

## Interested in High Adventure?

### BSA Troop 114, Valatie, NY can help!

#### Troop 114 is not your average boy scout troop!

We provide an environment where boys between the ages of 11 and 17 can develop and hone physical skills, leadership skills, and character, all while having fun. Our troop's focus is **outdoor, high-adventure activities**, such as day hikes, backpacking, whitewater rafting, canoeing, rock climbing, biking, and snowshoeing. Boys learn how to do these activities safely while building independence and self-reliance. Please read about our troop, and if this sounds interesting, feel free to contact us, or stop by a meeting to see what Troop 114 is about!



Rock Climbing in Colorado, July, 2010

#### Troop 114 Activities

**Hiking:** We go on many hikes throughout the year. Day hikes for different skill levels, ranging from 5 to 20+ miles are held in the Catskills, Adirondacks, along the Appalachian Trail, as well as in other locations. Over the past few years we have summited several of the Catskill 3500 foot mountains. One of our recent trips was an 18 mile day hike across Manhattan Island!



4' Rattlesnake seen on 15 mile day hike around Tongue Mountain, Lake George, NY, July 2009

**Water Activities:** We go on an annual whitewater rafting trip. In the past few years, our troop has gone on a 3 day canoe backpack trip in the Adirondacks, and has gone on an ocean kayaking / camping trip off of Long Island. Our summer meetings often involve water activities such as swimming tubing, or fishing.

**Backpacking:** We go on several backpacking trips throughout the year, including multiple-day trips, carrying what we need for camping with us. Distances that we cover can be up to 12 miles/day. We have backpacked on most areas of the Appalachian Trail in Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New York. Once a year, we typically sleep in survival shelters that we build from downed trees (this year, we did this in December!).



**Backpacking – Indian Head Mountain, Catskills, NY, Sept. 2012**

**Other Outdoor Activities:**

- Biking (locally, and out of the area) up to 50+ miles, on trails and on roads.
- Rappelling / Rock Climbing, at climbing gyms and on real cliffs!
- Yearly winter weekend trip to Lake Placid (snowshoeing, winter hiking, snow sports, etc.)
- Caving

**High Adventure Colorado/Utah Trip:** Every 5 years, our troop goes on a high adventure trip to Utah and Colorado. The trip consists of two full weeks of camping at National parks. Our last trip's activities included hiking in the Great Sand Dunes National Park, climbing a 12000 ft and 14000 ft peak in the Rockies, desert hiking and rock climbing in Arches National Park, hiking down Black River Canyon, as well as seeing many sights along the way (Mesa Verde

National Park, Canyonlands, Pike's Peak, etc.). The best part about this trip is the price; during the last trip, our fund raising covered the cost of the trip for the scouts! **Our next high adventure trip is scheduled for Summer, 2015!**



**Hiking in Great Sand Dunes National Park, Colorado, July, 2010**

**Other Scouting Activities:** Troop 114 also participates in some of the more traditional scouting activities. Our troop camps at Rotary Scout Reservation in Poestenkill, NY for a week every summer, where scouts can have fun, practice scout skills, and earn merit badges. We typically participate in one Camporee every year, and we also compete in the Klondike Derby every January. Some of our scouts attended the BSA National Jamboree in West Virginia in 2013!

**Community Service:** Our troop emphasizes the need for community service, and as a result, is very active in the community. Recent Eagle

Scout projects have benefitted local organizations including Columbia Land Conservancy, Friends of Kinderhook Trails, Stuyvesant Falls VFW Park, and North Chatham Library. Our troop has also volunteered for the Columbia County Historical Society, Kinderhook Library, and participates in the yearly Food Drive for the Valatie Food Pantry. We sponsor the Valatie Veterans Day 5K run, held annually, where proceeds are split between the troop and a selected charity; in the past we have supported the Valatie Food Pantry, Friends of Kinderhook Trails, and the Wounded Warrior Project.



**Troop recognized for community service, January, 2013**

**Meetings:** Our meetings are held every Tuesday Night, normally at 7:00 PM, at the First Presbyterian Church on Church Street in Valatie, NY. Typical meetings consist of a presentation about scouting skills or a scout-related topic of

interest, time for scouts to work on rank advancement or merit badges, and a game time. We will take an occasional "road trip" to go bowling, play billiards, or go swimming. In the summer, the meetings are less formal and are more focused on outdoor activities such as games, biking, swimming, fishing, etc. **Feel free to stop by and see what we are all about!**

**About Us:** Boy Scout Troop 114 is a member of the Twin Rivers Council, in the Mahikan District. Our sponsoring organization is The First Presbyterian Church in Valatie, NY. Our web site is <http://www.bsa2114.legrego.com>.

Also, check us out on facebook!

**Contact Information:**

**For more information, contact:  
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