

Nov./Dec. 2005

New Chief's Message

ACADIA

BISCAYNE

DENALI

EVERGLADES

GRAND CANYON

HALEAKELA

MESA VERDE

ROCKY MOUNTAIN

SEQUOIA

YELLOWSTONE

YOSEMITE

Upcoming Events

November 6th

GUIDES OLYMPICS
Oak Grove School 11am.-5pm.

November 11-13

Fall Campouts
ACADIA - Camp Matawa
HALEAKELA - Camp Duncan

November 13th

PRINCESS OLYMPICS
Oak Grove School 11am.-5pm.

November 18-20

Fall Campout
MESA VERDE - Camp Duncan

December 11th

HOLIDAY PARTY
Carmel High School 12pm.-5pm.

See our web site for additional event dates and times.



Broken Arrow & Rose Petal on Old #73 from Skagway, AK to the Yukon this past summer.

Ya Ta Hey, my good friends of the Mighty Lake Prairie Federation! Thank you for joining, "re-upping", or returning to the YMCA-Adventure Guides program. Quite simply, without you and your children, there would be no program.

I would like to introduce myself; I am Kip K. Coco. My Adventure name is Broken Arrow. I have been in the program for eight years, with three princesses, two of which have graduated. I've only had Princess daughters (Morning Star, Little Wing, & Rose Petal), but I know some of you are lucky enough to have delight with boys and girls. I've held positions of Wampum Barer, Tribal Chief, Expedition Chief, and Assistant Federation Chief. With all that experience, I might be ready for the big-time, but I can only begin to do it with your help and support.

Thanks for investing the time to read this volume of the Pathfinder. The Federation Sage, Kane Calamari, and former Camp Scout, Brian Dayton were both the inspiration AND perspiration behind this wonderful communications tool to better serve our membership. If you like what you read, tell a leadership member to provide positive feedback. If you really like what you read, share in the fun and submit an article and/or offer one from your child.

Since our transition from a native-American theme to an Adventure theme, there goes a cycle of 4 cardinal direction program year focuses. Last year the focus was on Family (North). This year we will be centering on Community (South). The two years following will be dedicated to Nature (East) and Fun (West). The timing would seem appropriate as we have asked each Expedition to adopt a charity in the community of their region or on a national scale. The devastations of Hurricanes Katrina & Rita have provided ample opportunity for our organization to help others. The great gift of giving comes from within and within the Lake Prairie Federation, there are plenty of prospects.

A second focus, which can be seen as a continuing target, is to market the organization in a manner which we are serving the Lake County and parts of Cook County community. We are over 2000 people strong and greater than 750 families large! That's HUGE!



continued on page 2

continued from page 1

That's also a great story that can be told to non-members, prospective members, and former members. We're not just big, but we'd like to grow. We'd like to grow because we want others to have positive family understanding, companionship, and fun we receive by being part of the program. By the way, that's our program motto!

So, what's there to look forward to this year?

Well, we've had an entertaining Swim Party to kick the season off sponsored by the Central Lake YMCA in Vernon Hills. This year we had three days of free swimming, eating, and interaction that was attended by over 800 folks!

If you missed the Induction Ceremony, you missed an AWESOME time for our new families, new moms and dads, and new siblings of older kids joining together with our current membership and welcoming them to "the club". A special thanks goes out to our Tim Pasternak, who's been in the organization since Moby Dick was a guppy! We honor and respect the traditions of our native-American past to help guide us to the future.

Our Olympics event was recently held with activities, games, competitions, and all-around good fun for everyone. We use this event as a chance to collect paper goods, and canned non-perishables to needy charities in Lake County. This is truly a "giving" event, but also a "getting" time to be with friends and family of the different expeditions and tribes.

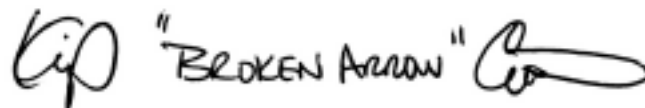
As I write this opening letter, our Fall Campouts are happening and our annual Holiday Party is in the works! Be prepared to be amazed. Be prepared to have a casually good time that includes a Haleakala theme of island proportions. I'm told that it will "knock your socks off"! No offense to the World Champion Chicago White Sox, but I gotta attend this event!

As I close this letter, please say thanks to all the wonderful and wise volunteers that have "stepped up" to lead this great organization. They are the mortar and bricks to a foundation that is rock solid financially, and socially. If you're in a leadership role for a tribe, expedition, or federation, you know what I'm saying, Thanks. If you want to be a member of the leadership within the tribe, expedition, or federation, just ask how. Your assistance is welcome, warranted, and willing. Remember always, it's for our kids.

I can always be reached for comments or concerns. If you want to express an idea or share feedback, I will listen. We are all parents and we all have the responsibility of our kids. As I've learned over the last 8 years and 3 daughters, it sure is easier, healthier, and more fun to raise them with good people around me who are into their family, community, nature and fun. Thank you for letting me be your leader. I hope to serve you well.

Friends Forever Forward,
Broken Arrow & Rose Petal

Sincerely,



Kip Coco
Lake Prairie Federation Chief

Coyote Tribe Makes Their Contribution to PADS

by Dan Stearns
Coyote Chief

On November 15 the Mighty Coyote tribe met to make our contribution to the local PADS Shelter in Wildwood. PADS (Public Action to Deliver Shelter) is a service organization that assists the needy and victims of domestic abuse in finding food and shelter.

Having answered a call to assist with donated food and food preparation for the next day the Coyote were up to the task. A collection was taken from all of the 13 Coyote Families to purchase enough food to provide breakfast and a hearty lunch to 30 individuals.

Breakfast consisted of fresh fruit, bread with butter, jam, and peanut butter for toast and orange juice. Lunches consisted of two sandwiches, chips, granola bars, fresh fruit, cookies and a drink.

The dad's assembly line pumped out over 60 sandwiches in record time. Then came the boy's turn to grab a bag and pack the lunches. With a job well done, it was time to take a few moments and reflect upon what we had accomplished.

We spoke to the boys about the PADS organization and why we felt it was important to do our part to help. A few questions from our young members were addressed and we even touched upon how fortunate we are to have so much, but we need to be aware that we have neighbors who are in need. Among the lessons learned, we found that we can get together and have fun with the added benefit of knowing we have made a small contribution to our community.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dan Stearns
Chief of the Mighty Coyote Tribe





Camp Tecumseh

by Ryan Jones
Jumping Tiger
Volcano Tribe

My name is Jumping Tiger. I am in the third grade and am eight years old. I have been in Adventure Guides for four years and have had lots of fun. My tribe name is Volcano. My favorite thing to do in Guides is going on the campouts. Camp Tecumseh was my favorite campout. Camp Tecumseh is fun because you get to do rock climbing and flour ball fights.

Camp Tecumseh has a big climbing wall with hard parts and easier parts. It is fun when you rock climb because it is so challenging. They have this gear that goes around your waist to catch you if you fall and make sure that you don't get hurt. Also, when you are climbing, they have staples in the wall to help you. I really liked the climbing wall.

In the flour ball fight, each tribe makes lots of flour balls before the fight. You make them out of flour and Kleenex. Your tribe makes about 200 flour balls to get ready to play. During the game, you throw flour balls at the other tribe. If you get hit, you're out. And, if your whole team gets out, then you're out of the tournament. If your team wins, then you get to take all the leftover ammo of the other team. Our Volcano tribe came in second place in the flour ball competition. It was really fun.

Two of Four

By Michael Mariella
Volcano Tribe

Hi I'm Michael Mariella from the Volcano tribe. I have been in adventure guides for 4 years now and I am graduating this year. I have two brothers in the program and one graduated two years ago. My dad is also the Compass Bearer.

We just got back from the fall campout which is my favorite thing to do. We did a skit about a song and everybody liked it. One of the best parts about going on a campout is fighting with your brother's for the top bunk. There is almost always archery at every campout. At Sky Lodge there is horseback riding, miniature golf and shuffle board.

There are also other fun activities like roller skating, holiday party, pinewood derby, Olympics and tribal meetings. The people in my tribe are really nice including the dads. We laugh a lot and one of the most important things is spending time with our dads.

I will miss adventure guides next year after I graduate.

Top Bunk

By Frankie Mariella
Volcano Tribe

Hi, my name is Frankie Mariella and I'm in the Adventure Guides. My tribe name is the Volcano. I have two brothers in Adventure Guides and we mostly fight for the top bunk at the overnights. My favorite campout is the rifle campout. My dad is the Compass Bearer for our nation.

In Adventure Guides, we have all sorts of activities to do like red rocks, scavenger hunts and there's one thing called pinewood derby cars which you race down a track. Once I won a trophy for the best design and that was so cool, because my brothers didn't win anything.

At Adventure Guide meetings we do all sorts of activities too like painting Halloween decorations with glow-in-the-dark paint and we also make Christmas ornaments. In December we always go to a holiday party which is very cool. This year the dads worked really hard on the party and they even cooked an entire pig on a stick. We even got to see the pig's head, it was awesome! Once we have the holiday party we are done for the year. I can't wait to see what we get to do next year.

Five Years Strong

By Garrett Boehm
Tiny Golden Feather
Volcano Tribe

My name is Tiny Golden Feather and I belong to the Volcano tribe. I have been in the Adventure Guides for the last five years and have had lots of fun doing stuff. My favorite things to do are to go on campouts and find red rocks to help our tribe get points for the contests. I also like to go on special field trips. My dad took me and my family this past November to Haleakala National Park. It was really cool and cold on the top of the volcano. We had to get up at 3 in the morning to see the sunrise, it was so cool. We also brought back some scared rocks for our chief, I hope he likes his gift. I can't wait until the winter campout.

Ya Ta Hey,

Garrett Boehm

Girl Power X3

**By Dennis, Paige, Peyton,
and PJ Vaughn
Red Fox Tribe**

When asked to write an article for this newsletter, I felt that the best place to start was with my three daughters. Our family has been involved in the program for four years. The fall campout at Camp Edwards was the first one that I was lucky enough to go to with all three daughters. We had a great time and below are their thoughts on the campout.

My name is PJ and Camp Edwards was my first campout. I had a great time. My favorite part was going down the Black Hole. They had two really cool rope courses that I had fun playing on with my friend Cecilia. I was inducted into the program at the bonfire on Saturday night and I thought it was really cool that I got to tell everyone my program name, Brown Berry. I think Adventure Princesses is going to be a lot of fun.



My name is Paige and I am 10 years old. Camp Edwards is a really cool campground with awesome hiking trails and really high three story bunks. This is my fourth year in the program and I really love it because I get to spend a lot of time with my Dad, sisters and friends. I also love that we get to eat a lot of snacks and get to make smores around the campfire. I am really looking forward to going back to Camp McLean this winter because they have an awesome catwalk and zip line.

My name is Peyton and I had a great time at this year's fall campout. This is my second year in the program and I am really excited because my little sister joined this year. My friend Antonia and I went down the Black Hole many times. It was fun and I wish I could go again. When we eat, we get to yell a lot and throw flies at each other which is really fun. We have our monthly meeting coming up this week and I can't wait. We always have a great time.



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Articles for the Pathfinder need to be submitted by the 15th of each month for inclusion in the following months edition. Provided there is enough material to produce an edition, the Pathfinder newsletter will be available for download as a PDF file by the first day of the following month. If needed, the edition will be held until the following month(s) until enough articles have been received to justify production.

Send articles as text in e-mail format, or as a Word file attachment to:

bmock@mockdesign.com.

Please send photos as JPEG format and a maximum of three (3) photos per article.

All authors of articles submitted will receive a Pathfinder patch as our way of saying “Thanks for Sharing”! See your Chief for details.



Contact the Federation Chief if you are interested in serving at the Federation level. Energetic volunteers are always welcome.