

REGION TEN
WILDERNESS CANOE TRIPS
RECORD OF PADDLE AWARDS

NAME	Probst, Gerald W.
ADDRESS	406 West Sixth St., Morris, Minnesota.
COUNCIL	Red River
DATE OF TRIP	
GUIDE	<i>Marty Koss</i>

PADDLE AWARDS : DATE	
BRONZE	8/23/39 - Through Gilbert
GOLD	
SILVER	

BRONZE PADDLE AWARD
List of the 25 Trees

TREE	USE
White Pine	Lumber used for general construction
Jack Pine	Lumber used for pulp wood
Norway Pine	Used for spars, masts, pilings, sills.
Black Spruce	Paper pulp, construction, pilings, posts, and ships.
White Spruce	General Construction and paper pulp
Balsam	Used medically and in the arts.
Arbor Vitae	Poles, fencing, posts, shingles, and barrel-staves.
Mountain Ash	Of no commercial value.
Purple osier	Shrub of no commercial value.
Flowering Dogwood	Shuttles, mallets, pulleys, rules.
June berry	May be eaten, but no value commercially.
White Birch	Spools, shoe-pegs, and lasts, paper pulp and fuel.
Mountain Maple	Fuel otherwise of no value.
Tag Alder	Charcoal for gunpowder.
Quaking ASPEN	Paper pulp and excelsior.
Pin Cherry	Of no commercial value.
Choke Cherry	Of no commercial value.
Hazel Brush	Hazel nuts as food.
Silver willow	Of no commercial value, except fuel.
Large-toothed Aspen	Paper pulp and excelsior.
Blue-berry	Eaten as food.
Raspberry	Eaten as food.
Rose	Of no commercial value.
Wild Currant	Of no commercial value.
Honey Suckle	Of no commercial value.

BRONZE PADDLE AWARD

List of the 15 Plants

PLANT	VALUE TO LIFE
1. Sponge Moss	Eaten by deer in winter.
2. Deer Moss	" " " " "
3. Pigeon Wheat Moss	" " " " "
4. Arbor Vitae Moss	" " " " "
5. Day lily	Of no apparent value.
6. Broad Leaf Astor	" " " "
7. Sarsaparilla	
8. Wild Iris	Of no apparent value.
9. Golden Rod	" " " "
10. Strawberry	Eaten by wild life.
11. Joe Pie Weed	Of no apparent Value.
12. Bunch Berry	" " " "
13. Shelf Fungus	" " " "
14. Ground Pine	" " " "
15. Blue Bell	" " " "

THE WILDERNESS CANOE TRAIL

The wilderness canoe trail of the week of July 30, 1939 started promptly according to schedule on Monday morning. Our expedition was composed of thirteen members, including guide, Marty Koss, and five canoes. Each member had his own personal pack and an extra pack for each canoe which contained the other essential materials. As we started Willard Micklish photographed the canoes leaving from a cliff near Hibbards Lodge. Our starting point was on Moose Lake. Passing through a small channel we arrived in Lake Newfound. It was at the far end of Lake Newfound that we made our first portage. This being the first portage, there was a bit of confusion and it took considerably more time than it should have. As each canoe portaged into Little Iron Lake they waited until all of the party had crossed the portage so as to keep together. From Iron Lake we passed directly in to Lake Ensign. Lake Ensign was a large lake with many islands. On the far end of Lake Ensign the guide stopped on an island and prepared a lunch for us. A short time after lunch we made our second portage from Lake Ensign to Bass Lake. This portage was the same length as the first, being twenty rods long. The scouts showed more efficiency and much less time was taken on the portage. Bass Lake wasn't very large and it wasn't very long until we came to our longest portage which was one hundred and twenty rods in length. Before it had been mostly play,

but now it meant work and the scouts showed their ability in the tough-going. Our canoes were hardly in the water when we came to another portage from Lake Gibson to Pot Hole. The portage was short being twenty rods long. From Pot Hole we paddled directly into Jordan Lake. Adjoining the lake was Jordan River; many pictures were taken as the scenery was very picturesque. We had planned to have a base camp on Lake Ima, which was the next lake after a short lift over portage. On Lake Ima our camp site was on a rocky island, the beach being solid rock.

Three patrols were formed to take care of the camp duties. Our patrol was composed of three members, Ted Sweetser, Orrie Monroe, and myself. The first day we were on service duty, and were instructed to pitch the tents, which were three in number. After our evening meal the scouts went for a swim and went to bed, as they were very tired after a long day.

The second day was spent in camp and everyone became accustomed to their various duties. In the after noon Marty took the scouts on a nature study hike. From the knowledge we acquired from the hike we were able to start work on merit badges and the bronzepaddle award. On Wednesday morning we awoke to find the day very overcast and windy. The windy weather continued through Thursday and we could not go on some of the smaller trips that were planned. It was during these two days that I was fortunate to be able to complete the Forestry Merit Badge and to pass part of my Bronze Paddle Award, which I am attempting to obtain.

About four o'clock on Thursday afternoon the guide told us to take the tents down and pack our personal packs, as we were leaving the lake when the waves went down so we would not be marooned another day on Lake Ima. Immediately after supper everything was packed and we left Lake Ima at approximately six thirty o'clock. A fast pace was set by the guide and we made good time over the same route we had come. The night was excellent for paddling and one would not get tired very easily. All the portages were made with splendid cooperation and speed. As we were on the last portage I had a little mishap which I will never live down. It was my time to carry the kettle pack and my own personal pack, when I was nearly at the end of the portage I slipped and fell in the river. The water wasn't deep but the current was strong and I was unable to get up without the guides assistance. We were now in Lake Newfoundland and we set up another camp on the mainland. The camp was complete about eleven o'clock.

For Friday we planned to paddle into Canada, so everyone was up early and prepared for the trip. To get into Canada we have to go into Birch Lake, which was adjoining to Lake Newfoundland by a short portage. Just before we crossed the border we had lunch and a swim. When we had paddled to the mainland of Canada a number of the scouts climbed a high cliff to take some photographs and observe the scenery. On the way back to the base camp the guide took us by a route which we did not have to portage, but the journey was longer. In the evening there was a show of canoe tilting displayed by some of the boys. After dark there was a campfire when

a number of stories and personal experiences were told. After a fine farewell evening everyone retired for the last time on the canoe trail of the week of July 30, 1939. Saturday morning the guide instead of waking us he let the tent down on the top of us. Shortly after a number of pranks were played and two scouts and the guide ended up in the water. After breakfast everyone cleaned up the camp and planned to return to the lodge. We arrived at Hibbards Lodge at about eleven fifteen o'clock. We had lunch and then left with our parents to our homes, so ending one of the finest weeks that I have spent in my scouting life. I know that every Boy Scout that has taken the Wilderness Canoe Trail will join in with me and say there is nothing like it for a splendid time in the wilderness.

Written by

Gerald W. Probst



GERALD W. PROBST