members - Have you looked into participating in the Winter Event on March 11th? Our district, Chief Black Dog, is helping run this first ever combined Council event. Your assistance could help this event. If you are interested in helping, contact me. Basic information about the event is:

The 2006 Lodge Winter Even will take place March 11th with a banquet at the Earle Brown Center and continuing with a Lock-in at Brooklyn Center High School.

Come for the entire night, or either just the Banquet or just the Lock-in. Either way, the price is only \$28.

Events at the first Totanhan Nakaha banquet will include Door Prizes!, patch vendors (a total of 8 patches available), a full catered meal by the Earle Brown Center, presentation of the Founder's awards, recognition of new Vigil honorees, and election of the new lodge chief and vice chiefs. Also, on the night of March 11th at the banquet we will be unveiling the brand new lodge flap patch for Totanhan Nakaha Lodge. Every participant at the event will receive one of the new flaps for free.

When the Banquet festivities have finished Totanhan Nakaha Lodge invites you to the all-night lock-in at the Brooklyn Center High School just a few blocks from the Earle Brown Center. At the high school we have many fun games and events lined up for a whole night of socializing! Activities will include basketball, X-Box gaming, choker building, OA jeopardy, board games, all-night movies in auditorium, and the always favorite pie eating and pie in the face contests!

Winter Event Timeline

6:00 pm - Doors open - Dinner and Evening Program to follow

10:00 pm to 10:30 pm - We will move to the Brooklyn Center High School at 6500 Humboldt Ave. N. Bus transportation will be provided. Lodge Elections and the fun and games will occur during the rest of the evening.

7 am - Be ready to be picked up and depart

Find a map to the Earle Brown Center (6155 Earle Brown Drive, Brooklyn Center, MN) at:
www.earlebrown.com/about_maps.htm

Boy Scout Special Offers

Mr. Hammer
Assistant Scoutmaster

Here are a couple of special offers coming up for Boy Scouts:

WCHA Final Five Tournament – March 18 - 2:30 p.m.

Special offer for Northern Star Council - only \$15 per person! Includes game ticket, hot dog and one soda. Plus a post game on-ice slap shot. See the best in college hockey in the third place game - Saturday afternoon, March 18. A portion of the proceeds will go to support Northern Star Council.

Scout Day at the Minnesota Swarm - Friday, March 24 vs. Buffalo or Sunday, April 9 vs. San Jose

Scout Day at the Minnesota Swarm. For only \$15 per person you'll receive one lower level ticket to the game, a hot dog and a soda! Scouts can also order a Swarm baseball hat for only \$5! January 29 vs. Rochester, March 24 vs. Buffalo or April 9 vs. San Jose. Plus all scouts have the opportunity for special post-game on field activities and autographs.

More information @ www.northernstarbsa.org/News/XcelScoutEvents.asp

STAR fun

Mr. Hammer
Assistant Scoutmaster

Is Star fun 2006 on your calendar???

Saturday, May 20th, at Valleyfair, is the BIGGEST and MOST EXCITING event this year. Join the 15,000 – 20,000 Scouts, Moms, Dads, Sisters and Brothers at Northern Star Council's Scouting SuperEvent.

You won't want to miss the exciting rides at Valleyfair. In addition to the chills and thrills of Roller Coasters and Ferris Wheels, there will be many exciting and fascinating Scouting displays, exhibits, performances, demonstrations, special events, ceremonies and, yes.....even fireworks.

A few of the exhibits already in place are Scouting Memorabilia displays, North Star Museum of Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting, Hurricane Katrina Relief, Religious Emblem display, High Adventure exhibits of Philmont Scout Ranch, Sea Base & Northern Tier, Council Camping, Friends of Scouting, Venturing & Council Pinewood Derby.

While the SuperEvent focus is for the day of Saturday, May 20, on-site camping will be available for Boy Scout Troops, Varsity Scout Teams, and Venturer Crews on Friday and Saturday nights. Special programs will be offered for the Scouts staying over Saturday evening, and religious services will be offered on Sunday. Camping will be jamboree style, on a first-come, first-served registration basis.

More information @ www.northernstarbsa.org/Starfun/

Calling all Assistant Scoutmaster

Mr. Hammer
Assistant Scoutmaster

Do you remember back to the recent Troop 510 Leaders meeting? We were supposed to meet last month to sign up for additional duties and campout. We didn't do either. Lets get that done soon so we can move forward. I don't have a date or time in mind but if someone wants to pick one, do it. Or, we can just go off the list and pick items.