



The SCRIBE

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The official newsletter for Spring Thaw

albertascoutingevents.com and scoutstracker.ca

16 March 2017

Pre-camp edition

SPRING THAW 2017
June 2, 3 & 4

Spring Thaw Scout Camp

**A FUN/competition camp
for all Scout Troops**

Registration meeting

Tuesday
May 9, 2017
7:00 p.m.

First held in 1987, **Spring Thaw** is held on the first full weekend of June each year. This Camp is designed so that Troops may compete in the activities or do them just for fun and experience. Activities vary each year as they are selected and organized by those Scouters attending. Each activity is organized in such a fashion that points may be awarded, leading to an **event trophy** and/or the **OVERALL CAMP AWARD**.

Since you can drive right up to the camping area, equipment does not become a problem. No backpacking or lightweight equipment is required!

Coming at the end of the scouting year, it is a perfect camp to bring those Cubs who may be thinking of joining the Scout Troop in the fall. The availability of open fires (given no fire bans) also offers a different type of setting. This allows you the opportunity to let the Scouts practice fire building and cooking over an open flame. Fire pits are available; each pit is a washer drum on legs.

Sounds similar to other Scout Camps? Well, there are a few differences; the Camp starts on Friday night with the **Opening** and **Formal Campfire**, including lights and a stage. **Program activities** start at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday. This allows time for final setup of the events. Scouts can help setup, work on their campsites, build gadgets, do badge work or just have free time.

Some of the activities held in the past have included Archery, Air Rifles, Cooking, Pioneering, First Aid, Orienteering, Backwoods Cooking and Survival Skills to name just a few.

After supper on Saturday evening, each patrol is supplied with Carnival Cash and a **Carnival** is hosted by the Venturers. This is followed by an **Auction** where patrols bid on different items, such as sports and camping equipment, games, candy, clothing and any other donations we have received including sealed Mystery Boxes. Payment is in Carnival Cash and ownership goes to the highest bidder (or sometimes to the first bidder!). Scouts then have free time to hold their own campfires at their campsites or visit with other patrols from all over the province.

There are three events on Sunday, the **Obstacle Course**, **Scouts Own** and the **Patrol Challenge Events** (known as the "**Fields of Strength**"). These challenges vary in precise content from year to year.

Unique to the camp is a **newsletter** called **The SCRIBE**. Published once before camp and four times during the camp, it brings news of the camp and its activities, as well as the final results of the different competitions. Daily event schedules and who is in camp are regular features in **The SCRIBE**.

The theme for **Spring Thaw 2017**, the 31st annual edition of this camp, will be centered on a theme following Olympic Games and will be entitled

Bronz3 → Go1d

Some of the activities will be geared around the camp theme and a surprise or three may even be possible.

As usual, the activities will require both individual and patrol efforts. Be prepared to work together to accomplish the tasks.

David Thompson Award

Also held in connection with the camp is the **DAVID THOMPSON AWARD**.

Its requirements will vary year to year, but they are designed to accommodate different skills and involve the Scouts both before and at camp.

These “skills” may include intellectual (research and a written presentation), dexterity (building something before camp) and hands on (doing something at camp – performing at campfire, cooking or making a drink, or beautification of the camp area).

Each member of the winning patrol receives a “**David Thompson Award Crest**” available only at Spring Thaw!

See the *link on the main Spring Thaw page* for this year’s requirements.

Mystery Boxes

for the Auction

The auction coordinator would like groups to bring **Mystery Boxes** for the open auction at the end of the evening.

These Mystery Boxes are among the favourite items for the auction. The unknown is always of great interest to the Scouts.

If you would like more information on these boxes, contact the Auction Coordinator

Lisa Schuppli
of 26th St. Peters
at
lisa.schuppli@me.com

Open items NEEDED for the Auction

Items are needed for the Auction on Saturday night at camp. If your group or someone you know can donate some item(s), it will be greatly appreciated.

It need not be a large or expensive item. A ball (soccer, volley, basket), some candy (bars, bags, cookies), a simple game, hats, T-shirts, posters, pens, camping items (glow lights, water bottles, etc.).

Items are accepted anytime, contact Deb for details and/or bring them to camp.

For more information contact

Camp Chief:

Eric Wittenberg 780-913-2317
gator@knottwoodscouts.com

Camp Registrar:

André Lachapelle 780-929-1200
pa_lachapelle@shaw.ca

Program coordinator:

Robert Leddy 780-903-0878
robert-leddy@hotmail.com

Registration Information

The registration deadline this year is May 9, 2017. If mailing your registration, do so well before the deadline. Scouts fees are higher after May 9.

The registration forms, camp manual and other items are available on-line at

albertascoutingevents.com
and on
scoutstracker.ca

Registration can also be submitted
by email to
pa_lachapelle@shaw.ca

but the payment must be received in the mail, deposited to the camp account or paid by e-transfer on or before May 9 in order to avoid the higher fee and guarantee receiving a crest at camp. Account information available from Scouter André.

Questions? Call or email Scouter André.

CAMP RULES

1. NO open fires allowed except in metal fire pits (depending on the current Fire Hazard Rating).
2. NO cutting of any live Pine and Spruce trees.
3. Pack it in, pack it out! All garbage is to be taken home with you.
4. No pets allowed to come to camp, live ones that is, stuffed are fine.
5. If leaving camp for any reason, report to H.Q. first.
6. Axes are to be used with great respect at all times.
7. To wear a knife is a Scouting privilege, so use it with respect.
8. No power equipment to be used in camp after 10:00 a.m. on Saturday unless approved by the Camp Chief.
9. The **Scout Law** is the law of the camp.

**Winner of the Spring Thaw Overall
Trophy in 2016 was**

24th Parkallen

**Will they return to defend their title or
will the 2015 winner, 26th St. Peters,
or one of many previous winning
patrols re-take the title???**

Spring Thaw Scout Camp

Daily Camp Schedule

FRIDAY:

6:00 PM	Patrol Arrivals and Check-In begins (Troops & Companies).
9:00 PM	PL/APL meeting at HQ (youth leaders only)
9:30 PM	Scouter meeting (all adult leaders) at HQ.
10:00 PM	Gather for Campfire (wait at your campsite)
10:15 – 11:15 PM	Opening and Formal Campfire
11:30 PM	Venturers meeting at Campfire
12:00 (midnight)	Camp Quiet

SATURDAY:

6:30 AM	Camp Wake Up
6:30 – 8:00 AM	Breakfast period (prepare, eat & clean up)
8:00 AM	Flag Break (assemble and receive instructions for the day)
8:30 – 9:45 AM	Camp improvement project time / activity set up time
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Morning Activities (2 periods) of one hour each)
12:00 – 1:30 PM	Lunch break (prepare, eat & clean up)
1:30 – 5:30 PM	Afternoon Activities (3 or 4 periods) of one hour each)
5:30 – 7:00 PM	Supper (prepare, eat & clean up)
7:00 – 8:45 PM	Carnival games (youth only – hosted by Venturers)
7:30 – 8:15 PM	Silent Auction period (patrols may place bids on displayed items)
9:00 – 10:00 PM	Open Auction (for scout patrols only)
10:00 – 11:30 PM	Patrol time (campfires, if conditions permit)
12:00 (midnight)	Camp Quiet

SUNDAY:

7:00 AM	Camp Wake Up
7:15 – 8:30 AM	Breakfast period (prepare, eat & clean up)
8:30 AM	Flag Break / Scouts Own (for youth)
8:45 AM	Scouters assigned to Obstacle Course report at course
9:00 AM – 11:45 AM	All scout patrols on Fields of Strength challenges
9:00 AM - 1:30 PM	Obstacle Course (scheduled every ½ hour by patrols)
12:00 – 1:45 PM	Lunch break (prepare, eat & clean up) Groups begin packing gear away and loading vehicles.
2:00 – 3:00 PM	Closing Ceremonies & Awards
3:00 – 4:30 PM	Site inspections (check-out & exit permits) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- PL & Leader bring permits to HQ to receive crests!- turn in your camp evaluations if not done already!- parent arrivals for pick ups should be after 3:30 PM.

All participants and guests must check-in at HQ (except at check-out time).
Anyone leaving camp prior to closing must check-out at HQ.