

The Troop Scoop



Advancement Advice...

You will complete the requirements for any rank with a Scoutmaster Conference. After the SM signs off you are ready to request a Board of Review. Reviews are scheduled once a month. You may sign up on the bulletin board at the church or by contacting our Advancement Chair. (Parents, this is your son's opportunity to grow, please let them sign the board or make the call.) The Advancement Chair will let you know when your review will be held. Always wear your Class A uniform and bring your scout book, Scout Spirit paper, and a pen along with you. The next BOR is planned for October 13th.

off the mark.com by Mark Parisi



Mountain Biking

The deadline to register for this outing is October 6th. Forms are available at the church. No matter your riding level there is something for you at Fort Custer so don't be reluctant to come. Give it a try! Talk with the Outdoor Activity Chair if you need a bike.

Departing on time is important if we want to get to the park and establish camp before dark. Please be at the church with your gear, your bike, and your helmet by 5:30 PM. We'll load the vehicles and be off. Bring a sack lunch or eat before you come. There is no evening meal Friday night, just cracker barrel.

Remember: HELMETS are required!

Marengo Cave

Here's something cool and different to try...on November 7-9 the troop is heading to southern Indiana for a caving adventure at Marengo Caves. Registration information is available at the church. We need to get an early count of interested scouts so you must communicate your interest by October 6th.

Tuck in your Uniform shirt!

By Eric E. Haas

I've often reminded boys to tuck in their uniform shirt. I often accompany that request by adding that, "It's all about respect." What does that mean? Here's the long version...

The Scout movement has earned a sterling reputation throughout the world over the past 101 years. Scouting has a well-deserved reputation for teaching and exemplifying humanity's greatest virtues. The Scout uniform is a symbol of the Scouting movement. Just as the American Flag symbolizes the values that our country was founded on and tries to exemplify, the Scout uniform symbolizes the values of Scouting.

Few Scouts would think of treating an American Flag with disrespect. They wouldn't think of dragging it along the ground. They couldn't imagine flying a tattered flag. They treat the flag with the dignity and respect that its symbolism inspires.

When a boy gets the *privilege* of wearing the Scout uniform, they are living, breathing advertisements for Scouting and all the virtuous things that Scouting stands for. Just as the American Flag represents all the sacrifices of literally millions of soldiers and citizens who have dedicated their lives to further the success of the country, the Scout uniform reminds us of the millions of Scouts around the world who have earned the sterling reputation which

scouting enjoys and the goodwill from which you benefit.

When a boy wears the Scout uniform in a slovenly manner, they are disrespecting all the things that the uniform stands for, just as careless handling of the American Flag shows disrespect for the sacrifices of all the patriots of the past and present.

A boy may not respect himself enough to present a clean and tidy appearance -- that is his prerogative. But disrespecting one's self is different from disrespecting the most prominent symbol of this fine organization.

I'm proud of almost all that scouting represents. I'm proud of being a Boy Scout.

When a boy wears their Scout uniform in a slovenly or disheveled fashion, they are insulting me, the Scout movement, and all the Scouts whose good turns over the past 101 years have made the uniform stand for what it does. I don't want the uniform to start standing for slovenliness and other vices. Please don't change what the uniform stands for. If you are proud of being a scout, show it by how you wear the uniform. If you aren't proud of being a scout, please don't wear the uniform at all.



**BOY SCOUTS
OF AMERICA**

Popcorn Sale 2008

Our sale kicks off on Saturday, October 4th. The more you sell the healthier our troop will be and possibly the more you'll earn for your individual scout account which will help you go to camp, attend outings, and may be buy scout gear at the Scout Shop in Grand Rapids. So put on your uniform and sell, sell, sell!

And remember Scouts reaching their goal of \$250 / \$325 are invited to help the Scoutmaster enjoy his job by giving him a pie in the face. Scoutmaster, are you prepared?



"My doctor says I should try to have more fun at work."

Church Cleanup

Saturday morning, November 1st
Bring rakes, work gloves, tarps, and a cheerful attitude.

Polo Presents?

There are a few troop polo shirts available for purchase at \$19.50 each. These are the gray ones with the 5-color embroidered Troop 147 Eagle Makers logo on the left breast pocket. Christmas is just around the corner so consider purchasing a polo for your special scout or scouter. Contact the Outdoor Activity Chair if you're interested in checking out sizes.

Den Chief Training

The Gerald R. Ford Council is offering a Den Chief Training Conference on Saturday, October 25th at Muskegon Central High School. This day of training is open to a scout currently in a Den Chief position or those that aspire to fulfill this important leadership position. Learn games and songs to spice up your program. Please contact the Scoutmaster if you're interested in attending, pre-registration is required.

Important Dates

SM Meeting.....	October 4
Troop Meeting.....	October 6
Round Table.....	October 9
Troop Meeting (BOR).....	October 13
Fort Custer Weekend.....	Oct 17-19
Court of Honor.....	October 20
Committee Meeting.....	October 23
Den Chief Training.....	October 25 th
Troop Meeting.....	October 27
Church Cleanup.....	November 1

"WHO SAID THAT?"

Match the comments below with the right person and win a prize....simply print off this page, complete your matching game and bring your entry to our meeting on 10/6.

Quoters....

Quotes....

ASPL

"I rented a cool mountain bike last year and found I could do more things like the steps in *Granny's Garden*."

Outdoor Activity Chair

"You don't have to be *Garry Fischer* to ride with us!"

SPL

"It's the best mountain biking experience I've ever had."

Mr. Haas

"There's only one word that describes *Fort Custer* - AWESOME!!"

A Patrol Leader

"I'm looking forward to more face plants, wipe-outs, and *Granny's Garden*!"

Newsletter Editor

"The riding was great and the campfire skits were hysterical."

Chartered Organization Rep

"The trenches are a blast!"