



# Irons in the Fire

The Newsletter of Boy Scout Troop 188

September 2008

## Chartered by

Christ Lutheran Church  
41 S. Rohlwing Road  
Palatine IL 60074-6459

## Troop 188 web site

<http://troop-188.org>

## Scoutmaster

Mark Mitchell  
[scoutmaster@troop-188.org](mailto:scoutmaster@troop-188.org)

## Committee Chair

Beth Stowick  
[beth.s@troop-188.org](mailto:beth.s@troop-188.org)

## Membership

Hal Hilmer  
[hal.h@troop-188.org](mailto:hal.h@troop-188.org)

## Scout parents!

*Please stop in when dropping off or picking up your Scout.*

*Information tables are set up at the bottom of the stairs, with notices, forms, and other useful information. You may also submit fee payments and permission slips to the waiting volunteers.*

*Please note that volunteers are always needed to help out with Scout activities and with driving to and from campouts.*

*Driving scouts to a campout, attending committee meetings, becoming an assistant leader, and taking pictures are just some of the ways you can help keep Troop 188 active and viable!*

*Next committee meeting:*

*Wednesday, October 8th*

## Chemistry Merit Badge

Any registered Boy Scout, age 10 to 18, can complete all the requirements for the Chemistry Merit Badge in a two session workshop.

The first session includes laboratory experience at any one of three locations:

- College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn
- Oakton Community College in Des Plaines
- College of Lake County in Grayslake

The second session will be held on October 25 at Loyola University in Chicago and is *required* for completion of this merit badge.

Register with the Chicago Section American Chemical Society to indicate the location at which your Scout will be attending the first session. Go to:

[membership.acs.org/C/Chicago/](http://membership.acs.org/C/Chicago/)

Scroll down to the "Education" section. The first "Merit Badge" link provides the dates and times for the first session; the second link leads to the registration form.

Registration Instructions will be sent to each registrant prior to the workshop. Class size is limited at each location, so please register early. The registration deadline is October 1.

There is *no charge* for this workshop. Sign up now to take advantage of this great opportunity!

## Popcorn Sales

This fall's popcorn sales period has begun! The Brucks are storing the popcorn for site sales. Please contact Mary Brucks at [mary.b@troop-188.org](mailto:mary.b@troop-188.org) for:

- popcorn pick-up for site sales
- dates and times for site sales
- extra order forms for door-to-door sales

If you are engaging in door-to-door sales, please keep Ms. Brucks advised of your orders, so that additional stock, as needed, may be obtained from the popcorn vendor.

Please note the following *correction* to the fundraiser minimums:

- \$400 for first Scout in family
- \$300 for second Scout
- \$200 for third Scout

Families with four or more Scouts doing fundraising need only raise \$900 between all their Scouts. This minimum applies to the *combined* total raised selling popcorn in the fall and wreaths in the winter.

Fundraising helps the troop keep the costs of outings low, and pays the costs for our leaders to attend. Fundraising is also needed to buy or replace supplies, such as tents that have been damaged. Fundraising helped purchase our troop trailer, and now helps to pay for upkeep (such as this year's new tires) and repairs. Please do your part!

—Beth Stowick



**Scouts:** Please remember to wear your Class A Scout uniform:

- whenever you are representing Troop 188 or the BSA,
- when you are doing your service hours,
- when you are traveling to or from a Scout outing or a camp, and
- when you are meeting with a Merit-Badge counselor or a Review Board.

Thank you!

#### Need a form?

On the Troop 188 web site, the following forms are available for download and printing:

- Class 1 & 2 Medical Form
- Class 3 Medical Form
- Medicine Administration Form
- general Event Permission Form
- Medical Release Form

Go to [troop-188.org](http://troop-188.org) and click on "Forms". The documents are provided in PDF form.

## Troop E-mails

Do you need to contact someone, but you don't have his phone number? Do you need to ask a question, but don't have your leader's e-mail address?

All Troop members have been assigned an e-mail "alias" of the form (first name).(initial of last name)@troop-188.org. So John Q. Public's Troop e-mail would be "john.p@troop-188.org". The mail-handler for the Troop's web site will then forward any mail sent to Mr. Public's Troop address to the address he provided for the Troop roster.

If you have not furnished an e-mail address, please do so at your earliest convenience, as much of the inter-Troop communication (such as this newsletter) is anticipated to be converted to electronic distribution.

Thank you!

## Thinking About Summer Camp

Summer camp in 2008 was wonderfully successful! We started the week with twenty-four Scouts, and lost only one (due to illness). Our Scouts attempted 118 Merit Badges, of which ninety-four were completed and another twenty-four were partially completed. The most popular badges were:

- sculpture (14)
- geology (13)
- swimming (12)
- canoeing (8)
- wood carving (7)
- metalwork (6)

Over the course of the week, Scouts told me that they were having a great time. Some Scouts experienced some homesickness, but we were generally able to successfully intervene.

Special thanks go to:

- Mrs. Norman, for helping to keep us organized, and for sharing her special "mothering touch" when needed,
- Mr. Brown, for demonstrating dedication by attending the camp, even though his son did not,
- Mr. Kunstbeck, for always being willing to pick up the odd jobs at the last moment (and for keeping the trailer from plowing into the cement barricade at the toll booth),
- Mr. Karkos, for his saintly patience with the boys, without which we might have returned with far fewer scouts than we'd begun, and
- Mr. Heinrichs, Mr. Hilmer, and Mr. Brucks, for sharing in supervising the boys, for transporting gear, and for generally helping to keep things running smoothly.

Please start thinking *now* about attending or assisting with next summer's Camp Napowan.

—Dan McCoy

## Troop Meetings & Events

September 30: meeting at Palatine Library for those interested in planning or First Aid Meet subcommittee (7 pm; open to all)

October 8: Monthly Committee Meeting (Wednesday, 7:30 pm)

October 17-19: The Feast at Camp Alphonse (three-day campout, \$20)

October 25: Haunted Hike (attend at own convenience; \$5)

November 12: Monthly Committee Meeting (Wednesday, 7:30 pm)

November 14-16: Howell Shooting Camp (campout, \$TBA)

December 10: Monthly Committee Meeting (Wednesday, 7:30 pm)

December 13: First Aid Meet (day trip; no cost, but volunteers needed!)

December 19-20: Climbing Wall Lock-in (overnight, \$TBA)