



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

A One Day Scouting Feat

Scouts break one-day hiking world record, raise money for needy Scouting families, and receive the Georgia State House of Representatives “Resolution Award.”



Miles Mallory, Georgia Governor Nathan Deal, and Alex Butler in the Governor's office.

April 12, 2012
Atlanta, GA

Georgia House Majority Whip, Edward Lindsey, recently sponsored a legislative resolution honoring several Boy Scouts, and Georgia Governor Nathan Deal today congratulated them at the state capitol.

Eagle Scouts Miles Mallory and Alex Butler along with others were personally thanked by Governor Deal for an inspiring, challenging, and generous scouting project. Miles and Alex created the idea and then led this unique project to raise money for an inner-city Boy Scouts troop. The project involved the two of them and 18 other Scouts embarking on an extreme one-

day hike last summer. Their goal was to push themselves beyond anything they had hiked in the past on the vertically challenging Art Loeb Trail in western North Carolina. The trail was chosen for its difficulty.

The result – many of them hiked at least 30 miles, breaking Scouting’s World Record for the longest and most difficult one-day hike. Four Scouts of this group went the farthest distance – an incredible 37 miles over 17 hours that included a total elevation gain of approximately 7,500 feet and a total descent of about 6,000 feet. The group also collectively raised more than \$8,000 for the newly established Troop 2010, an inner-city Boy Scouts group with limited financial resources. No adults were involved in soliciting the money – just these teenage Scouts. One Scout who was first to volunteer collected the most money even though he was no longer living in Georgia by the time of fundraising. The mission really inspired him.

The Art Loeb Trail is one of the most strenuous but scenic trails east of the Mississippi River. Located in the Pisgah National Forest of the 6,000+ foot Southern Appalachians, this trail goes from Brevard, NC up and over the Blue Ridge Parkway and back down ending near Waynesville, NC.

These Scouts not only had the right heart to help the Scouts of Troop 2010, they were physically hearty. This highly spirited, record breaking group included champion cross country and track stars, two varsity football captains, and numerous varsity lettermen in wrestling, rowing, basketball, baseball, and lacrosse. One high school state champion football and baseball player will soon be on his way to the U.S. Air Force Academy.

The group began that summer hike at 5:00am equipped with headlamps and buzzing on 4 hours of sleep. With all the talking, excitement, and darkness during the first few miles, the group missed a turn off point on the trail and at 7:00am, found themselves right back where they started after 6 miles. Instead of disappointment, most were laughing. Then they forged on.

This group’s actions certainly seem to sum up the last words of the Boy Scouts Oath which Scouts pledge at weekly meetings. These words are, “To help other people at all times. To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight.”