



BOY SCOUT NEWS

of the NORTH SHORE TROOPS

A regular feature page prepared each week by members of the Boy Scout Press club, North Shore Area Council



North Shore Area Council Organizes Radio Scout Troop

At the last meeting of the executive board of the North Shore Area council it was voted to organize a "radio troop." This troop will quite probably be composed of older scouts from all of the districts in the council. Albert P. Snite, commissioner, has indicated he would furnish all material for the building of an amateur short-wave radio broadcasting and receiving set. The troop will build this set at their meetings and at the same time each scout will, at his home, carry on the building of his own set. Each troop meeting will thus be a lesson and each scout will follow the instructions given there in working on his own set.

The set built by the troop will be taken to Camp Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan next summer and installed. Messages will be sent between the north shore and camp at regular intervals and relayed to their proper destination. Each scout will qualify for the government license as an amateur radio operator. Only scouts who give assurance of their building a set and qualifying for its operation are being taken into the troop as the instruction will all be to that end. Several scouts have already indicated their intention of applying for membership. It is thought this will be the first troop of its kind in the country.

Community House Troops Enjoy Fine Sleigh Ride

Thursday, January 9, after having a short meeting, Troops 20 and 17 of Winnetka Community House had a sleigh ride party, accompanied by Scoutmasters Robert Martin and John West. About every fifteen minutes the sleigh stopped and we had snowball fights, which included much face washing. After an hour of sleigh riding and fighting we returned to the Community House. Most of the Scouts went home with their clothes wet, but we all had a fine time and enjoyed the sleigh ride.

—M. Bridges, Troop 20.

Meleney Seeks Candidates for Drum and Bugle Corps

Robert Meleney who is at the head of the drum and bugle corps of Winnetka wants more Scouts to join for drummers or buglers. He has an experienced bugler to direct the buglers and any Scout in Winnetka can join. We meet every Monday night at 7 o'clock in the American legion room at the Community House. We furnish drums but bring your own bugles. So join now!—Bill Meyers, Troop 17.

Kenilworth Sea Scouts Study Splicing of Rope

Wednesday, January 8, our Sea Scout ship, No. 29 of Kenilworth resumed usual weekly meetings with a lesson in rope splicing. We learned how to make the eye, back and short splice. Mr. Saunders, our skipper, then told us of a narrow escape his ship had from a torpedo in the World war. It was a very thrilling, true experience with lots of adventurous and "hair-raising" moments.

—Bob Burns, Sea Scout, Troop 29.

Never pick a quarrel, even though it's ripe.

A New Year's Resolve

By James E. West

IF it were possible for me to meet fact to face, every scoutmaster, every assistant scoutmaster, every troop committeeman, every man who has any responsibility for leadership in our nation-wide movement, and I had the opportunity to present as a challenge to them the thing which, in my judgment, above all other things would best advance the cause of Scouting, I would make an earnest plea that each and every one of us rededicate ourselves to the cause of Scouting for the year 1930 on a basis that will keep to the forefront the thought that, first, last and always "Scouting As a Game for Boys."

I would urge that, while all of the factors in the program should have our cooperation and support, we should insist that nothing permit us to forget that if we are to play the game of scouting effectively, we must create and maintain conditions so that boys intensely desire to be scouts. Indeed we should deliberately plan so that the boys' anticipated joy and satisfaction in becoming a member of a troop of scouts is realized week in and week out in all of his relations to Scouting.

Townley Leads Troop 13 on Six-Day Skiing Hike

Seven Kenilworth boy scouts took a six-day ski hike to Cary during vacation under the leadership of Robert Townley, scoutmaster. They stayed at the Carlson cottage in Cary. While they were there they skied, skated and went tobogganing. They organized three ski clubs called the Expert Skiers, the Ordinary Skiers, and Common Skiers. The weather was very fine for skiing. The fellows made two or three foot ski jumps, and all the Scouts went off the jumps. In order to get into the Common club all you had to do was to go down five designated hills. For the Ordinary club, you have to make seven designated hills, make a good jump and stand up after getting through. The Expert skiers had to make nine designated hills, make five foot jumps and stand up the whole way. Under the leadership of Mr. Townley, they plan further hikes to Cary.

—Jack Sinding, Troop 13.

Troop 17 Enjoys Surprise Sleigh Ride on January 7

Troop 17 went on a surprise sleigh ride party Thursday night, January 7. The troop was in the gym when Scoutmaster Martin came in and asked the scouts if they wanted to go on a sleigh ride party, and did they say "yes." There was a lot of fun to that surprise party. We got back about 9:35.

—C. Dunlap, Troop 17, reporter.

GOOD TURN

Since the scouts are hunting daily good deeds to do, it is suggested that we help keep the snow cleaned up.

—C. Dunlap, Troop 17, reporter.

How to succeed: Start at the bottom and wake up.

Wilmette Methodist Troop Studies Birds by Movies

Troop 3 of the Wilmette Methodist church, Lake and Wilmette avenues, was shown a very interesting and instructive movie, which was of special interest to the scouts who are working for the merit badge on bird study. Just before the pictures were shown, the Girl scouts of the church were invited in to see them. The first reel was an "Our Gang Comedy." The bird pictures showed the life development of birds—how the eggs hatched, and how the small birds learned to fly. Altogether there were about fifteen species of birds shown on the screen. After that, there were Aesop Fable comedies, all of which were very interesting. We were also presented the jaws of a shark and the saw of a sawfish for our new Scout room by Ben Cox of the Troop committee.

—Scout Ernest Schaper, Troop 3, Wilmette.

Plans Completed for Big Council Banquet, Jan. 24

At a meeting of scoutmasters and committee chairmen of the North Shore Area Scout council, held at council headquarters in Highland Park Wednesday, January 8, arrangements for the annual Council banquet, scheduled for Friday evening, January 24, were completed and plans for several other important events discussed.

Walter W. Head, national president of the Boy Scouts of America, will be the principal speaker at the banquet, which will be held at New Trier High school and which will start at 6:30 o'clock. Each scoutmaster in the area is extending an invitation to parents of scouts in his troop and will endeavor to have present a delegation of friends and parents equal to the registration in his troop. It is planned to make the event the largest ever held by the council.

Scout mobilization plans for Anniversary week in February; the scoutmasters' training course, to start the last of February; and the local hobby shows and Courts of Honor for each town in the Area, scheduled for February and March, were among the many coming events also discussed.

Winnetka Troop 20 Plans to Continue Lending Aid

In our last meeting, January 3, Troop 20 of Winnetka Community House decided we would continue to help the needy family that we gave Christmas gifts to until summer. Several Scouts who took our Christmas basket to the family told the rest of the troop the conditions in which the family is living. We hope to be able to give the family something each month. This will be one of the troop's good turns.

—M. H. Bridges, Troop 20.

Kenilworth Scouts Plan Contest Between Patrols

Tuesday, January 14, was the date set for a contest between the six patrols of Troop 13 of Kenilworth. There were to be contests in: fire by flint, fire by friction, wigwag, and semaphore, drilling and knot-tying. Many visitors were expected. According to reports some of the patrols were making special preparation. It was to be a close contest.

—Defrees Holmes, reporter, Troop 13.

Roberts and Bersch Make Winter Survey of Area Near Camp

On Thursday, January 2, Keith Roberts left Glencoe for the north woods of Wisconsin where he was to complete a survey of Spring lake, the lake upon which Camp Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan, the North Shore Area boy scout camp, is located. With him were David Roberts, his 12-year-old son, and George Bersch of Troop 4. Arriving at the camp about 4 o'clock they made camp across the lake from the main lodge just north of the creek. Their first night in camp was spent in 11 hours of good sound sleep on a balsam bough bed in a small tent. They were unusually fortunate in having good weather. There was about fifteen inches of snow in the woods and practically none on the ice. The thermometer also was registering favorable temperatures around zero.

With such fine weather, the work was finished Friday afternoon. That night they broke camp and put up at Ye Olde Muskie inn in Elcho, Wis., where Bert Turney, the manager of the hotel, gave them the best he had.

After breakfast Saturday, they left Elcho about 8:15, arriving in Highland Park at 3:45. They report a wonderful trip with good clear roads all the way.

Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan looks lonesome and seems to miss the campers and is looking forward to next summer when it will expect "bigger and better things" from the north shore scouts and scouters.

Inspection Should Be Big Event at Meetings, View

In visiting troops in various parts of the city, the question is raised whether scoutmasters are emphasizing the eleventh Scout law sufficiently. It is very interesting to notice that those troops that make inspection winning a distinct honor in the troop always have a cleaner and neater bunch of boys and more uniforms in evidence.

Inspection should be a big event in the troop meeting. Considerable honor should be attached to it, such as allowing the winners to serve as color guards. A little talk on this subject by the scoutmaster will go a long way in helping the boys to realize what cleanliness is. A boy can be neat and clean regardless of the kind of clothes he wears. If the boys know they are going to be checked up on when they get to Scout meeting they will think a bit first about their shoes and finger nails. This will also give your troop committeeman a job when they come to visit the troop.

Wilmette Legionnaires to Furnish All Merit Badges

Wilmette Post 46 of the American Legion announces that for the year of 1930 it will furnish all the metal badges for scouts passing tests. All metal tenderfoot, second class, first class, star, life and eagle and eagle palm pins will be included in this service, according to W. E. Richmond, post commander.

Hereafter all metal pins will be attached to the advancement certificate for Wilmette scouts and will be awarded at the Court of Honor. The same arrangement has been made possible in Winnetka by the Winnetka post.