

The ugle

Issue 10

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2006 Spring Camporee Theme: "Scout Olympics" January 31, 2006

Written by the Troop Historian (Paul D)

If you didn't go on the Spring Camporee, in my opinion, you missed the best and most well organized Camporee that the District has hosted in awhile. On Friday afternoon we all met at the Church and packed up all the supplies and necessities we needed from the trailer, and departed before 5:00PM. Scouts that attended were Paul D (Acting SPL), Stephen E (Acting ASPL), Chris R. (OWL Patrol Leader), Tim S, Stephen G (Cobra Patrol Leader), Jack C, Jason V, Jonathan V, Eric S, and Zack T. Leaders that attended were Mr. Davis (Campout Scoutmaster), Mr. Reffett (Campout ASM), and Ms. Stout. After arriving at Camp Highroad, the Camporee site, we quickly set up dining flies, chuck boxes, and tents before sunset. The weather was wonderful and on the cool side. No major wind like experienced last year at the Fall Camporee.

After setting up camp, we ate our bagged dinners from home, and scouts were in their tents pretty early. I think before 9:30PM. The temperature at night went into the low 40s but everyone was well prepared and had a good nights rest.

On Saturday, most of the scouts were up at 6:15am, although some other scouts decided to sleep until 7:00am. The OWL Patrol made French toast for breakfast, while the Cobras had a non-cooking breakfast consisting of bagels, muffins and cereal. The OWLs made extra French toast for the Cobra Patrol to enjoy BUT there was a price to pay----we agreed to do their KP DUTIES!!

At 9AM, the SPL and ASPL attended the Camporee Leadership meeting prior to the start of the activities and the flag raising ceremony.

This Camporee's theme was "Scout Olympics", in which many, if

not, all the activities were physical related. Some of the events included an orienteering course, an extreme workout station, and soccer shot put. Our troop split up into two different patrols. The patrols were an inexperienced patrol, the Cobras, and an experienced patrol, which were called the Bloodhawks. Although none of our patrols came in 1st-3rd place, I believe all scouts enjoyed the events which were FUN and competitive for a change.

For dinner, the Cobras had hot dogs and the OWL Patrol had burgers, Mac & Cheese and other goodies. Again, many of us Cobra scouts were enticed by the smell of hot delicious burgers being cooked by the OWL Patrol members. Again, the OWLs were willing to share extra grub and the Cobras agreed to help the OWLS with their KP ☺.

Following dinner we practiced our two skits that we presented at the campfire program hosted by the Powhatan District's OA (Order of the Arrow). We did a great job in putting on our skits. I especially enjoyed the 15 minutes skit put on by Troop 1018 which always puts on a creative and awesome performance. After the campfire program, we relaxed and enjoyed the evening and nice weather before calling it a day. I think we all were asleep before 10:30PM

Before the flag raising ceremony on Sunday morning, the majority of our campsite was packed up. We all worked together well as a

team. Most of the tents and equipment was taken down tents and geared lugged to vehicles before the awards and flag ceremony.

Unfortunately, we didn't win any awards, but we had an awesome and fun time in the great outdoors. In my opinion, we should practice more scouting skills during meetings and then we would be better prepared for Camporee events. In fact, two experienced patrols from Troop 1018 have taken 1st and 2nd place for 4-5 years in a row. Our goal at the Fall Camporee (Bull Run Park) with the theme "Civil War" should be to beat Troop 1018 and put their winning streak to an end.

If I were to rate this campout, I'd give it an 8 out of 10. There was no whining and/or complaining by the scouts. We all got along well. Be sure to come to the Fall Camporee at Bull Run Park in October 2006. Also, I, and hopefully many of you, are looking forward to the upcoming June Canoeing Campout on the James River!