

Hello Troop 66 Scouts, Scouters and Parents;

NO Meeting this week (Monday, October 17) due to a day off at St. Vrain Valley Schools. We hope you enjoy your evening off.

Re-registration for the upcoming Scouting year starts this week. We will discuss this more at the Parent Meeting coming up this Monday night. You will see a Survey Monkey form from me this week that asks about your intentions of re-registering for the upcoming Scouting year. We are asking EVERYONE to respond to the Survey Monkey including those who do not attend meetings very often. Also, re-registration fees are due. The fees are: \$24 BSA Dues, \$25 Troop Dues, and \$12 Boys Life Annual Subscription (optional) for a total of \$61. **Deadline for submitting re-registration fees and re-registration is Monday, November 14.**

Upcoming Troop Activities:

TOMORROW, 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.

THIS Saturday-Sunday, October 22-23 Spelunking (aka Caving) Campout at Cave of the Winds in Manitou Springs, CO. Registration Closed. I sent out an email last week with all of the names of those who will be attending. Please email me ASAP if there is something that needs to be corrected. I will be sending out a final email by Wednesday with final details.

THIS 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. At this meeting we will discuss re-registration and fees, adult leader registration including becoming a Merit Badge Counselor and accept annual re-enrollment fees.

Saturday, October 29 Merit Badge University at CU Boulder. Registration is now closed. I sent an email out to those who have signed up, including how much money you owe the troop and any prerequisites your Scout needs to work on before MBU. Please make sure there is credit in your account or pay for these fees at the upcoming meeting.

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. Mrs. Martinez is an Astronomy Merit Badge Counselor and can sign off on blue cards.

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:

Butterbraids Fundraiser starts this week 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 at the meeting this week.

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:

Adults, **Please Complete Your Youth Protection Training!** 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. We need everyone in the Troop to be current with their YPT prior to our recharter which is starting this week. 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, especially your email address, 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.

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Yours in Scouting,

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