Pack/Troop 683 Conduct Hurricane Sandy Relief Effort

For the past two weeks, the cub scouts and boy scouts of Pack/Troop 683 in Pamlico County conducted a Hurricane Sandy relief effort to help those in need following the massive storm that struck the northeast earlier this month.

The scouts and their families collected non-perishable food items, bottled water, clothing and linens as well as monetary donations. A tremendous effort was made by all the local media outlets in eastern NC that really helped the scouts get the word out and the outpouring of generosity was overwhelming. There was even a little girl who set up a lemonade stand and donated all of her proceeds to the relief effort, $42.00.

Unit Commissioner David Gaskins was in contact with Andy O'Connor, Scoutmaster, Troop 79 in Upper Township, NJ so that the transfer of supplies would go seamlessly.

All of the scouts met at Arapahoe FWB church on Friday night, Nov. 16, to load a 20' U-Haul truck that would be used for the transportation of the relief supplies and several parents and scouts left the church at 2:00AM on Saturday morning, Nov. 17 to make the delivery to Troop 79. The scouts from Pack/Troop 683 met the scouts and leaders of Troop 79 at the Lewes, DE ferry terminal around 11:00AM on Saturday morning and transferred the supplies to their counterparts from New Jersey and by 7:00PM on Saturday night; Mr. Gaskins was informed that all of the supplies had been delivered to several churches and food banks along the Jersey shore where many of the storm victims are still living in motels and temporary shelters. The scouts from Pack/Troop 683 also exchanged council patches with their brethren from New Jersey and some new friendships were established.

Mr. O'Connor stated that he had always heard about "Southern Hospitality" but now he truly knew what it meant. The leaders and scouts of Troop 79 extended their sincere appreciation for this much needed help and stated that if there was ever anything that the scouts of eastern NC ever needed and they could be of service, just ask.