

Heritage YMCA Group

# Smoke Signals

Newsletter of the Big Teepee Federation  
Y Guides & Princesses



May 2008

Friends Always / Pals Forever

[www.bigtp.org](http://www.bigtp.org)

## Planting Moon Campout May 17 - 18 Oregon, IL

We are only days away from the really big one. Dust off the grills, load the TP into the torches, bring a friend, and grab the flashlights for the critter hunt.

**Bring a Guest - Guests Are Free** - Bring a neighbor, friend, relative, or schoolmate to the campout. We are sure that once they experience one of our campouts they'll want to come back for more. Or if your tribe is willing to open its arms to a visiting Dad and kid or two who simply desire to spend some quality time together at our campout, please contact Shane Loy.

**Critter Hunt** - The ever popular critter hunt will be expanded this year to larger areas. Make sure you bring a bright flashlight for each Critter Hunter. **Hint-** bring a handful of critters from home, put 'em in your pocket, and strategically throw them on the ground for your child to find during the later stages of the hunt to avoid the dreaded and sometimes tearful critter hunt "shut out". Also prearrange a spot you will meet your child should you be separated during the hunt.

**Field Games** - This year we will have organized field games including tug-of-war, kick ball and potato sack races from 2 - 4 PM. See attached schedule of events

**Food Drive** - As in past years, we will be collecting food donations at the entrance to the campground to donate to the Loaves and Fishes food pantry in Naperville. Please bring canned or dry foods with you for this good cause and drop off as you enter .

See "Spring Campout" (page 2)

## Mom's Corner

As you know we are offering a terrific deal to all your friends and neighbors who might like to join the Y Guides and Princesses program..... **THEY CAN COME FOR FREE** to our Planting Moon Campout!

Imagine the fun your friends and neighbor's kids will have camping in a tent, gathering around a campfire, playing field games, marching by torchlight to the big bonfire ceremony and doing the critter hunt!

Talk to those Mom's at the soccer, tee-ball and coach pitch games about attending our campout.

At the same time we have opened our hearts and invited folks to attend the campout that may not (yet) have a friend in the program. It would be wonderful if we could line up these solitary visitors with tribes that have kids from the same schools. To that end we are looking for volunteer "Host Tribes". This simply means letting the new Dad and kid(s) hang with the Host Tribe during the campout. Have your hubby consider having his tribe become a host tribe.

As many Dad's have told us over the years, joining the Y-Guides / Princess program was one of the best decisions they ever made. Many of our current Dad's were Guides when they were kids and the experience was unforgettable. Let's pass that on to a new generation !

## Spring Campout (from page 1)

**Host Tribes** - Be an ambassador of the program. Open your hearts and campsites to guests for the day and show them how wonderful the program really is. If your tribe would be willing to accept a dad/child guests for the day, please contact Shane Loy.

**Honor Tribes** - Tribes receiving the coveted Honor Tribe Patch will be given special recognition at the bon fire ceremony.

**Graduations** - There will be a special recognition for kids graduating this year. Have your graduate meet at the "ruins" at 4:30 for a few words from the Federation Chief and receive a glow necklace. All graduates will be honored at the bonfire as well.

Hopefully you will have a special ceremony at your tribal campfire for your graduates as well. Don't forget to order your graduation medallion or photo plaque to present to your child. Go to: [http://www.y-indianguides.com/pfm\\_a\\_guide\\_medal.html](http://www.y-indianguides.com/pfm_a_guide_medal.html) . Contact us for graduation ceremony ideas.

**Area Attractions:** Oregon boasts three state parks and a state forest all within a ten-minute drive of its borders. These include

- White Pines Forest State Park
- Castle Rock State Park, with trails to the "top of the rocks;" Lowden-Miller State Park,
- "The Eternal Indian," who is known throughout the Midwest as Chief Blackhawk; and Lowden-Miller State Forest, 2,225 acres offering hiking, backpacking, and birding. See ([www.oregonil.com/attractions-parks.html](http://www.oregonil.com/attractions-parks.html)).
- Canoeing is available at TJ's Canoe Rental @ 815-732-4516; see ([www.tjscanoerental.com](http://www.tjscanoerental.com)).
- Horseback riding is available at Eagle Point, 5399 Maple Rd, Milledgeville, IL., 815-225-7473 (\$25 per person for a 1 hour ride, reservations needed). There may be age restrictions; check first.



**No Alcohol** - Alcohol in any form is strictly forbidden at the campgrounds (and all Y events for that matter). This will be strictly enforced. DO NOT jeopardize your membership in the program or risk losing the campsite for the entire Y Guide / Princess program over a few drinks.



## Looking For a Few Good Men

Are you satisfied with the Y Guide & Princess program? Do you have ideas on how to improve the program? Can you see yourself in a leadership role with this program?

Several positions on the Federation Council will be open next year and we would like you to consider joining us.

As you know, this is an all volunteer program. The quality time you have spent with your child has been a rich reward of membership. Perhaps it is now time to give back to the program to keep it viable for future fathers, sons, and daughters.

If you would like to help chart the future course of the Y Guide / Princess program contact anyone on the Federation Council.

## Support YMCA Strong Kids

The Y Guides and Princesses program is supporting the YMCA's **Annual Strong Kids Campaign** Fundraiser this year. Through your support of the Strong Kids Campaign, the YMCA insures that no one will be turned away from a YMCA membership or program due to the inability to pay. This year over \$500,000 will be provided to kids and families to help improve their quality of life and help them realize their full potential through YMCA programs, like the Y Guides and Princesses!

For 2008, a Strong Kids Patch for your vests is available for a donation of \$10. This money will go 100% to provide fee assistance to those less fortunate so they too can benefit and grow by participating in YMCA programs. Uncle Sam supports your efforts by making your contribution tax deductible.

For those tribes that participate, Honor Points will be awarded and outstanding contributors will be published in the **Smoke Signals**. Please help us help build strong kids, strong families, and a stronger community!

You can simply purchase a patch as you check in at the Spring Campout or use the registration form at the back of this newsletter to order. Patches ordered this way will be distributed when you check in or if you cannot make the Spring Campout, the patch will be mailed to you.

## Honor Tribes

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

<b>Anasazi - P</b>	<b>Iowa - G</b>
<b>Aztec - Coed</b>	<b>Miami - (pine car derby)</b>
<b>Chippewa - Coed</b>	<b>Omaha - P</b>
<b>Hunkpapa - P</b>	<b>Ottawa - P</b>
<b>Seneca - P</b>	

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](http://www.bigtp.org). If your tribe provides a community service, tell us about it and we may publish the details in the Smoke Signals.

Honor tribe will be given special recognition at the spring campout bonfire assembly.

If your tribe is an Honor Tribe, be sure to pick up your Honor Tribe Patch as you enter the campground.

**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

## Planting Moon Campout Agenda

Friday, May 16 <sup>th</sup>	
4 to 8 PM	<p><b>Camp the Night Before:</b> Pay for your "early night" stay that the campground's host station.</p>
Saturday, May 17 <sup>th</sup>	
10 AM to 2 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Check in:</b> Register Guests, Pick up Patches, Purchase YMCA Strong Kids Patch Note: If you are a <b>Host Tribe</b> please identify where you will be camping</li> <li>• <b>Firewood:</b> Due to the Emerald Ash Borer restriction, firewood must be purchased in the county and not brought from home. Firewood is available for purchase at the campground (\$5 per arm load) behind the campground's host station.</li> <li>• Please remember the castle is off limits</li> </ul>
12 to 4 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Free Time:</b> Hiking, Canoeing, Scavenger Hunt (pick up sheets at check-in, etc.)</li> <li>• <b>Craft Table:</b> The table will be next to the brick house. The table will be set up at noon to be used throughout the day.</li> </ul>
2 to 4 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Field Games:</b> In the main field, look for the white signs. Prizes will be awarded for the winning tribes and participants. One prize per child per event.</li> <li>• <b>Tug 'o War, Kick Ball, Potato Sack Races</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 2:00pm-2:30pm volunteer tribe Yakama</li> <li>○ 2:30pm-3:00pm volunteer tribe Powhatan</li> <li>○ 3:00pm-3:30pm volunteer tribe Secani</li> <li>○ 3:30pm-4:00pm volunteer tribe Potawatomi/Anasazi</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
4:30 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Graduate's Meeting:</b> Meet at Tower - Graduating Guides and Princesses will receive glow necklaces</li> </ul>
5 to 7:30 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Fuel up the Torches:</b> Meet at Brick House - (Bring your torch)</li> </ul>
8:00 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Procession:</b> Let's Make Some Noise. - (Bring your torch)</li> </ul>
8:30 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Bonfire Ceremony:</b> Federation Chief's Message</li> <li>• <b>Critter Hunt:</b> Don't forget your flashlight; Critter hunt will be across from the brick house on the east side of the road. Look for the Orange Flags! - volunteer tribe Hunk Pa Pa</li> </ul>
10 to 10:30 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Quiet down time:</b> Story telling at tribal campfires</li> </ul>
Sunday, May 18 <sup>th</sup>	
9:00 AM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sunday Service:</b> "Listen for the Drums" - Meet at the Large Field: <b>volunteer tribe Omaha</b></li> <li>• <b>Note:</b> Winners of the banner contest will be announced at the Service.</li> </ul>

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## Guests at the Planting Moon Campout

This is an "instruction sheet" for guests at the Spring Campout. On the next page see instructions for the hosting tribes. This way, each will know what the other has been told, and you'll have a better idea of what to expect.

First, bring your own tent, sleeping bags, and food, as well as the usual list of stuff (see below). Dads should pitch in and help with meals (which includes doing dishes); kids can help with cleanup and especially litter control.

Contact the tribe's chief to see what, if any, equipment is needed and how you can fit in. While some tribes may have difficulty tasking you with "critical" assignments (for fear you'll change your mind about coming), there are plenty of things you can do to help out.

If you've never camped before, relax. Many of the guys joining the program are newbies at camping the first time out. We've seen many new tent boxes at every campout; we've seen tents missing the rain fly at night, only to see it reappear the next morning stuck to the bottom of the tent. You can't surprise us.

The following is a list of what to bring. Prepare for cold nights; read the forecast.

An all inclusive list of things to bring follows (absolutely essential items are bolded):

- **Tent & Tarp**- Don't forget the poles, ropes, stakes, and a hammer (to drive in the stakes)
- **Sleeping bag** and/or blankets (it could be cool)
- Recreational Items - Football, soccer ball, softball, mitts
- Stove and/or Grill
- Plates, cups, glasses, silverware
- **Warm clothes** (bring plenty - layers work best - temperature varies throughout day)
- Lantern
- Food (remember the can opener, if needed) & Drinks (pop, Kool-aid, water)
- Comfortable walking shoes
- **Air mattresses or foam pads & pillows**
- **A Chair** for each person (you'll be glad you brought them)
- **2 Flashlights** (check those batteries for the critter hunt!)
- Matches/Lighter
- Cooking utensils (don't forget the coffeepot)
- Bug spray
- Personal items
- First Aid Kit

If your tent is new, set it up once at home for practice and to be sure it's all there.

There is no alcohol allowed at the campsite.

Most important instruction: Have Fun!

Call Shane Loy 630.355.2559 with any questions

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## Hosting Tribes at the Planting Moon Campout

This is an "instruction sheet" for tribes that are hosting guests at the Spring Campout. Separately there is an "instruction sheet" for guests. This way, each will know what the other has been told, and you'll have a better idea of what to expect.

If your tribe is willing to open its arms to a visiting Dad and kid or two who simply desire to spend some quality time together at our campout, please contact Shane Loy.

We'll ask guests to bring their own tent, sleeping bags, and food, as well as the usual list of stuff. We've asked the dads to pitch in and help with meals, and to contact the chief to see what, if any, equipment is needed and how they can fit in. Please include the help of the dads and kids wherever you can so they feel as though they are pulling their weight (and also to lessen your burden).

However, it's possible some of the guests won't get the instructions, and will be more dependent on you than these instructions provide. Please be prepared with extra food, cooking capacity and patience. You need not provide sleeping accommodations, though.

**For the Chief:** Expect that you will be contacted by guests asking what they can bring, etc. Also, at some point during the day, gather your tribe around and be sure introductions are made - dad-to-dad and kid-to-kid.

**For the Dads:** Explain to your kids that there may be strangers in your midst, and that their job is to welcome the new kids and show them how fun the program is. Work with your chief to have extra capacity, as noted above.

**For the Kids:** *Make new friends, and show the guests how much fun this is!*

Generally, that is it. Include the guests as much as you can. If your cooking routine is down pat and you don't need help with that, suggest snacks, drinks, and firewood as things the new people can bring.

### 2007 - 2008 Federation Council

Federation Chief	Barry Druhan	bdruhan@adaptivesim.com	630-375-9703
Asst Chief / Smoke Signaler	Jim Fillar	jfillar@sbcglobal.net	630-416-1709
Prairie Nation Chief	Chris Bachmann	c.bachmann@motorola.com	630-926-6627
Forest Nation Chief	Marc Cooperman	mcooperman@bannerwitcoff.com	312-463-5000
Plains Nation Chief	Carmen Pino	carpin31@comcast.net	630-922-6264
Lake Nation Chief	Steve Mallin	stevenjm@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	Drew Bruozis	abruozis@speakeasy.net	630-778-6450
Sand Painter & Medicine Man	open		
Web Spinner	Mark Wright	markwri@yahoo.com	630-922-1259
Sachem	Rob Darlin	rdarlinjr@yahoo.com	312-752-7129
Native American Agent	Shane Loy	sloy@heritageymca.org	630-355-2559

# Planting Moon Campout Torch Design

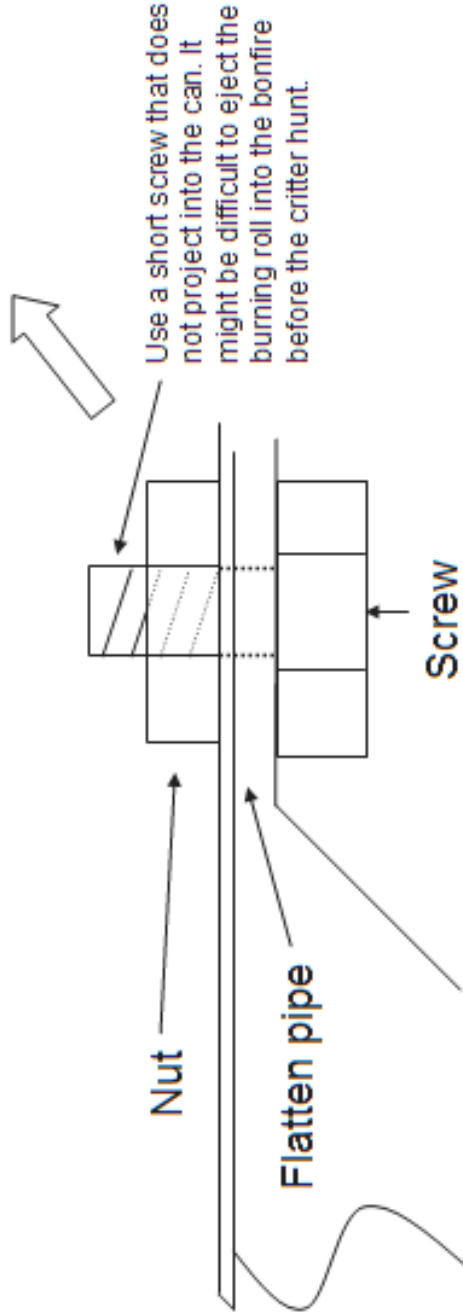
**Coffee Can (holds T.P. roll)**  
 2 lb size works well  
 Must be able to hold full roll (bring from home)

**Wire**  
 Do not drill a second hole, kerosene will drip out. Wire stabilizes can on pole.

**5/8" or 3/4" Copper Pipe**  
 Do not use wooden stick, it will burn

**Friction Tape**

~ 4 ft



Option - You can spray paint the coffee can, then allow kids to paint with Native American symbols the night before the campout. However, do not hang anything from the can that may catch fire.

**Do Not Allow Your Child To Carry a Torch!**



**HERITAGE YMCA GROUP  
Big Teepee Federation  
Event Registration**



**Return this form and fees to your local Heritage YMCA Group facility or fax to Shane Loy at 630.585.5560.**

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. The Alcohol Policy will be enforced at each event.  
Please don't risk future participation in events!

Father/Child Name: _____	Tribe: _____
Phone # _____	Tribe Chief Name _____
New Member: Yes No	

Event	Code	Deadline	# Attending	Cost	Total (\$)
<b>Spring Campout May 17-18</b>	2990 08APR			\$16 per person	
<b>Strong Kids Patch</b>	Help the YMCA never turn down someone for a program due to the inability to pay.			\$10 - voluntary donation	
<b>Total</b>					

<b>Payment Type:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card # _____	Total Paid: _____ VISA-MC-Discover Exp # _____
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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.

**Signature of Participant (18 and over) or Guardian**

\_\_\_\_\_

<b>Employee Use:</b>	
Initials: _____	
Today's Date: _____	
Center: _____	

**Our Mission**

*To enhance the quality of life for families through programs reflecting Christian principles to build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all.*  
Field House • 31W290 Schoeger • Naperville, IL 60564 • (630)585-2347 • Fax (630)585-5560

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Y-Guides and Princess  
Heritage YMCA Group  
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Naperville, IL 60564

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***Our Mission***

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