



Monthly Newsletter Pack 208

TROOP 208

providing Scouting in Swanton since 1923



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

February 2022

Pictures of activities, forms, updated news at our website

www.swantonscouts.org

February 6th ~ 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 or Mr Raven (St Richard's) for Scout Sunday's services

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

February 17th - Pack Meeting

Awards and a chance to check your cars!



February 19th @ 9am Pack 208's Annual Pinewood Derby

Our Pack Meeting will tentatively be on February 19th at the American Legion Hall with the use of the Legion's Screen & projector again.

we will be videotaping the races again this year

March 17th ~ Blue & Gold Banquet

What will it bring? As with the rest of this year, we'll find out when we get closer... how sweet it is???

April ... Cross Over? Webelos can cross over earlier if they wish; the Troop will gladly welcome them earlier.

(tentative) Parent & Pal Overnight @ Camp Miakonda

April 23rd & 24th check out details at the Council's website @ www.erieshorescouncil.org/parentpal

Cub Day Camp 2022 @ Camp Miakonda

Scheduled for 5 different weeks in June & July details @ www.erieshorescouncil.org/cdc

(tentative) CDC: Miakonda Webelos Overnight

not scheduled yet, but something to look for... last year in May, tentatively again this year in May future details @ www.erieshorescouncil.org/webover

PACK Committee Leader Meeting Feb 1st @ 8:00pm

Winter Weekend at Camp Miakonda

Currently this looks like a one day event on February 12th The District's Winter Camporee is fully scheduled yet, but we're looking at doing the entire weekend anyways in a cabin. More details to follow

The District's Spring Camporee is not scheduled yet, we will keep watching for it and pass that along as soon as we have the information

March 15th is our Spring Court of Honor

Awards & Recognition time for our Scouts. EVERYONE is welcome, the whole family!

PSR - Summer Camp 2022

July 3rd through July 9th

Nessle Campsite just past Ecology



This year we're looking at "Plan C" dining where we will plan and provide our own meals in camp.

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.

BSA is celebrating its 112th anniversary... some famous Scouts in the history of the program (Eagle Scout year):

- Arthur Eldred, Navy Veteran
- Charles McGee, Fighter Pilot, Tuskegee Airman
- Sam Walton, founder of Walmart
- Stephen Bechtel, Jr, founder of Bechtel Corp
- Jimmy Stewart, Actor and Army Pilot
- George Strait, Country Musician
- John Wayne, Actor
- Percy Sutton, Civil Rights leader & Tuskegee Airman
- Hank Aaron, baseball Hall of Famer
- Steve Young, former NFL quarterback & broadcaster
- Steve Fossett, record setting aviator

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."



Something out of our History... by Matt Grills

The Bravery of four Chaplains

<http://www.legion.org/library/6245/bravery-four-chaplains>



On Feb. 3, 1943, the United States Army Transport *Dorchester* - a converted luxury liner - was crossing the North Atlantic, transporting more than 900 troops to an American base in Greenland. Aboard the ship were four chaplains of different faiths: Reverend George Fox (Methodist), Jewish Rabbi Alexander Goode, Reverend Clark Poling (Dutch Reformed) and Father John Washington (Roman Catholic).



Around 12:55 a.m., a German U-boat fired a torpedo that struck *Dorchester's* starboard side, below the water line and near the engine room. The explosion instantly killed 100 men and knocked out power and radio communication with *Dorchester's* three escort ships. Within 20 minutes, the transport sank and more than 670 men died.

As soldiers rushed to lifeboats, the four chaplains spread out, comforting the wounded and directing others to safety. One survivor, Private William Bednar, later said, "I could hear men crying, pleading, praying. I could also hear the chaplains' preaching courage. Their voices were the only thing that kept me going."



Another survivor, John Ladd, watched the chaplains' distribute life jackets, and when they ran out, they removed theirs and gave them to four young men. "It was the finest thing I have seen, or hope to see, this side of heaven," he recalled.

As *Dorchester* sank, the chaplains were seen linked arm in arm, praying.

Fox, Goode, Poling and Washington were posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross and the Purple Heart, and in 1948, Congress declared Feb. 3 to be Four Chaplains Day. The four chaplains were also honored with a U.S. postage stamp that year.



Because of the Medal of Honor's strict requirements of heroism under fire, Congress authorized a one-time Chaplain's Medal for Heroism on July 14, 1960. The award was presented to the chaplains' next of kin Jan. 18, 1961.

On Feb. 3, 1951, President Truman dedicated a chapel in the chaplains' honor at Grace Baptist Church in Philadelphia. When the building was sold, the chapel fell into disrepair, and the foundation overseeing the chapel moved it to the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard in 2001. The chapel was repaired in 2004 and given the name Chapel of the Four Chaplains.



In 2006, at The American Legion's 88th National Convention in Salt Lake City, the National Executive Committee passed a resolution that supported awarding the Medal of Honor to Fox, Goode, Poling and Washington.



Every year, American Legion posts nationwide remember Four Chaplains Day with memorial services. To request information on how to conduct a Four Chaplains Memorial Service, contact Charles Graybiel (cgraybiel@legion.org) of the Americanism and Children & Youth Division at (317) 630-1212.

Learn more about the four chaplains by visiting The Immortal Chaplains Foundation (www.immortalchaplains.org) and The Four Chaplains Memorial Foundation (www.fourchaplains.org).

February Historical & Current Events

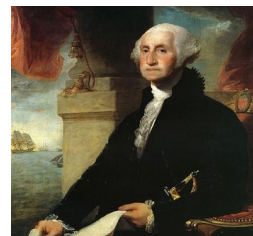
February 2nd

- New Amsterdam, now New York City, was incorporated, 1653
- Patent for the "Bottle Cap" received, 1892



February 4th

- George Washington was appointed President of the Constitutional Convention, 1782



February 5th

- The first double-feature theatrical performance held, 1819



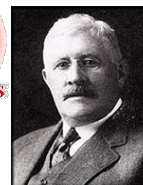
February 7th

- The Beatles first United States visit began in New York, 1964



February 8th

- Federal gold purchase of \$62 million made by United States Treasury Dept., 1895
- The Boy Scouts of America was incorporated, 1910; brought to the USA by Dr William Boyce.



February 10th

- The National Executive Board approves the Cub program "controlled experiment"; Packs can register with the BSA starting April 1, 1930 (5,102 boys, 1,433 pack leaders and 243 packs are registered in 1930 the first year), 1930

February 13th

- New Federal Ironclad "*Indianola*" began its journey, 1863

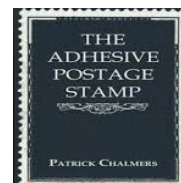


February 14th

- American ship "*Ranger*" carried the Stars and Stripes to a foreign port for the first time as it arrived in France, 1778

February 15th

- The first adhesive postage stamps were introduced, 1842



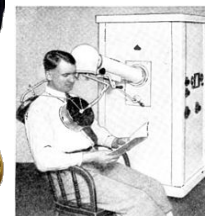
February 16th

- General Ulysses S. Grant earned his nickname of "Unconditional Surrender Grant," following the surrender of Confederates at Ft. Donelson, 1862
- Fidel Castro became premier of Cuba, 1959



February 17th

- The first ship passed through Suez Canal, 1867
- The first issue of *Newsweek* Magazine was published, 1933



February 19th

- Thomas Edison received his patent for the phonograph, 1878
- Navy Distinguished Service Medal authorized, 1919 (heats the body without direct contact)
- Diathermy machine first used, 1929

February 20th

- Astronaut John Glenn, became the first American to orbit the Earth aboard the *Friendship VII* Mercury capsule, 1962

February 21st

- The Washington Monument was dedicated, 1885



February 22nd

- Spain ceded Florida to the United States, 1819
- Frank Winfield Woolworth opened a 5-cent store in Utica, New York, 1879



February 24th

- Supreme Court overturned United States law for first time, 1803



Ultimate Air Combat Story

This came from a gentleman who runs a 2,000-acre corn farm up around Barron, WI, not far from Oshkosh. He used to fly USAF F-4Es and F-16s and participated in the first Gulf War.



His story:

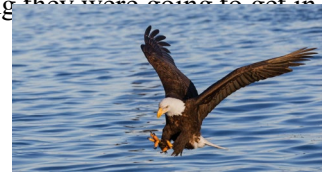


I went out to plant corn for a bit, to finish a field before tomorrow morning and witnessed 'The Great Battle'. A golden eagle -- big, with about a six-foot wingspan - flew right in front of the tractor.

It was being chased by three crows that were continually dive bombing it and pecking at it. The crows do this because the eagles rob their nests when they find them.

At any rate, the eagle banked hard right in one evasive maneuver, then landed in the field about 100 feet from the tractor. This eagle stood about 3 feet tall. The crows all landed too and took up positions around the eagle at 120 degrees apart, but kept their distance at about 20 feet from the big bird. The eagle would take a couple steps towards one of the crows and they'd hop backwards and forward to keep their distance.

Then the reinforcement showed up. I happened to spot the eagle's mate hurtling down out of the sky at what appeared to be approximately Mach 1.5. Just before impact, the eagle on the ground took flight, (obviously a coordinated tactic; probably pre-briefed) and the three crows that were watching the grounded eagle also took flight -- thinking they were going to get in some more pecking on the big bird.



The first crow being targeted by the diving eagle never stood a snowball's chance in heck. There was a mid-air explosion of black feathers, and that crow was done.

The diving eagle then banked hard left in what had to be a 9G climbing turn, using the energy it had accumulated in the dive, and hit crow #2 less than two seconds later. Another crow dead. The grounded eagle, which was now airborne and had an altitude advantage on the remaining crow that was streaking eastward in full burner, made a short dive, then banked hard right when the escaping crow tried to evade the hit.

It didn't work - crow #3 bit the dust at about 20 feet AGL.

This aerial battle was better than any air show I've been to, including the War Birds show at Oshkosh. As I got closer and closer working my way across the field, I passed within 20 feet of one of them. It stopped and looked at me as I went by, and you could see in the look of that bird that it knew who's Boss of the Sky. What a beautiful bird!

POPEYE the Sailor Man really existed...



His real name was Frank "Rocky" Fiegel. He was born in 1868 in Poland and, as a child, immigrated to the United States with his parents, who settled down in a small town in Illinois. As a young man, Rocky went to sea. After a 20-year career as a sailor in the Merchant Marines, Fiegel retired. He was later hired by Wiebusch's Tavern in the city of Chester, Illinois as a 'Bouncer' to maintain order in the rowdy bar.

Rocky quickly developed a reputation for always being involved in fighting (and usually winning). As a result, he had a deformed eye ("Pop-eye"). He also 'always' smoked his pipe, so he always spoke out of one side of his mouth. In his spare time as a Bouncer, Rocky would entertain the customers by regaling them with exciting stories of adventures he claimed to have had over his career as a sailor crossing the 'Seven Seas.'

The creator of Popeye, Elzie Crisler Segar, grew up in Chester and, as a young man, met Rocky at the tavern and would sit for hours listening to the old sailor's amazing 'sea' stories.' Years later, Segar became a cartoonist and developed a comic strip called 'Thimble Theater.' He honored Fiegel by asking if he could model his new comic strip character, 'Popeye the Sailor Man,' after him. Naturally, Fiegel was flattered and agreed.

Segar claimed that 'Olive Oyl,' along with other characters, was also loosely based on an actual person. She was Dora Paskel, owner of a small grocery store in Chester. She apparently actually looked much like the Olive Oyl character in his comics. He claimed she even dressed much the same way..