

~ Eight Bells ~

News from below decks

Aboard

Le Pecheur D'Etoiles

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June 21st 2007

Troop 160, Leesport, PA.

Troop 160 from Leesport, PA set out to the Bahamas for a High Adventure trip during the days June 16-22.

Day 1: Leaving from Leesport at one o'clock in the morning, the scouts departed for Philadelphia Airport. The scouts then flew to the Atlanta Airport. They then proceeded to fly to Fort Lauderdale where they continued their trip flying to Marsh Harbour, Bahamas. The scouts were surprised to look out the plane windows and see some unconditional Bahamian weather. The rain poured down and soaked the scouts as they traveled to the marina where they first laid eyes on their boat for the week, *Le Pecheur D'Etoiles*. At the boat, we met with Captain Del, his wife Emsie, and their dog Sunny. Captain Del and Emsie then gave the scouts a talk about the week's upcoming events. Positions were also assigned. Matt Strauss was assigned to engineer; Josh Scarcella was assigned to Secretary; Jake Schultz was assigned to Bugler; and Alec Bohnenblust was assigned to Anchor Light. The night's events included practicing the bowline and learning about pirate history. The Bowline Competition ended the night with an exciting final including Jake Schultz, Mr. Reiger, and Brian Reiger. Brian eventually won the competition.

Day 2: Waking up at six in the morning to the sound of Jake's beautiful bugle playing, the troop then learned how to do all of their chores. The chores were split into three teams. One team was in charge of the cooking in the galley. Another team was in charge of cleaning the head, the cabins, and the dingy. The final group was in charge of cleaning the brass, windows, and deck. After learning more about pirate history, the troop left for Mermaid Reef where they did their swim test and snorkeled around

the dazzling natural reef. After snorkeling and some lunch, *Pecheur* departed for Baker's Bay. At Baker's Bay the troop searched around the island for conch shells. The troop found a large group of shells and Alec found a beautiful Triton Shell. The troop had a barbecue that night on the beach that was delicious. The troop returned to the boat where they went to bed and enjoyed their first night of anchor watch.



Day 3: After the chores were done, and breakfast was eaten, the troop returned to Baker's Bay where they had a sand castle competition. The workers on the island then showed the troop some fresh coconuts. After returning to the boat, the election for captain took place and Lucas Zmroczek was elected the new captain, while Captain Del was promoted to Admiral. The troop then learned how to sail and eventually did set sail for Water Key. The troop then explored the island, which had been ravished by hurricanes, and abandoned. After finishing the exploration, the captain showed us a slide show about his job as an extra in the second and third Pirate of the Caribbean films. The second bowline competition then took place and Jake Schultz took the prize of an ice-cold Coca-Cola.

Day 4: The troop ventured back to Water Key after learning about limeys. There, they snorkeled around old wreckage, where they saw a barracuda, some puffer fish, and a lion fish. When they returned they

immediately set sail for Great Guana Cay. On their way there they saw another ship and put on pirate clothing and yelled at the boat. When we arrived to Great Guana Cay, we went to town where there was a supermarket and some souvenir shops. Back on the boat, the troop took joy baths and swam in the ocean. That night the troop did skits and songs for entertainment.

Day 5: Day 5 was Pirate Day, where each scout talked like a pirate. The ship was quickly caught up in a balloon fight with a couple of pirates on the dingy. The troop then learned about emergencies and took part in a mock-evacuation. The troop then set sail without Mr. Reiger. After setting anchor in Pirate's Place, the troop swung into the water for a little while, but after a swell came the boat had to relocate to Water Key. After some more exploration of the island, the troop then had pirate night where they ate like pirates, and each scout gave their pirate names and pirate stories. Lucas was declared best pirate. Trials for Will's whistling, and Alec's speaking of the word then took place and they were guilty. This resulted in everybody on the boat walking the plank.

Day 6: After chores the troop set sail to Mermaid Reef. While sailing to the reef, the scouts overcame the squalls and made it back to Mermaid Reef. The troop then traveled back to Marsh Harbour where they were forced to drop anchor outside the dock. The troop then went to town, bought souvenirs, and ate at the restaurant Snapper's. The troop returned to *Pecheur* for the final bowline competition, which was won by none other than Alec. After the competition the troop reminisced about the wonderful week they had.