

Troop 219 Informational Handout

(www.troop219.org)

● **Welcome Back to the second half of the 2008-2009 Scout Year**

Hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday season, as in a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Let us all hope that 2009 is a LOT more stable than the past year was.

● **New Horizons District Swim Program-update**

The third and final session of the New Horizons District Swim Program will be this Friday, January 9, 2009. If you have not made it to the second session of the Lifesaving Merit Badge you might still come back with a partial merit badge. If you made the first or second session of Swimming, or both, you have one more try at completing the Swimming Merit Badge. Again, Swimming Merit Badge runs from 8-10 P.M. while Lifesaving Merit Badge runs from 7-10 P.M. If a Scout needs a ride to and from or to or from this activity please contact me.

● **Recharter for 2009-2010 Scout Year and OA Dues for 2009**

RECHARTER: If you have not yet returned your Re-Registration paperwork yet you should contact Mr. Cox, our Committee Chairman, immediately as we are trying to wrap everything up and get our Charter turned in before the end of this month. If you need assistance of any kind see Mr. Cox, Mr. Miller or myself to see what can be done for you.

OA DUES: Dues for the 2009 year were due into the Scout Council office by the end of December. Dues are \$15.00. There is also a GOLD CARD which may be purchased for \$55 which will pay for your dues, the OA Winter Banquet in January and the Spring and Fall Conclaves. It does offer a savings if you plan to attend all of these functions. If you did not pay your 2008 Dues you may pay for them at the time that you pay your 2009 Dues and you will be reinstated

● **Tennis Fun for Scouts**

I received an email with a flyer about a program put on by the Genesee Valley Tennis Club.

This will take place on Sunday, January 11, 2009. COST: Free to all Scouts; 2-3 P.M. for Cub Scouts and 3-4 P.M. for Boy Scouts. Cubs can earn the Tennis Belt Loop during this one hour session. They will learn to play tennis through fun drills and games. Boy Scouts will have more challenging drills, games and activities designed especially for them. ALL skill levels are encouraged to attend and are welcome. If interested please call to RSVP no later than Thursday, January 8, 2009. GVTC 810-238-9691.

Interested participants will then be eligible to participate in a 6 week Tennis clinic for only \$45 (a \$75. value).

● **New Horizons District RoundTable and OA Chapter Meeting**

These are normally held on the second Thursday of each month-August through May. However, due to the January 1, 2009, New Year's Holiday the next date for these meetings will be Thursday, January 15, 2009. They begin at 7:00 P.M. and are held at the Fenton Road Baptist Church. This is on the west side of Fenton Rd. between Maple and Bristol Roads. Any members of the committee or any OA members are invited to attend the monthly RoundTable Meeting or Chapter Meeting. Adult OA Members-you have to decide between the Chapter Meeting or the District Meeting.

● **Troop Committee Meetings-with date correction**

Our next Troop Committee Meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 21, 2009. Committee meetings are held on the Wednesday after the District RoundTable in the upper level of the church in one of the classrooms and start promptly at 7:00 P.M. Parents are always invited, and encouraged, to attend these meetings.

● **2nd Annual Order of the Arrow Lock-In**

The Lock-in will start this Saturday night, January 10, 2009 at 9:00 A.M. and run into Sunday morning. Scouts can be picked up at 6:30 A.M. You should have picked up your ticket by Monday, January 5, 2009 (today).

There will be racquetball, open gym, a quiet room, pizza, pop, and LOTS of fun.

Come out for an evening of fun and fellowship!

See Handout # 8 for additional details.

● **Order of the Arrow Winter Banquet**

The Order of the Arrow Winter Banquet will be held on Sunday evening, January 11, 2009. This will be held at the Elba Lions Club on Elba Rd. (Exit 149 off of I-69) and Davison/Lapeer Rd. Doors open at 5:30 P.M. Dinner at 6:00 P.M. Awards will follow dessert. The cost will be \$12.00 with tickets on sale until Monday, January 5, 2009, at the Council Service Center. I will be attending the 2009 banquet this if anyone needs a ride to and from or to or from the banquet.

● **New Horizons District Klondike Derby for 2009**

If you have not yet turned in your paperwork for this activity it is due no later than next Monday, January 12, 2009. Date for the Klondike Derby only is Saturday, January 25. The cabin campout will be held January 24-26, 2009. Details were in Handout No. 8. The cabin we have rented was the only one still available and is limited to 12 people overnight.

● **National Youth Leadership Training**

The Tall Pine Council 2009 National Youth Leadership Training conference will take place at Camp Holaka, June 14-June 19, 2009. I have applications for the 2009 Course in my possession. This is a one week conference in which you learn and develop leadership skills (you develop them by using them throughout the course). The cost of the course is \$225.00 per participant and we would like to send up to 4 Scouts this year. The troop will pay a portion of your course fee. If you are interested please see me for an application. I may well be approaching some individuals to see if they are interested. During the week you will live as a patrol with other Scouts and must agree to conduct yourself AT ALL TIMES in accordance with the Scout Oath, the Scout Law, all of the conference rules, of Camp Holaka and the Tall Pine Council. You also agree to do your best to use the skills for the betterment of your home troop. You must be at least 13 years old by June 14, 2009 but not 18 years old by June 19, 2009. You must hold or intend to hold a leadership position. You must be mature enough and responsible enough to spend an entire week with Scouts you have never met, with minimal adult supervision, and always live the Scout Oath and Law. Your parents and Scoutmaster must agree and recommend you.

● **Mackinac Island Scout Service Troop 2009.**

Mr. Marshall, the Scoutmaster for this Troop, sent us an email that the dates for 2009 are May 25-30, 2009. Applications and additional information and the Training Schedule have been established and the information is on our Troop website. Mr. Zimmer-Head Chef, Mr. Miller (hopefully as Assistant to the Head Chef) and Mr. Hussar-Health Officer will be three of the 8 adults in attendance. Please see me for an application or information if you may be interested.

The Troop website has a copy of the Informational Sheet for the Mackinac Island Scout Service Troop (MISST), the 2009 Youth and Adult Applications, the 2009 Information Summary and a link to "View the State Park MISST History". Web misst127.org also has all of the information for 2009 if you would like to look thru it.

● **Tall Pine Council, Boy Scouts of America Good Turn for Goodwill Service Project (sponsored by The State Bank) January through March, 2009**

I picked up a flyer with information for this activity and have pulled the following information from it for this article.

Earn your Goodwill Patch and help hundreds in your community.

The **Goodwill Good Turn Donation Drive** helps people with disabilities and other barriers to find independence and employment through Goodwill programs. The donations you collect are resold in Goodwill Stores providing jobs and funds for other employments programs giving people the dignity of a paycheck and the satisfaction of a job well done. For years, Goodwill Industries and the Tall Pine Council of the Boy Scouts of America have been improving people's lives through the Power of Work-one donation, one job, one life at a time.

PATCH REQUIREMENTS

Each scout must turn in the equivalent of two grocery sacks or one large trash bag of gently used clothing or household goods to one of the designated collections sites. (SEE THE FLYER ON SCOUT BULLETIN BOARD AT THE CHURCH).

Dens, Packs, Troops, Patrols, Crews may compile all donated items in one location for a single delivery or call for pick up right at your unit meeting.

HOW TO COLLECT

You can collect items from family, friends, relatives and neighbors. Take the items to a donation center. Ask the donation attendant for the sign-in sheet at the donation center and list your name, unit number den number or patrol name and bag count.

Would you like to win a Pizza Party for your Den, Patrol or Venturing Crew? Then get everyone involved in the **GOODWILL GOOD TURN DONATION DRIVE**. Every time a Cub Scout, Boy Scout or Venturer participates, they will not only earn a patch but will have their respective Den, Patrol or Crew entered into a drawing for a pizza party.

On Wednesday, April 1st (no fooling) they will draw 3 winners: one from the Den entries, one from the Patrol Entries and one from the Crew entries.

Obviously, the more of your Scouts who participate the better your chances of eating free pizza!

THE FLYER IS POSTED ON THE SCOUT BULLETIN BOARD LISTING ADDITIONAL DETAILS AS WELL AS THE DONATION CENTER LOCATIONS REFERENCED IN THE ABOVE.

I THINK THIS WOULD MAKE A GREAT PATROL ACTIVITY BUT MAKE SURE TO HAVE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT AND REMEMBER TO PRACTICE TWO DEEP LEADERSHIP.

Michael L. Hussar, Scoutmaster

Boy Scout Troop 219

Email: Scoutmaster@Troop219.org

810-629-1172 (home) 810-569-4091 (cell)