



Troop 81 E-Mail News

March 4, 2010

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 5

Troop Meeting **MAR 4, '10,**

Flags, meeting set-up, and take-down will be done by

SCORPION
PATROL.



REMINDING

Complete your March campout permission slip – either download from our website or get one at our meeting this week.

Slips are due
NEXT WEEK,
March 11.

WELCOME TO TROOP 81!



Hi, I'm your Newsletter Editor – it is my privilege to provide you with the information which will keep you up to date...which helps you help your son along his scouting journey...and everything in between. ☺ I've resurrected the "Just For Moose" column in this issue (see last page) – look for it each week to provide you with a few 'antler tips' on how to make this first year of Boy Scouts in T81 a most successful one!

~LS

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE "SCOUT-LED"

Troop 81 takes great pride in allowing its scouts to safely plan and execute the troop scouting programs wherever and whenever possible. For example, each month a different patrol has an outing just for their patrol. This is a fun outing, sure...but it also teaches leadership, planning, and teamwork skills.



- 2/18 = Wolverine already met at Vertical Endeavors*.
- 3/18 = Viking's will meet at Vertical Endeavors*.
- April = Scorpion's turn...
- May = Eagle's turn...
- June = Blackhawk's turn...
- July = Moose/Musky's turn!

Patrols should research and plan these events entirely on their own during their patrol time. Each patrol has \$50 in available funds to support their event (and may need to charge additional fees to cover costs). (* Patrols do not have to go to Vertical Endeavors!)



MTG. CALENDAR

**NEW INFO IS ALWAYS
IN RED**

Mar 4: Troop Mtg.
(Scorpion)

Mar 7: Troop Committee
Mtg, 7 pm, River Glen

Mar 11: Troop Mtg.
(Wolverine)

Mar 18: Troop Mtg.
(Viking)

Mar 25: Troop Mtg.
(Blackhawk) **Summer
camp CMI forms due!**

Mar 28: PLC Mtg. 4 pm,
Harrington's House.

Apr 1: **NO** Troop Mtg.
Enjoy your Spring Break!

Apr 8: Troop Mtg.
(Eagle)

Apr 15: Troop Mtg.
(Scorpion)

Apr 22: Troop Mtg.
(Viking)

Apr 29: Troop Mtg.
(Wolverine)

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

WWW.TROOP81.ORG



WHAT DID I MISS LAST WEEK?



- We held OA Elections 2/25. Thanks to guest Ryan H. from Troop 101 for coming to help with this.
- The NEW Moose & Musky Patrols are being formed – see separate information for all new scouts and parents in this newsletter! WELCOME!!!
- Scout Account balance letters were given to all returning scouts from Mr. Simnick ... and all re-registration materials are due back to Mr. Rypka by March 25.
- There was a PLC Meeting at Mr. Harrington's on 2/28.
- Check the Lost & Found bin once in awhile (especially after campouts). Sometimes you don't know you've lost it 'till you find it...
- SPL Chris D reminded ALL scouts to go to their respective rooms for Patrol Time (not sit out in main meeting area during patrol time) – this is regardless of your position or your rank. Scouts should continue to sit together in Patrols during meetings. Jackets off (stay awhile)!
- Viking Patrol will have their patrol outing at Vertical Endeavors on March 11th. All other patrols meet at River Glen as usual.

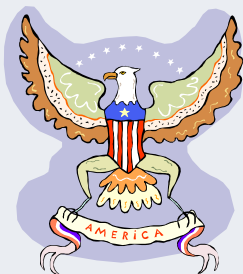
All previous newsletters are archived here:
<http://www.troop81.org/information.htm>



2010 Troop Campout & Activity Info

- **March 19-21** – Permission slip is available this Thursday and will be posted on our website for you to download. It will be due March 11th.
- **DATE CHANGE: April 9→11** (instead of 16→18) – Illinois Caverns; camping at Camp Vandeventer.
- **April 23-25** – Moose/Musky Basic Training Campout. Current scouts camp both April 23 and April 24; new scouts camp only April 24. Location is Blackwell Preserve. This is an important campout for scouts joining T81 and not to be missed!
- **May 14-16** – "Pause for Patriotism" theme. This campout is held in Bourbonnais, IL, celebrating patriotism with lots of activities: "An action packed day provides thousands of students/scouts from all over Illinois to meet Armed Forces personnel, view jet flyovers, climb in helicopters and an Abrams Tank, view tons of military equipment, demonstrations, entertainment and crafts."
- **June 26th → July 3rd = SUMMER CAMP at Owasippe.** See additional info in this newsletter and in the coming weeks. **Your "Count Me In" forms are due March 25th.** CMI forms are also required for those adults and leaders attending.

EAGLES' **CORNER**



*"A Scout is:
...Loyal..."*

1. Matt M's Eagle Court of Honor is **THIS** Saturday March 6th, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, at 2.30 pm.

2. Matt O'B's Eagle project will begin on Saturday March 13th – listen for details & sign up sheet info.

3. Chris D's Eagle Court of Honor is March 27th at 3 pm, St. Thomas Church gym, Brookdale Rd. Look for invites/RSVP details soon.

UPDATES From Your Committee Chair, Mr. Cronin



Two items: First, our next Troop Committee Meeting is this Sunday, March 7th, 7 pm, and will run for **17** minutes less than **77** minutes, at River Glen Church. YES, the meetings are only an hour long. YES, there is free food. **All parents are welcome...and we hope to see all new parents there as well!**

You'll always be the first to hear what's going on at our Committee Meetings. **So repeating, our next Committee Meeting is scheduled for March 7th at 7 pm.** See you then!



Second, I want to thank those parents who are considering new positions in the troop. I have had a few parents contact me and several more contact the existing position holders for details on how they can help.

But remember my story about "Everybody" and "Nobody"?...please don't assume that everything is now covered. **Here are a few specific tasks where we still need assistance:**

- Assist Mr. Simnick with balancing our monthly 'books' and annual budgets.
- Join our Outdoor Activities team and help schedule our scouts' monthly campouts (make phone calls, make reservations, prepare driver lists and maps, etc.)
- Become a Merit Badge Counselor (choose one in your skill area or an area that interests you and you want to learn about too!).
- Join our Summer Camp team – assist with any (or all!) aspects of this week-long program: prepare info packets and checklists for scouts and parents, collect payments and necessary forms, coordinate transportation, etc.
- Assist Mrs. Dubbins with our scouts' advancements (collect advancement sheets from adult leaders, maintain records on our scouts' achievements, purchase patches and badges from Scout Shop, etc.)

Can't help right now? Some additional jobs for the future include:

- Join our friendly Hospitality team to provide future Courts of Honor (May 2010, August 2010, and January 2011).
- Join our FOS (Friends of Scouting) team in January 2011 and handout materials and collect donations.
- Assist Mrs. Nagy with collecting annual medical forms and updating troop records accordingly.
- Join the annual FUNdraising team to coordinate our Pancake Breakfast ticket sales (10 weeks from early Sept 2010) and the Breakfast itself (Sat in Nov 2010).

"TRAILER PROJECTS" AVIALABLE



No, not for rent....

Our Troop and Patrol Quartermasters do a terrific job keeping our trailers in tip-top shape. ☺

There are, however, a few additional modifications needed to make our trailers extra efficient and super safe.

Scouts, if working with tools is your 'game', contact SPL Chris for some details on how you can help with these additional 'trailer projects'.

T-minus 16 Weeks: SUMMER CAMP 2010

"Count Me In" forms are due in THREE WEEKS, March 25th.

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 – her contact info is in your new Troop Roster!



What's a CMI anyway? "Count Me In" is a form that says you are interested in attending Owasippe this summer – it gives our coordinators a rough headcount. And, only those who turn in "Count Me In" will receive the full packet of summer camp info, to save paper. ☺

How much does summer camp cost? The 'base' price for a full week is \$415 per scout, \$185 per adult – this includes your transportation, all meals at camp, and most activities. A night on the Silversides submarine is an additional \$32. Some activities require an additional \$5 to \$35, depending on the materials involved (e.g., horseback riding, rifle shooting, some merit badges come to mind).

NEW PARENTS: Every new scout will benefit tremendously from attending Owasippe their first year with Boy Scouts – they will complete 2 or 3 merit badges at camp itself, as well as most (if not all) requirements to achieve their 2nd Class rank. We will hold a special 'new parent night' to answer your many questions.

"A SCOUT IS: ...HELPFUL..."

There's a couple of opportunities to earn service hours coming up soon:

- Providing the fire for St. Thomas' Easter vigil service;
- Presenting the flag ceremony for Naperville Township's annual general meeting in April.

Listen for details...and see the sign up sheets at troop meetings.

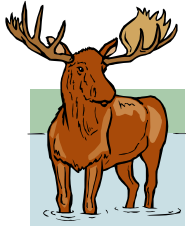
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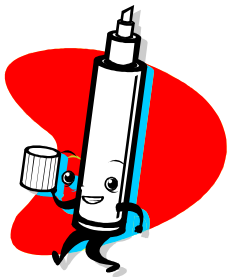
IT'S BACK: USEFUL MOOSE (& Musky) NEWS!



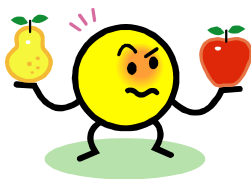
Each issue we'll highlight something just for 'Moose' Families in this column. We call new Scouts 'the Moose' because that is the patrol they are first placed in. (Sometimes we have enough new scouts join that we have 2 new patrols: Moose AND Musky. But for now, collectively we call you all 'Moose'.

First things first!

- Have you completed all paperwork to join Troop 81? Please include your medical form(s), too. Turn in everything to Mr. Dave Rypka, who handles registrations.
- Have you joined our Troop's Yahoo Groups e-mailing list? If you're reading this newsletter from the website, go back to the home page of our website and look for instructions on how to sign up. OR, give your email address directly to Mr. Rypka.
- Has your Scout* put his name on his Scouting Handbook, on all of his uniform pieces, and everything he will use at Troop meetings and campouts?! ☺ Trust us when we say every Scout's stuff looks like every other Scout's stuff. Get out those Sharpie markers...! (*note that we said has your SCOUT done this)



COMPARING THE LINGO



CUB SCOUTS	BOY SCOUTS
Den (same grade boys) Pack	Patrol (mixed grades) Troop
Blue & Gold Banquet 1/yr	Court of Honor 3/yr
Rank progression: Tiger...Wolf...Bear... Webelo...	Rank progression: Scout...Tenderfoot...2 nd Class...1 st Class...Star...Life...
Arrow of Light Pack Meeting Den Meeting	Eagle Troop Meeting "Patrol Time" during troop meeting
Activity Badge Cubmaster Den Leader	Merit Badge Scoutmaster Adult Mentor
Achievements signed off by parent	Achievements signed off by older scouts
Camping once in a great while Fun	Camping every month Fun ²