

REGION TEN WILDERNESS CANOE TRIPS RECORD OF PADDLE AWARDS

NAME	John S. Houston, Eagle Scout		
ADDRESS	Rushville, Illinois		
COUNCIL			
DATE OF TRIP	1943	-	6/25-30-/44
GUIDE	Jack Tucker	<i>Byron L. Larkins</i>	

PADDLE AWARDS: DATE	
BRONZE	Awarded through Regional Office - 11/12/43.
GOLD	
SILVER	<i>Sept. 20, 1944. thru Reg'l Office. direct.</i>

CHARLES L. SOMMERS' WILDERNESS CANOE TRAILS

Application for

ORDER OF THE SILVER PADDLE AWARD

Rushville, ILL.

NAME & ADDRESS

John Scripps Houston

DATE ON TRIPS

'43 - 6/25-30/44

NO. DAYS OUT ON TRIP

'43-5/44-5

LENGTH OF PADDLE DESIRED

5' 6"

SEASONS AT CANOE BASE

2

SCORE

5

1. Has identified with ease forty different trees and plants and knows the commercial value of each and has stated value of each to animal as well as human life.

10

2. Has taken part in the clean-up of portage trails and camp sites.

10

3. Has cooked satisfactorily or assisted in the cooking of at least one meal on the trail.

10

4. Has been an all around good camper. (Attitude in general, helping with camp duties, etc.)

10

5. Has passed the "Mystery Test" of a Wilderness Camper.

GUIDE'S APPROVAL

Byron Cacharelis

10

6. Has participated in two or more Canoe Trips.

10

7. Has been a "good camper" while at the Canoe Base.

CANOE TRAILS DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL

Bob Ludlow

10

8. Has completed at least three of the following Merit Badges: Canoeing, Swimming, Cooking, Lifesaving, Camping, First Aid, Forestry, Conservation, Pioneering.

10

9. Has submitted at least three clear photos taken by himself on the trip showing something of real interest. Attached photos.
OR: Submit three drawings made on the Trails.

10

10. Has submitted a story, diary, or log, of the trip taken. OR has submitted a printed new article of the trip written by himself from some newspaper or magazine. (Attached.)

COUNCIL EXECUTIVE'S APPROVAL

Paul A. Salerno

REGIONAL EXECUTIVE'S APPROVAL

Kenneth G. Bantz

95

FINAL SCORE—(10 points is perfect score for each test.)

REMARKS:

Upon completion of requirements, transmit through your Local Council Scout Office to Region Ten, Boy Scouts of America, 1112 Minnesota Bldg., St. Paul 1, Minnesota.

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
REGION TEN OFFICE
1112 Minnesota Building
SAINT PAUL MINNESOTA

CHARLES L. SOMMERS
WILDERNESS
CANOE BASE



Base Office
HOD LUDLOW, Director
% FORREST HOTEL
ELY MINNESOTA

June 24-30-----LOG OF WILDERNESS CANOE TRIP-----1944

by
John S. Houston

Five of us started out on this canoe trip on Sunday morning, June 24, 1944. Our guide is Byron Casharelis (Cash), of Minneapolis. This is his second year as guide at Region Ten Canoe Base. His swamper or assistant guide is Donald Nordquist also of Minneapolis. The other three are Bud Houston, Eagle Scout, Bob Hunkle, Star Scout, and myself.

We started out at ten fortyfive from the Charles L. Sommers Canoe Base. It was a cloudy day but it cleared up at 12:30. There were two canoes, Bud and the swamper in one and the guide, Hunkle, and I in the other. We met a party of three above the base and they had just caught a nice fifteen pound Northern. We ate lunch at Prairie Portage. This portage was our first. We stopped at the Bailey Bay Ranger Station and got our travel permit. We then had another portage into Burke Lake. We paddled down Burke Lake and made camp at the portage on the other end of the lake. One party was already there but they were just leaving. We waited about an hour and they left. We had Mulligan stew for supper at seven thirty. We waited about an hour and then Bud, Nordquist and I went swimming. We started to bed at eight thirty but six fellows in the V-12 came over the portage, and woke us up. We had very easy paddling today.

Monday: We slept till ten. Living life of ease. There was a very beautiful rock cliff about a hundre feet from camp and we took some pictures of it and from it. Monday was the most beautiful day we had on the trip. It was perfectly clear and not a cloud in sight. There was a very slight wind blowing and it was very cool.

We paddled down Sunday Lake and then made our longest portage. It was one half mile in length. Some fun. It was from Sunday Lake into Meadows Lake. We saw a beaver house at Meadows Lake. When we left Meadows Lake for Agnes Lake, we had another fairly long portage. We then paddled to Louisa Falls and camped right next to the falls.

JUL 20 1944

RECEIVED

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WILDERNESS
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Our good friends, the sailers were camped just above us about a quarter mile.

About half way down the falls which are about 90 feet in height, there is a natural dip on the falls forming a basin. It is about six feet square and five feet deep. The current is very strong. The falls above it are straight up and down and it sure is fun to swim in the "tub" and have all that water spray down on you. It is just about like standing under a hundred showers with the water coming down full force. We walked back to the camp and took a bigger swim in the lake. Bud and Nordquist went fishing. Cash and I had started to make three raisin pies while they were fishing. He fixed up the raisins and I made the pie crust. All I had to do was to mix the powder up with water and then roll it out on the bottom of a canoe with a milk can. In about fortyfive minutes the fellows came back from fishing with the old old story of the BIG one. They had seen a bear however about a half mile from camp though. For supper we had mulligan, chocolate milk and the three pies. Boy, were they ever good. I don't want to brag but the crust was simply excellent. After supper we saw the sailers again and they said that they had seen a bear cub over by their camp. Later on we thought we heard a bear so we got out and chased him away. It must have left because we could not hear him any more. Just as we went to bed it started to rain.

Tuesday: We got up at 9 just as it stopped raining. It had rained all night. The squirrel we heard that night had gotten into our food pack and had mused up one loaf of bread. We left at 11 and passed our friends again. They looked like a bunch of drowned rats. It cleared up at 12:00 and it was going to be another nice day despite the wind. We were lucky however because the wind was with us. It was some fun paddling in those two foot waves. We would paddle real hard up one crest and then go sailing down the otherside. We got to Silence Lake and had lunch of marmalade and meat sandwiches. After about an hour we went swimming. It sure was a lot of fun swimming in those two foot waves. Bud and I went out after some beaver wood for the fire. When we got back we started to bake a chocolate cake but it didn't turn out near as nice as the pies. After supper of mac and cheese and cake we went swimming again. Took some more pictures. We went to bed about nine.

wednesday: Got up at nine, and had breakfast of prunes and cornmeal. Left camp at 11. We had a hard time all day. It was windy like the

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day before but only we were going against it. We saw a lot of pitched tents. We had about ten portages, all short and sweet. Today's trip was the hardest of all. It was the longest day's trip of all the trip and here we were paddling against a strong wind. Those two foot waves were not so much fun paddling in as they were the day before. We got into North Bay after a series of short portages around beaver dams. It started to rain very hard so we made for a Ranger Cabin. The door was locked so we couldn't get in. It stopped raining in about five minutes so we went on to the next campsite. About ten gulls kept flying around us. They would swoop down to just about a few feet above our heads and then they would light in the water ten or fifteen feet in front of us. They kept that up for about ten or fifteen minutes.

Our next campsite was on Heather Isle. We made it there about four o'clock and then had our lunch. We moused around and then started to cook supper but it started to rain cats and dogs so we went to bed at sixthirty. At sixfortyfive two guides, Tucker and Jensen also of the canoe base, stopped and talked about five minutes. We went to sleep at seven and woke up at ninethirty the next morning. Some sleep and did we ever need it.

Thursday: Had cereal and bacon for breakfast. Nice day and the slight wind is with us today. We left at eleventhirty. We had a nice easy paddle back to Bailey Bay. Just as we got there an Ontario Forestry Branch Service plane was taking off. Took some pictures of it. Some sailors were at the portage and we had them take a picture of us. We paddled down to Prairie Portage and had lunch. Just before we got to P.P. we went past an island which is about three or four acres in size. The guide told us that that island 150 years ago was one of the chief fur outpost stations. It was sure something to look at. We paddled on down the lakes and then camped on a small island on Newfound Lake. We went swimming twice but Ankler had the opportunity to go swimming more times. 8 times to be exact. Had a swell supper and went to bed about nine.

Friday: Got up about eight and had breakfast and packed up. We left camp about tenthirty, and got back to the base about eleventhirty. We had lunch at the base and then Hed took us to town to meet the bus.

NOVEMBER 12, 1943

MR. JOHN HOUSTON
RUSHVILLE, ILLINOIS

DEAR JOHN:-

I ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR BRONZE PADDLE APPLICATION, AND WE ARE PLEASED TO SEND YOU THE AWARD.

WE ENCLOSE LAST YEAR'S PACK SADDLE TRIP BULLETIN. DOG TEAM TRIPS ARE NOT YET SET UP SO THAT YOU CAN PARTICIPATE. THERE WILL ONLY BE A PARTY OF TEN OR TWELVE THIS YEAR. WE'VE GOT TO DO MORE WORK ON THEM TO INCREASE THE CAPACITY.

CORDIALLY,
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

KENNETH G. BENTZ
REGIONAL EXECUTIVE

Date August 28

Boy Scouts of America
Region Ten,
1112 Minnesota Building,
St. Paul, Minnesota.

Please Print

I hereby apply for the

Bronze Paddle Award

I have completed all requirements for this award (see evidence
attached).

My height is 5'9".

Scout or Scouter Eagle Scout

Address Bushville Ill Tr. 35

Approved by Guide Jack Pluener

Approved by Director Ed L. Lullow

Approved by Scout Executive _____

COUNCIL _____

Approved by Region Ten Executive _____

WALTER S. HOUSTON

INDUSTRIAL PAINTING

SPECIALIZING IN PACKING HOUSES - CREAMERIES - DAIRIES - COLD STORAGE PLANTS

RUSHVILLE, ILLINOIS

November 2, 1943

Boy Scouts of America

Region Ten,

St. Paul, Minnesota

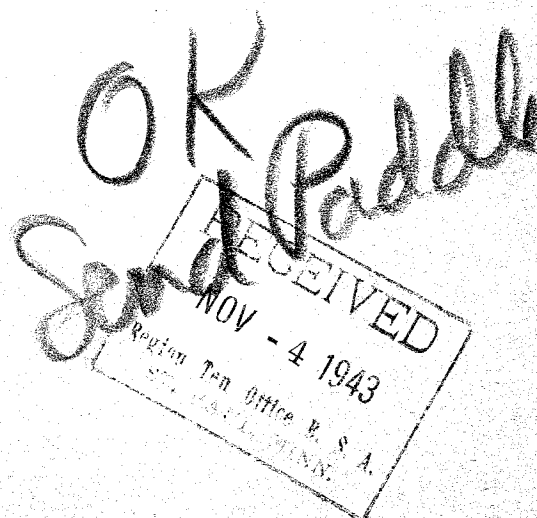
Dear Sirs:

I am sending in my application for the Bronze Paddle Award. Along with the application I am sending the log of my trip.

On the trip I heard that Region Ten also had a dog sled expedition that was in December, and a pack-saddle trip in the summer. Will you please send me information about these two trips, their costs, and the time that I might take them.

Yours truly,

Eagle Scout
John A. Houston



Log of a Wilderness Canoe Trip, by Eagle Scout John S. Houston

SATURDAY: Arrived at the Charles L. Sommers Canoe Base on Moose Lake.

SUNDAY: Stayed at the base all night. About 6:30, a group of scouts drove in from Chicago. They were going on a weeks trip also.

MONDAY: Got up at about 7:30 and got our things packed. I am taking a light suit of clothes, a heavy suit, light and heavy pair of shoes, a raincoat, and my scout handbook.

We left base at about 10:00 A. M. and got to Prairie Portage by noon, and we ate dinner there. We got to Lake Agnes about 5:00. We went swimming in the falls there and was it cold. Here three boys and a guide caught up with us. These three got to the base just after we left. Hod Ludlow sent a guide with them and told them to catch up with us. Counting them there were eight in our party, two guides, one swamper, four other scouts, and myself. When we went to bed it began to rain.

TUESDAY: We got up about 9:30 and because it was raining it would have done no good to have gotten up any earlier. We had breakfast and broke camp at 12:30. It was still sprinkling a little when we set out, but it soon stopped. It was cloudy all afternoon, but it cleared up about 6:00. We camped on beautiful Glacier Lake. Four of us went swimming and later Dick and I hunted for clams and got about 18. We had macaroni and tomatoes for supper.

WEDNESDAY: We got up, broke camp, and left about 10:00. We went through a couple of beaver dams before we knew it. We left our kettle pack at one portage and we had to paddle back about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles to get it. We went around three pretty falls. They averaged about a 9 ft. drop. Just before we put into the campsite, one of the guides said he saw a wolf. Four of the boys went fishing after supper and they caught about three or four nice northerns. This was the only time that they went fishing.

THURSDAY: We had corn meal and fish for breakfast. We left camp about 9:00 and got as far as This Man's Lake for dinner. We ate at the ranger cabin there. It was quite a place. We portaged over into Carp Lake and camped there on an island. We had just gotten there when it rained cats and dogs and did the wind ever blow. Had a hard time getting supper and sitting up the tents.

FRIDAY: We had pancakes for breakfast. We left camp at about 10:00 and got to Birch Lake where we ate dinner. We saw a ranger plane while eating. We paddled on until we came to Newfound Lake where we pitched camp. We went swimming while the guides went down to the base for food for breakfast. We didn't get to bed until about 10:30 and we got up at 8:30.

SATURDAY: Had a good breakfast and we paddled on to the base and got there about 10:00. We packed our stuff and said goodbye to the guides and Hod took us to Ely. We checked out at the Customs House in Winton.



Eagle Scout John S. Houston
Rushville, Illinois.



1924
John S. Hausten
Fushville, Ill.