

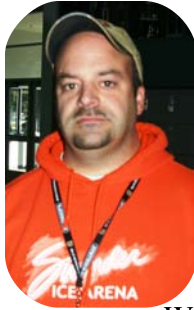


October 14, 2006 - Day 5



Powder Horn Observer Times & Courier

*CHRONICLING THE POWDER HORN TRAINING COURSE
HOSTED BY THE BUFFALO TRACE AND SHAWNEE TRAILS COUNCILS*



SKATING TO LEARN VALUES

Setting goals, hard work, and perseverance are among the many qualities that ice sports teach.

Whether it be ice hockey or figure skating, being on the ice is a unique challenge for anyone to learn. While other sports build on fundamental principals of walking and running, when it comes to these sports, one must start from square one to learn how to maneuver on the ice.

At the Swonder Ice Arena, participants were greeted by manager, Bill Nadeau. Bill is a USA Hockey certified coach and has played hockey since he was an eight year old youth in Evansville. He quickly fell in love with the atmosphere of the hockey community. Early practice, late games, there was no holding Bill back. In defeat or victory it did not matter,

getting on the rink was a new adventure that groomed Bill's character and personalities into a dedicated hard working man.

As a young child he learned the importance of time management, to get his studies done and still find time to practice skating and hockey skills. Though his talents as a left winger were modest, his enthusiasm for the game overflows with exuberance. The same experiences he had a youth continue to be inspirational to him as an adult, and as a father.

Opportunities for participation in ice sports are numerous for both men and women. Since the US Women's National team won Olympic Gold in the 1998 Olympic Winter Games, women's hockey has grown leaps and bounds. Evansville now has a dedicated girls hockey program. On the other side of the coin, figure skating community is always eager to

reach out to young men. Men's participation in the sport has been stagnant for some time and clubs across America as develop plans to reach out to more young men to get involved.

In addition to coaching his son, Bill is responsible for the 103,000 square feet of space including a 10,000 square foot fitness center. The current Swonder Ice Arena opened in 2002 with two NHL sized ice rinks along with a skate park. The facility annually hosts several hockey tournaments that attract youth teams from all across the North America. The facility attracts many NHL players and coaches including former player and coach Eddy Olczyk.

Bonus Trivia: In excess of 50,000 screws were used in the construction of the skate park.



KANDERSTEG

The Kandersteg
INTERNATIONAL SCOUT CENTRE International Scout

Centre serves as the permanent "mini-jamboree" for the World Organizations of the Scout Movement (the global secretariat of Scouting). The centre is located in the scenic Bernese Oberland of Switzerland. The facility is composed of an entirely international staff and welcomes Scouts from throughout the world to its facilities.



The program for units that come is vast and varied. Since the centre is open all year, a crew could come during the summer, hike in the Swiss Alps, go orienteering, rock climb, go river rafting, mountain biking, stone carving, swimming, camp at the campsite, or stay in an Alpine hut. Other popular activities include taking day trips to see other parts of Switzerland and Italy.



The fun is not limited to the summer! In colder weather, a unit can also participate in Alpine skiing, Nordic skiing (cross country), snowboarding, curling, ice skating, sledging (tobogganing), relaxing in a Finnish sauna, and stay in the chalet.

Kandersteg is easily accessible. The Scout centre is only little more than a mile from the Kandersteg train station. There are numerous train connections daily to both the Geneva and Zurich airports. Travel time is about three hours.

For more information, visit the Kandersteg website, www.kisc.ch



Day 4 In Review



The morning began with the participants arriving early at the Eykamp Scout Center in Evansville, Indiana to begin the second course weekend. After a few moments to reorganize it was off to visit several local area consultants. Using two Troop busses, participants were shuttled to Wesselman Woods for round-robin sessions on conservation, ecology, and plants & wildlife.

Lunch was served up hot and fresh from the cook staff. Chili in a keg was the entree of choice with sides of hotdogs, and potatoes. After lunch the round robin sessions continued. After wrapping up at Wesselman Woods, the busses shuttled everyone to the Swonder Ice Arena to visit with Roy Inglis about skiing. After the presentation, the Crews split up again with half of the group staying at the ice rink for another session on ice sports such as figure skating and hockey followed by an hour of open skating. The other half of participants traveled across town to the YMCA to learn from Susan Oliver all about SCUBA. Participants were able to suit up in SCUBA gear to get a feel for what SCUBA is and how the equipment works.



During dinner, Dave Carter spoke of his physical, and spiritual quest to conquer Mount Everest in Nepal. His vivid details recounting his frequent brushes with death and his own mortality moved many individuals in the audience. Following dinner, we were reminded of the values of the Scouting program and the benefits that Venturing delivers to today's youth from the Central Region Venturing President, Chris Szybisty. Following his speech several local Venturing youth, who served as sailing consultants during the first Powder Horn weekend, were presented with the Venturing Ranger Award by Chris. Following the Ranger Award ceremony, the distinguished honor of the presentation the Regional Venturing Leadership Award in a National Court of Honor was emceed by National Venturing President Maggie Belli.



Following the awards presentation, the Powder Horn staff and participants caravanned to the Old Ben Scout Reservation to let loose with a Hee-Haw themed party featuring a bluegrass jam by Fields of Home.



PREPARATIONS FOR CANOE FLOAT / OVERNIGHT



On Saturday we will be taking a float trip down the Patoka River to the Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge. You will need to pack TWO bags. One bag to take in the canoe with you, and another to be chaufered via truck to the camp site. During the first course weekend Tave Lamperez from the US Canoeing Association (USCA) presented a basic overview of how to operate a canoe in flat water. In preparation for our trip today, Tave offers the following tips for a safe float:

- Always wear your PFD and keep it fastened at all times.
- Dress in layers, pack an extra set of dry clothes. A sealed bucket will be provided in each canoe for dry clothes.
- Wear hiking boots or other waterproof footwear (sneakers highly discouraged). Wool socks are suggested.
- Bring and drink plenty of water... No matter how cold the weather you can still get dehydrated.
- Bear in mind that the river will have a slight current. The current runs slower the closer to the bank.
- Keep alert for obstructions such as overhanging branches, strainers, and floating driftwood
- Have Fun!

If you should happen to fall out:

- Stand up and get yourself secure
- Get to shore and put on dry clothes
- Do not worry about your gear or the canoe, your safety comes first

Your Crew Guide will discuss what to pack for the overnight camping trip with your Crew.

Interested in learning more about canoeing in your area?

Contact the USCA at www.uscanoe.com and look for the contact information for an instructor in your area.





DAY 5 ACTIVITIES

- Breakfast
- Rappelling, Low COPE, Geocaching
- Canoeing Expedition
- Campsite Setup & Dinner
- Nature of Leadership
- Interfaith Service
- Working With Teens