



TROOP 523



NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2006

CURRENT ITEMS

Welcome back to what promises to be another fun and exciting scout year. Since our last meeting, 43 scouts and adults attended summer camp at Rodney Scout Reservation in North East, Maryland and 20 scouts and adults sailed in the Florida Keys.

We are pleased to announce that Robert Gill was selected as our Troop's new Senior Patrol Leader at summer camp. Our congratulations to Robert as he prepares to lead our troop through the coming year.

PARENTS' MEETING

Our first parents' meeting for the new scout year will be held on September 19. This is a very important meeting. All of our scouts should be represented. Calendars of upcoming events will be available. Forms for ordering a Troop 523 sweatshirt will also be distributed. All scouts are entitled to one free sweatshirt. Additional sweatshirts can be ordered. In addition, the committee will be distributing photographs to those parents attending this meeting. These photos were taken at various troop trips and events during 2005 and 2006. In addition to one 8" x 10" group summer camp photo (free to all participants), the Troop Committee has made a humungous pile (over 3000) of regular prints of our scouts participating on troop outings and activities such as Snuffy Hollow, Summer Camp, Canoe Trips, Orienteering, etc. These other prints are also available for free to parents at this Parents' Meeting. Come search through the photos and take those of your scouts in action. All parents are invited to come out to catch up on the latest news, ask questions or provide comments and suggestions. While the troop is scout run, a successful program is only possible with the cooperation and assistance of our scouting families.

COURT OF HONOR

Our first Court of Honor is scheduled for October 10, 2006. Our scouts' hard work will be recognized in the presentation of over 200 merit badges, patches and other awards including a large number of rank advancements. We hope that all of our parents and scouting families can attend to demonstrate your support of not only your scout but also your support of his fellow scouts.

COMMITTEE MEETING

The Troop Committee meets on the second Monday of each month, usually at SJV. All parents are invited to attend and participate in these meetings. Speaking of the Troop Committee, the troop is always looking for adults to volunteer to assist our scouts in running a successful program. This can range from registering as a Committee member or Assistant Scoutmaster, lending a hand at the Spaghetti Dinner, becoming a merit badge counselor or simply being a driver for one of our outings. Our Committee Chairperson, Cathy DeStasio, is available to answer any questions or provide examples of volunteer positions where help is needed.

HIGH ADVENTURE

We have reservations for two crews to attend the BSA Northern Tier High Adventure Camp next summer. Scouts and adult leaders will be canoeing through the wilderness of Ontario, Canada. Space is still available. See Mike Taynor if you are interested or have any questions.

The troop is also planning to attend the BSA Philmont High Adventure Camp in New Mexico during the summer of 2008. That is not a typo. We need to make reservations this fall for 2008. Please see Mike Taynor if you are interested as we need to know how many crews to submit reservations for. Due to the high interest in Philmont, reservations are accepted on a lottery basis so we may not be able to add additional crews later on. In fact, there is a chance that we may be put on a waiting list for our initial request.

EAGLE SCOUTS

Four scouts have successfully completed all of the requirements for the rank of Eagle Scout. Please join us in recognizing the efforts of Joseph Massaro, Kevin Mulligan, Wayne Lamore and Jimmy Esposito. Their efforts over the last 6-7 years with Troop 523 have earned them this rank while also benefiting the troop through their participation and leadership.

OTHER

The scouts held a planning meeting on August 26. Tentative dates were set for a wide variety of trips and events for the scouting year. In addition, the scouts have set some challenging but attainable goals for themselves and the troop. These goals involve providing service to our community as well as advancement targets for the scouts. These goals as well as the calendar will be reviewed at the first Parents' Meeting on September 19.

IMPORTANT DATES

SEPTEMBER 11 – Committee Meeting, SJV at 7:30

SEPTEMBER 12 – First Troop meeting to be held, weather permitting, at the park next to School #20, Claremont Avenue School.

SEPTEMBER 14 – Patrol Leaders Council (PLC) meeting

SEPTEMBER 19 – Parents' Meeting

OCTOBER 10 – Court of Honor

For a detailed up to date calendar go to WWW.TROOP523.ORG