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BOY SCOUT TROOP 122
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Troop 122 News

August 2011

Our Xtreme Xpedition to the Willmore Wilderness in Alberta, Canada was just challenging enough to make it a great first wilderness experience! 5 scouts, 5 young adults, & 2 older folk set out July 16 for the northern Rockies. After 20 hours & 2500 miles of traveling by church bus, plane, & van we finally arrived at Rock Lake. Setting up camp at midnight is pretty normal for us but usually when we meet at the church at 6 PM, not 6 AM. At 1:00 AM local time we were drifting off to sleep – except it was 3 AM to us! And the last 4+ hours were in a 15-passenger rental van – 12 people, 12 backpacks, & all of our carryon luggage. At 1:15 PM the next day (OK, so we slept in a little) we take our first steps onto the trail – we're backpacking! Right away, though, we learn the one thing that will detract from all the fine memories about this trip: a LOT of horses use the same trails we will in this Wilderness. Even though we knew there was horse access we didn't know that horses are actually the main form of transportation. The horses make the trails a muddy mess & difficult to navigate. And it didn't help that this has been the rainiest summer in years! We are blessed by the Weather Gods, though, & almost every day we have plenty of sunshine. The mountains are hidden behind the hills of the Wildhay River valley as we head into the wilderness. We have to cross the Wildhay which is at least 30 ft. wide with knee-high water rushing by. It looks so beautiful! It is the coldest water you can imagine! Wait, I'll bet you can't even imagine how cold it is! And it is, without a doubt, the hardest river crossing an XX group has ever done. Everyone is careful, listens to the instructions (wish they always did!) & we make it across without an incident. Just one more way we learn that we can overcome obstacles with the right attitude. Our first campsite is on the bank of small burbling 41-Mile Creek. The musical sound of the water is uplifting accompaniment as everyone does their camp jobs for the first time – water filtering, tent setup, latrine, cooking, bear ropes – & is wonderful for sleeping. Day 2 finds us deep into the Wildhay valley surrounded by majestic mountains. After a little scouting we find a great place to set up our tents with an amazing view not too far from the Eagle Creek Pass trail. Day 3 – we climb a mountain! At the top, 7816 ft., we marvel at the 1000 foot climb we made & at the never-ending mountain peaks we can see in all directions. Pictures, lunch, relaxing – all the while taking in the astounding view. Day 4 – another climb, this time to a hanging valley with a turquoise mountain lake fed by a 200 ft. waterfall tumbling over rocks down the hillside. Just spectacular! Day 5 we hike deep into the Seep Creek valley where we've been told we can find some more great day hikes. It takes longer than expected on a bad trail & there is some grumbling, OK complaining, about how far it is. We end up finding a campsite that works for us & once again, the mountains are all around us. The group decides that rather than day-hiking the next day we will just head back out to the main trail, get across the Wildhay & make camp about 3 miles from the trailhead. So Day 6 we work our way back to the river crossing and, whoa, someone built a bridge out of a log & some boards! And no one falls in! We set up our tents one last time just on the other side of the river in a multi-level campsite. Bittersweet. Wake-up time is 6:45 as everyone is anxious to get to Dairy Queen for lunch – except we have to get in that van again. And we haven't had a shower in 7 days! DQ is great – ice cream for everyone after burgers & fries. And pop with ice! Sorry, Joe, no Dr. Pepper! 3 hours later we're at the Holiday Inn Express in Nisku, AB right across from the airport. Dave gets to give the van back & we never have to see it again! Showers! Dinner! Steak for most & then a great dessert. Finally that pool with the slide! Everyone's in bed pretty early – we actually backpacked 3 miles just this morning! After another eventful day of airplanes, Customs, & lost luggage we're finally home. We traveled 5000 miles to hike 42 miles – but, oh, those 42 miles! Now we have just the pictures & the memories. Oh yeah - & all of the lessons learned, experience gained, confidence built. We did something that no one else will ever do just like we did it & we will always have that, too.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

| | | | |
|-----|-------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| Aug | 18 | Bluegrass Setup | 6:00 – 9:00 PM |
| | 19-21 | Bluegrass Festival | |
| | 23 | PLC Meeting | 6:30 – 8:00 PM |
| | 25 | Regular Meeting | 6:30 – 8:30 PM |
| | 30 | Committee Meeting | 7:00 PM |
| Sep | 1 | Regular Meeting | 6:30 – 8:30 PM |
| | | Show & Sell Orders Due | |
| | 8 | Regular Meeting | 6:30 – 8:30 PM |
| | 9-11 | Canoeing Campout | |
| | 10 | Marine Mud Run | |
| | 15 | Regular Meeting | 6:30 – 8:30 PM |
| | 16 | Show & Sell Distribution | |
| | 20 | PLC Meeting | 6:30 – 8:00 PM |
| | 22 | Regular Meeting | 6:30 – 8:30 PM |
| | 27 | Committee Meeting | 7:00 PM |
| | 29 | Regular Meeting | 6:30 – 8:30 PM |
| Oct | 1 | Down Syndrome Walk | |
| | 4 | Fire @ The Library | 6:30 – 8:30 PM |
| | 6 | Regular Meeting | 6:30 – 8:30 PM |
| | 13 | Regular Meeting | 6:30 – 8:30 PM |
| | 14-16 | Fort Custer Mountain Biking | |
| | 15 | Breast Cancer Walk | |
| | 18 | PLC Meeting | 6:30 – 8:00 PM |
| | 20 | Regular Meeting | 6:30 – 8:30 PM |
| | 25 | Committee Meeting | 7:00 PM |
| | 27 | Regular Meeting | 6:30 – 8:30 PM |

Take-orders / Show & Sell Money Due

www.troop122.net

troop122@comcast.net



XX WILLMORE 2011

CAMP OUTS

BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

The Osceola Bluegrass Festival is August 19-21 at Fern Hunsberger Park in Osceola. We will be constructing another fabulous jail and we'll put people in jail for 5 minutes for every dollar paid. We will also be taking care of the trash for the weekend as a service project. And it will be the 10th annual weekend for our now-famous all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast! We'll need plenty of scouts and leaders for the weekend plus some parents to help with the breakfast both mornings. This is a big fundraiser and service project weekend and we really need all of our scouts and parents to help out so put it on your calendar! And please plan to stay until 6 PM on Sunday to help with final cleanup. Many scouts go home early in the afternoon and that leaves just a few at the end. We're all tired after the long weekend so please stay a little longer and help finish! The town of Osceola appreciates our help. We will be setting up the jail and our campsite on Thursday, August 18, from 6:00 to 9:00 PM. We need scouts to help get everything set up so we can start putting people in jail as soon as we're there on Friday. **Flying Eagles & Dragons it's your turn for XX! We'll be operating some inflatables at the Bluegrass Festival to earn money for our 2013 trip. Might involve "canoeing" & "Alaska"...**

CANOEING

We'll be setting out in canoes on the Pere Marquette River for our September 9-11 campout. It's been a couple of years since we were on this river but I bet it's still swift, clear and cold! No worries - we don't PLAN to take a swim. This will be a great way to get back into the camping groove. The scenery is beautiful and the weather should still be warm. We'll spend about 6 hours on the river. We'll take our lunch with us but leave the rest of our gear in camp. There will be an additional cost associated with this trip to cover canoe rental.

MOUNTAIN BIKING IN OCTOBER! TALK TO US IF YOU NEED TO BORROW A BIKE.

CAMP OUTS

PLANNING

We held our annual planning meeting on July 12 and worked out the campouts & merit badges for the 12 months starting this September. A detailed schedule will be posted on the bulletin board at the church & on our webpage. Check out the schedule below. Looks like another great year!

| | | | |
|-------|-------|---------------|--------------------------|
| Sep | 9-11 | Canoeing | Pere Marquette |
| Oct | 1 | | Buddy Walk |
| Oct | 14-16 | Mtn. Biking | Fort Custer |
| Oct | 15 | | Breast Cancer Walk |
| Nov | 4-6 | Scout Skills | Camp Chief Little Turtle |
| Dec | 10-11 | Climbing | Climb Kalamazoo |
| Dec | 28-29 | | Winter Advancement |
| Jan | 20-22 | | Klondike Derby |
| Feb | 25-27 | Skiing | Crystal Mountain |
| Mar | 23-25 | Caving | Bluespring Caverns |
| April | 20-22 | Webelos | Rice Woods |
| May | 4-6 | Hiking/Horses | Turkey Run |
| May | 18-20 | | Relay for Life |
| June | 17-22 | Summer Camp | @ Wood Lake |
| July | 14-21 | Sailing | Chesapeake Bay |

Merit badges: Pioneering, Emergency Preparedness, Home Improvement, and Music along with First Aid & Wilderness Survival.

Please mark these dates on your calendar NOW. Many of these activities are both fun and educational and your scout will benefit from them in many ways. This calendar will allow you to plan family activities accordingly.

We'll keep the regular campout cost at \$20. The following outings will cost more (estimated total cost): Canoeing (\$35), Climbing (\$35), Skiing (\$75), Horseback (\$35+). Remember that you can use fundraising money to pay for any amount over the \$20. Sell popcorn and Hacienda cards!

FUTURE PLANS

Future outing/campout plans include:

| | | | |
|-----|-------|-------------------------|----------|
| Aug | 19-21 | Bluegrass Festival | (Steve) |
| Sep | 9-11 | Pere Marquette River | (Bonnie) |
| Oct | 14-16 | Fort Custer Mtn. Biking | (Rich) |

The person listed is the leader in charge of that campout. Refer specific campout questions to them.

FUNDRAISING

\$

Talk to Jenny to help at the Bluegrass pancake breakfast! POPCORN

Everyone should be planning to sell popcorn this fall! Sellers will earn 25% of what they sell to use towards campout costs above \$20 (like Climbing, Skiing, etc.), Summer Camp and Sailing next summer. Order forms for Show & Sell will be due at the Sept 1 meeting. Show & Sell product will be available after Sept 16. Take-order forms & Show & Sell money will be due at the Oct 27 meeting. Take-order product will be available after Nov 18 and the money will be due on Dec 8. Be sure to read the email about the "cash option" for prize money to help with your scouting expenses.

SPONSOR NEWS

Randy Leliaert donates \$600 each year, \$50 per month, to our troop and August is the month we count his renewal. He's amazing! We use the extra money to help scouts that can't afford to pay for a campout or ski rental or whatever. Be sure to thank him and give him your insurance business! Times are tough & we really appreciate the generosity of our sponsors & their commitment to Scouting. Do you know someone who might like to be a sponsor? For \$100 a year they get ad space on the trailer, are included in the list below and on our website, and they get a newsletter! Call Dee Joyner @ 674-7109 to add a sponsor.

PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR SPONSORS!

| CURRENT SPONSORS | |
|---|----------------------------|
| Amer. Legion Post 308 | Axle, Inc. |
| Between The Buns | Don's Plumbing |
| Hardware Plus | Hoosier Racing Tire |
| Instant Auto Finance | James Christ |
| | Magrames Motor Sales |
| McDaniel's Harley Davidson | Mor-Ryde |
| Mr. G's Restaurant | Osceola Bluegrass Festival |
| Osceola Business Assoc | Osceola Clinic |
| Osceola Lions Club (\$150) | Performance Carstar |
| Vogue School of Beauty | Warren Chiropractic |
| | Wounded Knee Roofing |
| Randy Leliaert Agency (\$600) | |
| McKinley Penn Self Lock Storage (\$480) | |
| Ongoing: U.S. Signcrafters | |

TROOP MEETINGS

Our next regular troop meeting is Thursday, August 25 from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM at the Osceola United Methodist Church. Shirt, neckerchief, books, dues!

FACEBOOK GROUP

Another note on our Facebook page: Going forward, we can not allow you to tag pictures that are in albums in our group. We changed the group settings to remove the Tag Photo option. If you want to download a picture and place it on your own personal page and then tag it, that's fine. But we can't let them be tagged on our troop page. Unfortunately, the new settings also mean you can't just search for the group. Now, to join the group, search for "Boy Scout Troop 122 Osceola, Indiana" and you'll find our troop page (not the group). You can Friend the page and then post a Comment that you'd like to join the group. We've been adding picture albums and slideshows to the page and we'll be adding more all the time. Remember, only current and former troop members, their families and very close friends can have access since we, as a troop, are not allowed to spread pictures of our youth all over the internet.

COMMITTEE

The current committee consists of the members listed below. Committee meetings are the LAST Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM at the church. ALL committee members should attend. Parents, sponsors and other interested adults are welcome at these meetings.

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------|----------|
| Vince Kertes | Committee Chrmn | 679-4087 |
| Rich Mitchell | Scoutmaster | 850-3302 |
| Steve Buck | Quartermaster | 259-3704 |
| Devin Cartwright | Advancement | 298-2624 |
| Bonnie Clay | Asst. Scoutmaster | 315-6253 |
| Ken Fritz | Roundtable | 291-2640 |
| Jim Trader | Church Rep | 256-9567 |
| Jeremy Haluda | Asst. Scoutmaster | 607-2967 |
| Ron Hipsher | Asst. Scoutmaster | 274-4200 |
| Jeremy Hipsher | Asst. Scoutmaster | 485-9000 |
| Dee Joyner | Sponsors | 674-7109 |
| Jason Joyner | Asst. Scoutmaster | 674-7109 |
| Joe Joyner | Treasurer | 674-7109 |
| Jack King | Quartermaster | 674-6249 |
| John Likes | Asst. Scoutmaster | 255-3724 |
| Jenny Sanders | Fundraising | 329-1618 |
| Ben Van Antwerp | Asst. Scoutmaster | 876-9498 |
| Scott Whitfield | Asst. Scoutmaster | 485-9765 |