

Troop 61 Newsletter
February 2010

Hunter Mountain Skiing

On Friday, February 12th, the scouts will be heading out to New York to go skiing, snowboarding, or tubing at Hunter Mountain. Hunter Mountain has 58 trails totaling 240 acres of skiable area spread out over 2 mountains, Hunter One and Hunter West. The longest of these trails is almost two miles long. Studies show that 30% of the trails are beginner, 27% intermediate, 30% difficult, and 13% expert. It also has two terrain parks and a tubing area. The summit of Hunter West is 3,200 ft., with a 1,600 ft. vertical drop to the base. Which trails will you be going on?

Hunter Mountain is known for its massive snowmaking operation. In 1967

it was the first ski resort to have snowmaking coverage from the top to the bottom of the mountain. In 1980, it was the first ski resort to have snowmaking coverage for the entire mountain. Today, it has a large arsenal of snow making and grooming machines, as well as patents for machine that improve the quality of the snow.

There is a Japanese ski resort called Hunter Mountain Shiobara, which was named after Hunter Mountain and is situated near Tokyo.

For the trip to Hunter Mountain, the scouts will be staying at Tri-Mount Scout Reservation. Tri-Mount is the camp of Rip Van Winkle Council, located in East Jewett, NY. I'm told by Mr. G that the breakfasts and dinner will be at the cabins, and lunch will be on the slopes. I've also heard, and I could be wrong, but there might be dessert so make sure you're looking out for that. Directions to Tri-Mount are below.



- Take the New York State Thruway to Exit 20 at Saugerties
- Follow Route 32 North until intersection of Route 32A
- Bear left onto Route 32A and follow until the Palenville traffic light
- Bear left onto Route 23A and follow until the Tannersville traffic light
- Turn right onto Hill St. Route 23C and follow for 4 miles
- Continue to the left beyond the old stone church at Onteora Park and go down the hill into East Jewett
- Boy Scout Rd is the second right after the bridge in East Jewett
- Follow Boy Scout Rd. to the Camp Tri-Mount Parking Lot

Merit Badges

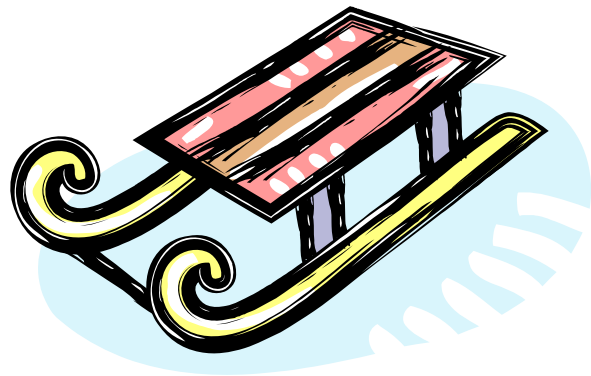
By Efen

As many of you may know, the SEMEOS District Merit Badge Fair is the 20th and 21st of February. Merit badges are something all Boy Scouts have to do, but most of the time we as a troop do not really do them together because of the tedious amount of paperwork that goes along with most merit badges out there. Of course, no one should really be deterred by this, but it often a very large factor when doing merit badges. Something you should consider when doing merit badges is whether or not the badge interests you. Unfortunately, you have to do 12 Eagle required merit badges if you want to go for Eagle, so you're stuck doing those. However, for the other merit badges you need, try to pick one that interests you rather than choosing one just because it is there. You'll have more fun if you take something that interests you. Also, don't choose something that you cannot do yet. First year scouts should do easier merit badges to get the feel of how to do a merit badge before jumping into the Eagle required ones. If you want, work together with someone, or better yet, ask your Patrol Leader if your patrol can work on one at a Patrol meeting. While we usually get merit badges in merit badge fairs and summer camp, you can also contact a counselor and meet with them one-on-one (if the merit badge you are working on has a counselor). If you opt to take this choice, then try to complete the merit badge entirely. Have all of the requirements ready and make sure you know your stuff, since you are taking up their time. You also need a parent present if you want to talk to a counselor outside of a fair/summer camp. You can also get the requirements for any merit badge at meritbadge.org. Hopefully with this knowledge you will be able to complete any merit badges.

THE KLONDIKE

By Mr. Galbraith

Thanks to all the Scouts and WEBLOS and Leaders for participation in this year's Klondike Derby. It was well attended and the weather was great. My very first Klondike was 4 degrees Fahrenheit. Not sure what that is in Celsius but it is darn cold nonetheless. This year we supplied a three part flag pole of natural material (Birch) as requested by the organizers at Round Table. Sure it was more difficult to put up but I expect points for style. I understand fire building ran at a scorching 2:45. Very well done indeed. I tended our site and the home fire and had lunch prepared. Will aim for a desert for next year.



RECIPES!!!

By Mr. Galbraith

Here's a recipe from Dutch Oven Cooking. I did this with Erik at the Alpine Trip last month. May ask Mrs. G for her cookie recipe as well. May be I'll try making them on our Ski Trip to Hunter in February. The family cabin has a good stove but I recall it runs a bit hot. Will need to keep a close eye on the cookies.

Applesauce Cake

1 2/3 Cup Flour Don't sift
1 1/3 Cup Sugar
1 TSP Baking Soda
1/4 TSP Baking Powder
3/4 TSP Salt
1/2 TSP Cinnamon
1/4 TSP Allspice (I don't use this in my cake)
1/3 Cup Shortening
1/3 Cup Water
2/3 Cup Raisins
1 Cup Applesauce
1 Egg
Confectioner's Sugar

Mix ingredients together. Grease then flour the pan.
Oven temp is 350 for 35 minutes
Let cool, sprinkle with the Confectioner's sugar

ENJOY!!!!



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Sports

Due to the lack of content and interest, the sports section has been removed and will be removed from all issues follow this one until the need to bring back the section becomes imminent.

The Sports section has been replaced by:

Puzzles & Games

&

Upcoming Events

This month we'll start off with the survey question. Last Month's survey question was:

Which team do you think will win the super bowl?

We had a lot of competition over this question, but no distinct winner. The final answers were:

The Colts: 43.8%

The Other Team: 44.2%

The Democrats: 10.03%

What teams are playing again?: 4.00003%

What sport is that?: 0.0000000000000001%

The Smart People Team: 3.14159265358979323846264338327950288%

of Participants: 438.9

This month's survey question is:

What color trails will you be skiing/snowboarding on at Hunter? The current colors are Green, Blue, Black, and Double Black, but if you have any other trail colors please come forward.

As always your answer can be submitted via e-mail but if you give me your answer some other way, make sure it is in writing because if it isn't then it never happened.

We have a few events in the coming months. For March we have a trip to The Intrepid, an Aircraft Carrier museum right here in New Jersey. We also have the spring Court of Honor, so make sure to earn those ranks and Merit Badges. In the real world we have St. Patrick's Day. In April, there is the Webelos cross over, that's when the Cub Scouts become Boy Scouts. There is also the Camporee at Great Adventure.