

E-Mail Sent 09-03-2008

Dear Fellow Scouts, Scouters and Families,

We have had a most extra ordinary summer that took us to Washington, DC, Pennsylvania for summer camp and historic happenings. We reached this goal by everyone in our Troop, working very hard doing car washes, helping park cars for Red, Hot and Boom and other events.

This year our calendar is filled with new camping programs, lots of individual events, new meeting schedule, and fund raising.

Our troop relies on the good volunteerism of our Assistant Scoutmasters, our Troop Committee, and family members who are totally involved in our Troop. We cannot run this troop without everyone's dedication, their individual strengths and devotion to our scouts. We are all volunteers and for the 1 hour a week that we don't get paid, we strive to do our best to provide a great program for our scouts to learn, grow and become our future leaders.

I have attached our yearly budget for you to see what it cost to run a Troop of about 20 boys. These cost do not include all the volunteer time that is put into running this Troop, helping maintain a working committee, providing the political insight to position ourselves so that we can always provide the very best for our scouts. We have been very lucky over the years for having a steady place to hold our meetings and to be fortunate to have patrons that helped out when we needed the extra lift.

In order to achieve and to pay for all of these programs, supplies, storage, and to keep the out of pocket costs down, we need your help, your advice and your time.

We need each scout to sell a minimum of \$500 worth of popcorn. What does this do for us? It helps produce about half the costs of our program. When our costs for camping is very low, such as for paying for food, the scouts and Leaders pay for that out of pocket. However, all other costs are paid by the Troop and the only way to pay for that is fund raising. If, we sell a lot more, then we earn more and that helps reduce further costs, not only for our regular yearly program, but for establishing summer camp funds, scholarships and other program costs. This would also help in paying for registrations and possibly reducing dues.

If we do not raise the money from popcorn sales, car washes, etc., then the money to run this troop will need to come from everyone on a per person charge. I would not like to see that when we can sell in our neighbor hoods, our friends, school, work and other places. Yes, we have to compete against 56,000 other scouts in all 7 counties in Central Florida, but we can be creative and use resources such as grandparents who live out of state or out of town and get them to get their friends to buy from you. Parents, at work, it is easy to bring in the form and take orders. Scouts, it is easy to go into your

neighborhoods, even going into office buildings, doctor offices and other places that you can deal directly with the people there. Think of this as your Salesman Merit Badge and the things you have to do to sell, not only the product but who you are and what these funds do to help you, your Troop and others.

So, please help your Troop in going out and selling. WE have given out to all of our scouts who attended the last two meetings popcorn sales sheets. If you did not get them, pick them up this coming Sunday at our meeting at the JCC at 4:30 PM. If you need more, we can get lots more.

If you have any questions about popcorn selling, Lisa Kaplan is our Popcorn Chairman and she can give you details.

Scouts remember, if you fill out your sheet, we can enter you into the weekly drawing for a laptop computer.

Thank you all for your understanding and we hope that this year will be even better than last year.

Always In Scouting,

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