

## Troop 177 Campfire Ashes



Legend has it that Lord Robert Baden-Powell would always take a small amount of ashes from a ceremonial campfire and then spread these ashes into the flames of the next campfire. The symbolism of these ashes was to share the memories of past campfires, perpetuate the scouting spirit, and bring the universal aspect of the brotherhood of scouting to all scouts and scouters. He once said:

WE CARRY OUR FRIENDSHIPS WITH US IN THESE ASHES FROM OTHER CAMPFIRES WITH COMRADES IN OTHER LANDS. MAY THE JOINING OF THE PAST FIRES WITH THE LEAPING FLAMES OF THIS CAMPFIRE, SYMBOLIZE ONCE MORE THE UNBROKEN CHAIN THAT BINDS SCOUTS AND GUIDES OF ALL NATIONS TOGETHER . WITH GREETINGS FROM OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS AROUND THE WORLD, I ADD THESE ASHES, AND THE FELLOWSHIP THEREIN, TO OUR CAMPFIRE.

Troop 177 first received these ashes when we shared a campfire and helped Troop 39 (Elmer, NJ) with a flag retirement ceremony Saturday April 19<sup>th</sup> 2008. Their Scoutmaster told everyone present that the ashes had been to many scout campfires all around the world. He told us:

The ashes spread into this fire symbolize the memories of past campfires dating back to Brownsea Island in July of 1907, the first Boy Scout Camp. They have been carried to hundreds of scouting campfires in many countries around the world where scouting fellowship is shared.

Attached is a list of the campfires we can verify...

Date	Description	Location
January 16,2010	Cabin Camping Trip & Hike	Ockonickon Scout Reservation PA
October 16, 2009	Rifle Merit Badge weekend	Roosevelt Scout Reservation
September 26, 2009	Gettysburg Trip	Artillery Ridge Campground Gettysburg, PA
September 15, 2009	Fall Court of Honor	St Agnes, Blackwood, NJ
July 31, 2009	Camp-wide Closing Campfire	Resica Falls Scout Reservation, PA
July 30, 2009	Troop Campfire at Summer camp	Resica Falls Scout Reservation, PA
July 18, 2009	Annual Troop Youth Leadership Training weekend	Pine Hill Scout Reservation
June 19, 2009	Troop 177 camping & BATONA hike	Goshen Pond Campground, NJ
June 12, 2009	Pack 177 Pack meeting & Arrow of Light	Pine Hill Scout Reservation
May 30, 2009	Troop 1 Campfire - Wood Badge NE-II-177	Quail Hill SR., Manalapan, NJ
May 22, 2009	St Agnes Parish Festival – Scouting display	St Agnes Church, Blackwood, NJ
July 8, 2008	Cub Scout Pack 177 Pack meeting	Pine Hill Scout Reservation
April 19, 2008	Flag retirement ceremony with Troop 39	Roosevelt Scout Reservation

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