



TROOP 510



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

May 2004



Scoutmasters Report

Tom Lenagh
Scoutmaster

You new Scouts probably learned that our troop neckerchief has other uses besides looking good and showing our troop's colors. You found that it can be used in first aid, too. Over the next few months, you'll find that the neckerchief has other uses, too.

There's one use, though, that you may not think of - and that's to remind you of the Scout Oath. The neckerchief is a triangle, and its' three corners should remind you of something you recently learned - our Scout Oath.

The Oath, you remember, has three corners, too - duty to God and country, duty to others and duty to self. From now on, every time you put on your neckerchief, it should remind you of the things you pledge each time you repeat the Scout Oath.

In the patrol leaders council (PLC), we often talk about the skills of leadership. Patrol leaders who have taken the junior leader training course know even more about them. Of the 11 skills of leadership, I believe the most important is setting the example. There's an old saying that sums it up well. It goes something like this: "What you do speaks so loudly that I can't hear what you say." In other words, don't tell me what is right; show me by your example.

It seems to me that when it comes to setting the example, we are all leaders. Even if you're not a patrol leader, the way you conduct yourself will rub off on others in your patrol. If one patrol member goofs off and is sloppy in his habits, there's a temptation to say, "Well, Mac gets away with it, why shouldn't I?"

That may be human nature, but it's not the nature of a good patrol or a good troop. A good patrol and troop have to work like a team, with every member setting a good example of Scoutlike behavior. Let's keep that in mind always, but especially when we're in camp this summer. Let's show our pride in our troop and in ourselves as Scouts and young men.

What do we use buddy tags for? We use them whenever we go in the water, so that every Scout is responsible for the safety of another Scout and so the leader knows who is in the water. It's an important way to make sure that no swimmer gets into trouble because no-one is paying attention to him.

The buddy plan is really part of everything we do in Scouting. Remember that in the Scout Oath we say that we will help other people at all times. In other words, we are our brother's keeper, and we pledge to act as a buddy would even to a total stranger.

Maybe I'm stretching the point a little bit, because you're never going to be a real buddy to some lady you might give directions to on the street or to some little kid whose ball you find for him.

Still, the idea of the Good Turn and the buddy plan are the same in a way. Both call for you to help another person - to become your brother's keeper. The buddy plan is absolutely essential when we're in the water and the idea behind it is important in everything we do.

2005 National Jamboree

Mr. Hammer
Assistant Scoutmaster

If you are interested in attending the 2005 National Jamboree, now is the time to sign up. According to the Indianhead Council Web site, there is 144 spots open for youth and now there is only 46 spots left. To attend, a Scout must:

- Have completed sixth grade or be at least 12 years of age and a First Class Scout by July 1, 2005, and has not reached his 18th birthday by August 3, 2005
- Participate in a pre-jamboree training program
- Have filed a Personal Health and Class 3 Medical Record form, before the Jamboree training
- Have been active in a troop for at least six months prior to July 1, 2005
- Be approved by his Scoutmaster, Venture Adviser or Varsity Scout Coach
- Be approved by the local council jamboree committee

If you are unsure about attending but met the above requirements, talk to me and I can put you in touch with a Scout in our troop that went to the 2001 National Jamboree. Of the 40,002 that attended the last Jamboree, there were four adults from Troop 510 and many Boy Scouts. Anyone of us can assist you and answer your questions.

More information can be found on-line at <http://www.indianhead.org/njambo/registration.htm> and <http://www.scouting.org/jamboree/index.html>.

4th of July

Mr. Hammer
Assistant Scoutmaster

Speaking of the 4th of July from Linda Offerdahl message below, I am looking to step down this year from running the event. But, before you get worried about signing up and doing it all along, everything isn't lost. If someone steps forward to run the events this year, I will work along side them to get it all done and run the fundraiser. If you have questions, let me know.

PLC Notes

Trevor Jenke
Troop Scribe

May 4 – The Best Patrol has opening, closing and a game. The new Scouts will finish their Fitness requirement. The rest of the Scouts will plan WEBELOS Woods and participate in a tent demo.

May 11 – The Dwarfs Patrol has opening, closing and a game. The new Scouts will learn First Aid. The experienced Scouts will have a uniform inspection. Plan WEBELOS Woods.

May 14/16 – WEBELOS Woods

May 18 – Highway Clean-up. Be at the church at 6:15 p.m.

May 25 – PLC @ 6:15 p.m.

May 31 – Memorial Day celebration starting at the Apple Valley American Legion.

Troop 510 Duties

Linda Offerdahl
Committee Chairperson

We appreciate all the parents who stepped forward as new volunteers to keep our troop running. Thanks go to:

- Deb Senst – Treasurer
- Paul & Tammy Mensink - Christmas Wreaths
- Shirley & Brice Erickson - Popcorn Sales
- Eric & Jennifer Hanson - Family Picnic
- Patrick Larkin - Assistant Scoutmaster & New Scout Coordinator
- Greg Boon - Quartermaster Coordinator
- And, of course, we appreciate all of the volunteers who kept their positions for another year!!

We still have a few positions open. If you are interested in these or have questions, please call either Linda Offerdahl (651-405-1640) or Phyllis Lenagh (952-432-0739).

The open positions for parent volunteers are:

- Camping Coordinator
- Troop Committee Recording Secretary
- Arts & Crafts Fair Coordinators
- 4th of July Food Stand Coordinator (just for Troop 510!)
- 4th of July Parade Clean-up Coordinator (just for our troop!)
- Telephone Tree
- The open positions for Assistant Scoutmaster volunteers are:
 - Eagle Service Coach
 - Junior Leader Training
 - Youth Protection Coordinator

Scouting for Food

Mr. Hammer
Assistant Scoutmaster

I forgot to get some facts from Mr. Cherland about this event. However, I overheard Mr. Schwarzbauer say that we were number two on the total food collected. Way to go Scouts and Scouters! I believe everyone had a great time collecting food and then playing at Grand Slam afterwards. I think I did okay at Laser Tag once the Scouts helped me with the rules and how to play the game.

Troop 510 Web site

Mr. Hammer
Assistant Scoutmaster

I finally got a chance to get the Troop Web site current. The newsletters are there and this one will be there very soon. I have also included a long range calendar on the side with proposed events so you can schedule your time better. If you have suggestions on what to include, let me know. If you don't know the address to the site, look on the first page of this newsletter at the top left.

Sorry, but no "The very end story" this month. I know how much everyone looks forward to it. Watch next month!

The very end story

Mr. Hammer
Assistant Scoutmaster

After last months great puns provided by an unnamed source, I found another great story to pass on:

A woman brought a very limp duck into a veterinary surgery. As she lay her pet on the table, the vet pulled out his stethoscope and listened to the bird's chest. After a moment or two, the vet shook his head sadly and said, "I'm so sorry, your Duck Cuddles has passed away."

The distressed owner wailed, "Are you sure? "Yes, I am sure. The duck is dead," he replied. "How can you be so sure," she protested. "I mean, you haven't done any testing on him or anything. He might just be in a coma or something."

The vet rolled his eyes, turned around and left the room, and returned a few moments later with a black Labrador Retriever. As the duck's owner looked on in amazement, the dog stood on his hind legs, put his front paws on the examination table and sniffed the duck from top to bottom. He then looked at the vet with sad eyes and shook his head. The vet patted the dog and took it out, and returned a few moments later with a cat.

The cat jumped up on the table and also sniffed delicately at the bird. The cat sat back on its haunches, shook its head, meowed softly and strolled out of the room. The vet looked at the woman and said, "I'm sorry, but as I said, this is most definitely, 100% certifiably, a dead duck."

Then the vet turned to his computer terminal, hit a few keys and produced a bill which he handed to the woman. The duck's owner, still in shock, took the bill. "\$150!", she cried, "\$150 just to tell me my duck is dead?!!"

The vet shrugged. "I'm sorry. If you'd taken my word for it, the bill would have been \$20, but with the Lab Report and the Cat Scan it's now \$150.00...."