

August 30, 2005

Volume 1

TROOP 188 TIMES



SCOUTMASTER'S

CORNER

Hi Scouts,
My first three months as Scoutmaster have been great. It's a bit different from being an Assistant Scoutmaster. There are more details to take care of but I've also had more fun. For some reason, I feel obligated to start water fights now. The biggest change I've noticed has had nothing to do with being Scoutmaster though. This summer I did 99 miles of backpacking and that's about 98 more than normal. I enjoyed every minute of it and hope all of you get a chance to do some long trips. The views were fantastic and the scouts and adults that went on the trip were fun to be with. Even the challenges of a long hike, hiking through dense undergrowth, or even hiking through waist high thistle

just made it more of an adventure.

But I must admit, I did notice a few differences between myself and those of you I hiked with. For example, I started getting in shape back in March with long walks and slowly worked up to 50 mile bike rides in the foot hills. You guys? You probably just rolled out of bed to get in shape. When it comes to food I carefully planned my diet to get maximum energy. A scout's idea of a power breakfast is donuts and Coke. Finally, I probably have more money wrapped up in boots and orthotics to take care of my messed up feet than many of you will spend on your first car. Yes, it was a lot of work for me to keep up with you guys. But I'd do this every year if I could.

Mr. Rosing

WHO TO CONTACT

Matt Rosing

282-9470

mr@peakfive.com

Rich Nash

482-9679

rich@teamnash.org

Assistant Scoutmasters:

Nic Bastion

Norm Bastion

Tim Canney

Mark Clark

Doug Cutter

Lorin DeBonte

Robert Donahue

Craig Heikes

Chip Keen

Ed Kotsides

Eamonn Martin

Terry Martin

Kerry Waldron

Tim Canney

225-0929

tim.canney@hp.com

Jaime Mares

225-8005

jaime.mares@hp.com

Frank Lancaster

223-4754

raft2000@comcast.net

Visit us on the Web for updates, calendar, images:

<http://www.troop188.org>



North Group Backpacking

Ryan Nash

The North Group consisted of the following: Mr. Lancaster and Ian, Daniel Kotsidies and Alex Yasumura, Mr. Cutter and Ryan, Mr. Nash and Ryan, and Mr. Rosing and Eric, the awesome cooks. In the time we spent on the trail we hiked through lava fields, saw many outstanding views of the mountains and stayed at the most wonderful campsites. We stayed at three lakes and a meadow, each of them having something about them that was special. Campsites were determined based on the availability of water. Be it spectacular views or a nice cool lake to swim in they all really were special. On the trail we saw many spectacular views and flowers that helped pass the time while we were on the trail, including a massive waterfall with an obsidian cliff in the background. Along the trail were many views of the Three Sisters Peaks at which the adults wasted no time in stopping and pulling their cameras out and taking pictures, and believe me we did that a lot! We also walked over lava flows that got to be pretty hot after a while. What we liked best was hiking amongst the tall old growth trees and undergrowth with flowers. Most of the days (except for our ten mile day) we pulled into camp early so we would go swimming or do other things to pass the time. Some of us even tried our hand at Farkel and a few of us weren't that good at it, especially me. That pretty much sums it up for our time on the Oregon Trail.

Mike DeBonte

South Team Backpacking Article

I'm sure that many of the people who went on the Oregon High Adventure trip and those related to them are getting mighty tired of hearing stories about the trip, hearing about it one more time won't hurt...right? Now that I have attempted to be funny, I'll actually tell you about the backpacking part of our trip, at least as I saw it. The South Crew or "Rebels" consisted of the following adults and scouts: Mr. Whitney, Mr. DeBonte, Mr. Kurtz, Mr. Canney, Brad Kurtz, Gage Waldron, Josh Adams, Aaron Canney, Matthew Whitney, Paul Colasuonno and Mike DeBonte. Mrs. Whitney, Mr. Yasumura and Mr. Kotsides remained at base camp and acted as support for both teams. Now that everyone is on the same page, I can start describing the backpacking portion of the trip. We (the Rebels) began our "trek" at the Scott's Lake trailhead around 1:30 PM, from there we hiked across a road, through a dense forest, a huge lava field and ended up at Minnie Scott Spring where we camped for the night. The second day started off sunny and cool, from the spring we hiked through more lava fields, down a massive lava chute and across more lava fields until we reached Obsidian Falls, a spectacular 150-foot waterfall cut into an obsidian cliff, from the falls we hiked to Linton Creek and camped there for the night, three of the crew took a side trip to a nearby lake to swim and "do laundry". The third day started uneventfully, but as we hiked to Hinton Creek to eat lunch the clouds rolled in, but it never rained, we camped near Mesa Falls Creek, this was a popular area as there were two other groups camping there, one packing with llamas, the other with horses. Again three of the crew took a side trip, this time to a nearby vantage point and some spectacular scenery. The fourth day was the shortest but also the hottest, we hiked up a killer hill onto a lava plain, ate lunch at the base of the second hill then pushed on to camp at a lake on the other side of the hill. We set up camp then four of the crew took another side trip, this one up to the summit of South Sister a 10,358 foot peak suffice to say, two made it to the top, two decided that the summit was out of the question. The final day started with a little uphill and ended on a seriously steep down hill thanks to that downhill the final miles were finished in around two hours, allowing us to get off the trail around 10:15 AM. I urge everyone to look at the pictures of the trip that are posted (or are soon to be posted) on the website, they are amazing.





Touring the Oregon Coast

After getting off the trail at the Devil's Lake Trailhead, we drove out to the state park where base camp was and got a lunch of pizza and watermelon along with a much needed shower. We then packed up the cars and sped off to the Oregon Coast and Beverly Beach State Park, where we would be camping the next two nights. The next morning, we got up at 5:45 a.m. to go and see the tide pools created by low tide. There was a ranger there that led us on a tour of sorts and answered all sorts of questions about the many life forms that inhabit the tide pools. We eventually ended up catching mole crabs (crabs that bury into the sand) and feeding them to sea anemones. We then rode up to the Heceta Head Lighthouse and took a tour around the historic lighthouse. The lighthouse was made in 1894 and has been in use ever since. After that, we went back to the cars and continued on to see the largest sea lion cave in the world. There really wasn't much to see, but it was still a cool experience. We spent the rest of the daylight hours down at the beach creating a massive sand castle. Dinner was taken at Moe's that night, where everyone had a great meal. The next day we spent mainly in the car, but we did stop at Multnomah Falls and ate lunch there. When we got to camp that night, most everyone went down the river and we had a water fight. By the way, whatever you may hear from the adults that participated, the kids actually won. And the next two days were completely consumed by driving home.

On the Oregon trip the group was split into two. Half of them, called the North team, created camp names based on things they did on the trip. See if you can figure out what each person did to get their name by putting their camp name into one of the sentences below.

Ryan "Dip" Cutter
Ryan "Wind" Nash
Ian "Spoon" Lancaster
Eric "Apples" Rosing
Daniel "Cheese" Kotsides
Alex "Bonk" Yasumura
Matt "Numb" Rosing
Doug "Java" Cutter
Frank "Boots" Lancaster
Rich "Pokey" Nash

I do push ups in the road _____.
Eating diet granola bars while hiking is a sure way to _____.
If I do not get my _____ before I start hiking, the bears will fear me.
_____ puppy is always at the back of the trail.
If all you eat is dehydrated food, you should not forget your _____.
I eat _____ for every meal!
My pack is not quite right and my butt is going _____.
A scout is prepared, even if he forgets his _____.
It is not wise to pee into the _____.
I will take a _____ in the tide pool.

(Courtesy of Mr. Rosing)



Mt. Rushmore

On Aug. 18, we left the Linton parking lot and started our 6 hour trip in the car. We stopped at Register Cliffs and Flagstaff Hill where we saw the names carved into the rocks that were from the 1800's. We then continued on and ate lunch at a subway in a small town. When we got there, we all got to view the lovely poison ivy.

The first big event was Crazy Horse Monument where we took a tour to the base with an awesome tour guide. We explored the museum and the gift shop. About sunset, this huge storm moved in and it poured rain on us for about 30 minutes. After the rain passed over, we watched a spectacular light show titled "Legends in Light". By the time we got back it was 10:00 and we all went to bed.

The next morning we were awakened by the loud noises of revelry. For this day we had decided to climb South Dakota's largest peak, Mt. Harny. We made our lunches (PB & J tortillas and a fruit) and began our hike of 3 miles. When we got there, we explored the large stone fire observatory and the surrounding area. A large group of us decided to sit in the "jail" and eat lunch. After that we headed back down and went back to camp.

On the third day we went to the beautiful Jewel Cave. We took the lantern tour and many of us became Jr. Rangers. We divided into two groups and we both took the dungeon room route. After this wonderful tour, we went back to camp and drilled for our ceremony at Mt. Rushmore. When we got there we practiced again behind the amphitheater. We all lined up and did our first part. We then watched the movie and lowered the flag. When we finished Mr. Keen said we had made him proud. The next day we left for home and got back around 4:00pm. During this trip we accomplished our goals and "got er dun".

Troop 188 (Mr. Keen)
"Git R Dun"
Mini High Adventure to the
Black Hills of South Dakota

23 scouts, 12 adults, and several family groups, from Troop 188 finished up the summer vacation season by spending Thursday Aug 18 – Sunday Aug 21 on an event packed, mini high adventure to the Black Hills of South Dakota. This trip was open to scouts of all ages and ranks in the troop. On the drive up, we visited a site outside Guernsey, WY where some of the early pioneers traveling the Oregon Trail, engraved their names in Register Cliff along the N. Platte River. Most of the dates we saw engraved next to the names were from the 1849 and 1850 era. We also visited a nearby site, where these same travelers carved ruts in the hill side from their wagons wheels as much as 6 feet deep. After arriving in Custer State Park, South Dakota we set up camp, ate dinner and prepared for our first activity, which was a trip to the mountain carving of Crazy Horse. While at Crazy Horse Mountain we watched a 20 minute video, followed by a bus ride to the base of the mountain. Afterwards we toured the museum until dark, at which time we watched a really cool lazar light show combined with a natural lightning show from the thunderstorm that passed over the mountain at the same time.

On Friday, we hiked to the top of 7242 foot Harney Peak, the highest point east of the Rocky Mountains. Everyone was able to reach the peak, where we got a really great view of the clouds, since it was a foggy and overcast morning. Later that night, we had a fun filled campfire with each patrol performing at least one patrol skit, followed by a special flag retirement ceremony.

Saturday morning we all got an early start so we could do a 2 hour lantern tour of Jewel Cave. We broke up into 2 groups of 20 each and made our way through an unlit, unpaved section of the cave starting at the original entrance using an old style lantern for light, the same way the earlier cavers did. Along the tour we saw a few bats, lowered ourselves through the "trap door" and made our way through low and narrow passages to the "dungeon room" while being careful not to bump our heads along the way.

During the afternoon we had a buffalo decide to check out what a boy scout camp was all about. After hanging around for a short time, he must have decided it was too much chaos for him because he left the area but not before sending several adults and scouts scurrying to their vehicle as he slowly strolled by and made his way back up into the hills. This was just one of the many sightings of buffalo, deer, antelope, wild turkey, mountain goats and big horn sheep we saw over the 4 day trip.

Saturday night we drove to Mt Rushmore so the scouts could experience the rare opportunity to do the closing flag ceremony prior to the lighting of the faces. During the first part of this ceremony the scouts filed onto the stage carrying our troop's US, Colorado and Troop 188 flags. In front of an audience of approximately 2000 people, the scouts recited the Boy Scout oath and law, after which, they all lead the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. During the second part of the ceremony the scouts returned to the stage to lower the colors to the sound of taps played by two buglers. They then folded the flag in front of 40 to 50 veterans that were called to the stage by the ranger to participate in the ceremony. The scouts made us all proud by doing an outstanding job.

Just a Reminder to ALL

It is coming soon....Hold your hats and grab your partners.... It's kernel popping time

YES!! IT'S POPCORN TIME AGAIN!

Information will be coming September 5, 2005 from Mr. Kerry Waldron.

Due to several technical difficulties this newsletter will be incomplete. A second newsletter will follow and be distributed to the troop. To all those that contributed and did not see your article please accept my humblest apology and I will have an updated newsletter. Your Editor (Tom Yasumura)