

2016-2017 TROOP 505

July - Camp Ransburg in Bloomington, Indiana.

Swimming, boating, advancement, bonfires on the shores of Lake Monroe. We stayed in Terrace Hills Upper & Lower campsite. Twenty-four Scouts earned 99 merit badges and 7 rank advancements.

July - High Adventure Philmont Scout Ranch Cimarron NM

Two crews enjoyed all that Amtrak has to offer on the way to beautiful New Mexico to hike in the mountains. The first challenge was fitting in all the food and crew gear into the already full backpacks and the second trial was acclimatizing to carrying 45 lbs at 6000 feet on upwards. Both treks did a lot of miles and hit some important peaks (Baldy 12,441, Mt Phillips 11,732) and got regularly rained on, and sometimes hailed on. Hike early in the morning to avoid the heat of the day and the storm that comes through at 3pm every afternoon!

August - Fall Fellowship - Camp Big Timber, Elgin, IL

Ethan makes Brotherhood!

September - Hike Bike Fish Campout - Rock Cut State Park, Loves Park, IL

Action-packed campout with hiking, biking and fishing!

September - Feast of the Hunter's Moon - Lafayette, IN

Buffalo stew! Black powder cannons! Historical re-enactors! And Ga-Ga ball back at Camp Cary!

November - Monster Truck Jam / Thanksgiving Campout – Rockford, IL & Scout Adventure Camp, Rochelle, IL

Scout Skills and Monster Trucks what more could you ask. How about Thanksgiving dinner, served by the adults? Deep fried Turkey!

December - Survival Campout - Chobak Family Resort, MI

Cooking over open fires and camping without a tent! And everyone survived!

January - Ski Trip - Cascade Mountain, WI

Fun and games with movies and cabin camping at CFL and skiing at Cascade.

February - Tubing at Camp Oh-Da-Ko-Ta, - Burlington, WI

No Snow! Oh no! Scouts adapted to the cancelled snow tubing outing by doing Low COPE and Zip Line at Lake Geneva.

March - New Scout Camp-in - Knox Presbyterian Church

New scouts partnered up with older scouts to learn how to use all of the troop camping equipment. Then we turned off the lights and let the new scouts put up tents by flashlight! □

March - USS Silversides Submarine Museum - Muskegon, MI

Scouts packed the confines of a US Navy submarine credited with sinking 23 ships during WW2. And they got to work with the Remote Operated Vehicles!

April - Advancement Campout - White Pines State Park, IL

Once in every five years the weather cooperates and this was the year. Predicted rain disappeared and the weather was glorious. The mosquitoes were tolerable and not the fierce giants from 2016. Lower numbers of cub scouts came to visit but they all enjoyed the traditional cooking an egg and building a fire. Our guys got so good and teaching to build fires, they set and lit the fire for the evening campfire and joined in with some great skits. All went well except we broke the new canopy trying to fold it up. Oops.

May - Horseback Riding Campout - Chain of Lakes, WI

Saddle up! Horse riding and a five-mile hike. Bonus find: creepy animal skeleton!

June - OA Spring Fellowship - Camp Freeland Leslie, WI

Five new Ordeals and Five Brotherhood members got to work making the council camp ready for summer.

June - Webelos Overnight - Greene Valley Forest Preserve, IL

Webelos from throughout Thunderbird District learned the skills of scouting from the boys of Troop 505.

June - Mini High Adventure - Wilton, WI

Twenty-eight miles of biking, 5 miles of hiking and 6 miles of paddling. And the cooking merit badge. Watch out for falling branches!