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# Boy Scout Troop 226

## SUMMER 2018

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### The Scoutmaster's Corner

by Lyle K. Grisso

It's been a very busy last few months with something going on almost every weekend. The older Scouts have been helping the younger ones work on rank requirements, and many of the older Scouts have also been busy working on planning their Eagle Service Projects.



So here's a brief overview of what's been happening in our Troop lately.

- District Camporee:
  - 1st place: Adult dessert
  - 2nd places: Troop Spirit, Small Troop, Patrol Regalia, Tug-of-War high school division
  - 3rd places: Fire Building challenge, Sling Shot, Camp Gadget, Patrol Relay (all by the UN patrol)
  - All participants earned their Polar Bear Award
- Troop equipment has almost been completely inventoried.
- Cub Scout Olympics was a big success.
- May campout was at Cleburne State Park and we visited Dino World and Dinosaur Valley where we all waded in the river.
- Summer Camp at Quivira Scout Ranch in Sedan, Kansas.
- New Scouts
  - Manuel "Junior" Munoz
- Sea Base Florida
- Rank Advancements
  - Andrew Breneman – Scout
  - Isaac Shakelford – Scout
  - Zachary Leondike – Eagle
- Eagle Projects:
  - We have a number of projects in the planning and pre-approval stages, so be ready for lots of work in the next couple of months.
- Eagle Court of Honors
  - Corey Stevenson – June 7<sup>th</sup>
  - Sawyer Kamman – June 30<sup>th</sup>
- Adult Training:
  - Eric Peck - IOLS
  - David Pyke - IOLS
- Order of the Arrow:
  - Ordeal completions:
    - Owen Forsthoffer

So what's coming up in the next couple of months?

- Liberty By the Lake – July 4<sup>th</sup>
- Zach Leondike's Eagle Court of Honor – July 7<sup>th</sup>
- Luke Grisso's Eagle Court of Honor – TBD
- July Campout – USS Lexington
- Annual Planner and Lock-in – August
- September Campout is Shooting Sports at Worth Ranch

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## Outdoor Chair ~Chris Wright

### **Equipment Update**

The scouts have been working really hard this past year at improving the gear and equipment tracking and maintaining inventory and maintenance of all Troop and Patrol equipment and camping gear. Tracking gear and supply use has helped the scouts in being prepared for monthly outings and budgeting and planning.

### **Upcoming Campouts and Outings**

USS Lexington July 21-22

Spend a night on a World War II aircraft carrier located in Corpus Christie. The itinerary serves as a lesson plan and includes tours of the ship, stories of historical events from her past, a scavenger hunt, a movie in the 3D MEGA Theater, LEX ghost stories, two trips through the chow line, bunking in original crew quarters, an unforgettable flag ceremony and so much more!

### **Annual Planner and Lock-in August 18-19**

Our youth leaders will be planning the next years monthly outings, followed by a lock-in with fun activities and food. Scouts will be taking part in where the troop goes and what the troop does on monthly campouts. By meeting as Patrols and bringing ideas to the planning meeting, the scouts are participating in youth led leadership, enabling themselves the opportunities to learn outdoor skills, build lasting relationships, enjoy the outdoors. And we adults like this because we get to go on some really cool campouts and eat some really good food.

### **Shooting Sports September 14-16**

This campout activity will be shooting sports to include shotgun and rifle at Worth Ranch in Palo Pinto. Come out and test your shooting skills and learn about gun safety guided by our highly skilled and licensed adult leaders. There is also the opportunity to canoe the Brazos River.

### **Turner Falls October 19-21**

On the calendar for October is a visit to Turner Falls in the Arbuckle Mountains of Oklahoma. The largest waterfall in the state is in this park and there are things to do such as hiking, swimming, exploring caves and the Rock Castle.

### **Webelos Invite Hickory Creek Park November 16-18**

In November the troop will be having our annual Webelos Invite Campout at Hickory Creek Park on Lake Lewisville. This is always a great event as the Scouts help the Webelos with their rank/activity pin advancements, host fun and games activities, and give them a taste of what they have to look forward to on their scouting journey.

## HIGH ADVENTURE ~Rudy Kamman

### FLORIDA SEA BASE – JUNE 10 to JUNE 16, 2018

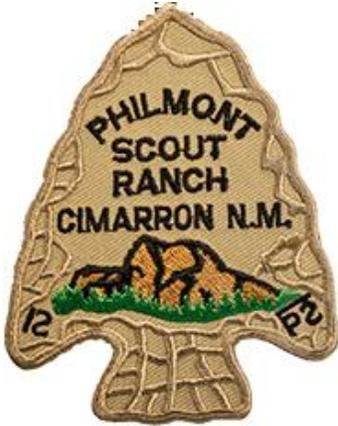
Eight members of Troop 226 took to the land, sea and air this June on an exciting adventure to Sea Base! After a flight to Fort Lauderdale and a drive off the end of the mainland the Scouts make their home in the Florida Keys for a week.



Sailing, Snorkeling and Fishing activities dominated each of the days with 10 different reefs visited as well as a couple of old lighthouses and shipwrecks. It was 99.9% the perfect trip with only a little seasickness and the tops of some feet getting sunburned to prevent an absolutely perfect score. All who attended should be particularly proud of their growth, success and conduct from the journey.



## PHILMONT – JUNE 21 to JULY 3, 2019



With Sea Base complete it is already time to start turning out attention to the next High Adventure opportunity which is another trip to Philmont Scout Ranch in northern New Mexico! Of the Scouting High Adventure bases, Philmont requires the most gear and preparation however most people will tell you it is the best of them all and also has the best value since the outing lasts two full weeks at the same cost of the other one week trips.

Another round of inquiries of interest will be going around soon as there are still a few openings available.



Shockingly, it is already time to start thinking about High Adventure for summer of 2020! Unlike weekend campouts, these trips takes years to plan and the process begins very early. Our selection is expected to be made at the annual planner on August 18th and there will be a meeting dedicated to reviewing the options beforehand.

Several of the Scouts have already started discussing destinations so if you have a preference then please make it known to the PLC prior to the planner and if not perhaps the presentation will give you some good options!

## Senior Patrol Leader Report

I have greatly enjoyed being this troop's SPL for a whole year. Thank you all so much for making it an excellent two terms for this troop and I. This past year has seen a great amount of improvement and change. And with elections coming up, some of the younger guys get to step up and be part of that change. This upcoming term, most of the older scouts cannot run for positions because of school related activities (Band) which means the younger scouts will assume those leadership positions. I have been most of the troop positions and I can say that the most fun, fulfilling, educating one was SPL by far. All the positions have great importance, but none as great as SPL. The SPL is the leader of the troop, the one who ultimately makes the final decisions. It is a huge responsibility, and I will admit, it is not meant for just anyone. However, our boys are not just anyone. They determined, adverse, and some of the brightest kids I have ever seen. They have the potential to be not just great scouts, but amazing leaders. So I encourage all of you younger scouts to run for as many positions as you want because we all know you have what it takes. As a few of the older scouts and I are aging out soon, we know we can leave in good faith knowing that the troop will be in good hands. So don't run for the position you think you can get, run for all the positions you want to get.



~ Matthew Wilson, SPL

## Quartermaster Report



I almost have all the things in garage fully inventoried. The small trailer has its own propane tanks, Dutch ovens, and pop-up. Empty propane tanks were filled.

~ Luke

## The Committee Corner

by Andrew Richter

The more things change, the more they stay the same. Quite a bit has happened in the past few years within the national scouting movement, from debates on who can be a registered adult leader, to whether or not girls should be allowed to participate in the programs, to the long standing relationship between the BSA and the LDS church. Through it all, the mission remains the same, as stated below.

"The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law."

As a troop, we don't often need to grapple with the same issues that you might see in news headlines about scouting, we tend to be more focused on operational issues, like grub fees (FYI, grub fees have recently been increased, it was long overdue), fundraising, and equipment maintenance. Those things directly affect us and we have some amount of control over them. How will adding girls to the BSA program affect our troop? I don't know. But I do know that the increase in grub fees makes shopping for a campout more manageable.