



Troop 23 – Hot News

February 14, 2021

IN-PERSON TROOP MEETINGS TO RESUME:

The Troop's leadership team is currently developing plans to resume in-person Troop Meetings at First Presbyterian Church. Our tentative restart date is Monday, February 22, 2021. We need your help to determine the size of the group we should anticipate and the preferred timing of meetings. If you haven't already please respond by Monday, February 15th to the survey that was sent out last week (link below) so that we can finalize plans. Thank you in advance for your help.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSctWwovkOUSX8l0zvV5CpZJdjN7F4CqAVeEEQLAWJgWVuQH0Q/viewform>

TRADITIONAL WREATH SALES WRAP-UP:

Any scouts who still have money to turn in from in-person wreath sales must do so asap. Funds should be turned in at Mr. Jeffers office this week between the hours of 8:30a-5:30p (call first to ensure Mr. Jeffers is in his office (630-682-3388). If you have questions about your outstanding balance, contact Mr. Dunbar at dunbarbrian83@gmail.com

T23 PARENTS YOU'RE INVITED -- JOIN US FOR COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Parents interested in taking on specific responsibilities and those interested in learning more about Troop 23 are invited to attend [Troop Committee Meetings](#). These are a great opportunity to become informed and involved in Scouting. Upcoming meeting dates are here [2021 Committee Meetings](#). Meetings are currently being held via Zoom. For what to expect, click Troop 23 [Meeting Participant Guidelines](#). To get on the e-mail list to receive Zoom meeting details, contact Committee Chair, Judith Zapf at judez21@sbcglobal.net.

SERVICE NEWS:

• **LOCAL NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICE:**

With all this snow, one thing to remember that we don't want "buried" under the snow is your neighborhood fire hydrant. The last thing we want is to have to use the hydrant, but if it's needed you don't want the fire department to lose valuable time locating and then digging out a hydrant. Be a good scout and make sure any local hydrants are uncovered and kept clear of snow. Thanks!

• **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FOOD DRIVE:**

Scouts can help First Pres with its Love Your Neighbor Food Drive. In addition to contributing nonperishable items, we can help with food collection at the church on Sat., 2/20. You will help unload food and carry to designated areas in the church and earn service hours. You can sign up to help at the link below-just a few spots are still available, if the sign up is full and you still want to participate, contact juleelockard@gmail.com for additional opportunities. <https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/30e0e48afab23a0f85-love>

• **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 CAMP 2021 - JUNE 20 – 26, 2021!**

T23 has decided Summer Camp 2021 will take place from Sunday, June 20 through Saturday, June 26. Following a successful outing at Camp Freeland Leslie (CFL) last year, the Troop will once again return to Oxford, Wisconsin. The Troop did consider alternative dates having seen last year that mid-July was a fit for many families; but the Troop's preferred site, Shiloh, was not available. With a Troop of our size, it's important that the site is a fit. While other sites can work, they don't work nearly as well for us as Shiloh. Please direct questions to Ms. Carlson (julie@burritcarlson.com) and Mrs. Zapf (judez21@sbcglobal.net) who are returning as the Troop's Summer Camp Coordinators.

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

TFC is sending 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 (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!!

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_ReqandRes/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.

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT UPDATES:

- **BABY SUPPLY DRIVE:**

Marc Duebener is running a Baby Supply Drive for the Evangelical Child and Family Agency in Wheaton for his Eagle Service Project. Information about the project can be found on www.babysupplydrive.com. Due to COVID and social distancing, he has created ways to help virtually (directing people to his website where items can be purchased) and contact-free donation drop-off locations (First Presbyterian Church, Wheaton Public Library, Wheaton Park District Community Center).

He is currently looking for baby supply donations and Scout volunteers to help promote his project. He is looking for Scouts who live in an area where there is a lot of foot-traffic to display a sign in their front yard and/or maintain a porch collection box. In addition, he is seeking Scouts (or parents) who have access to locations/digital platforms where a flyer (paper or digital) promoting the event could be posted.

Interested volunteers can contact Marc Duebener at marc@babysupplydrive.com, (630) 777-4314. Thank you for your support!

- **REUSABLE MASKS:**

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



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