

Hello Troop 66 Scouts, Scouters and Parents;

Meeting this week (Monday, September 25) is at the First Congregational Church (9th Ave. & Francis St)

During Patrol Meetings Scouts will make neckerchief slides. We will also work on rank advancements. Parents will meet in the classroom for an informal discussion and Q&A.

Agenda for this Monday Night's Troop meeting:

- 6:45 **Service Patrol (Dragons) set up** for flag ceremony, PLC check-in
- 7:00 Flag Ceremony. Announcements.
- 7:10 Patrol Meetings- Neckerchief Slides
- 7:40 Rank Requirements and Merit Badges needed by individual Scouts
- 8:10 Games
- 8:30 Closing Announcements. Cleanup by Service Patrol

Upcoming Troop Activities:

This Monday, September 26 Parent Meeting during the regular Troop Meeting.

This will be an informal meeting. I will attend for part of the meeting to answer any questions you might have of me.

October 3 (class #2) and October 10 (class #3) 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. Scouts have been assigned homework (Requirement 3b) for the October 3rd Meeting. Any Scout who has not earned this merit badge is encouraged to participate.

October 17 NO Meeting (School Day Off)

Tuesday, October 18 7-8 pm. Patrol Leaders Council Meeting. All elected Scout leaders are expected to attend in order to plan upcoming meetings, the Lock-In, Webelos Nights and upcoming activities.

Saturday-Sunday, October 22-23 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.

Sunday, October 23 6:30 pm Adult Committee Meeting in classroom #10 at the Church.

Monday, October 24 Parent Meeting during regular troop meeting. All parents are encouraged to attend so everyone can stay informed about Troop Activities.

Saturday, 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 was emailed out last week and I have also attached it here. If your Scout would like to go please turn in the form, or email, to me and we can get you signed up for your choices this week.

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

Butterbraids Fundraiser starts October 24. Our annual Butterbraids fundraiser is back. This year we cannot sell Butterbraids and Cookie Dough at the same time due to a new Cookie Dough Brand (Otis Spunkmeyer) that does not allow their product to be sold alongside other products. So, we will do Butterbraids before Thanksgiving and Cookie Dough before Christmas. Butterbraids order forms and money are due on November 7 and will be delivered November 14. Mrs. Martinez will provide more information and order forms as we get closer to the date.

Cookie Dough Fundraiser starts November 14. Our annual frozen Cookie Dough fundraiser is back. Order forms and money are due December 5 and Cookie Dough will be delivered December 12. 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 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. **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.

--

Yours in Scouting,

Tony Martinez
Scoutmaster, Troop 66
303-931-1743

preparedscouts@gmail.com