



TROOP 523



NEWSLETTER

October 2002

We will be mailing out the newsletter on a monthly basis to keep everyone informed of what's going on. Please don't use it as a substitution for our monthly parents meeting where we can go over items in more detail, answer your questions and provide updates due to last minute changes.

FLORIDA SEA BASE 2003

We would like to thank everyone for responding with their second payment. As of this mailing, we have one spot open. Our check was sent to the Sea Base and we are awaiting additional information. Based on feedback from previous mailings, we will be flying to Florida leaving early on 07/22/2003 and returning the evening of 07/29/2003. We are currently waiting for additional literature from the Sea Base. Initial estimates for airfare is in the \$225-\$250 range.

PHILMONT 2004

Here we are still planning the details of our Florida trip and we find that we need to start planning a trip to the Philmont Scout Ranch in 2004. Reservations are taken on a first come first served basis starting at 10: AM CST on 11/09/2002 and ending 3 hours later. Contact our Scoutmaster, Tom McCabe, if you are interested or have questions on eligibility or anything else. We need to have a count prior to the reservation date.

FUNDRAISERS

The Troop 523 Annual Spaghetti Dinner is set for Saturday, December 21, 2002. As in past years, the Parents' Committee has sponsored the raffle of gift baskets to raise funds for our troop. We would, again, like to ask the patrols to bring in items to be placed in baskets to be raffled off.

Frogs
Frontiersmen
Rams
Bullfighters
King Scorpions
King Cobras
Leadership

The Popcorn Sale and Night of Giving fundraisers are in full swing. Any money earned by your scout for both of these activities will be credited to his individual account that can be applied to costs such as summer camp or the Florida High Adventure. Please collect money for both when you make your sale. Money and orders for the Popcorn Sale must be turned in by November 5th. Money and unsold tickets for

the Evening of Giving must be turned in by November 19th. Either fundraiser may be turned in at anytime prior to these dates. Contact Mike Taynor if you have any questions or need additional tickets.

SWEATSHIRTS

The Troop Committee has voted to purchase a sweatshirt with the troop's name (similar to our T-shirts) for each of our scouts at no cost to our scouting families. We request everyone to email their scout's size (adult sizes) to metsr@comcast.net. If your scout or other family members desire additional sweatshirts, include their sizes in your email. There will be a charge of approximately \$16-\$18 per additional sweatshirt. Please respond as quickly as possible so that we may place our order soon.

OUTINGS

We will be taking a 20-mile hike along the Delaware-Raritan Canal. This is a major hurdle in obtaining the hiking merit badge. This is a day hike. We will be leaving St. John's at 6:00 AM and ret

REMINDERS

Dues for 2003 will be \$45 and are due by December 10, 2002. Please see Mike Taynor if you have any questions.

The second Tuesday of each month is our Parents meeting. The meetings are held during the regular Troop meeting in one of the classrooms. The meetings provide an opportunity to get details on upcoming events, provide feedback, offer suggestions and get answers to any questions you may have. It is vital to the success of our Troop that parents come out and participate.

The second Monday of each month is the Troop Committee meeting also held at St. John's. The meetings start at 7:30 PM. Parents are always welcome and you do not have to be a member of the committee to attend.

We are still trying to get an email address for each family. Please send a note to metsr@comcast.net if you have not already provided an email address and we will add you to our contact list.

IMPORTANT DATES

October 26, 2002	20 Mile Hike
November 5, 2002	Popcorn Orders & Money Due (Parents' Meeting)
November 19, 2002	Evening of Giving – Money & Unsold Tickets Due
December 3, 2002	Basket Items Due
December 10, 2002	Dues Money Due (\$45) (Parents' Meeting)
December 21, 2002	Spaghetti Dinner