

Troop 505 2011-2012

July – Summer Camp - Ransburg, IN

We got lucky with another fine week of camping. 44 Scouts and 15 adults had a great week of swimming, canoeing, hiking, archery and shotgun shooting. The mid-week float trip was followed by a great pizza/birthday party. The troop earned 114 merit badges, with 30 partials, did a service project, and had the best shot in camp. Way to go Dominic M -- 49 of 50 on the rifle range.

July – High Adventure - Philmont Scout Ranch – Cimarron, NM

How about: 90 miles, 10 days and two mountains, what more could you ask for. We survived a hailstorm while being over 9,000 feet up and hiking over 20 miles that day, and still made the Chuck Wagon dinner at 6:00PM.

August – High Adventure - Seabase – FL

Sea Base in my words? 5 days sailing a 42' sail boat around the Florida Keys. Catching and eating our own fresh Florida lobster. Saw more fish while snorkeling than Van De Kamp has beans! Enjoying the Stars while on watch. I'm ready go back NOW! And I think the boys had fun too. Lightning strikes were electrifying. Can style your hair in your own sweat and grime.

September - Devil's Lake Hiking - Devils Lake State Park, WI

Cooking and hiking. Cooking competition ranked over the whole weekend. All the meals counted and there were many fine meals prepared. Hiking got the first year's their 5-mile hike to/from lunch. The older scouts got taken for a ride, kicked-out with a map and compass and told to meet us for lunch. Scouts are not able to run as fast as Mr. Jezza's truck. We didn't lose too many young or old scouts, at least not for too long.

October- Shooting & Archery, Rainbow Council- Morris, IL

Attack of the camp gadget! A simple tripod became a squirrel trap as the tripod grew. Monkey bars and a catapult sprang to life and building continued until no rope was left. Meanwhile, on the firing range, the targets were losing as the scouts shot their fill and completed their merit badge requirements.

November - Hike The Lincoln Trail / Thanksgiving Feast - New Salem State Park, Petersburg, IL.

What a day for a hike. Thank you Gary for planning perfect weather. Twenty miles on the Lincoln Trail followed by 20 pounds of potatoes, turkey with all the fixings and all the pie you can eat. What more could you want, other than some Chobak pancakes for breakfast.

December - Survival Campout! - Grand Junction, MI

A beautiful crisp morning on the lake, campfires in the valley and a near perfect winter camp out; even if we had to go hunting for the port-o-potty. The shelters went up quickly and there was plenty of time to enjoy the snow. After a steak dinner, a good nights sleep was had by all. We even proved we could not set fire to a troop tent.

January - Ski Trip Cascade Mountain - Portage, WS

Despite, the bad weather delay until Saturday morning, a good time was had by all. Ski..Ski..and more Skiing than Snowboarding.

February - Klondike Derby - Camp Big Timber - Elgin, IL

A night of campfire, food, fellowship and games; followed by a day of games teaching Webelos new skills. The logs were no match for the two-man saw as we had a day of fun and learning in the snow.

February - Tobogganing Campout- Pokagon State Park, Angola, IN

Great weather, great cabins, great snow and a fantastic toboggan run. What can we say but - Weeeeeeeeee!

March – New Scout Camp-in – Knox Church – Naperville, IL

Twenty-four new scouts all working with older scouts learning how to use the troop camping equipment, completing advancement and having fun. Who said putting up a tent in the dark is not fun? The fire starting contest burned up the night. We had a great breakfast –these kids can cook!

March - Campout, Open House & OA Callout: Green Valley Forest Preserve, Naperville, IL

Just when you thought camping close to home would be boring 70° weather and the Scout Olympics proved to be a great day of fun. We proved that you could fry anything and some things that should not be. The OA literally lit up the night with another stellar Callout.

April - Advancement Campout - BSA Adventure Camp, Rochelle, IL.

We dodged the rain long enough for knots to be tied, first aid to be learned and totin' chip to be earned. First aid and totin' chip always go together. After the campfire the real light show started up as we all made it to bed before the rains hit.

May - Hike, Bike, & Fish Campout - Chain O' Lakes State Park, Spring Grove, IL.

Hike around the lake, bike a trail or cast your line in and catch a fish for dinner. If that was not enough grab a horse and go for a trail ride. Great campfire: so many skits that we had to call a end to them or we'd likely still be at it.....The New Scoutmaster was initiated with a decorated antenna -- and it mostly stayed intact thru the trip home. Welcome to Scoutmaster Mr. Jezza.

June - Webelos Overnight - Green Valley Forest Preserve – Naperville, IL

Troop 505 showed off to Webelos at the coolest station where they get to play with real scout stuff. Straight lines of tents, fire, fusing rope and of course an endless cooking of eggs eaten by proud parents with cast iron stomachs. The excellent campfire, run by our troop, finishes up with some cobbler and brownies for the hard working scouts. Troop 505 rocks it again.

June - OA Spring Fellowship - Camp Freeland Leslie- Oxford, WI

Five new Ordeals, two new Brotherhood and 12 Scouters joined 200 Arrowmen in a great weekend of fellowship to help put the camp in order for the season. Watch out for falling trees.