

Troop 505 2012-2013

June – High Adventure – Seabase, FL

Many sailors have sailed the seas but only Troop 505 can navigate a Tropical Storm named Debbie. Seven scouts, one Captain, cases of Pop Tarts, cereal and two bunks... priceless.

June – High Adventure – Seabase Scuba, FL

Under the sea is where we want to be. A perfect trip. Coral reefs, schools of fish and a few sharks. 17 dives in five days. We almost broke the record and didn't even know it.

July – Summer Camp – Ransburg, IN

A great week of camping with a chance to practice setting up at tearing down in the rain: 48 scouts, 20 adult leaders, 120+ merit badges earned, great weather (after the first day!), awesome float trip, many opportunities to learn, to do, and to grow. Once again, we had the best shot in camp. Evan M shot a perfect 50/50 on the rifle range and Mr. Sutton continued the troop's success in winning the Iron Skillet at the Camp Cooking Competition.

July – Missouri River High Adventure, SD

Mount Rushmore, Crazy Horse & Minuteman Missile what more can I say but a ghost town that was a real ghost town all at 112°. Hiking the Badlands was awesome. A fast 50 miles on the Missouri River and it was time for shooting, horseback riding, swimming and more shooting.

September – Webelos Invitational Campout – Blackwell Forest Preserve

Crisp and cold mornings just made for a fire. Took Webelos hiking and fishing and played with the Scoutmaster's trebuchet. Lovely fall weather.

October – Indiana Dunes State Park – Chesterton, IN

The trebuchet competition (who can hit the Scoutmaster?). Philmont training hikes. Playing in the dunes and topped off with two amazing dishes (amazing for different reasons). Udder Potatoes (aka heart-attack-in-a-dutch-oven) and Epic Oatmeal; do you want extra sugar with that? Really?

October – Caving Trip – Maquoketa, IA

Instead of going into the dark, we went vertical into the light with zip lining and challenge course for a weekend of activities. I guess the bats need their sleep too?

December – Survival Campout! – Grand Junction, MI

Sleeping outside without a tent in December may be crazy. But we do it anyway. Another great trip to our special place in Michigan.

January – Ski Trip Cascade Mountain – Portage, WI

Snow falls, scouts fall, gravity still works! Warm weather skiing made the snow feel more like skating. An evening of chile, cornbread, brownies and a movie made for a great finish to a great day.

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

First snowfall of the winter arrived just in time to cover the ground with sled-friendly flakes. We taught Webelos how to work a saw, make stretchers, build a ladder, and cook an egg. Did we have enough bacon?

March – USS Silversides – Muskegon, MI

28 scouts and 8 adult leaders braved windswept Lake Michigan to experience firsthand, life aboard a WW II submarine that successfully fought in the Pacific, the USS Silversides.

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

Twenty new scouts all working with older scouts learning how to use the troop camping equipment and having fun. Who said putting up a tent in the dark is not fun? We had to cut off the campfire at midnight. These guys still had more skits. Where do these kids get that much energy?

May – Bike & Fish Campout – Grand Junction, MI

The May campout was the "phoenix" campout -- rising from the ashes, or rather flood waters, of April. We biked the Kal-Haven trail and fished in the lake at the Chobak "resort" in Michigan. The weather and biking were awesome, even if the fishing was not.

June – Webelos Overnight – Camp Thunderbird (Green Valley) – Naperville, IL

Twenty scouts, 124 eggs, and a half-inch of rainfall. A river ran through our campsite, but the scouts of Troop 505 carried on proudly, teaching the principles of scoutcraft to Webelos from Thunderbird district and making a lasting, good impression to all we met. Also, cooking for merit badges! Can I have another helping of that cashew and cranberry couscous, Matthew G?

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

The Storms parted and 250 Arrowmen had a great weekend of fellowship helping put the camp in order for the season. Two new Ordeals, one new Brotherhood and ... to be continued???