



**Boy Scout Troop 236
Christ United Methodist Church
Kettering, Ohio**

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Troop 236 would like to welcome the following new members: Michael Jacobs, Nate Welch, Thomas Gardner, Ian Weaver, Adam Okoye, Stephen Barrett, Zac Boyd, and Chris Banks. We would also like to welcome Brett Livingston as a new member of the Venture Crew. A Troop is only as good as its members, and we are certain that these outstanding new members will continue to carry on the long-standing tradition of excellence in Troop 236.

CAVING CAMPOUT

On March 12-14, we will have a caving campout. We will return to Carter Caves in Kentucky. This will be a wild cave tour for those who wish to crawl, climb, and slither through narrow passages with only the light of a flashlight. Definitely bring old clothes for this one. As usual, we will wear Class "A" uniform while traveling. We will cook by patrol. Cost is \$22.00. Drivers are free. Adults who don't drive are \$10.00 for the cost of the cave trip. Mr. Sewell is in charge of this campout.

COLUMBUS CAMPOUT

On March 26-28 we will have a new campout in Columbus. We will visit COSI and the Columbus Zoo. Unfortunately Jack Hannah is not in Columbus that week, so Doc couldn't arrange to have him for a guide, but we still look forward to a great trip to Columbus. We will be staying at Camp Lazarus just north of Columbus. We have not been to COSI in many years, and it has been enlarged and improved. We have never visited the Columbus Zoo. The exact details and cost are still being determined. We will cook by patrol. Mr. Hall and Mr. Lapp are in charge.

BACKPACKING CAMPOUT

On April 23-25 we will return to Red River Gorge in Kentucky for backpacking. We will all camp at the same camp site. There will be a 13 mile trip for older scouts and those going to Philmont and a 7 mile trip for newer scouts. You can do this with a day pack. Red River Gorge is a beautiful area for backpacking with lush almost tropical plants. We will cook by patrol, using light weight backpacking type food. The troop will provide breakfast and lunch of Saturday. The cost is \$20.00. Sign up by April 13. Mr. McPherson and Doc are in charge of this campout.

PHILMONT SHAKEDOWN

The March Philmont Shakedown will be held on March 19-21 at Zaleski State Park. Meet at the church at 6:00 PM on Friday. All Philmont participants should attend. We will also be joined by the Venture Crew.

WHITEWATER RAFTING CAMPOUT

Troop 236 will again experience the thrill of Whitewater Rafting on the New River in West Virginia on June 4-6. We will camp at the Mountain Campground and raft with Class VI River Runners, the premier rafting company in the area. Two of the owners are Eagle scouts from near Cincinnati, and one usually goes with the younger scouts himself. Class VI emphasizes safety with experienced guides, the most modern equipment, and provides helmets and personal floatation devices which must be worn at all times while on the river. In addition, their lunch on the river is outstanding. Younger scouts will challenge class I-III rapids on the Upper New River in one-man and two-man rubber duckies, rubber kayaks. Older scouts will experience class III-V rapids in rafts on the Lower New River. Cost is to be determined but is probably \$75.00 for the Upper New River and \$95.00 for the Lower New River. All of these costs are significantly discounted. This will be a family campout, so families are invited. We will cook by troop. Mr.

Phillips and Mr. Larrimer are in charge. **All scouts must pass a BSA swimming test in order to go on this trip. Doc will arrange several opportunities for you to do this. Since this is a high adventure activity, we need a medical form for all scouts. We must have definite numbers and be paid by May 19.**

SUMMER CAMP

Summer camp this year will be on June 20-June 26. David Dean will return as the Camp Director, and we believe that summer camp should be an outstanding experience this year. Cost is \$162.00. We look forward to an outstanding summer camp. It is important that as many of our Scouts as possible attend summer camp. This is a great opportunity to work on rank advancement and to really get to know your fellow Troop members. You need to register now. We will need to make a \$35.00 deposit by March 1 with full payment by June 1. Scouts who make these payment dates will receive a Woodland Trails hat. See Doc, Mrs. Hill, Mr. Byers, or Mr. Feuer if you need some campership help for summer camp. All campership requests must be at the council office by May 6. We would really like for every member of Troop 236 to attend summer camp this year. Everyone will need a new medical form. **Doc will be doing physicals before the meetings at 6:30 PM beginning in April or you may get it done by your own doctor. THESE ARE ALL DUE THE FIRST MEETING IN JUNE. Please help out by getting the medical forms turned in on time this year.**

TROOP 236 LEADERSHIP AND SCOUT SKILLS CAMP

This year will mark the 15th anniversary of the Troop 236 Leadership and Scout Skills Campout. This campout will be held on August 13-16, so mark that date on your calendar. This is a training camp for our Scouts who are at least First Class and any age or at least 13 years of age. During this time we will review the 11 leadership skills and really sharpen your Scout skills in cooking, orienteering, tree and plant identification and pioneering. Scouts may earn pioneering, orienteering, and cooking merit badges at this campout. We are possibly the only Troop in the nation which provides this training opportunity for our members, and we believe it has been a major factor in our Troop's success. The Leadership Camp Instructors' Manual has been updated based on feedback from last year's session. We expect this year's camp to be the best ever with senior scouts teaching and running the sessions again this year. Kevin Roberts will serve as the course director, and Andrew Kern will serve as the S.P.L. All Scouts who complete this camp will become Troop Instructors and will be able to wear a trained patch. Participation in this camp is a Troop 236 requirement for all Scouts who wish to serve as a Patrol Leader or Assistant Patrol Leader. Scouts who have previously participated in this camp are encouraged to serve on the staff. Cost of this campout will be \$40.00 for participants and \$35.00 for staff.

BEAVER DAY

Beaver Day is Saturday, May 1 at Woodland Trails. This is a day when we join with the members of the Order of the Arrow in working to improve our council camp, Woodland Trails. Meet at the church at 8:00 AM. We will camp that night. The O.A. will furnish lunch. Cost will be \$5.00 for dinner Saturday night and breakfast Sunday morning. This will give us an opportunity to work to improve **our camp**. This event will count as an event for Second Class and First Class and as service hours.

SCOUTING FOR FOOD

We will pass out bags on Saturday, February 6 and will need some scouts who are not going on the Caving Campout to pick up the bags on Saturday, February 13

CUB SCOUT KLONDIKE

We will need both scouts and adults to help staff the Cub Scout Klondike on Saturday, March 6.

TROOP SWIM

We will have a troop swim on Monday, March 8 at the Washington Township Rec Center. This is a great opportunity to work on Second and First Class swimming requirements or to just come and have fun. Meet at the Rec Center at 6:15. We will swim from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. Bring a pair of long pants to take off in the water if you wish to work on First Class requirements.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW O.A. MEMBERS

Our newly elected O.A. members are Matt Barthelemy, George Best, Henry Best, Eric Evers, Kurt Helmers, Dusty Honious, Kevin Janek, Matt Phillips, Matt Schoeppner, Tyler Schoeppner, Eric Schwenker, Tanner Sewell, Jim Spangler, Chris Turpin, Danny Watson, Kyle Winning, Greg Schoeppner, Phil Speelman, and Doyle McPherson. In order to become full members of the Order of the Arrow, each of these candidates must go through an O. A. ordeal during the next year. These are

being held on April 30-May 2, August 20-22, and September 17-19.

CAMPOUT SIGN UPS

We need all scouts to sign up and pay for campouts by the Tuesday two weeks before each campout. Remember that you may take the payment out of your scout account. If you have a problem with the money, talk with Doc, Mark Feuer, or Tina Hill (254-6685). We want all scouts to be able to participate. We need to have scouts sign up this 10 days in advance so we can get trip permits, arrange for enough drivers and to purchase tickets when needed. Thank you for your cooperation. We have had a real problem with scouts signing up at the last minute or just showing up.

GEORGE CARSON MEMORIAL CAMBERSHIP FUND

The troop has a limited amount of money in the George Carson Memorial Campership Fund to help scouts with campouts. See Doc, Bill Byers, Mark Feuer, or Tina Hill to get an application. This money has been specifically donated in George's memory to help scouts attend campouts. For those of you who didn't have the opportunity to know George Carson, he was my number one Assistant Scoutmaster for 10 years before he passed away with cancer in June, 2000 at age 49. George was an outstanding role model and mentor to our scouts, and those who had the privilege of knowing him received a real inspiration and positive influence from him. The George Carson Spirit of Scouting was named for Mr. Carson, and he was the first recipient of this award which is presented by the P.L.C. to an adult member who has been with the troop for at least 5 years, has participated in at least 50% of all campouts, and represents the high ideals of adult leadership exemplified by Mr. Carson.

FAMILY DONATION

Each year we ask each family to once again make a contribution to the troop to cover the cost of registration, Boy's Life, rank advancement, postage, equipment, insurance, etc. It costs the troop about \$55.00 per scout for each year to run the troop program. While \$55.00 is the average cost, we ask each family to donate as generously as they can. We have families with a wide range of incomes, so that some can give more while others may not be able to make the total contribution. This donation may be made in installments if that is more convenient. Remember that Troop 236 has a long-standing policy that no scout will be denied the full scout program for financial reasons. Soon each family has received a letter regarding the yearly family donation along with a proposed budget so you can see how the money is used. Family donations have been slow coming in this year, and we must write a check for around \$2,000 to recharter the troop this month. Please send in your donation.

VENTURE CREW 236

Venture Crew 236, chartered on November 1, 2003, is really up and running. The Crew has grown from 5 to 11 members. Our program in Troop 236 has fit it very nicely, and the Venture Crew members are well on their way toward earning their Ranger award.

DEN CHIEFS

There are always a number of dens that need Den Chiefs each year. I would like to encourage all of the scouts who are at or near First Class to volunteer as a Den Chief. Eric Moorman, who is a very experienced Den Chief and a Junior Assistant Scoutmaster, will be working as your advisor to help you get the best experience out of this opportunity. This is a great way to begin learning leadership skills.

TROOP WEB PAGE ADDRESS

[www.troop 236.org](http://www.troop236.org)

Visit the Web Page often to stay up to date with Troop 236. Kyle Winning, our new webmaster, has done a tremendous job of updating the site.

TROOP COMMITTEE AND ADULT LEADERS

All parents are invited to participate actively in the adult leadership of Troop 236. The Troop Committee meets each month, normally at 7:00 PM on the first Wednesday. All parents along with the uniformed troop leaders are encouraged to attend the Troop Committee meetings. We can always use more help. If any of you would like to become a uniformed leader, you are quite welcome. We are not a "closed shop." We also need help with serving on Boards of Review, serving as merit badge counselors, sewing, making phone calls, working with computers, driving to campouts, and many other areas. We would welcome any time you can provide to our scouts, and we hope to have **you** join the adult leadership family of Troop 236.

SCOUTMASTERS MINUTE

DO THE RIGHT THING!

During the last century there lived a poor farmer in Scotland who was out working his fields when he heard a cry for help. He went to where the plea for help was coming from and found a boy caught and sinking in a bog. He worked his way through the bog and with the aid of a staff was able to free the boy. After doing so the farmer went back to work in his fields and didn't think anymore about it. The next day a fine horse-drawn carriage pulled up in front of the farmer's hut. Out of it stepped a well-dressed nobleman who was the father of the boy the farmer had rescued the day before. The grateful father wanted to reward the farmer for rescuing his son but the farmer, as desperately poor as he was, would not accept money for helping someone in need.

The nobleman still wanted to reward the farmer for saving his son and was trying to think of some way to do so when the farmer's own son came to the doorway of the hut. Seeing him the nobleman then made this proposition to the farmer; let him take the boy and he would educate him. The farmer hesitated at first but then finally agreed. Through the education that the farmer's son received he became a scientist. The boy grew up to be Sir Alexander Fleming, the discoverer of penicillin.

A number of years after, the nobleman's own son was stricken with pneumonia which was a death sentence before penicillin. Because of the drug he was saved. The nobleman was Sir Randolph Churchill, the nobleman's son that was saved was Sir Winston Churchill.

Each of us as we live our lives will have opportunities to help people and will have to make moral decisions like the poor Scottish farmer did. As badly as he needed money, his personal code that he lived by would not allow him to accept money for helping someone else in need. If he would have taken the money his son would not have been educated and the world would not have penicillin which has saved tens of millions of lives not to mention the life of Winston Churchill who led England through the darkest days of World War II against Nazi Germany. The Scottish farmer died without ever knowing that one small moral decision he made changed the world and saved millions of lives. As you live your life never underestimate the power of doing the right thing.

Yours in Scouting,

Charles Goodwin, Scoutmaster

COSI AND COLUMBUS ZOO CAMPOUT
March 26-28

Name _____ Patrol _____

I am going _____ Parent can drive _____

Cost TBA Please sign up by March 23.

BACKPACKING CAMPOUT
April 23-25

Name _____ Patrol _____

I am going _____

Cost \$15. Please sign up by April 13

CAVING CAMPOUT
March 12-14

Name _____ Patrol _____

I am going _____ Parent can drive _____

Cost \$22/\$10 for adults who cave, but don't drive.
Please sign up by March 9.

WHITEWATER RAFTING CAMPOUT
June 4-6

Name _____ Patrol _____

I am going _____

Cost \$75.00 for Upper New/\$95.00 for Lower New. May need to be adjusted.

Parent can drive _____

Please sign up by May 18.

SUMMER CAMP
June 20-26

Name _____ Patrol _____

Cost \$170.00. \$35.00 by March 1 and remainder by June 1

FAMILY DONATION

Suggested Donation of \$55.00 per Scout

Please be as generous as you can so we don't need to do a fundraiser.

Name _____

Scout's Name _____ Patrol _____

Amount of donation: \$ _____

I would like to make the donation in payments _____