

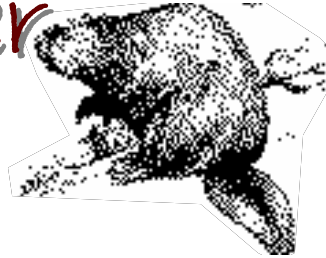
September 30, 2006

Volume 16, Issue 3



Troop 19

Beaver Tales



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Banks' Bits

Dear Troop 19 Family:

What a summer!! Wow!

A few notes for the coming year. We are trying to cut down on the number of e mails the troop sends out. One way to do this is the new interactive calendar on the troop website, www.bsa19.org. You can go to the calendar and click on the date to get the information on upcoming activities and trips. The troop will discontinue handing out broad sheets for each month at the meetings. Check the website and keep up with the troop activities. Ask your son what is going on. If he misses a meeting, have your son call his patrol leader and catch up.

Another important note concerns the Boards of Review. We are in dire need of parents to sit on these boards and help our Scouts earn their ranks. The Boards of Review are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. No experi-

ence in Scouting is required, we will train you. If you are not on a troop committee or one of my Assistant Scoutmaster, I am asking that you come and sit on one of these boards for the troop.

The Troop Auction is coming up in December. We need help in putting it together and collecting items for the auction. If you can assist the troop with the auction, please call Jean Buffum.

Folks, we have a need to make the troop better. But making the troop better requires help from all the members of the Troop 19 family. I realize that everyone is busy and committed to other obligations. However, Scouting is an important part of your son's life. The involvement of parents in our program not only



aids the troop but enriches your son's Scouting experiences. We have a very active troop. This makes our troop special and your son's Scouting career unique.

Parents, as always, thank you for all you do for the troop.

Yours in Scouting,

Lawrence W. Banks, Jr.
Scoutmaster Troop 19

Upcoming Events:

Gregory Ryczek Eagle Ceremony
Oct 1

Camping At Fort Bragg
Oct 6 - 8

Alex Young Eagle Ceremony
Oct 22

Troop Bike Trip
Nov 3 - 5

Merit Badge Workshop
Dec 2

Service at The Oaks
Dec 5

Tucker Horne Medal of Merit Honoree



Troop 19 Eagle Scout, **Tucker Horne**, became the first Scout from our troop to earn the Medal of Merit. The Medal of Merit may be awarded to a youth member or adult leader who has performed some outstanding act of service of a rare or exceptional character that reflects an uncommon degree of concern for the well-being of others.

Tucker was awarded the Medal of Merit for his actions at the 2006 Klondike Derby. While patrolling the Derby, Tucker noticed another Scout hunched over in a hedge row. Tucker called to the boy and received no response from him. Tucker went to the Scout and noticed that he was having a seizure of some kind.

When the boy's seizure subsided Tucker pulled the Scout from the hedge row. Tucker then noticed that the boy had stopped breathing. Acting quickly and calmly, Tucker administered CPR to the Scout and was able to restore breathing and bring him back to life. Tucker treated the boy for shock and waited with him until EMT's arrived to continue the Scout's emergency treatment.

For his actions during the emergency and his efforts to bring the Scout back to life, Tucker was awarded the Boy Scouts of America Medal of Merit.



Venture Crew

Troop 19 Senior Scouts will now participate in the BSA Venture Crew Program. The new Venture Crew will replace the old Senior Scout program that Troop 19 ran for older Scouts. The Venture Crew will kick off beginning in October 2006. If your son is 14 years of age or older, a Star Scout he is eligible to join the Venture Crew. If you would like more

information, please contact the Venture Crew Advisor, **Larry Zaino, Sr.** for details.

Congratulations also to **Larry Zaino, Jr.** Larry was appointed as the first Venture Crew President of Troop 19's new crew. Good luck Larry.



Troop 19 welcomes our newest Eagle Scout to the Eagle Aerie. **Jonathan Tucker Horne** earned his Eagle award on completion of his Eagle Board of Review on August 14, 2006. Tucker has been active in the troop since joining in 2000 and becomes Troop 19's 57th Eagle Scout and the 44th Eagle for Scoutmaster Banks. Tucker's Eagle project was performed at Hinds' Feet Farm Tucker's project

Tucker was presented his Eagle Award at an Eagle Court of Honor on September 18, 2006. Please help us congratulate Tucker on his accomplishment.



Additionally, Troop 19 welcomes another new Eagle Scout to the Eagle Aerie. **Alexander Coleman Young** earned his Eagle award on completion of his Eagle Board of Review on August 14, 2006. Alex has been active in the troop since joining in 2000 and becomes Troop 19's 58th Eagle Scout and the 45th Eagle for Scoutmaster Banks. Alex

has also served the troop as Senior Patrol Leader. Alex's Eagle project was designed to create a picnic area with benches and a garden at the Huntersville Athletic Park

Eagle Update

Details of Alex's Eagle Court of Honor are now complete. We will recognize Alex at a ceremony on October 22, 2006. Please help us congratulate Alex on his accomplishment.

Eagle Scout Gregory Tedford Ryczek will be honored with his Eagle Award at an Eagle Court of Honor on October 1, 2006. Please help us congratulate Gregory on his accomplishment.

Troop 19 Eagle Scout **Trevor Hehn** has safely returned from Iraq. Trevor has recently completed his tour of duty in Iraq and is home for some R & R. He will be returning soon to Fort Bragg for re assignment.

Welcome home Trevor and thank you for a job well done!



Thanks to **Brad Vice, Greg Augspurger, Jeff Nye and Dave Ruggles** who ran the Mohawk Village events during the Camporee.

Great job Troop 19 Senior Scouts and thanks again for the assistance of the Troop 19 Assistant Scoutmasters!!

Senior Camporee 2006



Congratulations to the Senior Scouts of Troop 19 !!. Troop 19 patrols performed very well in

the Fall 2006 event. The KFC Scouts were led by **Seth Cross** and earned 1st Place among the

Hornets Nest District patrols. The KFC patrol earned the Sr. Camporee 1st Place Paddle that is now on display in the Scout Hut.

Troop 19's other patrol, the Purple Cobras Patrol led by **Dalton Basinger** was short of a full team. They combined with the Scouts of another Troop and were able to build enough team work and camaraderie finished tenth, only 15 points out of third place!

Senior Camporee Report

By Dalton Basinger

Last weekend, September 8-10, the Senior Scout Camporee was held at Camp Grimes. I was chosen to serve as the patrol leader for one of the patrols. Our patrol was called the "Globo Gym Purple Cobras", as in the movie "Dodge Ball".

We were one of two patrols from Troop 19, our patrol members were: Matt Vice, Miles Jahns, Danny Tito, and Kyle Smith. We had more scouts signed up to participate, but they dropped out before the camp-out. We also ended up combining with three scouts from Troop 615. They were supposed to be in the patrol "The Fighting Squizzles", however two of their scouts could not come, so our two small patrols combined. We kept the "Purple Cobras" as the patrol name, and shared our extra spirit items that Miles had brought. The combined patrol was a drawback, with such a large group, and not being used to working together.

The weekend was still a rewarding experience, and we all had fun. I personally learned many things about leadership, and the other patrol members learned about teamwork. Everything proved very challenging. There were many stations, all with a chance to learn. Unfortunately, our patrol didn't win any of the stations, but we did do our best to complete them as fast as possible. Our overall position in the final standings was 10th, but I feel we could have done much better.

Although we did our best at the time, looking back, we could have approached some challenges differently. So, even with our disadvantages, we had a good time, and pulled through. Since another patrol from Troop 19 won the C.O.P.E event, and 1st place overall, our spirits rose and we went home with smiles on our faces.



Appalachian Trail High Adventure

By Anthony Pugliese

*This summer, Troop 19 Scouts and Leaders trekked a portion of the Appalachian Trail. In our last newsletter, ASM **Larry Zaino, Sr.** reported on the adventure. This time, Scout **Anthony Pugliese** reports on the adventure from the perspective of the Scouts who participated.*

Mr. Banks,

My trip to the Appalachians was an exhausting, yet toilsome and priceless experience. The entire trip took six days and we backpacked about 56 miles in total. We drove up Friday, started Saturday, and finished on Thursday.

On Saturday, we drove up to the Benton Mackey - Appalachian Trail intersection and hiked the 0.9 miles to the start of the AT on top of Springer Mountain. We all took photos,



then we hiked back down to start our real hike; eight miles to the Hawk Mountain Shelter. The first day was the hardest, but we got to the end with little incident. There were some great sights along the way, from beautiful mountain vistas to a creek and waterfall with refreshingly cold water that was lit up by the sun. We stayed in a shelter that night, so packing up the next morning was easy.

Sunday was also a fine day. We hiked a series of steep mountains to the Gooch Mountain Shelter. The landscape was very lively, and everything was green (of course, it was green the rest of the week, too).

Monday was toilsome. We hiked 11.7 or so miles. We would have hiked 10.5, but we all agreed to take the extra mile to get to a better campground with a lake near it. The lake was surrounded by low mountains, and there was a walkway around it. Matt and I cooked dinner that night; Chicken, Noodles, and Alfredo sauce. It was delicious.

Tuesday was my favorite day. In the morning, we hiked Blood Mountain, which had the best view yet, and got to Neel's Gap by lunch. Neel's Gap was different from all the other Gaps we had been to in that it is the only place on the whole trail that goes through a store. Anyway, at Neel's Gap, we had a real lunch (hot dogs and sodas) which tasted heavenly after days of trail food. After that, we all restocked up on our energy bars and what-not and hiked to Wolf Laurel's Top. However, when we got there, we found that the

water source was inadequate. So we hiked another half-mile to water, topped off, and hiked another mile or so to Cow Rock Mountain, where we bedded down.

We slept beside a tremendous granite face that had the best view of the whole trip. That night, I slept outside on my pad. I was closest to the granite face, and there was a clearing above me. As soon as the mountain fog cleared up, you could see millions of stars. The experience was breathtaking. I got up extra early and moved my pad out on to the granite face so I could watch the sunrise. It was the first time I ever saw the morning star alone in the sky.



Wednesday was brief, but arduous. We only hiked 6 miles, but the mountains were incredibly steep. Even so, we pulled into Low Gap around lunch, so we had an entire afternoon and evening to relax! Since we had so much time, we swapped out one of our dinners and had it for lunch. Then we spent the rest of the day relaxing, pumping water, and napping. That night, the majority of us stayed in the shelter, or as we called it, the "Bat Cave." The Bat Cave had at least half a dozen bats wedged up between the beams in the shelter. We all had a good time that night, laughing and joking and singing.

Thursday was easygoing. We hiked 7 miles to Blue Mountain Shelter, had lunch, played cards, waited out a storm, and then we hiked the 2 miles to Unicoi Gap. There we took pictures, changed, and got picked up by Mr. Horne. It was an incredible trip, and I would

Troop 19 News and Notes



Philmont 2007
Mecklenburg County Council is taking applications for Scouts and Leaders inter-

ested in attending Philmont Scout Reservation in 2007. Philmont is located in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains of New Mexico and offers more than 38,000 acres of adventure for Scouts. If you are a 1st Class Scout and interested in the adventure of Philmont, please contact Mr. Banks for details.

Uniform Closet

As most of our parents are aware, the first couple of years for young Scout are expensive. Equipment, uniforms and fees take a bite out of the family budget. One of the ways the troop works to help the families is to offer a uniform closet. The closet allows parents access to good, used uniforms that can replace those their sons have outgrown. To maintain the closet we need parents to donate the clothing their Scouts have outgrown. We are in need of

uniform shirts, belts and socks. If you have any items to donate, please bring them to the next Scout meeting.



Thank You

Thanks to outgoing SPL **Seth Cross** for an outstanding job in leading the troop during his tenure.

Troop 19 Elections

Troop 19 held Troop elections in August. The following Scouts were elected to leadership positions for the next six month term of the Scouting year.

Senior Patrol Leader

Jonathan Cannito

Assistant Senior Patrol Leader

- Patrick Buffum
- Miles Jahns
- Jonathan Weiss
- Lance Sellie
- Brendon Almond
- Matt Vice

Troop OA Representatives

Kyle Smith

Chris Zaino

Patrol Leaders

- Teddy Jahns - Cobra Patrol
- Dillon Sellie - Falcon Patrol
- Tim Nye - Flaming Arrow Patrol
- Sam Orr - Viking Patrol
- Wesley King - Warrior Patrol

Venture Crew President

Larry Zaino

Jr. Assistant Scoutmasters

- Alex Robbins
- Seth Cross
- Larry Zaino

Congratulations Scouts on your selection for service. Good Luck in the coming term.



Florida Sea Base 2006

This summer, Troop 19 sent a large contingent to Florida Sea Base in Florida. The Sea Base is an opportunity for Scouts to experience many sea side adventures including SCUBA, sailing and snorkeling. Thanks are in order for ASM **Dave Ruggles** for leading our Scouts to this extraordinary adventure.

Sea Base Recap

by Brendan Ruggles

Sea Base was a lot of fun. We got to do many things that most people never get to do. We deep sea fished, we caught thirteen lobsters with just nets and a stick. We also caught two sharks - a lime shark and a black tipped shark. Our efforts also collected a barracuda.

The names of the two boats that we sailed with were the *Indian Summer 2* and the *Calypso Poet*, I was on the Indian Summer 2.

For Sea Base, we were responsible for our ship and everything for it. We raised the sails, cleaned the deck, and everything else. The best part of

the trip was the coral reef snorkeling. The sights were amazing. There were tons of coral and lots of fish that would come right next to you. There were also two shipwrecks that we visited.



It was such a great experience and I encourage that all Scouts should experience this trip. It is a once in a lifetime opportunity.

Attending Sea Base for Troop 19 were:

Scouts

Brendon Ruggles	Danny Tito
Jonathan Weiss	Lance Sellie
Alex D'Amour	Patrick Buffum
Christopher Zaino	Larry Zaino, Jr.
Anthony Pugliese	

Adult Leaders

Pete D'Amour	Dave Ruggles
Barry Weiss	Larry Zaino, Sr.
Dan Tito	

SPL Corner

Jonathan Cannito - SPL

Dear Troop 19:

I'd like to thank the Scouts in our Troop for electing me as Senior Patrol Leader. I look forward to giving the guidance that I can to everyone, helping to make this Troop the best it can be.

Congratulations to all other Scouts that were elected to an office, as well as those who were appointed a position. I hope that with the combination of your skills and my assistance, we may maintain a youth-run Troop. I



would also like to ask for your assistance in being a well-mannered Troop, as well as learning from the lessons that our Instructors have kindly put together for us.

To the parents of Troop 19, I plan to keep the meetings on schedule. This means that I hope to have all meetings conclude by 8:45 at the latest. If we have a special presentation or a larger instructional class happens, I hope that you will understand if meetings are stretched to compensate.

Once again, thank you all for allowing me this opportunity, and I hope that well will succeed in all challenges that are laid ahead for us.

Assistant Scoutmaster Rick Cardenas has developed an interactive feature for the calendar on the troop website. The new feature will allow parents and Scouts to click on an activity date and get the details of the upcoming activity.

Once this feature has been fully implemented, we will no longer be handing out broadsheets for every activity at the troop meetings. Details can also be downloaded from the website.

Scouts are expected to pay attention to patrol leaders and troop announcements during meetings. Scouts are responsible for securing information and passing the details to their parents. If a Scout misses a meeting, it is **HIS** responsibility to contact his patrol leader and get the details or find the information on the website. The troop will not be responsible for communicating every announcement to the Scout families. The responsibility for this task belongs to the Scout.

Sign up sheets will still be made available at meetings. Parents, we will greatly appreciate your assis-



Troop 19 Communication

tance in making the transition from handouts to the web site.

Newsletter and E Mail

The troop newsletter is intended for every member of the Troop 19 family, Scouts, parents, and siblings. Please be sure to share with the family. If you need another copy, the troop has extras in the Scout hut or the newsletter can be seen on the troop web site.

We have changed the e mail process for announcements. Effective immediately, there will only be one weekly e mail, generally on Sunday or Monday. If you have an announcement that you would like to be transmitted to the troop, please forward to Tanya Hartje by Friday before the weekend e mail.

WWW.BSA19.ORG

OA News and Notes



Fall Fellowship

The Fall Fellowship was a great

success thanks to the planning efforts of Catawba Lodge Vice Chief of Programs, **Nick King** and the leadership of **Wesley King**. We also want to acknowledge and thank ASM **Ozzie Holshouser** for bringing the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police SWAT team to the Fellowship.

Fall Elections

The Fall Fellowship also was the

time for the Lodge and Chapter Elections.

Troop 19 had many Scouts elected to serve the coming Scouting year - **Wesley King** was selected as Catawba Lodge Memorabilia Chair. **Kyle Smith** was elected as the Sehwatu Chapter Chief and **Jonathan Cannito** was chosen Sehwatu Chapter Secretary.

We want to recognize Troop 19 Scouts who served last year. Our thanks to **Nick King, Seth Cross, Larry Zaino, Kyle Smith** and **Al McCreary** for their service to the Catawba Lodge and Sehwatu Chapter.

Membership

We want recognize the newest members of Catawba Lodge. Troop 19 ASMs **Chris Sokely** and **Cliff Summers** have completed the Ordeals and have now joined Catawba Lodge. Troop 19's **Ryan Tincer** sealed his membership with the Lodge and has become the Lodge's newest Brotherhood member. Ryan also becomes the Lodge's latest Life Member. Life Membership is open to all Lodge members who have sealed their Brotherhood in the lodge.

If you are interested in a Life Membership, contact our OA Representatives **Kyle Smith** or **Chris Zaino**.

Troop Tubing Adventure

Thanks to ASM Jeff Belter for his planning efforts at the Troop 19 Tubing Adventure in August. The Troop went Tubing down the New River in Virginia.

Matt "Leech" Belter writes of the adventure.

On August 25-27, Troop 19 went to Shady Shack Campground in Virginia to go tubing on the New River. There were about thirty people attending, making it an enjoyable trip. Everyone on the river had fun floating, splashing, jumping out of trees (cough, cough, Seth), throwing weeds at each other, and tipping over other tubes. There was also a lot of fun at the campsite. We played football, laid around in the shade, and swam in the "swimming pool" which was the river running beside the campground. Mr. Banks served as the life guard.

Camp was set-up very well and organized. All the meals turned out good and all patrols worked together well. Speaking of meals, that is how I discovered my nickname. I was helping my patrol cook dinner and looked behind me and on the back of my leg I saw a whole lot of blood. Dr. Banks took me to the operating table and pulled the black object out of my leg, wiped away all the blood, and bandaged me up. The black object turned out to be a leech. Mr. Banks ate dinner with us and an idea struck him. He said that "Leech" would be my new nickname.

All in all, we had a good camping trip. No one got hurt and everyone had a good time. It was a very well planned trip by Mr. Belter.

Troop Calendar 2006

October 2006

- Oct 6 - 8 Troop Camping @ Ft Bragg
- Oct 10 Troop Committee
- Oct 10 Operation Xmas Child
Collections Begin
- Oct 20 - 22 Senior Scout Trip
- Oct 24 PLC & Asst SM Meeting

November 2006

- Nov 3 - 5 Troop Bike Trip
- Nov 14 Troop Committee
- Nov 14 Operation Xmas Child Collections
End
- Nov 24 - 26 Bass Pro Fundraiser
- Nov 28 PLC & Asst SM Meeting

December 2006

- Dec 1 OA Annual Banquet
@ Clear Creek Scout Camp
- Dec 2 Merit Badge Workshop @ HPC
- Dec 5 Service Project @ The Oaks
- Dec 5 Last Troop Meeting in 2006

- Dec 9 Troop Auction
- Dec 9 Puppy
- First Aid Merit Badge

January 2007

- Jan 2 Scouts Return
- Jan 2 OA Elections
- Jan 2 Klondike Derby Training Begins
- Jan 6 OA Cold Weather Training
- Jan 9 Troop Committee
- Jan 19 - 21 Troop 19 Ski Trip

February 2007

- Feb 3 Scouting For Food
- Feb 3 Troop 19 Year End Court of Honor
- Feb 11 Scout Sunday
- Feb 13 Troop Committee
- Feb 16 - 18 Sr. Scout Trip
- Feb 23 - 25 Klondike Derby @ Camp Grimes



Troop 19
Huntersville Presbyterian Church
Huntersville, NC 28078

WE'RE ON THE WEB!!

WWW.BSA19.ORG



**BOY SCOUTS
OF AMERICA**

Troop Auction

The Troop Auction is just around the corner. The Auction is the biggest fundraiser of the year for the Troop. The auction is scheduled for the second Saturday of December. The date is December 9.

We will need assistance in several areas. Auction Chair **Jean Buffum** will be coordinating donations

for the auction as well as putting together a staff to run the festivities.

If you (or your company) are interested in making a donation to the auction or would like to assist the program, please contact Jean Buffum.

