



TROOP 510



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November 2003



Scoutmasters Report

Tom Lenagh
Scoutmaster

There was well-known leader of Scouting in early days named Daniel Carter Beard. If your grandfather was a Scout, ask him about Dan Beard because he'll remember him. Dan Beard was a legend in Scouting until his death in 1941.

Anyway he often wrote for Boys' Life in those days. I want to tell you just a part of his Thanksgiving message to Boy Scouts in 1913.

Dan Beard wrote: "Fellow Scouts: You have more opportunities today, you have more people devoted to your cause, a better chance to become noble, distinguished, brave citizens than ever before in the world's history. A great ancestry, a great history, a great country and the finest boys' organization ever invented. So give three cheers for the Boy Scouts of America, for the Scout Law, and for Old Glory, our flag!"

That was true then and it's true now.

As Americans, we have a lot to be thankful for this Thanksgiving. We live in freedom, most of us have an abundance of food and clothing, and we all have adequate shelter. We are as blessed as any people in the world, but sometimes we forget that and gripe that we don't have even more. Let's remember that a lot of the world's population goes to bed hungry in homes that few Americans would want to live in.

So it's good to remind ourselves occasionally that we are lucky and thank God for our blessings. That's what Thanksgiving really is, a time to give thanks. The Pilgrims started it more than 100 years ago when they gathered to thank God for a bountiful harvest.

Today Thanksgiving is a time for family gatherings around a groaning table followed by watching football games. There's nothing wrong with that. But it's important that we don't forget the real meaning of Thanksgiving. So when you sit down with your family for Thanksgiving dinner, take time to count your blessings and thank God for them.

The Good Turns we do in our daily lives are the things that make us useful. The Good Turn enables us to be useful in our home, school, community and nation. The Good Turn raises us above the ordinary. It makes our lives worthwhile. Have you done a Good Turn lately? How many of you went out last Thursday and Saturday for Scouting for Food? We should all be looking for Good Turns to do for others during the next few months especially with the holidays coming up. Can we do a Good Turn as a troop for some one or group as an activity in December?

OA Fall Fellowship

Shawn Lenagh
OA Troop Representative

Hey, how is it going out there? For the next O.A. event is the O.A. Fall Fellowship Now. 7-8. It is all night (Friday and Saturday morning). There you can play basketball, racquetball, volleyball, swimming till midnight, movies, voting on lodge officers, hacking sack, food all night and pizza at midnight, cards, patch trading, magic, and a fun time had by all. It you want to here how fun it is to go just talk to one of the O.A. members that have gone before. This event is just for O.A. members only.

Popcorn and Wreaths

Linda Offerdahl
Committee Chair

Popcorn will be delivered at the Troop meeting on Tuesday, 11/18, and money is due back to Ms. Lenagh by 11/25.

The wreath order went in Saturday. I will be doing one more add-on order on Wednesday, 11/12. The wreaths will be at my house on Monday, 11/24, and ready for pickup by that evening. Money is due back to me by Tuesday, 12/9.

Food Drive

Craig Cherland
Assistant Scoutmaster

The weather was supposed to be bad but was very nice and was a sunny day. The group collected 558 lbs of food for Dakota County Food Shelf. The group consisted of eight boys and seven leaders. It was a very successful food drive

After the food drive, everyone headed over to Shooters Billiards where we had pizza and pop. We also played pool. It was a lot of fun playing pool. Thanks to all who participated.

Fall Court of Honor

David Hammer
Assistant Scoutmaster

Our fall Court of Honor was held in the traditional location of Good Medicine cabin at Fred C. Anderson Scout Reservation. In keeping with the year of the "Trailer", the trailer was late in getting to the church. Not a big deal since we were only headed a short distance, but I was scared since I thought Mr. Hammer was supposed to pick it up. You know how that Mr. Hammer is always late! We got the trailer packed but had to load some of the gear into other vehicles. Who brought the kitchen sink this time!

We arrived at Fred C. Anderson and started the mule train of getting the supplies, food and gear down to the cabin. It always seems like it is an hour before a cart shows up again but that is because the only thing we have to do is wait. Once everything was at the cabin and the carts returned, it was time to figure out sleeping arrangements. There is always a lot of anticipation to see who gets to sleep upstairs. Once that was decided we continued with the Troop meeting and had a visit by the Ranger and Camp master. It was noted that the "lights out" time on Friday was a little late by leaders' standards. But then it was noted that Saturday was earlier and it was also Daylight Savings Time. Yippee, the leaders get extra sleep!

Saturday during the morning and afternoon was filled with activities. Breakfast was Mountain Man and lunch was Hot Dogs. Activities included first aid and searching for lost Scouts. I am always worried each year that we won't find one of the lost Scouts and then have to do all that paperwork!

In the late afternoon and early evening, everyone starting setting up for the Court of Honor. It was well attended by family who made the long drive to Wisconsin to visit us. Many awards of rank and badges of all sorts were passed out that evening. The skits were enjoyable. Dinner was very excellent as usual by the Committee. I did understand there was one grumpy old man in the serving line giving grief to most that came through the line. Maybe that will change for next year. The evening ended with a ceremony to properly dispose of an American flag. Everyone had a great time.

In the morning it was time to get up, pack and clean up. It was completed in record time and we headed off to the church. We unloaded the trailer and everyone headed for home. Another successful campout and Court of Honor.

The very end story

Mr. Hammer
Editor

We are getting closer to the holiday season. See how you can help out around the house and the community. Go the extra steps to assist someone.