

TROOP 96 GAZETTE

Knights of Columbus
St. Gilbert Church



Grayslake, Illinois

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<http://www.boy Scouttroop96.com>

June 2014

High Ropes and Good Camping

By John McCall

The May campout for the first time in months that came off pretty much as planned. The weather was planned to be dry and comfortable and it was dry and comfortable. The activity was to be challenging and team building and it turned out that at the Camp Henry Horner High Sierra Adventure Center all those who participated were challenged and learned a little more about working as a team. The camping was local so the car ride was a short one only about 40 minutes.

Scouts arrived around 5:30PM on Friday at the St Gilbert parking lot, check in was a little more than normal as we needed to be sure we had waiver forms from all the scouts that planned to participate in the High Sierra Adventure. Gear was packed into the Troop trailer and before long Nick G. was gathering the patrols for last minute instructions and the reading of driving assignments by Mr. Matthews. By 6:15PM we were on the road heading north and across the cheddar curtain and into Packer land. Reaching highway "C" in only about half an hour we

turned. South at highway "B" and into good old Camp Crown. After a little confusion as to where our campsite was most of us veterans of Troop 96 adventures at Camp Crown were surprised to find us assigned the camp sites nearest the old flag poles. Some of us may remember the area as Gilwell Field from past Wood Badge experiences.

The campsites were divided both horizontally and vertically it was decided that the adult

patrol would take the lower site and the scout patrols would take the higher site. Mr. McCall and Mr. Rupprecht would camp at the upper site in case an adult might be needed in the night. Putting three scout patrols on the site away from the road and up a sand hill was going to be a bit of a challenge, kitchens, utility boxes, dining flies, tents and plenty of personal gear needed to be hauled up the hill. Luckily Mr. Nitto's truck with dual wheels and 4 wheel drive was able to haul some of the heavier gear and make what could have been a long process



into a short inconvenience. Since we still had a considerable amount of daylight available it wasn't too long before flys were up and tents and personal gear was ready. Just after dark scouts and scouters were enjoying the evening cracker barrel including Mr. Wehde's ghost pepper salsa. A PLC was held where plans to be out of camp by 9AM were discussed and a 6:30AM wake up was decided. Not long after 10PM it was lights out and scouts settled in for a good night's sleep.



Long about 6:30AM Saturday morning I heard Nick G's alarm go off and it wasn't a long time before he was rousing the sleepy heads and getting the patrols in gear to prepare breakfast, make the sack lunches and putting the patrols on track to be ready for the trip to Camp Henry Horner by 9AM. Breakfasts smells of bacon, sausage, hash browns French toast and pancakes filled the air. Scouts were motivated and Mr. Wehde was keeping them on track to be ready, get the morning chores done so that we would not be late.

By 9:00AM breakfasts were cooked and consumed, KP, done, lunches made and campsites secured. The morning flags were held and driving assignments were read for the trip over to Camp Henry Horner. By 9:15AM just as planned we were on our way south to the High Sierra Adventure center at Camp Horner in Ingleside, Illinois.



Once all of the scouts arrived we met with our facilitators for the day. The scouts were given a brief explanation of the expectations for the day. Open



communication and respect for your team members would be essential for success. The scouts were then divided into two groups and on the open field each group began with some simple games that emphasize communication, planning and teamwork. That was followed by a short hike to another area of the camp where a number of low challenge opportunities were explained and taken on by each of the scout groups. One of the low challenge events

were the swing rope crossing, the team uses the rope to cross a "bottomless chasm." Each member must get across by swinging on the rope and without knocking the other team members off the very limited landing space. Another challenge was the spider web, where the team must pass all of the members through the spider web without ringing the bell, (awaking the spider) and they can't use any opening more than once. There was also the tilting table, (that needed to be balanced) and bridge out challenge that required the team to

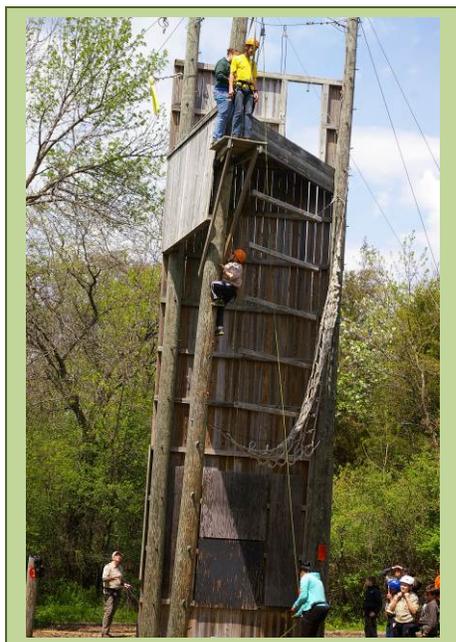




cross from island to island using two boards that weren't quite long enough to span the opening. The goal of these challenges is to encourage creative problem solving while developing trust and cohesion within the group. I think it also encourages an appreciation for the benefits that diversity will bring to team success.



Around 12:30PM we broke for lunch and in the comfort of the outdoor, covered pavilion we enjoyed the sandwiches we had made earlier in the morning. The afternoon was to be more of an individual challenge on the high ropes apparatus. Scouts came back together



as one group and took on a 30 ft. climbing wall or a pole climb and zip line challenge. Though this is primarily a challenge for individuals the encouragement and assistance of your team members certainly inspires one to have greater confidence. By the end of the day almost every scout and several of the adults had a chance to climb the wall and climb the pole and jump from the platform on the zip line. Quite a few did each challenge more than once. By around 3:00PM we were done for the day and after helping and thanking the staff at Henry Horner we were again headed back north to Camp Crown.

Once back at camp scouts and adults began to prepare dinners and before 7PM a lot of great food was had and KP was done. The scouts then had time for a game of capture the flag, scouting's favorite game. The sand hills of Camp Crown make a super venue, lots of high ground to set up and trees and brush to help hide the flag and to

hide from the enemy. So for about an hour the game went on till it was time for the evening campfire.

The campfire began before dark but the scouts who built the fire did a good job and created an excellent atmosphere for the evening's festivities. Scouts performed a number of skits including one about serving lemonade and calling "Chicago" the dog for a refill when the supply ran out, and another improvisation where a scout begins a sentence with a word and the next scout provides the next word and so on and so forth till the story is complete. The campfire closed with a round of rose, bud and thorn. There were very few thorns and lots of roses. The campfire ended before the usual lights out time some scouts chose to retire for the night and some took advantage of the telescopes that Mr. Wehde and Mr. Cibula brought to look at the moons of Saturn.





Sunday morning came just as early as Saturday. Scouts had planned to be up by 6:00AM and out of camp by 9:00AM. Nick D.'s alarm apparently failed so he was a bit late with the morning wake up call. Likewise some of the scouts were just a little slower than they were on Saturday. Nevertheless things picked up and breakfasts were started and before long we were on track once again. Breakfasts consisted of mountain man, breakfast burritos as well as plenty of bacon and sausage. Once breakfasts were consumed and KP got underway

scouts began to pack gear and haul it down from the upper camp to the trailer that was parked in the lower camp. Without Mr. Nitto's truck hauling gear was a bit more of a chore, good thing it was downhill. We did have a deadline to meet. Mr Nitto would be back to pick up the trailer and needed to be headed out of camp by 9:00AM. Scouts needed to light a fire under the packing job it we were to get done on time. It was a close call but by nine we were almost fully packed and we held our Sunday flags and interdenominational service. After the service we sent Mr. Nitto on his way then finished up by doing a thorough policing of the campsites.



Scouts loaded up the cars and by 9:30AM we were headed back to St. Gilbert another successful campout behind us. Join us in June when we go East to South Bend and get wet whitewater rafting on the St. Joseph river.

Scouts participating in the May Campout:

Joey Cambio	Nate Timmons	Ethan Blenniss	Nick Borovka
Nick Grezsik	Nathan Cibula	Alex Kagay	Ryan McLenithan
William DeKeyser	Mark Guckenbug	Mitchell Garcia	Andrew Oehlschlugar
Connor Harris	Alex Tamulaitus	Charlie Arkenburg	David Hoffman
Thomas Hinkley	Michael Wentz	Dalton Nitto	Brian Whede

Adults Participating in the May Campout:

John McCall	Kevin Wehde (1 night)	Dave Jacks	Steve Cambio
Doug DeKeyser	Kevin Rupprecht	John Boos	Scott Timmons
Joe Matthews	Mike Hoffman	Dave Cibula	

* Special thanks to Dave Jacks and Todd Nitto for helping get the trailer out and back.





Makajawan 2014

With only a few weeks to go till summer camp check out the Troop website for these important documents that should be helpful to those attending.

MaKaJaWan Packing List

MaKaJaWan 2014 Merit Badges.

MaWaJaWan 2014 Merit Badge Schedule. MaKaJaWan 2014 Parents meeting notes.

MaKaJaWan Mosquito Net Article 1 (For 2014, we recommend the simplest version shown as Option 2: Dowels rods topped with tennis balls)



Philmont 2015

Three Philmont crews have been formed and should have begun meeting by now. Attending crew meetings to develop your crew are as important as being fit for the trek itself, or having the right gear. Crews should also be working together to develop fund raising opportunities, successful fundraising will help ease some of the financial burden.

Two places are still available so if any qualified scout would like to join the crews please have them contact Mr. McCall as soon as possible.

The next payment of \$500/participant is due September 1st however Mr McCall will accept payments on your account at any time prior to the due date. So if it would be easier to make smaller more frequent payments please do so and see Mr. McCall.

Every Tuesday and Thursday at 6:30PM all are encouraged as often as possible to participate in the regularly scheduled hike around Rollins Savannah. Meet at the Washington ST entrance.

Crew members should be preparing by making regular hikes and setting some goals such as hiking the Rollins Savannah 3 mile trail with a 10 lb pack by September or October. Knowing where you are in your training is important so you know how far you have to go to be fully prepared.

Mr. Wehde has provided some helpful articles on hiking boots, hiking boot lacing techniques and backpack selection. They are posted in the documents section of the Troop web site. We encourage all participants to become familiar with them.





June 2013 Campout

This month we're headed to a favorite destination of Troop 96: camping at Indiana's Potato Creek State Park and whitewater rafting on the St. Joseph River through downtown South Bend on the East Waterway. The state park is beautiful and the waterway Scouts will need to demonstrate swimming proficiency to participate. Food costs are \$15 and rafting is \$5 per run (typically, Scouts are able to do three runs, sometimes four).

is amazing. Check out this link for the whitewater rafting.

Permission Slip is due on June 16 along with food money (in cash) payable to the patrol leader. The permission slip is on the last page



Camping Plan Schedule

- - June 20-22: Potato Creek State Park in Indiana Activity is White Water Rafting in South Bend
- - July 6-12 and 13-19 Weeks One and Two at Summer Camp at Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan Scout Reservation near Pearson, WI
- - August 8-10: Camping at Lewis University Airport. Activity is the first-ever Air Fest 2014

Troop Activity Calendar

- Monday June 9th: 7PM
Troop Meeting
- Monday June 16th: 7PM
Troop Meeting
- Friday June 20th 5:30PM – Sunday June 22nd:
Troop Campout Poatao Creek Indiana, White Water Rafting South Bend, Indiana
- Monday June 23rd: 7PM
Troop Meeting
- Monday June 30th: 7PM
Troop Meeting

Check out the Recap of the Annual Planning meeting on the Troop Website
We have a great plan for the next 15 months of scouting



the Scoutmaster's Corner
by Pat Klemens

Our **Annual Memorial Day service project** to place American flags on veterans' graves at the three Grayslake-area cemeteries was very impressive. The Scouts of Troop 96 placed over 500 US Flags as well as dozens of roses to remember those who served our country. Thanks to Mr. Mike Hoffman this year's graveside ceremonies were very memorable and reverent. "Well done!" to all helped remember our veterans and their service.

On June 19-21, the troop heads to Potato Creek State Park in Indiana near South Bend for an **awesome weekend of camping and rafting on the St. Joe River**. You won't want to miss this one. We'll spend Saturday in South Bend running the [East Race Waterway](#). There is an additional cost of \$5 per ride down the 1900-foot waterway. Permission slips and food money are due on June 16.

Are you ready summer fun at **Camp Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan**? The troop heads north for the first week on Sunday, July 6th. If you don't already have your mosquito netting, what are you waiting for? Also, you can get all MA-KA-JA-WAN Forms: physicals, prescription meds and special diet forms on our troop website or talk to Mr. Cibula. [Click here to get a copy of the "Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan packing list"](#) to help you get ready. Remember, we'd really like every Scout to show Troop 96 pride at camp: The PLC again voted this year that we will wear full uniforms for breakfast and dinner each day. Back your neckerchief and slide (or bolo tie) to wear each day at breakfast and dinner.

- The PLC selected the top three **T-shirt designs** at the April PLC. The troop chose the #1 design submitted by the Brothers Goger. Both Kevin and Andrew will get a free shirt with their design. We are taking clothing orders now and will have the t-shirts available for Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan. Cost is \$15 per shirt. See Mrs. Blennis right away to place an order for a shirt.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- The **next troop bike ride** is scheduled for Saturday, June 7 at 8:00 AM (weather permitting). Scouts and adults must wear helmets per BSA policy. Meet at the Washington Street entrance of Rollins Savanna for a one-hour ride around the Savanna.
- **SCUBA activities** at Hastings Lake are set for June 8.
- **Calling all Arrowmen of Troop 96!** The next meeting of all Order of the Arrow members will be held on June 11 at the Symond's Building on Rt 120. Plans will include organizing a troop Food Drive to help the Avon and StG Pantries as well as our plans for a fun outing.
- The **Troop Committee** will meet Thursday, June 12 at 7 pm at the GL Library. If

your son has just joined our troop, consider coming to this meeting to see how the troop operates and get involved. This is your invitation to be a part of your son's Scouting program.

- **Do you have a friend** that you'd like to have in the troop? Tell him about our troop, show him our [2013 video on YouTube](#) (on our website) and offer to pick him up and bring him to a meeting. Let your friends share in our fun!

Beginning the week we return from MaKaJaWan, the troop will re-locate its **Monday night troop meetings to Jones Island on Gray's Lake**. Meetings will still be from 7 to 8:30 PM. Bring a swimsuit and, if you have one, a boat, kayak, canoe or beach toy and enjoy our "home away from home." Meetings will be held at Jones Island from July 14th to August 4th. We will resume our regular meetings at St. Gilbert on August 11.

You can always get the **latest troop news** at: <http://www.BoyScoutTroop96.com>

Pope Pius XII Catholic Religious Award

The meeting for this religious award is scheduled for Monday, June 9, at 6:30 p.m. in the grassy area outside of Chapel Hall/ in front of St. Gilbert rectory. This will be a 30 minute meeting to briefly explain the program, and fill out the application to begin working on Pope Pius XII Religious Emblem. Please bring \$5.00, the cost of the participant book. I will get all the necessary signatures, once the application is filled out by the scout, and we will begin the program in August.

Please let me know if your scout is interested in participating so I can purchase enough books. This program has been extended to the Venture crew also. The more the merrier! Fr. Phi Nguyen of St. Gilbert has graciously agree to help us with the program. My hope is to have Deacons Globis , and Mark join us when available.

Please share this email with any scout, or venturer that is interested.

Peace,
Sharon Mack

Like Scouting?

If you enjoy scouting, if you have fun, if it helps make you a better person, then share scouting with your friends and family. Speak positively about how scouting is fun, builds character and makes you a better citizen.

Local scouting units, especially Cub Scout units are in need of new members.

Share the fun and encourage those who would benefit to visit a Pack or Troop. It will strengthen your community.



Troop 96 Program Staff

Call before 9 pm

e-mail

Pat Klemens	Scoutmaster	847-223-5490	Onmyhonor@ameritech.net
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Steve Cambio	Asst SM	847-340-3309	Stevecamz5@yahoo.com
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Dave Jacks	Asst SM - Eagle Guide	847-999-8328	davidmjacks@comcast.net
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Dan Ostick	Asst SM - Spaghetti Dinner	847-989-7043	danost@gate.net
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Kevin Wehde	Asst SM- Eagle Guide	847-275-9974	Kevin.wehde@kraftfoods.com
Todd Nitto	Asst SM	847-543-1744	Girn2001@gmail.com
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Craig Levy	Asst SM	847-543-1835	Craig.Levy@gmail.com
Dave Cibula	Asst SM	636- 222-2044	David@cibula.name

	Troop 96 Committee	Call before 9 pm	e-mail
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Cete Rupprecht	St Gilbert / Recharter Rep	847-855-9173	chutch@oakton.edu
James Busch	Treasurer	847-707-2854	16116fabfour@sbcglobal.net
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Patrick Schwab	Committee Member	224-829-8230	pschwab517@gmail.com
Cheri Blennis	Committee Member	847-942-1804	cheri@blennis.com

BSA TROOP 96 PERMISSION SLIP– June 2014 Campout

SIGNED PERMISSION SLIPS DUE: Monday, June 16, 2014

EVENT DATES: Friday, June 20 to Sunday, June 22, 2014

EVENT LOCATION: Camping at Potato Creek SP; activity at South Bend East Waterway

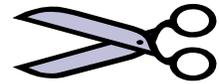
Meeting time: 5:30 PM on Friday, June 20 – St. Gilbert Parking Lot

RETURN: approx 12:30 PM, Sunday, June 22 (Call 847-223-7233 after 9AM for a better estimate)

EVENT COST: \$15 for food. Payable in cash to the Patrol Leader on June 16.

UNIFORM / CLOTHING: CLASS A UNIFORM for traveling

TRANSPORTATION: Adult leaders/parent will provide transportation.



BSA TROOP 96 PERMISSION SLIP – June 2014 Campout

EVENT DATES: Friday, June 20 – Sunday, June 22, 2014

EVENT LOCATION: Camping at Potato Creek Indiana SP; whitewater rafting in South Bend

DEPART: 5:30 pm Friday evening – StG parking lot

SCOUT(S) _____ and _____ has my permission for full participation in BSA programs, subject to the limitations noted herein. I further agree that Troop 96 and its Junior and Adult Leaders, as well as the St. Gilbert Church and the Knights of Columbus shall be held free from liability, financially or otherwise, for any injury or accident incurred by my son during this event. I have also included a separate sheet with any special instructions regarding my son.

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.

Parent (Guardian) Signature: _____ Dated: ____/____/____ **Can Drive?: Y / N**

Parent phone number in case of emergency: _____ or _____

Allergies or other important information in an emergency: _____

Medications: _____

SPECIAL NOTE TO PARENTS: ONLY PARENTS OR OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS CAN PICK UP YOUR SCOUT. IF ANYONE ELSE IS TO BRING YOUR SON HOME YOU MUST PROVIDE THAT AUTHORIZATION BELOW:

(NAME) _____ (CELL) _____ IS AUTHORIZED TO PICK UP MY SCOUT
AT THE CHURCH (PARENT SIGNATURE) _____ DATE ____/____/____