

CAMPMASTER'S CORNER

SPRING PHENOMS

I know that some of you read the sports pages and follow the big league pennant races. So probably you have heard of spring phenoms. Who can tell me what a spring phenom is?

He is a player who stars the season like a superstar. In April, May and June he's hitting about 350, stealing a lot of bases, and never missing a ball in the field. Comes July and August and he can't do anything right. That's a spring phenom.

Maybe you've seen some spring phenoms in Scouting, too. They start up the advancement trail like a house afire, making Second Class and First Class as fast as the rules allow. Then when the going gets tougher for Star, Life and Eagle, they sort of fade away like spring phenoms.

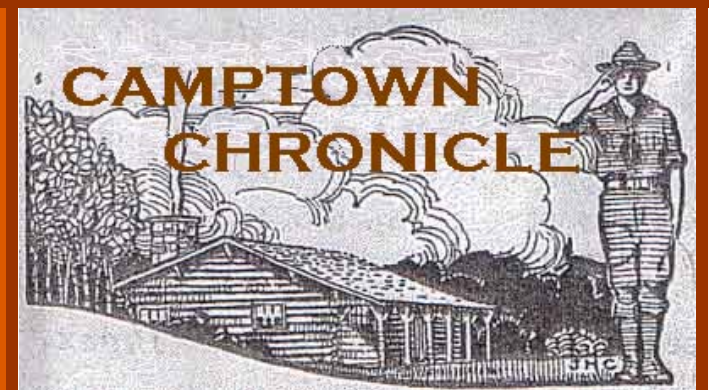
Maybe it's the troop's fault. Maybe we just don't challenge them enough. If so, let's change that. I'm challenging all of you now to set your sights on the next rank and make up your mind you're going to make it by Christmas at the latest.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY 2004

1	OA Spring Induction Weekend #1
5	Troop Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
6	Scout Round Table - 7:30 p.m.
7 & 8	Aaronic Priesthood Commemoration Campout
8	-Scout Trailer Fundraising Auction -Cub Scout Olympics -Fort Osage Prom
9	Mother's Day
12	YW/YM Combined Activity 7:00 p.m.
14	William Chrisman Prom
15 & 16	Regional Conference
16	Parents Committee Meeting
19	Troop Meeting - 7:00 p.m. William Chrisman Graduation
20	District Committee Meeting
21	Eagle Court-of-Honor for Eric Adlard & David Davis at Buckner Town Hall 7:00pm
25	Fort Osage Graduation
26	Court-of-Honor - 7:45 p.m.
31	Memorial Day Holiday

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FROM THE CORNER TENT

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SCOUTING IN HISTORY

SCOUTING FOR OLDER BOYS – PART FIVE: SENIOR SCOUTING 1935 - 43

Scouting Group

The idea of the Senior Scout programs also tied into the idea of creating a progression for boys going through the overall scouting program. In some countries each of these programs are called sections. In the BSA this was viewed as the Scouting Group, but was not emphasized as much. The progression went something like this:

- ★ Cub Scouts (10-11)
- ★ Boy Scouts (11-17)
- ★ Senior Scouts (15-17)
- ★ Rover Scouts (17-25)
- ★ Troop Alumni (25-on)

But this idea really didn't catch on as hoped. In part it could have been caused by the overlapping of ages. In most countries, a boy at

15 had little choice but to move over to their equivalent of our Senior Scouting programs. They could not stay in Boy Scouts. Then when they became 17, they would move into Rovers. In the BSA, the overlapping of ages meant the boys didn't necessarily have to move over.

Senior Scout Uniforms

Each program within Senior Scouts had their own uniform. At first, Senior Scouts would wear the standard Boy Scout khaki uniforms, but with ties and different shirt strips. Only adults wore ties, youth wore neckerchiefs, so having Senior Scouts wear ties set them off from other youth. Adult Scouters wore tan ties, whereas Explorers Scouts wore maroon ties. For Senior Scouts in troops, there was a Senior Scout shirt strip on khaki. Around 1941 a Senior Scout fatigue uniform was developed. It consisted of blue dungarees (jeans), a white T-shirt with the Senior Scout logo, blue fatigue cap and blue zipper jacket with a Senior Scouting strip. This fatigue uniform continued for a while under the Explorer program after 1949.

Senior Scout Titles

For the most part, each of the Senior Scout programs had their own program of advancement. The closest things to an overall advancement program for all the Senior Scout programs were **Senior Scout Titles**. The purpose of the Titles was to go beyond the idea of merit badges for something aimed at the needs and interests of the older boy. The concept was to get the boy to specialize in an area that may lead to a lifetime interest or career.

To earn a title, the Senior Scout would develop a plan that involved earning at least 5 merit badges for the title's field, doing advanced work in one or more of those merit badge subjects beyond the Merit Badge Requirements, and plan and carry out a service project in that field involving the skills learned in earning the merit badges.

Initially 10 titles were created:



Artisan



Artist



Citizen



Craftsman



Woodsman (later called Forester)



Journalist



Naturalist



Radioman



Seaman



Sportsman

In 1942, six additional titles in rural fields were added:



Conservationist



Dairyman



Farm Manager



Gardener



Livestockman



Poultryman

In 1943, the Airman title was added with the Air Scout program's introduction.



These titles would be worn around the Senior Scouting program emblems (Senior Scout, Explorer Scout (as shown below), Sea Scout, Air Scout, or Rover Scout) worn on the right sleeve. Initially, they were made on khaki green twill and navy blue felt for the uniform colors used (khaki for Boy Scouts, Explorer Scouts and Senior Scouts at the time, navy blue for Sea Scouts) With the introduction of the forest green Explorer Scout uniform in 1946, some titles were issued on forest green twill, but only 6 are known to exist. The Airman title was issued on sky blue twill, the only one so issued.



Continued in the next
Camptown Chronicle

