

# BLAZING NEWS

## *A Word from the President*

Happy New Year Trailblazers!

The weather couldn't have been any better for another beautiful relaxing weekend at Camp Whittle. The meals seemed to go smoother and less crowded after they enlarged the dining hall and added the buffet lines. There were plenty of activities for everyone to enjoy like archery, bicycling, Frisbee golf, arts & crafts center, a hike to the Bat caves, some touch football and of course a good round of Mafia. A few people went skiing on Saturday and some were even up there early enough to go skiing on Friday. I never saw anyone playing pig this weekend but we did have Whinny the pig walking around freely enjoying the many handouts she received.

Most seemed anxious to pack up and head out early on Sunday while a few of you made your stay last longer by taking a leisurely departure.

February is the month for the annual support campaign at our YMCA. Every year the Y runs it's fund raising program during this month to raise

money for programs such as child care, summer camp, guides, and other programs.

All that we ask of you is to contact friends, family, co-workers and ask them for a tax-deductible donation to the Y. Let us know if you would like to volunteer your time for this important function. If you're not helping out then expect a phone call from someone who is asking for a donation. We will then assign you to a team within our division, which is being headed up by our VP, Cherif Nassour. There will be weekly rally meetings (dinner included) every Tuesday night in February to turn in our pledge cards.

Bill Widger  
Trailblazer president

### Upcoming Events

- **Cosmic Bowling**  
March
- **Canoe Trip**  
April
- **Sports Event**  
May
- **White Water Rafting**  
June 20 - 22



**Canoe Trips**  
**April 23 - 26**  
*or*  
**April 24 - 27**

# NORTH VALLEY FAMILY YMCA TRAILBLAZERS

## 2003 CANOE TRIP

### INFO SHEET

**Dates:** Wednesday, April 23 to Saturday, April 26  
or  
Thursday, April 24 to Sunday, April 27

**Location:** On the beautiful Colorado River, from the Hoover Dam to Willow Beach.

**Cost:** \$175 deposit due to the YMCA by Saturday, March 1st (\$240 if you have two children attending the trip). This \$175 will cover your canoe, launch fee and safety boat. A second \$125 will be paid to your trip treasurer.

**Canoe Lessons:** Canoe lessons will be held at the Hansen Dam Aquatic Center. Lessons will take place on Saturday, March 22 and there will be two sessions on this date. Lessons will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. or from 12:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Your child is invited to attend the lesson with you so they will also be better prepared for the canoe trip. All dads attending the canoe trip for the first time, must take canoe lessons. There will be a fee to cover the cost of the canoe rentals. To register for this class, call Josie at the YMCA at 818-368-3231 no later than Saturday, March 1st. If you do not take lessons, you will not be allowed to go on the trip.

**Swim Test:** All dads and children attending the canoe trip for the first time must take a swim test. You must call Josie at the YMCA to schedule a swim test time, all dads and children attending the canoe trip for the first time must take the swim test. The swim test will be held at the YMCA.

**Lodging:** Our canoe launch is scheduled for Thursday and Friday mornings. You must call the Hacienda at 800-245-6380 to make a room reservation. The rate is \$49 per room. You need to make a reservation for the night that your trip starts so that would be either Wednesday, April 23rd or Thursday, April 24th. (For those of you who have gone on the trip in prior years, the Hacienda Hotel is located where the Gold Strike used to be.)

**Questions:** If you have any questions, call Josie at the YMCA at 818-368-3231 ext. 2305.

