

Hello Troop 66 Scouts, Scouters and Parents;

Meeting this week (Monday, May 8) is at the First Congregational Church (9th Ave. & Francis St) in Longmont.

This meeting is our Spring Court of Honor! It is time again to take a moment to celebrate the achievements of our Scouts over the last several months. We are excited to be honoring our latest Eagle Scout, Henrik Larsen, at this Court of Honor. Henrik's family will be providing cake for our event. We will also be awarding Merit Badges and Rank Advancement Badges for all achievements earned since our last Court of Honor in January. We hope all Scouts and parents will attend our Court of Honor and join in the celebration.

Agenda for this Monday Night's Troop meeting:

6:30 **Service Patrol (All hands on Deck)** setup for flag ceremony and tables and chairs, audience style. We will also be serving cake, lemonade and water.

7:00 **Opening Flag Ceremony (Dragon Patrol).** Announcements.

7:10 Henrik Larsen Eagle Court of Honor

7:20 Troop 66 Court of Honor- Presentation of Merit Badges and Rank Advancement Badges

7:40 Dessert reception

8:10 Closing Announcements. Clean-up. Please stay until ALL work and clean-up is completed.

Welcome Troop 128 Transfers! We would like to extend a big Troop 66 welcome to three Scouts who have recently transferred into our troop. Welcome to Joey H., Kyle T., and Tyler P. and their awesome parents. We are so glad that you decided to join Troop 66 and look forward to many new adventures with you.

Class B Shirt Order Imminent; Goggle Survey Coming so you can order your shirt sizes- We want to thank Scott Yoho for taking inventory of our Class B shirts and helping as our coordinator. We are getting ready to restock our supply of Class B shirts. This is the uniform shirt we wear during our summer meetings, service projects, camping and at summer camp. It would be helpful to know if you would like to order any shirts for your Scout and yourself and what sizes. Keep your eye out for an email that asks you your shirt order for quantity and sizes.

Summer Meetings Will be Held in a More Outdoor Friendly Location! We are excited to announce that we have arranged to change our home base for summer meetings to a location with some great outdoor amenities. **Starting on June 5, we will be meeting at Faith Community Lutheran Church which is located at 9775 Ute Hwy, Longmont, CO 80504.** This church has a large athletic field, volleyball court, basketball court, fire ring, and outdoor picnic tables. We are looking forward to being able to do more Scouting activities and games outdoors during our regular meetings. We also have access to meeting rooms for gathering activities and merit badge classes. We might switch back to our regular meeting space if the weather is predicted to be bad. Please check the top of our weekly newsletter to know

where our meeting will be held. Our Troop Calendar will also be kept up to date. You can access our Troop Calendar at our Troop Website: <http://bsa66.weebly.com/calendar.html>

Adult 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:

Fundraising Coordinator: We have a few successful and well established fundraising events we do every year. Mrs. Martinez has too much on her plate and would love to train and guide a person to be the facilitator of these fundraisers. Duties would include communicating with fundraising organizations, organizing sales packets or other materials, and being available to Scouts and parents during the fundraising periods. Our current fundraisers are: Rotary Duck Ticket Sales (May-June), Butterbraid Sales (Oct.-Nov), King Soopers Reloadable Gift Cards (just keeping a stock and being available to sell them), and Camp Cards (Feb.-March). The Fundraising Coordinator is not responsible for carrying out the Popcorn Sale in the fall. We will have a Popcorn Kernel for that Fundraiser.

Local Hike Coordinators: We have received feedback from Scouts and parents that they would like to do more hiking. We could use a few experienced local hiker adults who are organized and willing to pick good local locations and dates so we can publish a schedule of the hikes. These adults just need to pick dates that don't conflict with campouts or Summer Camp. We also need to make sure there are two registered leaders (completed Youth Protection Training only) at every hike (don't need to be the hiking coordinators) so we can practice safe Scouting principles. We can set up the sign-ups for hikes in TroopWebHost.

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 attonyandkristy@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 the 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. I have attached here the simple Merit Badge Counselor application and information form. Please consider serving the troop as a Merit Badge Counselor.

Quartermaster Scout/Parent Combo: The Quartermaster Scout leadership position has an opening. We have found that the best way to support our Quartermaster is to have him work with a parent (otherwise we need two leaders in the closet with him when he is working) to help keep the Quartermaster closet clean and organized, and keep a tally of our consumables inventory (camping food, powdered drink mix for Courts of Honor and camping, and paper goods). Please let me know if your Scout is interested in the Quartermaster position and you would be willing to help him.

Upcoming Troop Activities:

(We could use adult “Champions,” aka lead coordinators, for most of our upcoming campouts. Please email me if you can help with any of these upcoming campouts. I will give you instructions for the specific campout).

Sunday, May 21 at 6:30pm Adult Leaders Attending Camp Meeting at the Church 1st Congregational Church. Please enter the church through the regular door as we will meet in the chapel. This is an organizational meeting for all adults who will be driving to camp and those who will be attending camp with our Scouts. With 32 Scouts and 13 adults registered, we need to work on the logistics and expectations of the adults so we can make this a great experience for everyone.

Monday, May 22 Boy Scout Leader Elections It is time for our Scouts to elect their leaders for the next 6 month term. We hope all Scouts make it a priority to attend this meeting so their vote is counted. If a Scout is interested in an elected position, please see me if they have any questions.

Monday, May 29 (Memorial Day) Volunteer Group at Bolder Boulder **Registration is full but email me if you would like to be put on the waitlist.** For those who are registered, please check your email for a message from me concerning how to finalize your registration as a volunteer for the event.

June 12, 19, and 26 Citizen in the Nation Merit Badge Class. In June, Mrs. Martinez will be offering the Citizen in the Nation Merit Badge (Eagle required) Class during a portion of the regular Troop meetings. She plans on covering all requirements in these three classes (with homework completed by Scouts) and will culminate during Summer Camp when the Troop visits a very important National Monument: Mount Rushmore!

June 23-25 Sand Dunes Family Campout. This very popular campout is back. We will leave early on Friday to drive to a private campground in Alamosa and then spend all day Saturday on the dunes and hiking to the famous waterfalls nearby. We will head home on Sunday with a stop at the Gatorland attraction nearby.

July 9-15 Summer Camp. Merit Badge class selections are past due. Mrs. Martinez sent out a separate email about medical forms. Make those doctor appointments now so you can submit your completed medical form by July 3.

July 28-30 Watersports Campout at Shadow Mountain Reservoir. Campsites are reserved!

August 19-20 Backpacking Campout

September 8-10 Shooting Sports Campout at Camp Ben Delatour (Date TBR)

October Mountain Biking Campout

General Announcements:

Got Questions? Janine's Got Answers! Janine Bolon is serving as our Troop Host at our regular Troop Meetings. Please look for Janine near the door, at most meetings, if you or your Scout are looking for answers: which adults do I talk to for finances, merit badge or rank advancements, Summer Camp registration, camping equipment, upcoming events, medical forms, signing up for activities or checking your Scout Account balance on TroopWebHost

(Janine will have access to a laptop, you just need to bring your login credentials), etc. Janine will answer your questions (she is a great source of a variety of Scouting information) or direct you to another adult in the room who can. We are trying to free me up a bit more during the meetings so I can focus on interacting with the boys and not get distracted away from a Scoutmaster's duties. We would like to also get several of the Assistant Scoutmasters more engaged with the boys as well.

Scout Sign-Ups are Back at the Meetings: We have recognized the need to bring back the convenience of allowing Scouts to sign themselves up for campouts and activities during Troop meetings. If a Scout wants to attend an upcoming activity, he needs to go see Mrs. Bolon or Mrs. Martinez who have a computer and can sign-up Scouts on the spot. Our general policy for campouts: If your Scout has signed up for an activity, then Parents will see an email from me on the Wednesday before a campout that includes a list of all Scouts that have signed up. Parents have until Thursday evening to add or delete their Scouts from the list. After Thursday evening the registration will be closed and food will be purchased Friday morning.

Troop Web Host is Live and we need ALL families on it, ASAP. Last year we 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** 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.

Fundraising Activities:

Rotary Duck Race Tickets: **For those who ordered them, Duck Tickets can be picked up and will be distributed by me at our Court of Honor tomorrow!** These are the Scouts who have pre-reserved and can get their ticket packets from me (Mrs. Martinez will NOT be at the CoH): Seth H., Erik Y., James B., D'Angelo W., Javin F., and Zach F. Mrs. Martinez will pick up more packets this Friday. Please email her at tonyandkristy@yahoo.com if you would like one.

If you would like to order Duck Ticket to sell, please read below carefully for instructions on how to participate:

On July 8, 2017 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 individual 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 26, 2017.**

For customers who buy a \$5 duck ticket from your Scout, 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 your customer receives 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 in May and June and Scouts can sell their tickets to the patrons.

If you and your Scout would like to participate please email Mrs. Martinez at tonyandkristy@yahoo.com if you would like her to pick up a sales packet of 25 tickets for your Scout. Since the Troop has to “front” \$25 for each packet, we are asking parents to commit to selling, or buying themselves, all of the tickets in each packet they order. This is so the Troop does not have to incur any financial losses in Scouts don’t sell their tickets. **So a \$25 debit is applied to your Scout account, for every packet ordered**, which then means 100% of the money you collect (\$125 for each complete packet sold plus any “in-kind” donations you collect) will go into the Scout account. You can order additional packets from Mrs. Martinez at any time once the previous packet and money are turned in.

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!

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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[View attachments on the web](#)