



Bản tin



Số 80

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5/2020

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Tuân Thủ Nguyên Tắc

Trước hết chúng ta phải hiểu thế nào là nguyên tắc?

Nói một cách phổ quát, nguyên tắc là những điều mà một đoàn thể, một tổ chức, một hội đoàn, một cơ sở, một nhóm gồm nhiều người tập hợp lại để cùng sinh hoạt và theo đuổi một đích chung cần phải có để mọi người chiếu theo đó mà làm việc, sinh hoạt và giao hảo với nhau. Trên phương diện quốc gia, nguyên tắc là những quy định, luật lệ có tính cách cưỡng bách khiến mọi người phải tuân hành để xã hội không bị xáo trộn và guồng máy chính quyền được hoạt động một cách có hiệu quả. Những ai không thi hành các quy định hay luật lệ đã được ban hành đều phải bị chế tài bởi luật pháp nhằm bảo đảm sự an sinh cho xã hội.

Đối với những tổ chức, hội đoàn có tính cách tự nguyện, những nguyên tắc cũng được đặt ra để mọi người theo đó mà thực hiện tiến trình nhằm đến mục đích chung. Những nguyên tắc của những hội đoàn, tổ chức...đôi khi cũng được gọi bằng những tên khác nhau như nội lệ, điều lệ, nội quy...Nói chung, dù gọi bằng một tên nào đi nữa thì nó vẫn là những nguyên tắc cần phải được tuân theo để tiến trình sinh hoạt không bị ngưng trệ. Một cá nhân không tuân thủ các nguyên tắc đã được đặt ra chẳng khác nào một công dân vi phạm luật của chính quyền các cấp. Nhưng sự chế tài của các hội đoàn tổ chức khác với sự chế tài của chính quyền.

Trong hoàn cảnh hiện tại, trước nạn đại dịch tràn lan khắp nơi, việc tuân thủ các nguyên tắc do các cấp chính quyền đưa ra đều phải được tuân thủ. Những nguyên tắc này có thể khác nhau ở nhiều mức độ do hoàn cảnh của từng địa phương, khu vực hoặc do mức độ lây nhiễm hoặc tử vong nhiều hay ít.

Đất nước Hoa Kỳ có thể nói là một đất nước mà quyền tự do cá nhân được tôn trọng triệt để. Do đó, việc một số các nguyên tắc (hoặc quy định) được các cấp chính quyền đưa ra có thể xâm phạm đến quyền tự do của công dân. Nếu xét trên bình diện xã hội, nếu các nguyên tắc không được thi hành một cách triệt để thì không những nó làm tác hại đến sinh hoạt của xã hội cộng đồng mà còn tác hại những cá nhân vi phạm nguyên tắc.

Đối với xã hội, cộng đồng, ngoài việc tuân giữ các nguyên tắc như là một nghĩa vụ, nó còn là một phương cách thể hiện tinh thần tự nguyện, lòng tự trọng và ngay cả cách ứng xử có tính cách đạo đức của con người. Dĩ nhiên, khi tuân thủ các nguyên tắc ấy là mỗi cá nhân đã phải hy sinh một phần nào cái gọi là “tự do” của mình. Nếu người nào cũng tôn thờ chủ nghĩa tự do cá nhân tuyệt đối thì có thể chính những người này phải nhận lãnh những hậu quả tiêu cực về với họ.

Trong thời gian qua, mỗi cá nhân chúng ta đã nhận được những bài học đắt giá về con đại dịch: đó là sự sống còn của cả quốc gia, nhân loại. Vậy thì sinh mạng của các thành viên trong gia đình, trong cộng đồng, trong quốc gia, nhân loại lớn hơn hay là tự do của mỗi cá nhân lớn hơn? Hỏi tức là trả lời.

Là thành viên của cộng đồng xã hội, tập thể Hướng Đạo không là ngoại lệ. Chúng ta tuân thủ các nguyên tắc trong mùa đại dịch cũng là một cách để thể hiện tinh thần Hướng Đạo, trong đó điều luật thứ 7 ghi rõ: Hướng Đạo Sinh trọng kỷ luật.

Tạp ghi phụ huynh...

Một chút tâm sự, một chút kỷ niệm, một chút cho những ai.....muốn có một chút gì để nhớ, để suy ngẫm...nghĩ.

Trong cuộc sống, hễ ai được chứng kiến một chuyện gì đó có thể chỉ xảy ra một lần trong đời thì cảm thấy “đã” lắm. Nhớ lần, còn ở Chicago, khi Michael Jordan cùng Chicago Bulls đoạt “Three Pieces” lần thứ hai; hay mới năm ngoái Tiger Woods đoạt Green Jacket lần thứ năm, hai chuyện này hiếm khi xảy ra, ôi sao mà nó “đã”! Nhưng năm nay, lần này thì không. Phải chứng kiến một sự kiện quá hy hữu, đại dịch Corona, thật sự làm người ta choáng váng chứ không “đã” chút nào!

Không nói đến chuyện quốc gia đại sự hay quốc kế dân sinh, chỉ những chuyện cá nhân, gia đình, hay những sinh hoạt xã hội nho nhỏ cũng có lắm ưu tư. Cuộc sống thường ngày thay đổi, ngày có vẻ dài ra và chậm lại. Những việc thường ngày hay vội vàng, nay có thể ngưng lại. Có những thứ cả mấy tháng mới mua một lần nay lại phải tìm mua mỗi ngày, nhưng tìm mãi chẳng chỗ nào còn hàng để bán. Phải nói là mình rất lo, lo lắng trong suốt bốn tuần đầu mùa dịch. Chuyện học hành, sinh hoạt của tụi nhóc không biết phải làm sao. Con nhà người ta giỏi thì có bớt học một chút cũng chẳng sao, con mình cũng thường thôi, chẳng giỏi cũng chẳng chăm, đáng ngại lắm.

Rất may chuyện học đã có trường lo, chuyện sinh hoạt Hướng Đạo đã có các Trường lo. Thấy tụi nhóc có bài học online từ trường, tham gia sinh hoạt Hướng Đạo trên mạng. 10 giờ sáng Sunday mỗi tuần, cũng uniform class A, cũng khăn quàng, tuy rằng cái quần pyjama không hợp với áo và khăn lắm, cũng làm an tâm phần nào. Chuyện con coi như tạm xong. Nhưng còn chuyện chơi bóng chuyền của Bố với các phụ huynh trong liên đoàn Chí Linh thì sao đây....nhớ lắm. Nhớ lắm những cái high five khi đánh trái banh quá hay (hay thì không biết có hay hay không, có lẽ hên nhiều hơn hay). Nhớ những lời cầu nhàu khi lỡ trái banh quá dễ. Còn nữa, những lời nhắc nhở sao đứng chỗ đó mà không đứng chỗ này?! Tui nói thiệt, tui mà biết đứng chỗ nào cho đúng thì tui đã vô đội tuyển Mỹ đi dự Olympic lâu rồi. Oh, và còn cả những lời mời, rủ rê vô đội. Chẳng phải mình chơi quá hay, chẳng qua là cần thêm một người “điền vào chỗ trống cho hợp nghĩa”.

Từ khi cho hai nhóc con tham gia Hướng Đạo với LDCL, mình chưa mất một lần trại nào. Chỉ năm ngoái trại Catalina Island thì không được tham dự vì phụ huynh không được đi theo. Lần đó tụi nhóc đi nguyên một tuần, nhớ quá đi mất, đứng ngồi không yên, cứ mong hình của các Trường gọi lên Viber hay Facebook. “Có con mới biết lòng Bố, Mẹ”, hỏi trước cứ đòi đi học xa, đi tiểu bang khác để tự lập, có biết đâu Bố Mẹ lo lắng, có lẽ trong mắt Bố Mẹ bao giờ cũng mình cũng nhỏ bé. Trong tất cả các trại, trại hè là đông nhất. Đoàn sinh và phụ huynh đều đông. Đoàn sinh chia ra từng

nhóm nhỏ, trong một nhóm có đủ Thanh, Thiếu, và Ấu cùng nhau chơi trò chơi lớn. Mình chỉ được đứng từ xa nhìn, thấy các em tự nấu ăn, học hỏi, vui chơi làm mình rất muốn biết.....chứng kiến tận mắt các em làm gì, mà muốn vậy thì.....để nghĩ xem, phải đến thật gần mới biết được. Làm sao đây? Đứng ra các Trường không phải là không muốn cho phụ huynh đến thật gần, mà chỉ muốn tụi nhóc được tự nhiên sinh hoạt với bạn của mình, tự học hỏi, tự phán đoán, tự giải quyết những khúc mắc trong cuộc chơi. Còn mình thì cứ phải biết, nhất định phải biết, phải biết rõ mới được. Ahhh..... nghĩ ra rồi, mình có cái máy chụp hình, nhìn cũng tạm tạm, cái của mình nó chẳng to và dài như của các anh phó nhòm khác, nhưng cũng sai được (mà cũng không cần phải sai được, chỉ cần có một cái, lúc đưa lên lúc hạ xuống, lúc đeo lưng lẳng bên mình, nói chung có một cái là tốt). Làm gì thì làm, cứ làm gì thì cũng phải ra dáng một chút cho giống, có lúc đưa máy lên thật cao, nhón chân, nghẹo đầu. Có lúc để máy xuống thật thấp, chụp đi chụp lại cùng một kiểu ra điều đang sáng tác rất hăng say, mà phải làm như vậy thì mới được tự do tác nghiệp. Cuối ngày cũng có vài tấm hình vừa ý cho tụi nhóc có chút kỷ niệm, và mình cũng biết được nhiều điều thú vị khi các em đoàn sinh đang sinh hoạt, những điều thú vị đó xin được giữ lại như một kỷ niệm cho riêng mình. Oops....lộ tẩy. Bây giờ nói đến trại Xuân năm nay. Phải nói lần trại Xuân vừa rồi khí hậu quá tuyệt vời. Sau chương trình làm bánh chung vào buổi trưa và tham dự lửa trại cùng các em đoàn sinh, và đó cũng là hai phần sinh hoạt mà phụ huynh được khuyến khích tham dự, phụ huynh cũng như những lần trại khác lại cùng nhau “ta hát to, hát nhỏ, nhỏ, nhỏ, rồi mình gòì kể chuyện cho nhau nghe....”, cùng lúc tận hưởng món cừu quay với vài ly nước có màu. Ly nước có màu bắt đầu cho những câu chuyện, những lời chọc phá. Có câu chuyện ai cũng hiểu chỉ....vài người không hiểu, mà cũng khó hiểu thật, mình cứ nghĩ ai cũng hiểu nhưng biết đâu lại..... hiểu lắm thì sao. Nhưng mà giống lắm, giống như.....“Tình trong như đã, mặt ngoài còn e” vậy. Mà giống vậy mới có chuyện để cục gạch giữ chỗ chờ đến phiên mình. Chờ, chờ mãi, dùng đủ mọi cách, mà mãi cũng chẳng được tới phiên, bỏ cuộc vậy. Còn, còn nhiều chuyện khác nữa.....nhưng thôi, bây giờ nói chuyện chơi banh đầy kỳ thú. Trại Xuân lần này chơi banh thiệt đã, đội bạn lại có thêm một nữ. Trời ạ, trận đấu trở nên hào hứng, ai cũng thể hiện, show off. Mà hào hứng thế nào thì mấy người chơi mới biết, kể không hết được. Chỉ biết Saturday đội bạn toàn thắng, sáng Sunday đội bạn đại bại. Hai năm liên trại Xuân không tổ chức được vì mưa, năm nay tổ chức được hên quá nhưng các trại khác trong năm.....chưa biết sao đây, đợi vậy. Chắc là lâu, thôi cũng ráng. Hẹn gặp lại một ngày không xa. Mong lắm.

Quân Trịnh

Nhật Ký Liên Đoàn:

Trại Liên Đoàn:

Cuối tuần 25-27/10/2019, liên đoàn tổ chức kỳ trại liên đoàn tại Lake Perris, vì vào dịp cuối tháng, chủ đề trại là Halloween nên từ phụ huynh đến đoàn sinh đều hóa trang.

Trong kỳ trại có 1 thanh sinh, 14 Thiếu sinh nam nữ tuyên hứa



Lễ trao Đẳng thứ và Tiệc Giáng Sinh Liên đoàn:

Ngày 13 tháng 12, 2019, buổi lễ trao đẳng thứ của liên đoàn được thực hiện tại nhà hàng Mon Amour vào lúc 6 giờ chiều với 4 thiếu nữ nhận Silver Award gồm có: Anneliese Duong, Angela Nguyen, Katelyn Nguyen, and Megan Tuong, tiếp đến 2 Thanh nữ nhận Girl Scout Gold Award là Michelle



Nguyen và Julia Truong, cuối cùng 2 Thanh sinh Ethan Vien và Winston Nguyen nhận BSA Eagle Scout.

Sau phần nghi thức trao đẳng thứ, liên đoàn nối tiếp với dạ tiệc Giáng sinh. Đây là tập tục hàng



năm mà liên đoàn thường tổ chức để trao đổi quà giữa các em, bày tỏ sự yểm trợ của phụ huynh từ ban huynh trưởng và nhận sự tri ân ân cần của phụ huynh đối với ban huynh trưởng liên đoàn



Trại Huy Hiệu Rừng Tùng Nguyên IX:

Nhằm trang bị cho các huynh trưởng có thêm kiến thức trong sinh hoạt, Ủy Ban Quốc Gia Hướng Đạo Góc Việt thuộc BSA đã tổ chức một khóa Huy Hiệu Rừng mang tên Tùng Nguyên IX, khóa huy hiệu này đã tổ chức tại Camp Clark Cloverdale thuộc tiểu bang Oregon từ ngày 16 tháng 6 đến ngày 22 tháng 6 năm 2019.

Ngoài một số trưởng phục vụ trong toán huấn luyện, Tráng sinh Tommy Nguyễn đã ghi danh tham dự



Friend of Scouting:

Hàng năm, Đạo El-Capitan đều cử đại diện đến liên đoàn để trình bày về chương trình đóng góp giúp cho văn phòng có thêm ngân sách hoạt động, liên đoàn hưởng ứng lời kêu gọi trên, quyên góp đặc biệt các phụ huynh tham dự buổi họp đầu tháng 11 được \$226.00 cùng với quỹ phụ huynh đóng góp \$500.00, tổng cộng liên đoàn đóng góp cho Châu Orange County qua Đạo El Capitan là \$726.00.

Gây quỹ :

Công tác gây quỹ của Liên đoàn vẫn xúc tiến đều nhằm góp cho sinh hoạt của các em có thêm điều kiện tham dự, quỹ được gọi là Quỹ dành cho các kỳ trại lớn :

- Vào dịp Tết Trung Thu hàng năm, liên đoàn đã cộng tác với đài Little Saigon TV để trông coi gian hàng trò chơi cho các thiếu nhi, được Đài tài trợ vào quỹ của Liên đoàn, năm nay, quỹ nhận được sự tài trợ là \$700.00
- Đầu tháng 10 vừa qua, ban ẩm thực của Ban phụ huynh đã thực hiện cơm đầu tháng thu được \$745.00 cùng với Cà phê hằng tuần với Chả Cá thêm \$122.00 tổng cộng thu được \$867.00
- Sang đầu tháng 11, vì vừa mới đi trại về, cơm đầu tháng không thực hiện kịp, ban phụ huynh kêu gọi sự đóng góp của phụ huynh thực hiện các thức ăn như Xôi vò, xôi mặn, chè...thu được \$633.00 cùng với cà phê, chả cá và lạp xưởng thêm \$290.00, tổng cộng thu được \$923.00. Rất cảm ơn quý phụ huynh vừa không nhận lại tiền vốn, vừa ủng hộ.



- Công tác đổi phiếu chợ vẫn được Anh Nhạc (Cựu Trưởng Ban phụ Huynh Liên đoàn) luôn yêu cầu phụ huynh yểm trợ, tính từ cuối năm 2018 cho đến hết năm 2019, số tiền thu được là \$1,715.00

• Nấu bánh chưng là công tác hàng năm của ban phụ huynh liên đoàn, năm nay số lượng được gia tăng nhưng công tác và thời gian giới hạn, được sự yểm trợ tích cực của phụ huynh và thân hữu, kết quả được ghi nhận như sau: Chi phí bao gồm tiền gas, chi tiêu vật dụng, điện nước, chiếu dãi là \$3,173.00, số tiền thu từ 276 bánh tét, 6,060 bánh chưng lớn, 2,025 bánh chưng nhỏ, 80 lạp xưởng và yểm trợ của anh chị Vân Chiến, anh Tiến là \$8,601, như vậy trừ chi phí chúng ta thu được \$5,428.00; liên đoàn không quên cảm ơn sự đóng góp thức ăn cho những ngày thực hiện gói bánh của anh Dũng(John), chị Lan-Hữu, Chị Minh Thu , chị Lua và chủ nhà Mai-Lễ và nhiều phụ huynh khác...



Trại Xuân Liên Đoàn:

Vào đầu tháng 3, 2020, liên đoàn thực hiện trại Xuân hàng năm, trong 2 năm vừa qua (2018,2019) vì thời tiết mưa gió nên cả 2 năm liền trại Xuân liên đoàn bị hủy bỏ, trong năm nay, thời tiết được dự báo không thuận tiện, tuy nhiên, giờ chót, Ban Huynh Trưởng liên đoàn vẫn quyết định tiến hành, rất tiếc nhiều phụ huynh lo ngại nên đã không có sự tham dự đông đủ, mặc dù thời tiết tại trại rất tốt, trại vẫn tiến hành tốt đẹp, Ban huynh Trưởng phải bù vào trại phí cho việc thuê bao đất trại, buổi tế lễ đầu năm sáng chủ nhật thật trang trọng và các Trưởng đã trình bày buổi lễ cũng như nhắc về sự tích bánh dày bánh chưng cho các em biết về cội nguồn.



Liên đoàn tạm ngưng sinh hoạt:

Vì đại dịch mang tính toàn cầu, theo khuyến cáo của chính phủ liên bang cũng như tiểu bang, mọi sinh hoạt gặp gỡ đông người được yêu cầu đình chỉ, chủ nhật ngày 15 tháng 3, liên đoàn sinh hoạt cuối để giải thích đến đoàn sinh cũng như phụ huynh vì trại địa dịch Covid-19 và liên đoàn tạm ngưng mọi sinh hoạt gặp gỡ chung cho tới khi có thông báo của Ban Huynh Trưởng liên đoàn.

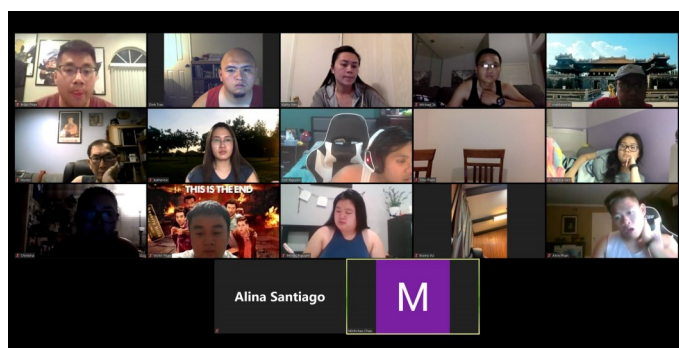
Để các em có thể tiếp tục chương trình đẳng thứ của mình, ban huynh trưởng đã phân chia các em thành từng nhóm dựa trên đẳng thứ của các em, mỗi nhóm được ít nhất một trưởng và tráng sinh phụ trách bắt đầu từ sáng chủ nhật 19 tháng 4 qua hệ thống truyền thông mạng giúp các em thực hiện các chương trình thăng tiến của mỗi em.



Trưởng holiday party 2019



TBC 2019



Trung Thu 2019

Happy Mother'day

**Ngó lên ngó xuống thì vui
Ngó về quê mẹ ngùi ngùi nhớ thương**

Winter Retreat...

Leonard Huynh

On December 27th, 2019, there was a winter retreat for members of Crew. It took a couple hours for my father to drive me to the place where winter retreat was being held. Once we got there, I saw some Crew members getting their stuff out of their vehicles and getting ready to go put their belongings inside the cabins that were there. There were four cabins that were split between males and females. It was nice knowing that we can sleep inside cabins with actual beds instead of a cold tent on the floor. There was a separate main building for both genders to be in and interact. Inside the building was a pool table, mini basketball hoops, large Connect 4, and other recreational items. Many snacks and drinks were provided for us whenever we felt like eating. During the first night, I stayed up really late with a few other members of Crew. We played a lot of pool because it was fun to play.

The next morning was really cold even though I had a few layers. I looked outside and I saw ice along the wooden floor. At ten o'clock, anyone who wanted to see the animals came outside. We checked out all the animals and it was nice except the unpleasant smells were not so nice. Once we came back, we just started doing the activities that were available. At night, the leaders and Key 3 prepared tacos with elote for dinner. I ate a lot of the elote because it was good. After dinner, we had to clean everything up and prepare for white elephant. During white elephant, there was a lot of stealing and funny betrayals. Finally, everyone gathered around to play a game of mafia. The game lasted a while, but in the end, I won the game with a few others because we found out who the last mafia was. The next morning, we woke up and had to clean everything up in order to get ready to go home. We reorganized everything and got all our belongings. In the end, I was really tired and was happy to go back home, but winter retreat was a fun experience.



Denny Tran

My name is Denny Tran, and this was my Winter Retreat experience. Once I arrived at Celebrity Ranch, the temperature was freezing. Ice was on the walkway and the air was so cold you could see yourself breathe. After we moved all of our items into the cabins, it warmed up pretty quickly. The bunk beds weren't as bad as I thought. They were actually pretty comfortable and I could actually fall asleep on them really quickly. Soon after unloading all my baggings, I headed to the Game/Main Room. As soon as I walked in it felt really warm and had a friendly environment feeling to it. There was a basketball area, pool, a board game area and a food area with chips and drinks. There were some people sleeping. I didn't even know where to start. I headed over to the basketball area with Thien and it kept us entertained for a while. Soon after, we headed over to the pool area to play a best of 3 match. I won 1 and he won 2. I still had a lot of fun and it was mostly a friendly competition. Afterwards Thien left to go with his other friends and I went along with Ethan to play another match of pool. That night I stayed up until 5am Saturday morning, but around 4 am Ethan was getting drowsy and was getting sleepy on the couch. I told him to go to the bunkhouse and to sleep there. I refused and left him to rest peacefully. I made 2 good friends shortly afterwards named Hannah and Leo. We sat and chatted for a long time. Key 3 called us out to do some night activities such as hide and seek and sharks and minnows. It was a lot of fun. I soon got tired and said Goodnight to

Leo and Hannah. I headed towards the bunkhouse, got my toothbrush, toothpaste and went to brush my teeth. After I was done, I went to get some rest. The morning I woke up, breakfast was being served and I grabbed a yogurt. We went back inside, I played some more pool, basketball and helped myself to some chips. I soon started a match of monopoly with Ethan and I got obliterated. Soon Troung Dinh Joined and I decided to spectate the match and take note of how to play professionally. In the middle of the match, we were called out to lunch. Lunch was a chicken alfredo with broccoli. It was really good but it would've been better if my bowl was warm, so it wasn't their fault. Key 3 and the officers were all very nice throughout this trip. My favorite part of Winter Retreat was playing mafia. It was really thrilling to catch the mafia. Especially the last match with Tina being the last mafia and the civilians almost losing. I will definitely come back to Winter Retreat whenever I can. The trip was very fun and I made a lot of new friends.

Nhi Vu

For the past four years that I have been a scout, I've been to many camps but Winter Retreat was totally a first. If I could summarize the whole camp in one word, I would choose "Chill". For the most part of camp, it was very relaxing and cozy since most of our activities were inside the main house.

At camp, I was able to do things that I've never been able to in my whole life. For example, feeding animals in a real farm, sitting on hay and being driven around the whole farm, having cup noodles for breakfast, and playing board games all day. It was so exciting to sleep inside cabins because the last time Thieu decided to have a camp where we were supposed to be in cabins, it was canceled.

Throughout the whole camp, I tried my best to reach out and make new friends. The result from this challenge is me gaining a few more friendships with people that I would never have expected. I was also able to reconnect some bridges between a few friendships that were forgotten because we weren't

friendships that were forgotten because we weren't talking for a while. I think the games that we played during team competition after lunch was the best opportunity to get to know other people that's not in your team. In addition, Winter Retreat allows me to see a different side of our Truongs. I admire the bond that they have towards one another and how comfortable they could be next to each other.

In the end, I regretted not being able to make it on Friday night because it seems like I missed out some fun. But I'm really looking forward to attending more Winter Retreat camps in the future for the rest of my time in Crew. In my opinion, the camp is a great opportunity to grow a few bonds and get closer to other Crew members beside your team before TBC.



Katherine Le

It was my first time going to Winter Retreat along with other crewbies and I did not know what to expect. The trip was incredibly long and tedious but the trip was fun since I went with other crewbies. One thing we really struggled with was finding where Celebrity Ranch was and everything was dark and quiet so we were lost. We got there and I headed to the recreation room and it looked really cool despite being small. It was really cold so I was lucky to bring many layers. There was no curfew and so much freedom and so much junk food. I was there in the recreation room for such a long time and being in there with everyone else gave me such a comfortable feeling because I was surrounded by friends and others I knew. We did night games and those were also really fun, it was a lot different than

before. On Saturday, we ate then headed into the recreation center once again and I played pool many times, but I never got tired of it. We did programs and I definitely got closer with some of the rovers and Tr. Brian. I think one of the most memorable things of Winter Retreat was the positive notes that I received. One of the activities that we did was that we had to write on each other's backs, that really made my night since I received many compliments. I was dreading going home. Sunday we had to start packing and our team won third place in the programs. We received our stockings and went home. I really loved the stockings idea because people took the time to write me notes. These notes that I received were very different from each other. I definitely gained some type of confidence from it. To conclude, Winter Retreat was so fun and it was more like a social with crew and I really miss being in Winter Retreat. I guess that is something to look forward to in 2020.

Hannah Nguyen

This year is my first year attending Winter Retreat. I don't know what I was expecting but it was definitely not how I would've imagined Winter Retreat to be. I got there on Friday night, put my stuff in the cabins, and just went to the main room. When I entered it felt so nice because it was freezing outside and inside just had such a cozy, homely feeling. I hung with the Crewbies and some of the older crew members, and we played Uno. Although I did know that there was no time limit for that night, I didn't expect that I would actually pull an all-nighter. This was also the first time I've played pool as well. Little did I know, I would get addicted to playing it.

One of the things I liked most about this camp was being able to bond with people who I don't usually talk to. For example, when we played games, my team consisted of Chris, Mike, Andrew, Heather, Justina, and Tr. Christina. Our team was called "Andrew's Conveyer Belt." I never really talked to any of them except Heather, but we all had so much fun during games and bonded so much. I always thought of them as very mature, but

after spending some time with them, I realized that they were also really fun and crazy just like the rest of us. At the end of the games, our team won 2nd place, which was surprising since we went super crazy with all the tasks we were supposed to accomplish.

The food was also really good. I'm really thankful to the officers for making us food and providing us so many snacks. After dinner was White Elephant, and I did not bring a gift along with 2 other people, Steven and Justin. We had to go clean the kitchen and honestly, it was not as bad. They are both my team members, so we got to bond through cleaning. It was another experience in this camp. We talked a lot while cleaning, which led us to know more about each other, making the cleaning experience not that bad. I am actually grateful we had this chance to become closer. We also went to the animals Saturday morning. We got to feed them, and I was so scared of them after hearing how they can chomp off our fingers. Truong Dinh saw that I was scared and gave me more animal crackers. He said that they were more scared of me than I am of them, and that they can sense fear. Since I didn't want them to be scared, I tried to not be scared myself, and fed them. It was actually really nice to be able to feed them. It's not an everyday thing to feed the llamas, camels, and other animals like that.

The activity I liked most was the emotional game where we all wrote nice things on each others' papers. It was so amazing to see the others smile at the positive comments they got, myself included. I feel like that game gave a self esteem boost for all of us. When we went back to the cabins, the girls were still reading their papers and I could really see that they were all so happy. Everyone was smiling as we read our papers over and over again. It feels great to know that people see us in a positive way.

Overall, this camp was super amazing, considering it's the first retreat I've been to. It was so much more chill than our regular camps. I really appreciate all the effort that was put into making this one of the best camps ever. The highlight of

this retreat was being able to spend quality time with everyone here, and feeling like part of the family. It is truly wonderful to see everyone in a new, positive aspect.

Charisma Huynh

This year was the first year I got to experience Winter Retreat with Crew. It was really exciting because I heard what we do at Winter Retreat so I was really excited to experience it. I really liked this camp because in Thieu we never had a camp like this, so it was really nice to have a camp with just activities filled with fun and games. I also had a chance to get closer with some new friends which I really liked. Having the time to just chill during the holidays with friends that I am really close with was really nice because my parents are pretty strict so most of my closest friends are in scouts. It was really nice to have a whole weekend without our phones and talk to each other and bond. I also liked how we had bunk beds so it didn't really feel like one of our camps and we could talk to each other all together without leaving anyone out. I think having this every year is a good idea because for me I got the chance to talk to other members other than the crewbies and actually got closer to them. I really liked Winter Retreat because I've never been to any of my friends' sleepovers and this felt like a sleepover so I'm happy that I experienced it with Crew. I also liked the games that we had and played during Winter Retreat because they were really fun and I enjoyed it. I also experienced my first time building a gingerbread house. I also went on a tractor ride for the first time and really enjoyed feeding the animals because I've never fed a camel before. I'm really happy that I went to Winter Retreat because I got to experience many things for the first time during that weekend that I probably wouldn't be able to do with my friends or family until way later on.

Thu Ho

Winter Retreat was definitely an indescribable weekend. It was one in the books. A weekend that I will never forget. First off I arrived at camp, the drive was long and when I got off, it was freezing cold. But although my legs were going numb, I

couldn't help but stare at the beautiful night sky blanketed with stars. After that I was welcomed in the family room by Key 3 and Truong Dinh. The room was warm and cozy. I felt right at home. Me and my friend Charisma dropped off our stuff in the cabin and layered up. I was surprised that a sleeping bag and pillow was provided.

Through the night, my friends started showing up one by one. We talked and gossiped all night. We also played pool which I loved since I needed the practice. After a long night, I dozed off around 3:30 am. The next morning we went to go see the animals. My favorite part of the animal tour was feeding the baby goats. They were so adorable. I would've kept them if I could. After the tour we hung out and chilled in the family room again. I went back to playing pool. We were all pretty exhausted after staying up most of the night.

After lunch, we were split up into teams to play games. Although it was pretty difficult getting through the murder mystery section, my team and I had a lot of fun figuring it out together. After a long day of fun we were served tacos! Gosh it was pretty delicious. After we traded our white elephant gifts and I am happy with what I got. Truong Dinh decided to play Mafia and although I got killed off, watching others play was a blast. Overall, Winter Retreat was a wonderful experience. I bonded with so many people and made so many new friends. I would do it all over again.

Brandon Nguyen

On December 27-29, 2019, I went on the Crew Winter Retreat for the first time as a Crewbie. I ended up injuring my foot right before this camp, so I struggled to believe I would have fun. Nevertheless, all of Key 3 and the Truongs made it very enjoyable. Overall, my experience at this camp was great. I had a fun time spending my weekend with my 2nd family and I genuinely believe that I have gotten much closer to everyone.

My favorite parts of camp were the chilling and free time we were given because I got to play a lot of fun games with friends such as 8 ball, basketball, board games, and etc... I mainly played 8 ball though because it was my first time playing it, and I

had a lot of fun even though I was really bad. I was into the stockings that were put up because it gave us the opportunity to write meaningful messages to others and spread positive vibes. I really liked the countless snacks that were provided because I could snack whenever I felt like it and without my parents yelling at me for eating too much junk food. My least favorite part of Winter Retreat would probably be the games we played which included Murder Mystery, Finish the Lyrics, relays, Gingerbread house making, catwalking, and several more. The reason why this was my least favorite part of Winter Retreat is because my injured foot restrained me from partaking in some of the activities such as the balloon relay race which looked like a lot of fun. I still enjoyed playing the other games and my favorite was probably Murder Mystery because we managed to get first while having fun discovering the mystery. I also really like the Mafia game we play till midnight because Tina played a really good Mafia and made it really funny and in. All in all, I had a really good time at Winter Retreat 2019, and I hope to come to Winter Retreat 2020 and bond with the new Crewbies.

Brian Tran

On the last weekend of December, I had the opportunity to go on a winter retreat with my crew, Crew 299, at Celebrity Ranch. Overall, I'd like to say that the experience was alright. I arrived Friday night with a bus with other people, and right away after establishing the rules, we had the night to ourselves, and it was a blast. There was a table full of junk food and sugary drinks, and with no limits, you could eat to your heart's content, which I did. Free time with people you like was also super fun because I was free to do whatever I wanted, whether it be playing board games or sit and chat. With no curfew that night, the possibilities seemed endless. But sadly my stamina waned and at around 12 A.M. I decided to go to bed. My friend Chris and I went to the cabins and instead of sleeping we talked for two hours, so that did not go as planned. But overall, aside from having trouble sleeping, Friday night was a good night because of the fun and freedom. Satur-

day morning, we woke up to a nice cereal breakfast, and we went to an animal tour, where the animals were quite intimidating, but overall it was a fun experience. Then after lunch, we had the program which was provided our key three. We got assorted into our groups, and honestly the program games were okay, it was fun to watch some of them, but they were not really my cup of tea. After the program ended, we had some free time, then dinner came and we began to play Mafia. Someone cheated the first round so that was lame, but the game after was pretty exciting. The night ended with a little activity where you wrote a cute thing behind a person's back, which was really fun. It was nice to know how people felt about you, and receiving compliments doesn't hurt. Then morning came, we cleaned up and went home. To conclude, Winter Retreat was an experience with its ups and downs but was pretty enjoyable overall.



Thien Vo

This year Winter Retreat was a really enjoyable and memorable experience for me. I spent a lot of time with other crewmates, and got a chance to bond a lot with ones that I didn't know as well. The program was also fun, interesting, and competitive. I made a lot of memories from eating and playing games, wrapping people, building gingerbread houses, mafia, watching animals, playing hide-and-seek, and more. Honestly, even just eating breakfast, lunch, and dinner with others is enough to bond and vibe with each other. This was my first Winter Retreat, so overall I wasn't sure what to expect, but in the end it ended up being an extremely memorable experience.

I can really appreciate the Truongs' and Officers' work and effort to make it so memorable and enjoyable for us. One of my favorite moments was when we played White Elephant, it reminded me of how my family always plays on Christmas, and it immediately made me feel closer to the crew like a biological family. Another favorite memory was playing mafia, it's been a really long time since I was in a good game of mafia. But by far my best memory was the anonymous sign writing, it was nice to get a chance to compliment others on things that you wouldn't always say in real life. It also gave me an idea of what others think of me, and ideas of what people like about me. I also enjoyed sharing it with everybody else, it gave everybody a positive mood and happy atmosphere. I vow to frame the paper onto my wall once I get enough money to frame it. In the end, Winter Retreat became the site for many memories and hopefully more to come.

Justin Nguyen

Winter Retreat was unlike any other camp I've ever attended, both in scouts and other programs. Instead of being sleep deprived while participating in knowledge-based games that required vast skill and effort, I was able to be delirious over junk food and laughter. Over the course of two days, I feel as if I was able to learn something new about nearly everyone in the crew. Games were abundant, exhaustion widespread, snacks and drinks provided in a feast. Through it all, I bonded with my fellow crewbies, was able to see a nicer side of Tr. Dinh that I've never witnessed, and overall had an amazing vibrant time.



What was really nice about Winter Retreat was the privilege of enjoying delicious food that I didn't have to cook myself under a massive time crunch. Our officers did a magnificent job providing for the whole crew and truongs, and for that I am grateful. In addition to that, the effort it took for them to plan and ensure that everyone could have a stress free time was tremendous and I have so much respect for the personal sacrifices they gave to ensure the success of this camp.

A highlight of winter retreat would be playing billiards for the first time. The second I walked into the game room, my eyes saw the open billiard table and I knew I had to try. I had imagined it to be as easy as *Game Pigeon* on the iPhone but I was met with a different reality. Holding the stick was the greatest challenge. Whenever I hit the cue ball, instead of it flying true, it would bounce up, going awry from my intended target. I played in that state for a solid half hour until Andrew came to see the games. He saw my errors and helped me correct it, showing me the proper form of hitting the ball and how to hold the stick correctly. From then on I was no longer an amateur, I had graduated to the level of 8-Ball Novice.

It was towards 3 A.M when I started feeling exhaustion. My eyelids felt like sandbags, my psychology was deteriorating, but I remained awake nonetheless. I had decided to finish the evening off with a series of billiard and card games among my fellow crewbies. We teamed up on the billiards, going toe to toe tournament style. The winner would play the next pair on deck. After winning a match although barely, I moved to the cards. We began playing an intense game of speed. My victories and unstable delirious state spurred me to persist despite my logic telling me to go to sleep. Half an hour later and after a string of defeats, I finally went to bed after losing a card game and ultimately a bet against my fellow friend Heather.

The last night of Winter Retreat was truly heartwarming. The activity Truong Matt and Kathy had planned spread positivity throughout the crew, putting everyone in a calm. Afterward, we played two rounds of mafia. The first round was not as

pleasant as the second. The last night of Winter Retreat was filled with laughter, tension, and lightheartedness. Detectives failing at their jobs, healers getting their guess wrong, mafia killing a civilian each night. What was worse was that our false accusations were leading to the deaths of innocents. It had come down to the last murderer and the circle was tight. I remember waiting in anticipation, luckily the remaining survivors were able to ban together and accuse Tina of her suspicious character.

Following the game came a 15-minute window then curfew. All the boys entered the cabin at 12:45 but we intended to stay as late as we could. We began telling stories, jokes, writing letters to place in the stockings of our fellow crew members. I believe I stayed up till 3 again. Packing up and saying goodbye to this camp was truly sad but what brightens me up is the impending fun I will experience at TBC and the prospect of attending another Winter Retreat.

Heather Nguyen

During the week of December 27-29, the crew hosted a winter retreat for me to attend. Upon arriving at Celebrity Ranch, Key 3 came to welcome me into winter retreat. There, I went to unpack and hang out in the main room. It was Friday night and there was no curfew. It was a fun night to hang out with my friends and everyone. On Friday night, there were night games to play. When finishing with the night games, the crew returned to the main room. There were many board games and activities to do with everyone in the crew. There was a moment where I learned how to play chess. It was a new experience and it was fun to play. I grew a closer bond with everyone who helped me learn how to play. There were also moments where I didn't play games, but rather had conversations with people. On Friday night was when my friendships grew with the people in the crew.

When Saturday arrived, there was a hayride starting at 10 o'clock. During the tour, the guide allowed us to feed the animals. It was a different, scary experience to have. The first animal to feed was the goats. When feeding them, they licked my

hand which I gave a weird reaction to. My favorite animal to feed was a camel. The feeling was weird, but the way they ate made me laugh. After visiting and feeding the animals, the hayride then began. The ride was fun and the conversations made were very amusing. After the hayride, the group returned to the main room and did more activities. Then, the program began for the crew to participate in. Everyone in the crew was divided and put into a team. My team was called Andrew's Conveyor Belt. The activities played were enjoyable and my group had a fun time. The most memorable activities were the wrapping paper fashion show and making the gingerbread house. The conversations I had in order to complete the challenge were enjoyable. Creating a backstory for both activities was funny and created many memories. The overall program was fun to participate in and I enjoyed the bond I created with the people in my team. After the program, the crew cleaned up and had a relaxing period.

Near the end of Saturday night, we played white elephant. With white elephant, it was exciting to see the gifts given and see how people sold each gift. Close to the end of our curfew, there was an activity where everyone wrote something behind each other's back. It was funny to see a line form behind people when we wrote messages to people. It was interesting when we all gathered and shared what the people wrote about us. The experience brought the crew closer to one another and gave thought to who each person was. On Sunday morning, winter retreat was over. Everyone packed up, winners were announced for the program, and people took photos. Winter retreat was a funny and memorable experience I hope I can take part in again.



Boy Scout Camping Experience

Kien Le

I am writing this letter to share my thoughts and reflections on last weekend's camp, which was also my first. My first camp taught me so much about surviving in the wilderness and helped me make new friends. I had a lot of fun doing pretty much everything, apart from the chilling weather. The most important part of this camp was earning my "Tuyen Hua". I have learned all my laws and oath thoroughly in Vietnamese and English. Therefore I passed and earned my "Tuyen Hua" patch and a new neckerchief. Earning my "Tuyen Hua", I now feel like I'm part of a brand new family that I can rely on and trust. My father passed away when I was only three years old and the past 11 years has been tough for my family. Since I don't have a dad, I'm the man of the house and is expected to help my mom and sisters out. I want my dad and mom to be proud of me when I become a United States Air Force Pilot. I promise to give my best work to Boy Scouts of America throughout the following years while I am in Boy Scouts or not. Now since I have my "Tuyen Hua", I will now work on getting merit badges to up my rank and become a Patrol Leader. Although I don't have much more than a year, I will make the most out of it because I joined scouts late. Ever since I became a scout, I have learned so so much and I am looking forward to learning more about in general becoming a great civilian and good samaritan. I want to become more prepared for what is to come in my young years and live life to the fullest.

Thomas Trinh
Patrol: Doi Gau

I was about to get my neckerchief this camp, and I knew I was going to do good. I knew all my laws, oath, and everything else to get my neckerchief. When I took one step to the campsite I had to unload all my stuff into my tent and get ready for the program. After the program, my

scout leader told all the people that were going to get the neckerchief. My scout leader made sure that everyone knew what to say, so she tested all of us. I obviously knew what to say already because it was my second time trying to earn my neckerchief. After talking for a while to my scout leader and having everything perfect, at 10:00pm. I had to say 2 laws. Law number 3 and law number 9. After that we went to bed and I got ready for the next morning. I woke up at 5:00am the next morning and put on my scout clothes. I was finally I was called out to recite my oath. After that I received my neckerchief and I was so happy. I could finally salute the flag and I could do many other things too. This camp has been the best camp of my life. I had so much fun cooking, doing activities, and getting my tuyen hua, but the saddest part was to see my PL and members go to Thanh. I had fun with them at meetings but eventually I will see them in Thanh.

Jeslyn Nguyen
Hoa Mai

My experience of getting my Tuyen Hua started being very scary, but at the end it actually wasn't all that bad. I also found out by the second day of camp that there was only six people getting their Tuyen Hua, (which is good because we all new our laws and oaths very well).

On Friday we played night games with Tommie and I randomly just got nervous about getting my Tuyen Hua the next day. The games we played was sharks and minnows and kick the can. On Saturday morning we did PT which wasn't that bad because we only ran once and did all the stretches once. After that we had to make breakfast which was good. Next, we played know your scouts things games. When we finished that we made lunch which was funny because we had bee and fly visitors.

We also got to choose which Truong or rover to eat with us. When we were eating, we saw the rovers setting up the water games with the au. Right when we finished playing the fun water games all the Tuyen Hua people including myself

was learning the correct when to salute and other stuff when we receive our Tuyen Hua. Each of us was also sent to the rover to be tested on. I started to worry about the examples that we had to give for each law so my friend tested me and I asked Truong Kathy for examples for some of the laws. After dinner the Tuyen Hua people had to do skits for every group or groups who had skits, songs, or games. Once it was around eleven o'clock we did Tuyen Hua and I was the first one to start, so I had to say two laws. Around twelve we did this thing called cracker barrel, we ate so many snacks and made three new friends.

We all woke up at four o'clock, which was like a couple hours of sleep only on Sunday to get our Tuyen Hua. When Truong Kathy told all the Tuyen Hua people all the answers to the questions I repeated the answers in my head over and over again because I didn't want to forget. Once everyone had finished answering all their questions and saying the oaths we got to shake everyone's hand, including all the Truongs. When we finished we ate breakfast from the parents and did bridging which was sad because my leader had to leave too. Then we played with the new Thieu people while they were setting up court of honor. After court of honor we ate lunch. In the end we did ending ceremony and a sweep.

Overall, getting my Tuyen Hua was actually not as scary as I thought it was. I also found out that the people that were going to get there Tuyen Hua were just scared as much as I was, so that kind of calmed me down a bit.

Lịch Sinh Hoạt :

Tháng 5/2020 :

- 3 Sinh hoạt theo đăng thứ qua mạng
- 7-9 HL DT/DP
- 10 Sinh hoạt theo đăng thứ qua mạng
- 17 Sinh hoạt theo đăng thứ qua mạng
- 24 Sinh hoạt theo đăng thứ qua mạng
- 31 Sinh hoạt theo đăng thứ qua mạng

Tháng 6 - 7/2020 :

Mọi sinh hoạt các ngày chủ nhật đều qua mạng trong thời gian của tháng 6 và 7/2020 cho tới khi có thông báo mới, Các Hướng Đạo Sinh sẽ được trực tiếp với Trưởng qua mạng thuộc từng nhóm để học hỏi và theo dõi chương trình đăng thứ của từng em

Tài Chánh Phụ Huynh:

Tính đến ngày 5/1/ 2020

Còn lại kỳ trước **\$7,070.00**

Thu:

Niên liễm từ phụ huynh : \$7,200.00

Tiệc ra trường June 2019 còn lại \$55.00

Tổng số thu **\$7,255.00**

Chi :

Donate-Friends of Scout \$ 500.00

Trưởng Huấn Luyện \$ 1,000.00

Website, Speaker, Cake, Bảo Hiểm, Hoa \$942.00

Shipping Tent, Tarp, Plaques, Thiếu . . \$243.00

Tổng số chi **\$2,685.00**

Quỹ hiện có **\$11,640.00**

Quỹ các kỳ Trại lớn:

Tính đến ngày 5/10/ 2020

Còn lại kỳ trước **\$14,422.00**

Các buổi cơm đầu tháng \$1,790.00

Công tác với Little Saigon TV \$700.00

Phiếu chợ cuối 2018 và 2019 \$1,715.00

Nấu bánh chưng \$5,428.00

Tồn quỹ. **\$24,055.00**



ĐỘI SỐC NẤU



KHANH
Tên rừng : Sóc chăm chỉ
Hướng đạo hạng nhất
Đội trưởng.



KHANG
Tên rừng : Công du đáng
Hướng đạo hạng nhì
Đội phó.



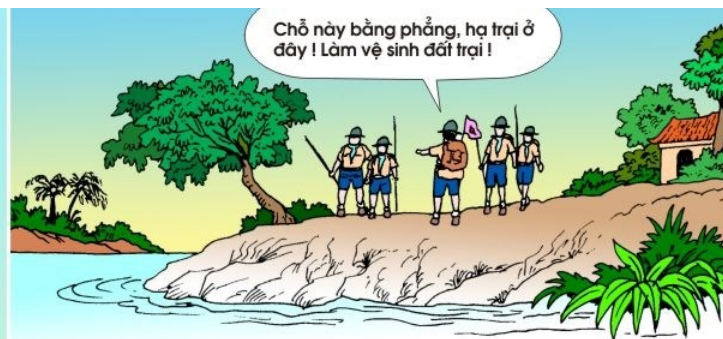
HÂN
Tên rừng : Gấu vui vẻ
Hướng đạo hạng nhì.

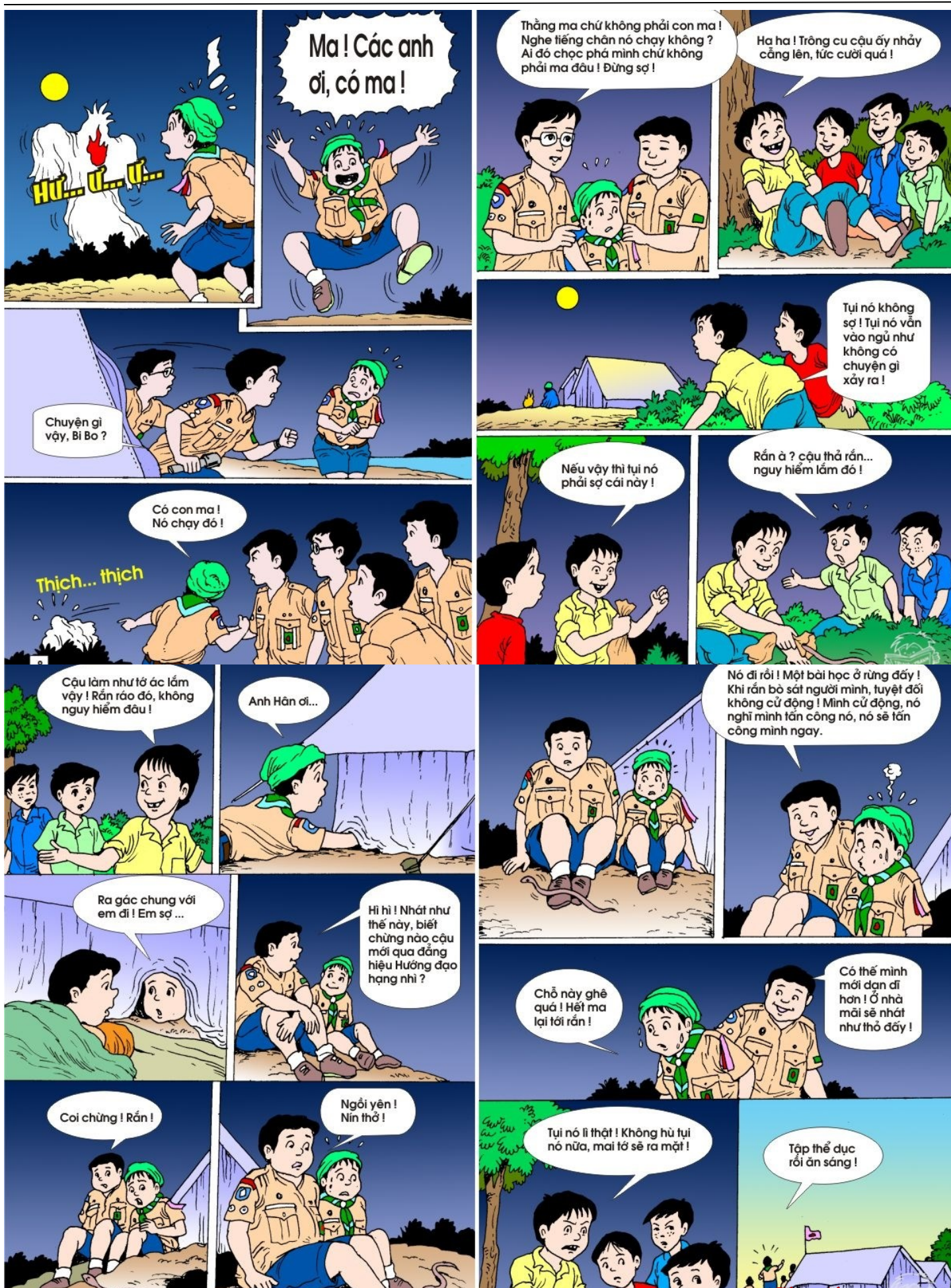


KIM
Tên rừng : Cò tò mò
Hướng đạo hạng nhì.



BI BO
Hướng đạo tân sinh.





Còn tiếp