



# SMOKE SIGNALS



August 2010

The Official Newsletter of Troop 555

Sponsored By: Knights of Columbus #1414

## Scoutmaster's Thoughts on...

*by Mr. Luehrmann*

The Four Week Planner is really a simple idea; to divide up the task of planning an outing into manageable amounts so that progress is made at each Patrol meeting and nothing is forgotten. It consists of six sheets:

1. "Arrangements". This is maintained by the Patrol Leader (and Senior Patrol Leader on Troop outings). It is a check list for all 4 weeks of planning, for departure, and for return. It starts week 1 with identifying who is attending, both Scouts and adults.
2. "Agenda". This is the Patrol Leader's responsibility and critical for Patrol outings and for Troop outings where activities need to be planned throughout the day. For Camporees, the Camporee activities will fill out most of the agenda. This is done during week 2 and needs Patrol Advisor approval.
3. "Patrol Menu Planner". You know what this is for! It is the Grubmaster's responsibility with input from the Patrol. Include the four food groups (meat, dairy, fruit/vegetable, & whole grain) to maintain a stable supply of energy for an active schedule. This is started week 2 and finalized week 3 with Patrol Advisor approval.
4. "Grubmaster Grocery List". This is the list of all the ingredients and quantities needed to feed your patrol, again under Grubmaster control. Getting this done during week 3 allows the Grubmaster to check with the Troop Quartermaster about food/condiment 'leftovers' at the garage that can be used FREE (a Scout is thrifty). This also needs Patrol Advisor approval.
5. "Equipment". This is the complete list of equipment that the Patrol needs for the outing. It is the responsibility of the Patrol Quartermaster. It needs Patrol Advisor approval. Getting this done during week 3 allows the Patrol QM to give a copy to the Troop QM so that the Troop QM can check to see if equipment is being used by another Patrol before.
6. "Duty Roster". This is the responsibility of the Patrol Leader and is started week 3 and finalized week 4. Have you ever read the guidelines at the bottom of the Duty Roster sheet?

Use the 4 Week Planner to plan the best outing ever!

## Troop Guide Report

*By Jacob Villiger*

The New Scouts are doing Great! They've chosen a patrol name – The Vikings. They had a lot of fun at Summer Camp, and most, if not all of them have their Totin' Chip and Fireman's Chit. When I wrote this article, Aaron Villiger and Matthew Allman were Tenderfoot, and many others are close. By the time this Article is published, I expect even more Vikings will have advanced.

## Viking Patrol Report

*By Aaron Villiger*

The Vikings have been coming along well as a patrol. We've made progress on our rank advancement. We've had a lot of fun on the past couple of outings. I've had fun in Boy Scouts, and I hope that everyone else in my patrol has too. Our patrol name is the Vikings, we've selected a really cool patrol patch, and our patrol yell is "We conquer your land." We are also working on our flag.

## Caving at Buckener Cave

*By Will Connor*

I am writing about our Boy Scout trip to Buckener Cave. My first step into the cave was cold, wet and dark. We walked on slippery rocks into the first room. Our guide was talking to us while we were waiting for the back of the line to catch up with us. They caught up to us, so we went down this little hole into the crawl way. It was compacted from the floor to the ceiling, but it was wide enough for me to turn around in. I kept hitting my head on top of the ceiling. We finally got out of the crawlway, but we couldn't stand up straight. We had to bend over and keep walking on slouched. My backpack was getting in my way when I was crawling, and I was getting frustrated while Anton was rolling down the tunnel. Once we got to the T-room, we were still waiting on Isaac S, Daniel P, Joey M, Mr. Connor, and Mr. Luehrmann who was at the very end. So, while we were waiting on them, our guide told us the T-room is called the T-room because it's a big circle. We were going down further into the cave until he stopped us. We stopped at some tools and he said "You are going to split up into two groups. One is going to scrape graffiti, and the other is going to sand blast." In my group, I had Anton, Isaac, Daniel, Joey, Eathan, Mr. Belding, and Mr. Luehrmann. In the sand blasting group, they had Mitchell, David B, David L, Matthew L, the guide, and Mr. Connor. After some hard work, we all met together in the volcano room. The guide told us to shut off all of our lights, and take Daniel's backpack somewhere because it glows in the dark. He asks us how long it takes for our eyes to adjust in the dark. The answer was never. So, after all of that, we ate our smushed sandwiches. Then, we split up into two different groups doing the same work. After we worked, we met back up in the Volcano room. We went back to the T-room a different way that had a lot of holes to go through. We made it back and went through the crawlway that seemed never-ending. I finally got out, and the first step out of the cave felt like a sauna. That was the end of our great caving adventure.

# BINGO!

Bingo Sign-ups

Earn \$35 plus TIPS!!

You also earn \$15 additional dollars for the Troop!

Sign-up sheet is available at every meeting.

AUG 27 David Luehrmann

SEPT 3 Rick Hibbs

SEPT 10 Benjamin Seiwert

SEPT 17

SEPT 24

OCT 1 Isaac Smith

OCT 8 Benjamin Seiwert

OCT 15

OCT 22

OCT 29

For more information contact

Mrs. Luehrmann, 812-546-5811

### **Your space could be HERE!**

Do YOU have an article for the newsletter???

Do YOU want to submit pictures or comics or other visuals?

Do YOU like to earn flodderbucks???

**Then talk to the Scribe! (Connor Boyle)**

## Canoe Outing Report

If you went on the canoe outing, you may have had a great time, and you may not have had a great time. Nonetheless, it was an adventure! Here are some of the things that your fellow scouts thought about this trip:

Alex would like to canoe in a smaller river next time.

Robert would like to go White Water Rafting.

Matthew wants to do it again!

Aaron wants to do it again but have the trip be shorter.

Jacob had fun, but wishes the river was deeper.

Will liked tipping canoes in the river!

David thought everybody worked really well to get things done and stay on schedule.

Ben thought it was a very well-run campout. Though it had some faults, we got home successfully with almost everything we wanted to have done done.

Make sure to go on the next outing, so that you can be featured in the Newsletter!

Thanks to all who submitted articles! The more articles you submit, the more awesome this newsletter becomes. Don't let yourself be without an opinion! If you would like to have an article in the newsletter feel free to ask! In future newsletters, I hope to have 5+ pages of information. In the following month, I need:

- A QM article
- A Religious article (Chaplains' Aid)
- List of checked out library books
- At least ONE article from EACH Patrol Leader

I am confident that we will be able to achieve this goal.

Also, if you would like to receive this newsletter by email, let me (Connor Boyle) know, and I will send it out!

Thanks a lot!



Picture 1: Alex Von Hoene and his mini trebuchet

Check out the troop website at:

[www.555bsa.org](http://www.555bsa.org)

## Weekly Meeting Planner:

September Theme: Fishing

### Monday 6<sup>th</sup> of September – NO MEETING!

### Monday 13<sup>th</sup> of September – Committee Meeting

Opening and Closing		Flaming Burros
Skills Instruction	Fishing 1 <sup>st</sup> Aid – Advancement	Pine Trees
Patrol Meeting	Week 4 of Trebuchet Outing	
Inter-Patrol Activity	Stretcher Relay	Cyclones
Leave No Trace		Vikings
Cyclones Pass out post-its - “What is the Worst -Preserved piece of equipment that we use?”		

### Monday 20<sup>th</sup> of September – PLC at 5:30 and Pack Meeting

Opening and Closing		Vipers
Skills Instruction	Gear Preservation	Will Connor and Cyclones
Patrol Meeting	Review 4wk. Planner	
Game	X Soccer	Flaming Burros
Leave No Trace		Pine Trees

### Monday 27<sup>th</sup> of September

Opening and Closing		Vikings
Skills Instruction	4wk. Planner	Flaming Burros
	Hoosier Hills Rifle/Air Gun Club	
Patrol Meeting	Weeks 1 and 2 of Peterloon	
Inter-Patrol Activity	Peterloon-Related Activity	Vipers
Leave No Trace		Cyclones