

## BOY SCOUT TROOP 229 PARTICIPATES IN COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

*Winamac, IN* – From January to May, 2008, Boy Scouts from Troop 229 participated in a program on computer technology sponsored by Space Day in Pulaski County. Their April visit to AdaptaSoft in Francesville, reported earlier, was a part of this program. Hosted by Richard Conn, Lead of Space Day in Pulaski County, the scouts learned about the science and business sides of computer technology in a variety of industries, including, but not limited to, aerospace, the military-industrial complex (building aircraft, weapons systems, aircraft carriers, and nuclear submarines), the Indy Racing League (which is behind the Indianapolis 500), education reform using computer technology, the NASA initiatives and living in space, and Microsoft and how its technologies are applied widely to Information Technology solutions for the automobile, medical, business/financial, defense and homeland security, art and movie, and video game industries. Even advanced model rocketry, involving computer simulations of the rockets before construction, was covered, and this led into their rocket launch event in May.

Scouting was founded more than 100 years ago, and its initiatives have changed with the times. Today, of over 120 Merit Badges, 20 of them involve computer technology in one form or another. Such badges include, but are not limited to, American Business, Astronomy, Aviation, Cinematography, Computers, Drafting (using computer-aided design techniques), Electronics, Engineering, Graphic Arts, Model Design and Building, and Space Exploration (including launching model rockets).

Many prizes, compliments of Microsoft and Lockheed Martin, were given to the scouts for their participation. In addition, the troop received a DVD collection of the videos shown during the 5-month program.

For more on BSA Troop 229 and their activities, visit <http://www.bsa229.net>. Visit the Photo Gallery to view photos from many of the videos used in the Technical Insider Talks part of the computer technology program.

## Photos Featuring Boy Scouts



attending\_a\_video\_based\_class.JPG - Most classes involved watching a video and subsequent discussion.



getting\_ready\_for\_a\_computer\_based\_class.JPG - Some classes involved live computer-based demonstrations, such as visual programming.



scouts\_with\_prizes.JPG - Many different kinds of prizes were sponsored by Microsoft and Lockheed Martin through Space Day in Pulaski County.

## Photos Featuring Technical Insider Talk Images from Videos



Newport News produces 2 products – Aircraft Carriers and Nuclear Submarines



### TECHNICAL INSIDER TALK

Case Study: Newport News Shipbuilding –  
Building Aircraft Carriers and Nuclear  
Submarines

building\_carriers\_and\_subs.JPG - Newport News Shipbuilding is the sole-source of the U.S. Navy for nuclear-powered aircraft carriers and submarines.



career\_fair\_at\_purdue.JPG - Purdue University hosts the largest career fair in science and engineering in the United States.



## TECHNICAL INSIDER TALK

**NASA Education – Class from the International Space Station**



class\_from\_space.JPG - NASA sponsored a live class between astronauts on the International Space Station and students at the Discovery Center in Boise, Idaho. The scouts watched and discussed a video of the class.

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COLLABORATION USING TECHNOLOGY

Technology provides outstanding opportunities to enhance collaboration locally and from a distance.



collaboration\_through\_technology.JPG - Computer technology, when applied wisely, can greatly enhance the educational experience, significantly increasing time on task.

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PIT CREWS ARE IN THE LOOP

Information is also sent to the team's data center from the pit crews.



indy\_500.JPG - Race cars in the Indianapolis 500 have computers on board that send data from the cars on the track to the pit crews, allowing the crews to plan better for the next pit stop based on the condition of the car.

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### AEGIS CRUISER

The Aegis Cruiser, with its Spy-I Radar, is the "shield of the fleet" and a key element of the US Ballistic Missile Defense System.

It was recently used to destroy a US satellite that was falling to Earth.



inside\_aegis.JPG - The Aegis Cruiser, with its Spy-I Radar, is the "Shield of the Fleet" and a key part of the Ballistic Missile Defense System of the United States. A missile, traveling at over 17,000 miles/hour, from an Aegis cruiser recently destroyed a satellite in the upper atmosphere before it could crash to earth.

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## COMMAND CENTERS

Lockheed Martin creates civilian and military command centers of various kinds, such as emergency disaster control and military operations.

These include Air Operations Centers (pictured below).



inside\_command\_center.JPG - National military and civilian command and control centers are used to manage military engagements and civilian crises, such as flooding in the Midwest United States.

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## TEAM 2 - THE MASTER BLASTERS

The car flew well, went way over the goalposts (230 feet high), but did not land well.

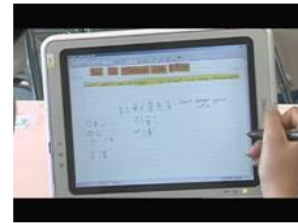
Top speed = 175 MPH

Distance = 1441 Feet



launching\_a\_car.JPG - Advanced model rocket experts take on a variety of engineering challenges, in this case launching a mini-Cooper car through the air across a football field to land beyond the goal posts. The car flew at an altitude of 230 feet and a speed of 175 miles/hour.

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## TECHNICAL INSIDER TALK

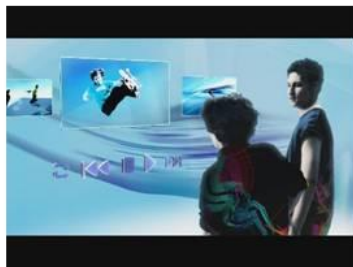
### Case Study: Tablet PC at Ocoee Middle School



tablet\_pcs\_in\_the\_classroom.JPG - Over 1,500 students at Ocoee Middle School in Florida used Tablet PCs for all their English and Math homework and class work. Books were eliminated, exams were given online using the tablets, and the teachers found that time on task was greatly increased while simultaneously increasing students' grades.

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SILVERLIGHT

We discussed Silverlight and its capabilities.



visual\_programming.JPG - The scouts watched a demo of how to use visual programming techniques with Microsoft Visual Studio to create a customized video and music player in five minutes. We also discussed the Silverlight technology and how it helps to create rich multimedia experiences on PCs and websites.