



The Big Forest Nation

The M.E. Lyons YMCA

January 2005 - Smoke Signal

Happy New Year to all members of the Nation! This is the Month of the Great Spirit Moon or to some tribes the Moon of the Strong Cold. To the Cheyenne it is known as the month of Frost in the Teepee. In any event best wishes to you and yours and hope to see everyone in the Nation at this month's *indoor* activity; skating at Beechmont Rollarena. More on that later.

Looking back on the Trailblazer front since I last wrote you, the Wright Patterson Air Force Base and Christmas Party have taken place. Two neat and different events providing a good excuse to get out and do something fun together, even if the weather was a little inclement. One of the highlights of the Christmas Party was the gift exchange. Everyone had a good time! This month the Trailblazers will visit Mammoth Cave and the Corvette Museum. I'm sure this event will be very cool.

Meanwhile, as a Nation, the Guides, Princesses, and Trailblazers attended the Camp-In, Ducks Hockey and MADCAP Puppets at the Art Museum were the events.

As always the Camp-In was action packed with lots of activities, games, swimming, movies, etc. Thanks to the Trailblazers for their part in judging the banner decorating contest. Congratulations to the Chippewa who finished first, Cherokee second and Mohican third. Also, congratulations to the Miami tribe for winning the war games! The tribe who finished last, and got out of their cleanup assignment, is still unknown???

In November the hockey game was an exciting place to be as the warriors of the frozen pond played a good game. They lost but everyone had a good time. And finally, the last event of 2004 was fun for the whole family. The MADCAP puppet show and Art Museum tour was a big success.

This Big Forest Nation premier event was a big success as the Madcap puppeteers entertained a full house with their whimsical show in

black lighting. Thanks to all the members of the nation and their families for making this such a successful event.

As previously mentioned the Family Skate event is this month. This event is open to all Nation members and anyone else in their family. Come on out January 16th from 4:00 to 6:00 pm and show off those roller skating moves you used to do, if you can still (I never did have them myself). See the enclosed flyer for more information. As a side note if you ordered a vest and haven't picked them up yet, please contact Fred Beyette, Assistant Chief. Contact info. below.

Need to get a hold of someone in the program to answer your questions? Look below to find the appropriate contact for the program you are in.

Big Forest Nation

Chief	Tony Finamore	abfinamore@auditor.state.oh.us	753-0132
Medicine Man	Brett Luddeke	jenkinsequip@earthlink.net	232-4848
Asst. Chief	Fred Beyette	beyette@ececs.uc.edu	474-0060
Wampum Bearer	Bill Rehl	BLrehl3@cs.com	232-3512
Firestarter	Bill Sprunk	wsprunk@fuse.net	231-4840
Tallykeeper	Jim Farmer	jimfarmer@cinci.rr.com	231-7392
Trailblazers	Don Robinson	<u>don.robinson@ky.gov</u>	752-6430

Still need Trailblazer chief for boys

You can also contact the Y at 474-1400 and speak with Sheila Hinton, who is the official YMCA contact or anyone else there.

Remember the Big Forest Nation website? It is located at www.bigforest.org. It includes contact and up-to-date event information for all nation events planned for the balance of the year. It also includes a place for your tribe to put their own information in, such as pictures or member's names (avoid real names or other private information).

The Nation is off and running once again and hot on the trail to some great events. Hope to see you at the Family Skate this month. Many thanks as always to the chiefs, High Council, individuals, and tribes that have put these activities together.

Peace and prosperity to you in the New Year,

Jim Farmer - Nation Talleykeeper