



Monthly Newsletter
Pack 208

TROOP 208

providing Scouting in Swanton since 1923



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

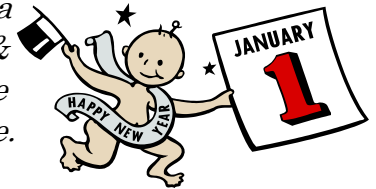
January 2020

Pictures of activities, forms, updated news at our website

www.swantonscouts.org



The Leaders of Pack 208 and Troop 208 wish everyone a very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year! Stay safe & please keep our military and emergency services people in your prayers for their safety while they can't be home.



2020 Pinewood Derby is almost here! Hopefully you're thinking about your cars!

District Rules & Regulations are provided so parents can help guide their Scout in his efforts, the more the Scouts do to make their cars, the more fun they have and the more they will learn about wood working.

The Indiana Kentucky Ohio Regional Council of Carpenters Local #351 invite Scouts to join them for a Pinewood Derby Clinic on Saturday, January 11, 2020 and Woodcraft of Toledo is going to host a 2 day event, January 10th & 11th with special opportunities if you can't make these either of these dates. Bring your design and kit. see the attached flyer for specific details.

February 9th ~ 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 (Living Waters Alliance Church) or Mr Raven (St Richard's).

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

February 20th ~ Pack Meeting; pre-Pinewood Derby!! We'll pass out awards, recognitions and check cars!

February 22nd ~ Pack 208's Annual Pinewood Derby Location to be announced. The schedule will be posted in January. Please let Mr Raven know of any schedule issues you may have.

Cub Scouts... start your engines!

As we approach winter (hey, it's here!) 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." Safety first.

There will be no Troop meeting during the Swanton Schools Christmas break Dec 24th or 31st (2019)

For Our Older Scouts ~ Merit Badges

December 28th there is an all day Merit Badge event at Camp Miakonda - Online registration is available through the Council Website at:

<http://www.erieshorescouncil.org/mb-cm>

January Campout

January 17th thru 19th is possibly our January Campout at Seven Eagles in Grand Rapids or PSR?

Winter Weekend @ Camp Perry

February 28th - March 1st is the Swan Creek District Winter Weekend at Camp Perry themed around military training and leadership activities... sleep in the barracks

March 10th (or 24th) will be our Winter/Spring Court of Honor guys and Friends of Scouting presentation. Let's wrap up our advancements and other awards guys.

Spring Camporee @ Adams Conservation Club

April 24th - 26th, 2020 is the Swan Creek District Spring Camporee. SHOOTING SPORTS !!

PSR - Summer Camp 2019

June 28th through July 4th
Nessle Campsite just past Ecology

Plenty of time to get ready for our current and future Boy Scouts to plan for a week of Camp and Merit Badges.

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.



4 Major Military Events That Happened On Christmas

<https://www.dodlive.mil/2015/12/24/4-major-military-events-that-happened-on-christmas/>

On Christmas Day every year lots of Americans relax and enjoy time with their families. For many of our troops, though, it can be a day of sacrifice and hardship. Over the history of the U.S., several big military actions have taken place on Dec. 25. Here are four noteworthy ones. **Starting with the winter of 1776**

The winter of 1776 didn't start as a good one for Gen. George Washington's Continental Army. They suffered many defeats in the first few months of the American Revolution and had been pushed out of New York and New Jersey into Pennsylvania. For the troops, morale was low.

Washington needed to renew faith in the battle for independence, so he decided to surprise the Hessians – German troops hired by the British – who were stationed in Trenton, New Jersey. He figured that doing so after the enemy's Christmas celebrations would find them groggy and unprepared for a fight, especially as a terrible winter storm was brewing.

So late Christmas night, Washington and his troops hopped in boats and waded across the icy Delaware River to test his theory – and he was right. At dawn on Dec. 26, about 2,400 frozen Continentals pushed into Trenton, and they did indeed surprise the enemy, who surrendered within an hour and a half.

The mission, which became known as the Battle of Trenton, was of huge significance to the Continental Army's cause. Not only did it raise the troops' spirits, but it revived the hope of the colonists, who were beginning to think their battle for independence wasn't feasible.

1864: The First Battle of Fort Fisher

For most of the Civil War, North Carolina's Fort Fisher saw very little combat. But that changed on Christmas 1864, when the Union decided it wanted to capture the last port the Confederates held on the Atlantic Ocean.

It was a debacle for the north.

First, the Union tried to pack a warship with explosives and blow up the fort's walls – but that didn't work. It just blew up their ship and alerted the Confederates of an imminent attack. So on Christmas Eve, the Union tried again, bombarding the fort with heavy gunfire, most of which fell short or missed its target. On Christmas morning, Union commanders decided to shell an area north of the fort so troops could land and come ashore. But when they did, more disappointment followed – the fort's heavy artillery was completely unscathed, so that was a no-go, too. It was only then that the Union ordered troops to retreat.

While the first Battle of Fort Fisher was a massive failure for the Union, the second wasn't. In mid-January 1865, Union troops were finally able to capture the fort, effectively cutting the Confederates off from all global trade and supplies. The Civil War ended three months later.



a B-52 Stratofortress Bomber

1972: Operation Linebacker II in North Vietnam

American troops were in the middle of the biggest bombing mission in military history during the Christmas season of 1972. The air campaign, called Operation Linebacker II, has largely been considered the action that ended U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War.

President Richard Nixon ordered the bombings to begin on Dec. 18 after North Vietnamese delegates walked out on peace talks. Nicknamed the "11 Days of Christmas," the operation consisted of 11 successive days of raids by B-52 Stratofortress bombers flown in from Andersen Air Force Base in Guam.

The only day that both sides got a reprieve was Christmas, when troops were given a 36-hour break to celebrate. During that time, Nixon ordered the North Vietnamese to return to the bargaining table. They refused, so the bombings continued more ferociously until Dec. 29, when they finally agreed to resume peace talks.

In 11 days, Linebacker II dropped 15,000 tons of bombs via 729 U.S. Air Force sorties involving about 12,000 airmen. Defense Department records show the raids destroyed or damaged 1,600 structures, 500 rail targets, 10 airfields and 80 percent of North Vietnam's electric-generating capacity. Fifteen U.S. B-52s were also destroyed in the process, killing 35 men and leading to the capture of nearly 40 American prisoners of war.

The resumed peace talks that came from the campaign led to the Paris Peace Accords in January 1973. The U.S. ended its involvement in the war soon after, but the last American troops wouldn't leave the country for another two years.

The 4th event ? Maybe not major, but on the next page...

Upcoming Activities



Cub Scout Programs

Another year with Imagination Station providing great programs!

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

The program is new this year where the Cub Scouts schedule the program they want with Imagination Station; it can be at your site or theirs. In some cases, it will be required to be there due to materials needed for the program.

Registration is open NOW - great den activities!

And a couple new programs this year too!

<https://www.imaginationstationtoledo.org/workshops-camps/scout-workshops/girl-scouts-workshops>



2019 - 2020 Season Dates are OUT !

<https://www.toledowalleye.com/en/tickets/scout-experience>

Friday January 10th

Friday January 31st = SCOUT SLEEPOVER NIGHT

Parent & Pal Overnight @ Camp Miakonda

For our Cub Scouts & Parents ~ May 2nd/3rd, 2020
more details when they are available

Camping: Miakonda Cub Day Camp

		Save the Dates Cub Scout Day Camp 2020
		Week 1 June 15-19 Week 2 June 22-26 Week 3 July 6-10 Week 4 July 13-17
		Tiger Overnighter June 26-27 (for current Lion Scouts & parents)
		Webelos Overnighter July 10-11 (for current Bear Scouts & parents)
		Questions? email cmcampdirector@erishores.org

and lastly, the 4th "major" military event...

1896: "Stars and Stripes Forever" Is Written

John Philip Sousa, who grew up during the Civil War, was a talented musician who became a long-time director of the U.S. Marine Band. Known as the "March King," he was a rock star of his time, eventually starting his own band in 1892.

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The iconic song officially became America's national march in 1987.

While we all celebrate Christmas this year



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. A grateful "Thank you" for your dedication and *may God Bless you all.*



the 2020 District Pinewood Derby...

Saturday March 14th, 2020
Springfield High School

Mr Raven will pass out information to all of our Cub Scouts (and their parents) who either win, come in 2nd or are declared the "Best Design" car for this event at our Pack Pinewood Derby.

I don't know about the Cub Scouts, but I do know the Pack Leaders look forward to the Pack's Pinewood Derby every year to admire the creative car designs the Scouts come up with. Good luck guys!

If any adults are interested in helping, we are always willing to talk, ask us!

January Historical & Current Events

January 1st

Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, 1863



January 2nd

United States & Canada reached free trade agreement, 1988



January 4th

United States planes shot down two Libyan fighters, 1989



January 7th

Galileo Galilei sighted four of Jupiter's moons., 1610



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

London's Metropolitan; World's first underground railway, opened to the public, 1863



January 12th

The first public museum in United States (South Carolina) established, 1773

January 14th

Henry Ford introduced assembly line, 1914

NBC's "Today" show premiered, 1952



January 16th

United States Civil Service was established, 1883

"Hello Dolly!" opened on Broadway, 1964



January 17th

Brink's Inc. reported robbery of \$2.8 million, 1950

January 20th

Pearl Harbor leased by the United States from Hawaii for naval station, 1887

January 21st

First atomic submarine, the Nautilus, was launched, 1954



January 23rd

USS Pueblo seized by North Koreans, 1968

January 24th

Gold was discovered in California, 1848

First United States Congressional Medal of Honor awarded, 1894

First Boy Scout troop organized in England by Robert Baden-Powell, 1908



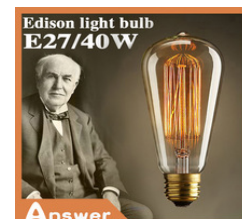
January 26th

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

January 27th

Thomas Edison received a patent for his electric incandescent lamp, 1880

End of Military Draft announced, 1973



January 30th

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

General Robert E. Lee named general-in-chief of all Confederate armies, 1865