



## Scoutmaster Notes

Spring is in the air as Troop 1 prepares to head in to the outdoors in a big way over the next few weeks. We are soon off to Panthertown Valley in Western North Carolina for backpacking, followed by our much anticipated sailing trip to the Florida Keys over spring break, and then comes crossover the next weekend. Now that is some quality outdoor time!!

What a stretch we have recently completed! We have mastered snow sports, attended an Eagle Ceremony, earned many badges at Merit Badge College, worked on Eagle projects, participated in Scout Sunday, and backpacked in Congaree National Park on a beautiful weekend. We have seen our First Year Scouts complete all their instruction for early rank requirements and the Camping Merit Badge as they prepare to earn First Class Rank in the very near future. Life has been very good for Troop 1.

One of the special events each year in the life of our troop is when we gather for Scout Sunday as a group to recognize our duty to God and to thank our chartering organization for the support we receive from them. This Scout Sunday was extra special as Eagle Scout Lesesne Phillips delivered a Homily which you will find later in this issue and we began a new tradition of honoring our seniors as they prepare to leave our nest. I would like to share with you some of the words I spoke about Coleman, William, Sam, Lesesne, John Toliver, and Drew:

*"Many years have passed since that evening in the spring of 2004 when you became a Troop 1 Boy Scout. Thinking of all the adventures and learning experiences scouting has given you is mind boggling, but I will touch on a few: You have survived the quirks of four scoutmasters, all together spent 482 nights camping in the great outdoors*

*discovering firsthand this beautiful world we have been given; you have all paddled at least 50 miles on the Edisto River 50 miler, collectively earned 232 Merit badges and given 472 hours of your time for community service not including the time you spent on your own Eagle Project; you have learned how to deal with Chicken Thieves, mastered the fine art of "Frolicking"; and each of you has stood in this very spot and recited the Eagle Pledge to your fellow scouts, family and friends. You guys will savor the special friendships you have with each other for the rest of your lives.*

*Seven years ago you were given 12 words to memorize before you could advance to the rank of Tenderfoot. I am sure that was a painful exercise on your part, but as you have matured from that day when you could finally say those words in order without hesitation, I am quite certain they have taken on more meaning as to how you should live your life.*

*As you prepare to spread your wings and fly out of the nest of Troop 1 and other familiar surroundings you will keep discovering that living by those twelve words will get you through the tough challenges you will face far into your future. Your troop would like to present to you a token for you take wherever the trail of life will lead you in the future as a reminder to you that a Scout is Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and Reverent all the days of his life."*

Without our superior adult leadership our troop would not flourish as it has. This year Kyle Boyles was presented the Dr. George Dean Johnson Adult Leadership Award for his dedication to the troop. Kyle has lead us in numerous merit

# Scoutmaster Notes (continued)

badges and coordinated summer camp at Ho Non Wah. I would call Kyle our "idea man" as many of the programs we have offered our scouts have come from his many ideas for which we are very grateful. Kyle truly has a passion for making learning fun. Congratulations on a well deserved honor!

Winter Backpacking at Congaree National Park really reminded us of summer backpacking as the temperatures soared to near 80 on a February weekend. We had a great night of camping at our destination on the banks of the Congaree River with a beautiful full moon and the smiling faces of many scouts excited over the accomplishment of their first backpacking experience. Even though we were not able to light our first campfire of the year, everyone had a great experience.

Spring is a time of renewal and I think Troop 1 will be renewed in a very big way as we welcome about 16 new scouts during crossover ceremonies on April 8th. All of us in Troop 1 are looking forward to sharing the many gifts we have been given through our membership in Troop 1 to these boys so that they may one day do the same to others that will follow them. They will find their years in scouting will give them opportunities to make discoveries about themselves and their world around them in that huge outdoor classroom we call a campsite. They will learn to live by the scout oath and law as they learn so many of life's lessons along the trail they about to embark on. Welcome aboard!

Ten very lucky boy scouts are about to embark on a trail that will take them to the Florida Keys for spring break. They will be sailing aboard two 45' sailboats from Islamorada to Key West and back spending days snorkeling, rigging sails, learning navigational skills, and having the time of their lives. They will bring home memories of their week together that will last a lifetime.

## *Ted*



## Birthdays

### April

Ike, Hampton 04/01 18

Reel, Tod 04/01

McBride, John 04/02 17

Oates, Walter 04/15

Ike, Anders 04/04 15

Phillips, Rick 04/25

Lyon, Wills 04/06 13

Cooper, Collin 04/10 14

Dargan, John 04/16 18

Coker, Will 04/24 14

Middlebrooks, Drew 04/28 19

### May

Henderson, Jake 05/02 17

Setzer, Jerry 05/10

Dunbar, Pate 05/07 14

Ike, Harriet 05/14

Spencer, Sam 05/26 13

Ike, David 05/16

Hellyer, Coleman 05/30 19

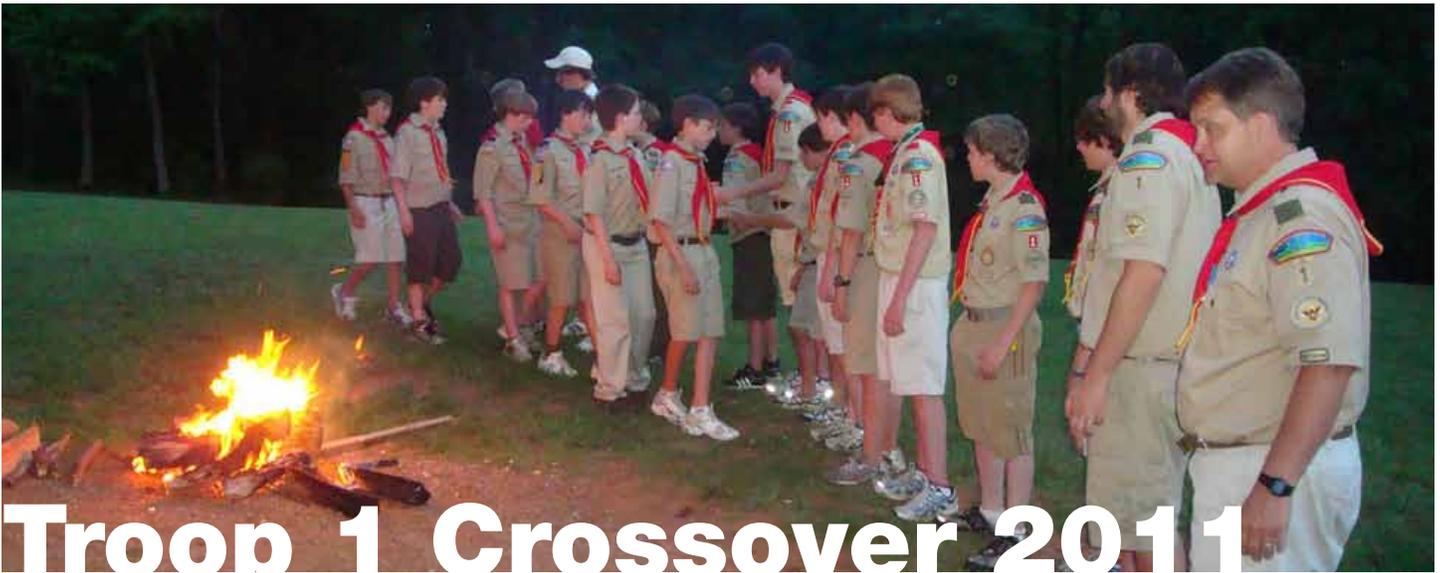
Alexander, Coby 05/30

James, Forest 05/30 13

## *TLC Meeting Dates*

April 12, 2011

Meeting will be at 5:30 in the Scout Hut. Please send your report if you can not attend.



# Troop 1 Crossover 2011

## A full night of Scouting.

We will serve a catered barbecue dinner. The cost is \$8.00 per person, which will be collected at the door.

Dinner is at 6:00 p.m. and a Court of Honor will follow. Crossover and the bonfire will begin at dusk.

Overnight camping for Scouts, who have just crossed over, and their parent or guardian. Older scouts are encouraged to camp (rides back to the scout hut Saturday morning provided) also to show our new guys the ropes. Cubs and Webelos with parent or guardian are invited to camp also.

**Please make every attempt to be a part of this important event for our Scouts. Crossover is for THE ENTIRE FAMILY and we hope to have a great turnout.**

Please RSVP to Elise Mercer by April 6th at [elisemercer@charter.net](mailto:elisemercer@charter.net)

### Directions to Johnson Lake Pavilion from Spartanburg

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

Outdoor Schedule:	
April 8-9, 2011	Crossover
April 29-May 1, 2011	Spring Aquatics Camporee
May 13-15, 2011	GPS Camping
June 12-18, 2011	Camp Ho Non Wah





# Meetings / Events

## CAMP HO NON WAH – BSA Summer Camp!

Another exciting summer camp kicks off June 12th as Troop 1 leaves the scout hut Sunday morning, after a brief service and flag ceremony, heading toward Wadmalaw Island for our 5th year at Camp Ho Non Wah. After a stop for lunch at Rush's in Columbia, we expect to arrive on the island by 2 p.m.

**First Year Scouts:** We welcome our first year scouts to their first summer camp. The Woodsman program will set their path on the Trail to Eagle. This program is vital for first year scouts to achieve rank advancement through their first year! Troop 1 requests that parents view this first year as “mandatory”. This is a great experience that helps them bond with fellow scouts.

**Second and Third Year Scouts:** The Trail to Eagle is a journey that includes many experiences in their scouting years. Summer camp is a great way to work on Eagle merit badges, fun electives and the thrill of sports, outdoors, aquatics, a few spiders and the importance of hydration! These scouts begin to learn the ropes as future leaders of Troop 1.

**Older Scouts:** Our older scouts have made a newfound commitment to summer camp over the past few years. Their leadership, mentoring and example to others serves their promise that they will make or have made to, “give back more to scouting, than scouting has given to me!” This commitment has included a Junior Leader traveling to camp with us for the past three years. Please consider attending summer camp even if you do not need additional badges or have achieved the rank of Eagle (don't forget palms). Troop 1 had the highest number of Eagle Scouts attending summer camp last year.

This year Camp Ho Non Wah celebrates their 75th Anniversary and Troop 1 kicks-off our 98th year, what a great way to start the summer! Located upon the banks of the Bohicket on Wadmalaw

Island, South Carolina, Camp Ho Non Wah is a 103-acre BSA-owned retreat where Scouts have a summer they will never forget. Offering over 65 merit badges, as well as aquatics areas, shooting sports, arts and crafts, and almost everything a Tenderfoot needs to advance to First Class, Camp Ho Non Wah is a fully-loaded, well-staffed facility in one of the most spectacularly beautiful locations in the Southeast!

Scout camp week begins Sunday, June 12th and we return Saturday, June 18th. Registration begins March 1st with a \$50 deposit due by March 22nd and balance of \$200 by April 28th. Registration includes lunch at Rush's each way, four camp t-shirts (1 Camp HNW shirt / 3 Troop 1 shirts). If you have any questions, feel free to email Kyle Boyles at [ktboyles@aol.com](mailto:ktboyles@aol.com) (please note: between now and summer camp we will provide more information on camp, merit badges and lists of needed items for the week).



# SUMMER CAMP

**Ho Non Wah  
June 12-18, 2011**

For the 5th straight year, Troop 1 scouts voted to travel to Camp Ho Non Wah for scout camp, a 103-acre Scouting retreat where camp staff, unit leaders and scouts work together to learn and enjoy the best that Scouting offers. The camp is located between the banks of the Bohicket and Fickling Creek on Wadmalaw Island, South Carolina. The camp is approximately 20 miles from historic downtown Charleston, South Carolina.

Registration begins March 1st with a \$50 deposit due by March 22<sup>nd</sup> and balance of \$200 by April 28th. Registration includes lunch at Rush's each way, four camp t-shirts (1 Camp HNW shirt / 3 Troop 1 shirts). All first year scouts will enroll in the "Woodsmen" program to help build a firm foundation for attaining their 1st Class Rank by the end of their first year. 2nd year scouts and up may take 2 Eagle required merit badges and up to 5 additional merit badges. For our older scouts that may not need additional badges, it is **extremely important** for our younger scouts to have the guidance from other scouts and help carry on the traditions of Troop 1. Please encourage your scout from Tenderfoot through Eagle to attend summer camp. Don't forget, this could be the year Troop 1 carries another championship banner for athletics!

## **Dads needed for summer camp too!**

If you have the flexibility to attend for the entire week of summer camp, it is a great experience to share with your son. Ted Gage and Kyle Boyles will be there all week, but additional leaders/dads are needed. We have a limited number of slots so let Kyle know ASAP at [ktboyles@aol.com](mailto:ktboyles@aol.com) if you can attend or have any questions.

## **Every Camper must have a current medical form and copy of insurance card**

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### **Permission / Payment Form**

**My son, \_\_\_\_\_, has parental consent to attend and participate on the Troop 1, Episcopal Church of the Advent, Summer Camp Trip to Ho Non Wah. Registration and Medical Form due prior to trip. The dates for the trip are June 12 – 18, 2011. The cost is \$250 per scout if registered by April 26, 2011. \$50 Deposits due March 22, 2011**

**Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Dad Attending: \_\_\_\_\_**

Please submit this form with deposit by March 22, 2011. You may mail your form and deposit and/or full payment to Kyle Boyles, 910 Oakcrest Road, SC 29301

**Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ Tshirt Size (Adult) \_\_\_\_\_**



# Advancement

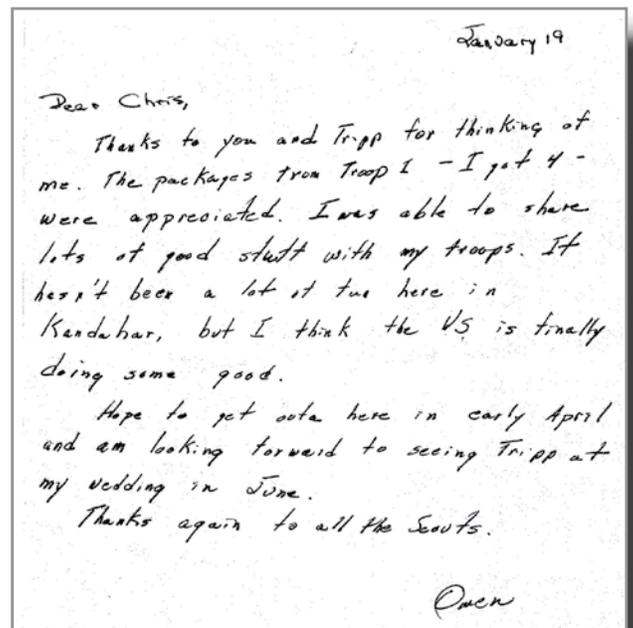


Congratulations to Lewis Barnett  
for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout!

Scout	Advancement
L. Barnett	Eagle Scout
Z. Boyles	2nd Silver Palm, Cycling, Electronics, Music, Pulp & Paper, Sculpture
W. Bradley	Citizenship in the World
A. Burnett	Electronics, Rifle Shooting, Shotgun Shooting
W. Coker	Life Scout
C. Cooper	Family Life, Music, Sculpture
J. Copeland	Communications, Sculpture
S. Corkery	Music
B. Fields	Music, Space Exploration
A. Freedman	Tenderfoot Scout, Music, Space Exploration
D. Greene	Citizenship in the World, Sculpture
T. Griffin	Second Class Scout, Citizenship in the World, Space Exploration
S. Hildebran	Communications
G. Hill	Music, Space Exploration
W. Hudson	Silver Palm
A. Ike	Music, Sculpture
T. James	Citizenship in the Nation, Crime Prevention
S. Kistler	Music
E. Lyles	Music, Sculpture, Space Exploration
L. McCain	Citizenship in the World, Family Life, Music, Sculpture
C. Mercer	Music, Photography
S. Parrott	Gold Palm
T. Phillips	Citizenship in the World, Music, Space Exploration
R. Sanchez	2010 Pathfinding, Sculpture
B. Setzer	Personal Fitness
C. Setzer	Bronze Palm
S. Spencer	Second Class Scout, Citizenship in the World, Music, Space Exploration
W. Tiller	Gold Palm
W. Wakefield	Music, Space Exploration
B. Walpole	Life Scout

## Servicemen Care Package Thank You Letter

Below is a letter Chris Lynn received from one of the servicemen that received a care package from Troop One.



# Lesesne's Scout Sunday Sermon

Good morning. For those of you who don't know me, my name is Lesesne Phillips and I am a scout in Troop 1 here at the Episcopal Church of the Advent. As well as being a scout here, I have also been a member of this church since I was born.

Today, we take a look at a chapter from the Old Testament, Deuteronomy. This book was written around 1400 B.C. by Moses. Egypt was very powerful in the area that we now call the Middle East. During this time Egypt's power was declining and the political climate was becoming chaotic.

This history lesson has a striking resemblance to what has been going on in Egypt this week. And so being that the Bible was once applicable 3000 years ago, I believe that we can still learn a lot from it today. One of the recurring themes in Deuteronomy is the impact that choices have on people's lives.

In chapter 30 verses 19-20 he says, "This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to his voice and hold fast to him."

In this reading he gives the people of the world a choice, life in Christ or Death. I believe that the choices that you make define the person that you are. It doesn't matter who your family is, or what race you are, or what job you have. It is the choices that we make that define us as individuals and Christians. This is a scary thought because unknowingly we make thousands of decisions each day.

One decision I made that I will always remember was with the scouts about three years ago in the Congaree National forest. A few of my friends and I had just received new rank advancements. This meant that we were no longer first year scouts. With this new rank advancement came the realization that we would be put in charge.

Eager to go on the next campout to show off our ranks, we signed up for the hike in the Congaree National Forest. After a long car ride we finally hit the trails and were on our way through the swamp. Since we were the oldest scouts on the trip we were at the front of the pack and having to wait on the slower, younger scouts to keep up. We finally convinced our scout master to let us strike out and explore on our own, on the condition that we would stop at the second bridge.

As we were hiking and frolicking through the woods we soon lost count of how many bridges we had passed. We stopped briefly to decide our next move. Knowing that

it would be a long hike back to the second bridge, we decided to press on. About two hours later, we came to the realization that this was not a good idea. We were lost.

Then we heard a voice through the woods, no it wasn't God. It was our scout master furious that we had gone too far. He asked us just what the heck we were thinking. To which my friend replied, quoting the famous Sean Connery movie, "I believe we went a bridge too far." Needless to say he was not amused. After that display we were banished to the back of the line and had to pick up trash along the trail.

When making choices we carefully weigh the consequences. Looking back at the verse from Deuteronomy, we can safely say that a life in Christ is the obvious choice. However, it is not that simple.

It is one thing to claim to be a Christian, but it is another thing to actually live for God. In Paul's letter to the Corinthians, he tells them that they have the basic tools necessary to a faith in Christ, but they are not using them.

Like the Corinthians we are all blessed with spiritual gifts. The choice is whether we will use these gifts or not.

God isn't asking us to be perfect, no one is perfect, but he is asking us to try and take advantage of the gifts that he has given us. He wants us not to just settle for the minimum. He wants us to take action and almost be aggressive in our faith. This way we can make better decisions and become closer to God.

As scouts we also have a decision to make. The road to Eagle Scout is not an easy one, but it is a journey that is extremely rewarding. Scouting has played a big part in my life and I hope that it will be a fun and rewarding experience for all of you.



## Troop One

Episcopal Church of the Advent Spartanburg, SC

<http://www.churchofadvent.org>

Ted Gauge-Scoutmaster