

Hello Troop 66 Scouts, Scouters and Parents;

Meeting this week (Monday, May 2) is at the Church (9th Ave.& Francis St):

This week we will be working on rank advancements including fire building skills. We will also work on new and improved games. Any Scouts who want to learn how to access TroopWebHost for themselves, on either computer or smartphones, are welcome to join the Orientation Class on our new financial and advancement management software described below.

Parent Orientation Meeting for our New Web Based Troop Management System: Troop Web Host. We will go through a tutorial of all the features and login realtime to look at a typical account and all of its features. Come with your questions!

Final Summer Camp Payments are due. This is the last day to complete your payments for Summer Camp. If you have kept up on your payments, the last payment due is \$125. Please see Mr. Foss to arrange for your payments.

Camp Card Fundraiser Ends. Please turn in your packet of money and unsold camp cards at this meeting. We cannot extend our deadline with the Council so please turn them in to Mrs. Martinez.

Agenda for this Monday Night's Troop meeting:

- 6:45 **Service Patrol (Dragons) set up** for flag ceremony and meeting tables, PLC check-in
- 7:00 Flag Ceremony and Announcements
- 7:10 Rank advancement/merit badges/New games planning
- 8:15 Games
- 8:30 Cleanup by Service Patrol

Upcoming Troop Activities:

Next week, May 9, 2016 Rotary Duck Tickets Fundraiser Starts. The Duck Tickets won't be available until next week but, since the Troop has to pay \$25 for each packet, we will have a sign up for those who are willing to commit to selling the tickets in each packet of 25.

On July 9, 2016 the St. Vrain Rotary Club will be running it's annual duck race at the Rhythm on the River Festival. Our Troop purchases the tickets for \$1 each and Scouts sell them for \$5 each. The \$4 profit per ticket goes to the Scout's account. Mrs. Martinez will check out packets of 20 tickets to each Scout and they need to turn in complete packets with stubs and money in order to check out another packet. We ask that the Scouts make every effort to sell all tickets in each packet as the \$1 each purchase price of the tickets cannot be refunded if tickets are not sold.

For those who buy a \$5 duck ticket, they "adopt" a rubber duck for \$5 and a chance to win **cash prizes** and other prizes like local business gift cards. There are three cash

prizes of \$2000, \$1000, & \$500. With your adoption you will get a ticket with a number that corresponds to a rubber duck. On race day St. Vrain Rotary will drop all the ducks into the St Vrain River, and the first ducks who cross the line will win prizes for the matching ticket holders. Prize winners need not be present to win. Cash Prize winners will be announced at the Duck Race booth on the day of race. All winners will be notified by telephone, U.S. Mail, or email, based on the information on the winning ticket. Mrs. Martinez will be making arrangements with the South Hover King Soopers to set up a sales table on Saturdays and Scouts can sell their tickets to the patrons.

May 9, 2016 Family Life Merit Badge Class Part 2: Mrs. Martinez will meet with the Scouts who attended the last class in March.

May 28, 2016, 11 am at Old Mill Park. Nathan B. Eagle Court of Honor. Nathan's family has extended an invitation to all members of the troop to join them in celebrating Nathan's achievement of earning the highest rank as a Boy Scout.

May 30, 2016 Memorial Day- NO Troop Meeting

June 4-5: Backpacking Campout. Mr. Groff will be leading our Troop on an adventurous campout in the backcountry in the local front range area. As the time gets closer, he will let us know the location and logistics. Scouts who want to go backpacking need some specific equipment to make it successful. It is OK to start thinking about acquiring some of this now. Check out the summer backpacking list on our website for more information: <http://bsa66.weebly.com/backpacking.html>.

June 11 9 am – 2 pm Stephen M. Eagle Scout Project: Please sign up to help Stephen build cat play structures out of PVC pipe for the Longmont Humane Society.

June 24-26 High Adventure Campout for Scouts Age 14+: Older Scouts, mark your calendars for this fun and challenging get-away. The details need to be worked out by the PLC but on the top of the list is White Water Rafting on the Arkansas River!

July 8-10 Watersports Campout: Once again we will bring out the canoes, kayaks, fishing rods, swimsuits, etc. and head to the water. Details for this campout need to be finalized but we will likely have this campout at Union Reservoir in Longmont or Horsetooth Reservoir in Ft. Collins. Families are encouraged to attend this campout and we will be inviting local Webelos Scouts to join us.

July 24-30, 2016 – Summer Camp at Peaceful Valley – You can still sign up! Troop 66 will be attending camp at an excellent local camp run by the Denver Area Council: Peaceful Valley-Cris Dobbins located near Elbert, CO (just southeast of Colorado Springs) during their last session of the summer: July 24-30, 2016. The cost for the week is \$375/Scout which is payable in installments. There is also some need based scholarship money from the Troop available for Summer Camp. In order for Troop 66 to secure your spot for Summer Camp, you must complete the registration form (available

at our Troop meetings from Mrs. Martinez), and submit a \$50 non-refundable deposit, plus the current payment installment, to "Troop 66." Give checks and registration form to Mr. Foss, Troop 66 Treasurer, or Mrs. Martinez, Troop 66 Summer Camp Coordinator. Please read the registration form carefully for the payment schedule and financial obligations you agree to when you register. This form is required so the Scout, his Parents or Guardians, and the Troop are clear about the Scout's intentions and obligations.

General Announcements:

Get your Class B Shirts! A new batch of Class B T-shirts are now available for sale at our troop meetings. While school is out for the Summer, Scouts may choose to wear Class-B shirts to our regular troop meetings. However, if a Scout will be doing a Scoutmaster Conference or Board of Review, he is required to wear his full Class-A uniform on these occasions. Also, a few Class B shirts are great to have at Summer Camp.

Troop Web Host is Live. 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>! We will have a class for parents and Scouts on Monday May 2 devoted entirely to Troop Web Host and all of the features. Many parents have received their own login information already. Your login credentials were sent on February 7, 2016. If you did not receive this, please email Mr. Foss at foss@airmail.net.

Uniforms: Please remember that all Scouts are expected to wear their Class A uniforms at all meetings, unless otherwise indicated in our newsletter. If your Scout does not have a complete uniform, please speak to Mr. Martinez and we can work on getting him one. Also, please remind your Scouts to take off their jackets and sweatshirts during the flag ceremony so we can present the colors and honor them correctly in uniform. Class B uniforms (orange Troop T-shirts) are only worn in the summer, when school is out, or during designated activities or service projects.

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. If you have any questions please email Kristy Martinez at tonyandkristy@yahoo.com.

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