

Highlights

More than a Race-Diversity

Day 4

Camp Karankawa History

Schedule and Campsite Assignments



Quotes and Word Puzzler

What is Venturing?

Patrol News

THE GILWELL GAZETTE

South Texas Council—SR 827

Volume IV, Issue 4

October 19, 2007

More than a Race--Diversity

My son Gilbert, was eight years old and had been in Cub Scouts only a short time. During one of the meetings he was handed a piece of wood and four tires and was told to return home and give all to "dad".

That was not an easy task for Gilbert to do. Dad was not receptive to doing things with his son. But Gilbert tried. Dad read the paper and scoffed at the idea of making a pinewood derby car with his young, eager son. The block of wood remained untouched as the weeks passed. Finally, mom stepped in to see if I could figure this all out.

The project began. Having no carpentry skills, I decided it would be best if I simply read the directions and let Gilbert do the work. And he did. I read aloud the measurements, the rules of what we could do and what we couldn't do. Within days his block of wood was turning into a pinewood derby car -- a little lopsided, but looking great (at least through the eyes of mom).

Gilbert had not seen any of the other kids' cars and was feeling pretty proud of his "Blue Lightning," the pride that comes with knowing you did something on your own. Then the big night came.

With his blue pinewood derby car in his hand and pride in his heart, we headed to the big race. Once there my little one's pride turned to humility. Gilbert's car was obviously the only car made entirely on his own. All the other cars were father-son partnership, with cool paint jobs and sleek body styles made for speed. A few of the boys giggled as they looked at Gilbert's lopsided, wobbly, unattractive vehicle.

To add to the humility, Gilbert was the only boy without a man at his side. A couple of the boys who were from single-parent homes at least had an uncle or grandfather by their side. Gilbert had 'mom'.

The race was done in elimination fashion. You kept racing as long as you were the winner. One by one the cars raced down the finely

Diversity continued p. 2



Camp Karankawa History

Camp Karankawa provides a wonderful setting for our second weekend of Wood Badge. The camp, operated by the South Texas Council, was established in 1944.

Originally, the camp consisted of about 50 acres located on the old Lake Mathis. The current layout of Camp K. resulted from the Wesley Seale Dam, which was built to form Lake Corpus Christi and which flooded some camp buildings.

The camp's old dining hall was situated where the training center now stands, and the original 11 campsites were centered on the old cove and faced the lake. Positioned below the old dining hall, the swimming pier pointed toward the dam.

The old trading post was placed on the cove side of the swimming pier. The trading post's concrete slab can still be seen—partially under water. The Gerald Smith Campsite was originally the council ring, and Hog Cove was the archery and rifle range.

With the cooperation of the Texas Legislature and the

Camp K continued p. 2

Diversity—continued sanded ramp. Finally, it was between Gilbert and the sleekest, fastest-looking car there.

As the last race was about to begin, my wide-eyed, shy, eight-year-old asked if they could stop the race for a minute because he wanted to pray. The race stopped. Gilbert hit his knees clutching his funny looking block of wood between his hands. With a wrinkled brow, he set to converse with his Father. He prayed in earnest for a very long minute-and-a-half. Then he stood, smile on his face and announced, "Okay, I am ready."

As the crowd cheered, a boy named Tommy stood with his father as their car sped down the ramp. Gilbert stood with his Father within his heart and watched his block of wood wobble down the ramp with surprisingly great speed and rush over the finish line a fraction of a second before Tommy's car. Gilbert leaped into the air with a loud "Thank You!" as the crowd roared in approval.

The Cubmaster came up to Gilbert, with microphone in hand and asked the obvious question, "So you prayed to win, huh, Gilbert?" To which my young son answered, "Oh no, sir, that wouldn't be fair to ask God to help you beat someone else. I just asked him to make it so I don't cry when I lose."

Gilbert's simple prayer spoke volumes to those present that night. He never doubted that God would indeed answer his request. He didn't pray to win, thus hurt someone else; he prayed that God supply the grace to lose with dignity. Gilbert, by his stopping the race to speak to his Father, also showed the crowd that he

wasn't there without a "dad," but His Father was most definitely there with him. Yes, Gilbert walked a winner that night, with his Father at his side.

(Contributed by Jill Rosenbloom, a Wood Badge Beaver from Inland Harbor Council, Washington.)

Campsite Assignments	
Patrol	Campsite
Staff	2
Bobwhite	4
Eagle	3
Fox	5
Owl	6
Bear	7
Buffalo	1

Camp K.—continued Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Camp Karankawa. expanded to more than 100 acres.

Little remains of the original structures, but the memories of the old place remain and are now being passed on to you.

(Source for Camp K. information: Perry Winkler, Camp Mauritz Ranger)

Weather Prognostication

The weather today is performing normally

On Diversity

We all live with the objective of being happy; our lives are all different and yet the same.

~Anne Frank

On Change

Change in all things is sweet.

~Aristotle

Be the change you want to see in the world.

~ Gandhi

Word Puzzler

What does "procyonolotorophobia" mean?

If you know the answer, report to the Scribes. First Patrol to answer correctly gets a treat!

Today's Schedule

MORNING	
7:00	Participants Arrive
8:00	Gilwell Field Assembly
8:30	Travel to Overnight
9:30	Outdoor Experience Assembly, Leave No Trace Model Campsite, and Patrol Camp Setup
10:30	<i>Leading Change</i> (Troop Presentation)
11:20	Break
11:30	Patrol Leaders' Council Meeting
Noon	Lunch
AFTERNOON AND EVENING	
1:00	<i>Valuing People and Leveraging Diversity</i> (Troop Presentation)
2:00	Break
2:15	<i>Problem Solving and Decision Making</i> (Troop Presentation)
2:45	Problem Solving Round-Robin (Patrol & Troop Activity)
4:00	<i>Managing Conflict</i> (Patrol Presentation)
5:00	Patrol Meeting
6:00	Dinner
7:30	The Diversity Game (Patrol Activity)
8:30	Participant Campfire and Venturing Induction Ceremony (Patrol Program)
9:30	Patrol Cracker Barrel

On the Outdoors & Camping

Living out in God's open air, among the hills and the trees, and the birds and the beasts, and the sea and the rivers - that is living with nature, having your own little canvas home, its gadgets, doing your own cooking and exploration - all this brings health and happiness such as you can never get among the bricks and smoke of the town.

~Lord Baden-Powell



What is Venturing?

Boy Scout Venturing, provides a youth development program for young men and women who have completed the eighth grade and are 14 through 20 years of age.

Venturing's purpose is to provide experiences to help young people mature and to prepare them to become responsible and caring adults. Local community organizations establish Venturing Crews by matching their people and program resources to the interests of young people in the community.

The resulting program provides exciting and meaningful activities that help young people pursue special interests, develop leadership skills and become good citizens.



Venturing, like other Scouting programs, uses fun activities to aid in the character development of the young people in the program. The Venturing award program implements a step-by-step process to personal growth and development through service to others.

All Venturing awards require Venturers to teach what they have learned to others. Through teaching, Venturing youth are able to retain the learned skill, gain confidence in their speaking ability and acquire knowledge that will serve them throughout their lives.

The Venturing Oath

As a Venturer, I promise to do my duty to God and help strengthen America; To help others, and to seek truth, fairness, and adventure in our world.

PATROL NEWS



Bobwhite News



Eagle News



Fox News



Owl News



Bear News

Bear Abby,
How do you get rid of pesky raccoons? They seem to be everywhere and are sticking their noses into everything. Plus, they're eating everything in sight. What can I do?

*At my wit's end on Lake
Corpus Christi*

Dear Wits,
Raccoons provide a great challenge! But it looks like you will just have to bear with them.



Buffalo News



Raccoon—Staff News
