

Troop 479 October 2007 Newsletter

By Josh K.

Hello, I am the new scribe and this is my 1st Newsletter. Enjoy.

Table of Contents:

New Troop Leaders

Camporee

Phoenix Patrol

Wreath & Popcorn Sales

Heads up!

New Troop Leaders

Troop 479's new team of troop leaders began their official 6-month reign on October 1st. We elected Joe to be our SPL, and Mitch the ASPL. Together they assigned positions for the troops new leaders. We are excited for the next 6 months and hope they'll be a great experience for everyone!

Scribe: Josh

Instructors: Kory, Travis, and Josh

Librarian: Zaq

Den Chief: Jimmy

Historian: Isaac

Quartermaster: Brandon B.

Troop guide: Peter D. & Joe V.

Webmaster: Scott

Camporee

This last month, troop 479 got to spend a fun weekend at Camp Stearns.

When we arrived on Friday night, we found a campsite and set up our tents. We enjoyed a nice sleep.

The next morning we prepared breakfast and found out we were in the wrong campsite. We then took our gear out from the tents and carried our tents (all set up) to our new site. It was worth it though; we got a nice space with really tall grass. Later that day we walked to the obstacle course and were instructed on how to use a potato canon. After the instructions, we got to try the canons. We launched blocks of wood really far! We went to another activity, which took place near shooting range, and learned about fire starting methods. We experimented with a bow drill, used a magnifying glass, and mastered the flint sparker. One method that we were introduced to was a chemical reaction. The people running the show (station) put a blob of goop on a cloth, and a couple moments later it turned to flames!

Upon arrival at our campsite for lunch, we met with a group of cub scouts, which ate lunch with us. They got a chance to see what our troop was like and I think that they enjoyed it. After lunch and cleanup, we took a hike to the flagpole, where all the troops were supposed to have a bridge building contest. If you ask anyone who went to the Camporee, they will tell you their favorite part was what happened instead of the competition. There was another troop that happened to be throwing pinecones around amongst themselves and, somehow, are troop joined in. We started throwing pinecones at

them, and then it became a HUGE pinecone fight. Everyone was whipping pinecones as fast as they could find them. Eventually we had to leave and go to our campsite. We met up with the Cub Scout group again for dinner, and they enjoyed eating with us. During the remainder of the day, we had pinecones flying at our campsite. Before we left to have the district wide campfire, our troop had a good time playing night tag (tag, but it is pitch black outside...). At the campfire, all of the troops performed a skit, and afterward we had lights out. The next morning, after a wonderful and nutritious breakfast, we went to the district chapel service. Once it was over, we quickly packed up, hopped into the cars, buckled our seat belts, and headed home. We had a great time!

Phoenix Patrol

Not too long ago the Penguin patrol, consisting of 7 boys, and the Moose patrol, 3 boys, merged to form the *Phoenix* patrol. The *Phoenix* symbolized immortality and life after death. If you know your troop history, the penguin patrol consisted of the buffalo-bills, the roadrunners, and the cobras. All 3 of these patrols are gone due to boys quitting. Through all of the hardship that was endured, the scouts in the phoenix patrol survived. That is why the phoenix is a good name for their patrol. Plus the patches are really cool!



Wreath & Popcorn Sales

Throughout all of Eden Prairie, boy scouts were ringing doorbells and making sales to their neighbors. The boy scouts' major annual fundraiser is selling Christmas wreaths and popcorn. About 35% of money collected goes into the scouts account and 30% goes to the troop. We were given about 3 weeks to sell as much as we could. On the October 22nd troop meeting everyone turned in their sales forms and checks to be counted up. The top five sellers will be awarded cash prizes. It has not yet been determined who the winner is, but that should be revealed quite soon. The items purchased shall be delivered the weekend before thanksgiving to make for a happy holiday.



Heads up!

- Just a few things to keep in mind are that the scout-o-rama is going to happen November 3rd. Each patrol is required to present at least 1 skill & 1 game to the Webelos. There will be Webelos to see what our troop is like and hopefully convince them to join us. This will be a blast (it always is)
- On November 9th our troop has its lock-in at St. Andrew's church. We will go to Grandslam for about 2 hours, then return to the church and play games in the gym until 1:00 a.m. It will be great fun, so be sure to come.