

Heritage YMCA Group

Smoke Signals

Newsletter of the Big Teepee Federation
Y Guides & Princesses



Friends Always

February 2007

Pals Forever

Rock Climbing / Pinewood Derby / Late Night

Guides and Princesses

February 10th

YMCA Fieldhouse

Your Kid's will be bouncing off the walls!

Safely of course, while rock climbing at the Fieldhouse. Along with the rock climbing wall, boys and girls alike can participate in Pine Wood Derby races, organized basketball games, dodge-ball games, an open gym, and pizza and pop.

Rock Climbing: The West wall of the gym will be open all evening to climbers. Dads will need to operate their own child's belay.

Basketball: 10 - 15 minute games with timers and scoreboards refereed by the Dads will be organized by grade level.

Pine Wood Derby - There will be four levels of competition; K, 1st, 2nd and 3rd/4th grade. There will be two divisions; "Rules" (car meets all specs) and "Modified" (everything else). We expect all kids will race within the "Rules" division and these cars must be purchased through the YMCA. See the registration form and description of how the races will be run later in this newsletter. Specifications for the cars are posted at bigtp.org.

Plan to arrive after 8:00PM at the YMCA Fieldhouse. If your child is entering a car, go straight to the

(continued on p 2)

Mom's Corner

Mom, do you have friends with young children that are not in the Y Guides / Princess program? As you read through this newsletter you'll see what those kids are missing! Do your friend and her kid(s) a favor and mention our program. They can join your family's tribe or a tribe in their neighborhood or school. Best of all, when Dad has the kids during our Saturday overnights, you'll both have new opportunities for dinner and a movie.

Other Upcoming Events

Daddy / Daughter Dance

February 17th

Washington JHS (see p 2)

Longhouse Meeting

Thursday, March 1st

8-9 P.M. at the

Kroehler Family YMCA

Ice Skating

March 31

3:10 to 5:10 PM

Rocket Ice Arena, Bolingbrook

YMCA Family Day with the

Chicago Rush (see p 2)

April 1

Cantigny Family Event

April - TBD

Rock Climbing / Pinewood Derby / Late Night

(from p 1)

weigh-in table and register your car. **Kindergartners will be racing first at 8:45 PM** so don't be late if that is your grade level. After weigh-in head over to the basketball and dodgeball courts for information on those activities. Finally, let your kid "hit the wall".

As an added feature, this event is open to friends who may be considering joining your tribe or the Y Guide / Princess program. Bring them along for a night of wholesome fun.

Remember, you must register for this event (see attached form). Bring your registration form to any YMCA, and pick up your car immediately.

Gentlemen - Start you engines!

Daddy / Daughter Dance

Who's your Daddy?

That's what the girls will be asking at the Daddy Daughter Dance on **February 17th** at Washington JHS.

Don't forget to register for this memorable event. A registration form is attached to this newsletter.

For those of you participating in the D/D dance, we are asking for volunteers to show up 15 minutes early and help decorate the room. Every Dad should have his little Princess make a heart (any size, as many as they like) out of card board, construction paper or whatever and decorate the heart so we can put them up on the walls of the dance hall.

Tom Schrey - Desert Nation Chief

Patch Design Contest

Calling all young artists!!

For each Y sponsored event attended, the program provides a patch for Dad and the kids to proudly place on their vests. For each event, we have a contest that every child can enter for the best patch design. All of the contest forms are available in advance on our website at www.bigtp.org. Go to the patch design page, download a form, have your child design the patch, and turn them in to the Kroehler Center by the due date. This can even make a great craft project for your next tribal meeting. Good Luck !!

Honor Tribes

The Federation Council would like to recognize the following Tribes for earning the coveted **Honor Tribe Patch**:

Onondaga Princesses

Sioux Guides

Chippewa Coed

These tribes earned credit for volunteering to help with program events, contributing to the community or helping improve the quality or visibility of the program. Your tribe may have already earned an honor patch! For more details on Honor Tribes, see www.bigtp.org.

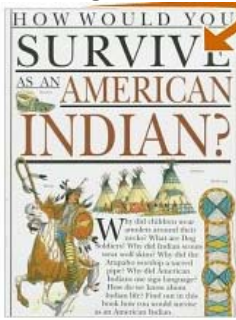
YMCA Family Day with the Chicago Rush - 4/1/07

The Bears are in the Superbowl! But did you know Chicago has another football team that is a champion! The Chicago Rush arena football team is the defending champions of the Arena Football League. And unlike the Bears games, over 100 points are scored in each game! Sign up at any Y by February 28th.

On Sunday, April 1st the Rush will be taking on the Los Angeles team in a 12:30pm game. The YMCA has great seats available for you and your family. For only \$20 per person, families can take part in the pre game family fest which includes Kids Korner where kids can makes signs for the game, face painters, music promotions and a post game autograph session with the players and dancers.

"How Would You Survive as an American Indian"

Here is a fun way to teach your children the ways of 18th century Native Americans. This is an excellent book I have used for many years to teach my three boys about Native American family life and how they lived, played, hunted, dressed, went to war, etc. It is richly illustrated to keep your little Guide's or Princess' interest while reading. This book is perfect for bedtime stories and in keeping with the notion of kids learning about Native American culture through



the Y Guides & Princess program. The book can be purchased at Amazon for \$7.95 new and less than \$2.00 used. You can buy your own or get one for Tribe to share.

Jim Fillar - Yellow Fang of the Chippewa

Nation Chiefs Will Be Contacting You

Did you know that your tribe belongs to a Nation?

Did you know there are Nation Chiefs?

Your Nation Chief will be contacting a representative of your tribe and arranging a pow-wow. The purpose of this contact is to make a connection between your tribe and the Federation Council. By meeting and listening to the membership, the Federation Council and the Y can work to improve the program, listen to your concerns, and bring in new ideas to make the program more enriching for all its members.

The last page of this newsletter and our website, www.bigtp.org, shows the most current Nation Map. If your tribe is missing, or the map is incorrect, please contact us.

2006 - 2007 Federation Council

Position	Name	e-mail	Phone
Federation Chief	Rob Darlin	rdarlinjr@yahoo.com	312-752-7129
Asst Federation Chief	Barry Druhan	bdruhan@adaptivesim.com	630-375-9703
Asst Federation Chief	Jim Fillar	jfillar@sbcglobal.net	630-416-1709
Sachem Chief	Dan Tuskey	dantusk@wowway.com	630-717-1989
Prairie Nation Chief	Mitch Bugno	bugz66@msn.com	630-632-0831
Forest Nation Chief	Marc Cooperman	mcooperman@bannerwitcoff.com	312-463-5000
Plains Nation Chief	Jerry Mraz	jmraz@smaltec.com	630-333-5419
Lake Nation Chief	Steve Mallin	stevenpjm@aol.com	630-327-2210
Desert Nation Chief	Tom Schrey	tschrey@starpointechicago.com	630-885-9094
Mesa Nation Chief	Brian Shapley	bshapley2857@wideopenwest.com	630-416-9908
Scout	Chris Bachman	c.bachmann@motorola.com	630-926-6627
Medicine Man			
Recruiting Task Force	Charlie Kinne	CKinne@fitcheven.com	312-629-7940
Native American Agent	Shane Loy	sloy@heritageymca.org	630-355-2559

YMCA Mission

To enhance the quality of life for families through programs reflecting Christian principles to build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all.

Safe 'n Sound • Heritage YMCA Group
P.O. Box 838. • Naperville, IL 60566
(630) 355-2559
Fax (630) 585-5560

Y - Guides and Princesses Nation Map

Please contact your Nation Chief....we want to meet with your tribe.

Prairie Nation

Chief - Mitch Bugno

Chickasaw (P)
Choctaw (P)
Kaskaskia (P)
Omaha (P)
Onondaga (P)
Powhatan (P)
Seneca (C)
Shawnee (P)

Desert Nation

Chief - Tom Schrey

Anasazi (P)
Apache (P)
Aztec (P)
Cherokee (P)
Havasupai (P)
Hopi (C)
Inuit (P)
Shasta (P)
Sioux (P)
Tonkawa (P)
Zuni (P)

Mesa Nation

Chief - Brian Shapley

Hunk Pa Pa (P)
Illinois (P)
Mojave (P)
Ottawa (P)
Potawatomi (P)
Teton (P)
Ute (P)
Seminole (P)
Yakima (P)

Plains Nation

Chief - Jerry Mraz

Algonquin (G)
Blackfoot (G)
Chickasaw (G)
Chippewa (C)
Coyote (G)
Ho-Chunk (G)
Iowa (G)
Miami (G)
Seneca (G)

Forest Nation

Chief - Marc Cooperman

Cherokee (G)
Choctaw (G)
Dakota (G)
Delaware (C)
Illini (G)
Seminoles (G)
Shawnee (G)
Onondaga (G)
Yakama (G)

Lake Nation

Chief - Steve Mallin

Apache (G)
Blackhawk (G)
Kickapoo (G)
Lakota (G)
Mohican (G)
Potawatomi (G)
Sioux (G)
Ute (G)
Zuni (G)

(P) - Princesses, (G) - Guides, (C) - Co ed

Dec 2006

Do You Have Ideas on How to Improve the Y - Guides / Princess Program ?

Your Federation Council is all ears. Send us a note or better yet, come to the Longhouse Meeting held the first Thursday of every month from 8:00 - 9:00 PM at the Downtown YMCA (Kroehler Center). These meetings are now designed to gain your input on the program, provide tips to improve your tribal meetings and offer important information on upcoming events.

Very soon we will be planning next season's activities. This presents a wonderful opportunity for you to influence the planning process and the events we choose. Bottom line....if you have any suggestions, "bring 'em on!"

The Recruiting Task Force - January Report from the Chair

Hello all!

We need your help. You can call me the ghost of Indian Guides/ Indian Princesses past. A very few may remember me as Sasquatch of the Onondaga, Chief of the Big TP Federation in 2001-2002. I am serving as Chairman of the newly-formed Recruiting Task Force, and we are working to increase enrollment in our program to keep it as strong as possible.

Despite adding Aurora, Oswego and Batavia to the "Heritage Empire" in 2001, enrollment in Indian Guides/ Indian Princesses is down significantly over the past five years.

There is no doubt that we can reverse this. We have not focused on recruiting and membership for quite some time. If we do, we believe membership will eventually bounce back. However, we are planning a course of action to increase enrollment more quickly, and *we would like to ask for everyone's help*.

There are three ways in which you can help. First, our Recruiting Task Force will meet periodically to (1) identify ways to improve the enrollment process, new member assimilation and communication; and (2) target recruiting. We've already discussed things like sending flyers to the schools, placing advertisements where possible, improving communications from the YMCA and from the Council to the membership, and reaching back into the past to reestablish contact with members who graduated years ago. We'll act as volunteers to create flyers, visit schools, and generally promote enrollment. If you'd like to help with this, please join us.

Second, you can send us your ideas for bolstering recruiting and enrollment. E-mail me, call me, or tell us at the Longhouse meetings (held the first Thursday of every month at 8:00 p.m. at the Kroehler YMCA).

Third, even if you don't have the time or interest to join a task force or to forward advice as to how to improve things, you can help immensely *by spreading the word about how much fun this program is*. Actively target people to call or see to encourage them to join. Do this for your tribe, if appropriate, or just generally - tell guys you know from work, clubs, whatever that have small children what fun this program can be, and get them to sign up. Word-of-mouth has always been our best recruitment tool. Spread the word!!

And don't limit the word-of-mouth thing to the guys. Moms are our most powerful recruiting tool; heck, most of us joined when our wives told us to. Encourage the moms to reach out to their friends and neighbors, and to promote the greatest father-child program there is.

The benefits of a larger membership are obvious. For the kids, it's rewarding, and we'd love to see more kids share our fun. For the dads, we'd love to see more fathers spend quality time with their kids, and I, for one, treasure the memories I'll keep to the grave. Both dads and kids get to make new friends in the tribes.

Size matters. There is great satisfaction in seeing the campgrounds loaded with lots of kids having fun and getting a chance to camp out for perhaps the first time. Huge bonfire crowds make the "wow" factor even better. And, of course, we can maintain and improve quality events due to the better funding that comes with increased enrollment, such as the climbing walls at the campouts and obstacle courses at the Late Nights.

The success of this program can best be judged by one simple test: ask your son or daughter if she had fun this year. If he or she says "yes," the year was a success. By this measure, I am certain there has never been an unsuccessful year in the 80-year history of the program. Let's keep it going, and let's make it better.

If you'd like to join the Recruiting Task Force, or if you'd just like to share ideas on how to better the program and/or address recruiting, please contact me. I can be reached at home at 630.428.7827, at work at 312.629.7940 or by email at ckinne@fitcheven.com. Please give me whatever help you can!!

Migwetch (thank you)!

Charlie Kinne - SASQUATCH OF THE ONONDAGA

Heritage YMCA Big Teepee Federation Program Registration Form

Pine Wood Derby / Rock Climbing / Late Night

Saturday, February 10, 8 – 11 PM at the YMCA Fieldhouse

Registration Deadline: February 9

Please Note: Guests are Invited to This Event

This registration and applicable fees must be returned to the YMCA Kroehler Center (34 S. Washington St.), Fieldhouse (31W290 Schoger Dr) or the Fry Center (2120 W. 95th Street) all in Naperville.

You can fax this completed form to (630) 585-5560, attn: Shane Loy

The YMCA accepts its responsibility to create an environment where models of acceptable behavior are found, and prohibits its staff, volunteers and participants from consuming alcohol at YMCA events. This policy will be enforced.

Father/Child Name: _____

Phone #: _____ Tribe: _____

Event	Code	# Attending	Cost	Total (\$)
Pine Wood Derby / Rock Climbing / Late Night 8 to 11 pm	2995 07JAN		\$23* per Father/Child	
*Price includes one car for each child paid. Take this registration to any local Heritage YMCA and pick up the car.	\$6 each additional car		\$13 each additional child	

Form of Payment: Cash [] Check [] Credit Card [] Total Paid: _____

Visa - MC -Discover: Charge #: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Participants or guardian assumes all risks of injury arising out of his or her presence on or about the premises or at another location, use or intended use of equipment and facilities, or his or her participation in the activities of the Heritage YMCA Group, an Illinois chartered not for profit corporation and does hereby for himself, herself, heirs, executors and administrators waive, release, and agree to hold free from all claims for damaged the Heritage YMCA Group, and its representative officers, directors, Trustees, Board of Directors, members, employees, or agents. I hereby allow the YMCA to take pictures (still or video) of myself and/or my children and grant permission for these images to be used in YMCA publications, presentations, publicity, or promotions. I have answered all above questions accurately, declare myself/family to be physically sound, having medical approval to engage in YMCA activities, have read the information above agreeing for myself and as a chosen representative for my family to the policies and procedures of the Heritage YMCA Group.

Parent / Guardian Signature (18 or older)

Employee Use: Today's Date: _____ Employee Initials: _____ Center: _____
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Pine Wood Derby

How the Races Will be Run

Hey Kids!

Between 8:15 and 8:45 we will be checking in your cars. After your car passes inspection you will receive a sticker that has your car number on it and a color for your age group.

Please see the rules for constructing and preparing your cars at www.bigtp.org. If your car does not meet the specifications it will be run as a "modified" car, but still within your age group.

Please remember your car needs to be below the 5 oz weight limit to race in the "rules" division. Make sure you have a means of removing some weight if you exceed the weight limit. After the cars are checked in they will be put in the pit area. Once your car is in the pits go have fun at all the other activities going on at the Fieldhouse. Cars will be returned after each grade's race is over, but during race time you will not be allowed access to your car.

We will race cars by age group at the times listed below. We will announce when the next age group is ready to race by putting up a colored flag that matches the sticker you received. If you see your colored flag, your race is ready so come on over and watch.

- Kindergarten cars at 8:45 - Blue stickers on cars, and race with the blue flag
- 1st grade cars at 9:15 - Green stickers on cars, and race with the green flag
- 2nd grade cars at 9:45 - Red stickers on cars, and race with the red flag
- 3rd-4th grade cars at 10:15 - Yellow stickers on cars, and race with the yellow flag

Each car will race at least two times. The fastest four cars in each age group will return to the pit area for the finals heats. Final heats for each age group will be at 10:45 and will race with the checkered flag

Modified cars for adults will race after the finals.

There will be awards given to the fastest cars in each age group, but cars will also be judged and awarded for Most Colorful, Most Creative and Best Native American theme.

Above all let's have fun.

Good luck everyone.

Heritage YMCA Big Teepee Federation Program Registration Form

Daddy Daughter Dance

Saturday, February 17, 6:30 – 9:30 PM

Washington Junior High School

Registration Deadline: February 16th

This registration and applicable fees must be returned to the YMCA Kroehler Center (34 S. Washington St.), Fieldhouse (31W290 Schoger Dr) or the Fry Center (2120 W. 95th Street) all in Naperville.

You can fax this completed form to (630) 585-5560, attn: Shane Loy

The YMCA accepts its responsibility to create an environment where models of acceptable behavior are found, and prohibits its staff, volunteers and participants from consuming alcohol at YMCA events. This policy will be enforced.

Father/Child Name: _____

Phone #: _____ Tribe: _____

Event	Code	# Attending	Cost	Total (\$)
Daddy Daughter Dance February 17 th 6:30 – 9:30 PM	2996 07JAN		\$15 per Father/Daughter	
			\$8 each additional child	

Form of Payment: Cash [] Check [] Credit Card [] Total Paid: _____

Visa - MC -Discover: Charge #: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Participants or guardian assumes all risks of injury arising out of his or her presence on or about the premises or at another location, use or intended use of equipment and facilities, or his or her participation in the activities of the Heritage YMCA Group, an Illinois chartered not for profit corporation and does hereby for himself, herself, heirs, executors and administrators waive, release, and agree to hold free from all claims for damaged the Heritage YMCA Group, and its representative officers, directors, Trustees, Board of Directors, members, employees, or agents. I hereby allow the YMCA to take pictures (still or video) of myself and/or my children and grant permission for these images to be used in YMCA publications, presentations, publicity, or promotions. I have answered all above questions accurately, declare myself/family to be physically sound, having medical approval to engage in YMCA activities, have read the information above agreeing for myself and as a chosen representative for my family to the policies and procedures of the Heritage YMCA Group.

Parent / Guardian Signature (18 or older)

Employee Use: Today's Date: _____ Employee Initials: _____ Center: _____
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