

Rodney Wrap Up, Curtseys of Mr. Scott:

Despite the ugly traffic we encountered on 695 and 95, we made it Rodney, checked in and were at the cabin by 7:30 Friday evening. We unloaded, set up the cabin, had a snack, and hung out by the fire pit. Justin and I went to a leader meeting at 9. Upon our return the boys were in the cabin playing around; throwing a Frisbee around and having fun, while Bob and Marty were at the fire. The three of us adults stayed at the fire until it burned down, then headed in. We were all in bed by 11. We got up around 6:30 Saturday am. Bob made the adults eggs, sausage, hash browns with coffee of course while the boys made breakfast burritos. It was so nice out, we ate outside in pants and T-shirts. After clean up, we checked out the beach (it was just a short walk down a hill as our cabin was on a point), played catch with a football, and hung out enjoying the weather for a bit. A little after 9, we walked almost a mile to the cabin where we checked in and the staff stay for our Paul Bunyan course. We were the only Troop signed up for the course in the am, so we had 4 instructors reeducating the boys on knife and ax safety and giving them some new skills. The program was supposed to be Totenchip on steroids, but I pushed it further and explained that we had 4 Life scouts, a Star scout, and one who wasn't new to the program. So, with that knowledge, two of the instructors lead the boys into the woods where they found a dead tree for the boys to chop down with an ax. Of course they didn't find a small tree. They picked out a tree a foot and a half around. Each of the boys took turns chopping at it and after about an hour, it finally fell, much to Chris's agenda that he started it and wanted to finish it. The instructors were impressed as were the 3 of us. It took real commitment and perseverance to bring that tree down and they saw it through which was really cool to watch. Afterwards, we went back to camp for lunch which consisted of grilled cheese and bacon sandwiches for the boys and tuna for the adults. We continued to enjoy the weather hanging out outside. The afternoon was pretty relaxing. Bob was in his hammock, Marty was reading and the boys were doing a service project for our site. They redid the fire pit. They got more rocks, evened it out, and built it up the proper way and it turned out great. They rested for a bit after that, but ended up going to the trading post around 2:30. Marty, Bob and I were watching the storm on the other side of the bay. All kinds of streak lightening was going on in Aberdeen. Bob and I went down to the beach to get a better view while Marty watched over his Dutch oven dinner on top the point. The boys returned and we sat on the beach and watched for a bit. As we saw it get closer, we headed back to the cabin for safety. It started raining (pretty hard), the wind kicked up and we got the storm we anticipated all day. Marty even saw a water spout on the bay. After the storm, the sun came back out, but it was quite cooler. We prepared and had dinner. Marty made a brisket in the Dutch oven and it was really good, complete with mashed potatoes and rolls. The boys had a little mishap as they were going to have bacon cheese burgers, but the burgers accidentally didn't make it. They improvised very nicely and made mac and cheese with bacon in it, had rolls, and Arnold Palmer. We cleaned up and hung out in the cabin for a bit then the boys got a fire going. The cabin had a really nice fireplace. We sat and watched the fire and then turned all the lights off and enjoyed it even more. Marty started reading some funny stories from his phone. We all sat in front of this fire enjoying the moments together, laughing, joking, and overall having a blast. We turned in around 9 and we all slept pretty well through the night. We stirred throughout the early parts of the morning as

the cabin got pretty cold as the fire burnt out and we discovered this morning that the wind blew one of the doors open. It was incredible to feel the temp change as we went from low 70's yesterday to a chilly low 30's this am. Crazy!! We got up around 6:30, packed up, had breakfast, cleaned the cabin, had a modified Scouts own service, a round of thorns and roses and were checked out by 8:45. The boys have this Sunday morning routine down to a science. We were back to the Gatehouse by 10:15. We had a really great time. Thanks to Bob and Marty for going with me and cooking for the adults. While I'm disappointed we didn't have more boys attend, the small group was nice. With that said, more boys need to attend these outings.

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Back To site ^^