

BOY SCOUT TROOP 888

NEWSLETTER

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Mr. Lester's Camping Trip Review

Our annual Camp Coker Waterfront Camping Trip, May 21-23 was enjoyed by all. We camped right near the lake which made it easy to swim, boat and fish. Except for a brief sprinkle on Saturday afternoon, the weather was fine. At Coker, though we backpacked our gear in, the camping is very easy and convenient. The campsites have picnic tables, there is running water, and the sites where we stay have a big community dining shelter. These May trips seem to offer sort of an end of the year easy time for the troop. One Scout even brought a chess game which several played in between meal times when not swimming and boating.

On this camping trip, all patrols did very well without ice chests. Meals had to be of the non-refrigeration variety, and this made for some creative cooking. We'll have to get some feedback on how the patrols liked me as a soda supplier. It did make for a lot less muss and fuss all the way around. It also seems to be a good idea to plan a theme or special activity for each of our monthly camping trips this coming year. No more just leisure time trips where you do anything you want between meals. I personally like the idea for as many water activities as possible. Let's see about a canoe trip.

My appreciation and thanks go to Mr. Davidson for his, as always, excellent assistance. Wouldn't it be nice if every Scout had a parent camp with us at least once a year! See you on September's campout!

Troop Announcements

• Monday, **August 16**, 6:30 p.m. at St. Stephen's Church, will be a special planning session for the new Patrol Leaders' Council, the Junior Assistant Scoutmasters, Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters.

• Monday, **August 23**, starting promptly at 6:30 p.m., there will be a special "first troop meeting of the new Scouting year," at St. Stephen's Church for all troop members. Gathering Period is 6:15 p.m. Wear your complete uniform to all troop meetings.

• Saturday, **August 28**, at 9:00 a.m., there will be an approved minimum 1-Hour Service Project at McLean Park for all Scouts needing the completion of that Second Class Requirement.

• Saturday, **August 28**, from 11:00-2:00 p.m., there will be a Junior Leader Training session at St. Stephen's Church for the new Patrol Leaders' Council.



Members of Philmont Crew 2 at the entrance to Camp Coker, after their second 2-day practice hike (16 miles), May 21-23. From left to right: Steven Sloop, Will Hall, Mr. Dutton, Jeff Silverberg (Crew Leader), Greg Spatholt, Michael O'Neil, Ms. Spatholt