

Troop 219 Informational Handout

(www.troop-219.org or www.troop219.org)

• We Won Klondike Derby

Klondike patrol participants Ken Pigott, Kyle Hanson, Mark Humphreys, Kevin Humphreys, Mike Holcomb, JT Waters, Garrett Stewart, Andy Weston and Nick Stewart (acting as patrol leader) took **FIRST PLACE** in the New Horizon's District annual Klondike Derby. Congratulations!

• Scout Sunday Church Service and Pancake Breakfast – February 2, 2003

This year, on Scout Sunday (February 2nd), the troop will live up to the twelfth point of the Scout Law in the following way: Early in the morning we will hold a pancake breakfast at the church. Scouts will help cook, serve and clean up (you'll be fed, too). Scouts should arrive at the church by 7:00AM, or earlier, in full Scout (Class A) uniform.

After that, we'll attend the 10:45AM service upstairs and assist with ushering, reading or any other services we're asked to perform. I have discovered that national BSA rules do not permit me to require attendance at the church service. So, I withdraw the MANDATORY and the severe consequences portions of my previous statements; and I apologize to anyone who may have been offended. (For the curious, I discovered this on my own while looking for something else, nobody complained, and I *am* allowed to make the pancake breakfast part mandatory.)

So, unless attending a Presbyterian worship service offends your personal religious convictions, I'd ***really like*** for you to make whatever arrangements you need to fulfill your own, different religious responsibilities either beforehand or afterward if attending this service will not fulfill your personal devotional requirements. Co-incidentally, the pancake breakfast is expected to result as a fundraiser for the troop (9th point of the scout law).

• Polar Bear Campout INDOOR Training – February 3rd.

The troop meeting of February 3rd will be dedicated to the indoor training required to attend the scheduled troop Polar Bear campout, rescheduled for February 22-23, 2003 at Dr. Waters' property. All scouts should plan to attend the meeting -- the training is appropriate for everybody, however you **MUST** attend this training if you intend to participate in the campout.

• Fundraiser District Pinewood Derby – February 7

We still need several Scouts and Adults to attend the District Pinewood Derby on Saturday, February 7th. These Scouts will help sell pinewood derby stands and also run some games to keep the cubs busy while they're not racing. **FULL SCOUT (CLASS A) UNIFORM IS EXPECTED.** Attendance at the Pack 286 event was ***disappointing***, but the financial results were not. I certainly hope we'll make a ***much better showing*** here.

• Tapico Winter Cabin Campout RESCHEDULED – February 14-15-16

Special arrangements have been made to have the use of the new troop cabin at Tapico and be able to move this event one week forward in time to the weekend of February 14 – 15 - 16. A special flyer was mailed to all Scout families on January 17th. Signup forms are available online and at troop meetings. **Signup Deadline is NEXT MONDAY, cost is \$35/person – Entire families are encouraged to attend together.**

• Polar Bear Campout– February 22-23.

Because of the change to the winter fun weekend, the Polar Bear campout is also moved one week forward in time to it's scheduled alternate date, February 22 & 23, 2003. You must attend the indoor training scheduled for February 3rd to participate. **Signup deadline is February 10, 2003, cost is \$20.**

• STAR SEMINAR – January 30th

A **STAR SEMINAR** is scheduled at the Tall Pine Council office at 7:00PM this Thursday, January 30, 2003. Attendance at one Star Seminar is required **after reaching the rank of STAR** but **before a LIFE rank Scout may begin his Eagle Leadership Service Project.** You must call the council office (810-235-2531) to tell them you're coming; call **right away** if you intend to go. Transportation *might* be available.

- **New Horizons District Swim RESULTS**

The paperwork was distributed very quickly this year. Three Scouts: Michael Holcomb, Jon King and Matt Rybar completed the Lifesaving Merit Badge. Three Scouts: Garrett Stewart, John Murray and Kyle Hanson received partials for Swimming Merit Badge mostly for lack of CPR evidence. See Mr. Hussar to work on completing the requirements remaining. If you attended the NH District Swim sessions and your name is not listed, see me right away.

- **Silver Bars JLTC**

The Silver Bars JLTC course curriculum is an outstanding, one-of-a-kind opportunity to really learn and practice leadership skills in a way unsurpassed at achieving its goals. Both Mr. Hussar and Mr. Zimble can provide detailed answers to any questions you may have. The website www.silverbars.org has information about the course and forms. The next Silver Bars course will run from June 23 – 29, 2003 at **CAMP HOLAKA** in Lapeer, at a cost of \$175 (\$145 if paid by March 31). I passed out applications to eligible Scouts several weeks ago. ***If you're interested, its time to signup NOW!!!***

- **2004 Philmont Trek(s)**

Reservations are now being accepted for one of two treks to Philmont during the summer of 2004. A \$100 deposit is required to reserve your space. Watch for more information in council line and as soon as I have more data it'll be in these handouts and on the website.

- **2005 National Boy Scout Jamboree**

Tall Pine Council is currently beginning the steps to prepare for the 2005 National Jamboree. At last word, 27 scouts had already reserved spots. All boys currently in the troop are eligible so long as you stay registered. A \$50 deposit is required to hold your spot with the council troop. The \$50 is non-refundable BUT it is TRANSFERRABLE so it's a good idea to sign up now – there's virtually no risk. Total cost is expected to be around \$1,300. The National Jamboree is an experience not to be missed. It's held at Ft. A.P. Hill just outside of Washington DC every 4 years. Some 35,000 scouts from all over the world attend and there's just too much to describe in a troop newsletter. The trip usually includes one or more side trips to fun and/or historic places on the way to and/or from the Jamboree site. It's an outstanding event and an experience Scouts will remember all their lives. More information will follow but you won't be able to wait too long to reserve a spot. See me for the official sign-up sheet.

We will have a special presentation on National Jamboree at the February 10th troop meeting.

- **OA Chapter Meetings and Adult Roundtable**

REMINDER -- The next meeting of the Bidaban Chapter of the OA is Thursday February 13, 2003 at the Grand Blanc Middle School. Bidaban Chapter meetings are for OA members only, and all T-219 Arrowmen should plan to attend. This is the same date, place and time as the adult Roundtable meeting so several T-219 adult leaders are usually going (at least Mr. Zimble and Mr. Hussar and often Mr. Cox, Mr. Witzgall, Dr. Waters and sometimes others too.) – they are usually more than willing to provide you with transportation there and back! – *if* you ask in advance.

- **Troop Committee Meeting**

The next troop committee meeting is Wednesday, February 19, 2003 at 7:00PM at the church. We strongly urge the **parents of ALL SCOUTS in the troop to attend** these meetings. The ongoing success of Troop 219 demands the dedicated involvement of *many* adults – especially YOU!

- **Finding & Contacting the Scoutmaster**

If you need to contact me outside of scouting events, it's usually *NOT* a good idea to call my house. The quickest and most effective way to contact me is by email – taxwiz@ftmn.com; the second most effective way is to call my office at 810-695-8484. Even if you have to leave a message (*which is likely*), you'll get a quicker response than if you leave the message at my house. In a dire emergency, or while we're in the field, my cell phone is 810-814-2472. This works; sorry for the inconvenience – I'm not hiding out, I just have a hectic work schedule (and a hatred of telephones).

Larry Zimble
Scoutmaster-Boy Scout Troop 219