



Scout-O-Gram

Troop 344

Volume 17, Issue 1

January 2017

Camp Alaska Outing

Camp Alaska will be held on January 14-15, 2017. We will be camping at Alexander's woods. The past four scout meetings have been spent preparing for Camp Alaska. Older scouts have presented on topics such as how to make a shelter, clothes that should be worn, menus and food preparation, and cold weather first aid. Please have your scout at the Scout Cabin at 9:00AM on Saturday, January 14. We will hike from the cabin to Alexander's Woods for our campout. Each scout is paired up with another scout. Between the two scouts, they need to bring all materials necessary for making their own shelter, food, cooking equipment, and personal camping equipment such as clothes, toiletries, and sleeping bag. Please check the troop website under scout skills/cold weather camping for a packing list. Not everything on the list may be appropriate. It is a general guideline. We will make sure that enough water is available for their stay. Please meet us at the Shiffler residence at 14189 Wayne Rd, Pemberville, OH, by 9:00AM on Sunday morning for pickup. If you need to pick up your scout earlier, please let the scoutmasters know so that arrangements can be made.

Winter Weekend at Miakonda

The Winter Camporee will be held on February 3-5, 2017 at Camp Miakonda. The cost of the Camporee is \$15.00. This covers your scout's registration fee, patch, cabin rental, and all meals. Please make sure that your scout is prepared for the weather, including extra clothes if he gets wet. We will be returning to the scout cabin on Sunday at 10:00AM. Please make arrangements to pick up your scout promptly.

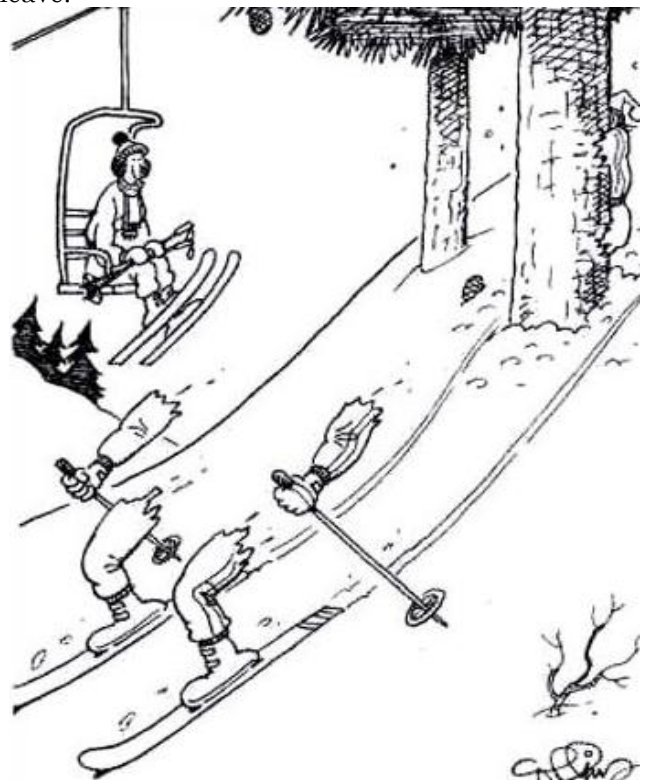
Holiday Valley Ski Trip

On Friday, February 17, 2017 members of Troop 344 will be embarking on a weekend ski trip to Holiday Valley Ski Resort in western New York. The Troop will be renting Dawson lodge at Camp Merz, a Scout camp located near Mayville, New York. Dawson Lodge has accommodations with two dorm rooms (10 & 24 each), furnace heat, showers, restrooms, full kitchen, meeting hall, and a gas fireplace. Scouts wishing to attend must fill out and return the ticket form and permission slip with their money by Tuesday,

February 7, so that we can make appropriate plans for transportation and food. Costs for the weekend trip will vary depending upon the equipment a person needs. If your Scout already has or can borrow ski equipment, he will just need to pay for food/gas expenses and a lift ticket.

Lift ticket prices: \$54/adult \$40/junior (ages 6-11)
Skis/Snowboard Rental: \$27/\$29 adult \$21/\$25 junior
Helmet Rental: \$5.00
Gas, Food, and Lodging: \$40/person

Maximum costs for juniors (ages 6-11) should be \$110.00 plus meal money for on the way home. Maximum costs for adults should be \$128.00 plus meal money for on the way home. All fees must be paid by February 7, 2017 for us to get the discounted rate through the ski resort. **Anyone paying after this date may incur higher rates.** All participants should eat supper before we leave.



High Adventure 2017

Troop 344's high adventure experience for next summer will have two amazing but different opportunities. The first opportunity will be a four day trip beginning on July 9, 2017, to West Virginia to do white water rafting on the New River. Scouts must be 12 years old to be eligible for the whitewater rafting trip. Parents are encouraged to join us for this experience.

The second opportunity will be an eleven day backpacking trip beginning on July 10, 2017 to the Ansel Adams Wilderness in California. Scouts must be 14 years old by December 31, 2014, hold the rank of Star, and participate in the shakedown hikes this spring to be eligible for the trip. Currently, the backpacking trip to the Ansel Adams Wilderness is full. Should an opening occur, preference will first be given to registered scouts, adult leaders of the troop, parents, and then former troop members. You can access more information on the Ansel Adams Wilderness Trip through the troop website. Estimated cost for the 11 day trip is **approximately \$750**. Once we have the total participant numbers and all reservations are made, the final cost of the trip will be set. A final payment schedule will be provided at that time (probably early February).

If your family is having financial problems that makes placing a deposit or paying for either of the above trips difficult, please call or talk to the Scoutmasters privately to see what options are available. We do not want any Scout denied either of these opportunities due to finances.

Website Members Area

To log in and access the Members Area of the Troop website you must have a user name and password. Each Scout's username is their first initial and last name (no spaces). Their password is their numeric birthday. For example, if the Scout's name was Joe Scouter and he was born on July 6, 1998, his user name would be jscouter and his password would be 070698. Please check over your Scout's information to make sure that it is all correct. Any inaccuracies should be brought to our attention so that they may be corrected. You can print out a Troop phone list from the reports section of the Members Area. **In addition, please go over your Scout's individual history (also found in the Members Area of the Troop website) on a regular basis and continue urging him to make progress.** The younger Scouts can come **prepared** to any meeting ready to check off on their Tenderfoot, Second Class, or First Class requirements. We have several older Scouts and adults in attendance that can accommodate them. Participation in Troop outings can help as advancement opportunities are built into these events. Some activities the

Troop has planned do have a rank requirement and working on advancement continuously will help ensure the scout's ability to participate. The key point is that the Scout must want to advance. We provide the opportunities for advancement; the Scout must take the initiative.



TroopMaster Mobile App

TroopMaster Mobile is a free mobile app for **Android, iOS and Windows Phones**. This app will allow leaders, parents and scouts to access scout and troop data via a mobile device without the need of a constant internet connection.

TM Mobile Instructions:

1. Download and Install TM Mobile from your app store.
2. Open app on your device and click 'Settings' from the toolbar and enter your settings from below.
3. In the app go to 'Sync' screen and click the 'Sync' button

TM Mobile Settings:

Server: troopmasterweb1.com UserID: (Your ID)
Customer: 010022 Password: (Your Password)

Upcoming Events of Note

We have prepared an online calendar which covers the Troop's activities for the next year. Please check the Troop website frequently for any calendar updates. The following are upcoming events. Additional information including times, locations, and driving directions can be obtained from the calendar on the Troop website.

January 14-15, 2017

Camp Alaska, Location: Alexander's Woods

February 3-5, 2017

Winter Weekend at Camp Miakonda

February 17-19, 2017

Snow skiing at Holiday Valley, New York

March 15, 2017

Summer camp deposits of \$75 for Camp Berry due

