

# Troop 211 Newsletter

December 2015

Volume 1, Issue No. 2

## New Rank Requirements in 2016

All scouts joining on or after Jan. 1, 2016 **MUST** use the new requirements.

### Boys who have joined prior to Jan. 1, 2016:

**Scouts Who** are working on the Scout badge MAY continue to work on the existing requirements, but **MUST** convert to the new requirements upon completion of the Scout badge.

**Scouts Who** are working on Tenderfoot through First Class MAY continue to work on the existing requirements, but **MUST** convert to the new requirements upon attaining First Class.

**Scouts Who** have completed First Class MAY complete the rank they are currently working on in the existing requirements, but then **MUST** convert to the new requirements for subsequent ranks.

There will be a greater emphasis on service in the new requirements. In keeping with the Scout Oath and "helping other people at all times," a service aspect is now a requirement for each rank except the Scout rank—one hour for Tenderfoot, two hours for Second Class, and three hours for First Class. The total hours for Star and Life remain the same, at six hours each.

Note that half of the six hours for Life rank must be conservation-related; this reflects an increased emphasis on important matters like the outdoors and stewardship of Earth.

A new handbook be released for use with the

new requirements, the 13th edition of the Boy Scout Handbook, which includes the new requirements, will be available in January 2016.

Should you run out and acquire a new handbook in order to have requirements signed off? No. A Scout may continue to use his existing handbook as a reference and resource. However, he should also have a list of the new requirements for the purpose of sign-offs. This will be available for downloading from [www.scouting.org](http://www.scouting.org). It should be noted that there will be other content updates beyond requirement changes in the new Boy Scout Handbook, which may make the purchase of a new handbook desirable for many BSA members.

## Popcorn Sales News

Popcorn Sales are complete and troop 211 has broken the previous year's sales records!! If you still need to pickup your popcorn, please contact Dave Molzcan. Great Job Guys!!

## This Month's Meetings

**Dec 2nd-** NB Civic Club -7 PM - 8:30 PM

**Dec 9th-** TBA

**Dec 16th-** TBA

**Dec 23th-** NB Civic Club -7 PM - 8:30 PM

**Dec 30th-** NB Civic Club -7 PM - 8:30 PM

## November Webelos Weekend

Our November camping trip was held on November 20th-22nd and it was a snowy one!! We had a few Webelos scouts stay with us on Friday night and another brave Webelos Scout stayed with us on Saturday night. During the day we had even more Webelos scouts come out and join us for some fun in the wintery snow and to help out with the Dutch Oven cooking!! Among some of the dishes cooked throughout the day, were:

- ◆ Breakfast burritos
- ◆ Hungry Man
- ◆ Pizza Pies
- ◆ Spicy Chicken Surprise
- ◆ Meatloaf
- ◆ Vegetarian Lasagna
- ◆ California Sushi Rolls—100% OFF!!



Even though the weather wasn't the greatest, the boys had a blast!!



## Scouting for Food Results

Every November, Scouts across America gather food for charitable organizations in their area. Over the course of two weekends our troop collected 145 bags of food for the needy! That translates to approximately 1,000 lbs of food! Great job guys!

Special thanks to all of the parents that helped us get this great event done: Bill Ward, Brian Arnold, Josh Thomas, Allen Lavigne, James Elbode, Kellie Strable, Karen Rose and Jeffery Wooten!



## Bottle Drive for Troop 211

We will be continuing our Bottle Drive fundraiser in December! We did a good job of collecting during the Scouting for Food initiative. Put the word out to family and friends and neighbors that Troop 211 will be collecting returnable bottles and cans after the start of the New Year. Over the course of a few weeks Assistant Scoutmaster Alan Lavigne will be working with the boys to coordinate bottle drop off times, possible pick up schedules and to determine who will be manning the bottle return stations! Stay tuned!

### Photos Needed

If any parents have photos from our November Scouting for Food or Bottle Drive or the Camp out, please upload them to our Facebook page or send copies of them to Matt Smoger or Josh Thomas. We would like to put them in future newsletters and to put together a slide show of the scouts at their Eagle Ceremony!

### Upcoming Parents Meeting

**The next parents' meeting is at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, December 14th at Green Street Tavern.**

We encourage at least one parent from each family to attend the meeting and be part of the planning process to put together the best possible program for our scouts.



## December Outings Report

### Bowling Party

The troop committee is in the process of gathering information on a Bowling Party at C.J. Barrymore's on Hall Rd. This would be in place of our normal troop meeting on either Dec 9th or Dec 16th. Details are still emerging. Please check with your scout or one of the Assistant Scoutmasters for more information.

### Tent Maintenance and Health Hazards

After a campout the scouts who have used one of the troops tents are required to take it home, open it up and air it out. Unfortunately, not everyone is doing this. We are usually not aware of this until the NEXT campout when the next set of scouts tell the adults that the tent smells bad.

This is due to mold and fungus that is building up in the tent while it sits in the bag. This can turn in to a health hazard if not properly taken care of. If your scout suffers from breathing issues, this could exacerbate it.

The troop committee recommends that all scouts take a dryer sheet and put it INSIDE THE TENT, not just the bag to help with the smell. This way we can assume that the tent was pulled out, and hung up/set up to dry. The tents are on average \$125.00 and the troop just purchased these at the beginning of the year! If you have any questions or concerns, please check with one of the Assistant Scoutmasters for more information.

### District Roundtable Meeting

The next District Roundtable meeting is at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 10th at the Utica United Methodist Church. The church is located at 8650 Canal Rd, Sterling Heights, MI, 48314

All adult scout leaders should try to attend these meetings if possible.

### Wreaths Across America



There was a spaghetti dinner that supports a great organization, Wreaths Across America, on Thursday, Nov. 12 to purchase wreaths for every veteran's gravesite in Oakwood and St. Mary Queen of Creation cemeteries.

The Laying of the Wreaths ceremony will take place at both cemeteries on Saturday, Dec. 12, at 11:30am. There will be a moment of silence at noon and then we will commence the laying of the wreaths. We need to know how many scouts will be attending to help place wreaths. Anyone interested in assisting please contact Josh Thomas or Matt Smoger.

## Philmont Scout Ranch Crew

Next year we will be sending a group of boys to the Philmont Scout Ranch in July 2016!! Philmont Scout Ranch, located near Cimmaron, NM, is the Boy Scouts of America's largest national High Adventure Base. It covers 137,000 acres - about 214 square miles - of rugged mountain wilderness in the Sangre de Cristo (Blood of Christ) range of the Rocky Mountains in northern New Mexico.

Philmont Scout Ranch operates 34 staffed camps and 55 trail camps. Philmont has high mountains with rough terrain and elevations that range from 6,500 to 12,441 feet! Our boys will be going for 12 days and will be attempting the 106 mile hike!! To participate, scouts must be 14 years of age OR completed 8th Grade and be at least 13 years of age prior to participation. So start your training today!!

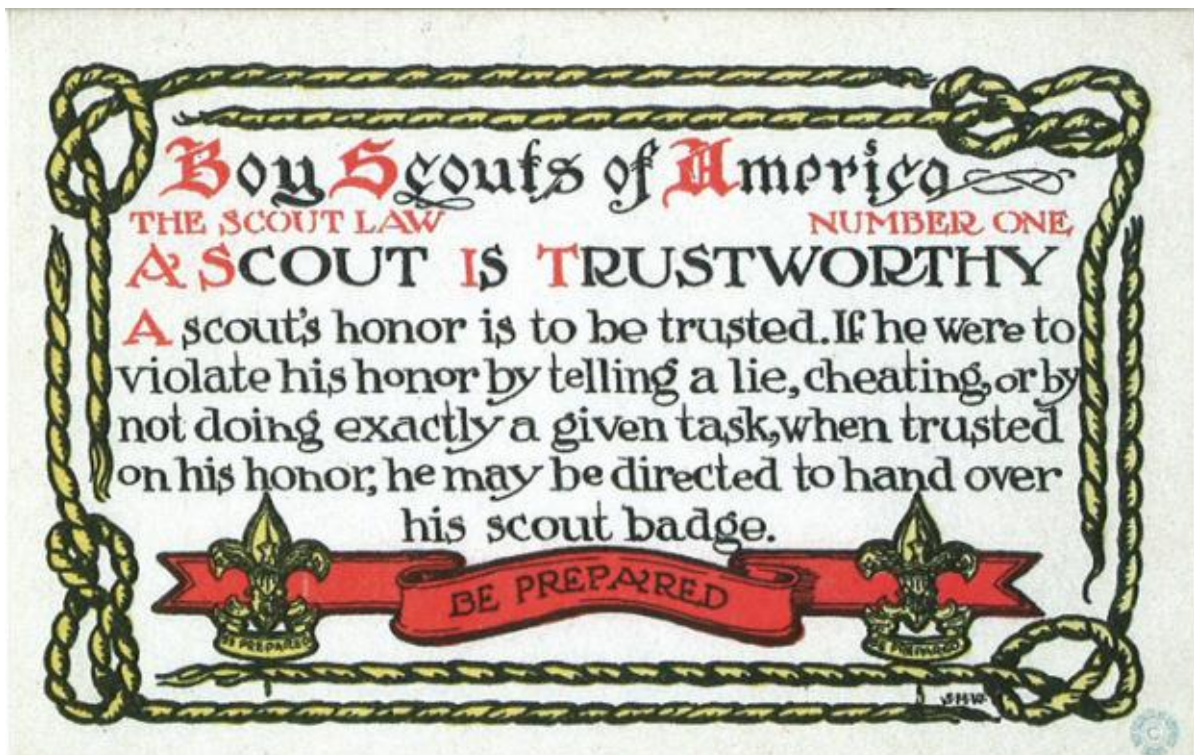
## Advancement Report

Congratulations to the scouts that advanced in rank in November:

<u>Scout</u>	<u>Rank</u>
Anderson Strable	Tenderfoot
Albert Myers	Tenderfoot

*The Troop believes that no scout should be excluded from activities because of financial considerations - this includes Summer Camp, High Adventure, Jamborees and monthly campouts!*

*We have a fund that can help with this issue. If you require further details, please contact Bill Ward with requests or concerns.*



## Troop Committee

**Matt Smoger** – *Troop Committee Chair*

586-855-2553

**Bill Ward** - *Scoutmaster*

586-725-5352(home) (586) 883-3072(cell)

**Stu Resch**– *Outdoor Committee Chair*

586-524-2226

**Sally Ward** – *Advancement Committee Chair*

586-883-3070

**Josh Thomas** - *Secretary*

586-557-2184

**Dave Molczan** – *Treasurer*

810-444-5727

**Jeffrey Wooten** - *Troop Commissioner*

586-909-5177

*Please see the troop roster for the Youth Leadership contact information.*

## Adult Leadership

**Scoutmaster**

Bill Ward

**Assistant Scoutmasters**

Alan Lavigne

Pat Tezak

Josh Thomas

Brian Arnold

## Calendar of Key Events

**Dec 12th** - Wreaths Across America - Wreath Placement Day.

**Dec 25th** - Merry Christmas!

### 2016

**Jan 1st** - Happy New Year!

**Jan 29th-31st** - HODAG

**Feb** - Chief Pontiac Trail hike/campout

**Feb 14th** - Scout Sunday at local churches

**Mar 18th-20th** - D-Bar-A New Scout Campout

**Apr 22nd-24th** - Silver Trails Campout

**May 6th-8th** - Dorchester International Camporee

**Jun 26th-Jul 2nd** - Summer Camp

**Jun 29th-Jul 13th** - Philmont Scout Ranch Trip

**Please see Scoutlander for more detailed information.**

## Mark your Calendars!

**Summer Camp 2016 dates:**

**Sunday June 26 to**

**Saturday July 2**

