



The Leaders of Pack 208 and Troop 208 hopes that everyone has a very Merry Christmas and a safe & Happy New Year!

...and please take a moment remember those who are not able to be home with their families; that they may be kept safe so they can come home to them.



January 7th ~ Walleye Hockey Pack Outing
~ Anderson's Pinewood Derby Clinic - all stores
January 19th ~ First Pack Meeting in 2016

February 5th ~ Scout Sunday

A Scout is REVERENT. If you don't have a church that you regularly attend, you're always welcome to join either Mr Waterstradt (Swanton Alliance Church) or Mr Raven (St Richard's) for mass.

IF you're interested in working on any of the religious awards please see Mr Waterstradt or Mr Raven for information and help.

February 16th ~ Pack Meeting; pre-Pinewood Derby!!

We'll pass out awards, recognitions and check cars!

February 18th ~ Pack 208's Annual Pinewood Derby

We'll hold it at the EPIC Center on Main Street again. The schedule will be posted in January. Please let Mr Raven know of any schedule issues you may have.

Cub Scouts... start your engines!

March 11th ~ Swan Creek District Pinewood Derby

The Swan Creek District Pinewood Derby is at the Springfield HS. Check out the new rules for this year from Engineers; nothing surprising.

and as the program year starts to wind down....

March 16th ~ Blue & Gold Banquet & FOS presentation

Construction City CONGRATS !!

Congratulations to our Webelos who participated in Construction City and earned "**MOST CREATIVE**"

There will be no Troop meeting during the Swanton Schools Christmas break December 27th

Camp Alaska

January 14th & 15th is our overnight Camp Alaska with Troop 97 in Weston, OH... The Weston Winter Weekend.

Winter Weekend @ Camp Miakonda

February 10th-11th, 2017 is the Swan Creek District Winter Weekend at Camp Miakonda.... The tentative theme is Search and Rescue; our District Executive

March 7th is our Spring Court of Honor & FOS

Awards & Recognition time for our Scouts. And our annual Friends of Scouting presentation.

April 27th - 29th is the District Spring Camporee

The theme is still in the planning stages

PSR - Summer Camp 2017

July 2nd through July 8th

Nessle Campsite just past 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 parents of our Scouts - if your family needs some help to send your son to camp please let us know. There are discrete ways to help you and your son so he doesn't miss out on camp.



Just a reminder that in Boy Scouts we want the young men to plan their activities, with the help of the adults.

As we approach the fall and winter again, our leadership would like to remind all of our parents and volunteer leaders that "If Swanton Schools close due to weather, then our meeting that night will be cancelled."

'Merry Christmas, from America to unfortunate Britain'

How in 1914 a U.S. Navy 'Santa Claus ship' sailed to England with 5 MILLION Christmas presents for children whose fathers died in WWI

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2887988/A67>

For Christmas 1914, Alice Bailey, a seven-year-old from Kent, England, got a pair of stockings and a toy farm animal. Daisy Andrews, her two-year-old neighbor, was given a length of ribbon.

It may not seem much, but, with their fathers hundreds of miles away, fighting the bloody battles that would come to be known as the First World War, it was more than either of them had hoped for.

Their humble presents, listed alongside the names in hundred-year-old records and letters of thanks, were gifts from the United States, which had sailed thousands of miles from New York on a vessel dubbed The Santa Claus Ship.

Sailing to town: The USS Jason, dubbed The Santa Claus ship, was stacked up with 5 million presents and sailed from New York City to England, carrying festive cheer to the victims of war. It is pictured docking in Plymouth in 1914

The cargo – a far cry from the coal it usually carried to fire the dreadnoughts of the U.S. Navy – included gloves, stockings, petticoats, sweets and nuts among its total of 5million presents, which together weighed 12,000 tons. The ship, properly called the USS Jason, made its first transatlantic stop in Plymouth, Devon, where it unloaded its trove of gifts for children around Great Britain.

The presents were distributed by officials from charities including the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association (now know as SSAFA), who handed out the gifts starting with children whose father had been killed in battle or was missing, and refugee families from Belgium.

A 1914 SSAFA report from Lowestoft, Suffolk, said: 'The Town Hall steps and landing were quite crowded with eager youngsters, among whom some 900 gifts, usually a garment and a toy, were distributed.'

The ship then continued its voyage on to brighten the Christmases of children in Belgium and other parts of Europe touched by the conflict, the magnitude of which was only starting to become clear.

The humanitarian mission was the result of a huge charity drive in the United States, which began with Chicago but inspired families all over the country to give some of what they had.

News of the ship reached Britain well in advance. A report in the September 22, 1914, edition of the Daily Mail read recounted how the plan 'spread in a few days throughout the Western and Eastern States, and is approved by the great 'They ask the children of America to be Santa Claus next Christmas for all those little boys and girls whose daddies died fighting for their country.

""You can stretch out your hands," says the appeal, "across the sea bearing messages of love and hope and sympathy to the children of a war-ridden Continent - messages from fortunate America to unfortunate Europe.'

It said: 'Isn't this a glorious opportunity for you to help make some of these poor little children happy?

'Just think what it means when our good President Wilson, and his Secretary of the Navy Daniels, have arranged to let one of our own country's great warships be the Christmas Ship.

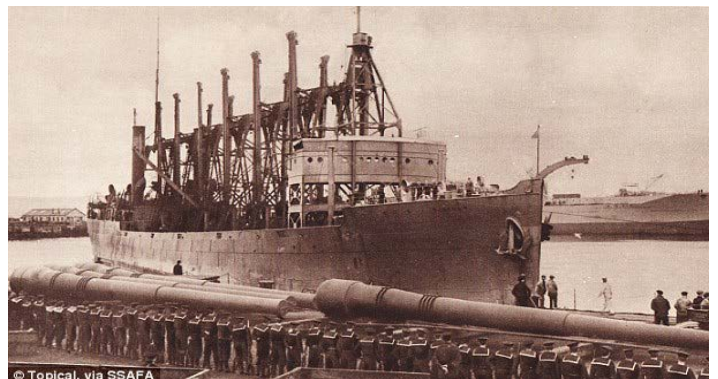
'It means that our government considers it very important for this great shipload of presents to cross the ocean in perfect safety, so that every present may be promptly delivered.

'There never was a Christmas Ship before! There may never be a Christmas Ship again! Here is a chance for you to be one of the givers and help make next Christmas the best that was ever known on earth!'

Jo Gunnell, a chairman for the Kent branch of SSAFA, said: 'It was a very striking gesture'.

It was the moral support, as well as the actual value of the gifts – though that shouldn't be underestimated, paltry as it may seem in this day and age.'

'There was a real bond between the countries then, as there continues to be today.'



USS JASON (AC-12)

We hope that all of our service men and women are kept safe this Christmas so they may return home.

Upcoming Activities



Cub Scout Programs

Another year with Imagination Station providing great programs!

<http://imaginationstationtoledo.org/content/educators/scout-programs/>

- January 8th, 2017 - Bears: Super Science
- January 22nd, 2017 - Bears: Make it Move
- February 5th, 2017 - Wolf: Digging in the Past
- February 12th, 2017 - Tigers: Sky is the Limit
- March 5th, 2017 - Wolf: Digging in the Past
- March 12th, 2017 - Wolf: Air of the Wolf
- April 2nd - Webelos: Engineer
- April 9th - Webelos: Adventures in Science

Harlem Globetrotters

December 28th (Wednesday @ 7pm)

www.huntingtoncentertoleado.com/events

a good event for the whole family



Saturday Jan 7th A Pack Outing tonight !!!

Saturday, Feb 25th (Sleepover)

Saturday Mar 25th - NEW Pinewood Derby Showcase

<http://www.swantonscouts.org/flyers/Walleye2016-17.pdf>

In the Spring ~ For Cub Scouts & their parent(s)

April 22nd & 23rd is the Dad & Lad Campout

April 29th & 30th is the Mom & Me Campout

these are great overnight events to go to

we'll provide more details when we get them



Thinking of those who thought of us first



Remembering those who have taught us the true meaning of giving...



2017 Pinewood Derby

Time to start thinking about what you want to drive for the Derby this year

If you need help the ANDERSONS have an annual Pinewood Derby Clinic on the first Saturday in January (7th). All you will need to do is draw your car design on the block (when you get it this winter) and bring it in to the ANDERSONS for help.

Pack 208 Pinewood Derby is **February 18th** at the EPIC Center; the race schedule will be posted in February. If anyone has schedule conflicts please let your Den Leader know so we can try to schedule the Dens for everyone's best interest.

The Swan Creek District Pinewood Derby will be March, date to be posted soon. Sounds like the same rules as last year and it will be at the Springfield HS Fieldhouse again this year. Should be another great year for the races!



Red Wing Hockey for Scouts

Sunday, March 26th vs Minnesota

Monday, April 3rd vs Ottawa

For information or to buy tickets:

<http://redwings.ice.nhl.com/club/page.htm?id=114106>

<https://www.formstack.com/forms/?1088038-S1whlNKunt>

Cub Scout Day Camp 2017 @ Camp Miakonda

Week 1 June 19th thru 23rd Early Bird is \$149

Week 2 June 26th thru 30th pay by 5/12/17

Week 3 July 10th thru 14th Regular is \$169

Week 4 July 17th thru 21st there will be discounts

we'll provide more details when we get them (after 1/1/17)

2017 Webelos Resident Camp Session #1

July 30th thru August 2nd @ PSR

2017 Webelos Resident Camp Session #2

August 2nd thru August 5th @ PSR

we'll provide more details when we get them

Training Opportunities

<http://swantonscouts.org/208training.html>

Interested in getting more training? Ask the Janitor if you have questions!

January Historical & Current Events

www.aboutfamouspeople.com

January 1st

Roman Emperor Julius Caesar first established January 1 as New Year's day, 46 B.C.E.
Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, 1863
Ellis Island Immigrant Station in New York formally opened, 1892



January 4th

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 10th

Thomas Paine's Common Sense was published, 1776

January 1th

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

January 12th

The Alamo, a Franciscan Mission, was built, 1722

January 13th

The Beatles US album Yellow Submarine was released, 1969



January 14th

Congress ratified the Treaty of Paris formally, 1784
Henry Ford introduced assembly line, 1914
NBC's "Today" show premiered, 1952



January 15th

First Super Bowl held, 1967

January 16th

United States Prohibition began, 1920

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
The Beatles US album *Meet The Beatles* was released, 1964

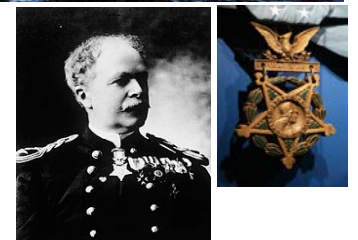


January 21st

First atomic submarine, the *Nautilus (SSN 571)*, was launched, 1954

January 24th

First United States Congressional Medal of Honor awarded, 1894, to Assistant Surgeon Bernard J.D. Irwin who actually earned over 30 years earlier (February 13-14, 1861)
First Boy Scout troop organized in England by Robert Baden-Powell, 1908



January 25th

First Emmy Awards held, 1949

January 26th

First American expeditionary force to go to Europe during WWII went ashore in Northern Ireland, 1942

January 28th

Space Shuttle *Challenger* exploded, 1986



January 29th

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

January 31st

13th Amendment to the United States Constitution, abolishing slavery was submitted, 1865

During WWII, Pvt. Eddie Slovik was the only American soldier since the Civil War to be executed for desertion, 1945