

August 30, 2005

Dear Boys and Parents of Troop 219,

As I sit here writing this letter, summer is winding down and schools are starting again. I can't help but be thankful to God for the fantastic experiences of the summer: Camp Tapico, Jamboree, Washington D.C., visits to colleges and time spent with family and friends. I hope your summer was as rewarding and stimulating as mine.

A letter summarizing summer camp has been sent and is on the website. The troop planning meeting was held 8/29/05 and the year's calendar will be available shortly. Troop meetings begin September 12th at 7 PM in the Presbyterian Church of Fenton.

I expect we will have a lot of fun this year, from the usual events to our wilderness canoeing high adventure next summer. Over the past year I have noticed how fast the boys grow, learn, and mature. I have also noticed how cumulative our troop experiences are. In order for our patrol and troop to function more cohesively we need to be "on the same page". This will be accomplished by improved communication (Mr. Rybar has volunteered to help in this process) and consistent adult assignment to the patrols and attendance. Attendance at 3 of 4 meetings prior to an outing is required. Attendance at 2/3's of our year's outings will be required for summer camp and our High Adventure trip. If you cannot attend our meetings or outings, please see me and we can assess your goals, desires and commitments in scouting and perhaps work out an accommodation.

I have also noticed we waste a lot of time at our meetings. We will address this with better planned meetings, adults consistently working with the patrol and insisting that all be respectful during the meeting.

I am looking forward to a well run and active troop having great FUN this year. Please contact me about how you can be a part of our success and fun.

Respectfully Yours in Scouting,

John A. Waters, M.D.
Scoutmaster