

# Camp Read News

August 7-13, 2011

A Michael Landy Publication

## Introduction

Troop 5 Bronxville enjoyed a fun and exciting week at Curtis S. Read Scout Reservation. A total of 27 boys and 9 adults attended the week 6 session at Camp Read. This was Troop 5's second year in the Little Big Horn Campsite (LBH) of Camp Buckskin.

The meals at the dining hall were mostly delicious. Campers had a variety of choices ranging from hot meals to the salad bar to PB & J. However, every meal was made even more special with songs performed by the camp counselors, including "That Good Old Mountain Dew," which was the favorite of most campers.

In spite of the rainy weather, the week was full of many highlights, including the triathlon, funny skits at the closing campfire, whitewater rafting, and zip lining at Summit Base.

## Whitewater Rafting

The sun shone high in the sky as Troop 5 took off on a whitewater rafting adventure. After a short car and bus ride, we were outfitted with lifejackets, helmets, and paddles. Scouts from Troop 5 filled a total of three rafts, and down the river we floated.

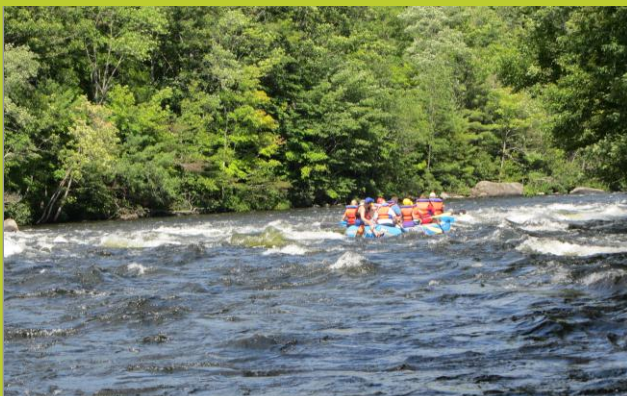
We had to navigate level 2 and level 3 rapids throughout the day. Some scouts were experienced rafters and for others it was their first time on the river. Each raft was manned by one guide from Wild Waters, the company that sponsored our trip.

We learned basic commands like, "All forward!" and "All Backward." We alternated between calm water and rapids, and luckily no one capsized or accidentally fell off of the rafts.

As we were floating through calm waters, a splashing battle started, in which scouts were jumping onto others' boats. The object of this battle was to steal the water gun provided by Will Rabsey. In the end, one boat captured two hostages, half of the paddles from the other boat, and the water gun. In all, whitewater rafting was an action packed adventure that all of the scouts loved.



TROOP 5 BRONXVILLE AT CAMP READ.



Troop 5 navigates the whitewater rapids

Troop 5 Scouts embark on rafting adventure



## Merit Badges and Awards

Scouts from Troop 5 earned a total of 102 merit badges at Camp Read this summer, along with 18 partially completed merit badges.

Classes were taken for 35 different merit badges. The most popular badge was Rifle Shooting (11 scouts earned this badge) followed by Archery (9 scouts). The complete list of merit badges earned by Troop 5 scouts is as follows:

Archery	Geocaching	Rifle Shooting
Astronomy	Geology	Rock Climbing
Basketry	Horsemanship	Rowing
Camping	Indian Lore	Sculpture
Canoeing	Leatherwork	Shotgun Shooting
Cooking	Lifesaving	Small Boat Sailing
Emergency Prep.	Mammal Study	Soil & Water Cons.
Env. Science	Nature	Swimming
First Aid	Orienteering	Weather
Fish&Wildlife Mgt.	Painting	Wilderness Surv.
Fishing	Pioneering	Wood Carving
Forestry	Reptiles & Amph.	

Troop 5 scouts also earned several awards:

World Conservation	Firem'n Chit
Paul Bunyan	Mile Swim
Tot 'n Chip	Polar Bear Swim

The three scouts below woke up early for a 6:45 a.m. dip in the chilly waters at Buckskin Waterfront in order to earn the Polar Bear Swim Award.



## News of Interest

**THANK YOU TO THE ADULT LEADERS** - especially Mr. O'Neill and Mr. Vorbach, who spent the entire week with our Troop and were always willing to give us help and support. Thanks also to Mr. Landy, Mr. Dailey, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Rabsey, Mr. Kraweic, Mr. Crystal, and Mr. Tubridy who attended camp for a few days each.

**SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS** to Gage Belitto, Cameron Smith, and James Tubridy who attended Camp Read for two weeks, one week as individual campers and the other with the Troop. Each boy earned a total of ten merit badges in the two week period.

**NEW FOR SUMMER 2012** - Next summer, Troop 5 will be attending Camp Read for a total of two weeks. In week 5 (July 29 – August 4), the Troop will be in Pathfinder, a new campsite which will be closer to most of the activities than our prior site, Little Big Horn. During week 5, scouts will work on merit badges and rank advancement. Then during week 6, (August 5-11), Troop 5 will be going on an adventure at the Summit Base, which may include canoeing, caving, and hiking.

### **Joke of the Week: Two Cows Talking.....**

Cow #1: "Are you worried about that Mad Cow Disease?"

Cow #2: "Why should I be worried about Mad Cow Disease? I'm a helicopter."