

Hello Troop 66 Scouts, Scouters and Parents;

Meeting this week (Monday, August 28) is at 7 pm at Faith Community Lutheran Church located at 9775 Ute Hwy, Longmont, CO 80504.

Please park and enter the building on the north side of the church (back side) where we will have access to the classrooms and bathrooms and also can be collected near the fields and fire pit. Bring bug spray as mosquitos can get fierce as the sun sets.

This week we are going to enjoy our service project for the church by playing on the baseball field. **We will play first** (to have enough sunlight) then head inside for our meeting.

There will be a parent meeting in the building this week starting at 7:15 pm. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall. Please plan on attending. We will start right after flags and announcements. At 7:45 the Scouts will come inside and they will on rank advancement and merit badges.

Once again, I will be handing out blue cards from merit badge classes that were not completed at Summer Camp. If you finished a merit badge at camp, you will not receive a blue card as Mr. Larsen has the electronic records from the camp.

Agenda for this Monday Night's Troop meeting:

6:45 Service Patrol (**Spartans**) setup for flag ceremony (outdoors) and tables.

7:00 Opening Flag Ceremony (Class B Uniforms aka Troop 66 orange T-shirts).
Announcements.

7:15 Play games on the field.

7:15 Parent meeting-please go to the FELLOWSHIP HALL.

7:45 Head inside for rank advancement, meal planning for shooting sports weekend.

8:30 Closing Announcements. Clean-up.

Upcoming Troop Activities:

Saturday, September 2 Shooting Sports Safety and Merit Badge Class If your Scout would like to attend the Shooting Sports campout, and has never taken the Troop safety meeting, he needs to attend this class in order to shoot rifles or shotguns at our

upcoming campout. Time 9:00-4:00 at the UCC church, Room 10. Please sign up now for this class so we can plan. If you have questions please contact Mr. Foss.

September 4 NO MEETING due to Labor Day Holiday.

September 8-10 Shooting Sports Campout at Camp Ben Delatour. Campsites and ranges have been reserved. Sign up NOW on TroopWebHost! It's going to be a blast!

September 11 Meetings move back to First Congregational Church on this date.

Monday, September 18, 7 pm Fall Court of Honor at First Congregational Church. Join us for recognition and celebration of the accomplishments earned by our Scouts since our last Court of Honor in May. Scouts will also be selecting our Summer Camp location for 2018 at this meeting. This is a DESSERT Court of Honor. Please bring a dessert to share.

Monday, September 25, 6 pm Valmont Bike Park. We will meet at 6:00pm, which is an hour **earlier** than usual AT the Valmont Bike Park in Boulder. We will not meet at the church. Class B uniforms unless you need to meet for a Scoutmaster conference. We will finish at 7:30ish, depending upon the light.

October 13-15 Mountain Biking Campout at Curt Gowdy State Park, Wyoming Sign up NOW on TroopWebHost!

November 10-11 Annual Lock-In. Mark your calendar and invite your friends to learn how fun Scouting can be. At this event we will be swimming, bowling, eating pizza, staying up all night with Nerf gun wars, and generally having a blast.

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.

Switch back to Class A Uniforms on September 11 Starting on September 11 we will return our meeting locations back to the First Congregational United Church of Christ at Francis St and 9th Ave. in Longmont. At this meeting, we will switch back to our standard uniform policy of wearing Class A uniforms to all regular meetings. This would be a great time to check and make sure your uniform is clean and that it still fits you.

Troop Web Host is Live and we need ALL families on it, ASAP. We have subscribed to a 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, especially your email address, and check out all of the features. Consider serving the troop as a Merit Badge Counselor.

troopwebhost.org/Troop66Longmont/

If you did not receive your login credentials from TroopWebHost, please email Mr. Foss at foss@airmail.net. We have a laptop setup at our meetings for those who like to sign up at meetings and might be uncomfortable with computers. However, you need to bring your own login username and password. 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.

Volunteer Opportunities: We could use a few adult volunteers to help with some specific assignments that will help spread out the work and make the Scouting experience better for our Scouts. Please see me if you are interested in learning more about how you can help in these areas:

Campout Champions: I need more help and parent participation with our campouts. We always need and love adults to attend our campouts. We especially need some Campout Champions who will be willing to help plan and coordinate one upcoming campout. The Champion will help us by making reservations and arrangements for equipment, make sure we have planned out when we will leave and come back, coordinate with a food buyer, etc. The upcoming campouts in need of Champions are:

Mountain Biking (Coordinate with Don Groff on logistics), and Annual Lock-In (make reservations at bowling lanes, rec center, etc.). Please email me at preparedscouts@gmail.com if you can help plan any of these activities.

Merit Badge Counselors: We want to broaden the opportunities for our Scouts to learn new skills or explore subjects they are interested in. The definition of your participation as Merit Badge Counselor is up to you. You can come to every meeting, only to some meetings, be available when a Scout needs you (they need to contact you), or even teach a class during meetings or our internal MBU. Please email or talk to Mrs. Martinez at tonyandkristy@yahoo.com if you are interested in learning more about being a Merit Badge Counselor. Most Merit Badge Counselors pick merit badges that they have an interest in and would like to share that interest with boys (you don't have to be an expert). If you would like to explore the options, go to the website and read about the different Merit Badges offered by BSA: http://meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/Merit_Badges.

Fundraising Activities:

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 big difference in our troop's operating account. If you don't have the special reloadable gift cards, Mr. Francis, our troop treasurer, will 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!

The Popcorn Sale is Coming! The first weekend for the sale is September 9. Our Popcorn Kernel, Michael Rivas, will have details for the scouts and parents on Monday Aug 28th. Scouts who participate earn all of the commission for their own Scout Accounts.

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.