

Troop 1794 Newsletter



Thiếu Đoàn Trần Hưng Đạo
Liên Đoàn Potomac - White Oaks District- NCAC-BSA
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Official Monthly Newsletter of Troop 1794

A Message from the Scoutmaster:

Dear scouts:

Welcome to the scouting year of 2018-2019,

As you have already noticed that the Girl Scouts have finally joined our Troop per BSA new policy; however it will not be officially effective until February 2019. We transitioned it early due to the shortage of Lien Doan's female leaders for Girl Scouts. Our troop will try integrate our available rich resource of the boy scout program to help with the girl scout activities. There will be confusion and adjustment for everyone at first but we will manage to overcome obstacles by working together to help the transition as smooth as possible.

There is a Vietnamese proverb "Chị ngã em nâng" (an older sister falls, the young one helps her up) and let it be our motto for the time being. We are after all a big scout family and it is our duties to help support each other. In that sense, I would like all of you to welcome our sister scouts to the family with open arms and help them get used to the BSA program. Always remember, a scout is loyal, friendly, courteous, kind, cheerful and obedient...; therefore you are going to use those good qualities when interacting with each other especially the new incoming sisters. Thank you and have a great scouting year. Tr. Son Nguyen

Camp Liberty - 7/22 - 7/28/2018 - Farmington, PA

Attendees: Vincent D, Khang, Chantoan, Minhtrung, Minhdang, Minh, Mason, Nathan H, Phi, Brandon L, Brandon K, David, Evan, Kenneth, Nathan N, Vinh, Nathan L, Ben, Brian M, Brian N, Thanh, Damon, Francis, Kevin Q, Kevin C, Preston, Richer, Vincent N, Daniel, Tony,

Adults: Tr. Peter, Tr. Thinh, Tr. Hanson, Tr. Tuan, c Thuan, a Chieu, a Jimmy, a Lam

Submitted by Brian N

We arrived at camp at around 12:30 and greeted by our camp guides for the week. Their names were Steve and Luke. The camp provided us with 3 large carts to haul our belongings from the car to camp.

Two of which were pulled by the older scouts going to Prospect Hill and another one for younger scouts were going to Williamsburg.



Next, our guides gave us a tour of the camp, taking us to places like the quartermaster's building if we need supplies like toiletries, cooking equipment, and or if we need something repaired. Later, they showed us where and how the food will be distributed, then we went to aquatics to talk about the rules for a safe swim. After the talk, scouts who had water activities on their schedules or just wanted to swim. Dinner was served to us only on the first day, we had to make our own dinner from then on.



Picture of the Trade Post building, also behind it is the Quartermaster's storage



Scouts listening to the swimming instructor

After the first day, the next 5 days (Monday - Friday) is routine with meals, personal time, and merit badge classes. Each morning, we woke up around 6:30 am-7:00 am. One of our 4 patrols would attend the flag ceremony each morning by the lake. After the ceremony, each patrol had to send 2 scouts to the quartermaster's storage area to get the raw material for our breakfast. Breakfast usually consisted of eggs, toast, fruits, milk, and cereal. After we cooked, ate, and cleaned, we went to our merit badge classes.



Tony examining the patrol box



Richer and Nathan getting food for their patrol



Everyone like cooking - Cleaning, not so much



Chef Mason impressing scouts of his cooking skill



Nathan H prepping the pan for breakfast



Nathan N and Minh checking on their food



Ben and Damon at the rifle range



Vincent, Minhdang, and Nathan N at the armory

We returned to camp from classes around 11:30 am to prepare for lunch. Just like breakfast, each patrol had to send 2 scouts to the quartermaster's storage area to fetch the raw material for our lunch. Lunch usually consisted of sandwiches, chips, and some sort of drink. After lunch, all of the scouts would go to various location in Camp Liberty to attend the afternoon sessions of merit badge classes.



Scouts break and socialize during lunch



Chef Khang flipping burgers



Vincent N prepping sandwiches



Scouts make grilled cheese with tomato soup for lunch

After the classes and our free choice activities, we returned to camp for dinner. Cooking dinner usually involved firing up the big stove. However, there were days that we cooked using dutch oven and tin foil cooking. The camp provided all of the cookware including tin foil, dutch oven, and charcoal.



Minhtrung making cake in the dutch oven



Scouts cooking chicken using tin foil in the campfire



Scouts prepping the dutch oven for monkey bread



Daniel approves the monkey bread with a taste test

Between meals and classes, scouts enjoyed the offerings at the trading post. Since it was the last week of operation for the camp, the trading post discounted all perishables like \$1 equals four cans of soda. Scouts also liked to gather at the dock behind the flags to take pictures and get phone service. At night, you can see the ripples in the water in the moonlight, making a white path in the water. And off in the distance you can see the lights from Camp Independence.



Clean up duty after meal



Our house for the entire week - A roof and 2 beds



Scouts waiting to take a shower



Evan and Brian taking out the trash



Scouts enjoying their time off at the trading post



Everyone meet up at the dock to view the sun and get signal

On Friday, all our swimmers that were practicing for the mile (Francis and Kevin 2) went to Camp Freedom aquatics to do the mile. Camp Freedom is about a 10 minutes walk from Camp Liberty. But sadly as the mile was going on, they had to cancel due to thunder.

Finally at closing campfire, it started to rain just like it did at 2017 Goshen on the very last day but this time it wasn't so bad. Then the next day we all packed up, placed the floorboards of our canopies up on a tree and conducted police lines to pick up trash. Overall the camp was a fun and joyful experience for everyone. Everyone got something out of the camp.



Francis and Brian dismantling our campsite



Camp gate

Troop Elections - 9/7/18 - Argyle MS

On the first meeting of the year; Troop held a Troop Election, replacing the SPL, ASPL, and other leadership positions with different scouts. These positions will be held for the rest of this scouting year. This year, Ben won the troop election for the position of SPL. Toan was appointed ASPL. The girls appointed Evelyn and Kimberly as SPL and ASPL. After the major positions were appointed, the scouts continued to appoint more leadership positions ie; PL, APL, Quartermaster, Historian, Troop Guide, Den Chief, Historian, Scribe, Instructor, and Outdoor Ethic Guide.). See the full list of scouts and their positions at the end of the newsletter.

ILST Training - 9/22/18 - Kenneth's house

Attendees: Benjamin, Brandon L, Minhtrung, Chantoan, Nathan H, Nolan, Mason, Anna, Brian M, Kenneth, Evelyn, Emily, Katie, Damon, Janelle, Justin, Thanh, Melanie, Minh, Nina, Allison, David

Adults: Tr Peter, Tr Tam, Tr Hanson, Tr Son, Tr Truc, Tr Tran-Chau

Submitted by Brian M

ILST stands for introduction of leadership skill for troop. It is for all first class scouts and above, including Patrol/assistant patrol leaders and all girls in grades 10th and 11th. The 2018 ILST was held on Saturday, September 22, at 10 a.m to 5 p.m. There was also a PLC meeting afterwards, from 5 p.m to 8 p.m. The event was held at Kenneth Le's house. In the ILST meeting, scouts learned what it takes to be a leader, such as the correct way to plan, taking initiative, and working together in order to resolve a situation.

The instructors for this ILST class were Khang, Evan, and Vincent. They knew their material very well and led us in some games such as Helium Stick, Balloon Toss, and Telephone.



Scouts laughing at a joke at ILST



Scouts taking lots of note at class



Everyone is planning a weekly meeting



Scouts playing labyrinth, a team development game

LD Fall Camp - 9/29 - 9/30 - Patapsco Valley State Park - Hilton Area

Attendees: Minh Hong, Leo, Richer, Minh Dang, Nathan N, Nathan L, Daniel, Khoa, Tony, Khang, Chan Toan, Francis, Brandon Le, Brandon Lam, Preston, Mason, Minh Trung, Evan, Vincent D, Benjamin, Kevin 1, Nathan H, Louis, Vincent N, Vinh, Damon, Kevin 2, Nolan, Brian N, Brian M, David, Phi, Thanh, Thomas, Anna*, CoTu*, Kathy*, Tiffany*, Hong*, Jenna*, Kimberly*, Janelle, Melanie, Cassidy, Nina, Vy, Tammy, Kathleen, Emily, Tien.

(*): no stay overnight. Per BSA handbook, a campout to be considered when you spend the night in a tent that you pitch or other structure that you help erect. A minimum number of campouts are required for some scout ranks.

Adults: Tr Peter, Tr Tam, Tr Hanson, Tr Son, Tr Nhung, Tr Tran-Chau.

Submitted by Kevin 1

LD camp was always a fun and exciting experience many of scout enjoyed looking forward to attending. The camp was at Patapsco Valley State Park, LD Potomac camping participants are delighted with the classic fun activities of icebreakers, big games, potluck dinner, and the amusement of the campfire, however this camp did not have an AOL ceremony.

We started the game with an ice breaker. The challenge is to put an Oreo cookie on your eye and try to move the cookie into your mouth without using your hands. Surprisingly, it is harder than it looks.



Oh - so fun and yummy



Anna gives up and just uses her hands

The theme of the camp was to build skill, teamwork, and leadership. The big games were the best ones yet, the games included building barbed wire, team building exercises, lashing flags, and of course water balloons! Staff had done a swell job making the games fun and educational with Vietnamese history.



Scouts meet up with their patrols in preparation for the big games



Vincent teaches the younger scouts the Scout law and oath in Vietnamese



Evan and his patrol building the barbed wire



Scouts assemble catapults to launch water balloons



Ben and Khang helping Khoa through the spider web



Quynh Mi and Quan playing a blindfold game

The cub scouts also had a 'blast' shooting off water rockets. Scouts personalized their water bottle rockets with fins and cones. With the help of adults, they prime their launcher then pulled the string. The launcher gave off a satisfying BOOM and off went the rockets.



Brandon showing off his rocket



Anna adding the finishing touch to her rocket

The fun didn't stop at rockets. After the big games, the cubs spent time at their campsite making

lanterns or *lồng đèn* out of paper plates. Displaying *lồng đèn* is a tradition in Vietnam during the mid-autumn festival, or *Tết Trung Thu*. The lanterns were very pretty at campfire.



Parents helping cubs making lồng đèn



Minh An cracks a joke



Celine is proud of her colorful lantern



Scouts with their lanterns at camp fire

Dinner was an excitement as all patrols cooked something and shared with the rest of the scouts.



Vinh, Louis, Vincent, and Kevin make hamburgers



Kathy sampling ravioli before dinner



Hungry scouts with their mess kits



Eating area courtesy of Pack 1794 - Red table cloth at camp is luxury

Next morning saw knot and lashing challenges meant to be good practice for younger scouts, and for scouts who want to break records. Morning ended with an Interfaith and then closing.



*****Patrol Leader Council:**

SPL (Evelyn Phạm/ Ben Nguyễn); ASPL(Kimberly HỒ/ Chân Toàn Hà); PLs (Anna Pham, Katie Pham, Janelle Vo, Melanie Pham, Minh Hong, Brandon Le, Damon Nguyen, MinhTrung Ha): IN (Tiffany Nguyen, Nolan Vo, Khang Do,); QUAR (Brian Nguyen); HIS (Kevin Nguyen1); SCR (Kenneth Le Nguyen); TG (Vincent Do, Brian Mach); DC (Co Tu Do, Evan Le); OC(Justin Pham)

- * Ong Patrol: Nina Võ, Vy Nguyễn, Melanie Phạm, Cassidy Phạm, Tammy Nguyễn, Nina Võ
- * Gau Trang Patrol: Jenna Bufenbarger, Kathleen Nguyễn, Janelle Võ, Tiên Tran, Emily Tran
- * Dai Bang Patrol: Caitlyn Nguyễn, Katie Phạm, Kimberly HỒ, Tiffany Nguyễn, Lizzie Mai, Trúc Lê, Massie Tran
- * Hong Hac Patrol: Evelyn Pham, Anna Pham, Xuan Anh Cao, Allison Ly, Co Tu Doan, Kathy Ho, Hong Nguyễn
- *Ho Patrol: Tony Tran, Khang ĐỖ, Chan Toan Ha, Francis Nguyen, Brandon Le, Preston Nguyen, Mason Duy Huynh
- *Ung Patrol: MinhTrung Ha (PL), Evan Le, Vincent Dang, Ben Nguyen, Kevin Nguyen2, Nathan Huynh, Louis Nguyen, Kenneth Le, Vincent Nguyen, Vinh Dinh Le
- Rong Patrol: Damon Nguyen, Kevin Nguyen1, Nolan Vo, Justin Pham, Brian Nguyen, Brian Mach, David Le , Phi Huynh, Thanh Luu.
- Beo Patrol: MinhHong, Leo Khoa Nguyen, Richer Quang Nguyen, MinhDang Ho, Nathan Ngo, Nathan Le, Daniel Pham, Dilton Huynh,Khoa Hoang

*****Adult Leadership:**

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| SM: Son Nguyen | JASM: Thomas Tran, PLC advisor |
| ASM: Tran Chau Le, GS patrol advisor | Committee Chair: Chung Nguyen |
| ASM: Nhung Tran, GS patrol advisor | BoR/CoH coordinators: Chung Nguyen |
| ASM: Long Pham, patrol advisor | Do Chieu |
| AMS: Nguyen Nguyen, patrol advisor/round table | Treasurer: Chi Thuan |
| ASM: Peter Le, patrol advisor/outdoor event | Parent coordinator: Phong Huynh, Phuc Pham |
| ASM: Nghia Tran, patrol advisor | |

Position code: SPL (senior patrol leader), ASPL (assistant SPL); PL (patrol leader), APL (assistant PL); TG (troop guide); QUA (quartermaster); IN (instructor); HIS (historian); SCR (scribe); DC (Den Chief); OG (Outdoor Ethics guide)

SM (scoutmaster); ASM (assistant SM); JASM (junior ASM)

SCOUT SPIRIT

It is hard to evaluate Scout Spirit. We believe that prior to each rank advancement, participation in the following activities exemplifies the essences of Scout Spirit:

1. A minimum of 2 hours community service from Troop or Liên Đoàn
2. Participate in Troop nursing home visit monthly
3. Participation in at least 1 fundraiser.
4. At least 4 troop outdoor activities per year.
5. Good deeds done outside of scouting.

SCOUT ADVANCEMENT PROCEDURE

If a scout has finished all his requirements for the next rank, it is mandatory that you:

a. Contact SM for the scoutmaster conference (SMC) (must be at least 1 week before the Board of Review).

b. If you "pass" the scoutmaster conference, you must contact Mr. Chung Nguyen/Mr. Chieu Do(BoR coordinators), and tr. Nghia (Committee Chair) to schedule your Board of Review (BoR)

Editor: *Kevin Nguyen*¹, *HIS*; *Peter Le*, *ASM*; *Son Nguyen SM*

Troop's schedule

- **October- Backpacking**
- 5: Meeting
- 12: Meeting/13 nursing
- 19: No meeting/20-21: *backpack camping from Turner's Gap, Boonsboro, MD to Greenbrier State Park(#)*
- 26: Meeting/LBC Halloween party/24/25 setup
- **November- Orienteering**
- 2: Meeting/3 nursing
- 9: No meeting/10-11: *Orienteering at Prince Williams National Park (#)*
- 16: No meeting /17: LD anniversary/community service at LBC
- 23: No meeting (Thanksgiving)
- 30: Meeting