

February 2010 – Pathfinder Volume 28



TRAIL BLAZERS' GOLD MEDAL SKI WEEKEND



Trail Blazer members and their families took advantage of ideal skiing conditions during their annual Ski & Water Park weekend in the Dells. The friendly Cascade Mountain hills, located approximately 12 miles south of the Dells in Portage, WI, were once again a great venue for skiers of all abilities. When they weren't skiing, families took advantage of the fantastic accommodations at the Great Wolf Lodge including the spacious indoor water park. Check out the details and some photos in the Trail Blazer section on Pages 11 and 12 of this month's issue of Pathfinder.

Trail Blazers are a parent-child group that meets for monthly fun activities both nearby and far away. They don't meet monthly in family houses, are not grouped into tribes, and don't wear vests. Trail Blazers are coed. Your child can be a member of both their current tribe and of Trail Blazers, if of the right age, usually 4th grade and up, but some activities may be appropriate for younger kids. Trail Blazers helps the fun continue in the Y-Adventure Guides program and the Lake Prairie Federation. Many of our events are open to the whole family. In addition the fun, Trail Blazers also focus some events on Community service and charitable work!

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FEDERATION EVENTS CALENDAR

Mark you calendars for these special Federation events. Expeditions will be assigned time slots for the Pinewood Derby, and Bowling.

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
Sunday February 14, 2010 Noon – 4 PM	Valentine's Dance Princesses	Frederick School Grayslake, IL
March 6, 2010 11 AM – 5 PM March 7, 2010 10 AM – 6 PM	Pinewood Derby Guides Expedition Times TBD	Woodland Elementary School East Gages Lake, IL
<u>Guides</u> Sunday April 11, 2010 12 Noon – 6:30 PM <u>Princesses</u> Sunday April 18, 2010 12 Noon – 6:30 PM	Bowling Expedition Times TBD	Lakes Bowl Round Lake, IL

Trail Blazers – Check the Trail Blazer page on our website for details on signing up.

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
Saturday February 20, 2010 – 6:00 – 9:00 PM	Whirlyball - \$35 per person includes pizza & pop	Whirlyball 285 Center Drive Vernon Hills
Saturday March 20, 2010 4:45- 8:00 PM.	Laser Tag - \$25 per person includes pizza, soda, and snacks	LaserQuest in Arlington Heights

Become a Fan of "Lake Prairie Federation" on Facebook



Follow "LakePrairieFed" on Twitter



Y-ADVENTURE GUIDES 7 AIMS

1. To be clean in body and pure in heart
2. To be "Friends Always" with my father/mother/son/daughter
3. To love the sacred circle of my family
4. To be attentive while others speak
5. To love my neighbor as myself
6. To respect the traditions and beliefs of all people
7. To seek and preserve the beauty of the Great Spirit's work in forest, field, and stream.

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FEDERATION EVENTS

LAKE PRAIRIE FEDERATION CANDY SALE KICKS OFF

The Federation pulled off another successful candy distribution on Saturday, January 30, 14 days ahead of schedule. Our dedicated Compass Bearers collected candy orders in less than 2 weeks and arranged for drivers to receive their product on short notice as well. Sam's Club came through as well, offering the Federation a discount below the candy's current shelf price.



There are many interesting statistics from this year's fund raiser. Here are a few:

- Our Federation has 15 more families than this time last year.
- Families signed up to sell 2,500 more bars than last year.
- 6 pallet-loads of candy were loaded into 12 vehicles in under 50 minutes.
- A mid-sized sedan can hold 6,760 candy bars with (very little) room to spare.
- Members have earned 97 free campout nights so far.

Don't forget, additional boxes are available throughout the sale if families wish to increase their order to earn free campout nights. Plus, excess campout nights can be shared with other tribe members. Just email kevin@theshoemakers.com to make arrangements to get a few extra boxes.



Best of luck selling.

Kevin Shoemaker
Federation Compass Bearer



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ACADIA EXPEDITION LENDS MANY HANDS TO HELP THE LAKE COUNTY PADS ORGANIZATION

For the past several years, the Acadia Expedition has devoted their energy to serve their Community by supporting the Lake County PADS organization. In prior years, expedition tribes have made sack lunches, which are provided to PADS clients. The lunches provide needed nutrition for the homeless until they can get to the next night's shelter location. This year, Acadia has served PADS by helping prepare the Shepard of the Lakes Lutheran Church in Grayslake on the night that the church hosts PADS clients. Typically there are 80 beds/mattresses that need to get set-up. The activities have made an indelible mark on the Acadia boys about homelessness, even more so when packed lunches were simply dropped off at the shelter in prior years. It made it a lot more personal for the boys to see where people would be sleeping and staying and that there were no video games or other luxuries.

PADS Crisis Services, Inc., is a not-for-profit organization that is dedicated to providing emergency shelter, permanent housing, and supportive services to families with children and individuals who are experiencing homelessness in Lake County. They work in partnership with their clients who are striving to achieve their fullest potential—as families, as individuals, and as members of the community. PADS operates the largest rotating, non-restrictive emergency shelter site system for individuals and for families with children in Lake County that is open on a seasonal basis (October 1st through April 30th). PADS sleeps approximately 160 people per night. PADS provides the only Lake County resource center / day shelter, which is open 365 days a year for individuals and for families with children. At the resource center / day shelter, clients can meet with a client advocate; access shower and laundry facilities; access computer and GED classes; get assistance with medical care, transportation, and referrals to mainstream resources; and receive mail in order to access mainstream benefits. PADS Crisis Services also provides linkages with representative payee services, education, and employment, through strong collaboration with other community agencies, and are considered the first point of contact for the homeless in Lake County.



COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

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DID YOU KNOW???

- Homelessness is one of our nation's most misunderstood and vexing social problems. According to the most recent data available, an estimated 744,313 people in America experienced homelessness.
- Families with children, single adults, teenagers, and elderly individuals of all races struggle with the devastating effects of homelessness.
- Homelessness exists across the country, in small rural towns, suburban neighborhoods, and large metropolises.
- Over 5 million low-income households have serious housing problems due to high housing costs, substandard housing conditions, or both. **daunting, we can end homelessness in our nation.**
- In Lake County Illinois 439 people met the definition of homeless. 218 were members of a family and 221 were individuals.
- 45.3% were female; 54.7% were male
- 30.3% were children under the age of 18
- 79.3% of those children were under the age of 12
- Nearly 3% were over the age of 60
- 17.6% were veterans
- 20.8% had a disability that limited their ability to live alone
- 25.2% were victims of domestic violence

10 Things You Can Do To Help

1. Learn about homelessness and educate others.
2. Support the development of affordable housing.
3. Contact your local elected officials and ask them what they are doing to support homeless children and families. Ask for their support of local initiatives and programs. Ask them to support the 10 year Plan to End Homelessness in your community.
4. Volunteer at a local shelter - no matter what you do for a living, you can help the homeless with your on-the-job talents and skills.
5. Volunteer at a soup kitchen.
6. Donate groceries, and money to local homeless shelters.
7. Donate extra food and flowers from catered events.
8. Become a landlord to a family that is transitioning out of a homeless shelter.
9. Help a family move or provide "house warming gifts" such as linens, dishes, pots and pans, small appliances and lamps for children, youth and families who are moving out of the shelter and into their own homes.
10. Ask local television stations to schedule educational programs on homelessness. Your encouragement and praise of such programs can keep them on the air.

For more information about homelessness in Lake County and how you can donate your time, money or other resources to help PADS combat it, check out their website at www.lakecountypads.org or contact the Acadia Expedition leadership.

WINTER CAMPOUT ANTICIPATION

The winter camp out is coming up and it sounds like it will be another cold one. There will be lots of exciting sounds and activities. I doubt it will be very quiet by the flag pole, sled race or in the party house (cafeteria). I am sure excited for the best winter campout at Camp Mattawa. After the cold sled race, everybody will gather around the really big, hot and grand camp fire. However, you can not resist the Saturday night party after the camp fire. I hope there is hot chocolate. You probably will stay up so late and not even know it and you will not ever want to get up in the morning. You will not resist how fun they are.

Taylor Filicette - Shining Star
Jim Filicette - Big Sky
Yosemite Expedition – Tenaya Tribe



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FIRST WINTER CAMPOUT

At my first winter campout, my dad and I went sledding down a big hill we laughed the whole way down the hill. I liked searching for candy canes but I didn't find any, maybe next time. I can't wait to do it next year.

Josh Kalinowski – Little Trail Blazer
Haleakala Expedition - Volcano Tribe



HAVING A BLAST WITH BROOM BALL, BUNK BEDS, AND BLUE FIRE

Here is what I enjoyed about the Adventure Guide Campout this weekend:

My favorite thing about the weekend was being with my friends and my Dad. I liked broom ball. I liked sleeping in a bunk bed. I liked sledding! I liked the acorns that made the fire blue.

My rocket did not launch! I loved your chants.

Tyler Svrusis – Little Wolf
Haleakala Expedition - Volcano Tribe



BRAVE PANS CAMP FOOD, SIGNS ENDORSEMENT DEAL FOR CHEESE BALLS

This was my first winter campout. I really liked broom ball, and sledding at the night. I liked roasting marshmallows, and I liked sleeping in a log cabin especially on the top bunk bed. I liked watching the rockets. I did not like everything at lunch and dinner but I loved the snacks, especially the cheese balls we had in our cabin. I am excited to go again next year, and there ain't no flies on me.

Mitchell Protus - Jayhawk
Haleakala Expedition - Volcano Tribe



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THE FISHING TRIP

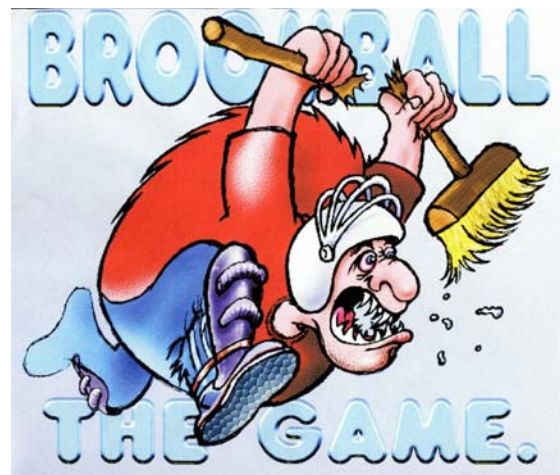
My tribe and I went fishing on Diamond Lake. Many people from our tribe came and it was very fun. We said hello to everyone and then started fishing. I found some good spots for fishing and helped my friends to find good fishing spots. I did not catch very many fish, though. Some people caught two fish. In the middle I got some snacks. Then at the end my Dad and I handed out prizes for the most fish, the biggest fish, and the weirdest fish. The prizes were Halloween basket candles. It was great and I had a lot of fun.



Thea Vogt - Little Morning Eagle
Denali Expedition - Caribou Tribe

CAMP DUNCAN DELIVERS THE FUN..... DAD ON INJURED RESERVED LIST

I enjoyed the winter campout at Camp Duncan. The sled racing was fun and so were the rockets. Our tribe's rocket won best looking and our snow snake did too. Broomball was fun at night until my Dad fell and broke a rib. I had a great time and so did my Dad even with his broken rib.



Jonathan Hiscox – Blue Feather
Haleakala Expedition - Nene Tribe



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YOUR LETTERS

BUILDING OUR SLED

We build a sled out of cardboard and duct tape. Jonathan, Dustin, my brother and me played most of the time, but came out to see the sled. The picture is us having fun in the sled. We worked so hard to make it. We had so much fun going down the hill in our sled at the winter campout. I hope we can build another sled next year and ride down again.



Carter Sherwin – Little Purple Mountain
Haleakala Expedition - Nene Tribe

3....2....1....LITTLE ARROWHEAD BLASTS INTO FUN

My name is Little Arrowhead and my dad's name is Big Arrowhead. We are in the Volcano tribe of the Haleakala Expedition. I am in Kindergarten. The Winter campout at Camp Duncan was so much fun. I made new friends and had a great time with my tribe doing rocket launching, broom ball, sledding, campfire and more. My favorite thing was launching rockets! I have launched rockets at my grandfather's house before, but this was different. We launched a rocket, did a chant, and had a contest to see which rocket would land the closest to the launch pad. My tribe won best chant! Winter campout was awesome and I cannot wait for the spring campout!

Matthew Erdman - Little Arrowhead
Haleakala Expedition - Volcano Tribe

SNORING CAN'T DROWN OUT FUN AT MUSEUM

Our tribe slept at the Museum of Science and Industry. It was so cool. We saw the iMax of the body, went on a sub, did the scavenger hunt and stayed up really late. We got to sleep under the airplanes. We got two new patches. The snoring was loud but sounded funny.

Jett Greene – Fireball
Haleakala Expedition - Volcano Tribe



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YOUR LETTERS

PORK CHOP'S HILL TOP BLUES DOESN'T DIM CABIN FUN

Winter camp out was my first overnighter. My favorite was sleeping on the top bunk bed, pushing the button to launch our rocket. Going sledding on the big big hill! Going down the hill on the big cardboard sled was fun but we didn't go very fast. Hanging out in our cabin till late at night was so cool even though I ate too much junk food and got a tummy ache. Playing "No flies on ME" at meal time was so funny. When do we get to do it again? Go Volcano's!

Sammy Gothelf - Pork Chop
Haleakala Expedition - Volcano Tribe

VOLCANO TRIBE EXPLODES WITH FUN AT CAMP

The winter camp out was so much fun. My dad and I went up on Friday night. We got the cabin all ready for the tribe and hung up the Volcano banner. We went to dinner in town with the Neal's. Mr. Neal is our Assistant Expedition Leader. When we got back we went sledding and had the whole hill to just the five of us. We played in the snow and Mr. Neal built a fire. The next day we had breakfast and started a fire to welcome our tribe. Once they all got there, things were a ton of fun. We burned Bury the Grouch, set off rockets, did more sledding, searched for red rock candy canes, ate good food, and had the hugest tribal ceremony fire. It was so hot. The volcano tribe had two cabins because we had so many guys. We all had fun and can't wait until the spring campout!

Jett Greene -Fireball
Haleakala Expedition - Volcano Tribe



SNOOZEUM EVENTS FILL THE DAY AND NIGHT

My favorite part of the Soozeum was going to the coal mine and then sleeping by the 757. I liked getting to stay up late too.

Tyler Svrusis – Little Trail Blazer
Haleakala Expedition - Volcano Tribe



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TRAIL BLAZERS

TRAIL BLAZERS INVADE CASCADE MOUNTAIN FOR SKI WEEKEND

Most families made the short 3-hour trek on Friday evening to enjoy the inviting waters of the Great Wolf Lodge water park. With three separate water park areas, Great Wolf Lodge provides a variety of activities ranging from the Tornado funnel waterslide to the gentle and soothing wave pool. Mixed in between were racer slides, multiple individual tube slides, water basketball, a lazy river, and most importantly a couple hot tubs to sooth those muscles after a fun day of skiing. The Dells is also full of many other family-centric dining and entertainment options to help make a truly memorable weekend.



Saturday was filled with fun on the slopes as Trail Blazers young and well, not so young, tested their skills on a variety of trails. The layout at Cascade and its wide, well groomed runs provided plenty of space on the slopes. Certainly the first big test for beginners, besides learning how to snow plow, stop and fall properly, was mastering the skill of exiting the ski lift. A few times up the lift was usually all it took. Cascade Mountain operates a much faster lift called the Mountaintop Express that is an exhilarating trip to the top of the mountain. The lift does slow down to a manageable speed to allow for easy exit and unloads riders to variety of trails for skiers of all levels.

Etiquette and courtesy are musts on any ski trail so it was a benefit that our Trail Blazers were equipped with the principles of the 7 Aims, as all are needed, especially on the mountain.

After a full day of skiing, the water park was a welcome pleasure to relax and re-energize. Many families took advantage of the water park on Sunday morning before heading back to Illinois.

The Lake Prairie Federation would like to thank Jim Goshorn for organizing this year's event!! We hope to see even more members at 2011's Ski & Water Park Weekend!!!



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TRAIL BLAZERS



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FUN & GAMES

COMEDY CORNER

Many tribe meetings and expedition council fires include the some good ol' joke telling. Here are some to share at your next camp fire.

Q: How do you make one disappear?

A: Add the letter "g" and make it gone.

Q: What is the longest word in the dictionary?

A: Smiles because there is a mile between each S

Q: What language does a billboard speak?

A: Sign language

Q: Why did the boy ask his Dad to come to school?

A: To take a Pop quiz

WORD SCRAMBLE

Can you unscramble the letters to correctly spell the names of some Lake Prairie Federation expeditions? Time yourself and see how you scored.

I Q S E O A U _____

A A L A A K L H E _____

G D E E V R S L A E _____

D I A C A A _____

E E S L O Y L W O N T _____

R E A O V Y G U _____

How did you do?

< 1 minute

1 minute to 2 minutes

2 minutes to 3 minutes

3 minutes to 4 minutes

> 4 minutes

You are destined to be Federation Chief!

You are Expedition Chief material!

Ever think about being a Tribal Chief?

Honor Tribe is in your future!

Don't stay up so late at campouts!!

Adventure Guides



Do you have a story or a picture to share of a special time in the Y-Adventure Guides and Princess Program? Contributors to the Pathfinder will receive a special "PATHFINDER" patch for their vest or special treat. Submit articles and pictures to Kevin Mooney @ moonpup@sbcglobal.net. Submissions should include author's name, program name, expedition, and tribe.

2009 - 2010 Lake Prairie Federation Officers

Federation Chief	Jim Erker
Asst. Federation Chief	Carl Shurboff
Federation Sage	Tom Palmieri
Compass Bearer	Kevin Shoemaker
Asst. Compass Bearer	Tim Garrity
Camp Scout	Ray Eby
Asst. Camp Scout	OPEN
Map Maker	Dan Makeever
Asst. Map Maker	OPEN
Outfitter	Dan Hacker
Asst. Outfitter	OPEN
Sentinel	Doug Renz
Asst. Sentinel	OPEN
Treasure Keeper	John LeHocky
Asst. Treasure Keeper	Matt Boyle
Web Spinner	Matt Nevel
Asst. Web Spinner	Jeff Ritchie
Log Keeper	Dan Makeever
Messenger	Kevin Mooney
Flag Bearer	Kevin Mooney
Trail Blazers President	Kevin Shoemaker

If you are interested in participating in a Federation position, please contact any of the officers listed above for more information. This Program benefits greatly from the talents and commitment of the individuals listed above. Come share your talents and be a part a great team.

L P F L E A D E R S H I P