

Troop 598

Year In Photos

2023



Cincinnati Cyclones Hockey Game

Heritage Bank Arena

Cincinnati, OH

January

Several times throughout the season, the Cincinnati Cyclones hockey team hosts Scout Night at their games. The Troop couldn't attend on the actual nights, so Mrs. Downing coordinated with the Cyclones and scheduled a session for just Troop 598, Troop 1598, and Pack 72. In addition to watching the game, the scouts also had a chance to meet with one of the players before the game and got to cheer on the players as they left the locker room at the start of the game. Unfortunately, the Cyclone did not deliver a win, losing 2 to 1 to the Newfoundland Growlers, a team from Canada.



Mr. Lohmueller, Mr. Wilkens, Declan McGrath, Charlie Downing, Camden Casto, Matthew Shelhamer, Travis Anglin, Alex Young, Austin Young, Cub Scout, Wesley Anglin, Cub Scout, Nathan Young, Petey Wilkens, Gracie Downing, Tempe Nolte, Eva Casto, Samantha Young, Sixtine Couturier, Payton Aufrance, Ally Downing, Isaline Bonnefond, Mr. Young, guest of Gavin Downing, Mrs. Young, Gavin Downing, Mrs. McDowell



Defenseman Dajon Mingo talking to the group about his career as a hockey player and answering questions



Declan McGrath sharing the video of his hockey incident with Dajon Mingo



The Scouts cheering on the players



The team's mascot, Twister



The Scouts cheering on Dajon Mingo



Dajon Mingo before entering the arena



Petey Wilkens about to enjoy a footlong coney



The Scouts got a shout-out on the scoreboard



The action on the ice



Attendance patch

Skiing Perfect North Slopes Lawrenceburg, IN

January

Each year Dan Beard Council organizes Scout Days at Perfect North Slopes, inviting Scouts from all over the council to come for a day of skiing and tubing. This is an event that the Troop participates in each year.



Early morning view of the Center Stage ski route



Mr. Wilkens, Mr. Lohmueller, Mr. Young



Mrs. Booher, Nathan Young, Mr. Lohmueller, Nate Booher, Petey Wilkens, Travis Anglin, Austin Young, Wesley Anglin, Mr. Wilkens



Austin Young, Travis Anglin at the top of the Ski Whiz route



Austin Young heading down Ski Whiz



Mr. Wilkens



Austin Young



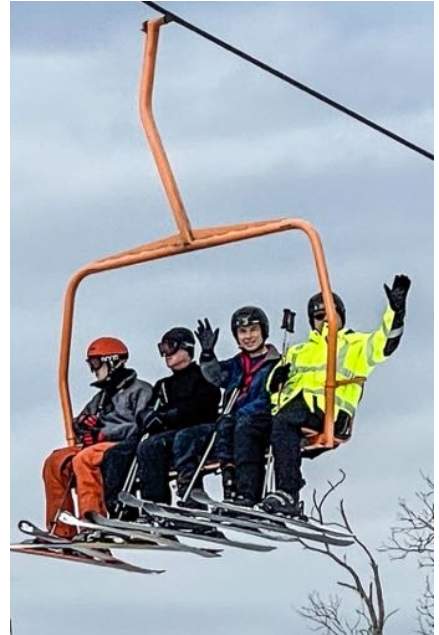
Petey Wilkens and Nathan Young preparing to go down Ski Whiz



Austin Young, Travis Anglin



Nate Booher, Petey Wilkens,
Nathan Young, Wesley Anglin



Mr. Lohmueller, Mr. Wilkens



Map of the ski trails

Pack 72 Cross Over Ceremony Upper Shelter – Evendale Recreation Center Evendale, OH

March

The Troop welcomed 3 Cub Scouts from Pack 72 into the Troop at the annual Webelos Cross Over ceremony: Camden Casto, Tyler Fischesser, and Matthew Shelhamer.



Wesley Anglin, Travis Anglin, Nathan Young, and Petey Wilkens assembling the cross over bridge



Regalia to be presented to the 4 scouts crossing over to Troops 598 and 1598



Camden Casto and Tyler Fischesser before the ceremony starts



The Arrow of Light Scouts are welcomed to the Cross Over Ceremony by the other Scouts



Troop 598 Scouts enjoying dinner before the ceremony



Cubmaster Mr. Young beginning the Arrow of Light / Cross Over Ceremony



Cubmaster Mr. Young presenting the Arrow of Light Ceremony



Scoutmaster Mr. Lohmueller welcoming the 4 Arrow of Light Scouts into Troops 598 and 1598.



Austin Young welcoming Camden Casto to Scouting and presenting him with the Spirit of Scouting candle



Austin Young leading Camden Casto into Troop 598



Wesley Anglin and Petey Wilkens presenting Camden Casto with his Troop neckerchief and slide



Aiden Fischesser welcoming Tyler Fischesser to Scouting and presenting him with the Spirit of Scouting candle



Wesley Anglin and Petey Wilkens presenting Tyler Fischesser with his Troop neckerchief and slide



Matthew Shelhamer taking his first steps into Troop 598



Travis Anglin welcoming Matthew Shelhamer to Scouting and presenting him with the Spirit of Scouting candle



Wesley Anglin and Petey Wilkens presenting Matthew Shelhamer with his Troop neckerchief and slide



Matthew Shelhamer being welcomed by all members of Troops 598 and 1598



Mr. Lohmueller, Petey Wilkens, Gavin Downing, Wesley Anglin, Cub Scout, Ally Downing, Nathan Young, Cub Scout, Eva Downing, Matthew Shelhamer, Austin Young, Samantha Young, Gracie Downing, Zoey Scott, Travis Anglin, Camden Casto, Sixteen Couturier, Aiden Fischesser, Tyler Fischesser, Tempe Nolte, Cub Scout, Meredith Harris, Alex Young, Mr. Young, Cub Scout, Cub Scout.
(Mr. Wilkens taking the picture)

High Ropes Course

Go Ape

Indianapolis, IN

March

The Troop was slated to go to Indianapolis, IN to do the Go Ape high ropes adventure course. On Friday, however, there was a severe thunderstorm with high winds and lots of rain all day Friday through Saturday morning. The Troop opted not to camp Friday evening due to the weather. To still allow the Scouts an opportunity to hang out together, the Troop got permission to spend the night at the BTAP. The Scouts were able to bring games to play Friday evening, before heading up to Indianapolis in the morning.



Playing indoor baseball



The Scouts played a card game called Throw, Throw Burrito



Gavin Downing



Matthew Shelhamer



Camden Casto



Aiden Fischesser



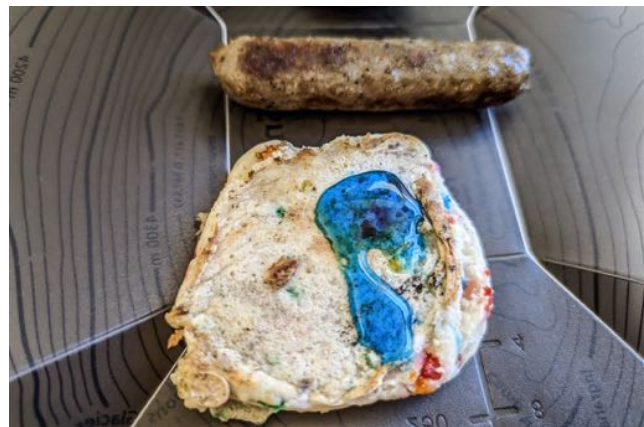
Tyler Fischesser



Camden Casto and Nate Booher cooked breakfast



The Scouts had very colorful pancakes for breakfast



Breakfast

The Scouts camped at Camp Belzer in Indianapolis, IN. The Troop was signed up to do the ropes course after lunch, and the Scouts had some time to play on a play set at the camp before having to leave to go to the ropes course. The ropes course was about half an hour from camp.



The scouts had a lot of fun playing on this activity. The black ring could rotate.

About 20 minutes before the Troop was planning on leaving camp to get to the ropes course, the Troop got a phone call that the course had to close due to high winds. The Troop found out about an indoor adventure facility at the Boy Scout camp and opted to do that.



View of the indoor adventure facility



View of the indoor adventure facility



Scouts getting their safety harnesses for the high ropes course



Tyler Fischesser



Camden Casto



Aiden Fischesser



Travis Anglin



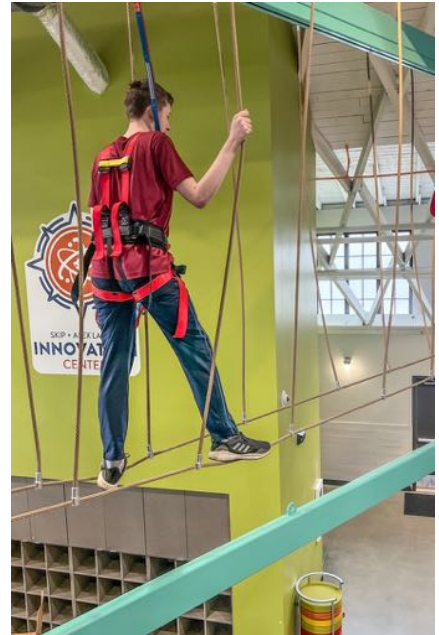
James McConnell



Mr. Wilkens



Mrs. Casto



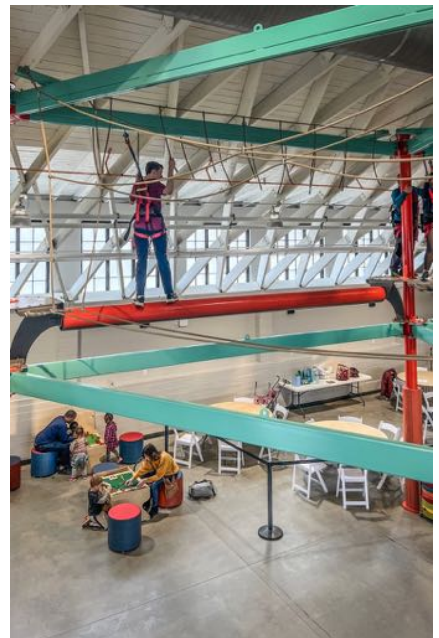
Nate Booher



Mrs. Casto



Gavin Downing



Nate Booher



Camden Casto



Mr. Lohmueller



James McConnell

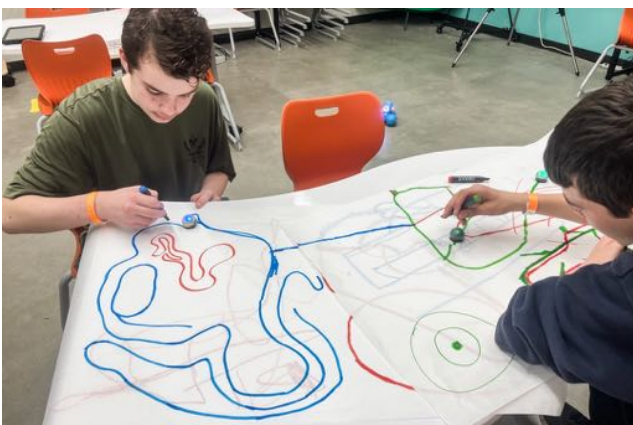


Camden Casto, Nate Booher, and Travis Anglin playing darts



Camden Casto shooting BBs

In addition to the physical adventure activities, the facility also has a STEM activity area where the Scouts could play with robots. One activity involved a small robot that would move and follow lines drawn on a piece of paper.



Travis Anglin, Aiden Fischesser



Aiden Fischesser

The Scouts also had a remote-controlled robot that they could drive around the room.



Gavin Downing



Tyler Fischesser



Camden Casto



Gavin Downing



James McConnell



Gavin Downing



Nate Booher climbing up the rock wall



Nate Booher rappelling down



Tyler Fischesser

The Scouts played at the adventure area for several hours, then went outside to the play set.



Get ready to spin!



Aiden Fischesser and Travis Anglin spinning the wheel as fast as they can



Tyler Fischesser on a spinning seat



Gavin Downing and Aiden Fischesser on a two-person swing



Travis Anglin preparing the griddle for dinner



Travis Anglin grilling chicken for dinner



Tyler Fischesser cooking dinner



Aiden Fischesser and James McConnell worked to get a fire going



It was very windy.



Travis Anglin catching up on some comics



Camden Casto, Tyler Fischesser, and Gavin Downing hanging out by the fire waiting for dinner



Gavin Downing and Camden Casto making Dutch over cobbler for dessert



Camden Casto making blueberry cobbler



Gavin Downing



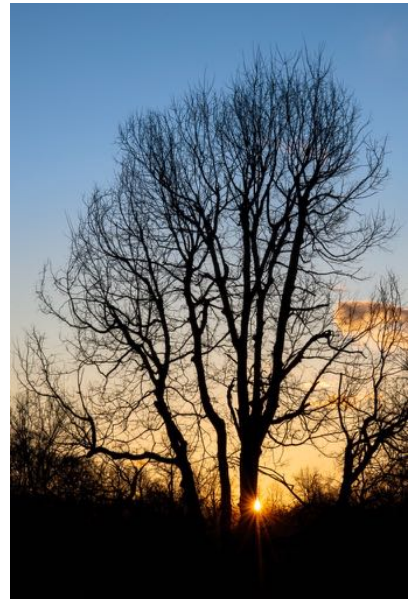
Travis Anglin



James McConnell



Digging into the dessert



Sunset



Hanging out by the fire Saturday night



The Innovation Center that housed the indoor adventure park



Warm campfire



Hanging out by the fire, with the moon and Venus shining in the sky above



James McConnell, Tyler Fischesser, and Camden Casto warming up by the fire after a frosty night



James McConnell, Gavin Downing, Nate Booher making hot chocolate



Circle time back at the BTAP to close out the campout



Mr. Lohmueller, Nate Booher, Tyler Fischesser, Travis Anglin, James McConnell, Camden Casto, Aiden Fischesser, Gavin Downing, Mr. Wilkens

Spring Court of Honor Evendale Cultural Arts Center Evendale, OH

April

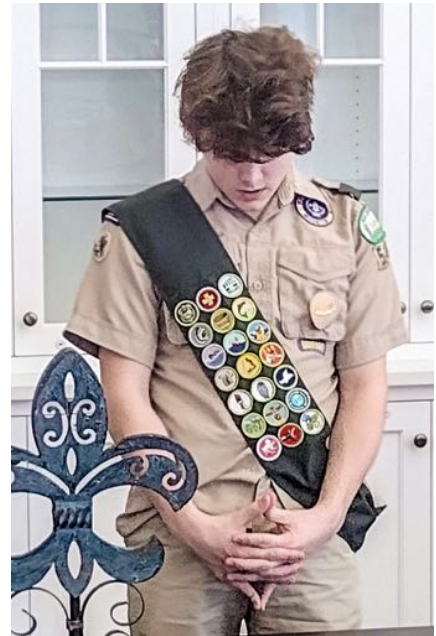
Scouts were recognized at the Spring Court of Honor for the advancement they earned in the last 6 months, which included Merit Badge Challenge. A total of 12 scouts earned 21 merit badges, 1 National Outdoor Award, and a Mile Swim Award.



Ben Adkins, serving as the master of ceremonies



Declan McGrath and Pety Wilkens leading the color guard



Jake Patrick, giving the Opening Prayer as Chaplain Aide

In the first part of the ceremony, Scouts offered their remembrances of the various campouts since the last Court of Honor.



Matt Schomaker



Camden Casto



Petey Wilkens



Gavin Downing



Mr. Wilkens, Camden Casto, Petey Wilkens, Declan McGrath, Gavin Downing, Ben Adkins, Matt Schomaker, Jake Patrick, Mr. Lohmueller, Mr. McGrath, Joseph Mickenberg

Volunteering

April

Fun Fest

Evendale Elementary School

Evendale, OH

The Evendale Fun Fest is the main fundraiser for the Evendale Elementary School PTA. The funds generated from this event allow the PTA to assist the school and staff in providing for the students in numerous ways. Each year the Troop volunteers to help run some of the events.



Matt Schomaker



Wesley Anglin



Nathan Young



Camden Casto



Travis Anglin, Austin Young



Matthew Shelhamer

Railroad Camporee Whitewater Valley Railroad Connersville, IN

April

Each year the Fort Hamilton District organizes a railroad camporee in cooperation with the Whitewater Valley Railroad. The district opens registration on a rotating basis to the other districts in Dan Beard Council. This year, the invitation was sent out to Scouts in the Little Miami District. The Troop rearranged the campout calendar to include the camporee once they learned about the opportunity.

The scouts camped at Robinson's Whitewater River Campground in Connersville, IN. A train picked up the scouts from the campground and transported them to the Whitewater Valley Railroad's yard about 1 mile away. At the railyard the scouts participated in 14 stations to learn about railroading and to complete the Railroading Merit Badge. On Sunday, the train picked up the Scouts and transported them to Metamora. After a chance to explore the town, the train took the scouts back to the campground.



The propane stove broke so Mr. Wilkens got out his backpacking stoves and explained how to use them to cook dinner



Matt Schomaker, Mr. Schomaker, Aiden Fischesser, Austin Young



Austin Young eating a spoonful of hot sauce



Dinner – ramen noodles with hot sauce



Aiden Fischesser



For dessert, the Scouts had Oreos with hot sauce added



Aiden Fischesser and Austin Young enjoying their Oreos with hot sauce



Aiden Fischesser and Matt Schomaker making scrambled eggs for breakfast



Packing lunch – peanut butter tortillas with hot sauce



A train picked up the Scouts from the campground and transported them to the Whitewater Valley Railroad yard for the camporee activities on Saturday



Morning assembly at the camporee



The Scouts got the chance to ride in a personnel rail car called a speeder



Aiden Fischesser and Austin Young checking out a switcher engine



Matt Schomaker, Austin Young, and Aiden Fischesser riding a pump car



Mr. Schomaker riding a pump car



Aiden Fischesser, Austin Young, and Matt Schomaker inside the cupola of a caboose



Austin Young



Austin Young, Aiden Fischesser, and Matt Schomaker on a caboose



One of the camporee stations used model trains to explain the layout of railroad lines. Aiden Fischesser, Austin Young



One of the camporee stations used model trains to explain the layout of railroad lines. Aiden Fischesser, Austin Young



One of the camporee stations used model trains to explain the layout of railroad lines. Matt Schomaker



At one of the camporee stations Scouts had the opportunity to drive railroad spikes. Austin Young



At one of the camporee stations Scouts had the opportunity to drive railroad spikes. Mr. Wilkens



At one of the camporee stations Scouts had the opportunity to drive railroad spikes. Matt Schomaker



At one of the camporee stations Scouts had the opportunity to drive railroad spikes. Aiden Fischesser



The adult leaders made the decision to change the plans and the Troop went out for pizza and ice cream for dinner



Austin Young enjoying an Oreo, powdered donut, chocolate donut, and hot sauce breakfast sandwich



Mr. Wilkens, Mr. Schomaker, Matt Schomaker, Aiden Fischesser, and Austin Young prior to boarding the train for a rail trip on Sunday



Austin Young, Matt Schomaker, and Aiden Fischesser showing the tickets they had to "buy" for the required merit badge train ride



Mr. Wilkens, Mr. Schomaker, at the train depot in Connersville, IN



Matt Schomaker, Austin Young, and Aiden Fischesser on the train ride to Metamora, IN on Sunday morning

In Metamora, the Scouts had about 90 minutes to explore the town. They found some interesting objects in an antique store



Plague doctor beak mask



Aiden Fischesser looking through a kaleidoscope visor



View of the historic canal and railroad in downtown Metamora, IN



Scouts checking out the historic canal and railroad in Metamora, IN



Raisin, peanut, almond, and beef stick tortilla sandwiches for lunch



Mr. Wilkens making his sandwich for lunch



Aiden Fischesser added hot sauce to his sandwich



Austin Young, Matt Schomaker, and Aiden Fischesser



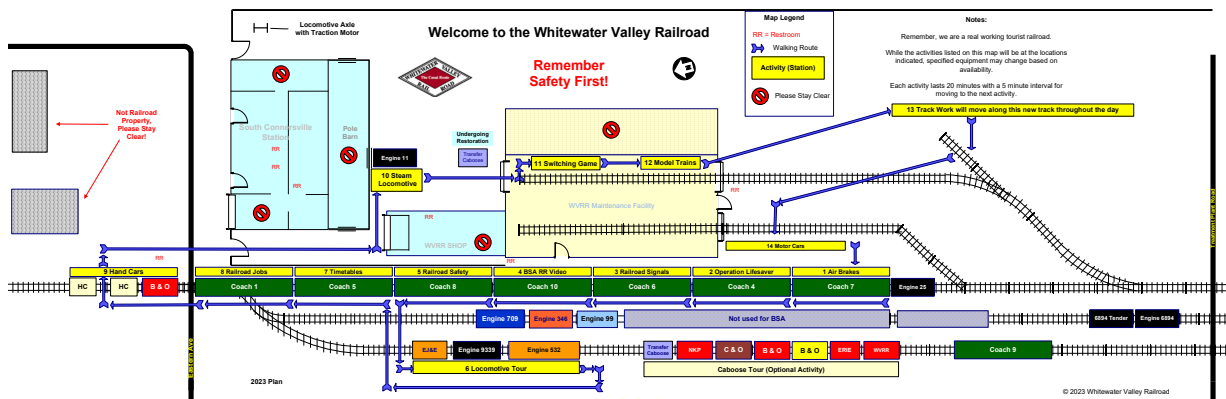
On the train ride back to the campground



Matt Schomaker, Aiden Fischesser, and Austin Young on the car ride back home on Sunday



Camporee participation patch



Map showing the layout of the merit badge stations at the Whitewater Valley Railroad yard in Connersville, IN

Mulch Fundraiser Gorman Heritage Farm Evendale, OH

May

The mulch sale is the Troop's main fundraiser, raising funds for the Scouts' own accounts to help pay for the campouts throughout the year. During the spring, the Scouts take bagged and bulk mulch orders, and then the Troop works together one weekend to distribute all the bags. This year the Troop sold 2,386 bags and 106 cubic yards of bulk mulch, raising \$9,121 for the Scouts. The top seller was Declan McGrath



2,386 bags of mulch



2,386 bags of mulch



Nate Booher



Wesley Anglin



Aiden Fischesser



Wesley Anglin



Jake Patrick



Aiden Fischesser



Wesley Anglin



Tyler Fischesser



Tyler Fischesser



Declan McGrath

Via Ferrata Rock Climbing Southeast Mountain Guides Campton, KY

May

Via ferrata is a style of rock climbing that uses an established route along the rock face. The route contains steel cables, rungs, and ladders that are fixed to the rock. Climbers connect to the cables for safety while traversing the rock face. The course is comprised of 6 separate but connected courses, together offering nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ miles of route to traverse. This year the Troop camped at the nearby Natural Bridge Campground and spent half of the day on Saturday climbing. They also had the chance to fish and play some football.



While the adults were checking in the Scouts found a basketball court and starting playing a game



Nathan Hoffman leading the rest of the Scouts in setting up the dining fly



Mr. Wilkens, Gavin Downing, Jake Patrick



Nathan Hoffman, James McConnell



Camden Casto



Camden Casto, Gavin Downing, and Jake Patrick getting the fire started



The campground had a pond with a fountain and colored lights



Nathan Hoffman



Camden Casto, Aiden Fischesser, Gavin Downing making scrambled eggs



Travis Anglin



Nathan Hoffman, Travis Anglin,
James McConnell



Breakfast



After breakfast it started to rain

The Scouts were not scheduled to start rock climbing until 12:30. This gave them the opportunity to go fishing in the small pond at the campground. Although some Scouts chose to do traditional fishing, several Scouts tried their hand at magnetic fishing. Magnetic fishing uses a strong magnet attached to a rope. The magnet is tossed into the water and then is dragged back to shore, bringing any piece of metal along with it. The goal is not to catch fish, but to catch anything metallic on the bottom of the pond. It focuses on the sense of exploration and adventure, not knowing what one will pull out of the water.



Aiden Fischesser



Nathan Hoffman magnet fishing as Camden Casto watches



Camden Casto



Nathan Hoffman magnet fishing while Aiden Fischesser
and Camden Casto watch



Nathan Hoffman helping James McConnell



James McConnell



Travis Anglin, Mr. Wilkens, Mrs. Downing, James McConnell, Gavin Downing, Jake Patrick



Gavin Downing



Gavin Downing, James McConnell, Jake Patrick fishing while the magnetic fishing Scouts are in the background on the far end of the pond.



Mr. Wilkens giving some pointers to Travis Anglin



Nathan Hoffman proudly showing off his big catch of the day – a rusty screw



Mrs. Downing proudly showing off her big catch of the day – a bluegill fish



Mr. Lohmueller had a Scoutmaster Conference with Camden Casto



Travis Anglin



Gearing up at Southeast Mountain Guides in preparation to start climbing



Jake Patrick



Nathan Hoffman



James McConnell



Aiden Fischesser



Travis Anglin



Camden Casto



Gavin Downing



Gavin Downing



Aiden Fischesser



Gavin Downing



James McConnell, Gavin Downing,
Mr. Lohmueller



Jake Patrick



Nathan Hoffman, Jake Patrick, Aiden Fischesser



Nathan Hoffman, Jake Patrick, Aiden Fischesser



Nathan Hoffman



Aiden Fischesser



Travis Anglin, Mrs. Downing



Gavin Downing, James McConnell



Mrs. Downing, Travis Anglin



Travis Anglin, Mr. Wilkens



Adult Eastern Newt



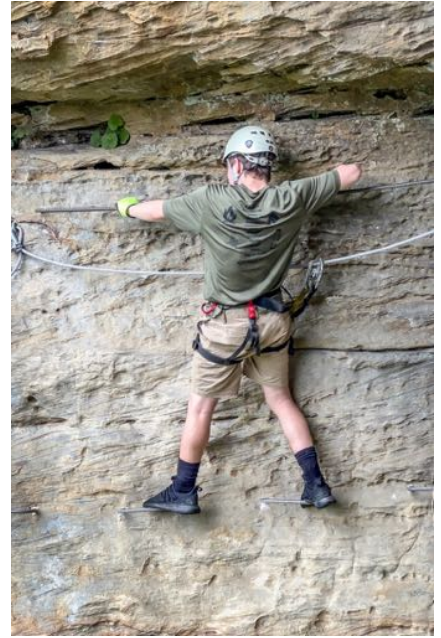
Juvenile Eastern Newt



Nathan Hoffman on course 3



Nathan Hoffman, Jake Patrick,
Aiden Fischesser



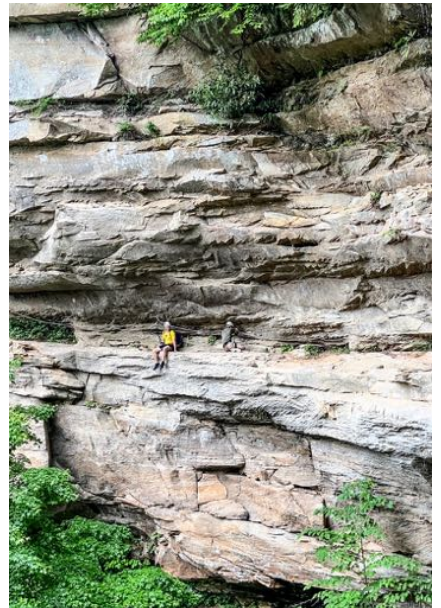
Jake Patrick



Aiden Fischesser



Gavin Downing, Mrs. Downing,
Travis Anglin



Nathan Hoffman, Jake Patrick on
course 3



View of the gorge from the middle of course 3



Taking a break in the cave on course 3



Taking a break in the cave on course 3, with a view looking up the gorge to the main building. Gavin Downing, James McConnell, Aiden Fischesser



Gavin Downing, James McConnell, Mrs. Downing, Travis Anglin, Camden Casto



Aiden Fischesser checking out the waterfall that course 3 runs behind



Aiden Fischesser



Gavin Downing and James McConnell checking out the waterfall on course 3



Nathan Hoffman, Jake Patrick starting course 4



Course 3



Nathan Hoffman, Jake Patrick on course 6



Most of the Troop on course 3



Gavin Downing coming down the giant's ladder after course 3



Mrs. Downing



Nathan Hoffman on the giant's ladder



Aiden Fischesser



At the end of the gorge is a waterfall



Camden Casto, Aiden Fischesser,
James McConnell



Camden Casto



Travis Anglin



James McConnell



Aiden Fischesser



Travis Anglin



James McConnell



Camden Casto



James McConnell on course 4



Course 4



James McConnell on course 4



Gavin Downing



Nathan Hoffman on the tight rope between courses 5 and 6



Aiden Fischesser and Gavin Downing on the swinging bridge



Aiden Fischesser, Gavin Downing



Camden Casto



Aiden Fischesser



Nathan Hoffman on a practice wall



Practice wall



Nathan Hoffman, Jake Patrick, Travis Anglin, Gavin Downing, James McConnell, Camden Casto, Aiden Fischesser



The Scouts always enjoy a round of Ale8 pop. This is a regional brand.



Mr. Wilkens, Aiden Fischesser, Nathan Hoffman, Jake Patrick, Camden Casto, Travis Anglin, Gavin Downing, James McConnell, Mr. Lohmueller, Mrs. Downing



Travis Anglin tried his hand at some more magnet fishing



Travis Anglin showing off his catch of the day – several fishing hooks



The Scouts had some time before dinner, so they got a game of football going



The Scouts had some time before dinner, so they got a game of football going



The can opener broke so Nathan Hoffman had to get creative to open the can of beans for dinner



Aiden Fischesser and Nathan Hoffman making dinner – chicken nuggets



Travis Anglin and James McConnell spicing up their dinner



Dinner time



James McConnell, Gavin Downing, Camden Casto



James McConnell and Aiden Fischesser enjoying dessert after the dishes were done



Aiden Fischesser starting a fire



Aiden Fischesser by the fire



The Troop's campsite for the weekend



Nathan Hoffman, Aiden Fischesser packing away the dining fly



The morning was foggy before the sun came out



The morning was foggy before the sun came out



Aiden Fischesser, Nathan Hoffman, Gavin Downing, Mr. Wilkens, James McConnell, Jake Patrick, Mr. Lohmueller, Camden Casto, Travis Anglin

Memorial Day Parade Arlington Heights, Lockland, and Reading, OH

May

Each year the Troop helps celebrate Memorial Day by hiking in the Arlington Heights, Lockland, and Reading Memorial Day parade. The parade starts at the Arlington Heights Town Hall, progresses over 2 miles through the 3 cities, and ends at Reading Cemetery in Reading.



Petey Wilkens, Austin Young, Aiden Fischesser, Camden Casto, Matthew Shelhamer, Mr. Wilkens, Mr. Lohmueller, Travis Anglin



The beginning of the parade



Troop 1598 joined in the parade behind Troop 598
Samantha Young, Eva Casto, Payton Aufrance, Tempe Nolte, Samantha Young, Mrs. Casto



Petey Wilkens



Aiden Fischesser



Petey Wilkens



Camden Casto, Travis Anglin, Austin Young



Crossing the Mill Creek from Lockland into Reading



Aiden Fischesser, Matthew Shelhamer, Austin Young, Mr. Wilkens



Hiking up Benson Street in Reading



Austin Young



Matthew Shelhamer



Travis Anglin passing out candy



Matthew Shelhamer



Matthew Shelhamer



Mr. Lohmueller taking pictures along the parade route



Aiden Fischesser



Hiking down Vine Street in Reading



Evendale Scouts:

Aiden Fischesser, Mrs. Casto, Mrs. Young, Matthew Shelhamer, Samantha Young, Payton Aufrance, Camden Casto, Mrs. Aufrance, Cub Scout, Eva Casto, Tempe Nolte, Mr. Wilkens, Alex Young, Petey Wilkens, Mr. Young, Travis Anglin, Austin Young, Mr. Lohmueller

Summer Camp Camp Ransburg Bloomington, IN

June

Every summer the Troop goes on a week-long summer camp trip to Camp Ransburg. The main objective is to complete merit badges, but there are lots of opportunities for fun as well. This year the Troop stayed in the campsite White River.



The Scouts held a short troop meeting to talk about the week. Ben Adkins was acting Senior Patrol Leader.



Travis Anglin, Joe Adkins, James McConnell



Austin Young



Matthew Shelhamer

On Sunday evening the staff put on a camp-wide campfire program that was funny and high energy.



Staff greeting the campers as they entered the campfire circle



Waiting for the campfire program to start



Waiting for the campfire program to start



Staff skit during the campfire program



Morning flag raising in the Troop campsite



Matthew Shelhamer at the First Year Camper class



Mr. Wilkens



Whiffle ball was a popular activity in the Scouts' free time. Austin Young, James McConnell, Gavin Downing



Ben Adkins tossing a baseball



Mr. Wilkens teaching Ben Adkins how to tie a bowline knot



Playing cards at the Trading Post: Joe Adkins, Austin Young, James McConnell, Gavin Downing



Mr. Wilkens teaching Matthew Shelhamer how to tie a bowline knot



Matthew Shelhamer working to tie the bowline knot himself



Mr. Wilkens and Matthew Shelhamer demonstrating that they tied the bowline knot correctly



Gavin Downing at Pioneering Merit Badge



Matthew Shelhamer at Swimming Merit Badge



Matthew Shelhamer in First Year Camper class



James McConnell, Travis Anglin



Ben Adkins practicing how to rescue someone in the water in Lifesaving Merit Badge



Ben Adkins practicing how to rescue someone in the water in Lifesaving Merit Badge



Austin Young in Shotgun Shooting Merit Badge



Evening flag lowering in the Troop campsite



Austin Young, Matthew Shelhamer



Heading to dinner



Matthew Shelhamer and Austin Young were hoppers for dinner.



Campwide flag lowering before dinner



Before each meal Troops are given a scenario to act out. Those who do the best get to go into the dining hall first.

On Monday evening, the camp invited Scouts to the parade field to play Gaga Ball.



Each game started out with a lot of players



Gavin Downing



Joe Adkins



Austin Young



Ben Adkins



Morning flag raising: Austin Young, Ben Adkins, Gavin Downing



Austin Young after having several bowls of cereal for breakfast



Petey Wilkens



Petey Wilkens did the Ransburg X program, and today they went mountain boarding.



Petey Wilkens made it down the hill without falling



Travis Anglin, Austin Young in Communications Merit Badge



Petey Wilkens explaining Ransburg's religious awards to Matthew Shelhamer



Mr. Wilkens having a peaceful moment in the picnic area



Pete Wilkens called a huddle to pump everyone up to put forth the energy to get in the dining hall first



The Troop in the straightest line got to go into lunch first. The Troop won



Travis Anglin



James McConnell



Travis Anglin working on Photography Merit Badge with James McConnell acting as a model



Gavin Downing learning how to coil a rope in Pioneering Merit Badge



James McConnell learning how to coil a rope in Pioneering Merit Badge



Mr. Wilkens capturing pictures for the yearbook



Mr. Wilkens, Mrs. Downing, Mr. Lohmueller



Mr. Wilkens working on advancement with Austin Young



Ben Adkins



Ben Adkins, Austin Young



Joe Adkins



Petey Wilkens



Travis Anglin



Mr. Lohmueller



Troop flag lowering



Travis Anglin, Matthew Shelhamer, Austin Young



Petey Wilkens giving announcements at the Troop flag lowering



Heading up to dinner



Petey Wilkens displaying energy to get the Troop into dinner first



Austin Young, Gavin Downing



Matthew Shelhamer was the hopper for dinner, so he set up the table, served the food, and then cleaned up afterwards. The Scouts take turns hopping for the meals.

On Tuesday evening, the camp hosted an adult archery contest. Mrs. Downing, Mr. Lohmueller, and Mr. Wilkens all entered the competition. Mr. Wilkens did the best, making it to the 3rd round before being beat in the last round.



Mrs. Downing, Mr. Lohmueller



Mr. Wilkens



Mr. Lohmueller removing a tick from Matthew Shelhamer

Also on Tuesday evening, the camp hosted a 3 on 3 Gaga ball tournament. From the Troop, Joe Adkins, Gavin Downing, and Austin Young entered as Team Marshmallow.



Austin Young and Gavin Downing celebrating after winning their first game.



Joe Adkins, Gavin Downing, Austin Young



Gavin Downing



Joe Adkins



Austin Young



Celebrating after winning the semi final round



Celebrating after winning the semi final round



The team unfortunately did not win the final round.
Joe Adkins, Austin Young, Gavin Downing



Ben Adkins and Gavin Downing preparing the flag at the Troop's morning flag raising



Mr. Wilkens working on helping Matthew Shelhamer with advancement by teaching him how to raise and lower a flag



Matthew Shelhamer showing that he knows how to fold a flag



Travis Anglin working on his Photography Merit Badge



Joe Adkins chopping some wood



Austin Young at Leatherworking Merit Badge



Travis Anglin at Leatherworking Merit Badge



Travis Anglin



Mr. Lohmueller challenged Gavin Downing to learn how to tie a tripod lashing to build a weather rock



Travis Anglin



View of the lake front



Gavin Downing in Shotgun Shooting Merit Badge



Mr. Lohmueller teaching Matthew Shelhamer how to tie a square knot



After Matthew Shelhamer learned how to tie a square knot, Mr. Lohmueller challenged him to tie it behind his back. He succeeded.



Gavin Downing was successful in building a weather rock



Petey Wilkens chopping wood



James McConnell and Gavin Downing showing off their rope splices they made in Pioneering Merit Badge



On Wednesday evening the camp hosted Protestant and Catholic religious services. This was the Catholic Mass.

Camp staff have Wednesday evenings off, so Troops are responsible for providing dinner for themselves. The Troop opted to order pizza and bake several cobblers for dinner.



Ben Adkins, Petey Wilkens



Travis Anglin, James McConnell, Gavin Downing



Joe Adkins, Matthew Shelhamer



Matthew Shelhamer



Joe Adkins



Petey Wilkens, using the butter knife the Troop made at Philmont



Austin Young preparing the coals to bake cobbler



Austin Young, James McConnell



Hanging out together and eating pizza



Several parents provided desserts for the Scouts

On Wednesday evening the Troop put on a campfire program and invited a neighboring Troop to participate. Joe Adkins offered to be the master of ceremony for the fun of it.



Petey Wilkens, Austin Young, and Ben Adkins building the fire for the campfire program.



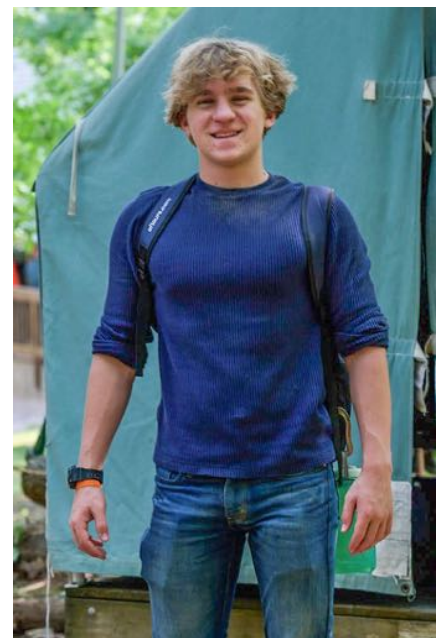
Campfire program



Matthew Shelhamer and James McConnell raising the flag in the morning



Matthew Shelhamer and Mr. Lohmueller checking the day's schedule



Petey Wilkens



Matthew Shelhamer in Swimming Merit Badge



Joe Adkins



Mr. Lohmueller helping Joe Adkins with advancement



Joe Adkins practicing his knots

There was a pile of logs next to the campsite, and throughout the week Scouts often took the opportunity to split wood.



Matthew Shelhamer



Petey Wilkens



Travis Anglin

For each meal Scouts would assemble at the flag poles, and everyone would sing one of the staff member's favorite song.



Oftentimes, the Scouts would have to sing the song so loud "that it goes all the way across the lake, and all the way back, ..."



Sometimes the Scouts would have to sing the song backwards.



The Troop that best looked like it had a dying Scout got to go into the dining hall first.



Every Troop is assigned a service project to help the camp. The Troop was assigned to clean the Inlow Shower House one day.



Petey Wilkens, Ben Adkins, James McConnell, Austin Young heading out to their afternoon classes.



Petey Wilkens working with Joe Adkins to learn his knots



Gavin Downing and James McConnell showing off the large tripod they made in Pioneering Merit Badge



Gavin Downing and James McConnell talking about the large tripod they made in Pioneering Merit Badge with Mr. Lohmueller and Mrs. Downing



Matthew Shelhamer



Gavin Downing making a bigger weather rock for the campsite



Joe Adkins



Petey Wilkens had partially split a log with the axe, and then channeling his inner Captain America, he ripped the log apart.



Petey Wilkens



Mr. Lohmueller entered the Scoutmaster Iron Chef competition with a shrimp bake recipe.



Joe Adkins and Austin Young heading up to the dining hall as hoppers



Matthew Shelhamer, Travis Anglin



Inside the dining hall

Ransburg tried a new program for Thursday evening. They got rid of the Rendezvous and the Triathlon and added paper airplane throwing and Ultimate Frisbee at the waterfront and volleyball in the lake.



James McConnell



Petey Wilkens



Austin Young



Ben Adkins, Petey Wilkens



Petey Wilkens



Ben Adkins



Petey Wilkens, Austin Young, Ben Adkins



Austin Young



Mr. Wilkens



James McConnell



At attention for morning flag raising



Travis Anglin, Austin Young, Gavin Downing



Petey Wilkens



Matthew Shelhamer making a “birds nest” fire starter out of rope for his First Year Camper class



Matthew Shelhamer in his First Year Camper class with the fire he helped start



Travis Anglin



Gavin Downing with his weather rock



Matthew Shelhamer



As part of the Ransburg X program, Petey Wilkens (in blue shirt) got the chance to ride an ATV around camp



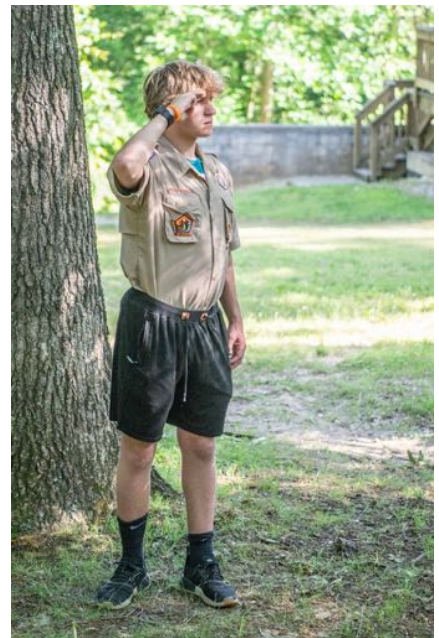
James McConnell playing around with Mr. Wilkens' camera



Matthew Shelhamer



Ben Adkins, Gavin Downing, and Austin Young leading the flag lowering



Petey Wilkens



Mrs. Downing, James McConnell, Matthew Shelhamer, Mr. Wilkens during the evening flag lowering in the campsite



Mrs. Downing

On Friday evening the staff hosted a closing campfire program.



Waiting for the campfire program to start



Staff member putting on a skit



One of the staff did a rousing rendition of the song *Space Oddity* by David Bowie



At the end of the program, there is always a slide show of pictures taken during the week. One picture of the Scouts from the Troop made it into the slideshow.



Panoramic view of the Troop's campsite for the week, White River



Camp wide morning flag raising on Saturday



One last opportunity to win the right to go into the dining hall first. The Troop succeeded.



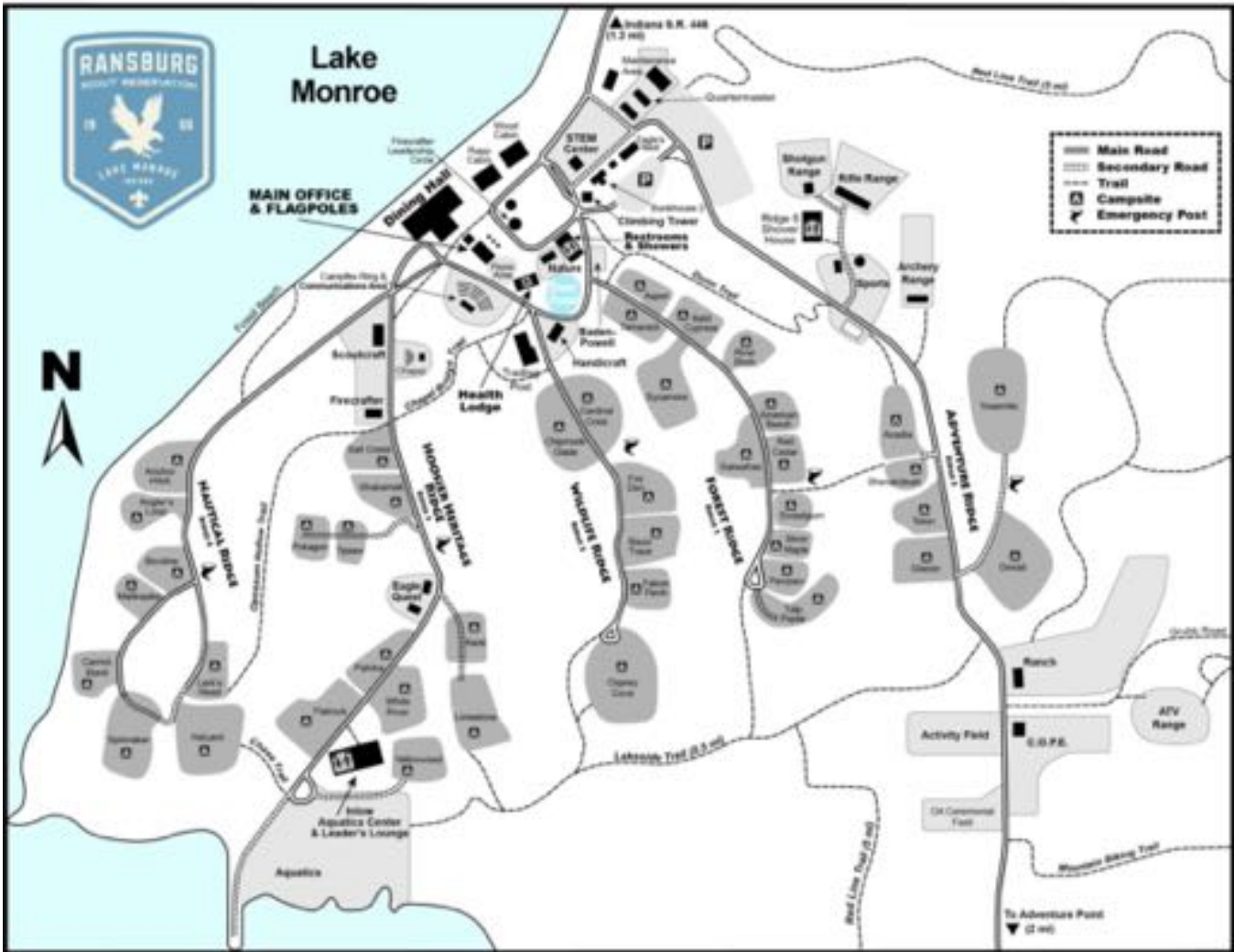
Matthew Shelhamer, Petey Wilkens, and James McConnell patrolling the campsite to make it as good as or better than they found it before leaving on Saturday



Ransburg's sign on the main office building



Mr. Wilkens, Ben Adkins, Petey Wilkens, Joe Adkins, Austin Young, Matthew Shelhamer, Travis Anglin, James McConnell, Mr. Lohmueller, Gavin Downing, Mrs. Downing



Map of Camp Ransburg



Participant patch

Petey Wilkens Eagle Service Project

Gorman Heritage Farm

Evendale, OH

June

For his Eagle Project, Petey Wilkens created a refrigerated shed for Gorman Farm to use to help preserve the flowers and vegetables that the Farm grows and sells. Gorman Farm provided the shed, and Petey was responsible for installing the insulation as well as the air conditioning unit. He used a standard window AC unit, coupled with a CoolBot temperature controller, to obtain the cold temperatures needed to best preserve the produce.

The first step was to remove the flooring from the shed, install insulation between the floor joists, and seal the gaps.



The gaps in the insulation in the floor are being sealed

Once the floor insulation was complete and the floorboards reinstalled, Petey had to install the insulation in the walls.



Petey Wilkens installing panels of insulation in the walls



Petey Wilkens explaining the work to Troop mates and friends from school



Isaac Lohmueller installing insulation around the door frame



Mr. Wilkens giving instructions to two of Pety Wilkens' friends from school



Mr. Wilkens cutting the insulation sheets while one of Pety Wilkens' friends and Nathan Hoffman hold the panel



Mr. Wilkens



Mr. Wilkens, Nathan Hoffman



Nathan Hoffman carrying the cut pieces of insulation to the shed



Isaac Lohmueller cutting the insulation to fit into the gaps around the door



Mr. Wilkens, Pety Wilkens



Nathan Hoffman installing small pieces of insulation around the roof



Petey Wilkens using expanding foam to seal the gaps



Petey Wilkens using expanding foam to seal the gaps



Nathan Hoffman using expanding foam to seal the gaps



Matt Schomaker and Luke Wilkens applying tape to the seams



Working to install the AC unit in the wall of the shed.



Petey Wilkens had to dig a trench from the main building to the shed for an electrician to run wiring



Petey Wilkens digging the trench for the electricity to the shed



The trench had to be dug around roots, a drainpipe, and a water line



Some of the root and rock obstacles that had to be overcome while digging the ditch for the electricity



Petey Wilkens taking care of the last detail of his project



Petey Wilkens and his finished Eagle Project



Petey Wilkens' Eagle Project in use

High Adventure Trek Summit Bechtel Reserve Glen Jean, WV

June

As part of the Troop's high adventure program, the Scouts took a 1-week trip to Summit Bechtel Reserve in Glen Jean, WV. The Scouts kayaked 36 miles and rafted 7 miles along the New River in the New River Gorge National Park.



Jake Patrick, Wesley Anglin, Ben Adkins, Nathan Young, Nathan Hoffman, Mr. Wilkens, Declan McGrath, Aiden Fischesser, Mr. Lohmueller, Petey Wilkens, Travis Anglin, Mr. Young, Austin Young, Mr. Anglin, Mr. Wilkens, Mr. McGrath

Trip day 1

On the first day, the Scouts drove to West Virginia and checked in at the Summit Bechtel Reserve.



The Scouts meeting the staff guides and getting their gear



Listening to instructions on what gear to bring on the river and how to pack the gear to keep it dry

The Scouts had some time in the evening to hang out together at camp.



Austin Young playing frisbee golf



Base Camp D, home for the first night at camp



Mr. Wilkens, Nathan Hoffman, Nathan Young



Aiden Fischesser, Declan McGrath, Wesley Anglin



Nathan Hoffman against Austin Young, with Ben Adkins, Travis Anglin, and Petey Wilkens watching



Nathan Young against Declan McGrath, with Petey Wilkens, Nathan Hoffman, and Mr. Wilkens watching

Later that evening, Mr. McGrath called the Scouts together to hold a short crew meeting to talk about expectations for the trek ahead.



Chaplain's Aides Jake Patrick and Travis Anglin speaking to the crews about the Duty to God award



Outdoor Ethics guides Nathan Hoffman and Austin Young planning on how to earn Summit's Sustainability Award

Trip day 2

After breakfast the Scouts packed their gear and boarded a bus to take them to the put in spot on the river.



The crew just prior to departure for the trek, in front of everyone's dry bags



Aiden Fischesser with everyone's dry bags



View of Sandstone Falls, just upriver of where the Scouts put in to start the kayaking trek.



Once on the river everyone grouped together for Melinda to give some additional instructions



Mr. McGrath practicing self-rescue



Wesley Anglin



Nathan Hoffman



Petey Wilkens attempting to flip Ben Adkins's kayak

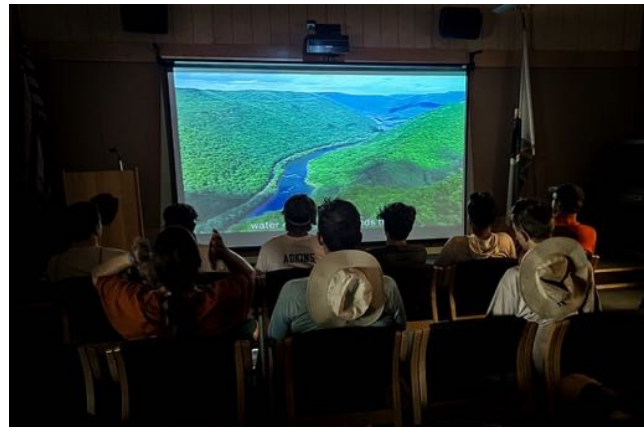


Petey Wilkens swimming away after successfully tipping Aiden Fischesser's kayak

The first day was relatively short, only covering about 4 miles of river. The crew stopped at Meadow Creek for the evening. Everyone carried their kayaks up the boat ramp and stowed them next to the campsite. After getting tents set up, the crew took a hike to the Sandstone Visitor Center. The visitor center is part of the New River Gorge National Park. The hike was about 2 miles each way and was on public roads the entire way.



Sandstone Visitor Center entrance



The Scouts watched a video highlighting the geography of the area

Back at camp, the Scouts had some time before dinner was ready, so a lot of the Scouts played football or tossed a ball.



Austin Young, Wesley Anglin, Nathan Hoffman



Petey Wilkens, Austin Young, Travis Anglin



Ben Adkins



Austin Young



Jake Patrick



Nathan Young, Travis Anglin, and Austin Young making dinner



Mr. McGrath in the dinner line



Emilio (staff member) serving up cobbler to Declan McGrath and Aiden Fischesser

Melinda was the lead guide for the trek. She had challenged Mr. Lohmueller to a cobbler bake-off competition. The Scouts agreed that Mr. Lohmueller's tasted better.



Melinda and Mr. Lohmueller working together to check on the cobblers



Petey Wilkens, Wesley Anglin, Mr. Wilkens, and Ben Adkins
It was during this card game that Mr. Wilkens offered some wisdom: "I'm going to give you some advice that will really make a difference in your life. Listen more. Speak less."

Trip day 3



Scouts tossing a wiffle ball in the field next to the campsite



Jake Patrick and Travis Anglin leading grace before breakfast



Declan McGrath, Aiden Fischesser



Everyone lining up in preparation for running a rapid

A ducky war is a fun game the Scouts like to play. Two Scouts stand on an upside-down kayak. Without touching the other person, each Scout tries to knock the other person of the kayak.



Nathan Young rowing the gear boat



Ducky war between Declan McGrath and Ben Adkins



Nathan Young and Petey Wilkens in a ducky war



Petey Wilkens found a log floating in the river and started bench pressing it



Aiden Fischesser



Ducky war between Nathan Hoffman and Petey Wilkens



Nathan Young



Mr. Lohmueller

For lunch, the crew stopped at a beach area just downstream of Grassy Shoals Rapid. Lunch consisted of deli sandwiches and snacks.



The crew used an upside-down ducky as the table for the lunch line



Melinda giving instructions for the rapid coming up next



Austin Young trying his hand at being at the helm of the big gear boat



Nathan Young attacking Petey Wilkens's kayak



The Scouts set up their tents on the edge of the sandy beach



Dinner line



Wesley Anglin cleaning up after dinner



Declan McGrath, Ben Adkins



Nathan Hoffman, Aiden Fischesser, Declan McGrath

After dinner, Ben Adkins made a fire, and everyone hung out together. For dessert, the Scouts made Smores.



Ben Adkins, Declan McGrath, and Wesley Anglin



Hanging out around the campfire

Trip day 4



Nathan Hoffman, Wesley Anglin, Pety Wilkens



Tim McGrath journaling notes on the trip



Chow line



Everyone was responsible for cleaning their own dishes



Pety Wilkens plotting the route ahead

After kayaking several miles, the Scouts pulled off to the side and hiked a short trail to a waterfall.



The waterfall on Dowdy Creek



Group shot with the waterfall on Dowdy Creek



Petey Wilkens



Travis Anglin



Nathan Young

After the waterfall, the crew crossed over to river left and stopped at a beach for lunch.



Travis Anglin leading grace before lunch



An old tree trunk was used for the lunch table



Jake Patrick taking a quiet rest as his kayak drifts down the river



Ben Adkins attacking Petey Wilkens' kayak



Nathan Young



Jake Patrick



Kayak barge



Travis Anglin



Jake Patrick



Travis Anglin



Mr. McGrath, Mr. Lohmueller, Petey Wilkens



Nathan Hoffman and Austin Young in a ducky war



Mr. McGrath



Mr. Wilkens



Nathan Hoffman



Travis Anglin and Austin Young



Approaching the campsite



Mr. Anglin

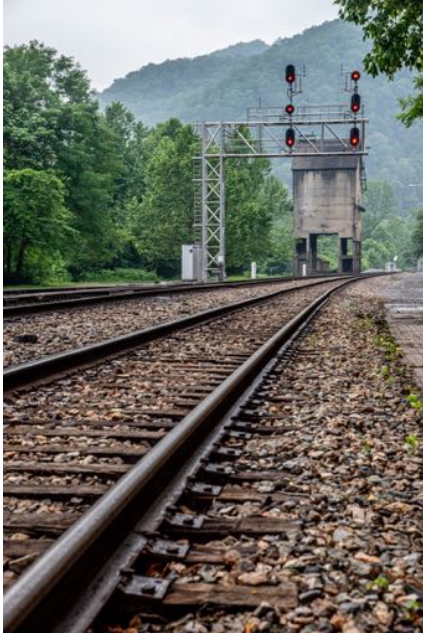


Wesley Anglin and Melinda making pineapple upside-down cake



Aiden Fischesser, Mr. Anglin, and Declan McGrath doing their dishes

After dinner, the staff led the Scouts on a hike to a nearby ghost town called Thurmond, West Virginia. The staff was a wealth of information about the history of the town. The town had its heydays in the early to mid 1900's, but most of the buildings sit empty, and have become part of the national park.



View down the tracks towards the coal tower



Abandoned coal tower



View from the coal tower towards the train station



View looking down Commercial Row



View looking down the tracks to the train station



Emilio offering some more history of the buildings in Thurmond



High side / Low side / Horizons discussion

Trip day 5



Nathan Young, Petey Wilkens, Travis Anglin



Mr. Young improvising a strap for his sunglasses



Nathan Young



In a ducky line in preparation for running Rudy's Ripple



Regrouping after running Rudy's Ripple

The Scouts pulled off to the side of the river and those who were interested could jump off Jumper's Rock.



Nathan Hoffman



Ben Adkins



Petey Wilkens



Declan McGrath



Ben Adkins



Ben Adkins, Petey Wilkens

The crew stopped for lunch riverside at around mile 22, just upstream of Ash Island.



The crew used an upside-down kayak as the lunch line table



Petey Wilkens, Declan McGrath, Ben Adkins, Nathan Hoffman

The last rapid of the kayaking portion of the trek was Surprise Rapid. A majority of the Scouts were thrown from their kayaks in this rapid.



Views of the Scouts as they kayaked through Surprise Rapids, the last rapid that they would kayak



Views of the Scouts as they kayaked through Surprise Rapids, the last rapid that they would kayak

After four days of camping along the river and kayaking, the Scouts headed back to Summit Bechtel Reserve. The adults prepared a steak dinner for the Scouts.



Mr. Lohmueller and Mr. Young cutting the steaks for grilling



Mr. Lohmueller grilling the steaks

Two of the staff members, Cat and Emilio, were very skilled at branding, and offered to brand items for the Scouts



Cat in action



Emilio branding an item for Travis Anglin



Emilio branding a hat for Declan McGrath

In the evening, Austin Young led a campfire program, complete with a skit competition between the Scouts.



Waiting for the campfire program to start



Austin Young leading the campfire program

Trip day 6

The trek itinerary called for whitewater rafting on this day. Before they could get back on the river, everyone had to help tear down the dining area and carry the gear to the gear truck.



Jake Patrick



Aiden Fischesser, Declan McGrath



Ben Adkins, Nathan Hoffman



Foggy view of the campsite



Loading the gear truck



Crew A running the Lower Railroad Rapid



Crew B running the Lower Railroad Rapid



Jake Patrick



Ben Adkins



Travis Anglin and Jake Patrick leading grace before lunch



Lunch line

The Troop was split into two groups of 8 people in each. Each group was given a boat and a river guide.



Crew A running the Keeney Rapid



Crew A running the Keeney Rapid



Crew B running the Keeney Rapid



Crew B running the Keeney Rapid



One of the other Troops surfing



Scouts swimming the last rapid of the trek



The Fayette Station and New River Gorge Bridges



Crew A carrying their boat off the river to the transport truck



Crew B carrying their boat off the river to the transport truck

Once back at Summit, the Scouts had the opportunity to ride the Big Zip. This is a 3200' long zipline with three separate lines. At one point it is 160' above ground, and riders can get up to 60 mph towards the end of the ride. It takes about a minute to get from the start to finish.



Mr. Wilkens completing the Big Zip

On the last night of the trek before heading home in the morning, the Scouts wanted to go into town for a pizza dinner. While waiting for their reservation, they stopped at an antique store



Declan McGrath



Austin Young



Enjoying a pizza dinner

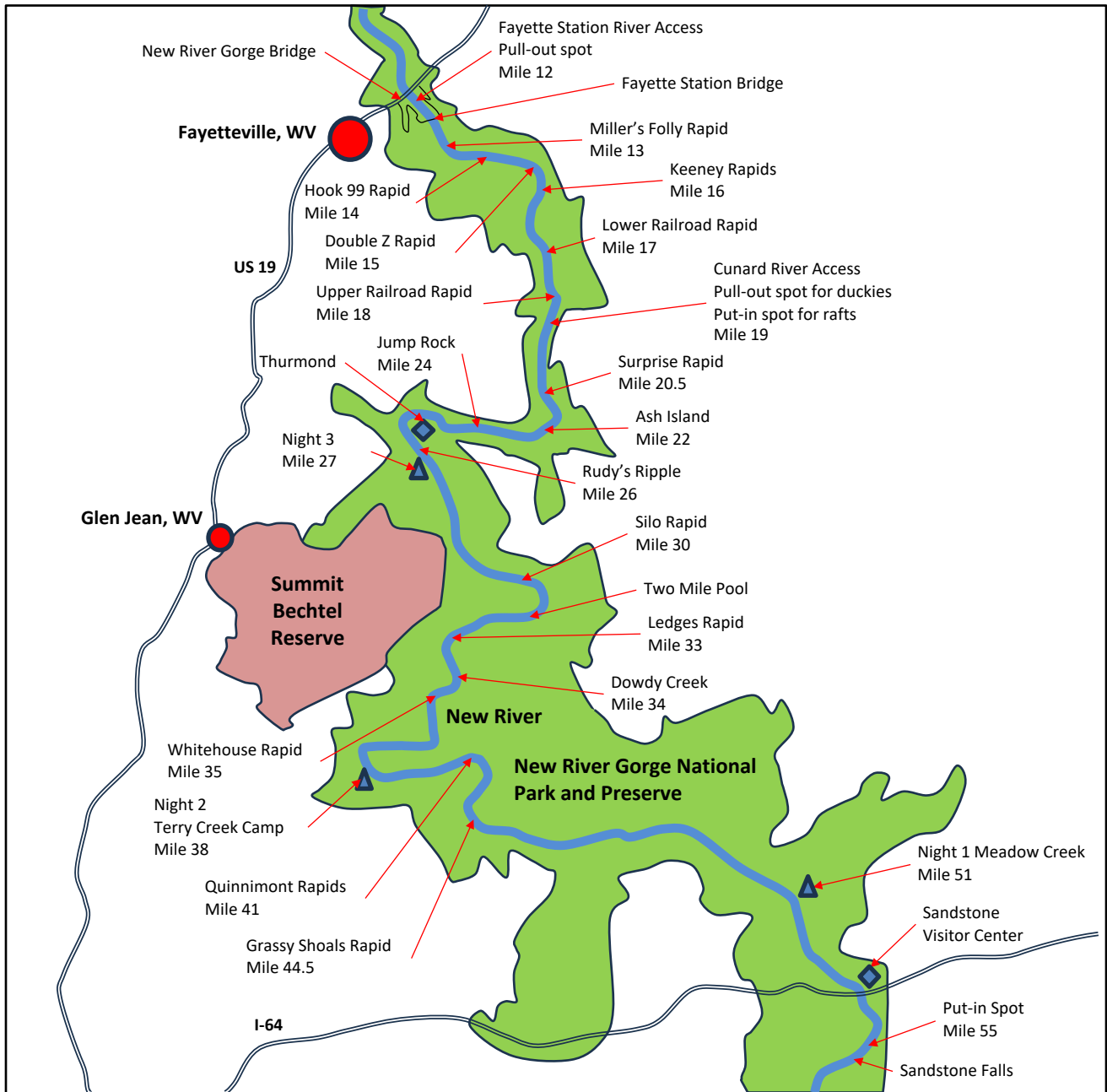
Nathan Hoffman had a board of review for Second Class rank and Declan McGrath had a Scoutmaster Conference for an Eagle Palm



Nathan Hoffman, Mr. Anglin, Mr. Young, and Mr. Wilkens during Nathan's Board of Review



Declan McGrath and Mr. Lohmueller during Declan's Scoutmaster Conference



Map showing Summit Bechtel Reserve and the new River Gorge National Park

Distance Traveled During Trek	
Method:	Miles
Kayaking	36.0
Rafting	7.0
Hiking	7.0
Total	50.0

Canoeing Little Miami River Morrow, OH to Loveland, OH

July

The Troop camped at the Izaak Walton League in Loveland, OH both nights. In past years, the Troop canoed all three days and spent each night in a different campsite as they progressed down the river, but this year the Troop opted to canoe only on Saturday.

On Saturday, the Scouts drove up to Morrow, OH to put into the river, then canoed 13.8 miles downriver back to the Izaak Walton League's campground.

The Izaak Walton League provided the canoes for free and only asked that the Scouts help pick up trash while canoeing down the river. The Scouts removed several pool inflatables and several large garbage bags of trash from along the river.



Austin Young and Andrew Senter starting a fire



Tyler Fischesser, Aiden Fischesser, Austin Young, Andrew Senter, Travis Anglin



Andrew Senter whittling



Travis Anglin whittling



Tyler Fischesser, Andrew Senter



Tyler Fischesser, Andrew Senter



Austin Young, Aiden Fischesser



Travis Anglin



Aiden Fischesser, Austin Young



Aiden Fischesser



Travis Anglin



Tyler Fischesser, Travis Anglin



Tyler Fischesser



Travis Anglin, Austin Young



Travis Anglin, Tyler Fischesser,
Austin Young



Aiden Fischesser



Andrew Senter



Tyler Fischesser



Austin Young, Aiden Fischesser, Tyler Fischesser



Aiden Fischesser, Austin Young, Travis Anglin,
Tyler Fischesser, Andrew Senter



Mr. Wilkens taught the scouts how to play euchre



Andrew Senter watching the sunset



Sunset over the river



Travis Anglin, Aiden Fischesser, Tyler Fischesser cooking breakfast



Izaak Walton League's campground



Getting ready to launch the canoe and kayaks on the river



Mr. Lohmueller giving instructions to Travis Anglin on how to be the navigator for the day's travels

Shortly after getting started on the river, it started to lightly rain. After about an hour, though, a severe thunderstorm came upon the Scouts and the rain started to pour. The Scouts were passing under a bridge at that time, so the Scouts pulled off the river and hung out under the bridge, taking the opportunity to have lunch. By the time lunch was over, the lightning had stopped. Since the forecast called for another hour of rain, the Scouts opted to get back on the river. The rain was not as intense as before.



Travis Anglin



The rain started



Andrew Senter, Travis Anglin, and Austin Young getting the food for lunch from the canoe



Austin Young setting up lunch



Austin Young, Travis Anglin, Andrew Senter, Aiden Fischesser, Tyler Fischesser



Aiden Fischesser, Andrew Senter, Austin Young



Tyler Fischesser



Travis Anglin



Mrs. Lohmueller



Travis Anglin carrying a kiddie pool he pulled from the river



Crossing under the Foster's Bridge



Looking downstream



Mrs. Lohmueller, carrying a bucket she found in the river



Austin Young, Aiden Fischesser, Andrew Senter



Tyler Fischesser



Travis Anglin, carrying some trash he picked up in the river



Austin Young, Andrew Senter



Mrs. Lohmueller



Tyler Fischesser



Pulling off the river at the Izaak Walton League



Pulling off the river at the Izaak Walton League



Getting off the river at the Izaak Walton League



Getting off the river at the Izaak Walton League



Using the boat ramp to pull the canoe and kayakers off the river



Austin Young using the winch to pull the kayakers off the river



The pile of trash the Scouts pulled off the river



Andrew Senter, Mr. Wilkens, Tyler Fischesser, Austin Young, Aiden Fischesser hanging out at camp before dinner



Aiden Fischesser



Austin Young cooking dinner



Tyler Fischesser cleaning the griddle



Aiden Fischesser, Austin Young cleaning the griddle



Andrew Senter, Tyler Fischesser doing the dishes



Mr. Wilkens teaching Totin Chip to Tyler Fischesser



Tyler Fischesser practicing using a hatchet at part of his Totin Chip training

After dinner, the Scouts took a 3.2-mile roundtrip hike into Loveland, OH to get some ice cream from the Loveland Sweet Shoppe.



Inside the Loveland Sweet Shoppe



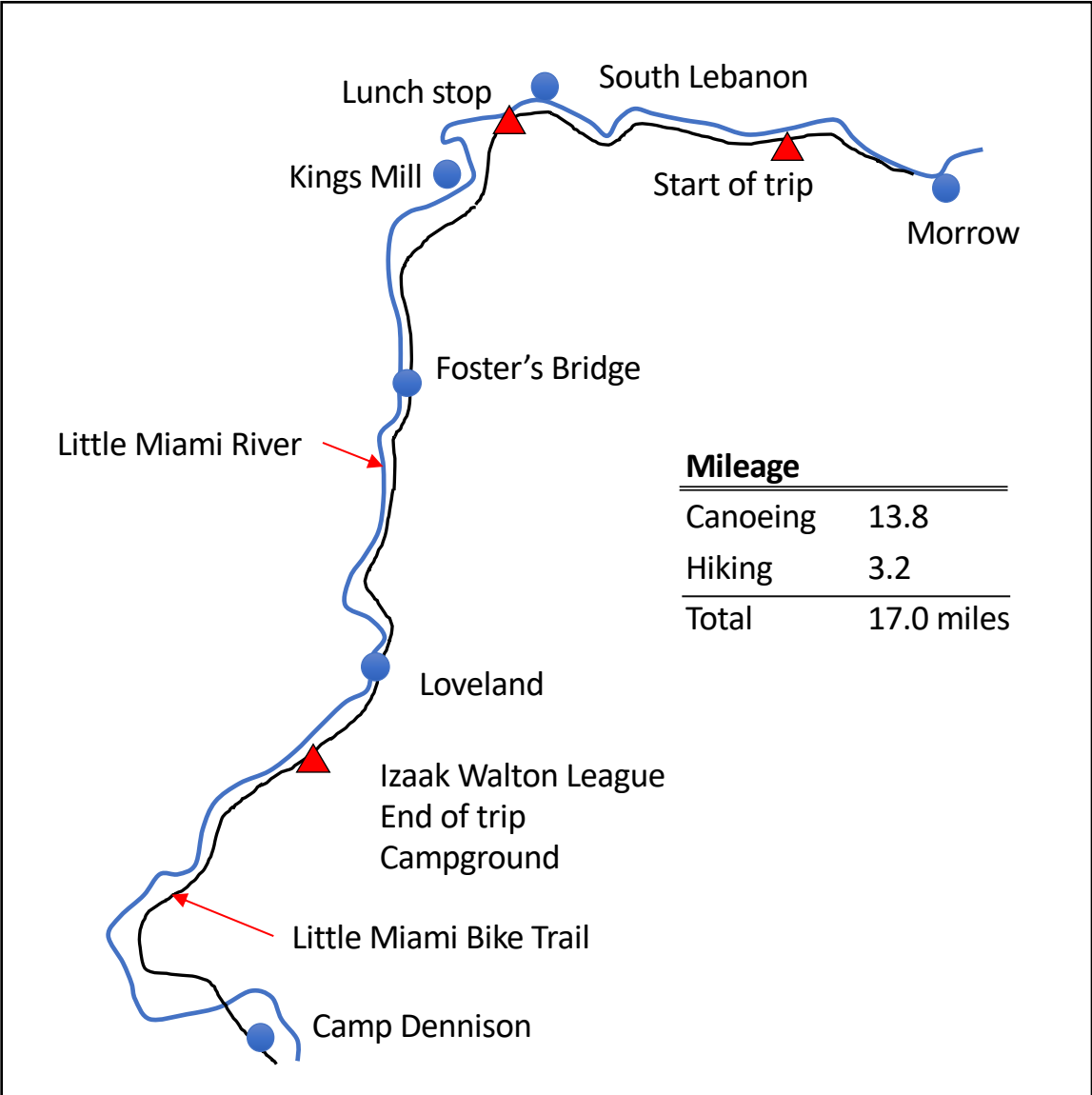
Aiden Fischesser, Travis Anglin, Austin Young



Sweet treat



Austin Young giving his approval of his ice cream



Conservation service Gorman Heritage Farm Evendale, OH

August

For the high adventure trip this summer the Troop went to Summit Bechtel Reserve for the whitewater adventure. The Scouts completed all the requirements for the 50-Miler Award except for the 10 hours of service time. The Troop organized a service workday at Gorman Heritage Farm to help the scouts complete their service time.

The focus of the work on this day was to repair the water bars that had been placed on the trail. Water bars consist of large pieces of wood placed on a trail diagonally to the direction of travel. The purpose of the water bars is to direct water off the trail to help prevent erosion. Over time, however, dirt fills in above the water bar, making them ineffective. Water also erodes the dirt downstream of the water bar, making them unstable. The job for the scouts was to remove dirt upstream of the water bar so water could be properly redirected, and then place the dirt downstream of the water bar to stabilize it.



Aiden Fischesser



Declan McGrath



Ben Adkins



A properly maintained water bar



Nathan Hoffman, Aiden Fischesser, Declan McGrath, Mr. Lohmueller, Ben Adkins



Declan McGrath



Nathan Hoffman



Ben Adkins



Aiden Fischesser, Mr. Lohmueller,
Nathan Hoffman



Ben Adkins, Declan McGrath,
Aiden Fischesser



Ben Adkins, Declan McGrath



Taking a break in the upper shelter house:
Aiden Fischesser, Declan McGrath, Ben Adkins, Nathan Hoffman,
Mr. Lohmueller



Nathan Hoffman, Declan McGrath, Aiden Fischesser, Mr. McGrath, Ben Adkins

Caving

Marengo Cave

Marengo, Indiana

August

Marengo Cave is a cave located in Marengo, Indiana. The Troop has gone to this cave for many years as it is a favorite among the Scouts. The Scouts do a wild cave tour that involves crawling through tight passages, getting wet and muddy, and exploring the cave in its natural environment. This year the Scouts did the Underground Adventure wild cave tour. All Saturday tours were already booked, so the Scouts did the cave tour early Sunday morning.



Camden Casto setting up his tent in the light of the shelter before moving it to the tent area.



The campsite.



On Friday night a strong thunderstorm with high winds blew through the area. A tree branch fell on Mrs. McDowell's car.



Tyler Fischesser, Gavin Downing



Matthew Shelhamer

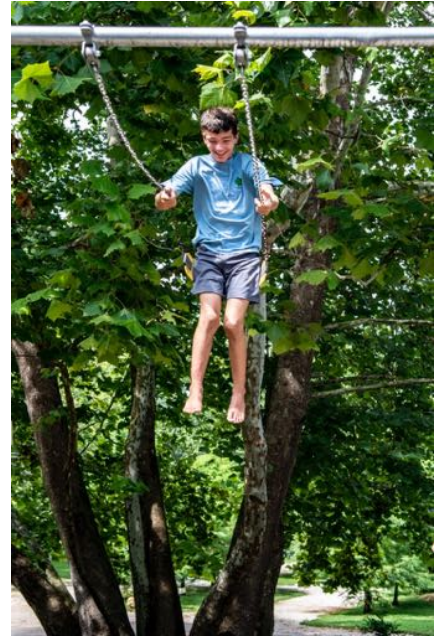
The Scouts spent the morning on Saturday hanging out and playing on the playset in the campground. They also worked on some advancement. In the afternoon, the Scouts were able to play in the adventure arena at the campground. The arena includes pedal go carts, a climbing tower, miniature golf, a maze, a cave crawl simulator, and gemstone mining. The arena wasn't part of the original plan of activities, so the Scouts were very excited about the newfound opportunity.



Tyler Fischesser, Gavin Downing, Camden Casto



Camden Casto



Aiden Fischesser

The Sky Climber is a tower that participants can climb up. Each level of the tower consists of a web of straps that one must climb through and then use to reach the next level. The straps are very stretchy, which adds to the challenge. A twisting slide is used to get down.



The Sky Climber



Gavin Downing in The Sky Climber



Camden Casto



Tyler Fischesser



Gavin Downing



Aiden Fischesser

The pedal carts are manually powered go carts. Participants get to drive the carts around a loop track.



Gavin Downing



Camden Casto



Aiden Fischesser



Camden Casto



Aiden Fischesser

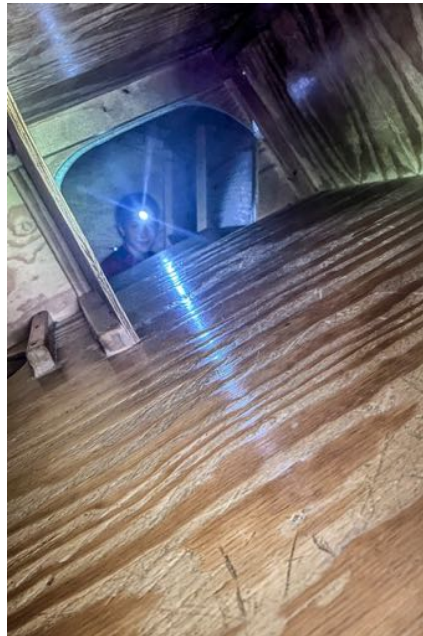


Matthew Shelhamer

The cave crawl simulator is a 3-dimensional maze structure made of plywood. Participants have to crawl through the tight passages from the entrance to the exit.



Aiden Fischesser



Gavin Downing



Gavin Downing



Camden Casto



Tyler Fischesser



Camden Casto



Aiden Fischesser

The Scouts were also able to play some glow in the dark miniature golf. In addition to being a fun game, the room was also air conditioned, making it a big hit with the Scouts.



Camden Casto, Matt Schomaker, Gavin Downing



Mr. Schomaker, Matt Schomaker



Tyler Fischesser, Aiden Fischesser, Gavin Downing



Matthew Shelhamer

The goal of the maze was to get from the entrance to the exit as quickly as possible. There was an observation deck that rose above the maze in the center.



Gavin Downing



Tyler Fischesser



Camden Casto



Tyler Fischesser



Camden Casto



Gavin Downing



Tyler Fischesser



Gavin Downing

Each Scout received a bag of sand that contained gemstones and they were able to mine for the gemstones by sifting the sand and gemstones in the water sluice.



Aiden Fischesser



Tyler Fischesser



Aiden Fischesser, Gavin Downing,
Camden Casto



Matt Schomaker, Aiden Fischesser,
Gavin Downing



Mrs. McDowell, Matthew Shelhamer



Tyler Fischesser petting the camp cat,
Maximilian



Sample of the gemstones the Scouts mined

After sifting their gemstones, the Scouts enjoyed using the sifting trays to block the flow of water in the sluice, then releasing the water to have it rush down the sluice.



Tyler Fischesser, Matt Schomaker, Camden Casto, Gavin Downing, Aiden Fischesser



Camden Casto, Aiden Fischesser



Camden Casto, Aiden Fischesser, Tyler Fischesser, Matt Schomaker



Mr. Schomaker



Aiden Fischesser



Matt Schomaker

Several times while the Scouts were in the campsite, a dog came to visit. They learned from a staff worker that the dog belongs to a house that is adjacent to the campground and that he frequently roams the campground. He was a friendly dog. The Scouts named him Samuel.



Tyler Fischesser with Samuel



Gavin Downing helping to get a fire started

After dinner, the Scouts started a game of football on the road in front of the campsite.



Matt Schomaker



Tyler Fischesser, Aiden Fischesser



Tyler Fischesser



Matt Schomaker, Tyler Fischesser, Gavin Downing



Tyler Fischesser, Aiden Fischesser, Matt Schomaker, Gavin Downing, Camden Casto



Saturday evening, the Scouts packed up all the crew gear that wasn't needed for the rest of the campout



Camden Casto with Samuel



Old Town Spring Cave entrance. This is where the Scouts entered the cave



The Scouts saw a long-tailed salamander in the cave



A row of stalactites growing on the ceiling



This room is called Sweet Potato Hollow because locals used the room to store food in the late 1800s. The Scouts are climbing over breakdown, which is rocks that have collapsed from the ceiling.



The Nowhere Crawl. This is about a 300-foot crawl that forms a loop, ending up next to the beginning.



Gavin Downing in the Nowhere Crawl



Traversing the Headbangers Crawl



The Scouts had the option to do a short side crawl that leads to a small room.



Mr. Schomaker



Camden Casto climbing down a ladder to get to a deeper level of the cave



Tyler Fischesser climbing down a ladder to get to a deeper level of the cave



For a portion of the tour the route passed through a long passage that also has a stream. Sometimes the Scouts could walk on ground, but other times had to walk in the stream.



For a portion of the tour the route passed through a long passage that also has a stream. Sometimes the Scouts could walk on rock, but other times had to walk in the stream.





For a portion of the tour the route passed through a long passage that also has a stream. Sometimes the Scouts could walk on rock, but other times had to walk in the stream.



The Bath tub is where the water was the deepest.



Gavin Downing , Aiden Fischesser, Tyler Fischesser, Camden Casto, Matt Schomaker



Camden Casto crawling off the main passage into the side route called the Water Crawl. This is about a 150-foot crawl through a passage that is about 2 feet tall. The floor of the passage is covered in water and mud along most of the passage.



Guide, Gavin Downing, Camden Casto, Tyler Fischesser, Matt Schomaker, Aiden Fischesser, Mr. Schomaker



Mr. Lohmueller, Mr. Schomaker, Aiden Fischesser, Tyler Fischesser, Matt Schomaker, Gavin Downing, Camden Casto

Fall Court of Honor Evendale Cultural Arts Center Evendale, OH

September

Scouts were recognized at the Fall Court of Honor for the advancement they earned in the last 6 months, which included summer camp. A total of 16 scouts earned 59 merit badges, and 9 scouts earned 11 rank badges. The court of honor also included a ceremony to recognize Joseph Mickenberg as the Troop's newest Eagle Scout



Travis Anglin and Tyler Fischesser bringing in the US flag



Austin Young, Joe Adkins, and Tyler Fischesser bringing in the Troop flag



Petey Wilkens led the opening of the Court of Honor



Wesley Anglin offered the opening prayer

In the first part of the ceremony, Scouts offered their remembrances of the various campouts since the last Court of Honor.



Petey Wilkens



Gavin Downing



Ben Adkins



Nathan Young



Nathan Hoffman



Wesley Anglin



Matt Schomaker



Aiden Fischesser



Travis Anglin



Camden Casto



Tyler Fischesser



Austin Young



Petey Wilkens, Aiden Fischesser, Austin Young, Travis Anglin, Nathan Young, Nathan Hoffman, Ben Adkins, Wesley Anglin



Mr. Lohmueller talked about the upcoming events



Mrs. Wilkens, as Advancement Chair, presented the merit badges and rank the Scouts earned



Ben Adkins earned 6 merit badges and Life rank



Joe Adkins earned 6 merit badges and Second Class and First Class ranks



Travis Anglin earned 5 merit badges



Wesley Anglin earned 2 merit badges



Camden Casto earned 8 merit badges and the Scout and Tenderfoot ranks



Gavin Downing earned 4 merit badges and the Tenderfoot rank



Aiden Fischesser earned 6 merit badges



Tyler Fischesser earned 3 merit badges



Nathan Hoffman earned 2 merit badges and Second Class rank



Matt Schomaker earned 4 merit badges and the Star rank



Petey Wilkens earned 1 merit badge



Austin Young earned 6 merit badges and the First Class rank



Nathan Young earned 1 merit badge

The following Scouts earned merit badges and rank but weren't at the Court of Honor

- Jake Patrick earned 1 merit badge and First Class Rank
- James McConnell earned 3 merit badges
- Declan McGrath earned 1 merit badge

Declan McGrath also earned the National Outdoor Award for Aquatics and an Eagle Palm

Joseph Mickenberg earned the Eagle Rank and chose to receive his recognition at this Court of Honor. He is the Troop's 75th Eagle Scout



Joseph Mickenberg with his parents at the beginning of the Eagle ceremony



Mrs. Wilkens read to Joseph Mickenberg the Eagle Scout Obligation, challenging him to remember the obligations of an Eagle Scout to live with honor, loyalty, courage, responsibility, and service.



Mr. Wilkens read the Eagle Introduction



Mr. Lohmueller read the Eagle Charge, which challenged Joseph Mickenberg to dedicate his skills for the greater good.



Brian Adkins led all Eagle Scouts in the Eagle Pledge, which challenges each Eagle to live his life as an example of the Scout Oath and Law.



Brian Adkins reminded Joseph Mickenberg that as an Eagle, he will become an example to others, and that others will expect more of him.



Mrs. Wilkens presented Joseph Mickenberg with his Eagle awards



Mrs. Wilkens presented Joseph Mickenberg with his Eagle awards



Joseph Mickenberg's father presented him with the Eagle pin and attached it to his uniform.



Joseph Mickenberg's father presented him with the Eagle certificate

After the Eagle ceremony, Mr. Lohmueller presented the Scoutmaster Choice bead award and offered up a Scoutmaster minute.



Mr. Lohmueller chose to recognize Matt Schomaker with the Scoutmaster Choice bead award



Mr. Lohmueller gave a Scoutmaster Minute about a mountain man and his hunting dog, stressing the importance of staying focused on what is important



Wesley Anglin presented the closing prayer



Travis Anglin and Austin Young retired the flags



Mr. Wilkens, Mrs. Wilkens, Wesley Anglin, Ben Adkins, Travis Anglin, Tyler Fischesser, Nathan Young, Petey Wilkens, Nathan Hoffman, Matt Schomaker, Aiden Fischesser, Joe Adkins, Austin Young, Camden Casto, Joseph Mickenberg, Gavin Downing, Mr. Lohmueller.



Joseph Mickenberg, Troop 598's 75th Eagle Scout

Soaring Caesar's Creek Soaring Club Waynesville, OH

September

The Troop spent the weekend at the Caesar's Creek Soaring Club. The Troop is able to camp for the weekend on the club's property, right next to the airstrip. On Saturday, the Scouts are able to take a soaring flight up with a trained pilot in two-seater glider airplanes. A tow plane pulls the glider up to around 3,000 feet in elevation. At that point, the glider detaches from the tow plane and is free to soar. The rides were about 20-30 minutes. Low cloud cover kept the rides shorter than in the past. Several scouts got the chance to actually pilot the plane while soaring.



Tyler Fischesser helping Matthew Shelhamer set up his tent



Troop's campsite



Tyler Fischesser making dinner



Mr. Wilkens helping Camden Casto set up the dishwashing stations

The morning started out somewhat chilly with heavy fog blanketing the area.



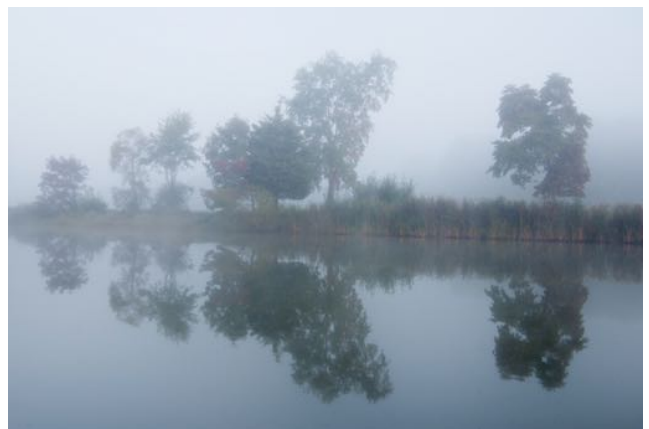
Campsite in early morning



Camden Casto, Tyler Fischesser



The sun peaking through the fog over the airstrip



The Troop camped next to a small pond



Tyler Fischesser cleaning the cast iron griddle used for breakfast



Dew covered spider web next to the corn field



Tyler Fischesser and Camden Casto doing breakfast dishes

The Troop wasn't scheduled to start flying until late morning, so the Scouts took the opportunity to go fishing in the small pond next to the campsite.



Tyler Fischesser getting his fishing gear ready



Austin Young setting up his tent since he arrived Saturday morning.



Camden Casto was the first to catch a fish, just a few minutes after starting.



Mr. Wilkens caught a fish.



Tyler Fischesser



Mr. Wilkens helping Camden Casto get a fish off of his hook



Tyler Fischesser and Camden Casto took the canoe out onto the pond to fish



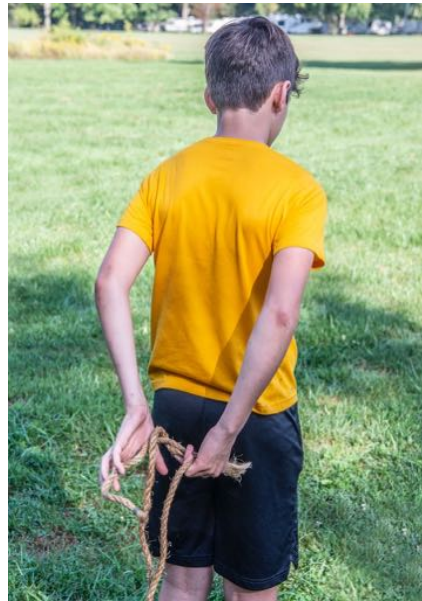
Tyler Fischesser and Camden Casto fishing out on the pond



Matthew Shelhamer practicing how to tie a square knot



Matthew Shelhamer trying to tie the square knot behind his back



Tyler Fischesser trying to tie the square knot behind his back



Camden Casto

Mr. Wilkens recently learned a new knot called the Trucker's Hitch. The knot can be used to act like a pulley, helping to gain mechanical advantage if you need to pull a heavy object. He taught Nathan Young how to tie and then use the knot.



Nathan Young practicing tying the Trucker's Hitch



Mr. Lohmueller did not know the knot, so Nathan Young taught him how to tie it



Mr. Lohmueller, Camden Casto, Austin Young



Mr. Wilkens working advancement with Tyler Fischesser



Tyler Fischesser



Austin Young, Camden Casto



Mr. Lohmueller challenged Nathan Young to use the knot in a real-world application. Using Mr. Wilkens' truck as an anchor, Nathan Young used the knot to move a picnic table with 4 people sitting on it. Without the knot he couldn't move the table by pulling on the rope.



Camden Casto and Tyler Fischesser testing out the Trucker's Hitch



Mr. Wilkens and Matthew Shelhamer pulling Nathan Young



Austin Young trying out the Trucker's Hitch



Nathan Young



Mr. Wilkens and Matthew Shelhamer tossing a Frisbee



Mr. Lohmueller explaining the controls on an airplane to Austin Young



Austin Young getting ready to fly



Austin Young



Austin Young receiving instructions from the pilot



Austin Young heading down the runway



Austin Young lifting off into the air



Austin Young



Nathan Young receiving instructions from the pilot



Austin Young coming in for a landing



Nathan Young



Nathan Young



Nathan Young



Tyler Fischesser receiving instructions from the pilot



Tyler Fischesser



Tyler Fischesser



Matthew Shelhamer



The club uses a golf cart to move the gliders around



Matthew Shelhamer



The Scouts played the card game *Super Fight* while waiting for their turn to fly



Camden Casto



Camden Casto



Camden Casto



Camden Casto



Mrs. Young



Mrs. Young



Mrs. Young



Mr. Lohmueller



Mr. Lohmueller receiving instructions from his pilot



Mr. Lohmueller



View from the cockpit while still being towed up to altitude



View of the airstrip



View of the Troop's campsite



View from the cockpit while soaring



Mr. Lohmueller



Mr. Lohmueller



Camden Casto and Austin Young took the canoe out onto the pond to fish



Mr. Lohmueller helping Camden Casto and Austin Young with the canoe



Austin Young



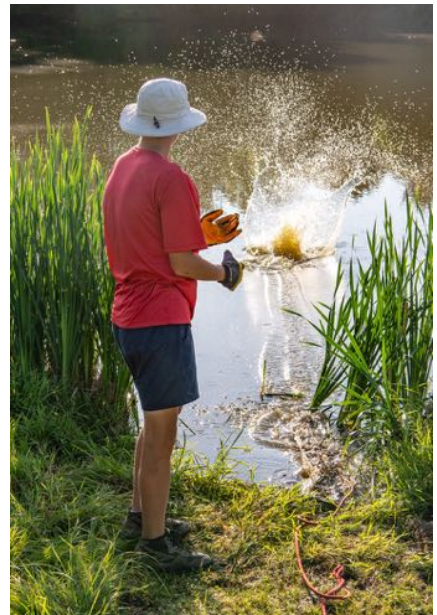
Austin Young playing with Mr. Lohmueller's camera



Mr. Wilkens helping Tyler Fischesser and Camden Casto get a fish off a hook



Tyler Fischesser trying magnetic fishing



Austin Young trying magnetic fishing



Austin Young making dinner



Matthew Shelhamer making dinner



Austin Young, Matthew Shelhamer



Tyler Fischesser doing the dinner dishes



Sunset



Another foggy morning as Mr. Wilkens helps Matthew Shelhamer fold his tent



Austin Young tried (unsuccessfully) to convince Mr. Lohmueller to allow him to drive home from the campout



Mr. Lohmueller, Matthew Shelhamer, Mr. Wilkens, Austin Young, Camden Casto, Tyler Fischesser

Troop Elections

BTAP

Evendale, OH

September

Twice a year the Troop holds elections to select Scouts to lead the Troop through the various leadership positions.

Scouts elected:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Scout</u>
Senior Patrol Leader	Matt Schomaker
Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders	Ben Adkins Declan McGrath
Patrol Leaders	Joe Adkins Jake Patrick
Quartermaster	Aiden Fischesser
Scribe	Nathan Hoffman
Historian	Camden Casto
Chaplain Aide	Jake Patrick
Leave No Trace Trainer	Matthew Shelhamer
Webmaster	Jake Patrick
OA Rep	Declan McGrath
Den Chief	Matthew Shelhamer Austin Young

On the first meeting in October, the newly elected Scouts were sworn into their positions. Mr. Lohmueller, as Scoutmaster, swore in the new Senior Patrol Leader, Matt Schomaker. Matthew then swore in the rest of the new leaders.



Matt Schomaker



Matt Schomaker, Nathan Hoffman



Matt Schomaker, Joe Adkins, Jake Patrick



Matthew Shelhamer, Matt Schomaker



Aiden Fischesser, Camden Cast, Matt Schomaker



Austin Young

Camp Conservation Day

Camp Friedlander

Loveland, OH

November

Dan Beard Council organizes a council wide service day at Camp Friedlander every spring and again every fall. The goal is to provide an opportunity for Scouts to come out to provide service for the benefit of the camp. Typical activities performed are trail maintenance, tree planting, and invasive species removal.

On this day, several Scouts started with clearing vegetation on the side of the trail and removing honeysuckle, which is an invasive species. As such, honeysuckle is very harmful to native ecosystems.



Matthew Shelhamer



Travis Anglin



Tyler Fischesser



Mr. Wilkens



Mr. Anglin

Most of the work throughout the morning was spent on repairing and building new water bars in the trail. The Scouts were working on the trail leading from Camp Craig down to Cub World. The trail is somewhat steep in this area and is prone to erosion. Water bars are used in the trail to help prevent this erosion. Water bars are shallow trenches dug across the trail to direct water off the side of the trail rather than allowing it to run down the length of the trail.



Nathan Young



Wesley Anglin



Mr. Wilkens



Austin Young



Tyler Fischesser



An example of a finished water bar



Wesley Anglin, Travis Anglin, Mr. Wilkens, Austin Young, Tyler Fischesser, Matthew Shelhamer, Nathan Young, Mr. Anglin, Mr. Lohmueller

After a morning of working, the event organizers provided everyone with hamburgers and fries for lunch..



The Scouts had some time before leaving, so they kicked a basketball around. The Scouts had found an old basketball while working on the trail and took it home.

Rocket Campout Gorman Heritage Farm Evendale, OH

November

One of the traditional campouts for the Troop is to go to Gorman Farm in Evendale, OH. On Friday evening, the Troop does a flag retirement ceremony. On Saturday, the Scouts do a service project for the farm in the morning, and then Scouts can launch model rockets in the afternoon. The service project for this year involved removing leaves and dirt from a drainage ditch next to the parking lot, as well as leaves from the area around the main building.



View of the Mill Creek Valley at dusk



Joe Adkins starting the fire



Camden Casto



Aiden Fischesser hanging out by the fire



Aiden Fischesser, Joe Adkins, Camden Casto, Travis Anglin, Matthew Shelhamer



The Scouts hanging out by the fire



The Scouts were camping by the upper shelter house

On Friday evening the Troop held a ceremony to respectfully retire several worn US flags. The official policy is that flags, once no longer a fitting symbol of the US, should be destroyed in a dignified manner, preferably by burning.



Joe Adkins and Travis Anglin displaying one of the flags to be retired



Aiden Fischesser retiring one of the flags by placing it into the fire



Camden Casto retiring one of the flags by placing it into the fire



Dawn breaking over the camp site



Camden Casto was given a Scoutmaster Challenge to get a fire going using only natural items and the remaining embers for the previous night's fire



Camden Casto was successful



It was a frosty morning. The Scouts earned a clear overnight bead



The Troop was able to recover from the fire pit many of the grommets from the retired flags



Camden Casto and Mr. Wilkens looking to recover the grommets from the retired flags in the fire pit



Aiden Fischesser, Joe Adkins, Travis Anglin



Aiden Fischesser



Travis Anglin

Each year the Troop performs a service project for Gorman Farm. This year, the farm asked the Scouts to clear out a drainage ravine next to the parking lot. The ravine was filled up with leaves and dirt.



Starting the project



Camden Casto



The handle of a rake broke, and Nathan Young jumped at the chance to use the kiddie rake



The Scouts used a tarp to help move the leaves into the woods



Jake Patrick, Camden Casto, Austin Young



The end of the drainage ravine had a lot of dirt buildup



Camden Casto



Aiden Fischesser



Nathan Hoffman and Jake Patrick



Hauling the leaves to dump them in the woods



Camden Casto picking up one leaf at a time by stabbing it with a broken handle



Austin Young



The end result



Austin Young, Mr. Lohmueller, Nathan Hoffman, Nathan Young, Mr. Anglin, Aiden Fischesser, Camden Casto, Jake Patrick, Mr. Wilkens, Travis Anglin



Mr. Young showing off the old rocket that was found in the woods. The rocket had the initials CK – Clay Kessler later recalled losing his rocket on a Troop campout in 2018

The Scouts had a bit of free time while they waited to find out what their next project assignment was, so they started up a football game in the parking lot.



Nathan Hoffman, Camden Casto, Jake Patrick, Aiden Fischesser



Nathan Hoffman



Jake Patrick, Camden Casto, Nathan Hoffman



Nathan Hoffman, Aiden Fischesser



US flag at Gorman Farm



Nathan Hoffman, Aiden Fischesser



Camden Casto

The Scouts still had some time available, so the farm asked them to clean up around the main building.



Mr. Wilkens, Travis Anglin raking leaves in front of the main building



Nathan Young, Nathan Hoffman, Austin Young



Mr. Anglin, Travis Anglin, Aiden Fischesser raking leaves behind the main building



Jake Patrick, Mr. Anglin, Nathan Hoffman, Camden Casto



Travis Anglin cracking open some American black walnuts to taste the nut inside



Aiden Fischesser

Gorman Farm asked the Scouts to raise a new flag at the Soil and Stars building the farm owns next to their property. The Scouts performed a flag raising ceremony.



Camden Casto, Travis Anglin



Camden Casto, Travis Anglin



Camden Casto, Travis Anglin



Camden Casto, Jake Patrick



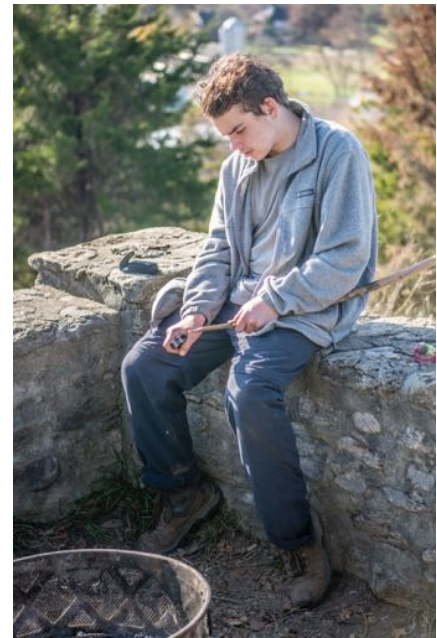
Travis Anglin, Aiden Fischesser, Nathan Hoffman, Camden Casto



Blackberry bush



Lunch time; Travis Anglin, Camden Casto



Travis Anglin



Kitchen area



Aiden Fischesser, Nathan Hoffman doing dishes



Camden Casto cleaning the griddle



View looking out over the Mill Creek Valley



Travis Anglin, Aiden Fischesser, Nathan Hoffman, Camden Casto

After lunch, the Scouts headed out into the field and played football for 3 hours. The teams were Jake Patrick and Camden Casto against Aiden Fischesser and Nathan Hoffman. Team Fischesser/Hoffman won 77 to 70.



Aiden Fischesser, Jake Patrick



Camden Casto, Jake Patrick



Nathan Hoffman, Camden Casto



Camden Casto, Nathan Hoffman



Jake Patrick. Aiden Fischesser



Travis Anglin was the referee



Aiden Fischesser, Nathan Hoffman, Camden Casto, and Travis Anglin taking a break at halftime.



Camden Casto, Jake Patrick, Aiden Fischesser



Jake Patrick, Nathan Hoffman, Camden Casto



Camden Casto, Aiden Fischesser, Nathan Hoffman



Camden Casto, Aiden Fischesser



Nathan Hoffman, Camden Casto



Jake Patrick



Aiden Fischesser, Camden Casto



Camden Casto, Nathan Hoffman

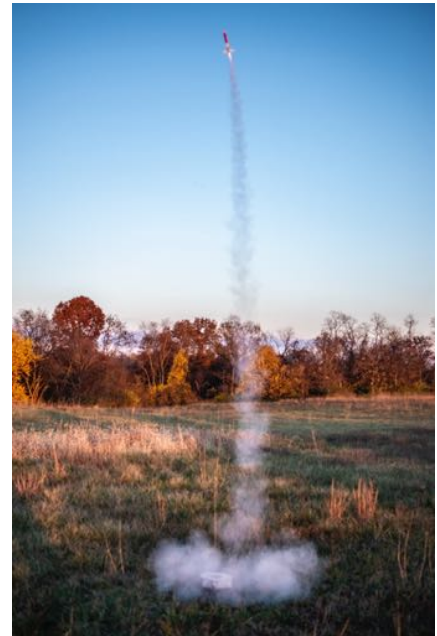
Late in the afternoon the Scouts launched model rockets. Two Scouts, Jake Patrick and Travis Anglin, brought rockets.



Retrieving Jake Patrick's rocket after launch



Travis Anglin



Travis Anglin's rocket launch

The Scouts planned a Thanksgiving meal for dinner.



Hanging out by the fire after dinner



Hanging out by the fire after dinner



The Scouts had another beautiful sunrise



Joe Adkins digging a hole to bury the ashes from the campfire.



The upper shelter house and a view of the valley below.



Mr. Wilkens, Jake Patrick, Joe Adkins, Aiden Fischesser, Travis Anglin, Camden Casto, Mr. Lohmueller

Rock Climbing Mosaic Climbing Gym Loveland, Ohio

December

Troop 1598 organized an overnight at Mosaic Climbing Gym and invited Troop 598 to join them. The Scouts were able to climb for about 4 hours on Saturday evening and another half hour on Sunday morning.



Staff member Chris giving the safety talk and instructions



Climbing prizes. The Troop hid tags in various spots around the climbing walls. If a Scout found the tag, they could claim a prize



Aiden Fischesser, Austin Young



Austin Young



Jake Patrick



Gavin Downing



Mr. Lohmueller giving some pointers to Matthew Shelhamer



Travis Anglin



Austin Young



Travis Anglin



Mr. Lohmueller



Wesley Anglin, Austin Young, Travis Anglin



Nathan Young



Gavin Downing



Matthew Shelhamer



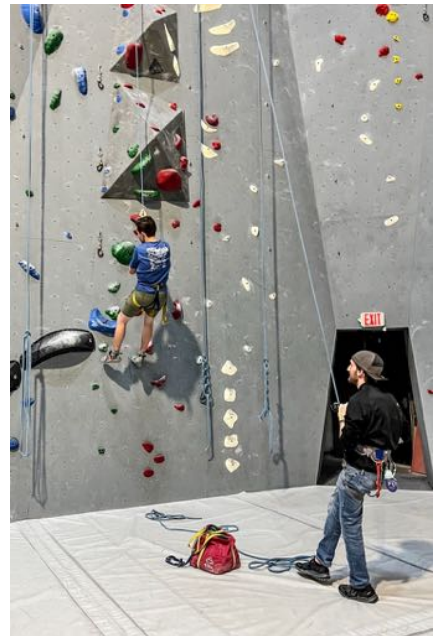
Austin Young



Aiden Fischesser



Camden Casto



Wesley Anglin



Nathan Young, Travis Anglin



Jake Patrick



Aiden Fischesser



Wesley Anglin



Nathan Young



Henry Olberding (guest of Tyler Fischesser)



Samantha Young, Nathan Young, Austin Young, Mr. Young



Gavin Downing, Aiden Fischesser



Tyler Fischesser



Gavin Downing



Camden Casto



Camden Casto



Gavin Downing claiming a climbing prize



Wesley Anglin in the bouldering room



Austin Young



Jake Patrick



Wesley Anglin



Tyler Fischesser



Camden Casto



Nathan Young and Austin Young racing each other up to the top of the climbing routes

After climbing in the main room of the gym, the Scouts moved to a second room for bouldering. In this room, the climbing walls are less than 10 feet high and do not use top ropes for safety. The floor is covered with thick mats for safety. Bouldering allows for climbing sideways along the wall instead of going straight up as in top rope climbing.



Matthew Shelhamer



Wesley Anglin



Wesley Anglin



Travis Anglin



Austin Young



Austin Young



Tyler Fischesser, Camden Casto



Matthew Shelhamer



Matthew Shelhamer grabbing a climbing prize token



Wesley Anglin climbing up



Wesley Anglin coming down after reaching the top



Travis Anglin



Nathan Young, Austin Young, Travis Anglin



Nathan Young



Tyler Fischesser



Camden Casto and Matthew Shelhamer taking a break and playing a card game



Tyler Fischesser



The Scouts started up a game of football using a tennis ball



The staff member brought out a safety cone to use as a baseball bat, so the Scouts shifted to baseball



Wesley Anglin



Once many of the Scouts got tired from climbing, they convened in the lobby to play card games



Austin Young



Matthew Shelhamer, Mr. Young



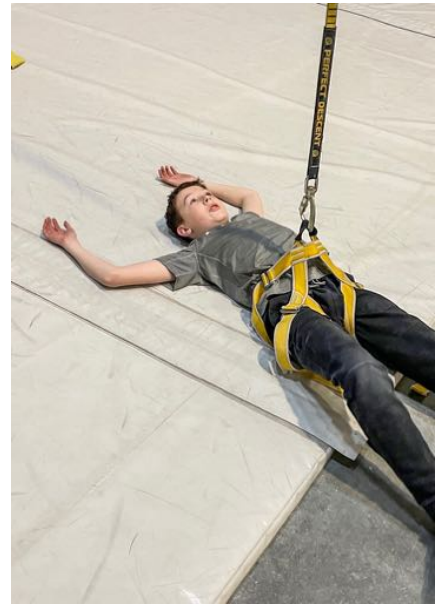
Tyler Fischesser, Jake Patrick



Aiden Fischesser, Gavin Downing



Mr. Lohmueller trying a challenge in the bouldering room



Camden Casto



Several Scouts participated in a tumbling race across the gym



Playing tag in the bouldering room



Scouts playing a card game



Gavin Downing, Aiden Fischesser, Camden Casto, Jake Patrick, and Travis Anglin playing a game the Scouts call JP&D



Troop 598 set up their sleeping bags in the main gym area and 1598 set up in a separate room



Breakfast time



View of the main climbing room



Mrs. Casto, Sixtine Couturier, Samantha Young, Edie Harris, Eva Casto, Ally Downing, Mr. Young, Nathan Young , Matthew Shelhamer, Aiden Fischesser, Travis Anglin, Austin Young, Wesley Anglin, Jake Patrick, Camden Casto, Tyler Fischesser Gavin Downing, Henry Olberding (guest), Mr. Lohmueller



Gavin Downing, Jake Patrick, and Joseph Mickenberg at Merit Badge Challenge. This year the event was held over three weekends in January and February at Fairfield High School



Participation patch for Merit Badge Challenge



The bead cords for this year incorporate an indigo color band. This year's grubmaster bead was a pie. The grubmaster got to choose either a cherry or blueberry pie.



During a Troop meeting the Scouts played a game where each person was assigned a disability, and they then had to cross a mine field without stepping on anything. The goal was to get the entire team across the obstacles.



Petey Wilkens and Mr. Wilkens explaining how the patrol boxes are set up to Camden Casto while Matt Schomaker helps to organize one of the boxes.



Mr. Wilkens helping Gavin Downing learn lashings



Mr. Wilkens helping Andrew Senter learn lashings



Scouts played whiffle ball as a game during a meeting

During one of the meetings, the Scouts played a game called Dragon Tail. In this game, everyone gets into one of two lines. The last person in the line tucks a towel into the back of their shorts. The goal for each team is to get the opposing team's towel first, while staying together as a team in a line.



Joe Adkins, Declan McGrath, Matt Schomaker, Nate Booher, Jake Patrick, Camden Casto



Camden Casto, Jake Patrick, Nate Booher, Matt Schomaker, Declan McGrath, Joe Adkins



Each summer the Evendale Cultural Arts Center hosts an art event called The Big Art Party. Troop 598 provides service time to organize the parking lot. Mr. Lohmueller, Declan McGrath, Matt Schomaker, Mr. McGrath

Throughout the summer, the Troop provided opportunities for the Scouts to complete the Personal Fitness Merit Badge and the personal fitness requirements for Tenderfoot rank. Mr. Schomaker led the effort.



Mr. Wilkens helping Aiden Fischesser with situps with Pety Wilkens helping Edie Harris from Troop 1598

During another one of the meetings, the Scouts held a Rock, Paper, Scissors tournament.



Matt Schomaker, Aiden Fischesser, Matthew Shelhamer, Nathan Hoffman



Jake Patrick, Nathan Hoffman, Camden Casto, Matt Schomaker

During the last meeting of the year, the Scouts had a Christmas themed meeting. For a competition, they held a Scout wrap-off. Troop 1598 joined in on the competition where each patrol had to wrap a Scout. The three patrols were then judged for teamwork and creativity to determine the winning patrol.



Nathan Hoffman, Tyler Fischesser, and Travis Anglin with the Royal Pickle Patrol



Camden Casto, Austin Young, and Matthew Shelhamer with the Flaming Ducks Patrol



Samantha Young, Eva Casto, Zoey Scott and Edie Harris with the Luxurious Llamas Patrol from Troop 1598



The final results. The winner is.... The Flaming Ducks

Personal Notes

Personal Notes



Scout Oath

On my honor I will do my best
to do my duty to God and my country
and to obey the Scout Law;
to help other people at all times;
to keep myself physically strong,
mentally awake, and morally straight.

Scout Law

A Scout is:

Trustworthy
Loyal
Helpful
Friendly
Courteous
Kind
Obedient
Cheerful
Thrifty
Brave
Clean
Reverent

Outdoor Code

As an American, I will do my best to:

- Be clean in my outdoor manners.
- Be careful with fire.
- Be considerate in the outdoors.
- Be conservation minded.