

Livonia Family YMCA

Indian Guides

Smoke Signals



February 2003

Volume 34 Issue 6



Federation Chief Report

Hello all Big and Little Braves,

Wow do we have some great activities coming up!

There's the bowling event on February 22nd, which is always a great time at Cloverlanes in Livonia. Dads don't forget that your son throws the first ball and you throw the second. This sometimes poses a problem for the Dads with more than one son, so you might want to pack some Ben-Gay. (Mr. Gurnee and Mr. Cummings come to my mind.)

Don't forget to pick up your Pine Car Derby kit at bowling. Tim Collins will be handing those out to all who have signed-up. He will also have sign-up forms there. Just a little note to the Dads-the Pine Car Derby is *for the sons*, not the Dads, so let them do the designing of these cars and building of them. Let's see what their imagination can bring about. Please don't take the cars to the Wind Tunnels. The Pine Car Derby will be at Wonderland Mall on April 5, 2003. Continued on page 2

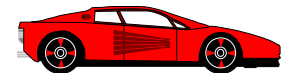
Upcoming Events

Bowling
Sat. Feb. 22nd
9-Noon
Cloverlanes



Spring Fun Night
Sat. Mar. 29th
At the Y

Pine Car Derby
Sat. April 5th
Wonderland Mall



The date for the Father/Son Banquet has been established—May 3. Be sure to mark it on your calendar!

Attachments in this issue:

- Bowling Flyer
- Pine Car Derby Flyer
- Pine Car Rules
- Father/Son Banquet Teaser
- Updated Calendar

Look us up on the Web! Find previous issues, useful links, maps to events, feather award descriptions, and a colorful Six Aims poster.

Federation Chief Report — Continued

There's another Fun Night coming up on March 29, 2003 at the YMCA. They say the yellow submarine will be there again. For those of you who haven't seen this sub yet, its great! You get to climb up on it and slide off into the deep end—even the adults love it.

If you are interested in joining the Federation Officers next year to run the program, please contact Chris Gurnee at 313-937-3886, or 313-755-2777. You can also contact me, David Ryktarsyk, at 734-427-8687 or 734-523-2062. Think about joining us. . .

Pals Forever,
Big Brown Grizzly, Little Brown Grizzly, and Little Running Bear
David Ryktarsyk

Child's Commandments Corner

Commandment No. 6

I need your encouragement to grow. Please go easy on the criticism. Remember, you can criticize the things I do without criticizing me.

Watch each issue of Smoke Signals for more!



Sachem Report

Hello Indian Guides:

Seems like the cold is NEVER going to end. But, somehow we know Spring is around the corner and boy, are we ready for it!

Special thanks to Marc Lipari and Hormel Foods for the donation of the Dinty Moore Beef stew. That was a tremendous addition to the Friday night feast at the Winter Campout. Marc and his son need to be thanked for pitching in and helping with the cooking. You guys are the best!!!

Bowling is right around the corner. And I'm working up for a fun time with the Pine Car Derby.

Let's keep peace in our hearts, and have it extend to the world...

Pals Forever with my Sons...
Brave Eagle, Brave Sky, Brave Mountain, and Brave Night
Chris Gurnee

THANKS!





Medicine Man Report

Greetings,

O Great Spirit of the West, the land of the setting sun, with Your soaring mountains and free, wide rolling prairies, bless us with the knowledge of peace which follows purity of striving and the freedom which follows like a flowing robe in the winds of well-disciplined life. Teach us that the end is better than the beginning and that the setting sun glorifies not in vain.

We have, unfortunately, missed several of the past events and the Winter campout because of illness or hockey.

I'd like to welcome Ernie Bock and Bruce Miller back into the Livonia YMCA Indian Guides. They were with the Mojave tribe and are now with the mighty Teton tribe. It's great to have you and yours back!!! I also would like to welcome the Potvin family. They are with the great Shawnee tribe.

We hope to see everyone at the next event which is bowling on February 22nd.

Pals Forever,
Powhatan and Hawkeye
Rick Hassell



Tomahawk Nation Report

Greetings from the Great Tomahawk Nation:

Well, hello everyone from the Chiefs of the great Tomahawk Nation. What a Winter campout. Even though there wasn't a tremendous amount of snow on the ground and though the winter winds were howling with freezing temperatures, a great time was had by all that I talked to. I would like to take a moment to thank the awesome work of the Canoe Nation for a well planned camp. The deluxe accommodations and events were a whole lot of fun. Also, congratulations to the Gurnee family for not only winning the Indian Head for funniest story, but for also surviving their meal that was retrieved from the bowels of the garbage can.

Anyway, let's talk about the up and coming event in April called the "Pine Car Derby." The event is scheduled for April 5th at Wonderland Mall and what an event it's going to be. The Tomahawks are teaming up with the Canoes for a spectacular day at the races. Make sure that you sign up as soon as possible for this event so that I can pass out the car kits at the bowling event on February 22, 2003. As I said before, let's make this event as fun and simple as possible! Dads, I would like to see you help the braves cut and shape the vehicles. Braves, I would like to see you be as creative as possible with **YOUR** hot rod! I know this is going to be the best race ever. By the way *big* braves, there is going to be a "junk yard" race for you to get involved with also! Well, I guess that's all for now, send in that money and let's go to the races!

Pals Forever,
Gliding Eagle and Shooting Bull
Tim Collins



Cayuga Tribal Report of the Hunger Moon

The Cayugas have a lot to talk about and not much birch bark to do it in without causing an environmental crisis. We have been to the borderlands of southern Michigan at the gathering of the mighty tribes of the Livonia Federation for the Winter campout at the magnificent Storer Camp. The cold heart of winter didn't chill the appetites of the braves for ice bowling, broom ball, and skating on a windswept and bone chilling Stony Lake. We rode the wild stallions (in straight lines) and practiced the ancient arts of candle making and Perler bead mosaics. We made not-too-recognizable objects from the three things we brought with us to the Dutch auction and made giant braves out of small braves by layering. We ate well, we slept well, we chanted well, and we had a lot of father and son fun! Then...

The Cayugas saw how the daily birch bark that ends up in your driveway or on your doorstep or at your news stand gets printed. On the 25th day of the Snow Moon, Wild Fish and Running Hawk arranged a visit to the new Ann Arbor News printing facility just south of Ann Arbor off of State Street. In this one year old facility, we saw two giant printing presses capable of making 40,000 papers every hour. We saw the plate room where the stainless steel plates are etched and we learned about the soy based ink and



water that is applied to the plates and transferred to the paper. We saw a mountain of birch bark that was called a thirty day supply of paper and we were shown the plant's color ink tanks and water tanks. We were taken through the press control room and then saw a completely different room where papers come off the presses on conveyer belts and are layered into big rolls with steel bands to be stored until they are ready to be "stuffed" with flyers. We saw the machines that did the flyer stuffing, the stacking and banding of the finished papers, and we were tempted to pull our car up to the end of a conveyer belt to be loaded with papers. We were amazed and after all that we were fed too. Our minds and our tummies were fed with a lot of good stuff and that made us really happy with all the father and son fun we had had. But, that wasn't all...

Cayuga Tribal Report — Continued

The Cayugas took yet another venture out into our amazing world to see what keeps the giant silver birds flying. Howling Coyote and Soaring Hawk arranged a tour of the Northwest Airlines maintenance facility at Metro Airport on the fourth day of the Hunger Moon. We learned that there are over 40 Northwest airplanes that are worked on in Detroit every night while we sleep. The hanger that we were in had two DC-9s and a 747 in it for various maintenance activities while the snow flurries swirled around outside. We were shown the spare engines for DC-9s, Airbus A319s, and 747s. The young braves each had the opportunity to sit in the cockpit of a DC9.

The main attraction that piqued all the braves interest, though, was the 747 called "The City of Detroit." Our class started in the right wheel well where we learned about fuel tanks and landing gear. Then we went up three flights of maintenance stand stairs just to get to the door of "The City of Detroit." We were taken to the tail of the aircraft, which was outside the hanger door, and saw where the flight attendants sleep upstairs on those 14 hour flights while the "black boxes" are busy taking flight data next to the snoozing attendants. All the way up front and upstairs each boy got a front row seat lesson in many of the features of the 747-400's "glass" cockpit and a number of the braves sampled many of the amenities of Business Class seats. We were shown a spare 747 engine and given an explanation of the principles that enables this giant to lift off the ground at about 750,000 pounds.



With our minds swimming through all the amazing facts, our clocks jumped ahead two hours and we realized that we had a real world and a school day the next day to get back to. We couldn't pass on a snack and a recap of the evening, though. These will be some father and son memories we will all be packing away "forever."

Pals Forever,
Running Deer, Straight Arrow, and Talking Rock

Aztec Tribal Report

Greetings from the Aztec Tribe!

The Aztec Tribe had a great January. The Winter campout at Camp Storer was a hit. The braves especially enjoyed playing broomball on the frozen lake even with the -25 degree wind chill. Another favorite among the braves was the candle making experience with some very creative candles being created.

The January fun continued with a tribal trip to Cabela's in Dundee. All the braves were treated at a behind-the-scenes tour of the work that goes on to keep the streams and fish tanks inside flowing with fresh water and what it takes to keep the fish alive. Feeding the large trout was a favorite among the braves, as was realizing that the fish had sharp teeth. After the tour, the braves practiced their marksmanship skills at the practice rifle range until they ran out of tokens, which the tour guide had provided to all the little braves. The evening ended with a visit to Wendy's for fine dining.

The tribe is looking forward to the upcoming Pine Car Derby which will be the first for several new members of the Aztec Tribe.

Pals Forever,
Chakotay, Striped Snake, and Blue Frog
Dariusz Nisenbau

Crow Tribal Report

From the Crow's nest:

Our tribe has rested up since our last report. We have a tribal meeting scheduled as this newsletter goes to press. You may notice at our Spring camp this year what we made together. We are looking forward to the bowling event although I heard some of the little braves talking about some kind of strategy. Sounds like they plan on requesting the bumpers up and tossing one of those balls so that it hits both sides as many times as they can and whoever hits the least amount of pins is the winner, but us Dads have to hit the rest down.

We're also hard at work on the design and engineering of our first pine cars. The Crow has established a committee that will oversee brainstorming sessions that will be sent to the design and implementation team. Then the manufacture engineering staff will use their CAD/CAM systems to develop the process necessary for this year's entries. The little braves will then be ready to whittle away at the material to send the finished product to Dupont for surface coating and friction reduction application. At least that's the idea we have. The reality is that none of us have any experience making these cars and the paint will be drying as we race. . . if it even gets paint.

Respectfully submitted,
Big Chow, Tickle Tiger – Crow scouts
Rob Cossin