



THE 890'ER



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THE NEWSLETTER OF BOY SCOUT TROOP 890 • DALLAS, TX

FREE

NEW SPL

By Kirk Shann

As most of you all know, Troop 890 recently held their bi-annual Senior Patrol Leader election. The troop election meetings are always interesting to attend. The scouts constantly try to throw off the candidates with their questions, but somehow never manage to. When these scouts are given a few minutes



Photo by Dick Barr

to think of questions to ask the candidates, you would be surprised at some of the things they come up with. Astoundingly however, the candidates never really seem to be stumped by the questions. They always come prepared, like a true scout. And that is what is really wanted in a SPL, someone who is prepared to lead this troop through thick and thin. But here is how the usual election goes; the two candidates are introduced by the scoutmaster. Then one leaves the room while the other says a five minute speech informing the troop on what qualifies them to be the SPL of the troop. Following the speech, the scouts get the chance they have all been waiting for, to ask questions. Once the time for questions is up, the next candidate comes in and the other one leaves the room and everything repeats. Then the scouts go to various voting stations and cast their vote. And then at the end of the meeting, the new SPL

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Photo by Stephen Holz

By: Daniel Chambers

On the 19th of November, the Boy Scouts of Troop 890

archery, where they could shoot at targets.

And of course there

OLYMPICS CAMPOUT

went to Noble Farm for the Olympics Campout. There were two main sports that were held at this campout: broomball and ultimate Frisbee. All scouts competed in both sports through tournaments. Some patrols competed alone whereas others made alliances and competed together. The winner of Ultimate Frisbee was the Mean Monkeys. The winner of broomball was the dads plus Mrs. Harris.

There was also a dried-up creek where scouts would play from time to time. The creek had lots of bridges, some man-made and others not. There were also some other activities like archery and shooting. At shooting, you could shoot BB-guns and shotguns at skeets or targets. Those guns sure were loud!! The Scouts could also do

were the Webelos who wanted to take a look



Photo by Stephen Holz

at the troop. There was quite a good turnout of boys. At the campfire, the Scouts stood at attention as several flags were retired. We also got to see a chemical explosion created by putting some of the "Works" cleaner and tin foil into a Gatorade bottle. The reaction made smoke emit from the bottle but it didn't actually blow up. All in all, the Olympics Campout was full of competition and fun.



Photo by Brian Scheve

By Luke Wilson

This year's (and last year's; and the year's before last; and the year's before that one;

Webelos shot bb guns and Scouts shot .22's and shotguns in the morning. The Venture Scouts shot other guns



Photo by Stephen Holz

and a lot more years' before all of those) November campout was the "Olympics Campout." This is a great campout because there are shotgun and

in the afternoon. In broomball, my team epically lost to first years. The Piranhas/Phoenix alliance won at broomball and the adults beat them in the Sunday morning game. However, the scouts did score two goals, one on Mr. Bucki and one on Mr. Wilson. In the Dutch oven cooking contest my patrol made a fabulous pizza but didn't win. (My dad was judging ...) My favorite skit was the adults' skit "Dear Henry, dear Henry," though Andrew Kirsop's Purple Gorilla skit was good, too. I thought the campout was great.

rifle shooting, ultimate Frisbee and broomball competitions, the Dutch oven cooking



Photo by Stephen Holz

contest, and Webelos getting to visit. The ultimate Frisbee competition went to the Mean Monkey patrol. I thought they were pretty good as they won against my patrol twice. Down at the shooting range, the

NEWSLETTER STAFF

- Stephen Holz editor
- Luke Wilson..... troop scribe
- Daniel Chambers troop scribe
- Kirk Shann..... troop scribe
- Andrew Buckiscoutmaster



Photo by Steve Blobberger

By Luke Wilson
The following is an interview with two adult leaders who participated in Adult Leader Training.

Boy Scouts so they can help guide the boys toward First Class.

What was accomplished at the classes?

Mr. Monroe: We learned about the organization of the troop, including leadership positions.

What kind of campout

was it?

Mr. Smith: It was a regular Friday through Sunday campout.

What was taught on the campout?

Mr. Monroe: We learned how to cook, how to make fires, orienteering, knots and lashings, safe ax and knife use, and backpacking.

What patrol were you in?

Mr. Monroe: the Wolverines.

Mr. Smith: the Flying Bananas.

Why is it important to be trained?

Mr. Smith: It is important to be trained so that as an adult leader we understand how Boy Scouts works and how to help boys become leaders.

What is Adult Leader Training?

Mr. Monroe: It is a combination of classroom and outdoor training that teaches scouters the basics of

ADULT↑ LEADER TRAINING ↓ NATIONAL YOUTH

By Samuel Hotz
On December 26th Stephen Berry and I left for "National Youth Leadership Training" at Camp James Ray. Andrew Kirsop was already there as a quarter master. He took NYLT last winter. I was assigned to the Buffalo team and Stephen was in the Antelope team.

favorite parts were the games, watching Captain America, and Outpost. The night we watched Captain America we thought we were just getting to see a movie. No such luck, they linked leadership questions to the movie and made us do an application. One of the scouts answered with a smart-aleck answer. He used the "stop, start, and continue" technique and applied it to the movie. "I think after every mission they did a Start, Stop, Continue session. For example, CONTINUE being Captain America, STOP having people fall off trains, and START driving motorcycles into the enemy's front door."

This is a course designed to teach boys and girls leadership. This training is a lot like Wood Badge for adults. So, by the time I get to be an old guy, I will already be a few steps ahead.

There were many things I liked about this camping experience. However, my

Another highlight was Outpost. In this activity we were given a GPS with downloaded coordinates to our new campsite a mile and a half away. After we found the new site, we had to make camp and prepare "Philmont dinners." The next morning we got up and hiked back to the camp.

We had more than our share of funny moments during the week. When one of the staff members asked a scout how he



liked the movie, the boy threw up before he could answer. This became a running joke at camp. Let's face it; vomit is pretty funny as long as it doesn't land on you. Also, instead of keeping a lost and found box, the

SOMETHING FISHY

By: Daniel Chambers
John Shinoda, a Boy Scout from Troop 890 in the '90s, has opened a successful aquarium business called Aquarium Boutique at 9035 Garland Road, in Dallas. On December 17, I had the honor of interviewing him at his

shop and asked him some questions which he happily answered.

Scribe- Why did you want to go into the aquarium business?

John- It's been a hobby for me since I was
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Photo by Daniel Chambers

staff started freezing the stuff that was left in the dining hall. It was funny when they

Some of the boring stuff was the classes, but this is where you learn the most. I



Photo by Jill Hotz

got their stuff back in a big block of ice. Thirdly, another team had a boy who kept acting up and getting in trouble. One of his team members got exasperated, and was trying to say "Oh Demoray" but it came out with a voice-crack and was high-pitched. Pretty soon his whole team began repeating it in the same high-pitched, girly voice. Before long, whenever they saw him, the whole camp yelled in a high-pitched voice, "Oh Demoray!!!"

learned how to communicate, make SMART Goals, and find my vision. For example, to communicate well do not point at someone; if you are trying to get an answer, gesture to them with your palm up. SMART Goals are ones that are Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Timely. I think this course helps a lot and I recommend it to all young and old scouts who have completed Oak Leaf.



Keep On Hikin'

By Ron Bradshaw

The next hike for the hiking merit badge will be Jan 21 at 8am at the Bathhouse at White Rock Lake. This hike will be 10 miles and will take around 3-4 hours to complete. We will be hiking with regular backpacks so please pack them like you would for a campout. Please refer to the list on the Troop 890 website for a list of additional items to pack. Be prepared for any weather contingency for late January as well.

The Hiking merit badge is earned by completing (5) 10 mile hikes as well as (1) 20 mile hike. As with all merit badges there is paperwork to complete as well. Please go to www.Meritbadge.org for a workbook.

In conjunction with the merit badge the 50 miler will be held March 9-14 in Northeast Oklahoma. It is not a requirement of the merit badge to attend the 50 miler but if you are planning on going to Philmont or Northern Tier you need both the merit badge and a completed 50 miler.

If you have any questions please email Ron Bradshaw at Ronshaw@gmail.com.

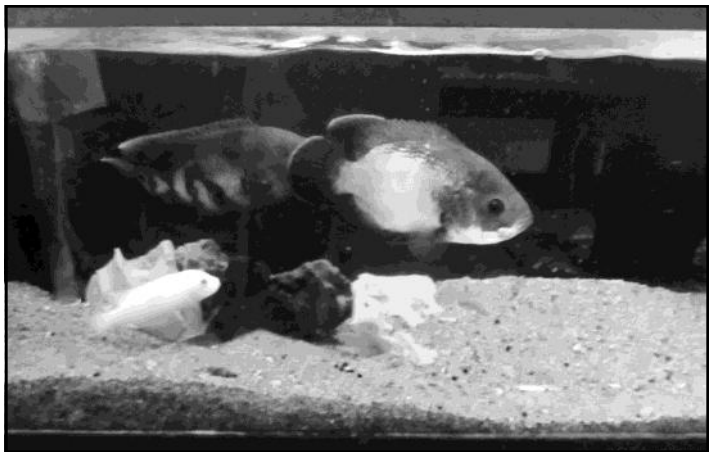


Photo by Daniel Chambers

Fishy continued.
a kid. I wanted to make my hobby my job.

Scribe- How has being a Boy Scout helped you in your job?

John- Being a Boy Scout gives you more experience with nature, and I think my liking for it was nurtured while being in Scouts.

S- How has being a Boy Scout helped you in life?

J- I think being in Boy Scouts gave me more responsibility, taught me how to handle challenges, and how to work with others.

S- What was your favorite memory while in Scouts?

J- The National Jamboree and the 50-Mile hike. At the Jamboree, we would trade patches with other troops and councils. On the hike, my older brother would jog part of it, wait for me to catch up, and he would keep going.

In John's shop were many interesting tanks, each housing exquisite fish. One, for instance, the archer fish, shoots water from its mouth to stun and/or kill its prey. John also makes his aquariums so that both customers and fish like them. He fashions some of his tanks to make them look realistic and attractive. He does custom installations for his customers. He has anemones, corals, underwater plants, and other types of oceanic life for sale. He sells both freshwater and saltwater fish and sea creatures. You might enjoy visiting his shop someday or visiting his website (theaquariumboutique.com).



Photo by Daniel Chambers



Photo by Chris Arrends



Photo by Chris Arrends

First Year Campout

Saturday morning, December 3rd the first-year patrols headed out to Erwin Park for their winter campout. Traditionally, the boys have learned orienteering, lashing, cooking, and other fundamental Scout skills at this campout. Also traditionally, the weather is terrible. This year was no exception and by Saturday night, with more rain on the way, they came home after the "campfire."



Photo by Chris Arrends



Photo by Chris Arrends



Photo by Chris Arrends

SPL continued.

is announced.

In my recent interview with Troop 890's newly elected Senior Patrol Leader, Aaron Peterson, I had the opportunity to ask him a few questions myself.

If you could, would there be any question you would answer differently today?

"There was one question someone asked, where he asked me to provide an example of how I would 'keep the troop under control' or something along those lines. I didn't really think the question through and responded by yelling very loudly. Now, my answer to that question would be that the troop will stay under control as long as they are interested in what's going on, so I can keep the troop under control by keeping the meetings and campouts interesting."

What are your plans for being the SPL this semester?

"As an SPL, I would like to hold another Chicken Island and/or Paintball campout this semester. Those two have definitely been the most fun campouts I've been to while in the troop."

What do you think the most absurd question you were asked was?

"In my opinion the most absurd question asked to me during the election was actually 'What's your favorite pokemon?' After all, this question has nothing to do with how I'm going to lead the troop."

What is your favorite pokemon?

"My favorite pokemon is blastoise."

FOR SALE

Trek road bicycle model 1.2. Frame size is believed to be 48cm. Includes a cycling computer. Low miles. Great for the CAPS program. \$500. Contact Ron Bradshaw.