

Scoutmaster's Notes

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Squirrel's Nest - June 2004

This was a fun trip for 24 Scouts and 9 Adults up to Unicoi State Park near Helen Georgia. The Troop has been to the Squirrel's Nest area several times in the past and it has always been one of the Troop's favorite outings.

The Squirrel's Nest area is unique in that it is a group of 16 platforms that is built into the side of a hill. Each platform will sleep about 4 Scouts although 5 can get on there comfortably. They can hold about 3 Adults comfortably or 4 with a squeeze. We designated platform #3 as the snoring zone for the weekend. No tents are necessary but tarps are recommended to put on the sides of the platforms for privacy.

Saturday's main activity was going tubing down the upper Chattahoochee River through Helen. We used Cool River Tubing as our outfitter. They provided the tubes, PFD's, and transportation up the river. We took the long trip, which took about 2 ½ hours to float down stream. It took a few minutes to get used to the water temperature and the water depth increased as we went down stream. Half way down we all got out and went down the waterslides several times.

The other main activity of the weekend was cooking competitions between the Patrols. There was some interesting concoctions that were prepared. But the winners were:

- Best Breakfast - Blazing Arrows - Mountain Man Breakfast
- Best Dinner - Evil Frogs - Tacos and Burrito's
- Best Dessert - Eagles - Cherry Cobbler
- The Gray Hares dinner of Chicken Cacciatore received many votes

We also spent some time in the afternoon working on Scout Skills with the Troop Guides and the younger Scouts.

Troop 103 from Gulfport Mississippi joined us on Friday night. They were on the backside of a weeklong trip to North Georgia. On Saturday they left

early in the morning. Later in the afternoon we were joined by a group of girls from Decatur that had very limited outdoor experience. This was evidenced by the squeals over bugs.

There also was a dad with his two daughters that were there as well. The 14 year old daughter was welcomed into the Troop after our evening campfire. We are not sure who was more entertained our Scouts or Savannah. But on the way home several Scouts were calling this trip "Eric's Escapades" in reference to Eric Daiber's new friendship that was made this weekend.

Senior Patrol Leader for the weekend was Brian Davidson. Scoutmaster Tom Morin coordinated the trip with the help of ASM Marty Leinweber.

YiS

Tom Morin
6/10/04