



# Troop 23 – Hot News

## February 21, 2021

### **IN-PERSON TROOP MEETINGS TO RESUME:**

The Troop's leadership team is still developing plans to resume in-person Troop Meetings at First Presbyterian Church. Due to this our restart date has been moved to Monday, March 1, 2021. We will provide additional details prior to the meeting.

### **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. All 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](mailto:judez21@sbcglobal.net). The next upcoming meeting is Tuesday, March 9.

### **SERVICE NEWS:**

- **FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN EVENT:**

This past Friday, Corey and Tommy Tiberi organized a service event at Feed My Starving Children in Aurora. Scouts from three patrols participated as did three adults. Together they packed 8,424 meals which will feed 23 children for a year! This was a great event, really easy to plan and to do, and lots of fun. For any patrols/scouts looking for service hours, there is more info on the Feed My Starving Children's web site. <https://www.fmsc.org/>



- **LOCAL NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICE:**

With all this snow, one thing to remember that we don't want "buried" 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!

- **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](http://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](mailto:julie@burritcarlson.com)) and Mrs. Zapf ([judez21@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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 – a 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. The planning team is looking for an 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 learn how HA trips work. 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](mailto:frankejeffers@yahoo.com)) and Tim Herr ([TPHERR@YAHOO.COM](mailto: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](mailto:TPHERR@YAHOO.COM).

### **MERIT BADGE OPPORTUNITIES:**

- **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](https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/Merit_Badge_RegandRes/Pets.pdf) , and

Public Speaking - [https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/Merit\\_Badge\\_RegandRes/Public\\_Speaking.pdf](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](mailto: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](mailto: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](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 ([frankejefers@yahoo.com](mailto:frankejefers@yahoo.com)), Judith Zapf ([judez21@sbcglobal.net](mailto:judez21@sbcglobal.net)) or Julie Carlson ([julie@burritcarlson.com](mailto: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:**

- **FINAL WEEK - BABY SUPPLY DRIVE:**

Marc Duebener's Eagle Service Project Baby Supply Drive, benefitting the Evangelical Child and Family Agency in Wheaton, is in its final week! Thank you to those who have helped! Feel free to share Information about his project with others who might be interested in donating! ([www.babysupplydrive.com](http://www.babysupplydrive.com)) Contact Marc Duebener at [marc@babysupplydrive.com](mailto:marc@babysupplydrive.com), (630) 777-4314 with any questions. 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](mailto:pherreagleproject@gmail.com)



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

Jeff Jeffers, Scoutmaster at [frankejeffers@yahoo.com](mailto:frankejeffers@yahoo.com)

Judith Zapf, Committee Chair at [judez21@sbcglobal.net](mailto:judez21@sbcglobal.net)