

ASCENSION TROOP 20 SCOUTS

2006-2007



"PUT YOURSELF IN THE PICTURE!"

In addition to:

Cooking / Canoeing / White Water Rafting / Backpacking / Hiking / Biking / Riflery
Archery / Shotgun / Swimming / Life-Saving / First Aid / CPR / Rocketry / Dry Humor!
Merit badges / Eagle Projects / Pizza / New Friends / Learn Compass & GPS / Dry Socks



The Boy Scouts of America is recognized as having a great program where boys and young men can participate in a variety of challenging outdoor and community activities that are fun and educational.

The Ascension Troop is no exception to this tradition. Young men interested in learning out-of-doors skills such as trail-hiking, archery, canoeing, fishing, and camping will have many opportunities in the following years. Other areas that are covered include service to the community, citizenship, and a variety of fun and educational activities; and don't forget the merit badges- architecture, engineering, computers, ---the list is almost endless!

Regular meetings for Troop 20 will take place on Monday evenings from 7:00-8:30 PM at Fox Recreation Center during the school year, and on a limited scale into the summer. Trips and special events will be arranged that are fun and "different". The Ascension Troop received its Charter through the Ascension Holy Name Society /Ascension Men's Club. Fund -raisers are held to help defray costs. Even with the support of the sponsor and the help of the fund -raisers, there will be costs associated with many of our activities. We will do our best to keep these costs as reasonable as possible. The necessary equipment for camping is owned by the Troop with the exception of personal gear.

WHAT THE SCOUT SHOULD EXPECT

A number of trips and overnights that will require some of their thought and participation. An opportunity to do a lot of activities not commonly available to boys in an urban environment like Oak Park. (Where else can a boy learn wilderness survival skills, canoe, fish, use a knife or ax?) The opportunity to work toward the higher ranks in Scouting, with a goal of achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

The Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters are volunteers. They receive no fiscal support and donate a considerable amount of their time, effort, and energy in producing a balanced program.

Parents that have Scouts in Troop 20 are encouraged to camp, and or participate in the Troop activities. By contributing your talents and skills, you enrich the lives of a great many young people.

\$\$DUES

Each "regular" meeting that we have will follow a routine. Part of this will usually include some form of refreshment, and frequently materials and supplies for demonstrations or projects. We are asking that each Scout bring \$1.00 for each meeting to cover these expenses.

REGISTRATION COSTS FOR THE SEPTEMBER 2005- AUGUST 2006

"SCOUTING SEASON" is **\$40.00**. Registration is needed at the beginning of the fall. These funds are used to cover registration/chartering expenses with the national organization, seasonal start-up costs for the program year, and some funds for materials and supplies.

TRIPS AND EQUIPMENT

Some trips will be at a nominal cost. Others such as the Summer Camp can cost about \$200.00 (it should be noted that this camp fee includes just about all expenses for a week of meals and activities). Most 2 or 3 day trips cost somewhere in the neighborhood of \$25.00. Some equipment is handed down from one Scout to another. Most equipment is owned by the Troop. Some expense should be anticipated in this area. Each Scout will eventually need a proper knife, compass, sleeping bag and personal hygiene kit. Parents are asked to not run right out to "Outdoor World" and purchase a complete set of camping gear. There will be plenty of time to buy what you'll need. It's a simple fact that a lot of "camping" gear is of poor quality, low value – and at a higher than reasonable cost! Let us help, that way items won't be purchased that will never be used.

UNIFORM

Each Scout will need a uniform. The Uniform of Troop 20 would include a Scout Shirt, Red Kerchief, and slide. If a Scout wishes, he may purchase and wear the uniform pants and other accouterments (as shown in the Scout Handbook).

*We do have a few extra uniforms that our older scouts have outgrown, talk to Mike.

WHAT A PARENT SHOULD EXPECT

A one or two day camp-out every 6 to 8 weeks. One meeting in the evening almost every Monday night. A program that will hopefully be fun, exciting, (safe), and educational.

It should be noted that *we know* many of the boys are very busy.

The teams at school, along with a busy academic schedule are often quite a challenge.

These facts of life have been recognized and we will do all in our power to work in conjunction with the individual Scouts. Troop 20 currently has Scouts that attend 7 different Schools. Some schedule conflicts are inevitable. Every reasonable effort (and several unreasonable efforts) will be made to structure programs in such a way that no Scout or group of Scouts would be prevented from participating due to a "regular" school schedule.

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

2 Troop 20 Scouts have achieved Eagle Rank in the last year!

At the end of July, 2006 42 Troop 20 Scouts and leaders participated in our summer programs. This included 15 Scouts at Camp Napowan in Wildrose Wisconsin. These scouts as a group accumulated 55 merit badges! Great Job Scouts!!

8 Senior Scouts and leaders participated in a high-adventure canoe trip during which they canoed and camped on the Flambeau River. During this week, these Scouts set a new troop record for traveling 110 miles! They completed the distance and service criteria necessary to become eligible for the "50 Miler" Patch (twice!). This group was the first Troop 20 group to ever achieve a "Century" (100miles of travel).

Twelve Troop Twenty Scouts and leaders participated in a high-adventure trip Backpacking into the wilds of Glacier National Park, Montana. After a looong train trip, our Troop 20 "Trekkers" cover between 65 and 70 miles!

Congratulations to all of you!

We are so very proud of all you achieved this summer!!

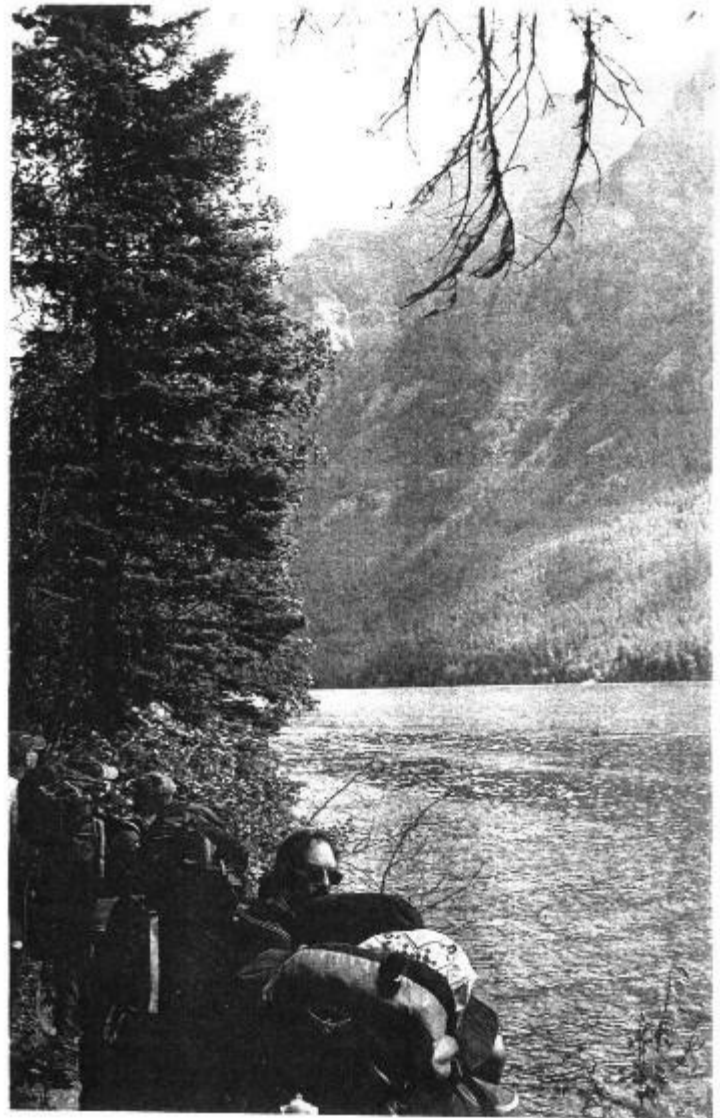


WHAT'S IN THE FUTURE??

Fall Camping
 Trip to Turkey Run State Park
 Bowling Contest
 Trip to Camp Long Lake
 2006 Wright Run
 Sr. Scout Backpacking or Canoe trip
 Spring Camp-O-Ree

Trip to Indiana Dunes State Park
 Archery Contest
 Bike Hike 25 to 50 Miles
 Ski Trip Weekend
 Trip to Camp Lakota
 Ice Age Trail Trip
 Summer CampSr. Scout Canoe Trip

ARE YOU UP TO THE CHALLENGE?



Come visit us at our first get together at 7:00 PM on September 11th at Fox Recreation Center at Jackson and Oak Park Avenue . We'll be showing off last summer's pictures, passing out awards, welcoming new Scouts, and answering questions about this years adventures.

***You need not have been in Scouts previously to participate.**

For additional information, please contact
Mike Grandy at 848-7956 or Mike Jirasek at 386-5084.