



# SMOKE SIGNALS



November 2010

The Official Newsletter of Troop 555

Sponsored By: Knights of Columbus #1414

## Fireman's Cheer Fund

*by Mr. Pfleuger*

Greetings.

This year the scouts of Troop 555 will lend their collective hand to repairing bikes for the Fireman's Cheer Fund on Monday evening, the 13th of December, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. The location is the shed to the rear of the old REMC office on Second Street. Each scout should bring a standard and Phillips head screw driver and a pair of pliers. I will bring some additional tools (vise grips, socket sets, and a hammer or two) to help impart an aura of old-world craftsmanship.

See you there.

## Anton's Eagle Project

*By Anton Hopkins*

A couple weeks ago, I had a workday for my Eagle Project at McCullough's Run Park. The park is a city park and is run by the Columbus Parks and Recreation Department. In the park is a ten-acre area that is full of 4-foot high weeds and young trees. About twice a year, everything in this area is mowed, including the small trees. For my project, I am conserving these trees to make more natural green space.

At the workday, 43 volunteers came out and tagged 1,214 of the trees. The city will mow this area, avoiding the tagged trees. These trees will be able to continue to develop and eventually make a small wooded area in the park.

I'd like to thank Rick Hibbs, Robert Pfleuger, and Will Connor for coming out to help. But don't worry. Those of you who didn't make it, there will be a chance for you guys to help out with the rest of the project.

## Comments and Criticism

*By YOUR SPL (David Luehrmann)*

Directly after opening at meetings, you must be quiet! I am getting tired of all the noise! Also, when we go out for the Inter-Patrol Activity, you people waste five to ten minutes goofing off like hyper cub scouts. This must stop! Now for something a bit more encouraging. I might not be able to put one of these in every newsletter, due to my other duties. Isn't that great!



Picture 1: The completed trebuchet at the Punkin Chunkin Camporee



Picture 2: An exciting game of capture the flag



Picture 3: The pieces for the "Lego Challenge"

## Several Merit Badges Have Been Requested Including:

- Communications
- and
- Cooking

# BINGO!

Bingo Sign-ups

Earn \$35 plus TIPS!!

You also earn \$15 additional dollars for the Troop!

Sign-up sheet is available at every meeting.

For more information contact  
Mrs. Luehrmann, 812-546-5811

### Your space could be **HERE!**

Do YOU have an article for the newsletter???

Do YOU want to submit pictures or comics or other visuals?

Do YOU like to earn flodderbucks???

**Then talk to the Scribe! (Connor Boyle)**

Thanks to all who submitted articles! The more articles you submit, the more awesome this newsletter becomes. Don't let yourself be without an opinion! If you would like to have an article in the newsletter, feel free to ask! In future newsletters, I hope to have 5+ pages of information. In the following month, I need:

- A Religious article (Chaplains' Aid)
- List of checked out library books
- At least ONE article from EACH Patrol Leader

I am confident that we will be able to achieve this goal.

Also, if you would like to receive this newsletter by email, let me (Connor Boyle) know, and I will send it out!

Thanks a lot!

## Raccoon Hoist

(an homage to volunteers and those they serve)

Creatures convalescing  
at Hershey's wont redressing  
for injuries sustained  
but rarely voiced.

These critters should not fear  
that they might winter near  
low ground that melting snow  
will render moist.

Hershey's call for volunteers  
did not fall upon deaf ears.  
Troop 555 came through  
and they rejoiced.

When fourteen gathered round,  
the most important sound  
was "Ready? One, two, three,"  
then "Raccoon Hoist!"

## Patrol Reports

### Vipers:

The Punkin' Chunkin' outing was great! The Vipers were the only patrol that placed. The food did turn out a little greasy. As far as patrol progress is concerned, we are doing great. We hope to advance to first class scouts quickly.

### Flamin' Burros:

Our patrol is doing well. Not a lot of participation. But the scouts who come do a great job doing what they're supposed to do. Good Job Flamin' Burros!

### Vikings:

We liked the Punkin' Chunkin' Outing. It was a good experience for lashings. "We filled the Pumpkins with rocks to watch them explode," say Eathan and Graden. It was also very cold. We think we are doing well for a new scout patrol.

### Pine Trees:

Will says, "I thought the Punkin' Chunkin' outing was fun." Craig says, "I thought it was cold, and I was thankful for the heating tent." Ian Fox chickened out at the last minute. Matt thought it was fun and I congratulate the Vipers for winning 5<sup>th</sup>. Matt also says, "The Pine Trees are doing great. They need to learn when to be making jokes, and when to listen intently. Other than their rudeness and bad behavior, they are a great patrol."

## A Scoutly Joke

*by Robert Pfleuger*

There was a mother with a boy scout, and a baby brother. One day, his mother went to the store. Before she went she reminded her son about the emergencies. "Do you remember what to do in an earthquake?" "Yes" "Tornado?" "Yes" "A fire?" "Mom," the boy said, "I'm a Boy Scout, I know how to start a fire!"

## Here's A Challenge:

You are out in the wilds of Philmont Scout Ranch. You have been told that "declination" out here is approximately 10 degrees. You have just taken a bearing on Baldy Mountain, and your compass reads 250 degrees. In order to transfer that to your map and determine your actual position, what do you need to adjust your compass to read for the true bearing?

If you think you know the answer, submit it to the next newsletter, and we'll see who's right!

Attention all Vikings!! We will not be New Scouts in a few months. Therefore, the excuse: "I'm just a New Scout" will not apply. So I expect us to take more Leadership Positions and responsibility.

- Alex Hahn

Check out the troop  
website at:  
[www.555bsa.org](http://www.555bsa.org)

## Weekly Meeting Planner:

December Theme: Cooking

### Monday 6<sup>th</sup> of December – Committee Meeting

Opening and Closing		Flaming Burros
Skills Instruction	Uniform Instruction	Benson
Patrol Meetings	Week 4 of Climbing/Cooking	
Inter-Patrol Activity	Bridge Building	Vikings (Bring Sticks?)
Leave No Trace		Pine Trees

### Monday 13<sup>th</sup> of December – Fireman’s Cheer Fund

Opening and Closing		Pine Trees
Leave No Trace		Vipers

### Monday 20<sup>th</sup> of December – PLC! |Wreath Money Due!

Opening and Closing		Cyclones
Skills Instruction	Ask The Eagles	Flaming Burros
Snacks/Chips - Vipers	Candy/Sweets – Flamin’ Burros	Drinks – Pine Trees
Game	Ultimate Frisbee	Pine Trees (Lighted Frisbee?)
Leave No Trace		Vikings