



Troop 23 – Hot News

January 31, 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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UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **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 and adults are needed to help at this event! Please sign up to help here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0444ACA623A0FC1-draft> Scouts can earn 1 hour of service for helping!

MERIT BADGE OPPORTUNITIES:

- **SNOW SPORTS MERIT BADGE AT ALPINE VALLEY SUNDAY FEBRUARY 21ST at 3 PM**

Skiers and Snowboarders- Alpine Valley Ski Resort is offering a Snow Sports Merit Badge clinic for both downhill skiing and snowboarding. *Please see the flyer on the last page of this issue for details!* You must register in advance - space is limited – and there are requirements for scouts that participate. We're not short on snow this winter, so this would be a great opportunity to earn this Merit Badge!

- **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

- **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 (frankejeffers@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.

SERVICE AND ADVANCEMENT NEWS:

- **ORDER OF THE ARROW ELECTIONS ARE COMING!**

OA elections are just around the corner. If you wish to be considered for election into the Order please complete the Google Form (link below) and submit by **FEBRUARY 5**. OA is Scouting's National Honor Society and the following requirements must be met in order to be considered on the ballot:

- Scout must be 1st class
- At least 15 nights of camping in the past 2 years (only one year of summer camp counts)
- Attendance at service events

Scouts should complete this Google Form to be considered: <https://forms.gle/hKGnSFT75hr7Wu8G7> For more information on Order of the Arrow see the following link: <https://oa-bsa.org/> Contact Justin Scherer, our Troop OA Representative, with additional questions buddy72704@gmail.com

- **SERVICE HOURS OPPORTUNITY**

Warrenville Park District Restoration Days
Saturday, 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

ADVENTURE/OVERNIGHT OPPORTUNITIES:

- **SUMMER 2021- SUMMIT BECHTEL RESERVE, THE ORION PROJECT:**

TFC is send a group of youth and adults to Summit Bechtel Reserve (SBR) this summer. SBR has combined a number of its programs into one adventure called The Orion Project (TOP) which will take place from July 18-31, 2021. TOP is a seven-day overnight program. Open to all members of Scouts BSA, Venturing and Exploring.

TOP consists of half-day introductory level experiences at each of the nine SBR high adventure venues: BMX Biking, Skateboarding, Shooting Sports, Archery, Climbing, Canopy Tours, Mountain Biking, Challenge Course, and Waterfront Activities. In addition, each group will experience the rapids of the world-famous New River and have the chance to ride The Big Zip – our 3/4-mile zip line. Each night (Monday-

Friday), will include activities, socializing, fellowship with Scouts from across the nation, think shows, and special guests. For more info, visit this site: <https://threefirescouncil.org/the-orion-project/>

- **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 (frankejefers@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!!

OTHER TROOP 23 NEWS:

- **TROOP 23 TRADITIONAL WREATH SALES WRAP UP:**

Congrats to the Troop's Top 3 sellers: Matt Mitchell (\$4596), Tommy Tiberi (\$2900), and Corey Ostensen (\$1327)! The average sales per scout was \$913-great job to all of Troop 23!

We are trying to close out our 2020 wreath sales program by collecting outstanding balances. Scouts with open balances were notified via email by Mr. Dunbar. Checks/money can be dropped off at Mr. Jeffers's office between the hours of 8:30a-5:30p. Please call first to ensure he is in the office (630-682-3388). If you have questions about your outstanding balance, contact Mr. Dunbar at dunbarbrian83@gmail.com

- **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



- **WINTER SNOW ACTIVITY:**

Troop 23 took advantage of the snow and planned a last-minute meet up at Blackwell with the Troop's snow shoes and XC skis!



Alpine Valley - Snow Sports Merit Badge Clinic!



Sunday February 21st 2021

Alpine Valley Ski Resort 3rd Annual Snow Sport Merit Badge Clinic!

Details: \$40 flat fee per Scout provides lift ticket, ski or snowboard rental, helmet rental and clinic. Same price if you have your own equipment. Downhill Skiing and Snowboard options will be offered only. Due to Covid-19, the clinic is limited to: 20 ski participants and 10 snowboard participants.

Scouts are responsible to:

Review and prepare written answers for questions 1-6 and bring them to the clinic.

Demonstrate with proficiency the on-hill requirements of part 7 for, Downhill Ski or Snowboard option.

You must have your signed merit badge card and information to complete the merit badge and participate in the clinic. This is not a learn to ski or snowboard clinic.

Time: Clinic starts at 3pm. You should be dressed with your equipment ready by 3pm. Tickets can be picked up and paid for at the Group Sales Ticket Window starting at 2pm along with meeting location. Your Lift ticket will be good from 2pm until close that day.

To Register: email Group Sales at groupsales@alpinevalleyresort.com

Subject - Snow Sports Merit Badge or call Group Sales at 1-800-227-9395 Ext 464 ask for Brittany. Reservations for the clinic must be made by Wednesday February 17th. You will receive email confirmation.

For Additional information or questions email Merit Badge Counselor - Dan Riedel at dchase73@gmail.com

Scouts and Troops may schedule other individual or group sessions by contacting Dan.

**** BSA Policy Requires the use of helmets for all participants****

A tentative make up date of March 7th is set if the weather conditions will not allow Alpine Valley to be open on February 21st.



is located at : [W2501 County Road D, Elkhorn, WI 53121](https://www.alpinevalleyresort.com) Phone : 262-642-7374

The Fastest Way To Fun!

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