



Troop 23 – Hot News January 24, 2021

CALENDAR UPDATES:

- 2/6 – Saturday – 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Klondike Derby, Cantigny
 - 2/7 – Sunday – 10 a.m. – 11 a.m. Scout Sunday, First Presbyterian Church
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EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT UPDATE:

Hello again, my name is of course Patrick Herr, and I am working on my Eagle Project wherein reusable masks are being made for donation to the Wyndemere Community/Wynscape Nursing & Rehab Center and the Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans.

To that end I'm seeking volunteers who are willing to assist with the assembly of masks. All materials will be provided by me, having been pre-cut and measured. Plans for the masks will also be provided, but the design is extremely simple. To be clear, while I'm extremely grateful to everyone who has already or is willing to donate, I am not seeking additional donations or assistance with prepping materials, just people who can sew masks into finished products.

If you are willing to assist, thank you! And please email me at pherreagleproject@gmail.com



DISTRICT KLONDIKE DERBY FEBRUARY 6TH:

The Chippewa District Klondike Derby will be held at Cantigny from 8 to 4 on Saturday, February 6th. Patrols will be competing in the following events: Fire Building, First Aid, Log Sawing, Bear Bag Hanging, Knots, Signaling, Lashing, Sled Race, Tug-O-War, and Tomahawk Throwing.

The downside is that right now only one patrol will be allowed from each troop. We are getting a list together of scouts from all our patrols that would like to participate, and the TLC will 'form' a patrol or two that will compete on behalf of our troop. If you want to be on the list of scouts from our troop, PLEASE LET YOUR PATROL LEADER KNOW! Not all scouts who sign up will be able to go. In the meantime, practice those skills listed above!

SCOUT SUNDAY FEBRUARY 7TH:

Our Troop will help celebrate Scout Sunday and Scout Sabbath on the 7th of February by participating in a virtual Church service at 10 am at First Presbyterian Church. Our SPL and other scouts will be recording a Minute for Mission, doing some scripture readings during the service. After the virtual church service there will be a drive-through donut pick-up for church members. At the drive-through we will be helping with the Church's food drive by passing out food collection bags, distributing Troop 23 recruitment information, working on two Eagle Scout projects. Scouts are needed to help at this event! Look for a Sign Up Genius schedule via email in the next week or so, we're asking Scouts to sign up for times/duties so we can comply with social distancing guidelines and be sure we have enough help. Scouts can earn 1 hour of service for helping!

MERIT BADGE COUNSELOR OPPORTUNITIES AND CHANGES:

Parents - the troop is always looking for more and new Merit Badge Counselors for our scouts, especially with the current restrictions we have. If you have a special talent, skill, interest, or vocation there's probably a merit badge offered on that topic! If you're interested in learning more please contact Jeff Jeffers (frankejefers@yahoo.com), Judith Zapf (judez21@sbcglobal.net) or Julie Carlson (julie@burritcarlson.com) for more details.

For scouts, please be advised that Mrs. Sanders is no longer able to counsel Merit Badges. If you have started a MB with her but not yet completed it, please see Mrs. Zapf or Ms. Carlson for a substitute counselor.

ATTENTION PATROL LEADERS – LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO AT YOUR NEXT MEETING? CONSIDER THE PETS OR THE PUBLIC SPEAKING MERIT BADGE!!

Hello Patrol Leaders! This is Mrs. Zapf. I am a current Merit Badge Counselor and there are two that would be ideal for a Patrol Meeting Zoom Call Environment: Pets and Public Speaking. Mr. Jeffers is in agreement and has asked me to share further information with you. Public Speaking could be finished over the course of a few meetings with Scouts completing the required homework between meetings. Pets would follow the same approach; but it would require one last meeting a few months out to review the "caring for a pet for four months" component. The specific requirements can be found here:

Pets - https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/Merit_Badge_RegandRes/Pets.pdf , and

Public Speaking - https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/Merit_Badge_RegandRes/Public_Speaking.pdf

Scouts would still need to do all the requirements as stated; but work would be submitted electronically and conversations with the Merit Badge Counselor would happen at the Patrol Meeting. Keep in mind that it would not be a group project; each Scout would complete the requirements individually. Only the "discuss with your Merit Badge Counselor" parts would happen at Patrol Meetings; and all those seeking to earn the badge would need to participate in the discussion.

All current T23 Merit Badge Procedures would also have to be followed. Scouts ranking 1st Class and above would request blue cards/permission from Mr. Jeffers; and would all need to have their Cyber Chips for the 2020-2021 School Year.

If this is something you're interested in for your Patrol, please contact me by email at judez21@sbcglobal.net Email will allow me to opt for a first-come-first-served approach should a number of patrols be interested in working on the Pets and/or the Public Speaking Merit Badge at upcoming meetings.

PROGRAMMING MERIT BADGE:

Did you ever think it would be cool to make your own web page and understand how the web works? Did you ever wonder what "computer programming" even means and what you can do with it? If so, I would love to see

you join us in the Programming Merit Badge. This will include three projects of hands-on coding of web pages, data analysis, and a computer circuit board. You will learn a lot. Please send an email to Mr. Michalak michaelcmichalak@yahoo.com if you are interested or have any questions. Here is the Programming book: http://www.troop792.gilroyscouting.org/images/4/49/Programming_2013.pdf

ORDER OF THE ARROW ELECTIONS ARE COMING!

Justin Scherer, our Troop OA Representative, is sending out forms for those scouts who want to be considered for nomination and possible election to the Order of the Arrow, scouting's National Honor Society. Those scouts eligible need to complete the nomination form and get it back to Justin. Watch for further details, check with your Patrol Leader or contact Justin directly at buddy72704@gmail.com

SERVICE HOURS OPPORTUNITY:

Warrenville Park District Restoration Days
Saturdays, 1/30 and 2/27 from 9-11 a.m.

The Warrenville Park District needs your help! Come join us as we continue restoration of the Ferry Creek Wetland at Summerlakes Park. Participants will learn how to identify, and remove invasive species, plant and collect seed. Help us turn this wetland into a premier outdoor classroom! Tools will be provided, but please dress for weather.

Location: Summerlakes Park

Instructor: Adam Dagley

warrenvilleparks.org | 630.393.7279

SEABASE HIGH ADVENTURE 2022:

The troop is firming up plans for our trip to Florida to the BSA High Adventure Base. Due to some unforeseen issues Sherri Sanders is not able to accompany the Crew and we are looking for another assistant Leader to help with planning. This position will help Crew Leader Tim Herr with paperwork, reservations, travel, scheduling, training, etc. and **NEED NOT BE GOING ON THE TRIP!** Perhaps you have a son going, or would like to 'shadow' a Crew Leader to see how HA is put together in hopes of going in the future on your own HA trip. Perhaps you have an affinity with dealing with trips, travel and logistics. The troop and crew would be delighted to have your help! Please contact Jeff Jeffers (frankejeffers@yahoo.com) and Tim Herr (TPHERR@YAHOO.COM) with questions and to see about lending a hand.

SCUBA OPEN WATER DIVER CERTIFICATION:

Several Scouts and Adults indicated that they would like to obtain their SCUBA Certification. For Scouts, this could include a SCUBA Merit Badge. This is open to all scouts whether you're going to Sea Base or not. The estimated cost for the course is between \$400 and \$500 per person, and you may need to buy a mask, snorkel, dive watch, and dive booties (wet suit for your feet). For the certifications, it will take about 16 hours of class time along with weekends doing the 4 open water dives in a local lake or quarry, which also has daily fees. Total cost is expected to be between no more than \$700 per person. If you are interested in obtaining a SCUBA Open Water Diver Certification and a Merit Badge, please email Mr. Herr at TPHERR@YAHOO.COM. A meeting will be setup with those interested to discuss the details. Till then... Stay Salty!!

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS AND/OR FEEDBACK, PLEASE CONTACT:

Jeff Jeffers, Scoutmaster at frankejeffers@yahoo.com

Judith Zapf, Committee Chair at judez21@sbcglobal.net