

*("Camporee")*

Saturday morning and afternoon competitions were spread out over a wide area of Camp Coker. It was up to each patrol team to get to their events according to a schedule handed out during morning assembly. Happily, we enjoyed beautiful weather during the entire trip. The most windy spot at the whole Camporee was where they held the fire building competitions. This made that event even more challenging, for each patrol team had to try and provide their own wind-break, using the bodies of Scouts in their group.



The "Scorpacoonz," made up of members of the Scorpion and Raccoon Patrols, at the Fire Building Station. Given a 2"x4"x8" block of wood and a ball of cotton, they had to light a fire using a hand ax, pocket knife, and hot spark kit, and then burn a string 18" off the ground. They had the fastest time at the Camporee with just over five minutes. Shown from left to right: Michael O'Neill, Stephen Sloope, Cory Keibler, James Bumgardner, Jason Hardee



Members of the "Mad Monks" size up the challenge at the Spider Web Station. Each patrol team had to lift and carry one of their members through the "web" without him touching any of the web's strands. Pictured from left to right: Teddy Fontana, Tony Speedling, Daniel Sloope, Tristian Addington, Greg Spatholt.

Using shoe laces and a stick found nearby, Tim Green ties a makeshift splint to Daniel Sloope's "broken lower leg," one of the victim's injuries, at the First Aid Station. Each patrol team had to respond to a given emergency, using only the materials they had with them or could find in the woods nearby.



The Wolverine Patrol, at the Blindfolded Tarp Pitch Station. The challenge is to put up a tarp while all are blindfolded except one member. Standing from left to right: Avery Scott, Joshua Southerland, Russell Spatholt, Brandon Sipes. Bending: Travis Collins.

After eating their choice of foil-cooked chicken—Teriyaki, barbecue, or plain, along with corn on the cob and specially-seasoned baked beans, the troop had the opportunity to go Halloween-night "trick or treating" at other troop campsites. Troop 891, from Conway, even set up a haunted house at their site. At 8:00 p.m., a costume contest was held at the council amphitheater. Dominick Bezmen, dressed up as the cartoon character, "Gilbert," was picked as the winner! Our Troop 888 "South Park" jack-o-lantern shared the stage with a singer and a storyteller, and topping off the campfire activities was a council-wide cracker barrel in the Camp Coker dining hall.



Preparing to go out "trick or treating:" from left to right: Tristian Addington, Ian Barker, Dan Messich, Russell Spatholt, Geoff Britzke, Justin Davidson.

## "Narc News"

(From Mrs. Bezmen, Advancement Chairperson)

First, it wasn't my fault! There were a few Environmental Science forms sent to us from summer camp with incomplete info. Then, there were a couple of Citizenship in the World forms not sent at all. This has been corrected and the merit badges will be ordered.

There are "millions" of web sites out there for those of you who are on line. I'm only going to tell you about two right now. One is a list of all merit badges and their requirements, which can be found at (<http://www.usscouts.org/mb>). Next is for help in knot tying. This site gives you animated instructions and can be found at: (<http://www.mistral.co.uk/42brghtn/knots/42kmenu.html>). Long URL, but a real good site.

*Monkey Bridge at F.F.A. Camp: November 14*  
*Next Camping Trip: November 21-22.*

**Troop 888 Information Line: 272-3498**