

THE GREAT STORYTELLERS



Troop 41 Scouts from the Past and Present

- **Richard Sears:** Scout 1949-1950s
(One of the First Scouts in Troop 41)
- **Bill Lye:** Scout 1952 – 1958, Order of the Arrow
- **Clif Frantz:** Scout 1953-1958, Order of the Arrow
(Father Groff Frantz helped start Troop 41; Uncle Tom Frantz was a Scoutmaster)
- **Dave Frantz:** 1959-1963, Order of the Arrow
(Younger Brother to Clif Frantz)
- **Bill Gramley:** Scout 1959-1965
- **Rick Johnson:** Scout 1959-1961
(President of the Sugar Grove Historical Society)
- **Bill Keck:** Scout 1950s, Scoutmaster 1963-1965
- **Jack “Luck” Shouba:** Scout 1950s, Order of the Arrow
- **David Musser:** Eagle Scout 1970, Order of the Arrow
(One of the First Eagle Scouts)
- **Doug Musser:** Eagle Scout 1974, Order of the Arrow
- **Dave Seraphin:** Scoutmaster 1984-2014, Chaplain 2015-present, Eagle Scout Dad (Byant Seraphin 1987)
- **Mike Hauge:** Leader, Quartermaster, Eagle Scout Dad (Mike Hauge 1999), Cub Scout Grandpa
- **Dan St. Jules:** Leader, Treasurer, Eagle Scout Dad (Tom St. Jules, 2007)
- **Bill Schramm:** Scout with Troop 41 (1980-1990s), Leader
- **Rick Wojak:** Leader, Eagle Scout Dad (David Wojak and Mark Wojak 2015)
- **Ben Blazey:** Eagle Scout 2000
- **Joe Rubo:** Leader, Eagle Scout Dad (Scott Rubo 1995), Scout Grandpa
- **Scott Rubo:** Leader, Eagle Scout 1995
- **Jacob Rubo:** New Scout

Sugar Grove Historical Society Volunteers

- **Sue Jacobson:** Boy Scout Brother Rex Wolf in 1950s
- **Joan Perrin:** Eagle Scout Son Donald Perrin 1974

Scout Reporters for the Newsletter

- Grant P.
- Seth C.
- Elliott L.
- Sean L.
- Nicholas C.
- Nate R.

THE DREAM TEAM

FIRESIDE CHATS

with Troop 41 Scouts from the past
at the
Sugar Grove Historical Society
April & May 2019



Bill Gramley Dave Seraphin Rick Johnson Bill Lye Clif Frantz Dave Frantz



Doug Musser Clif Frantz Jack Shouba Bill Keck David Musser Rick Johnson Richard Sears

HISTORY OF SUGAR GROVE



HISTORY OF SUGAR GROVE

Rick Johnson: The earliest settlers settled in Bliss Woods. The name of Sugar Grove came from the stand of hard maples that the Native Americans would tap for sugar for the sap to refine it. From that start, there were six men who came in 1834, they liked it here, some of them continued further west. At that time the ones that stayed couldn't buy the land. It was still owned by the Native Americans, and there wasn't a treaty settled yet. The American Indian War was in 1836, and unfortunately the Native American were sent to the other side of the Mississippi River in Iowa. The US Government had claim to the land and had it surveyed in 1840. They allowed the settlers to buy the land. At that time, it was about 25 cents per acre.

I have ancestors that arrived here in 1836. They settled in the far southwest corner of the township near the Kendall County line and Big Rock. The township grew as more settlers came. It was always a farming community.



SUGAR GROVE: DESTINATION FOR ADVANCED EDUCATION

Rick Johnson: Sugar Grove grew up as an agricultural community. The beginnings of the Village of Sugar Grove started when the Normal and Industrial School opened in 1876 (CHECK YEAR). There were just about 4 houses in the area. The Railroad came in the 1870s. In the 1960s, the town grew to about 400 people. Currently, the population is about 10,000.

In one of Sugar Grove's claims to fame, some public-spirited individuals in the 1870s thought we should improve our school system and build a progressive school in Sugar Grove Township. The school became a reality due to the vision of Thomas Judd and Frank Hall (inventor of the Hall Braille Writer). It was called the Sugar Grove Normal and Industrial School, and it was/is next to the Community Building and right across the street from the Sugar Grove United Methodist Church. Students came from all around to attend the school in Sugar Grove because it was considered so advanced. The out-of-town students lived in the Hotel in Sugar Grove that people called Uncle Tom's Cabin during the week and took the train back or rode by horseback to home on the weekend.



Originally, there was a wooden school building there. It burned in 1803, and the current building was built on the same foundation.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Sue Jacobson (Rex Wolf's Sister): Before the current Normal and Industrial School building was built, there's a little story about some girls who were riding past the original school building the in their horse and buggy. They saw smoke and shouted, "Oh, goody! Maybe the school is burning down." And it was!





Rick Johnson: At the time, there was no Fire Department. The Fire Department wasn't organized until the later part of World War II. The first Fire Trucks were stored in the Barn behind the Community Building. Later on the first the Fire House was built in the center of the Village across from the original Keck General Store on Main Street. It was a Volunteer Fire Department and the sirens would go off in the Village to call the firefighters to duty and they would race over.

Joan Perrin: The Grocery Store was right across from the Fire Station, and the calls would come into the store. I worked there and I got to push the button to sound the alarms. I remember the Volunteer Fire Department at the time was actually better known as the "Foundation Savers"!

In the 1970s because there was such a shortage of men for the Volunteer Fire Department in the daytime, we had a whole crew of 13 women who became Fire Fighters. It was the first all women crew in the Midwest.



SUGAR GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Methodists held their first quarterly meeting in 1839 in a house build by P.Y. Bliss at the corner of Bliss and Merrill Roads. The current Sugar Grove United Methodist Church Building on Main Street was built in 1888. The Church chartered Troop 41 in 1949.



SUGAR GROVE COMMUNITY BUILDING

Rick Johnson: The Sugar Grove Community Building (aka Community House) was originally organized in the 1930s by civic-minded people who were mostly farmers. At the time, the Village had about 150 people. They put a bond referendum up along with donated funds, and the Community Building was complete in 1933 as a central place in the township where everyone could meet. Before the Community Building was built, the town center was in the building across the street that used to be covered in aluminum that was called Cooper's Hall. It had a gymnasium on the second floor and a blacksmith shop downstairs. Many of the organized activities for kids took place in Cooper's Hall. The gym had a basketball court upstairs, but there was a chimney through the center of the court that the kids had to dribble around. The sidelines were right up against the wall and it was tricky for the spectators to get out of the way when the basketball players came running towards them.



Sue Jacobson: The Community Building wasn't just used for community gatherings, but it was also used for school. There were two classrooms in the basement of the Community Building, and I taught fourth grade in one of them. That was the highest I went. After that, I taught 1st and 2nd grade. The high school boys played basketball upstairs, and everyone used the gym for PE on rainy days. School plays were held there, too. At various points in time, the Community Building also housed the Library, Police Station, and City Hall as well as Boy Scout Troop 41 since its first meeting in 1949.

May 23, 1949

First Committee Meeting Notes

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Scout Troop #41 Sugar Grove

The first meeting of the Boy Scout Committee was held at the home of Donald S. Myers Monday evening May 23, 1949

At this meeting Donald Myers was appointed scoutmaster, Claude Taylor, assistant scoutmaster.

The following appointments were made:

Chairman - Geoff Frantz
 Inet. rep. — Secretary & Treasurer - Tom Frantz
 Outdoorsman - Arden Perzbirich
 Advancement Man - Verne Potter

Thursday night at 7:00 p.m. was decided upon as the meeting night. All meetings to be held at the Community House.

Mr. ~~John~~ ^{Albert} Thirion of Yorkville acted as Counselor at this meeting.

Monday night, June 6 was set as the date for the introductory meeting of all eligible boys & their parents. This meeting is to be held at Camp K. Decker.

Respectfully submitted,
 Tom Frantz, Sec.



June 9, 1949
First Regular Troop 41 Meeting Notes

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June 1, 1949

Second meeting of scout committee was held at Claude Myers Wednesday evening. We discussed planning for introductory scout meeting to be held at Camp Ke De Ka Monday June 6. Each member was given a certain number of boys and parents to contact.

June 9, 1949
First regular meeting of Sugar Grove Scout troop #41 was held at community house at 7:30 pm.

Official scout members for first meeting were

- | | |
|---------|------------|
| Darrell | Livingston |
| Donald | Bolby |
| Gerald | Arkins |
| Kenneth | Clairson |
| Harold | Lye |
| Robert | Snow |
| Richard | Sears. |

All members were present, except Harold Lye & Richard Sears who joined troop June 10.

HISTORY OF TROOP 41 BEGINNINGS



Dave Frantz: People were very involved in the Village. My dad Groff Frantz started this Troop up before my big brother Clif was Scout age.

Clif Frantz: I didn't even know about it. My dad said, "When you're old enough, you're going to be a Boy Scout." So I did. But I didn't know it was my dad who helped start the Troop until I went to his funeral. The Boy Scouts came in uniform. When I went over to thank Assistant Scoutmaster Frank Damon, he said, "Well, it was your dad who helped me start the Troop." There was something special about my dad along with my Uncle Tom Frantz and Don Myers. My dad started the Troop when I was only 5 or 6 years old, and my Uncle Tom helped even though his sons were still too young. Don Myers had no boys, but he was a Scoutmaster. They all wanted to participate in something good.



Richard Sears: Boy Scout Troop 41 was brand new when I started in 1949. Why did I give it a try? Well, we lived out in the country. In Scouts, you were able to meet other kids and do things with them, like camping. With 7 Boy Scouts in a town of 200 people, pretty much all the boys in the town who were the right age joined. The Scoutmaster was excellent, took good care of everyone, and treated everyone equally. I never regretted a minute of it.

Dave Frantz: One of the most surprising things about the Boy Scout Troop was that it was started before the town was incorporated. We didn't have a park district. We didn't have any organization for kids. The activities were put on by parents who wanted to be involved.



Jack Shouba: I used to say, "I'm so glad we didn't grow up in the city because what would you do?" Many years later when I was a teacher at a high school in the suburbs, some of my students said, "I'm sure glad we didn't grow up in the country because what would we do?"

Clif Frantz: The highlight of our meetings was playing Capture the Flag. There were two teams, and each had a flag and a staff. Sometimes we were almost at different ends of the town. We would sneak up on the other guys. They had one goalie, and everybody else was out in the field trying to close in on the flag. Usually, we would send in a dummy so the goalie would run off and we could sneak up and grab the flag.

Dave Seraphin: I was Scoutmaster Joe Hoehn's assistant in 1983. The Committee wasn't sure about making me the next Scoutmaster. They said I could be a flash-in-the-pan. I stayed as Scoutmaster for 30 years.

SPECIAL PROJECTS



MODEL T

Clif Frantz: I remember Jack Shouba's dad and our Model T project.

Jack Shouba: We went out to Mark Gordon's dad's junkyard, and we found a Model T Ford frame and engine that had no wheels or anything. A farmer had used it for the motor to run a pulley for some kind of machinery. My dad had worked on Model T's back in the day. So we took it all apart, cleaned it, and painted it. We never had a body for it. I'm not sure if we got it running, but it was a great project.

CABIN BUILDING

Clif Frantz: When we were 12 years old, we decided we were going to build a cabin down in Keck's Woods. So we tore down Jack Shouba's old shed that was behind our house, and transported the wood down to Little Rock Creek. We got as far as the floor. It's probably still there!



FUNDRAISERS

Richard Sears: Being in Scouts was lots of fun. I remember the fundraisers and Pancake Suppers.

Clif Frantz: The big social of the year was a Pancake Supper. The whole community came out. And paper drives were our fundraiser.

Bill Lye: People always saved their newspapers for the Scouts. We used to store them in the barn behind the Community House.

Rick Johnson: My dad had a semi-truck, and I remember riding along. He loaded up the truck with the papers, and we sold them in Morris.

KLONDIKE DERBY



Doug Musser: Many of our events were centered around Camp KaDeKa, like the Klondike Derbies. Every Patrol made their own sleds, and we pushed them around to different stations, like the Cooking Station and First Aid Station. Each patrol was graded on how well they did. When we pushed our sled back, everyone brought a can of soup and dumped it into a big kettle. They called it "Burgoo". Scoutmaster Joe Hoehn helped us to lash the sleds together. He was a carpenter, and Mr. Seraphin says we still have those sleds stored at the Community Building today. There was never any snow, so we put rollers on the sleds. We had a team of younger kids in the front who pulled and the rest of us were in the back who pushed. The Patrol Leader was the only one who got to ride in the sled!

ADVENTURES

SWIMMING:

Jack Shouba: We used to love to go to the old swimming hole in Bliss Woods until they closed it because of the Polio Scare.



Clif Frantz: The old swimming hole in Bliss Woods was built by the WPA (Works Progress Administration)*. When we were about 8-9 years old and Sugar Grove had a population of only about 200 people, we used to ride our bikes down the middle of 47 to Bliss Woods to go swimming. We’d swim all day long. There wasn’t an adult, a lifeguard, a life preserver, or anything. No supervision whatsoever!

COLLEGE FOOTBALL GAMES

Clif Frantz: Another highlight of the year was when we went to the Northwestern/Ohio State Football Game. In a town of 150 people and just a handful of kids, people went to Dyche Stadium (now Ryan Field) to see the football game. That was a big deal. We went every year.



Dave Seraphin: In the 1980s, we took our boys down to the University of Illinois for Scout Days to watch the football game. One boy said, “I’m going to the University of Illinois this weekend.” And someone looked at him and said, “You’re going to a University? Are you smart enough for that?” We camped out in Rantoul by the runway. The boys would play football on the deserted runway there. In fact, when I was in the Air Force, we flew planes out of Rantoul before they closed the runway. Then one year, they moved our campsite up by the President’s House. We camped in his backyard. The people who worked there who were assigned to cleanup the property after Scout Day was over said, “This place doesn’t need to be cleaned up.” There was nothing there. They said to us, “You mean you bring in all these Scouts and hold a special event and there’s no garbage?”



Jack Shouba: One of the things we learned was that you always leave a campsite better than you found it. That was drilled into us. And to this day, I always try to leave the campsite, and by extension...the world, better than I found it.

* The WPA (Works Progress Administration) was created by President Franklin D. Roosevelt as part of the “New Deal” to lift the country out of the Great Depression.

CANOEING



Dave Frantz: When my big brother Clif was involved in Scouts, I was too young, but I always envied him. One summer they became the canoeing “River Vikings”. They made T-shirts with a Viking Hat!

Clif Frantz: We found an old beat-up canoe out in the barn on Maple Street. It was just hanging there. A bunch of us scouts got together and decided we wanted to refurbish it. Bill Lye’s dad donated it to us, and we started work by sanding it down.

Jack Shouba: We put a new skin on that old canoe and painted it. It looked really nice. For its first trip, we took it down to Little Rock Creek at Keck’s Farm, but we hit an old barrel and ripped a big hole in it!



Clif Frantz: We fixed that canoe up again and decided to take it down Blackberry Creek as far as the Fox River. Unfortunately, that was the time when farmers used to put up fences across the creeks. We portaged around a couple fences, but as we were portaging around another, the farmer came down and told us to get off his land. That’s as far as we could go. We never made it to the Fox River that time. Too many fences!

Jack Shouba: We also went on a canoe trip down the Fox River about 40 miles to Starved Rock. We put in at Yorkville and camped by the Dayton Dam. We pulled the canoes up on shore and camped for the night. When we woke up in the morning, the canoes were on dry land and the river had shrunk a trickle. We thought, “Where did the river go?” It turns out that they open and close the Dayton Dam to control the flow of water. Luckily they didn’t open the dam that day. If they had, our canoes would have been washed away!

When we reached the locks on the river at Starved Rock, we had to wait for a big motorboat to go with us. We all paddled our canoes in, and the people on the motorboat dropped down a rope for us. We hung to that rope on as the water went down, and we made it out to the other side. Our families were waiting for us for a big picnic at the end.

Jack Shouba: One year we took a trip to Lake Michigan from Camp Blackhawk in New Buffalo, Michigan. As we paddled down the river, the river twisted this way and that. The trip seemed much longer than we expected, and thought we should be there by now. There were some fishermen on shore, so we hollered to them, “How far to Lake Michigan?” They answered, “Lake Michigan? You’re on the wrong river!”

Mike Hauge: Even today, canoeing is still a great experience. I always enjoyed the Boundary Waters with the Troop when went up to northern Minnesota to go canoeing for a week. That’s been a highlight in my memories of Troop 41. It’s been a few years since we did that, and we are looking to perhaps do that again in the future.

CAMPING



Clif Frantz: We used to camp out at Camp KaDeKa. We had contests on fire starting and boiling water to see who could be first. Other Troops competed against us from other towns. During the winter, the cabins at Camp KaDeKa were filled with smoke. If you were ever around anyone who smoked, this was 100 times worse! Why? The slant of the cabin roof came almost to the ground, and there was always somebody who would climb up the roof and cover the chimney up. Smoke poured into the cabin. Then you'd see all these Scouts pouring out into the snow!

Jack Shouba: One night out at Camp KaDeKa, we saw a log glowing, like it was fluorescent. And I remember hiding behind a tree. Years later I found out it was some natural phenomenon. We weren't making it up, but at the time it felt like it was haunted!

Dave Frantz: Jack Huggins was the caretaker at Camp KaDeKa. He lived out there and took care of the whole camp. He is our uncle. He just turned 90. He was the Sugar Grove Highway Commissioner for many years.

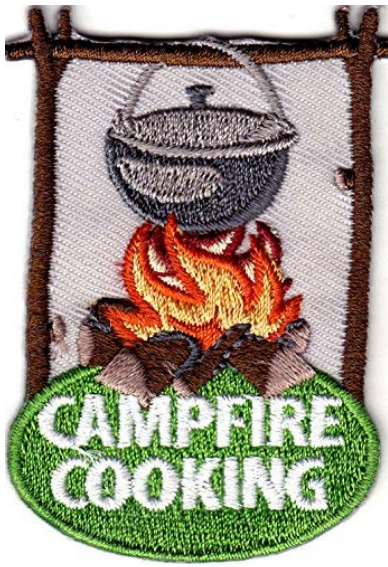


Jack Shouba: We also camped one winter camp at Keck's Farm. It was supposed to be 20 degrees above zero, but it turned out to be 20 degrees BELOW zero. I think that was the biggest mistake a weatherman ever made. We didn't have all the down feather and fleece outdoor gear Scouts have today, so we just lined our tents with newspapers.

Clif Frantz: During that super cold campout, we didn't even have any proper food. It was so cold that when we put the milk carton by the fire, one side was melted but the backside was frozen solid. And the eggs were like rocks. I still remember tossing them down the creek and watching them bounce. Not only were we frozen, but we almost starved to death!



Bill Keck: In 1957, I was one of the lucky ones to go to the 1957 National Jamboree at Valley Forge. Prior to the campout, I was very badly burned, and it took a while before I healed and I was in shape for the Jamboree. While I was there, many Scouts came down with the Flu. Fortunately, I avoided the Flu while I was there, but it hit me when I returned home. It put me out of action for a while. I was scheduled to start Notre Dame in the fall, and I barely made it!



Dave Frantz: In the 1960s, William Keck was my Scoutmaster and he took us to Camp Chin-Be-Gota in the first year it opened. We tented on skidlids because they hadn't prepared the grounds yet. I remember tripping over so many tree stumps!

Bill Lye: I remember cooking over the open fire when we used to prepare foil dinners for ourselves.

Clif Frantz: We still have those foil dinners at my house. How do you make one? Well, you take a great big honkin' hamburger patty and lay it on aluminum foil. Then you dice potatoes, onions, carrots, mushrooms, and just about anything else you want to put in there. Then you wrap it loosely but tightly. 30 minutes on the coals. Terrific!

Mike Hauge: Back in the old days when I started as a Leader with Troop 41, we didn't have a nice trailer like we do today. The boys had to carry all our Troop gear down a flight of stairs from the Community House to Mr. Seraphin's truck. Everything had to be loaded precisely to make it all fit. When we came back, all that gear had to be hauled back up the stairs to the Community House. It took a lot more effort going camping for a weekend. One time, we hiked at the Ranch in Rochelle and camped on the far side of the Rock River. We didn't have any trucks or trailers. We just hiked in with our backpacks and enjoyed part of the Ranch that we normally don't see. We were on the bluff, and there were no facilities out there whatsoever. We just took care of necessities as needed and cooked over fires instead of propane stoves.



Bill Schramm: When I was a Scout in the late 1980s and early 1990s before I became a Leader, I remember going to the Ranch in Rochelle, too. There we had our Camporees, Camporalls, and Electronics Campouts. We were right next to the Rock River. Eventually, the Camporalls were moved out to the Sandwich Campgrounds, but camping at the Ranch in Rochelle was always a good time. There were so many cool things to do there, and they were always a lot of fun.



Dave Seraphin: Our Dining Fly was not like the fancy one the Troop uses today. It was a big square piece of canvas with grommets held up with poles. One time, we left one of the poles at the Community House. One of the boys asked, "How are we going to put this thing up." I said, "It's simple. Go get a big long stick. Tie two Half Hitches into the grommet and run the line over to the pole. Then tie it with a Clove Hitch and a Taut Line Hitch to the ground." After that I hurried off. When I came back, I didn't think the Scout was going to get it at all, but he did exactly what I told him to do. My mouth dropped open. I could not believe what I was looking at. He really knew his knots!

MISADVENTURES



Bill Lye: I remember one time after a Scout meeting in the Community House, I broke my arm right there. Before they put the ceiling tiles up downstairs, there were pipes up there. I climbed up on a table and jumped off and grabbed a pipe. I was swinging on it, and then I fell and broke my arm. About a month or so later after it healed, someone asked me, “How did you break your arm?” So I said, “Let me show you.” I got up on the table, jumped up and grabbed a pipe, and then I fell and broke my arm again!



Dave Frantz: I can remember going for my Canoeing Merit Badge at Camp Chin-Be-Gota in Birnamwood, Wisconsin. We were in street clothes. We had to tip the canoe over and then upright the canoe full of water and get back in it. We took all our clothes off down to our swim trunks and tied our clothes and shoes onto the cross pieces inside the canoe. Then we paddled our way back to shore inside the full canoe of water. When we got back to shore, I was minus my shoes. I was not prepared for that. I had no shoes. Fortunately, the Scoutmaster had an extra pair of old work shoes that he loaned me, but they were about two sizes too big for me. I clomped around in the woods in those shoes for the rest of the week. **Bill Lye:** You walked a mile in your Scoutmaster’s shoes.



David Musser: My first campout was at Camp Dean in 1967 when I was a Tenderfoot. Early in the morning, they sent me out to chop wood. I almost chopped my toe off. It wasn’t all the way off. Luckily, the Army was there that day, and they had a First Aid tent. They used the Fireman’s Carry to carry me about a half mile back to camp, but they tired out about half way. So I walked the rest of the way. I didn’t tell anyone in the Troop until lunchtime. I finally said, I think I might have cut my foot. You could see the blood coming out of my boot. The Patrol Leader started screaming for a tourniquet, but I said, “No, no!” So they brought me to Dryer Clinic. Frank Damon was one of our leaders then, and all the way there, he kept saying, “Your dad is going to kill me.” When they started sewing me up, they had to take him out of the room because he almost passed out!

Throughout the years, teaching First Aid was always important. At our cabin campouts, there would be 3 or 4 different cabins, and each one would have a different emergency. The other Troops would come by and we graded them on how they reacted. Most of the time I was the guy who was going hysterical, and they had to settle me down.



Dan St. Jules: I have a good story about a campout that went wrong. We were up at Camp Napowan for summer camp in Wild Rose, Wisconsin near Camp Freeland Leslie. Mr. Linden, one of the boys’ dads, and I decided to start up a small campfire. Our campsite was in a tree farm, so there were rows of trees and rows of stumps, and so on. Most of the stumps were only a couple inches above ground, but we found one that was 2-3 feet tall. It had burn marks on it so we figured someone tried to burn it down in the past. So we decided we would burn our campfire there and burn down the stump at the same time. When we lit the match, that stump took off like a roaring inferno. We stood there and shouted, “Oh, my gosh!” We figured it would go up into the treetops and take out the entire tree farm. We started running around with our water packs spraying water and trying to put out the fire before someone kicked us out of Camp Napowan forever and ever. Fortunately, we managed to douse the inferno, and everybody was quite happy.

PHILMONT



Doug Musser: We went to Philmont in the 1970s. The Ranger came with us the first two days of the trek, but we were out there for two weeks. On the second day, I unknowingly sat down beside a rattlesnake. Thank God the Ranger was still with us. The Ranger just said, “Don’t move.” He took his walking stick and flipped that rattler into the lake. Later we went up Mount Baldy and stayed in this rickety cabin on top. And the wolves came. As we were looking out, they were looking in at us with their green eyes. Yikes! When we went to our next campsite, we found that a bear had just torn up the site. We were told that they removed one bear from the area, but the Ranger warned us there might be another bear out there. As a precaution, we always hung our food up in bear bags in the trees. While we were sleeping, I heard people whisper my name, “You’ve got a bear by your tent.” I could see by the moonlight that a bear was walking next to my tent, and I could feel him walking on the ground cloth. My tent buddy was snoring, so I woke him up very carefully. I whispered to him that there was a bear by our tent. And he whispered back, “I’ve got beef jerky and Lik-M-Aid in the bottom of my sleeping bag!” So I said, “He’s going to eat you first!”

PRANKS



Dave Frantz: There are always guys who stand out in my memory, like Dave Johnson and Charlie Norris, because they were always the pranksters. I remember times when they got the Scoutmaster to think he was playing a prank on the scouts, but it was really the scouts playing a prank on the Scoutmaster!

Clif Frantz: The Leaders would send the young Scouts on a “Snipe Hunt”. They gave us a gunnysack and a stick, and said, “They run right through here.” I was an animal guy, so I was all keyed up. I’d never seen one before, and I still haven’t seen one. It was about midnight when I came dragging in, and I declared, “There ain’t no Snipe out there!”

When we were older, we used to send Tenderfoots around from camp to camp to look for a “Left-handed Smoke Turner”. Kids would come back with a can and a stick, and ask, “Is this it?” And we would tell them. “No. That’s a Right-handed Smoke Turner.”

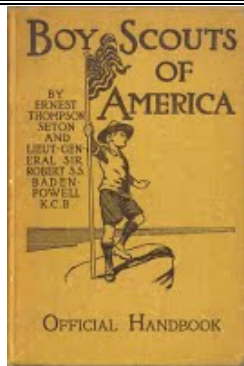
Dave Seraphin: One time at summer camp, we camped around a swamp. One boy really liked to get wet and muddy. So he climbed up a pine tree, he used some little broken branches for climbing. His so-called buddy went up the tree and started knocking of the remainder of the little branches. And there was this scout way up in the tree with no way to get down, yelling, “Mr. Seraphin, help me!” I heard my name called, looked up, and saw him there hanging on. So I had to take a rope and tie a little log around it, got it spinning, and flipped it up over the upper branch. He grabbed a hold of it and started repelling down the tree, and I was feeding the rope up to him as he was coming down. The other boy who did this to him was laughing hysterically.

ORDER OF THE ARROW



Clif Frantz: Being in the Order of the Arrow was a big deal. They gave you one match and you were taken out into the wilderness and left overnight. You had no clue where you were. They gave you some meager provisions to eat. You toughed it out all by yourself through the night. Then you came back the next day and worked all day on a service project. Later that night, a ceremony took place where you were inducted, and they gave you a sash with the big arrow on it. I kept that sash until about 20 years ago!

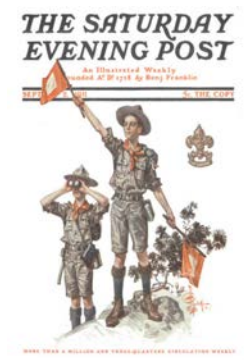
HOW THINGS HAVE CHANGED OR STAYED THE SAME



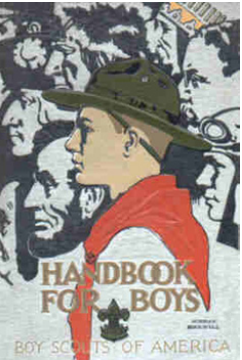
Original: 1910



1st: 1911-1914



2nd: 1914-1927



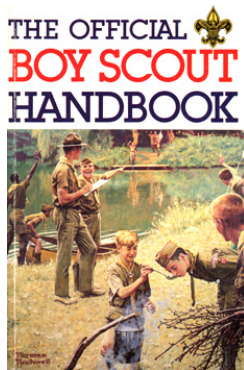
3rd: 1927-1940



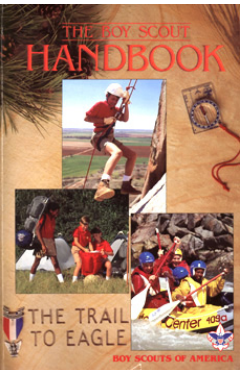
4th: 1940-1948



5th: 1948-1959



9th: 1979-1990



10th: 1990-1998

Dave Frantz: Our Scoutmasters were always concerned for us. There may be differences in Scouting today than there was when we were younger, but one of the things was, and still is, that Scoutmasters and adults involved in Scouting will be there for you. We never lost any boys. You were never by yourself. We always had a good time. We did a lot of first aid training, but we never had to use it on each other.

Rick Wojak: One thing that changed that I like, although I wasn't sure at the beginning, was the technology with the trailer. We have solar lights in the trailer now. I think that's so cool. I wasn't sure how that would work at first, but it was an excellent idea. I like it. That was a nice change.

Dave Seraphin: I think Scouting is still the same. The same values we picked up many years ago, these new Scouts do, too. Boyhood had not changed. The boys are still the same as they were 30 years ago. A boy is a boy is a boy. He's fun to work with. He goofs around. He gets very serious. They do the same pranks today that they did way back then.



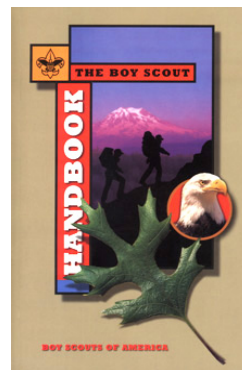
6th: 1959-1965



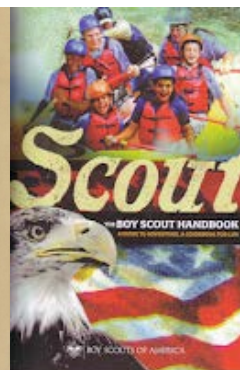
7th: 1965-1972



8th: 1972-1979



11th: 1998-2009



12th: 2009-2015

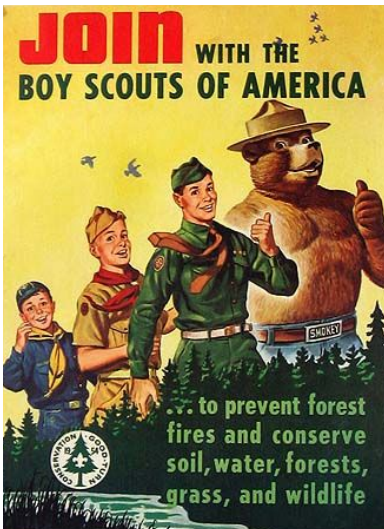


13th: 2016-2019

REFLECTIONS



Clif Frantz: The reason that these memories are so vivid to us older scouts is because there was nothing else for young boys to do in Sugar Grove. There wasn't a movie theater within miles. The nearest one was in Aurora. You couldn't get a fountain Coke. There was no entertainment whatsoever. But fun was free, and you provided it for yourself. If our dads helped us with a Scout project, that was a plus. The Scouting organization was appreciated very much. We have a lot of fond memories.



Bill Gramley: I have lots of fond memories of Troop 41, too. Scouting helped form our level of integrity and honesty and how we treat people and live our lives. That's the main thing I remember from being a Boy Scout. It shaped our future as an independent adult male.

Bill Lye: I think the whole scouting experience definitely helped me later in my life. I still have my merit badge sash with me today.

Dave Frantz: Growing up in Sugar Grove was the very best experience a kid could have. I wish the young people today in Sugar Grove could have the same pleasure we had as kids. Talking about how it affected you and your life, I think it helps kids to have a standard. I always preach to my kids, well that's what they tell me, that there is a right way to do things and there is a wrong way. When you do things the wrong way, it will usually come back to you. If you do things the right way, your life will be good. That's basically being a Scout, doing things the right way.



Rick Johnson: There are a lot of people that don't know their history so they don't have an opportunity to appreciate all the trials and tribulations of the people that came before them. I'm part of the fifth generation of families to have lived in Sugar Grove Township. My family was among the early pioneers, and I am very interested in the values that they brought and wanted to pass on down to me. For me personally, I've always been shy. Learning about my family's history as well as being in scouting and interacting with other kids my age and adults helped me mature. It came at just the right time for me.

David Musser: Scouting gave me the confidence to do other things, other challenges. I was never afraid to try anything. I still have my Scoutbook, and I still look at it if I have a question.

Richard Sears: I learned a lot about how life was. With Scouting, kids learn respect, not just for people but for things, like the environment.



Ben Blazey: My experience with Troop 41 helped me in my outdoor, career, and personal efforts. I am a math and science teacher in Colorado now, teaching students that cannot attend traditional school, such a kids in the hospital. I have many memories of Troop 41. More than anything I appreciated the monthly campouts. The first (but not last) time I woke to a tent caved in from snow was with Troop 41. I still remember my sleeping bag covered with frost. I think after every campout, I slept the whole ride home. I learned to clean and put my gear away as soon as I came home no matter how tired I was, a habit I have to this day. It was always harder to get the chuck boxes back up the stairs on Sunday than it was to get them down on Friday. Many thanks to the leaders who took us on those trips, including Scoutmaster Dave Seraphin. I still love to ski and hike the Colorado peaks. Actually this June, I'll be climbing down Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa!

Dave Seraphin: My first group of boys in the Troop are now 48 years old today, and some are leaders themselves. The same values we picked up many years ago, these new Scouts do, too.

Bill Keck: The Scout Oath is very important. For me, Scouting gave me a strong sense of honesty. I was in a lot of places where you don't have many honest people: Politics. Honesty was a reputation that I always communicated to others.

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM THE OLD SCOUTS TO THE NEW



Dave Frantz: Do things right.

Rick Johnson: Be faithful.

Bill Lye: Be honest. Don't cheat. If you cheat, you'll get caught.

Dave Seraphin: Do things on your honor.

Bill Gramley: Be the best representative of humanity that you can be.

Richard Sears: Be a good person and share it with other people.

Jack Shouba: Just like you try to leave your campsite better than you found it, try to leave the world better, too.

David Musser: Put down your cell phone.

Doug Musser: Pay attention. Learn all you can learn. Soak it all in.

Bill Keck: It's a great country we live in. Try to do what you can to make it even better.

Clif Frantz: Have fun in the meantime.

**THREE GENERATIONS OF SCOUTING IN TROOP 41:
THE RUBOS Leader Grandfather Joe,
Eagle Scout Son Scott, and
New Scout Grandson Jacob**



Joe Rubo: I was first in Scouts as a kid and stayed in until high school. I should have stuck with it longer. I thought high school was going to be harder than it was. I had two brothers in Scouts who were in the Order of the Arrow. Scouting was a good thing. When my son Scott joined Scouting, I came back and became a Den Leader with my wife and later as a leader with Troop 41. Scouting took us to a lot of places that we would have never gone. One time we went on a campout in Dixon, Illinois. It was November, and we were in tents. We should have been in a cabin because the weather was so cold and windy. I remember we all huddled around the fire doing nothing else but wishing we were in a cabin. Another place we would have never gone was Eagle River, Wisconsin where we slept in a cave...with bats.



Scott Rubo: We really did camp in the Bat Cave. There was a Bat Room, and we actually saw bats while we were there. Fortunately, most of the time they stayed in the Bat Room. Scouts had the option of sleeping in the Bat Room, but I didn't! We went to Camp Napowan in Wisconsin for summer camp. They had a COPE course with a monkey bridge for the older Scouts. There are so many more Merit Badges offered now than what we had in those days.



Mr. Seraphin was my Scoutmaster back in 1995 when I became an Eagle Scout, so it's cool to have him still as a Leader with Troop 41. When it came to my son Jacob, I gave him the option to join Scouts if he wanted to. I was his Den Leader throughout all of Cub Scouts. It was his decision to continue on to Boy Scouts. He really likes Scouts. His goal is to become an Eagle Scout, and I told him I would support him all the way through. I was very proud of him because this year he also wanted to play baseball, which was also on Tuesday nights. He made the decision that he wanted to concentrate on Scouting, and he gave up the sport he really likes because he loves Scouts that much!

Jacob Rubo: In Cub Scouts, one of the most fun things I did was to build Pinewood Derby cars with my dad. I designed the cars, and I had a lot of them. I did a Fire Truck, a Minion, an Alligator, a Cubs Car, and a Dale Earnhardt Junior Car. Some of them were really fast. Now that I'm in boy Scouts, I've already gone on one campout in a cabin. It was cold. I had to keep on putting logs on the fire in the old fashioned stove. It was hard to pick between baseball and Scouts this year, but I chose Scouts because I thought it was the "Best Thing!"



FLASHBACK July 2016

CAMPING STORIES

When Scoutmaster Fox sent the Scouts off to camp, he said, “Most importantly, come back with some stories.”

Nathan

During the last part of metalworking, I had to beeswax my metal piece. Since the beeswax had honey mixed in with it, my thing smelled like honey for the entire day. So I was craving honey buns the whole day! But the trading post was out of the honey buns. Some other kid probably bought 50 boxes of honey buns!

Nick

I got hit in the leg with a picnic bench. Well, actually I walked into it. Yes, it hurt! Why would it not hurt?

Mr. Rubio

When I was really a kid, I went with my brother camping when he was a Cub Scout with Troop 29 in Aurora. I was just standing around by the campfire and I remember a spark came down and hit me on the arm. I got a burn. I still remember that today.

Now I am a leader with Troop 41, and I can remember all the camps we went to that I would have never had the experience of going to, like a being in a cave with bats and going around to other places around Illinois by Dixon and Oregon to see their trails. Another one was Starved Rock. That was always a good place to camp.

Logan

I stepped on a stick, and it went right through my shoe into my foot. I sat down on the ground and called over to Jacob for help, and then he got more help. Then we did first aid. Then we tried to walk to the medical place so I could get actual medical stuff. I’m OK now.

Ian

The most interesting thing was probably how bad the kids got. I’m not going to lie. Actually, the ants in my and Zach’s tent. That was the most interesting thing that happened. We cleaned the tent out and taped everything in the tent. Then at the end of the week, Zach threw the tent away!

Jacob

I saw Mr. Fox and Mr. St. Jules lose their marbles on one of the scouts on the last day. He got stuck with Kybo duty twice!

Sean

One interesting thing that happened was when we were cooking dinner in the rain. We had to dig holes so that the kitchen area wouldn’t get flooded!

Mr. St. Jules

Well there was this one time we had a fall camporee somewhere up around Elgin. The boy who was the Troop Chaplain Aide was going to do his Chaplin’s service after supper on Saturday. But the boys were slow cleaning up, and we had to get to the campfire. So I told him we could do it after the campfire. Well, by the time we got back from the campfire, all the boys had jumped into their tents and gone to bed. So he was looking around, and I said we could do it tomorrow morning. So he said, OK. The morning came and things were running late, but he **finally** managed to do his Chaplain’s service. It worked out OK, but he was really wondering if he’d actually ever be able to do it!

Mr. Serpahn

I was a young Scoutmaster, a first or second year Scoutmaster. I took the boys to summer camp. At that time we took charge of the boys for a Troop swim. The one year we did it, I swam out to the raft, and the troop splashed around the water. To make things interesting that year, I got a watermelon, put lard all over it, had it in the raft, and threw it into the water.

We had 2 patrols. If the patrols could take the watermelon and get it to the shore, they could have watermelon for supper. They would be the winners. So we played the game. It was in deep water. The watermelon kept slipping from person to person. I thought it was quite hilarious as they tried to grab on to the greased watermelon as it popped around. However, each boy in the patrol thought he was a hero, and he was going to take the watermelon and run it to shore.

However, scouting is a team sport. Finally one of the patrols realized, “Lets do this as a team and quit trying to be the macho leader!” So as one boy was going to shoreline, now touching bottom in waist-deep water, the other patrol’s scouts tackled him. As he started to fall, he passed the watermelon off to the other scout in his patrol, who was now only in ankle deep water. He took the watermelon, turned around, and put it on shore for a touch down. And his patrol won the watermelon!

So scouting is more than just individuals working by themselves. Scouting is like a game where we work together as a team. We learn that in scouting, teamwork is so important. We work as a team with our patrol and work with out patrol leader. Since that patrol learned that very well, they were the winners of the watermelon contest!

Jay

There were a lot of bumps in the road, but scouts always come back with the greatest stories. Let’s see. Hmm. There are none that I can think of at the moment!

SALUTE TO THE SCOUTMASTERS & VOLUNTEERS



Troop 41 has a long history. We honor our leaders of yesterday and today. Besides the Scoutmasters listed below, many other gentlemen have stepped up to fulfill the duty of Assistant Scout Master over the years. The success of the Scoutmasters has been possible with the many excellent parents and leaders who volunteered.

*While time marches on
And 70 years passes by
Some Scoutmasters have gone
To the Great Camporee in the Sky.*

*To all our Scoutmasters
Both far and near
We salute you and thank you
For always being there!*



1949-1950: Donald Meyers

1950-1951: Tom Frantz

1952: George Alexander

1952-1956: Sydney L. Warne

1956-1960: Elmer F. Lambert



1960-1963: Edwin M. Stanton III

1963-1965: William F. Keck

1965-1968: Stanley H. Albright, Sr.

1968-1972: Joseph R. Hoehn

1972-1973: Donald C. Pfeffer

1973-1974: Lloyd D. Feltz



1974-1976: Donald C. Pfeffer

1976-1980: Bob Bates

1980-1984: Joseph R. Hoehn

1984-2014: David L. Seraphin (**30 YEARS!**)

2014- : Jim Fox

EAGLES' NEST



The following members of Troop 41 have been awarded the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest rank attainable in Boy Scouts. The title of Eagle Scout is held for life, thus giving rise to the phrase "Once an Eagle, always an Eagle". Over 50 scouts in Troop 41 have earned the rank of rank of Eagle since the Troop was founded.

1970s

- 1970 Kevin Claesson
- David Musser
- 1972 Mark Gemmer
- Charles McGee
- 1973 Jeffrey Everett
- 1974 Douglas Musser
- Donald Perrin
- 1978 Jeffrey Hess
- Gregory Richards
- 1979 Douglas Bates
- Charles Roberts

1980s

- 1981 Donald Forys
- James Hess
- Thomas Rogers
- 1982 David Mitcheltree
- Joseph Wolf
- 1987 Bryant Seraphin
- Peter Winslow
- 1989 Mark Mitcheltree

1990s

- 1990 Ryan Christoffel
- 1991 Brett Cummins
- 1992 Bryan Cummins
- 1993 Matt Frison
- 1994 Rory Cummins
- Nathan Jokiel
- Mike McReynolds
- David Nolte
- 1995 Shane Cummins
- Scott Rubo
- 1996 Neil Hutton
- 1997 Matt Frye
- Derrick Smith
- 1998 Brian Buchberger
- 1999 Mike Hauge
- Tom Williams

2000s

- 2000 Ben Blazey
- Nick Konczal
- 2001 Kevin Cummins
- 2002 Jake Vogels
- Steven Hestkin
- Brett Long
- Andy Williams
- 2005 Brandon Buchberger
- Scott Thompson
- 2007 Tom St. Jules
- 2008 Robert Germick
- 2009 Alejandro Barragan
- Brock Feece
- John Rotella
- Paul Davies

2010s

- 2012 David Barnhart
- 2013 Bradley Bumsted
- 2014 Austin Jordan
- 2015 William Koziol
- Jack Wolf
- Mark Wojak
- David Wojak
- 2016 Alan Morrow
- Sam Wolf
- 2019 Jay Fox

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Thanks to the Sugar Grove Historical Society

SUGAR GROVE NEWS

GET INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY

August 14, 1975

October 23, 1975

December 4, 1975

BOY SCOUT NEWS

We had a good turn out for our week at summer camp in Wisconsin. Three adults and sixteen Scouts attended camp. Adults attending were: Bob Bates, Jack Doherty, and Dave Docherty. Scouts attending were: Doug Bates, Greg Richards, Dale Perrin, Charles Roberts, Ricky Peters, Cliff Hinstead, Jim Theurer, Charles Theurer, Eddie McCee, Chris Carter, Ken Gilliam, Tom Millard, Tom Day, Brad Scott, Brad Tutt, and Terry Tutt. Doug Bates, Greg Richards and Charles Roberts were tapped out for Order of the Arrow.

Greg Richards won the medal for the best rifle shot at camp that week. Doug Bates tied with another Scout in archery. They won half of a watermelon each.

Charles Roberts and Doug Bates went on a Wilderness Indian Survival Expedition. Get them to tell you how to eat plants and to cook without pots and pans.

The boys completed 26 merit badges and 9 partial ones.

Lately the Scouts have been hiking a lot. In April with adult leaders, Neil Morton, J. Doherty, and Joe Hoehn, they hiked 13 miles on "The Red Caboose Trail." The old "Aurora-Elgin Railroad Trail." In May with Neil Morton and Bob Bates they hiked 17 miles on the Illinois and Michigan Canal. In June with Neil Morton and Jack Doherty they hiked 10 miles on the "Cantigny-McCormick trail at Winfield, Ill. Dave Docherty and Bob Bates helped with the transportation.

Last but not least, with Neil Morton, Jack Doherty and Don Pfeiffer, some of the troop went on a bike hike of 25 miles to Lone Grove Forest Preserve. That Neil Morton sure does a lot of hiking!

Our next hike is planned for September 6 at Bradford, Ill. It will also be a campout. We need parents for driving as it is about 90 miles one way. Contact us if you can help drive.

Fall Camporee will be in October. The exact date will be announced later.

Next Court of Honor will be September 23, 7:00 p.m. at the Community House. Parents, brothers and sisters are welcome. There is no market for paper and we can't collect papers until further notice. We hope to be able to sell some in September. Save your papers if you can. Boy Scouts participated in Corn Boil July 26th with a "Moon Walk".

BOY SCOUTS

"Court of Honor" will be held September 23 at 7 o'clock in the Community House. Scouts, parents, brothers and sisters are invited to attend.

There will be a paper drive Saturday, October 18. Please have your papers tied and set by the curb. If you have a large amount of paper contact Doug Bates, 892-1098, so that they won't be missed.

Needed are trucks, drivers, and fathers to help handle the papers. Someone will call to see who can help with the paper drive.

The Fall Camporee will be held at Camp KeDeKa October 3, 4 and 5. A great program is planned for the Scouts, so let's have a big turnout.

On September 5 and 6 adult leaders Neil Morton and Bob Bates with Scouts Doug Bates, Greg Richards, Charles Roberts, Ken Gilliam, Donny Forys, Jeff Hess, Ricky Peters, Bill Ogle and Charles Theurer went on an overnight camp-out and hike.

The Scouts also hiked the 16 mile "Amquonsippi Trail" at Bradford, Ill. On this hike each Scout earned one medal and three patches.

"Thanks" to Joe Hoehn for getting the food for this hike. Also a big "Thank You" to Mr. & Mrs. Donald Roberts for driving. It wouldn't have been possible to go on this hike without their help.

This was the fourth hike planned and led by Neil Morton. Some of the Scouts have been on all four hikes and have earned 4 medals and 7 patches. "Thanks", Mr. Morton.

Left out last month were the people who drove to C. B. G. Thanks to drivers: Norma Carter, Jerry Perrin, Stanley Richards, Ralph Scott, Dave Docherty, Carl Millard, Kenneth Gilliam and Bob Holle.

Where are the Webelos that graduated into Boy Scouts? Lost? You will find us every Tuesday at 7 o'clock in the Community House. Come on in and join a hiking and camping troop.

BOY SCOUTS

Our paper drive will be held October 25. If you have a truck or station wagon and can help drive, please contact Douglas Bates at 892-1098 and let him know.

The paper drive money helps buy troop equipment, merit badges and pays for our troop registration fees at our district activities and hikes.

On October 10, 11 and 12, the Devils Cave Fall Camporee was held at Camp KeDeKa. Attending adults were Don Pfeiffer, Jack Doherty, Neil Morton, Bob Bates, Alan Baum, Oliver "Doc" Sweet and Joe Hoehn. Attending Scouts were Doug Bates, Greg Richards, Charles Roberts, Donny Forys, Cliff Hinstead, David Mattice, Jeff Hess, George Elman, Kenny Gilliam, Brad Scott, Gary Baum, Bill Ogle, and Eddie McGee.

The theme of the Camporee was "Pioneering-Bicentennial weekend in somewhat the same way as our forefathers did 200 years ago. We spent Saturday morning erecting various camp gadgets considered useful for camp life.

Saturday afternoon our patrols took part in contests based on the Pioneering Theme, such as: camping, hiking, and first aid.

Saturday supper was cooked without utensils. It included main entree, vegetable, dessert, beverage and biscuits. Try cooking biscuits without utensils. We couldn't use foil because it is considered a utensil.

The Scouts that took part in this camporee received the first of a series of four special bicentennial patches. The other three patches will be awarded at the "Klondike Derby", First Aid Rally and the Spring Camporee.

"Thanks" to Stanley Richards for taking and bringing back our equipment from the Camporee. Also "Thanks" to Mrs. Charles McGee, Miss Mary Theurer and Mr. Jordan Hess for helping in driving the Scouts to the Camporee.

At the Court of Honor, a total of 51 merit badges were awarded. Some of the Scouts have really been working hard for higher ranks. Advancing into higher ranks were:



FROM THE ARCHIVES

Thanks to the Sugar Grove Historical Society

SUGAR GROVE NEWS


GET INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY

February 23, 1978

April 27, 1978

August 18, 1978

SUGAR GROVE NEWS
GET INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY
VOL. 6 NO. 2
KLONDIKE DERBY



Scouts Joe Wolf and Steve Nelson with their Klondike Derby sled.

Sugar Grove Scout Troop 41 participated in the Annual Klondike Derby at Camp KeDeKa on Saturday, February 11, 1978. Each Patrol visited fifteen towns or stations, via sled, and were graded on various areas of the Scout Handbook.

The adult leadership was comprised of Bob Bates, Neil Morton, Joe Hoehn, Jack Doherty and Ron Pearsall.

The patrols included Jeff Hess, John Kling, Rick Peters, David Mitcheltree, Tom Rodgers, Skip Freitag, Steve Nelson, Mark Dixon, Doug Bates, Joe Wolf, Mark Stratmann, Kirk Pearsall and Donny Forys.

THE SEMI-ANNUAL PAPER DRIVE HAS A TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 8th.


"HELP" The Troop Committee needs at least two (2) fathers for CB6 - July 2 to July 8. CB6 is at Birnamwood, Wisconsin.

March 7th is the date of the troop swim at the Holiday Inn in North Aurora.

The annual Scout Expo will be held at the Kane County Fairgrounds on April 15th.

May 6th is the Spring Camporee. Accommodations will be announced at a later date. Joe Wolf and Mark Stratmann are currently working on their God and Country Awards.

SUGAR GROVE NEWS
GET INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY
VOL. 6 NO. 4
Congratulations Jack!



Jack L. Huggins was given the Silver Beaver Award at the Two Rivers Scout Council Recognition Banquet held in Batavia recently.

The Silver Beaver Award, the highest honor granted by a Scout Council, is awarded with the approval of the National Court of Honor in recognition of long and exceptional service to youth, church and community.

Jack has served as the Camp Ranger at Camp Kedeka for 20 years. The award said

(Continued on page 2)

SUGAR GROVE NEWS
GET INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY
Aug. 18, 1978
School Registration


Kaneland Schools will hold registration for all students August 22, 23 and 24, during the hours of nine a.m. to 12 noon. Classes for the new year will begin on September 5.

This year the Sugar Grove School will have available for sale during registration pre-assembled "Student Pre-Packs" containing all necessary school supplies for each grade. The "Pre-Packs" will be sold at discount.

Physical examinations are required by State law of all students who enter for the first time, kindergarten, fifth grade and ninth grade. Forms for these exams may be picked up at any Kaneland School. A physical exam which has been taken after March 1,

(Continued on Page 2)

EAGLE SCOUT



Doug Bates, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Bates, was presented his Eagle Rank by Mr. Harvey Hoyt and Mr. Joe Hoehn at Camp Ke-De-Ka Lodge on June 27th. Mr. Frank Damon was guest speaker for this special Court of Honor.

For his Eagle Project, Doug planned and directed the painting of the Sugar Grove Cemetery fence. A total of over 125 hours were spent on this project.

(Continued on Page 3)



FROM THE ARCHIVES
February 2, 1974

FD:hgo 2/2/74

BOY SCOUTING IN SUGAR GROVE

Scouting has been going on in Sugar Grove since about 1930 or 1931. Mr. Victor Fights, then basketball coach at Sugar Grove High School was Scout Master at that time. A Scout troop has been active here on an intermittent basis since that time. Records, if any, are sketchy but the Big Rock Post of the American Legion was sponsor many of those years.

The troop died out again about 1947 and early in 1949, the Sugar Grove Methodist Church official board was approached to sponsor a Scout troop in Sugar Grove. The Board voted to accept the challenge. The first meeting under this sponsorship was held at the home of Donald Meyers on Monday evening, May 23, 1949. Groff Frantz was made Committee Chairman. Tom Frantz became Institutional Representative and Secretary-Treasurer, Arden Perschnick became Outdoorsman, Donald Meyers was appointed Scoutmaster and Claude Tyler became his Assistant. Mr. Albert Thurov of Yorkville acted as Counselor at this meeting.

The first troop meeting under that charter was held Thursday evening, June 9, 1949. Charter members were: Darrel Livingston, Donald Bolly, Gerald Atkins, Kenneth Claesson, Robert Snow, Harold Lye, and Richard Sears. Lye and Sears were not present at the 1st meeting but joined the next day. Accurate records of dates, names of Scouts and activities over the years are not available. We know that Gary Wilson was one boy to attend a National Jamboree during his career as a Scout. We are sure many highlights have been lost over the years. Scoutmasters and approximate dates of service include: Tom Franz 1950 and 1951; George Alexander acted as temporary Scoutmaster for part of 1952; and Sydney Warne took the post in the fall of that year. He served through 1956. Elmer Lambert took the job of Scoutmaster in January of 1957 and held this post for 2 years. Jack Huggins was his Assistant. Elmer joined the Commissioners staff at the time and Edwin Stanton accepted the Scoutmaster's job. Stan Albright became Assistant Scoutmaster then and held this post 8 years. Troop 41 became a Pioneer Troop at this time, being one of the first troops to go to Camp Chin-Be-Gota, WI.

Prior to this point two attempts were made to establish Explorer posts. Mr. Jack Shouba was the first to act as Post Advisor. We have no record of the duration of this post. When Syd Warne gave up as Scoutmaster, it was to make a second attempt to establish Exploring here. Again the movement dwindled out.

Bill Keck took on the duties of Scoutmaster in 1966. At that time the troop had dwindled to 10 boys. In 1966 Bill left to attend college and Stan Albright accepted the office of Scoutmaster. Frank Damon became his assistant. The troop started growing faster then and some records came into being. Stan Albright, Jr. and Richard Damon became the first Sugar Grove Scouts to receive the God and Country awards in 1967. Also, at this time the first of a series of annual pilgrimages to Camp Chin-Be-Gota started. This chain is still going in 1974.

Joe Hoehn was moved to the post of Scoutmaster in January 1969. He served as neighborhood Commissioner for a year prior to this. Community growth and an ever expanding activity program, including camping, hiking, and canoeing contributed to a rapid growth in the troop since 1967. David Musser and Kevin Claesson became the first Eagle Scouts here in June of 1970. Any other Scouting records fell during 1971 and 1972. The troop register grew to over 50 boys at one point. Don Pfeffer came to the troop as Scoutmaster for the year 1973. At his request Joe Hoehn stayed on as troop committee chairman. Lloyd Feltz and George Point as Assistant Scoutmasters contributed greatly to the year's successful activities. Four Scouts received God and Country awards in 1973. They were Dale Feltz, Tim Brumm, Randy Point and Dean Pashen. Jeff Everett was presented his Eagle award that year, also.

An Explorer post was revived in the community in December 1971 with the Lions Club as sponsors. The post Advisor was Jim Remington. At this writing he is continuing in that capacity. Mark Gemmer and Charles McGee completed their Eagle work as Explorers during 1973. Both Boys had been members of Scout Troop 41. Lloyd Feltz took on the duties of Scoutmaster as of January 1, 1974. Don Pfeffer is staying on as his assistant. Plans for this year include another first. We are planning to send a group of Scouts to Philmont Scout Ranch in Arizona. A full summer of other more local activities is also being planned.

FLASHBACK September 2016

CARDBOARD BOAT RACE: Fox Valley United Way & Mutual Ground



We built a cardboard boat for Mutual Ground. Ms. Kendra talked to us about the important work Mutual Ground does. The race was Saturday 8-20-16 at Mastadon Lake in Phillips Park. The boat was paddled by staff from Mutual Ground. The event raised money for Fox Valley United Way who provides support to health and human service organizations in the area.

August 20, 2016



FLASHBACK July 2017

Summer Camp: “CFL TRIP”

by Seth C., Troop Scribe



Photography by Kai Liu

Many people went to CFL, and here’s what they thought about it.

Jacob loved camp. His favorite part was his merit badges involving Forestry and Mammal Study. Jacob also thought it was hilarious when Grant’s tent became a bit of a mess. While the Ordeal was a challenge for him, he thought he will take many life lessons from the experience.

Grant thought camp was exciting. His favorite part was the astronomy hike. He thought that it was really funny when the canoe he was in capsized during the canoeing merit badge.

Dominic liked camp. He really enjoyed doing merit badges and chilling out with friends. He believes that the funniest thing was the movie “Mask”, which we watched on movie night.

Sean also liked camp. His most favorite part of camp was the closing campfire. Sean believes that the most hilarious moment was Jacob wearing his sweatshirt for pants. He has stated that the hardest part of the Ordeal was when it rained while he and the other scouts taking the ordeal were trying to sleep.

Tyler liked camp. His favorite part of camp was the Waterfront. He thinks that the funniest moment was Nick not getting out of his tent to bugle.

Morgan thought that camp was fun. He thought all parts of camp were fun. Morgan says that the most hilarious moment was when Jacob wore his sweatshirt for pants.



Nick loved camp. His favorite part was getting to wake people up with his bugle. He thought that the funniest moment was his being a lazy bugler.

Logan thought camp was great. The food and ga-ga ball were his favorite part. He believes that the funniest moment was Nick trying to dry his wet chair with a wet towel.

Mr. Liu enjoyed camp. His favorite part was the high adventure course. He also thought that Jacob’s sweatshirt pants was pretty funny.

Mr. Fox had a great time at camp. His favorite part was that the scouts worked hard through the rain. He believes that the funniest moment was when Jay was frolicking across the dock at waterfront.

Mr. Carlson thought that camp was a blast. Although he had a good time on the canoe trip and zip lining, his favorite part was on the last day when he heard scouts say they couldn’t wait to come back next year. He thinks that the funniest moment was listening to scouts whine about how cold the water was and next year he challenges everyone to the polar bear plunge!

I thought camp was awesome. My favorite part was my merit badges. I think that the funniest moment was when I kept missing the hole in mini golf with Morgan and Tony.

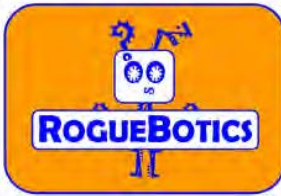
So yes, everyone at camp had a great time and there were lots of laughs. I hope everyone comes back to camp next year!

~ Yours Truly, Seth C., Troop Scribe



FLASHBACK March 2018

ROBOTICS TEAM **Team RogueBotics**



TEAM SPONSORS

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What do hula hoops, hoedowns, Conga lines, kids in Haiti, human catapults, and LEGOs have in common? Robotics!

FIRST LEGO LEAGUE

Team RogueBotics, sponsored by Troop 41, competed in the FIRST LEGO League Einstein Illinois State Championship in January 2018. **Team RogueBotics** is an all Scout team, 8 Boys Scouts from Troop 41 and 1 Girl Scout from Troop 1177: Seth, Sean, Logan, Nicholas, Kaitlin, Aiden, Billy, Christopher, and Morgan, all coached by Troop 41 Leader Kai Liu and Boy Scout Ben. To their surprise, Team RogueBotics brought home the **3rd Place Robot Performance Award, 3rd Place Champion's Award**, and a nomination to attend the **Global Innovation Award Competition**. They also represented the State of Illinois at the **International Razorback Invitational Tournament** in May 2018 with teams from across the USA & the world, including Norway, Japan, Israel, Canada, Australia, South Korea, India, Chile, Brazil, Spain.

Their robotics journey took them to Haiti via FaceTime to learn about kids and their schools in the rural mountains. They met professionals in water treatment and engineering. Then, with nothing but an idea and what they had in their pockets, they boldly walked into a Chicago law firm to learn about patent law. Showing that they can do anything as a team, they wrestled with the "helium hula hoop" and built a working catapult with nothing but their own bodies. They rocked the harmonica, sung a hoedown, and danced in a Conga line with kids from across the ocean. And it all started with a pile of LEGOs.



WORLD ROBOT OLYMPIAD

The week after returning from the international FLL tournament, Troop 41 formed **Team RogueBotics – Special Ops** and jumped into a new challenge: World Robot Olympiad, a different league that requires teams, on the day of the tournament, to build robots from scratch to perform a surprise mission released the same day. Sean, Logan, and Billy launched the splinter team with Coach Kai Liu and Assistant Coach and Girl Scout Kaitlin. Two months later in August, they took First Place in the Junior Division at the Illinois Tournament. Then in September, they represented the State of Illinois in the Junior Division at the World Robot Olympiad USA National Championships in West Virginia. Competing with teams from California to New York, the rookie team RogueBotics-Special Ops took home the 5th Place trophy!



They also all took home some life lessons. Sean found that coding is a valuable skill and the wave of the future. Billy liked seeing all the different robot designs from around the country. Morgan, Logan, and Christopher said building & programming a robot gave them a glimpse at the field of engineering. Nicholas is now thinking about becoming a robotics or aerospace engineer. Aiden said, "I learned a lot about Core Values and teamwork, and I think that will help me in a working field." Ben followed, "I want to be an engineer, but it doesn't take one person to design something, it takes a team of people and they all have to work together." Seth echoed, "Teamwork and people skills are important to everyone. If you don't have people skills, you won't be successful in life." Kaitlin beamed, "My favorite part was learning about kids from around the world and how special they are."

FLASHBACK September 2016

KANE COUNTY CHRONICLE

Extra! Extra! Read all about it!

<http://www.kcchronicle.com/2016/09/12/sugar-grove-boy-scouts-use-solar-panel-technology-for-camping-trips/ajlx9so/>

Sugar Grove Boy Scouts use solar panel technology for camping trips

Published: Wednesday, Sept. 14, 2016 9:22 a.m. CDT

By Chris Walker editorial@kcchronicle.com.

Photos by Julie Walker



The lack of nearby electricity sources and lighting can make it difficult to go camping. But that's not a problem for Sugar Grove Boy Scout Troop 41.

The troop has installed solar panel technology to the roof of the trailer they had already been using, while adjusting the interior lighting and making it a great source to recharge electronic items, especially smartphones and portable lanterns for when they're out in the wilderness.

"With the new lights and the solar panels we've been able to turn it to daylight in the middle of the night," said Jim Fox, scoutmaster of Troop 41 "If you show up at camp later or need to cook later in the night, this really gives you all the light you need, which is pretty amazing."

The solar panels were installed meticulously to not interfere with the aerodynamics of traveling. The troop is fortunate is have professional engineer Kai Liu as one of its volunteers. Tackling a project of such proportions was something that intrigued him, and he also was able to get the young scouts involved.

"I had gone on a few campouts and realized it was sure dark out there," Liu said. "As an engineer I've always had an interest in doing these kinds of things, especially with renewable resources."

The solar panels are able to collect energy, which is then stored in the battery for later usage in the evening. The battery is recharged the next day by the solar panels, and the cycle continues.

"The nice thing is that solar panels have become far less expensive, which is really what made it happen," Liu said. "The panels and everything were only about \$200, but we still had to ...



FLASHBACK September 2018

FROZEN CAMPOUT

by Nate D., Scout Reporter



BRRR!

Blackwell Forest Preserve, April 2018

It was a cold campout! Saturday's overnight low was about 20°F. During the day, we had fun of cooking, hiking and climbing up to the top of Mt. Hoy. It was also a clear day so the views from the top were well worth the trek. As the sun set, the world around the Scouts began to slowly freeeeze! How cold was it? Nate D., "Reporter on the Scene" interviewed the Scouts and Leaders to find out.

It was so cold that

Nate D. my nose was freezing. It was interesting to see how my sleeping mat had ice on it even though it was inside my tent!

Tyler C. it made it harder to sleep because it was so cold.

Ben S. it wasn't too bad until nighttime when it was really cold. We tried to clean up, but water was freezing everything. It threw a wrench into the system.

Daniel W. when it became really cold, we would set anything out of the tent and within 20 minutes, it would be covered with frost.

Sean L. when you leave all that water out on your table thinking it will just evaporate, wrong, it's actually going to turn into ice. But that's not the worst part. It's getting into your sleeping bag after accidentally getting water in your hair and waking up to find your hair is frozen.

Mr. Willis all my clothes smelled like campfire.

Mr. Liu I went to the campout with a plan of not freezing at night. When the others saw me put up my 6 person tent and then put up a 2 person tent inside of it, they were first puzzled, but soon realized it was a pretty cool concept. One of the other leaders even said I should patent it. I would guess it was at least 10 degrees warmer sleeping inside my double tent.



To be included in our mailing list, please email bsatrop41sg1949@gmail.com with your name, email, and your scout's name.