

BSA TROOP 356 HISTORIAN'S REPORT
Caloosahatchee – Lee County Park, January 15-17, 2010



By: Troop Historian
Timothy M.

Riders On The Storm

What did you say, NO BUS? That's right unfortunately Mr. E. was not able to drive the bus because his last treatments were bothering him. So we had to rent a truck for the bikes and equipment and have some of the leaders drive us to Caloosahatchee Park for our January 15 – 17 campout.

Setting up camp went without any problems. In the morning we ate breakfast and unloaded the bikes. Everyone's bike made it ok and we hit the trails by 9:15 am. We split up into two groups. The experienced mountain bikers went right for the black diamond trails while the rest headed off to some easier ones.

The weather was just right for biking, a little cloudy and not too hot. But we still worked up a sweat. The BMX portion of the trail with the jumps was a Troop favorite. Some falling but no one got hurt too badly. There were about 18 miles of biking trails so we were pretty spread out. After several hours of biking it was time for a rest and lunch.

Cold cuts and hot dogs were the menu of the day. We ate fast so we could get back on the trails. We spent a good part of the afternoon riding the trails. Then we headed back to camp around 3:30 pretty worn out. Saturday night's dinner was Dutch oven Chili and Sheppard's Pie. During dinner we talked about the day's ride. There was a storm approaching so we put all the bikes into the rental truck. Fortunately we only were caught in the tail end of the storm. It rained for awhile in the middle of the night and no one's tent blew down. A few tents took on a little water.

We had a light breakfast Sunday morning and then it was back out to the trails to get a ride in before we had to leave. The trails were a little slippery from the rain. The wet trails were more of a challenge. We were able to ride for a couple of hours before we had to get back. Once we got back it was a rush to clean up, eat and pack everything to get driving home.

This is one of the Troop's favorite campouts.

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