



Troop 81 E-Mail News

March 10, 2009

VOLUME 4, NUMBER 8

Troop Meeting March 12th, 2009

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

Full Class A Uniforms, Gentlemen!



REMINDER

Your Permission Slip for the Controlled Burn campout is DUE **this** Thursday!

GET ORIENTED THIS THURSDAY:



We're having an orienteering night, so dress appropriately.

If weather prevents this outdoors, we'll have indoors "orienteering" instead – where scouts will rotate amongst the different patrols to complete activities and "get-to-know-ya-better" night.

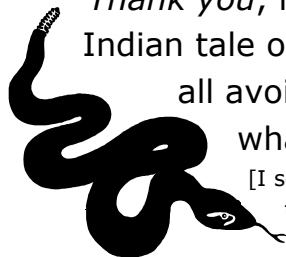


A DANGEROUS GAME

Thank you, Mr. Maurer, for your presentation on "the choking game". Awareness of danger is an important first step to avoiding that danger. If you would like more information, or if you missed this important meeting last week, here is a website link to GASP – Games Adolescents Shouldn't Play:

<http://gamesadolescentsshouldntplay.com/en/home.html> . More info on page 3 of this newsletter.

Thank you, Mr. Bainbridge, for retelling your American Indian tale of the young brave and a rattlesnake. May we all avoid the rattlesnakes in our lives! They are still what they are: rattlesnakes.



[I searched the internet for a reprint of this Cherokee legend. Here are two versions: <http://www.firstpeople.us/FP-HTML-Legends/TheLittleBoyAndTheRattlesnake-Cherokee.html> .]



MTG. CALENDAR

NEW INFO IS IN RED

Mar 12: Troop Meeting (Wolverine) *Orienteering & Meal Planning.*

Mar 19: Troop Meeting (Blackhawk) *Campout Procedures + Pack Inspection; Duty Roster*

Mar 26: Troop Meeting (Eagle) *Advancements! Tentatively: New Parent meeting night.*

Apr 2: NO MEETING!

SUN April 5: *PLC Mtg + Committee Mtg.*

Apr 9: *Troop Mtg (Scorpion) Map reading.*

Apr 16: *Troop Mtg (Viking) Gymnastics; meal planning.*

Apr 23: *Troop Mtg (Wolverine) Fire building/cooking contest.*

Apr 30: *Troop Mtg (Blackhawk) Advancements Night!*

Tentatively May 28: *Spring Court of Honor.*

**TROOP 81
BOY SCOUTS**
River Glen Church
Naperville, IL

WWW.TROOP81.ORG



LAST WEEK'S Troop Announcements

- **Summer Camp:** ALL SCOUTS should RSVP to Mrs. Fosler (turn in a green "Count Me In" form). This gives her an approximate headcount. Ask/remind your scout about this. Forms are on our website: <http://www.troop81.org/Permissionslips/CountMeIn2009.pdf> .
- **Save Postage!** Scout Account letters are available, but Parents to see Mr. Simnick to get your scout's, please. (We do not give them directly to scouts.)
- **Skit Night:** Thanks to all who participated. We never knew there were so many Clint Eastwoods in Scorpion Patrol... "Go ahead, Punk!"
- **Next Stop, Japan:** Thanks to Jay H for coming back to share with us his experiences of a recent trip to Japan. Only 32 Scouts from the US are selected each year. To apply for future trips, see Mr. Harrington.
- **Philmont Pholk:** Permission slip for 3/14-15 hike is due 3/12.

All previous newsletters are archived here:

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

FIRE! FIRE!! FIRE!!!

Our next campout features a controlled burn of the Illinois prairie at the Novak farm near Savanna. Permission slips are available on our website and are due THIS THURSDAY, 3/12:

http://www.troop81.org/Permissionslips/2009Mar_ControlledBurn.pdf.



FUTURE Troop Campout & Activity Info

- **Mar 20-22 2009:** Controlled burn at the Novak's Farm, Savanna, IL.
- **April 17-18 2009:** Moose/Musky Basic Training, at Blackwell FP.
- **Apr 24-26 2009:** Lincoln Pilgrimage @ Springfield IL. Info here: <http://www.alincolnbsa.org/pilgrimage/index.htm>
- **May 2 2009:** River Glen Workday + Webelos overnighter
- **TENTATIVE DATE May 8-10 2009:** Caving-aving-aving
- **June 5-7 2009:** Service Project weekend
- **June 27-July 4 2009:** Summer Camp at Owasippe!
- **August 7-8 2009:** Troop 81's 75th Anniversary Celebrations! Come join us at Von Oven Scout Reservation, downtown Naperville.

KEEPING CURRENT WITH YOUR TROOP



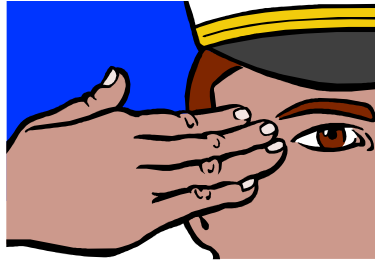
Our **next Troop Committee Meeting** will be **Sun, April 5th, 7 pm** at River Glen Church. All adults are welcome...and there's always **FREE FOOD** served.



NOTE: **NO** Troop Meeting over Spring Break week – April 2nd. No newsletter, either!



NEXT PLC meeting is on Sunday April 5th, at Mr. Maurer's house. ALL Scouts in leadership positions to attend, and any Scout Star rank and above is welcome. Time to be announced.



ON MY HONOR, I WILL...

...keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, morally straight.

Things I learned as a parent from last week's presentation on "the choking game":



- it is addictive, just like drugs
- it ALWAYS kills brain cells
- it causes between 250-1000 DEATHS each year (stats are often un-/under-reported because it can look like a suicide but wasn't intended to be)
- it goes by a lot of different names
- OUR kids are at risk: there is peer pressure on OUR kids to try this "game", even if you have never heard of it
- the kids involved are SMART and involved in great extra-curricular activities – they are not your typical drug users
- it starts out with a friend or a group doing it, but then kids do it on their own, alone
- how sad it would be to come across someone playing this "game" and how tragic to witness a death from it.

Things parents can do:

- become educated about this at: <http://gamesadolescentsshouldntplay.com/en/home.html>
- download the powerpoint or video materials from that website
- watch the video with your kids and discuss it with them
- hug your kids – don't underestimate the power of your touch – kids need you in their lives even if (*especially* if!) they push you away!

THE OWASIPPE COUNTDOWN CONTINUES!

15 weeks until departure



Count Me In! forms are also available on our website.

These are due back to Mrs. Fosler on **Thurs March 26th**.

NEW MOOSE SCOUTS: See Mrs. Fosler for a special packet explaining our Summer Camp plans – these are in a large manila folder, with a "MOOSE SCOUT" label on them. Ask your Moose Scout if they picked up their copy!

Questions? Contact Mrs. Lisa Fosler. Contact details in your Troop Roster.