The Deer Lake Canoe Clinic began offering canoe training to Scouts and Scouters in 1987. Roger Smith started the program as “in-house” training for Troop 777 Venture Scouts offering the American Red Cross Fundamentals of Canoeing class. The program quickly grew into a District training opportunity for all area Troops. Word got out and the program really began to take off.

An Advanced Fundamentals class and an Instructor Class were added in 1994 and the first Fundamentals of Kayaking class was added in 1996 as well as program changes to accommodate our LDS Scouts. American Red Cross Basic Water Rescue and Small Craft Safety Classes were added in 1998 along with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Boater Basics program. We now have Troops, Posts and Ships attending from all over our Council and neighboring Councils. The Deer Lake Canoe Clinic is available to all registered Boy Scouts, Venture Scouts, and leaders. Girl Scouts are welcome too. Since 1992, over 2,500 Scouts and Scouters have attended the Deer Lake Canoe Clinic.

The Deer Lake Canoe Clinic is a fun weekend designed to provide teenage boys and girls with water safety and boat handling skills instruction. The format is like a BSA summer camp program with a large and active youth staff. Our youth staffers are all ARC trained Instructor Aids. Adults will see the “Principles of Scouring” in action all weekend… The students just have fun!

Adults are welcome too. The Deer Lake Canoe Clinic is authorized by the Sam Houston Area Council to conduct the Adult Flat-water Training Course and issue the SHAC “Yellow Card”. Adults also receive Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat cards. We recommend that adults plan to take the Fundamentals of Canoeing class the year before their Scouts are scheduled to take the class. Leaders can then take the “Review” Class or the Instructor Class while their Scouts complete Fundamentals. Following this plan better prepares Scout leaders to safely conduct flat-water outings and help the Scouts use their newly learned paddling skills.

The Deer Lake Canoe Clinic is held the weekend after the Sam Houston Area Council Scout Fair which is usually last weekend in April or the first weekend in May… and the last weekend in September at Boy Scout Camp Strake. Registration for our April class begins the second Thursday in February at the George Strake District roundtable. Registration for the September class is the second Thursday in July or at the George Strake District Program Preview meeting. Classes fill up fast

The American Red Cross has a new training syllabus for CPR and First Aid classes. We are one of the first to offer this great new program to Scouts. The new class offers a balance of basic level skills training and accident prevention. The new material offers those who have taken the class previously a fresh approach to training that may save your life… or the life of a friend! Scouts working on Merit Badge requirements will also like the new format.

The morning session covers the Responding to Emergencies and Adult CPR components. The CPR skills will be taught following the American Red Cross Community Training outline. The videos show realistic scenarios and the class emphasizes is on accident prevention.

Please remember that advance reservations are required. The scheduled classes fill up fast. Check or web site for the current schedule. You can register on-line for our CPR and BAT programs too. Lunch is included in the $15.00 class fee.

Our Next Deer Lake Canoe Clinic is September 22, 23 & 24, 2006
Our youth BAT Instructors provided the American Red Cross BAT “Basic Aid Training” program to over 400 area 4th and 5th grade boys and girls last year. We are off to set a new record for this year. BAT is a truly fun class designed especially for our WEBELOS and Junior Girl Scouts. The American Red Cross BAT program teaches accident prevention and beginning first aid skills to fourth and fifth grade boys and girls. Our all day program meets most of the requirements for the WEBELOS ReadyMan badge and is fun too.

The BAT class is made up of 12 modules each demonstrating a first aid, accident prevention or safety skill. The class begins with First Thing First which explains what to do in an emergency. The class gets acquainted with the American Red Cross child mannequin “Junior” to learn the rescue breathing skill. The All Choked Up module teaches abdominal thrusts, The Ouch teaches minor wound and burn care, Famous Fire Facts reinforces basic fire safety, Poison Patrol discusses how to prevent and treat poisoning. Other modules such as Water Whiz cover basic water safety including an introduction to BSA safe swim defense. Safe Wheels is a bicycle safety module. Just Say No, Cautious Kids and Lost and Found provide the boys and girls with age appropriate information on ways to stay safe and avoid dangerous situations.

The BAT class is a combination of videos, demonstrations, skill practice, hikes, outdoor activities, games and contests. Lunch is always good too! Guest speakers often stop by. The BAT program is definitely not a boring lecture class! The American Red Cross certified teenage instructors keep it interesting and keep the class moving.

The cost for the BAT class taught at Camp Strake is $15.00 per person which includes a BAT workbook, a special embroidered patch and completion certificate plus a great lunch in the Camp Strake Conference Center Dining Hall. Check-in for our BAT class begins at 8:00 AM and the class starts promptly at 8:30 AM. We coordinate our class completion time to coincide with our adult CPR/FA class which is usually around 4:00 PM. The Conference Center is located at Boy Scout Camp Strake which is just south of Conroe, Texas.

We gladly provide one “complimentary” meal per patrol for your required adult chaperone. Please read our adult supervision policy. Our staff will do every thing we can to assist you with this requirement. Remember, advance reservations are required and most of our class dates fill up fast. Please email us if you need to add to your reservation. We will try very hard to accommodate you and your WEBELOS. We can usually work it out. The reservation deadline is 9:00 PM Monday evening the week of the scheduled class.

You can register your Scouts on-line. Registration forms are usually available at the George Strake District Roundtable and can also be down loaded from our "Resources" page. Please email us if you are having difficulty registering. Remember, your reservation is not complete until your payment is received. Please make checks payable to "NBO Scout Training Team" and mail them, along with a copy of your reservation form to The NBO Scout Training Team, PO Box 819, Conroe, TX 77305. Reservations are usually acknowledged by email by Tuesday before the scheduled class date.

BAT classes are held in conjunction with our adult CPR and First Aid training. Cub leaders and parents can take advantage of the adult training while the WEBELOS participate in the BAT class. Our Boy Scout and Girl Scout instructors actually run the BAT class. Star, Life and Eagle Scouts and our Girl Scout staff are great role models for our younger Scouts. Our BAT class is a fun experience. Questions?... just email us! BAT training@scoutcpr.org

Our Next BAT class is Saturday, October 28th, at the BSA Camp Strake Conference