

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



October 2007 Newsletter

September 2007 Activity Review

Our Car wash was a big success! Thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Myers for their hard work behind the scenes to make this all come together. The troop earned over \$500 and it came just in time as our equipment needs were quite evident as we prepared to go camping.

Our September campout was at Camp Buckeye. 5 Scouts enjoyed their first campout apart from Troop 241 by cooking, working on Top Knot, having a campfire, and completing a conservation project.

October 2007 Activities

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.

Transportation will not be provided and this is a Field Uniform Event. Current Scouts registered are Maxim Boone and Daniel Marshall. For further information, please see Mr. Marshall.

October 2007 Campout

Our campout this month will be on October 26-28. The location has been changed from the Mr. Pat Marshall's Rim Rock Ranch to Camp Buckeye due to better facilitate hosting Pack 165's Webelos II and their parents. We will meet at 6 pm at the Scoutmaster's house (1133 Olds Ave.) to check and load equipment. We will return on the 28th at 1 pm (again at the Scoutmaster's house).

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.

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 field uniform (Class A uniform) includes the neckerchief and slide, Class A shirt, Troop activity 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.

Cancellations

Any time a scout meeting or activity is cancelled due to inclement weather, scouts will be notified via their patrol leader. If school is cancelled but the roads clear up and adult leadership feels that there are no safety concerns, we will generally have our meeting as it is the easiest way to hand out and collect permission slips.

Troop Website

Please go to our website www.165bsa.com for more information about Troop 165.