

Troop 316 Court of Honor

On August 23, 2003, scouts, family and friends gathered at St. Andrew Catholic Church for Troop 316's semi-annual Court of Honor recognizing the achievements of the troop's scouts during the past six months. Senior Patrol Leader Will Allen opened the ceremony by welcoming everyone to this special recognition event. Eagle Scout Allen thanked the parents for supplying the main course meals and desserts for the potluck dinner held prior to the ceremony.

Scoutmaster Rick Bunnell recapped the busy schedule that the scouts accomplished this year:

Cycling Trip -- a 17 mile mountain biking trail crossing the Appalachian Trail on the old Virginia Creeper railroad bed attended by 15 scouts and leaders.

Cub Scout Camporee (Model Campsite)-- held at Camp McNeil where the troop set up a model campsite at the Dan Beard Cub Scout Camporee to demonstrate techniques to over 750 Cub Scouts. The scouts, leaders and parents showed how Boy Scouts cook, clean up, set up tents, knot and build safe campfires.

Shotgun Campout at Camp Durant-- attended by 18 scouts and leaders. As usual, the scouts out shot the leaders by 3 to 1!

Boy Scout Camporee at Camp Reeves--Dan Beard District spring Boy Scout Camporee. This year's theme was cooking and the scouts from Troop 316 were voted as the Best Campsite from over 20 troops in attendance.

Whitewater Rafting Trip in West Virginia -- over 30 scouts and leaders had a fantastic experience. The scouts rafted down the world class rivers of the New and Gauley. The younger scouts started out on Class 2 rapids while the older scouts maneuvered through 36 Class 3-5 rapids.

Water-ski Trip at Camp Campbell -- first time event at Kerr Lake for most scouts. Because of the heavy spring rains, the campsite was 15 feet underwater, but true to their motto of "being prepared" the scouts selected a dryer site.

Cub Scout Day Camp -- we had several scouts who worked on the staff. They taught Cub Scouts how to safely use BB guns, as well as fishing and camping techniques. Each scout who worked at the camp was presented a Boy Scout hiking staff for their super effort

Apex Peak Week -- the troop uses this event as part of their ongoing fund raising efforts to support all the fun, exciting and educational opportunities throughout the year.

Summer Camp at Camp Durant -- 18 scouts earned a total of 45 merit badges...well done!

Assistant Scoutmaster Ray Horton and Troop Historian Chris Pizzurro presented a slide show of the troop's Year in Review, plus an exciting video from the whitewater-rafting trip. Scoutmaster Bunnell and Senior patrol Leader Allen presented 71 merit badges, 15 scout advancements and 15 scouting service stars earned since the last Court of Honor. There would be no scouting without the tireless and selfless efforts of the troop's adult leadership. The following adults received service stars at the ceremony:

Ed Walsh-21 years Dave Scott-6 years Tom Christie-5 years Gloria Allen-4 years

Committee Chairman, Frank Jackson, announced that everyone in the Troop is invited to attend future troop committee planning meetings to map out another exciting year of scouting activities!

Troop 316 is sponsored by St. Andrew's Mens Society and meets at St. Andrew's at 7:00 PM every Tuesday. Please note this is a **new meeting night** this fall. The next ceremony for Troop 316 will be on September 13, 2003 when Andrew Scott will receive his Eagle Scout Award. If you are interested in joining Troop 316, please contact Rick Bunnell, Scoutmaster, at 303-3672 or Frank Jackson, Committee Chairman, at 859-2554.