

TROOP 96 GAZETTE

Knights of Columbus
St. Gilbert Church



Grayslake, Illinois

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<http://www.boyscouttroop96.com>

April 2014

A Tale of Two Cities: March Campout 2014

By Pat Klemens

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times,

it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair."

And so our March Campout was more like a Charles Dickens' novel than a normal weekend outing. We began in McHenry, Illinois at the warm, indoor roller rink and ended near Woodstock, Illinois in the cold reality of Camp Lakota on Sunday morning. Indoor roller-skating was the best of times, trying to cook breakfast on Sunday morning was nearly the worst of times. Read on to see how the weekend developed.



Friday afternoon had the weather we've been waiting for after this tough winter: sunny and temps in the low 50's. However, that kind of weather plays tricks on your brain when you start packing for the weekend. Although we know the weather wasn't likely to stay "nice," we packed like it would. We may say to ourselves, "I don't need these warm boots or extra gloves...it's nice outside." The "winter of despair" is born in the "spring of hope."



When gathered in the parking lot there were already some "stressed out" Scouts who had been delayed by the train that was stopped across the tracks. Friday evening traffic in Grayslake was worse than it normally is! But soon enough, everyone was present and we loaded the gear. We had a large group camping. So much so that all of the gear did not fit in the trailer! The overload made its way to the cars and eventually we were ready to go. Acting SPL Nick Knight gathered the troop. He led us through the check-in process before everyone

piled into the cars for the (short) trip to McHenry. It was time to go...I mean, it was time to get into the heavy traffic to “stop and go.”

Without (too much) delay we arrived at the McHenry Roller Rink and were welcomed like rock stars. Each Scout received a wristband and a glow stick. They quickly ditched their coats and grabbed their skates. Soon enough, they were on the floor bustin’ moves. At 9 pm, the rink closed to ‘general public’ and we had the place to ourselves. We skated for a while then played the rink’s version of Dodgeball for nearly an hour. After cooling off, we brought in our tents and gear. Each patrol selected an area of the rink to make their “camp” and we set up tents. We enjoyed our cracker-barrel near the snack bar and talked about our plans for Saturday. The PLC mapped out the next day then passed the word.



Shortly, it was “lights out” in the roller rink. Thank goodness for the loud fan on the air-handling unit. It “almost” muffled out those nighttime sounds that Scouts and Scouters can make!

Saturday’s wake-up call was new and different. The roller rink staff blasted music over their speaker system at 7 AM sharp. Time to wake up and smell.

While food and kitchens were unloaded from the trailer to make breakfast in the “back yard,” the tents were dropped and packed away.

Soon, everyone was outside working on breakfast. Pancakes, syrup and some form of pork was on each patrols’ menu while the adults veered left and whipped up French Toast (with some form of pork). Since this was the first time our newest Scouts were camping and preparing their own meal with us, you might say it took a bit longer than normal to get everything done. Just before lunch time (!) we were done with cleanup and the trailer was loaded. We were off to our second city, Camp Lakota.

As soon as we pulled into the parking area, we knew there was trouble. The parking lot was partially flooded from all the snowmelt, but the camp roads were awful. And the news got worse when we spoke to the campmaster. He told us that the campsite we had reserved was “inaccessible.” The road leading to the site still had up to 18” of snow on it – if you could get through the mud first. We had





to change to a new site that was (a little) easier to get to. We decided to send just a few of our Tough Trucks to the alternate campsite while most of the cars remained in the parking lot. By the time we transferred gear to the trucks and the rest of the drivers and Scouts walked in through the mud to the new site, it was already well past one o'clock. We began making camp so we could prepare lunch before it was too late for dinner! Camp set-up was difficult: snow pack was generally thick yet in some spots the snow was gone and ground was muddy.

We spread out to get four patrols into the site. Once tents were set up, the patrols cooked lunch then ate and cleaned up. It was after 4PM! Time to start dinner.

Dinner on the March campout is always special. Each patrol fixes their “delicacy” and brings it to a central site for a large troop buffet. This year was no different. We shared: chicken and dumplings, Hawaiian Chicken Ka-Bobs, Pasta and meatballs along with Pork Roast, salad, corn and bread. Absolutely delicious. By 7:30, we were starting cleanup and making cobblers. By the time dessert was eaten and all dishes were done, it was after 9:30. Scouts were generally exhausted and the adults were, too. A PLC decision to postpone the campfire was made. We didn’t necessarily like the idea, but it made sense. Building a campfire and sitting in the snow around it for another 30-plus minutes was not in the cards. Lights out followed quickly.

All through the night, the temperatures dropped steadily while the winds increased. The forecast called for this to happen, but it’s a lot more real when you’re in it than when you hear it on the radio.

The temperature at 8AM Sunday was only 12 degrees with the wind chill dipping below zero as winds gusted to 30 MPH. The decision was made to forfeit our on-site breakfast and focus on packing up. Scouts who had begun the weekend in relative warmth and comfort were now struggling with difficult, if not dangerous, conditions. Since I became Scoutmaster in 2000, we’ve faced this situation only once before (also in March).

The decision to “pull up stakes” and head to town for breakfast was not desirable, but was deemed necessary. “We want our Scouts to have a long Scouting career, not one long and difficult weekend.” We always want it to be the best of times, not the worst of times...

Next month, we head to Mississippi Palisades State Park near Savanna, IL. We’ll camp there two nights and travel to Iowa’s Maquoketa Caves State Park on Saturday for a day of exploration and fun. Join us on April 11-13 for one of our favorite outings.

Scouts participating in the March Campout:

Nathan Cibula	Joey Cambio	Matthew Symonds
Charlie Arkenberg	Erik Ostick	Kevin Goger
Thomas Hinckley	William De Keyser	Cameron Beard
Connor Stahoviak	Ryan McLenithan	Christian Mack
Nathan Stutzman	Joshua Ball	Nick Knight
Nick Borovka	Joe Tamulaitus	Justin Jones
Collin Jones	Ethan Bryant*	Edgar Arenas*
Matthew Powers*	David Powers*	Alex Kuscik*
Alex Tamulaitus*	Andrew Goger*	Zack Levy*

Adults Participating in the March Campout:

Doug De Keyser	Dan Ostick	Kevin Mack
Dave Cibula	Steve Cambio	Vyt Tamulaitus
Jessica Arenas	John Boos*	Craig Levy*
Pat Klemens*	Matthew Symonds*	

* one night of camping

It's Time for Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan

Hi Everyone - This is your Makajawan Camping Coordinator putting out an all points bulletin...

I would remind you of the importance of having your son attend summer camp his first year as a Scout - I believe most of you have already given me an indication that he plans to attend and this is great. The fun and experience he will gain cannot be matched.

A second reminder is that the first year Scouts are required to attend Troop 96 week #1 (Makajawan week #3) which begins 7:30 AM Sun July 6 @ St Gilbert and returns Sat July 12 in the afternoon.

Anyway on to the meat of the message...

We are now collecting monies - I need at least \$50 from each Scout and Adult planning to go for full weeks (the camp fees for those who are coming for extra days or just the OA weekend will be done separate) so I can sign them into the NEIC system - The total fee owed depends on many factors (not the least of which are what is being signed up for)

- \$285 per week is the fee for MSR (that is for a Scout - adults are

\$145 for the week) - \$25 each way for T96 transportation (so generally a 1 week camper owes \$335) and activity fees (horsemanship merit badge in particular is \$30 but there could be others such as rafting etc)

Fees for supplies purchased at the trading post for merit badges such as wood carving, pottery, metalworking, space exploration, leatherwork, basketry, indian lore, composite materials, rifle shooting, shotgun shooting, archery (there may be others that I am

forgetting) will be handled by the Scout at camp using cash that needs to be brought to camp separately and is held by the adult banker in camp until ready for use by the Scout.

Deposits are due now and the final amounts will need to be paid prior to May 12 (that is only 6 weeks away) in order to avoid a late fee from NEIC.

If you are going to be at the planning meeting on Sat, we can take care of it then otherwise we can do it at upcoming troop meetings - I would like to catch as many folks as soon as possible so i can get busy enrolling campers on the NEIC system.

To all the people who have already begun the process I can give you a status update of deposits and remaining balances

Thanks for your participation

Eagle Court of Honor:

Christian Mack's Eagle Court of Honor is April 6th 2:00PM – 4:00PM at the St. Gilbert Chapel Hall

Nathan Cibula Eagle Scout Court of Honor

We would like to extend an invitation to all members and family members of Troop 96 to attend Nathan Cibula's Eagle Scout Court of Honor. Date: Saturday, April 26, 2014. Time: 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

Place: Joy! Lutheran Church sanctuary (749 N Hunt Club Rd, Gurnee, IL 60031). A reception will immediately follow the ceremony in the gathering space. Please RSVP by April 15, 2014, to David or Patricia Cibula (636) 222-2044 -or- pat@cibula.name

April 2013 Campout

In April, we'll drive out to Mississippi Palisades on Friday evening and camp at the State Park along the Mississippi. On Saturday, we'll drive about an hour into Iowa to explore the caves at Maquoketa Caves State Park. Scouts should be sure to bring flashlights, a change of clothes and a large garbage bag to put their muddy clothes in for the drive back. Permission slips, \$15 food money are due on Monday, April 7th (no exceptions). Campout April 11th - 13th



Like Scouting?

If you enjoy scouting, if you have fun, if it helps make you a better person, then share scouting with your friends and family. Speak positively about how scouting is fun, builds character and makes you a better citizen.

Local scouting units, especially Cub Scout units are in need of new members.

Share the fun and encourage those who would benefit to visit a Pack or Troop. It will strengthen your community.



Camping Plan Schedule

- - April 11-13: Mississippi Palisades State Park near Savanna, IL. Activity is Caving in Maquoketa Caves State Park in Iowa
 - - May 16-17: TBD (Crown?). Activity is Astronomy w/ Shelter Building
 - - June 20-22: TBD (Potato Creek State Park in Indiana?) Activity is White Water Rafting in South Bend
 - - July 6-12 and 13-19 Weeks One and Two at Summer Camp at Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan Scout Reservation near Pearson, WI
 - - August 8-10: Camping at Lewis University Airport. Activity is the first-ever Air Fest 2014
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Troop Activity Calendar

- Sunday April 6th: 2Pm – 4PM
Christian Mack Eagle Court of Honor at St Gilbert Chapel
 - Monday April 7: 7PM
Troop Meeting, Campout Prep
 - Wednesday April 9th: 7:00PM- 8:30PM (Order of the Arrow Members Only)
At Symonds Building 111 Belvidere Road, GL Troop Order of the Arrow Come out and share your ideas to make the Order of the Arrow stronger in our troop. Eat Pizza. RSVP to Mr. Klemens
 - Friday April 11th: 5:30PM - Sunday April 13th
Troop Campout Mississippi Palisades, Maquoketta Caves
 - Monday April 14th: 7PM
Troop Meeting
 - Monday April 21st: 7PM
Troop Meeting
 - Saturday April 26th: 2Pm – 3:30PM
Nathan Cibula Eagle Court of Honor
Joy! Luthern Church 749 S. Hunt Club Rd. Gurnee, IL 60031
 - Monday April 28th: 7PM
Troop Meeting
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Check out the Recap of the Annual Planning meeting on the Troop Website

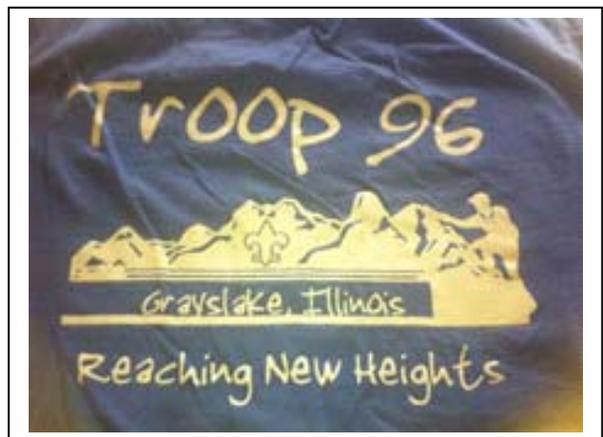
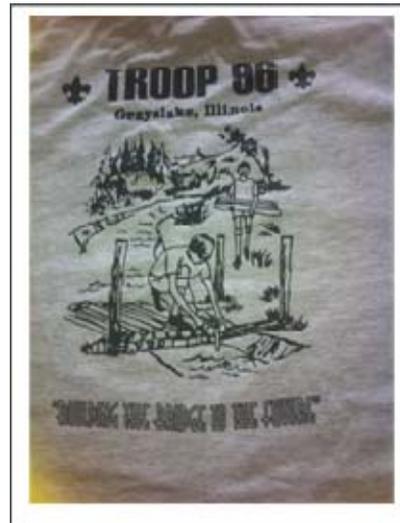
We have a great plan for the next 15 months of scouting

Troop T-Shirt Design Competition

The PLC, during their March Meeting, agreed to conduct a “t-shirt design competition” during the month of April. You can submit your ideas for a t-shirt design to SPL Nick G during any troop meeting in April. The PLC will evaluate all submissions at the April PLC Meeting and select the top three picks. The entire troop will vote on the Number One choice at the May 5th troop meeting. Shortly afterwards, Scouts will be able to order t-shirts with the winning design. Shirts will be available for delivery before summer camp in July. The Scout with the winning design will receive one free shirt to wear with pride.

Note: All submissions must contain the following elements at a minimum: the words “Troop 96” and “Grayslake” and the fleur-di-lis symbol.

Here are some ideas from years past.





the Scoutmaster's Corner
by Pat Klemens

- For the March campout, we split the two camping nights between McHenry and Woodstock. On Friday, we were at the McHenry Roller Rink overnight. We spent the evening skating and set up tents on the rink to sleep! On Saturday, we drove Camp Lakota and spent the afternoon and evening making camp and cooking. It was cold on Sunday morning, too! Did you miss this trip? The **join us in April for one of our all-time favorites: exploring Maquoketa Caves.** We'll be camping at Mississippi Palisades State Park on the river north of Savannah, Illinois. This is a great trip. Plan to be there on April 11-13. Your permission slip & food money are due on Apr 7 at the troop meeting.
- Even though it is still cold, it's time sign up for summer camp at beautiful **Camp Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan.** We will be at camp for two weeks (July 6-12 and 13-19). You can choose the first, the second or both weeks (new Scouts go the first week only). The cost for camp and transportation to be \$335 for the first week and \$285 for the second week. Deposits are due now. Full details are posted on the troop website. (Limited camperships are available to help send Scouts to camp that may need financial assistance.) See Mr. Cibula to pay your deposit.
- The troop elected **Nick Grzesik to be the new Senior Patrol Leader** on March 10. All other Troop positions have been re-appointed by Nick. He held his first PLC at the GL Library on March 25 and has already appointed all troop positions.
- Special thanks to our outgoing Senior Patrol Leader **Kyle Judge** and his PLC. These last six months ran smooth and the troop is stronger than ever.
- The most important meeting of the year, **our Annual Planning Conference**, was held on March 29. We evaluated our camping year just passed and decided on the activities we'll do each month from Sept 2014 to Sept 2015. Check out the report on the Troop Website to see what's planned.
- Do you see yourself as a fashion designer? Here's your big chance: **the troop wants your design for a new troop t-shirt** (and clothing line)? Your designs can be submitted at any April Troop Meeting directly to SPL Nick Grzesik. You can submit as many as you like but every design must have at least the following: "Troop 96" and "Grayslake" as well as the "fluer-di-lis symbol." The PLC will select the top three at the April PLC then the troop will vote on May 5 to choose #1. The Scout who submitted #1 gets a free shirt with his design. We'll start taking clothing orders in May and have the t-shirts available for Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan.
- **Do you have a friend** that you'd like to have in the troop? Tell him about our troop, show him our [2013 video on YouTube](#) (on our website) and offer to pick him up and bring him to a meeting. We'd love to have every boy in Grayslake join Scouting.

- Troop 96 has filled two crews of 12 to go to the mountains of New Mexico and Scouting's **Philmont Scout Ranch in 2015**. We are now working to fill a third crew. If you are interested in attending, contact Mr. McCall ASAP.
- Adults interested in learning more about **Wood Badge Training** should see Mrs. Jane Bryant-Klett or myself. It's a fun course that offers an incredible leadership experience. As an added incentive, when you complete the course, the troop will reimburse you for half the cost!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- In April, we will celebrate two **Eagle Scout Courts of Honor**. On April 6 at 1:30P, Christian Mack will be recognized as an Eagle at the Chapel Hall. On April 26, Nathan Cibula will be celebrated as an Eagle at Joy Lutheran Church at 2P. I hope you can join Christian and Nathan on their special day *and be inspired to complete your own Trail to Eagle*.
 - **Calling all Arrowmen of Troop 96!** All members of the Order of the Arrow are asked to attend the first-ever meeting of Troop Arrowmen on April 9 at 7P at Mr. Symond's building on Rt 120. Because the OA is the "Brotherhood of Cheerful Service" we will determine how we want to make community service more prominent in our troop. We'll also make plans for some special, Arrowmen-only activities like a ballgame, cookout, JumpAmerica, etc. Pizza will be served so please [RSVP to Mr. Klemens](#) so we know how many pizzas to get!
 - **Youth Protection Training** for our Scouts will be held on April 14 during the regular Troop Meeting. All Scouts are encouraged to attend. Parents are welcome. A session for focused on our younger Scouts is held in one room while our older Scouts have a separate session in the Multi-Purpose Room. A letter will be sent to all parents explaining this important session.
 - On Thursday (April 17), we are asked to help St. Gilbert with a lighting of the procession after services on **Holy Thursday**. Please be at the Chapel with a flashlight or lantern, in uniform, by 8:30 pm. We will likely be done close to 9 pm.
 - The **April PLC** will be held on Wednesday, April 30, not on usual last Tuesday.
 - Our annual **Spaghetti Dinner** will be held on May 3. This year we are moving the dinner to Westlake Academy (due to scheduling conflicts at StG). All Scouts are expected to support the troop and sell tickets. This is the primary fundraiser for the troop every year: we need your participation to be able deliver another active year of Scouting.
 - The **Troop Committee** will meet Thursday, April 3 at 7 pm at Mr. Symond's building on Route 120. If your son has just joined our troop, consider coming to this meeting to see how the troop operates and get involved. This is your invitation to be a part of your son's Scouting program.
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	Troop 96 Committee	Call before 9 pm	<i>e-mail</i>
Jane Bryant-Klett	Committee Chairman	847-494-4850	Jane.bryant@abbott.com
Kevin Rupprecht	Chartered Org. Rep	847-855-9173	Kevin.rupprecht@abbott.com
Cete Rupprecht	St Gilbert / Recharter Rep	847-855-9173	chutch@oakton.edu
James Busch	Treasurer	847-707-2854	16116fabfour@sbcglobal.net
Sherry Judge	Advancement Coordinator	847-548-2048	judges@ameritech.net
Vyt Tamulaitis	Transportation Coord	847-223-0466	vtamulaitis@hotmail.com
Jaime Reyes	Finance Coordinator	757-9660	jeppity@gmail.com
Dawn Wegner	Popcorn Kernel	847-986-4206	dawnwegner@yahoo.com
Sharon Mack	Religious Award Coord Cath.		slmack2@yahoo.com
Donna Stutzman	Religious Award Coord Luthern		stutz24@comcast.net
Greg Goger	Committee Member	847-855-1704	ndgoger@sbcglobal.net
Doug DeKeyser	Committee Member	847-548-8818	Doug_kekeyser@yahoo.com
Tom Robb	Committee Member	847-223-5781	marathon220@comcast.net
Pat Shurtliff	Committee Member	847-543-1954	socrfmly@comcast.net
Craig Vogel	Committee Member	847-223-5469	Cjvogel1@att.net
Stacy Wehde	Committee Member	847-219-7794	kwehde@sbcglobal.net
Frank & Karen White	Committee Member	847-223-1138	whitefktdm@aol.com
Chris Borovka	Committee Member	847-367-8041	cborovka@yahoo.com
Patrick Schwab	Committee Member	224-829-8230	pschwab517@gmail.com
Cheri Blennis	Committee Member	847-942-1804	cheri@blenniss.com

Troop 96 Program Staff

Call before 9 pm

e-mail

Pat Klemens	Scoutmaster	847-223-5490	Onmyhonor@ameritech.net
John Boos	Asst SM-Memorial Day Coord	847-219-1189	Xr42il93@gmail.com
Steve Cambio	Asst SM	847-340-3309	Stevecamz5@yahoo.com
Michael Hoffman	Asst SM - Training Coordinator	847-772-5085	Mikebeckyhoffman@att.net
Dave Jacks	Asst SM - Eagle Guide	847-999-8328	djacks@rim.com
Peter Klett	Asst SM	224-545-6555	Pjk3@ntrs.com
Kevin Mack	Asst SM - New Scouts	847-340-4286	Krmack1.96@gmail.com
Joe Mathews	Asst SM- Camping Coordinator	847-921-5444	matthewsjoseph83@yahoo.com
John McCall	Asst SM - Communications	847-223-5470	jmccall@optiminc.com
Dan Ostick	Asst SM - Spaghetti Dinner	847-989-7043	danost@gate.net
Dave Sislow	Asst SM	847-830-1803	d.sislow@sbcglobal.com
Scott Timmins	AsstSM- Quartermaster	847-223-1436	Stimmins@nvidia.com
Kevin Wehde	Asst SM- Eagle Guide	847-275-9974	Kevin.wehde@kraftfoods.com
Todd Nitto	Asst SM	847-543-1744	Girn2001@gmail.com
Mike Grzesik	Asst SM	847-231-4834	mtgrzesik@yahoo.com
Joe Judge	Asst SM	847-548-2048	Joe.judge@ameritech.net
Craig Levy	Asst SM	847-543-1835	Craig.Levy@gmail.com
Dave Cibula	Asst SM	636- 222-2044	David@cibula.name

BSA TROOP 96 PERMISSION SLIP– April Campout

SIGNED PERMISSION SLIPS DUE: Monday, April 7, 2014

EVENT DATES: Friday, April 11 to Sunday, April 13, 2014

EVENT LOCATION: Camping at Mississippi Palisades SP; activity at Maquoketa Caves SP

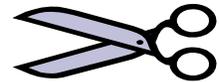
Meeting time: 5:30 PM on Friday, April 11– St. Gilbert Parking Lot

RETURN: approx 12:30 PM, Sunday, Apr 13 (Call 847-223-7233 after 9AM for a better estimate)

EVENT COST: \$15 for food. Payable in cash to the Patrol Leader on April 7.

UNIFORM / CLOTHING: CLASS A UNIFORM for traveling; dress for winter overnight

TRANSPORTATION: Adult leaders/parent will provide transportation.



BSA TROOP 96 PERMISSION SLIP – April Campout

EVENT DATES: Friday, April 11 – Sunday, April 13, 2014

EVENT LOCATION: Camping at Mississippi Palisades SP; caving at Maquoketa Caves SP

DEPART: 5:30 pm Friday evening – StG parking lot

SCOUT(S) _____ and _____ has my permission for full participation in BSA programs, subject to the limitations noted herein. I further agree that Troop 96 and its Junior and Adult Leaders, as well as the St. Gilbert Church and the Knights of Columbus shall be held free from liability, financially or otherwise, for any injury or accident incurred by my son during this event. I have also included a separate sheet with any special instructions regarding my son.

In case of emergency, I understand every effort will be made to contact me (or someone else if noted on this form). In the event I cannot be reached, I hereby give my permission to the medical personnel selected by the adult leader in charge to secure proper treatment, including hospitalization, anesthesia, surgery, or injections of medication for my child.

Parent (Guardian) Signature: _____ Dated: ____/____/____ **Can Drive?: Y / N**

Parent phone number in case of emergency: _____ or _____

Allergies or other important information in an emergency: _____

Medications: _____

SPECIAL NOTE TO PARENTS: ONLY PARENTS OR OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS CAN PICK UP YOUR SCOUT. IF ANYONE ELSE IS TO BRING YOUR SON HOME YOU MUST PROVIDE THAT AUTHORIZATION BELOW:

(NAME) _____ (CELL) _____ IS AUTHORIZED TO PICK UP MY SCOUT
AT THE CHURCH (PARENT SIGNATURE) _____ DATE ____/____/____