

# COLE CHRONICLE



Providing news and information to Cole Canoe Base since 1964

Volume LII Number 5

May, 2016

## Summer is Coming Soon!

And, we're impatient for the excitement and fun of summer camp

### Greetings From The Camp Director Gus



2016 is shaping up to be an amazing year. Our team of managers and staff has been hard at work for months to make this summer the best one yet! Dan Hill, our Dean of Merit Badges has been working diligently to prepare units for the all the great merit badges and activities we offer. Look for new advancement opportunities and programs all over camp as well as continuous improvements to our classics. Gregg Zdan is at the helm of our High Adventure department once again guiding another summer of fun outpost excursions and base camp experiences. Check out

the info on our **New Great Lakes Kayak Adventure** coming in August. David Kautz will be our Program Director this summer and is busy providing the managers and staff all the tools your scouts need to have a successful week. Among other things, you can look forward to new STEM, Weather, and training opportunities come to life thanks to David. From Mike and his team in the business office, all the way to Welcome Walt and Reverend Rick 's team around camp, you're bound to see smiling faces the moment you enter camp, all the way through the week. We can't wait to officially say "Welcome Home."

### Swim Checks Have Been Streamlined

Every Scout and Leader participating at camp must complete the BSA Swim Classification Test. These 'swim tests' are normally administered Sunday afternoon near the end of your camp tour -- or during 'early arrival Saturday' if our Aquatics Staff is available.

However, many units prefer to complete their swim checks prior to arriving to camp. All you need is a qualified lifeguard and a swimming pool greater than head depth and up to 12 feet deep. The Lifeguard that administers the test must have valid BSA, Red Cross or other nationally recognized training. You must bring copies of their certification to camp to show the Aquatics Director. Please use this council form to record each participant's classification: [[http://colecanoobase.com/docs/mcc\\_corpsV\\_swim\\_classification\\_record.pdf](http://colecanoobase.com/docs/mcc_corpsV_swim_classification_record.pdf)] and remember that the Aquatics Director reserves the right to retest any participant to ensure that standards have been maintained.

In addition to bringing everyone's classification results to camp, please send a copy of your completed form to: MCC Aquatics Chair, 137 S Marketplace Blvd, Lansing MI 48917. You must also bring a copy of your Lifeguard's certification to camp and show it to our Aquatics Director for verification.

There are three swimming classifications in the BSA: Swimmer, Beginner, and Learner [Non-Swimmer]. Scouts need to pass the Swimmers Test to complete all aquatics merit badges -- like: Swimming, Lifesaving, Kayaking, Canoeing, Rowing, and Sailing. And, the Learner classification is assigned to anyone who is unable to complete either swimming test. Beginners may use boats if they are buddied with a swimmer.

We strongly encourage that all High Adventure river participants pass the swim test. Please see the High Adventure Director [Gregg Zdan] with any questions.



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## Get A Free Day of Camping!

Saturday is your opportunity to get a free night of camping. If you are coming to summer camp, you're encouraged to arrive any time after 2:00 p.m. on Saturday so you can get your camp set-up, take an informal tour of camp, work on your camp gateway and settle in.



Make plans to have pizza for dinner. A discount coupon and menu for pizza at Dee's Pizza Pad is available in the office. Dee's will deliver, you can pick it up (it's about 2 miles from the camp gate) or you can take everyone in to the restaurant. If you're going in, please call them so they can save room for you and have your dinner ready.

We're excited to see all of you on Saturday and say, "Welcome Home".



Cub Scout



# Adventure

### Family Camp at Cole Canoe Base

Join us for 3 days and 2 nights of fun at the Michigan's very own High Ad-

Activities at both sessions include:

- \* Swimming, Kayaking, Fishing & Rifle River Tubing



- \* Crafts,

Don't have a tent? You can rent tents and camping equipment



Register Online at [www.michiganscouting.org](http://www.michiganscouting.org)



## Changes Are Coming to Eco/Con

Hey guys! We are really looking forward to all of you guys coming up and visiting us during your week at camp! Eco/Con aspires to have plenty of fun activities and interesting information for you all to learn and do. We are prepared to make sure you have the time of your life during your week staying with us!

Along with 22 merit badges and different events that you might already know, we are going to be making changes to some of the events. One of the first changes you might want to know about is the whatz-it box. The whatz-it box contest will be ending, but have no fear, a new contest has been put in its place. To replace the whatz-it box, anybody can submit short Eco/Con related poems or writings that they might find or create to the Eco-con staff. The poems will be compiled and judged by the Eco/Con staff, and people who submit the top three writings will earn an award! The best part is, the 1st place writing will be recited at the end of the week campfire!

Our big change is Eco-con's big event of the week, "Eco/Con Live". Instead of focusing mainly on Jeopardy, we are going to have a contest with multiple new events and lots of fun. You will want to prepare teams of 2-4 people to participate and you can have more than one team per troop.

We at Eco/Con cannot wait to see you guys this summer and are looking forward to providing you with the time of your life!

### ECO-CON FOREVER!!



# PAGE THREE



## Health Form Review Has Been Streamlined

Prior to arriving at camp please check your scout's health forms for the following information:

First, that both the scout and the parent has signed part "A" of the health form and that the appropriate adults, including parents, are listed to be able to take the scout



out of camp. If there are people that the scout must **not** be released to, they must be listed also. At the right center of the first page of the health form please be sure that after reading the page, the "None" box is checked indicating no restrictions or that restrictions are listed. This gives camp permission to use pictures and videos of scouts or leaders among other things.

Next, please ensure that the top of Part "B" is completed in its entirety including emergency contact information. Any medications a person needs must be listed on the second page of part "B". Leaders must maintain a medication log for each scout indicating administration of medication each time that medication is given. This form must be included for ALL medications, including over the counter products. Parents must also sign the health form (in the middle of the second page of part "B") to indicate that they are in agreement with the medications being administered. Medication storage is available in the Health Lodge for refrigerated medication. If medication will be stored in the campsite, it must be stored in a locked medicine box, under the supervision of the unit leader and not accessible to youth.

Finally, please make sure that the physician information, including address etc. is completed on part "C".

State law and BSA policies demand that a complete health form (parts A, B, C) be on file for all scouts, leaders and staff that are on camp property more than 72 hours. Failure to have a fully completed health form could result in a scout being sent home to get a completed form and inconveniencing a parent and doctor or being sent to a local doctor for a new physical.

The health forms will be collected from the scouts by the health officer during your troop's health check on

either Saturday or Sunday. When forms are collected, the unit leader should let us know of any special medical issues/needs of scouts or adults in their unit. These issues may include allergies, injuries, special food requirements, special emotional issues (autism, ADHD, ODD, etc.), etc.

Scouts or adults that require asthma inhalers or automatic epinephrine injectors must keep those items with them **AT ALL TIMES** while in camp. It is much too far to go back to their campsite for these things in the case of an emergency.

The state of Michigan requires that camp retain all youth health forms for 3 years after camp is over. So... if the scout will need a health form for any other unit events during the year, please give us a copy of the health forms. Sadly, we will not be able to make copies of your forms at camp.

Being extremely careful reviewing your health forms before leaving for camp will make your check-in go smoothly and everyone will be happy and ready to have fun at camp.

## Happy Holidays. We're Open

Cole Canoe Base is happy to tell you that we will be open for camping on both Memorial Day and Labor Day. If your unit would like to camp on either of these days please call Mike Fox (313) 378-6436 or Gus Chutorash (810) 571-0725) for the details.

We would love to see you here any time.





# PAGE FOUR



## What's a By Appointment Merit Badge?

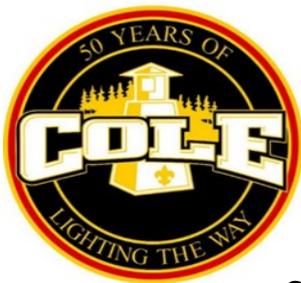
Merit Badge and Activity Sign-up on the Black Pug system has been live for almost a whole month now. As always this brings up many questions about the merit badge process. One of the most common questions we receive is about how our "By Appointment" merit badges work. The simple answer is that they are scheduled by appointment.

We offer two different types of merit badges as appointment options. The first and most common are badges that have a very high number of requirements to complete prior to camp. Badges like this require minimal time with the counselor as most requirements can be done on their own and proof of completion can be provided. An example would be Family Life Merit Badge.

Many requirements must be completed with member of the scout's family. The second type is the opposite. There are activities or badges that require significant time with the counselor and can be completed at camp. A scout must strongly consider if he wants to devote the entire morning all week to completing golf merit badge. Completing two 8-hole rounds requires more than a typical merit badge.

Signing up for these badges is easy. Just sign up with the counselor at the Sunday Night Program Expo in the Dumas Pavilion following flag retreat. All appointment times are also available during online sign-up. If you have any questions about our merit badge program especially about the sign-up process, please contact Dan Hill at [hillcommadan@gmail.com](mailto:hillcommadan@gmail.com) or at Cole by calling (989) 873-1516.

# Mix Fix 2016 Cole Canoe Base



**Saturday & Sunday, May 21 - 22, 2016**

*Friday Arrivals Encouraged – No meals*

**Saturday Meals Provided**

Breakfast 7:30am, Lunch 12:30pm, Dinner 7:00pm

**Sunday Brunch 10:30**

**Bring Your Tools and Your Energy!**

Sign up online at [michiganscouting.org](http://michiganscouting.org)



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## Bye Bye Blue Cards!

New for 2016. Scouts no longer need to bring merit badge applications (blue cards) to their counselors for NEW merit badges. If a scout has signed up online or in person with the counselor to take a merit badge or activity for the first time, an application can be generated and printed on demand using the Black Pug (24/7 scouting) software. This is also true for the tracking procedures throughout the week. Leaders with web access can verify attendance and requirement completion throughout the week as well. Even though printed control sheets will still be available nightly in the XO mess, records will be updated online once a day at a minimum. The new tracking system promises to be very user friendly and progressive. Records from this summer going forward will officially be electronic and can be accessed year round for such functions as printing lost cards or exporting information into unit advancement tracking software.

There are a few questions that have come up about the new system. Scouts who have signed partials for pre-reqs. or from other counselors can still present them to the counselor as proof of completed requirements. Scouts can also still bring in notes, packets or other proof of completed requirements as before too. Even without the necessity of a crisp new blue card, each individual unit's means of proof will be respected and utilized. Scouts who are not prepared to or simply are

## High Adventure Training Opportunity

The Cole Canoe Base Trek Leader Training program will be held on Saturday June 4<sup>th</sup> at 9AM. This is a great opportunity to learn more about planning a high adventure trek, and is required for many of our high adventure opportunities. This is a one-day course that focuses specifically on our high adventure program. We will have breakout sessions to cover specific aspects of different treks, but the lessons learned will extend far beyond your experiences at Cole Canoe Base.

There is a \$35 fee to attend this course and signup is available online. For more information please contact the High Adventure Director.

unable to complete a merit badge still do not need a blue card. Just as the system will print completed badges, it will also complete partials. A detailed list like in previous years will be provided as well as accessible electronically.

On Friday afternoon, we will finish processing the records and print out the complete and partial cards on blue card stock. Units will be able to pick up the traditional envelope full of the merit badge applications as soon as they are printed to begin the verification process. Keep in mind that Friday afternoon, all electronic access will be constantly updating to verify each badge's progress. Accuracy may change in a matter of minutes until the cards are printed. If there is any guilt or pity from your troop for our Merit Badge Command Center, we are more than willing to accept donations of pastries, or office supplies (especially envelopes, ink, and light blue card stock).

Please feel free to share this information with other units attending MCC Camps. At this time the individual camps are developing a standardized process using best practices from each camp. While another MCC camp may not be handling the process the same way as Cole Canoe Base, all of the post-camp unit access and reporting capabilities will be the same. Questions can be directed to the Dean of Merit Badges, Dan Hill, at [hillcommadan@gmail.com](mailto:hillcommadan@gmail.com) or at Cole Canoe Base by calling (989) 873-1516.

## All Aboard!

We offer merit badges in virtually every subject at Cole Canoe Base, and we're pleased to have added yet another: the Railroading Merit Badge.

As with many of our 'By Appointment' badges, earning Railroading during summer camp will require ample planning on the part Scout. From researching the vast history of the railroad organization and signaling, to building a model railroad or taking a trip on a passenger train. Railroading is a unique subject that we are sure Scouts will find riveting.





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## The 'Cole Cold Weather Challenge'

Annoyed that the weather forecast is "always wrong?" Think you can do a better job than the Weatherman? We're excited to introduce our new weather forecasting contest at camp.

Rules: Forecast the overnight low to the nearest half of a degree Fahrenheit, as it is recorded by our weather station.

Complete the online entry form using the QR Code below, or visiting <http://goo.gl/forms/IKhBCE0Zgn>

For those without internet access, paper entry forms are available at the Cosgro Production Co. with your Name, Troop Number, Campsite, and your forecast.

Scoring:

Exact Temperature (to half of a degree): 10 points

Correct Temperature +/- one degree rounded: 5 points

Correct Temperature +/- rounded two degrees: 1 point

Contest runs Monday through Thursday, with entries due by 5 pm

Winner receives a Certificate and will be listed on our Forecaster Hall of Fame



Remember: Our new camp weather station allows you to check our current conditions and forecast from anywhere using the Weather Underground app or online at: <https://www.wunderground.com/personal-weather-station/dashboard?ID=KMIALGER2>





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The Boy Scouts of America's NOVA Awards program incorporates learning with cool activities and exposure to science, technology, engineering and mathematics for Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Venturers. The goal is that the requirements and activities for earning these awards stimulates interest in STEM-related fields and shows how science, technology, engineering and mathematics apply to everyday living and the world around them. Counselors and mentors help bring this engaging, contemporary, and fun program to life for youth members.



### New for summer 2016:

The Cole Canoe Base staff is pleased to offer the Nova Awards for Boy Scouts: *Shoot! Start Your Engines! Whoosh!* and *Designed to Crunch*; and the Nova Awards for Venturing: *Launch! Power Up, Hang On!* and *Numbers Don't Lie*. We are also adding engaging evening STEM activities at our Cosgro Production Company, which will be open to all campers and leaders.

Activities include building and testing racecars, catapults, rollercoasters, and other applications of physics, mathematics, and technology.

### Nova-Related Merit Badges:

- Archery      - Astronomy      - Athletics      - Canoeing      - Chess
- Motorboating      - Orienteering      - Rifle Shooting      - Shotgun Shooting
- Small-Boat Sailing      -Space Exploration      -Weather
- Several other for the Venturing Program



### At Cole Canoe Base, your Scouts can:

Use one of the merit badges listed above as a foundation to discover more about the science behind the activity. For example, with Nova's *Shoot!* you can explore the physics behind the Archery; or *Start Your Engines!* looks at the mechanics of a Canoeing or Automotive Maintenance.

General prerequisite information: Scouts will need to be signed-up for, or have completed one of the Nova merit badges for requirement 2 and complete one of the options for requirement 1. There are other requirements that may require research which may be easier to complete outside of camp [*Designed to Crunch* requires either 3b, 3c, 3d, or 3e]. Some badges like Weather [which we have expand our Weather program for] have multiple options on which STEM award you can apply. *Check the Cole Cornicle for the latest information!*

*Please note:* The Nova program is designed to augment science related merit badges. The award cannot be applied to rank advancement or Eagle palms. However, this program is a great opportunity for youth to expand their horizons with critical thinking skills and broad application of scientific inquiry. More information can be found at: [www.scouting.org/stem.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/stem.aspx)

[facebook.com/ColeCanoeBase](https://www.facebook.com/ColeCanoeBase)

