

REGION TEN
WILDERNESS CANOE TRIPS
RECORD OF PADDLE AWARDS

| | |
|--------------|----------------------------------|
| NAME | Kruse, Nick |
| ADDRESS | 112 Forest Road, Davenport, Iowa |
| COUNCIL | Buffalo Bill Area |
| DATE OF TRIP | August 16th to 25th, 1937 |
| GUIDE | John Toren |

| | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| PADDLE AWARDS : DATE | |
| BRONZE | x - 8/25/37 |
| GOLD | |
| SILVER | |

W. N. KRUSE —
112 FOREST ROAD
DAVENPORT, IA.

" LOG "

NORTH WOODS CANOE TRIP

1937

by W. N. K.

TWENTY FIVE TREES, SEEN AND IDENTIFIED ON NORTH WOODS
CANOE TRIP

White Cedar
White Spruce
Black Spruce
Balsam Fir
Jack Pine
White Pine
Norway Pine
Juniper
Tamarack
White Birch
Bog Birch
Green Ash
Mountain Ash

Pussy Willow
Diamond Willow
Prarie Willow
Pin Cherry
Teg Alder
Hazel
Red Osier Dogwood
Kinnikinnic
Mountain Maple
Quaking Aspen
June Berry
Service Berry
Arrow Wood

FIFTEEN PLANTS, SEEN AND IDENTIFIED ON NORTH WOODS
CANOE TRIP

Dwarf Dogwood
Rough Mountain Rice
Large Leaf Aster
Small Leaf Aster
Canadian Wild Strawberry
Blue or Hair Bell
Gooseberry
Wild Raspberry
Thimble Berry
Canadian Blueberry
Arrowleaf
Swamp Five Fingers
Colt's Foot
Canadian Peppermint
Horse's Tail

Cat Tail
Sphagnum Moss
Twin Flower
Labrador Tea
Leather Leaf
Clintonia
Ground Pine(two kinds)
Wild Rose
Lady Fern
Ostrich Fern
Bracken Fern
Liverworts
Sasparrilla
Spirea

Nick Kruse
for Bronze Paddle

" L O Q "

NORTH WOODS CANON TRIP
Wilderness Canoe Trails sponsored by **REGION X, BSA**

Director **Kurt Kurpatrick**

Guide **John Toren**

Local Leader **Kenneth Richards**

Scouter **Hal Yeaton**

Scouts **Jim Winchell**

Bob McIntosh

Jim Hiner III

Ed Dannenfeldt

Jo Drechsler

Larry Hansen

Jack Roth "Junior"

Nick Kruse ()

Dick Browne

MONDAY, AUG. 16, 1937

- 7:00 A.M. The time set for the trip to start
- 8:05 We finally got started from Scout Headquarters, Davenport, after Hal arrived with his car. Nick forgot his camera.
- 10:00 We got a glimpse of the Mississippi River as we went through Dubuque.
- 12:15 P.M. We ate lunch at Calmar in northern Iowa. Kenny allowed us each forty cents to buy what we pleased.
- 3:15 Jim Winchell riding in the back seat of Hal's car smelled smoke. One of the tarpaulins had dropped down over the exhaust pipe and soon flames three feet high were licking around the gas tank.
- 3:30 All the fire was put out including the charred spots on Jo's blankets.
- 4:30 Kenny's car arrived at Forest Lake, Minnesota (above St. Paul) the designated lodging place for the night.
- 5:00 Hal arrived and we bought groceries for supper.
- 6:00 Jo fixed supper on a picnic table near the lake. On these grounds we were to sleep for the night. Others put up tarps and unpacked bedding.
- 6:30 We sat down to eat and were joined by a host of mosquitoes.
- 8:00 One armed mechanical robbers, movies, and drug store Mollies were the evening's entertainment.
- 11:30 We tried to sleep amid droning mosquitoes. We lay in agony telling jokes until 1:00 o'clock.

TUESDAY, AUG. 17, 1937

- 1:00 A.M. Everyone except Jo, Kenny, Dick and Hal gave up trying to sleep. We wandered around the town until daybreak.
- 5:00 We packed our blankets and got ready to leave.
- 7:00 We stopped at Pine City for breakfast. For thirty cents we had a breakfast which didn't come in quite the right order but it tasted good anyhow.
- 10:00 We stopped on the highway above Duluth to look at the Harbor.
- 12:00 We ate a sandwich lunch at Virginia, where we saw some strip iron mines. Also they were holding a V.F.W. parade.

Log - 3

- 2:30 P.M. We arrived at Ely, the last town of any size that we would see for a week.
- 4:00 After driving a bumpy, gravel road for twenty miles we reached Hibbard's Lodge, the last outpost of the wilderness.
- 5:00 We made our beds in a Scout cabin containing thirty-six bunks. Also we were issued packsacks and ponchos.
- 6:00 Our supper in the cabin consisted of potatoes, pickled beets and hamburger steaks.
- 7:00 Jimmy H., Scotty, and Nick practiced casting on the dock and caught the trip's first backlash. Junior, Jim W. and Dick went fishing in a canoe on Moose Lake. Kenny, Jo and Ed patronized a slot machine. Jo won twelve nickels.
- 9:00 Some of the fellows built a campfire near the lodge. Some of the girls staying at Hibbard's joined the boys.
- 10:30 John Toren, the guide, who we first met that afternoon was packing grub for the trip; Mr. Kurkpatrick was helping him.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 18, 1937

- 6:30 A.M. After a very good night we got up in the cold northern air.
- 7:00 Packsacks packed and extra luggage locked in the cars, we took our duffel to the water.
- 8:00 Our breakfast of oatmeal and wheat cakes surely tasted good.
- 8:45 After stowing the canoes, we paddled out a little ways so that we could have our pictures taken. We started John and Hal leading Ed Larry, Kenny and Jo, Scotty, Jimmy, and Nick, Jim, Dick and Junior.
- 9:30 We paddled through Moose and Newfound lakes.
- 10:30 Our first portage was through Ensign River to Ensign Lake.
- 11:30 The first wild animal life seen was a porcupine along the shore of Ensign lake.
- 11:45 This was followed by the sight of a two-year old Black Bear standing about three feet high.
- 12:00 At the end of the portage out of Ensign Lake we ate a lunch of corned beef sandwiches and cherry nectar.

- 12:45 P.M. Starting out on Vera Lake we saw an Eagle's nest. The portage out of Vera Lake was a long one.
- 2:00 We passed through five unnamed lakes and in the last one we had a little trouble finding an outlet.
- 4:00 A breeze came up so instead of helping Johnny and Hal hunt for a portage trail we beached two canoes (the three-man ones) on a sandy point and after finding fresh beaver cuttings and the Beaver House we tried to fish in the inlet.
- 3:00 Johnny found the outlet and we passed through it and had another small portage into Ima Lake.
- 5:30 A wicked breeze was still blowing and the sky was cloudy when we stopped at Pike Island on Ima.
- 6:00 Johnny fixed a very delicious pot full of Mulligan slum which we ate with tea and figs.
- 7:00 We seined for minnows but only got a few before it started to rain. Almost everything got wet including Hiner's and Yeaton's blankets.
- 8:00 Some of those who were too wet to go to bed tried their luck at fishing but noone caught anything.
- 9:00 Junior and Dick were sleeping in Junior's sleeping bag. Jo and Kenny were in the forester's tent; Jimmy H. in the rain. Scotty "dry as a bone" in his patent sleeping bag. Yeaton and Toren under a canoe. Danny, Larry and Nick in the large tent.
- 9:30 It stopped raining.

THURSDAY, AUG. 19, 1937

- 6:30 A.M. All up. Some went fishing. Junior caught about a two-pound wall-eyed pike on a spoon hook.
- 7:00 Breakfast of apricots and figs, oatmeal and bacon. Junior had his fish.
- 8:00 Everybody was drying their wet clothing in the sun.
- 9:00 After changing partners in canoes we started and paddled out of Ima Lake, up the Kashiwi River into Lake Thomas. We made five short portages along the way and saw many beaver dams and houses.
- 10:00 Johnny gave us a short nature lesson, showing us plants and trees for our Bronze Paddle.
- 11:00 On the south east side of Lake Thomas we came to the "Long Long Trail" to Lake Cacabic. The longest portage of the trip 319 rods.

- 12:00 We ate lunch at the end of this portage on Lake Cacabic. It consisted of corned beef sandwich, nectar and a piece of sweet chocolate.
- 1:00 P.M. Paddling through Lake Cacabic and Cacabic River, we made one portage of seven rods into the N.W. end of Alice Lake. We paddled about one-half way down the inlet and turned to the right and entered the lake proper. Richards, Yeaton, Winchell, McIntosh, Brown and Roth were quite a ways behind and didn't see the leading canoes make the turn and kept on down a dead end. They paddled five extra miles and on the way they saw an Eagle soaring above them.
- 2:30 The guide canoe and the others that didn't get lost arrived at Crap Island, the camp site.
- 3:30 The lost six arrived at camp
- 4:00 Johnny had said that off this island fishing was very good so we all went fishing. Hiner and Kruse luckily ran into a school of minnows with the sein. Junior caught the first fish, a 4½ pound walleye, then Kenny and Hal caught smaller ones.
- 5:15 We ate an early supper of macaroni and cheese, apples, tea and cucumbers.
- 5:45 Everybody went fishing again. The catch was fair. Hiner three but he had to pay for them by falling into the water three times during the day and getting all his clothes wet each time. Junior three, Brown three including a six pound wall eye. Johnny fishing from a canoe with only hook and line with a minnow for bait caught five only two were too small. Danny caught three only the biggest one which had a head as big as Winchell's got away with "hook, line and sinker" as he was dragging it into the canoe. Scotty caught one but he said it was the prettiest. Hal caught four. Nick caught one but it got away.
- 9:00 After fishing steadily for five hours, eight of the fish were steaked, rolled in cornmeal and fried in fat. Everyone thought that they were perfect. Everybody went to bed but Johnny and Dick who sat by the fire and "shot the bull". It looked like rain but it didn't.

FRIDAY, AUG. 20, 1937

- We stayed over at Crap Island for one day.
- 7:00 A.M. All up and almost everyone took an early dip.
- 8:00 Breakfast: prunes, pancakes and the fish that weren't eaten the night before. Everything tasted good.

Log - 6

- 9:00 By this time everybody was fishing again. It was all cloudy and so we all put our duffel high and dry before we started.
- 10:00 Brown caught another four-lb. Pike and Kruse landed a two-pound Pickerel. Jo saw a beaver over on the shore near the Island and Brown found some diamond willow.
- 11:30 We packed lunch and paddled east across Alice Lake to Kawishwi River to see some Indian Paintings on the rocks. Dannendeldt, Hansen and Drechsler rigged a canoe with mast and yardarm. Using two ponchos pinned together for a sail they sailed before the wind across the lake faster than the others could paddle.
- 12:50 P.M. We found the paintings after making two portages. The paintings were red and we could make out an elephant, a canoe, a war canoe, a man lying down and another which seemed like a Chinese pagoda.
- 1:00 We ate a lunch near by of ham sandwich, nectar and lemon drops.
- 1:30 John took us on a nature hike so that we would be able to pass the Bronze Paddle requirement.
- 3:00 We left the paintings for camp.
- 4:00 Arriving at the Island fishing was again taken up.
- 5:50 We had an early supper of salt pork and beans, cabbage slaw, rice pudding and cocoa so that those who wanted to or had tackle could go fishing. The minnows were scarce so frogs were the principal bait.
- 7:00 Junior caught another four-pound Pike and Yeaton caught a small one.
- 9:00 Campfire and songs.
- 10:00 All to bed.

SATURDAY, AUG. 21, 1937

- 6:30 A.M. All up to get ready to leave Alice Lake.
- 7:30 Breakfast of fish, oatmeal, apricots and bacon.
- 8:00 Camp clean up.
- 9:20 We left Alice lake on the Kawishwi River, portaging into Insular and Kiama Lakes.

Log - 7

- 12:00 Noon After the portage from Lake Kiana to Lake Thomas we ate lunch. Corned beef on rye krisp, nectar and chocolate.
- 1:00 P.M. We paddled onto Thomas Lake from a different side than we had when we crossed it before. We met two canoes on the lake and the persons were lake trout fishing. One had just caught a three-pounder.
- 2:00 At the north end to Thomas Lake we had a little trouble finding our way into Fraser.
- 2:30 We paddled through Fraser and found the portage trail hidden behind an island with a cabin on it.
- 3:00 We made five portages - four small Lakes before we came to Kakekabic Lake. This part of the trip was the most strenuous but also the most beautiful.
- 5:00 We stopped on Kettle Isle on Lake Kakekabic. We stayed there for the night.
- 5:30 Kenny got two beautiful hornet stings, one was on his left hand. He had to go to bed early because it was terribly swollen.
- 6:00 Jo got sick on his own corn cob pipe and so he threw it into the lake.
- 6:30 Supper of mulligan, apples and tea set all spirits high.
- 7:30 Junior, John and Jo went Lake trout fishing but they returned empty handed.
- 9:00 After a pot of John's hot cocoa we all went to bed pretty well tired out.

SUNDAY, AUG. 22, 1937

- 8:30 A.M. All up to find John had all the pancakes made and breakfast ready. Kenny's hand was now swollen on both sides.
- 9:00 Breakfast of pancakes, syrup, bacon and coffee.
- 10:30 We pulled stakes and went west on Lake Kakekabic.
- 11:00 We portaged to Pickerel, Spoon, Patsy and Knife Lakes.
- 11:30 Hiner and Yeaton were behind. Jo, Larry and Junior second to last. Nick and Scotty kept slowest and the others were far ahead.
- 12:00 noon we all got to Minnee Point on Knife Lake after 5 miles of paddling. This site is in Canada.

- 12:30 We ate lunch here of corned beef and onion on rye krisp and nectar.
- 1:30 The minnows off this point were large in both size and numbers so we fished for them, not with the sein but with hook and line - rather a small hook and thread with pork rind for bait. We caught some as big as 6-in. long.
- 2:30 We all went out to take the test on the trees and plants we had learned - requirement for Bronze Paddle.
- 4:00 Everyone passed with Johnny's o.k.
- 4:30 We caught a whole bucket full of minnows for Pike bait but no one could catch any pike.
- 6:00 Supper of macaroni and cheese, tea, and rice pudding.
- 7:00 Hal, Kenny and Nick went fishing with the minnows - they caught two snags but one of them got away - the other is still hooked.
- 9:30 John, Junior, Kenny, Dick and Jo were still playing poker.

MONDAY, AUG. 23, 1937

- 6:00 A.M. John got up to mix pancake batter.
- 7:00 Dick and Nick got up to K.P.
- 7:30 Others up to swim and eat pancakes, bacon and coffee.
- 9:00 We saw some more minnows off the point and some large black bass below. Dick and Kenny quickly started fishing but they got fooled. Dick caught a four-pound pickerel.
- 10:00 We shoved off for Hibbard's Lodge, paddling out of Knife Lake and into Knife River. Four short portages in Knife River to Birch Lake.
- 12:30 We had a lunch of corned beef (one can and no rye krisp) two pieces of chocolate and nectar without sugar.
- 3:00 P.M. We paddled through Birch, Newfoundland, and Moose Lakes against a head wind making 18 miles in 5 hours. Just before we got to Hibbard's Lodge two canoes with Larry, Jo, Jim, Kenny, and Ed picked up Patsy and Lorraine on the island below the lodge. Mr. Kurpatrick also came out to meet us.
- 3:30 We made our last portage up the trail to the scout cabin.
- 4:00 Mr. Kurpatrick gave us each a 1/4 lb. bar of Baker's sweet chocolate.

Log - 9

- 5:00 We decided to leave right away and sleep somewhere between Ely and Little Marais, thus saving us \$18.
- 6:00 We arrived at Ely after an awfully bumpy ride on empty stomachs.
- 6:30 After malted milks and candy we decided to drive on to a tourist camp twelve miles out of Ely on the road through the Superior National Forest.
- 8:00 Hal's car arrived at the tourist camp to find that the other group hadn't yet arrived, so Hal, Scotty and Nick drove back to Ely to try and find them. They didn't.
- 10:00 The boys at the tourist camp couldn't sleep for mosquitoes so we decided to pack up and drive on because some of our blankets were in the other car.

TUESDAY, AUG. 24, 1937

- 12:10 A.M. We tried to stop along the way on a high spot to sleep but the enemy were too numerous. So on and off stopped along the road to sleep when we got too sleepy to drive.
- 5:00 It just started to get light so we drove on to Finland where we found Kenny and the others sleeping in the Studebaker. They had driven to Finland the night before and stayed there all night.
- 5:30 We got to Little Marais just in time to see the sun rise out of Lake Superior. It was the most beautiful sight imaginable.
- 6:30 The two cars got together again at Schroeder for breakfast but none of the stores were open. So we drove on to Grand Marais.
- 8:00 We had a good 25¢ breakfast in a hotel in Grand Marais. After breakfast we were inspecting a log boom on the lake. Junior tried to walk on the logs and fell into knee deep water.
- 9:00 Hal stopped along Lake Superior so that some of those in his car could take a bath and swim. The water was icy cold, in fact too cold for Junior, Hal and Jim W. Nick, Jimmy and Scotty swam.
- 9:30 Richards arrived at Pidgeon River and went across the bridge to wait for Hal.
- 10:00 We all met at the Canadian Customs office and drove to Ft. William.
- 12:00 noon We had bought all that we wanted to or had money for in Ft. William and drove to the largest grain elevator in the world at Port Arthur.

- 1:30 After being showed through the elevator (particulars can be had on request from Hal Yeaton) we drove to Kakebicka Falls about fifteen miles from Port Arthur.
- 2:00 At the falls we ate a lunch of the things Kurt had given us. Bread, butter, ham and nectar.
- 5:30 We arrived again at Pidgeon River and after being checked we started down along the lake for Duluth. Kenny went first and Hal bought gas and the attendant wouldn't honor his credit card. There was Hal stuck on the Canadian border with a tankful of gas and no money except 70¢. The man had to take Hal's personal check.
- 9:00 Kenny and passengers stopped at a "joint" just outside of Duluth for supper and were cussed by the manager when they ran out eating or paying for what they had ordered. Later they stopped for sandwiches.
- 9:30 Hal stopped his car in Duluth. All had malted milks except Jim H. and Junior who had spent their money in Canada. Jim W. brought ice cream cones to them in the car.
- 10:00 Hal, Scotty, and Nick got into a lengthy discussion about religion, Trinity, and the Holy Ghost to pass the time away.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 25, 1937

- 12:30 A.M. We all arrived at Sandstone for the night. Hal, Jim W., and Nick had a full course dinner; Scotty had hamburgers, Junior and Jim H. had malted milks and sandwiches.
- 1:30 We were all allowed to sleep in the railroad depot away from mosquitoes.
- 5:30 All up after four hours of solid sleep.
- 6:30 We drove to Pine City for breakfast and ate in the same place where we ate breakfast on Tuesday the week before. Everything o.k. except the orange juice which was canned.
- 10:00 We stopped at Minneapolis so that Dick Brown could see his wife.
- 10:30 We passed through Ft. Snelling in Southern Minneapolis.
- 12:00 We followed the river down passing through Red Wing where we stopped to buy fruit for lunch. Along the road again we ate peaches, plums, bananas, and grapes.
- 3:00 P.M. We had passed Winona and LaCrescent across from LaCrosse and crossed the border into Iowa.
- 6:30 Hal stopped for gas and treated all to "Oh Henrys".
- 7:30 Hal passed Kenny at a filling station while Kenny was buying

Log - 11

8:15

Hal stopped at Scotty's so that we all could telephone before we went down town.

9:00

Kenny arrived at Scout Office, Davenport, thus completing the trip which gave everyone a good time.

FINIS



NICK KRUSE
DAVENPORT IOWA