



## SMOKY MOUNTAIN HIGH ADVENTURE

At the end of July, Paul Urminski led a crew on a backpacking trip to the Smoky Mountains. The crew consisted of Crew Leader Graham Eckert, Nate Boyle, David Carlson, Ian Gould, Spencer Kohan, Matt Urminski, and Don Nash. The following is Ian's account of the trip.

The first day we drove to Hungry Mother State Park in Virginia, where we suffered an uncomfortable night camped on wooden platforms. The next day we drove the remaining three hours to Cosby, Tennessee. A chocolate shop off the highway gave us with free fudge, directions, and an invitation back.

Near the Gabes Mountain trailhead we feasted on ramen, then trekked to Hen Wallow Falls, where we enjoyed a rest and a snack before resuming the trail to our first camp. Dinner was Alpine Mac and Cheese, spiced with curry powder and hot sauce. Conversation consisted of whether or not dirt hurts, and the spotting of Don Nash bathing in the nearby freezing stream. We later gathered water from this same stream. Maybe dirt didn't hurt after all.

After an oatmeal breakfast we set off downhill to the intersection with Maddron Bald Trail. This would lead us on a 2000 ft. ascent to our next camp. We stopped for lunch in the old-growth Albright Grove. The continuation of our hike was punctuated with a beautiful lookout. At the campsite we rinsed our sweaty clothes and ourselves in the stream before enjoying a delectable Tuna Casserole and Grasshopper Pie. After dinner we hiked back to the lookout to witness the sunset.

Cream of Wheat fueled our strenuous one-hour uphill hike to the Maddron Bald summit. Here we connected with Snake Den Ridge Trail, which would take us on a steep descent back to Cosby. On the way we paused to visit the graveyard where Ella Costner, the Poet Laureate of the Smokies, was buried. After lunch at the Cosby campground we set out on the Lower Mt. Cammerer Trail to finish the day's 10-mile hike. Dinner was pesto, which was deemed too greasy by the assembly.

On Day Five we took a 14-mile day hike to the top of Mt. Cammerer and back. On the way, we experienced two marvelous lookouts, but the top view was breath taking.

Surrounded by mist, looking at the town far below, we felt like Olympian gods. The black bean burritos were unanimously panned. On the way back down we were blessed with a downpour. Camp was relatively dry, though. We had a meal of yummy choo-choo wheels. That was Don's opinion. The rest of us thought they were atrocious.



In the morning we hiked the three miles back to Cosby, passing a fresh set of bear prints just five minutes out of camp. Back at Cosby we treated the other campers to some Queer classics. Then we made a return visit to the chocolate shop at the highway entrance, this time as paying customers.

On to Fayetteville, West Virginia. We agreed that the commercial campground was expensive for no

reason other than location. We did enjoy excellent Jambalaya, however. Under a forecast for heavy rain most of us spread our sleeping bags under a common tarp.

The next day we awoke to the soothing sound of Ian's voice gently encouraging Graham to find another place to dump the cold rainwater that pooled in the tarp above them other than in Ian's slumbering countenance.

Gray skies and rain prevailed the rest of the day. We went rafting on the New River with Rob, and became a well-oiled machine. We passed under the largest single-arch bridge in the world, and witnessed a raft rescue. We hung around camp to see the video the outfitters had made of our river descent, then headed into town. We went to dinner at a café/used book store converted from a church. Guitars were provided, so Don and Paul strutted their stuff. After dinner we headed over to the mini-pathetic-mall. We expected Lara Croft to make no sense, so we bought squirt guns at the local dollar store and wallowed in our childhood and our last night out before returning home. – Ian Gould/Don Nash



## ISLE ROYALE HIGH ADVENTURE

In early August a second crew went on a canoeing High Adventure to Isle Royale in Lake Superior. This group included Austin Alford, Alex Barnes, Brandon DuGar, Matt Resseger, Mark Rodney, Neil Schaner, Bill Resseger, and Will DuGar. Brandon's account follows.

We spent six days canoeing and portaging around Isle Royale. The roughest day included canoeing in rough water around the island. There was also a 2-1/4 mile portage. The weather was great, except for the lengthy 50-mile ferry ride. A storm depleted the fun to be had while we were aboard *The Isle Royale Queen III*. The first night we were visited by many moose. About a dozen were loitering around our campground. Two highlights of the trip were swimming in three Great Lakes, and hiking Mt. Franklin, 1100 high, and observing the rugged Canadian coast.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to Aric Kalynchuk and Jeremy Paul, who were awarded their Eagle ranks on August 22.

## PATROL CAMPOUTS

For the November campout, each Patrol is to plan its own. Some Patrols might combine, but each Patrol campout must have two adults. The boys may benefit from a few parental reminders to ensure that the planning proceeds on a pace to accomplish the task. Adults can also contribute by making themselves available to accompany a patrol so as to meet the two-adult requirement.

## WINDING RIVER FIRST AID COMPETITION

For the last several years the Winding River District has held a First Aid competition. On a Thursday night in November patrols from all the Troops in the District meet in a church basement to rotate through four or five First Aid scenarios, and are judged on how they respond to the medical problems. All participants receive a patch, and the winning patrol receives an award to hang on their patrol flag. We would like to see all of our patrols take part in this event, which, this year, will take place on November 8 at a church on Lander Circle. See Mr. Nash if you are interested in testing and stretching your patrol's First Aid knowledge.

## FLOWER BULB SALE

This year's flower bulb fundraiser sale is underway. Chris Haynie's mom, Edweana Robinson, is co-ordinating the two-week effort. Completed order forms, distributed at the Fall Court of Honor, must be turned in by the beginning of the Troop meeting on October 15th, or may be placed in the milk chute of her home at 2403 Traymore. Delivery of orders is expected to take place on November 5<sup>th</sup>. You can call her with questions at 321-3513.

### Troop 22 Calendar

<b>Campouts</b>	
Cook Forest Backpacker	Oct. 5 - 7
Patrol Campouts	November
Klondike Prep, Lakeview Cemetery	Dec. 7 - 9
<b>Troop Meetings</b>	
Permission slip and money due for backpacker	Oct. 1
Backpacker shakedown	Oct. 1
Winter camping info for parents of new scouts	Oct. 8
Flower bulb orders due	Oct. 9
No Meeting	Dec. 25, Jan. 1
<b>Special Events</b>	
Fall Fundraiser Light Bulb Sale	Oct. 27
Winding Rivers First Aid Competition	Nov. 8
Library book sale service project	Nov. 11, 1:00

## ODDS & ENDS

All Scouts who are going on the Cook Forest Backpacker but are not yet First Class **must bring** their **loaded backpacks** to the meeting on October 1 for the shakedown. Permission slips, which are due at that meeting, also, are available at <http://www.chuh.net/troop22/equipmnt.htm>.

On October 8 parents of new Scouts need to attend the Winter Camping information session to make sure that their Scouts are prepared for cold weather.