



Issue 103

Great Trail Council

Soaring Eagle District

November 2022

Scoutmasters News

Elise and Dale

The Troop had 7 Scouts and 3 parents attend the Arrow of Light (AOL) Open House.

The Laurel Caverns campout was a great. Scouts were able to visit both the upper and lower caverns.

Youth Leadership Training was held on October 23rd. Ryan I, Marie and Elizabeth planned and prepared the presentation. Only 3 Scouts were able to attend: Joe Nester, Sofia Rauschert, and Charlie Raymen. Scouts reviewed leadership roles and responsibilities, planned the next 18 months of campouts and made an agenda for the November AOL Campout.

The November AOL Campout went well and the weather was perfect. We had 5 AOLS from Pack 3390 that attended and participated on Saturday. Scouts used new patrol boxes for the first time.

Popcorn Fall 2022 Fundraiser:

Popcorn Kernel - Jill Gallagher

Feel free to call, text or email with any questions or selling needs at 330-690-0288 or jkvolgstadt@yahoo.com.

- Popcorn pickup will be available on 11/20/22 from 9 AM – 12 PM. Pickup address: Gallagher Household, 4051 Stonebridge Blvd, Copley

Acme Receipts Cash Back Time:

Troops 7390 & 390 are collecting Acme Receipts again this year. Scouts can ask friends, relatives, and neighbors for their receipts too. If we are successful, 100% of the receipts will go into the Scouts accounts who are turning in the receipts. Please email a picture of your receipt to Sarah Eckert at sjeckert22@hotmail.com.

2023 Sea Base:

- Dates: July 25-30, 2023
- Participants must pay the \$250 deposit ASAP
- \$100/month payments will be due beginning in January
- The final cost TBD.

Earn Religious Faith Emblems:

Scouts are invited to learn more about their faith by earning the corresponding religious emblem. Currently, Catholic Scouts are being invited to participate in earning their Ad Altare Dei (ideal for Scouts who are 13-14 years old) or the Pope Pius XII (designed for high school ages Scouts). Groups will be forming soon. There are faith and emblems for (almost) all religions. Please see the following link:

<https://www.scouting.org/awards/religious-awards/chart/>

Please let Mr. Sroka or Mrs. Nester know if you are interested.

Cyber Chip:

The Troop did a Cyber Chip training with the Scouts in August. If a Scout missed that meeting, they are responsible for watching the movies on their own at home. Please use the following link:

<https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/cyber-chip/> to access the videos by grade level. Scouts also need to write and sign a personalized contract with their parent/guardian that outlines rules for using the computer and mobile devices, including what can be downloaded, what can be posted, and consequences for inappropriate use. Families may also use the Troop form which can be accessed on the troop website:

<https://www.bsatroop390.org/forms/>. All Scouts must update their Cyber Chip every year.

Scout Service Hours Available:

Whether your scout is looking for volunteer hours to advance rank, to fulfill school requirements, or they just like to help other people, the Summit County Historical Society has a variety of volunteer opportunities available. They are looking for everything from lawn work and weed pulling to photographers, special event guides and assistants to researchers. Please let Mr. Sroka or Mrs. Nester know if you (or your whole family) would like to help.

Winter Camping Advice from Mr. Sroka:

October will be the first month we have camped in weather below 50 degrees since April. Being prepared can make the difference between a long weekend and an enjoyable event. You cannot have fun if you're too busy being cold.

There is a cold weather camping gear list on the website under Forms/Checklists:

<https://www.bsatroop390.org/forms/> The list goes back to 2005 but is still relevant.

The importance of good foot care cannot be over emphasized. Wool socks are more expensive but good quality ones keep your feet comfortable and wear like iron. My personal favorites are Smartwool and Darn Tough. (Socks are great Christmas gift ideas.) Cabin shoes also are a good item to pack. (Another gift idea.) This allows the scouts to get out of wet footwear and have protection against wood splinters and nails in the cabin floor. Boots that can be laced tightly and will not fill with snow in a knee-deep drift are preferable for Klondike. Rubber boots (like LL Bean) will not keep your feet warm when you're outdoors all day. The website has good suggestions on gloves. (A great gift idea.) I find that Thinsulate will keep hands and heads warm, even if wet.

For warmth, down is king but synthetics rule, whether it is sleeping bags or clothing. Down is the warmest but loses its ability to insulate if it gets wet. Wool is also traditional cold weather wear which will keep you warm even if wet. The cold weather best strategy is layers with a tech fabric (polypropylene) base which will let moisture evaporate yet keep in body heat. Fleece also breathes and retains heat. Great thing about fleece is you can find plenty at places like Gabe's, Salvation Army, or Village Discount Outlet. Don't spend good money on clothes that may get torn or burn holes their first time out. With clothes put names on EVERYTHING. We are always finding unclaimed clothes.

For cold weather sleeping, what is underneath can be more important than what's covering you. The ground will drain away body heat faster than cold air. An extra blanket may achieve more under than above the sleeper. Inflatable ground pads will not insulate against the ground as well as a closed cell pad.

While good quality gear is generally worth the price, if you can afford it, it is not for young Scouts. The older Scouts have developed an appreciation of taking care of gear and will need better quality gear for High Adventure outings.

Parent Volunteers Needed:

The Troop needs parents to help with the Troop and to keep it moving forward. The Troop is looking for a Spaghetti Dinner Chair and a Camping Merit Badge Counselor.

Did you know?

- This is our Troop website:
<https://www.bsatroop390.org/>
- PLC Committee Meetings will be held the 1st Tuesday of every month at 6 PM.
- All parents are welcome at Troop Committee Meetings. The next meeting is Sunday, December 4, at 7 PM at Faith Lutheran.

Upcoming Events:

Dec 2-4 – White Elephant/Christmas, Camp Manatoc, Gilwell Lodge
Dec 13 – Head Start Gift Tags
Jan 17 – BORs
Jan 24 – BORs (if needed)
Jan 27-29 – Klondike Warmup/Skiing Campout, Camp Manatoc, Legion Lodge
Feb 16 or 23 – Pack 3390 Blue & Gold Ceremony
Feb 17-19 – Klondike Campout, Manatoc, Legion Lodge
Mar 4 – Spaghetti Dinner
Mar 17-19 – Scout Skills/New Scout Campout, Manatoc, Concord
Apr 21-23 – Shooting/Fishing Ashtabula Rod & Gun Club
May 19-21 – Hocking Hills, Logan, OH
June 2-4, Cedar Point Campout
July 16-22 – Summer Camp
July 25-30 Sea Base High Adventure