

Prairielands Post

December 2013

Serving over 3,000 families in nine counties
of east central Illinois and western Indiana

2014 Camp Season Launches December 14th



The Camp Launch for the 2014 camping season will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 14 at Presence Covenant Hospital, located at 1400 W. Park Street in Urbana, just off of University Avenue. The Camp Launch program will include program highlights for Camp Drake in 2014, procedural and registration updates, and tons of fun promotional information. Reservations for 2014 Boy Scout Resident Camp can be made today by contacting Susan Collier at the Prairielands Council Scout Office at Susan.Collier@Scouting.org. Plan ahead today for a fantastic 2014 camping season!

Boy Scout Summer Camp Fee Schedule

Plan ahead now to ensure that your unit is ready for Camp Drake in 2014!

CAMP REGISTRATION: Remember that camp fee deposits are due by the Klondike Derby (January 25, 2014). Plan ahead today to ensure that your unit is signed up for adventure in 2014!

Camp fees for 2014 are as follows for Prairielands Council units:

- \$25.00 per Scout deposit by January 25, 2014
- \$200.00 per Scouts (with deposit for total of \$235.00) by April 17, 2014
- \$245.00 per Scout (without deposit) prior to April 17, 2014 \$260.00 per Scout after April 17, 2014

PROGRAM: Camp Drake program schedules will be available starting at Camp Launch on December 14. Online program registration at www.CampDrake.com for merit badge and other programs will be available on February 3 for all units that have successfully registered and paid their deposits. Don't miss out on the first opportunity to sign up for merit badge classes this summer!

Launch for Cub Scout Adventure Camp & Day Camps too!!



Calling all Cub Scout leaders to this year Cub Scout Camp Launch! Yes that right we will be having a camp launch for all Cub camps that pertain just to Cub Scouts! So come join us on **Dec.14th**, at **Presence Covenant Hospital in Urbana at 11:00** to gather information on dates, places, themes, cost and much more! Cub Scout Camp coordinators are encouraged to come, but all leaders and parents are welcomed.

Klondike Derby 2014 Saturday, January 25; Camp Robert Drake

Camp Robert Drake is the site of the annual winter camping challenge for Boy Scouts, Venturers, and their sleds. Recent history has shown strong competitions from the units of the council. All Boy Scout troops and Venturing crews are encouraged to start practicing for exceptional achievement in cold-weather activities. Cheer for your favorite troop or crew at the big event on Saturday, January 25, 2014 on the banks of the Salt Fork!

Possible Events Include: Constellations, Igloo Building, Star Shoot, Ice Turtle, & Snowshoe Traverse! More information coming soon!!! Check out how to win a cabin at Camp Drake for the Klondike Derby on the next page.....

Seasons Greetings from the Robeson Scout Shop

Santa Scout is Coming to Town!!

Santa Scout will be at the Robeson Scout Shop on Saturday, December 7



Santa Scout will be at the Robeson Scout Shop on Saturday, December 7 from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. Bring your Cub Scout, Boy Scout or even Venturer in to tell Santa their Scouting wish for Christmas.

Scouts!! Wear Your Uniform & Get Your picture taken with Santa Scout

.....Brothers, sisters, Mom & Dad can get a picture too!!!

Special One Day Deals on Scouting Merchandise in the Scout Shop

Refreshments and lots of Scouting Holiday Cheer.....

Join the fun and get your Scouting Holiday Shopping Done at the Same Time!!!

Bid on the Scout Patch Christmas tree



A special table top Christmas Tree decorated entirely with Boy Scout Patches.....including a couple vintage patches for your collection!!

Underneath the tree some special gifts.....antique Boy Scout handbooks, Scout stuff, gift cards and more.

Bidding opened on Monday, November 25. Winner announced on Friday, December 20th! Bids accepted in person or by e-mail to Sharon.kirk@scouting.org.

HO! HO! HO!

Win a Cabin for Klondike Derby

Cabin and campsite space for the 2014 Prairielands Council Klondike Derby will be selected at random following the Camp Drake Launch on Dec. 14 at the Presence Covenant Medical Center in Urbana. Please contact Susan Collier at to get your Troop or Crew in the Klondike Cabin/Campsite drawing. susan.collier@Scouting.org

April 5th a Big Day for Cub Scouts at Camp Drake

Current 5th Graders can Preview Boy Scout Summer Camp

Save the date of Saturday April 5th for a great experience regarding summer camp 2014. On COMPASS DAY, Scouts will be introduced to Camp Drake opportunities through outdoor merit badges, such as Archery, Fishing, and Orienteering. All new Boy Scouts will receive a COMPASS as recognition of participation in COMPASS DAY. When a COMPASS DAY participant attends Camp Drake in 2014, he will receive an official "Camp Drake souvenir." April 5th is set for a fun filled orientation for current fifth grade Scouts. An activity filled day of Boy Scout Camp programs for any younger troop members and their parents from throughout the council. All newer Boy Scouts are invited to attend this special orientation, as well as their troop junior leaders and Scoutmasters.

There is no fee for this event, but participants must use the registration form to reserve their attendance.

Save the date for the TRAIL DAY

Enjoy a beautiful morning along the banks of the Salt Fork River, hiking the Onaquispassippi Trail with all your Scouting buddies. From 9:00 until 12:00 noon on the Four Five of Two-Fourteen all arrowmen and their special guests are invited to Get On their hiking boots and Get On the Onaquispassippi Trail! See the spectacular views around camp. Add to your springtime calendar of fun events – the TRAIL TROMP is hiking on to your calendar on Saturday, APRIL 5th. Walk the Onaquispassippi Trail and uncover secrets of camping past and prizes for our leaders of tomorrow. TROMP IT!

Log-On and Connect with Camp Drake Year-Round!



Never miss out on Camp Drake breaking news and program information again! Connect with Camp Drake on Facebook (Camp Robert Drake) and follow Camp Drake on Twitter (@campdrakebsa) today! As always, www.CampDrake.com remains the premiere location for all critical Camp Drake leader updates, program information and registration, games, news bulletins, training opportunities, and more!

Changes Coming in 2014 for renting the Camp Drake Kitchen

To bring us more in line with state laws regarding food service, and to ensure cleanliness and orderliness to the Camp Drake Kitchen, there are some changes coming on 1 February 2014. More detail will be available closer to that date, but here are the highlights:

- The kitchen may only be used when there is running hot and cold water.
- Any group wishing to use the kitchen must reserve the space at least 30 days in advance, and discuss the rental with the Assistant Camp Director prior to use.
- At least one person from the group renting the kitchen must be certified in Food Service Sanitation by the Illinois Department of Public Health.
- At least one person from the group renting the kitchen must be trained through the council to use the kitchen. Training sessions will be held at no charge during council events such as OA weekends and during summer camp.
- Deposits will be held for up to 30 days after the rental of the kitchen to allow time for an inspection to ensure that all items used are properly put away, and to identify any items that were used that will result in a charge to the group using the kitchen.

The goal is to educate a broader number of people in our council to use the great facility we have while ensuring that the facility is cleaned, maintained, and stocked for the next group interested in renting it.

To find a list of agencies that provide training go to the Vermilion County Health Department link at <http://vchd.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/Food-Service-Sanitation-Class.pdf>

Please contact Assistant Camp Director Brian Brauer at campdrakekitchen@gmail.com with your questions."



Great Plan to Cap a Cub Scout Career

A big moment in the life of a Cub Scout is the earning of the Arrow of Light. Take the time now to start creating a special ceremony that these hard-working Cub Scouts will remember for the rest of their lives. Plan to bring in a special speaker or develop an elaborate photographic presentation. Create props and costumes to set a historical mood and inspire all Cub Scouts to strive to earn this impressive honor. Check with your local Order of the Arrow lodge members about the new four winds ceremony. In all the hustle and bustle of the BLUE AND GOLD celebration for the Boy Scout of America, make the Arrow of Light presentation at your pack meeting a proud moment in the lives of these dedicated Webelos Scouts.



The Robeson Scout Shop has all your Pack Blue and Gold Banquet supplies to make Scouting's birthday celebration an event your families will never forget. Cub Scout Blue and Gold plates, napkins, cups, balloons, table covers, centerpieces and more will make every table look the spirit of Cub Scouting exploded! Your Scouts can also remember this special day with the 2014 Blue & Gold patch! Stop in today to buy your Blue & Gold supplies or order them via phone or fax and we will have them waiting for you!

Many Trails District

Many Trails District Annual Business Meeting

The Annual Business Meeting of the Many Trails District will be held on Thursday, January 9 at the Hoopeston United Methodist Church, beginning at 6:30 pm. All chartering organization representatives, Executive Board members living in the district and current members of the district committee are encouraged to attend and participate in the selection of the District Chair and the District Committee. The purpose of this gathering will be to nominate the volunteers for positions of the Many Trails District Committee, as well as the District Chairman, for service to Scouting in the upcoming year. A slate of officers will be presented by the Volunteer Development Committee for approval by voting members of the district. A slate of a district chairman and a listing of committee members will be voted on for 2014 to conduct the business of the district. A team of district level volunteers will help provide support to packs, troops, and crews of the Many Trails territory through various operating committees. These committees include Activities, Advancement, Camping, and Training. All Chartering Organization Representatives, plus current Many Trails District volunteers and Executive Board members of the district, will be eligible to vote for the slate of volunteers. This group of volunteers will serve for the 2014 year. Please encourage your unit to send a representative to this meeting.

Commissioners Needed

District Commissioner Kent McMahan is looking for district level volunteers to serve as unit mentors that assist packs, troops, and crews with advice, counseling and as an idea source. In Scouting, this type of volunteer is known as a Unit Commissioner. The goal of the Unit Commissioner is to help Scouting programs to be successful by providing resource information, leadership coaching, and unit committee building. Commissioner McMahan is seeking a "Scouting mentor" in each community that can help packs, troops, and crews as needed.

Prairie Fire District

Thank you!!

Prairie Fire District would like to wish all it Scouts, Scouters, and families a very blessed Holiday Season! This had been a year of many changes, and we could have been thrown off track, but we stayed focused with the Mission of Boy Scouts of America and the impact it has on the youth we serve in our communities. As your District Executive, I look forward to working with all of you in 2014 and know that the "BEST" is still yet to come!

It's Rechartering Time.....

Its recharter time!! Packs, Troops, Crews, Teams, Ship leaders if you have not done so already, please stop by the Scout Office and pick up your package, the new registration fee takes affect January 1, 2014, so please budget for this. ALL CHARTERS ARE DUE ON JANUARY 15, 2014.

Prairie First District Annual Business Meeting

Prairie Fire District Annual meeting will take place on January 6th, 2014 at the Fire Service Institute 11Gerty Drive, Champaign, Illinois at 7:00pm. Please join me in thanking our current District Chairman Mike Hirschi for leading our district for the past two years to new heights Mike has done a great job! We wish Mike well as he steps up into his new leadership position with Champaign West Rotary. We will also vote on our new slate of Committee Chairs that will include our new District Chairman Dan Strole.

Commissioner Meeting Schedule

Attention all Commissioners: We will not meet in December for our monthly meeting, our next meeting will be January 8th, 2014 at The LDS Church 604 Windsor Road, Champaign, at 6:00pm. In the mean time, please contact your units and work with them on getting their charter in "ON TIME" and their Journey to Excellence (JTE) classification correct. Please contact District Commissioners Linda Atherton (latherton@mac.com) on your unit's numbers and specific percentages. A huge THANK YOU to all our terrific Commissioners who work diligently with the units to keep them informed.

Congratulations Packs with Membership Growth.....& Pinewood Derby Cars!!!

The following Cub Packs in Prairie Fire District have earned FREE PINEWOOD DERBY CARS for meeting the following qualifications: Have a Friends of Scouting Presentation, Recharter on time, Tiger Cub spring recruitment and Cub Scout School Night recruitment in August or September. Thank you Cub leaders for working with your Commissioners and District Executive (Lovetta Ash-Simpson) in making this a very successful Membership Recognition Plan; you all collectively have earned 554 Free Cars! Here are the list of Packs: Pack 9,12,13, 21, 25,30,39,40, 50, 55,76,80,94,98,119,121,122,147, 402, 908 and 1310. Come to the Scout Shop to pick up your cars, check with the clerk first to see how many you have earned.

Todd Williams named new Roundtable Commissioner

Prairie Fire is happy to welcome our new Roundtable Commissioner Todd Williams from Pack 55! Todd is very excited to help continue to bring new information to our leaders and Scout families from the district and from BSA National office. Thank you Todd for donating just "one more hour" to Scouting!

2013 Friends of Scouting Campaign Update

Our 2013 Friends of Scouting Campaign is just about to come to a close but there is still time for you or your Unit to make a end of the year donation, big or small your generosity will help us come that much closer to meeting our goal. All donations should be made out to Prairielands Council, BSA. A big "THANK YOU" to Curt Ware and Dan Strole for a very successful Phone-athon last week for our FOS campaign!

A Scout is Reverent! Scout Sunday coming up!!

Scout Sunday is February 2, 2014 and this is a good time for your units to earn the religious emblem. On February 9th, 2014 the Catholic Mass with the Bishop in Peoria will take place at 3:30pm, all are welcome to participate.

Spring Camporee Scheduled.....Needs Leadership

Prairie Fire District Spring Camporee is scheduled for April 25-27, 2014, if we are going to have a Camporee I need for a troop or troops Scoutmaster to contact me with your ideas and get this ball rolling! The deadline to secure our Spring Camporee is February 10, 2014 so if you think this is something your Troop would like to lead, contact your District Executive Lovetta Ash-Simpson, lovetta.ash-simpson@scouting.org



Order of the Arrow News



New Officer Elections

The top leadership for Illini Lodge was selected at the Fall Pow Wow on the evening of Saturday, October 12th. Congratulations to this new leadership team of the lodge and best wishes for the upcoming year.

Lodge Chief	Parker Arnholt	T 365	Danville
Vice Chief of Administration	Dominic Corso	T 121	Champaign
Vice-Chief of Activities	Evan Brown	T 121	Champaign
Vice Chief of Inductions	Kelly Chapman, JR.	T 50	Villa Grove
Secretary	Quinn Powers	T 42	Homer
Treasurer	Phillip Wachter	T 13	Champaign

Illini Festivities at the Holiday Party!

Illini Lodge invites all arrowmen to attend a festive holiday party to share cheerful spirit and brotherhoodlyness. The Holiday Party will be conducted directly following TV on December 1st at IFSI in Champaign. Tis the season to celebrate the fellowship of the Order of the Arrow and share gifts as a sashed St. Nick. All arrowmen, both youth and adult, as well as parents are encouraged to participate in this lodge-building activity. Plan to prepare for additional Cheerful Brotherhood. Plus there will be tree pizza!

Get Ready for Elections and Camp Promotions

Your help is needed to provide a quality unit election/camp promotion effort this year. The Troop Visit Training will be held on Sunday Dec. 1st, beginning at 1:00 pm at IFSI in Champaign, IL. All arrowmen should provide leadership within their troop to assure that the new member elections and summer camping sign-up are conducted in a motivating fashion. This does not mean to say that the adult leaders in your unit must attend this session. This statement is highlighting the need for all arrowmen, both youth and adults, to assist in the guiding of the Scouts in your troop in the elections and camp promotions process.

Illini Lodge #55 Winter Banquet

The Illini Lodge #55 Winter Banquet will be held at The Beef House in Covington, IN on Saturday January 4th 2014! Dinner will be served at 12 noon with a Brotherhood hour starting at 11 a.m. CST. The fee for the banquet is \$20.00 per person due by December 27th. After December 27th, the fee will be \$25.00 per person. No walk-ins please. But, if you bring your family of 2 or more, you can register for \$18 per person for the entire party prior to the December 27th deadline. After the deadline, the regular late fee applies to all participants. Please put this on your calendars! It will be a spectacular event!

Table Trophy for Top Troop

As promotional encouragement for as many arrowmen and their guests to attend the annual new year's feast, a fabulous Table Top Trophy will be presented as a part of the opening ceremony for the 2014 Winter Banquet at the Beef House in Covington, IN on January 4th, 2014. The troop with the top total number of arrowmen and their guests with paid registration by noon on Friday, January 3rd, 2014 will be recognized for their Cheerful Spirit with a glamorous traveling treasure to display at their meeting place for the upcoming year.

Congratulations New Vigil Honor Members

As the highest level of the Brotherhood of Cheerful Service, Illini Lodge was extremely proud to welcome new Vigil Honor members on Friday evening, November 1st at Camp Robert Drake. One special evening each year is held to recognize long-term dedicated arrowmen by announcing the newest Vigil Honor candidates for the Brotherhood of Cheerful Service. The arrowmen recognized were Dakota Craft from Troop 365 in Danville, Owen Myers from Troop 490 in Monticello, Dan Schuele from Troop 79 in St. Joseph, Kelly Chapman, Sr. of Troop 50 in Villa Grove, Wayne Frankie. of Troop 25 in Mahomet and Mike Gardner of Troop 32 in Paxton. Join Illini Lodge in honoring these distinguished arrowmen at the Winter Banquet on January 4th for their years of service to the Order of the Arrow and the Prairielands Council.

Council Calendar

December 2013

Sunday, December 1	Order of the Arrow Troop Visit Training , UI Fire Institute, Champaign 1:00 PM Order of the Arrow Lodge Meeting , UI Fire Institute, Champaign Immediately Following Troop Visit Training Order of the Arrow Holiday Party , UI fire Institute, Champaign Immediately Following Lodge Meeting
Saturday, December 7	Scout Santa at the Robeson Scout Shop ; Raymond Lee Scout Service Center 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM
Monday, December 9	All Final Payments of Popcorn Sale Due to the Raymond Lee Scout Service Center By 5:00 PM
Saturday, December 14	2014 Boy Scout Summer Camp Launch , Presence Covenant Hospital, Urbana 9:00 AM 2014 Cub Scout Summer Camp Launch , Presence Covenant Hospital, Urbana 11:00 AM Robeson Scout Shop Open , Raymond Lee Scout Service Center, Champaign 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Monday, December 16	Council Properties Committee Meeting , Raymond Lee Scout Service Center 7:00 PM
Thursday, December 19	Council Training Committee Meeting , Flightstar, Savoy 7:00 PM
Tuesday, December 24- Wednesday, December 25	MERRY CHRISTMAS; Council Facilities Closed
Thursday, December 26- Tuesday, December 31	Robeson Scout Shop Closed for Inventory

January 2014

Wednesday, January 1	HAPPY NEW YEAR! Council Facilities Closed
Saturday, January 4	Order of the Arrow Winter Banquet , Beef House, Covington, IN 11:00 AM CT
Saturday, January 11	Robeson Scout Shop Open , Raymond Lee Scout Service Center 9:00 AM—1:00 PM
Thursday, January 16	Council Training Committee Meeting , Flightstar 7:00 PM
Monday, January 20	MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DAY; Council Facilities Closed
Tuesday, January 21	Council Program Committee Meeting , Raymond Lee Scout Service Center 7:00 PM
Thursday, January 23	Council ScoutReach Committee Meeting , Raymond Lee Scout Service Center 12 Noon
Saturday, January 25	2014 Boy Scout Summer Camp Deposit Due Council Klondike Derby , Camp Robert Drake 8:00 AM Robeson Scout Shop Open , Raymond Lee Scout Service Center 9:00 AM
Sunday, January 26	Council Pinewood Derby 101 Workshop , CU Woodshop, Champaign
Monday, January 27	Council Annual Business Meeting , New Horizon United Methodist Church, Champaign 5:45 PM

Prairielands Council, Boy Scouts of America
3301 Farber Drive
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Champaign, IL 61826-6267

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**Prairielands Council
Boy Scouts of America**

*Serving families in nine counties of east central Illinois
and western Indiana*

Council Information

Raymond Lee Scout Service Center & Robeson Scout Shop
3301 Farber Dr., P.O. Box 6267
Champaign, IL 61826-6267
General Phone Number: 217-356-7291

Service Center Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:00 am – 6:00 pm
Robeson Scout Shop Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 9:00 am – 6:00 pm
Tuesday and Thursday: 12 Noon – 6:00 pm
2nd and 4th Saturdays: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Danville Scout Office
305 Woodbury, Danville, IL 61834-1413
Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 1:30 – 5:00 pm or by appointment

Website: prairielandbsa.org