

Scout Bob Harvey climbs a tree, lumber jack style, which is one of the many skills scouts learned at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico.



Camping, backpacking, hiking high on scouts' priority list

By LORAINE McCLISH

Boy Scouts in Troop 389 have just returned from a trip to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. They held their fourt of Honor in May. A canesing and camping trip is scheduled for June. In July they will be off to Lost Lake Camp.

The calendar is "business as usual" for the boys who meet with Scoutmaster Paul Harvey in Nardin Park United Methodist Church.

The 30-member troop welcomes other boys aged 11-18 to jain them for their Tussday meetings at 7-30 p.m., or call Harvid Munn, the troop committee chairman, at 477-989, to be filled in on the year-round activities of camping, backpacking and thisting. A must on every summer's agenda is the trip to Lost Lake Scout Reservation near Clare. The outdoor experience allows the scouts to work on

ments under the best of leadership and instruction.

It is also the time that introduces many of them to motoboating, for-estry, nature, pioneering, wilderness survival, cooking, environmental sci-ence and other facets of the outdoors.

THE TROOP WAS invited to Mack-THE TROOF WAS Invited to Mackinac Island Sout Service Camp last summer—an honor because only 12 troops are selected to attend from throughout the state. For a week the souts serve as the governor's honor guard and as official guides in Fort Mackinac.

guard and as official guides in Fort Mackinac.

The camp is unique in that it is the only state-operated scout camp in the courtry, and is one of the few service camps in operation.

The prime objective of the camp is to provide the opportunity to perform duties of a patriolic and divic nature at the same time.

While being a part of the governor's official family, the scouts took part in special civic events, conducted reveille and retreat ceremonies at 15 historic flag locations, guided with conservation projects.

During off hours, they rode horse-back, bicycled and swam in the Grand Hotel pool.

SENIOR SCOUTS, those over 14

back, bicycled and swam in the Grand flotel pool.

SENIOR SCOUTS, those over 14 years, can choose to participate in some high adventure experiences. One example of this was a 12-day backpacking and campling expedition at Philmont Scout Ranch, located near Gmarron, N.M.

David Grall, Dan Flesher, Bob Harvey, Jeff Klueger, Richard Kouzou-jian, Alan Osterdale, Kevin Perry, Wayne Perry and Brian Putnam were ded by 'Harvey' in a hike that covered 75 miles through rugged mountain wilderness.

demess. Highlights of the trip included climbing Mi. Baldy, burro packing, rock climbing, panning for gold, then meeting scouts and leaders from other countries around a campfire. The last night on the trail found the boys up at 2 a.m. niking to the top of the Tooth of Time, to watch the sun

EACH MONTH a weekend campout, rain or shine, summer and winter, is planned at a nearby recreation area. The srouts have hiked the Potawtom Trail in the Pinckney Recreation Area and the Wilderness Trail in Holly Rec-

trail are reinforced by participating in the spring and fall Camporees, which bring scouts together from throughout the Ottawa District.

Troop 380 also provides an opportunity for the boys to swim at nearby high school pools.

In the area of service projects, the topo collects clothing for Good Turn Day, collects newspapers for Good vill industries, and is involved in the Huron River Clean-Up, where scouts

Scouts hit highs and lows in the Smokies

One of the most adventuresome expeditions Boy Scouts in Troop 389 have ever taken on was a four-day backpacking trip last March through the Great Smoky Mountains of Tensessee and North Carolina.

After months of preparation and anticipation, the experience turned out a mixture of high excitement and some downright misery. All plans clicked along as expected and some downright misery. All plans clicked along as expected and spreaded incorp the weather.

The first day her like all day in the rain, the train, and prepared dinner in the rain. Then the emperature dropped and the rain the state of the proper state of the proper state of the proper state. The long worke up in wet, icy and some owner eleats. One scout said the scene reminded him of Washington at Valley Forge.

WITH BACKPACKING gear in

WITH BACKPACKING gear in order that morning, the scouts faced a lbmile trek down a snow-covered, steep slope to the Appalachian Trail. As cold as it was, the snow nevertheless provided a very special kind of beauty in the mountains. But then fog set in and blocked out many of the smodacular scenes.

At this point, many of the scouts wondered why they had to go south to get away from Michigan's weather, which wasn't that bad, then. But, as is the case in the Great Smoky Mountains, the weather changed overnight and the next day the boys were hiking in their shirt sleeves.

Even so, peace and tranquility didn't settled in until almost the last night of the trip, along a stream deep in the woods, five miles from the nearest road.

SCOUTMASTER Paul Harvey is sure that all of his scouts follow all proper procedures for back-country camping, and is confident they will be responsible hiers and campers, come what may, for the rest of their lives. "It is through experiences like these," he says, "learning and taking on responsibilities as well as having fun, that boys grow into knowlegeable men.

"The friendships they develop on backpacking trips will last a lifetime. They will look back on these experiences as some of the best times of their lives."

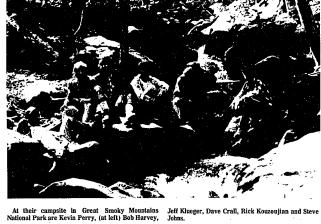
riences as some of the best times of their lives."

The best parts of the trip for the scouts were climbing Clingman's Dome to an elevation of more than 5,000 feet, hiking to see Ramsey Cascade, and touring Cade's Cove. The cove is a small community of mountain people, secluded from the rest of the world still in horse and buggy days.

ALL OF THE scouts share in all of the responsibilities for the trip, in preparation and planning, as well as firebullding, collecting water, cooking and cleaning up.

nreouting, collecting water, cooking and cleaning up.

Apparently the scouts have forgotten their discomfort during that trip, and are remembering only the good times. Harvey says they are all ready to go back again.





a campfire on their last day on the trail, scouts ponder the and frustrations of their trip along a steep descent in the es. From left are Bob Harvey, Jeff Klueger, Dave Crall and



Great Smoky Mountains National Park, there were some good times and some bad times.