

Troop 888 NEWSLETTER

Sponsored by: **North Strand Optimist Club**



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HUNTINGTON BEACH STATE PARK

September's trip to Huntington Beach State Park was planned for surf fishing, swimming, and free time. Patrols set up their sites separately from each other, in four locations, carrying their gear in one trip from the bus. For a change, Scouts were given a chance to either bring their own tents or use the troop's. The Panthers and Raccoons both brought monster-sized, six-man tents which were big enough to sleep all their Scouts.

Rain was forecast for the entire weekend, and though the sky was mostly dark and overcast, all we got was a single, light sprinkle on Saturday night, and it only lasted a short time. So far, when Mr. Lester keeps saying, "it wouldn't dare to rain on a camping trip that I'm on," he's been right.



Brandon showing off the good-sized Spot he caught, which was later cooked on a stick over a fire as part of his dinner.

While a lot of us were riding waves and splashing around in the surf, Brandon Sipes was busy trying out his surf casting skills. Though other Scouts also tried their luck, Brandon proved he really knew what he was doing. Good job!

Because the bus was only a short walk from the campsites, again Dutch ovens were made available for late night cobbler—a pineapple, and an experimental chocolate/peach.

COUNCIL CAMPOREE: A HALLOWEEN CAMPING TRIP

At Camp Coker, on October 30-November 1, an expected forty troops, dividing into 100 patrol teams, will gather for a wide range of challenging competitions and an unforgettable Halloween experience.

HALLOWEEN ACTIVITIES

- Each patrol will be given a pumpkin to carve into a jack-o-lantern which they will all light during the council campfire.
- At the campfire, a professional story teller will treat us to a "Halloween Tale."
- On Halloween night, there will be a costume contest for all who want to "dress up."
- Right before the campfire, all Scouts can fill up their candy bags during an Inter-Toop Trick or Treating.

CAMPOREE COMPETITIONS

- Bowline-Square Knot Relay (Patrol members form a chain of bowlines and square knots.)
- Fire Building (Patrols given a 2"x4"x8" wooden block and a cotton ball, and asked to build a fire for a string burning race, using only a hand ax, pocket knife, and hot spark kit.)
- Chariot Race (Patrols lash an A-Frame using 2 square lashings and 1 sheer lashing, and pull a rider around the course)
- Canoe Race (Patrols tie 2 canoes together, end to end, and paddle out to a marker and back.)
- Black Powder Shooting (Each patrol member shoots at a target.)
- Compass Course (Each patrol given a set of coordinates to complete.)
- Blindfolded Tarp Set-up (Everyone in patrol blindfolded except the leader.)
- First Aid (Each patrol will be given an emergency situation to handle.)
- Scavenger Hunt (A list of items will be handed out to find during the day.)
- Spider Web (Patrols must find a way through using teamwork and knowledge.)
- Moon Ball (Patrols attempt to keep a large ball in the air the longest.)

Council Camporees are held only once every two years. To prepare, learning experiences will be provided during October's troop meetings.

TROOP ELECTION RESULTS



Tony Speedling has been elected Senior Patrol Leader for the 1998-99 year. Tony is an eleventh grader in North Myrtle Beach High School, and has been a member of Troop 888 since its beginning in 1995.



Tony appointed Tripp Collins to serve as his Assistant Senior Patrol Leader. Elected by their patrols to serve as Patrol Leaders are: Jason Hardee - Scorpion Patrol, Brandon Sipes - Wolverine Patrol, Dan Mesich - Panther Patrol, and Michael O'Neill - Raccoon Patrol. All of these new Junior Leaders will attend a training session in early November.

OTHER TROOP NEWS

According to our Advancement Chairman, Ms. Bezmen, just about all of the Board of Reviews have been completed for the lengthy list of merit badges earned over the summer. **Merit badge presentations** will take place during an October troop meeting.

Troop 888 would like to welcome new **Assistant Scoutmaster Mr. Brian Scott** who recently moved to our area from Minnesota where he had served as a Cubmaster in his son Avery's Cub Scout pack.

Troop 888 Information Line:
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