



Family Newsletter

January 2009

Happy New Year!

Thanks to all who made 2008 a great year! We finished the year with a two special events: the December lock-in and our civics night. The lock-in was attended by 24 scouts and 8 adults, and we consumed 16 large pizzas along with lots of snacks and soft drinks! The civics night was well attended by Scouts, Webelos, and parents who interacted with community leaders from the Noblesville and Hamilton County. Thank you Mr. Cook for organizing this important event.

We are looking for photos taken at the civics night for use in the troop's website. If anyone has photos they can share, would you please contact our webmaster, Joe Bates (JB3s@aol.com).

Committee / PLC Reports

Troop dues are as follows: \$85 for new Scouts for their first year, and \$75 for each following year. The \$10 difference is to help cover the cost of a Scout book, neckerchief, slide, and epaulets. The cost for adult leaders is \$11.

Boards of Review: Mr. Dave Ebert will be in charge of scheduling boards of review. Scouts needing a review should see Mr. Ebert to arrange their review.

The committee discussed and agreed that a dedicated laptop computer for troop advancement records was a good idea. Thank you Mr. Latini for arranging to provide a laptop for our use.

The Troop 183 PLC has proposed weekly meeting schedules as follows:

Opening and Announcements	10 minutes
Merit badges & Rank advancements	35
Planning & Boards of Review	20
Games	15
Closing & Final Announcements	<u>10</u>
	90 minutes

Coming Events

The 2009 Winter Games are will be at the Winter Camporee at Camp K! Troop 183 will represent

Canada, eh! So start thinking about dressing and talking Canadian, eh. Suggestions include lumberjack attire like knit caps, suspenders, and flannel shirts, eh. And for those who can grow, make, or buy a beard, let's do it, eh?

February's activity will be either tobogganing at Pokagon State Park or snow tubing at Perfect North Slopes. The PLC will determine to which place we will go.

A Court of Honor and FOS presentation will be held on March 9, 2009, so finish up any merit badge or rank advancement work that you may have.

May's event is the Lincoln Trial Hike in Illinois. In order to qualify for the special award celebrating President Lincoln's 200th birthday, scouts and adults must read a book about Abraham Lincoln and write a 300 hundred-word report. Mr. Larry Armstrong can provide additional details.

2009 Schedule

January 30-February - Winter Camporee

February 21 – Pokagon State Park (toboggans) **or** Perfect North Slopes (tubing)

March 20-22 Possum Trot

April 24-26 Spring Camporee

May 2 Firestone Competition

May 16-17 Lincoln Trail Hike

June 6-13 High Adventure Trip – Bois Blanc Island, Michigan – estimated cost is \$450 for food, travel, & camping

July 5-11 Summer Camp at Ransburg

August 15-16 Silversides Submarine – spend a night on a sub in Muskegon, MI

September White River Cleanup/Campout (date TBD)

September Court of Honor / Family Picnic / Webelos Campout & Open House (date TBD)

October Fall Camporee (date TBD)

Troop Meetings

Place: St. Michael's Episcopal Church in South Harbor, Noblesville (next to the fire station).

Time: Mondays, 7 pm to 8:30 pm

Website: www.bsatroop183.org

Our troop is trying to determine whether the Monday meeting time should be moved from 7-8:30pm to 6:30-8pm. Things to consider are parents' work schedules, i.e., the ability to bring their boys to the meetings at the earlier times; and the boys' schedules such as after-school activities, homework, and bedtime. Please note that all Noblesville troops meet at the same time that we currently meet, 7-8:30pm. Send any comments you may have on this to Scoutmaster Grumpy, a.k.a., Mike Wyatt (mwyatt@ccs.k12.in.us).

Committee Meeting Time

Our normal committee meetings have been typically held on the first Tuesday of each month. St. Michaels church planning commissions also meet at this time so our troop committee meetings are limited to the main basement area vs. an individual room such as the library. There are other "clear" days available for our use, specifically, the 3rd and 4th Tuesday of each month. Please send any preferences or comments to Ray Motluck (rmot2@netzero.net).