

April 2013

Inside this issue:

Calendar	2
Federation Chief	3
Papoose Chief	4
Princess Chief	5
Guides Chief	6
Trail Chief	7
Pinewood Derby	8
Rocket Shoot	9

Recruitment...

Recruit new members for this season and get a recruitment patch for every new participant! Remember, this program thrives by all of us sharing our enjoyment with friends.

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



Upcoming Events...

* See complete calendar on page 2 *

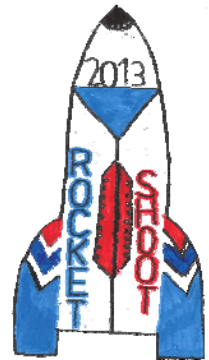


Papoose Field Day
April 13
 River Legacy Park
 Nature Science Center
 10am - 12pm + Picnic
 Guided Nature Tour & Picnic!!

Rocket Shoot
May 11, 10am - 1pm
 River Legacy Park,
 Arlington
Cost: Free!!

Papoose, Princess, Guides, Trail & the entire Family

10:00 am Rockets due for judging (optional)
 11:00am Awards
 11:00am-1:00pm Rocket Launching



Federation Fundraiser
May 11, 7-11pm
 Shady Valley Country Club
 Casino Night, Music, Silent Auction
 Drinks & Hors D'oeuvres

<http://www.ymca-arlington.org/FCprogram.html>



Elder: **Brian Hill**
 Elder: David Adams
 Elder: Jeff Cloud 817-360-0611

Elder: Mike Ginani 469.767.3051
 Elder: **Bill Darroch** 214.274.8253
 Elder: Jim Gammon

Bold names are new elders this year.

Federation Chief: Mike Ginani 469.767.3051 **Asst. Federation Chief:** Tim Ackermann 214.477.9098

Program Manager: Tim Cameron 817-275-8418 Timc@ymca-arlington.org

Papoose Chief: Tim Ackermann **Guides Chief:** Jeff Godbold
Princess Chief: David George **Trail Chief:** Brian Murphy

Federation Meshenewa: Jeff Cloud 817-360-0611

Program Calendar

YMCA Father/Child Program Events Calendar 2012-2013

Events	Papoose	Princess	Guides	Trail
	3-5 Yrs	K-3rd	K-3rd	4th & up
Bad Königshofen Event	26-May	26-May	26-May	26-May
4th of July Parade (Arlington)	4-Jul	4-Jul	4-Jul	4-Jul
New Chief's Orientation	17-Jul	17-Jul	17-Jul	17-Jul
Dive In Movie Central Y	28-Jul	28-Jul	28-Jul	28-Jul
Little Chiefs Longhouse	21-Aug	21-Aug	21-Aug	21-Aug
Carnival	8-Sep	8-Sep	8-Sep	8-Sep
New Dad's Orientation	25-Sep	25-Sep	25-Sep	25-Sep
Induction	YMCA	YMCA	YMCA	YMCA
	29-Sep	29-Sep	29-Sep	29-Sep
Fall Campout Event	Lake Arlington	Lake Arlington	Lake Arlington	Lake Arlington
	Oct 5-7	Oct 12-14	Oct 19-21	Rescheduled
Haunted Trail	Lake Mineral Well S.P.	Eisenhower S.P.	Fairfield S.P.	for Spring Campout
Papoose Train Ride Event	27-Oct	27-Oct	27-Oct	27-Oct
Federation Community Day	10-Nov	10-Nov	10-Nov	10-Nov
Turkey Shoot	17-Nov	17-Nov	17-Nov	17-Nov
Princess Event		11-Jan		
		Night at the Zoo		
Arlington Parade of Lights	1-Dec	1-Dec	1-Dec	1-Dec
Papoose Christmas Party	16-Dec			
Federation Winter Campout	Jan 25-27	Jan 25-27	Jan 25-27	Jan 25-27
	Loyd Park	Loyd Park	Loyd Park	Loyd Park
Daddy Daughter Date Night		8-Feb		
Father-Son Event			23-Feb	
			Monster Truck Jam	
Federation Fund Raiser Dinner	11-May	11-May	11-May	11-May
	Shady Valley CC	Shady Valley CC	Shady Valley CC	Shady Valley CC
Pinewood Derby	2-Mar	2-Mar	2-Mar	2-Mar
Family Campout	Mar 22-24	Mar 22-24	Mar 22-24	Mar 22-24
	Tyler S.P.	Tyler S.P.	Tyler S.P.	Tyler S.P.
Papoose Field Day	13-Apr			
Spring Campout Event	May 3-5	Apr 19-21	Apr 5-7	May 17-19
	Purtis Creek S.P.	Cooper Lake S.P.	Ray Roberts S.P. -Johnson	Rockin " R" Rafting
Rocket Shoot	11-May	11-May	11-May	11-May
Chief's Appreciation Dinner	21-May	21-May	21-May	21-May

Updated: 01-21-2013

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

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

** The latest calendar will always be online at this address: http://www.blackland-prairie.org/calendar_embed.html **



YA TA HEY BLACKLAND PRAIRIE FEDERATION!

Spring is here. The weather is warmer, the grass greening up, and flowers are starting to bloom. Many of us are busy each weekend with our kid's sports such as baseball and soccer. It's a great time of year. It's also a great time to strengthen the bond with our children with outdoor activities. Organized sports are great, but nothing is better than actually participating in an activity *with* your child. Don't forget the many deeds listed in your nation's manual. These are great activities and projects that you can do with your child.



God willing, we will have great weather for all our spring campouts. Our upcoming campouts are:

Guides: April 5-7th at Ray Roberts State Park

Princess: 19-21st at Cooper Lake State Park

Papoose: May 3-5th at Purtis Creek State Park

Trail: May 17-19th Rocking "R" Rafting -All 4th grade and up are invited

We will have our **Rocket Shoot** again at **River Legacy Park on May 11th**. That night is also our Annual Fundraiser. The **Fundraiser is a very important event. We will be having it the night of May 11th from 7-11pm at Shady Valley Country Club.** There will be a casino night, music and a silent auction. Drinks and hors d'oeuvres will be provided. **Tickets are available now.** Simply go to <http://www.ymca-arlington.org/FCprogram.html> and there is link to purchase your tickets thru PayPal. In addition, we are looking for any and all donations to our event. I recently spent a day visiting businesses for donations and was shocked at how willing they were to help. Please make a commitment to ask each restaurant or retail establishment you enter to make a donation. You can get a copy of our fundraiser letter at: <http://blackland-prairie.org/events.html>. Finally, invite everyone you know to the fundraiser. It will be a great time and is a great recruiting event. My goal as Federation Chief is to grow the program both in membership and financially. If we achieve growth, we can lower prices and make more events less expensive. So, please give your best to help with the fundraiser.

Can't wait to see everyone at our upcoming events!

Sincerely,

Teaching Bear (Mike Ginani)

Dancing Daisy (Madison)

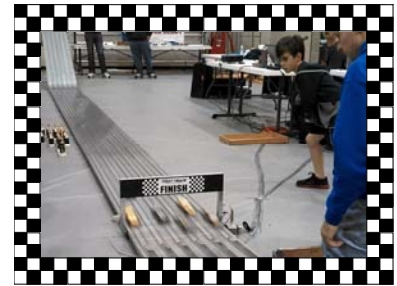
Running Bear (Andrew)

Ya Ta Hey Mighty Papoose Nation!

We have one big event coming up this month, Papoose Field Day! And then in early May we'll head off to Purtis Creek S.P. for our Spring Campout. The next weekend, we have the Rocket Shoot, and the new Fundraiser – for adults – later that evening. Lots coming up!

April 13th is our new event: Papoose Field Day. This will be on Saturday morning at the River Legacy Living Science Center. You know kids love walking in the woods; we'll have a trained naturalist take them (and Dad) out for a springtime nature walk to see what's happening. And they will also get to meet some of the animals at the Science Center. Then we're planning a picnic at the park. Older siblings, up to 9, are welcome, and there will be a kite festival to see out on the meadow. Come join us!

So, what have we been doing? Pinewood Derby was a big splash in its new location at the South Cooper Y. Eli Edge (Eagle) won the Kindergarten speed trophy, with Mahesh Gopalan (Hawk) right behind him. In the Pre-K category, Eagle Tribe took 2nd, 3rd and 4th places in the speed contest (Chloe Edge, Sadie Gipson, Faith Ludwig). Grant Slackney (Eagle) won Best of Show, Carter Harlan won Most Indian Like, and Connor Franklin (Fox) won Most Unique. And in the 1st Grade category, my own little Hawks (Roslyn and Liesl) won 2nd and 4th place in the speed contest.



We also just returned from the Family Campout out at Tyler State Park. The Papoose Tribes got beautiful sites right on the lake. The kids had a fun time exploring the nearby island, going for a nature walk and finding the geocache before the ... well, before the deluge. But then we enjoyed the park Ranger's presentation on snakes. And once it cleared up, it turns out kids don't really mind mud or a little drizzle!

Please give your friends and neighbors and your children's schoolmates the opportunity to have these experiences. They can join us at Field

Day, Rocket Shoot or Spring Campout! [Aren't you glad someone asked you?](#)

Here are our upcoming events:

Papoose Field Day – April 13th. This is the new Papoose Nation event I described above, to be held at the River Legacy Living Science Center. More details to come by email!

Spring Campout – May 3-5th. We're going to East Texas to Purtis Creek!

Rocket Shoot – May 11th. Start getting ready – even 3-year-olds like to see things go WHOOSH!

Fundraiser – May 11th (SAME DAY). This is our new Fundraiser: 7 – 11 p.m. at Shady Valley C.C. with a casino night, great prizes, and silent auction. Price is \$40 a ticket until May 1st (and \$50 each thereafter) which includes beer, margarita and hors d'oeuvres. Get your tickets early and invite friends – it's not restricted to F/C program parents – here: <http://www.ymca-arlington.org/FCprogram.html>. Please spread the word!

Looking forward to a lot of fun times,

Stalking Wolf (Tim Ackermann)

Dancing Goose (Liesl Ackermann)

Singing Tiger (Roslyn Ackermann)

Burning Phoenix (Signy Ackermann)

Ya-ta-hey Mighty Princess Nation!

I'm writing this not long after getting home and unpacking all the gear from the annual Family Camp Out. We were able to return to Tyler State Park for the first time in many years and despite a few rain showers Saturday afternoon, I saw a mix of Papoose, Princess, Guides and Trail having great times with friends and family. My first year in the Father-Child program, the Family Camp Out was at Tyler. The return this weekend brought back a lot of great memories, but it also reminded me how quickly the kids are growing up and to continue to make the most of every opportunity to spend quality time with them. I hope you will do the same.

In addition to the Family Camp Out, Pinewood Derby has also come and gone. Princess Nation was well represented, with a number of our girls taking home trophies. Thanks to everyone who entered a car and three kudos to the following for their special achievements:

Pre-K – 1st Place Speed – Lilly Richard – Kichai
Kindergarten – Most Indian Like – Lucy Loughlin – Zuni
Kindergarten – Most Unique – Sydney Hirsch – Karankawa
Kindergarten – 4th Place Speed – Sydney Hirsch - Karankawa
1st Grade – Most Indian Like - Bridget Austin – Kichai
1st Grade – Most Unique – Jenni Payne - Seminole
1st Grade – 1st Place Speed - Lilly Cloud – Zuni
2nd Grade – Best of Show – Anabella Rosenberger
2nd Grade – 4th Place Speed Makenna Elkins – Kichai
2nd Grade – 3rd Place Speed - Signy Ackerman - Karankawa
2nd Grade – 2nd Place Speed - Katie Miller – Karankawa
3rd Grade – Most Indian Like – Lauren Heltmach – Winnebago
3rd Grade – 2nd Place Speed – Keira Cloud – Zuni
4th and Up – Best of Show – Cara Schulman – Zuni
4th and Up – 3rd Place Speed – Hannah Cunningham – Zuni



We may have recently wrapped up a number of big events, but our year isn't over. We've got some really good stuff right around the corner.

Spring Camp Out - April 19-21 – We will be heading to Cooper Lake State Park this Spring and let's hope The Great Spirit blesses us with good weather that weekend. I think we all have enough funny stories and memories involving soggy tents, and sleeping in cars! That will be my last event as Nation Chief, but you are going to be in great hands with Brian Bolton leading the Princess Nation. Chiefs, please make sure that your Assistant Chief is prepared for the passing of the Tribal Headdress and ready to help lead the program in the coming year.

Rocket Shoot – May 11, River Legacy Park – There is plenty of time to update or repair your rockets from previous years or perhaps get started on a new one. This is always a great Federation event.

Fundraiser – May 11, 7:00-11:00PM, Shady Valley Country Club - With the all new format this year, this is really a can't miss event. Make sure to invite friends and family. Tickets are \$40 each until May 1st and \$50 thereafter, and are available via the YMCA website on the Father/Child page (<http://www.ymca-arlington.org/FCprogram.html>). Order yours today! Also, please continue to work on gathering the donations and auction items from your tribe. We should have those handed in no later than the April Longhouse.

As always, thanks to everyone for your involvement and support in this program

We are looking forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming events!

Old Gray Bear (David George-Nation Chief)

BLACK OWL (Brian Bolton)

Snow Panther (Ella George-Princess)

DANCING RAINBOW (Grace Bolton)

Dancing Squirrel (Anna George - Trail)

Black Bear (Jake George - Trail)

YaTaHey Mighty Braves in the Guides Nation!

The Guides Nation has had a busy month since the last Smoke Signal was published. We had an incredible time at Monster Jam, set new speed records at Pinewood Derby, and survived the great Family Campout Rainout of 2013.

I included a picture of Grave Digger from the Monster Jam in the last Smoke Signal. The picture does not do justice to the event. When there are twenty 1500 horsepower trucks running circles around the stadium floor, you never know what might happen. Lost wheels, fires, rollovers, we had it all. I saw many happy faces that night. Thanks to all of the dad's that participated in this fun event.

Only one week later, we had our own races. Even though we relied on gravity for our power, the Guides Nation had a strong showing. Below is a listing of all of the Guide's winners. Congratulations to all.

Grade	Name	Tribe	Award
K	Raiford Proctor	Mohawk	Best of Show
K	Gannon Carey	Mohawk	3rd Place-Speed
1	Colin Agor	Blackfoot	Best of Show
1	Andrew Ginani	Blackfoot	3rd Place-Speed
2	Ryan Walker	Blackfoot	Most Indian Like
2	Noah Loughlin	Blackfoot	Most Unique
2	Andrew Clark	Navajo	1st Place-Speed and Derby Champion!
3	Brayden Acker	Apache	Most Unique
3	Greyson Murphy	Blackfoot	1st Place-Speed
3	Lane Melton	Choctaw	3rd Place-Speed
4	Benjamin Kocurek	Kichai	Most Unique

We just got back from the wettest family campout that I have ever been to. Tyler State Park was a new location and it was really nice. Mother Nature was not quite as nice, as we had a solid five hours of rain during the middle of the day on Saturday. Thanks to the Blackfoot Tribe for hosting movie night both nights. The Guides were represented by the Blackfoot, Kichai, and Tonkawa tribes.

We are now preparing for our final campout of the year April 5th-7th. This year will mark our first visit to the Johnson Branch Unit at Lake Ray Roberts. Please make plans to attend as the spring campout usually turns out to be the most fun campout. This will be your last chance to throw water balloons at me. However, soon to be Chief Steve still has two full years of fun.

We continue to work on details for the fundraiser at Shady Valley Country Club. The fundraiser will be on Saturday, May 11 from 7-11pm. We hope to bring back some "fun" to this event and make it an annual event. We will have a casino night, raffle, silent auction, food and drinks. Tickets should be available for purchase on the Y website soon. Tickets are \$40 per person until May 1st and then \$50 per person thereafter. Please get with your tribe mates and try to come up with auction/raffle items that might create some excitement. Let's try to think "outside the box" and make this year's event something special.

Jeff Godbold (Silver Eagle)
Guides Nation Chief
Evan (Running Leopard)
Guides Little Nation Chief

Steve Hartung (Soaring Eagle)
Guides Assistant Nation Chief
Gabe (Snowy Rabbit)
Kevin (Sleeping Bear)

YaTaHey Mighty Trail Nation!

This spring, as every spring, is our busiest time of the year. We have two fun events planned that are coming up quickly and will be here before you know it.

Congratulations to Michael Richard for his 1st place in the 4th grade and up class, Erica Perez for her second place finish, and Quinn Spicher for his 3rd place finish. Congratulations also go out to Andie Cloud for Most Indian Like in the 4th and up.



There will be no events in the month of April for the Trails Nation, so enjoy your time, because May is event filled.

First up for the month of May will be the rocket shoot on May 11th at River Legacy Park. Build your best rocket and come enjoy the event, and spend some extra time around the park mountain biking, geocaching, or checking out the nature center.

The fundraiser will also be on May 11th at Shady Valley Country Club from 7-11pm. This will be an adult's only casino night. The night will include casino games, a raffle, silent auction, hors d'ouvres and adult beverages, and a cash bar. Any donations you would like to make would be appreciated. Invite all your friends and family for a great evening of entertainment and fundraising for our program. Tickets are \$40 each until May 1st and then \$50 each thereafter, and can be purchased directly on the YMCA website (<http://www.ymca-arlington.org/FCprogram.html>).

As most of you remember, our fall rafting trip was cancelled due to a lack of water. Hopefully the Great Spirit orders some rain because it continues to be very dry in the Hill Country. We will be returning to camp at the "Rocking R" in New Braunfels. Signups are available now online and at any Y location. \$115 per couple and \$55 for each additional child. Get signed up soon to reserve your spot for one of the best events of the year!

I leave you with an ancient Indian proverb.

Treat the earth well.

***It was not given to you by your parents,
it was loaned to you by your children.***

***We do not inherit the Earth from our Ancestors,
we borrow it from our Children.***

Kitatama'sino ("See you later" in Blackfoot)

"Big Trout" (Brian Murphy) - Trail Nation Chief

"Rainbow Trout" (Molly) – Trailmate

2013 PINEWOOD DERBY RESULTS

Group	Award Type	Award Name	Racer	Tribe
Pre-K	Design Trophy	Best of Show	Slackney, Grant	Papoose-Eagle
		Most Indian Like	Harlan, Carter	Papoose
		Most Unique	Franklin, Connor	Papoose-Fox
	Speed	1st	Richard, Lilly	Princess-Kichai
		2nd	Edge, Chloe	Papoose-Eagle
		3rd	Gipson, Sadie	Papoose-Eagle
		4th	Ludwig, Faith	Papoose-Eagle
Kindergarten	Design Trophy	Best of Show	Proctor, Raiford	Guides-Mohawk
		Most Indian Like	Loughlin, Lucy	Princess-Zuni
		Most Unique	Hirsch, Sydney	Princess-Karankawa
	Speed	1st	Edge, Eli	Papoose-Eagle
		2nd	Gopalan, Mahesh	Papoose-Hawk
		3rd	Carey, Gannon	Guides-Mohawk
		4th	Hirsch, Sydney	Princess-Karankawa
1st	Design Trophy	Best of Show	Agor, Colin	Guides-Blackfoot
		Most Indian Like	Austin, Bridget	Princess-Kichai
		Most Unique	Payne, Jenni	Princess-Seminole
	Speed	1st	Cloud, Lilly	Princess-Zuni
		2nd	Ackermann, Roslyn	Papoose-Hawk
		3rd	Ginani, Andrew	Guides-Blackfoot
		4th	Ackermann, Liesl	Papoose-Hawk
2nd	Design Trophy	Best of Show	Rosenberger, Anabella	Princess-Seminole
		Most Indian Like	Walker, Ryan	Guides-Blackfoot
		Most Unique	Loughlin, Noah	Guides-Blackfoot
	Speed	1st	Clark, Andrew	Guides-Navajo
		2nd	Miller, Katie	Princess-Karankawa
		3rd	Ackermann, Signy	Princess-Karankawa
		4th	Elkins, McKenna	Princess-Kichai
3rd	Design Trophy	Best of Show	Eden, Caleb	DQ
		Most Indian Like	Heltmach, Lauren	Princess-Winnebago
		Most Unique	Acker, Brayden	Guides-Apache
	Speed	1st	Murphy, Greyson	Guides-Blackfoot
		2nd	Cloud, Keira	Princess-Zuni
		3rd	Melton, Lane	Guides- Choctaw
		4th	Meller, Jeff	Guides-Tonkawa
4th & Up	Design Trophy	Best of Show	Schulman, Cara	Princess-Zuni
		Most Indian Like	Cloud, Andie	Trail-Trail
		Most Unique	Kocurek, Benjamin	Guides-Kichai
	Speed	1st	Richard, Michael	Trail-Trail
		2nd	Perez, Erika	Trail-Trail
		3rd	Cunningham, Hannah	Princess-Zuni
		4th	Spicher, Quinn	Trail-Trail
Derby Final	Speed	1st	Clark, Andrew	Guides-Navajo



ROCKET SHOOT



Date: Saturday May 11

Location:

River Legacy Park (www.riverlegacy.org)

701 NW Green Oaks Boulevard, 76006

Enter the park, take the first left, and look for the pavilion on the right.

Time:

10:00am Rockets due for judging (optional)

11:00am Awards

11:00 – 1:00pm Rocket Launching



Cost: Free!!! Bring the whole family. Food and drinks are available for purchase.

...3,2,1, Liftoff!!! Nothing gets your blood pumping like the anticipation of a model rocket launch. When that countdown begins, you can feel the intensity in your own body, and see it in the eyes of your child. This event is designed to be fun and to provide a way for you and your child to spend quality time together by assembling and launching a model rocket. It has many benefits, such as getting them a bit of exercise when they chase the rocket across a field on its descent.



Plus, you just can't beat the educational aspects! What better way to introduce your children to the study of aerospace and STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) than by launching a rocket into the stratosphere!

Trophies will be awarded for ***Most Indian-Like, Biggest/Tallest, Smallest/Shortest, Most Colorful, Judges Favorite.***

See you at the Launch Pad on Saturday, Saturday, Saturday!!!



Papoose Field Day

**April 13 River Legacy Park Science Center
10am - 12pm**



Spring Campouts

Guides April 5-7 Ray Roberts Lake Johnson SP

Princess April 19-21 Cooper Lake SP

Papoose May 3-5 Purtis Creek SP

Trails May 17-19 Rockin' R New Braunfels

Rocket Shoot

May 11 River Legacy Park 10am-1pm

Federation Fundraiser

May 11 Shady Valley Country Club 7-11pm



2200 S. Davis
Arlington, Texas 76013

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**For Youth Development
For Healthy Living**



ON-LINE REGISTRATION

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