Hello Scouts, Scouters, and Parents,

[Please arrive before 7pm. Many scouts are arriving late and it disrupting flags and announcements..] Our next Troop Meeting is Tomorrow (Monday, March 11) 7-8:30 pm at First Congregational United Church of Christ, located at the corner of 9th Ave and Francis, Longmont, CO 80501.

Meeting This Week:

Personal Management Merit Badge Class. Please bring your orange folder and green check-off. Requirement 7 will be covered in class. No homework due, but participation in class discussion is required.

Agenda for this Monday:

- 6:45 Service Patrol (Stealth) arrive at 6:45 to setup flags, tables, and chairs.
- 7:00 Opening Flag Ceremony- Stealth Patrol (Class A uniforms)
- 7:10 Announcements
- 7:15 Personal Management MB class meet in the chapel.
- 8:10 Games
- 8:30 Cleanup: All Hands on Deck

Upcoming Troop Activities:

This, Friday, March 15, 6-8 pm Pack 673 Crossover Ceremony with dinner. I'm looking for 3-4 boys to help us welcome our newest scouts from Pack 673. Please sign up in TroopWebHost ASAP.

THIS SATURDAY, March 16 Snow Caving and Snow Fun Day. Deadline to register: This Wed. 3/13

We will meet at the church at 9th and Francis at 8 am.. We will leave at 8:15. We should be home around 5 pm. We will call and give you a more accurate time on our way through Nederland.

The event has been added to Troop Web Host. Please sign up by this Wednesday, March 13. <u>https://www.troopwebhost.org/Troop66Longmont/Index.htm</u>

The troop will provide Cup of Noodles, cheese, summer sausage, fruit and cookies for lunch. Each scout will need to bring an entire change of clothes. You WILL get wet building the cave. Winter ski attire works great. Also, bring 2-3 pairs of gloves/mittens. Also, each scout will need their 10 essentials including a filled quart bottle of water.

Bring snowshoes if you own them and we will have a short hike after lunch and do some exploring. If you do not own snowshoes, please let me know. I will work on getting some at a nominal rate from a local shop.

The weather looks great for the day. High in the 30s. Remember: We will be at 10,000 ft in elevation. Please dress appropriately.

Please bring your 10 essentials in a small backpack, including an entire change of clothes. You WILL get wet building the cave. 2-3 sets of gloves/mittens is great. Face mask and beanie hat also required.

- A **pocketknife or multi-tool** can be handy in a wide variety of situations. It's useful for tasks as large as building an emergency shelter or lighting a campfire with poor fuel, or as small as repairing a damaged backpack. Don't forget to first earn your Whittling Chip (for older Cub Scouts) or Totin' Chip (for Boy Scouts).
- A first-aid kit can be a lifesaver. Literally.
- Bring **extra clothing** to match the weather. Multiple layers are better than a single massive jacket because layered clothing is adaptable to a wide range of temperatures.
- **Rain gear** is very important. Being wet from rain may result in hypothermia, a potentially fatal condition.
- A **flashlight** is important for finding your way in the dark.
- **Trail food** is good for maintaining your energy.
- Water can prevent dehydration, heat exhaustion and heatstroke. Filled 1 Quart Nalgene bottle is best.
- Matches and/or a fire starter may be used to light fires for heat, or for signaling for help.
- Sun protection includes sunblock, sunglasses, lip balm, and a wide-brimmed hat.
- A map and compass are probably the most important tools you can carry in case you get lost.

If your scout does not show up with ALL of the correct gear, they will not be able to attend the snow caving activity.

NEXT MONDAY, March 18 Fun night at Get Air Trampoline from 6:30 to 8:30.

The cost will be \$18 per jumper and this includes the sock rental. At the last committee meeting, we decided that the troop would pay \$10 each for registered scouts (so each scout will pay \$8 out of pocket). Friends and siblings are welcome, but will need to pay the full \$18. <u>Get Air Trampoline Waiver</u> Please click this link to sign the online waiver. EVERYONE MUST sign the waiver before they can jump. Please sign up in Troop Web Host. The \$8.00 fee will be deducted from scout account.

Monday, March 25. No Meeting. Have a great Spring Break.

<u>Monday, March 18 \$100 Summer Camp Payment Due.</u> Please make sure there is enough money in your Scout's account to cover this payment.

<u>Wednesday, April 3 & 10 Scoutmaster Position-Specific (SMS) Training provides Scoutmasters</u> and Assistants (SMs and ASMs) with the basic information and tools they need to lead successful Scout BSA troops. Completing both SMS and IOLS along with Youth Protection qualifies SMs and ASMs as "trained" for their position. Date/Time: Wednesday, April 3rd from 6:30 – 9:30 pm, and Wednesday, April 10 from 6:30 – 9:00 pm. Both sessions must be completed. Location: Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, 71st and Lookout Rd, Boulder. Registration: Cost: \$5.00. Register at the Council Service Center.

April 6, UCC Annual Garage Sale Clean-up. Our charter organization needs help cleaning up after their Annual Garage Sale. 12:00 pm-2:00 pm. Wear your class B shirts to help them clean up. Sign up on TWH.

April 12-14 Wapiti Spring Camporee. Ft. Lupton. Information to follow.

April 20, 2019 Spring MBU at the University of Colorado. Registration is open. See email with Registration Information sent out this week.

Monday, April 22. \$135 Summer Camp payment due.

Monday, April 22. \$330 Northern Tier payment due.

Monday, April 29. No Meeting. Schools Out

General Announcements:

Summer Camp 2019 Registration is still Open: Troop 66 will be attending Summer Camp at Peaceful Valley Camp Cris Dobbins just east of Colorado Springs on **June 23-29, 2019**. Please turn in the check and registration form to Mrs. Martinez or Mr. Francis..

PayPal is Now Available to make Troop 66 Account Payments! *From Troop 66 Treasurer Scott Francis*: Cash and check are still welcome.. If you have a Paypal account and transfer money from a bank account, you can transfer money to the scout account for no fee. If you use a credit card, you will be charged a fee of \$0.30 plus 2.9% of the value of the transaction. This fee is from Paypal, not the troop. After you submit money via Paypal, I will get an email notification and can send you this notification as a receipt. After I receive the notification, I will credit the scout account in Troop Web Host. This may not happen for several days after the transfer of money. The account is set up as Boy Scout Troop Sixty Six, but you may need to use my email address to find the account: 07consultingcolo@gmail.com

Troop Web Host: Our Troop Advancement and Accounting Software. We subscribe to a web-based Troop management software that helps 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.** If you need to receive login credentials, please email Mr. Foss at foss@airmail.net. Please make sure you are using and up-to-speed on this web based management software so we can streamline the activity management and workload on our adult leaders.

Fundraising Activities:

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, Ms. Platts or Mr. Francis 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! **If you shop at King Soopers, please, please use your gift cards**!

Troop Calendar:

For current status of all upcoming meetings and troop activities, please reference our Troop Calendar on our Troop Website: <u>https://bsa66..weebly..com/ calendar..html</u>

Yours in Scouting,

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