

TROOP 96 GAZETTE

Knights of Columbus
St. Gilbert Church



Grayslake, Illinois

Volume 20, Number 9

<http://www.boyscouttroop96.com>

September 2012

August at the Chain of Lakes

By John McCall

The Troop having returned from a July full of scouting adventures at MaKajawan and the Porcupine Mountains could well be expected to take a camping hiatus. But it will be nothing of the sort for the scouts of Troop 96. A group of twenty eight scouts and sixteen adults met at the St. Gilbert parking lot for the first campout of the second half of the 2012 camping season. The weather was great we were going to get a break from the heat that had been with us most of the summer. The trailer was loaded by the quartermasters and the troop set out for the short ride to nearby Chain of Lakes State Park right here in Illinois. The caravan headed west on route 120 then turned onto route 134 through Round Lake then northwest on route 12 through Fox Lake to Wilmot road then north to the state park.



Chain of Lakes is a large state park and conservation area totaling over 5000 acres it borders on three lakes and the Fox River. Plans for the weekend include hiking, fishing, canoeing and of course cooking.

The Troop arrived with a good deal of daylight still available, we were camping in the youth group camp area Mud Lake West, we had the first campsite south of the road. When we



arrived it was clear we were going to fill up this campsite. Ethan DeKeyser acting senior patrol leader worked with the three patrol leaders to assign patrol sites and the adults were assigned the high ground between two youth patrols. Dining flies were set and long before dark tents were ready and everyone was enjoying the evening cracker barrel. A patrol leaders council meeting was held and a time for lights out, wake up and the plan for Saturdays activities was established.

The night was a great one for sleeping cool temperatures and no rain. By oh six thirty

scouts were rising and shortly thereafter the smell of breakfast sausage and bacon filled the air. Both scouts and adults were enjoying the laid back and relaxed campout pace. After breakfast and KP was completed the Troop assembled in uniform for opening flags the morning messages.



By around 9:30AM we were heading for the waterfront by way if the parks extensive trail system. With Dalton Nitto at the lead as the appointed naviguesser we walked through the woods and when we came to a fork in the road we took it. About the time we were certain that we had been walking in circles we came to the end of the trail and emerged on the road to the boat launch and waterfront. Good guess Dalton!

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Mr. Wehde arranged for three rental canoes and Mr. McCall and Mr. Cibula had brought a kayak and inflatable. The scouts would man the canoes and take turns; the adults would be nearby in the water in case they were needed. The rest of the scouts would take advantage of the fishing opportunities from several of the docks along the waterfront. Once loaded and boarded the first group of canoes headed out of the slip and into the open water. One of the canoes had an unwelcome passenger, a spider had stowed away and when he appeared the scouts quickly moved to one side and just as quickly they were in the water and the canoe was filled with water. Good thing the water was only a few feet deep at this point so the scouts were able to sink slowly into the muddy bottom while not going under. There was some struggle and a good deal of learning

taking place as the scouts inverted the canoe, eventually dragged it to a nearby dock and then managed to drain the water and launch again. This time without the stowaway spider. In any case the lessons learned were don't move to one side of the canoe all at once, and don't panic when something bad happens, use your head and work out of the predicament.



At lunch time the Troop headed back to the campsite via a shortcut Mr. McCall had discovered when he went for his kayak. Great lunches were made and consumed



and after lunch we headed back to the waterfront for an afternoon of more of the same. Mr. Hoffman and Mr. Jacks and several other adults worked with scouts fishing from the dock and they tell me that good number of scouts caught fish and some of them caught several. A few other groups of scouts got out in the canoes and when all of the scouts had been out some of the adults enjoyed some paddling time as well. As the activities came to a close we returned to the campsite where dinners were prepared. Cook time on the adult patrol dinner was longer than planned so

by the time KP was underway darkness had set in. The evening campfire was led by master of ceremonies, Spencer Boos and SPL Ethan DeKeyser, patrol skits were performed and a round of Rose, Bud and Thorn was followed by a Scoutmasters minute from Mr. Klemens.

Some scouts had elected to take down dining flies and sleep under the stars, it was a dry and comfortable night so it was probably a good night to do that. Sunday morning started very early, maybe a bit too early by 9AM we were pretty nearly ready to load up and head back. A short 40 minutes and we were back at St. Gilbert looking forward to our September mystery campout.



Scouts Participating:

Nick Borovka	Nathan Cibula	Andrew Goger	Zach Levy
Joey Cambio	Kyle Judge	David Hoffman	Nathan Sislow
Will Bauman	Jonathan Lewis	Rahil Verma	Jacob Stutzman
Ben Reyes	Joey Wesley	Alex Tamulaitis	Spencer Boos
Brandon Nitto	Eric Ostick	Ethan DeKeyser	Alex Kursik
Dalton Nitto	Jack Carvill	Chris Matthews	Ryan Robb
Bryan Wehde	Matt Symonds	Zach Monahan	Ethan Blennis

Adults Participating:

Chris Borovka	Steve Cambio	David Cibula	Greg Goger
Mike Grezsik	Mike Hoffman	Craig Levy	Joe Matthews
John McCall	Todd Nitto	Dan Ostick	Pat Klemens
Tom Robb	Matthew Symonds	Kevin Wehde	John Boos

Special thanks to Mr. Jacks for visiting on Saturday and helping with the fishing activity.



**TROOP 96 - SERVICE PROJECT
ALMOND ROAD CLEAN-UP**



Place: Meet at Warren Township Center Parking lot (Washington and Almond)

Date: Saturday, October 13th, 9:00AM to 11:00AM

Activity: Beautify our corner of America (Pick up Trash along Almond Road

Requirements: Wear your uniform or Boy Scout T-shirt/sweatshirt

bring **work gloves** and **water bottle**



It's time to Sell Popcorn

Popcorn sales begin September 15th. Pay close attention to the announcements before and after each Troop meeting. Plan your orders for Show and Sell.



Sign up for site sales: 9/15, 9/16, 9/21, 9/22, 9/23, 9/28, 9/29, 9/30, 10/27 and 10/28. Contact Dawn Wegner at 636-248-0444 with questions or to sign up.

Popcorn money helps the troop earn money to buy the camping equipment we need all year long.

Popcorn money helps the Scout earn money in their scout account to go to camp or buy nifty scout stuff, sporting equipment, books and other things. Scouts can sell and earn even more money for Jamboree.

Troop 96 runs on popcorn most of the year - this is an important fundraiser. And, the popcorn is SO GOOD! There will be raffle drawings for all participants. \$1000 in sales earns Key Lime Cove two tickets for Nov 30th

Court of Honor

September 17th, 2012



Recognition is one of the methods we use to achieve the Aims of scouting. Recognition is important to all of us and sharing our moment in the spotlight with our families and those important to us makes it all the more appreciated.

Boy Scouts recognition, such as that which takes place at a Court of Honor serves to motivate our scouts to succeed in scouting and

in the long run to succeed in life. This is an opportunity to participate in the recognition of our scouts, and it is very important to them. They may not tell you that they appreciate it, they are teenage boys after all, but they truly do want you to be there.

We would like to invite all Troop 96 Families to join us for the quarterly Court of Honor to be held at our regular Troop meeting on September 17th. This is the big one with where all of the summer camp achievements will be recognized. PLEASE come out and support your sons' efforts, and get refreshments, too!



Talk about Fitness!! Troop 96 Scouts Hike over 21 Miles

On Sunday September 2nd a group of scouts along with some parents and leaders took to the paths and trails of Lake County and hiked from Grayslake Central High School to the Lake Michigan beach front at Fort Sheridan in Highland Park. That is a distance of over 21 miles the scouts who participated are closing in on the Hiking merit badge and are to be congratulated on their commitment to that goal.



BEFORE



AFTER

You too can 'Commit 2 Be Fit' with the North Star District. See the attached schedule of hikes throughout Lake County, or follow this link for more information.
<http://boyscouttroop96.com/images/BFitIssue2.pdf>



Scoutmaster's Corner by Pat Klemens

The **September Campout** at Chain O'Lakes State Park was a fun and relaxed end-of-summer outing. We stayed close to home, but it felt like we were in another state. Hiking, canoeing and fishing were the highlights on Saturday with great meals cooked up throughout the weekend. If you missed this one, don't fret: we have three campouts coming up fast. Read below...

Five adults have started **Wood Badge** training: Mr. John Boos, Mr. Joseph Judge, Mr. Todd Nitto, Mr. Scott Timmons and Mr. Mike Grzesik. Thanks to all of you for taking this most advanced BSA leader training and committing to making our troop the best it can be. After two full weekends of training, they will come home "fired up" for Scouting!

Congratulations to **Nathan T, Anthony D and Bryan W** for completing our Council's NYLT (National Youth Leadership Training) course at Mak-Ka-Ja-Wan in June and finishing NAYLE (National Youth Leadership Experience) near St. Louis in July. Well done, Scouts! We look forward to advancing the troop thanks to your new skills and knowledge.

Senior Patrol Leader elections and troop re-organization will take place on Sept 10. It's time to make sure you have a troop position for rank advancement.

Sept 17 is our **HUGE Court of Honor** celebrating and recognizing all the great Scouting that was done this summer. Parents, families and friends are welcome and encouraged to participate. Please mark your calendars for the fun night!

Campouts, Campouts, Campouts! We have three campouts in quick succession:

Our "famous" Mystery Campout on the weekend of September 15. Scouts will be given directions to help navigate drivers to the Mystery location. Saturday will be a fun day of Olympic proportions.

The Council is holding "ScoutJam" on the weekend of Oct 6 at Lakewood Forest Preserve near Wauconda. All the details are at the Council website [here](#). There is an \$18 charge per Scout in addition to food costs.

Our regular troop October campout will be on the weekend of Oct 20 with camping at Crown. Saturday will be both shooting sports day at the Kenosha Conservation Club and Jamboree-on-the-Air with a chance to talk to Scouts around the world on Mr. Boos' radio equipment.

Troop Leadership Training will be held on November 3 (tentatively) at Independence Grove in Libertyville. All Scouts with a troop position and part of the PLC are expected to attend.

Popcorn sales are starting soon. Are you ready to go? Wanna make some money for yourself or to help you go to the National Jamboree in 2013? Talk to Mrs. Wegner or Mr. Symonds for all the information.

Remember the **Troop Web Site** (www.BoyScoutTroop96.com) always has the latest information on troop activities and plans.



Troop 96 Committee

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Troop 96 Program Staff

Call before 9 pm

e-mail

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September Campout

The Troop heads to an undisclosed location in September. We will be camping and working on scout skills it should make for a fun campout. Be sure to bring navigation and problem solving skills you will need them to find the campsite. Bring your \$15 for food and your permission slip to the 9/10 Troop meeting.

Parents will be provided the secret solution to the mystery campout prior to departure.



When: Fri-Sun, Sept 14-16 Gather at St. Gilbert at 5:30PM Fri. Sept 14th!



Boy Scouts of America, Troop 96, Grayslake, IL

Parental Authorization/Permission

Our Troop 96 September 2012 campout will be September 14-16 at a Mystery Location to be revealed to parents or guardians only. The Troop activity on Saturday will be a Scouting Olympics.

Please contact the camping hot line at (847) 223-7233 after 9:00 AM on Sunday to get a more precise return time, and plan on collecting your son within 10 minutes of the time announced on the camping hot line. Parents are to pick up Scouts at the church parking lot and take home troop gear for cleaning/drying as assigned by the Troop Quartermaster or delegate.

Please note on the permission slip if an Adult will accompany the Scout or if special transportation arrangements will occur for the Scout.

During the outing, the troop adult leadership can be contacted (in case of emergency) at the following number: _____

(Retain this upper portion for your records and information)

My son(s) _____ can attend the Troop 96 Scout camping on September 14-16.

I give my permission for full participation in B.S.A. programs, subject to the limitations noted herein. In the event of illness or accident in the course of such activity, I request that measures be instituted without delay according to the judgment of responding medical personnel.

In case of emergency, I understand every effort will be made to contact me (or someone else if noted on this form). In the event I cannot be reached, I hereby give my permission to the medical personnel selected by the adult leader in charge to secure proper treatment, including hospitalization, anesthesia, surgery, or injections of medication for my child. I do not hold the adult leader(s) liable for associated costs incurred.

Parents Signature: _____ Date: _____

Primary Phone Number: _____

Secondary Phone Number: _____

Please note any allergies or relevant medical conditions. Please list all medications, dosages and administration times for any meds to be taken during the outing.

Thank you for joining me for the June, July and August 3 mile walks at Independence Grove.

Let's try something new for September, October and November!

Come join me as we take the Hike Lake County Challenge!

1st Walk: **Sunday, September 16th** at **1pm** **Des Plaines River Trail (North), Wadsworth** (1.8 miles) *On the south side of Wadsworth Rd., east of Rte. 41 and west of the Des Plaines River.*

2nd Walk: **Sunday, September 30th** at **1pm** **Des Plaines River Trail (North), Gurnee** (1.9 miles) *On the west side of Kilbourne Rd., just south of Rte. 41.*

3rd Walk: **Sunday, October 14th** at **1pm** **Lyons Woods, Beach Park** (2.3 miles)* *On Blanchard Rd. just west of Sheridan Rd. and south of Yorkhouse Rd.*

4th Walk: **Sunday, October 21st** at **1pm** **McDonald Woods, Lindenhurst** (3.1 miles)* *On the south side of Grass Lake Rd., west of Rte. 45 and east of Deep Lake Rd.*

5th Walk: **Sunday, October 28th** at **10am** **Nippersink, Round Lake** (1.3 miles) *On the north side of Rte. 120, west of Cedar Lake Rd. and east of Fairfield Rd.*

6th Walk: **Sunday, November 18th** at **10am** **Ray Lake, Wauconda** (2.4 miles)* *On the south side of Erhart Rd., east of Gilmer Rd. and west of Fremont Center Rd.*

7th Walk: **Sunday, November 25th** at **1pm** **Rollins Savanna, Grayslake** (1.2 miles) *On the north side of Washington St. at Atkinson Rd., between Rte. 45 and Rte. 83.*

(Counts as two trails)*

Bring your Troop and/or Pack...all family members are welcome! Please bring water bottles, wear good fitting walking and/or hiking shoes and comfortable walking attire. If inclement weather prevails, then please call my cell number to see if we are still walking. Hike Lake County signs will be posted at each location for a starting point. Call my cell if you are unable to find me...I will be wearing my black/white **Commit 2 Be Fit t-shirt.**

I look forward to walking with you and meeting your Troop and/or Pack!

Contact: Cheri Blenniss
cheri@blenniss.com
(847) 942-1804 cell# call/text

Please contact me so we will know to expect you.