



Smoke Signal

A Publication of the YMCA of Arlington, TX Father/Child Program

March 2009

Volume 1, Issue 8

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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



Upcoming Events...

Pinewood Derby

March 7, 10:00 am - 3:30 pm

Central YMCA

Cost: \$10 for 1st kit, \$7 each additional child
\$4 for extra kit

Guides, Princess, Trail

Scheduled Start Times

Kindergarten	10:00 am
1st Grade	11:30 am
2nd Grade	12:30 pm
3rd Grade	1:30 pm
4th Grade +	2:30 pm
Grand Champion	3:30 pm



Family Campout

Papoose, Princess, Guides, Trail & the entire Family

March 27—29

Ray Roberts State Park

Cost: \$30/family to camp
\$8/person for Saturday meal

Elder: Pat Coman 817.483.8348

Elder: Gene Hubble 817.457.7466

Elder: Mike Ginani 469.767.3051

Elder: **John Geyerman** 817.473.0218

Elder: Jerry Davis 817.451.4994

Elder: Steve Dellesaga 817.795.8370

Elder: **Wes Maness** 817.645.0313

Bold names are new elders this year.

Federation Chief: Charles Richards 817.265.3370 **Asst. Federation Chief:** Jeff Cloud 817.453.4641

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

Papoose Chief: Kelly Turner 214.929.4763

Guides Chief: Kevin Hadawi 817.461.2939

Princess Chief: Jeff Cloud 817.453.4641

Trail Chief: Jim Norris 817.419.9053

Federation Meshenewa: Mike McArthur 817.492.0749

March 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6 Check-in Cars for Pinewood Derby 7-9 pm	7 Pinewood Derby 10am-3:30pm
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 Family Campout	28 Family Campout
29 Family Campout	30	31				

YMCA Father/Child Program Events Calendar 2008-2009				
Events	Papoose 3-5 Yrs	Princess K-3rd	Guides K-3rd	Trail 4th & up
New Chief's Orientation	24-Jun YMCA	24-Jun YMCA	24-Jun YMCA	24-Jun YMCA
4th of July Parade (Arlington)	4-Jul	4-Jul	4-Jul	4-Jul
Carnival	30-Aug	30-Aug	30-Aug	30-Aug
Little Chiefs Longhouse	19-Aug	19-Aug	19-Aug	19-Aug
Trail Event				Sep 5 - Sep 7 Rafting Trip
New Dad's Orientation	9-Sep YMCA	9-Sep YMCA	9-Sep YMCA	9-Sep YMCA
Induction	20-Sep Lake Arlington	20-Sep Lake Arlington	20-Sep Lake Arlington	20-Sep Lake Arlington
Fall Campout Event	Sep 26 - Sep 28 Dinosaur Valley	Oct 10-12 Fairfield	Oct 24-26 Cooper Lake	Oct 3-5 Trail Rock Climb Pedemales Falls
Papoose Event	1-Nov Train Ride			
Princess Dance		7-Nov		
Turkey Shoot	8-Nov	8-Nov	8-Nov	8-Nov
Federation Community Day	15-Nov	15-Nov	15-Nov	15-Nov
Arlington Parade of Lights	6-Dec	6-Dec	6-Dec	6-Dec
Papoose Christmas Party	14-Dec			
Federation Winter Campout	Jan 30 - Feb 1 Loyd Park	Jan 30 - Feb 1 Loyd Park	Jan 30 - Feb 1 Loyd Park	Jan 30 - Feb 1 Loyd Park
Father-Son Event			7-Feb	
Daddy Daughter Date Night		8-Feb		8-Feb
Federation Fund Raiser Dinner	21-Feb	21-Feb	21-Feb	21-Feb
Papoose Event	2/28/2009 Fishing Event			
Pinewood Derby	7-Mar	7-Mar	7-Mar	7-Mar
Family Campout	Mar 27-29 Ray Roberts	Mar 27-29 Ray Roberts	Mar 27-29 Ray Roberts	Mar 27-29 Ray Roberts
Spring Campout Event	Apr 24-26 Mineral Wells State Park	Apr 17-19 Lake Murray	Apr 3-5 Purtis Creek	May 1-3 Canoe Trip/San Marcos
Chief's Appreciation Dinner	19-May	19-May	19-May	19-May
Rocket Shoot	16-May	16-May	16-May	16-May
Trail End Trip		June 5-7 Carlsbad Caverns	June 5-7 Carlsbad Caverns	June 5-7 Carlsbad Caverns

YA TA HAY BLACKLAND PRAIRIE FEDERATION!

I would like to personally thank everyone who participated in the Federation Fundraiser last month. The numbers are still being crunched, but this looks like one of our best fundraising efforts ever! Kudos to the entire Federation for working hard, and opening your hearts and wallets to support our great program.

We've had a pretty busy schedule the past few months, and things are slowing down just a little in March. We have the Pinewood Derby this weekend followed by the Family Campout at the end of the month.

April will be here before we know it, and that means it is time for the outgoing chiefs to pass their headdresses at the Spring campout. Our chiefs have worked hard all year, and have been excellent examples to their children by being leaders. We've all heard the saying—You get out what you put in. Nowhere is that more true than in our program. Kudos to all past, present, and future chiefs! You keep this program alive.

May 16th is the date for the Rocket Shoot. The location has been in limbo the past few years, but will be back in Arlington this year at River Legacy Park. This will hopefully be the first of many years at the new location, and the local exposure should be a great recruiting opportunity for the program. A little tip for the newbie's out there - you don't NEED size D rocket engines. You can lose your rocket just fine with the smaller engines...trust me, I know.

Last up for the year is the Trail's End Trip to Carlsbad Caverns, New Mexico. Our Trail Nation Chief, Jim Norris, has put together an action-packed itinerary that has something for everyone. The event is open to all Trail members, and all current 3rd graders who will be moving up to the Trail Nation next year. This is a great opportunity to meet the Trail Nation, and show your older Princess or Guide what they have to look forward to for the next 5 years as they move up to the Trial Nation.

As our program year begins to wind down please take time to reflect on all the great times you were able to have with your child(ren) by participating in this program. Spending time with our children is such a simple thing that we can easily overlook how much it really means to them. Every event you attend shows your child how important they are to you. We are all building memories that our children will NEVER forget, and we should all take pride in that. Ya Ta Hey!

More details on all the events are in the Smoke Signal and on our web site:
<http://www.Blackland-Prairie.org>

Federation Chief "Big Fireball"
Trailmate "Little Fireball" & Choctaw Guide "Fireball"
(Charles, Sarah, Brandon)



Yatahey Mighty Papoose Nation,

I hope everyone had fun this past Saturday. Even though it was cold and windy I saw lots of effort in catching those elusive fish. And Congratulations to the winners of the fishing contest. I was very impressed with the fishing event. Our turn out was great and the lunch really hit the spot. Thank you to the War Chief Jeff Kennemer for organizing this event.

I am always encouraged when I see dad's taking the time to spend with their son's and daughter's. In the Native Americans society it was customary for the fathers to take the children under their wings and teach them what skills they needed to know to survive. Of course, today we don't have to fish to survive. The real lessons being learned are the values taught from our dad's to our children.

You may recall the story of our founder Harold Keltner. Inspired by his experiences with Joe Friday, who was his guide on fishing and hunting trips to Canada, Harold Keltner initiated a program of parent-child experiences that now involves a quarter of a million children and adults annually in the YMCA. While Keltner was on a hunting trip in Canada one evening, Joe Friday said to his colleague as they sat around a blazing campfire: "The Indian father raises his son. He teaches his son to hunt, track, fish, walk softly and silently in the forest, know the meaning and purpose of life and all he must know, while the white man allows the mother to raise his son." These comments struck home, and Harold Keltner arranged for Joe Friday to work with him at the St. Louis YMCA.

This story is still alive in the men who take time to be part of this organization.

I want to thank all those involved in the planning of the fishing event – especially the War Chief Jeff Kennemer.

ACTIVITIES FOR THIS MONTH

Spring is just around the corner and we have activities planned for the next 3 months.

Let's start with the Pinewood Derby on March 7th. Make sure you are busy completing your car. Decorating your car is half the fun. You and your dad getting to build the car is the other half. And don't forget to follow the instructions given with your car. Weigh in for your cars begin Friday night at the Davis St. YMCA. Great recognition awaits those who are lucky enough to "engineer" their car to victory.

And don't forget to sign up NOW. The event is only a week away.

The Family Camp Out is March 27-29th at Lake Ray Roberts. This is our Federations largest camp out of the year. So bring your whole family. Bring your brothers, your sisters, your mom and the family dog.

We will be having our traditional Family Meal together on Saturday night. Bar-b-Que and hot-dogs are on the menu.

If you are not signed up yet, please do so soon. It is always helpful to know how to plan when we have most of our tribes sign up early.

Again, I want to thank the dad's who have contributed to the success of the fishing event and in preparing for the pinewood derby.

Kelly Sleeping Bear Turner & Reid Screaming Eagle Turner

Yatahey Beautiful Princess Nation!

I realize that each month my greeting is similar, but this month it takes on special meaning because many of your Princesses just attended the Daddy Daughter Date Night on your arm. If yours was dressed like mine, then the simple word beautiful is an understatement on their appearance. I don't know if I am ready for my little girl to grow up just yet.

Please take the time and make a point to thank Rodney, Winterhawk (Shawn Kondratiuk) of the Sioux and Painted Horse (Rob Owens) of the Wichita and their Assistants for all of the hard work they put in to make this event a success. Three big KUDOS to all of you that volunteered and helped make these memories possible!!!

I passed all of the formal portraits from the photographer out to your Tribal Chiefs at the Longhouse, so be sure to ask them for yours. Here is a link to the photographer's website to order candid and additional portraits from the dance.

<http://www.wsandersphotography.exposuremanager.com>

Password: indianprincess2009

Notice that you need the password to access the photos.

The Fund Raiser was a big success with 400 people in attendance helping us raise almost \$12K, which is just over our goal for next year. Thank you to the Co-War Chiefs Brave Thunder (Grant Mathews) of the Comanche and Climbing Bear (Jeff Zabriskie) of the Crow and to the Mohican Guides for helping out with multiple duties. My personal thanks go out to all of the Big Braves that stepped up and helped with all of the things like the Cakewalk and auction item donations.

Many, many thanks go to Diane Norris for gathering, tagging, and running the Silent Auction for us. She continues to help our Program year after year. Next time you see Diane or her husband Jim, make sure you pass along your own personal thanks to them.

Notice how in the last two paragraphs, and every month, I thank all of the volunteers that help make our events successful. I do this because without each of you volunteering to help accomplish the many tasks that are required, we could not make the Program happen. My heart swells with pride each time one of the Mighty Princess Nation tribes volunteers at the Longhouse to shoulder the weight of an event for our Nation or Federation. Your efforts benefit all of us and set an example for the Federation and your daughters. Please keep up the hard work the rest of this year and into the future.

The Pinewood Derby cars are still available through the Y for \$10, and there is still time to complete one before the big event next weekend, March 7. It is at the Central Y gym with check in the night before for appearance awards. Come help the Mohican Guides set up and you might get the chance to "test drive" your car before the regular races start on Saturday. Rules for the event are attached to the car kits.

Elah Kwah for everything,

Chief Lightning Cloud
Little Chief Shining Cloud
(Jeff and Andie)

Asst Chief Mighty Wolf
Little Asst Chief Dancing Otter
Little Asst Running Deer
(Brian, Audrey & Olivia)



Ya Ta Hey Mighty Guides Nation,

It has been many moons since we have last spoken, but it does not mean that a lot has not been going on. What can I say about the Father/Son event at the Fort Worth Brahma's. Not only was it an exciting game with players being ejected, but we also won. The night started with meeting two of the Brahma's players in a question and answer session followed up by getting a puck signed by one of the Brahma's. The little braves seem to enjoy it and I know some never put their pucks down. But one of the best parts of the night took place between the 1st and 2nd period. We had about 45 kids on the ice take part in the Tug-Of-War. We Dad's were on the ice with them cheering them on. But it was the crowd that was cheering the loudest. Our little braves pulled and pulled for 2 minutes, but it ended in a draw. The kids had a GREAT time out there and they will truly have a lasting memory of the "battle".

After the game, the little braves played a lot of dodge ball and volleyball until the big event started. That was the time when we got to take to the ice. I have decided not to mention names when it came to skating ability, but lets just say our group is best to stay on land. However, when it comes to Broomball.....that is a different story. We started at 12:15 a.m. and it went well into the early morning hours. It was intense the entire time. Just ask Red "The Eagle" Hoar. He was a beast in the net. Some of the shots were like you were watching a real hockey game (kinda). And other than the 3 or 4 spots on the ice that if you hit them you were guaranteed to go down, it was a blast. Thank you to all that played, and my apologies to all I knocked down. There are many more stories that can be told, but it can all be summed up by saying it was a great time, and it was supported well by our members. The Mighty Guides Nation wants to give a special thank you to Scott Ferrell of the Blackfoot. Without him, the event would not have gone so smoothly.

The next event is the Pinewood Derby, and the Spring Campout is fast approaching. Remember Chiefs, the Longhouse for March is on the 24th because of Spring Break. Please be ready to work on the Campout, and bring those invitations so we can vote.

Until next time Mighty Guides!!!!

Kevin "Night Owl" Hadawi, Nation Chief

Kaden "Roaring Rapid" Hadawi, Little Nation Chief

YaTaHey Mighty Trail Nation!

Thanks to all the trail members that provided help for the fundraiser dinner / silent auction. The help at the event setting up, policing the items, and shutting down the auction was especially appreciated! The fundraiser dinner was a huge success this year, despite the dire early outlook. The end result was greater than I think anyone anticipated. Thanks Guys!

We had several Trail members attend the Brahamas Hockey Lock-In on the 27th of February. I would not be surprised if this becomes a yearly event. Three Kudos to Scott Ferrell for organizing this!

Other than the federation activities mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter, the Trail has two exciting events coming up fairly quickly.

May 1-3 we'll be canoeing / kayaking down the San Marcos River in New Braunfels. We'll camp at the San Marcos River Retreat Friday and Saturday night. The river trip will be Saturday, with an early start (8am) for those that want to do the long routes (5 or 7 miles), or an 11 am start for those less adventurous (3 miles). This trip is available now for online sign-up.

The End of Trail trip will be a four day trip from Thursday June 4th through Sunday June 7th. This will be a whirl-wind trip through west Texas and southeast New Mexico visiting Carlsbad Caverns, Guadalupe Peak, the McDonald Observatory and Balmorhea Springs. We'll ride in a Dan Dippert bus to Whites City, NM (just outside the entrance to Carlsbad), where we'll stay for two nights. Friday and Saturday will be a combination of Guadalupe Peak and Carlsbad Caverns. We'll stay Saturday night near Fort Davis and attend the twilight show (8pm) and a Start Party (9:30 till 11 pm) at the McDonald Observatory. On the way back on Sunday, we'll stop for a couple of hours at Balmorhea Springs for a refreshing swim. More info to follow, so check your e-mail!. If you have not been getting e-mail correspondence, please let me know

As this program year is coming to a close, we'll pass the Trail Nation Chief Head-dress to Gene Hubble at the River Trip in May!

Jim Norris - Trail Nation Chief
817.233.7694
jim@norris6.com

Gene Hubble - Trail Nation Assistant Chief
817.457.7150

Papoose Fishing Event Pictures...



Papoose Christmas Party Pictures...



Parade of Lights Pictures...





 **Father/Child**

 **PAPOOSE**

 **PRINCESS**

 **GUIDES**

 **TRAIL**



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