

# Troop 219 Informational Handout

([www.troop-219.org](http://www.troop-219.org) or [www.troop219.org](http://www.troop219.org))

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

Quite a few Scouts attended the pancake breakfast, more than we had guests. I'm very impressed with the way the troop handled this event. Overall we did make some money as donations exceeded our direct costs. Now that we've practiced, and performed well, the PLC will consider making this an annual event, and we'll be looking at more like it as fundraisers in the future.

For Scouts below First Class rank the pancake breakfast and the church service will count as separate troop activities (toward the 5/10 activity requirement) For scouts at First Class and Star ranks, the pancake breakfast will count as 3 service hours plus another 1 service hour for attending the church service.

- **OA Election Results.**

Here's the story: Eight of ten eligible Scouts were elected into the OA at last week's election. I'm trying to schedule a ceremonies team to visit us and conduct a Calling Out ceremony to recognize the Scouts who were elected. The experience of a Calling Out ceremony is enhanced when participants do not know who is being called out. So... if I cannot schedule a Calling Out ceremony reasonably soon, I'll announce the names of the Scouts who were elected. Otherwise you'll find out when you're called out, or not.

If you were elected, you still need to complete the Ordeal experience at one of the next two conclaves to become a member. I'll make sure you get details in time either from the OA or through the troop.

- **Fundraiser District Pinewood Derby – February 8 (date correction)**

We need several Scouts and Adults to attend the District Pinewood Derby on Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup>. 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 and 158 events were *disappointing*, but the financial results were not. I expect us to make a *much better showing* here. NOTE: previous handouts erroneously reported the date as the 7<sup>th</sup>.

- **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 17<sup>th</sup>. Signup forms are available online and at troop meetings. **Signup Deadline is TONIGHT, 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 3<sup>rd</sup> to participate. **Signup deadline is February 10, 2003, cost is \$20.**

- **We will have a special presentation on National Jamboree at the February 10<sup>th</sup> troop meeting.**

- **Scouting for Food Bag Dropoff & Bluespring Caverns**

We'll meet at the church on Saturday March 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:30AM (yup it's real early). We'll drop off the bags in our assigned area and then leave immediately for southern Indiana. There may still be some opportunity to signup for the Bluespring Cavern cave campout. In addition to the cost of the cavern campout, Scouts will need to bring funds for three meals on the road (lunch and dinner Saturday, and lunch Sunday), probably \$15 - \$20. More information will be posted in the next two handouts as we finalize drivers and other details.

- **Mackinac Island Governor's Honor Guard**

There's still opportunities to sign up for this event, even though the published deadline has passed. Applications and details were distributed previously and are available on our web page or from me.

- **Order of the Arrow Seeks Ceremonialists**

OA members who want to get involved with ceremonies are reminded that there is a ceremonies team

meeting this coming Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 2:00PM at the old administration building at Camp Holaka. If you like performing, or want to get better at it, the camaraderie and fun of OA ceremonies is great.

- **Den Chief Training Scheduled – Den Chiefs for Webelos Wonderland Needed**

Den Chief Training is scheduled for April 4-5-6. Trained Den Chiefs age 14 and over are being sought to staff Webelos Wonderland at Camp Tapico. Webelos Wonderland is scheduled for August this year.

- **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!

### **Scout Oath / Scout Law – Behavior Issues (a Scoutmaster minute)**

There should be no question or doubt in anyone's mind that the behavior standard for Scouts is the Scout Oath and the Scout Law. Living by these tenets is fundamental to being a Scout – if you can't or won't live up to these basic rules you are not a Scout, and your uniform hides none of your hypocrisy. If you are a member of this troop I expect you to be a Scout and act the part all the time, at home, in school, with your friends and at troop meetings and activities.

Recently I've had to deal with several issues of scouts acting in a un-scout-like manner at troop meetings. There is no excuse for this and the only reason that Scouts have not yet been sent home from the meetings up to now is that I'm not aware of the incidents until the meetings end. I've had discussions with several Scouts and a few more are still to be held. A fundamental requirement for every scout rank is to demonstrate that you live the Scout Oath and Scout Law in your everyday life.

Based on this, rank advancement has been and will be delayed for all Scouts whose known behavior is not in line with expected standards, until corrected. Perfection is not required, and there are differences in degree. Second step is conferences with parents, and then suspension from troop activities. Well beyond the fact that neither I nor any of the other adults associated with the troop volunteer our time because we want to have to enforce lapses in behavior standards, there really is no reason why any Scout should ever allow their own behavior to bring them to that point. When Scouts fail to behave properly, they steal from their fellow Scouts the right and expectation that troop meetings and activities be meaningful, fun and safe.

I've asked the PLC, as troop leaders, to increase their own level of observation and involvement and, to the degree that this does not prevent further incidents, I would hope it can at least make consequences more certain and immediate (*certainty* and immediacy is far more effective than severity).

Along these lines, it's come to my attention that church neighbors have reported that their doorbells have been rung with no one there and that it only seems to occur on Monday nights. Of course none of this could *possibly* be *our* Scouts, but since troop members are often in the position to observe any others who might be doing it, all Scouts are asked to be good neighbors and good citizens and be observant of who might be the culprits here, and let me know.

Larry Zimble  
Scoutmaster-Boy Scout Troop 219