

**Spring IOLS: Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills for Adult Scout Leaders,
or
Are You as Skilled a Camper as a (Sixth-grade) Boy Scout?**



To view the AT's IOLS photo album, click on the photo.

In order to take a group of Boy Scouts camping overnight, at least one of the two required attending adult leaders must be fully trained. Central to that adult training is the Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills (IOLS) course. A weekend-long course, IOLS teaches leaders the skills they will use on their outdoor adventures with their scouts.

The Appalachian Trail Training Corps (ATTC) held it's spring IOLS on the weekend of 18-20 May. The event was held at Kempton Park in Monrovia, MD. There were 31 participants and 12 instructors. Seven members of Venturing Crew 121 served as the Cooking Brigade for the staff. Mother Nature provided some of the best weather imaginable with a sunny, cloudless, blue sky.

IOLS participants are assigned to small groups to mimic Boy Scout patrols. The trainees meet in their patrols before the training weekend to plan menus, choose a Patrol name, develop a cheer and generally get acquainted-- just like any new Scout. Training starts on Friday night with camp set-up and concludes on Sunday with a closing flag ceremony.

There is little downtime as the training covers most of the same areas that a new Scout must learn to reach First Class rank. Classes include first aid, fire making & safety, knots and compass usage, camp cooking and Leave No Trace practices. First Class Scouts and their leaders are well prepared! As at any Scout camp out, Saturday night features a campfire

program with songs and skits and camaraderie. A highlight of this weekend was reveille at 6:15am played on the bagpipes by one of the participants!

At the end of the course, participants were happy and satisfied with quality of the training in return for the valuable time they had invested. The ATTC would like to acknowledge the following individuals for their dedication to Scouting and to a terrific IOLS weekend:

- Mike Blount: Axe Yard and Sharps; Flag ceremonies and etiquette; After Action Review
- Tom Wheatley: Hiking, High Adventure and Backpacking, "The Gear Guy"
- "Hutch" Hutcheson: Orienteering and Compass Use; Front Desk Registration on Friday night
- Chuck Harris: Orienteering and Compass Use
- Mark Maranto: Fire Making and Safety
- Chris Walton (lead): First Aid
- Shawn Day: First Aid
- Greg Williams: Plants and Animals, Nature Walk
- Nick Hilton (lead): Knots and Lashings
- Phillip Ramsey: Camp Cooking; Cooking Brigade
- Karen Kunz: Cooking Brigade
- Rick Rogers: Cooking Brigade
- Nick Maliszewskiej: Leave No Trace and Campfire Program Development; Cooking Brigade