



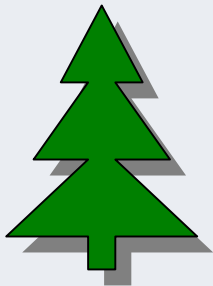
Troop 81 E-Mail News

December 11, 2006

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 13

Troop Meeting DEC 14th

1. Blackhawk (GO!) Patrol is on set-up & take-down. Please arrive early this evening and be prepared to stay later.
2. Activities: Low Cope and planning for Holiday Party.
3. Remember to wear your COMPLETE Class A Uniform!



**DEC 21 TROOP
CHRISTMAS
PARTY!**
If you can
make/donate
cookies for this
event, please
contact Mrs. Sheri
Nagy!

A Few Words From Scoutmaster Maurer



Your High Adventure survey results are in! We are fortunate to offer 2 different trips this summer: to the Grand Canyon in AZ and to the Adirondacks in NY. The Grand Canyon trip will feature 5 days of backpacking into the canyon; the Adirondacks trip will be designed by the boys who sign up, choosing to split the 5 days between backpacking, high-peak climbing, and/or canoeing. High Adventure is for boys who will be at least 13 years old by departure date. I look forward to planning these activities with the boys over the coming months!

A 5th Patrol within our Troop is being formed and will be in place by January 4th. The boys in this new Patrol will pick their own name! Moose & Muskie Scouts have chosen their "permanent" Patrols and may join them starting with the January 4th Troop Meeting.

News From Your Committee Chair, Mr. Cronin



Thanks go out in advance to Mrs. Bednar and Mrs. Glouderman for stepping forward to help Mr. Bergquist with our Friends of Scouting campaign this year! Look for more information at our next Court of Honor, January 21st.

We're still in need of a Committee Secretary, Fundraising Chair(s), and additional help with our rechartering process (think "membership") in the Spring.

BOARDS OF REVIEW REMINDERS

Scouts: Only two more meetings to get your BORs in! (Dec 14 and Dec 21) Be sure to review EVERY requirement for your rank. Know your knots! Then, contact Mrs. Ensinger to schedule your Board.

Adults: If you are able to stay for an additional 15-20 minutes at our Troop Meetings, please come forward to help sit on these reviews for our Scouts. The BORs can be a great way to learn how you can encourage your Scout to advance. Please contact Julie if you can help: 637-1271.





CALENDAR

Dec 14: Troop Mtg.
(Blackhawk – GO!)

Dec 21: Troop Mtg &
Holiday Party! (Moose &
Muskie)

Dec 28: Troop Mtg.
NEW: Board Game &
Card Night!

Jan 4: Troop Mtg.
NEW: M/M join perm.
Patrols; Tenderfoot
Competition Night!

Jan 11: Troop Mtg.
NEW: ELECTION Night!

Jan 18: Troop Mtg.
NEW: Klondike sled demo

Jan 21 Court of Honor,
Longwood School.

Jan 25: Troop Mtg.

Jan 26-27: KLONDIKE!
@ 3FiresRanch, Rochelle,
IL..

Feb 1: Troop Mtg.

TROOP 81
BOY SCOUTS
River Glen Church
Naperville, IL
WWW.TROOP81.ORG



TROOP EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

RECENT Troop Meeting Announcements

- We had a visitor from Cub Scout Pack 562. Thank you, Scouts, for welcoming each new Scout every week. We played Bacon in the Dark (Steal the Bacon and Socks in the Dark combined) and much fun was had!
- The 12/7 meeting featured another advancement night and Geo-Caching demo. Lots of lashings tried & tied! Several boys are moving up in rank.
- Moose & Muskie Scouts were to turn in their preferences for moving into the "older" patrols at 12/7 meeting. If you failed to do so, please contact your Adult Mentors (Messrs Dubbins & Harris) ASAP. New Patrol rosters will be announced soon.
- **IMPORTANT:** If you signed up for Service Hours at the Naper Settlement (Dec 16th 6.15 – 9.45 pm), the sign-up sheet was lost. Please sign up again on the new sheet at the front table at Troop Meetings. And, if you haven't yet signed up, please consider doing so!
- **THANK YOU!** A huge THANK YOU to the QuarterMasters who braved the below-freezing temps before our last Troop Meeting! Thank you as well to Mr. Paul Bainbridge who leads the QMs in their duties. Polar bear paws to you all.



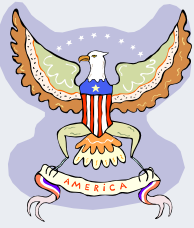
Don't forget: Blake's Eagle Ceremony is [this](#) Saturday December 16th at Knox Presbyterian Church 1105 Catalpa Lane Naperville IL 60540. (Parking is available in the shopping center across the street.)



If you haven't already, please RSVP to fisher_br@yahoo.com.

FUTURE Troop Events

- **NEW:** **Troop Elections** will be held during our Jan 11th Troop Meeting. In preparation for this, Junior Leadership Training will be held – **tentatively** on Jan 6th (Saturday). Details are coming soon.
- **REMINDER:** Winter Court of Honor will be Jan 21st at Longwood School. **If you can help with this event, please contact Mrs. Sheri Nagy.**
- February 23-25 will be our Snow Sports and Cabin Camping at Canyon Camp of Blackhawk Council, Stockton IL. Skiing or Boarding on Sat will be at Chestnut Mt., Galena IL. (www.chestnutmtn.com)
- May 4-6 is the District and Council's Camporee.
- **NEW:** Summer Camp is confirmed for Sat Jun 23 – Sat June 30.
- **TENTATIVE INFO:** With cancellation of Nov campout, backpacking may shift into either Mar or Apr. Mar 23-25 was to feature orienteering. Apr 20-22 was to feature rock climbing. June 8-10 is our annual Service Project Week up at Owasipee. Boys plan on holding an Eco-Challenge.

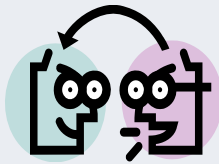


EAGLE'S CORNER

Russell M. is completing his Eagle Project: re-building the KYBO at the Von Oven Scout Reserve in downtown Naperville. The old KYBO burned down some years ago. Russell and volunteers will be working for several weekends on this project.

Does the KYBO Boogie Man really exist? Come find out! Listen for announcements and sign up to help if you can.

Blake F's Eagle Ceremony is Dec 16th. Invitations were sent out a few weeks ago. RSVP to his family, please.



Got News To Share?

If YOU have info for the Troop, please send it to Mrs. Lisa Schweitzer
JLJM@wideopenwest.com.

She aims to have each week's newsletter out on Tuesdays.

'Deadline' to include is therefore the weekend (a few days) prior.

COLD WEATHER SCOUTING, by MR. PRONGER: PART 2



Mr. Pronger coordinated the overnight portion of our December campout. Here is a further excerpt from material he has prepared for our Scouts.

Last week we outlined the 3 primary points to remember about cold weather activities: 1) wear a hat; 2) keep dry; and 3) wear layers. This week we focus on clothing. Here are some general ideas:

Wear a hat. (Did I already mention that?) There are many style "outdoor" hats available. An old fashioned knit cap will also work well. A "baseball" style cap was designed for playing baseball; it probably won't do you much good outside in the winter. Ears should be covered. I have a true story about Bill Cody about keeping your ears covered I will relate it to you (or your Scout) out at the ranch.

Mittens are 100% better than gloves. Stay away from "fuzzy" gloves and mittens for your scout, they may be cute, but absorb water better than a sponge. Have spares. Your scout will be active and will get wet. Have dry mittens or gloves avail.



Wool is good for any clothing item (except maybe underwear). It has a wonderful property of maintaining insulating properties even when damp (though of course not as well as when dry).

Pants. Cotton pants (blue jeans) are generally a bad idea. They absorb water and hold it – and no longer keep you warm. An adult may get away with them by staying out of snow, etc., but there's no way to do that with your scout.

Waterproof boots. There is a bit of preference and cost to consider here. There are usually "Ducks" (a style of rubberized boot) available at most department stores (Meijer's, K-Mart, Target, WalMart, Sears, JC Penny, etc) and sporting goods stores (Sports Authority, etc). Though you may not want to take a 20-mile hike in a pair of "Ducks" they do a good job of keeping your feet warm and dry. Waterproofed hiking boots with good socks will also work.



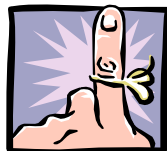
Just so that I have mentioned it, gym shoes and tennis shoes belong in a gym or on a tennis court (respectfully) - they don't work well winter camping.

Warm Coat. Parkas are good, but we do not want to over-heat. This is where we use the idea of layering. Unless we are headed into a very cold weekend it may actually be too warm for a busy day. I will usually dress myself and scout in a sturdy late fall weight coat and then layer underneath (I described layering in detail above). Depending on the day, you may need more or less of what I described above. Again the benefit of this approach is that if you're too warm, a layer or two can come off and go around your waist or into a day pack. This way as we are more or less active we can easily control how much clothing we have on. Hoods work well; they protect the neck well and "share" body heat from the body to the head. I will only go to a true, heavy winter coat (parka type) with very severe conditions.



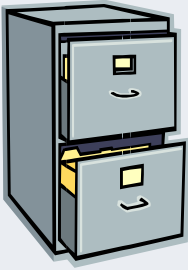
Rain Gear. Don't forget rain gear. For quite a while we have had as much rain at Klondike as snow so you need to be ready for either. Rain coats and pants are better than a poncho.

Next week we'll "wrap it up" and discuss cold-weather camping as well.



REMI NDER!

PLEASE call Marge Dunning OR Beth Schwartz if you are NOT camping / driving but you have already turned in a permission slip! Phoning ahead when you have to cancel will assure we have enough drivers for campouts!



HOW CAN I LOOK AT PREVIOUS WEEK'S NEWSLETTERS?

Troop 81 E-News is accessible on our Troop website homepage: www.troop81.org. Click on "View Current Newsletter". For previous issues, click on "Troop Information" and you'll find them all there by date. (Thank you, WebMaster Marineau!)

And, as always, if you wish to receive your E-News at more than one email address, send your additions to Mr. Dave Rypka or Mr. Bill Marineau, and they will sign you up.