

Klondike
Troop 777
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This past weekend Troop 777 visited the beautiful Camp Butler located in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park. We were there for the annual Klondike. This year was a little different, because it was WWII themed. It turned out to be a lot of fun. When we got there on Friday we went to the conference center and signed in. After that we went to our campsite and set up camp.



On Saturday morning our two patrols got up and cooked breakfast. After breakfast some of us did clean-up and some of us went to go work on the sleds, which turned out great. Soon it was time to move out, so we took our sleds and went over to the flagpole to get inspected, and to find out where we were going.



Once we were inspected by “the general”, we received our coordinates, and took off to our first event, which was a special one. It was run by WWII Reenactors. The events at this first station were camouflage/cover, communications, and drilling. Our patrols did pretty well at them. After that was finished, our patrol went all over the camp to different events. One in particular was called, ‘saving Private Ryan.’ It consisted of getting a dummy from one end of the obstacle course to the other side while going over and under the obstacles with the dummy. The hard part was there was an egg in the dummy’s front pocket that you couldn’t break or you’d lose points. Thankfully, our patrol did very well in this event. A few events later we all headed down to lunch. It was a bit different from other lunches that we’ve had, because we were given ration cards. Ration cards are booklets that contain different meal times and items being

served. After lunch we had some more events to do. One of these events was called “Enigma.” In this event half of your patrol had to send a message using Morse code to the other half. At 1415 hours (or 2:15 pm) everyone met at the flagpole for the big sled race. Just as the race was about to start our “commanding officers” got word that the German troops were moving in on our position with tanks and foot-crews, so we had to get to a “safe” point without getting caught by the Germans. It turned out to be very hectic, but everyone made it to the “safe point” in time. While we were waiting for our next orders a huge snowball fight broke out. I don’t think anyone knows who started it, but it was massive. A half an hour later we were told that we had to go to certain points all over Butler and collect certain items. It turned out that we were collecting different parts of a first-aid kit. Once we were finished collecting the kits we went back to camp where the younger guys worked on advancement and the older guys sat and relaxed. Around 1730 hours (5:30 pm) we all headed down to dinner, where yet again, we used our ration cards to get our food. After dinner we all went back to camp and waited for the

evening ceremony which took place at 2030 hours (8:30 pm). At the ceremony we found out who won. One of our patrols received 2nd place, while the other patrol earned enough points to win first place, but it went to someone else, because we forgot to fill in some extra point sheets. After the ceremony we went back to camp had our snack and then went to bed. Sunday morning we all checked out once again, except this time we were leaving beautiful camp Butler with fond memories of the weekend activities.



The Reenactors at Event II



The beginning of the Sled Race