

August 2013

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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 *



Annual Carnival

September 7, 9am - 1pm
YMCA South Cooper Branch

Join us for a great day of fun including carnival games, waterslide, dunk tank, climbing wall. Please bring potential recruits, friends, co-workers, and family and introduce them to our wonderful program.

New Dad's Orientation

September 17, 7-8:30pm
YMCA Central Branch
All New Dads Must Attend



Trails Fall Campout

Sept 13-15
YMCA Camp Grady Spruce
Archery, Riflery, Swimming, Hiking
Dad & Child \$225

Elder: **Chris Elkins** 817-999-3311

Elder: **Jeff Godbold** 817-919-5509

Elder: David Adams 214-244-4729

Elder: **Bill Darroch** 214.274.8253

Elder: Jeff Cloud 817-360-0611

Elder: Open

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: Jason Slackney

Guides Chief: Steve Hartung

Princess Chief: Brian Bolton

Trail Chief: Richard Perez

Federation Meshenewa: Jeff Cloud 817-360-0611



***of Arlington is proud to announce
our Fall Father/Child registration promotion!***

From now until the Induction Ceremony on September 28, all YMCA of Arlington Family and Single Parent Family Members pay only \$19 to sign up for the year. That is a \$51 savings over the program member price. Additionally, all Family Members will pay only \$20 for campouts instead of \$35. Having a YMCA Family membership has tons of other benefits as well. All youth sports programs are \$19/season, free monthly Parent Date Nights are included, BIG savings on swim lessons and childcare programs, on top of FULL FACILITY ACCESS for the whole family at all three YMCA of Arlington locations.

I'd like to invite all Father/Child participants to check out what the Y has for your family. August and September are great months to join, as we are offering substantial discounts off of our membership joiner fees. Make sure to be at the **Carnival on September 7** at the Cooper Street Family Center, we'd love to show you around and share all the fantastic benefits of Family Membership!

Tim Cameron
Program Director
YMCA of Arlington
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YA TA HEY BLACKLAND PRAIRIE FEDERATION!

Things are going great for our program! Final numbers for our fundraiser are in and our program netted over \$10,000 from the event. Big thanks to the P.R. Committee and all others who were involved. We plan on this being a great event each year. You will see a major payoff in events we do this year because of the funds raised.



More good news...the Father/Child Program's Float turned out great! If you missed it, we built it with the Alamo theme on Chris Elkin's trailer. Jeff Godbold came up with the theme and Rob Walker generously donated space at his business for us to work on it. Paul Fulks built a replica of the Alamo for us. John Geyerman rode on the float and played his guitar and sang, "Deep in the Heart of Texas." It was great to see the massive turnout from our program. In addition, it was very rewarding to see the spectators' eyes light up when they saw the float. There were over 130 floats in the parade. We won first place in the Youth Category!

Most important of all, because of the hard work of those who built the float, we came up with an easy system of putting together the float each year. Thanks again to all involved!

This is a very exciting time to be in our program. The last two federation events were huge successes. The next event that we need to give our attention to is the **Carnival on September 7th at the South Branch of the YMCA**. This is our opportunity to recruit new members to our program. I feel very confident that the 2013-2014 Father/Child year, will be the best ever. Why not share this experience with other dads that you may know? Please spread the word. Let's have a great turnout.

For all Dads who have children in Trail or eligible for Trail, the Fall Campout is fast approaching. It's at **Camp Grady Spruce on September 13-15th**. There will be lodging and meals provided. Archery, Shooting, Boating and Horseback Riding will be available. It will be a great time. Remember, not only are Trail members invited, but older kids in the Princess and Guides are invited as well. Sign-up now!

Finally, don't forget to put the **Induction on your Calendar for September 28th at Lake Arlington**. We are looking for suggestions on the entertainment for the night.

See you soon!

Sincerely,
Teaching Bear (Mike Ginani)
Dancing Daisy (Madison)
Running Bear (Andrew)

Ya Ta Hey Mighty Papoose Nation!

I hope everyone is having a great summer! We recently celebrated Independence Day, and our program took part in the annual Arlington July 4th parade. Everyone had a great time, and the kids had a blast being a part of the parade

Many thanks, to the crew who designed, and built the float!



It was a great representation of the pride we all feel in our program.

I encourage each tribe to have a Dad's meeting before the end of the summer, to ensure the Dad's all go into the program year with the same expectations.

Our program will soon get busy again, a few of the events coming up shortly:

Carnival – South YMCA Branch, September 7th, 9am to 1 pm. This is a great opportunity to invite friends to come check out the program.

New Dad's Orientation – Central YMCA Branch, September 17th, 7pm, all Chief's need to plan on attending in order to welcome new program members.

Induction – Lake Arlington, September 28th, we celebrate the beginning of the new program year and welcome our newest members.

It's now time to renew your membership in the program. Consider all those individuals you would like to invite to join the program, now is the time to make the effort to contact them & encourage them to attend Carnival. Let's make every effort to grow the Papoose Nation.

Until we meet again...

Eagle Eye (Jason Slackney) Papoose Nation Chief

Lion Heart (Alexander Slackney)

Big Lightning (Grant Slackney)

Ya-ta-hey Mighty Princess Nation!

Many of us have scattered for vacations, summer camps, and a variety of activities. Let's take the time this summer season to find an occasion to pause from the hustle and bustle and reflect on our relationship with our families, with our daughters, and with ourselves. Let's remember how much we have been blessed by having our families... let's remember how special our bond is with our daughters... let's take inventory on how we can improve ourselves.



I want to thank all of you whom attended the Fourth of July Parade; it was a tremendous success! Lots of kids having fun, on a beautiful morning – the Great Spirit blessed us with pleasant weather. Kudos to Jeff Godbold of the Guides Nation, and to our Federation Chief, Mike Ginani, for having the vision and commitment to the parade this year; our Program took home the Judge's 1st Place Float Award in the Youth Division!

As summer has drawn to a close, the Program year gets started. In just a few weeks, we will have our annual Carnival event at the South Y. Come out and have a fun-filled morning with your family; have your Princess bring a buddy along to learn a bit about the Program! If you get signed up for the Program year on or before the Carnival date, you'll receive a reduced Campout fee of \$20.

A few short weeks later, we'll gather along the shores of Lake Arlington for our annual Induction. Bring chairs and bug spray! The whole family is invited, and as always, guests are welcome to attend.

THEN, another few weeks later, we'll all pack up our camping gear and head east to Lake Tawakoni for our Fall Campout. Big thanks to Seminole Tribe for war-chieving our first Campout!

BREAKING NEWS: The Princess event in January will be an overnight stay at the Sea Life Aquarium at Grapevine Mills. It should be a great time! Details and fine print to follow next month.

As always, if you've ever got a question or a suggestion, feel free to drop me a line. You're always welcome to attend Longhouse meetings, if you'd like to see how things work or if you'd like to become more involved.

I'll see y'all at Carnival; let's get this year kicked off in high gear.



BLACK OWL, Princess Nation Chief (Brian Bolton)
DANCING RAINBOW (Grace Bolton)
SMILING TURTLE (Madeleine Bolton)

YaTaHey Mighty Guides Nation!

Seems like just a few weeks ago our Little Braves were starting summer vacation and by the end of next week, almost all of them will be back to school! There are several events that we associate 'Going Back to School', from buying new clothes (and shoes), backpacks and school supplies, preparing for making that daily lunch and many more.



This year, the Tribal Chiefs of the Guides Nation would like to celebrate this special occasion by having one last **Back to School Bash** at *Dave & Buster's* in the Arlington Highlands. It is this Wednesday, the 21st, starting around 6PM. This is an *unstructured, come & go* event (not sponsored by the YMCA): We do not have tables reserved, we do not have a room reserved and all the games, food and drinks are the responsibility of the Big Brave! However, most games are ½ off on Wednesday and one can combine game cards with meals and have a few hours of rather inexpensive camaraderie and good times. For this event, we are also inviting Little Brave's mom (and siblings) to experience in the fun. This is a great time for mom's to meet and put names to faces of all the Little (and Big) Brave's friends, as well as meet other mom's in the program. This is also a great time to invite Little Brave's best friends and their dads to come out and meet a great group of guys and show them what they are missing!

Please wear your colored tribal shirts (it's a lot easier to keep track of the Little & Big Braves this way).

Back to school also means that the Father/Child Carnival is right around the corner. Your chiefs will be communicating with you soon to solicit your support on making this another fantastic Father-Child event!

The calendar for this year's events is contained in this edition of the Smoke Signal and can be found at http://ymca-arlington.org/FC_calendar.html. There is one event for the Guides that is not definitively planned, the Father-Son event. Please *tentatively* mark the weekend of February 8th on your calendar for the event. Although we had a blast at the Monster Truck Event last year, we are looking at a different venue for this year and we are hoping to have the event date/time/location finalized by the Fall Campout!

In parting, I would like to send out a special KUDDO to the great people that volunteered their time and talents in putting together the 4th of July float and participating in the 4th of July Parade. YOU are the reason why The Father-Child float placed 1st in the Youth Float Division! Thank You, Thank You & Thank You!!

Hoping to see everyone on Wednesday night!

Innaihtsi'iyi (Peace)

Soaring Eagle (Steve Hartung)

Snowy Rabbit (Gabriel Hartung)

Sleeping Bear (Kevin Hartung)

YaTaHey Mighty Trail Nation!

The Summer Holidays are almost coming to a close and I hope all of you were able to enjoy the sun! The Trail nation is glad to welcome all the new additions from the Guides and Princess Tribes. The 4th of July Parade was a huge success! Many thanks and three Kudo's to : Jeff Godbold, Paul Fulks, John Geyerman, Chris Elkins , Rob Walker and everyone else who participated. The float won 1st place for the Youth Float Division.

The month of August and September are busy for the Trail Nation, so here's a run-down of what's coming up. Be sure to mark your calendars and come out and have a good time.

August 20th is the Little Chiefs Longhouse. As our Federation Chief explained, this is where patch designs submitted are voted on by the little chiefs (children of current chiefs and assistant chiefs).

Program Registration The 'official' season kick-off is the Federation Carnival scheduled this year for September 7th. You can register earlier. This year a Full YMCA membership will reduce the cost of the program and offer other savings in sports and daycare. Full family membership is \$60/month, but Single Parent Full Memberships (which any dad could sign up for, regardless of marriage status) is \$47/month. With full membership, the Father Child program registration drops from \$75 to \$19 and State Park campouts are \$20. **Trail events like Camp Grady spruce and other special Guides/Princess events will not be affected, because those are already priced at cost.**

September 7th is the all important Carnival. The Trail Nation plays an important role in the Carnival, sponsoring the rope bridge. We'll need help both Friday night (September 6th) setting up the rope bridge and Saturday morning manning it with teams of two dads. This is a great time to bring friends and other dads to our Carnival to see first-hand the fun and bond the Father-Child Program provides each of us and our children. Trail usually has more experienced members of the Federation, and we can answer questions from new members. Please send me an e-mail if you can help.

Camp Grady Spruce is September 13th-15th. This event is less than a month away and is the first Trail Nation event for the year, and one that should be great fun.

Registration for the event is open on the YMCA website or in person at the Central or S. Cooper Branch.

We will be camping at Camp Grady Spruce in the Ray Bean 2-story cabins that are climate controlled. Staffed activities include: Archery, riflery, canoeing, and a Boat trip to the Island. Four meals for Saturday and Sunday (breakfast) are included in the registration. Horseback riding will also be available for an additional cost of \$15. Boats are welcome! **Camp Grady Spruce updated us on a Triathlon being held there Sunday Morning. They will be closing roads for the safety of participants between 7am and Noon. Make note if you need to leave early Sunday Morning. We would still be able to do activities on Sunday morning just not driving on the roads during those times.**

September 28th is Induction at Lake Arlington. For those that are new to the Trail Nation, and those who are old-timers in the program, make plans to attend this special event, it promises to be a great evening.

Here's to a Great Year Trail Nation!!

Richard Perez (Longbow)
Trail Nation Chief - 817-691-5220
Erika (Tigerlilly) Trail Mate
John (Brave Tomahawk) Guides

Yatahey Blackland Prairie!

Not only did your kids get to be the stars of the Arlington 4th of July Parade (in cooler-than-normal weather!), but they rode on an AWARD-WINNING FLOAT! This year, the YMCA came in FIRST in the Youth Float Division!

Our kids did a great job: they dressed up in sparkles, glitter, and red-white-and-blue; they decorated and rode their bikes—leading our float down the street; they sang *Deep in the Heart of Texas* to the crowds (with a lot of help!); and they followed the good examples set by their fathers—they had a good attitude and smiled and waved to the people of Arlington.



And our float did a terrific job of displaying this year's Parade theme: Emblems of the Land I Love. Our emblem? The Alamo—rendered in a stunningly-executed six-foot-long display by Paul Fulks and his company. Thanks so much to Mike Ginani and Jeff Godbold for leading this event, coming up with the ideas and executing them!



Our dads also worked together to build the float itself, using Chris Elkins' trailer and Rob Walker's shop. The team created a base that we can now re-use for parades in years to come.

And did I mention singing? Thanks to John Geyerman, we entertained the crowd along the entire parade route with *Deep in the Heart of Texas*. My kids are still singing it and it makes me smile to remember where they learned the song!

For more pictures, you can visit Mike Ginani's photo storage, here: <http://s356.photobucket.com/user/mginani/library/2013%20Father%20Child%20Parade%20Float>, and AISD's Parade TV shows our float here (at about 1:35 with a lead-in): <http://goo.gl/1zZQ4>.

I'm really proud of our people, and looking forward to a lot of fun times,

Stalking Wolf, Dancing Goose, Singing Tiger & Burning Phoenix

(Tim, Liesl, Roslyn & Signy Ackermann)



Annual Carnival

September 7
YMCA Central Branch
9am—1pm



Trails Fall Campout

YMCA Camp Grady Spruce
September 13-15

New Dads Orientation

YMCA Central Branch
September 17, 7-8:30pm



2200 S. Davis
Arlington, Texas 76013

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION

U.S. POSTAGE
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Permit No. 48
ARLINGTON, TX



For Youth Development
For Healthy Living



ON-LINE REGISTRATION

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