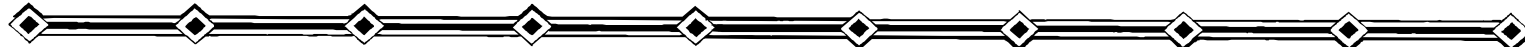
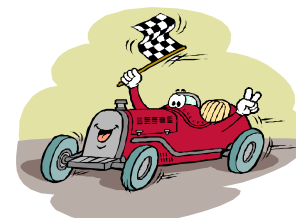


SMOKE SIGNAL

A Publication of the YMCA of Arlington Father / Child Program



Parent/Child
Pinewood Derby
March 8th 10:00a.m.-4:00p.m.
Location: Central YMCA
Cost: \$10
Registration Deadline March 5th



Spring Campout Registration In Progress

PAPOOSE- APRIL 11TH- 13TH
(DINOSAUR VALLEY STATE PARK)

PRINCESS- APRIL 18TH- 20TH
(LAKE WHITNEY STATE PARK)

GUIDES- APRIL 25TH- 27TH
(LAKE MURRAY)

TRAIL SPRING CAMPOUT EVENT
MAY 2nd- 4TH
Camp Grady Spruce

Federation Family Campout

March 28- 30,
Ray Roberts State State Park
Registration Deadline: Open to the first 250 Participants
Limited Trailer/Camper space. Tent camping only!
Catered Meal Saturday Night
\$10 Adult Plate \$6 Child Plate (12 & under)

RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS FOR THIS SEASON AND GET A RECRUITMENT PATCH FOR EVERY NEW PARTICIPANT!

Elder: Pat Coman 817.483.8348

Elder: Terry Spaniel 682.518.7141

Elder: Nathan Sewell 817.277.9932

Elder: Gene Hubble 817.457.7466

Elder: Jerry Davis 817.451.4994

Elder: Steve Dellesaga 817.795.8370

Elder: Mike Ginani 469.767.3051

Federation Chief: Jim Lanter 817.472.7002

Asst. Federation Chief: Wes Maness 817.654.0313

Program Manager: Rodney Smith 817.505.3383 rodneys@ymca-arlington.org

Papoose Chief: David Stallins 817.516.0890

Trail Chief: Stanley Poynor 817.274.8136

Princess Chief: Mike McArthur 817.492.0749

Guides Chief: Paul Mayo 817.860.6773

YA TA HAY MIGHTY BLACKFOOT FEDERATION!

Welcome to my inaugural Smoke Signal article. I've had a whole year off from writing as Guides Nation Chief, so I'm a little rough at this. Bear with me, and I'll try to be as witty and entertaining as the past Federation Chief Jim Lanter.

Another outstanding Fundraiser Dinner is in the bag, and this year, our bag is overflowing. Thanks to the generous donations, high attendance, and great bidding, we exceeded our goal this year. The energetic participation of the kids and families at this event always helps me recognize the purpose of this program.

Now - get ready to start your engines for the Pinewood Derby. As always, the experience of building these cars with my Guide and Princesses elicits both excitement and fear in my heart annually. If you haven't built your car(s) yet, you'll soon know what I mean when your youngest one wants to operate the band saw like big brother and sister. Whew! Anyway, as usual, we expect a host of well crafted, unusual, entertaining cars, as well as those of - shall we say - questionable aerodynamics and planning. This year, the appearance awards will require a Friday night (March 7) check-in at the Davis YMCA between 7:00pm - 9:00pm. Races will begin the morning of March 8 at 10:00am sharp at the Davis YMCA, so be sure to arrive at least 30 minutes before your race to check your car in, if you did not do so Friday evening. The race schedule is as follows:

<u>Pre-K to K</u>	<u>1st Grade</u>	<u>2nd Grade</u>	<u>3rd Grade</u>	<u>4th Grade & up</u>	<u>Grand Champion</u>
10a.m.	11:30a.m.	12:30a.m.	1:30p.m.	2:30p.m.	3:30p.m.

The ever popular Family Campout will be held at Lake Ray Roberts this year to accommodate the increasing participation, and demand for space. In addition to the camping fee (as has been the case with the last several Family Campouts), it will be no surprise that participants will be expected to join in the group meal cost per person. This year will likely be the last year a separate fee will be charged for the group meal. Keep in mind that the group meal is the only organized event at this campout. The rest of the time is yours for communing with nature, and the whole family.

Ya Ta Hay!

Running Buck
Wes Maness

Swimming Butterfly
Zoe

Little Buck Run Amuck
Grant

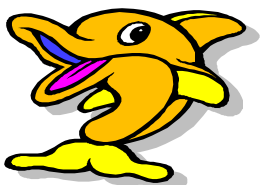
Livie One-Shoe
Olivia



Swim Lesson Registration

YMCA of Arlington Swim Lesson registration is in progress. We offer classes for all ages 6 month to adult classes. We also offer private classes for children with special needs. It is time to get ready for the summer. The YMCA swimming programs are designed to teach personal water safety and swimming skills to children. These programs lay a foundation for a lifetime of safe and enjoyable participation in an aquatic environment. The YMCA of Arlington has offered quality Aquatics programs for over 30 years. We offer Open Swim, Water Aerobics, Pool Parties, Dive-In Movies, Swim Team, Lifeguard, CPR/First Aid Training and much more.

COME CHECK US OUT THIS SUMMER!





Ya Ta Hey Trail Nation

Recent events have had great participation by Trail Nation members. There were at least four tables full of Trail dads and daughters at the Daddy Daughter Date Night on the 10th. Rubber chicken never tasted so good. Enjoy the time remaining while your daughters still want you in their lives. It will end soon enough.

Trail participation in the Fundraising dinner on the 23^d was even more impressive. There were over 100 Trail members and family at that event and Rodney let us know yesterday that the event netted \$11,256 for the Father/Child program. Thank you to all Trail families who came out for the dinner, bought something at the auction, walked for cakes, made cakes, or put together/solicited something for the silent auction and raffle. Thanks to Diane and Jim Norris and Ken Butler who worked so diligently in putting together the silent auction. Faith and I once again got 'our' prize of tickets to the Mesquite Rodeo. We have gotten all eight years we have been in the program.

Don't forget to get your *On the Border* family night package. For \$20 (half to the Y, half to OtB), you can get 6 beef tacos and 6 beef, chicken, or cheese enchiladas, plus chips and salsa, scheduled for pick-up on either Sun April 13, Mon April 14, or Tues April 15 at the IH20 access road *On the Border*. Good food and support to the program.

Next on the agenda for all you 'gearheads' is the Guides sponsored Pinewood Derby. This year, the event is moving to the Davis St. Y. Time is getting short for you to work with your child to put together your car. The race is on Saturday **March 8**, with check-in planned for Friday evening **March 7**. If you are only interested in speed, you can register on the 8th. If you want to compete for 'best in show,' 'most Indian-like,' 'most original design,' etc, you need to bring the cars to the Y Friday night. Make sure the cars are kid-built as much as possible. Kits are available, \$10 per first car, \$4 for each successive car.

Family camp is **March 28 – 30 at Lake Ray Roberts**. If you want to go, you'd better sign up quickly. The first 30 sites Rodney reserved have all sold out, almost exclusively to families with campers. He added another 20 sites to our reservations, so the tent campers can have some places to stay, too. Be sure to bring mom, younger and older siblings. Everyone come out for a good time. A catered dinner (bar-b-que) will be prepared on-site (the caterer will actually camp with us Friday and smoke meat all day Saturday). Rodney will call separately for payment for this meal (mandatory if you can camping). There are no structured events, just relax with your family and friends from the program. Fish, hike, play, whatever is fun for your family.

Spring Camp will again be at **Grady Spruce, May 2- 4**. All the activities will be open to us, horse-back riding, archery, rifle shooting (.22's), swimming, fishing, the barge to Devil's Island, swimming, canoeing. There will be a movie Friday night up by the crafts building. Don't worry about cooking, all meals will be provided. We have enough cabins this year for everyone (no tents). For those new to this site, the cabins are air conditioned, with their own restroom and shower and sleep 16 in bunk beds. Cost is \$73 **per person**. Sign-ups are open now. The official handoff of the headdress to the new Trail Nation chief, Jim "Running Deer" Norris will be at spring camp.

The grand finale for the year is the Trail's End trip to San Antonio, June 6 – 8. On Friday, the group will meet at the Cooper Y early AM and the bus will drive us down, stopping for lunch on the way. The activity that day will be tours of the Alamo and two other missions. Saturday will be all day at Sea World. Sunday will be very busy, with a visit to the S.A. zoo, the Witte Museum (dino hall plus other things), and a stop at Wonder World cave on the way back. Sign ups are open for this, too. Sign up SOON, we want to make sure we get enough people coming that we fill the bus. Don't let another trip be canceled, like last year, due to procrastination in signing.

Stanley Poynor

*Straight Arrow
Trail Nation Chief*

972-603-0961 (work); 817-274-8136 (home)

Jim Norris

*Running Deer
Asst Trail Nation Chief*



Papoose News

Yah-Te-Hay Mighty Papoose Nation:

As we head into March I have to say that I am extremely proud of everyone in the Papoose Nation. I was saddened to hear that no one caught any fish at our trout fishing event. Screeching Owl got a couple of bites, but didn't catch anything either. The main thing about the event was to have fun and spend time with your Dads.

I have to ask since I was unable to attend the Fund Raiser Dinner, who won a cake for me in the cake walk? Just kidding. I hope every papoose was a winner in the cake walk.

We only have a few short months before the school year is over. Many of you will be attending Kindergarden in the Fall and moving up into the Guides or the Princess programs. I want all of you to remember the fun you have had with your dads and the friends you have made in your tribe. I hope to see all graduating Papoose earn their three patches by the Spring Campout.

Until next month,

Allen Stallins
Running Bear
817-516-0890
817-726-9405
dstallin@flash.net

Millie Stallins
Screeching Owl

Have a wonderful Easter Holiday!

Yah-Ta-Hey Princess Nation!

We've had a great month with Daddy/Daughter Date Night and the Fund Raiser.

We had great turn out for the DDDN with dads and daughters dressing up for a good time. Photos were taken and a clown performed magic. I will have to say I breathed a sigh of relief when he caught the last of the knives he was juggling. Thank you to the Comanche for War Chiefting the event and the Kiachi for the assist and to all of the dads that put in all the hours to make it a hit once again. We were making memories.

The Fund Raiser was a big success with great turn out and I've heard we reached our fund raising goal. Thank you to Mohawk for War Chiefting and the Caddo for assisting. And thank you to all of the dads that stepped up and helped out with all of the things like the cake walk and donating auction items. Without each of you we couldn't have done it.

I also want to take the time to personally thank Diane Norris for her time and energy on gathering and tagging the Silent Auction items. (I've even heard Jim helped a bit.) She has done this for several years now and each time it gets a little bit better. Next time you see Jim or Diane make sure you pass along your own personal thanks to them.

KUDOS:

- ü to Andie Cloud of the Zuni for winning the Invitation of the Month for December. The use of the authentic Zuni theme really was a neat idea.
- ü to Abbey Patton of the Kichia for winning the Invitation of the Month award for January.
- ü to Maddie West of the Kichia for winning the Invitation of the Month award for February.

The Pinewood Derby cars are only available through the Y for the same \$10 as last year. We are hosting it at the Central Y this year with check in the night before for all of the decoration awards. Come help the Mohican Guides set up and you might get the chance to "test drive" your car before the regular races start up on Saturday.

The Family Campout is at Lake Ray Roberts this year. Rodney had to get more camping spots because of the large number of trailers already signed up, so there is more room, but don't wait long to sign up, because we could still run out of room for everyone. This is a great event for the entire family. I know my wife is looking forward to it as are Kayden and I.

Good Hunting!

Chief Grey Wolf (Michael McArthur)
Little Chief Dancing Butterfly (Kayden)

Asst. Chief Soaring Hawk (Frank Dylla)
Little Asst. Chief Rising Star (Celeste)
Little Asst. Chief Silver Rain (Chloe)

Ya Ta Hay Mighty Guides Nation

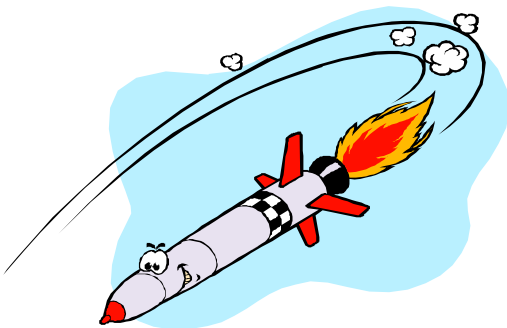
It was the kind of week that brings it all into perspective. I have heard the sounds of a hospital before, the cold clinical feel of the hallways and the kind and determined expressions on the professionals that work there. As I walked towards the door, it was overwhelming that this is my kid in that hospital bed.

When something like this happens, your perspective changes on what has top priority, Longhouse - Kevin can handle. My job - that has to wait too. Life breaks down to a series of juggling responsibilities. Parker still has to get to and from school, homework needs to be completed, and I try to maintain his schedule as familiar as possible while supporting my wife and daughter that stay in the hospital. You live and move through a blur of tasks, not completely noticing all the other things that go on around you.

It is only after you get through that you look back and see how you made it. No, you did not become some sort of Superman that was able to leap tall buildings. It is the kindness of strangers and more importantly, the help and love of your friends. I have always been fortunate to have the friendships that I have; however, during Shelby's recent hospital stay, it was those around me that gave me the strength to get through the storm that my life had become. The core support came from three families that have been more than members of my tribe. They have become part of my family. I never knew when I started Shelby in the Father-Child program that my life would be dramatically impacted by the friendships with families that I made through the program. So to the Andrews family, Germany family, and the Thomas family, I offer the only thing that I have that can hope to repay the debt that I owe you, my friendship.

Paul Mayo
Strutting Elk

Parker Mayo
Growling Bear



**End of The Year BLAST OFF!
ROCKET SHOOT EVENT
May 17, 2008
1:00p.m.- 4:00p.m.
Location TBD
Register at the event
Cost is \$3 per patch**

CALENDAR

Papoose

Pinewood Derby- March 8th, All Day, Central YMCA
Family Campout- March 28th, Ray Roberts State Park
Spring Campout- April 11th, Dinosaur Valley State Park
Rocket Shoot- May 17th, TBD

Princess

Pinewood Derby- March 8th, All Day, Central YMCA
Family Campout- March 28th, Ray Roberts State Park
Spring Campout- April 18th, Lake Whitney State Park
Rocket Shoot- May 17th, TBD

Guides

Pinewood Derby- March 8th, All Day, Central YMCA
Family Campout- March 28th, Ray Roberts State Park
Spring Campout- April 25, Lake Murray State Park
Rocket Shoot- May 17th, TBD

Trail

Pinewood Derby- March 8th, All Day, Central YMCA
Family Campout- March 28th, Ray Roberts State Park
Grady Spruce Trip- May 20th, Camp Grady Spruce
Rocket Shoot- May 17th, TBD

Please Check for Event Registration Deadlines!

YMCA Phone Number: 817.274.9622

**Federation Longhouse:
March 25, 6:30p.m.
Arlington YMCA- Central Branch**

Tribal Chief Longhouse:
March 25, 7:30p.m.
Arlington YMCA -Central Branch

Y **YMCA**
of Arlington
2200 S. Davis
Arlington, Texas 76013

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*Happy
Halloween*



YMCA
We build strong kids,
strong families, strong communities.



ON-LINE REGISTRATION

Program Registration & Event registration
is available at www.ymca-arlington.org