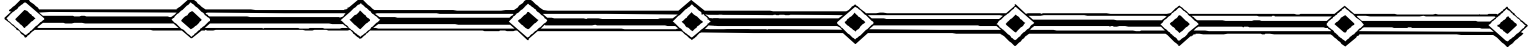
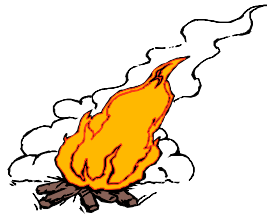


SMOKE SIGNAL

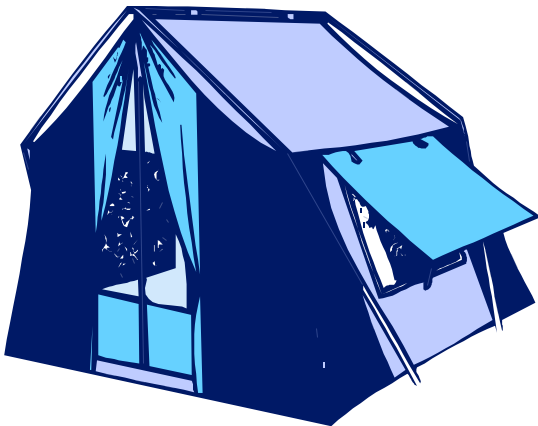
A Publication of the YMCA of Arlington Father / Child Program



**INDUCTION CEREMONY
SEPTEMBER 22nd
7:30p.m.
Lake Arlington
Richard Simpson Park
6300 West Arkansas**



**Father/Child Program
Mandatory All Dads Orientation
September 11th 7:30p.m.- 9:00p.m.
Central Branch YMCA
(Multipurpose Room)
2200 South Davis**



NATION FALL CAMPOUTS

**PAPOOSE- Sept. 28-30, Cleburne State Park
TRAIL- Oct. 5-7, Rafting in New Braunfels
GUIDES- October 12-14, Ray Roberts State Park
PRINCESS- October 26-28, Cooper Lake State Park**

SIGN-UP NOW!

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: Bob Burnham 817.467.6270

Elder: Steve Dellesaga 817.795.8370

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

SPENDING MEANINGFUL TIME WITH YOUR KIDS

We often hear people talk about spending quality time with their kids and in the same breath say they did so by taking them to water parks, Six Flags, the Rangers games, their kids' ball games, and the like. But, when you stand back and observe what is going on, how many times do you see dads with no connection to their kids at those types of places and events. I am amazed at the number of times you see dads at their kids' sporting events chatting away on cell phones paying absolutely no attention to their kids and what they are doing. How meaningful can that be to the kid who is supposed to be spending "quality time" with his or her dad?

As our new program year gets underway, I am going to challenge all of our members to use this program to create more opportunities to enjoy *meaningful* time with our kids. By that, I do not mean taking the kids to a campout, dance, or meeting and letting the kids do their thing while we do ours. I am talking about using those opportunities to actively engage with your child. Yes, it takes a little effort and patience, but it is really very easy to do, means a lot to our kids, and is very rewarding for all.

Here are some ideas to get started:

- Take your daughter to a dance and treat her like the girl you fell in love with at first sight (don't forget that that actually happened a few years ago!);
- Take your child fishing and teach them how to bait the hook, cast, and wait patiently for that bite;
- Go hiking and talk to your kids about what you see and hear while hiking;
- Have your kids help you set up and take down your campsites;
- Work jointly on crafts and deeds and listen to your child's ideas;
- Play catch with your son and help him learn to throw better; and
- Read stories with your child and take turns reading.

We have all heard about corporate ropes courses designed to build trust and confidence among co-workers. Think about how safe and secure a little girl on the Carnival rope bridge feels with her dad waiting to catch her if she falls. Then think about how she would feel if her dad was looking the other way talking on his cell phone. Look at this program as a form of ropes course that can be used to build trust, confidence, friendship, respect, and love between dads and their kids. We had a great Carnival this year, and I thank all of the members, Chiefs and War Chiefs for everything you did to make it a great success.

Let's get the word out to all of our friends that this program is a great opportunity to spend meaningful time with our kids. Let's put work and all of those other distractions aside for the hour, two hours, or weekend so that we can actively engage with our children. I will guarantee you that you will be glad you did.

I hope to see everyone at the Induction on September 22. You will not want to miss the ceremony or the new entertainment that follows!

Jim Lanter
Setting Sun

Amanda
Rising Sun

Jonathan
Bold Shark





Ya Ta Hey Trail Nation

Water, water everywhere. Carnival kicked off the year on 18 August. A little rain fell, lots of kids got dunked, some scuba was taught, water balloons were slingshot over the trees onto 303, and it was, for the seventh straight year, a successful Trail rope bridge – nobody died. I want to thank the assembly crew (Steve Dellasega, Jim Norris, Harold Walker, Jerry Bayless, and Carl Wilkerson and those who manned it during the day to keep the kids safe while crossing. Special thanks to Jumping Fish (David Bayless) for being the guinea pig, testing out the rope bridge while it was being assembled.

For those who couldn't make it to Carnival, don't forget to enroll or re-enroll for the year just starting. There are lots of fun events coming up in the next few months. The list of Trailblazers and Trailmates and their dads looks pretty sparse right now. You don't want to miss out on the year's fun with your child(ren). We still want to start a few Trail tribes this year. Anyone who wants to continue with the monthly tribe meetings like you did in Guides or Princess, let me know so we can get you together with others who are similarly interested.

The first Trail event, canoeing around Caddo Lake, was successful. Eighteen dads and their kids braved the hot sun and the swamp to paddle till their arms fell off. No one got lost, thanks to the red hats (Nathan/Parker Sewell and Jerry/David Bayless) and green hats (Pat/James Coman and Gene/Jessica Hubble) who kept track of the canoes. Thanks also to Jerry/Sophie Davis for leading the devotional on Sunday morning. I still want to learn Thunderbolt's (J. Gray) secret for not getting too sore while paddling a canoe for the whole day.

While Caddo was being canoed, others got wet at a special NRH2O day for the program (thanks to the DFW Princess Nation). Eight hours of sun, fun, food and drinks, at discount prices, too. The Extreme Green was a first for me, a water 'roller coaster' with significant uphill sections (good pumps required).

Still more water related fun is in store. Saturday, September 22 is the Induction Ceremony, by the yacht club at Lake Arlington. Come welcome new members to the organization and see White Mountain's "Fire Dancer III."

The next Trail event is ANOTHER chance to get wet. The Trail Fall Campout will be rafting/tubing down the Guadalupe River in New Braunfels, 5-7 October. Congratulations to Trailmate Rising Sun (Amanda Lanter) who won the patch design contest for the Fall Campout patch at the recent Little Chief's Longhouse. Cost for this wet & wild trip is \$94 per pair, including camping and raft/float rental. Sign ups are now open.

Remember that Trail gets to go to TWO Fall Campouts every year. The always fun Haunted Trail will be at the Princess camp at Coopers Lake State Park on 26 – 28 October. Any dads/kids who want to camp and work on Haunted Trail, please call or e-mail me to let me know. We need good ideas for putting together a fun haunted trail for the Princesses and LOTS of volunteers to help give the girls a good (but not too good) scare.

Other events will follow all year long.

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 Might Papoose Nation,

I would like to welcome all of the new Papoose and their dads to the program. I know my papoose Screeching Owl is looking forward to all of the events coming up this year especially the Winter Campout so she can see her best friend Ryan.

The greatest benefit I have gotten from this program is watching my child grow up and become a unique individual. I know you are saying, I can do that without the Papoose program, but can you? Would you be taking your child on a campout, just the two of you? Would you be taking your child fishing? Would you be doing anything with your child if this program were not here? Spending time with our children probably the most important thing we do for them. This program gives us a schedule of dates and times for spending time without children. Of course, we can and should go above and beyond what is scheduled, but we do have to work and our lives can be filled with so much stuff that is difficult at best to spend time with our children. The Father/Child Program has given me the opportunity to do things I probably would never have done on my own. My wife likes to have at least one weekend (the Winter Campout) without having the children and me around the house so she can do whatever she wants. With the Father/Child Program everyone in the family benefits in some way.

I look forward to seeing all of you throughout the upcoming year.

Allen Stallins
Running Bear

Yah-Ta-Hey Princess Nation!

KUDOS:

Once again the Mighty Princess Nation has dominated the Patch Design Contest

- ü Kudos to our Princesses who designed Winning Patches for our 2007-2008 events
 - o Turkey Shoot Casey Schneider Sioux Princess
 - o Princess Luau Sydney Butler Mohawk Princess
 - o Community Day Ellie Mixon Wichita Princess
 - o Winter Campout Casey Schneider Sioux Princess
 - o Pinewood Derby Caroline Broadus Mohawk Princess
 - o Daddy Daughter Sydnee Geyerman Sioux Princess
 - o Spring Campout Reagan Hosea Karankawa Princess
 - o Rocket Shoot Zoe Maness Sioux Princess

I want to thank every Princess who designed patches. While we can't make patches of all of the design, there were some great designs to choose from. Your creativity helps make the Princess Nation the best.

We have had a good kick off to the year. Our patches are designed, our Carnival has given us a good start to sign ups, and we have Induction just around the corner.

Chiefs, get those renewing members to sign up! Promptly knowing who is returning helps in many ways including figuring out where to place new recruits. You all know what a great program this is. Share what you love about it with others. Now is a great time to invite your friends to know their kids better by spending more time with each other. And you will get to spend more time with your friends as well.

Have you been wondering where to get more information about the Native American tribe your Princess tribe is named after. I've found a wonderful resource on the web at www.native-languages.org. They have lists of tribes, information about their history, language and stories. It is resources like this that help us to learn our Indian Tribes and to treat their history with respect.

Good Learning!

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

I write this after dropping my kids off to their first day of school, and taking my wife who is a teacher flowers. Any of you who have their office in your homes know one thing. This is the happiest day of the year.

As school ramps up so does the calendar for the Blackland federation. We just had our carnival and those who attended had an opportunity to take a shot at dunking me in the Comanche dunking booth the first shot was won by Gene Hubble however, he was unable to hit the target and after he had his turn several others attempted to take me down also unsuccessfully. Brian Tecklenburg is the one who is credited with the hit however the grassy knoll theory is always out there, was there a second shooter did the Rodney Smith send the YMCA agents, will there be retaliation. The intrigue will only grow.

The patches for the upcoming year have been selected at little chiefs longhouse and planning is underway for the induction ceremony I encore all to attend and invite your friends who may be interested in our program. This is a special time for us as we pledge our bond as Fathers and Children on the 22 of September.

October is the month of the fall campouts and the Guides will be camping at lake Ray Roberts on the 12-14 This is one of my favorite parks and I am sure that our boys will be ready to get out and run free after completing 7 weeks of school. Start working on those deeds now so your son can receive a Patch at the Council Fire

Paul Mayo
Strutting Elk

Parker Mayo
Growling Bear

CALENDAR

Papoose

New Dad's Orientation- Sept. 11, Central YMCA 7pm
Induction Ceremony- Lake Arlington, 7:30pm, Sept. 22
Fall Campout- Sept. 28-30, Cleburne State Park
Papoose Train Ride- Nov. 3rd
Turkey Shoot- Nov. 10, Dalworthington Gardens, 10am- Noon

Princess

New Dad's Orientation- Sept. 11, Central YMCA 7pm
Induction Ceremony- Lake Arlington, 7:30pm, Sept. 22
Fall Campout- Oct. 26-28, Cooper State Park (South Sulphur)
Princess Luau Dadnce- Nov. 2 Central YMCA 6pm- 8:30pm
Turkey Shoot- Nov. 10, Dalworthington Gardens, 10am- Noon

Guides

New Dad's Orientation- Sept. 11, Central YMCA 7pm
Induction Ceremony- Lake Arlington, 7:30pm, Sept. 22
Fall Campout- Oct. 12-14, Ray Roberts State Park
Turkey Shoot- Nov. 10, Dalworthington Gardens, 10am- Noon
Turkey Shoot- Nov. 10, Dalworthington Gardens, 10am- Noon

Trail



New Dad's Orientation- Sept. 11, Central YMCA 7pm
Induction Ceremony- Lake Arlington, 7:30pm, Sept. 22
Rafting Trip- Oct. 5-7, New Bruanfels TX.
Turkey Shoot- Nov. 10, Dalworthington Gardens, 10am- Noon

Please Check for Event Registration Deadlines!

YMCA Phone Number: 817.274.9622

**Federation Longhouse:
September 18, 6:30p.m.
Arlington YMCA- Central Branch**

**Tribal Chief Longhouse:
September 18, 7:30p.m.
Arlington YMCA-Central Branch**



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YMCA

We build strong kids,
strong families, strong communities.



ON-LINE REGISTRATION

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