

TROOP 96 GAZETTE

Knights of Columbus
St. Gilbert Church



Grayslake, Illinois

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<http://www.boyscouttroop96.com>

June 2013

May Fishing and Biking



The May campout took the troop to the Lake Le-Aqua-Na Illinois State Recreation area. This state park is in the northwest region of Illinois about 6 miles south of the Wisconsin border. The park contains a 40 acre lake suitable for fishing and is relatively close to the Jane Addams Recreational Trail that runs between Freeport and the Wisconsin border connecting to the Wisconsin Badger State Trail.

Here is the report from the group that decided to stay in camp and enjoy the great fishing opportunity. Thank you Mr. Jacks for reporting on this.

As we bid good-bye to the bikers, we started to plan our own trek into the wilderness. With rods and reels in hand, and applying some sun-tan lotion, 10 mighty scouts with 4 adults went to work to catch the whopper. Our first stop was the ever popular boat launch and concession stand docks! With plenty of open water and numerous docks to fish from and around it was the perfect spot to start. Some shady areas to the left, helped to hold a few of the adults at bay. A beautiful point was our most westerly spot where the scouts fanned out across about ¼ mile of shoreline, always within eyeshot of an adult. Some scouts started to catch fish, and other caught some rays from the sun. With so many baits in the water it was only time that we started to count up from our base of 5 fish each. Starting off it was a bit slow but fishing picked up with numerous boys hauling in a fresh catch.

Just shy 3 hours and with the sun directly overhead, it was back to camp for lunch and to the second half of the adventure. With clouds starting to form, we spoke with a ranger and we were pointed toward the beach area and the dam. That reminds, me of a joke, what did the fish say when he hit the concrete wall, look back to the last sentence for the answer. (Thanks to Mr. Cibula). With the beach (still closed) off to right and the dam on the left, half of the adults took up residence inside the shady shelter as part of the fishing pier and the other 2 started to fish. The boys fanned out all along the shoreline to try their hand for the afternoon bite. With a few others already there we were able to get the scoop on the fishing and what was biting. With that powerful knowledge in hand, the bite was on. For the next 3 hours the fight was on. Numerous boys caught fish, between bass and black crappie, and a good time was had by all. At about 4:30 it was time to pack up and make it

back to camp. Fish stories galore and a few great keeper photos were the talk of the evening.

The majority of scouts had come to ride the bike trail and after final bike inspections headed off in what appeared to be ideal weather and fine trail conditions.

Here are the photos of a very enjoyable trail ride. See more at the troop website.



June Camping - Mega Trip



The June camping Trip is underway. The Troop has headed West to South Dakota and Wyoming with the first stop at the SPAM Museum in Minnesota.

Four fifteen passenger vans and a U-Haul Trailer were loaded to haul Troop families and gear across the plains. Here is the schedule of planned activities.

Day	Locations/events
Sat	Pickup travelers in vans, tour Spam Museum and camp in Adrian, MN
Sun	Leave Minn and arrive at Devil's Tower in Wyoming
Mon	Tour and hike Devil's Tower
Tue	Tour Deadwood, SD and camp at Custer State Park
Wed	Tour Mount Rushmore and Crazy Horse Monuments
Thur	Tour Jewel and Wind Caves
Fri	Drive to the Badlands, tour Minuteman Missile site and camp
Sat	Drive to Minn and tour Pipestone National Monument
Sun	Return to Grayslake



MA-KA-JA-WAN JULY 2013

MA-KA-JA-WAN REMINDERS AND TIPS

- Don't be late: the Troop will meet in the St. Gilbert east parking lot at 6:00 A.M. Sunday morning, July 7th and will **leave sharply at 7:00 a.m.**
- Bring a lunch and a drink for the ride to Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan.** The troop will provide a coolers to hold the lunches.
- Wear your uniform, including your neckerchief and slide or the new Troop bolo.**
We travel in uniform.
- Bring your **permission slip** if you haven't already turned it in.
- Bring any required **medications**. Please be sure that medications are not expired. Bring original containers. Troop leadership can help with secure storage and daily dosing, if needed. Please no medication vacations..
- Bring your **spending money**. *In small bills please.* Please put it in an envelope with your name and amount on it and the Troop's banker will keep it safe for you.
- Use the **Packing Checklist** on the Troop Web site (<http://www.boyscouttroop96.com>) to bring the "right stuff" to camp. See the hyperlink under latest news.
- Have your **swimming suit** on already or close to the top of your stuff so you can get your swim check as soon as the Troop arrives.
- Don't forget your **mosquito netting**.
- Be ready to have **fun**. Mak-Ka-Ja-Wan is an awesome place!
- IMPORTANT** Bring your completed Merit Badge/Trailblazer schedule

Contact Doug DeKeyser with any questions regarding MaKaJaWan Summer Camp
doug_dekeyser@yahoo.com (224) 430-3257

MaKajawan Trailblazer Program

First time at camp? Don't sweat it! At Trailblazer first year scouts can earn most of the Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class Requirements. Our Trailblazer program is designed to teach basic scout skills for new scouts. Led by experienced staff members, Trailblazer is a comprehensive program that teaches young Scouts basic skills for camping, cooking, first aid, knots, lashings, swimming, map and compass, and nature skills.

Check out the Troop Website – www.boyscouttroop96.com

PLC Notes – June 11, 2013

13 Scouts attended: Bryan, Paul, Kyle, David, Nathan C, Matthew, Ethan, Drew, Alex, Rahil, Nick, Spencer, Christian.

Bryan requested the PL's provide monthly reports beginning in July.
Theme for July and August: water sports

<p><u>June 17th:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drew will be SPL and Rahil will be SPL Activity outside is Orienteering • Game: Silent Indian by Rahil 	<p><u>June 24th:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MaKaJaWan prep by Ethan D • Game: spin rope - Paul
<p><u>July 1st: (week of July 4th)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flag presentations and flag folding and flag etiquette Christian and Rahil: teaching color guard • Flagpole: Kyle and Drew • Game: Capture the Flag at Tooterville Park. 	<p><u>July 8th:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jones Island: Lifesaving instruction by Spencer
<p><u>June 15th:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No meeting due to Jamboree and MKJW 	<p><u>July 22nd, July 29th and Aug 5th:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jones Island
<p><u>Aug 12th:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • campout prep • Safety Afloat training: Bryan • Float Trip plan: an TBA adult • Family cookout 	<p><u>Aug 19th:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website and social media, phone tree • Game: Name that merit badge, Kyle
<p><u>Aug 26th:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • emergency preparedness • Update phone tree. 	

If you have any ideas to concerns you would like to make known about the troop, then join us at the next PLC on August 20th.



Scoutmaster's Corner by Pat Klemens

- Our May **Fishing and Biking Campout** was another success. With good spring weather and motivated Scouts, the events on Saturday started bright and early. The two groups split up, one to bike the Jane Addams Trail and the other to find *elusive lunkers* in Lake Le-Aqua-Na. Thanks to all who “worked the details” to make this happen.
- Our **annual Memorial Day Flag Service Project** was held on May 25th. The troop placed more than 400 US flags! Great job, Scouts! While marching in the parade is one way to celebrate Memorial Day, I think we capture the meaning of the day by remembering those who served our nation with a simple flag placed respectfully on the grave.
- Thanks to everyone who helped make the Grayslake Homecoming for Captain (and Eagle Scout) Trevor White a very special event.
- Congratulations to David Bryant. The North Star District Eagle Scout Board of Review met with David on May 8th. Upon examination of his credentials and a thorough interview, the announced he was our newest Eagle Scout.
- Please continue to help the victims of the tornadoes. Your dollars will help them recover from one of Nature's worst storms,

- We have a very busy summer planned. Here are some key dates to remember:
 - June 15: A large contingent of Scouts and families head to South Dakota.
 - June 17: Regular Troop Meeting.
 - June 23: South Dakota trip ends.
 - June 24: Special Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan Readiness troop meeting
 - July 7: MaKaJaWan Week #1 campers head north.
 - July 8: Troop Meeting moved to Jones Island; special Lifesaving class
 - July 12: Order of the Arrow Callout at MaKaJaWan
 - July 13: Week one campers return to Grayslake
 - July 14: Week #2 at MaKaJaWan begins
 - July 14: Scouts head to the Summit in WV for the National Jamboree
 - July 15: No Troop meeting
 - July 22: Troop Meeting: “Special Recreation Night” at Jones Island
 - July 29: Everyone is back from MaKaJaWan and the National Jamboree – meet at Jones Island
 - Aug 5: Troop Meeting at Jones Island
 - Aug 12: Troop Meeting at Jones Island
 - Aug 16-18: Camping at Rock Cut: Families welcome for BBQ Dinner

Troop 96 Eagles return to Speak with Scouts

During the June 10th troop meeting scouts were treated to a visit by two of our past Eagle Scouts. Captain Trevor White and Lieutenant Dan Rupprecht stopped by for a visit and spoke to the current scouts about their experiences with the troop and as officers in the US Army. Dan earned his Eagle in 2004 and Trevor in 2005, both served as Senior Patrol Leader, and both spoke fondly of their time as members of the “Nothings” patrol.

Captain White is a graduate of the US Air Force Academy, who transferred to the Army upon graduation he has served tours of duty in Iraq and recently returned from a 7 month tour in Afghanistan, Lieutenant Rupprecht is a graduate of West Point Academy and has recently returned from an assignment in the United Arab Emirates.

Both spoke of the value of their experience in scouting in developing their leadership skills that have served them well in their role as officers in the Army. They encouraged the scouts to take on as many different leadership roles as possible. Dan spoke of the similarities between his role as troop quartermaster and his responsibilities managing a variety of equipment in the military. Trevor related that the challenge of leading your peers in scouting is in many ways even more challenging than the leadership roles in the military where rank can make it easier to give orders.

Welcome home scouts. We in Troop 96 Thank you for your service.



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Call before 9
pm

e-mail

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