



TROOP 523



NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2004

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Our annual spaghetti dinner is scheduled for December 18, 2004. Tickets were distributed to our scouts to sell to family and friends in mid-November. Those scouts selling the most tickets in terms of dollars by December 7 will be eligible for prizes. The top prize is a \$50 gift certificate to Woodbridge Center. Second prize is a \$25 gift certificate to Woodbridge Center. Third prize is a Troop 523 hooded sweatshirt. See Mike Taynor if you need additional tickets.

As in the past, we are asking our families to donate items to be used in some of the prize baskets. The baskets are as follows:

Falcon Patrol – Teen Boy Items, Automotive Items
Python Patrol – Christmas Items, Toy Items
Fierce Frontiersmen Patrol – Teen Girl Items, Dad Items
Salamander Patrol – Mom Items, Pasta Items
Wolverine Patrol – Baby Items, Sports Items
Sayboo Patrol – Family Items, Camping Items
Leadership Patrol & Adult Scouters – Memories, Scouting Items

Please bring these items in by December 7 in order to allow time for the baskets to be assembled.

If you have any questions or wish to donate other items, please speak to Cindy Taynor, Lorie Esposito or Mike Taynor. We are also looking for donations of baskets or other appropriate containers to hold the donated items.

As in the past, we are also requesting that each family make a dessert for the dinner. We hope that all of our scouting families and friends can attend our troop's biggest social event of the year.

A note for our newest scouting families and a reminder for our older? scouting families. Scouts help set up, serve as waiters and assist in cleaning up. The senior patrol leader will solicit volunteers to help set up. All of our scouts are asked to serve as waiters. Scouts should be in Class A uniforms. Adult volunteers are needed in the kitchen and to sell raffle tickets. Please contact Mike Taynor, Bruce Whitaker or Bob Gill if you have any questions.

SCOUTING FOR FOOD

Special thanks to all of our scouts and their families who participated in this year's Scouting for Food. Together we were able to collect approximately 700 bags of food items which were greatly appreciated by our local food bank. Our gratitude to all of our neighbors who helped our scouts achieve this goal.

DUES

Once again there will not be an increase in our annual dues. Dues will remain at \$45 per scout are they are requested no later than Tuesday, January 11, 2005. In the past the registered adult leaders have agreed to pay their own registration fees to allow Troop 523 to spend the money on our scouts. These dues of \$10 per registered leader are also due no later than January 11, 2005. See Mike Taynor if you have any questions.

JAMBOREE 2005

The Troop Committee would like to thank all of the parents who were able to attend the Parents' Meeting on November 9. One of the major topics discussed was the Troop's visit to the Jamboree held every four years at Fort AP Hill in Virginia coupled with a trip to Washington DC. Two choices were available. The first choice was to visit the Jamboree for one day and spend one day in Washington DC. Scouts would only be responsible for two lunches, two dinners and miscellaneous items such as souvenirs, etc. The second choice would allow two days in Washington DC in addition to the one day at the Jamboree. However, due to budget constraints, scouts would be responsible not only for their meals (3 lunches and 3 dinners) and miscellaneous items but part of the additional costs for the bus and lodging of approximately \$45 per scout. After discussion, a vote was taken and the 3 day trip was approved. The committee is actively working with our elected representatives to prepare a full itinerary for the two days in Washington DC.

The bus we will be chartering holds 49 persons. Preference will be given to scouts first and then registered adult leaders acting as chaperones. Unused space may be used by family members at no charge although they will be responsible for the full cost of lodging which will be approximately \$95 per room per night.

IMPORTANT DATES

December 2 – PLC Meeting.

December 7 – Money for the Spaghetti Dinner tickets is due to qualify for prizes.
Basket donations for the Spaghetti Dinner are due.

December 14 – Balance of ski trip money due.

December 18 – BSA Troop 523 Annual Spaghetti Dinner at the St. John Vianney cafeteria.

January 8-9, 2005 – Shawnee Mountain ski trip. Contact: Mike Taynor

January 11, 2005 - \$45 Dues per scout are due.

January 21-23 – Klondike Derby at KMSR. Contact: Bob Gill

March 6, 2005 – BSA Troop 523 Second Annual Pancake Breakfast

July 28-30, 2005 – Jamboree 2005 and Washington DC.