

Thank you, Mr. Hruzek!

(and Mrs. Hruzek, too)

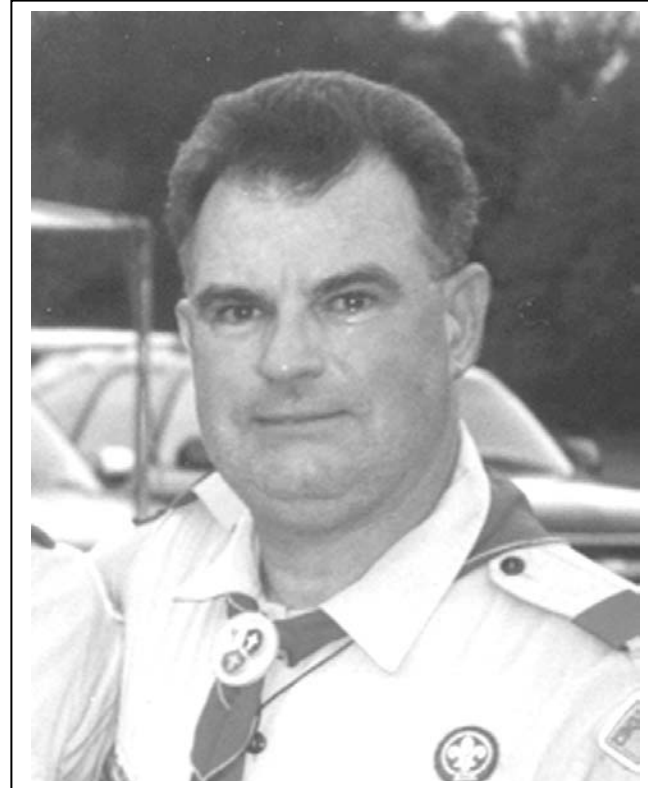
About 17 years ago, when his son Jeremy got involved with Cub Scouts, Gene Hruzek became a trained, active adult leader in Pack 713 and later Troop 713. It was to be a very beneficial relationship!

As Mr. Roo prepares to retire and to operate a family ranch near Houston, our uniformed adult leaders gathered to thank him and Mrs. Hruzek for all they have done for Scouting. Mr. Hruzek was a Cubmaster for 713 for nine years and has been an Assistant Scoutmaster for T713 since 1988. Even after his younger son, Jerod, achieved the rank of Eagle and turned 18, Mr. Hruzek has continued to serve the troop as equipment manager and in many other capacities. Over the years he counseled Scouts in rank advancement through Eagle, helping with countless campouts and other troop activities, counseled merit badges and stayed current with his own training. Some of us can remember the first time we sold fertilizer and Mr. Roo's driveway was covered with pallets of bagged product. (We all know why we thanked Mrs. Hruzek, too, for putting up with us all these years.)

Gene Hruzek is well known outside our troop in Scouting, too. He has won both Akela and Polaris Awards, the highest special district awards for people who give generously of their time and talent to the good of Scouting at the Pack and Troop levels, respectively. Mr. Hruzek is Wood Badge trained and has helped train many other adult leaders at formal training sessions over the years.

Three scoutmasters, Mr. Steve Schmidt, Mr. Lloyd Yost and Mr. Leonard Pelky, all expressed their deep appreciation for Mr. Hruzek's hard work, enthusiasm and friendship for so many years. At the gathering to thank Mr. Roo as well as Mrs. Hruzek and the spouses of other uniformed adult leaders, Mr. Gonzales shared some of his favorite stories about Mr. Hruzek. Because of the statute of limitations and other concerns, we won't share those stories here. The leaders presented the Hruzeks with desktop mementos of the troop as well as two handsome matching teak rockers where they can relax once in a while and try to recover from all those years of Scouting.

Gifts and simple words will never be enough to express our appreciation for and to Mr. Hruzek. But there were a few tears shed at that gathering last week, and those told some of the true feelings of fondness and thanks we are all experiencing.



A Boy Scout troop can make a good first impression or a bad one with Webelos and the parents at the time that people are choosing a troop to join. There are not a lot of opportunities to make an impression, so the good one or bad one could be the only one that matters.

In the past year, our troop has had opportunities to interact with the Webelos at the campout Webelos Woods, at the weekend adventure to Barksdale Air Force Base and at troop meetings and other activities. Thanks to your friendliness and your good example, we now have committed individuals coming into our troop.

I want to thank everyone for your help in making this favorable impression happen. The new Scouts will continue to enjoy the friendship and good example of Troop 713 Scouts, who know how important that first impression is.

Keith Pesek, Senior Patrol Leader



Scoutmaster's Minute: The leadership within you

Last Scoutmaster minute had to do with time and enjoying the moment; this article is about opportunity. The American Heritage Dictionary defines opportunity as "A favorable or advantageous combination of circumstances; suitable occasion or time. A chance for progress or advancement."

To a tennis player a favorable or advantageous combination of circumstances might be catching his opponent vulnerable and out of position on the court; time is limited and he must make a decision, to use the opportunity in his favor, or allow his opponent time to correct his mistake and gain the opportunity. What would you do?

To a football coach a suitable occasion or time might be the mistake committed by the opposing head coach of not using his last timeout in way to benefit his team. As the coach how would you take advantage of this opportunity?

To a Scout of Troop 713 a chance for progress or advancement may mean finding that merit badge counselor during advancement time, or calling them at home and asking them to be there, since it is you that requires their time.

Or it may mean planning your Eagle project with Mr. Cramer or Mr. Yost. Your advantage is that the Scouters are available to you, but will we always have the experience in leadership we have today. What do think?

Opportunity is yours, you are the leader of your time, only you are responsible for the advantage presented to you, and what you do with it. My responsibility as your Scoutmaster is to bring it to your attention and provide you with the tools you request. If you are in a Scout uniform you are not a spectator, you are a participant, all of you compose the team, and each of you must do your part, as Patrol Leader, Scribe, Historian, Quartermaster, SPL, ASPL, APL, Instructor, or working on rank advancement.

In closing I ask all of you to join me in thanking Mr. Hruzek for his significant contribution to all of us, as Tiger leader, Cubmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, mentor, instructor, equipment manager, Eagle advisor, confidant, and most importantly a friend to all of us in Troop 713. And with that said, did you miss a favorable or advantageous combination of circumstances; suitable occasion or time or... a chance for progress or advancement with Mr. Hruzek?

Leonard Pelky
Scoutmaster

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

To the Scouts of Troop 713:


The clock starts ticking when you join Boy Scouts at age eleven. For some, their time in Scouting will last only a year or two. For those who are very dedicated, perhaps their time will last five to seven years. Although it may not seem like it now, this is a very short span of time in your life. There are just a few dozen campouts, a handful of summer camps, a few award ceremonies, and yes, just a limited number of Dog Shows. There is just a short period of time to provide you with experiences and memories that will truly last the rest of your life. Just ask any adult who was once a Boy Scout himself.

This is important to consider because your leaders really want to provide you with activities that you will enjoy. Your Scoutmaster has made a special effort to collect your comments on how we can make Scouting better for you. Please help out your leaders with your constructive suggestions. No matter how long you stay in Scouting or how far you advance, we want the time you spent with Troop 713 to be time well spent.

Larry Pesek

March – <i>Busy Month!</i>						
	1 Troop Meeting	2	3	4	5 Catholic Retreat @ Camp James Ray	6
7 → Catholic retreat	8 Spring break	9 Spring break	10 Spring break	11 Spring break Skiing	12 Spring break	13
14 Skiing →	15 Patrol Leaders Council	16	17 Committee meeting	18	19	20 Fort Worth Dog Show
21	22 Troop Meeting	23	24	25 MIS Early Dismissal	26 Spring Camporee MIS no school OA Ordeal	27 Spring camporee
28 Spring Camporee OA Ordeal	29 Troop Meeting (Elections)	30	31			

April – Riders UP!

				1 Summer Camp partial payment due	2	3
4	5 Troop Meeting	6	7	8 Snow day?	9 Good Friday MIS no school	10
11	12 Troop Meeting	13	14	15	16 Weekend outing Mountain Biking	17 →
18 →	19 Patrol Leaders Council	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 Troop Meeting	27	28	29	30	

May – Capping a Great Year

						1 Court of Honor At Camp Burnett
2	3 Troop meeting	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 Troop meeting	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 Patrol Ldrs Cncl	18	19 Committee meeting	20	21	22
23	24 Troop meeting	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June – *Summertime*

		1	2	3	4	5 Remainder of Summer Camp Payment due
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 Adult Ldr Planning Meeting
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

July – *Cavalcade!*

				1	2	3
4 Depart for Philmont Cavalcade	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Return from Philmont	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31