

Troop 165
Boy Scouts of America
Lancaster, Ohio
Sponsored by Fairfield Christian Church



September 2007 Newsletter

August 2007 Activity Review

August saw the troop working to finish American Heritage and Indian Lore Merit Badges. Most of the boys put the finishing touches on their Ribbon Shirts and took a trip to Great Circle Earthworks in Newark to walk through and around a very interesting site. Thank you to Mr. Marteney and Mr. Sutter from Troop 241 for helping the boys complete these two merit badges!

September 2007 Activities

September 8, 2007 – Car Wash at Fairfield Christian Church (Please see attached flyer) – Please contact Mr. Myers (681-5655) if you have any questions or need more information.

September 15, 2007 – Tent Maintenance Day (4-7 pm at the Scoutmaster's House)

Approximately 20 tents were put in Mr. Marshall's custody for use by the troop. The condition of these tents is believed to be good but they need to be set up, inspected and the seams need to be sealed. These are the tents that we will be sleeping in over the next couple of years and it's very important to have every boy present to help. Parent participation is strongly encouraged. Please bring seam sealer, a snack and wear comfortable and weather appropriate clothing; scout uniforms are not required for this activity. Mr. Marshall's address is 1133 Olds Ave. here in Lancaster.

September 16, 2007 – National Orienteering Day (Individual Activity)

This event is held at A.W. Marion State Park from 11 am to 1 pm and the cost is \$2 which covers the maps. This fulfills First Class Requirement 1b – run an orienteering course. It also of course applies to the requirements of the **Orienteering Merit Badge**. If you are interested in attending, see Mr. Marshall for further information.

September 28-30, 2007 – Campout at Camp Buckeye

Future Activities - Fish and Wildlife Management Boy Scout Merit Badge Program

Date: Sunday, October 21st, 2007

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Cost: \$20.00 per scout. Leaders that remain with the boys during the program are admitted at no charge.

Details: Let the Columbus Zoo & Aquarium help your scout earn a merit badge! The Fish & Wildlife Management Merit Badge Program is only offered once a year in the fall and the program fills quickly! This program is designed to fulfill six of the eight requirements for the badge. The Boy Scouts are given tools to help them fulfill the other two requirements on their own. After completing the last two requirements and a short quiz at home, their blue cards will be signed.

Registration opens at **8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 4th** and is limited to the first 100 boys. If you wish to attend this activity, Mr. Marshall must know by September 1st. Transportation will not be provided and this is a Class A Uniform Event. For further information, please see Mr. Marshall.

Merit Badge Information

These are the steps a Scout takes to earn a merit badge:

1. Get a signed blue card from Mr. Marshall and the name and phone number of the merit badge counselor.
2. **Before starting the merit badge**, contact the merit badge counselor to arrange a meeting. Go with a buddy, parent or relative to see the counselor to find out what is expected.
3. Get the merit badge book on the subject.
4. When complete, call the counselor again to make an appointment. Along with a buddy, parent or relative, bring the things necessary to meet the requirements or proof of what you have done. The counselor will spend time to make sure you know your stuff. When the counselor is satisfied that the Scout has done what is required, The Scout's merit badge card will be signed.

General Information

1. All merit badge counselors must be registered with the BSA.
2. A Scout cannot be counseled for more than four (4) merit badges from any one counselor.
3. Family members cannot counsel a Scout for Eagle-required merit badges.

Merit Badge Counselor Guidelines

1. Be aware of all up to date requirement changes (**check www.meritbadge.com**).
2. Follow the requirements of the merit badge, making no deletions or additions, ensuring that the advancement standards are fair and uniform for all Scouts.
3. Have two or more Scouts present at all instructional sessions.
4. Understand that the Scout is expected to meet the requirements as stated- no more and no less. Furthermore, he is to do exactly what is stated. If it says, "show or demonstrate," that is what he must do. Just telling about it isn't enough. The same holds true for such words as "make", "list", "in the field", and "collect, identify, and label."
5. You cannot require more of a scout than what is stated.

Merit Badge Cards

There are three parts to a blue merit badge card. The counselor keeps one part, the advancement chairman keeps the second part, and the third part is returned to the scout (sometimes this portion is kept by the advancement chairman and returned with the merit badge at Courts of Honor). This is the scout's only record that he completed the merit badge. At his Eagle Board of Review, the District Advancement Chairman will ask to see all of his blue cards. Please keep all blue cards that are returned to you by your merit badge counselor.

Open House

There will be a Tastefully Simple open house, to benefit Troop 165's equipment drive, on Wednesday, August 29, 2007 from 7 pm – 9 pm at the Marshall's (1133 Olds Ave.). For further information, please contact Mrs. Marshall at (740) 689-1929.

Uniforms

One of the eight methods of successful scouting programs is wearing uniforms. Lately, as a group, the troop could improve when it comes to wearing the proper uniform. As a reminder, Troop 165's Class A uniform includes the neckerchief and slide, Class A shirt, Troop t-shirt (Class B), Scout or olive green pants or shorts, scout belt, Scout hat, and scout socks. Adult Leader uniform includes everything that the boys wear except for the neckerchief. Unless told in advance, the full troop uniform is to be worn at each meeting/outing.

Monthly Permission Slips and Camping Fees

If you are intending to go on the monthly campouts, please have your fees and permission slips at the beginning of the meetings on the Monday night that they are due. If you are unable to attend the meeting but plan to go on the campout, please get you money and permission slip to a scout or leader that will be in attendance.