REGION TEN WILDERNESS CANOE TRIPS RECORD OF PADDLE AWARDS

NAME VIFQUAIN, JOHN

ADDRESS Troop #41, 1505 9th Ave., Belle Plaine, Iowa.

COUNCIL Waubeek Area Council

DATE OF TRIP August 19 - 1943.

GUIDE

PADDLE AWARDS: DATE

BRONZE 9/29/43 - Through Regional Office.

GOLD

SILVER

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September 13, 1943

Mr. Kenneth Bentz Regional Executive, #10 1112 Minnesota Bldg. St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Mr. Bentk:

The enclosed material is from John Vifquain of Troop #41 of Belle Plaine, Iowa. He attended the Wilderness Cance Trip with a group from here, accompanied by a group from Des Moines, Iowa and is submitted the enclosed material as final requirement for his Bronze Paddle Award.

I trust that this information is satisfactory, as he understands that this is all that he needs in order to recieve this award.

Please accept our thanks for affording the boys a wonderful opportunity for advanture at the Wilderness Canoe Trip.

Scout Executive

ERH: de encl.

ST. PAUL, Pain ent 9/29/43

LAKE AGNES

On the morning of August 19, 1943, after leaving the portage between Lake Meadows and Lake Agnes the six canoes in our group started up the lower end of Lake Agnes toward Louisa Falls which is between Lake Agnes and Lake Louisa. During the trip to the falls we did some trolling but without much luck and also the lake was a little rough with cloudy skies for the rest of the day.

At one o'clock we stopped by Louisa Falls and had our lunch which consisted of sandwiches, flavored drink and a square of ration bar. After our meal Dean Williams, Rollo Pickford, and I, who were in our canoe and as we had not seen the falls, went up to see them while the rest of the group started up Lake Agnes. Here at the falls we saw what was known as the "Bath Tub" where the Scouts could take a regular bath in the cold water beneath the falling spray-like water.

Then we three made a triangular sail out of Rollo(s poncho which took a good fifteen minutes to make. Then we pushed off and started up the lake when Rollo said he had forgotten his sheath knife and so we turned around and landed again. I went after the knife while Dean and Rollo waited in the canee. I found the knife and had started back when I saw a porcupine going through some bushes and I quickly called to Dean and Rollo to come and see him before he could make good his escape. Fortunately all three of us saw him very well and all wished we had a camera.

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When we started out again we were about half an hour's paddling from the other five canoes. By this time the lake was rough and we had a lot of fun riding the waves. It was our very good luck that there was a fairly strong wind directly at our backs and so Rello held the sail while Dean and I did the paddling. By the using of the sail and paddling we made supprisingly lot of speeds and in a short time we had caught up with the main group. We used the sail for about eight miles in Lake Agnes with good luck.

While in Lake Agnes and later in the day all of us did some fishing and had some luck. Our guide then picked a camping spot for the night between Lake Agnes and Silence Lake. Then after camping there for the night the group started out on Lake Silence the next day.

John A. Vifquain, Belle Plaine, Iowa. August 27, 1943.





