

## Senior Patrol Leader Report    Loons Basic Training

Our current boy led leadership has been busy making future plans for our Troop. Here are some of the events and activates the SPL have planned:

- Compass training at the April 10<sup>th</sup> and April 17<sup>th</sup> Troop meetings (please bring your compass to the meeting)
- Orienteering course at Blackwell Forest Preserve on April 29<sup>th</sup> more information to follow
- New Scout Investiture will be held at the April 24<sup>th</sup> Troop meeting. Parents are invited and encouraged to attend this ceremony.

The PLC also discusses Troop policy and revises it when necessary. Recently the PLC decided on a new **campout uniform policy**. For camping trips only, the uniform requirements are: Class A shirt, Troop 75 hat, and a neckerchief or bolo (First Class and above may wear a bolo). It is to the scout's discretion as to what type of pants and socks he wears on a campout. Please keep weather conditions in mind and be appropriately prepared.

### Troop Meeting Uniform Policy

Unless otherwise stated, Scouts are required to wear their Class A uniform to all Troop meetings. A Class A uniform consists of: a neatly ironed and tucked in tan shirt (with appropriate patches and epaulettes), green Scout trousers, green socks, neckerchief or bolo (1st Class and above may opt to wear a bolo), and Troop hat. Boys who attend a Troop meeting without the appropriate uniform **will receive one warning**, if they attend again without their proper Class A, **they will be sent home**.

If you have questions about your uniform, please talk to your Patrol Leader or Mr. Thomas.

This year Loons basic training will be held from April 13<sup>th</sup> to April 15<sup>th</sup>. The Wolves and Dragons will set up camp and activities Friday night and early Saturday morning. The Loon Patrol will arrive at 9 a.m. Saturday. Over the course of the campout the Loons will cook over an open fire; receive flag training; work on personal fitness, proper tent care, trailer set-up and organization, use of cooking supplies; and work on the Fireman and Totem Chips.

All Loons are strongly encouraged to attend this campout. Permission slips are due to Patrol Leaders on April 10<sup>th</sup>.

### Swim Test

All scouts and adults who plan to attend the May outing, the Mother/Son campout in June and/or summer camp in July will need to complete their swim test. Time will be scheduled at the YMCA on Sunday April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6 pm. More information and waivers will be handed out soon. Swim tests are required annually and are also conducted at summer camp.

The BSA swim test consists of the following: Jump feet first into water over your head in depth. Swim 75 yards in a strong manner using one or more of the following strokes: sidestroke, breaststroke, trudgen, or crawl; then swim 25 yards using an easy, resting backstroke. The 100 yards must be swum continuously and include at least one sharp turn. After completing the swim, rest by floating.

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### Upcoming Troop 75 Events:

- April 10<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> Compass Training
- April 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> Loons Basic Training
- April 13<sup>th</sup> Annual District Dinner
- April 14<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> Spring Merit Badge Clinic
- April 22<sup>nd</sup> Swim Test
- April 24<sup>th</sup> New Scout Investiture
- May 4<sup>th</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup> Troop Camping @ Owasippe
- June 1<sup>st</sup>—3<sup>rd</sup> Mother/Son Campout
- June 10<sup>th</sup>—Troop Car-wash 9 am until 3 pm



## Troop 75 2007 Calendar

Please keep in mind that no matter how hard we try to plan, sometimes unexpected conflicts arise. If any of these dates should change, we will communicate that to you as soon as possible. Please check this section of the newsletter each month for new activities added and any possible changes. The Troop calendar can also be found on the Troop website at:  
[www.napervilletroop75.org](http://www.napervilletroop75.org).

### 2007 Troop Dates:

- April 10th** New Parent Meeting 7 p.m.
- April 13th-15th** Loons Basic Training
- April 14th & 28th** Merit Badge Clinic (1<sup>st</sup> Class and above)
- April 24th** New Scout Investiture
- May 4th-6th** Troop Camping @ Owasippe
- May 7th** Troop Committee Meeting 7 p.m.
- May 8th** Summer Camp Parent Meeting
- June 1st-3rd** Mother/Son Campout
- June 5th & June 19th** Troop Meetings
- June 10th** Troop Carwash 9 a.m.-3 p.m. (more information to follow)

### July 3rd & July 17th Troop Meetings

**July 7th-14th** Summer Camp @ Owasippe Scout Reservation in White Hall Michigan.

**August 5th-11th** High Adventure Backpacking on the Current River Trail in the Ozark Trail in Missouri.

### August 7th, 21st & 28th Troop Meetings

**August 26th** Court of Honor/Picnic at Von Oven Scout Camp

**September 7th- 9th** (tentative dates) Illini Jamboree

## Summer Meeting Dates

Troop 75 operates and continues to meet year round. In the summer, however, we have a modified "uniform" and a modified calendar. Summer 2007 meeting dates will be:

June 5th and June 19th

July 3rd and July 17th

August 7th, 21st, and 28th

The summer meeting uniform consists of Troop 75 Class B t-shirt and green shorts.

## Troop Recycle Bin

Lost your hat? Misplaced your neckerchief? Outgrown your Class B T-Shirt? These items are always available for sale new at a cost of \$10 each. Please make checks payable to Troop 75.

Outgrown your Scout pants? Scout shorts too short? Class B t-shirt too small? Not sure what to do with them now that they don't fit? Turn them in to the Troop Recycle Bin. All items in the bin are available for purchase at a cost of \$2 each.

If you are looking for a specific item, please ask Mrs. Thomas to show you the recycle bin at a Troop meeting.

**Merci! Gracias! Thank you!**

### Thank you goes out to...

- Brian McGough for towing the trailer to the March campout
- Lisa Fortsch for organizing the spring merit clinic for the Troop
- All the parents who drove to the March campout and helped with getting water and supplies
- Thank you to Mrs. Holman for her time as Committee Chair and for staying with the Troop as a Committee Member



## Scoutmaster Corner

As we move into the spring scouting season, I'm happy to say that our Troop is making great strides. We have had a very successful recruiting season. At my final count we have 18 new scouts. That amount of young men coming to our Troop says a lot about our Troop's character. Most of the new scouts went to the March campout. I think that was a whole new experience for them. The scouts worked very well together. We have a great group of young men in the Loon Patrol this year.

Our trip to the Jake Wolf Fish Hatchery was a good one. I think that all of our scouts showed what kind of scouts they are. Both nights the temperatures were right around 17°-18° F. Everyone who attended earned the "Polar Bear Award." I was very impressed with the variety of food that was cooked. Each of the patrols did a good job.

I am looking forward to Loons Basic Training this year. We have a great weekend planned for the new scouts. We are doing things a little different than last year. Parents are always welcome to attend and see the way that our older scouts help our new scouts. This campout will set the tone for how the Loons camp for the rest of the season.

I know that the Summer Camp packets have gone out. This is a very exciting time for most of the troop. We are all looking forward to the magic of summer camp. We will be having a Summer Camp parent meeting on May 8th. We will be starting our training hikes for High Adventure in late April. We will also have one when we attend Owasippe Scout Reservation in May. In addition we'll have four hikes to help us get ready for our trek to the Ozark Trail.

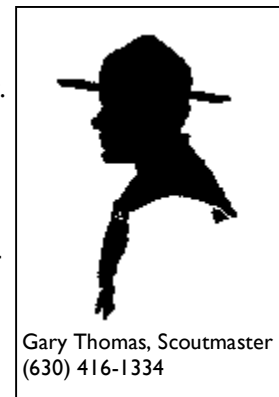
We will have our work cut out for us with the upcoming baseball season. We must keep a balance with scouting and our other commitments. Not only do we have our monthly campouts, but we will have our High Adventure training hikes and some upcoming Eagle Projects.

Michael W.'s Eagle Project was approved and his tentative working days are May 11 and 12. So, get your working clothes and garden tools ready to come and help him with his landscaping project. Nathan O. and Eric L.'s projects are in the write up stage. Drew H. has finished his project and is patiently waiting for his reference letters to arrive. Then he will be ready for his Scoutmaster Conference and his Eagle Board of Review.

Now comes the challenging part of my corner. I again challenge all of our scouts to set goals and work to achieve those goals. Take a minute and look up the requirements for your next rank, pick a requirement, set a due date and focus to get it done. Scouts working on First Class need to check and see what you need to complete and get in touch with the instructors and get it done. You are the person who decides what rank you want to be. Remember, hard work is always recognized.

Your Scoutmaster,

Mr. Thomas



Gary Thomas, Scoutmaster  
(630) 416-1334

## High Adventure

This year our High Adventure will be Backpacking The Ozark Trail in Missouri. We will leave on August 5th and return on August 11th. The estimated cost per Scout will be \$350.

Requirements to attend are: you must be at least 13 years old or finished 7th grade and achieved the rank of First Class by departure date. High Adventure deposits are due to Mrs. Thomas ASAP.

We will have four training hikes and one local training session at Blackwell; it is highly recommended that you attend all of the hikes and the training session. Please note that you are required to attend a minimum of three hikes (please note the mandatory hike); it is recommend that you attend all hikes and the training session.

1. Starved Rock one day hike. April 28th. Meet @ GSL at 6 am with 75% of gear.
2. Owasippe backpacking May 4, 5, 6th with 95% of gear.
3. Indiana Dunes May 18, 19, 20th with 100% of gear.
4. Local training at Blackwell Mt. Trashmore. June 16th. Meet @ Concession Stand at 8 a.m. with 100% of gear.

**Mandatory** River Ridge Back Pack Trail in Forest Glen Preserve in Westville, IL. June 29, 30 & July 1st with 100% of gear and food for one week.

Upcoming High Adventure meetings will be announced soon. If you have questions, call Mrs. Thomas @ 630-416-1334



## Troop e-mail

Everyone in the troop should receive the monthly newsletter at the second Troop meeting of the month and by email. If you are not receiving the troop emails or wish to make any additions or changes to your email address, please contact Tom Meyers at :

webmaster@napervilletroop75.org.

Also, please check the troop roster for accuracy and contact Tom if there are any errors or if there is any missing information for your scout.

## Driver Information

It's that time again when all adults who plan to drive to and from Troop outings will need to turn in their information to Vinton. This information needs to be turned in each year and is required information for the mandatory Tour Permits. Please provide the following information to Vinton at: [vinton3@aol.com](mailto:vinton3@aol.com) as soon as possible:

Year and Make of Vehicle

Number of passengers you can transport (number of seatbelts in your vehicle)

Owner's Name

Drivers License Number

Public Liability Insurance Coverage for each person, each accident, and property damage

## May Campout

In May, the Troop will be camping at the Owasippe Scout Reservation in Whitehall, Michigan. This is the same place where we will be attending summer camp. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend this campout. This is a great way for you and your scout to check out Owasippe and see what it will be like when we go for a week in July.

Because the 204 School District does not have school on May 4th, we are planning to leave the church at 1:00 pm, please plan your day accordingly.



Despite the cold weather, everyone enjoyed the fish hatchery campout in March.

## Owasippe Wish List

It was with great happiness that our Summer Camp Committee learned that Owasippe Summer Camp will be operated at least through 2008. With at least 2 more summers of operation, the Staff at Owasippe would like to spruce up buildings and obtain new equipment for Scoutcraft in camps Blackhawk (GO!), and Wolverine. To do this, they need our help. If you or anyone you know has and is willing to donate items from the following list, the Staff (and our Scouts) would be very appreciative.

Please let Ana know if you are able to contribute:

### Scoutcraft

Compasses; GPS receiver; demonstration tent (dome, backpacking, wall, ridge); cast iron dutch ovens; 1/4" manila rope (1000 ft each camp); 1/2" manila rope (500 ft each camp); back packing stove; water purification pump; frame back packs (internal & external); binders twine; burlap sandbags; cooking kits (pots, pans, plates, frying pans); cooking grates; new Patrol boxes (at least 3 per camp); picnic tables; fire guard tools; wood tools (3 3/4 axes, 2 new bow saws, blades, hatches & camp saw); sharpening tools (bastard file, sharpening stones); plastic tarps; storage shed; crosscut saws.

### Maintenance

Shingles (100 squares); 9V batteries (50); AA batteries (100); rope throw bags (3); plastic canoe paddles (10); outside doors w/out windows (6 24x78; 1 36x78); 50kw generator; 2.5 lb ABC fire extinguisher; white exterior latex paint (50 gal); gray exterior latex paint (25 gal); redwood exterior latex paint (100 gal); small air conditioner; 80 gal. LP water heaters (2); Bosch instant on water heaters (2); toilet (1); shower (1); bathroom sink (1); 42" to 50" riding lawn mower; wall furnace 20,000 BTU propane (2); LP apartment stove (1).

## Service Hour Opportunity

If anyone is looking for volunteer service hours this summer, the Naperville Junior Women's Safety Town is looking for volunteers. You need to go on their website, download the form and send it in as instructed on the form. It is due by April 20th. The website is [www.napervillejuniors.org](http://www.napervillejuniors.org). The boys will be working with 5-7 year old kids learning safety skills. If you have any questions, you can email Safety

**Scouting Leaders must undertake training. What will a Leader wear to show that they have completed advanced training?**

Wooden beads. Uniform, badges and pins are used to denote various levels of training, but it is the Wood Beads that are the worldwide badge of advanced leader training. The original Wood Beads were taken by Baden Powell from a Zulu King's necklace.