



Upcoming Dates to Remember

See monthly event list at end of newsletter

4/1-3 Merit Badge Madness

** Service Opportunity*

No Meeting This Week

Due to Holy Week services at the Church, we will **not be having a troop meeting this week**. Our next troop meeting will be Thurs, March 31.

Eagle Project Help Needed

James Wiedmann will be doing his Eagle Scout Service Project this Saturday, March 26 from 10a-4p at the Country Club Estates Recreation Association Pool (1 Pall Marr Dr, Glen Burnie MD 21060). Please help James complete this project if you are available.

Merit Badge Madness

Merit Badge Madness will be held on April 1-3 at the Annapolis Area Christian School.

Biking/Hiking Trip

We will be planning a Bike/Hike Trip for May 13-15. More information will be coming soon.

Candy Sale – Need Troop Input

We are considering selling candy bars again. Before we make a decision to sell we need to know how many families are willing to sell candy bars to determine how many we order. The troop needs to prepay for all the candy and we cannot return any unsold candy to the company.

Please let Michele DeGrange (mdegrange@iname.com) know **by April 14** if you would like to participate and how many cases of 60 bars each you would be taking. We will work the sale like we did last year with half the profit going to the troop and half the profit going towards the scout's fair share account.

If there is enough interest, we would plan to start the sale before the end of April.

Medical Forms

Medical forms must be updated annually. Forms are located online at <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/HealthandSafety/ahmr.aspx>. If you plan to go to summer camp, now is the time to start planning for the annual physical. Even if you do not attend summer camp, you still need to have parts A and B of the medical forms completed. Please submit medical forms to Mr. or Mrs. DeGrange.

2016 STEM Day at Fort Meade

If anyone is interested in attending the Fort Meade STEM Day on April 23, please contact Ms. Shelia or Mr. DeGrange. The event runs from 8am to 4:00pm and costs \$16 per person. Registration deadline is April 8, so we need to know soon if we want to go as a troop.

For additional information on our events and calendar, visit our website at <http://bsatrop712.org>

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RobotFest and USA Science & Engineering Festival

For information on the RobotFest at the National Electronics Festival, see www.robotfest.com. Liam will be working there as general staff. It will be held at the National Electronics Museum in Linthicum on Saturday, April 30th. Suggested donations for admission at \$8 for adults and \$4 for middle/high-schoolers. Elementary school children are FREE.

For information on the USA Science & Engineering Festival, see www.usasciencefestival.org. It will be held on April 16-17 at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, DC. Admission is free.

Summer Camp

Summer Camp will be from July 10-16 at Camp Henson. If you are interested in attending Summer Camp this year, please contact Mr. Gerry.

Scout Dues

Reminder to all scouts that dues for the year are **now due**. A scout's dues pay for general administrative expenses for the troop including badges, awards, supplies and other miscellaneous troop expenses. Dues are different than your registration which goes directly to the Council.

Troop 712 dues are \$72 for the year. You can pay them all at once or \$6 per month. See Michele DeGrange if you have any questions.

Orioles Games Fundraiser

The Orioles season is almost here. Opening Day is around the corner on **Monday, April 4**. Our group works a concession stand during many of the home games. Everyone working a game will earn a minimum per game worked, but we usually earn more than the minimum based on sales at the stand and beer portable. As a group, we get \$500 per game minimum for the stand.

As usual, everyone working must complete DNC training prior to working. Those who have been previously trained may be able to do an online training. You will still need to go to the stadium to get your picture taken and new ID. As soon as we have more information on this process we will let everyone know. For latest training dates, please send email to Michele DeGrange at mdegrange@iname.com.

The training process can take some time. It is suggested to bring a book or something to keep you busy. Everyone must have their picture taken for ID badges and there may be considerable wait time.

We are making some changes to how things are handled by the group due to Boy Scout and IRS regulations. Since we are able to work these games as a group as a Boy Scout non-profit fundraiser 10% of everyone's earnings will be set aside for the troop. The rest of the funds will be held to be distributed to either your son's scout fair share account or another non-profit organization that you choose. Checks will need to be written directly to another non-profit group. We will not be able to write reimbursement checks to individuals.

The games we are working have not been finalized yet but, we will send out the schedule as soon as we get it. We plan on working a Stand and portable like we did last year. We are going to try and get the portable only for additional games. For games that we are only working the portable at least one off the workers must be lead trained.

Venture Crew

Venture Crew 712 is welcoming all scouts over 14 years of age and that have the rank of First Class to come by our meetings. We meet until 9:30 after regular troop meetings. If you know anyone outside of

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scout that qualifies (males and females over the age of 14 and that have completed the eighth grade) and are interested, bring them by too! See Thomas French for more info.

Advancements

Scouts – **please bring your books to troop meetings each week**, especially if you are working on requirements up through First Class. The assistant Scoutmasters need to be able to sign off on your requirements as you do them and Mr. DeGrange needs to be able to put your information into TroopMaster to ensure you get your advancements awarded promptly.

2017 Jamboree Information

See <http://www.bsajamboree.org> for more information.

Sign-up Sheets

Sign-up sheets for all events are located on a table at each meeting. Please take time to look at the sheets and sign up as early as possible for trips.

General Fundraising Information

As we all know, providing a quality Scouting program requires funds. We attempt to keep expenses down as much as possible. However, in order to ensure the Troop has the equipment and provisions needed, we do need to spend some money. We attempt to make it as easy and cheap as possible for the entire Troop 712 community. If you cannot assist with fundraising activities, please consider donating some of the items we need or use a lot. If you are too busy to stop at the store to pick something up, you can make a donation at one of the Troop meetings. We all need to do our part to continue to make the Troop a success. Mrs. Ellen Tralongo is our Committee Chair for Fundraising. If you have an idea for fundraising, contact her at ellen1558@msn.com.

Mrs. Tralongo is still collecting paper. Mr. Miller is still collecting aluminum cans. If you collect paper or cans, you can drop these off at the Troop meetings. The paper and cans will be taken off your hands, recycled, and the Troop will benefit financially.

Service and Service Projects

An important part of scouting is service to others, whether it is to family, to scouts or to the community. In addition to doing a good turn daily, scouts need to participate in service projects to earn their next rank. There are many opportunities for service.

H.O.P.E., a Christian focused service organization for those in need has several service project opportunities. For more information, call 410-766-0372.

Parents' Corner

Youth Protection is MANDATORY for all volunteers and adults interacting with the boys. Please make sure that your training is up to date. Note that you do not need to be a registered volunteer to take this training. The training is available on line and is good for two years. It only takes about 20 minutes to complete. If you have any questions about this, please see Gerry Miller.

Parents, these newsletters contain information important for the successful operation of the Troop. Please make sure your Scout(s) reads the newsletter as well.

We realize that not all parents can be as active in the troop as others. However, there will be opportunities to contribute to the success of the troop by helping out with smaller projects. These projects can allow you to spend time with us without having to fully commit. It takes all types of help to keep things running smooth. Let's set a good example for our scouts and get involved! It's their Troop, let's support it!

YIS,

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Kurt Godfrey, 410-320-2694

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2016 Troop Positions

Senior Patrol Leader: Colin Wampler
Asst. Senior Patrol Leader: Zig Obana
Troop Guide: Liam Williams
Quartermaster: Ethan Miller
Scribe: Aidan Pettyjohn
Historian: Richard Mott
Librarian: Alex Miller
LNT Trainer: OPEN
Chaplain Aide: Brian Bates
Instructor: OPEN
Bugler: OPEN
Den Chief: Zig Obana
Web Master: Xavier Thomas-Phoenix
JASM – James Wiedmann