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4.7.2019:

Troop,

- We do not have a Troop meeting this week.
- I would like to officially welcome Owen Battista and family to our Troop. Owen is Ben Sturm's friend who he administered 1st aid to recently to. He decided to come check out our Troop the past couple weeks. He felt very comfortable with us and found a new us to be what he was looking for. He was a Cub Scout and bridged into another Troop, but that didn't work out. We are so grateful he has discovered scouting again, and are especially grateful it's with us. We are excited to have Owen, his mom Michelle, and his dad Tony join us. Both our new boys, Brent and Owen are camping with us next weekend, which is fantastic. I know they are looking forward to it.
- We only have a few weeks left to sell camp cards, hopefully you are continuing to sell them.
- Just another reminder. If you contact me by text or email, you must copy another adult in on that message. Another leader or one of your parents is fine.
- Please let me know if you need me to add or remove an email address from the Troop distribution list.

YIS,
Scott Snyder
Scoutmaster, Troop 716
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4.14.2019:

Troop,

- We have a Troop meeting this week. We will be having our annual OA election. It's important that we have at least half the boys at the meeting so we can have the election. Please make every effort to attend.
- Tomorrow Spencer Blade turns 18 so he will age out of the Troop. Happy Birthday Spencer and thanks for being a part of the Troop for all these years. Hope you enjoyed your time with us.
- Little Bennett wrap up: We left Friday evening at 5:20 and arrived at Little Bennett campground at 6:00. This campground was like resort camping. It has the nicest camp store and the cleanest bathrooms I've ever seen. Since it was raining, we got the tarp set up first and then our tents. We had four separate sites next to each other on loop B since we could only have 2 tents per site. We hung out under the tarp talking and had a snack. We turned in around 9:30. It rained hard off and on all night. It finally stopped around 5:30 yesterday morning. We got up around 7 to a overcast foggy camp. I get some coffee going and made breakfast burritos for the adults. The boys prepared omelets in a bag, which took a bit longer than planned, but was worth the wait as I saw a lot of smiles. Alyssa brought Brent to camp as he couldn't come Friday night. They arrived just in time for second breakfast for Brent. The boys ate, cleaned up, and we left our camp sites at 9:50. We headed for the pedal kart track

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where the boys jumped into racing mode. On the way there, the clouds broke and the blue sky appeared with wonderful sunshine. The karts were basically oversized big wheels with 4 wheels. They raced around the track in both directions for about 30 minutes. Don and I even took a couple laps. It was pretty exhausting so the whole process didn't last too long. Right next to the pedal kart track was a large jumping pillow. We headed over to that and after a safety talk, the boys jumped around on this very large air filled pillow. I tried it, but that didn't last long either. They bounced around while the adults took in some shade under a tree and enjoyed the weather. We left from there and went back to our camp site. We had lunch which was lunchmeat sandwiches, chips, apples, and Gatorade. After lunch we went to the camp store and the Troop paid for each boy to play laser tag. Once the boys got their guns, they ran out on the course and had two 5 minute games. They ran around, hid in and around obstacles, and shoot at each other. This was pretty fun to watch. We headed back to camp and hung out as Austin had to leave for a soccer game at 2. After he left, we went on a 3 mile hike where we took some nice trails down to Little Bennett creek. The boys took off their shoes and socks and waded in the creek for a bit. We hiked back to the camp store and most of us enjoyed a much deserved milkshake. We sat outside the store and took a break. We headed back to camp and prepared for dinner and did a little clean up. The boys got the tarp down and put away since it wasn't supposed to rain anymore. The boys had spaghetti and the adults had cheesesteaks subs. We got a nice fire going and enjoyed that while we ate. We cleaned up and the boys headed out around 8 to a showing of Utopia in an outdoor movie theater. They took cookies, chips, and drinks. Don, Mark, and I stayed behind and talked around a great fire. The boys returned at 9:50, we had a round of thorns and roses and then turned in. We were up a little before 7 this morning and were very thankful the rain held off, so we could get packed up. We had a quick breakfast and Scout's own service. We loaded up and were back to the Gatehouse by 9 a.m. Thanks to Mr. Mark Bennett and Mr. Don Ross for camping with me this weekend. Also, thanks to our new scouts, Brent Simms and Owen Battista, who experienced their 1st outing with our Troop. They said they had a great time, which is just what I needed to hear. Excited to have both of them camping and enjoying it. It was also great having Mr. Mark back camping with us as well. We had a fun filled day and the weather really cooperated yesterday. Joseph did a great job, especially with preparing the menu. He branched out of our usual menu and all enjoyed it. I took a lot of pictures and sent a link to Joseph. He'll get them on the Troop website and send an email when they're available. Lastly, thanks to Mrs. Gretchen for getting this trip booked for us.

- We will have our Spring Court of Honor on 4/30. We'll have the COH and have a small reception after. Joseph will send out food and drink assignments in the next couple weeks.
- I need to know who is interested in doing the camporee in May (10-12). It's an Olympic theme and we would be camping on the Sykesville fire house grounds. I will need numbers ASAP so we can register.

YIS,
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4.21.2019:

Happy Easter Troop,

- We have a Troop meeting this week.
- Black bins. I need 3 black bins for our new scouts going to summer camp. There was one in the trailer, but I'm not sure what happened to it. If you know where that bin went or have a bin you would like to donate to one of our new scouts, please let me know so we can make the proper arrangements.
- I need to know who is interested in doing the camporee May 10-12 ASAP. I need to register the Troop and they take a payment up front. This applies to adults too. Please let me know if you want to go. I have a permission slip but don't know the costs yet. I know the district is asking for \$15 for the weekend and a patch, but I don't know if that includes food. I doubt it, so it would probably be another \$10 on top of that to help cover food cost.
- I still need someone to tow the trailer to summer camp on 6/23. Mr. Jeff Johnson offered but his truck will require some maintenance. Please let me know if you can assist with this.

YIS,
Scott Snyder
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4.28.2019:

Troop,

- We have our Spring Court of Honor Tuesday. Don't forget your food or drink assignments so we can have a small celebration gathering after the COH.
- Be sure if you have a summer camp payment you bring it Tuesday as they are due.
- I have the black bins for our new scouts going to summer camp. Thanks to Justin Smith for donating theirs. They will all be brought to the trailer clean out on 6/4.
- I don't think district has enough Troops registered for the camporee. This isn't official yet, but I'm pretty sure they didn't get 15 Troops, so unfortunately they will probably cancel this event. I'll send an email when I hear for sure. If it's a go, I'll get a permission slip out.

YIS,
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