



# Monthly Newsletter Pack 208

# TROOP 208

providing Scouting in Swanton since 1926



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

March 2015

**NEW WEBSITE (for both Cub Scouts & Boy Scouts):**

[www.swantonscouts.org](http://www.swantonscouts.org)

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Brennen, Ty, Dylan and Alexander for having earned their God & Country Awards!



Brennen received his God & Me award while Alexander received his God & Family award during the Scout Sunday service at Swanton Alliance Church on February 1st. This is Alexander's second award in the God & Country program and we're all wishing him success in completing all 4 of the awards as he grows in his faith with God. Dylan and Ty have also completed their God & Me awards which be presented at a later time. All of our Cub Scouts will be recognized at the Pack's Blue & Gold Banquet.

## March Pack Meeting = Thursday March 19th

Blue & Gold Banquet (whoo-hoo !!!)

**6pm** at the Legion Hall; more details soon

March 14th District Pinewood Derby @ St Francis de Sales High School



Good Luck to the Pack's Winners at District !!



13th Annual Youth Patch Day Workshop

The Partners for Clean Streams workshop will be on Sunday, March 8th from 1:00pm to 4:30pm. The cost is \$5 and will be held in the Ingman Room, #2520, (UT Student Union). Parking is FREE, but registration is required; we'll get the form for you.

## UPCOMING EVENTS for the Troop...

**April 24th thru 26th District Spring Camporee**

to be at Fort Meigs in Perrysburg, a Hysterical event!



## Summer Camping / Program

### PSR - Summer Camp 2015

June 28th thru July 4th

Cody Campsite (back by Ecology)

Plenty of time to get ready for our current and future (the Webelos II) Boy Scouts to plan for a week of Camp.

### For the Scouts and Summer Camp:

**PSR Summer Camp Fees** (camperships available too):

Meal Plan A - eat in the dining hall - \$315 early bird fee

Meal Plan B - cook in the campsite - \$260 early bird fee

Regular fee is \$20 if paid after the Early Bird (early May)



Your Scout wants to attend Camp, but some problems in paying for it? Erie Shores does have help available - Camperships. These aren't apply early for consideration, but help may be available. Ask Mr Waterstradt if you have any questions; he'll help!

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



A **special thanks** to **Pastor Curt** for his participation and support of the Pack and Troop with the God & Country program. His encouragement is greatly appreciated!

## Something out of our History, February 23rd... Boys and 13 Hands

Each year I (Michael T Powers) am hired to go to Washington, DC, with the eighth grade class from Clinton, WI where I grew up, to videotape their trip. Each year I take some special memories back with me. This fall's trip was especially memorable. On the last night of our trip, we stopped at the Iwo Jima memorial. This memorial is the largest bronze statue in the world and depicts one of the most famous photographs in history -- that of the six brave soldiers raising the American Flag at the top of a rocky hill on the island of Iwo Jima, Japan, during WW II.



Over one hundred students and chaperones piled off the buses and headed towards the memorial. I noticed a solitary figure at the base of the statue, and as I got closer he asked, 'Where are you guys from?'

I told him that we were from Wisconsin. 'Hey, I'm a cheese head, too! Come gather around, Cheese heads, and I will tell you a story.' (It was James Bradley who just happened to be in Washington, DC, to speak at the memorial the following day. He was there that night to say good night to his dad, who had passed away. He was just about to leave when he saw the buses pull up. I videotaped him as he spoke to us, and received his permission to share what he said from my videotape. It is one thing to tour the incredible monuments filled with history in Washington, DC, but it is quite another to get the kind of insight we received that night.)

When all had gathered around, he reverently began to speak. (Here are his words that night.) 'My name is James Bradley and I'm from Antigo, Wisconsin My dad is on that statue, and I wrote a book called 'Flags of Our Fathers'. It is the story of the six boys you see behind me. 'My name is James Bradley and I'm from Antigo, Wisconsin My dad is on that statue, and I wrote a book called 'Flags of Our Fathers'. It is the story of the six boys you see behind me.

'Six boys raised the flag. The first guy putting the pole in the ground is Harlon Block. Harlon was an all-state football player. He enlisted in the Marine Corps with all the senior members of his football team.. They were off to play another type of game. A game called 'War.' But it didn't turn out to be a game. Harlon, at the age of 21, died with his intestines in his hands. I don't say that to gross you out, I say that because there are people who stand in front of this statue and talk about the glory of war. You guys need to know that most of the boys in Iwo Jima were 17, 18, and 19 years old - and it was so hard that the ones who did make it home never even would talk to their families about it.

(He pointed to the statue) 'You see this next guy? That's Rene Gagnon from New Hampshire. If you took Rene's helmet off at the moment this photo was taken and looked in the webbing of that helmet, you would find a photograph...a photograph of his girlfriend Rene put that in there for protection because he was scared. He was 18 years old. It was just boys who won the battle of Iwo Jima . Boys. Not old men.

'The next guy here, the third guy in this tableau, was Sergeant Mike Strank. Mike is my hero. He was the hero of all these guys. They called him the 'old man' because he was so old. He was already 24. When Mike would motivate his boys in training camp, he didn't say, 'Let's go kill some Japanese' or 'Let's die for our country' He knew he was talking to little boys.. Instead he would say, 'You do what I say, and I'll get you home to your mothers.'

'The last guy on this side of the statue is Ira Hayes, a Pima Indian from Arizona . Ira Hayes was one of them who lived to walk off Iwo Jima . He went into the White House with my dad. President Truman told him, 'You're a hero' He told reporters, 'How can I feel like a hero when 250 of my buddies hit the island with me and only 27 of us walked off alive?'

So you take your class at school, 250 of you spending a year together having fun, doing everything together. Then all 250 of you hit the beach, but only 27 of your classmates walk off alive. That was Ira Hayes. He had images of horror in his mind. Ira Hayes carried the pain home with him and eventually died dead drunk, face down, drowned in a very shallow puddle, at the age of 32 (ten years after this picture was taken).

'The next guy, going around the statue, is Franklin Sousley from Hilltop, Kentucky . A fun-lovin' hillbilly boy. His best friend, who is now 70, told me, 'Yeah, you know, we took two cows up on the porch of the Hilltop General Store. Then we strung wire across the stairs so the cows couldn't get down. Then we fed them Epsom salts. Those cows crapped all night.' Yes, he was a fun-lovin' hillbilly boy. Franklin died on Iwo Jima at the age of 19. When the telegram came to tell his mother that he was dead, it went to the Hilltop General Store. A barefoot boy ran that telegram up to his mother's farm. The neighbors could hear her scream all night and into the morning. Those neighbors lived a quarter of a mile away.

'The next guy, as we continue to go around the statue, is my dad, John Bradley, from Antigo, Wisconsin, where I was raised. My dad lived until 1994, but he would never give interviews. When Walter Cronkite's producers or the New York Times would call, we were trained as little kids to say 'No, I'm sorry, sir, my dad's not here. He is in Canada fishing. No, there is no phone there, sir. No, we don't know when he is coming back.' My dad never fished or even went to Canada. Usually, he was sitting there right at the table eating his Campbell 's soup. But we had to tell the press that he was out fishing. He didn't want to talk to the press.

'You see, like Ira Hayes, my dad didn't see himself as a hero. Everyone thinks these guys are heroes, 'cause they are in a photo and on a monument. My dad knew better. He was a medic. John Bradley from Wisconsin was a combat caregiver. On Iwo Jima he probably held over 200 boys as they died. And when boys died on Iwo Jima , they writhed and screamed, without any medication or help with the pain.

'When I was a little boy, my third grade teacher told me that my dad was a hero. When I went home and told my dad that, he looked at me and said, 'I want you always to remember that the heroes of Iwo Jima are the guys who did not come back. Did NOT come back.'

Also, if you look at the statue very closely and count the number of 'hands' raising the flag, there are 13. When the man who made the statue was asked why there were 13, he simply said the 13th hand was the hand of God. (*see the April 2013 newsletter for this story!*)

# Upcoming Activities



## Kamp KaBoooooom!!!

2015's Dad & Lad overnighter @ Miakonda  
Saturday , April 25th through Sunday, April 26th  
[www.swancreekdistrict.org/Pack208/flyers/MMDL15.pdf](http://www.swancreekdistrict.org/Pack208/flyers/MMDL15.pdf)

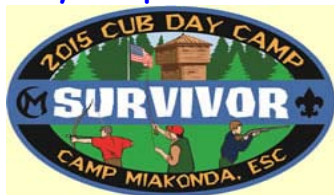


## Incredible Flying Machines!

2015's Mom & Me overnighter @ Miakonda  
Saturday , May 2nd through Sunday, May 3rd

## Camp Miakonda Cub Day Camps 2015

- Week 1 June 15th - 19th
- Week 2 June 22nd - 26th
- Week 3 June 29th - July 3rd
- Week 4 July 6th - 10th
- Week 5 July 13th - 17th



Thursday night is Family Night from 4:30 to 8:00pm  
Early bird register before May 16th, 2014 and save \$20  
The cost is \$159 for the week and you can get discounts;  
\$100 for each additional week is one discount available

## Webelos I Overnights @ Miakonda

June 20th and 21st or July 11th and 12th  
\$42 per Webelos or Adult Partner this year

## Webelos II Resident Camp @ Camp Frontier

\$140 for the Webelos Scout & \$72 for the Adult  
3 days out at Camp Frontier during the last week of the  
regular Boy Scout Camp in the summer  
Session 1 is July 26th to July 29th  
Session 2 is July 29th to August 1st

It's time to start planning for the "boys of summer"



## Toledo Mud Hens 2015 Scout Sleepovers



**Activities included** an On Field Parade before the game, meet the mascots, post game fireworks, Scouts can run the bases, a Family (friendly) movie, the sleepover\*, an all you can eat breakfast and, of course, the game too!



the 2014 Mud Hens Sleepover on 5/3rd Field

\* **WARNING** - Sleeping on the outfield of 5/3rd Field can be extremely difficult for the experienced camper. It's so smooth with no rocks, ruts or tree roots.... like a nice carpeted floor. It's a challenge! You're WARNED!

## Boy/Cub Scout Sleepover Schedule for 2015 is....

- |                    |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Saturday, May 23rd | Friday, July 17th     |
| Saturday, June 6th | Saturday, July 18th   |
| Friday, June 19th  | Saturday, August 15th |

Pricing for the experience is:

- \$10 for the game ticket
- \$18 for the entire sleepover and activities

CALL 419-725-9292 TO ORDER SCOUT TICKETS

**The WHOLE family is welcome to sleepover too !!**

A little trivia... did you know that.... **The WHOLE NINE YARDS**

American fighter planes in WW2 had machine guns that were fed by a belt of cartridges. The average plane held belts that were 27 feet (9 yards) long. If the pilot used up all his ammo he was said to have given it the whole nine yards.

## PASSING THE BUCK / THE BUCK STOPS HERE

Most men in the early west carried a jack knife made by the Buck knife company. When playing poker it is common to place one of these Buck knives in front of the dealer so that everyone knew who he was. When it was time for a new dealer the deck of cards and the knife were given to the new dealer. If this person didn't want to deal he would "pass the buck" to the next player. If that player accepted then "the buck stopped there".

## Council & District TRAINING events



**TRAINING**

Cub Scout  
Leader Specific Training  
[Lee Schultz @ cubtraining@swancreekdistrict.org](mailto:Lee.Schultz@swancreekdistrict.org)

March 20th ~ Cub Scout Leader Training  
Not just for Webelos leaders; this is FUN!!!  
flyers posted on the Pack's website or ask Mr Raven

# March Historical & Current Events

[www.aboutfamouspeople.com](http://www.aboutfamouspeople.com)

March 1st

Ohio entered the Union, 1803 the 17th state  
Congress authorized the creation of Yellowstone National Park, 1872



March 3rd

The Constitution of the United States of America goes into effect. 1789  
**Star Spangled Banner** adopted as National Anthem of the United States, 1931



March 4th

England's King Charles II granted a charter to William Penn for an area of land that later became the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. 1681

March 7th

Army Distinguished Service Medal was authorized, 1918



March 9th

The battle of "USS Monitor" & "CSS Merrimack" occurred at Hampton Roads, Virginia, 1862



March 10th

Daniel Boone's expedition of Kentucky began, 1775  
Alexander Graham Bell places the world's first telephone call, to his assistant in the next room. 1876

March 11th

General Douglas MacArthur vowed "*I shall return*" 1942



March 12th

The Girl Scouts of America were founded, 1912

March 13th

The planet Uranus was discovered by Sir William Herschel, 1781  
Greenwood patented earmuffs, originally called the "Champion Ear Protector". 1877 (There's an Ear Muff Day)

March 16th

Congress authorized the establishment of the United States Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., 1802

March 17th

The Camp Fire Girls created, 1912



March 18th

Schick, Inc. marketed the first electric razor, 1931



March 19th

Congress approved daylight-savings time, 1918

March 21st

Thomas Jefferson became Secretary of State under President Washington, 1790

March 22nd

Congress outlawed polygamy, 1882



March 23rd

The United States Mint produced its first coins made by a press, 1836

March 24th

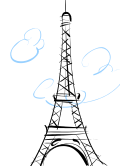
Largest oil spill in United States history happened in Alaska, 1989

March 27th

President George Washington and Congress created United States Navy, 1794

March 30th

Jeopardy debuts on television. 1964



March 31st

The Eiffel Tower opens in Paris, France 1889

