

This is a public service announcement brought to you by your Senior Patrol Leader, Efren Deasis.

***I expect that by February 28, 2011 (the last meeting in February), ALL Scouts should be able to do the following things:***

Tie the following knots:

Square knot  
Bowline  
Tautline hitch  
Two Half hitches  
Clove hitch  
Sheet bend  
Figure-eight knot  
Overhand knot  
Slip knot  
Timber Hitch

Tie the following lashings:

Square  
Tripod

Know how to orient a map

Know how to find the bearing of an object

***By March 7, 2011 (the first meeting in March), Scouts should be able to do the following things:***

Know how to treat the following first aid cases:

Hypothermia  
Hyperthermia  
All classes of burns (and differentiate each)  
Tick bites  
Someone in shock  
Signs of a heart attack  
Serious bleeding  
How to wrap a head bandage, sling, and splint  
Puncture wounds

***Until those requirements have been satisfied, there are no games to be held during meetings unless planned so by the SPL/ASPL/PLs during the PLC.***

***Thank you***

## **Troop 61 Newsletter...month that starts with iron and ends with yttrium.**

February! By the way, if you didn't understand that, go get a periodic table. If you don't know what a periodic table is, ask your patrol leader. If you are a patrol leader, then ask your Assistant Senior Patrol Leader or Senior Patrol Leader. One thing before we start, I just have to say, Efren, that public service announcement was a little harsh, don't you think?

# **Blue Mountain Ski Trip**

By James (that's me!!)

Last weekend, the troop went to BLUE MOUNTAIN, which is a ski/snowboard/tube place somewhere in Pennsylvania. It was wet. Friday and Saturday nights we stayed in the basement of a church near the slopes. When we went outside Saturday morning there was FREEZING RAIN. After that everything just got better.

When we first arrived, we were told that we had to wait to go on the slopes because the power was out to the lifts. After waiting for about 10 minutes, they let us get our stuff, but they had only gotten about 1/3 of the mountain up and running. When we got outside, it was still raining/snowing/whatevering and visibility was horrible.

After that it was pretty much just like any other skiing day. We all showed up for lunch, and everyone was soaked from the rain. Most people went back out for more skiing. Looking back, it could've been a lot worse.

## **The Power of Practice**

By Efren

This month, I'll be short, sweet, and to the point. Though no one is perfect, practice does make you a better scout. It makes you a better somebody, especially true if you play sports or an instrument. While many of you think it is trivial to practice some of these scout skills that you have learned over the years, you may benefit from it in the future. What happens when you get lost in the woods with no cell phone service and all you have is a map and a compass? What happens if you want to truss a turkey for Thanksgiving but do not know what a surgeon's knot is? What happens if you find someone going into shock? All your knowledge as a scout should be able to help you figure out what to do in these situations. Scouts are supposed to know their first aid, orienteering, and knots and lashes just like that. Of course, no one in our troop is that quick to know everything (yes, even James). However, through practice, you should be better prepared as a scout to tackle any outside problems that come your way. If you don't want to practice alone, or if you find your book and the internet to be way too complicated for you, go ahead and practice as a patrol.

**JUST PRACTICE!!!!!!**

## **Untitled**

By Dan

For upcoming trips in the spring when things finally start to heat up a little bit and we break out the tents again, if anyone else would like to join me I want to try something new. For the older guys like James or I, or any of the younger scouts who want to try to make their own shelter to sleep in or on or whatever, it would be very useful to know as a survival skill. This would also benefit anyone who is taking the wilderness survival merit badge. I have slept in my own shelter before and it was made out of tree branches, leaves, and half a rain poncho and it poured that night, I woke up incredibly dry and was more comfortable than when I slept in tents. So just a suggestion, make your own shelter and save the wear and tear on the tents.

## **Scoutmaster Minutes**

By Our Scoutmaster (Mr. Galbraith)

Please note that the Merit Badge Fair is set for February 12 and 13. I expect that many of you are signed up to attend the fair. See me for your Blue Cards as soon as possible. I will have a limited supply of Blue Cards at the fair.

Our March trip is to a camp we've not visited before. It is Ten Mile River (TMR) in New York. We have reserved a lean to site at TMR. While there you can expect to work on Scout skills, a camp gadget and possibly an improvised shelter or pioneering project.

The Spring Court of Honor is March 14. Please have all completed merit badge cards and advancement information to Mr. Kabadi by March 7 so the awards can be presented at the March 14 COH.

A meeting was held February 1 in South Brunswick by our council for all interested Scout leaders. The topic was an open forum regarding the future of our two Scout Camps, KMSR and Yard's Creek. There has been no decision made regarding the camps but the camps will not be open for Summer Camp in 2011. The executive committee hopes to have a plan in place by June to solve some of the issues with the properties. These include the dam and spillway at the swimming lake and the septic system for the mess hall and comfort station.

The greater overall issue is camp attendance. We need to encourage more youth to join Scouting and go camping. If council is to invest in our camps and look to hold Summer Camp in 2012 they need our support.

## February 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1. National Freedom Day; Langston Hughes' Birthday	2. Groundhog Day; Candlemas	3. Chinese New Year	4. Blue Mountain Ski Trip; Charles Lindbergh's Birthday	5. Blue Mountain Ski Trip
6. Blue Mountain Ski Trip; Superbowl Sunday; Lame Duck Day	7. Charles Dicken's Birthday	8. Boy Scout Day	9.	10.	11. White T- Shirt Day	12. Merit Badge Fair; Abraham Lincoln's Birthday
13. Merit Badge Fair	14. Valentine's Day; Ferris Wheel Day; National Organ Donor Day	15.	16.	17.	18. Pluto Discovered	19.
20.	21. President's Day	22. George Washington's Birthday; International World Thinking Day	23.	24.	25. Pistol Patent Day	26.
27. No Brainer Day	28. Floral Design Day					

## March 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1.	2. Read Across America Day/Dr. Suess Birthday	3.	4.	5.
6. PLC	7.	8. Marti Gras	9. Ash Wednesday	10.	11. TMR Lean-To Camping	12. TMR Lean-To Camping
13. TMR Lean-To Camping; Daylight Savings Time Begins	14. Spring Court of Honor	15.	16.	17. St. Patrick's Day	18.	19. *Tentative* Efren's Eagle Project
20. Efren's Eagle Project; First Day of Spring; Purim	21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.
27.	28. Begin Scouting for Food	29.	30.	31.		

# And Now for Something Completely Different

By Efren

Random trivia questions! Need I say more? There are 40 questions total, so get that brain working! (Answers on the next page)

1. Who founded the Boy Scouts of America organization in America?
2. Who was the first person to achieve the Eagle Scout rank in the U.S.?
3. When is Father's Day on the Gregorian calendar?
4. Who is the father of the gods in Norse mythology?
5. Originally intended for lights out, what bugle song is also currently played at military funerals?
6. Which airport is named after New York's 99<sup>th</sup> mayor?
7. What windstorm does a waterspout become when it reaches land?
8. How many Senators are there in the U.S. Senate?
9. At the steps of which building Martin Luther King deliver his "I Have a Dream" speech?
10. If it is 2:00 pm in Trenton, what time is it in San Francisco?
11. Bermuda is still officially a territory of what nation?
12. What are the five colors of the Olympic rings?
13. How many stars make up the Big Dipper?
14. What is the official name of: "&"?
15. In an e-mail, what does BCC stand for?
16. What does the V in PVC (pipe) stand for?
17. Who is the current Secretary of the Treasury (as of 11/17/2010)?
18. Who composed "Air on the G String"?
19. Which continent contains the Gobi Desert?
20. What is the atomic symbol for mercury?
21. A fianchetto is a move that can be used in what common board game?
22. How many U.S. presidents were assassinated in office?
23. Which animal has a name whose literal ancient Greek translation is "river horse"?
24. In what battle did General Custer fight his last stand?
25. How many inches are in a mile?
26. What does each of the colors of the U.S. Flag represent?
27. Jonas Salk developed a vaccine against what disease?
28. What does Newton's Third Law of Motion state?
29. What does the Latin phrase "Carpe diem" suggest one should do?
30. What state in the contiguous United States is the northern-most state?
31. What is fulgurite?
32. How many U.S. states have two words in their names?
33. In what continent is Casablanca located in?
34. True or false: Olive oil has a higher viscosity than water.
35. What is the date of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor?
36. How many Supreme Court Justices are currently in office?
37. How many James Bond movies have one word titles?
38. Known as "The Maid of Orléans", who commanded the French army at the age of 17?
39. What part of the brain controls sight?

40. What is the estimated air speed velocity of an unladen European swallow?
  1. William Boyce
  2. Arthur Rose Eldred
  3. 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of June
  4. Odin
  5. Taps
  6. LaGuardia
  7. Tornado
  8. 100
  9. Lincoln Memorial
  10. 11:00 am
  11. Great Britain
  12. Blue, yellow, black, green, red
  13. 7
  14. Ampersand
  15. Blind carbon copy
  16. Vinyl
  17. Timothy Geithner
  18. Johann Sebastian Bach
  19. Asia
  20. Hg
  21. Chess
  22. 4: Garfield, Lincoln, Kennedy, McKinley
  23. Hippopotamus
  24. Battle of Little Bighorn
  25. 63,360 inches
  26. W=purity, R=hardiness/valor, B=color of the Chief
  27. Polio
  28. For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction
  29. Seize the day
  30. Minnesota
  31. Natural tubes/crusts of sand/rocks fused together due to lightning strikes
  32. 10: New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, and West Virginia
  33. Africa
  34. True
  35. December 7,1941
  36. 9
  37. 5: Goldfinger, Goldeneye, Octopussy, Thunderball, Moonraker
  38. Joan of Arc
  39. Occipital Lobe
  40. 24 mi/hr or 11 m/s