

Arrowhead District Boy Scout Roundtable Newsletter

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February 2008 Theme:

Fishing Presented by John Jenkins and Dave Warshaw from Troop 306

Related Merit Badges:

Fishing and Fly Fishing

Related web sites:

Fishing Merit Badge <http://usscouts.org/usscouts/mb/mb052.asp>

Fly Fishing <http://usscouts.org/usscouts/mb/mb136.asp>

Bird of the Month:

Belted Kingfisher

http://www.birds.cornell.edu/AllAboutBirds/BirdGuide/Belted_Kingfisher.html

Special attractions:

- Games and more Games
- Friendship and Fellowship
- Refreshments
- Health and Safety Presentation

Knot of the Month

The Perfection Loop

<http://www.animatedknots.com/perfection/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com>

(This is a repeat but after a little playing with it I found an easy way to tie it onto a fly or lure.)

Scoutmaster Minute Possibilities

- The smallest good deed is better than the grandest good intention. Duguet
- Putting off an easy thing makes it hard. Putting off a hard thing makes it impossible. George Lorimer
- I cannot do everything; but I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do. Edward Everett Hale (1822-1909) Cleric and writer
- Concern should drive us into action and not into depression. Karen Horney (1885-1952) Psychoanalyst
- Too often we enjoy the comfort of opinion without the discomfort of thought. John F. Kennedy (1917-1963) U.S. President
- Talent without discipline is like an octopus on roller skates. There's plenty of movement, but you never know if it's going to be forward, backwards, or sideways. H. Jackson Brown, Jr. Writer



Wilderness Survival Quiz

From Wilderness Survival Skills Knowledge Cards. © Pomegranate Communications, Inc.
(<http://pomegranate.stores.yahoo.net/sc0107.html>)

What should you do if you fall in a river and are swept downstream?

Ditch your pack. Try to stay on your back, feet pointed downstream and visible, to fend off rocks and to prevent catching them on underwater snags. Use your arms as oars to slow you and pull you out of the current toward shore or, if there is no other choice into an eddy behind a big rock. If you angle your body about 20 degrees to the current, with your head closest to the desired shore, the current will help your back paddling to scoot you across the river like a squeezed pumpkin seed. Stay away from “sweepers” – branches, logs, and rock piles that can trap and drown you. If they’re unavoidable, lunge toward the sweeper head first and try to climb it quickly as you hit. The first person to cross should move downstream to catch swimmers and their packs.

How should you cross a river on foot?

Find a shallow place to ford. Even ankle-deep current can be dangerous. This may mean walking an annoying distance; upstream is usually best. Give up if there’s no safe place to cross. Use log bridges and rock hopping only if traction is reliable and the chance of disaster remote. Wade with boots on, facing upstream, side stepping tennis-player style across the current without crossing your legs. Watch where you’re going, but keep your eyes moving to avoid vertigo. A stout, 6-foot stick (not a telescoping hiking stick) makes you a tripod, greatly increasing stability and safety. Loosen your pack so you can dump it quickly if you fall. For a group, the safer procedure is to hold one another and proceed “conga line” style, headed upstream, with the weakest members in the middle.