

Hello Troop 66 Scouts, Scouters and Parents;

## **Meeting this week (Monday, August 22) is at the First Congregational Church (9th Ave. & Francis St)**

During Patrol Meetings this week Mr. Martinez will be leading the Scouts in making their own knotted neckerchief slide. Mrs. Martinez will be leading the first of three classes to earn the Citizenship in the World Merit Badge. Any Scout who has not earned this merit badge yet is encouraged to participate.

### **Agenda for this Monday Night's Troop meeting:**

- 6:45 **Service Patrol (Stealth) set up** for flag ceremony, PLC check-in
- 7:00 Flag Ceremony. Announcements.
- 7:10 Patrol Meetings- Make neckerchief slides
- 7:30 Citizenship in the World Merit Badge Class #1 of 3  
Rank Requirements and Merit Badges needed by individual Scouts
- 8:10 Games
- 8:30 Closing Announcements. Cleanup by Service Patrol

### **Upcoming Troop Activities:**

**BSA Popcorn Sale starts this week!** Many thanks to Mr. Mathers for stepping up to serve as our Popcorn Kernel this year. Please see Mr. Mathers for order forms and information.

A message from Mr. Mathers:

The Popcorn Kick off will begin September 12, 2016 (this meeting)

You can pick up a small variety of popcorn to begin selling on that evening. I will pick up the popcorn on September 10th.

Scouts can register on-line to sell popcorn as well. They can receive up to 50% of the online sales for their commission. For Show and Deliver and Show and Sell sales, Scouts will receive 29% of their sales. The Scouts will have their commissions put into their Scout accounts.

There are five ways to sell popcorn:

1. Take an order on your order form, and deliver it to the customer as soon as you get the popcorn
2. Show and deliver, is when you have to popcorn at the time of the sale
3. Show and sell, is when our Troop sets up a display in front of a store
4. Selling on-line. Each Scout can sell on-line during the popcorn sales. The customer gets free shipping if they order three or more products
5. Selling at Work: Have your Scout go with you to work and sell popcorn.

**Because we do not have a troop meeting on October 16, all popcorn orders and money are due to me(Mr. Mathers) by October 10. Also, any unsold popcorn must be returned that night.**

**September 12 (this week), October 3 and October 10 Citizenship in the World (Eagle required) Merit Badge Class** Mrs. Martinez will be leading Scouts in this class for 30 minutes during each of these regular meetings. Any Scout who has not earned this merit badge is encouraged to participate.

**September 23-25 Mountain Biking Campout at Curt Gowdy State Park in Wyoming Sign Up Now!** Once again Mr. Groff will be leading us on a great weekend of camping and mountain biking. We also get a chance to do a small conservation project in the park. This will help many Scouts who need conservation and regular service hours (see new Boy Scout Handbook service requirements for all ranks above Scout).

**October 17 NO Meeting (School Day Off)**

**October 21-23 Spelunking (aka Caving) Campout at Cave of the Winds in Manitou Springs, CO. Sign Up Now!** Mr. Engle and Mr. Rishel are working out the details of this great campout.

**October 29 Merit Badge University at CU Boulder.** This is a great opportunity to take up to three classes in one day and earn some great merit badges. The sign up form will be emailed out this week. Turn in the form, or email, to me or Mrs. Martinez and we can get you signed up for your choices starting this week.

**November 5 7:30 pm Star Party at Little Thompson Observatory in Berthoud** The volunteers at the observatory will be leading us in an astronomy fun night. For those who need to complete their Astronomy Merit Badge observation requirement, this is your chance! If you have not started your Astronomy Merit Badge, this is a great time to start.

**November 11-12 Annual Lock-In at the Church**

**November 21 NO Meeting (Thanksgiving Holiday)**

**December 19 & 26 NO Meetings (Winter Break Holiday)**

**We WILL Meet on Monday, January 2, 2017**

**January 9 & 23 Webelos Nights** On these nights we will invite Webelos and Arrow of Light Scouts to visit our Troop Meetings

**January 30 Winter Court of Honor**

**Upcoming Fundraising Opportunities:**

**BSA Popcorn Sale starts this week. See above for details.**

**Butterbraids/Cookie Dough Fundraiser starts October 24.** Our annual Butterbraids and Cookie Dough fundraiser is back. Mrs. Martinez will provide more information and order forms as we get closer to the date.

### General Announcements:

**September is Youth Protection Training Month!** The District is now requiring all adults who participate in Scouting activities, not just registered leaders, to take Youth Protection Training (an approximately 30 minute online training), to take this training on an annual basis. We have decided, to make it easier on everyone, to get all adults to take the Youth Protection Training during the month of September so all we are all synced up and can remind everyone to do it once a year, at the same time. So, please, all adults (any adult who participates in any Scouting activities including troop meetings) please take or renew your Youth Protection Training sometime between September 1 and October 1 this year. You can log in to [myscouting.org](http://myscouting.org) to renew your YPT. Please print out a copy of your certificate and give it to Mr. Bollacker or Mrs. Martinez.

**Troop Web Host is Live and we need all families on it, ASAP.** We have subscribed to a new web-based Troop management software that will help our Troop Leaders, parents and Scouts access and manage our advancement records, financials and communications. Please log in and update your information and check out all of the features: <https://www.troopwebhost.org/Troop66Longmont/Index.htm>! If you did not receive your login credentials from TroopWebHost, please email Mr. Foss at [foss@airmail.net](mailto:foss@airmail.net). **The next phase in our rollout is to get all activity sign-ups done through Troop Web Host starting NOW. This means we will be phasing out the paper sign-up sheets at Troop meetings.** We are working on getting a laptop setup at our meetings for those who like to sign up at meetings and might be uncomfortable with computers. Please help us get you up-to-speed on this web based management software so we can streamline the activity management and workload on our adult leaders.

**Reloadable King Soopers Cards:** This is a friendly reminder to keep using those reloadable King Soopers gift cards for your grocery and gas purchases at any Kroger store in the country. The proceeds from this "passive" troop fundraiser are really making a difference in our troop's operating account. If you don't have the special reloadable gift cards, Mrs. Martinez will be available during every meeting to sell you a card for \$5 each (already loaded with \$5) so you can help our troop. Consider asking friends, family, neighbors, coworkers, church members, etc. if they can use the cards. With just a little bit of work, our troop reaps huge rewards!

As always, you can check out the troop's website <http://bsa66.weebly.com/> for a full listing of activities and details including our current troop calendar.

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Yours in Scouting,

Tony Martinez

Scoutmaster, Troop 66

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