

# BOY SCOUT TROOP 888 NEWSLETTER

Sponsored by: **North Strand Optimist Club**



Fall, 2001, Vol. 4, No. 9

## RACCOONS AND JELLYFISH AT HUNTINGTON BEACH STATE PARK

September 21-23, pulling our new troop trailer, we rolled into Huntington Beach State Park for a weekend of camping in the woods and swimming in the Atlantic. The Scouts set up their tents in the "outback" of the primitive camping area, and Mr. Campbell, Dr. Miller, and Mr. Scott remained near the dining flies in the open field near the parking lot. The camping trip turned out to be an outing for the "younger" Scouts, and both Garrett Hogan and Chris O'Neill completed their First Class Cooking. However, both of their kitchen areas were raided repeatedly by hungry raccoons. Somehow, and it still remains a mystery, the animals even pulled food out of one of the chuck boxes. The raccoons could be seen hanging around the dining flies as soon as it got dark. After getting chased away, they'd come back a couple of minutes later. They appeared to be used to getting food from campers.

The conditions for swimming were favorable except for one small thing . . . Jellyfish. We've been stung by Yellow Jackets at Camp Hardee, and Scorpions at Camp Barstow. Now Jellyfish can be added to our list, for both Chris and J.C. came in contact with the tentacles while swimming.

Besides the raccoons and jellyfish, things went smoothly and the trip was fun. Good weather too.

## FALL CAMPOREE, NOV. 30-DEC. 1 By Senior Patrol Leader Will Hall

I have to say that this trip was a very organized one. In one night, we put up all of our tents, set up two cooking areas, hoisted a flagpole with three "8's" lashed down it vertically made of grape vines, and lashed together a Double Tripod Chippewa Kitchen. We also built a fire bucket holder and Steven Miller made a patrol wash station for his 1st Class Camp Gadget.

During the weekend, J.C. Campbell completed his First Class cooking requirements while cooking for his patrol made up of Travis Collins, Russell Spatholt, Davis Hall, Steven Goebel, Steven Miller, and Alex Hartman. Justin Davidson finished up Cooking Merit Badge while cooking for the Junior Leaders and adults: Tripp Collins, Greg Spatholt, Mr. Green, Dr. Miller, and myself. Justin also contributed to the desert-making contest by preparing what Greg and I called "Cherry-Chocolate Cobbler," which was very, very good.

Now for the Camporee competitions—out of 25 patrols competing in 11 events, we came in 1st place in "Everyone On the Tripod," 1st place in "Fire Building," 1st place in "Flagpole Set-up," 1st in both "1-Man Canoe Race" and "2-Man Canoe Race, 2nd Place (continued on next page)

## CAMPING TRIPS AND COOKING



Davis Hall, completing 1st Class Cooking during October's two-nighter at Vereen Gardens, prepared foil cooked pizza pockets for Friday's dinner.



Jeff Silverberg assists Davis, grilling sausage and biscuits on Sunday morning. October's trip featured a treasure hunt and games of Stratego on Saturday afternoon. Good weather!



Russell and Travis are at it again! This time, they're preparing "Hard Tack" biscuits as a Saturday late-night snack during the Camporee. Both Scouts already have Cooking Merit Badge, and they just keep right on cooking!