

Troop 219 Informational Handout

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

- **DORCHESTER INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD CAMPOREE (DIBC)**

Final cost is \$35. Dorchester signup sheets are due tonight -- April 28th. Make sure that you read the information in the March 24 handout or online and have the appropriate identity papers available. I've recently received an email response from the event organizers assuring me that the SARS issues related to Toronto do not affect the London, Ontario area or this event.

- **Cub Scout Day Camp NEEDS YOUR HELP.**

Cub Scout Day Camp is June 23 - June 26, 2003 at **SILVER LAKE PARK** in Fenton. Scouts **age 14 and over** are NEEDED to staff as Den Chiefs, to help run program areas, or as staff assistants. Because of National program standards, Scouts under age 14 are more limited in the roles they're allowed to serve. This year's theme is "Detective Cubby". I have a special application and health/permission form for any Scout that is interested in acting as a Den Chief (age 14+) or Den Aide (not yet age 14); see me.

- **SUMMER CAMP is fast approaching.**

ALL of the fee for summer camp is due on or before Monday May 12. Payments after that date will require an *additional \$30 late fee* imposed by the Tall Pine Council. Total cost for Summer Camp this year is \$205 for boys and \$85 for Adults, which includes the cost of the **mandatory** pre-summer camp/Court of Honor campout scheduled for May 30 – 31 at Dr. Waters' property.

- **First and Second Class Rank – Swimming Requirements**

Mr. Hussar has arranged to conduct the appropriate instruction/testing for the swimming requirements for Second Class and First Class Scout ranks. Specifically, Second Class requirements 7b and 7c plus First Class requirements 9b and 9d (9c is no longer required). If you do not already have these rank requirements completed and signed off, be at the **Fenton High School Pool at 7:00PM next Friday, May 2, 2003**. Cost is **\$3.00 per person** OR \$10.00 for a family of 4. The pool is open to others at the same time, so entire families can attend.

Recent articles in Scouting Magazine have highlighted the fact that, absent a specific physical disability (mental blocks don't count) that prevents the scout from being physically capable of meeting the swim requirements it is not possible to advance beyond the rank of Tenderfoot as a non-swimmer. Mr. Hussar is not only fully certified but he is particularly skilled to assist you if you are a weak swimmer or have some other fear or concerns about being in the water – take the opportunity to work with him, especially if this is a weak area for you.

- **Order of the Arrow Section C2A Conclave – May 3, 4, 5**

Our Lodge is part of seven lodges from Flint to Port Huron south to Findlay, Ohio. This past year ALL SEVEN lodges earned the National Quality Lodge designation. The lodges get together for a Conclave weekend of fun, fellowship and training (no arduous labor) this year at D Bar A Scout Ranch, in Metamora, MI. There is still a limited opportunity to sign up at the higher \$34 fee. This event is open only to members of the Order of the Arrow (not recently elected candidates) and is a great fun weekend. Additionally, at D Bar A, we'll be staying in cabins!!!

- **STAR SEMINAR – May 6, 2003**

Star & Life Rank Scouts: A STAR SEMINAR is scheduled next Tuesday, May 6, 2003 probably at Grand Blanc High School. 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 and verify the exact times and

location where it's to be held. This STAR Seminar is hosted by our own New Horizons District, by our own Mr. Hussar, NH District Boy Scout Advancement Chair (but you still have to follow all the proper administrative procedures).

- **Youth Leadership Elections**

Nominations and campaigning for Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) will be in two weeks – Monday, May 12th. Troop elections are scheduled for the following troop meeting, Monday, May 19th. Following the SPL election and the appointment of an Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, patrols will elect Patrol Leaders to serve for the same period. Start thinking about running, or who you want to be elected. If the last six months has not proved to you that the Patrol Leaders Council (PLC) really does run this troop, nothing ever will – and the Senior Patrol Leader is the head of the PLC! This is the most important youth position in the troop.

At this point in time, the SMJLT scheduled for Saturday, June 7th is being reviewed with the possibility of being combined with the June 16th program planning meeting and turned into a weekend campout. More on this will follow as planning proceeds – but if you run for elected office, be prepared!

- **OA Lodge Spring Conclave – May 16 – 17 – 18, Camp Tapico**

Our OA Lodge will be holding the annual Spring Conclave beginning at 6PM on Friday, May 16, 2003 at Camp Tapico. **THIS IS THE EVENT that newly elected Ordeal Member candidates have been waiting for and this is the event for you not to miss.** If you're planning on going, whether you're already a member or you're first going to experience the Ordeal, and you need a ride up and/or back from camp – NOW is the time to let someone know about this need. Several troop adults will be attending and can provide transportation in one or both directions – but we need to know well in advance to make appropriate plans.

- **You Snooze – You Lose**

There've been a number of notices for a variety of non-troop Scout activities in these handouts this past year, and in each case Scouts were generally advised that if they wanted to participate they needed to sign up early. At least three events: Trail to Eagle, Silver Bars JLTC and the 2004 Philmont contingents are now all full with lengthy waiting lists. This year no worthwhile events occurred with enough room that a Scout could sign up near the last minute. So watch for opportunities and seize them quickly or risk being left behind.

- **Troop Rules for Scout Behavior.**

Everything else notwithstanding, Scouts are expected to behave according to the Scout Oath, the Scout Law, the Scout Slogan and the Scout Motto at all times –during and outside of Troop meetings and events.

The Patrol Leaders Council has spent some considerable time debating the issue of boys who demonstrate disruptive or other unacceptable behavior at troop meetings or events. I'm very proud of the youth leaders for taking such a serious stand on the issue, and for boy leaders taking responsibility for the behavior of the boys in the troop. The PLC has determined the following rules and has asked me to publish them in a troop handout. Be aware that while the boys have developed these rules (and especially *because* the boys have developed them) the Adult troop leadership will support them fully and assist as necessary in their enforcement. The rules below are from the PLC, the specific wording is mine.

- Scout meetings and events have a purpose and all Scouts attending are expected to assist in the achievement of that purpose. Scouts are not to bring magic cards, CD/MP3 players,

gameboys, pagers or any other electronic devices to scout meetings. (cell phones may be brought **if** they are **kept put away** except for emergency or to call for a ride after the close of the meeting). Devices violating this rule at meetings will be removed from the boy's possession and returned to parents after the close of the meeting. Magic Cards and some other games are sometimes allowed on campouts when used judiciously. Electronic devices (including cell phones) are NEVER permitted on campouts or summer camp.

- Patrol leaders are keeping track of individual Scout behavior violations. They have determined the following three step disciplinary process to ensure proper behavior:
 - First significant infraction: Scout is taken aside by the patrol leader (or other youth or adult leader who witnessed the action) and reminded of the unacceptability of the action and reminded of future consequences.
 - Second significant infraction: Parent(s) of the Scout are asked to meet with the SPL, Patrol Leader and Scoutmaster either after the meeting or event or before the next meeting to be advised of the problem and to discuss solutions and future consequences.
 - All future significant infractions: Parent(s) of the Scout are immediately called and asked to remove the Scout from the remainder of that meeting or event. At this point a meeting will need to be held between the Parent, the Scoutmaster and the Troop Committee Chair to review the situation and develop a plan to prevent future problems prior to the return of the Scout to meetings and events.

- **Troop High Adventure Program - 2003**

Dr. Waters will have a separate handout/flyer describing this year's high adventure program at tonight's meeting. If you're interested, make sure you pick one of these up from him. A copy of that flyer will get posted on the internet soon.

- **Troop Committee Meeting**

The next troop committee meeting is Wednesday, May 21, 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!

Larry Zimbler
Scoutmaster-Boy Scout Troop 219