



TROOP 510



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

February 2010

Scoutmaster's Report



Tom Lenagh
Scoutmaster

Its February already, time to start planning for the March Court of Honor. Every patrol needs at least one skit or song. Also, it's time to finish up that last requirement on your merit badges or rank.

February also is the time for OA elections. Order of the Arrow (OA) is an honor camper society within Boy Scouts of America. It promotes cheerful service and fun. We will need at least one half of the troop present to hold elections on February 9. This is not a popularity contest.

February also brings Scout Sunday. It's planned for the 7th this year. Wear you scout uniform to church this weekend.

March also brings troop elections. As we elect a new Assistant Senior Patrol Leader (ASPL), he will serve as the new ASPL for six (6) months before becoming Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) for six (6) months. The new ASPL must be at least first class rank and active in the troop. This is **not a popularity contest**. The scout elected into this position will have a huge influence on how and what the troop does for the next year. So choose carefully when voting.

Keep in mind that a leadership position is required for every rank above first class. Now is the time to talk to the new SPL for the leadership position you are interested in. The troop will also need troop guides to work with the new scouts. Don't forget that the packs are always looking for Den Chiefs. This is also a leadership position. If you are unsure of the responsibilities of any of these positions please see the SPL or myself.

This month, we're going to be celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America. BSA official anniversary is on the 8th of February. But Scouting is even older than that. It really began 102 years ago on a little island in England. British general named Robert Baden-Powell took 21 boys camping on this island and tested his ideas of Scouting for boys.

From that first camp, the idea grew into a worldwide movement. Baden-Powell was a remarkable man. You can read a little about him on page 475 of your handbook. Baden-Powell wrote the first Scout Oath and Law and motto, "Be Prepared." He developed the idea for patrols within a troop, and he taught many of the outdoor skills we learn today.

While Baden-Powell was working out his ideas for Scouting, in this country a man named Ernest Thompson Seton was doing something quite similar. Seton was an author and an artist, and even before Baden-Powell organized the first Scouts, Seton had started a boy's organization called the Woodcraft Indians.

His Woodcraft Indians hiked and camped and studied nature, just as Scouts do. When Baden-Powell's Boy Scouting idea spread to America, Seton joined in. He became the first Chief Scout of the Boy Scouts of America, and he did much to spread the idea of Scouting here.

Seton stressed Indian lore, and many of his ideas still live in the Order of the Arrow.

6th Annual Scout Mass

All Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts of all ages, friends and families of scouts are invited to celebrate with us at our **6th Annual Scout Mass at St. John Neumann on Sunday, February 7 at 2:00 p.m.**

Leaders and scouts are encouraged to wear their scout uniforms to the Mass and bring their troop flags for display. Those scouts who have earned any religious emblems will be recognized at the Liturgy and should bring them along if they wish.

We are looking for scout volunteers and family members to help greet, lector, altar serve, usher, help with the music and be Eucharistic Ministers. Call Dick Mushel at 651-688-7937 to volunteer. This Liturgy does fulfill your Sunday obligation.

Eko Backen Tubing Trip

On Saturday 9th of January 2010 four scouts took off for Scandia, MN (north end of the twin cities). The goal was to go snow tubing at Eko Backen. Upon arrival we checked in and the boys received a safety talk about tubing and the hills. The boys all found inner tubes which suited them (some had to try out a few different tubes before finding one to their satisfaction). We had some issues with the tow rope, finding our inner tube with a running start and getting up the tow rope with our inner tube. All in all the hills had plenty of snow and the boys all had fun for the three hours tubing.

Friends of Scouting

The Boy Scouts of America has been shaping the lives of our youth since 1910. A Friend of Scouting provides a vital portion of the financial support we need to teach Scouting principles that will result in a positive influence on character, citizenship, and personal fitness. The youth of today are America's future leaders. You can help shape that future by investing in Scouting today. One hundred percent of all funds raised goes directly to the council. Monies from this event are used for scout



programs, training, scholarships, camper insurance, campgrounds and equipment maintenance throughout our region and many, many other events.

You will be receiving your pledge card at the Spring Court of Honor on March 16th. All pledge cards must be returned whether you are able to make a pledge or not. Some of you may have employers that have a match or contribution program, if so, please include them in this very worthwhile cause.

Snowbase: 15-17 January 2010

Two scouts and I took up the challenge to go to Snowbase and sleep in the snow over night. It all started around 4:30PM on Friday night at the garage. One scout forgot his sleeping bag & health form. Dad went home get the sleeping bag while the scout filled out a new health form. Once on the road we decided to stop in Baldwin, WI for dinner. A&W was the restaurant of choice; neither of the boys had ever been to A&W before. The root beer was great. We started back down the road and the trip was uneventful until we made the last turn around long lake headed for Tomahawk. One staff person had come down the hill toward the lake a little fast, lost control and slid into a tree. The driver was OK but his mini-van did not look as good.

At White Pines we checked in and were assigned a guide for the weekend. Since there were only two youth and one adult we were grouped with another troop out of Shoreview, MN. Then we went over to the neighboring building to pick out bunks for the night. Next our guide gave us a talk on cold weather knowledge. These included proper clothing and using them, wind chill, how do we loose heat, the snow is a thief and heath issues. Our guide took us over the equipment building and supplied us with the clothing we needed for the weekend. Taking these back to our bunks, we organized them for the morning. Returning to the main service building, the boys played games with other youth until cracker barrel was served. The boys played until around 11:00PM, when we went back to our bunks for

the night. The room quieted down around 11:30 or so.

The next morning we got up to a warm breakfast of a Tomawich. Our guide had packed the two sleds we would be using. We needed to get dressed in our cold weather gear and leave for our camp site for the weekend, Ravens Roost. The boys decided to not take snow shoes or cross country skis this weekend so we all walked with our packs on our backs. Eric volunteered to pull one of the sleds so his pack was attached to the sled. Our guide had us drink a half of a bottle of water before we left the White Pine area.

Before going to Ravens Roost we made a detour near the COPE course for some sledding. Camp has a ramp which empties onto a hill for sledding. Behind the ramp was an old bear den (unoccupied) which the boys could look into. After sledding we headed back on the trail. About half way to our destination a dog sled team passed us on the road. The dogs were following an old snowmobile, the snowmobile did not smell very good. We were not sure how the dogs could follow it all day.

Upon arrival into camp we saw three quinzees already built from the last weekend. They were small, only enough room for two people. Eric and Mitchell picked a quinzee for themselves. I picked a spot near the other leaders under the stars. The other troop also set up a parachute tent for 5 of their boys to sleep in. With camp set up we had lunch, camp provided soup and bars. While the other troop brought hot dog & buns. After lunch we went out onto Long Lake. Our guide brought a large kite to fly in the wind. Everyone got a chance at trying to control the kite. Most of the boys got it up in the air, but the problem was keeping it there with the gusty winds. We also saw two pairs of bald eagles flying around the lake and landing in two trees near us. One of the other leaders had a rabbit fur hat, he wanted to put a string on it and drag it behind him hoping the eagles would come down for it. He could not find any string. Next the boys played line tag on the lake.

After a couple of hours we returned back to camp for some snacks and water. The next part of the day had us hiking to the Fire Tower. All of the boys took a trip up the tower to the top. Some of the steps were covered with ice (especially the lower levels) so coming down was a bit more challenging than going up. Returning to camp it was getting close to dark, so our guide started supper. The other troop brought a rice / chicken hot dish while camp had canned chili. Everyone enjoyed the rice dish and a few that were still hungry ate some of the chili.

After supper we took another hike out onto Long Lake. About a half hour out of camp we stopped and talked. Our guide went over the things the boys needed to do when we returned to camp. We also watched a couple of satellites pass by and pointed out a few of the star constellations. The boys did Thorns and Roses for the weekend. Back at camp we all got ready and climbed into our sleeping bags. It was only about 7:30PM.

The next morning came around sun rise. The low temperature for the night was only in the low teens above zero. As our guide prepared breakfast, we packed up our gear and took down camp. Breakfast was hot chocolate and hot cider, breakfast gorp and oatmeal. The other troop cooked an egg, sausage and cheese croissant sandwich. Not much oatmeal or gorp was consumed.

The trip back to White Pines went via Long Lake. It was a lot flatter and seems to be a little shorter. Back at White Pines all of the gear we rented had to be turned back in. The water bottles had to be rinsed out with bleach and left to dry. Everything was put away and packed for the trip home by 10:30AM. Since camp was not going to have a religious service this morning, we decided to leave camp early. On the way home we stopped at the Turtle Lake Subway for lunch. Arriving back at the church without any problems.

Scouting Ticket Offer

The Northern Star Council, BSA will again be offering group tickets to a Minnesota Wild game. Come check out the Minnesota Wild at one of two home games this season.

- 2/10/10 @ 7:00PM against the Phoenix Coyotes
- 3/21/10 @ 2:00PM against the Calgary Flames

The offer is for a \$31 per person package that includes an Upper Level seat, a jersey patch and a chance for any scout or sibling to take a shot on the ice post-game.

More information can be found on the Xcel Energy Center. You will be asked to enter a Special Offer Code which is SCOUTS and you may need to create an account for the Minnesota Wild TicketExchange.

Eagle Scout

Congratulations to Collin Erickson for making it through his last Eagle Board of Review Monday, January 25, 2010!

Troop 510 Business

PLC Notes

Josh Bleichner

February 2nd – Old Fogies have opening and closing. New scouts plan meals for campout. Plan Shelter 3 campout. Penguins have stock market skill.

February 9th – Penguins have opening and closing. New scouts finish planning and talk about preparing the meals. Fogies have money management skill.

OA Elections and uniform inspection. Game: Paper football.

February 16th – Link and His Posse have opening and closing. New Scouts have rank review (Jeopardy). Plan Court of Honor. Merit badge survey. Link has entrepreneurship.

February 23rd – PLC at 6:15 PM.

TROOP AT A GLANCE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February

1	Troop 345 OA Elections	7:00PM
2	Troop Meeting	7:00PM
7	Scout Mass @ St. John Neumann	2:00PM
9	OA Elections	
	Troop/Committee Meeting	7:00PM
11	Shopping for Campout at Cub	7:00PM
12-14	Fred C. Anderson Shelter 3	5:00PM
16	Troop/Parent Meeting	7:00PM
23	PLC	6:15PM

March

2	Troop Meeting (Elections)	7:00PM
9	Troop/Committee Meeting	7:00PM
16	Spring Court of Honor	6:00PM
20	Trap Shooting	TBD
23	PLC	6:15PM

April

6	Troop Meeting	7:00PM
13	Troop/Committee Meeting	7:00PM
15	Shopping for campout at Cub	7:00PM
16-18	Forestville SP	5:00PM
20	Troop/Parent Meeting	7:00PM
24	Scouting for Food	9:00AM
27	PLC	6:15PM

SCHEDULED CAMPOUTS/EVENTS

February 12-14	Fred C. Anderson Shelter 3
March 12-14	Igloo Lodge
April 16-18	Forestville SP
April 24	Scouting for Food
May 21-23	Star Camp
June 11-14	Gooseberry Falls SP
July 10-17	Tomahawk