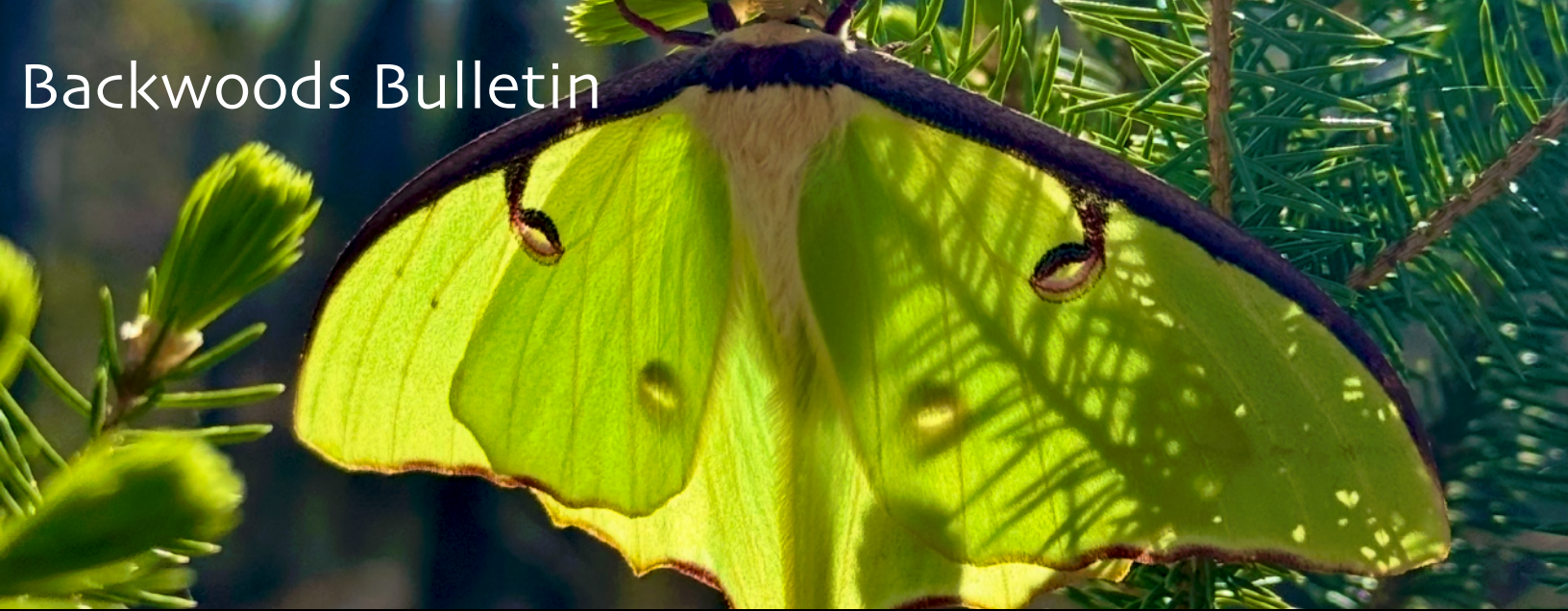


Backwoods Bulletin



Sleepy Creek Boys Camp Motto: Forming Successful Relationships Skills



This Bulletin's Focus: Education at Camp

“You’ll find that the forest has a story full of change.”

Change

Everybody has a future ahead of them. They’re all going to become something different. Vastly different. One may become a truck driver, another a fire fighter, another a school teacher or a farmer, a business owner, a scientist. Maybe we’re all scientists. We all ask questions about our world to find understanding and create a change. So that means we’re all the same. All creating change.

If you take a ramble though the woods, you might be surprised at what you’d find. Foxfire is a mushroom that grows on damp, rotting logs. It glows in the dark. Something scientists would call bioluminescence. Tulip poplar is a fast growing tree that has leaves shaped like a tulip. The North American Black Bear hibernates in winter. This makes him especially hungry in the spring and creates a need for him to stock up on food in the fall. We set trail cameras for him by our dumpster, but he just outsmarts them. Luna moths have a brilliant green color but you don’t see them often. Like some other moths, luna moths don’t eat as an adult, so they live just ten days and have a nocturnal lifestyle. Fossils happen when minerals take the place of organic material from a dead organism. Does it take a thousand years to form or a million?

I like watching things change.

Every spring, the forest turns from brown and gray to green. The sounds change too. Birds sing over the rustle of the leaves. Flying insects make small taps when they land on a leaf or the forest floor. An occasional deer or rodent rustles the leaves as it spooks and runs for a hiding place. It’s much different than the silence of winter when snow covers the ground and the trees are frozen in place, scared to move for fear of shattering the silence. When fall comes, the forest changes again. Green is exiled, and orange, red, and yellow, cover the ground, the air, the sky. Until one day, the last leaf falls and the woods are silent. But it’s a good silence.

I like watching perspective change.

It’s easy to view education as negative because of what is associated with—florescent lit classrooms, a workload that zaps inspiration, bookwork instead of hands on learning. Welcome to camp. You’ll find that the forest has a story full of change.

Maybe your story will change too.

-Chief Brandon (Education Director)



Each camper picks a subject to study about and then writes a report before a canoe trip is taken. Here are few of them.

Voyageurs

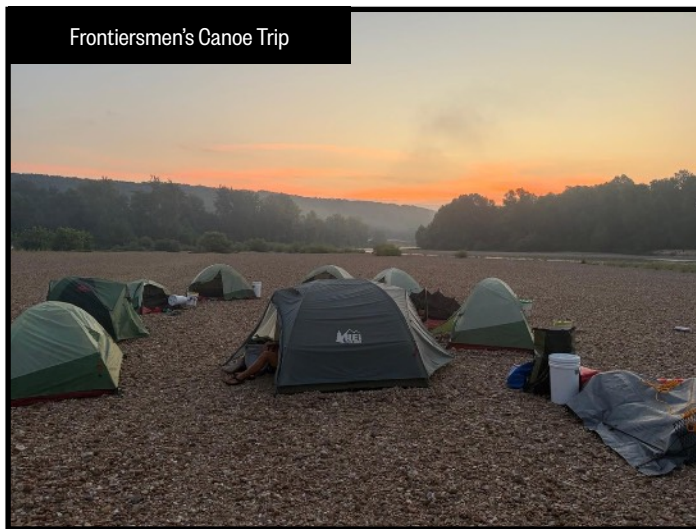
The Voyageurs were a French fur transportation unit used by the Hudson Bay Company. They used canoes to transport furs down Canadian rivers to Canada and America. On a typical trip, they hauled 25 90 lb. roles of furs and carried four packs per 500 miles of canoeing.

Every morning, the Voyageurs rose at 2:00 to 3:00 a.m and cleaned up for paddling for time before breakfast. Every hour, they stopped to smoke a pipe, then started to go again. At 8:00 or 10:00 p.m. they stopped canoeing for the day and pulled ashore.

Towards the end of the 1800s, the voyageurs began petering out because of the Canadian Pacific Railway and other faster styles of transportation. I think it would be fun to be a voyager, but instead of canoes I would use huge kayaks. -Frontiersmen Camper



Trailblazers' Canoe Trip



Frontiersmen's Canoe Trip

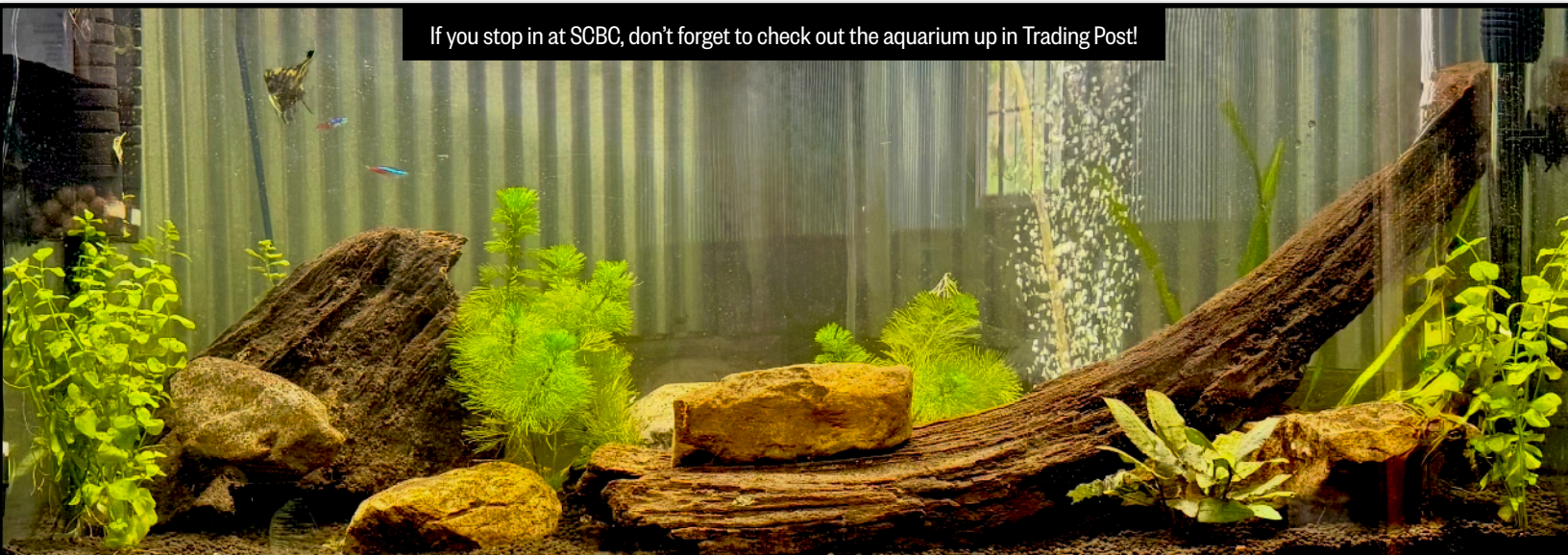
Canoes

A canoe is a lightweight, narrow, watercraft propelled with paddles. In the middle of the 19th century, it was a very important method of transportation and was used by the famous voyageurs in their fur trading expeditions. Today it is used for a lot of different things, including racing and white water canoeing.

Not all canoes are the same. The dugout is made out of a tree or one piece of wood. The freestyle is used for tricks. Canoes can be made out of fibre glass, and graphite. On a square back canoe, some put on a small outback motors. The canoe is a very cool, interesting boat. -Frontiersmen Camper

Rainbow Trout

Rainbow trout are native to cold water lakes and streams in North American and Asia. They live in freshwater and weigh 1 to 5 lbs. Because they are fished and used for food, they have been transplanted to 45 countries. However, they have damaged the native fish species where they are introduced. Rainbow trout are one of the one hundred most invasive animals in the world. -Frontiersmen Camper



If you stop in at SCBC, don't forget to check out the aquarium up in Trading Post!



The train the Trailblazers' rode on

Western Maryland Scenic Railroad

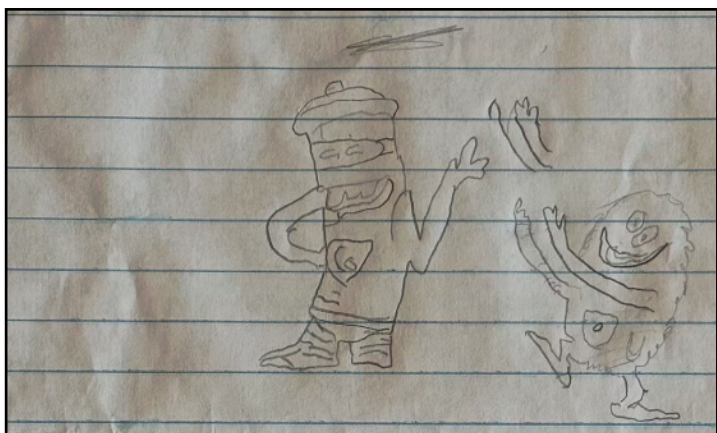
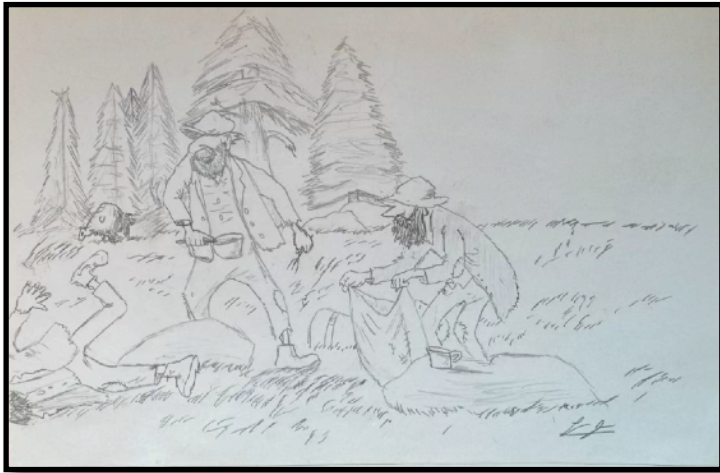
The scenic railroad train 1309 is the very last steam locomotive built for domestic service. It was built by Baldwin Locomotive Works or BLW in 1949. Operated by C and O Railway, this train was used to pull coal cars till it retired in 1956. The 1309 was then put in a museum from 1972 to 2014 when the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad bought it for scenic railroad use. The train's restoration was finally completed in 2020 and it did its first scenic run in 2021. The 1309 is 99.7 feet long, 15 feet tall and weighs an adhesive weight of 366,700 lbs. Western Maryland's Scenic Railroad 1309 is a super cool steam train and is a fun scenic route. -Trailblazer Camper



Big Boys

The Big Boy was a steam engine that was made by the ALCO in Schenectady, New York. There were 25 Union Pacific Big Boys that were made. It was manufactured in the years 1941-1944 and retired in 1959. It was used for heavy freight. Weighing 1,208,750 lb., which is equivalent to 604 tons, the world calls the Big Boy the largest and most powerful train. On April 27, 1959, NO. 4005 was pulling freight and jumped a track at 50 mph and killed three people and derailed 18 cars. Ever since 1941, the Big Boy has been the worlds largest steam engine. - Trailblazer Camper

ART





652 Wild Cherry Lane
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411

..."and they shall dwell safely in the wilderness, and sleep in the woods." Ezekiel 34:25

Sleepy Creek Boys Camp is excited about our new venture. We are moving forward with plans to move this camp to our new location in Fairhope, Pennsylvania. This 525 acre site is somewhat developed but we plan to do some building to better accommodate our program. This will include a shower house, a maintenance shop, and three homes for the chiefs, cooks, and supervisors.

Currently, we have an experienced carpenter who will be in charge of the construction. We envision a crew of 6 young men, volunteering for a 6 month term, as builders to help with this construction. Starting date will be as soon as September 14. If all goes well we anticipate a finish date of May 1.

If you are interested in this project, we would love to hear from you. Please click on [This link \(Volunteer Here\)](#) or click on the link below to fill out the application for service. We will consider all applications with a preference for young men who are 20 years of age, and have building experience.

If you have any questions please contact
Dennis Oberholter at [717-385-1786](tel:717-385-1786)



Progress Report

- Captain Morgan (Honda pilot) has come to join our vehicle fleet.
- Chuckwagon has a new layer of paint!
- Eight hundred and ninety-six fish were caught on the Frontiersmen's three week canoe trip down the Gasconade River!
- The Trailblazers have been hard at work filling their wood tent. In one week they cut and stacked 150 wheelbarrow loads of wood! The day record was 42 loads!
- A kitten (Miss Faye) has joined out maintenance team!



Welcome...

- To Chief Kerry and Miss Annette as our new director. We are thankful you have joined our group!
- To Miss Natasha Eicher. Miss Tash has been cooking up some good meals!
- To Chief Seth. His maintenance skills have been put to work!
- To Miss Beth. We're glad Miss Beth came back to teach the staff kids!

Goodbye...

- To Chief Trevor. Thank you for keeping the to do list on the Maintenance white board completed!
- To Chief Braden. Thank you for your 2 years of service here with the Trailblazer group! We will miss you!

Thank you for your continued prayers and support for Sleepy Creek Boys Camp.

