



Smoke Signals

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Last Chance to Doze With the Dinos!

As we go to print the Prairie Trail Federation has over 300 people scheduled to attend Dozin' with the Dinos at the Field Museum on Friday, February 24th. Due to the strong demand for this event, the Field Museum has increased our allotment to 350 spaces, but they are going fast. Log on to the web site (www.yigp.org) today to confirm your attendance, print a parking pass and obtain general information regarding the event. And thanks to all of you who have already signed up. It's going to be positively prehistoric!!

Native American Facts

Have you ever heard of the Dawes Act? Enacted by Congress in the late 1800s, the Act was supposed to help Native Americans, but instead proved disastrous. See page 2 for more details.

Vroom, Vroom—Pinewood Derby is March 12

The annual Pinewood Derby is scheduled for Sunday, March 12 at the RichPort Y. Cars are \$5 each (and you dads know you'll need at least one for "practice," so plan accordingly), and will be on sale at the Longhouse meetings in February and March. As usual, there will be champions crowned for each grade from K-4 and Trailblazers, as well as a custom car competition and a funny car race. Registration begins at noon, first race at 12:45, and refreshments will be available.

At the January Longhouse, Nation Chief and Pinewood Derby stalwart Larry Wilson noted that he would "round up the usual suspects" to help out with the event, but Larry is always happy to have any additional hands, so if your tribe is interested in assisting, give him a call at (708) 246-6584.

NEXT LONGHOUSE

February 6, 2006

**Board and
Nation Chiefs 7:00 PM**

Tribal Chiefs 8:15 PM

**Remember to bring cash for
your tribe's Pinewood cars!**

HAPPY GROUNDHOG DAY!!



BE MY VALENTINE!!



Trailblazers Whirlyball Event Coming Up

On Sunday, March 5, the Trailblazers will be making the trek to Lombard for their annual Whirlyball event. Whirlyball combines elements of old favorites like basketball and new, hot sports like lacrosse, for a one of a kind experience. Nation Chief Bob Konold needs your RSVP by February 26, and keep in mind that the venue requires kids to be at least 11 years old. Please see the enclosed flyer for registration information.

Attention, Bracket Busters-Fellowship Night is March 18

Saturday, March 18 is the date for the second annual Dad's NCAA Fellowship Night at the Village Club of Western Springs. The word of mouth on last year's event was so positive that Nation Chief Andy Signa is expecting a sellout crowd for this year. There will be numbers pools for the tournament, plenty of card tables (including the ubiquitous Texas hold 'em), food, drinks, and good times. Only the first 225 get in, so don't delay!

**Remember to Honor Our Presidents
On February 20th**



Still Seeking Golf Sponsors

Nation Chief Alan Rodriguez is still looking for a few good men (or women, or whatever) to sponsor holes and prizes for this year's golf outing at Flagg Creek on June 16. Give Alan a call at (708) 588-1317 for details.



Native American Facts

The Dawes Act, enacted in 1887, was designed to merge Native Americans into white society. Under the act, tribal members were required to own the land they were living on, violating centuries of custom whereby most tribes believed that no one "owned" the land. However, most of the land allotted was too dry to farm, and poor sanitation and disease made life difficult. By 1934, Native Americans owned less than 65% of their original reservation holdings.

Source: suite101.com/article.cfm/history_oto_tribe/94622

Federation Website: www.yigp.org

Log on and check it out!