

Plans For Special "Scout's Choice" November Camping Trip

Using a survey form during a recent patrol meeting, the Scorpion, Killer Bees, Rattlesnake Patrols, and Venture Crew all voted for their choices of the framework and activities to be included in our coming camping trip at Waccamaw Lake State Park on November 19-21. The results are as follows:

- *Bring your own tents (troop tents will be available)*
- *Free-tenting arrangements (Tent with whomever you like)*
- *Capture the Flag in the Woods on Saturday*
- *Lots of advancement opportunities for those who want them*
- *Individual patrol campfires for Friday and Saturday nights*
- *Troopwide S'mores (one each) on Friday Night at 9:00 p.m.*
- *Troopwide Dutch Oven cake or cobbler on Saturday Night*
- *Sleep as late as you like on Saturday morning, (in tents by 11:00 p.m. Patrol Cooks prepare breakfast only once)*

Because we're leaving right from the Middle School on Friday, November 19, all Scouts will need to bring their packed personal gear to **November 15th's troop meeting**.

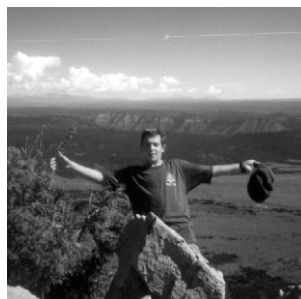


Venture Crew Chief Michael O'Neil oversees Cory Keibler as he reviews a series of camping knots during the gathering period before a troop meeting in early September.



Will Hall, Rattlesnake Patrol Leader, "Hunkers Down" against Teddy Fontana of the Scorpion Patrol during an interpatrol activity of an early September troop meeting.

From Our Senior Patrol Leader



SPL Jeff Silverberg last summer, on a ridge at Philmont Scout Ranch.

A new Troop 888 has been built for the beginning of the millennium. The troop has started from square one. Adjustments have been made to better the troop's over-all attitude, behavior, and learning capabilities toward Scouts. We have handpicked patrols and new troop leaders to lead us through the new Scout year. Once again we have become a self-governing Scout troop. Our new troop consists of four patrols: The Scorpions, The Killer Bees, The Rattlesnakes, and The Venture Crew. Our new patrol leaders are Cory Keibler of the Scorpions, Justin Davidson of the Killer Bees, Will Hall of the Rattlesnakes, and Mike O'Neil of the Venture Crew. For the past couple months, these new patrols have proved to be some of the best patrols we've ever had in the troop. The Scout attendance at our meetings are large and in uniform. Little by little every Scout is learning the basic skills of Scouting such as tying knots and lashings. It is our goal to have everyone in the troop at second class or higher before summer camp. If our progress continues at the speed it is now, we will have more than enough time to achieve our goal. As long as all the Scouts are willing to learn, our leaders and adult help will be there to teach them. So far things are going well. Everything is working out and I for one am looking forward to the New Year. I am very pleased with our progress, and hope that we can carry it on. With help, we will become a strong and ideal troop.

NARC NEWS

Ms. Bezmen's Advancement Corner

After tough reviews by the Board, congratulations to Sam Snodgrass, Russell Spatholt, Hiram Ruiz for advancing in rank to Tenderfoot. You are all just a few short steps away from another Board of Review! There are still quite a few merit badges being completed and the interest to do more is growing fast. (**Note to adults: we could always use skills instructors for a half hour each week).

Starting in January so many requirements will be changing for rank advancement and merit badges. If you are not finished in any particular area, you will be held responsible for the new requirements.

Troop Announcements

Saturday, November 13, all Scouts who need **Service Project** hours for Star and Life ranks can meet at the vacant lot in front of Winn Dixie, next to Eckerd's at 11:00 a.m. We're cleaning it up for the **North Strand Optimist Club**. Lunch will be cooked and eaten!

All **popcorn orders** must be turned in no later than Sunday night, November 14. (We have only been given a short extension by the Council Office.) You can call Dominick, our Troop Scribe, at 399-7706.

PARENTS NOTE: There will be a short but **IMPORTANT** parent's meeting, **Thursday, November 11 at St. Stephen's Church at 7:00 p.m. Please plan to attend.**