

Camp Tuckahoe Summer Camp Report

Author: Eric J, 9/19/10

Camp Tuckahoe in Dillsburg, PA near Gettysburg was the location of Troop-399's summer camp 2010. The summer camp was on Sunday, July 11 through Saturday, July 18, 2010. Most of the Boy Scouts from our troop attended. Mr. Stewart, Mr. Parker and Mr. Ciampoli attended the camp week, and assisted the troop with everything.

The campsite was good because it was shaded by trees and blocked out the hot sun. The weather wasn't very good all week. It rained a lot, and was really hot and sunny. The best part about Camp Tuckahoe was the mattress provided on every cot in each tent. The cots were comfortable to sleep on. We usually don't have a mattress to sleep on at camp.

Our campsite was on top of a hill. We had to walk down a steep hill every day to get to our badge activities, the mess hall, and the trading post. The lake was at the bottom of the hill. I did the canoeing badge at the lake. The swimming pool was located close to our campsite. We did the polar bear swim at the pool in the morning. I was the first Boy Scout at camp to complete the mile swim at the pool during the week. I swim all summer on a swim team so the mile swim was easy for me because I swim miles each day during the season.

There were four unique historic Boy Scout badges available to complete only this year, and offered at Camp Tuckahoe. They are representative of the 100 Anniversary of the Boy Scouts. The four badges included: Carpentry, Tracking, Signaling and Pathfinding. Many of the boys from our troop took one or more of these badges during our week of camp. I did the Carpentry badge. We had to use a handsaw to cut out a footstool. We were lucky that Mr. Stewart helped all of the boys at camp with this badge, because it was really crowded. The four merit badges are historic, and are badges that Boys Scouts would have earned years ago. More details about the 100 Anniversary badges can be located on the Boy Scout web site: <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/BoyScouts>

We had campfires every night with Boy Scouts from other troops. We had ice cream at one of the campfire nights. No one will forget the song that Troop-21 chanted all week...."There ain't no flies on us...", enough!

We had mail call every night. It was fun to get mail and packages from home. One of my favorite things that we do at camp is play Magic. It's a card game that most of the Boy Scouts in the troop play. We play Magic at night when we have a break, and during the day whenever we can. There's always someone who wants to play Magic at camp.

My family and many other families from our troop came to the Friday night barbeque that the camp hosted. My family and I went into the town of Gettysburg on the weekend before and after camp. We toured the town and the battlefield. We bought a CD that we played in the car while we drove around the battlefield, and learned about each site. It was really good. The visitor's center was very informative. There was a Gettysburg Cyclorama featured in the visitor's center as a new attraction. It was an amazing 360 degree painting by the French artist Paul Philippoteaux originally created in 1883, showing the Confederate attack on the Union forces during the battle of Gettysburg. The Cyclorama had sound and lights going off showing the battle. You felt like you were at the battlefield during the attack. Visit the Gettysburg website to learn more about this exhibition:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gettysburg_Cyclorama