

*"On Guard  
Since 1986"*

# Winter Camp News

*"Traditionally Unconventional"*

*December 27,  
2011*

## Winter Camp XXXV News—Precamp Edition

# Welcome To Winter Camp XXXV!

Members of the Mahican Chapter of Noquet Lodge, Order of the Arrow, will make their annual rendezvous with winter adventure by dominating the landscape of Beaver Creek subcamp at D-A Scout Ranch from December 27-31, 2011. Over 20 Winter Campers are expected to strain the capacities of Beaver Creek and Clearwater cabins. Youth leader Josh Cicotte and adviser Steve Donohue head a leadership team with over 100 previous Winter Camp experiences.

While the cost of Winter Camp has lagged behind inflation, the program continues to improve. Winter Camp is a culinary delight, and because many foods are prepared from scratch, an outstanding and sometimes unusual menu is prepared at budget prices. Lunches this year have been planned in line with a credo provided two years ago by Winter Camp pioneer Steve Donohue: "Lunch should not take more time to prepare than it does to eat." Winter Camp XXV was noted for the largest banquet in Arrow history, which served 162 different dishes. While that meal was a one-time experience (deservedly so), the menu and program for Winter Camp XXXV promise their own memorable moments.

This year's theme is "Defenders of the Earth", and will provide you with four—count them, *four*—chances to save the world. Winter Camp has been the home of deluxe camping for over a third of a century, and this year's theme just makes official what experienced campers have known since their first camp: Winter Camp's tradition of excess makes the year's last weekette well worth the wait.

## Today's Schedule

(All times WCST)

12:00 N	Blind Lunch
1:00 PM	Majority Rules
2:00 PM	Four-Way Volleyball
3:30 PM	Armageddon
6:00 PM	Willy Wonka Meal
7:30 PM	Saving the Earth: Zombie Apocalypse
9:30 PM	Bakeathon Part 1
11:00 PM	Bakery Snack
12:00 M	Quiet Time

## Gastronomic Delights

Winter Camp XXXV will kick off with the **Blind Lunch**. That's blindfolded eating, not cooking or serving. This meal theme makes its fifth Winter Camp appearance this year' it debuted in 1984 at Winter Camp VIII.

The **Willy Wonka Meal** to be served tonight requires that everything—including plates and eating utensils—be edible. The Mexican menu is particularly well-suited to this theme, which was first presented at Winter Camp XVI.

Round One of baking tonight will culminate with the **Bakery Snack**. The Winter Camp kitchen is well-known for its extensive baking, and warm bread fresh from the oven will highlight this returning favorite.

Tomorrow morning will kick off with the **Continental Breakfast** for early risers. This is the most commonly-served meal theme through the first 34 Winter Camps, and was inspired by Doug Wilson's observation in 1990 that he never woke up hungry at Winter Camp.

## Profiles In Leadership

Winter Camp's tradition of self-appointed leadership calls on the youth of camp to offer themselves in service to camp by stepping up for the leadership roles for which they deem themselves qualified. Josh Cicotte followed in this grand tradition at 10:07 A.M. WCST on Friday, December 31, 2010, during Winter Camp XXXIV, and thus will serve as the youth leader for Winter Camp XXXV.

Long-time Winter Camper Steve Donohue threw his hat in the ring to serve as Adviser to Winter Camp XXXV at 11:10 P.M. WCST on Thursday, December 30, 2010. He said, "I am eager to help others release their inner rhombus and feel it is my obligation to show them this path of real happiness and success in life". His wife Kristie did not immediately return a phone call seeking comment.

The Winter Camp logo was introduced in 1990 at Winter Camp XIV. Unusual in its rhombus shape, the logo's first appearance was on the cover of *Origins*, a book detailing the history of many Winter Camp traditions, and the new three-ring binder for the Winter Camp *Manual*. It has since appeared on a wide variety of items, including T-shirts, patches, poker chips, and coffee mugs. Many of these logo items may be seen at camp in the Winter Camp museum and are available for purchase in the online Winter Camp store.



# Winter Camp Participation Award—Don't Miss Out!

The **Winter Camp Participation Award** is the most prestigious award that can be earned by a youth member of Noquet Lodge. Now is the time for you to earn this gold-bordered Winter Camp patch! Here are the requirements:

## 1. While attending Winter Camp, do each of the following:

- Participate in baking a loaf of bread or similar baked good.
- Help set up or coordinate an event.
- Provide four (4) hours of service to camp.
- Climb D-A's highest peak.
- Participate in the Blind Hike.
- Set a personal goal to achieve during camp and achieve it.

## 2. While attending Winter Camp, do at least two of the following:

- Participate in a project aimed at improving Winter Camp.
- Write an article or short story for the *Winter Camp News*.
- Sleep outdoors safely during Winter Camp.
- Hold a leadership position. This

includes serving as youth leader or any other office designated by the leader.

## 3. Do at least two of the following:

- Pass the Winter Camp Basic History Test (available from Mark Bollman—>).
- Surf the Winter Camp Universe and participate in one or more discussion areas.
- Define the following terms: *CHR*, *Jiffy*, *Kitchamajig*, *El Mediodia*, *Quiet Hours*, *Rand Stew*, *Weekette*, *Winter Camp Savings Time*.

In earning the Winter Camp Participation Award, you will join an elite crew of 24 Arrowmen who have earned this award in previous years. Your gold-bordered patch will be presented to you at a ceremony that ensures that the patch will not be touched by the hands of an adult Arrowman. No adult worthy of the name would touch a Participation Award, unless it is the one that he earned as a youth.

For assistance in completing these requirements or to have your work certified, talk to any Winter Camp adviser.

## Back In The Day

Tales Of History and Imagination

(Reprinted from *Origins*, © 1990, Winter Camp Future Society Press)

For many years, the Detroit Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, offered a winter camp opportunity for Scouting units. During the 1960's and early 1970's, this consisted of a five-night encampment between Christmas and New Year's Day. Winter Camp was available at both D-A Scout Ranch and Charles Howell Scout Reservations and usually supported a small staff for the event. While these camps were very different from Winter Camp, they did provide the concept of an enjoyable multi-night camping experience at the end of the year.

Undoubtedly, much of the impetus for Winter Camp in its current form came from the South Parks (Downriver) Chapter Ceremonial Committee. The Committee (as it was called) was extremely active and very powerful during the mid-1970's. Several active members attempted to organize the first Winter Camp in 1975, but the lack of an adult leader forced a one-day trip to Kensington Metropark instead.

With the Universe ready, the concept in mind, and (perhaps most importantly) the new adulthood of Doug Wilson, Winter Camp became reality on December 27, 1977. The Committee conducted a special training seminar in 1976, but it was actually the second seminar in 1977 that served as the prelude to Winter Camp. The staff for the training seminar formed the nucleus of interest in establishing Winter Camp. One of the key features of a training of trainers weekend held for the staff was, of course, a special ceremony. An important part of that ceremony was a blind hike. The ceremony, and specifically the blind hike, provided ideas for activities to be a part of Winter Camp.

Thirty-four years later, Winter Camp has established itself as a giant among Scout camps and an eagerly-anticipated end to the calendar year.

## Winter Camp Trivia

### From the December 31, 2010 edition:

1. What was the destination of the Blind Hike at Winter Camp XXXIV?

—*The Jack Lord human foosball court*

2. Who admitted that he had not received a hobby in the 2009 Hobby Draw and was rewarded for his honesty by being assigned two hobbies for 2011?

—*Doug Wilson*

3. At Winter Camp XXXIV, which team's nuclear survival shelter was largely built from snow?

—*The team based at the BC shower house*

### Today's questions (Novice edition):

1. How far ahead are clocks moved to

implement Winter Camp Savings Time?

2. What is the only event that has been held at every Winter Camp?

3. Which subatomic particle is the basis of the Universal Measurement System?

4. Which cabin was home to Winter Camp I?

5. What is the two-word Winter Camp motto?

## Thought for the Day

*You haven't truly lived until somebody somewhere has put up a sign because of something you did.*