

LAKE SANDS DISTRICT

Pre - RT

the CRAWLIN' KINGSSNAKE

DECEMBER 2012

BOY SCOUT ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER

LSD BS RT

7 P.M.

13 Dec 2012

N 30° 10.890 // W 085° 40.010

“WINTER CAMPING”

Opening: Troop 323

Program Feature: T.706 Chris Poppell

Big George's “Monthly Moment”!

Traveling Spirit Sticks – to be returned by T.47 & T.82

SITES 'N STUFF RELATED to THEME of the MONTH:

When you pack your clothing for your next winter outing, think about keeping **COLDER** (taken from Boy's Life Magazine Dec 2012 issue).

Clean clothes provide better insulation.

Overheating causes you to sweat, which can make you chilly.

Layering allows you to remove clothes if you get too warm.

Dry clothing stays dry with a protective outer layer.

Examine your clothing regularly to make sure it's in good condition.

Repair any tears or frayed edges as soon as you notice them. Duct tape works great!

Outdoor Action Guide to Winter Camping

<http://www.princeton.edu/~oa/winter/wintcamp.shtml>

BSA Winter Camping & Sport Safety

<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/HealthandSafety/GSS/gss12.aspx>

Scouting in Canada “Winter Camping Manual

<http://www.scoutscan.com/resources/winter.html>

MacScouter Winter Camping & Hiking Survival

<http://www.macscouter.com/keepwarm/>

BSA Beginning Cold Weather Camping Supplemental Training

<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/BoyScouts/TrainingModules/ColdWeatherCamping.aspx>

KG's NATURE BITES of the MONTH:

Wild Bird Unlimited Shop, <http://panamacity.wbu.com/>

FL Wildlife Magazine Nov Issue is now available online at

<http://www.floridawildlifemagazine.com/>

So Many Plants, So Little Time: Common Mullein, *Verbascum thapsus*

http://www.ppws.vt.edu/scott/weed_id/vesth.htm

<http://plants.usda.gov/java/profile?symbol=veth>

Bugga da Month: **Brown Recluse Spider**, *Loxosceles reclusa*
<http://brownreclusespider.com/>

Critter of the Month: **Yellow Rat Snake**, *Elaphe obsoleta quadrivittata*
<http://www.floridabackyardsnakes.com/YellowRat.html>



Common Mullein - new sprout and full grown

Everybody's Heard About the Bird: **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**, *Sphyrapicus varius*
http://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Yellow-bellied_Sapsucker/lifehistory



Yellow-bellied Sapsucker



Brown Recluse



Yellow Rat Snake

The Sky Tells a Story: The moon is new on December 13th, and will not interfere with the peak of the Geminid Meteor Shower. This major shower gives us about a meteor a minute in the morning hours, with the radiant in the northeast at sunset and high overhead by dawn. The winter solstice occurs on December 21st, and winter begins on the shortest day of the year. The Full moon occurs on December 28th. This is the Long Night Moon, out for about 14 hours for local observers.

Jupiter dominates the evening sky for the next five months, brighter than any other planet now and imbedded among in Taurus.

The square of Pegasus dominates the western sky. The constellation Cassiopeia makes a striking W in the NW. She contains many nice star clusters for binocular users in her outer arm of our Milky Way, extending to the NE now. Her daughter, Andromeda, starts with the NE corner star of Pegasus' Square, and goes NE with two more bright stars in a row. It is from the middle star, beta Andromeda, that we proceed about a quarter the way to the top star in the W of Cassiopeia, and look for a faint blur with the naked eye. Overhead is Andromeda's hero, Perseus. Look at Perseus' feet for the famed Pleiades cluster; they lie about 400 light years distant, and over 250 stars are members of this fine group. East of the seven sisters is the V of stars marking the face of Taurus the Bull, with bright orange Aldebaran as his eye. The V of stars is the Hyades cluster, older than the blue Pleiades, but about half their distance.

Yellow Capella, a giant star the same temperature and color as our much smaller Sun, dominates the overhead sky. It is part of the pentagon on stars making up Auriga, the Charioteer (think Ben Hur). East of Auriga, the twins, Castor and Pollux highlight the Gemini.

South of Gemini, Orion is the most familiar winter constellation, dominating the eastern sky at dusk. The reddish supergiant Betelgeuse marks his eastern shoulder, while blue-white supergiant Rigel stands opposite on his west knee.

Last but certainly not least, in the east rise the hunter's two faithful companions, Canis major and minor. Procyon is the bright star in the little dog, and rises minutes before Sirius, the brightest star in the sky.

Plus the Usual: Handouts Gone Wild!! / RT Spirit Stick / Ticket Drawing / Closing

Upcoming Events:

- 1) Re-Charter Deadline, NLT 13 Dec RT.
- 2) LSD District Award of Merit nominations, NLT 7PM 13 Dec prior to LSD BS RT.
- 3) LSD "Why I Like Scouting" Poster Contest, due by RT 10 Jan.
- 4) LSD Annual Scouter Banquet, Sat 12 Jan. at Northside Baptist Church.
- 5) Deadline for Unit OA Elections, 15 Jan.
- 6) Suwannee River Council Univ. of Scouting, Sat 26 Jan.
- 7) YNAW at STSR, 8-10 Feb.
- 8) Gulf Coast Council Banquet, Sat 23 Feb.
- 9) LSD Spring Camporee, 17-19 May.

Future Monthly RT Feature Themes: If you'd like to Step Up and Become Famous as a LSD RT Theme Presenter, your support would be much appreciated!! Call KG at 234-4077 or email me at kerry.gunn@navy.mil. And reminder that all past "Crawlin Kingsnake" RT newsletters and other useful links can be found at http://www.lakesandsdistrict.org/Boy_Scouts.php .

- 10 Jan 2013 - Citizenship**
- 14 Feb - Physical Fitness**
- 14 Mar - Forestry**
- 11 Apr - Leadership**
- 9 May - Special Cooking (T.366 Joey Collingsworth)**
- 13 June - Backpacking (T.300 Rob Adams)**
- 8 Aug - Fishing/Aquatics**
- 12 Sept - Athletics**
- 10 Oct - Science**
- 14 Nov - Cooking**
- 12 Dec - Wilderness Survival**

See ya **Thursday Night 13 Dec !!!!**

YIS, KG, your LSD BS RTC RT #85

Roundtable Suggestion / Ideas

Date: _____

Name: _____ Troop: _____

Position: _____ Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Suggestion / Idea: _____

