



## *News of the Troop #6*



- √ **Scout Sunday at Vale Church:** The troop will be observing Scout Sunday on February 10 at Vale Church. The plan is to provide support to both church services (8:30 and 10:00) – but this will depend on the level of support from the scouts. We are looking for volunteers to serve as greeters, ushers, work the collection plates, lay readers, support the coffee/snack service, and other still to be determined tasks. All are welcome to attend and participate whether you are a member of Vale Church. **In you can help in one or both services let Alex Zaita, Chaplains Aide, know as soon as possible.** Whether participating or not, all scouts/scouters should wear their scout uniform to the church service. Scout Sunday for non-United Methodist Church chartered troops is observed on February 3, so if attending service on that day at your church you should wear your uniform.
- √ **February Court of Honor:** February 11 is our next Court of Honor. I invite all troop families and scouts to join us in recognizing those who have earned rank advancement and merit badges since the last Court of Honor. In addition, whether your son will be recognized or not, this is an excellent opportunity to meet your troop leadership and hear about happenings in the troop.
- √ **Troop Elections:** March 3 will be troop elections. The term of office for those elected will begin April 1 and will run until September 30. We will be doing elections differently this time around. The troop will only elect the Senior Patrol Leader and then each patrol will elect their patrol leader. Pre-requisites to run for office are at least Star and SM approval for SPL; at least First Class for patrol leader. Those elected must agree to attend Troop Leader Training prior to assuming their leadership position. I invite all eligible Scouts to run for SPL and lead the troop over the next 6 months. **You must let our current SPL know if you plan to run for senior patrol leader before March 3.**
- √ **New Scout Patrol/Venture Patrol Shuffle:** We will be dissolving the Braves patrol (New Scout patrol) in anticipation of forming a new patrol(s) from the Webelos bridging on March 2. The plan is to move members of the Braves into the three Regular patrols (Cobra, Killer Whale, and Wolverine). The PLC, with SM approval, will determine which patrols the soon-to-be-former “new scouts” will go too. At the same time we will be affording those Regular patrol members who have turned 14 years old and are Star or above to move into one of the Venture patrols – moving into a Venture patrol is at the request of the particular scout and not mandatory. Eligible scouts opting to remain in their Regular patrol will still be able to participate in Venture patrol activities.
- √ **February Big Event:** This month’s event is a troop campout and shotgun shooting at Bull Run Regional Park. We will be departing from Vale church Saturday morning and returning Sunday at noon. Saturday afternoon we’ll be shotgun shooting and enjoying a campfire after dinner. This is a cold weather campout you will need to have a sleeping bag rated for below 20 degrees, sleeping pads/air mattresses to keep you off the ground, and appropriate clothing. **You need to let you patrol leader know by Feb 4 if you will attend.**
- √ **New Assistant Scoutmaster:** Please welcome Mr. Andy Wescoat as our newest Assistant Scoutmaster. Andy is an Eagle Scout and father of Ethan Wescoat of the Braves patrol. Thank you for volunteering to join the troop’s adult leadership.