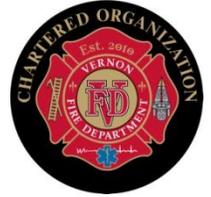




BOY SCOUT TROOP 26
PROUDLY SPONSORED BY
TOWN OF VERNON FIRE DEPARTMENT
SERVING THE YOUTH OF OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1934
WWW.PACUNITS.ORG/T26



Dear Parents and Scouts of Troop 26,

This letter is being sent to all members of Troop 26 and prospective new scouts joining our troop in regards to our week at Camp Long Lake this summer. The week that we will be attending is “week 2” Sunday June 23 thru Saturday June 29, 2019. The “regular” fee for a week at camp is \$305.00. This is broken down into two payments. A \$100.00 first payment is due by March 5, 2019. Final payment (\$205.00) needs to be paid by May 4, 2019. Anyone not paying their fee in full by May 4, 2019 will need to pay an “additional” \$25.00. (Camp fee would then be \$330.00) Scouts from our troop that attend NYLT at Camp Long Lake would pay \$255.00 if they go to camp for a second week at Camp Long Lake. For scouts attending NYLT, our week at camp would be considered as a second week at camp. The NYLT fee has no discounts. New crossover scouts have until June 23, 2019 to pay their fees in full at the regular fee. (\$305.00)

Discounts in effect this year for our troop are as follows:

- **\$10.00 Camp Long Lake loyalty troop**
- **5% “Fair Share” Rebate (based on 2019 Friends of Scouting campaign)**

(These discounts will be determined and paid out after camp ends and credited to the scouts scout account)

We will again register at the Scout office as a troop, so scouts will need to pay their money to the troop. Please do not register your son for camp thru the Scout Office. We will be registering on line this year using the same program as last year. We will then make one payment to the office each time we register scouts. We need to know by March 5, 2019 of your son’s decision regarding camp in order to get the above discounts. As you can see, the earlier you decide to go, the lower the cost. Scouts can use their scout account to help pay. Scout account questions can be directed to our Treasurer, Mrs. Elizabeth Sili for clarification.

All scouts and leaders will need a newly updated physical to be able to stay in camp. Physical examinations are required every 12 months regardless of age. Every one attending camp needs to have a valid physical on file at camp for medical emergencies should the need arise. This form must be valid for the entire week at camp. This is Boy Scout policy. If you or your son is on any medication prescribed by a doctor, or over the counter medications, we also need a “medication card” filled out and signed by the doctor prescribing the medication in addition to the physical form that needs to be signed by your doctor. Medications will be dispensed the same as last year. I can explain this to those people affected. Copies of either the annual

physical examination or medication card are available at either the troop website (pacunits.org/t26) or council website (pacbsa.org). Medical forms are going to be processed the same as last year. We need to send in all of our medical forms prior to arriving at camp on Sunday June 23th. I would like everyone to have their medical form to me by June 4, 2019 in order to make this process flow easily. Please note that if you or your son has any medications to be administered while at camp that the medications need to be listed on the physical form and on the medication card. The medication card is a council form and helps keep track of medications as they are dispensed. This form is in addition to the BSA medical form.

Scouts with special dietary needs will need to let me know so that we can let camp know to make allowances for them. We need to inform camp of this at least two weeks before we attend camp. (By June 4, 2019) I will be able to get a camp menu shortly and can share it with those affected. Food service in the dining hall remains the same as last year with one exception. On Wednesday, the dining hall will be operating as the rest of the week. Wednesday is also designated as “family day” at camp. Parents and families may eat in the dining hall if they wish. There will be a charge for meals eaten in the dining hall. The other option is to run Wednesday meals as in the past, that being cooking in our campsite. Our troop will decide how we would prefer to eat on Wednesday. More details to follow.

We will be camping in the same campsite as last year, Bear Trail. This campsite has platforms for all of the camp supplied tents. We will again be using the tents provided by the camp. These are two person tents with cots and mattresses for each person. This campsite has a capacity for 20 people using the camp tents that are on platforms. We should be able to use our tents if we go above 20 people, or request additional camp tents. We will also have use of both of the troop teepees for scouts to sleep in during the week. Hopefully, all of you have retained the mosquito netting and supports that we have used in the past. If not, please see me as I may have some extras to help out those in need. The troop also has a supply of netting for your use during the week. For those needing to make a set, I can supply you with a set of plans.

The Merit Badge program at camp is going to be basically the same as last year. The “merit badge offering list” is included in the Camp Guide, and I have included a link to access it in the email. The program area fees are included in the listings. Please take these fees into account when planning for merit badge selections. Fees are subject to change. Scouts need to let me know which merit badges they wish to work on and at what times. I will then reserve spots for each scout through the camp website. **All pre-registrations for merit badges can start to be turned in to me by March 12, 2019**, as that is when we can start to register scouts for their particular merit badges or other activities. The sooner I get merit badge selections, the sooner scouts can be registered for their selections. No one can be registered for merit badges unless their first payments of camp fees are paid at the scout office. Scouts may turn in their forms before March 12 if they wish. They will also be able to change

selections if they wish using the same format. Some classes may fill up sooner than others.

Merit Badge sessions will be in the morning and at 2:00 in the afternoon. Scouts in Project First Class will be able to take any merit badge offered at 2:00. The afternoon time will allow scouts to practice the skills for each merit badge, explore other areas of camp, or work on some of the extra awards offered at camp. Attached please find a list of merit badges and associated costs offered at camp and times. Now is the time for your son to make plans for which of these he would like to work on while in camp. Please use the merit badge selection sheet enclosed, as the merit badges offered this year has changed. Please note that some merit badges need to have some work done ahead of our week at camp in order to complete the particular merit badge. Merit badge sign up will be done the same as last year. I will be handling the merit badge computer entries. There may be other Merit Badges offered the week we attend camp. As soon as I am aware of them I will pass that information on to you. These would be offered by merit badge counselors who are at camp for that week that are not part of the regular summer camp staff. Please be aware that some of these will require added expense. Merit Badges such as Wood Carving, Leatherwork and Basketry will have materials that need to be purchased at the Trading Post.

Outpost is basically the same as last year. The activities are still being verified at this time. Scouts must realize that Outpost will take up afternoons all week, so they will not be able to register for a 2:00 merit badge. The fee for Outpost is not yet determined (last year was \$65.00). This would be in addition to the regular camp fee. Scouts must register for this similar to signing up for merit badges. Minimums are must be First Class and 13 years old. No first year scouts are allowed. There is a limit as to total numbers for this part of the program due to equipment available.

The ATV program will continue this year. Scouts must be 14 years old to take part in this program. Scouts will be in either a morning group or afternoon group. Group sizes are limited to the number of ATV's available at camp. There may be a possibility of going outside of camp for part of this activity. The program fee will be \$50.

For 2019, Camp Long Lake is eliminating sign-up limits to any merit badge without physical limitations (ex. Welding only has three booths so we limit each class period to 6 Scouts). The following chart has been created to help Scouts understand what activities are appropriate for their age. Scouts with prior experience or knowledge regarding a certain subject CAN attend those merit badge sessions. Not all badges and events are listed on here. The requirements that we must adhere to, however, are listed.

Program Area	Age 12/2nd year	Age 13/ 3rd year	Age 14+
ATV Program			Age 14+ ONLY

Aquatics and Boating	Canoeing, Lifesaving	Rowing, Motorboating, Small Boat Sailing, Watersports, Snorkeling	
Maintenance		Metalwork	Welding
Shooting Sports	Archery, Rifle	Shotgun	
Trail to Eagle	Communication, Citizenship, First Aid		
STEM/Con	Environmental Science		
Older Scout		Zip Line, COPE, Outpost	

Returning this year to week 4 (July 14-20) is High Adventure Shooting Camp (HASC)! This is an individual opportunity for Scouts and adult participants! This is a great opportunity to develop in all areas of field sports with rifle, shotgun, blackpowder, archery (including aerial and night archery), powder ball, tomahawk and knife throwing. HASC is a steal at \$400 for the week, but for the first time this year, we are also offering the \$50 second-week discount, too!

Scouts wishing to attend a second week of camp (Provisional Camp) have a choice of two weeks. (July 21-27 or July 28-August 3) The fee for a second week of camp is \$255.00. Camp provides the adult leadership for those two weeks.

Adult leaders are always welcomed at camp for a day or two or the entire week. If adults are going to attend for longer than 72 hours, they need to be a registered leader. We are required to have in camp a **minimum of two leaders at all times. Please let me know if you wish to help out as a leader for our week at camp. It is possible for adults to share parts of the week and yet still maintain our minimum of 2 adults in camp for the week. Leader fees are \$125.00 for the entire week or \$25.00/day if paid in full by May 1, 2019. After that date an additional \$25.00 will be added to each leader fee. If we have adults sharing a week (1 Mon-Wed. & 1 Wed-Sat) that would count as 1 adult all week. We ask that adults going to a full week of camp pay 1/2 of the leader fee. The troop will pay the other half.**

We may be cooking our own meals in our campsite on Wednesday, so scouts needing to fulfill cooking requirements for Second and First class should be able to complete some of them at camp. We hope to the same type of cooking as last year to give the scouts a try at different types of outdoor cooking.

Any scout considering working at camp must be 15 years old. They do have a counselor in training (CIT) program for those wanting to get a taste of what it is like to work on staff, Minimum age to be a CIT is 14 years old. There is no charge to be a CIT. Please see me if your son is interested in this.

I will be sending a final letter out the closer we get to camp that has all of the last minute details for our week at camp. If you or your son has any questions, please

call me at home (262-662-0594), cell (262-719-2284) or see me at any troop meeting and I will do my best to answer them for you.

Thank you for your attention to these items regarding camp. We as leaders in Troop 26 enjoy working with your sons and look forward to the year ahead. Parents are always welcome at our activities and outings. If you should have any suggestions about future activities, please feel free to mention them to any of our troop's leaders.

Yours in the spirit of scouting,

**Patrick Gerum
Scoutmaster, Troop 26**