Volume 18, Issue 1 Spring 2008 Newsletter March 31, 2008 **CRFW 19** TROOP 19 Tales **HUNTERSVILLE, NC HUNTERSVILLE, NC CHARTERED 2006 CHARTERED 1938** Dear Troop 19 Keith Cross Inside this issue: Banks' Bits Family: and his fam-**Troop Elections** 2 ily is great As Scoutmaster of today. Bennie enjoyed helpand we truly wish **Bennie Cross** 3 Troop 19 for the last 20 years, ing us grow and cherished to offer our sincerest condolences to I have been privileged to work our successes and helped them. Troop 19 News & 6 with many Scout leaders, parovercome our challenges. Notes ents and young boys who Rather than focus on the sadness, I He took special pride in the **Troop Calendar** choose to recall Bennie Cross for the have become part of the Scouts and those who Troop 19 family. many things he brought OA News & Notes 9 earned their Eagle Award. Some may leave to me as the Troop He regularly attended each Mike Hartje 9 the area or leave Scoutmaster and to the Court of Honor giving the Silver Beaver Scouting but they troop as a whole. newest Eagle a congratulaalways stay part tory handshake and a card Upcoming Events: I recall Bennie as a man of our family. We to celebrate the event. with a quick smile and a **Dixie Fellowship** rarely have to say passion for the most April 27 - 29 goodbye to them In all things Bennie Cross important things in his **OA Beaver Festi**and partings are life. His family, his God was gracious and cordial. He val/2nd Ordeal mostly temporary. lived the Scout Oath and May 16 - 18 and our Scouts. Among Law in his life every day. the many positions he Sadly, this time we Ice Cream Social We should all recall the exmust say goodbye served with the troop May 27 ample he gave us in our to a dear friend and over 31 years of service, daily lives. We will all miss member of our family. On Feb-Bennie served many years as the Summer Camp Bennie greatly. May God June 15 - 21 ruary 23, Benjamin "Bennie" Charter Organization Representabless and keep you, Bennie tive. In those years, he worked hard Cross passed away. **Stone Mountain** Cross. to help us grow the troop from a Super Trip It is often easy to focus on the small collection of 15 - 20 boys to July 3 - 7 Larry Banks pain we feel at the loss of a loved the more than 75 Scouts we have Scoutmaster Troop 19 one. Certainly the loss felt by



the Eagle Ceremony dates for two of our most recent Eagle recipients. On February 24, 2008, Joshua Matthew Hedrick received his award at the Eagle Court of Honor conducted at Huntersville Presbyterian Church.

The troop also announced that **Derek Arvey**

Reavis has completed the requirements for Eagle and earned his award on January 28, 2008. Derek becomes the Troop's 65th Eagle and the 52nd from Scoutmaster Banks. Derek will receive his award on April 6, 2008 at an Eagle Court of Honor to be conducted at Huntersville Presbyterian church.

Congratulations Derek and Joshua on your achievements.

From Keith Cross and Family To the Troop 19 family

Thank You.

I would like to take time to thank the Troop/Pack 19 Scout Family for all the thoughts and prayers you have had for my entire family over the last few months and especially during the passing of my father.

The cards, flowers, and memorials have been very touching and we appreciate you thinking of us during this time. My father believed that scouting was a very worth while activity.

Not only was he very proud of Troop/Pack 19 and every

Troop 19 conducted Elections for New Officers on March 11. The new officers for Troop 19 are: scout that makes up its ranks, but he respected every leader and parent that helped carry on this time honored program. So for Troop 19 to stand in formation, at attention and give him a salute of honor and to take an active part in his graveside service was the highest honor you could have ever given him.

You proved to everyone that saw these actions that Troop 19 is "Turning boys into responsible young men". Thank you again for you will not know how much your support and love has meant to my entire family.

Keith Cross and family.

Troop Elections 2008

Troop 19 Leadership March 2008

Trent Almond	Senior Patrol Leader			
Sam Orr	Asst. Senior Patrol Leader - Attendance			
Stephen Shenigo	Asst. Senior Patrol Leader - Games			
Tim Nye	Asst. Senior Patrol Leader - Health & Safety/Quartermaster			
Kyle Smith	Asst. Senior Patrol Leader - Instructors			
Cory Gudger	Asst. Senior Patrol Leader - Instructors			
Kyle Smith	OA Representative			
Sam Orr	OA Representative			
Teddy Jahns	Chaplain Aide			
John Mounts	Librarian			
Jake Augspurger	Bugler			
Evan Napier	Co Bugler			
Jack Buffum	Patrol Leader - Cobra			
Hayden Fox	Patrol Leader - Falcon			
Justin Austenfield	Patrol Leader - Flaming Arrow			
Michael Westhafer	Patrol Leader - Viking			
Joshuah Mills	Patrol Leader - Warrior			
Miles Jahns	Crew President			
Congratulations Scouts and Crew Leaders!				

Congratulations Scouts and Crew Leaders!!

In 1938, Boys Scout Troop 19 was chartered to Huntersville Presbyterian Church. Mr. Cross, at eleven years old was in that very first troop. He enjoyed hiking, camping, and the outdoors. He earned the rank of Life Scout. At that time, he may not have known how true that rank would become. He left Huntersville to serve in World War II and returned home to marry Betty, his wife of 59 years this coming May. They raised three children together.

When it came time for his sons to join Scouting, they jumped at the opportunity after hearing all those camping, hiking, and great outdoor adventure stories their father had shared with them. So he volunteered his time, talents, and leadership to both Pack 19 and Troop 19 for the boys of the Huntersville community. After his sons, Eagle Scout Kim and Life Scout Keith had aged out of scouting, he continued to work to keep Scouting alive in Huntersville. He was a driving force in the church to promote and support the Scouting program.

A few years later, it was time for his grandsons to join Scouting. He was still involved and was so receive their Eagle Scout Award and especially in Troop 19. Keith will tell you up front that

it was his father that instilled in him, "that after you have gotten so much from Scouting, it is your duty to give back to Scouting so others can enjoy the same opportunities and so that the program will continue."

Mr. Cross served as a Boy Scout, Assistant Scoutmaster, Committee Member, Committee Chairman, Merit Badge Counselor, Eagle Scout Board of Review Committee and Charter Organization Representative for Pack 19 and Troop 19 for over 31 years. During that time, he has touched the lives of hundreds of Scouts - leading by example keeping the Scout Oath, Promise and Laws.

Troop 19 and the Boy Scouts of America recognized Mr. Cross for is service with the God and Service Award, James E. West Award, Lifetime Service Award, Honorary Scoutmaster Award, and an annual First Year Scout Award in his name - the Benjamin "Bennie" Cross Pacesetter of the Year given to the 1st year Puppy who displays the character traits that Bennie Cross displayed in his daily life.

Mr. Cross was a graduate of Hunproud to see Justin and Seth both tersville High School in 1944, a US Navy World War II Veteran, and retired from Southern Bell (now

AT&T) in 1983 after 40 years of service. He was an active lifetime member of Huntersville Presbyterian Church and an Ordained Deacon and Elder since 1955 and received the honor of Elder Emeritus in 2003. He was a member of the Men's Bible Class, American Legion Post # 86, Long Creek Masonic Lodge # 205, 32 Degree KCCH Member of the Scottish Rite Temple, Telephone Pioneers of America, and WBCCI -Carolinas Unit #21.

What Justin, Seth, and Keith have in common is that Mr. Cross conveyed to them their drive, love, belief, devotion, and dedication for Scouting. He not only taught these philosophies, but he also demonstrated them. He was with them all the whole way and he worked to make sure the Scouting Program at HPC continued and survived not only for his family but for the boys of Huntersville and surrounding Communities.

Memorials can be given to: BSA Troop 19 Bus Fund c/o Huntersville Presbyterian Church P.O Box 313

Huntersville, NC 28070

BSA SAJ Exchange Program February 2008

I had the incredible opportunity to lead the Boy Scouts of America contingent to Japan for the 2008 BSA / SAJ Friendship exchange program. We had a full troop of 32 youth and 8 adult leaders. This program started in the mid 1990's as an exchange program to enhance the world scouting movement and relations between Japanese and American Scouts.

Our twelve day adventure started as we all arrived in Dallas at the Boy Scouts of America National center. The forty participants came from all parts of the United States. None of us had met before, but in true scout spirit were all acquainted by dinner. We toured the National Scout Museum. The museum contained many interesting and memorable exhibits from all parts of Scouting. Members of the contingent spent time reviewing works by Norman Rockwell and exploring exhibits detailing all of the various scouting steps. Even the older Venturing scouts who had little knowledge of the Boy Scout program were interested in aspects they had not known before this trip. Some of the favorites were the virtual shooting range, pinewood derby racing, virtual ATV racing, and virtual fishing.

Our long 14 hour journey started the next day as we all loaded the plane to Tokyo. After passing over the international dateline and fourteen time zones later, we landed in Narita. Our Japanese hosts met us at the airport and lead us to the hotel where scouts from all over Japan greeted us upon entering. Our evening started with a keynote speech by Terese Birmingham from the World Scouting Organization. Ms. Birmingham, from Ireland, was in Japan to meet both contingents as well as inspect a potential sight for a World Jamboree the SAJ has bid on in 2016. After introductions and speeches, we immediately went to work. The two day forum was designed for the scouts to get acquainted and gain an understanding of each of our programs. They soon realized that we all had the same goal in mind: Friendship, Fellowship, and Cultural Exchange. It was apparent that the youth bonded immediately and used a few games to remember the names of each one of their



counterparts.

The next day the youth broke off into five teams that would later make recommendations to the group on how to improve and promote the world wide scouting movement. Although each group had a translator, many Japanese scouts spoke English and if they did not, there was no problem with understanding what they needed to do. They all made terrific presentations, which they boiled down to five recommendations that they all agreed were the most important factors on improving the WSO. These recommendations have been submitted to the WSO for reference, review, and possible implementation. Continuing on our journey, the next day we visited the Minister of Education, Sports, Culture, and Technology (MEXT). Minister Hosaka broke the ice by teaching us all a trick to take home. He continued by telling us all about the educational process the Japanese government has implemented to encourage youth to prosper in many cultures including learning the English language. I had the honor of exchanging gifts with the Minister. This part of the Japanese culture is quite common and ceremonious. Gift exchanges are usually between guests and hosts as they meet or visit each other.

Throughout the remainder of the week, we were treated to many Japanese temples, castles, landmarks, and attractions. Our tour bus with a translator, took us to Osaka, Shizuoka, Kyoto, and Nara to name a few of the hot spots. One of the many interesting places we visited was the Hakone National Park, which is a volcanically active mountain in the shadows of Mt Fuji. We had the opportunity to experience hard boiled eggs cooked in the hot sulfur springs, which turned the egg shells black. The custom is that by eating one, it would give you seven years of longer life. One of the temples in Kyoto was the Golden Pavilion, or Golden Castle. It is actually covered in real gold. Brilliant, spectacular, and beautiful. In Nara, we visited the largest bronze Buddha in the world. This Troop 19 Beaver Tales

sanctuary was also home to over 1000 somewhat domesticated deer. They were wondering the grounds like all the other tourists, except that they were looking for food from us, which we obliged. Later that week, we also experienced the Shinkansen or Bullet train. This train was by far the fastest train any of us had ever seen. The standard 150 MPH rode like a APAIN

smooth luxury car. Quiet, fast, and very clean. We even had the opportunity to learn a little Japanese as well. Our interpreter taught us the basics. Counting to ten, thank-you, excuse me, hello, good night, and other basics to get by. We also had the opportunity to try many local foods and treats. I have to say that most of the participants had no qualms about trying Japanese foods. Sushi, Squid, Octopus, and treats like green tea ice cream and green tea Kit Kat bars.

At the end of the week, we all had the experience of a lifetime. Part of the exchange program was to live with a host Scout family for three days and two nights. They met us at the Kyoto Scout Office where we broke off in groups of two or three for each family. We met our host families and off we went. A little strange, as the cars are very small and they drove on the other side of the road. It was riding a roller coaster, all part of the adventure.

During the home stay, everyone experienced something different. Some toured parts of Kyoto only the locals go to. Others went to a Bonsai Museum where there were trees no bigger than twelve inches that were over 300 years old. Some took part in tea ceremonies, ate local udon noodles and pork soup, toured a local glass blowing shop, and many other cultural and fun things



that all local Japanese families do on the weekends. Another interesting part of the home stay was the home itself. Another Japanese custom is to remove your shoes before you pass the threshold of the home. They live a lot more modestly than most Americans do. In my case, the living room was the same as the kitchen and the dining area. It was also the only heated room in the house. My bed was a futon, which was

essentially a hard surface mattress with many blankets to keep warm while sleeping. Another custom in Japan is a tatami mat. It is essentially a bamboo or straw mat placed on the floor with or without a mattress on it. No problem, as a scout I am used to sleeping on the ground, this one did not have the usual rocks or roots under me. Our hosts opened up their homes for us to learn and understand more. This portion of the BSA / SAJ exchange was invaluable. I know that all participants will talk to other scouts and Scouters for a very long time about their great experience in Japan.

I know that all of the participants had the experience of a lifetime. They will never forget their adventure and will remember it for the remainder of their lives. At the end of the trip if an outside observer was looking on, you would have thought that all of the youth participants had known each other for ten years. There were no issues with gender, rank, or American cultural differences.

At the closing ceremony, we had the chance to say goodbye to our scout hosts. We both made some observational speeches and closing remarks. I also exchanged thank-you gifts as a representative of the Boy Scouts of America and them to me from the representatives of the Scouting Association of Japan. In an excerpt from my closing statement, "The world youth of today will be the leaders of tomorrow. Programs such as the International Scouting exchange will provide our future leaders better tools for understanding and solving complex issues." As the first representative from our council to have experienced this momentous honor, I feel privileged to have been invited to participate and lead our national group on this historic trip.

Arigatou (thank you) Sayonara (good-bye) Ruggles-san BSA SAJ Friendship Program Scoutmaster 2008 Aka David Ruggles Assistant Scout Master Troop 19 Huntersville, NC



Troop 19 News and Notes

Good Shepherd Award

Troop 19 would like to congratulate Assistant Scoutmaster Craig Orr who has been recognized for his efforts and dedication to his church and Scouting. Craig is being awarded the Good Shepherd Award by his church - Huntersville 1st Baptist Church. Congratulations and thank you, Craig.

Den Chief Awards

Congratulations to Troop 19 Scouts Joey Summers & Bradley McDonnell who have earned the Den Chief's Award for service to the Webelos of Pack 19. Scouts interested in helping the Webelos and becoming a Den Chief should contact the Senior Patrol Leader for more information.

Camp Shields

Troop 19 would like to extend a hearty thank you to **John Capets** for his help in planning the Troop campout at Camp Bud Schiele. The trip was a great success. Thanks John.

Troop 19 Barbecue

Thanks to Jean Buffum and her committee for all their help in planning and executing the 1st Troop 19 BBQ. The BBQ was a great success and we could not have done it with out the guidance of Jean and her team and the parents and Scouts who helped man the distribution tables and sold all the tickets. Thanks too to Michael Turner and his



staff for some great pig!!

Year End Court of Honor

Thanks to Brian and Sonja McCreary for the extraordinary efforts in planning, decoration and executing the Year End Court of Honor. This was the final year that Sonja helped to host the Court of Honor. Troop 19 wants to extend our thanks for all the great Courts of Honor and all your help with the programs.

In 2009, the Year End Court of



Honor will be taken over by Val Hardisty and Vikki Froehlich. Thank you Val and Vikki for taking over the planning of our most important celebration of Scouting.

Summer Camp

Summer Camp is just around the corner. Troop 19 will be headed to Camp Grimes this summer. Camp dates are set for June 15 - 21, 2008. ASM Craig Orr will be in charge of organizing camp this year. The final Summer camp payment of \$175.00 is due by April 15. Please make out all checks to Troop 19.

Puppy Crossover Team

Thanks to the team of Troop 19 Scouts who served as the crossover team for the upcoming puppies from Pack 19. Serving on the team were Jake Augspurger, Cory Gudger, Matt Vice and Wesley King. The team performed an outstanding crossover ceremony at the March 8 puppy Crossover at Belk Scout Camp.

God and Country Award

Congratulations to **Troy Daniels** who has earned his God & Country Award. The God & Country award is earned by working with your pastor and meeting the requirements for the award.



Troop Barbecue Sales

Troop 19's very successful barbeque was completed with the help of many volunteers and Scouts who made the effort to make the first BBQ work so well. In addition to the organizers we recognized earlier, the Troop also wants to recognize the Venture Crew and Cobra Patrol as the top ticket selling patrols in the troop. We also want to recognize Wesley King as the top ticket salesman in the troop and the first recipient of the Annual Troop 19 Barbecue Top Salesman Award - The Pig Trophy. Congratulations to Wesley and all who made the fund raiser so successful.



Viking Patrol

Hayden Gary

Jesse McDonnell

Michael Rawlins

Kevin Thomas

Trey Woody

Ben Hardin

Luke Orr

Webelos Cross Over 2008

Troop 19 held its annual cross over ceremony with the Webelos II Scouts of Pack 19 on March 8. At the Crossover ceremony, Troop 19 welcomes the rising Webelos and their families to Troop 19. After the ceremony, the new Webelos become part of Troop 19 and become the newest puppies. The puppies are assigned to their patrols and meet their patrol leader as members of the Viking and Cobra patrols. Troop 19 welcome all the new Webelos and their families to our family. Welcome to all! The adventure starts now!!

Cobra Patrol TJ Butner John Creel Cy Moore Johnathon Pugliese Dylan Scheck Luke Stasky Chad White Cobra Patrol Leader is Jack Buffum.



Viking Patrol Leader is Michael Westhafer.

New Scouts Join Troop 19

In addition to the Scouts joining the Troop at the annual Troop 19 Webelos Cross Over, Troop 19 is proud to announce the addition of two young men who recently joined our troop. Please help us welcome the newest members of the Troop 19 family

Brock Wesolek and his parents Mike and Tracy Wesolek. Brock will become a member of the Cobra Patrol.

Dillan Hay and his parents Mark and Shawn Hay. Dillan will also be joining the Cobra Patrol.

Welcome to all. We hope you all enjoy the adventure of Scouting.



Klondike Derby Pictures



Falcon Patrol Patrol Leader Sam Orr 3rd Place Patrol

Flaming Arrow Patrol Patrol Leader Teddy Jahns 10th Place Patrol





Warrior Patrol Patrol Leader Ben Cable 13th Place Patrol

Klondike Derby 2008 Report Flaming Arrow Patrol

By Teddy Jahns

The troop pulled in to Camp Grimes at about 9:00 p.m. Friday night. As a patrol leader, I had to check in at the Scoutmasters' lounge near the open shelter.

There I received the camping assignment and a map of the course. My patrol, the Flaming Arrows, was assigned to camp near the waterfront. We hiked down to the site and waited for our equipment to be delivered. We got our gear and set up camp. It was a cold night and I forgot a pillow that would have helped me get a better night's sleep. I thought it would be a good idea for all of us to get in the tents as early as possible and get a good night's rest.

The next morning, we got up and tried to shake off the cold with a

breakfast of oatmeal and hot chocolate. We lost points for not having a real, cooked breakfast. After cleaning up the meal, we packed our sled and waited to start.

The first station was a first-aid scenario. Even after weeks of training, we weren't working as a team. We argued. I had an idea of how I thought we should approach the scenario but others in the patrol wanted to do it their way. Because of this, we didn't get as many points as we should have. The judges were expecting me to be in charge, and to delegate tasks to patrol. That's what I was expecting, too. John Mounts did step up, and did his best to follow my instructions. I think he did this to help the patrol and set an example.

As the day went on, our patrol was learning what to expect at each station. Eric Vest was the best at keeping the patrol spirit up, with Harrison Green and Garrett Dixon helping out. We started to work as a

team a little more at each station. It seemed like it took some time for each member of the patrol to realize that we had to do our best if we wanted to have a chance to win. Christian Smith and Hayden Fox were the strongest sled pullers. At one of the stations, we had to work together to fix a catapult and shoot bags of flour while getting bombed by tennis balls from inside a fort. We lashed poles together to make a ladder to see over the walls of the fort. If you got hit with a tennis ball or water balloon, you were out. We did manage to get two bags of flour in the target.

Later on in the afternoon, there was a station that involved lashing and teamwork. We were supposed to retrieve a

bucket from a ravine. We had no way to get the bucket out. Luckily, Zach Shaner left his uniform, which was on a hanger, on the sled. We attached the hanger to the poles and used it to pick up the bucket.

At the campfire Saturday night, they announced the patrols from last to first. I was happy when we found out we placed tenth out of 32 patrols. Our other patrols from Troop 19 lead by Sam Orr and Ben Cable came in 3rd and 13th. I know we could have done a lot better, but we did have a good time competing.

Klondike Derby 2008 Report Falcon Patrol

By Sam Orr

On March 29, 2008 3 patrols, Falcons, Warrior, and Flaming Arrows, from Troop 19 headed to Camp Grimes for the 2008 Klondike. I was the patrol leader for the Falcons patrol. We arrived on Friday night and set up camp at our selected campsite. We awoke bright in early in the morning, cooked breakfast and was on the trail at 9:00. We completed 12 cities and stations all based on scout skills. We won the anchorage city and finished third over all! My patrol had a lot of fun and cant wait to go back next year!



OA Fundraiser

BROTHERS..... We need your help to be successful with our annual fund-raiser! This fundraiser enables our chapter to accomplish many things as well as support the Lodge, District and Council. We have a contract with the Piedmont Kennel Club to supply a minimum of 15 OA members at all times during the show both on Saturday and Sunday!!! If there is interest, we can have a Saturday evening fellowship time (Movie, Pizza, other ideas?) and spend the night camping on the Kennel Club property. Please indicate this interest WHEN you sign up!!! When signing up, please make sure that you are making a commitment when indicating when you can be there!! One other item to consider.... the Sunday afternoon time slot is important because we are required to clean the grounds after the show is over! With plenty of help (15 people) we can get this done VERY quickly... When sign-ups start coming in, I will update the sign-up form to indicate the numbers that we already have so you can see where we need help the most!! Please talk to ALL OA members in your troop to sign up ONF slot!!! participation!! for at least time Thanks for your

BROTHERHOOD..... CHEERFULNESS...... SERVICE......

Annual Dog Show Saturday April 5th and Sunday April 6th 6:30 am - 5:30 pm each day Piedmont Kennel Club 13607 Choate Circle Charlotte, NC 28273

Sehwatu's annual dog show is quickly approaching. Our chapter needs large amounts of participation to keep up its tradition of success!! Thor Draper from Troop 148 will coordinate this annual tradition. Expect lots of fun, fellowship, and service.

QUESTIONS? If you have any questions you can contact any Sehwatu Officer, or go to <u>http://www.catawbalodge.org/sehwatu/DogShowform.htm</u> and fill out a question form.

HELP US! If you are planning on serving during the Dog Show, please go to <u>http://www.catawbalodge.org/sehwatu/DogShowform.htm</u> to let us how when you can help. THANKS!

Yours in Scouting, Barry Douthitt Catawba Lodge Sehwatu Chapter Adviser

OA News and Notes

Dixie 2008

The Dixie Fellowship this year is in Fort Mill, SC and is available for all Order of the Arrow members. Activities offered range from fire building, a 5k run, tug-o -war, and of course totem pole carving and dance teams to watch. This year's Dixie is perfect for new Arrowmen as well as Arrowmen whom have been attending Dixie Fellowships since they were children, since it is so close to us.



New Lodge Members

Troop 19 is proud to announce the newest members of Catawba Lodge. Joining the lodge as Ordeal mem-

bers are:

Sam Orr Timothy Somerville Craig Orr

All completed their Ordeal at the Spring Fellowship.

Catawba Lodge also welcomes its newest Brotherhood member. Sealing his membership in the lodge at the Spring Fellowship was **Stephen Shenigo**.

Congratulations Arrowmen!



Silver Beaver Awards

Each year, the Mecklenburg County Council recognizes approximately six volunteers with the Silver Beaver Award, the highest award a local council can bestow upon a volunteer. The Silver Beaver award was introduced in 1931 as a means of recognizing Scouters who provided distinguished service to youth on the local level. The award is made the National Council, upon the recommendation of the Local Council.

This year's recipients are listed below: Julia Sain Greg Jednak Hugh Lewis Mark Thompson Dick Parks And our very own......

Micheal Hartje!

Micheal has been recognized for his long term support of the Council's Summer Camp and dedication to the youth of the Council. The Silver Beaver

Awards will be presented at the Council Recognition Dinner April 23. Tickets to the dinner are available at the Council office. When you see these folks out and about at district and council events, please congratulate them on their honor and for the dedication to Scouting.



Lessons Learned As A Boy Scout

By Bill Marriott President of Marriott Hotels



Many years ago, I joined Boy Scout Troop 241 in Chevy Chase, Maryland. It was

one of the most rewarding and difficult experiences of my life. Finally, I achieved the highest Boy Scout honor, that of becoming an Eagle Scout. It took a lot of hard work and determination.

My time in the Scouts, however, had a great effect on my life. You know, back then, over sixty years ago, scouting was different from what it is today. I was a city kid and I was working on my merit badges and I had no place to camp out. So, to get camping merit badge, I had to sleep out 50 nights. Where was I going to do that? Well, my folks helped me buy a tent and I put it in the backyard and out of my fifty nights, I think forty of them were backyard nights. But I slept out and I was able to qualify for that merit badge.

Back then, too, we had to see forty different birds. I can't tell you how It's not just the boys in our fammany bird walks I went on around ily that are active in the Scouts. Washington, D.C. to try to spot all those birds, but I finally got my forty.

The toughest part, however, comes back to camping merit badge when I had to start a fire by rubbing two sticks together. I had to create a spark from those two sticks and then put a little tinder, blow on it and get the fire started. Well I worked and worked and worked in front of my counselor on those two sticks and almost passed out - finally getting that little spark going and blowing it into that pile of tinder and getting the fire started. That was probably the single most difficult part of being a scout - camping merit badge.

Scouts are still a great part of my life. All three of my sons have become Eagle Scouts, as has my son-in-law and five of my grandsons so far. I have a lot of fond and seeing my sons and grandsons grow up in scouting is a great thrill.

Boy Scouts are very important to me. I want other boys to get the most out of scouting and enjoy their time learning many of the same lessons I did. That's why we established Camp Marriott in ership and teamwork, will make Goshen, Virginia. Scouts go there to camp and participate in many other outdoor activities to earn their merit badges.

Three of my granddaughters were Girl Scouts. Our company also actively supports the Girl Scouts. Partnering with the Girl

Me as a Boy Scout



Scouts Council of the Nation's Capital here in Washington, D.C. we have created a program to help prepare a diverse group of these young girls for careers in the hospitality memories of my time in scouting industry. In fact, we are going to be hosting a career day we are calling the "Hospitality Hotshots" for Cadet-level Girl Scouts in the Washington, D.C. area very soon.

> I'm always excited to have former Scouts come work for Marriott because I know the lessons they've learned from scouting, such as leadthem great employees for our company.

I'm Bill Marriott and thanks for helping me keep Marriott on the move.



Troop 19 Summer Camp 2008 "Salute to the Military"

The remainder of the summer camp balance of \$175. is due no later than April 15th.

Merit badge sign up sheets have been distributed to the boys, these need to be returned no later than March 25th to get your scouts signed up for the merit badges they want to take. Late submissions may result in your scout not being able to take a merit badge because the class is full. Also on the sign up sheet is T-shirt size and quantity, a T-shirt is included this year, any additional shirts are \$10 each.

Puppies – You will be enrolled in the Trailblazer program. 2nd yr campers – Must take Environmental Science. Sessions 5, 6 and 7 are drop in sessions for Art, Basketry and Fingerprinting.

Each patrol is assigned a branch of the military.

Cobras – Army Vikings – Marines Falcons – Navy Warriors – Coast Guard Flaming Arrow – Air Force Crew – any branch

We would like each boy to try and get a shirt from the assigned branch and any other military themed items.

Any adult leaders interested in going to summer camp and/or helping construct this year's gateway an 'Aircraft Carrier' – please contact Craig Orr.

Logistics: Depart: 0900 hours June 15th (Father's day) Location: Huntersville Elementary School Destination: Camp Grimes

Ensure you bring the following: Class A's on hanger Bag Lunch OA Sash (if applicable)







2008 Year End Court of Honor

Troop 19 conducted our annual Year End Court of Honor on February 2 at Huntersville Presbyterian Family Life Center. At the Court of Honor the troop recognized several of our Scouts for outstanding service and devotion to the ideals of Scouting. The following Scouts were honored:

EF "Bert" Kumm Scouts of the Year -Al McCreary Kyle Smith

Awarded to the Scouts who best exemplify the Given to the active Scouts who best exemplify the ideals of the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives.

Benjamin "Bennie" Cross Pacesetter of the Year Evan Napier Awarded to the 1st Year Scout who best displays the energy, enthusiasm and spirit of the Scouting program during their first year with the Troop.

Leadership Corps

Brendon Almond, Jonathan Cannito Josh Hedrick Al McCreary

Awarded to Senior Scouts in the Troop who have shown consistent leadership as a youth in the troop and who have become role models for the younger Scouts in the troop.

Patrol of the Year

Viking Patrol Awarded to the Troop 19 patrol members who best exhibit the teamwork, spirit and ideals that make the Troop 19 Scouting program so successful

Congratulations to all the winners. And thank you to all the Scouts and Troop 19 parents who give to the Troop to make our program so successful.

WEBELOS II CROSSOVER



Troop Calendar 2008

	April 2008	
Apr 5	Salisbury Day Hike	
Apr 6	Derek Reavis Eagle Ceremony	
Apr 8	No Meeting	
Apr 15	Troop Committee	
Apr 15	Board of Review Night	
Apr 18 - 20	Wood Badge Week End # 1	
Apr 18 - 20	Puppies Camping with Webelos II	
	@ Camp Grimes	
Apr 22	Troop Fun Night	
Apr 23	Council Recognition Dinner	
Apr 25 - 27	Dixie Fellowship - Rock Hill SC	
Apr 29	PLC/ASM Meeting	
May 2008		
May 3	Merit Badge Workshop	
May 6	Service Project @ HPC	

	May 10	Spring Training
	May 13	Troop Committee
	May 16 - 18	OA Beaver Festival/2nd Ordeal
	May 16 - 18	Puppy Backpacking
	May 16 - 18	Wood Badge Week End # 2
	May 20	Board of Review Night
	May 26	Memorial Day Service Project
	May 27	Ice Cream Social/ Songfest
	May 27	PLC/ASM Meeting
June 2008		
	Jun 2	Troop Calendar Planning Session
	Jun 3	Last Troop Mtg of Summer
	Jun 3	Summer Camp Swin Check
	Jun 15 - 21	Summer Camp - Camp Grimes
	Jun 29 - Jul 5	Top Gun - NYLT
July 2008		
	Jul 3 - 7	Super Trip - Stone Mountain, GA

S.E.A.L.S. 2008

Mecklenburg County Council conducted a S.E.A.L.S. Training course for Youth Leaders on March 7 - 9 at Belk Scout Camp. Troop 19 had several



Scouts participate on staff for this program. Brendon Almond served as Senior Patrol Leader, Al McCreary and Kyle Smith served on Staff and Mr. Banks served as Scoutmaster for the program. Thanks to all for your hard work and dedication in training these Scout leaders.

Service to America

Since 2004, Troop 19 Scouts and Leaders participated in the Service to America Program. This year, Troop 19, Crew 19 and leaders contributed 2,450 man hours of service to our community.

Part of the program includes the Scouting for Food program. Troop 19 Scouts and leaders helped collect more than 1,000 pounds of non perishable food for the Scouting for Food program. Thanks to **ASM**



Bobby Gudger for helping to organize Troop 19's participation in the Scouting for Food and to all the Scouts who give unselfishly to the Service to America program and our community.

Newsletter

Troop 19 Huntersville Presbyterian Church Huntersville, NC 28078

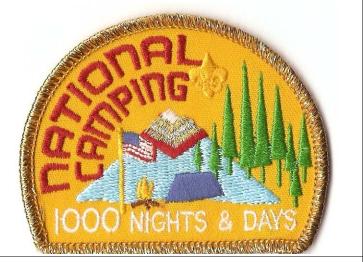


National Camping Award

Troop 19 was recently recognized by the National Scout Office with the 1000 Days and Nights Camping Award.

The National Camping Award is a cumulative award for units which have participated in campouts with their families, or patrols as well as unit campouts. Using a combination of unit and individual campouts, the troop qualified by completing a total of more than 1,000 days and nights camping. The 1000 days and nights is recognized with the Gold Award and is the highest recognition given for this award series.

This is an outstanding recognition because accumulating the total days and nights requires that the Troop establish and maintain a program dedicated to camping and the outdoors. Troop 19 has dedi-



cated itself to camping since its creation in 1938 with special emphasis on camping and outdoor skills since Scoutmaster Banks began his program in 1988.

Congratulations to Troop 19 and the 20 years of Scouts who have helped the troop earn this recognition.