

Back to Summer Camp Page:

<http://www.troop716.org/scrapbook/summer-camp/2019/>

## Summer Camp, 2019 Updates by Mr. Scott:

### Update #1 (6.24.2019):

Troop,

Wow!! It's been a busy couple days, but everyone is good and having FUN. We got the trailer loaded and left the Gatehouse at 10:50 a.m. It wasn't a bad drive into Carlisle, PA. We stopped there for about 45 minutes at a Burger King. We were at camp a little before 2. All 17 Troops must have shown up at the same time, but we got checked in and Jeff got the trailer to our camp site (Kelly). Another huge thanks to Jeff for getting the trailer here. We got checked in, met our ranger, had a tour, then went to camp for a bit, did med checks, and then swim test at the beautiful pool. We returned to camp to get set up and it was off to colors and dinner which was roast beef, mashed potatoes, and green beans. We had chocolate chip cookies for dessert. Off to a great start...or so we thought. The dinner hall is nice, but it's really crowded as the tables and benches are pretty dang close together and if you are on the side or on the back wall, you are basically there for the duration. It definitely makes things like getting up for a salad difficult. It's supposed to be air conditioned too, but...we aren't thinking the unit is working too well. Most returned to camp after dinner and Joseph and I attended a leaders meeting. At 8:15 we assembled for the opening camp fire. The staff put on skits, songs, and cheers with a pretty decent fire. It was over around 9:30 and we returned to camp. Most headed to bed and then talked in their tents. By 11, must everyone was asleep. We are sharing our camp site with a Troop from Allentown, PA and they seem pretty cool. They keep to themselves as the site is somewhat separated so we feel we have our own space, which is nice. The tents are new and there are two large wooden pavilions which is a first as they usually just provide a tarp that's held up by wooden stakes and collects water when it rains. Two large picnic tables are under the pavilion and the camp overall is pretty nice. It's large and we have done a ton of walking. I think I finished close to 20K steps yesterday. After a nice cool night, John and I were up around 5:30 for coffee and the boys got up around 6:30. We had a quick meeting and we headed off for morning colors and breakfast. Breakfast was a bit of a disappointment as they served cereal and breakfast pizza which I've never seen before. It wasn't anything to really write about. The boys headed off to morning program and the adults made their way around camp to ensure they all made it to where they were supposed to go. We returned to our site and rested for a bit, then off to the dining hall for an emergency drill which led right into lunch. That was also bit undesirable as it was ham and cheese sandwiches with lettuce, the salad bar and sweet potato fries. We had siesta until 2 and most the boys hung out in camp and relaxed. I snuck in a quick nap but was up by 2:15 sweating. It does get quite hot in the tents during the day. The boys were off to afternoon program. John and I went to a couple areas and sat in on a computer merit badge class. They are using an air conditioned building where we had our leaders meeting and it's outer walls are lined with padded furniture including a couple recliners which John and I took full advantage of. We didn't stay too long and headed back to camp for a bit before dinner. We assembled at 5:45, retired the colors and had dinner which was Salisbury steak, dinner rolls, perogy, corn, and vanilla cake for dessert. From what I've heard, the boys are enjoying the program and the camp overall. It is big and there's a lot of walking, plus the dining hall is tight. The food has been ok and we are hoping it will get better as the week goes. Stay tuned!! My biggest negative is the water. It's plain nasty tasting. It's ok going down, but once you stop, it taste like someone poured oil in your mouth. They stated it's treated and no one has gotten sick, but boy does it leave a nasty after taste. The other adults are teasing me about drinking it as I tend to wait for some of the colored, somewhat flavored water. It's hard to stay hydrated when the water is motor oil in a cup. I think I'm the only one really complaining about this as I've never had water with a taste quite like it. We aren't doing too much tonight, but tomorrow night is the water carnival and cardboard canoe race. That will be interesting and I think our boys have a great shot at taking home the gold. I'll be

Back to Summer Camp Page:

<http://www.troop716.org/scrapbook/summer-camp/2019/>

## Summer Camp, 2019 Updates by Mr. Scott:

painting 6 names on the trailer tomorrow if the weather holds out. Outside it getting a bit warm this afternoon, the weather has been very nice. We did have a few sprinkles this afternoon, but nothing that lasted. Joseph is doing well as SPL and our new boys are having a blast. Don is with them most of the day and reported that they are enjoying it. I've seen plenty of smiles to support that as well. There is always something I miss and will remember later, but that is how it goes. Guess you need to be here to soak it all in. Until tomorrow or Wednesday...

### Update #2 (6.26.2019):

Troop,

Everything is going great!! After I sent the last email, I returned to camp and found some boys and adults relaxing a bit and others off to the trading post getting some goodies. Fred and I played Dominos until dark. We all turned in around 10. One thing I forgot to mention was on Monday, us adults were sitting around camp after siesta and a fawn came busting through camp. I caught something out of the corner of my eye, turned to my left a saw a fawn running right at me. It turned about 10 feet from me and ran around my chair and into the woods. Certainly don't see that everyday!! Fred, Don, and Joseph were up early Tuesday to attend the first polar bear swim at the heated pool. John and I had coffee and got the rest of the boys up around 7. Tuesday breakfast was pancakes and bacon. Boys went off to program. Don remains committed to our first year boys, plus he's working on his Scoutmaster essential training and this week counts towards some of that. Fred is running around at times checking in on boys and doing his thing. John is...well John. I had some down time yesterday and actually set up my hammock and got to spend some time in it reading a book. Felt weird!! The boys are off to a great start and have said how well the programs are run here. I would have to agree. This camp is very organized and I didn't have to go to the camp director and complain about a program area, which is usually a Tuesday oredal. I think that's a first for me, so that's great to see. Lunch was taco salad. After a break, the boys headed off to program again and were back to prepare for colors and dinner which was chicken nuggets and wild rice. We returned to camp to put the finishing touches on the card board canoe and off to the pool we went. Some of the "canoes" were pretty interesting and some Troops put way too much time and money into them. There were 4 heats and we were in the last heat. Ben and Austin were our boys in the canoe. They made it out to the first turning point and capsized. They swam pushing the canoe to the finish and came in 2nd in that heat. While we didn't win, the boys had a blast. After was water polo soccer, followed by the Scoutmaster splash. Unfortunately due to me nursing a right shoulder rotator cuff injury, I didn't take the swim test or enter this year. The boys pressured Don into taking one for the team and he agreed. Each Scoutmaster got to stand on the side of the pool (no diving board like last year) and do their best belly flop out of two. I think there were 12 or 13 adults that went and after Don's epic 2nd splash, he made the final 3 and had to perform another one. We will find out the results at the campfire Friday evening. Way to take one (3) for the Troop Don!! This ended around 9:30 and we headed back to camp where everyone went right to their tents and crashed. John and I were up around 6 for coffee and Fred, Don, and Joseph went for their 2nd polar bear swim. They returned and we got ready for Hawaiian shirt day. We started this last year and it was a great success. This is a John tradition that he wears a Hawaiian shirt every Wednesday of summer camp. Last year, it became a Troop tradition to honor him since he couldn't attend summer camp. We took a group photo and have already received several looks and wonderment of other Troops at colors this morning. Success!! Breakfast was sausage, eggs with cheese, hash browns, cereal, and fruit. The boys are heading into program now and the adults actually have a busy day today with several things planned. I got the 6 names of our newest Eagle scouts on the trailer yesterday and am hopeful to add the 6 palms today. We are hopeful to prepare the fire ring for our program tonight or tomorrow night by Butchy and Austin. We will also coordinate our pizza party for Friday night as well in addition to many other things in the works. Wednesday is usually down day, but there's stuff to be done. Program is getting ready to start, so until tomorrow or Friday.

Back to Summer Camp Page:

<http://www.troop716.org/scrapbook/summer-camp/2019/>

## Summer Camp, 2019 Updates by Mr. Scott:

### Update #3 (6.27.2019):

Troop,

Well...only 2 days left. This week has gone by pretty quick. The weather has held up nice for us. It has only rained once, Tuesday around 2 a.m. for about an hour. Some leaky tents and some drips, but nothing too serious like the bad thunderstorm last year. It was quite warm yesterday afternoon, even sitting in the shade, you were sweating. It's supposed to be the hottest today and tomorrow though so we'll see how many shirts we can sweat through. The adults will be checking in with the counselors today and tomorrow, so lot's of walking around in the heat for us. The boys are doing great and are putting the finishing touches on their merit badges. They are all progressing nicely. Unfortunately Brent had to leave us last night as he is headed to Germany today, so we are down to 10 scouts.

Yesterday's lunch was American subs and chips. Dinner was baked ziti and salad with brownies for dessert. We had an OA ice social at 8 for those in the OA and then returned to camp for an excellent fire retirement ceremony by Austin and Butchy. We retired several flags in a very respectful manner. We had quite a fire by Zach and by 9:45 us adults were yawning and turned in by 10. The boys stayed up for a bit, but I think turned in a bit later as the week is catching up to them. Don has to leave around 4 and head home until tomorrow afternoon. Owen has an overnight with the Dan Beard program tonight where he'll pack a few items and head out to a designated area and camp with the other Dan Beard guys. That should be pretty neat for him. John continues to instill his knowledge of us and it's good having him around for that. That's it for now as a busy day is presenting itself.

### Update #4 (6.28.2019):

Troop,

We made it through the week...almost. The last full day and we'll be busy making sure everything is tied up. Menu yesterday was breakfast burritos with hash browns and cereal. Lunch was chicken tenders and fries and salad and dinner was riblets, Mac n cheese, mixed veggies and salad. No dessert :(

We had a Scout's own service by Cole yesterday morning and that really set the day in motion as he did great and we all enjoyed it. The boys are doing great. In fact, they are never in the camp site. They are always off getting into something (staying out of trouble, of course). If their not at program, their at the large pavilion hanging out (charging their phones), hitting the trading post or participating in camp events.

After the email yesterday, I walked around to program areas and checked in. I was repeatedly told "the boys are on track". We'll see at the end of today! It got quite hot yesterday and the camp made to call to not wear Class A's to colors and dinner which was a nice treat. Everyday, the colors are raised (an American flag, a PA flag and a camp flag) and of course lowered right before dinner. Troops are given the opportunity to sign up to do either the raising or the lowering. Joseph signed us up to raise the colors this morning, so almost the whole Troop (boys) participated in that this morning. They were dressed in their Class A uniform and made us proud. They did a fantastic job. They even practiced last night in the parade field with flashlights and well after 10:30 when they finally returned from camp wide games. Joseph was the color guard captain and did an excellent job. I took a video and pictures. Once the week is complete, I'll have Joseph upload all the pics and videos to the Troop website for your viewing pleasure.

Back to Summer Camp Page:

<http://www.troop716.org/scrapbook/summer-camp/2019/>

## Summer Camp, 2019 Updates by Mr. Scott:

John is usually the first person up and gets coffee ready. Monday's attempt was awful, but we drank it. Tuesday was better and by today he has it down to a science and we enjoy our morning talks while sipping coffee. We also enjoy the camps overall quite time. It's nice to just sit and listen to the nature, mainly the crazy birds and their songs.

We just finished breakfast which was French toast sticks, sausage, and cereal. The boys will be headed off to their last day of program and soon. We will attend the camp fire this evening and then after, we'll have pizza and our own camp fire at our site. Fred has volunteered to go get the pizza and forgo the camp fire program. It will probably be a late night, but we get to come home tomorrow and rest...hopefully. It will be another hot day today, so lots drinking, sweating, and repeating.

Parents. We should be home (back at the Gatehouse) by 11 - 11:30. Please be available to come get your son. We will text or call you when we are about an hour out. I will send the final summer camp wrap up with Sunday's weekly E-letter.

### Update #4 (6.28.2019):

Troop,

We made it through the week...almost. The last full day and we'll be busy making sure everything is tied up. Menu yesterday was breakfast burritos with hash browns and cereal. Lunch was chicken tenders and fries and salad and dinner was riblets, Mac n cheese, mixed veggies and salad. No dessert :(

We had a Scout's own service by Cole yesterday morning and that really set the day in motion as he did great and we all enjoyed it. The boys are doing great. In fact, they are never in the camp site. They are always off getting into something (staying out of trouble, of course). If their not at program, their at the large pavilion hanging out (charging their phones), hitting the trading post or participating in camp events.

After the email yesterday, I walked around to program areas and checked in. I was repeatedly told "the boys are on track". We'll see at the end of today! It got quite hot yesterday and the camp made to call to not wear Class A's to colors and dinner which was a nice treat. Everyday, the colors are raised (an American flag, a PA flag and a camp flag) and of course lowered right before dinner. Troops are given the opportunity to sign up to do either the raising or the lowering. Joseph signed us up to raise the colors this morning, so almost the whole Troop (boys) participated in that this morning. They were dressed in their Class A uniform and made us proud. They did a fantastic job. They even practiced last night in the parade field with flashlights and well after 10:30 when they finally returned from camp wide games. Joseph was the color guard captain and did a excellent job. I took a video and pictures. Once the week is complete, I'll have Joseph upload all the pics and videos to the Troop website for your viewing pleasure.

John is usually the first person up and gets coffee ready. Monday's attempt was awful, but we drank it. Tuesday was better and by today he has it down to a science and we enjoy our morning talks while sipping coffee. We also enjoy the camps overall quite time. It's nice to just sit and listen to the nature, mainly the crazy birds and their songs.

We just finished breakfast which was French toast sticks, sausage, and cereal. The boys will be headed off to their last day of program and soon. We will attend the camp fire this evening and then after, we'll have pizza and our own camp fire at our site. Fred has volunteered to go get the pizza and forgo the camp fire program. It will probably be a late night, but we get to come home tomorrow and rest...hopefully. It will be another hot day today, so lots drinking, sweating, and repeating.

Back to Summer Camp Page:

<http://www.troop716.org/scrapbook/summer-camp/2019/>

## Summer Camp, 2019 Updates by Mr. Scott:

Parents. We should be home (back at the Gatehouse) by 11 - 11:30. Please be available to come get your son. We will text or call you when we are about an hour out. I will send the final summer camp wrap up with Sunday's weekly E-letter.