

Hello Troop 66 Scouts, Scouters and Parents;

**Meeting this week (Monday, July 11) is at the First Congregational Church (9th Ave. & Francis St)** We will be helping Stephen M. finish his Eagle project during the meeting.

**Agenda for this Monday Night's Troop meeting:**

6:45 **Service Patrol (Spartans) set up** for flag ceremony, PLC check-in  
7:00 Flag Ceremony. Announcements.  
7:10 Stephen M. Eagle Project. We will be assembling the Cat Condos for the Longmont Humane Society. This will be fun and extremely helpful to Stephen who will be finishing his Eagle Project this night. Scouts who participate will receive one community service hour (see new Boy Scout Handbook service requirements for all ranks above Scout)  
8:10 Games  
8:30 Cleanup by Service Patrol

**We Need a Popcorn Kernel!!!** This fall from September- Mid-October (only six short weeks!), we will be offering the BSA Popcorn Sale Fundraiser to Scouts (all of the 29% that our Troop receives goes directly to the Scout account of the individual Scout seller). Our Troop is in need of a Coordinator (aka Popcorn Kernel. Many thanks to Mr. DeBie for serving as our Kernel for the past few years) for the fundraiser. This position comes with lots of training and encouragement. The Popcorn Sale for our Troop is much, much smaller scale than Cub Scouts but we need an adult to step up and help us. There is a Council Popcorn Kickoff Meeting (great training and information) on Saturday, July 23rd 9 am – 1 pm in Loveland including a nice catered lunch. Please let me, or Mrs. Martinez, know if you are willing to help us with this important fundraiser.

**Upcoming Troop Activities:**

**Sunday, July 17, 6:30 pm Adult Committee Meeting at the church.**

**Monday, July 18 Parent Meeting (only Summer Camp Parents) and Summer Camp Shakedown for Scouts.** Other Scouts will work on advancement requirements they need.

**Tuesday, July 19, 7 pm PLC Meeting at the church.**

**Saturday, July 23, 2016- Luke M. Eagle Scout Project 9 am – 1 pm.** Luke is continuing a Troop 66 commitment to the St. Vrain Historical Society by conducting a service project at Old Mill Park. We will be doing several small restoration and maintenance projects. Luke needs lots of Scouts and Adults (needed to operate power tools) to help him with his project and finish his journey to Eagle. Luke will be providing light breakfast and hardy lunch. **Please sign up at a meeting** or email Luke at [303lukem@gmail.com](mailto:303lukem@gmail.com) if you would like to participate.

**July 25 NO MEETING.** Many Scouts and Adults are at Summer Camp and everyone else gets a break.

**July 24-30, 2016 – Summer Camp at Peaceful Valley** – All Medical forms, including Part C that is signed by your physician, are due to Mrs. Martinez by Monday, July 18. There will be a Parent Meeting on July 18 and a packing shakedown given by Patrol Leaders. This means all Scouts going to Summer Camp need to bring their complete bag/ foot locker/tote to the meeting that night for a friendly inspection. Please see separate Summer Camp email for the details about preparing for camp.

**August 26-28 Webelos Adventure Weekend at Camp Tahosa-** Once again we will head up to Camp Tahosa for a fun weekend with local Cub Scouts in Webelos and Arrow of Light dens. Our Boy Scouts will head up to Tahosa on Friday night, have a full day of activities with the Cub Scouts (arriving Saturday morning) and some free time for the Boy Scouts, and head home on Sunday morning. Activities will include canoeing and kayaking, fishing, Frisbee Golf, dutch oven cooking, a flag retirement ceremony and other fun stuff that our PLC plans. We need lots of Scouts to join us this weekend and help us show the Cub Scouts and parents how awesome Boy Scouts and Troop 66 are.

**August 29 Fall Court of Honor**

**September 9-11 Shooting Sports Campout at Camp Ben Delatour.** As the date gets closer, we will send out more information concerning this campout. This is our rescheduled campout from early May. Thank you Mr. Foss and Mr. Ratliff for being our Shooting Sports Coordinators and for planning this awesome campout for us!

**September 23-25 Mountain Biking Campout at Curt Gowdy State Park in Wyoming** Once again Mr. Groff will be leading us on a great weekend of camping and mountain biking. We also get a chance to do a small conservation project in the park. This will help many Scouts who need conservation and regular service hours (see new Boy Scout Handbook service requirements for all ranks above Scout).

**Who Wants to Go Spelunking?** Many Scouts have requesting a caving campout adventure. We are in the planning stages of a Caving Campout to Cave of the Winds in Manitou Springs, Colorado this October. Is there an adult in the Troop who would like to be our Champion (aka Coordinator) of this campout?

**November 11-12 Annual Lock-In at the Church**

### **General Announcements:**

**Many Scout Accounts are in Arrears:** The Troop Committee met two weeks ago and there is concern over the number of Scout accounts that have negative balances. This is not healthy for our Troop and limits us to committing to doing activities. With the new TroopWebHost System (<https://www.troopwebhost.org/Troop66Longmont/Index.htm>), all families have the ability to check their account balances at any time. Our Treasurer and Assistant Scout Master, Fritz Foss, has many other duties with the troop so we need to

help him by being proactive about checking and making payments to accounts. It is very nice for the troop if you keep some money in your account and not always hover around or under zero. The Troop Committee voted in a new financial policy that we will require Scout accounts be at least at zero before a Scout can commit to another activity, particularly high priced activities like Summer Camp. Please come speak to me or our Treasurer, Fritz Foss, if you need scholarship assistance BEFORE you commit to an activity. Scholarship money is not available to pay off negative balance accounts. Thanks so much for taking this seriously and staying on top of your financials.

**Bring Your Scout Handbook to EVERY Meeting!** It has come to our attention that several Scouts, first class rank or below, are not bringing their Scout Handbooks to the meetings. If you do not bring your book, then there is a good chance that the Scout will miss out on the sign-off of advancement requirements that were worked on that night. Remember any First Class or higher ranked Scout, or registered adult leader, can sign off on rank advancement requirements in the book if they witnessed the Scout doing those requirements. It is the Scouts responsibility to bring his own book, and make sure the requirements are signed off.

**Class B T-shirts can be worn to Troop Meetings during the Summer!** While school is out for the Summer, Scouts may wear Class-B shirts, instead of the full Class A uniform, 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, Scouts must be in the Class-B shirt, which is our summer uniform, to be part of the Color Guard at our meetings. A new batch of Class B T-shirts are now available for sale at our troop meetings. Also, a few Class B shirts are great to have at Summer Camp.

**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 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](mailto:foss@airmail.net). **The next phase in our rollout is to get all activity sign-ups done through Troop Web Host starting right after Summer Camp. 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 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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