



Issue 111

Great Trail Council

Soaring Eagle District

July 2023

Scoutmasters News

Elise and Dale

Summer camp is upon us this Sunday, July 16th. The Troop will be setup at Manatoc, the Concord Cabin. There is one-way traffic at drop off and pick up. You will enter through the main gate and exit via the service road behind the dining hall. Mrs. Young will check in Scouts and their forms at the Concord campsite. Check-in will be from 11:30 AM – 12:00 PM. Medication must be brought in their original containers, and they cannot be expired. Do not leave your Scout at camp until all the paperwork has been cleared by Mrs. Young. Please make sure your Scout has been fed prior to arriving as they will not eat again until dinner Sunday night. If your Scout has not taken the swim test, they need to be prepared to test on Sunday. Scouts can be picked up on Saturday, July 22nd @ 10 AM at the Concord Campsite.

The Troop is need of parent volunteers at summer camp to ensure we always have adequate coverage. There are still shifts available. Please sign up for a shift or two: [Troops 390 & 7390: Scout 2023 Summer Camp, July 16-22 \(signupgenius.com\)](https://www.signupgenius.com). We appreciate all the help we can get. You must check in at the Admin building and get a wristband before starting your shift. Parking at Admin is limited this year, so you might need to check in at Admin, then exit camp and come back in the service drive, park by the Training Lodge, and walk to Concord. Plan to check in with Admin 15-20 minutes before your shift.

Popcorn Fundraiser:

Many thanks to Ben Ingersoll who will be our Popcorn Kernel. The Troops still needs an Assistant Popcorn Kernel this fall.

Responsibilities include:

- scheduling show & sell locations (dates & times)
- scheduling scouts to work show & sell shifts
- preparing popcorn for show & sells and tracking inventory

As you can see it's a big job for one person, which is why we are looking for another volunteer. 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 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:

- A gear list is available on the Troop website.
- The itinerary has been emailed.
- White Water Rafting Waivers must be completed.
- Scouts must travel in their Class A Uniforms.

2023 High Adventure - Sea Base Sailing Trip:

- Dates: July 25-30, 2023
- Gear lists have been handed out.
- Scouts must travel in their Class A Uniforms.
- Sea Base t-shirts will be distributed at the airport.

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:

The Rubber Ducks Fundraising for Groups has been going well. Scouts and parents have been working the concession stands. This has entailed setup, selling concessions, and cleanup at the baseball games. 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: August 3, August 4, & August 20. Start times will vary depending on the day of the game. Stay tuned for the Sign-Up Genuis 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 is a few days away! Mr. Sroka sent out the Merit Badge list along with a list of prerequisites. Please review the lists prior to camp. The Summer Camp gear list is on the Troop Website. Scouts must arrive at camp wearing their Class A uniform.

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. Two copies of your health forms are due now.

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 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 campers 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 helps 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.

Insect Repellent

Summer in July can be almost tropical, and the bugs love it. Insect repellent is a must have item for summer camp. Mosquitoes aside, tick populations are growing, and other species are migrating into Ohio. My recommendation is an insect repellent containing 30 to 40% DEET. While 100% DEET is available, but I would not recommend it. There is another product, Permethrin which can be used to pre-treat fabric making it insect repellent for up to 5 or 6 washings. While DEET will discourage a tick and lead it to drop off, permethrin kills them. Permethrin is not meant to be sprayed skin or on clothes while being worn. Picaridin is yet another alternative to DEET and Permethrin. It can be used on both skin and fabric and is effective for about 12 hours. Picaridin is like DEET in that it doesn't kill ticks it repels them. These are all serious compounds, and the Scouts should not take them handling them lightly.