

RED AND BLACK

Welcome back Scouts!! I hope that you are ready for an exciting year filled with friends, fun and adventure!

Troop registration for the 2012-2013 scout year will be done online this year. There are separate forms for scouts (<http://www.troop246bsa.org/join-troop-246/scout-registration>) and adults (<http://www.troop246bsa.org/join-troop-246/adult-registration>).

Registration fees will remain the same as last year, at \$50 per scout. Families that register more than one scout should contact Mrs. Zeggert or Ms. Whimple for adjusted fees. Adult registration fees also remain the same as last year at \$20 per adult. This year, we also will be collecting OA dues along with registration, at \$10. **All registration forms and fees are due to the troop by OCTOBER 1.** Checks should be made payable to Troop 246.

Once again, Troop 246 will be covering half the cost of a year's subscription to Boys Life, reducing the rate from \$12 per year to \$6. If your scout would like to receive Boys Life, please be sure to check the checkbox on the registration form. The \$6 payment can be included with the registration fee, making the total registration amount \$56 instead of \$50.

Troop 246 is always in need of new volunteers to help with the boys and to help organize some events. Please consider volunteering to help ensure the scouts have an enjoyable experience with the troop. See Mrs. Zeggert or Ms. Whimple for open opportunities.

Our popcorn kick-off was held August 27. Scouts took a break from their summer activities and learned about the popcorn program for this year, signed up for Show N Sell opportunities, received order forms, all while enjoying ice cream on a hot night. This is the main fundraising opportunity of the scout year for the troop. Scouts this year are being asked to sell \$200 by participating in Show N Sells as well as selling on their own. There will be contests throughout the selling period, so get out there and sell! Please contact Mrs. Newton with any questions.

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The Fall Camporee will be September 28 - 30 at Saratoga Spa State Park. This year they are planning activities such as a Trailblazer Program, Trapping Education, a Dutch Oven Dessert Contest, Archery, a Climbing Wall, Blast Car Demo, and Wildlife ID. There also will be a "Scouting Decathlon" where patrols compete against each other in a series of 10 events of athletic skill, scouting knowledge, intelligence, luck, and guile. **Please let Ms. Whimple know by Friday, September 14 if you're planning on attending. The fee for each scout and adult is \$25.** Permission slips can be found on the troop website.

Stand Down for Veterans is scheduled for Saturday, September 29. A Stand Down is put on by the Department of Veteran Affairs' to bring services to homeless veterans and their families such as food, shelter, clothing, and health screenings. We are in need of a scout and an adult who would like to organize this program this year. We also will need scout volunteers. If your scout isn't planning joining the fun at Camporee, this is a great opportunity for Community Service.

The Saratoga Auto Museum is holding a Scouting Day Saturday, September 22 from 10-5. Uniformed scouts get in free with a paid adult. Featured is a new exhibit NASCAR: Moonshine to Millionaires.

Many scouts took advantage of an offer by Troop 30 to join them on a trip to Gettysburg last year. The trip was a huge success according to reports from the scouts! This year, Troop 30 has reached out to us to join them on a trip to Washington DC the first week of April, 2013. Scouts and families will be taking a train down and staying in hotels. The train is expected to cost about \$127 per person, and the hotel less than \$35 per night, making the total estimated cost without food or a Metro pass (\$58) \$300 per person. As with the Gettysburg trip, fundraising opportunities will be available to lower this cost. One of the activities being planned is a tour of the White House and other government facilities which require paperwork to be submitted in early November, so scouts interested need to act fast. Please let Mrs. Meyers know if your scout is interested in going, or if you are a parent who would like to volunteer to be the Troop 246 point person.

Candice Vild will be taking over the **RED AND BLACK** newsletter. If you have information that you would like included in the newsletter please submit it to: venture48@gmail.com. Deadline is the 25th of every month.

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DATES TO REMEMBER

SEPTEMBER

17TH MEETING @ Elk's 7 p.m.

22nd Scout Day @ Saratoga Auto Museum
24th MEETING @ Elk's 7 p.m. SCOUTMASTER
CONFERENCE
28th-30th Fall Camp-O-Ree

OCTOBER

1ST MEETING @ Elk's 7 p.m. SCOUTMASTER
CONFERENCE/ BOARD OF REVIEW

8TH NO MEETING

15TH MEETING @ Elk's 7 p.m.

19th -21st Order of the Arrow Fall Fellowship
(Tentative Camping Dates)

22nd COURT OF HONOR (Wear full class A uniform)

27th West Point Trip

29th MEETING @ Elk's 7 p.m.

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