



Troop 81 E-Mail News

December 2, 2008

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 39

Troop Meeting December 4th, 2008

*Flags will be done by **Scorpion Patrol**, who should arrive early and stay late for set-up/take-down duties.*

*Full Class A Uniforms,
Gentlemen!*



REMINDER!

If you still have troop equipment at home – it is needed for THIS WEEKEND’S campout, so please bring it!

WE NEED YOU!

This week’s meeting will hold some special work for some special scouts. The troop will be spending the majority of our time wrapping Christmas presents for the special needs scouts in preparation of their Christmas party on 12/16. There are over 2000 presents which need to be wrapped so I and our Senior Patrol Leader have volunteered our services.

Those going on the campout will be excused during the time they need to review the cold weather camping dress and skills and to complete their duty rosters.

All other scouts, and we hope their parents, should be prepared to pitch in and wrap some presents. **We are asking that the scouts and their parents bring scissors and tape to help in the wrapping.** Because of the amount of items which need to be wrapped we are asking that all advancement and merit badge activities be put on hold for a future meeting.

~TSM



SUPPORTING RIVER GLEN



Our sponsor, River Glen Church, as a part of their ministry and their joint support for our troop, is asking for volunteers from our troop with the lighting of their Advent Candles on Sunday, December 14th. There will be three advent candles which need to be lit. It could be one scout, three for the three candles and/or their families. There will be an 8:30 service and 10:45 a.m.

Interested scouts and their families should contact me as soon as possible, via email at tmaurerins@msn.com or a call to my home 630-820-4855.



MTG. CALENDAR

NEW INFO IS IN RED

Dec 4: Troop Mtg.
(Scorpion) winter safety
demo + duty roster

Dec 7: PLC + Troop
Committee Mtgs.

Dec 11: Troop Mtg.
(Viking)

Dec 18: Troop Mtg.
(Wolverine) and Troop
Holiday Party!

Dec 25 & Jan 1:
NO MEETINGS over
Winter Break

Jan 8: Troop Mtg.
(Blackhawk)

Jan 15: Troop Mtg.
(Eagle) *Troop Elections!*

Jan 22: Troop Mtg.
Patrol Elections!

TROOP 81 BOY SCOUTS

River Glen Church
Naperville, IL

WWW.TROOP81.ORG



*** PLC MTG THIS SUN, DEC 7th ***

IMPORTANT: There will be a PLC Meeting on Sunday Dec 7th, at Mr. Maurer's house, starting at 4 pm. ALL Scouts in leadership positions are required to attend; any Scouts with 1st Class rank and above are also encouraged to attend. **TROOP COMMITTEE MEETING follows at 7 pm, River Glen Church – all adults welcome.**

LAST WEEK'S Troop Announcements



- There is a hike planned on Sat Dec 20th – see Mrs. Draper for details. As always, any scout or parent is welcome – this is not just for those working on their hiking merit badge.
- See Kris P if you are interested in the whitewater rafting H.A. trip.
- See Alex P if interested in the Buffalo Trails horse H.A. trip in Texas.
- See Mr. Joe Harrington if you have questions about Jamboree 2010.
- We had a visitor from Pack 3 – thanks for making him feel welcome.

All previous announcements are in archived E-Mail Newsletters:

<http://www.troop81.org/information.htm>

IT LOOKS LIKE A POLAR BEAR CAMPOUT OPPORTUNITY!



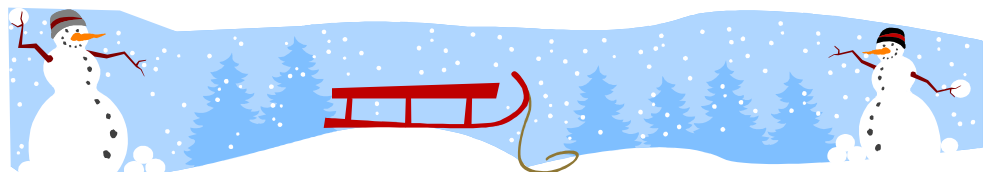
Scouts **MAY** earn their Polar Bear patch this coming weekend, Dec 5-7, if the cold weather holds.

Be sure to dress the part!

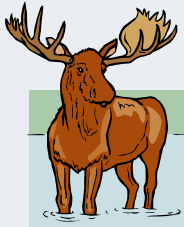
This week's Troop meeting will provide important info about winter camping safety.

FUTURE Troop Campout & Activity Info

- **Dec 5-7:** Pioneering & Winter Survival campout at Rainbow Council, Morris.
- **Jan 25 2009:** Winter Court of Honor, Longwood School
- **Jan 30-31 2009:** Klondike!
- **Feb 20-22 2009:** Ski/SB Weekend! Sundown Mountain Ski Resort, IA



MOOSE & MUSKY NEWS



Well, Moose & Muskie's...it's time to say goodbye to this column for another year!

You will soon be joining the "older" patrols and we'll see a new crew of "newbies" over the coming months.

Please welcome and help the new families into our troop, remembering how awkward and lost you might have felt without the help of others to guide you through this first year of Boy Scouts.

I hope this column has been helpful to you – if you read specific topics that you found useful, or if there were things that we did not cover, please let us know so we can improve in 2009.



You might be interested in knowing that last month one of our Scouts received the highest honor in the OA, the Vigil Honor. **Russell M** completed the ceremony on November 15th. Well done, Russ!



Order of the Arrow
Boy Scouts of America

MERIT BADGE REQUIREMENTS CHANGING

The requirements for seventeen merit badges will change on January 1, 2009 including those for Emergency Preparedness and Swimming. Also, Automotive Maintenance has replaced Auto Mechanics. With these changes only 1 merit badge has not changed requirements since January 2000.

When starting a merit badge, a scout must use the requirements in force at the time he started. If the requirements should subsequently change, he may continue to use the old requirements, or switch to the new requirements at his choice. With concurrence of the counselor, a boy may also start using the new requirements before January.

See: <http://usscouts.org/advancementTOC.asp> for more information and to get the most recent reqs for all badges and ranks.



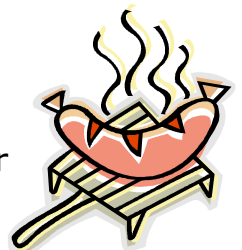
A Message From Your Committee Chair

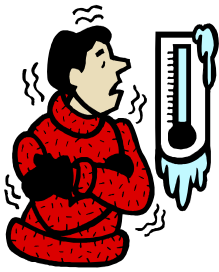


Yep, it's that time of the month again: Troop Committee Meeting time. We'll meet Sunday, December 7th at 7 pm, River Glen Church, and we'll discuss important directions for 2009. All parents are welcome...plus there is always **FREE FOOD!**

FREE FOOD, REDUX

I have 2 *CASES* of leftover (from Pancake Breakfast, unopened!), frozen sausages just waiting for a hungry Patrol to step forward and claim them for a future campout meal. Mmmmm. One call to Lisa Schweitzer and they'll be yours. (Contact info in is the Troop roster.)





DON'T BE LEFT OUT IN THE C-C-COLD!

Scouts should contact Mrs. Marcia Huston if you need a B-b-board of Review. The cut-off date for meeting rank requirements in order to be recognised at the Winter Court of Honor is *fast approaching*...just like the colder weather.

PHILMONT PHUNDRAISING

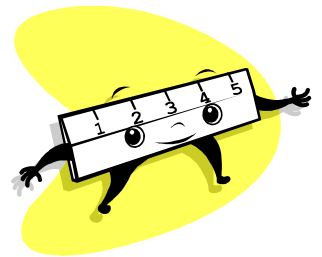


Those Scouts who participated in the popcorn fundraiser: Your collected \$\$\$ is due to Mr. Maurer THIS THURSDAY, Dec 4th.

Don't forget the Philmont training hike Saturday Dec 6th, during our campout this weekend. All Philmont participants are to attend. Contact Mr. Marineau if you have questions.

GOT INCHES?

Are your Scout's arms sticking out way beyond his uniform sleeves? Do his pant legs suggest 'capri'? If while going through your winter clothes, you find gently used items that your Scout has outgrown, please bring to our meetings. We're always looking for uniform pieces, Class B's, and appropriate articles of clothing, which we sell for a nominal fee to other scouts who need things. Summer camp will be here before you know it! Contact Mrs. See or Mrs. Wycklendt for details.



COIN COLLECTING MERIT BADGE – Mr. Marineau received this note regarding a great opportunity for scouts to learn a lot about coins and earn a merit badge. Click here for directions:
<http://www.westsuburbancoinshow.com/directions.html>.

A Boy Scout Coin Collecting Merit Badge Program will be held at the next West Suburban Coin & Collectibles Expo in Countryside, IL on Saturday December 13th, beginning at 10:00 am. The show is located at Park Place of Countryside Banquet Hall, 6200 Joliet Rd. All interested Boy Scouts in the Chicagoland area are invited to attend. This is the third year for the program with another large group of Scouts expected. The Merit Badge program will be presented by Patti Finner, ANA Vice President and Certified Merit Badge Counselor. Boy Scouts will learn the requirements for the Coin Collecting Merit Badge and can complete them at the show. **Each scout should come to the show with their collections for requirements 7, 8 & 9. Please see www.meritbadge.com for the requirement details.** Each scout will receive educational material. To reserve space, please RSVP Kevin Wasmer at email kwasmer@comcast.net .