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## Troop 110 Captures Top Honors at Camp

By Tom Wynne III

The Boy Scouts from Troop 110 returned from Camp Chawanakee on Shaver Lake in the western Sierras on July 16, having captured top honors for camping skills, Scoutcraft and spirit.

The troop is sponsored by St. Rita's parish in Sierra Madre. Ranging in age from 12 to 17, the boys were awarded Honor Troop for maintaining an excellent campsite and creating innovative and useful camp gadgets they lashed together from poles. The boys also took home the Commissioner Thumb stick for the best overall campsite in their camp group during the entire week.

Sean Andrews was also the recipient of the Pioneer Hiker Award, which is given to the Scout from each troop, who best exemplifies the Scout spirit. Pioneer Hikers spend a night under the stars and write an essay about what Scouting means to them. Camp Chawanakee has kept these essays, going back 30 years, as part of the camp history and to serve as an inspiration to other Scouts.

Though only 11 of the 25 active troop member attended the camp, Sean Andrews, Brian Brubaker, Kevin Dalrymple, Jason Fernandez, Chad Irwin, Stephen Loesch, Sean McCreary, Alex Riboli, David Salazar, Andrew Sauer and Tom Wynne III all worked together as a team and individuals to earn the troop awards and over 50 individual merit badges. The boys earned badges for subjects such as Astronomy, Archery, Canoeing, Climbing, Pioneering, Small Boat Sailing and many more. One of the highlights of the trip was the Canoe Outpost where the troop canoed across Shaver Lake to camp at a remote site under the stars and tell many stories around the campfire and count falling stars.

"This was a great group," said Assistant Scoutmaster Tom Wynne, who, along with other Scoutmasters Ray Loesch and Steve Riboli, attended the camp. The boys made this trip successful on their own. The older Scouts did a great job of mentoring and motivating the younger boys and the results speak for themselves.



**Boy Scout Troop 110 from St. Rita's parish in Sierra Madre captured top honors for camping skills, Scoutcraft and spirit during their recent stay at Camp Chawanakee. —Photo courtesy of Boy Scout Troop 110**

"The esprit de corps was very high and it was a great privilege to have been there with such a fine group of young men," Wynne said.

After lowering their flag for the last time at camp, 17-year-old Sr. Patrol Leader Brian Brubaker became the victim of a group hug as the boys celebrated their success and Brian's last trip to Chawanakee as a member of the troop. An Eagle Scout candidate, Brubaker will return to Chawanakee for the eighth time next summer but this time as a Camp Counselor for the Climbing Merit Badge.

Next on the agenda for Troop 110 is a trip to Jackass Meadows in Sequoia where the Troopers will hone their skills in backpacking, fishing and wilderness survival. Troop 110 is also recognized for the many Sierra Madre civic activities they participate in such as flag ceremonies for the Walk for Life, and the Art Fair along with support for the Mt. Wilson Trial Race, the Hike into History and Pioneer Days.

Tom Wynne III is currently the Troop Historian for Troop 110.

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