

March 2017 – Weekly E-letters

Troop 716 - Weekly E-Letter 3/31/17

- We have our Spring Court of Honor Tuesday. Please come and support those boys earning rank advancements and merit badges. Also remember to bring your food assignment for our gathering after the COH.
- April 18th we will have our annual OA election. We need maximum attendance at the meeting so please plan to attend.
- Our April outing will be at Manidokan in Harpers Ferry. We will do a rope course including zip lines in the morning and then go caving about 20 minutes away in the afternoon through Go Adventures. The cost for this trip will be about \$90, but it will be a lot of fun. I need to know who is going, so please bring the attached permission slip this Tuesday or let me know. You don't have to cave to go, but we do need at least 6 to go.
- We have a bridging tomorrow to welcome 3 new boys from Pack 719 into our Troop. I have a few boys coming to assist, but still need a couple more for our next bridging on 4/23. Let me know if you can help out.
- Please remember to put the upcoming Eagle COH's on your calendar. It's important that we show our support for these boys and their families. Justin Betz's is this Saturday, 4/8 (unfortunately both Philmont crews will be on a shakedown, but this is the only date that worked for the Betz's), John Young's is on 5/16 and Joey Buckley's is on 5/31. These will take the place of a Troop meeting, so hopefully everyone can make it to each.
- Seabase....I need one more boy to attend Seabase in 2018. If you have reconsidered, please let me know. We currently have a crew of 9 and we can only have a crew of 6-8 or 10-12. No one wants to drop out so I need someone to go. Please consider it and let me know ASAP. The deposit was due yesterday but they are giving us a couple days more. I need to know by tomorrow at the latest.

See you all Tuesday

Troop 716 - Weekly E-Letter 3/26/17

- We have a Troop meeting this week. The meeting will be in the basement of the church, so please use the back entrance. I won't be at the meeting as I'm out of town.
- Thanks to all who came out yesterday and assisted with SFF bag pick up. Our Troop collected 311 pounds of food.
- We have 3 boys bridging from Pack 719 on 4/3 at 6:30 pm at Wesley Freedom UMC. I need a couple boys come to the bridging ceremony to assist welcoming them into our Troop. I will also need a couple boys on 4/23 at 4:30 at the Optimist Club (next to Pizza Hut) for 110's bridging. Please let me know if you can help for either.

- The adults and the crew leaders had Philmont training yesterday at Camp Spencer, Broad Creek, and it went really well. The training was worth it trip! It was a nice refresher for 3 of the adults and a great intro to our crew leaders.
- I only have half of the talent release forms. This is the 3rd week I've been requesting them. If you haven't completed it, please do. If you don't want your picture displayed, just let me know, otherwise, get the form to me. Fill it out, scan it, and email it back.
- We have 11 crew members for Seabase 2018 consisting of 8 boys and 3 adults. Brian is submitting the Troop deposit so yours is due at the meeting this week. Please make a check payable to Troop 716 for \$109 per person.

Troop 716 - Weekly E-Letter 3/19/17

- We have a Troop meeting this week. Since our theme is leadership, we will have some adults in leadership roles speaking to the boys.
- Thanks to the 10 Scouts and 5 adults that helped with bag distribution yesterday. Although, more scouts should have been there, we got it done in 2 hours. Mr. Marty will be in charge of collection next week as I have Philmont training at Broad Creek. We will need boys and drivers again to go and pick up the bags, take them to the Wal-Mart parking lot, get our collections weighed in and sorted this Saturday. I'll send another email this Thursday with details. Please remember, this is community service which as a Scout, it's a duty you need to fulfill.
- I had 11 boys show interest in Seabase 2018, but I've only heard from 2 boys that want to submit a deposit. The deposit is due this Tuesday at the meeting, so I need to know who's in. The deposit amount will depend on the crew size. Please get back to me before Tuesday if you want to attend Seabase next summer.
- Please send me the talent release form if you haven't do so. I received a couple more, but still don't have all.
- Please remember to bring your merit badge schedule so I can review it.
- Just a future heads up, the meeting on the 28th will be held in the basement of the church. Also, we have our Spring COH on 4/4.

See you all Tuesday

Troop 716 - Weekly E-Letter 3/12/17

- We do not have a Troop meeting this week.
- Unfortunately we are NOT camping next weekend as I only had 3 boys turn in permission slips. I'm sure it had to do with the sudden date change. Instead of doing Manidokan this month, we will save it for April. They have a ropes and zip line course Mr. Doug will try to get us into for a morning activity, then in the afternoon we will go

caving with Go Adventures. This is going to be an awesome trip so hopefully we will get a lot of you committed to going. That trip is 4/21-4/23.

- Scouting for Food bag drop off is this Saturday, 3/17 and I'll need scouts and parents to help distribute bags around Sykesville. We have the same territory as several past years. Please let me know if you're a parent that can assist in driving boys around. We will meet at 8:00 am in the back of St. Paul's as usual. It should only take about 2 hours to divide up the area and get the bags distributed.
- Philmont crews had our shakedown hike on the AT this weekend, but with the extreme cold temps, both crews only made it Friday night and Saturday. Bob and my crew had 4 boys and drove to High Rock in PA where we started our trip at 22 degrees. We hiked in about 2 miles in the dark with 2 inches of snow on the ground to Raven Rock shelter. Set up our tents and had the whole place to ourselves. We were in our sleeping bags by 9. With the wind gusts on this ridge, the temp was either at zero or below. We got up around 6:30 and moving around was an issue. 3 out of the 4 boys were almost numb and had finger tip and toes issues with loss of feeling. Bob and I were very concerned about frostbite and hypothermia so we made the call to break camp fast and hike back to the car for breakfast and to get warm as it was 7 degrees. We had on 5-6 layers, but in those temps it still goes through you. After eating a bunch of food and sitting in a warm running car, we decided that continuing the weekend would be pointless. These shakedowns are for training and we weren't able to set up bear bags, tarps, hike, and have fun. We were able to salvage part of the day as we did a day hike at Cunningham Falls since we were pretty close. We hiked down to the falls and the boys played around on the rocks for a bit in the sun, then we headed back to the car, and then home. With the temps that dropped again last night, I know we made the right call. Doug and Dan's crew with 3 boys were south of us. They started at Deer Lick and hiked to PenMar on Saturday, had lunch, hiked back and called it a day as well after consulting with Bob and I and checking the weather. We still have 2 more shakedown weekends and we are all in good shape. Both crews will be highly trained and well prepared for Philmont.
- I've received 12 talent release forms. If your not willing to have yourself or your son in any pictures, please let me know, otherwise, please complete it, scan it and send it to me. Adults that attend Troop activities need to complete this form as well. Thanks.

Have a great week

Troop 716 - Weekly E-Letter 3/5/17

- First of all. This is a very important email, so please read it all.
- We have Troop meeting this week. It will be a bit different as we will be having a gun show. Four ASM's (Bob, Marty, Dan, and John) will be bringing different guns to show and educate the boys. I want to make it very clear that this will be a very serious meeting with strict education on gun safety, gun control, the differences in guns, and

more. Although it will be a very educational meeting, it will be fun and hopefully worth while. The 4 presenters are very advanced with guns and how to use them properly.

- Two major updates to the calendar (see attached). The March outing has been moved to 3/17-3/19 due to Philmont training and Scouting for Food bag pick up on the 25th. We will be camping at Camp Manidokan in Harper's Ferry. Our Troop has never camped there before and it looks fantastic. I've been wanting to camp there for quite some time, so hopefully you can attend. Permission slip attached and is due this week due to roundtable next week. If you can't make it to this week's meeting, just let me know if you want to go so I can include you on my list. Also, the Spring COH has been moved to 4/4/17. I need a master of ceremony, so please let me know if you would like to be the MC. Please replace your existing calendar with the attached one.
- Great news!! We've been selected for Seabase in 2018. We got the Bahamas adventure from 8/8/18 – 8/14/18. I need a response and a deposit by the 3/21 meeting. It's a \$800 deposit per crew of 6-8. I had about 14 boys so interest, so if you were serious, now's the time to commit. I have to have the deposit in before the end of March. You must be 14 or have completed 8th grade and 1st Class to attend. The total cost for a crew of 6-8 is \$7,050, so it could either be \$881 for 8, \$1,007 for 7, or \$1,175 for 6.
- I've only received 9 completed talent release forms. Please complete one and return it to me in pdf format via an email.

Hope to see you all Tuesday.