



Troop 81 E-Mail News

December 17, 2006

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 14

Troop Meeting DEC 21st

1. Moose & Muskie Patrols are on set-up & take-down. Please arrive early this evening and be prepared to stay later.
2. Activities: Holiday Party! Last BOR opportunity for 2006.
3. Remember to wear your COMPLETE Class A Uniform!



LAST BOARDS FOR 2006!

If any adults are able to tear themselves away from the cookie tables ☺ for 15-20 minutes at our Troop Meeting, please come forward to help sit on these reviews for your Scouts. Contact Julie if you can help: 637-1271. ☺

DEC 21 TROOP 81 HOLIDAY PARTY!

Come join us for Troop 81's Celebration Of this Joyous Season! All Scouts should try to attend – there is a surprise for you!

If you can make/donate cookies for this event, please contact Mrs. Sherri Nagy.



A Few Words From Scoutmaster Maurer



We have upwards of 10 Scouts in various stages of their Eagle projects. This means things will be busy for quite some time in our Troop. It also means that there are many interesting and important events that you can get involved with to help your fellow Scouts. This is your chance – no matter what your rank – to help others in a very meaningful way.

Please also continue to keep the Warland family in your prayers.

Reminder From Your QuarterMasters

Remember when turning in equipment to check it in with a QuarterMaster – either someone at the Troop trailer(s) OR your own Patrol QM.



Please DO NOT just dump camping equipment at the trailer or the church steps. We won't know who dropped it off!

If you need reminders about how to clean Troop equipment, see our website: www.troop81.org. Details are under "Troop Documents".

Yes, there will be Troop Meetings through the Holidays
~ December 28th and January 4th ~



CALENDAR

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

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

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

NEW Jan 7th: Troop Committee Mtg.

Jan 11: Troop Mtg. ELECTION Night!

Jan 18: Troop Mtg. Klondike sled demo.

Jan 21: Court of Honor, Longwood School.

Jan 25: Troop Mtg.

Jan 26-27: KLONDIKE! @ 3FiresRanch, Rochelle, IL. 1 night camping only.

Feb 1: Troop Mtg.

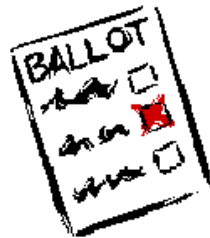
**TROOP 81
BOY SCOUTS**
River Glen Church
Naperville, IL
WWW.TROOP81.ORG



TROOP EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

RECENT Troop Meeting Announcements

- The 2 High Adventure trips were announced: Grand Canyon and Adirondacks. Sign-up sheets for these events are at Troop Meetings.
- Our activity 12/14 was The Human Knot and other feats of extraordinary skill! **Wolverine Patrol** won the overall prize for the activities.
- Moose & Muskie Scouts will be joining the "older" patrols at the January 4th Troop Meeting. New Patrol rosters will be printed and distributed early in the new year.



REMINDER: 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.

NOW is the time to think of which position of responsibility YOU would like in the Troop!

FUTURE Troop Events

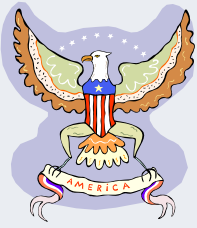
- **REMINDER:** Winter Court of Honor will be Jan 21st at Longwood School. **If you can help with this event, please contact Mrs. Sheri Nagy.**
- February 23-25 will be our Snow Sports and Cabin Camping at Canyon Camp of Blackhawk Council, Stockton IL. Skiing or Boarding on Sat will be at Chestnut Mt., Galena IL. (www.chestnutmtn.com)
- May 4-6 is the District and Council's Camporee.
- 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.



Do YOU Have 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.



EAGLE'S CORNER

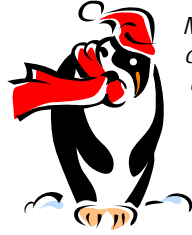
NEW: Kevin D.'s Eagle Project involves building 50 rocker boards. These boards are used in physical therapy exercises for disabled and handicapped people. He needs your help Dec 23 and 29 (9am – 5 pm) and on Dec 28 (8am – 4 pm) as well. Location is at the Grace Community Christian Church, 2770 Montgomery Rd (1/2 mile east of Eola Rd in Aurora). Free Food! Bring your routers, drills, sanders, and safety glasses!



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 ambitious project. Listen for announcements and sign up to help if you can.



COLD WEATHER SCOUTING, by MR. PRONGER: [PART 3](#)



Mr. Pronger coordinated the overnight portion of our December campout. Here is the final excerpt from material he has prepared for our Scouts. Parts 1 & 2 were in previous newsletters – you can view these online on our website – look under “Troop Information”.

In previous weeks we outlined the 3 primary points to remember about cold weather activities: 1) wear a hat; 2) keep dry; and 3) wear layers. Now we put it all together and talk about CAMPING in cold weather, too. Camping when it's cold outside takes some more preparation, but can be a fun experience.

- 1) **EAT!!!** When we are out in the cold our bodies use calories to keep ourselves warm. Winter camping is not the time to be thinking about dieting. A hearty dinner will prepare you (and your scout) for the evening. If your scout is a picky eater, you need to ensure that he has a solid meal in him before he heads to bed. Without it he (or yourself) will have trouble keeping warm simply due to the amount of heat his own body can (or can't) generate. I personally suspect that this is one of the more common problems with getting cold when winter camping.
- 2) **Sleeping Bags.** The best solution is to have a sleeping bag rated for the temperature we are likely to experience. If it is a pretty good bag, but you're not quite certain about if it is warm enough, sleeping bag liners are available at most sporting good stores. A cozy blanket may be substituted, but it can be difficult to get it back around us after moving around a bit. The sleeping bag liner will do a better job in that regard. If your sleeping bag is a lighter weight one, use two (one inside the other), and if you wish, the liner too. Also, heat will quickly move through your bag (whatever type it is) and into the ground if you don't use some type of pad. Foam pads are fairly cheap and work (they're main drawback is that they don't roll up very well). They are also available at most sporting good stores. An adult may not be comfortable on one (old bones and all) but most scouts will be fine with one. For an adult you could use two foam pads or an air mattress. Air mattresses are slightly less warm than a foam pad. Cots tend to be the coldest (though not as cold as having your sleeping bag directly on the tent floor), since you will have air circulating around you.
- 3) **Sleeping Gear. KEEP DRY!!!** (I think I said that before). Often people will have all the right stuff for winter camping and they still find themselves cold at night. A very common mistake is to keep on the same clothing (and undergarments) worn during the day, into their sleeping bag. This is probably the other main reason for getting cold when camping overnight in the winter. To have a chance to be warm, you must have a complete change of clothing for sleeping. Wear something warm and comfortable that will tend to move any perspiration away from you. Wear some nice warm socks too (but new ones, not what you wore all day long). Also, unless you have a fancy “mummy” style sleeping bag, “Wear a Hat” (I think I said that before too). Again we lose a lot of heat from our head and unless we do something about it we will almost certainly be cold. If it is really cold, I have used a ski mask style hat. For most circumstances, a simple stocking cap will do. Be certain that your scout also completely changes their clothes. Be certain they have the hat on their head. Finally, dry new clothes for tomorrow can be put in your bag or under it to be warmer for tomorrow (this tends to be my pillow).
- 4) **Tent.** I do not spend much time in my tent so I tend to like a smaller one. If it is my son and I we are fine in a three-man tent (this gives us room for our gear). The main thing you want from your tent in winter camping is to break the wind and keep some of your body heat around. A smaller tent will keep more of your heat close by than a larger tent. Remember to use a tarp under your tent. Be certain it is tucked in, and not hanging out anywhere. Otherwise, any rain will hit the tarp and end up under your tent and quickly soak through.