



TROOP 523



NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2005

CURRENT ITEMS

The Troop had a great time on the slopes of Shawnee Mountain this past month. Please see the Troop Historian's write up later in this newsletter.

The Klondike Derby was canceled for safety concerns. We know the scouts look forward to this event and the adult leaders postponed a decision until the forecast was more certain. The amount of snow along with the winds and temperature proved this to be the right decision.

Committee meetings are held the second Monday of each month at St. John Vianney starting at 7:00 PM. Parents are always welcome.

A Parents' Meeting is held during the Troop Meeting on the second Tuesday of each month. This is the ideal time to hear what is happening with the Troop and to find answers to your questions. For those questions that just cannot wait, feel free to ask any of the adult leaders during one of the Troop Meetings or give our Committee Chairman, Bruce Whitaker, a call. Our Scoutmaster, Bob Gill, is always available if your question concerns a specific trip.

JAMBOREE 2005

The Troop's visit to the Jamboree and Washington DC is scheduled for July 28-30, 2005. In order to plan the logistics for the trip and to allow the participants confirmation for their vacation plans, the Troop is requesting those interested to sign up and submit a deposit of \$45 per person. This amount will also be the full payment for scouts for lodging and transportation. Payments need to be submitted to our Treasurer, Mike Taynor, no later than February 22, 2005. Late sign ups will be accepted if there is space and then a waiting list will be formed.

See the enclosed flyer for additional details.

SUMMER CAMP 2005

The Troop will be spending summer camp at Camp Horseshoe from July 3-10, 2005. We reserved the two sites used last year in order to accommodate the size of our group. The camp requires the Troop to forward a deposit for each scout next month in order to maintain our reservation for the two sites. If your scout is interested in attending summer camp with the Troop, please provide the \$10 deposit to Mike Taynor no later than February 22, 2005. The full cost of summer camp this year is \$245 for scouts and \$122.50 for leaders. The cost for scouts paying after the due dates is \$255. Parents' Guides will be available at the February Parents' Meeting.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Mark your calendars for our second annual pancake breakfast on Sunday March 6th in the St John Vianney Cafeteria. Remember midnight bingos have been eliminated so fund raisers like the pancake breakfast are very important. Each family will be given 10 tickets for presale, please do your best to sell as many as you can. Adult volunteers will be needed, scouts will be servers, see Paul Hrustic or Rich Valente. Also each patrol will be asked to supply materials for a theme basket for raffle; information about specific themes will be communicated through the patrol leaders. Thank you in advance for your support!

TROOP HISTORIAN

On January 8th and 9th, Troop 523 went on a ski trip to Shawnee Mountain Ski Resort in the Pocono's. As usual, many scouts, leaders, and family members go just to have some fun. On the ride up, the troop first stopped at the Shannon Inn to check out the rooms for the night, then left as soon as they could. With 20 slopes and a choice of skiing, snowboarding, and tubing, it's no wonder why they would have so much fun.

HIGH ADVENTURE

The Troop is currently organizing a High Adventure outing in the Adirondack Mountains for this August. The trip will be for four to five days. Details are being ironed out and will be made available as soon as possible. Due to the nature of the trip, there will be an age restriction. Depending on the itinerary, it may be limited to scouts who are age 14 and over by the date of the trip. This will also be finalized and announced as soon as possible.

IMPORTANT DATES

February 5 – Junior Leadership Training – Second Session

February 25-27 – Camp Winnebago

March 6 – BSA Troop 523 Second Annual Pancake Breakfast

March 11-13 – Backpacking Trip at KMSR

March 29 – No Meeting

April 8-10 – Gettysburg (tentative)

April 22-24 – Caving Expedition – Clarksville, NY

April 29–May 1 – Snuffy Hollow

May 27–30 – Canoe Trip

June 10-12 – White Water Rafting (tentative)

July 3-10 – Summer Camp at Camp Horseshoe

July 28-30 – Jamboree 2005 and Washington DC.

August 18–21 - Adirondack High Adventure

NATIONAL JAMBOREE 2005 & WASHINGTON D.C.

JANUARY 28-30, 2005

The National Jamboree is held every four years at Fort AP Hill. The next Jamboree will run from July 24, 2005 to August 3, 2005. Three scouts from Troop 523 will be attending for the full 11 days. Troop 523 traditionally has visited the Jamboree for one day followed by a day of sightseeing in Washington D.C.. This year the troop will be spending two days in Washington. The troop has arranged bus transportation and has reserved a block of rooms at a hotel in Alexandria, Virginia.

Scouts and their families are invited to attend. Seating on the bus is limited. There are only 49 seats on the bus and preference will be granted to scouts and then to registered adult leaders acting as chaperones. Remaining seats will be made available on a first come – first served basis. In the past we have had families on the bus and other families accompany us in their own vehicles to allow for side trips before or after the troop trip.

The troop normally pays for the scouts' lodging and bus transportation. In order to extend the trip a second day in Washington, it is necessary to charge each scout \$45. Breakfast will be provided on the bus on July 28. A continental breakfast is also included at our hotel on July 29 & 30. Scouts will be responsible for 3 lunches, 3 dinners and miscellaneous personal expenses such as souvenirs, etc. Family members will also be responsible for the hotel room which is \$95 per room per night, a total of \$190 per room. Available seats on the bus are free of charge. Family members requesting space on the bus may request a full refund of their deposit if bus space is not available.

A payment of \$45 per person is due on February 22, 2005. The balance for family members will be due on April 12, 2005. Please contact Mike Taynor or Bob Gill if you have any questions.

NAME

BUS OR PRIVATE VEHICLE
