



October 24, 2008

Owaneco Lodge/Order of the Arrow  
Connecticut Yankee Council

To All Lodge Leaders and Members,

I want to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation for all the time, energy, sweat and cheerful service that the Owaneco Lodge and its members have provided to Hoyt Scout Camp.

Over the past year and a half the camp has been the beneficiary of a large, national grant as well as other funds received as part of a patch/flap fundraising effort. The grant, which was conceived and submitted by the lodge leadership, was to help fund some major (and I do mean major) renovations to the cabin at the camp. Those renovations included replacement windows, shower stall replacement in one of the bathrooms, sheetrock and new paint in the main (formerly paneled) training room, the entire exterior was given a new paint job, a new deck/porch and steps, a handicap accessible (dirt/grass) ramp up from the parking lot, new carpeting in the Ranger's Office, etc.

These improvements to the cabin along with the multitude of other work day projects truly exemplify the meaning of cheerful service. Without a full-time, resident staff the camp must rely entirely on the many hours of volunteer service. The camp would simply not be the same without you.

I can tell you that if the camp had a face it would be smiling today...just as wide as those beaming smiles on the hundreds of Tigers and Wolves and Bears (oh, my) that step and run onto the property for the first time; which for many is their first experience at camp. For those of us charged with passing on the Spirit of Scouting to the next generation and to make good stewards out of them, please know that the improvements to Hoyt Scout Camp gives us a great tool towards that end. Job well done!

Yours in Scouting,

*Ed St. John*

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Head Campmaster/Hoyt Scout Camp