



# PIONEER TIMES

TROOP 196

FEBRUARY 2007

## SCOUTMASTER CORNER

Robert Louis Stevenson, the famous author of Treasure Island and Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde suffered throughout his life from respiratory illness and died of tuberculosis at the age of 41. In spite of his considerable suffering he had twelve very positive attitude tips that he lived by that are still incredibly good rules today.

1. Make up your mind to be happy, learn to find pleasure in simple things.
2. Make the best of your circumstances. Everyone has problems. The trick is to make laughter outweigh the tears.
3. Don't take yourself too seriously, Don't think that somehow you should be protected from misfortunes that befall others.
4. You can't please everybody. Don't let criticism worry you.
5. Don't let your neighbor set your standards. Be Yourself.
6. Do the things you enjoy doing but stay out of debt.
7. Don't borrow trouble. Imaginary burdens are harder to bear than the actual ones.
8. Hate poisons the soul, so don't carry grudges, avoid people who make you unhappy.
9. Have many interests. If you can't travel, read about new places.
10. Don't hold post mortems. Don't spend your life brooding over sorrows and mistakes.
11. Do what you can for those less fortunate than yourself.
12. Keep busy at something. A busy person never has time to be unhappy.

As each of you live your life remember his advice. Your attitude towards any given situation will almost always affect you far more than the situation itself. You might

notice that all the best scouts have a good attitude in life.

Yours in Scouting,  
*Dave Mack*  
Scoutmaster  
Troop 196



## OUTINGS

We had our Klondike competition at Camp Pioneer in preparation for the District event along with Webelos from Pack 87 running a sled of their own (with a little help of course) and they did a great job! Everybody was geared up for the District Klondike and the weather

was beautiful this year, not too cold and enough snow to get a good head of steam going behind the sleds. The final results are not in yet but it doesn't look like we placed in any of the categories. From the looks of it everyone had a real good time though – we just need to sharpen up on some of those basics skills! Big thanks to all the adults who helped out at one or both events.



Danny Tosiano deserves special recognition for volunteering his services during the Red Cross Blood drive. The drive was a limited success but this will be an annual event so with a little bit of effort we might be able to get more people to participate next year

We have three scouts enrolled in the Merit Badge College which will be concluding February 10<sup>th</sup>. This is great opportunity to show up and get involved in some merit badges you might not otherwise be able to complete. Adult training is also offered.



We retired several Old Glory Banners during the Flag Retirement Ceremony at Conodoguinet Youth Park using a combination of traditional dialogues to come up with a meaningful and respectful event. If the schedule permits, we might want to include some time during the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary for a retirement ceremony.

## Troop 196 Spaghetti Dinner !!

### SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 2007

The annual Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction is always a festive affair. The date will be here before you know it so now is the time to start making plans. Contact Cheryl Mack for additional information and look for sign up sheets to volunteer time, food, and fun. Information for this event will be mailed or given separately to each scout's family. If you have items or suggestions for the *Silent Auction* please contact Cheryl Mack.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- 🏠 High Adventure Winter Backpacking February 17-18 14 year olds and above.
- 🏠 February 19<sup>th</sup> Presidents Day Holiday  
----- NO TROOP MEETING -----
- 🏠 Troop Committee Meeting February 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Navy Depot Officer's Club just inside the Sporting Hill gate from 7:00-8:00 pm (come for dinner from 6-7).

- 🏠 Ski Trip February 24th. See sign up table for details.
- 🏠 Patrol Leaders Council February 26th 7-8 pm at the Scoutmaster's house.
- 🏠 March 2-4 Winter Camp Out Pine Grove Furnace isn't open yet but we should be able to find an alternate site.
- 🏠 March 17<sup>th</sup> Spaghetti Dinner
- 🏠 March 23-25 Camp Pioneer Survival Camping Experience!
- 🏠 September 23 (Sunday)  
Troop 196 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration!!

### PRE-PLANNING SIGN UP

All the events nominated during the planning weekend that did not make it on the calendar are on a sheet posted on the sign up table. As soon as two adults and two scouts have committed to an event and contacted the Scoutmaster to set a date, the outing can be approved by the Troop Committee. At least one adult must be registered and trained.



### SCOUTING BOWL-A-THON !!

APRIL 29<sup>TH</sup>

Each Scout or adult who raises a minimum of \$25.00 can bowl two games, shoes included; earn a patch and prizes for top fund raisers. ~50% of the proceeds will go directly to Troop 196 funds.