

The Upward Trail

Volume 2, Issue 4

April 2004

BOY SCOUT TROOP 477
KINGSWOOD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Articles needed for the Troop Newsletter! Troop Committee Members are encouraged to share work area program information via the Troop newsletter!

April Patrol Assignments
Service Patrol: COUGAR
Program Patrol: COBRA
Camp Patrol: WOLVERINE

Editor: Jeff Glaze
Contributors: Henry Fisher,
Michael Fessenden, and Jeremy
Webber

CAVING & CAMPING TRIP TO CLOUDLAND CANYON, April 20-21, 2004

Troop 477 will be going on a Caving Trip April 16-18, 2004. We will be leaving Friday, April 16 at 6:00 PM sharp for Cloudland Canyon State Park. We must leave promptly, otherwise we might find ourselves locked out of the campground. We will be camping in Pioneer Campground 2. On Saturday, Pathways will join us and take two different groups caving... the first group in the morning and the second group in the afternoon. Eric Pinkston, of Pathways, will be attending a Troop Meeting in early April to let us know what we need to bring to safely go caving. Venture Crew 477, and Sea Scout Ship 477 have been invited to join the Troop for this trip. Each Scout should bring along about \$10.00 for lunch on Sunday's return trip. Permission Slips and Trip Information Forms are available on the Troop Web site at: **Get forms at: <http://www.kingswoodmc.org/troop477/forms.html>** **The Campmaster needs to know who will be participating as soon as possible. To**

expedite sign-up, please sign up on the Troop web site at: <http://kingswoodmc.org/troop477/camping/sign-up.htm>

WHERE: Cloudland Canyon State Park, Rising Fawn, Georgia
WHEN: April 16 - 18, 2004
DEPARTURE: 6:00 PM SHARP on Friday, April 16, 2004

RETURN: Approx. 2:00 PM on Sunday, April 18, 2004

PERMISSION: Permission Slip is Due no later than **THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2004**

The Pathways Liability Waiver is due with the permission slip.

MEAL PREPARATION: Unless noted otherwise, all meals are prepared by Patrol. Patrol members should all participate in meal planning at Patrol Corners meetings during the weekly Troop meetings. The Patrol Leader is responsible for organizing the purchase, distribution, and Duty Rosters for meal preparation..

Friday Dinner: **Sack dinner**
Saturday Breakfast: **By Patrol**

Saturday Lunch: **By Patrol**
Saturday Dinner: **By Patrol**
Sunday Breakfast: **By Patrol**
Sunday Lunch: **Restaurant**

COST: The cost of the trip is shown below. The "Total" is payable to "Boy Scout Troop 477". Patrol leaders will request reimbursement from the Troop treasury after making Patrol food purchases.

Travel (Gas, Rental, tolls) \$5.00
Camping (Park Fees, etc.) \$5.00
Activities (Pathways Fee) \$25.00
Food (Patrol, Troop) \$10.00
T o t a l \$ 4 5 . 0 0

THE CAMPMASTER FOR THE TRIP IS Assistant Scoutmaster Jeremy Webber

HEALTH & SAFETY

All scouts must have an up to date Health form on file with the Troop. **Please contact the Troop Committee's Health & Safety Chair (Mrs. Gibbons)** for info on the status of your health form ASAP!!

Online Youth Protection Training:

New from National @ Council Training Page - Atlantabsa.org/training.htm {link centered near top of page underneath the "training Opportunities" block}. You can receive credit for this, if you submit information, otherwise use this as a refresher and for reference. You cannot access this page unless you go through a Council's link. You must use Atlanta Area Council Website, in order for records to be sent to Atlanta.

Service & Good Turn

Boy Scout Help Wanted - "Service Hours Available" {Volunteers Needed} in Dunwoody: The Children's Carnival at Lemonade Days of Dunwoody will be Saturday, April 24th from 11am - 2pm at Brook Run Park. We'll have moonwalks, bouncy slides, ponies, carnival games, face painting and lots of other activities that will appeal to parents with children from one to twelve years old. We have hired a DJ and invited local fire trucks.

Visit the Troop's web site at: www.kingswoodmc.org/Troop477

March Standing Indian Mountain: It Was A Great Backpacking Trip!

By Michael Fessenden

The weekend of March 20-21, Troop 477 went on a backpacking trip to Standing Indian, in North Carolina.

We left the Scout hut at 8:00 A.M. on Saturday March 20. The drive up took about 2 or 3 hours. When we got there we quickly put on our packs and started up the mountain. The hike only took about 2 hours, but it was exhausting. We saw other hikers too, one of which was hiking the entire Appalachian trail all the way to Maine. When we got to the top of the mountain there was an amazing view, you could see over dozens of mountains. We even saw lake Burton. We quickly set up camp then ate lunch. After lunch we had to collect fire wood for later that night.

Later we went exploring and found many neat things. But we got tired after about two hours and headed back to camp. Then we just kind of chilled out. About a half hour later we headed down to fill up our water bottles. When we got to the water source we saw a really small creek with a pipe that had water coming out. When we had finished filling the water bottles we climbed back up the mountain, and went back to camp. When we got there we prepared, and ate dinner.



After we cleaned up we went to go start the fire. It was kind of hard to start because of the wind, but we eventually got it going, and we only had to use about 50 pieces of paper and a whole mess of drier lint to get it started. At the fire we had S'mores, lot of S'mores. But unfortunately it started thundering sprinkling a little so we quickly covered our packs and got inside our tents. But my tent buddy and I had accidentally put our tents rain fly upside down. When we went outside to flip it over it began to hail, that kind of hurt, but we eventually got it. That night it rained very hard and the wind made your think you were gonna be blown off the mountain.

Conditions weren't much better than the previous night. The temperature had dramatically dropped and my shoes had frozen over because they had gotten wet the night before. It was actually pretty funny. But we were still able to eat breakfast, break camp, and finished cleaning up. The hike down didn't take nearly as long. On the way home we stopped at one of our favorite restaurants, "Rebba's." When we arrived at the Scout hut we unloaded the packs and left for home. It was a really fun trip and I think I packed really well, because the only thing I didn't use was my toothbrush.

March 2004 Membership Highlights

by Henry Fisher

.A great big thank-you to all the Scouts that attended the Webelos2 crossover March 22nd. I know it made the new Scouts feel very welcome. Also, thanks to everyone in the troop for their efforts this past year helping make the Webelos2 visits and campout a great experience for them. More than anything, the success of these activities determines whether a new Scout prospect decides to join our troop or go somewhere else. So, great job everyone.

I am in need of some volunteers to help with a recruiting drive at the end of the school year. The plan is to setup displays at the elementary schools targeting the graduating 5th graders. All help and ideas are very welcome.

I have been asked to switch to an ASM role with the troop. I have agreed and as such, this is my last highlight report as Membership Chairman. I want to thank Jeff and Bob and the entire troop for making this job easier. I expect the same cooperation with the new Chairman and I know we will continue to be the top troop in the AAC.

Webelos-Scout Transition:

The Webelos2 crossover was March 22nd and we had a great turnout from the troop to welcome the new Scouts into the troop. This is the last activity with the Webelos2. We will now start to concentrate our efforts on next year's group of young Webelos. Bill Siggelkow will be assuming the position of Webelos-Scout transition Chairman. Please give Bill all the cooperation that you gave me this past year.