

KLONDIKAVEN NEWS

October 1, 2009

Scoutmaster Edition

Greetings Mr. Scoutmaster!

You and your Troop are cordially invited to attend **The 47th Annual Klondike Derby & Deep Freeze** at Camp Boyhaven that will be held over the weekend of **January 22-24, 2010**. Please make sure that this weekend is reserved on your Troop Calendar and that you pre-register the Troop for the event. We'd like to know for sure that you are planning to attend.

Pre-registration Instructions:

- (1) Fill in & mail the enclosed **SASP**; OR
- (2) e-mail the requested information to gloucks@nycap.rr.com; OR
- (3) Give George a shout on 884-0588

NO \$\$ IS REQUIRED AT THIS TIME!!

Registration for the Klondike Derby - Deep Freeze

Registration for the event will be held in the Nature Lodge on Saturday, January 23 starting at 8:00 AM. At that time you will pay \$7 per registrant (Scouts and adult leaders). Names of Scouts serving as "Renegades" should be included on your Registration Form but their registration fee is waived. **PLEASE DO NOT PRE-PAY YOUR DERBY REGISTRATION FEE TO TWIN RIVERS COUNCIL !!**

In addition to paying your registration fee at the Nature Lodge on January 23, you will turn in your Health Forms and receive Deep Freeze Snowballs, event patches and a Route Card (with map and instructions) for each of your Derby Patrols.

Event Information

On or before October 15 all of the event information will be posted to the Camp Boyhaven website at www.CampBoyhaven.org. Click on the Klondike Derby '10 tab on the Home Page. You can view and print individual pages or click on "Brochure" and view/print each Brochure (SM and PL) as a single document. Please communicate the website URL to your Scouts and leaders.

The "Don Montanye Award" for Attendance

In memory of our good friend Don Montanye we initiated a new award in 2008. The "Boots-on-the-Ground Award" and special event patches will be presented to the Troop that registers the largest number of Scouts and adult leaders for this event. (Yes, "Renegades" count in the tally).

Changes at NAKNEK

Be advised that the Mayor of "Naknek" has decided to relocate to the upper level of Camp. Be certain to instruct your Derby Patrols to take a close look at the revised "Klondikaven" map! A copy will be posted to www.CampBoyhaven.org.

Reminders

- (1) All Derby Patrols must cross the Finish Line. If a Derby Patrol skips the Finish Line and does not turn in a Route Card to the judges on Saturday, their Derby Score will be a BFG (Big Fat Goose Egg). They will receive no Station Award Ribbons that they may have won. They will receive no Klondike Derby Participation Ribbon. They will receive no Report Card after the event. This is the only way we have to know for certain that all Patrols have safely returned from their Derby Trail excursion.
- (2) Rent cabins and lean-tos directly from Twin Rivers Council using the standard forms and procedures at least two weeks prior to the event. There is no need to reserve Open Space. The open area fee requirement has been withdrawn by TRC, Inc. (Halleluiah!)
- (3) Troops arriving Friday night should bring water from home. The lines at the outside faucet at the White House can get pretty long...
- (4) Adults should set a good example and come to the event properly dressed for the weather conditions that are forecast and maybe even for weather that is a little worse than is forecast. (Bob Kovachik isn't always right!) Your Scouts may not listen to you, but they are watching you...

- (5) Bring PREPARED Scouts to the event. First-year Scouts in particular... Conduct some pre-Derby training in the skill events. Make sure they bring the equipment they need. All the skill in the world is useless if they don't bring the right tools. A checklist for each Derby event is included in the PL Brochure. Conduct a pre-Derby "pack check" at a Troop meeting a week or two prior to January 22.
- (6) Attend OKPIK Winter Camping School early in January and learn what your Scouts need to know! Check the Camp website for OKPIK dates... In February there will be training for Scouts (OKPIK-GAWASA) that will help prepare them for the next Derby event and beyond. Sign your PLs up! Pay their way! Make a good "investment" for your Troop.
- (7) Senior Scouts interested in serving on our staff as "Renegades" should contact Renegade Chief Terry Quintin at 355-9064 before the Christmas Holidays. Number is limited to 12.
- (8) We could use more adult leader and Senior Scout help at our Skill Stations on Derby Saturday. Contact Rich Szumowski (725-9774) or George Sogoian (377-1488) with names and phone numbers. They will follow up.

Clothing Check... Our Philosophy and Expectations

We all know the Scout Motto: "Be Prepared". Someone once asked Baden-Powell what a Scout should be prepared FOR. His response: "Any Old Thing".

That's why we continue to own and operate the SDY/SWJ Klondike Derby and Deep Freeze: To help our Scouts learn and practice skills that will prepare them for just about "any old thing"... Most any Scout or Scout Patrol can build a fire, construct a suitable shelter, use a map & compass, give first aid, prepare a meal, and maybe even rescue a drowning person and treat for hypothermia. But how many can do all these things when there's three feet of snow on the ground, ice on the pond, and a 40 mph wind blowing up a "white out"? **To Be Prepared to apply these skills under duress, a Scout (or anyone) has to be PROPERLY DRESSED for the weather conditions or they will become part of the problem, not the solution.** That's why we strongly emphasize our Clothing Check at Chilkoot Pass and that's why we conduct it BEFORE a Derby Patrol leaves the Starting Line.

"Klondikaven" is a controlled environment in which to safely teach Scouts how to prepare for the worst.

We cringe whenever we see cotton "long underwear" in sporting goods shops or cotton outer garments for sale by purveyors of "work clothes" advertised for winter use. **COTTON KILLS.** If you are active you sweat. Cotton absorbs sweat. Cotton dries very slowly. Wet clothing is a very efficient conductor for heat to escape from the human body. Not a good thing when it's cold and the wind is blowing. Sure, you can stand around all day in your Carharts and be warm and comfy. But go out and trot around the block a couple times and then stand outside in the cold and wind for a while... Each Derby Patrol covers about 2.5 miles on Derby Day, pushing and pulling a sledge that is laden with all the equipment and supplies they will need for the day's skill events. Not to mention the quarter mile Sledge Race at Shageluk...

Polyester, polypropylene, and other synthetic "polys" are different from cotton. Rather than absorb moisture from your skin they wick it away to maintain a dry insulating layer between your body and the next layer of clothing. And the next layer of clothing should also be something other than cotton. Wool, for example: a natural material that retains a large percentage of its insulating ability even when damp.

HYPOTHERMIA KILLS. COTTON KILLS.

So, please keep these things in mind when you see Jim Rose, Mayor of Chilkoot Pass, and his clothing check staff taking a very critical look at the clothing a Derby Patrol shows up at the Starting Line dressed in. We don't do strip searches, but our inspection of the first couple layers is thorough. Please read the Clothing Check description in the literature, review the Clothing Check Score Card in the PL Brochure and also make sure that your Scouts, adult leaders and Derby-visiting parents read it as well. Thank you for your support!

We look forward to seeing you and your Troop at the 47th Annual Klondike Derby & Deep Freeze at Camp Boyhaven (a.k.a. "Klondikaven") in January!

The 2010 KDDF Staff

PLEASE PRE-REGISTER TODAY!!