

Greetings from BTSR,

Morning came with sunshine. Everyone was grateful that the cold rains left and the 100-degree weather returned. The prospect of sleeping in a dry bunk raised any sagging spirits.

If you are thinking our camp just weathered a tornado you are incorrect, we just had to dry out a few items.



One benefit of the rain was the substantial increase of our creek crossing “fun-factor.”



Of course, some had more fun....



Than others.



Did I forget to mention? We get to have two creek crossings to get into base camp!



Yes the luxurious creek crossings are just a few of the many fine amenities that we are enjoying at camp. The facility pictured below is multipurpose; with a simple 180-degree rotation of the sign by the door, the building magically transforms from a men's room to a lady's powder room. Simply amazing.



Three times each day the boys line up by Troop at the flag poles before being sent by groups to eat breakfast lunch or dinner. The camp program director has many different ways of selecting the order of the groups to be sent to the mess hall. This morning's criteria sent the Troops with the best Troop yells first. As you can see by our position in the chow line, we need to work on the Troop 172 yell. A lot.



Regardless of when one is able to dine; the quality of food and the stimulating intellectual discourse is always most enjoyable.



We finished the day by heading to the McDonald observatory. The boys saw a video about the observatory, participated in an interactive demonstration of our solar system (where the lecturer used a really cool green laser pointer), and got to observe a star cluster, Jupiter, the swan nebula and other astronomical bodies through a variety of telescopes. We left the observatory around 11:00 pm and returned to the main hall at base camp about midnight. The boys (especially those that rose at 5:00 am to feed the horses) were a little weary.



Despite being exhausted, several of the boys elected to sleep under the stars, as the heavens seem brighter here than anywhere else on earth!