

Hello Troop 66 Scouts, Scouters and Parents;

Meeting this week (Monday, May 16) is at the First Congregational Church (9th Ave. & Francis St) NOT Rogers Grove Park:

Backpacking Equipment Demonstration and Parent Meeting. At the beginning of the meeting we will have a backpacking equipment and preparation orientation and Q & A presented by expert backpackers Scout Leon Engle and his Dad Mike, as well as Mr. Groff who will be our Scout Leader for the Troop Backpacking Trip on June 4. Parents will then break away and discuss additional "parent stuff" while the Scouts head outside for games. Mrs. Martinez and Mrs. Ehlert will have the Class B T-shirts out and ready for sale.

The meeting this week is the last week Scouts are required to wear their Class A uniforms at Scout meetings for the Summer! Starting June 6, Scouts are asked to wear their Class B T-shirts to the Summer Meetings (Class A uniforms are still required if you will be having a Scoutmaster Conference or Board of Review). Scouts who perform Color Guard duties must be in the Class-B T-shirt.

Sign Up for the Backpacking Trip This Week: Because we don't meet on Memorial Day, this meeting is your last chance to Sign Up for the Backpacking Trip (you may also email me by Wednesday, June 1 if you can't commit now).

May 23, 2016 Registration for Summer Camp Merit Badges Due: Please find attached the registration form and Summer Camp Program Guide for Merit Badge Class Schedules and Descriptions. Please fill out the form with your choices and email Mrs. Martinez, at tonyandkristy@yahoo.com, or give her the form by Monday, May 23. She will be available to answer questions that night.

May 23, 2016 Registration for Summer Camp Closes. For anyone who is considering going to summer camp, and hasn't already signed up, this is the last day to register and pay.

Agenda for this Monday Night's Troop meeting:

6:45 **Service Patrol (Dragons) set up** for flag ceremony, and chairs for adults who will be watching Backpacking Demo, PLC check-in
7:00 Flag Ceremony and Announcements
7:10 Backpacking Demonstration
7:45 Games and Parent Meeting
8:30 Cleanup by Service Patrol

Upcoming Troop Activities:

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 hike (approx. 2 miles each way) and campout in the backcountry at Big Elk Meadows which is in a Foothills elevation (no snow expected). 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 at Union Reservoir in Longmont: Once again we will bring out the canoes, kayaks, fishing rods, swimsuits, etc. and head to the water. 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 – There is still time to sign up for Summer Camp but our troop will be closing down registration this Monday, May 23. 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. 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), plus payment in full, to “Troop 66.” Give checks and registration form to Mr. Foss, Troop 66 Treasurer, or Mrs. Martinez, Troop 66 Summer Camp Coordinator.

General Announcements:

Rotary Duck Tickets Fundraiser. For those who have ordered ticket packets, you can pick them up this week. If you would like to order a packet, signup at the meeting this week or email Mrs. Martinez, at tonyandkristy@yahoo.com. Since the Troop has to pay \$25 for each packet, we are asking parents to commit to selling, or buying themselves, all of the tickets in each packet so the Troop does not have to incur a \$25 loss. You can order additional packets from Mrs. Martinez once the previous packet and money are turned in.

Some details about the Rotary Duck race: On July 9, 2016 the St. Vrain Rotary Club will be running its 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 25 tickets to each Scout and they need to turn in complete packets with stubs and money in order to check out another packet. **The deadline to turn in all sales packets with money and stubs is Monday, June 27, 2016.**

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.

Rules for Use of Church Facilities:

If you have been in the church lately, you have seen that all of the renovations are complete. The fellowship hall looks amazing. There are a few new rules that we have implemented to help take care of the facilities and minimize our disruptions on others using the building.

- 1) Please enter our meetings through the Southwest door of the fellowship hall.
- 2) The bathrooms adjacent to the fellowship hall are now finished and usable. This means there should be no reason any Scouts or adults need to walk down the hallway past the Chapel. There are classes in the Chapel so please do not use the hallway adjacent to the Chapel.
- 3) There is a circle of soft chairs and a table on the northside of the fellowship hall. In order to protect this furniture, these chairs will be used **ONLY** for Scoutmaster Conferences or Board of Reviews. Scouts are not allowed to sit in these chairs in any other circumstances and we ask parents and adults to sit in other chairs in the room so we can reserve this area for official Scout meetings and keep a sound buffer between us and the meeting rooms on the north end of the fellowship hall.
- 4) Thanks to all Scouts and adults who set up chairs and tables for the meetings. The new flooring is susceptible to scratches and scuffs so we ask everyone to be careful when setting up and putting away tables and try not to drag them across the floor. This is also true for pulling things out of the Quartermaster Closet and in particular the large black flag stands. If you drag the flag stands, they will scratch the floor.
- 5) Outdoor spaces: With the weather improving, we can now have Scout activities and games outside in the grassy courtyard. The Scouts have been reminded many times of the rules in the Courtyard: no climbing on the bell tower, walls or tables and please do not go near the flower gardens on all sides of the grassy area.

Thanks everyone for helping us to continue to be grateful and respectful users of the church facilities!

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>! 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.

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Yours in Scouting,

Tony Martinez
Scoutmaster, Troop 66
303-931-1743
preparedscouts@gmail.com