

Troop 165 Today

Scoutmaster Minute

At the Springfield, Illinois Hilton there is a man by the name of Frank Walker. He is the manager of guest services and he does a pretty good job. He moved to Springfield from Jacksonville to make a better life for his family. Better schools, more employment opportunity. He originally wanted to get a job with the state government but has been unsuccessful, so he works for the Hilton. One other thing you need to know, Frank is a big fan of Lincoln.

On a Tuesday morning a few years ago, he was sitting at his desk at the hotel and he heard in the lobby a loud commotion. He went out to see if he could be of any help and found the clerk at the front desk trying to talk with a very old, very feeble, very tall gentleman. It appeared that the man suffered from something like Parkinson's disease. He spoke very broken English, and the girl behind the front counter was really struggling to understand him.

Frank listened very closely to the man and pieced it together. The man was having trouble entering his room. For those of you who travel as much as your Scoutmaster, you can empathize. Sometimes those darn electronic keys just don't work. Frank went with the man to his room and helped the gentleman enter his room. The gentleman was very grateful and said that he wanted to show Frank something. The man's name was Henri Dubin and he was from Czechoslovakia. He wanted to show Frank a letter dated April 1965 from the Mayor of Springfield. The letter invited Henri to visit Springfield because of his love for Abraham Lincoln.

This was his story.

During World War II, Henri was held in a concentration camp (he showed Frank the number tattoo on his arm). He had learned all about Lincoln as a young school boy in Prague. When he was in the concentration camp and was all alone in his cell, it was the worst time of his life and didn't think he could go on anymore. He told Frank that Mr. Lincoln came to him in his cell.

Mr. Lincoln stood right there in front of him and said, "You never forget: All men are created equal. This is true for all men for all times. And these men who do this thing to you, who put you here, they're no better than you. You are their equal, because *all men are created equal*. You keep remembering this, and you persevere, you'll be alright."

From that time on Henri knew he was going to be alright, that he was going to persevere. He vowed if he was ever freed, he would go to Springfield to thank Mr. Lincoln. It took him forty years to save the money but he finally made it. He had even written a poem and had brought three plastic flowers, one red, one white, and one blue, that he wanted to lay on Lincoln's Tomb. You need to understand, Henri Dubin was a old man and very sick. This was probably the last thing he would do.

Frank, knew that he needed some help so he called Alicia Erickson from the Governors Office that works with foreign visitors to help him, help Henri. Alicia took Henri to Lincoln's Tomb. Many of you have visited it when we have gone to Springfield for the Lincoln Pilgrimage. As Henri slowly walked down the hallways to the tomb, he stopped at every statue, put his hand on it, studied and started to cry. By the time he reached the tomb, he was very emotional. He knelt down and kissed the ground. He slowly got up and laid the flowers on the tomb, stood at attention and with tears streaming down his face, read his poem. He then turned to Alicia and said, "We can go."

he next morning, when Frank drove Henri to the airport, Henri turned to Frank and as he cried, said, "Frank, God sent you to me to help me find Mr. Lincoln. You are an angel." He gave Frank a hug and then got on the plane and went home. A friend of Frank later told him, "you want to know why you haven't got a job yet in government? God wanted you to be here to help this man, to help Henri."

It is my hope that as we go about our lives, we look for opportunities to "help other people at all times" and to "do our duty to God." Good night Scouts

Mr. Dalton



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Activity Updates

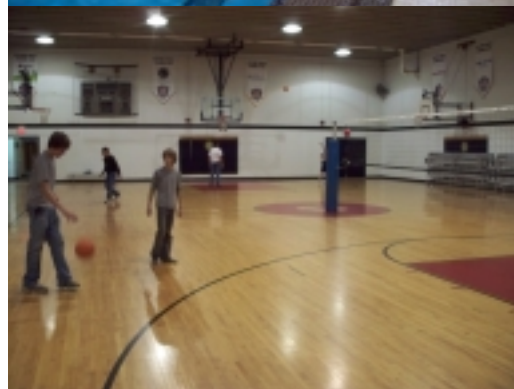
Camporee 2008

Troop 165 had a great time at the 2008 District Camporee! The Camporee was October 3-5, and the Troop had thirteen Scouts and six adults total attend. The theme was Wild West Adventures, and the Troop participated in many old west activities, like pitching horseshoes, blacksmithing, black powder shooting, tomahawk throwing, and more! In addition, the several of our adult leaders staffed the branding station. Our Scouts participated in most of the activities, and won awards in the cattle-roping event. The troop also won the Golden Stake award for the best campsite.



YMCA Lock-in

On November 1st, the Troop went to the YMCA in Belvedere and had an all night lock-in. After an hour of swimming, the Scouts played games, including Mario Kart, Monopoly, and kick ball. Everyone said that it was a great time, and would be great to do again!



OA News and Notes

The next chapter meeting will be at Cimarron Archery located at 9201 Main Street in Richmond on Thursday, November 20th. It starts at 7 PM, and please bring an unwrapped toy for Toys for Tots. Cost is \$11 per person.

Your 2009 Order of the Arrow Dues are due before December 1st. Please mail them into the Council office using the attached form. Your dues are important because they keep you an active member of the Order, and they help the Lodge and Chapter fund activities and make needed improvements to the Camp and our Council.

Finally, the Wulapeju Lodge Winter Banquet will be Saturday, January 10 at the Turner Hall in Monroe Wisconsin. More information will be coming soon on this.

Parent help needed at Mini-Klondike

On December 13th, we will need parents to man stations for the Mini-Klondike. This is both to train our boys for the District Klondike in January and to show prospective scouts from cub packs what a great Boy Scout Troop we are. Let Mr. Dalton know if you can help out at the Mini-Klondike.



Eagle Spotlight - Kurt Moehling

When did you start scouting? as a tiger scout in cub scouts

Why did you start? Liked the activities like pinewood derby and camping

What was your eagle project? Building a community sign for St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church.

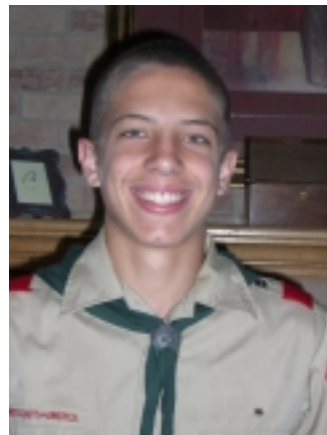
Why did you choose the project? I considered doing a project for the park district but thought having a sign at the church would be better because it would help the community giving out information.

What was the hardest part of the project? Raising money for it. I took collections at the church and had some private donations. The sign was made of bricks, electrical and sign parts that had to be ordered. The church had the bricks, but I had to buy the electrical and dig the trench out to sign. The sign parts were the expensive part.

What did you learn the most from the project? Planning the tasks to do and tracking the tasks completed.

What advice do you have for younger scouts? The best part of scouting is the friends that I've made in tigers that I kept close to all thru scouting. I always like going on the campouts and being with friends.

What merit badge are you proudest of earning? Small boat sailing and wilderness survival. The boating because sailing the boat out on a big lake was great because I have always liked the water and the wilderness survival because I got to make fires for the day at summer camp. Then I had to go out to a remote part of camp and made a lean-to out of a poncho and 2 sticks. It taught me that you can handle anything that comes up if you have to.



November 2008

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
						1 Belvidere Lock-in
2	3	4 No Patrol Meeting	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 Patrol Meeting Nature Center 7 pm	12	13	14	15 Ian Dalton COH LDS Church, 7 pm Popcorn Pickup 567 Ringling Road
16 Kurt Moehling COH St. EAS, 1:30 pm	17	18 Patrol Meeting Nature Center 7 pm	19	20 OA Chapter Mtg. Cimarron Archery, Richmond, 7pm	21 PLC Leadership Weekend, Camp Algonquin	22 PLC Leadership Weekend, Camp Algonquin
23 PLC Leadership Weekend, Camp Algonquin	24	25 No Patrol Meeting	26	27 Happy Thanksgiving!	28	29
30	<p>Upcoming events: December 12-14 Mini Klondike at Camp Algonquin December 23 Troop Holiday Party and Quarterly Court of Honor. January 31 Sycamore District Klondike Derby</p>					