



Smoke Signals

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And, They're Off!!!

Off to school, anyway. And soccer practice, fall baseball, football, lacrosse, swimming, band, cub scouts, brownies, and...

Indian Guides, Princesses, and Trailblazers!

By the time you receive this newsletter, the 2007-08 Prairie Trail Federation Guide, Princess, and Trailblazer programs are well underway.

- The annual Bike Hike and Picnic was held on September 9th. Brezina Woods was the location for an afternoon of biking fun, Native American history, raffles, games, live music, and lots of free food. Big "How How" to Nation Chief Joe Miller for coordinating this event!
- Fall campouts have already begun. The Trailblazers visited Camp Tecumseh, with its many wonderful activities. They also sampled the night life in nearby Monticello, with its bowling alley, go-cart track, and drive-in theater. Sunday morning, there was a par-3 golf outing for all. Thanks to Nation Chief John Gosiewski for running the campout!

***Special Note regarding Trailblazers:**

All 4th graders in our Guide and Princess programs have a dual membership in the Trailblazer program. Don't worry; there are many more Trailblazer events coming your way!

Sleep With the Fishes...An Offer You Can't Refuse!

You won't find Luca Brasi, and (most likely) anyone named Corleone at the Shedd Aquarium Sleepover, Friday, November 16th. What you will find is a great opportunity to spend some quality time your family, along with some of our fine finned friends. You will also find that this is to be a very popular event, and the 250 spots will sell out rather quickly. So, find the enclosed flyer and mail your registration to Nation Chief **Brian Klimes** today! Tell him the Don sent you.

Native American Quiz

What is the Algonquian Indian word for "field of garlic?"

How about their word for "tribe of superior men?"

Flip to the next page to see the answers.

Mark your Calendars and Watch for Details...

Of the upcoming Federation event at the Theatre of Western Springs. On **Thursday, December 6**, at 7pm, the Federation will be given a private showing of *James and the Giant Peach*. Details have yet to be finalized, but we have historically had:

- an evening of great family-friendly theatre,
- a cookie-and-cocoa reception,
- a meet and greet of the show's cast, which included many current and former Guides and Princesses
- a visit from the guy with the white beard and red suit!

You don't want to miss this Federation **family** event!

Attention all Artists!

Federation Sandpainter Paul DiVittorio would like to remind you that we will be continuing the Patch Design Contest for campouts and various Federation events. This is your chance to be immortalized by having your artwork sewn onto thousands of vests! We'll keep you posted as to upcoming opportunities.

By the Way...

When I say things like, "We'll keep you posted," or, "Watch for details," it means not only to look forward to future *Smoke Signals*, but also to check out our web site, www.vigp.org. Our Web Weavers do an awesome job of keeping the web site up to date. Check it out today!

Native American Quiz Answer Sheet

The Algonquian word for "field of garlic" is "Chicago."

The Algonquian word for "tribe of superior men" is "Illinois."

Source: *O Brave New Words! Native American Loanwords in Current English*, by Charles L. Cutler.

***Have You Sent in Your Registration for the
2007-08 Season???***