



Issue 110

Great Trail Council

Soaring Eagle District

June 2023

Scoutmasters News

Elise and Dale

May was a busy month! The Scouts went on a 10-mile hike led by Mrs. Nester and Mr. Henry at the Hocking Hills Campout. The weather cooperated and scouts ended their day with ice cream!

On May 27th, thirteen Scouts laid flags at the Western Reserve flag laying ceremony. Scouts also participated at the Fairlawn VFW Memorial Day Ceremony on May 29th and the Troops received a \$500 donation. Service hours will be automatically credited to the scouts who participated.

Additionally, we had scouts rank up at the May COH and earned some Merit Badges. Congratulations to all!

The Cedar Point campout went well. Scouts had a fun time at Cedar Point and checked in with the leaders when asked. Thank you to the parents who helped with driving and chaperoning!

We will need a signed Code of Conduct form turned in from all Scouts prior to summer camp. This is a mandatory form. Please go over it with your Scout prior to submission.

Popcorn Kernel(s) Needed:

The Troop is in need of 2 volunteers to be Popcorn Kernel & Assistant Popcorn Kernel this fall.

Responsibilities include:

- attending the District Kick Off meeting (usually in August)
- ordering the show & sell popcorn
- scheduling & planning the Troop Popcorn Kickoff
- scheduling show & sell locations (dates & times)
- scheduling scouts to work show & sell shifts
- preparing popcorn for show & sells and tracking inventory
- handling the take orders & placing that order
- ordering popcorn prizes for the participating scouts

As you can see it's a big job for one person, which is why we are looking for 2 volunteers. Our troop has had several very successful popcorn years thanks to the support of our families. We want to continue that tradition to help keep overall costs for families as low as possible. If you are interested, please let Mr. Sroka or Mrs. Nester know.

Summer Troop Meetings:

- Troop blue t-shirts may be worn between now & Labor Day. Cotton t-shirts and moisture wicking shirts are available for purchase for \$15.
- There **will not** be a Troop Meeting on July 4, July 18, or July 25.
- July's PLC Committee Meeting will be held on July 11th at 6 PM.

Troop Website: <https://www.bsatroop390.org/>

2023 Low Adventure – Bike Trek, Great Allegheny Passage, July 24-29, 2023:

- Estimated cost is \$500. Payments are being collected at \$100/month.
- A gear list is available on the Troop website.
- 2 copies of physical forms are due now.
- Bike Trek practices (shake downs) occur weekly. Stay tuned for the next date.

2023 High Adventure - Sea Base Sailing Trip:

- Dates: July 25-30, 2023
- Stay tuned for a packing list.
- 2 copies of physical forms are due now.

August Campout:

The Bike/Camp/Canoe campout will be August 18-20. Parents will drop Scouts & bikes off at the Clinton Trailhead (2749 North Street, Clinton) at 6 PM. Scouts must have a bike helmet to participate in the ride. Scouts will bike about 8 miles Friday night and set up camp. Saturday morning, scouts will bike a few miles to Ernie's Canoe Livery, then canoe 3 miles downriver to the campsite, eat lunch, then canoe the remaining 3 miles to the pickup point. Scouts will then bike back to the campsite. On Sunday morning, the Scouts will bike back to the Clinton Trailhead and will be picked up by parents there. The cost will be \$25.

Upcoming Events:

Jul 16-22 – Summer Camp, Manatoc
Jul 24-30 – Bike Trek, Great Allegheny Passage
Jul 25-30 – Sea Base High Adventure
Aug 18-20 – Bike/Camp/Canoe
Sept 22-24 – GTC 100 Year Camporee, Manatoc
Oct 20-22 – Tuscazoar, MB Signs/Signals/Code
Nov ? – Scouts Skills/AOL's invited, Manatoc
Dec ? – Wilderness Survival

Rubber Ducks Concession Volunteers

Needed:

Scouts have been invited to participate in the Rubber Ducks Fundraising for Groups. Scouts 12+ will have the opportunity to work at the concession stands. This will entail setup, selling concessions, and cleanup at the baseball games. Parents will need to volunteer with their Scout. Each person who participates will earn a minimum of \$50 per shift to go into their Scout's account. You must stay until the game is over and the concession stand is cleaned to receive credit. Uniform requirements for both parent and scout: blue summer scout shirt, uniform-colored pants (no jeans), and close-toed shoes.

Future volunteer dates: June 22, June 23, June 25, July 7, August 3, August 4, & August 20. Start times will vary depending on the day of the game. Stay tuned for the Sign-Up Genius emails. Questions? Please reach out to Sarah Eckart 330-671-1052 or sjeckert22@hotmail.com.

2023 Summer Camp at Manatoc, July 16-22:

Summer Camp fee is \$385 if paid in full before July 6. Afterwards, the price will be \$395. There is a sibling discount of \$35 which will be applied after the first sibling pays the regular fee. Certain Merit Badges may incur an additional fee for class materials. If you have not taken the summer camp swim test, you may take it on check-in day at Manatoc. Scouts are not allowed in the water without an annual swim test. Summer Camp gear list is on the Troop Website.

The BSA is strict on health forms. They can be downloaded from the Troop website. Tetanus shots must be current. Part C must be completed by a doctor and needs to be renewed every year. The Camp will not accept athletic/sports physicals. Two copies of your health forms are due now.

The Troop is in need of parent volunteers at summer camp to ensure we have adequate coverage at all times. Please sign up for a shift or two: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0D4BA4AA2BA0FF2-scout1>.

Shooting Sports Waiver

A Shooting Sports Waiver will need to be on file for any Scout who wishes to participate in a shooting Merit Badge, (Archery, Rifle, Shotgun) or may want to shoot during their free time at Summer Camp. The form requires parental signature. For those allowed to shoot a color-coded wrist band will be issued to the Scout upon check in. Without the appropriate wrist band, the Scout will not be able to enter the range. The Shooting Sports Waiver is only valid for one event so for example, if the Troop decides to do another shooting event in the future, new forms will be required. Please advise Mrs. Nester or Mr. Sroka if you are against your Scout participating in any shooting activities. The waiver can be found on our website under permission slips: <https://www.bsatroop390.org/forms/>.

Camper Release Form

If your Scout will need to leave Summer Camp for any reason, (for example a sports event), a Camper Release Form will be required. Any Scout leaving camp needs to notify their Scoutmaster and will wait for their ride in the Camp Office. When the adult arrives, the Camp Office will ask for a photo ID. That ID will be checked against the names listed on the Camper Release Form. No camper will be released to anyone not listed. The adult will sign out the camper on a sign out sheet that will include the camper's name, time of departure, expected time of return and the signature of the person the camper is being released to. The release form can be found on our website under permission slips: <https://www.bsatroop390.org/forms/>.

More Musings on Summer Camp

Scouts staying at Summer Camp this year will sleep in tents set up by Camp Manatoc. They are 2-man wall tents sitting on a plywood platform. Cots make for more comfortable than sleeping on the floor and help alleviate the Scouts walking on their sleeping bags; it always rains at summer camp. When my son went to summer camp, we would take a piece of indoor/outdoor carpeting (5X7) to put down before setting up the cots. After camp it was hosed off, dried, and put away until the next time it was needed. Storage trunks or Rubbermaid bins are a great way to pack gear and keep everything together. If you want to use a lock, make it a combination lock because keys have a way of vanishing at camp. Some Scouts put their bins under a tarp behind their tents to have more room in the tent. A folding chair is recommended for sitting out front of the tent and around the campfire.

The Scouts will need to be in their field uniform, (sometimes incorrectly referred to as Class A) when they report to camp as well as when they march to the parade field before breakfast and to retreat at the end of the day. Otherwise, they will be wearing their Troop 390 T-shirts. At least 2 shirts are suggested though many Scouts appear to be perfectly fine wearing the same clothes all week. Shorts should be Scout-like colors: green, khaki. A length of rope and a clothes hanger is a good way to keep uniform shirts off the floor when not being worn.

There is a Trading Post so the Scouts should bring some spending money in addition to money they may need for Merit Badge supplies. Scouts should not bring their own food or snacks to camp. Skunks, raccoons, and chipmunks will not only come in for the food but will also destroy gear in their search for snacks.