



TRAIL POST

Aquatics Day at Ethan Norman's Kerr Lake House



*Boating, Swimming, Water Skiing, Tubing,
Knee Boarding and lots more!*

Saturday June 30th, 10 am – until

Lunch at 1 pm

Bring a covered dish to share, the main dish will be provided

Families and Siblings Welcome

Overnighters Welcome Camping Available

Some Indoor Beds Available (see Rob Norman to reserve a space)

Bring a chair, towel and sunscreen. Boats welcome

539 Acorn Drive, Clarksville, VA (near Camp Campbell)

434-252-7522 (Lake House); 919-818-0229 (Rob's Cell)

RSVP to rnorman8@nc.rr.com

Directions: Take 85 North to Henderson. Take the third Henderson exit -Highway 39. Take a left at the top of the exit ramp onto Highway 39. Drive approximately 15 minutes – go through Townsville – stay on Highway



Stephen Hunike, Joe Newman, and Michael Forsythe show their Culbertson Scholarship checks at the Court of Honor May 29. Joe was awarded \$2,000; Stephen and Michael received \$500.

39. At the Rock Church take the right fork onto Rock Spring Church Road. Take the second left past the white fences and before the boat storage. Pass Antioch Church. At the brick columns take a left on Acorn Drive.

Follow Acorn Drive until it ends.

Driving time from Durham approximately one hour.

539 Acorn Drive 434-252-7522

Whitewater Trip Saturday, June 9

Those who are going on the Whitewater trip will meet at the church at 7 p.m., Saturday, June 9. This is not an overnight trip as we previously announced.

We will be going to 820 Hawfield Rd, Charlotte, NC. The Website is <http://www.usnwc.org>

What kind of food does each individual scout need to bring?

There is no outside food allowed at the park. Lunch will be bought at the park in their restaurant. Breakfast will be bought before we reach the park Saturday morning and we will eat dinner on the road back. You should bring around \$15 to \$25 for food on Saturday.

What is the cost of transportation?

The cost of transportation will be around seven dollars

Scouts should bring a set of dry clothes, swim trunks, a hat, water shoes, climbing shoes, a towel, and water bottle. Sun screen lotion is a good idea to bring to the park. The climbing wall is shaded but there will be no shade around the whitewater channel.

Do we expect to stop somewhere for a meal on the way home Saturday?

We are going to stop for a meal on the way home Saturday. We will be worn out after rafting and will need some food for energy.

What time should parents be at the church on Saturday?

The parents should be at the church between 9:30 and 10 p.m..

Who should we contact if we have questions before the trip?

Please contact Clinton Miller at (919) 477-7177 for questions about the trip.

Is there a contact number parents can call during the weekend?

Parents can call 724-5469 to reach me or my father during the trip. We will be very active and may not receive your call immediately. The number for the United States National Whitewater Park is 704-391-3900 if you are unable to reach us and it is an emergency.

ATTENTION:
All scouts who plan to attend summer camp are asked to contact Paul Menchini at pmench@verizon.net



New members of Troop 400 received the rank of "Scout" at the Court of Honor May 29.

Troop 400 schedule, 2007-2008

The troop will meet on the first and third Tuesdays of the month during the summer

Tuesday, June 5: Meeting; plan summer activities

Saturday, June 9:

7 a.m. -10 p.m. Whitewater Rafting Center trip

1 p.m.: Stephen Hunike Eagle ceremony, Aldersgate sanctuary

Tuesday, June 19: Meet at Edison Johnson Center on Murray Ave. at 7 pm for Wallyball and Raquetball.

Saturday, June 30: Aquatics weekend, Norman house, Kerr Lake

Tuesday, July 3: Meeting

Tuesday, July 17: Meeting

Tuesday, August 7: Meeting

Tuesday, August 21: Meeting

Tuesday, August 28: Weekly meetings resume

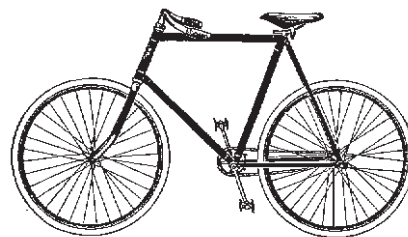
Sept. 1-3: Whitewater Rafting on the Nantahala River
Paul Menchini

Sept. 15: OA Fall Induction

Sept. 21-23 Grayson Highlands/
Appalachian Trail, Vic Gentry

Tuesday, Sept. 25: Court of Honor

Oct. 12-14: Virginia Creeper Bike Hike
Phil Korest



Troop 400 schedule, 2007-2008 (continued)

Oct. 27: Pilot Mountain rock climbing
Paul Menchini

Nov. 9-11: Siwash, Camp Butner
Bill Buttry

Dec. 14, 15: Vertical Edge Lock-in
Mike Simpson

Jan. 18-20, 2008 Freezeree

Tuesday, Jan. 29: Court of Honor

Feb. 1-3: Skiing

Feb. 10: Scout Sunday, Spaghetti Luncheon

Feb. 15-18: Washington, D.C.

Tuesday, Feb. 19: OA Elections

Feb. 29- Mar. 2: District Camporee hosted by Troop 400

March 14-15: Webelos Camping

April 4-6: Kitty Hawk Beach Trip

April 19: OA Conclave

April 25-27: Stone Mountain

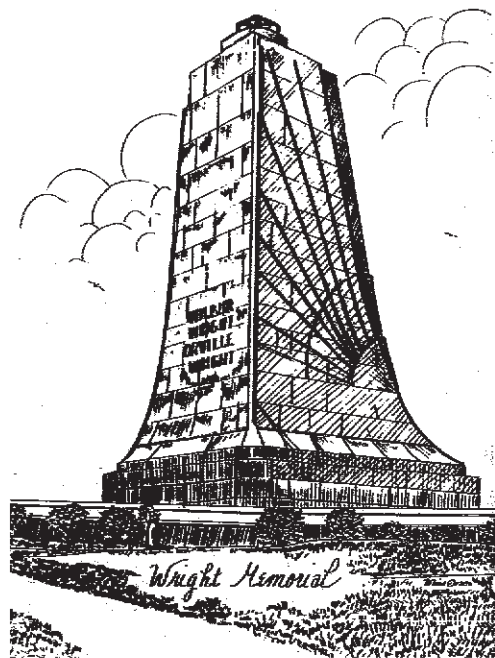
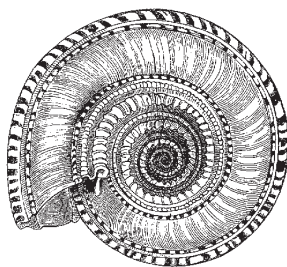
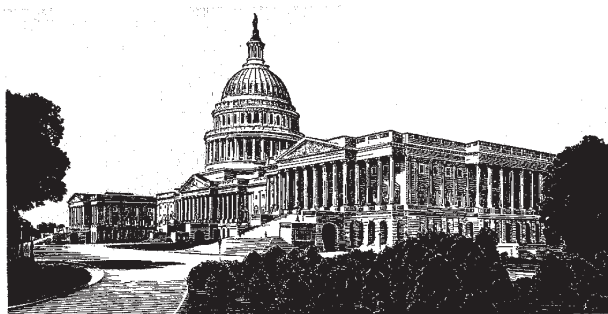
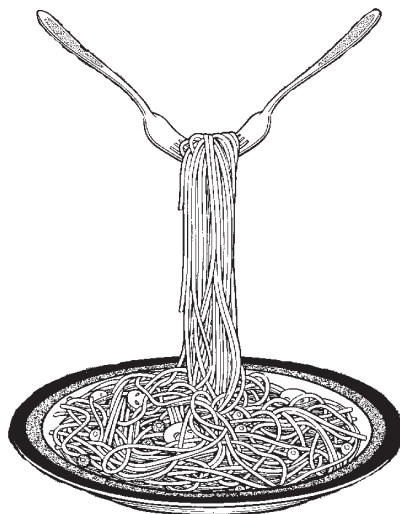
May 2-3: Crossover

May 16-18: OA Spring Inductions

Tuesday, May 27: Court of Honor

Troop Committee meetings will continue to be held on the first Monday of each month at 7PM.

Because of the Independence Day holiday, the July meeting will be held **June 25**.



A Letter From the Air Force

Note: Will McDougall was one of Troop 400's Eagle Scouts in the mid 1990s.

Subject: A (not so) typical day in Afghanistan...

Hello,

We're working hard and flying a lot here in Afghanistan. I figured I'd run through what a normal day is like here in Afghanistan.

First of all, if I ever find a typical day, I'll let you know but I'll try to tell you about the past couple of days. I live in a plywood building called "B-hut" with about 8 other guys. I have a short plywood wall that gives me a half wall b/n me and the other guys. We have blankets to keep the late from others out and I'm really happy there is an air conditioner to make it easier to sleep during the heat of the day.

Unfortunately, we live right beside the runway so the same jets I love wake me up all the time. I work the night shift, so generally I wake up at about 6pm and try to grab dinner. Every morning, I have to check inside my boots for camel spiders (which are huge!) and I have a quick quiet time before I head out the door. We always walk around with weapons and as an officer, I carry an M9 (9mm semi-auto handgun). It takes about 30 min to take the squadron duty van to the other side of the runway where we keep our jets.

On Sunday night, I went in and spent about 2 hrs briefing for our flight-- getting intelligence reports and discussing how we're going to fly the mission. We clean off all identification from our uniforms and dress with all our flight gear. I flew for about 5 hrs in southern Afghanistan and we spent most of our time talking with an army ground patrol. We dropped some weapons on some building compounds our boys were receiving fire from.

It was a pretty exciting night and I was really happy to hear the ground guys had no casualties from the raid. 25 Taliban were killed during the attack. We were flying back when the controller had us aerial refuel again and return to base immediately. Our base had come under mortar attack so we went back to search for the shooters.

Unfortunately, they had already left so we couldn't find them. After landing, we looked over the jets and we received another mortar attack. We hunkered down in the bunkers for awhile till it was clear. I finished up the debrief and filling out reports on what we did during the flight. I had a quick breakfast and went to bed absolutely exhausted.

Other days, I'll go into work for 12-14 hrs and schedule the next days flights, sit alert (we have to scramble launch at a moment's notice) or as SOF. Today, I'm sitting a shift as SOF which is Supervisor of Flying. I sit in the control tower and monitor flying operations. My main job is helping jets if they have any emergencies. It's really pretty boring if everything is going okay.

So, I guess it's not that exciting of a day today... that's okay, it makes up for other sorts of days. Despite all the stuff we do here, it's nothing compared to what army and marine guys do. I see all those guys on base getting ready to leave on patrols and it's amazing to me. Those guys have nerves of steel to go out to these places where guy can attack them.

At least I have a \$58 million jet that protects me everyday. They are willing to go out look fear in the face each day in little more than a Humvee. They really are the heroes to me. So, that's what my days are like here.

I'm really happy to be here and especially since we've been able to see some action. Nothing is worse than just sitting here doing nothing for a fighter pilot. I hope everything is going well back in the US for you all. I'll talk to you later on.

— Will

Do you have any Troop 400 news?

Susan Schwab, who has edited the Trail Post in recent years, has turned over newsletter to Mike Konvicka. The contact e-mail address has changed as well. Send your stories and pictures to a new address, troop400news@yahoo.com. (The previous contact e-mail address was troop400news@aol.com.) We would like to get the scouts more involved in the creation of the newsletter.

We appreciate all the work Susan did to keep the Trail post going, and we hope we can continue to live up to the high standards she set.