



Troop 81 E-Mail News

October 22, 2009

VOLUME 4, NUMBER 31

Troop Meeting **October 22nd 2009**

Flags will be done
by **SCORPION**
PATROL.

Full Class A uniform,
please.



**QUARTER
MASTERS'
meeting from
6 pm THIS
Thursday...
secure a
replacement if
you'll be
absent.**



It's not yet the Thanksgiving month, but why wait to count your Troop blessings?

- Thanks to Mr. Maurer for his leadership over the past decade. (you can re-read his message to us, printed below)
- Thanks to Mr. Marineau for an always entertaining slide show for Sir Baden Maurer, and to Mrs. Nagy and her crew of kitchen elves for refreshments afterwards.
- Thanks to our adult mentors and parents for another safe, successful Camporee this past weekend.
- Thanks to two ladies who ensure we even *have* campouts: Mrs. Dunning and Mrs. Schwartz, month after month after month after... ☺
- Thanks to our 10 Parking Lot 'Captains' throughout our FUNdraising process: Mrs. Fosler, Mrs. Harrington, Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Nagy, Mrs. Piske, Mrs. Fosler again, Mrs. Schlaht, Mrs. Schwartz, Mr. Akstulewicz, and **YOUR NAME HERE** (because we still need someone for Oct 31-Nov 1).
- Thanks to Mr. Lupsha for single-handedly coordinating the FUNdraising efforts again this year. Why not step up and help him?
- Thanks to all the Scouts who have participated in our FUNdraising so far. Through Week #5, you've raised over \$11,000.



This is YOUR Troop. And we ARE blessed!



MTG. CALENDAR

NEW INFO IS IN RED

Oct 22: Troop Meeting (Scorpion) Demo night.

Oct 24-25: Pancake Weekend #8. Mrs. Schwartz is our 'captain'.

Oct 25: PLC Mtg. 4 pm.

Oct 29: Troop Meeting (Viking)

Oct 31-Nov 1 : Pancake Weekend #9. **CAPTAIN?**

Nov 5: Troop Meeting (Wolverine)

Nov 7-8: LAST Pancake selling weekend. Mr. Akstulewicz is our 'capt'n'.

Nov 8: Troop Committee Mtg, 7 pm, River Glen.

Nov 12: Troop Mtg & Pancake Training @ NNHS

Nov 14: PANCAKE DAY! Starts at 5 am...finishes at 1 pm. Plan on the perennial Post Pancake Parents Pizza Party in the evening. **See flier, pg 5.**

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

WWW.TROOP81.ORG



THIS PAST WEEK'S Troop Announcements

- **LAST MTG** We had a discussion about the importance of dressing in layers, with NO COTTON whatsoever. Next week's newsletter will reprint a lengthier article on this subject, by Mr. Pronger. **Extra Credit:** Ben M's real name is: (a) Ben Shady (b) Mr. West or (c) Ben-Who???
- **BRING BACK ALL TROOP EQUIPMENT** Make a note of any broken/missing equipment pieces and tell your Patrol QM so we can keep the gear in tip-top shape for next campout. Did you know our website has complete instructions on how to care for our equipment? Check it out.
- **NAME TAGS** Thanks to Mrs. Sue Simpson for bringing her sewing machine the past 2 weeks and sewing on many Scouts' new name tags. If you have not yet picked up *your* name tag, see Mr. Mertes. (Now, if we could just get those badges sewn on, too....)
- **PARKING LOT UPDATE** Thanks to Mrs. Schlaht for stepping up and taking last weekend's parking lot 'captain' duties at very short notice. We still need 1 more weekend filled by your name here, for Oct 31-Nov 1.

All previous newsletters are archived here:

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



GOT BOARDS?

Scouts, remember to schedule your Boards of Review with Mrs. Marcia Huston (contact details listed under Kmiec in the roster). The deadline for qualifying to receive awards at the Winter Court of Honor will be Dec 17th (but that's our Troop party) so, **Get 'er dun!**

FUTURE Troop Campout & Activity Info

- **November 6-7-8:** The Silo's indoor climbing event, Bloomington, IL. Camping is at Camp Peairs. Climbing info at www.upperlimits.com. Be sure to click on the 360' interactive look! This is going to be fun ☺
- **November 14 2009:** Annual Pancake Breakfast! There are 10 weekends of sales. See specific weekend dates to the ← left.
- **Dec 11-13** – Wilderness survival/geocaching campout.
- **January 15-17** – "Klondike" at Owasippe. This'll be a real Jack London experience: ice rescues, snow shoeing, first aiding, fire starting, breaking camp, changing sites, rifle demos, AND SO MUCH MORE!
- **February** – Skiing campout, Sundown Mtn.
- **March** – Governor Dodge State Park, WI.
- **April 16-18 2010** – Illinois Caverns; camping at Camp Vandeventer.
- **May** – Pause for Patriotism
- **June** – Owasippe!

WHA'Z UP?

THIS THURS: We're having more entertaining demos, in preparation for our winter campouts.

SUNDAY: OCT 25th - You marked this on your calendars, right? Any Scout, Star Rank and above, and ALL Scouts in leadership positions within the Troop need to attend the next PLC Meeting. Listen for details this week, and/or contact Tommy D.

OUR NOV CAMPOUT: Come climbing - 5.9 technical difficulty - sheer vertical walls of terror, er, terrificness! Here's the link for a complete 360-degree view of what you'll encounter:

<http://www.upperlimits.com/blog/omington/360main.htm>

(we have been assured that the current technical difficulties with the equipment will be fixed by the time we go there) - now, aren't you curious?!
Click already!

EAGLES CORNER

- Mike H would like to thank all who helped complete the patio landscaping outside River Glen for his Eagle Project.
- Tommy D's project is coming up: Oct 31st. Come help paint the upstairs of a Senior Home Sharing Organization home. See his separate email for details, or contact him at Troop Meetings.



KEEPING CURRENT REMINDERS FOR PARENTS



Our next Troop Committee Meeting will be Sunday November 8th, 7 pm, River Glen Church. All adults welcome... and of course there's 'free food'!
hurrah

Looking forward, there are a few key positions coming up within our Committee:

- ☞ **Lisa Fosler** will complete her final year as Summer Camp Coordinator in 2010 - Owasippe paperwork starts soon for next summer, so look to come on board soon so you can learn the ropes from her;
- ☞ **Lisa Schweitzer** was always planning (*eventually*) to hand over those Newsletter reins, but you never know, there might just be someone out there *right now* who would like to revamp our Troop communications and keep us current on all things scouting? - *she hopes so...!*;
- ☞ Look around and see what role *you* can play in making T81 successful!



SCOUTS: Want to complete a merit badge, but don't know how to or who to contact? Our Troop has countless adults ready to assist you. Contact Mr. Wycklendt for a complete list of Merit Badge Counselors.

And, here's some new ones to consider:

The **SCUBA merit badge** has been approved! Reqs were finalized and book went to print 10/6/09. See Mr. Harrington for full details, and, if you want to complete this.

A **GPS/GIS merit badge** has been approved. Debut expected early 2010.

And, a **Scouting Heritage merit badge** has also been approved...expected later this year.

PANCAKE UPDATE 7.0

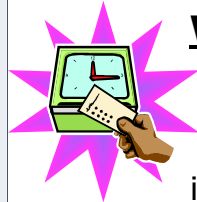
We're going into our eighth weekend of sales... Mrs. Schwartz is our Parking Lot Captain for October 24-25. ***THANK YOU!***



PARENTS: Full details on all things pancake are in the September 1st newsletter. This is archived on our Troop website: www.troop81.org.

WHAT WE STILL NEED:

- URGENT:** Parking Lot 'Captain' for Oct 31-Nov 1.
- Getting urgent:** Someone with a truck and/or sturdy suspension to pick up large griddles the day before the Pancake Breakfast.
- Next week:** we'll publish a complete list of the adult help needed at the Pancake Breakfast – see Mr. Lupsha now if you have a favorite job you gotta have. 1st come, 1st...



WHAT'S MY SHIFT? Families with last name beginning A→K work the 5am-10am shift; families with last name beginning L→Z work the 9am-1pm shift. Any switching must have Mr. Lupsha's prior (as in prior to 11/14!) approval.

LOOKING FORWARD:

- ☞ We will hold Pancake 'Training' at the Naperville North High School, during our regular troop meeting, Thurs Nov 12th. This training is for BOTH parents AND scouts – at least 1 parent from each family should attend.
- ☞ 7 weekends down...3 to go...are you on track to achieve your goals? See Mr. Lupsha for a tally of your earnings. Plan ahead - 1 of those remaining weeks is a campout.
- ☞ Parents are invited to our PPPPP* the evening of the Breakfast event - details soon. (*post pancake parent pizza party)

NEIGHBORHOOD \$ELLING IS WIDE 'OPEN'

If you haven't done so already, be sure to pick up your *Friends & Family* selling envelope from Mr. Lupsha... because...door-to-door selling in most neighborhoods is officially 'open'.

- ☺ Reminding that there is NO selling on Sundays in Naperville. ☺
- ☺ Selling \$50 or more F&F tickets qualifies as 1 sales session. ☺



Boy Scout Troop 81's Annual
5-P
(Post-Pancakes Parent's Pizza Party!!!)

Saturday, November 14, 2009
6:00 pm

Tim & Alicia Mauer's house
2610 Doncaster Drive (Oakhurst Subdivision)
Aurora, IL

This event is planned for ALL Troop 81 parents, regardless of whether you attended the breakfast. We get together, have fun and get to know each other, without the boys for a change! So take a nap after the pancake breakfast, and come enjoy an evening out!!

Pizza, pasta and salad will be provided. Estimate ~\$8-10 per person. BYO drinks, and an appetizer as well.

Please RSVP to Beth Schwartz by November 7th, if possible
(630) 527-1135 or essnet05@yahoo.com

My Troop 81 Family,

Those of you attending the August Court of Honor watched as I struggled to confirm the announcement of my retirement from the Scoutmaster position of Troop 81. It has been a rare privilege for me to serve the scouts of this troop for so many years. I have had the opportunity to watch and lead this troop as many of your boys, and both of my sons have grown into fine young men. I have had the opportunity to truly climb to the tallest heights of scouting as I traveled to Philmont and the Pecos Wilderness. I have camped in the freezing cold, the blistering heat, miserable rain, experienced tornados, floods, desert, raging rapids, the crazy commotion of Owasippe summer camp and the peace of the silence that comes only at the end of the day sitting atop a mountain.

I know, as you read of these experiences, many of you can't imagine wanting to do these things. Looking back, I can't imagine my life having not taken the opportunity to have these experiences with my sons and yours. The uniqueness of the scouting program after all, allows each of us to experience these things with our sons rather than watching them from the sidelines as they experience things on their own. If you don't already, I encourage you to make a change.

Over the years I have gained and made many friendships, which I hope will last for many many years. You are all very special to me. I recognize that I have also upset people along the way, who today I hope will understand that I was always and only looking to develop and maintain a scouting program which we could all be proud of being a part.

There is a special THANK YOU in order for those who have taken on Assistant Scoutmaster and Committee Leadership positions, who have stood by my side, through the glory and the through the wrath which comes with being a leader in this troop. No one person could have ever hoped to do the job I have done without the help and support of so many special people. The real success of this troop has been this group of people, standing shoulder to shoulder, with a common vision and the conviction in their beliefs of building character and leadership and confident young men with unquestionable ability to take care of themselves and others in all kind of circumstances. It has been our common goal that each of the scouts wears his badges, not as a decoration, but rather a symbol of his knowledge and ability. Those of us in these positions have not always led with the rules but rather with our hearts as we struggled from time to time to make the best possible decisions. It is with unbelievable gratitude that I say THANK YOU to all of you for giving me this tremendous opportunity and unbending support over the past many years.

This Thursday's meeting will be the first for Joe Harrington as our new Scoutmaster. The torch of leadership will be passed. I wish Joe all the success in the world as he takes on this awesome responsibility.

For those of you who have asked, I am not leaving the troop. I hope to continue to contribute to the success of this troop in any way possible.

THANK YOU all for my many years as Scoutmaster of this troop.

Yours in Scouting,

Tim Maurer

Dated September 30, 2009