

# Troop 214 Parent News

<http://www.bsatroop214.us>

May, 2013

Harold Hodnett Scoutmaster



## Key Events This Month

May 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>: Busch Gardens  
Campout  
May 7<sup>th</sup> Roundtable  
May 11<sup>th</sup>: Merit Badge Institute  
May 11<sup>th</sup>: Stream Cleanup  
May 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> OA Spring Inductions  
May 20<sup>th</sup>: Annual Planning Meeting

## Key Events Next Month

June 1<sup>st</sup>: Troop Workday  
June 2<sup>nd</sup>: ASM meeting 7 PM  
June 6<sup>th</sup>: Roundtable  
June 7<sup>th</sup> Videogame Lock-In  
June 13<sup>th</sup> OA Meeting  
June 23-29<sup>th</sup>: SUMMER CAMP!!!

## Dates to Remember

May 5<sup>th</sup>: No ASM Meeting This Month

May 6<sup>th</sup>: Troop, PLC, & Committee Meeting

May 12<sup>th</sup> Mother's Day

May 13<sup>th</sup>: Troop Meeting 7 PM

May 20<sup>th</sup>: Troop Meeting 7 PM

May 27<sup>th</sup>: Memorial Day WCPSS Holiday

## A Message from Scoutmaster Harold Hodnett:

Due to the action-filled campout scheduled on the weekend of May 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup>, there will be NO ASM/Adult Leader meeting on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. We will meet on Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7pm in the Scout Hut.

## News and Details About Upcoming Events

### **Busch Gardens Campout Preview**

From ASM Mr. Stuart Thomas

The May campout will be a trip to the

Williamsburg VA area on May 3rd-5th. This campout is early in the month because of scheduling conflicts with Mother's Day and OA Spring Inductions on the 2nd and 3rd weekends of May. The troop will be tent camping in a state park. On Saturday we are spending the day and evening at Busch Gardens. On Sunday we will be touring the Jamestown museum and Jamestown Settlement, and then we will return to Raleigh.

At Busch Gardens scouts will be required to stay in groups of at least two (2) or more, and each group should have an adult chaperone. Scouts will choose which rides they want to ride as a group, while trying to be respectful and accommodating to everyone in that group. Everyone will be given a Busch Gardens map. The groups will meet at designated times for lunch and dinner meals, park departure at the end of the evening, and/or in case of emergency in front of the Globe Theater near the park entrance.

Standard camping essentials are required for the trip. For added emphasis scouts must have

### **☁ Inclement Weather and Holiday Policy for Troop Meeting**

The Troop does not usually have meetings on Monday nights that fall on the same days as scheduled student holidays listed on the WCPSS traditional school calendar. In the event that WCPSS cancels school during the day on a Monday due to weather, the Troop meeting will also be cancelled. Contact Mark Holmes at [unc10s@yahoo.com](mailto:unc10s@yahoo.com) if you have information to submit to the monthly parent newsletter. Items for the newsletter may also be submitted to the Troop Historian. Change your e-mail? Please notify [Jay Sprankle](#).

their Class-A uniform, a scout t-shirt, comfortable walking shoes, sunscreen, a cheap pocket-style rain poncho, and a day-pack (optional) if desired to carry bulk items inside the park.

### **Merit Badge Institute, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2013!!!**

According to Troop Committee Chair Jay Sprankle and ASM Mike Fair, Troop 214 has **20 scouts** signed up thus far for **9 merit badge classes for Merit Badge Institute, 2013.**

There MAY be time if you want to sign up but don't hesitate as some classes are filling up fast!!!

Scouts can sign up for morning and afternoon classes and earn up to TWO merit badges.

Classes are held at Benson UMC, in the Admin building. Cost is \$10 for the whole day and \$5 for one half day class includes lunch.

Morning courses offered are Citizenship in the Nation, Energy, Environmental Science\*, Insect Study, and Salesmanship.

Afternoon courses are Art, Golf, Personal Management\*, & Photography.

(\*underlined classes are restricted to 1st class scouts or scouts at least 13 yrs old)

Contact Mike Fair, [mikefair1@nc.rr.com](mailto:mikefair1@nc.rr.com), or Jay Sprankle, [jay\\_sprankle@yahoo.com](mailto:jay_sprankle@yahoo.com), to sign up or if you have any questions.

### **Thomas Fair to Begin Eagle Project June 1<sup>st</sup>; Requests Help of Troop 214 Scouts & Leaders:**

Troop 214's Thomas Fair will begin work on a very special Eagle project on Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup> from 10 am to 4 pm where he will lead an effort to build a bridge at Falls Lake on NC's Mountains to Sea Trails.

Lunch will be provided as well as Service Hours earned so bring your work clothes and gloves and help Thomas with this great project. A Sign-up Sheet will be at the Scout Hut!

### **Order of the Arrow**

From ASM and Order of the Arrow Member Mr. Stuart Thomas:

#### **OA Conclave!!!!**

Our own Occonechee Lodge 104 hosted this year's OA Conclave in April, with over 1,700 Arrowmen attending from all across the state of NC.

Friday evening started a little rough with severe weather that toppled trees around Camp Durant, including one that took out power to the whole camp for about 4 hours. But the emergency response came quickly with many people chipping in, and by Saturday morning it was almost as if the Friday weather hadn't occurred.

Troop 214 had a large contingent of 19 attendees, with most of them performing exemplary service all weekend to those guests from all over the state.

A big thank you to all who served on the varied Conclave committees! Our own Sean Colby and Taylor Willis were also part of a special ceremony team that performed a brand new Brotherhood ceremony that weekend, which will be voted on by the national OA Chiefs to possibly become the standard Brotherhood ceremony for all OA lodges across the U.S.!!!

A few good photos from Conclave-2013 can be viewed here:

<http://www.lodge104.net/2013/04/2013-sr-7b-conclave-photos/>

### **OA Kiowa Chapter Meeting**

The Kiowa chapter (which Troop 214's OA members belong to) has its next monthly meeting on May 9th at Benson Memorial. Meetings are usually in the Youth Center, but because that area is under renovation we will either meet in Fellowship Hall or in the Scout Hut.

### **OA Spring Inductions**

The OA lodge will gather again at Camp Durant on May 17-19 for the annual Spring Inductions!

The event will include the Brotherhood Trail, Ordeal for new members, fun, food, and fellowship. Troop 214 has two new OA candidates who will be inducted after passing their ordeal that weekend.

Godspeed and fair weather wishes to Joel Setzer and Mr. Craig Setzer! Current Ordeal

members who have been in the OA for at least 10 months are also eligible to attain Brotherhood membership status by walking the Brotherhood Trail.

Anyone who is eligible and interested can and should ask any current Brotherhood member how to prepare for the Brotherhood Trail.

### **Summer Camp 2013!!!**

#### **Update from ASM Mr. Joe Fiely**

Additional details for 2013 camp can be found in a flyer contained in this newsletter. Please take some time to review additional key dates.

If there are any questions, please contact Joe Fiely at [fiely@bellsouth.net](mailto:fiely@bellsouth.net) or 919-247-9329

### **Updates from Previous Troop 214 Events:**

#### **April Whitewater Campout Recap:**

Submitted by ASM Mike Jones:

Troop 214 departed the Scout Hut at ~5:15pm on Fri and arrived at the Kings Mountain Campground in South Carolina just south of Charlotte at ~8:15pm.

We set up base camp in a very spacious primitive campsite. The ground had recently been covered with pine and hardwood mulch, and made a soft base for our tents.

A crescent moon bid us goodnight under clear skies.

We arose at 7am, prepared quick breakfasts, loaded our gear, departed for the Whitewater Center, and arrived just as they opened at 10am.

We registered and took some group photos, before stowing our gear in bins and lockers.

From 10:30am-12noon, scouts and leaders participated in shore-based activities like zip lines, ropes courses, obstacle courses, climbing walls, and trail cycling. Due to facility rules and to keep costs down, at 12noon we drove just off-site to the next door Whitewater Elementary School parking lot to eat our bagged lunches.

We returned to the center shortly after 1pm, participated in our safety lecture at 2pm, and from 2:30-4pm we hit the rapids! For those who had previously rafted on natural rivers, the man-made river was equally challenging. A few rafts had occupants ejected, and at least one raft capsized, but water and shore-based rescuers immediately offered hands, paddles, or throw-ropes to those in the water.

During our 90 minute rafting reservation, we made two passes through each of the two man-made river loops.

From 4-5pm we once again participated in shore-based activities. The majority of the troop departed at 5pm, but one carload stayed for an extra hour to hit a ropes course.

Back at base camp we prepared a hearty dinner, followed by standard campfire chatter.

On Sunday morning we again arose at 7am, prepared breakfast, broke camp, held a clean sweep and Scout's Own Service, and departed at 9:30am.

We stopped at the Charlotte Bass Pro Shop just as it opened at 10am, and marveled at all the great outdoor gear and decor. We also learned that Cary will get its own Bass Pro Shop in the near future!

After stowing our gear purchases (duck calls, pocket knives, etc.) we departed for Raleigh, stopping along the way for fast food.

We arrived back at the Scout Hut by 2:30pm, stowed the troop gear, and met our rides home.

Many scouts commented that this outing should become a regular item on the troop calendar.

"Thank you" to Mr. Setzer for organizing, Mr. Thomas and Mr. Jones for leading and driving, and to Mr. Motter, Hixson, Matteson, and Mrs. Benson for driving and co-leading. Thank you also to our outgoing youth officers SPL Matthew Fiely, ASPL Andy Jones, Chaplain's Aide Alex Casey, and Quartermaster Will Fowler for their leadership before, during, and after the camp out.

## **Fun & Learning was had by all at Troop Leader Training April 26-28<sup>th</sup> in Emerald Isle!**

**From Scoutmaster Harold Hodnett:**

Our Troop Leadership Training was held on 4/26-4/28 at Emerald Isle and was a fantastic event!

We headed out of town after dinner on Friday and arrived late Friday night, in time to unpack and hit the sack for an adventure packed day on Saturday.

Saturday morning, the youth were awakened fairly early to start training with Mr. Hodnett while head Chef Mr. Kruse and Sous chef Mr. Burdett started preparing a breakfast feast.

After breakfast, the training and activities continued until the lunch break, which was once again catered by the Old Goats.

Training wrapped up early in the afternoon allowing the group to head out onto the beach for fun and games.

While many of the youth decided to test their mettle in the cold Carolina surf, most participated in a friendly game of wiffle ball.

After tiring of wiffle ball, the new activity became kick ball. The Old Goats assisted the "kids", but eventually it turned into a "Goats vs. Kids" matchup. And to the Kids' surprise, the Old Goats handily outscored them! (I guess they have plenty of "kick" left in 'em after all).

With several hours of activity behind the group, we headed back to the beach house. The dinner entree was pizza from one of the local pizza joints. The pizzas were huge and delicious. For dessert, we had Oreos and ice cream!

We had a group viewing of the movie "Thor" and when the movie ended at 10, there were no complaints about heading off to bed.

Sunday morning arrived quickly and everyone got up early to share in the cleaning of the house and packing.

Mr. Hodnett contributed his culinary specialty for breakfast: taking everyone to Hardees on the way out of town.

We arrived in Raleigh on schedule and already there is tremendous interest in next year's trip!

Thanks to Mr. Hodnett, Mr. Burdett, and Mr. Kruse for making this trip a memorable experience for our youth!

### **Quote of the Month:**

*In Honor of Mother's Day:*

*" All that I am, or hope to be, I owe to my angel mother"*

Abraham Lincoln  
16<sup>th</sup> President of the  
United States  
1808-1865



## Joke of the Month:

You just might be a really active Boy Scout if:

- Most of your wardrobe is olive drab or khaki.
- You have holes in the pockets of your jeans from carrying a pocket knife.
- You keep a bucket of water by your side while cooking dinner.
- You spontaneously break into strange songs in public.
- You can stare at a spider web for an hour, and not notice the time passing.
- You carry your own toilet paper wherever you go
- You always read by a flashlight.
- Your radio is always tuned to the weather station.
- You hoard tent stakes.
- You wear 2 pairs of socks to bed.
- You keep a lantern hanging outside your bathroom door.
- You sleep under a trash bag.

*Thanks to Scoutmaster Mr. Harold Hodnett and adult leaders, Stuart Thomas, Mr. Mike Jones, Mr. Jay Sprankle, Mr. Joe Fiely, and Mr. Mike Jones for contributing to this month's newsletter.*

***NOTE: Please see 2013 Summer Camp Flier at the end of this section***

**April White Water Rafting Campout Photos!!!!**



# Troop 214 Summer Camp 2013

**When:** 6/23/2013 - 6/29/2013

**Where:** Occoneechee Scout Reservation  
Carthage, NC

**Cost:** Youth: \$265 (includes Camp and Transportation.\*)  
Adult: \$50

\*Additional merit badge fees may apply

## Key Dates

<b>May 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Merit Badge requests due</b>
<b>May 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Medical forms for all youth and adults due to Troop.</b>
<b>June 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Balance due for all campers youth and adult.</b>
<b>June 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Last day to request refund for camp.</b>

Please direct all questions about camp to Joe Fiely  
[fiely@bellsouth.net](mailto:fiely@bellsouth.net) or 919-247-9329