



THE 890'ER



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THE NEWSLETTER OF BOY SCOUT TROOP 890 • DALLAS, TX

FREE

By: Luke Wilson

The 2011 Troop 890 summer camp was awesome. On Sunday, everyone got to their camps, took swim tests, or set up their tents. That night we watched the Mavericks game. Some staff members and people from other troops came and saw it too. We were all glad that the Mavs won.

Merit badge classes were Monday-Friday. In the evening the merit badges of Fire Safety and Law were offered by the troop and taught by Mr. Wil-

son and Mr. Lauren, respectively. In the Law merit badge class, the Scouts did a mock trial where a sturgeon named Sam was allegedly eaten by Hershel C. Lion. The first years were the jury. The prosecutors failed to present an airtight case and Hershel C. Lion was found to be innocent of the crime.

way behind in food production and serving. It was burger day and I, in fact, was a table waiter. I and the other table waiters stayed in line for about thirty minutes after lunch was supposed to start just to get our tables' food.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, our troop had movie nights. Tuesday's movie was Star Wars: A New Hope. It rained lightly for about five minutes for the first and only time that week. Megamind was the camp movie for

SENIOR PERSPECTIVE

By Calvin Lones

Summer Camp has been one of my favorite activities during my time in Troop 890. Starting off with first year summer camp, every year gets progressively more fun. By the time its senior year and you're in the biodome, you never want to leave Camp Constantine. Although the temperature stayed consistently in the upper 90's, the constant breeze right off the lake and the coolness of the lake water make for an all-



Photo by Bryan Urban

By Daniel Chambers

This year at Camp Constantin was a fun experience. This was the second year at Constantin for a few of us and here are some of the second-year's opinions about Constantin. "There was more freedom than last year," Robert Arends says. "We got to hang out at our

group was assigned different jobs. The first years were assigned the jury in the trial," says Max Piper, a second year Scout. "I was slightly pressured while talking to the witness because of the time limit. All in all, it was a lot of fun." (The defendant was proven innocent, by the way.)

SUMMER

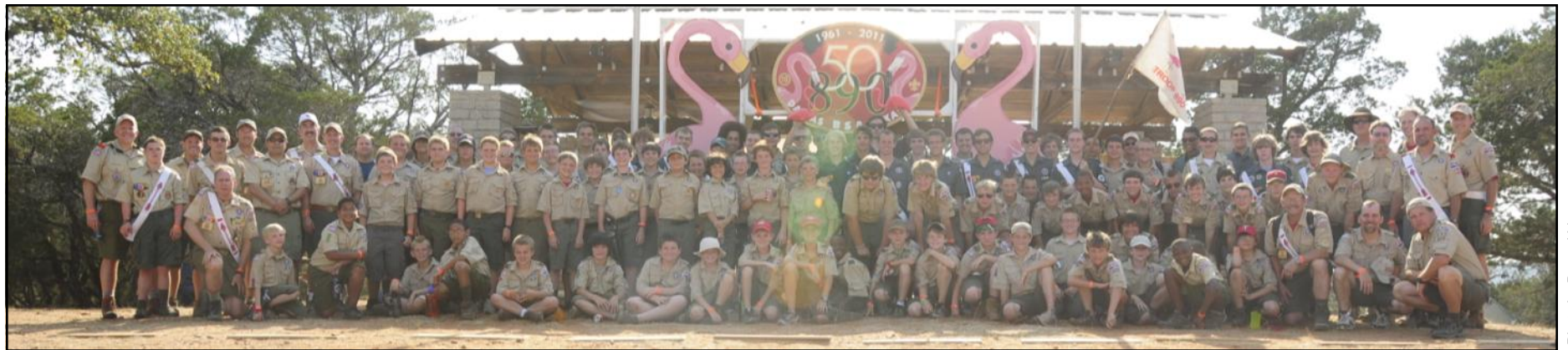


Photo by Bryan Urban

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Wednesday, although the first years couldn't see it due to the Johnson Peak hike that night.

Wednesday dinner was much more exciting than Constantine's continuous "Le Justice Amigos" skit. A few Scouts from another troop stole one of the Troop 890 flamingos

around enjoyable atmosphere, day and night. Going from laying around all week to winning every single athletic event at the water carnival is never easy but it is a task that 890 seniors have been flawlessly completing in the past years. It never really struck me as my last summer camp until Friday afternoon, as I sat in my camp chair in the middle of the lake with the sun baking down on me. As the waves gently rolled around me, I was able to capture a moment in my mind that I will take with me forever. To next year's seniors and juniors: take the torch that we have passed you and please continue to dominate in every competition Constantine offers. To all the younger Scouts: if this year wasn't a blast, remember that it will keep getting better; do yourself a favor and stick with it.

CAMP

campsite and swim during our free time."

Even though it got really hot, Scouts could still cool off in the lake. The troop put up a safe swim zone just off one of the campsite areas, Sandy Point. The troop also brought out a tube and Scouts played "King of the Tube" where you try to push people off a five foot wide tube and be the last one standing. Some advice is to wait for a lot of guys to fall off before getting on, so there are fewer guys to push off. Mr. May even let some of the Scouts go tubing on his boat. Many of the Scouts enjoyed going tubing, especially me.

Also, on Sunday the troop watched the NBA championship game, in which the Mavericks won! On Tuesday, the troop also watched Star Wars: A New Hope, and on Wednesday, everyone at camp watched Megamind.

The first years also completed an overnight hike up a mountain for one of their requirements. "It was fun," says first year Scout Jackson Vogel, "but here's some advice: do not sleepwalk on the hike, or you might walk into a cactus or two." This was

Continued on page 3.



Photo by Bryan Urban

Although everything seemed fun, the food was another story. The dining hall was doing a new sharing system to lessen wasted food and had also cut out most fried food. It was so bad that at Wednesday's lunch, the dining hall fell

and ran down to the lake with it. It's just a coincidence that all the adults were eating down there. The seniors came back victorious, but the staff wasn't too pleased. To us it was "the game," but to them it was un-

Continued on page 5.

NEWSLETTER STAFF

- Stephen Hotz editor
- Luke Wilson..... troop scribe
- Daniel Chambers troop scribe
- Andrew Buckiscoutmaster

The troop itself hosted a few Merit badges as well. Some of the Scouts put on a court scene for the Law Merit badge. "The



Photo by Bryan Urban

By Brad Knowlton
Troop 890's Northern Tier Crew G embarked on an epic trek with three other T890 crews on Saturday July 16, returning home on Monday July 25th. Crew G's members include five boys (Kevin Burright, Brandt Urban, Nick Graves, Travis Miller, and Andy Knowlton) along with three dads (Richard Graves, Bryan Urban, and Brad Knowlton). They flew from Dallas to Minneapolis where they drove vans to Ely in far northeastern Minnesota, the location of the Northern Tier Base Camp.

After checking in Sunday, July 17th and

by French Canadian Voyageurs and Native Americans. On this Scouting High Adventure, they encountered and overcame (through proper preparation, of course) 21 portage trails, numerous beaver dams and beaver ponds, mosquitoes and deer flies, big waves, high winds and cold rain. They also enjoyed camping and camaraderie, wild blueberries and a few raspberries, fishing, campfires, Hudson Bay bread, cheese-cake, yellow cake, fajitas, and pancakes with powdered sugar. For all this, they will have a feeling of team accomplishment that will warm their hearts for years to come.

HIGH ADVENTURE CAMPS

getting their equipment, the intrepid crew and one Northern Tier Interpreter (guide) set out from Base Camp on Monday with three canoes full of food packs, tents, cooking gear, and personal gear. After a morning of paddling in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area (the area name on the US side), the crew crossed into Canadian waters and entered the Quetico Provincial Park, equivalent to a U.S. National Park.

For seven days the "G Force" paddled the Canadian lakes once explored and traveled

After seven days and six nights, with 81.75 total miles of lakes and portages under the keel, they returned to Base Camp. The photo shows the boys on their final day on the water after re-entering the United States that morning. They were taking a break on Boy Scout Island and found an official Boundary Waters Canoe Area sign on Moose Lake. After a well-deserved and, according to some, a much needed sauna and shower, the crew enjoyed some cuisine at a local Ely steak house.



Photo by Brad Knowlton

By Luke Wilson
The following is the results of an interview I had with two reliable sources known only as Scout and Scouter. They survived the Philmont experience and lived to tell about it. Here is their version of the facts.

Luke: Where is Philmont Scout Ranch located?

Scout: Philmont is located in the northeast

formation will not be discussed in this interview, however. We also ate at the Big Texan Steak Ranch in Amarillo, but no one attempted to eat the 72 oz. steak dinner.

Luke: What was the first thing you did after arriving at Philmont?

Scouter: We unloaded our gear at base camp and then spent three hours checking in and

Scouter: The hardest hikes were the Stairmaster, Tooth of Time, and Baldy Peak, in that order. The view from Baldy was incredible and the feeling of accomplishment was priceless.

Luke: Did you encounter any wild animals on the trip?

Scouter: Yes, we saw a variety of deer on the trail and at every stop there were bold chip-



Photo by Jamie Peterson

corner of New Mexico near the town of Cimarron.

getting instructions from our ranger.

Luke: What was a typical day like on the trail?

Scout: We got up around 5:30 a.m., broke camp, ate breakfast, and then hiked for approximately four hours. Our longest hiking day was twelve hours on the trail.

munks. At our campsite at Cimarron Cito, we saw a black bear moseying around looking for food. Scout thinks he saw Bigfoot, but no one believed him.

Luke: Out of the thirteen days you were gone, how many days did you hike?

Scout: We hiked for 10 long, long, long, long days.

Luke: How many total miles did you hike on those long, long, long, long days?

Scouter: We hiked for approximately 92 miles. (Scout saw Bigfoot at mile 56.)

Luke: How would you describe your Philmont experience?

Scout and Scouter: It was an amazing experience filled with challenging hikes, good camaraderie among the crews, and incredible views of nature. And at this time, we would like to extend a special thanks to Mr. Kirsop and Mr. Housewright for leading each crew.

Luke: Thank you for your time, Scout and Scouter.

Luke: How long was the trip?

Scouter: The trip lasted seemingly forever, but in reality it was thirteen days.



Photo by Jamie Peterson

Luke: Did you stop anywhere going there or coming back?

Scouter: We stopped in the great city of Amarillo coming and going. On the way to Philmont, those Scouts who wanted to saw the just-out Harry Potter movie in the afternoon; and then at night, everyone went out to the Palo Duro Canyon to see the play, TEXAS. We had backstage passes and learned how the tree gets struck by lightning. This tidbit of in-

Luke: What did you eat?

Scout: Breakfast was granola bars, Clif Bars, and cookies. (Mom never lets me eat cookies for breakfast.) Lunch was usually packaged meat (chicken, tuna, or ham) with crackers. Dinner was a big MRE shared by all crew members. Both Scouter and I lost weight on the trip despite all the cookies for breakfast.

Luke: What were the hardest hikes?



Photo by Jamie Peterson

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

By Jamie Peterson
Troop 890 led the annual Memorial Day parade for Launa's Little Library, helping to kick off the annual library fundraiser. This was the biggest event yet with attendance estimated at over 500 people and many new additions includ-

ing our Boy Scout color guard. A special thanks to the Tree, Raptor, and First Year patrols for providing such great support. We've been invited back next year! For more pictures and details visit www.launaslittlelibrary.com/Latest_News_.html.

JULY 4TH PARADE

By Luke Wilson
The 4th of July parade in Lake Highlands was great. Our 890 Scouts teamed up with the Sons of the American Revolution to carry the flags of the thirteen original colonies through the parade route. It was a huge parade with many organizations participating, and the

n't very long, but it was very hot.

There were activities to participate in at the conclusion of the parade, including a plastic rock wall and various booths. Our troop let the Lake Highlands Exchange Club use the adult's dining fly for their booth. It was an awesome parade and



Photo by Jill Hoiz

crowd was huge, too. The parade route was-

well represented by the Scouts of 890.

ORDER OF THE ARROW

By Travis West
After meeting up with our parents at summer camp and talking to them, all of Troop 890 and the rest of the camp went to the Order of the Arrow field for the OA call out

and ... nothing happened. They just walked right past me and I felt a little sad but I knew they would walk around again.

I knew that 43 people would get called out,

drum beat once, then three more times.

The head Indian grabbed me and took his hand and patted my shoulder three times about a second apart. The second Indian patted me once, and then about two seconds later he did two more pats, one second apart. The next two Indians did the same thing as the second Indian and then someone ran me over by a tree next to a fire where the other guys who had been called out were sitting.

It was a fun experience and I hope the Scouts and Scouters in Troop 890 who read this will be called out or have already been inducted in the OA.

By Samuel Hotz
August 12-14 was the Ordeal for Order of the Arrow at Camp Constantin. This was one of the best experiences and one of the most challenging of my Scout career. I learned a lot of history, tradition and improved my work ethic and dedication. We got a break from the heat and got wet and muddy from the first rainstorm of the summer. This weekend gave me a chance to make friends from other troops, and to become better acquainted with guys from 890. When I got home, I loaded the washer with my super, nasty, dirty clothes and I thought about the awesome adventure. I am honored to be a member of the OA.



ceremony.

The OA Indians made an introduction speech and when they stopped, they started walking in a single file. They called out 7 or 8 people. Then they came up to my friend, Brandon, who was four or five people away from me and called him out. As they came to me I was excited, not only for Brandon but also not knowing if I would get called out this turn or at all. When they got to me, I braced myself

and when the Indians came close again, I knew that 39 people had already been called, so if they passed me I would probably not get in the OA this year. As they came, I braced myself again and ... "Ahhhhhhh!" The head Indian yelled right in my face. If I hadn't braced myself then I would have fallen back on my butt, scared straight. Then I heard about a second or two behind me someone say "Travis West!" I heard the



Photo by Jill Hoiz

Duty To God

By Dee Sager
Eagle Scout Andrew Kirsop completed the God and Life Protestant Christian study for high school students this summer. This is the fourth and last study available to Scouts under the God and Country series, starting with God and Me (grades 1-3), God and Family (grades 4-5) God and Church (grades 6-8), and finally God and Life (grades 9-12). P.R.A.Y., Programs of Religions Activities with Youth, awarded Andrew the Four Star Recipient pin to wear with his medallion, recognizing that he has served his church and community, has a heart for God, and wants to grow in faith. Troop 890 encourages Scouts and Scouters to be active in their church and religious studies. The God and Country award is available for many faiths and denominations. See Asst. Scoutmaster Dee Sager if you are interested in this award.



Photo by David Ochoa

Michael Hood gets a lift from the ASM's at Northern Tier.

Summer Camp continued based on personal experience, by the way.

The troop also competed in several events on Friday, and nearly won all the events it participated in, including Volleyball, Relay Race, Raft Racing, and Sailing. They even won the Fat Bat Tournament. There were so many players for the troop in Fat Bat that we competed with three teams! Thankfully, one of our teams won.

To sum it all up, this year at Camp Constantin was a fun-filled and exciting experience.

Hiking Scotland

By Robert Kent

[Robert Kent is an Eagle Scout and former SPL from Troop 890. He spoke to the troop last semester about his adventure hiking from Maine to Georgia on the 2,176-mile Appalachian Trail; a challenge he took on after graduating from Baylor University. He is currently completing his master's degree in Economic Development at the University of Glasgow in Scotland. Donations to End Polio Now can still be made at Robert's website: www.crowdrise.com/coasttocoasttoendpolio/fundraiser/RobertBKent.]

From the moment that I learned that I was the recipient of a Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholarship to Scotland, the idea of walking coast-to-coast across the country took hold of me. I have always found the rapid speed of modern travel disorienting—watching the world whizz by at 60 miles an hour from a train's window is bewildering and leaves me only wanting more. After learning about Rotary's campaign against polio, I was determined to fulfill my dream and use it to help their fight. I set the goal to raise \$10 for each of the 200 miles of my trek, thus allowing me to give something back to the organization that had made my entire year abroad possible while also seeing the country the best way I know how: one step at a time.

After a frantic week of last minute preparations, on 3rd July I set forth from the Scurdie Ness lighthouse in Montrose. As I began walking westward that day, the city's parking lots gave way to rural cow pastures, the paved road to a dirt path. And by the evening of my second day, the path disappeared entirely, and I was in the wild. Standing at the end of the path and facing the open backcountry is exhilarating. The world is at your feet and your feet a passport to the world (if only they will take you there). Taking one last look behind me down the road back to civilization, I set my compass to west and pressed onwards.

The next ten days were filled with grand adventure, humbling solitude, and thrilling climbs. My favorite moments were when it was simply me and the mountains. I will never forget crossing from Cairn Toul to Glen Feshie in the Cairngorms because for hours there was no sign of civilization—no buildings, cars, roads, paths, not even an airplane contrail. It could have been a five thousand years ago for all I knew. And there are few words to describe summiting Ben Nevis via the razor-thin Càrn Mòr Dearg Arête beyond "terrifying but spectacular."



And then, after 200 miles and 13 days on the trail, I was at the town of Inverie on Scotland's western coast, standing in the ocean. My feet were sore and legs tired, but I was content—I had raised enough money to vaccinate over a thousand children against polio, and knew that I could go home to the US having truly seen Scotland. Smiling broadly, I snapped a self-portrait and then walked up the beach and into town for a quick bite at the local pub. When I told the bartender that I had walked to his pub all the way from Montrose "for a drink," he gave me a round on the house. It was by far the best pint I have ever had.



WORLD JÄMBOREE - SWEDEN

By Stephen Hotz & Dee Sager

This year the 22nd World Scout Jamboree was held in Rinkaby, Sweden, from July 27 to August 7. Troop #890's own Andrew Kirsop was fortunate enough to attend when a spot opened up late this spring. He and 36 other boys travelled to Sweden with Circle 10's Troop #70202, under the guidance of Scoutmaster John Stone and three other assistant Scoutmasters, Bobby Littlefield, Jeff Joiner, and Thomas Long. "First we took a regular commercial flight from Dallas to Washington, DC. Then we got on a special chartered flight, which just had all of the U.S. Scouts on it, to Copenhagen. From there we took a bus to Rinkaby.

International Scout Jamborees are held every four years and include boys and girls from many nations, ages 14-17. In most countries Scouting is coed, so it was a little different from the all-boy National Jamboree last summer in Virginia. Andrew reports that there were just under 40,000 people at this Jamboree. "First, they divided up the campgrounds into four towns. Each town had a number of sub-camps, and each sub-camp had a bunch of campsites."

Gear was included in the cost of the Jamboree. Most of Andrew's gear, like his tent, backpack, jacket, etc. was given to him in the U.S. Cooking gear was given out at the Jamboree. Most meals were done by patrol (9 boys and 1 adult). Each "town" had a huge grocery store tent where the patrols went to purchase food. Each patrol had 5,000 points per day to spend at the store. Sugar cost 150 points;

a loaf of bread was 100; and a package of 20 burger patties set them back 2,400 points. Andrew says the food was pretty normal but it often had different names or packaging. For example, they assumed a big bag at the grocery tent held flour but found out it was actually oatmeal.

For half of the dinners Circle 10's Troop would eat with Troops from other countries. Two patrols would stay in the campsite and cook while the other two patrols would trade with a Troop from another country. Most of the Scouts at the Jamboree spoke English either as a first or second language, so Andrew said he didn't have any communication problems. The only time there was confusion was over slang words. For example, when Andrew's patrol went to the Swedish Troop's site for dinner they were serving something that sounded like "houton fouton." When the Americans asked, the Swedes clarified that it was sausage and Corona. Still a little concerned, the Swedes finally held up a box showing the American Scouts that they were going to eat makaroner (sounds like Corona), which is the Swedish word for macaroni.

Most of the countries had a central tent that represented something about their country. The Canadian tent featured ice hockey and the American tent featured the new Bechtel Summit Camp, which will be the site of the 2019 World Scout Jamboree. Some of the country tents featured food and another dining option was to visit these tents. Andrew

ate on dinner at the French tent, breakfast at the British tent, and had tea at the Japanese teahouse, or should I say, teatent. Purchases were made in Swedish crowns but Scouts were discouraged from carrying cash. They could either charge purchases to their ID cards or use a credit card.

During the day, Scouts participated in activities called modules. Andrew took part in modules like Quest - team building exercises, People - exploring different cultures, and Global Development Village - a variety of workshops like Health, Peace, and Leave No Trace. Andrew's favorite module was Hiking. After four straight days of rain, the sky cleared for the day he signed up to hike around the Swedish countryside.

Andrew really enjoyed meeting other Scouts from around the world, making new friends, and learning about their cultures. Not to mention bringing back some cool stuff. Andrew traded his U.S. backpack for a U.K. model, his U.S. jacket for a Finish one, and an 890 t-shirt for an Austrian t-shirt and some patches from Bangladesh. For Scouts interested in going to a World Jamboree, the next one will be in 2015, in Japan. See Asst. Scoutmaster Dee Sager to learn a few words, or more, of Japanese! She lived there for over 4 ¼ years and has taught Japanese at The Ohio State University. Even though Andrew will be 18 and over the age limit by one year, he is planning on going back as a member of the International Service Team that staffs the World Jamboree.



Photo by Mark Kraemer

By Jacob Seddelmeyer
At the end of July, the firsties and several dads went to Hidden Acres Ranch in Kauf-

man, Texas. We went there because it was the annual campout for the firsties. We learned how to do first aid, which Chris' dad led, learned camp

First Year CAMPOUT

day, the firsties did a service project. The service project was to clean the trail for the day campers. Many of the boys were having social hour again like always!!! We also went swimming and had a fire building contest. We started the contest when the Cerberus pa-

trol built their fire. Next, the Mongoose built their fire. Last but not least was the Mean Monkeys patrol who built their fire. The patrol with the best time to burn the rope was the Mean



Photo by Mark Kraemer

cooking and survived in the heat. Do you know the 3 patrol names? They are Mongoose, Mean Monkeys, and Cerberus (3 heads are better than one). During the night the dads slept in cots, the

Monkeys. Troop guides tried to beat the Mean Monkeys, but didn't make it.



Photo by Mark Kraemer

back of the vehicles, or hammocks. The boys were brave, so they slept in the tents. The firsties got to make breakfast for the dads. The next

day, the firsties did a service project. The service project was to clean the trail for the day campers. Many of the boys were having social hour again like always!!! We also went swimming and had a fire building contest. We started the contest when the Cerberus pa-

CAPS

By: Daniel Chambers
This summer, some of the Scouts of Troop 890 are participating in CAPS. Scouts that complete CAPS will earn four merit badges: Cycling, Athletics, Personal Fitness, and Sports. This is the 27th Annual CAPS program for the troop. The 35 Scouts and Scout leaders that signed up have to participate in many bike rides around White Rock Lake; the Scouts are currently riding three laps around the lake (about 27 miles). "It's not too hot," says first year Scout Jeremy Horstman, "and we can see the lake as well."



One of the Scouts had an accident. "I was going down a hill and took a sharp turn when some bikers came up and surprised me. I lost control of my bike, fell off, and broke my arm," says Sean-Mikeal Dennis, a first year. After the accident, Sean-Mikeal had to sit out the rest of CAPS this summer. I bet all of the troop hopes for Sean-Mikeal to complete CAPS next year.

Around Labor Day, the Scouts will compete in the Iron Eagle Triathlon, where they will swim 200 yards, run a mile, and ride their bikes 25 miles. After completing the Iron Eagle, Scouts receive a special pin for completion of the triathlon.

The culmination of CAPS is the Waco Wild West 50 Miler. There, the Scouts will ride fifty miles, and stop off at the MARS candy factory. My advice to you is to carry a bag so you can stock up on candy. This comes from personal experience.

All in all, CAPS is a fun and rewarding adventure.

Summer Camp continued. Scout-like. Fortunately, no one got in trouble.

Mr. May brought his boat which was awesome. There was a floating rubber raft that Scouts rode on getting towed by the boat. I went on it and got thrown off twice.

Troop elections were

later that night and over half of the Scouts and leaders chosen were from Troop 890. According to Mr. Wilson, the calling out ceremony was as rewarding as it was exciting. The evening was completed when Mr. Meaders explained the requirements and responsibilities of the OA candidate.



Photo by Rebecca Lones

on Friday. Jimmy Lieb was elected as our new Senior Patrol Leader. Each patrol voted on leaders and quartermasters.

In other contests, the troop won fat bat. At the water front, we also beat the staff at volleyball for like the 50th year in a row. The Order of the Arrow Ceremony was

The next morning was a quiet one as we packed and ate breakfast because all the OA candidates had to be silent until after breakfast. The troop patches were great, with a golden 50 on them, and everyone received one. It was time to go after that and now that I look back, it was one good summer camp.



Photo by Stephen Hoiz



Photo by Scott Hall

Scout Spirit

Troop 890 Firsties Jacob Peterson and Garrett Hall folding the flag at the last day of school at White Rock Elementary.