

RED AND BLACK

Troop registration is due November 4th. Please turn in your payment if you haven't already. Registration fees are \$50 for scouts and \$20 for adults. If a Boys Life subscription is desired, the cost for that is \$6. Troop 246 will re-charter this month and only those scouts and adults who have submitted payment will be included. Scouts who have not yet registered will not be eligible to attend campouts/activities from this point forward. Checks should be made payable to Troop 246.

All adult leaders are required by Boy Scouts of America to be fully trained for their position. Troop 246 will start enforcing this requirement next year. Any adult leader who is fully trained for their position at this time, or who is registered for any outstanding training classes already, will have their registration fee waived. See Mrs. Zeggert or Ms. Whimple if you are unsure of what training is required. Training fees are reimbursed by the troop. We also can see if we can arrange group training just for our troop if there is enough interest.

Youth Protection training is required for all registered adult leaders. Mrs. Zeggert has emailed everyone who needs to renew their training before the end of the year. This is an absolute requirement for the troop recharter - if you do not update your training before 11/4 you will be removed from the charter and will need to resubmit an adult registration form with Council to continue. Youth Protection training will also be required for any adult attending campouts. The training is online and takes 10-15 minutes. We strongly urge all adults to take they training so that they can be familiar with the guidelines the BSA has for your scout's safety.

As the holidays approach, we have numerous community service activities available:

- A sock drive to donate socks to CAPTAIN.
- Collection of personal hygiene items to donate to CAPTAIN.
- A toy/gift drive for tween/toy boys to be donated to CAPTAIN.
- A sneaker recycling program.
- Scouting for Food

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Look for additional information on these programs in the coming weeks.

Troop 246 will be participating in BSA's SCOUTStrong program. To earn the Presidential Activity Level Award, scouts are required to participate in 60 minutes of activity per day, five days per week for 6 out of 8 weeks. The activity level is 30 minutes for adults. This program is open to anyone associated with Troop 246 - scouts, registered leaders, parents, siblings. A kickoff meeting will be scheduled to kick off this effort. Any activity done for this program would count as 8 out of the 12 weeks needed for the Personal Fitness merit badge. Any scout who would like to coordinate the merit badge with this program should see Mrs. Zeggert.

Troop 246 will be offering many fund raising opportunities for this year. The hope is to allow scouts to earn money that can be used towards future camp activities. A candy sale will be started this month. Candy will sell for \$1 and each bar has a \$2 Regal Cinema coupon on it good for up to 2 tickets (making it a \$4 savings!). Scouts will receive 50% of their sales in their scout account. Mrs. Zeggert will be sending out more information once the candy has been received. Additional fundraisers are currently being planned. If anyone has fundraising activity ideas, please see Mrs. Zeggert, Ms. Whimple, or Mrs. Miles.

The Holiday Ethnic Dinner will be held Monday, November 25th for scouts and leaders. Scouts are asked to bring a dish to share that identifies the Scout's heritage. Main dishes, appetizers, side dishes, and desserts are all welcome. Drinks will be provided. Scouts should arrive by 6:30 pm. Prior to dinner, Scouts will participate in a community service activity by signing holiday cards for military personnel overseas.

Holiday Bingo will be held Monday, December 16th. We are once again asking for donations of prizes. Prizes in the past have ranged from gift cards, to flashlights, to camping gear, to toys. Prizes are typically in the \$5-\$10 range. More information will be coming as we near this event.

PLEASE check the troop website www.troop246bsa.org for more detailed information.

Meetings take place at the Clifton Park Elk's Lodge #2466
695 Mac Elroy Road, Ballston Lake, NY

