



TROOP 523



NEWSLETTER

April 2003

TROOP WEBSITE

Copies of this newsletter as well as past newsletters, forms and a calendar of events may be found on Troop 523's official website. The address is <http://www.troop523.org/>. We would appreciate your thoughts on the site, positive or negative, as well as any suggestions.

SCOUT SHIRTS

Once again, the Troop Committee will be purchasing the Class B Troop 523 shirts for our scouts. Each scout is entitled to one free shirt. Additional shirts may be purchased for \$10. Golf type shirts with collars may be purchased for adults. Adult shirts will cost \$15. **Everyone should return an order form no later than April 29** so that we can make sure we order the correct sizes for the scouts. See Mike Taynor if you have any questions or need a form.

MEGA-DEMONSTRATION

The Committee of Troop 523 would like to thank all of the adult volunteers, scouts and patrons who made our third annual Mega-Demonstration a success. The proceeds will help us to continue providing a meaningful program to our scouts

OUTINGS

Our last outing was to KMSR on April 4-6. A total of 18 scouts and 7 adults helped to fix up our adopted site, Hemlock, by removing damaged platforms and building new ones. All of the participants displayed cheerful service despite the adverse weather conditions.

A group of scouts and adults camped at Yards Creek Scout Reservation on March 21-23. This was a weekend of fun activities presented as a reward to those scouts who met certain goals of participation and scout spirit last year. Fortunately, they allowed some of the adults to enjoy the relaxing weekend with them.

Summer Camp will be at KMSR this year from June 29 – July 5, 2003. The fee is \$225 for scouts and no more than \$50 for adults. The fee for scouts who just crossed over from Cub Scouts is still only \$200. Please provide payment to our Treasurer as soon as possible to facilitate our planning. Checks will be accepted through June 3, 2003. All scouts and adults attending camp are required to have medical forms filled out prior to attendance. The scout's Class 2 medical forms are good for 3 years. Please speak with our Scoutmaster, Tom McCabe, to make sure we have a copy of last year's medical form on file or if you have any question. See Mike Taynor if you did not receive a copy of the summer camp information pamphlet.

Florida Sea Base – There will be a meeting on May 13, 2003 right after the general parents' meeting. Final payments are due that night. Please bring your completed medical forms that night if available.

Snuffy Hollow – the scouts will once again be attending the Snuffy Hollow camporee on May 2-4, 2003 at Thompson Park in Jamesburg. All scouts should have been contacted by their patrol leaders for a commitment on attending. If your scout has not been contacted and wishes to attend, please have him call our Senior Patrol Leader, Tim Lamore, right away.

ORDER OF THE ARROW

Our congratulations to the five scouts who were elected to join the Order of the Arrow. These scouts will be attending the OA Ordeal at KMSR on May 16-18, 2003. Elected to the OA this year were Jason Hulse, Nick Valente, Adam Matthijs, Ron Joo and Joey Massaro.

A reminder for our current members. Meetings are held at Our Lady of Peace Church in Fords. Meetings start at 7:30 PM. Meetings are scheduled for June 12, August 14, October 9 and December 11. Contact an adult member if you need a ride.

TREASURER'S NOTE

Contact Mike Taynor if you need to know how much you have credited to your Florida Account or your Scout Account or would like to make a payment for one of our outings. All checks should be made out to BSA Troop 523.

Adults attending the Massachusetts trip in June are reminded that they are responsible for the entire \$35 cost. Please remit your balance. Scouts were only responsible for the \$15 deposit. The remaining \$20 will be picked up by the Troop.

Our next Bingo is scheduled for April 25, 2003. Please plan to arrive by 10:00 PM if you are scheduled for that night. Not sure when you are scheduled for or need to make up a date you missed? Bruce Whitaker has all of the answers.

REMINDERS

The regular Troop meeting for Tuesday, April 22, 2003 will not be at St. John's as the school is closed. Instead it will be at the park next to Claremont Avenue School from 5:30 to 7:30. The scouts will start the meeting with a park clean up. The park was adopted by our Troop as a service project.

April 25	Bingo – Contact Bruce Whitaker
April 29	Scout Shirt order forms are due – Contact Mike Taynor
May 2-4	Snuffy Hollow
May 7	PLC Meeting
May 12	Committee Meeting
May 13	Parents' Meeting
May 13	Balance of Sea Base money due
May 16-18	Order of the Arrow Ordeal at KMSR
May 23-25	Round Valley Back Packing
May 30	Bingo
May 31	Soup Kitchen