

# Troop 219 Informational Handout

([www.troop-219.org](http://www.troop-219.org))

- **Troop Committee Meeting**

The next troop committee meeting is Wednesday, May 15, 2002 at 7:00PM at the church.

- **OA Spring Conclave**

Four adults from the troop are driving up and can provide transportation to youth Arrowmen and new Ordeal Candidates. The four adults are Mr Zimbler (2-3 seats -- leaving early, about 3:00 PM); Mr. Miller & Dr. Waters (2-3 seats each, leaving about 4:00PM) and Mr. Hussar (2 seats), leaving around 5:00 PM. Obviously, the amount of room for boys and gear is limited in each car, but in combination, there is room for all we expect to attend. If you intend to ride up with one of these adults, you MUST sign up at tonight's meeting, or see the driver directly. You can drop your gear off at Mr. Zimbler's house on Thursday evening to keep room in the cars.

The troop will be bringing up enough tents to ensure tent space if you need it. Conclave fees can be paid at registration and that's where you turn in your health form/permission slip. If you are an Ordeal Candidate you must make sure that you arrive at camp before 9:30PM; and remember, I-75 has some substantial construction to otherwise tie up heavy Friday evening traffic – adjust your plans accordingly.

- **Summer Camp**

Summer camp fees are due in full by tonight's meeting. After that, you can still go, but there is a \$30 late charge imposed by Tall Pine Council. As I check the program calendar I notice that a date for the orientation/parent meeting for summer camp is not on it. A date will be set shortly and should be in the next handout. Tentatively figure Monday night, June 24<sup>th</sup>.

- **MAY 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting at Mr Hussar's House**

I was unable to develop a practical means to use Oakwood Cemetery for our practice at this meeting so we will use the facilities at Mr. Hussar's house **THE SCOUT MEETING**  
**NEXT WEEK IS MOVED TO MR. HUSSAR'S HOUSE – same time, 7:00PM to 8:30PM and if the weather is nasty, MAKE SURE YOU'RE DRESSED FOR IT. We'll be practicing flag ceremonies and marching for the Memorial Day parade so you're likely to be outdoors for the entire meeting. There's a map to Mr. Hussar's house on page 2.**

- **Memorial Day Parade**

We'll meet at the church at 8:30AM on Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup> in FULL UNIFORM. We'll have donuts and either juice or hot chocolate depending on the weather. Then we'll march to the community center and join the parade. You can pickup your scouts either at the church or at Oakwood Cemetery after the ceremonies end, usually around 11:00AM.

Memorial day is the day set aside to honor all of those who gave their lives so that we can live in the freedom and lifestyle we're accustomed to. It's a serious holiday and showing our appreciation by participating in this community event is an appropriate way to fulfill our "duty to God and country" that is part of the Scout oath we say so often. As recent events have shown us, the freedom we enjoy in this country is not free, and as Scouts we take on an even greater burden toward protecting it. The three hours you spend participating here are an easy way to live out the meaning of the Scout Oath and Law. I expect every member of the troop that is in town that day to join us, in uniform, and proudly show our colors.

- **Scoutmaster Junior Leader Training**

This is scheduled for Saturday, June 8, and will be in combination with the junior leaders of troop 212. Training starts PROMPTLY at 9:00AM and is usually over by 2:00 PM. Unless notified otherwise, plan on the training being at the Presbyterian Church. All elected junior leaders (SPL, Patrol Leaders) must attend and all appointed junior leaders are welcome to attend.

- **Dorchester International Brotherhood Camporee**

Eight scouts and four adults attended. In spite of early reports to the contrary, the Camporee was held at Camp Bel and not across the road. Our patrol made it to 28 events and traded their points for "Fonzie the wonder bunny" at the blind auction Saturday night. Saturday morning temperature was 28° and Sunday morning belonged to the ducks. But we got packed and out in great time and even had no issues at either border crossing. Ask the boys who went about how good a time they had, and how well they ate (within budget).

- **High Adventure Trip**

There are revised permission slips for the LNT campout and for the June pre-summer camp patrol campouts for those scouts who are planning to attend the high adventure hike in the Smoky Mountains this August. See Dr. Waters to

ensure that you have the most current form. Some of the events are lengthened or have different starting points and equipment needs as we try to coordinate adequate preparation with already scheduled troop events.

● **A note about "dressing for the weather" (a scoutmaster's minute)**

It seems like this phrase means different things to different people and also different things to adults than to children and young adults. Certainly over the years, our lifestyles have changed to spend much more time in climate controlled surroundings. As a result, our attitude toward what is required to be prepared for weather has changed. In boy scouting, we spend a great deal of continuous time in the outdoors, where God runs the climate control. It's a lot different dress that's appropriate for being out in 50° temperatures, or rain, for a few minutes from building to vehicle to building, or working in an unheated garage, than to be standing or sitting around in 50° weather or rain, or wind, for 8 hours continuously. ***The light jacket or windbreaker that works for short periods of time does not work for extended periods.*** Scouts need to review the weather report and come prepared with adequate gear to stay warm for extended periods of time and dry for extended periods of time against heavy rain. This means layers and a good rain suit or poncho and waterproof footwear with plenty of socks. Learning these skills is part of the advancement program and many techniques are covered in the *Boy Scout Handbook*. It got pretty chilly this past Friday night, and it got pretty wet this past Sunday morning. Some boys were better prepared than others. Common sense is the watchword, recognizing that the longer you stay out in cool or wet weather, the better protection you're going to need. It's my belief that scouting goes on weather notwithstanding. It's highly unusual for me to cancel or end events because of weather. That only makes preparation even more important. Some of the adult leaders have suggested reviewing each boy's gear before leaving for an event, not allowing boys who are inadequately prepared to attend; or requiring that parents deliver better protection to the event site. This takes time that we don't have and I'd rather trust to the common sense of the boys (sometimes learning from failure) and the care and concern of parents in advising their sons as they prepare for each activity. We'll go out of our way to cover for things that we can, and if it becomes a health/safety issue, we'll be in contact with parents about the situation to prevent danger. But the Scout's level of preparation is important especially in light of our motto: BE PREPARED!

Larry Zimble  
Scoutmaster-Boy Scout Troop 219