

## Good Turn for America

Scouts from Troop 608 answered the call to service following Hurricane Ivan. "Clean Up Crews" began working immediately following the storm and are still assisting parish families with the clean-up chores of Ivan. We've even been able to help one of our own Scout families. To date, more than 30 of our Scouts, and 17 Scouters have helped on these projects. We have cut down trees, raked yards, torn out carpets, and even shoveled belongings out a window. It has been hard work but well worth the effort to help those in need. After all, **"A Scout is Helpful."** The Pensacola News Journal ran a feature story about Troop 608 on the front page. A copy is attached to this news letter. Also see [goodturnforamerica.org](http://goodturnforamerica.org) for more info.

## High Adventure at Philmont

Charlie Henning



Snowball  
fight in  
June at  
Philmont

Philmont was, undoubtedly, one of the most exciting, and fulfilling things I have ever done. I loved going over the mountain ranges of New Mexico and having a snow ball fight in June. We had a great crew and every one got along just fine. There was plenty of light humor to go around, and even though the old guys started to "poop out" after a while, the Scouts were there encouraging them and challenging them to make it to the next camp site. I think Philmont has to be one of the best vacations I've ever been on. I got to spend some quality time with my dad, test myself, and get closer to some of my fellow scouts. All and all I am extremely pleased with the experience that Philmont gave me. Where else could one get the nickname "Shaundor – Lord of the Gypsies" while rock climbing?



Charlie  
(aka –  
Shaundor,  
Lord of  
the  
Gypsies,)  
rock  
climbing  
in New  
Mexico

## ASM Committee Meeting

For the past two years, the Troop Committee and the Assistant Scoutmasters have gotten together in January for a retreat and training. Many good things have come from these get-togethers. The next scheduled Retreat will be held on January 22, 2005 at the home of Jim and Michelle Schmitz. The "Green Hats" will sponsor a reception following the training. Every parent is invited- please join us.



## Order of the Arrow Rep.

Chris Werre  
OA Troop Rep (608), Chapter Chief Panzacola

Participation is vital to obtaining spirit in scouting. The participation in scouting and the OA has been lower than usual, maybe because of Hurricane Ivan. In any case we need to increase participation. Maybe offering snacks at the end of the meeting would help. We could bring down the cost by assigning a patrol to bring snacks a on a weekly rotation. We are also trying to start an OA rep system in which the Chapter officers call the rep then the rep calls the OA members of the troop. I'm open to all your ideas. Let me know what you think.