

Boy Scout Troop 73  
Westchester, IL  
Des Plaines Valley  
Council

Sponsored by the  
Westchester  
Community Church

Serving the Youth in  
the Community for  
70Years

**August -September 2006**

# The Rendezvous

Scoutmaster:  
Steve Tyminski  
630-850-0627  
Committee Chair:  
Ralph Holmes  
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@comcast.net

Submit Information for  
Newsletter to- Sue  
Parenti – 708-531-9556  
Email:  
ltissue517@comcast.net

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Popcorn Sales begin in September!

August 30 – PLC 7:00  
Troop Meeting 7:30-9:00

September 6 - Troop Meeting 7:30-9:00

September 13 - Troop Meeting 7:30-9:00

September 15 -17 - OA Fellowship

September 12 or 19 TBA – Committee Meeting 7:00

September 20 – Troop Court of Honor & Uniform  
Inspection 7:30-9:00

September 22-24 – Campout at Eagle Cave, meet at  
WCC at 6:00 pm

September 27 - Troop Meeting 7:30-9:00

September 30 – Jason Rose's Eagle Court of Honor  
2:00 pm

October 4 - Troop Meeting 7:30-9:00

October 6 – WCC Fish Fry service hours 6:00-8:00

October 11 – PLC 7:00 , Troop Mtg 7:30 –9:00

October 14 – Set up tables for Blood Drive 7:00 am

October 17 – Committee Meeting 7:00

October 18 - Troop Meeting 7:30-9:00

October 20-22 – Voyageur Trace Camporee,  
Camp Tomo Chi Chi Knolls

October 25 - Troop Meeting 7:30-9:00  
Membership Fees Due

## COURT OF HONOR

Families are invited to attend the Court of Honor on Wednesday September 20<sup>th</sup>. Please arrive with your scout at 7:30 pm.

We will also have a uniform inspection at this Court of Honor, so wear you complete uniform, including sash and neckerchief. (See uniform information later in this newsletter).

At each Court of Honor, each family is asked to bring a snack to share after the meeting. See flyer for specific snack item requested.

## CAMP SHI-GO-BEEK

By: Jonathan Cwiklik

On July 16 to July 22, the troop attended Camp Shi-Go-Beek in Wisconsin. It was a long three hour car ride. We stopped at Culver's for lunch. There were 8 scouts and 6 adults who went camping. The scouts were Mark Holmes, Jay Mills, Paul Ruiz, Andrew Demonbreun, Ryan Haggerty, Matt Rose, Mike Porter, and me, Jonathan Cwiklik. The adults who attended were Mrs. Mills, Mr. Ruiz, Mr. Rose, Mr. Cwiklik, Mr. Hegarty, and Mrs. Demonbreun.

What they got to do at camp was swimming, archery, fishing, shooting, and a whole lot of fun. We came in third place in the camp cup this year. Also Mark and Jay got tapped out for the **Order of the Arrow**. The scouts earned many merit badges at this camp.



## POPCORN NEWS

Popcorn sales will begin September 20. Council has returned to selling Trails End Popcorn again!!!!!!

Our troop's popcorn sales Chairman is Rich Kvasnicka (**Thanks Rich**).

The troop will be setting goals for this year's sale and we will plan an incentive for the troop if the goals are met. The troop will not be participating in store sales this year. If you would like to plan a store sale on your own, talk to Mr. Kvasnicka for details. A portion of your sales income will go into **your** scout account for you to use for scout activities.

## SERVICE

Troop 73 participates in many service activities during the year.

Fish Fry Cleanup – The first Friday of each month we need volunteers to help clean tables at the Westchester Community Church's Fish Fry dinners. The church is our sponsor and we do this as one way of thanking them for the use of their hall.

Church Clean-up – Every fall the troop joins the church members and helps with raking and general cleanup around the church grounds. A date has not yet been set for the clean-up this year.

Scouting for Food – Each November the troop distributes flyers and collects bags of food from the residents for Westchester. This year distribution will be on November 11<sup>th</sup> and food pickup will be on November 18<sup>th</sup>. We need all scouts and parents to help make this a great collection.

Blood Drive Set-up – The troop helps the Westchester Blood drive by setting up tables for their blood drives at the Park District. The next drive is on Saturday October 14<sup>th</sup>, your assistance is needed at 7:00 am for about 1 hour.

## RECRUITMENT Bring a Friend to Scouts"

Troop 73 always welcomes new members. If you have a friend who would like to become a Boy Scout bring them (with a parent) to the Troop Meeting on October 4th to meet the troop.

## CUB SCOUT DAY CAMP

Voyageur Trace District Cub Scout Day Camp took place August 1-3 in Bedford Park, IL and was coordinated by one of Pack 73's leaders, Jennifer Ravenelle. The following members (and former members) of Troop 73 helped at the camp. Brian DelBene, Jay Mills, Barb Mills, Jonathan Cwiklik, Sandy Cwiklik and Jim Moldenhauer.

Their time and effort was a great help in making the event run smoothly. Thanks for your time!!!!

## EAGLE CAVE CAMPOUT

The troop will be returning to Eagle Cave in Blue Rive Wisconsin on September 22<sup>nd</sup> thru 24<sup>th</sup> for another great caving adventure. They will sleep in the caves and spend the weekend exploring.

Permission slips and fees were due August 15<sup>th</sup>.

Those attending remember to bring clothes that can get wet and messy, extra dry clothes for the ride home, flashlights (preferably one that can attach to your head), and a dry tarp to sleep on and possibly under as well.





## ATTENTION ALL PARENTS

All Parents are asked to please join us for Adult Committee Meetings. It is just an hour a month. Thanks for you help; it is greatly appreciated.

Mark your calendars for the next committee meeting on September 12<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup>, 2006. TBA

Meetings are held at the Westchester Community Church at 7:00 PM in the South Basement. We will be planning the Court of Honor and popcorn incentives at this meeting.

## MERIT BADGES

The following scouts earned badges at camp this summer. The badges will be presented at the Court of Honor on September 20<sup>th</sup>.

Mike Porter – Rifle

Mark Holmes – Rowing, Environmental Science, Rifle, Wilderness Survival

Matt Rose – Camping, Lifesaving, Cooking

Andrew Demonbreun – Swimming, Environmental Science

Jay Mills – Cooking, Lifesaving

Ryan Hegarty – Environmental Science

Paul Ruiz – Environmental Science

Congratulations!!!! Good Work!!!!

## PARENTS NEEDED

The Troop 73 adult committee is looking for parents to fill the following positions: Publicity, Outings, New Member Recruitment.

If you are interested in getting more information on one of these positions speak to Ralph Holmes our Troop Committee Chairman.

## FALL CAMPOREE

The troop is planning to attend the Voyageur Trace District Fall Camporee which will be held October 20-22 at camp Tomo Chi Chi Knolls in Huntley IL. This may be the last time we can camp at Tomo, as the council is planning to sell the land.

The theme for the Camporee is 'Scouting Through the Years'. Games of skill from the past will be featured. More information and permission slips will be distributed in September.

## ADVANCEMENTS

The following scouts have achieved new ranks:

Matt Rose –Star Scout

Congratulations!

## GOOD TURN FOR AMERICA

Good Turn for America is a national call to service by the Boy Scouts of America to address the issues of hunger, homelessness, and poor health in our nation. In this effort, the Boy Scouts of America is partnering with some of the nation's most respected service organizations. These organizations and thousands of others will work to provide opportunities for youth and volunteers to fight hunger and homelessness, and teach the habits of healthy living.

Youth and volunteers are looking for ways to serve their communities. At the same time, service organizations need dedicated volunteer help. By working together, we can improve our young people, our communities, and the nation.

Our Troop along with the DesPlaines Valley Council is participating in the Good Turn for America project. Every hour of service time each person gives is logged in the Good Turn for America web site. The Boys Scouts of America have logged over 3.6 million hours so far.

At the Court of Honor the boys who have participated in service will receive patches in recognition of their service.



## EAGLE PROJECT NEWS

Saturday, July 1 Marty Chlapecka and his team of helpers worked on his Eagle Project. Marty's crew of troop members and adults built shelves and painted walls for the St. John's Church Food Pantry in Chicago.

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Rev. Charlotte Nold, from St. John UCC, acknowledged in her June, 2006 newsletter to her congregation the work of our two Eagle Scouts candidates from Troop #73, Mike Porter, and Marty Chlapecka, who are helping to rebuild St. John's food pantry, and creating a new office for Rev. Nold. She writes:

"Our food pantry is coming along nicely. The Boy Scouts from Westchester built the walls for the new pantry and my new office downstairs. It is fabulous. At the end of the month they will be back again to build some new shelves and do the painting of the walls. How very blessed we are at St. John Church to have such enthusiastic assistance. The boys will become Eagle Scouts for the completion of this project."

And in a message to Mr. Kneisel She wrote:

"After 17 years at St. John Church I finally have an official office. I am so thrilled. Now I am in the process of trying to get it organized. The Boy Scouts from Westchester and their faithful leaders did a fabulous job of building walls, creating new shelves in the pantry area, as well as painting the walls. Having a new office is almost as much fun as shedding 25 unwanted pounds."

Great job boys, it's so nice to see all your hard work is appreciated!!!!!!

## DEN CHIEFS NEEDED

Packs 73 & 172 need den chiefs for the 2006-2007 scouting year.

Den chiefs help Cub scouts with their activities and earn leadership experience credit toward Boy Scout advancements. Any rank Boy Scout can be a den chief. It only takes a little time, and you will be greatly appreciated by the Pack leaders.

Please consider helping the younger scouts, and let them know how much fun Boy Scouting is.

You can begin working as a Den Chief prior to attending Den Chief training. The first fall training is scheduled for September 16<sup>th</sup>, contact council for time and location.

If you are interested in becoming a den chief, see Mr. Tyminski.

## UNIFORM

At **All** Troop Meetings, you must be in uniform. You must be in full Class A uniform or a Class B uniform (a class B uniform is any shirt with a BSA symbol on it). First meeting of the month is **Class A only** uniform day. If you are not in uniform, you will be asked to leave the meeting.

We also ask that you have your handbook and pen and notepad with you at all meetings.

For **All** Scoutmaster Conferences, Boards of review and Court of Honor you must be in full Class A uniform.

See: the following web link For pictures to help you place you patches properly on your uniform:

<http://www.scouting.org/forms/34283.pdf#search='boy%20scout%20uniform%20badge%20placement'>

(If you are reading this newsletter in your email, you can cut and paste the link above in your browser to access the pictures)

## INTERNET INFORMATION

Des Plaines Valley Boy Scout Council:  
<http://www.bsa-dpvc.org/main.htm>

Boy Scouts of American address:  
[www.bsa.scouting.org](http://www.bsa.scouting.org)

Email the troop: [wcctroop73@comcast.net](mailto:wcctroop73@comcast.net)

Troop Web Site: [www.wcctroop73.org](http://www.wcctroop73.org)

## PROFILES IN SCOUTING

The DesPlaines Valley Council on-line Scouting Newsletter, Cybernews has a new feature profiling their scouting volunteers; and our own Horst Kneisel was the subject of their first article. Mr. Kneisel, who was featured in one of our newsletters last year is Troop 73 & Pack 73's COR. That's Charter Organization Representative. Here is a quote from the article.

*"I believe my approach is a success model for how CORs should function," Horst says.*

*By way of explanation he points to the results achieved with his Units, Troop 73 and Pack 73. "We have been 'Top Unit' for 12 years in a row." He points out that this is not just a measure of a "Quality" unit, but one that is the best. He also points to his unit's success in generating Eagle Scouts at an annual rate of at least 4 per hundred Scouts. This is double the national average.*

*Horst is quick to point out that these successes are a team effort, reflective of the efforts of many dedicated Scouting leaders. "I am not the Scoutmaster," he emphasizes. "I am not the Eagle Committee Chairman. But I work closely with everyone in the Unit as the COR to help make these accomplishments happen." That is Horst's formula for success.*

If you are interested in the entire piece, you can contact the council or this newsletter's editor for a copy.

## **SUGGESTIONS FOR EARNING MERIT BADGES**

### **INFORMATION TO SCOUTS:**

Obtain the Merit Badge Book from the troop library, public library or scout store.

Read the entire Merit Badge Book (not just the requirements).

Get a blue card signed by the Scoutmaster. (Keep it in a safe place).

Contact the merit badge counselor to discuss the merit badge and how you should report completed requirements to him or her. (Our troop has many merit badge counselors, just ask!) You should also ask the merit badge counselor if he or she has any special instructions. When all the requirements are done, call the merit badge counselor again to set up an appointment.

On the appointment date, be prompt, bring all of your work and the Merit Badge Book, wear your Class A uniform and most important, **BE PREPARED! BE POLITE! AND BE SURE TO BRING THE BLUE CARD SIGNED BY THE SCOUTMASTER!**

Thank the merit badge counselor. If you are signed off, give the return portion of the blue card to the advancement chairperson of the troop.

### **INFORMATION FOR PARENTS:**

Make sure your son initiates the telephone call to the merit badge counselor. (THIS IS HIS MERIT BADGE!)

You should go with your son to see the counselor, but do not take part in the interview, unless asked to do so.

Always attend the Court of Honor to see your son receive his awards. Also help your scout sew the badges on his sash or uniform right away. (Better yet, teach him to sew the badges on his own uniform.) **RECOGNITION IS IMPORTANT!!**