



TROOP 510



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

April 2004

Scoutmasters Report



Tom Lenagh
Scoutmaster

It may seem funny to say so, but you're very lucky that it hurts when you hit your finger with a hammer. If it didn't hurt you could be in big trouble.

It's a rarity when a person can't feel pain, but it does happen. Some years ago, for example, there was an eight year old boy in England who couldn't feel pain. For some reason, his nerves, did not signal pain to his brain.

If you think he was lucky, think again. The problem could cost him his life. Once he was seriously burned by a red-hot oven door, but he didn't even know it until he was snatched away.

So it is clear that physical pain can save us from mortal danger. But there is another kind of pain, too, and all of us here can feel it. It's a spiritual or moral pain, and it's called conscience. The conscience is one of our greatest gifts. Without our conscience, we would not know enough to keep from getting burned in even more serious ways than that English boy.

So as the old saying goes, "Let your conscience be your guide." It will help you to know whether you are following the Scout Oath and Law. You have no better friend than your conscience.

When we go hiking we spend most of our time on trails. Sometimes the going is easy because the ground is flat and smooth. Other times it's all uphill - steep and rocky.

The Scout advancement trail is like that, too. Some of the requirements for the skill awards and merit badges are easy for you. Some are tough like an uphill climb with a 40 pound pack.

Let's start to concentrate on **helping each other** up those steep, rocky hills to earn skill awards and badges. Why bother? Because by mastering more skills we grow to be a better person, more independent, better able to take our place as a responsible citizen.

Some of us may be slower to advance than others. That's OK. The important thing is that we're all doing our best to make progress. Because if you're not progressing, you're really moving backwards - you're getting behind the rest.

Let's all make up our minds to take a step forward on the advancement trail this month by earning at least one skill award or merit badge. If you're near First Class now, make a special effort to reach it in time for the court of honor at Tomahawk.

And let's help at least one other guy over the tough spots on the Scout trail.

Camp Phillippo

Mr. Patrick Larkin
Assistant Scoutmaster

We arrived at Snelling in Camp Phillippo a little after 6:30 on Friday March 26. Brennan, John, Travis, Jeremy, Blake, and Grant went. We had the gear into the cabin a little after 7:00. We had crackers, cheese and meat that Friday evening. Blake and Jeremy came up with the schedule for Saturday.

On Saturday morning we had French toast and sausages for breakfast. Shortly after breakfast Mr. Lenagh went to training for the shotgun range. The new scouts worked with the older scouts on getting their whittlin chip, passing the requirements for knot tying, the flag ceremony. Brennan and John cooked lunch over an open fire for the rest of the troop and the leaders. The boys did a good job on lunch. No One got sick.

We than went on hike and did some service work. We removed part of a tree from a path and picked up trash. The boys than decided to have fun and went played in the mud. Blake and Travis got extremely muddy. Blake's shoes will never be the same. We than went back to the cabin and played cards the rest of day and evening since it was raining. We had tacos for dinner.

Sunday morning we packed up and were back to the church around 10:00. The boys all seemed to have a good time and were all tired out. I think the adults had a good time too.

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.

PLC Notes

Trevor Jenke
Troop Scribe

Apr 6 – The Dwarfs Patrol has opening, closing and a game. The new Scouts will be doing their first Fitness requirements and the Buddy System. The rest of us will plan the Igloo Campout. With a refresher course in: Basic Knot Tying, Basic First Aid, Compass & Map, Fire Building and Cook Kit Relay / Foil Dinner.

Apr 13 – The Old Fogies Patrol has opening, closing and a game. New Scouts will learn all about a compass. The rest of us will finish planning the Igloo campout and start planning Webelos Woods campout.

Apr 17 – Schutzenfest.

Apr 16/18 – Igloo Lodge Campout

Apr 20 – The Wandering Souls Patrol have opening, closing. GAME NIGHT. We are playing Kick Ball.

Apr 20 – Spring Clean-up at the Church at 3:30 p.m. with the meeting following.

Apr 23/24 – JLT

Apr 24 – Scouting for Food

Apr 27 – PLC @ 6:15 pm.

Greetings from sunny Camp Virginia, Kuwait

SGM Maureen Janke
Communications Merit Badge Counselor

Editors note: This was originally written on 14 Mar 04 for the Spring Court of Honor.

I heard Minnesota had a snow storm on March 5th that closed school. It is difficult for me to remember that spring storms are still occurring there, when we are already reaching temps up in the 90s here.

The sand here is different than beach sand in the states. It is very fine and when dry it is gritty, dusty, and gets into the air with the slightest breeze. When this sand is wet it is a thick clay that sticks to everything. Boots get quite heavy and think with the goo.

I have now moved to Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. I've been here since March 7th. We are now assigned to work deployment, which is assisting units who have spent a year here and are now going back to the states.

The units have to clean every piece of equipment prior to leaving and vehicles go into what they call a sterile yard. It isn't really sterile - but they can't drive them around in the sand anymore.

Any Containers going onto ships also have to be inspected and sealed, to be certain that everything taken back is authorized to go back and is also clean. Customs checks for any war souvenirs.

The units have to get everything down to the shipping ports when they are 'called forward', which means it is their turn. Otherwise there would be utter chaos there. After, they have everything cleaned, turned in, and delivered to the shipping yard. They can request a flight back home.

The people we help here are very happy to be going home - I can only imagine!

I have lived in many different places and camps already while I've been here. It has helped me to realize that where you are isn't as important as your attitude and focus. It has taken me a while - each and every time - to readjust. But with a positive attitude and believing in what I am doing that carries me through.

Scouting for Food

Mr. Cherland
Assistant Scoutmaster

April brings us Scouting for Food. This event puts Boy Scouts and stocking local food shelves together. We will be working with Pack 517 this year to cover our territory. Come help out collect food so our local food shelves can be full again. The plan is to pass out the bags before the meeting on the 20th and then to pick up the food on the 24th in the morning. Afterwards, we will head to Grand Slam for pizza and laser tag.

National Jamboree 2005

Mr. Hammer
Assistant Scoutmaster

Openings for Boy Scouts to attend the National Jamboree in 2005 are filling up. If you are interested and eligible to attend, contact Mr. Lenagh, Mr. Schwarzbauer, numerous of the older scouts or myself for more information on this event.

The very end story

Mr. Hammer
Assistant Scoutmaster

Or should I say puns galore:

1. Two vultures board an airplane, each carrying two dead raccoons. The stewardess looks at them and says: "I'm sorry, gentlemen, only one Carrion allowed per passenger."
2. Two boll weevils grew up in South Carolina. One went to Hollywood and became a famous actor. The other stayed behind in the cotton fields and never amounted to much. The second one, naturally, became known as the lesser of two weevils.
3. Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were chilly, but when they lit a fire in the craft, it sank, proving once again that you can't have your kayak and heat it, too.
4. A three-legged dog walks into a saloon in the Old West. He slides up to the bar and announces: "I'm looking for the man who shot my paw."
5. Did you hear about the Buddhist who refused Novocain during the root canal? He wanted to transcend dental medication.

6. A group of chess enthusiasts checked into a hotel and were standing in the lobby discussing their recent tournament victories. After about an hour, the manager came out of his office and asked them to disperse. But why? They asked, as they moved off. Because, he said, I can't stand chess nuts boasting in an open foyer.
7. A woman has twins and gives them up for adoption. One of them goes to a family in Egypt and is named Ahmal. The other goes to a family in Spain; they name him Juan. Years later, Juan sends a picture of himself to his birth mother. Upon receiving the picture, she tells her husband that she wishes she also had a picture of Ahmal. Her husband responds, "They're twins! If you've seen Juan, you've seen Ahmal."
8. These friars were behind in their belfry payments, so they opened up a small florist shop to raise funds. Since everyone liked to buy flowers from the men of God, a rival florist across town thought the competition was unfair. He asked the good fathers to close down, but they would not. He went back and begged the friars to close. They ignored him. So, the rival florist hired Hugh MacTaggart, the roughest and most vicious thug in town to persuade them to close. Hugh beat up the friars and trashed their store, saying he'd be back if they didn't close up shop. Terrified, they did so, thereby proving that Hugh, and only Hugh, can prevent florist friars.
9. Mahatma Gandhi, as you know, walked barefoot most of the time, which produced an impressive set of calluses on his feet. He also ate very little, which made him rather frail and with his odd diet, he suffered from bad breath. This made him ... what? (Oh, man this is so bad, it's good) A super callused fragile mystic hexed by halitosis.
10. And finally, there was the person who sent ten different puns to friends, with the hope that at least one of the puns would make them laugh. Unfortunately, no pun in ten did.