

Piedmont Council Training Team

MERIT BADGE UNIVERSITY

Sponsored by: Piedmont Council's Training Team & The Order of the Arrow

Scoutmasters,

The Merit Badge University is a unique opportunity for your scouts to work on earning a merit badge in the winter. This is an opportunity for scouts to learn merit badge material from instructors who have taught at area scout camps, teach at local schools, or are involved in a profession that qualifies them to teach a merit badge. Since we are trying to fill as many classes as possible in this one-day event, we are not able to guarantee a certain merit badge class. If you have a scout who only desires a certain merit badge, encourage him to call a merit badge counselor in your area to work on that merit badge. This event is for those that are willing to accept any one of their first four choices. Last year 63% got their first choice, 15% got their second choice, 11% their third choice and 6% their fourth choice. Several Scouts were asked to make choices from what was left.

Do not expect an unprepared scout to be given a merit badge. We have looked closer at the instructor's qualifications and the prerequisites for each merit badge, to insure all requirements are met before a scout is credited with earning a merit badge. We will also be training our instructors in the BSA's four steps to advancement. The first two steps are a youth learns and a youth is tested. We are not just expecting the scouts to attend classes, they must also pass off the requirements by being tested on the information learned.

We will be offering **many** of the same interesting adult classes as last year. Due to popular demand and limited space, we will need to register adult leaders just as we register scouts. We will be assigning adult leaders to classes this year. Space will be limited, so register early.

MBU is scheduled for February 24, 2007. Enclosed you will find the registration form, an advanced registration form, a drop/add form, a general information sheet. The cost is \$11.00 per scout, which includes insurance, **catered lunch**, supplies and a MBU patch. A fee of \$7.00 for adults includes **catered lunch**, adult classes, and a MBU patch. Additional fees apply to some of the adult courses. One adult must register with each troop.

To help with registration **we will only accept registration from troops - NOT individuals. If you wish to drop or add a scout, or change a class after submitting your initial registration, you may do so by using the Drop/Add Form (blue).** Please complete all information requested. After all troops registration are received, they will be processed. Preference for classes will be given first to troops with complete information and then the dates of earliest submission. We will send class initial class assignments or requests for class additional choices shortly after January 1, 2007.

Hope to see you at MBU!

REGISTRATION BEGINS AFTER: NOVEMBER 1, 2006
ALL REGISTRATION FORMS ARE DUE BY: DECEMBER 8, 2006