

Troop 14 News

February 2010

2010 Campout Calendar

February 12-14
Sipseys Backpacking
Campout

March 12-14
Tannehill State Park
Near Birmingham

April 9-11
Patrol Camp-out
TBA

May 14-16
Thunderbird Weekend
CAFB

June 6-12
Boy Scout Camp
Camp Seminole

July 9-11
Dismals Canyon and
Bear Creek Canoe trip

August 28-29
Jackson Trip

September 17-19
Gourmet Campout
Camp Seminole

October 16-17
Scoutvivor II

November
Council Camporee

December 3-5
Town Creek

Dues are Due!

Troop 14 scout dues are \$45 per year and are due in January. If January got away from you - please send them to the next troop meeting.

Sipseys Campout

February 12-14

Cost: \$20 Due on 2/8

The Sipseys Wilderness backpacking campout is a big favorite with the boys and leaders. We will meet at 4:00 at the supply hut and hit the road for Sipseys by 4:30.

Bring a snack for the trip and we will have an MRE meal when we get to camp. When we arrive at Sipseys, there will be a 2 mile night hike into the canyon and set up camp. We will explore the beautiful Sipseys wilderness on Saturday and practice our primitive camp cooking skills.

We will pack up and head back to Starkville on Sunday, stopping on the way for a fast food lunch. We should return around 2:30 p.m. This is a challenging hike and camp out and it is very important for scouts to come well prepared for the weekend.

Patrol Meetings in February

The first year patrol will continue working on rank requirements. The older patrols will work on Citizenship in the World (Eagle required) with Assistant Scoutmaster, Ty Adair. Don't forget your worksheet!

New Troop Backpacking Gear

Special thanks to scouts, leaders, and parents who participated in the Troop 14 Christmas Tree Sale! The troop used part of the over \$1,000 profit to purchase new backpacking tents, stoves, lanterns, and a water purification system. We are in the process of establishing new guidelines and rules for checking backpacking gear out for camp-outs. The upcoming Sipseys camp-out will be our first opportunity to use our new equipment and follow the new guidelines.

Garden Expo 2010

March 5-6

Troop 14 will participate in the Garden Expo held at the horse park again this year. Last year we had a very successful weekend of service and sales of our birdhouses. The boys will be able to earn service hours working the parking lot and assisting customers with carrying their purchases to their cars. We will also need boys and adults to man our birdhouse booth. The expo runs from 8-6 on Saturday and 11-5 on Sunday. We will need 10-15 boys and 3-4 adults working each shift. Sign up for shifts will begin on February 15. Contact Russ Hayes to volunteer to help, or with any questions.

Court of Honor and Eagle Banquet – May 1, 2010

Backpacking Tips

- think lightweight, breathable, waterproof, and layering for warmth
- jeans are heavy, especially when wet
- arrange soft items next to your back for extra comfort on the trail
- pack a complete change of clothes in gallon ziploc bag, this will help organize your pack and give extra waterproof protection
- hiking boots should be broken in before a long hike
- matches can be waterproofed by dipping in wax, store them in a ziploc bag
- pack some trail snacks, granola bars are a good choice
- used gatorade bottles work well for water bottles
- a large plastic garbage bag can sub for a rain cover for your backpack
- choose an internal or external frame backpack and adjust belts and straps for a proper fit
- bring Crocs, tennis shoes, etc. to wear "in camp"
- keep rain gear, water bottle, flashlight, first aid kit near the top of the pack or in an outside pocket

Kudos!! Kudos!!

Congratulations to Bubba Forrester for completing the Wood Badge program and receiving his beads!!

Thanks!!

Thanks to David Franz, Ty Adair, and Russ Hayes for all their work on the scout hut. It looks great and the troop appreciates all your hard work!