



Heritage YMCA Group

Smoke Signals

Newsletter of the Big Teepee Federation
Y Guides & Princesses



May 2009

Friends Always / Pals Forever

www.bigtp.org

Planting Moon Campout

Get ready for the big one. Dust off the grills, load the TP into the torches, and grab the flashlights for the critter hunt.

We are very excited about the many fun and meaningful events going on. It's hard to put it all on paper...but here goes:

Critter Hunt - The ever popular critter hunt will be as great as ever. 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.

A "Buck a Brave" for Strong Kids - We are doing something new this year to help those less fortunate. As you enter the campground, your tribe will be given a leather pouch. We ask that during your tribe's campfire ceremony or any other part of the day, each member of your tribe place one dollar (or more) in the pouch. At night, bring the pouch to the bonfire ceremony where we will call upon all the tribes to bring them up to the podium as a donation to Strong Kids. So far we have raised more than \$1100 for Strong Kids and we hope to add to that significantly. Let your kids know what the contribution is for, they'll be proud of their donation. For more information go to:

www.bigtp.org/strongkids.htm

See Planting Moon Campout on page 3

Kane County Cougars Overnight

Your Federation Council has been working overtime to provide affordable, fun, and memorable events for you and your kids. We are happy to announce that we have arranged with the Kane County Cougars to have an exclusive *Y-Guide and Princess Night* at Elfstrom Stadium including an overnight campout. Here's what you get:



- o A Cougars patch
- o Coupon for a hot dog and soda
- o Watch the Cougar's win
- o Rock 'n roll fireworks after the game
- o Run the bases and play on the field after the crowd clears.
- o Stadium tour.
- o Personal visit with Ozzie, the Cougar's mascot.

Continued on page 4

Upcoming Events

Longhouse Meeting

Thur, May 7 - 7PM, Fry 95th St YMCA

Planting Moon Campout

Sat-Sun, May 16-17 - Oregon, IL

Memorial Day Parade

Mon, May 25 - 10AM, Centennial Beach

Cougar's Game and Overnight

Sat, June 20 - 6PM, Elfstrom Stadium

Farewell From the Federation Chief & Smoke Signaler

It's hard to believe our 2008 - 2009 Y Guides & Princesses season is drawing to a close. With only three more events scheduled, we'll be hanging up our moccasins until next fall.

The Federation Council has worked hard this season to make the Y Guide & Princess experience more fun, educational and charitable than ever:

- **Support of Strong Kids** - We surpassed our goal of raising \$1,000 to support this fee assistance program for underprivileged families. As of this writing we have raised more than \$1,100 and hope to increase that significantly at the Spring Campout.
- **Angel Tree** - Many of our tribes contributed Christmas gifts to anonymous, needy children as part of the Y's Angel Tree program offered to fee assistance families facing financial hardships. Through the generosity of these tribes, many smiles appeared on young faces Christmas morning!
- **Promoting Understanding of Native American Culture.** At Midwest Soaring's Harvest Pow Wow held at Naper Settlement, our kids participated in a special Y G&P dance just for them and were entertained by Native American story telling. Some of Soaring's colorfully attired members led our group at the Labor Day parade. Chief Joseph Standing Bear addressed the attendees at our mother/son dance about his program and gave us all useful advice for kids to keep learning about nature.
- **The First Ever Mother-Son Dance.** Almost 100 moms and sons danced the night away at this inaugural event. More importantly, \$400 of the proceeds went to the Strong Kids campaign and \$200 to help feed Chief Joseph's bison herd in LeRoy, IL. We hope to visit & learn about them next season.
- **Chief's Special Events** - New smaller events were offered this year including Dozin' With the Dino's, a sleepover at the Field Museum, and a second winter campout alternative at Camp Wonderland Wisconsin.
- **Kane County Cougars Overnight** - Once again, this is a first ever offering for the program. What could be better than spending a night with your family watching a baseball game, experiencing rock n' roll fireworks, playing on the ball field, watching an outdoor movie and camping overnight.....awesome!
- **Communications** - The Smoke Signals is our primary tool for communicating with you. Over the last two years, I have tried to enhance the Smoke Signals by passing on knowledge of age appropriate educational or back-to-nature ideas I have experienced with my tribe and hope you have shared with your child.
 - "How Would You Survive As an American Indian" [February 2007](#) , [Mar 2009](#)
 - Willowbrook Wildlife Center [March 2007](#) , [Mar 2009](#)
 - The Schingoethe Center for Native American Cultures [April 2007](#)
 - Morton Arboretum [May 2007](#)
 - 13th & 14th Annual Harvest Pow Wow [Sept 2007](#) , [Sept 2008](#)
 - Suggested Reading on Native American Culture [Nov December 2007](#)
 - DuPage County Forest Preserve [Oct 2008](#)
 - Will County Forest Preserve - Isle A La Cache Museum [Oct 2008](#)

All Smoke Signals from Jan 2007 to today can be found at: www.bigtp.org/smoke.htm

It has been a privilege to serve as your Federation Chief this season and as the editor of the Smoke Signals the last two seasons. I have been in the program for eleven years with my sons Ben (White Fang), Paul (Blue Fang), and Mark (Red Fang) and on the Federation Council for four years. The Y G&P program, without a doubt, is the best program I could have joined to spend quality, fun filled times with my boys and friends in our tribe. I encourage you to invite your friends to share in the experience; they will always be thankful you did. How How!!

Jim Fillar

Federation Chief

Yellow Fang of the Chippewa

Planting Moon Campout (from page 1)

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 or leave the camp out. We understand that diapers and baby food are especially desirable.

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 (see page 7).

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 "The Tower" at 4:30 with the Big Chief. Have your graduate prepare a short written speech on what he or she enjoyed most about the program. We'll select one boy and one girl to speak at the bon fire. All graduates will be honored at the bon fire 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 Contact us for graduation ceremony ideas.

Rock Wall / Inflatable - The inflatable or rock wall will be available to burn some energy out of those kids from about noon to 4 PM.

Field Games - We will have organized field games including tug-of-war, kick ball and potato sack races from 2 - 4 PM.

Cheese Burger Cook-off challenge - Get your burger, cheese and buns ready and bring your best cheeseburger to the judging table. Don't be limited to the traditional - get out special buns, cheeses, and alternative meats, prizes will be awarded for originality, native theme, etc... Get a signup sheet at the check in table. This is a tribal activity, and each tribe who wishes to participate will enter no more than two entries. Details will be distributed at check in.

Eagle Feather Hunt - All weekend long, special Eagle Feathers identified with specific prize numbers will be hidden throughout the campground. Feather "drops" will be occurring at the following times, so that no matter when you arrive, or have the time, your kids can always be keeping their prospecting eye out for the Eagle Feather! Details of where to bring the Feathers will be provided at the campout (your kids can keep the feathers and still get a prize). Feather drop of schedule: Friday Night - 6:00pm, 8:00pm; Saturday - 7:00am, 10:00am, 1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm

Craft Corner - craft table setup for the kids to make small crafts (necklaces and bracelets)

Tribal Banner Competition - this is one you need to create in advance; bring your tribal banners so we can judge them and give out awards

Tribal Spear Competition - All tribes that participate will be given materials at check-in to make a Tribal Spear that will be judged the following morning at the prayer service. Entries need to be completed and submitted prior to the bonfire. This is mighty simple, but gains the respect of other tribes. Take a pole or dowel about four feet long and paint tribal emblems, totems of all tribe members, or the history of the tribe on it, taking turns. Attach one feather for every tribe family, using different colors, and plenty of adornment and imagination. Keeper of Spear for the year will be

- Stadium tour.
- Stay on the field to watch a kid friendly movie.
- Camp Out overnight!

All this for \$18 per person!

This is open to the whole family. You must sign up prior to Friday, May 1 and only a limited number of seats are available for this event. Don't miss this by waiting too long.

Gates open at 5PM game starts at 6PM.

If you purchase tickets for this event, you can pick them up at the Will Call window

Pinewood Derby

Eighty eight cars raced at the pinewood derby "Canoe on Wheels" event last month. Amazingly every kid won a ribbon for the fastest or best designed cars.

With floor hockey, basketball, pizza and pop the kids had a great time and all walked out with smiles on their faces.

To see how your child's car performed, go to the race results at:

www.bigtp.org/derby_results09.htm



The outstanding design of the event goes out to Thunder Eagle and Quiet Moose of the Mighty Aztec!

responsible for bringing it to certain tribal functions and all Nation campouts.

Noisy Stick / Torch Light Procession - Bring your noisy sticks from the fall campout or make a new one and make as much noise as you can during the torch procession to the bon fire.

Location - Stronghold Campground, Oregon IL. For directions go to:

www.bigtp.org/campout_spring.htm

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).
- Canoeing is available at TJ's Canoe Rental @ 815-732-4516; see (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.



KANE COUNTY COUGARS BASEBALL

Presents

Y-Guides and Princesses Night!

Saturday, June 20th, 2009

Gates open at 5:00 p.m. Gametime 6:00 p.m.



Fireworks!



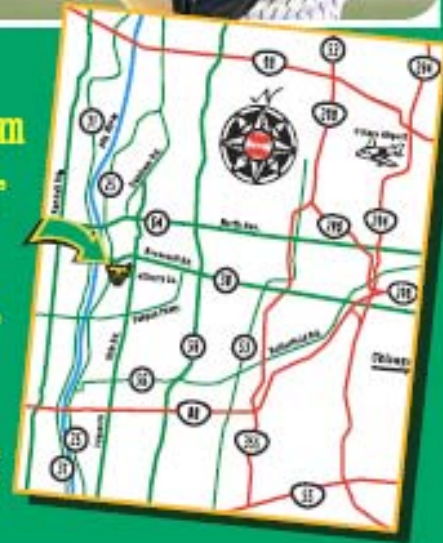
Run the bases after the game!

Directions to Elfstrom Stadium

From I-88: Take I-88 to the Farnsworth Ave. North exit, 5 miles north to Cherry Lane, left to stadium.

From I-90: Take I-90 to Route 68 South, to Route 64 West, to Kirk Road south, 3 miles to Cherry Lane, right to stadium.

From I-290: Take I-290 to I-88. Take I-88 West to the Farnsworth Ave. North exit, 5 miles north to Cherry Lane, left to stadium.



Kane County Cougars 34W002 Cherry Lane Geneva, IL 60134
For info contact Joe Wagoner at 630-232-8811

• **Reserved Grandstand ticket and a meal voucher for only \$18.00 (meal includes a hot dog and soda)**

- Private sleepover only for y-guides and princesses participants
- Play catch in the outfield after the game
- Movie on the field
- Special late night visit by Ozzie the Cougar
- Stadium Tour

Receive a
Cougars Patch!



Planting Moon Campout Agenda

Friday, May 15 th	
4 to 8PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camp the Night Before: Pay for your "early night" stay at the campground's station. • This is a way to get the best camping spots and spend more quality time with your kids.
Saturday, May 16 th	
10AM to 2PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check in: Register Guests, Pick up Patches & Tribal Spear Kits, Purchase YMCA Strong Kids Patch & Big TP Car Stickers • Note: If you are a Host Tribe please identify where you will be camping • Firewood: 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. • Please remember the castle is off limits
ALL WEEKEND	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eagle Feather Hunt: search the campground for eagle feathers. • Keep them and get a prize.
12 to 4PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free Time: Hiking, Canoeing, Scavenger Hunt (pick up sheets at check-in, etc.) • Craft Corner: • The table will be next to the brick house and will be set up at noon to be used throughout the day. • Make your tribal spear for the competition
2 to 4PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rock Wall / Inflatable • Field Games: 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. Tug 'o War, Kick Ball, Potato Sack Races
3 to 4PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit with the Big Chief
4:30PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduate's Meeting: Meet at "The Tower" - This is a special meeting for Graduating Guides and Princesses to Meet with the Chief.
5PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tribal Banner Judging
5 to 7:30PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fuel up the Torches: Meet at Brick House - (Bring your torch) • "Cheeseburger Cook-off Challenge" Judging - bring your tribal entries when you fuel up your torch • Tribal Spear Competition - bring your tribal entries when you fuel up your torch
8:00PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procession: Let's Make Some Noise. - (Bring your torch and your noisy sticks)
8:30PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bonfire Ceremony: Federation Chief's Message and announce the new member raffle winner and Honor Tribes • Turn in your "Buck a' Brave for Strong Kids" Wampum Bag • Critter hunt will be across from the brick house on the east side of the road. Don't forget your flashlights. Look for the Orange Flags!
10 to 10:30PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiet down time: Story telling at tribal campfires
Sunday, May 17 th	
9:00AM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday Service: "Listen for the Drums & Noisy Sticks" - Meet at the Large Field • Note: Winners of the banner contest and Tribal Spear competition will be announced at the Service.

Hosting Tribes at the Spring Campout

We have invited guests to this campout who may be considering joining the program. These folks in some cases may not have an existing tribe to hang with during the Campout.

If your tribe is willing to open its arms to a visiting Dad and kid or two please contact Shane Loy as you check in at the campground or call him ahead of time.

We've asked 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.

Guests at the Spring Campout

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.

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. Absolutely essential items are bolded). For a complete list go to p.14 at www.bigtp.org/forms/new_member_guide_2008.pdf

- **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)
- Firewood and kindling (group effort)
- 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
- First Aid Kit
- Personal items
- Lantern

YMCA Strong Kids Beats Goal!

So far this season we have collected **\$1,113** out of a goal of \$1,000 to support Strong Kids. See our website for general information on Strong kids. Use the event registration form at the back of this newsletter to order your patch.

Strong Kids Patch.... "Don't get caught without one!"



Honor Tribes

Congratulations to the following tribes for reaching Honor Tribe status and earning their honor patch for this season.

**Choctaw, Powhatan, Seneca, Aztec, Hunk
Pa Pa, Ogalala, Arapaho, Cayuga,
Chickasaw, Sekani, Miami, Yakama,
Chippewa, Lakota**

Outside of Long House meetings, report your honor tribe events to **Scott Grumbles** so we can keep an accurate tally.

A description of how Honor points are earned can be found at our website at http://www.bigtp.org/honor_tribes.htm



Memorial Day Parade

It's hard to believe the final event of the 2008 - 2009 season is here already!

Grab your banners, put on your vests, and join the fun! We kick off this year's Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 25 at 10:30am.

The parade begins at Centennial Beach located on Jackson Street and ends at Central Park, downtown. The kids love this event.

We are hopeful that Chief Joseph Standing Bear and his wonderful Native American dancers will join us again this year.

It's a great event at a great price; free! Come join in the fun and help spread the word about our YMCA Indian Guides / Princess program.

Plan on meeting at the Centennial Beach parking lot at 10:00am. See you there!



2008 - 2009 Federation Council

Federation Chief/Smoke Signaler	Jim Fillar	jfillar@sbcglobal.net	630-416-1709
Assistant Chief	Chris Bachmann	c.bachmann@motorola.com	630-926-6627
Prairie Nation Chief	Drew Bruozis	abruozis@speakeasy.net	630-778-6450
Forest Nation Chief	Marc Cooperman	mcooperman@bannerwitcoff.com	312-463-5000
Plains Nation Chief	David Lakin	davidalakin@aol.com	630-579-8099
Lake Nation Chief	Jim Murphy	jmurphy6872@wideopenwest.com	630-416-8490
Desert Nation Chief	Dan Tuskey	dtuskey@live.com	630-687-5220
Mesa Nation Chief	Don Mitchell	dmitchel@fnal.gov	630-983-1740
Scout	Drew Bruozis	abruozis@speakeasy.net	630-778-6450
Sand Painter	Scott Grumbles	s.grumbles@comcast.com	630-717-5223
Medicine Man	Bill Blount	bill_blount@yahoo.com	630-649-9353
Web Spinner	Mark Wright	markwri@yahoo.com	630-922-1259
Sachem	Barry Druhan	bdruhan@adaptivesim.com	630-375-9703
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



HERITAGE YMCA GROUP
Big Teepee Federation
Planting Moon Campout & Cougars Overnight
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: _____
Tribe Chief Name _____	Phone # _____ New Member: Yes No

Event	Code	Deadline	Cost	Total (\$)
Planting Moon Campout Sat-Sun, May 16-17	09Apr 2990	May 14, 2009	Y-member: \$33 per dad/child; \$13 per addn child Non-member: \$40 per couple; \$16 per addn child	
Cougars Game & Overnight Sat, June 20	09Jun 2990	May 1, 2009	\$18 per person	
Strong Kids Patch	Help the YMCA never turn down anyone for a program due to an inability to pay. \$10 - voluntary donation			
Total				

Payment Type: <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

Employee Use: 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

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

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Permit No. 182
Fox Valley, IL

Y Guides and Princesses 2009 Remaining Schedule of Events

Date	Event	Location	Notes / Time / Sponsor
Thur, May 7 th	Longhouse Meeting	Fry YMCA	7 PM - Tribe Chief or rep attend.
Fri, May 8 th	Wear Your Vest to School	Your School	Wear your vest to school to promote the program.
Sat, May 16 th	Planting Moon Campout	Stronghold	Stronghold Campground Oregon, IL
Mon, May 25 th	Memorial Day Parade	Naperville	10 AM at Centennial Beach
Sat, June 20 th	Kane County Cougars Game and Campout	Elfstrom Stadium	Gates open at 5PM game starts at 6PM - Bring a tent!

