



Troop 81 E-Mail News

April 22, 2010

Troop Meeting April 22, 2010

The Great Patrol Cookoff!

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



REMINDER!

The Great Patrol
Cookoff is this
week! Contact your
Patrol Leader for
more information!

All Troop and
Patrol Quartermas-
ters: there will be
a post-campout
clean-up session
this Thurs. at River
Glenn at 6:00. If
you can't make it,
get a substitute!

TROOP 81

River Glen Church
Naperville, IL

www.troop81.org



"Caving's the Best!"

The Scouts returned, tired, dirty, wet
and happy! The good news: They all
returned. The bad news: the rest of
the day was spent cleaning, washing
and drying stuff. A great time was
had by all!

"New to Troop 81" meeting had a great turnout!

Scoutmaster Joe Harrington opened the meeting with two
questions that all of the attendees can now answer:

**What is the Scoutmaster's
primary responsibility?**

What do the Scouts learn?*

That, and many more questions were answered at the
"New to Troop 81" meeting held last week. Many topics
were covered and if you weren't taking notes, turn to the
second to last page of this newsletter for highlights (and
the answers). Mr. Cronin had a great handout which can be
found on the Troop 81 website. Both Mr. Harrington and Mr.
Cronin would like to thank all the parents for attending.

Court of Honor Prep

The Spring Court of Honor is fast approaching! It's May
27th at 7:00 pm at the Church. Bring your Scout books this
Thursday so your Patrol Mentors can update the blue ad-
vancement books for you.

Patrol Mentors should bring their completed and filled out
blue books to turn in to Mrs. Dubbins **this Thursday night**.
Please take care of this so no one needs to be chased down,
strung up or otherwise coerced into delivering said blue
books!

MTG. CALENDAR

NEW INFO IS ALWAYS IN RED

Apr 22: Troop Mtg.
VIKING

Apr 29: Troop Mtg.
WOLVERINE

May 1: Spring Service
Project–Work Day, 8am,
River Glen Church

May 6: Troop Mtg.
BLACKHAWK

May 13: Troop Mtg.
EAGLE

May 20: Troop Mtg.
MOOSE & MUSKIE

May 27: Troop Mtg.
SCORPION + COURT OF
HONOR

June 3: Troop Mtg.
VIKING

June 10: Troop Mtg.
WOLVERINE

**Meetings begin
promptly at
7:00 pm.**

**Please arrive with
enough time to
take off your coat
and find a seat.
Remember a Class
A uniform includes
a T81 hat, a neck-
erchief or bolo (for
Star and above),
and a tucked in
shirt.**

? WHAT DID I MISS LAST WEEK ?

- The Canine Officer scheduled for the evening was called on duty, so he will be rescheduled for a later date. Stay tuned!
- Mr. Ginnell called a short meeting after the Troop Mtg. for all the attendees of the Boundary Waters High Adventure.
- SPL Chris D. reiterated the necessity for hiking boots for ALL campouts–Must be on your feet at departure!
- Mrs. See brought some “broken in” Class B cotton T-shirts to sell at the meeting (\$1.00–Such a deal!). The order form and information for new Class B shirts, both cotton and poly-pro can be found on the last page of this newsletter.

2010 TROOP CAMPOUT AND ACTIVITY INFO

- **April 23-25: Moose/Musky Basic Training Campout**
There is a “New Parent” campout as well. Current scouts camp both April 23 & 24. New scouts and parents camp only April 24. Location is Blackwell Preserve. This is an important campout for scouts new to T81.
- **May 1: Annual Service Project Work Day**, a.m., River Glen Church.
- **May 14-16:** “Pause for Patriotism,” Bourbonnais.
- **May 27:** The Spring **Court of Honor** will be held. at 7:00 pm at River Glen Church.
- **June 4-6:** Owasippe Service Project Weekend.
- **June 26-July 3: SUMMER CAMP** at Owasippe!

SUMMER CAMP 2010

T-MINUS 10...AND COUNTING!



Anyone going to summer camp or a High Adventure camp must turn in a current (w/in 1 yr.) Part B medical form. Parts A & C were due last week. Get those physicals scheduled

ASAP! See Mrs. Nagy to make sure you have everything in. Forms can be downloaded from the Troop website. It's a great turnout for this summer–85 campers so far! Make sure your activities choices and \$\$ have been turned in to Mrs. Fosler.



EAGLES' CORNER

Drew L's final Eagle Project work day will be this Sunday, April 25th at River Glen Church. It will go from 1:30 to 4:00 (or whenever it's completed). There will be a sign-up sheet at this Thursday's meeting.

Over the summer, **Cody S** (Blackhawk Patrol) completed his Eagle Scout service project: building a garden area and retaining wall for Little Friends, Inc., a private, non-profit organization that serves children and adults with autism and other developmental disabilities. Cody also passed his BOR earning the rank of Eagle Scout. Troop 81 is invited to congratulate him on Sat. May 8th at 12 noon at River Glen Church with a lunch following the ceremony. Please RSVP to: nsturdivant@comcast.net

If anyone is looking for an Eagle Project, see **Stuart Katz**.



CONGRATULATIONS CODY!

Scouts and Adults going on the Boundary Waters High Adventure:

We will be having a meeting before the troop meeting this Thursday at 6PM (boys and adults) to discuss equipment and routes for the two crews.

Adults please make sure your auto insurance information is up to date with the troop.

Those who have not signed up yet we have a few open slots if you are interested, please see me.



SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

- **Saturday, April 24:** The 40th anniversary of Earth Day

"bring green to your home"

Saturday, April 24 at North Central College
10:00 am – 2:00 pm, 440 S. Brainard St., Naperville 60540

- Free and open to the public
- Expert presentations
- Green products and services
- Free electronics recycling

- **Saturday, May 1:** River Glen Work Day. This is an annual opportunity.

There are sign-up sheets at the troop meetings and see Mr. Bainbridge for more info.

JUST A REMINDER: If you've signed up for ANY kind of a service project—a town event or helping with an Eagle project—please write it down and make sure you have transportation to the event. If for some reason you cannot fulfill your commitment, please contact the person in charge as soon as you know. Give them time to find a replacement—or better yet, make some calls and find someone to cover for you. Be considerate! People are counting on you!

A SCOUT IS TRUSTWORTHY

ASSISTANT SCOUTMASTERS

Scoutmaster training is being offered May 5, 12th and 19th from 7:30 to 9:30 pm. You must attend all 3 sessions to be fully trained. RSVP to Dave Bruns, 630-536-8942 or dmbruns@comcast.net.

NOTE: Training will be mandatory for all youth contact leaders in the next year or two, so you will want to get this taken care of now if you can.

COMMITTEE NEWS

Next Committee Mtg: Sunday, May 2, 7 pm at River Glen Church

All troop parents are welcome to attend! Get involved! Find out what makes Troop 81 so great (besides all the FREE FOOD)! Meetings last approximately 90 minutes.

PASSING THE TORCH....

"All good things must end..." I'm not sure who said that, but I know that change is the only thing we can count on. The time has come for Mrs. Schweitzer to take on new responsibilities. She has been the **AMAZING** newsletter editor for the past six years. I know **AMAZING** describes her contributions and the amount of time and energy she has given Troop 81. This is my second edition of this newsletter and I KNOW what she and her family have given! She is going to turn her talents and energy to new opportunities for the Troop and I'm sure that word (**AMAZING**) will be used again in future issues of the newsletter concerning her work.

In her own words:

At the end of our troop meeting last week my long-suffering and ever-patient son was waiting for me to finish my business so we could go home. As I gathered my things and wrapped up my conversation, I remembered just a few more points I needed to discuss with someone else. "Mom, you can't walk more than 10 steps without entering into a conversation with SOMEBODY, can you? Now, LET'S GO!" Since I was by then in the middle of talking with a very nice lady, I thought the only polite thing to do was introduce my interrupting son to her. How his demeanor changed! Once Jackson knew exactly WHO this person was, he immediately stuck out his hand and said very emphatically: "Thank you, Thank you, Thank you! You don't know how much I appreciate your taking over the newsletter from my Mom!"

Yes, that's right. You now have a new newsletter editor, Mrs. Sandy Alfaia. I (and my family) do indeed thank and appreciate her taking on this challenge. We look forward to her keeping us informed of all things Troop-related.

Many people have come up to me and asked why I am leaving. Rest assured I don't leave something unless it is in good hands, and those good hands are Sandy's. And I'm not leaving the troop—my son is but a Sophomore, and he is still very interested in continuing with scouting—but you'll have to "watch this space" to find out what exactly I'll be doing in the future.

It has truly been my pleasure to serve you in Troop 81. I remember my son's first troop meeting...his first campout...his first merit badge...his first position of responsibility...his first Court of Honor...his first summer camp experience. In fact, I remember every meeting, campout, badge, position, and Court he's attended because I've been there too, recording all of our scouts' accomplishments and experiences in your newsletter. When the opportunity arose to fill this position back in 2006, I fair jumped at it. *What better way to remember my own son's accomplishments than to be right alongside him, involved in the troop? Our adult leaders get such satisfaction from seeing our boys grow and mature into fine young men and great citizens through Scouting—why would any of us want to miss seeing that process as well?*

So, join in and help where you can. Get involved with your own son's scouting program. And, as my son said to your new newsletter editor, I say to you now: **"THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, for the part you play in helping my son in Troop 81"**

—Lisa Schweitzer

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE "NEW TO TROOP 81" MEETING

- **SCOUT LED:** The Scouts run the meetings, deciding the programs and activities. The adult leaders are there for guidance and safety.
The first year Scouts will split into 2 patrols. Each patrol will have an adult mentor but the older Scouts will help instruct them.
During the Basic Training Campout they will learn fire safety, fire building, knife safety, using the Troop stoves and setting the tents up (in the dark!) A basic **gear list** is available on www.troop81.org. From the Home Page, click on Troop Documents and from the list, choose **Camping Gear & Clothing Checklist**. (Choose an Excel or PDF version). It is followed by **Camping Gear Checklist Explanation**.

IMPORTANT: Be sure to put your Scout's name on EVERYTHING. All Scouts have the same handbook, hat, scarf, etc. Putting his name on EVERYTHING ensures it gets back to him when lost. Also, **DO NOT PACK FOR YOUR SON! Make sure he packs for the coldest temperature it could be, but let him pack his own bag so he knows what he has and where it is stowed!**

- **ATTENDANCE:** Scouts should strive for at least 50% participation at meetings, campouts and service projects to be successful. Anything less makes it difficult to meet advancement requirements and more importantly, to stay interested in continuing with Scouting. Service projects can include non-Scouting events, such as volunteering at a Church, Food Pantry, Toy's for Tots, etc.
- **ADVANCEMENT:** Each Scout advances through the ranks at his own rate. He can complete most of the requirements through 1st Class during troop meetings and on campouts. First year Scouts have a fairly structured program to ensure they can attain a 1st Class rank within a year. Attendance at summer camp is strongly encouraged to complete many of the requirements for all ranks and Merit Badges. Complete information and worksheets are available for all Badges at www.meritbadge.org.
- **DISCIPLINE:** Inappropriate behavior is not tolerated. A first offense is usually handled by the Patrol mentor and the SPL—typically just talked to. Usually that's enough. If the behavior persists, the parents will be called and must pick him up.
- **UNIFORMS:** Uniforms must be worn during all scouting activities.
 - Field Uniform** (formerly Class A): consists of the BSA tan shirt, Scout related belt, neckerchief slide, Troop 81 hat and neckerchief and a pen.
 - Activity Uniform** (Class B): Red Troop 81 T-shirt and Troop 81 hat, Scout related belt (Activity uniform is worn to meetings during the summer from Memorial Day through Labor Day, at campouts, and summer camp and other scouting activities such as service projects.

Shirts are **always** tucked in and shoes **tied** and should be in proper condition and appropriate for the activity. (See next page for order information)

Mr. Cronin (Committee Chair) had a terrific handout introducing all the Committee members, Committee positions available, fundraising and the Troop Website.

**BIGGEST TAKE-AWAY: GET INVOLVED! GO CAMPING! JOIN THE COMMITTEE!
WORK TOGETHER TO HELP OUR SONS BECOME THE MEN WE HOPE THEY'LL BE!**



TROOP 81 "ACTIVITY" BOY SCOUT T-SHIRTS

If you are new to Troop 81, you will need 1 or 2 Class B uniform shirts—even if your Scout is not going to camp. If going to summer camp, he will need 2 to 3 shirts as they are worn during the week at any time that the scout leaves the troop's campsite. Two types are offered. The traditional cotton for \$7.00-9.00 and a Dry Fit (moisture management) t-shirt designed to keep you cooler and drier, with a small chest logo for \$13.00-16.00.

Complete this order form and return to Sherry See or Maureen Wycklendt by April 23, 2010.

Payment is due when shirts arrive.

SCOUT NAME _____ PATROL _____
 PARENT CONTACT _____ PHONE/EMAIL _____

COTTON T-SHIRT

(ADULT) SIZE	QUANTITY	
Small	_____	@\$7.00
Medium	_____	@\$7.00
Large	_____	@\$7.00
Extra-Large	_____	@\$7.00
2XL	_____	@\$8.00
3XL	_____	@\$8.00

TOTAL _____ \$ _____

DRY FIT T-SHIRT

(ADULT) SIZE	QUANTITY	
Small	_____	@\$13.00
Medium	_____	@\$13.00
Large	_____	@\$13.00
Extra-Large	_____	@\$13.00
2XL	_____	@\$15.00
3XL	_____	@\$16.00

TOTAL _____ \$ _____

QUESTIONS? Contact Sherry See (630-527-1388) momzilla22@wowway.com
 or Maureen Wycklendt (630-416-6035) wycked123@sbcglobal.net