



Help us name our Troop newsletter. Send ideas to Chandler@squireshouse.com. Reward for the winning entry!

I'm a Boy Scout

I was not thrilled with the idea of letting my 13 year old son babysit his younger sisters, even though he begged me to.

“What about a fire?” I asked, referring to my #1 concern.

“Mom,” he said, rolling his eyes, “I’m a Boy Scout. I know how to start a fire” From Reader’s Digest September 2010 issue

Scoutmaster Minute

This past summer was very busy for the troop. Over 20 scouts went on the mini-high adventure in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and over 40 scouts attended Tesomas summer camp. Thanks to Mr. Nicholson for serving as the Scoutmaster at summer camp. This summer we also started monthly meetings where the scouts were given the opportunity to compete in scout skills and relax by playing Frisbee.

Even though summer has come to an end, the fun continues. The September outing is biking on the Elroy-Sparta trail. The October outing had to change due to Iowa closing its caves to help slow a disease known as white-nose syndrome that is killing bats. Instead, we will be camping at Governor Dodge State Park that weekend.

On October 2, our scouts will again be helping with the Badge Honor Flight. This program takes WWII veterans to Washington DC to see the memorials erected in their honor. John Pyeatt is the coordinator of this service project.

The Senior Patrol Leader and Patrol Leader elections will be moving up one month to November. This will give the new leaders an opportunity to learn their new roles and prepare for the January PLC overnight.

I am looking forward to another exciting scout year.

Mr. Grindle
Scoutmaster



Committee Corner



The Troop Committee has been “on vacation” for the summer, but that doesn’t mean we have not been busy. We have been busy with the new bus, GNF, an accounting system change, and wreath sales.

Bus 2010

Since the last Committee Corner, the transportation subcommittee has recommended the purchase of a new bus from the Middleton Cross Plains School District. Many boys and adults have spent a lot of time sanding and prepping the bus for it’s new skin. As I type, it is having its finishing touches put on by the professionals at the school district. We will take possession soon--in fact, we hope to have it ready for the bike outing later this month. Thank you Brad Wagner and Tony Nicholson for spearheading this committee.

Good Neighbor Fest

We had another great year at GNF. Under Brad Wagner’s guidance, the annual event ran smooth as silk--at least from the point of view of our customers. Many thanks to the boys and adults that gave so much time and effort to make this a successful event.

Accounting System Change

Another major project we worked on this summer is converting our accounting system from Quicken to Quickbooks. Quickbooks will allow us to better track our expenses to our budget and provide better reports for our committee meetings. Thanks go our to Cynthia Shaw and Betsey Davis for their work in this transition.

Wreath Sales

The kick-off for this years wreath sale--our Troop’s largest fund raiser--will be held on Monday, September 27 at 5:30. Rob and Kim Squires did a great job managing this sale last year. They have made a few changes for this year that will make this sale even better.

Available Committee Positions

There are two committee positions that need to be filled. Both are important to our Troop and neither takes a ton of time. Please consider taking charge of one of these positions. I would be happy to discuss them in more detail with interested persons.

The first is our Fundraising Coordinator. This position is not in charge of any fundraisers, per se. Rather, they facilitate communication between the various fundraising leaders and the committee. This person would be the go to person for determining which fundraisers we perform and help with budgeting as it pertains to fundraising.

The second position is the leader of the salt sales. This is our second largest fundraiser and is an important service to our customers. I have run this fundraiser for many years and I would like to focus more on the Committee Chair position. This position handles the orders and payments from our customers, prints invoices for the month and orders salt when necessary. This takes me about four hours per month.

Come to a Meeting

Our next Committee meeting is Monday, September 27 at 7:30 pm. Everyone is invited to attend and provide their thoughts and concerns.

Jamboree Post

By Chandler Squires

If you think that Tesomas is fun check out Jamboree! Jamboree this year was at Fort A.P. Hill in Virginia. This military base is huge. The Jamboree only took up a one tenth of the area and that part was ten times larger than Tesomas. But first you have to get there and that's why we took an Amtrak train. About 40+ Scouts from the Glacier's Edge Council made the trip. It had everything that you could encounter on a outing , summer camp or a high adventure!

Then comes the stage shows. There are two stage shows. Both have 3 huge LED TV screens, which they borrowed from the Dallas Cowboys Stadium (those of you who haven't seen it it, takes up a whole side of the stadium). They have amazing speakers too, everyone from Mike Rowe from the TV show Dirty Jobs to Robert Gates, Secretary of Defense to Miss America.

However you can't end a Jamboree without fireworks. The fireworks lasted a half-hour and were so bright you could read a newspaper by the lights. They were amazing! The one major difference between summer camp and Jambo is the some of the extra features. Do

Dear Troop 140 Parents:

The start of a new school and Scout year means fundraising is just around the corner. We are all bombarded with requests from bands, sports, etc. to buy or sell things. Scouting is no different. Many parents are under the false impression that the fees you pay for Scouting cover the Troop expenses. The fact is that the small annual charter fee only covers the registration with the National and Regional BSA. It covers BSA insurance for us on outings and support materials from BSA and the Glacier's Edge Council. Troop 140 is fortunate in our resources, including a new Scout bus, Scout garage, camping and other equipment for Scouts to use without direct charge. Many troops expect the Scout to provide their own equipment. Our success can be attributed to committed fundraising by Scouts and their parents.

Our annual troop budget includes the initial purchase, maintenance or replacement of the equipment. The troop outing fees are only for the food, gas for the bus, and any campsite or touring fees. St. Luke's Church has been very generous in their support, but they are increasingly looking to us to pay for our bus insurance and other expenses.

You may be in a position to write a check for your Scout's direct outing expenses. One of the 12 values that the Scout Law teaches is Thrifty. This means a Scout should be self-sufficient and fund his own way through outings or any other needs.

Philosophically, I believe it is important for a Scout to earn his own way. This helps build self-esteem, and self-reliance and communication skills.

If you simply write a check, then you are only helping your own Scout. If your Scout sells or participates in a fundraiser, some of the proceeds go directly to your Scout's Troop account and some goes to the general troop fund for use on Troop equipment that all Scouts benefit. If your Scout is involved in sports, you know that there is a much higher participation fee than Scouting AND they expect either fundraising or volunteering for the organization. Troop 140 has not imposed this higher fee, but it may be an option, if families choose not to help with one of the many fundraising opportunities.

Please consider selling Holiday Wreaths as your chance to help your Scout help themselves AND help Troop 140. Last year, first year Scout, Ryan Shaw, in six weeks of selling, generated \$1500 for his Troop Account and \$1500 for Troop 140 during the Holiday Wreath Sale.

The opinion expressed here may or may not represent other Troop committee members, Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmasters, parents, or even my wife! Yours in Scouting, Mr. Rob Squires, Assistant Scoutmaster Troop 140



September Birthdays

9-19 Karl Stephan

9-21 Charles Crow

9-29 Nick Kjorlie

September Events

9-20 Court of Honor, St. Luke's Church

9-24 to 9-26 Elroy Sparta Bike Outing

9-27 Wreath Kick-off 5:30pm PLC Meeting 6:30pm Troop Committee meeting 7:30pm

10-30 Glacier's Edge Merit Badge Clinic 9am-3pm See attached flyer for details and registration. Contact Mr. Squires (225-4000) if interested in carpooling. We would need another adult to stay, in addition to Mr. Squires, if carpooling.