

TROOP 461

“KNOTSENSE”

News and Activities of Boy Scout Troop 461

February 2009

“News that ties us all together!”

Congratulations to E.J. Knesek, Tommy Forte, Brendan Trepal, Jantzen Mace, Jeff Dlugosz, Mike Mehling, and Eric Fash of the Younguns patrol for taking first place overall at the 2009 Klondike Derby. Troop 461 had 3 patrols competing in this year’s Klondike Derby. A special “thank-you” goes out to all the adults who helped at the Klondike with the catapult event and cooking. Kudos to Mr. Meyer and Mr. Shamakian for the construction of the catapults and new sleds.

Highland Heights Community Center: The community center will reopen in the 2nd week of February. On Feb. 12th, troop meetings will be back in the community center.

Advancement & Recruitment: During February and March, troop meetings will focus on rank requirements and merit badge requirements for new and experienced scouts. The troop will also have visiting Webelos from Packs 119 & 461. The Webelos will begin working on requirements for both their Arrow of Light and Scout ranks. Our goal is to help all scouts reach their next ranks.

Polar Bear Campout & Winter Hike: On Saturday, Feb. 21st will be going to Camp Butler, in Peninsula, for one night of outdoor camping. We have reserved 5 Adirondacks at the Chittenden site. Come join us for our annual Polar Bear campout. With a bit of planning and work you will be able to complete all the requirements and earn your **Polar Bear Patch**. For those scouts interested even more fun and adventure, a group will go out to Camp Butler on **Friday** night (Feb. 20th). This additional trip (**Polar Bear Plus**) will not only provide a winter hiking experience, but will allow scouts to practice their backpacking skills in preparation for future extended trips. For more details, please see the forms on the website.

Scout Day at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History: Find out how the Cleveland Museum of Natural History can benefit your scouting experience. Scouts can participate in hands-on activities designed to meet partial merit badge requirements. Scouts may also attend special Shafran Planetarium shows and tour the observatory.

Merit Badge Day: The Glacier Ridge District Merit Badge Day is on Saturday, March 28 at the Highland Heights Community Center from 9:00am to 4:00pm. The Scouts will be working on merit badges in the coming weeks to prepare for this event. Scouts – This is open to all scout ranks. Please take advantage of an opportunity to work on merit badges not offered at summer camp (e.g. Citizenship of Community, Nation or World, Communications, etc.) To obtain worksheets for any merit badge visit <http://www.meritbadge.com>. Contact a merit badge counselor now to begin working on merit badges now so you can pass merit badges at this great event. Parents - our troop sponsors a lunch so we’ll be asking you for some help.

March is Charter Renewal Month. Mr. Jeff Gueulette is our charter renewal chairman, and he will be handing out forms for annual dues at future troop meetings. The troop’s annual dues are \$45 for Scouts and \$15 for adults. The second Scout in a family can renew for \$35. The fee pays for annual dues, insurance, *Boys Life* subscription for each family, advancement awards and other program costs. As in past years the fee does not cover special camping costs and food purchases. Please renew your membership promptly.

Don’t forget to check out the Troop website! Troop and scouting info can be found here. Be sure to bookmark this site on your computer! <http://www.bsatroop461.org>

CONTACT THE “KNOTSENSE!” Email: kosareo@att.net or call: 440-473-5317 or postal mail: 1378 Croyden Rd., Lyndhurst, OH 44124-1463 with your news/information.

February Calendar of Events

Thursday, February 5, 7:30–9:00pm – Troop Meeting at North Chagrin Reservation Metropark

Our annual “Fun in the Snow” meeting after the Klondike Derby. We will meet at **Strawberry Lane** to play Manhunt. Bring your friends! Remember to dress for the weather and wear the proper camouflage if you don’t want to be found.

Sunday, February 8, 7:00–9:00pm – Troop Committee Meeting at Alfredo’s in Holiday Inn (Beta Dr.)

Wednesday, February 11, 7:30pm – District Roundtable, Church of the Saviour, 2537 Lee Rd.

Thursday, February 12, 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. – Highland Heights Community Center

The game will be Dodge Ball. Dr. Kezele will help scouts work on the requirements for the Personal Fitness Merit Badge. This is an Eagle required merit badge so don’t miss this meeting.

Thursday, February 19, 7:30–9:00pm – Troop Meeting at Highland Heights Community Center.

Scouts will continue to work on rank requirements. Webelos from Pack 119 or Pack 461 may visit the troop and work on requirements. There will also be patrol corners for the Polar Bear campout. The game will be Capture the Flag.

Friday, February 20, 6:30pm - Troop Polar Bear Plus / Winter Hike

Meet at the Pool House and leave for Camp Butler. Hike the trails on Saturday.

Saturday - Sunday, February 21-22- Troop Polar Bear

The Polar Bear will be at the Chittenden Adirondacks in Camp Butler. Meet at the Pool House at 9:30am.

Thursday, February 26, 7:30 – 9:00pm - Troop Meeting at Highland Heights Community Center

Scouts will continue to work on rank requirements and select merit badges to work on in March. Visiting Webelos will begin working on the Physical Fitness requirements for their Tenderfoot rank. The game will be Battle “Snow” Ball if we have snow, otherwise it will be regular Dodge Ball.

Saturday, February 28, 2009, 10:00am -4:00pm – Scout Day at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History

Upcoming Dates

March 28, 2009 – District Merit Badge Day at the Highland Heights Community Center

May 15-17, 2009 – District Camporee at Squire’s Castle in the North Chagrin Reservation Metropark

June 21 – 27, 2009 – Summer Camp @ Manatoc

July 2009 – High Adventure Backpack Trip - TBD