

## SUMMER TRAVELS TAKE CUB SCOUTS BACK TO THE DAYS OF YORE



Cub Scout Day Camp is an experience like no other for the cubs in our area. Knights, a trebuchet and even Queen Elizabeth graced the Medieval Adventure themed Cub Scout Day Camp for nearly 150 scouts over the summer. Appalachian Trail District Executive John Boyd called it “fun with a purpose” and this year so many interesting hands on activities from BB’s to archery not only challenged the cubs to improve their marksman skills, but earned them scouting beltloops and pins to show for their new talents.

The Medieval theme is the “color” so to speak to add interest and a new learning experience to the week. This year scouts had the opportunity to see how the Knight “code of honor” from days of old is very similar to the Cub Scout and Boy Scout values still used today. Mary Ann Jung of History Alive as Queen Elizabeth Tudor sparked cheers and jeers as she relayed many of the rules and laws from her era and some of the penalties and perks of being in the Queen’s court. Knights of Columbus from Suburban Frederick came out to speak to the scouts about knight’s today and how they still work for the good of the country and God. The week closed out with a visit and a sword fight from Medieval Times at the Arundel Mills Mall and a Knighting Ceremony from their Chancellor.

The threat of temperatures over 100 degrees was a serious concern of many for this year’s camp. A dousing from Carroll Manor Volunteer Fire Company, shaded canopies, the camp’s swimming pool and plenty of water consumption kept the heat in check. As hot as it was, many scouts still partook of Nurse Kay Okino’s Gatorade at the First Aid station just to make sure they stayed hydrated.



Each year the last week of July, Appalachian Trail with the help of parents, grandparents, older siblings and junior volunteers kicks off a themed week for scouts in our region. Without the volunteers, the week simply could not happen. The experience is a challenge to the nearly 60 parents a day who volunteer at camp but camp organizers feel certain it’s the smiles on the faces of their sons that will bring them back again next year. Our 2012 camp will be a brand new High Seas Adventure theme, creating another year of excitement for the Appalachian Trail Cub Scouts! We can’t wait!