



# Pack 208

# Monthly Newsletter

# Troop 208



Chartered by the Murbach-Siefert American Legion Post 479 in Swanton, OH

January 2014

## Pack News

[www.swancreekdistrict.org/Pack208](http://www.swancreekdistrict.org/Pack208)



The Leaders of Pack 208 and Troop 208 wish everyone a safe and very Merry Christmas. Happy New Year!



### January ... Welcome to the New Year!

January 4th = Anderson's Pinewood Derby Workshop  
TENTATIVE workshop for Pinewood Derby Cars  
we'll post the flyer on the website ASAP.

January 16th = Monthly Pack Meeting

February Pack Meeting = Thursday February 20th

We'll meet at test & check Derby Cars

We're scheduling this for a Saturday this year

February 22nd at the EPIC Center on Main St

Why? There are so many Cub Scouts to run the Derby this year that we'll need more time.

We'll post a schedule in January for the time slots.

### March Pack Meeting

Blue & Gold Banquet (whoo-hoo !!!)  
March 20th at the Legion

March 15th District Pinewood Derby @ ???  
More details as we get closer



God & Country Banquet ~ March 7th, 2014  
God & Country Camporee ~ Mar 14th-16th, 2014  
[www.swancreekdistrict.org/Troop208/flyers/G&C2014.pdf](http://www.swancreekdistrict.org/Troop208/flyers/G&C2014.pdf)

2014 Dad & Lad Overnight @ Camp Miakonda  
May 3rd - 4th @ Camp Miakonda  
2014 Mom & Me Overnight @ Camp Miakonda  
May 10th - 11th @ Camp Miakonda  
[www.swancreekdistrict.org/Pack208/flyers/&Me2014.pdf](http://www.swancreekdistrict.org/Pack208/flyers/&Me2014.pdf)



## Troop News

[www.swancreekdistrict.org/Troop208](http://www.swancreekdistrict.org/Troop208)

### UPCOMING EVENTS...

December 24th - NO MEETING; Christmas Eve  
December 31st - NO MEETING; New Years Eve

### January 2013

January 7th = Regular Troop meeting  
January 14th = Regular Troop meeting

February 7th - 9th Winter Weekend Camporee  
to be held at Camp Miakonda (get ready!)  
tentative campout, no details available yet

March 14th thru 16th God & Country Camporee  
to be held at Camp Miakonda  
tentative campout, no details available yet

April 25th thru 27th District Spring Camporee  
details & planning are still in the works



*Let's all take a moment to remember*

All of those who are not home with their families at this time of the year; serving to protect us. Our military, both active and reserve, who are on duty standing the watch; especially those deployed overseas. Our emergency services men and women who spend these holidays on vigilant watch for us. May they all have a peaceful watch and come home safely to their families afterwards. Thanks!



# Something Special out of History... *Cheap Watches*

If you were in the market for a watch in 1880, would you know where to get one?

You would go to a store, right? Well, of course you could do that, but if you wanted one that was cheaper and a bit better than most of the store watches, you went to the train station! Sound a bit funny? Well, for about 500 towns across the northern United States, that's where the best watches were found.

Why were the best watches found at the train station?

The railroad company wasn't selling the watches, not at all. The telegraph operator was. Most of the time the telegraph operator was located in the railroad station because the telegraph lines followed the railroad tracks from town to town. It was usually the shortest distance and the right-of-ways had already been secured for the rail line.

Most of the station agents were also skilled telegraph operators and that was the primary way that they communicated with the railroad. They would know when trains left the previous station and when they were due at their next station. And it was the telegraph operator who had the watches. As a matter of fact they sold more of them than almost all the stores combined for a period of about 9 years.

This was all arranged by "Richard", who was a telegraph operator himself. He was on duty in the North Redwood, Minnesota train station one day when a load of watches arrived from the East. It was a huge crate of pocket watches. No one ever came to claim them.

So Richard sent a telegram to the manufacturer and asked them what they wanted to do with the watches. The manufacturer didn't want to pay the freight back, so they wired Richard to see if he could sell them. So Richard did. He sent a wire to every agent in the system asking them if they wanted a cheap, but good, pocket watch. He sold the entire case in less than two days and at a handsome profit.

That started it all. He ordered more watches from the watch company and encouraged the telegraph operators to set up a display case in the station offering high quality watches for a cheap price to all the travelers. It worked! It didn't take long for the word to spread and, before long, people other than travelers came to the train station to buy watches.

Richard became so busy that he had to hire a professional watch maker to help him with the orders. That was Alvah. And the rest, as they say, is history. The business took off and soon expanded to many other lines of dry goods. Richard and Alvah left the train station and moved their company to Chicago -- and it's still there.

YES, IT'S A LITTLE KNOWN FACT that for a while in the 1880's, the biggest watch retailer in the country was at the train station. It all started with a telegraph operator: Richard Sears and his partner Alvah Roebuck!

## Council & District TRAINING events



**TRAINING**

Cub Scout  
Leader Specific Training

[Lee Schultz @ cubtraining@swancreekdistrict.org](mailto:Lee.Schultz@cubtraining@swancreekdistrict.org)

January 4th, 2014 ~ Parts 1 & 2 CSLT (both)

*Part 1 is only needed once by a Cub Scout Leader;*

*Part 2 is specific for age groups*

March 1st ~ BALOO for overnight camping

March 19th ~ Part 1 of Cub Scout Leader Trng

March 20th ~ Part 2 of Cub Scout Leader Trng



**TRAINING**

Boy Scout  
Leader Specific Training

Jeff Smarkel from Eagle Bay District

SM & ASM Specific Training ....

January 11th, 2014 from 9:30am to 4:30pm

or

January 18th, 2014 from 9:30am to 4:30pm

Sessions held at Camp Miakonda

[www.swancreekdistrict.org/Troop208/flyers/SM-ASMtrng2014.pdf](http://www.swancreekdistrict.org/Troop208/flyers/SM-ASMtrng2014.pdf)

# Upcoming Activities

## imagination station

[www.imaginationstationtoledo.org/content/educators/scout-programs/](http://www.imaginationstationtoledo.org/content/educators/scout-programs/)

\$15 per participant (includes Simulator Theater ride)

\$ 7 per adult chaperone (includes the ride too)

Go online (the above link) to register

or call 419.244.2674 ext 250 to sign up

### Cub Scouts

February 9th 12:30pm to 2:30pm

March 9th 12:30pm to 2:30pm

Astronomy Belt Loop & Pin



### Webelos

February 16th

Scientist Badge

no time scheduled on their site



These are great experiences for both your Cub Scouts and for your families too! Think about it.

ps: they have programs for Girl Scouts too

### Camp Miakonda Cub Day Camps 2014

Week 1	June 16th - 20th	Estimated cost is
Week 2	June 23rd - 27th	\$150 for the week
Week 3	July 7th - 11th	each additional week
Week 4	July 14th - 18th	is \$100

Thursday night is Family Night from 4:30 to 8:00pm

Early register by May 16th, 2014 and save \$10

### Mini-Cub Day Camp June 30th - July 2nd

Come out for one, two or three days; \$30/day

Have some fun with all the same activities

### Webelos I Overnights @ Miakonda

June 21st and 22nd or July 12th and 13th

\$35 per Webelos and \$35 per Adult Partner

### Webelos II Resident Camp @ Camp Frontier

\$127 for the Webelos Scout & \$66 for the Adult

3 days out at Camp Frontier during the last week of the regular Boy Scout Camp in the summer



So far, we've seen nothing for the Walleye to have any special Scout programs this year. We're watching.

## Congratulations....



Not many people know that the American Legion has an award intended for recognizing their members for outstanding service to the Scouting program.

The American Legion Community Organization Award for outstanding service to Scouting to be specific.

Our own John Young was recently recognized by the American Legion for his tireless dedication and efforts to Swanton's youth and Scouting overall.

We snuck this into the newsletter because John's a very quiet, hardworking and humble man who has spent countless hours without wanting to draw any attention to himself. And if you look at the list of requirements that need to be accomplished, you'll be as impressed as we all were too.

On behalf of the Murbach-Seifert American Legion Post and Pack/Troop 208, we are proud to have John as a cornerstone of our programs. Please give John a "congratulations" and thank you when you see him.



### New Year's Eve trivia, did you know that...

- ▶ The Times Square Ball first dropped in 1908
- ▶ The British use the chiming of Big Ben to mark the change of the year which has been aired by the BBC since 1923
- ▶ The oldest New Year's bowl football game is the Rose Bowl (1902)... "The GRANDDADDY of Them All"
- ▶ Guy Lombardo was famous for "Auld Lang Syne", Dan Fogelberg had a hit with "Same Old Lang Syne" (1981)

# January Historical & Current Events

January 1st

- Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, 1863
- Ellis Island Immigrant Station in New York formally opened, 1892



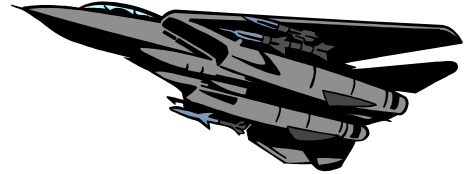
January 2nd

- United States & Canada reached free trade agreement, 1988



January 4th

- United States Supreme Court ruled that citizens of Puerto Rico were not aliens, 1904
- United States planes shot down two Libyan fighters, 1989



January 7th

- Galileo Galilei sighted four of Jupiter's moons., 1610
- The first presidential election was held, 1789



January 8th

- United States forces led by General Andrew Jackson defeated the British in the Battle of New Orleans, ending the War of 1812, 1814

January 10th

- Thomas Paine's Common Sense was published, 1776
- The League of Nations established 1920



January 11th

- Major League Baseball (American League) adopted the designated-hitter rule, 1973

January 12th

- The Alamo, a Franciscan Mission, was built, 1722



January 14th

- United States Prohibition began, 1920
- General Eisenhower took command of Allied Invasion Force in London, 1944

January 19th

- First presidential news conference filmed for television with permission of President Eisenhower, 1955

January 20th

- Pearl Harbor leased by the United States from Hawaii for naval station, 1887
- Iran released 52 American hostages, 1981



January 21st

- First atomic submarine, the Nautilus, was launched, 1954

January 22nd

- Vietnam peace agreement signed by United States, North and South Vietnam, and the Vietcong, 1973
- United States Supreme Court's Roe vs. Wade decision, 1973

January 23rd

- USS Pueblo seized by North Koreans, 1968



January 24th

- First United States Congressional Medal of Honor awarded, 1894
- First Boy Scout troop organized in England by Robert Baden-Powell, 1908



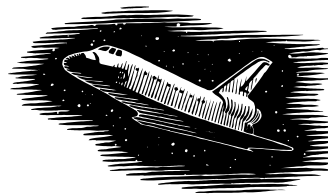
January 27th

- The Vietnam War ended, 1973



January 28th

- First telephone exchange opened, 1878
- Space Shuttle *Challenger* exploded, 1986



January 29th

- Edgar Allan Poe's The Raven was published, 1845