

Cranford's Troop 75 had an eventful and productive week of summer camp from July 22-29 2018, at the Winnebago Scout Reservation (WSR), located in Rockaway, N.J.

24 Scouts and 3 adult leaders attended, with the Boy Scouts learning Scout skills, renewing friendships, and just plain-old having fun.

Each year, summer camp at Winnebago Scout Reservation features a particular theme. The 2018 theme was “Superheroes,” with the slogan “Winnebago... Scout Me In!” resoundingly shouted back to camp leader Mr. Rich Mager, a Winnebago legend in his own right since 1959. Although the weather was rainy, the scouts made the best of the bad weather.

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(Winnebago Scout Reservation summer camp staff officially open the week with the scouts taking a tour of the camp. Photo courtesy of Matthew Gard)

The Scouts were kept very busy in Merit Badge workshops, recreational sports, “Camp-wide Games”, a Water Carnival, a Movie Night and Scout-generated campfire entertainment.

After filling out their stacks of “Blue Cards,” the sheet used for filling out requirements for a merit badge, each Scout worked on 3-6 Merit Badges, learning more about practical areas such as First Aid, Cooking, Camping Hiking, Wilderness Survival, Emergency Preparedness, Communications, Personal Management, Space Exploration and 85 other areas of interest.



(Scouts explored Durham Pond on rowboats, sailboats and kayaks throughout the week Photo courtesy of Matthew Gard)



(Winnebago Scout Reservation also features an Aquatics Area on the Durham Pond shoreline, where the infamous “Polar Bear” swim has held each morning. Photo courtesy of Matthew Gard)

Three meals per day are served for the nearly 300 participants and camp staff at the centrally located dining hall. The dining hall staff did a great job of providing delicious and nutritious meals. All the Boy Scouts took turns serving their fellow Scouts as waiters, setting up and cleaning up after each meal.

On Tuesday night, all Scout Troops cooked their dinner in their individual campsites. Troop 75 cooked up excellent Tex-Mex fajitas and prepared two killer Dutch oven baked desserts with their famous Blueberry Cobbler and peach cobbler. After Wednesday night dinner, all Scouts

had the opportunity to burn off whatever energy they had left at the “Camp-wide Games”, then enjoyed the rest of the evening together. Not to be left out, the Troop 75 adult leaders took part in an “Old Man of the Mountain” rifle competition and shotgun shoot, as well as a “Robin Hood” archery contest. The Friday triathlon was a ton of fun, with troop 75 showing off their amazing swimming and running capabilities, but still need a little practice in handling a canoe. All the participants had a blast.

Before you could blink, it was Saturday and the week was over, with Scouts packing up their equipment and heading home.

Troop 75 adult leaders Ms. Cheryl Macri (Advancement Chair), Mr. Matt Gard, Rookie Co-Camp Leader Mr Andrew Koneski, Mr John Koneski, Koneski #2, Mr. Paul Martin (Scoutmaster), Mr Mark Doyle and Mr. Orest Hrycak (Camp Leader and Assistant Scoutmaster) all worked hard to make this year’s excursion a success.

If your 11-18 year old son would like to participate in Boy Scouting, contact us via the Troop 75 website at “MyTroop75.org”.

Peter Hrycak
Troop 75 Historian