



# Smoke Signals

A Publication of the Prairie Trail Federation  
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## Uncle Black Cloud Wants You!

Pretty catchy recruiting slogan, don't you think? OK, no, but no matter—this year, the level of participation at Prairie Trail Federation events has been phenomenal, and we want to build on that momentum by holding our first Trailblazer Pow-Wow! On April 28, the Trailblazer Nation Chiefs will be hosting a fun-filled day of activities, including bowling, bean bag toss, and that perennial mainstay, Capture the Flag! The fun starts at 2:00 PM at the Village Club of Western Springs, with a barbeque from 5:00 to 7:00. A lot of Federation Dads don't really know a lot about the Trailblazers program, and how it differs from the Guides and Princess programs that they've grown up in, and this event is designed to give everyone exposure to the cool things that the Trailblazers are doing.

Now, at the risk of sounding like Ron Popeil, how much would *you* pay for that kind of entertainment? Well, don't think too hard, because this Pow-Wow is **absolutely free!!** Just show up and join in on the fun. Information on the TB program will be available for your perusal, and the enclosed flyer has directions to the club and more details. We hope to see everyone there! And don't forget the Trailblazers spring campout at the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Camp in Oregon, IL May 18-20—more details to follow!

### Giving Tree Facts

A small departure from "Native American Facts" tradition: our annual Giving Tree promotion will be carried out at the spring campouts. Do you know who wrote "The Giving Tree"? Check out the next page.

## Golfers, Sponsors Wanted for Flagg Creek Outing

Nation Chief Alan Rodriguez and his band of volunteers are still looking for individuals, foursomes and sponsors for our annual Federation golf outing at Flagg Creek on Friday, June 8. Tee times are available from 1:00 to 3:00 PM, and if you're not a golfer, by all means, come just for dinner and prizes! This remains the federation's primary fundraiser for the year, so check out the flyer!

### NEXT LONGHOUSE

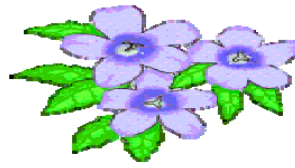
**April 2, 2007**

Board and Nation Chiefs 7:00 PM  
Tribal Chiefs 8:15 PM

REMEMBER: LONGHOUSE IS AT  
THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH

APRIL SHOWERS....





...BRING MAY  
FLOWERS!

### ***Whirly Ball on April 15!***

The Trailblazer Whirly Ball Outing, scheduled for Sunday, April 15, in Lombard, is filling up fast, so for all of you folks who are looking to take out a little aggression (think bumper cars and lacrosse wickets), be sure to contact Nation Chief Bob Konold and get registered ASAP! Guides and Princesses are also welcome, but remember, you need to be at least 11 years old to play. The first of what promises to be many rounds kicks off at 1:45, and for a mere \$20, you're guaranteed 3 hours of fun! Snacks, drinks, and video games will also be available if you bring a few extra bucks.

### ***And if That's Not Enough...***

If you don't think that you worked off enough energy at Whirly Ball (or maybe wickets on wheels aren't your cup of tea), then come on out for the Trailblazers' annual Paintball outing on Saturday, April 21. As we noted last month, the festivities are scheduled for the Fox Paintball facility (website is [www.foxpaintball.com](http://www.foxpaintball.com)) just west of Plainfield. For your \$45 fee, you get all the equipment you need, protective gear, and 1,000 rounds of paintballs, but if you're really into this extreme sport and prefer to bring your own, feel free! We need your reservations by April 10 to guarantee a slot, so don't delay—call Chiefs Eric Sundstrom and Gene Peters for more info!

### **MARK JUNE 2<sup>ND</sup> ON YOUR CALENDARS!**

The annual LaGrange Pet Parade is scheduled, as always, for the first Saturday in June—early this year, June 2. As has become our custom, the Federation will have an outing later in the day to see the Kane County Cougars take on a Midwest League opponent, complete with food, fireworks, and pulled hamstrings on the bases! Stay tuned for details!!



### **Giving Tree Facts**

The short story "The Giving Tree," first published in 1964, was written and illustrated by Shel Silverstein. The book has been translated into more than 30 languages and tells the story of a relationship between a young boy and a tree in a forest, describing how the tree loves the boy, and helps the boy with his needs throughout his life, from the boy's childhood until his golden years. In our Federation, the story represents our commitment to serve others with generosity and selflessness. Please remember at your spring campout that the Federation is depending on your tribe to continue our tradition of community outreach. The Federation Board thanks you for your generosity!

Federation Website: [www.yigp.org](http://www.yigp.org)

**Log on and check it out!**