

August 2010

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Recruitment...

Recruit new members for this season and get a recruitment patch for every new participant!

Online Registration

Program & Event registration is available at ymca-arlington.org

Available for 2010/2011 Starting August 28, 2010



Upcoming Events...

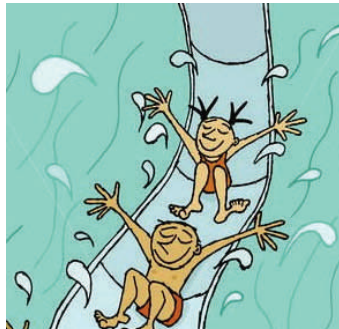
Little Chief's Longhouse

August 17 @ 7:00 pm

YMCA Offices Across the street from the central YMCA

Current Chief's and Assistant Chief's children in the program are invited to vote on the patch designs for the upcoming 2010 / 2011 events.

All children in the program are encouraged to submit an entry for the patch design competition. Get your entries to your chief...



Father Child Carnival.

Saturday, August 28th

9:00 am - 1:00pm

Central YMCA Athletic Fields

This is a great time to invite your friends to experience our Program

Cost: FREE!!

Papoose, Princess, Guides, Trail & the entire Family.

See Page 9 for more information.

New Dads Orientation

September 7, 7-9pm @ Central YMCA Community Room

ALL NEW DADS IN THE PROGRAM MUST ATTEND

Elder: Jim Norris 817.419.9053

Elder: Gene Hubble 817.457.7466

Elder: Mike Ginani 469.767.3051

Elder: John Geyerman 817.291.0586

Elder: **David Adams**

Elder: **Jim Gammon**

Elder: Wes Maness 817.312.5694

Elder: Charles Richards 817.522.3810 Bold names are new elders this year.

Federation Chief: Jeff Cloud 817.360.0611

Asst. Federation Chief: Bill Darroch 817.274.4024

Program Manager: Rodney Smith 817.505.3383 rodneys@ymca-arlington.org

Papoose Chief: Jay Moore

Guides Chief: Scott Ferrell 817.266.1114

Princess Chief: Mike Ginani 469.767.3051

Trail Chief: Tracy Storm

Federation Meshenewa: Wes Maness 817.312.5694



YMCA Father/Child Program				
Events Calendar 2010-2011				
Events	Papoose 3-5 Yrs	Princess K-3rd	Guides K-3rd	Trail 4th & up
<i>New Chief's Orientation</i>	15-Jun YMCA	15-Jun YMCA	15-Jun YMCA	15-Jun YMCA
<i>4th of July Parade (Arlington)</i>	3-Jul	3-Jul	3-Jul	3-Jul
<i>Little Chiefs Longhouse</i>	17-Aug	17-Aug	17-Aug	17-Aug
<i>Carnival</i>	28-Aug	28-Aug	28-Aug	28-Aug
<i>Trail Event</i>				Sep 10 - Sep 12 Rafting Trip
<i>New Dad's Orientation</i>	7-Sep YMCA	7-Sep YMCA	7-Sep YMCA	7-Sep YMCA
<i>Induction</i>	18-Sep Lake Arlington	18-Sep Lake Arlington	18-Sep Lake Arlington	18-Sep Lake Arlington
<i>Fall Campout Event</i>	Sep 24 - 26 Cleburne SP	Oct 15 - 17 Eisenhower SP	Oct 22 - 24 Cooper Lake	Oct 1 - 3 Inks Lake SP
<i>Turkey Shoot</i>	30-Oct	30-Oct	30-Oct	30-Oct
<i>Federation Community Day</i>	13-Nov	13-Nov	13-Nov	13-Nov
<i>Papoose Event</i>	20-Nov			
<i>Bike Rodeo</i>		4-Dec		
<i>Arlington Parade of Lights</i>	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
<i>Papoose Christmas Party</i>	12-Dec			
<i>Federation Winter Campout</i>	Jan 28 - 30 Loyd Park	Jan 28 - 30 Loyd Park	Jan 28 - 30 Loyd Park	Jan 28 - 30 Loyd Park
<i>Daddy Daughter Date Night</i>		20-Feb		
<i>Father-Son Event</i>			8-Jan	
<i>Federation Fund Raiser Dinner</i>	26-Feb	26-Feb	26-Feb	26-Feb
<i>Pinewood Derby</i>	5-Mar	5-Mar	5-Mar	5-Mar
<i>Papoose Event</i>	12-Mar			
<i>Family Campout</i>	Mar 25 - 27 Cedar Hill SP	Mar 25 - 27 Cedar Hill SP	Mar 25 - 27 Cedar Hill SP	Mar 25 - 27 Cedar Hill SP
<i>Spring Campout Event</i>	Apr 15 - 17 Ray Roberts SP- Johnson Branch	Apr 8 - 9 Lake Murray SP	Apr 1 - 3 Purtis Creek SP	April 29 - May 1 Camp Grady Spruce
<i>Rocket Shoot</i>	14-May	14-May	14-May	14-May
<i>Chief's Appreciation Dinner</i>	17-May	17-May	17-May	17-May
<i>Trail End Trip</i>		June 9 - 12 TBD	June 9 - 12 TBD	June 9 - 12 TBD

**** The latest calendar will always be online at this address: http://blackland-prairie.org/calendar_embed.html or <http://www.ymca-arlington.org/fcEventCalendar.asp> ****



Yatahey (Hello) Blackland Prairie Federation!!

We have reached the end of our Program scheduled activities for the summer, but this is no reason not to get together with your tribe or an unofficial Program gathering. Speaking of such events, we have a swim day at Burger's Lake scheduled for August 21. Let your Tribal or Nation Chief know if you didn't receive the invite.



I enjoyed meeting many of you face to face at our 1st annual Dad's appreciation meeting. It was an evening of fellowship, discussion, and education about our program history. Thanks to former members Andy and Andrea Katz for the testimonial of their time in the program. Also thanks to Rob Williams for filming their testimonial and putting together an awesome end of year slideshow. Kudos to all of you!

I would like to thank Running Buck (Wes Maness) and Shot with Two Arrows (John Geyerman) for continuing to take an active part in helping our membership learn about and participate in the specific Native American themed activities that are at the core of our program. They have visited two tribes so far this summer and were well received. They are a resource for all of us, so invite them to one of your tribe's monthly meetings. Wes' cell = 817.312.5694 email = wes@maness.cc

Please encourage your child to submit their drawings to your tribal chiefs for the patch design competition for upcoming 2010-2011 events. The children of the chiefs and assistant chiefs will vote on the submissions at the August Longhouse. A child in our program designed all of those campout, rocket shoot, etc patches on your vests. We have a lot of talent in our Federation!

See the rules on the Blackland Prairie website here:

<http://blackland-prairie.org/events.html> (Look for Tally Keeper, Feather Merchant, Patch Design Rules under Resources)

"Out of the Indian approach to life there came a great freedom, an intense and absorbing respect for life, enriching faith in a Supreme Power, and principles of truth, honesty, generosity, equity, and brotherhood..."

Luther Standing Bear - Oglala Sioux

Washte,

Federation Chief "Lightning Cloud"

Trailmate "Shining Cloud"

Zuni Princess "Thundercloud"

(Jeff, Andie, Keira)

More details on all the events are in this Smoke Signal and on our web site:

<http://www.Blackland-Prairie.org>

Ya Ta Hey Mighty Papoose Nation,

I hope the Papoose Nation is having a great summer full of tribal outings and pool parties. August starts our new program year and there are several events for you to participate.

Have you been working on your patch designs for the upcoming year? Time is running out! Please use the templates for the different patch shapes located at: <http://blackland-prairie.org/events.html> (Look for Tally Keeper, Feather Merchant, Patch Design Rules under Resources)

Markers and colored pencils work best and no computer generated art work will be accepted. You must have your art work to your tribal chief before August 18th. Events to draw patches for include Fall Campout, Community Day, Winter Campout, Pine-wood Derby, Spring Campout, Rocket Shoot, Family Campout, Train Ride, Christmas Party, and the Papoose Fishing Event.



The Little Chief's Longhouse will be August 17th at 7:00 PM; this longhouse is for the current 2010-2011 Little Chiefs and Little Assistant Chiefs of all nations and federation to vote on the patch design art work that will be the event patches for the 2010 – 2011 program year. If you are a tribal chief or assistant tribal chief remember to bring your children to this longhouse.

How can you insure your tribe's success and future? Recruitment! It is just a few weeks until the 2010 Father Child Carnival! This is the biggest and best Program recruitment tool of the year. It is a great time to have some fun and introduce your friends and family to the program. Each tribe will host a booth at the carnival, so look for information from your tribal chief on how you can help. Start inviting your friends and family to this event today. The Carnival will be on **August 28th from 9:00 AM to 1 PM** on the soccer field behind the Central YMCA. The best part is it is FREE!

Induction will be September 18th at Lake Arlington. As in years past, the Papoose nation will be having a Cookout prior to the Ceremony-Your tribal chief will have more details as they become available.

The calendar for next year's event dates and locations can be found on the YMCA Web site. <http://www.ymca-arlington.org/fcEventCalendar.asp> and the Blackland Prairie website, http://blackland-prairie.org/calendar_embed.html. Start marking your family calendars.

Enjoy the rest of the summer and take care of one another-Remember, they're only young once!

May peace and good fortune favor you,
Papoose Nation Chief Jay Moore (Standing Stone),
Little Chiefs Alluwee (Dancing Dragonfly), and Ayvelen (Racing Rabbit)

Ya-ta-hey Mighty Princess Nation!

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer. The new season is coming up quickly and the summer will be over before you know it. Has your tribe been meeting throughout the summer? If not, step-up and volunteer to host a meeting. Remember, how 2010-2011 year shapes up is very dependent on your planning now. By the end of the summer you should have your tribal positions in place – Chief, Assistant Chief, Wampum Bearer, Tally Keeper, Web Spinner, etc. Get volunteers to host meetings throughout the 2010-2011 year now. It is usually easier to get volunteers when you give Dad's several months notice. Our tribe already has hosts picked for our meetings through November. We hope to have hosts squared away for the entire season by the end of the summer. Some unique ideas for meetings are:

- Planetarium at UTA
- Museum
- Geocaching
- Meeting to do deeds
- Make your own pizza meeting
- Swim Party

Remember the main purpose in the meetings is for the girls to have a good time. The Choctaw Guides along with the Caddo Princesses co-hosted a meeting where a bee keeper was invited to speak to the kids. It turned out great!

We have an exciting new event for this coming year – a Bike Rodeo. This is an event from old that we are reviving. We have received many requests for this event and are very excited about it. The event will likely replace the December Dance that we have. We'll do a bike ride at a park and give awards to the most creative decorated bikes. We'll likely also have a cookout.

August 17th is the "Little Chiefs Longhouse". Get those patch designs submitted to your tribe chief prior to Longhouse. The Princess Nation OWNS this contest annually, so get your daughter to draw up a patch design for one (or more) of our events! Don't forget to design a patch for the new Bike Rodeo. Please use the templates for the different patch shapes located at: <http://blackland-prairie.org/events.html> (Look for Tally Keeper, Feather Merchant, Patch Design Rules under Resources). Markers and colored pencils work best and no computer-generated artwork will be accepted. You must have your artwork to your tribal chief before August 18th.

August 28th is Carnival. Has your tribe chosen their tribe activity for the Carnival? You don't know? Ask your tribe chief! Activities are first-come, first-served. So pick your activity now! Each member should bring several guests. It's a great time!

September 7th is New Dads Orientation. Make sure all the new dads know this is their opportunity to hear about our program and ask any questions.

Chief Teaching Bear (Mike Ginani)

Princess Dancing Daisy (Madison Ginani)



Ya ta hey Mighty Braves of the Guides Nation!

I hope this finds you all well and successfully surviving the Texas summer heat. I find that each year, my summer schedule of activities revolve around when the outside temperature is bearable. Do you own the house, or does the house own you? I'm sure you know what I'm talking about. With that said, it seems event more important to prioritize our lives so that no matter what, we will have invested in those things that matter most—our relationships with our loved ones.

As a music director at a large church, I'm often called upon to help officiate at funerals. This past week, I had a particularly tough one. One of our members' 21 year old daughter fell asleep at the wheel of her car and crashed, killing her almost instantly. Ken Price's daughter was named Lauren, and at the funeral, our pastor was memorializing her by recounting some of her fondest memories while growing up. It wasn't long before the word "Papoose" and "Princess" was used, along with Nation chief, and "ya ta hey". One of their crowning achievements together was obtaining the Silver Star. I felt very proud of our program and the many lives it has impacted in such a powerful way. Dads, you're on the right track! Your children are indeed blessed to have you and you, are blessed to have them!

Coming back from a trip to Pennsylvania where my 21 year old daughter is finishing up a degree in Graphic Design, I was reading a great article called "The Paternal Bucket List" by Jordan Rane. In it, he outlines what he deems "five crucial, admittedly subjective, one-on-one leisurely life experiences all dads need to complete with their sons before they're off doing things with other cooler guys and much better looking girls." He writes: #1 Get in the Game After successfully avoiding getting volunteered to coach my son's soccer team, I was casually asked "we could use a good ref"—two years later, I still look forward to the games and proud look on my son's face every time I put on the jersey. Bottom line, get involved—participate. Be more than a bump on a folding chair on the sidelines. #2 Rough it in the Wild as often as possible, regardless of the weather, get outdoors and make some lasting memories with your son. We do a great job of this through the Y camp-outs. If you're missing these campouts, you really are missing out on some great memory making opportunities with your son. Whatever you do, go on the campouts! #3 Build Something Big and Cool 'when my wife talks about her childhood, she talks about the stuff she and her dad built—big, crazy, bodacious building, life-size go carts, etc. I, myself, have not done this with Aidan, but the general guidelines are this: It has to be large enough to ride or play in, last a full year and, if it has wheels, be motorized by a converted lawnmower motor. Real tools and hardware must be used—nothing prefab. And, it must serve no other purpose than the pure joy of building it and the pride of using it for recreation and fun. #4 Plant a Vegetable Garden Growing real food with your son is a mutual birthright that predates bagged lettuce and 4 digit bar codes. Plant something, work the earth, water, care for it and see how enthralled he'll be as real green shoots burst through the ground. Btw, growing corn is a Thunderbird deed! #5 Take him to the place where his Great, Great, Grandfather's family grew up If you already have a coat of arms from some engulfed isle across the pond, great! If you're like most of us, we haven't a clue. Do some research and make a pilgrimage to your homeland (when he's old enough to appreciate it and you can still walk) Honor your forefathers who survived the wars, toiled the soil, fished the oceans and gave you and your son indelible genes that keep your family tree alive and growing.

Three Kudos to those who won invitations of the month: Shadrach and Dylan Nanney of the Blackfoot tribe (May and June); and Richard and Matt Shoults of the Choctaw tribe (July). Other dates to remember include Little Chief's Longhouse Tuesday August 17th at 7pm. This is where YOUR designs for patches are presented and voted on. Please find the templates on our Blackland Prairie website <http://blackland-prairie.org/events.html> (Look for Tally Keeper, Feather Merchant, Patch Design Rules under Resources). Annual Carnival August 28th from 9am to 1pm. This is where we can recruit our friends for the program and have fun too! Sept. 7th at 7pm is the New Dad's Orientation and finally, our glorious Induction Ceremony will be Sept. 18th at Lake Arlington. See you all then!

Peace, Scott and Aidan Ferrell (Big Moon and Little Galaxy)

Ya Ta Hey Mighty Trail Nation!

Let's start off with some great news. Rodney "Firestarter" Austin has volunteered for the position of Assistant Trail Nation Chief. Kudos to Firestarter!!!!



Spring is a busy time for the Trail Nation. There was a fun, if not a little chilly, rafting trip down the Guadalupe River. Camp Rockin "R" was a great place and, thanks to some early arrivers, all forty of us camped together in a perfect spot.

The river was flowing the best

I have ever seen it. So well, in fact, it threw me out of the boat twice. So that I was not embarrassed by the fact I could not stay in the boat, Jeff "Lightning Cloud" and a couple others were tossed into the river also.

On June 10th, thirty-one Trail Blazers and future-Trail Blazers headed down to San Antonio and Corpus Christi. We decided we couldn't disappoint the kids, so we carpooled up and headed south. Our first stop was San Antonio. We toured the Alamo, experienced some Texas history, and stood where Davy Crocket



died. The overnight stay on the Lexington was fantastic. The scavenger hunt was a little warm and congrats to Team Cloud for finding the most items. Then we were off to the beach, where the waves did not disappoint. I was worn out from fighting the waves and current and I slept much better in the queen size bed of a hotel than the 2' x 6' bunk on the Lex. On the way back, we stopped at the famous Salt Lick BBQ outside Austin, great stuff. After BBQ, we tried to go for a swim at Hamilton Pool, but there was a wait to get in. Some had the patience and were rewarded with a refreshing swim, while others, like me, were tired and headed home.

"Walking Crow" (Tracy Storm)
Trail Nation Chief

"Firestarter" (Rodney Austin)
Asst Trail Nation Chief

Survey Feedback



This month I would like to take some time to discuss the Program surveys that most of you have been receiving via email. Our previous Federation Chief, Big Fireball, started these as a method to try and capture the Voice Of the Membership (VOM) on program events. The Council Of Elders (COE) is reviewing the results of the surveys at our monthly COE meetings. I wanted to address some recent changes made via your suggestions.

No Federation Group BBQ Meal At the Family Campout

One of the most controversial and discussed event in the Father Child program has been the mandatory group meal on Saturday evening of the Family Campout. This meal has been tradition for years, but the people have spoken. By a vote of 59 % Tribes do meals on their own VS. 41 % Catered BBQ Meal, there will be **NO GROUP MEAL** at the Family Campout during the 2010 / 2011 program year.



Move the Family Campout closer to the Metroplex

We have moved the Family Campout to Cedar Hill State Park at Joe Pool Lake for the 2010 / 2011 program year. The SP doesn't allow bonfires, so we won't have one this year, but encourage Mom to come out with us even if it is just for the day.

Combine the Guides and Princess campouts to allow the Haunted Trail to have better attendance

It was close, 44% For, 54% Against, so the Princess and Guides Fall campouts will **not be combined**. The Haunted Trail will continue to alternate between the two Nations every year. It was also proposed to have the Haunted Trail be a standalone event closer to the metroplex as a fundraiser, but since the Nations voted to have it continue in it's current form at Cooper Lake SP, there isn't enough energy in the Trails Nation to put it on twice.

Parents and Family sit too close to the bonfire at the Induction, so the participants (Dads & kids) cannot see

We are going to place signs that define the seating areas for each Nation and provide bleachers at the rear for Family members to sit on this year. Please remind your tribe members and families that the Induction is a very special event for the Participants, and we should consider their needs FIRST.

I hope that this discussion was fruitful. We will continue to present feedback from the surveys in each Smoke Signal. Please remember, this is your program and we need your input and comments to make it better for everyone.





HOW YOUR CHILDREN END UP HAS A LOT TO DO WITH WHERE THEY START

YMCA Father/Child Program

Join the YMCA Father/Child Program today! A fun-filled year of adventures and a lifetime of memories starts here. After all, you're more than their dad...you're their **HERO**.

Annual Carnival & Pool Party

Saturday, August 28

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Central Branch

2200 S. Davis Dr.

FREE!

www.ymca-arlington.org



Carnival Games

Waterslide

SCUBA lessons
(7.50/person)



Snorkel

Swimming

Bounce House

Need more info? Contact Rodney Smith at 817.274.9622 or rodneys@ymca-arlington.org

FINANCIAL AID: The YMCA of Arlington is a charitable organization making a significant impact on the communities we serve by providing free and subsidized programs that are available and open to EVERYONE. Donations are accepted in order to support these efforts. Contact us if you are interested in receiving financial aid for this or any of our YMCA programs.

Mission: To put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all.



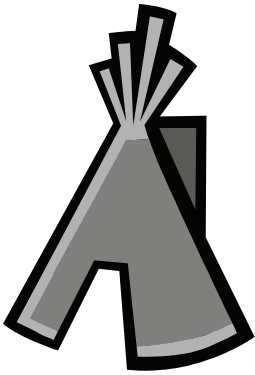
Little Chief's Longhouse
Tuesday, August 17 @ 7:00-9:00pm

YMCA Father/Child Day @ Berger's Lake
Saturday, August 21st, 10:00am-3:00pm

YMCA Father/Child Carnival
Saturday, August 28th 9:00am-1:00pm

New Dad's Orientation
Tuesday, September 7th, 7:00-9:00pm

Trails Rafting Trip
September 10-12



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We build strong kids,
strong families, strong communities.



Program Registration & Event registration is
available at www.ymca-arlington.org