Scoutmaster Notes

Over the past three years, I have learned a lot from Troop 1 Scouts on our trips—some of it factual, some of it crazy, and most of it very entertaining. Some examples include:

- Inspirational sermons from Bubba Littlejohn
- Indian cultures from Steve Parrott
- Snake catching (and biting) from McKenzie Hines
- Landscape architecture from Rusty Barnett
- Why vote Republican from Will Coker (age 12)
- Oceanography from Lesesne Phillips
- How to shoot pennies with your fingers at moving objects from John Blackman
- How to fry anything not moving from Rusty Barnett
- How to enact change in a scout troop from (I better not go there)
- Fire building 101 from Ben Y
- The Joy of Grease Fires from Rick Phillips
- The Joy of the Linville Gorge by David Ike

Seriously, it has been a pleasure to lead Troop 1 for the past three years. I am deeply indebted to all those that have helped along the way. However, special thanks to Walter Oates, Ted Gage, Jacky Middlebrooks, Jerry Setzer, Lynne Blackman, Coby Alexander, Kyle Boyles, and Elise Mercer who have been there throughout.

Chad James will take over April 24 and I am confident that his energy and leadership will ensure that Troop 1 continues to prosper.

All the best,
Calhoun

WHAT’S AHEAD FOR TROOP 1

**Tuesday, April 14, 6pm**
Weather
**Order of Arrow Elections**

**Friday, April 17, 3pm**
“Century of Values” Scouting Celebration @ Chapman Cul. Center

**April 17-19**
Spring Aquatics Camporee

**Tuesday, April 21, 6pm**
Patrol Competition and **Patrol Leader Elections**

**April 24-25**
Crossover, including Family Barbecue and Court of Honor

**Sunday, April 26, 3pm**
Gilliam/Hammond/Ivey Eagle Ceremony

**Tuesday, April 28, 6pm**
Genealogy

**Tuesday, May 5, 6pm**
Genealogy

**May 8–10**
GPS Weekend

**Tuesday, May 12, 6pm**
End of Year Cookout
Why would six retirees drive more than 45,000 miles to 300 cities on a year-long road trip across America? It’s all because of their love for Scouting and what it has meant to our country since the Boy Scouts of America began on Feb. 8, 1910. “If you are going to celebrate a 100th anniversary, do it in a big way”, says Century of Values tour leader Mike Orzol. The group of Scouting volunteers launched their road journey on Feb. 8, 2009 in Laingsburg, Michigan. The caravan is winding its way across the country, visiting the headquarters city of every Boy Scout Council, en route to the National Scouting Museum in Irving, TX, arriving on the official 100th birthday of the BSA on Feb. 8, 2010. The Palmetto Council, headquartered in Spartanburg, will get such a visit on Friday, April 17. A brief formal presentation will be made at 3pm on the steps of the Chapman Cultural Center. Scouting dignitaries and local business leaders will join Mayor Bill Barnet welcoming the tour. The Mayor will also issue an official proclamation saluting Scouting’s continuing impact.

The 32 ft. long, mural-decorated motor home was donated by Coachmen Industries for this exact purpose. At each stop, crew members present local Scouting representatives with a framed 24” x 36” anniversary mural, to help kick off local centennial celebrations. The mural, depicting key people and milestones in Scouting’s history, was created by animator Bill Morrison, who has done design work for Disney other Hollywood studios. A limited number of autographed mural lithographs, as well as a commemorative patch, will be available for sale. The group will stay overnight and visit the county-wide Aquatics Camporee at the Middle Tyger YMCA the next day, so hundreds of local Scouts can help kick off the “centennial celebration” as well.

Our local Council has many events planned in late 2009 and through the fall of 2010, including a Norman Rockwell Art Tour coming in late June of next year. Six of Rockwell’s original oil paintings will be accompanied by original works of other famous artists, and will run for about a week at the Spartanburg Art Museum. The Arts Partnership and the Chapman Cultural Center are collaborating in the effort.

Geordy Johnson, son of local entrepreneur George Dean Johnson, is chairman of the many Centennial Celebration events scheduled for the Palmetto Council’s six upstate counties—but he has enlisted a lot of help. He salutes committee members, who have taken the responsibility of promoting Scouting in a variety of ways, each playing a vital role in this grand year-long effort. “Every activity and event will take on a life of its own. We just want the positive impact Scouting has made on America to be brought into the limelight”, he remarked. Johnson, himself a Troop 1 Eagle Scout, sees even better things ahead. “Scouting is alive and well. The best is yet to come.”
Please join us to Honor

Richard Philips Gilliam
Matthew Lawrence Hammond
Milton Lamar Ivey, III

on attaining the rank of

Eagle Scout

Boy Scout Troop 1
Court of Honor Ceremony
Sunday April 26, 2009
3:00 pm

Episcopal Church of the Advent
Reception immediately following the ceremony
The Parish Life Center
SCOUTING MEMORIES
Reflections from Ted Gage on the Class of 2009

One of Troop 1’s largest groups ever made that journey across the bridge on April 26, 2002, the journey we have come to know as the “welcome mat” for all of our Scouts into the magical bonds of Troop 1. Now, seven years later, we are watching them age out of the Scouting program and make post-graduation plans for their next stage of life. This group is special to me as they are the only ones I have seen from start to finish in our program and because we were “first-years” together.

My first experience with these boys was when we camped on an island on Lake Marion and boated to Charleston. To this day, that weekend ranks in my mind as one of the greatest undertakings in our troop history. I think most all of these boys were there doing what you would imagine boys starting the 6th grade would be doing— they even managed to find a quicksand hole that would pretty much immerse their whole body in mud. Any adult leader in Scouting will tell you one of the greatest satisfactions you receive in working with these young men is watching them mature from eleven-year-old boys to outstanding young adult members of the community. After all, that’s what we try to instill in them week after week. As I think back to that island seven years ago, I can’t help but think about what the years in between have done to those boys.

Who are these young men now? For some reason, each class that crosses over develops a group personality—characteristics that leaders can describe in a word or two. In thinking back on this crew, the word that comes to my mind is well rounded. These guys have a multitude of passions. When I look at the list of our senior class, I see involvement, whether it be in Scouts, their school or church, or in the larger community. They are leaders on their basketball, baseball, soccer, football, and academic teams. They are involved in their student government and church youth groups. They are role models not only to younger Scouts, but to younger boys throughout Spartanburg. I like to think Troop 1 and the ideals of Scouting have helped make these guys what they are today, and if you asked them, they would agree—at least I hope so.

They have had a long road in Scouts as this entire group has stuck with their troop till their eighteenth birthday (I won’t mention how many of them attained Eagle rank within days of their birthday!), proudly serving their troop. These guys sold BBQ tickets seven times and, of course, plucked those chickens seven times— not to mention loading all those bikes at the top of Mt. Mitchell. They have been their troop do such memorable things as providing the grave marker for General Westmoreland and then making the trip to West Point for the dedication.

So to Zach Brown, Brad Daley, Richard Gilliam, Christopher Graham, Drew Henderson, Mackenzie Hines, John David Ike, Caleb Jennings, Dietrich Kayser, Hamilton King, Richard Lacoste, and Rob Richardson (as well as the several others of you who crossed that bridge seven years ago, but did not last quite so long), your troop wishes you the very best as you spread your wings and fly off into the next chapter of your life. Always remember to live by the Scout law.
Scheduled for June 14-20, summer camp is just around the corner! The registration deadline is May 1. Attendance is especially important for first-year Scouts as participation provides them with a firm foundation (and a leg up!) for their first full year of scouting. For our older Scouts, summer camp is an opportunity to work on those all-important Eagle-required merit badges that shouldn’t be passed up lightly. Finally, camp is a whole lot of fun on the coast with your Troop 1 buddies!

For more information or forms for camp, contact Kyle Boyles at ktboyles@aol.com or call 384-0538.
What a great weekend Troop 1 had on the Virginia Creeper! Except for a little ice on our tents, the weather was absolutely perfect. I am very proud of every Scout who attended this one, especially after hearing that they potentially had 50 miles of biking ahead of them. Completing our trek was really quite an accomplishment! This might actually be one of the few times where peer pressure was a good thing because it helped us all to stay on track.

Even though spring seems to be rapidly passing us by, more outdoor activity is still to come. We will be going to the Middle Tyger YMCA on the weekend of April 17 - 20 for Aquatics. This will be a very important weekend for many of you because they will be offering some really important badges. Remember, to participate in any trips that involve water, such as the Edisto 50-Miler, Scouts must have completed the appropriate, applicable merit badges. Even if you already have your swimming and canoeing badges, you will have the opportunity to earn some other interesting badges in aquatics.

We will have Crossover the following weekend, April 24 - 25, where we will welcome in the new "first years" and expose them to the world of Troop 1.

As you all know, we still have the year-end trip ahead of us. On May 8 - 10, we’ll be sponsoring the always popular GPS trip. Our destination will be kept a secret until we release the GPS coordinates to you. For this one, you should definitely follow the Scout motto and "Be Prepared." You don't want to miss out on any fun by forgetting to pack the right items. If I have not said it before, let me say it now, "You really don't want to miss this one!!"

Let's make sure to finish the 2008/2009 season strongly. There are still a few more opportunities to "Get that campfire lit" before we head off to summer camp.

Jay
**CROSSOVER**

A Family Event Including Barbecue Dinner & Court of Honor

April 24-25, 2009

6:00 p.m.

Johnson Pavilion, Lake Bowen

We will serve Pig Out barbecue. Cost is $8.50 per person, collected at the door. Dinner will be served promptly at 6:00 p.m., followed by our Court of Honor. Crossover and the bonfire will begin after this ceremony.

Camping for Scouts who have just crossed over, along with a parent.

Camping for other Boy Scouts who need a camping activity. Please make every attempt to be a part of this important event for our Scouts.

Crossover is for the ENTIRE FAMILY; let's have a great turnout!

Directions to Johnson Pavilion

Go straight through Boiling Springs on Highway 9. From the light at Super Wal-Mart it is 4.7 miles to Edwards Road. Turn left onto Edwards Road. Go 1.1 miles to White Oak Road. Turn right onto White Oak Road. Take first right onto Waterline Road. Waterline Road goes into the gate to the Barbecue shed.
On the Creeper Trail
Boy Scouts of America
Troop 1
Spartanburg, SC

Committee Members

Calhoun Kennedy, Scoutmaster
Walter Oates, Committee Chair
Coby Alexander, Advancement Chair
Ted Gage, Outdoor Co-chair
Bubba Littlejohn, Outdoor Co-chair
Jay Walpole, Outdoor Co-chair
Rev. Roy Cole, Chaplain
Kimberlee Sanchez, Merit Badge Coordin.
Jerry Setzer, Board of Review Chair
Bill Coker, Finance Chair
John Bauknight, Barbecue Co-chair
Becky Dunbar, Barbecue Co-chair
Rick Phillips, Phillip Fund Coordinator
Kyle Boyles, Scout Camp Chair
Virginia Setzer, Cubmaster
Laura McCain, Secretary
Elise Mercer, Master of Ceremonies
Larry Goldstein, Legacy Fund Co-chair
Walter Oates, Troop Legacy Fund Co-chair
Lynne Blackman, Eagle’s Nest

BSA Troop 1 is a chartered organization of the Episcopal Church of the Advent.

2009 Edisto River
50 Miler

July 24-29, 2009
SPACE IS LIMITED!

For more information, contact Ted Gage: twgage@bellsouth.net.

Spring & Summer Birthdays

Collin Cooper, 4.10
John Dargan, 4.16
Christopher Graham, 4.18
Will Coker, 4.24
Drew Middlebrooks, 4.28
Jake Henderson, 5.02
Pate Dunbar, 5.07
Brad Daley, 5.28
Coleman Hellyer, 5.30
Charles Mercer, 6.06
Connor LeRoy, 6.27
Charles Setzer, 6.29
Bennett Setzer, 7.07
Drew Sanchez, 7.22
Rainsford Reel, 7.26
John Blackman, 8.03
Reed Sanchez, 8.04
Seth Hildebrand, 8.06