

May 2017 – Weekly E-letters

Troop 716 - Weekly E-Letter 5/28/17

- Happy Memorial Day weekend. I hope everyone is enjoying it, despite the weather.
- Thank you to all who came out today to help with the Gatehouse clean up. It took less than an hour since we had a great turn out and we didn't have too much to do, just some weeding.
- We have another important Troop meeting this week as we have Joey Buckley's Eagle COH. Hope to see everyone there.
- If you have a black bin you would like to donate it back to the Troop for our new boys, please let me know.
- I will be sending out summer camp info soon, in a separate email. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please let me know.

Troop 716 - Weekly E-Letter 5/21/17 Follow-up

- I wanted to be sure to thank the Marsicano family for their generous donation of a new tent as well. We now have funds in reserve to purchase 2 more new tents if and when we need them, which is fantastic.
- I'm hopeful everyone attending summer camp has a physical scheduled. Don't forget to take your medical form to the appointment and have the doctor complete part C. I need two complete copies of the medical form and insurance card. We keep one copy in the trailer for in camp emergencies and the other goes to the camp the first day we arrive. Please provide me with these copies as soon as you get them. We are a month and 2 days from leaving, so please get them into to me.
- Mr. Doug mentioned that he had some merit badge info so I can start writing blue cards. If you didn't give any info regarding which merit badges your taking to me or Mr. Doug, please get back to me with which ones you want to take so I can get your blue cards written for you.
- I'm going to reschedule our June outing to Elk Neck to September (not sure what weekend yet as I'm still working on the calendar). We don't have any ASM's that can go and only one older scout, so we cannot make a trip happen with no leadership. To be completely honest, I'm actually glad it's worked out like this as summer camp and Philmont has me stressed out enough, so one less trip to plan and worry about at this point in this situation ok. June is always a hard month to plan trip anyway with summer camp and school ending. I apologize to those new scouts that want to go. We'll get that trip in September and hopefully do mountain biking there.
- Mr. Doug is going to try to schedule a white water tubing adventure for August 18-20, so be on stand by for that if you're interested. We'll camp at Brunswick and go tubing Saturday the 19th. Troop did this about 5 years ago and it was a blast.

Troop 716 - Weekly E-Letter 5/21/17

- We have a Troop meeting this week.
- We have 4 new scouts interested in camping at Elk Neck June 9-11. I need some older boys to let me know if they are interested so I know whether to cancel or not.
- If you have a black bin that we use to pack for summer camp and you would like to donate it back to the Troop for our new boys, please let me know so we can get it back so our new scouts can use them.
- We are less than a month away from summer camp. I'm going to start writing up blue cards soon (within the next week). If you are going to summer camp, you MUST email me back the merit badges you plan to take so I can write them for you. If I don't hear back from you and have to write them at camp, there will be a price to pay in the form of you doing something around camp for me or one of the ASM's, so I suggest you get back to me. New scouts, you don't need to worry about this.
- Bob, Justin, Chris, Zach and myself had our final shakedown for Philmont this weekend. We did 19 miles with over 2,500 feet of elevation change this weekend in Shenandoah. We had a special treat yesterday when we got to Camp Rampidan as we meet a volunteer and she told us all about the Hoover's, the camp, and even gave us a tour of the brown house where President Hoover spent all his weekend's from April – October while he was in office. It was really neat to hear all the fun facts and see a part of history. The boys even took a dip in the river. Bob picked out a perfect hike and I must admit, it was one of the best hikes I've ever done complete with hiking along the river most of Saturday and admiring beautiful scenery. Despite the mountains we had to climb and then descend, it was well worth it. Only 50 days to Philmont.
- I posted the Camporee pictures on our Facebook page if anyone wants to view them.

Troop 716 - Weekly E-Letter 5/12/17

- Happy Mother's Day to all you wonderful moms out there. I hope you had a great day and got to enjoy yourselves.
- We have a very important Troop meeting this week in the form of John Young's Eagle COH. I hope everyone can attend.
- I've only heard from one boy interested in camping at Elk Neck June 9-11. Please let me know if you want to attend this camp out. I realize that it's two weeks before summer camp, so I need to know if it's even worth it. This will be a fun laid back outing.
- Please plan to be at the Gatehouse for trailer clean out on 6/6. Remember this is a mandatory meeting and it will start at 6:30 pm, not 7

- I'm working on next year's calendar and wanted to get an important date out to you. Please put September 10th on your calendar as that will be our Summer/Fall COH and family cook out at Millard Copper Park. Mostly likely it will be from 1-4 pm.
- I ordered 4 new Eureka Mountain Pass 3xt tents, a Dutch oven table stand, a Dutch oven lid lifter and lid stand. I couldn't have done this without the union donation of \$1,000 from Mr. Christensen's company and a personal donation from them as well. The Johnson's also plan to donate enough funds for a tent as well. This is huge as we now have safe, reliable tents and we'll be able to cook more efficient good meals. Again, thank you.

Troop 716 - Weekly E-Letter 5/7/17

- We do not have a Troop meeting this week.
- Camporee wrap up: Wow, what a weekend. Great food, crazy weather, awards, and an overall good time. We had 17 boys (5 out of 6 of our new boys, which is fantastic) and 3 adults. A special thanks to Mr. Marty who got the trailer there and set up camp for us Friday. Also to Mr. Bob who has amazing cooking skills and to Mr. Fred who stayed Friday to fill in for my absence Friday evening. The morning routine was usual as we had breakfast, and got ready for the day. We had an opening for the Camporee. Afterwards, the boys went into the morning events where they had 9 different stations to compete in. These reminded me of Klondike where there were a lot of team building activities. There were 8 Troops there and we came in 3rd. (we even got a plaque at the closing this am) After the activities, we had lunch and then free time for the boys. They had 3 bounce houses set up, one a Velcro wall, another was the wrecking ball where 4 boys at a time had to balance on this air platform and throw a giant air filled wrecking ball attached to a cord at each other and not fall down. Easy said then done. The other bounce was 2 ladders where the boys had to climb to almost horizontal to the top, again easy said then done. They had a ga ga ball pit that was a mud hole before the end of the day and our boys love that and excel at it. They had a arrow flu and a sling shot station as well. Inside the scout house were 2 really cool set ups. One had Indian memorabilia and the other a giant collection of old Scout uniforms, patches, pictures, and books. Some were from the early 1900's. Really neat stuff. Around 3, they provided the SPL and the SM a bunch of ingredients for a cook off between the other Troop's. I'm not a fast thinker when it comes to cooking, so I let Bob take the lead on this on, so he and Justin created a beef stew complete with a aluminum foil bowl. He browned the meat on a huge BBQ pit, cut up different veggies in and put them in 2 different bags complete with spices, and then I took over with Justin as he had to start our lasagna. We added in the bags of veggies consisting of spices, carrots, cabbage, broccoli, onions, and put them in at different times with water. We baby sat for 2 hours around this huge BBQ with the other SPL's and SM's. At

5, they judged it. I believe there were 6 judges. Turns out we won that competition and we were awarded another plaque and a really nice knife set for the adult patrol box. Way to go Justin and Bob. I just babysat and helped Justin, so no credit needed for me. Dinner was well underway and everyone was using a Dutch oven which was awesome to see. The large patrol did pizza under Joseph's leadership and the JLC had a form of beef stew that looked great too. Bob's lasagna was fantastic. After dinner and clean up, we had a campfire complete with skits, songs, jokes, and then headed to the OA tap out. I would like to congratulate Spencer Blade, Sean Choi, Joseph Marsicano, and Zach Snyder for getting elected and tapped out at the OA ceremony last night. Once they complete their Ordeal, they will officially be a part of the Order of the Arrow. Great job guys!! It was 9:45 after the ceremony and everyone was wiped out from the day, not just from the running around, but from the cold and rainy day as well. Everyone turned in by 10 and got a good nights sleep. We were up early, packed up, had breakfast, had a round of thorns and roses, then headed to the closing ceremony where we had a scouts own service and won the 2 awards. Parents came to get their sons and another extremely successful outing was complete. Now onto Elk Neck....and summer camp.

- Our next Troop meeting will be John Young's Eagle COH on the 16th.
- We need new tents. We had several that leaked this weekend, have tares, and are over used....I'm going to request from the committee when we meet in 2 weeks about purchasing at least 3, hopefully 4 new tents to replace the old Eureka ones without a vestibule. I would also like to get a Dutch oven stand with cover since we are doing a lot more Dutch oven cooking, which is great. I happen to mention this to Mr. Christensen today and he immediately offered to pay for a tent. I was blown away. Thank you Frank!!! To fund this replacement of tents, we need about \$900. If we have enough money available, then the Troop can pick this up, but I was hoping if anyone would like to donate to our "new tent fund," that would be amazing. Please let me know if this is something you would be willing to help out with. This is by no means a request for funds as I think the committee will approve it, but every little bit helps, so please consider it. I thank you in advance.