

4/12/10

To start, a quick reminder - REMEMBER TO CHECK NOT JUST YOUR EMAIL, BUT OUR WEBSITE ([www.troop870wubc.com](http://www.troop870wubc.com)). We have all kinds of good things posted, including our very full troop calendar, our troop policies and procedures (2009 revision being posted), and (as soon as our Webmaster can) the flyer on what to pack for summer camp!

1. Boy Scouts in the news - An instance of abuse in the Scouting program, NOT IN OUR COUNCIL, is currently in the news. Carolyn Van Kirk, Troop Committee chair, reminds us that it is potential outcomes like this that motivate us to adhere strictly to our Policies and Procedures and ALL the requirements in the Guide to Safe Scouting, for the protection of our boys and our adults.

2. Troop Committee transitions and openings - Both Carolyn (Troop Committee chair) and Marilyn Hockenberry (Outdoor Activities) are completing their terms and we need volunteers to fill these very important positions! If you are interested in stepping up for either job, please speak to Carolyn. Transition periods are very good things. We have six additional openings: Friends of Scouting chair, a position coordinating the Friends of Scouting contribution drive, usually in January; Scout parent unit coordinator, a new position charged with ensuring that every boy's parents contribute in some role, large or small; and four openings on the Outdoor Committee, a case where many hands make light work. Please contact Carolyn if interested.

3. Treasurer's report - Our new flag fundraiser is one that requires us to make a sizeable up-front investment, although we stand to make a LOT of money over time. This year, we may need to ask parents to help cover the cost of transportation to summer camp, an expense we usually pay using fundraiser proceeds. Carolyn and Marilyn will let you know.

4. Advancement - We have 7 rank advancements this month. If your son is one of our 16 new Scouts, especially a new Boy Scout looking for his Scout rank, have him talk to his patrol leader about how to advance.

5. Summer camp - Marilyn emails all payment and signup deadline information. She is working on where the boys will stay overnight while en route to camp. Watch your emails!!

6. Equipment - Patrick Stepchinski, our Quartermaster, gave an equipment demo and discussed summer camp gear. See the flyer on our web site. He suggests that if you are planning to shop at Academy, you do it soon - they sell out. Parents present suggested [www.sierratradingpost.com](http://www.sierratradingpost.com) and [www.campmor.com](http://www.campmor.com) as online sites with good prices on camping gear.

7. Health forms - **ALMOST ALL BOYS NEED A PHYSICAL (and updated Part B medical form) BEFORE SUMMER CAMP.** This is critical - your son can't go without it. If you are unsure whether your son's physical is current and did not keep a copy of your medical form, ask Erica Stepchinski.

8. Camporee - This annual event is coming up April 30 - May 2, with gear loading on April 29. Registration deadline is NEXT MONDAY, April 19, but if you think you might go and want a t-shirt, let Kari Francis know TODAY.

9. Fundraiser - Watch emails from Mark Kuhlman, Adrienne Mucha, and Ali Muratore. Our troop does one annual fundraiser for the benefit of the entire troop and we require every Scout to participate. Please sign your son up for one preparation day and one holiday for our first annual flag fundraiser!! Boys who promote the fundraiser at Pine Brook Pool Tag Day or door-to-door in the neighborhood must wear Class B t-shirts. If you need one, contact Anita Fluharty at [anita.fluharty@christushealth.org](mailto:anita.fluharty@christushealth.org)

10. Our annual swim test will be May 10, details to follow. Please save this date. We need to retest all boys annually.

11. If you aren't supporting Camporee or Pool Tag Day but are not busy on May 1 look no further!! We have a service project opportunity (boys need service hours for summer camp) at Walter Hall Park in League City, picking up trash during the Village Fair. Hours: 7:30 - 10:30 am. Bring/wear gloves, water bottle, hat, sunscreen, and closed-toed shoes. (Last year they paid us to do this!!) For more info, contact our Service chair, Jed Login.

/signed/ Audrey Muratore, Substitute Secretary :-)