

Scout information for Elgin U-46 Planetarium visits

2011-2012

Starting this school year the U-46 planetarium offers scout programming. The planetarium has created the **Sky Map Program** and **Scout Shows** to allow all ages of boy and girl scouts to earn their respective badges, try-its, electives, belt loops and awards in astronomy. We do not sell badges; we create experiences that allow a scout to earn a badge.

Sky Map Program (ages 7-adult)

Brownies and Bear Cubs on up are welcome at this show that briefly outlines the history of the observatory/planetarium and delves into learning how to read a star map to find constellations in the night sky. We will focus on the constellations and planets visible in the sky tonight and how they move across the sky. This program is recommended for all scouts and is particularly useful before camping trips. We will use sky maps you make at home or a meeting. You will need scissors and a stapler or tape per person. It can be made on plain paper or on stiffer cardstock. See website below.

http://www.skyandtelescope.com/letsgo/familyfun/Make_a_Star_Wheel.html

I also have the template on a PDF that I can forward to you. Ask if you need help!

Scout Shows

Separate Scout Shows will be offered for two age groups. The show will include a history and tour of the building and its connection The Elgin National Watch Company, a short segment under the stars showcasing tonight's sky, and a full dome presentation. The full dome show is an animated, digital video that shows across the entire dome using our new full dome projector. The shows selected for scouts cover a multitude of the topics listed as requirements in the badges. The programs start at Bear Cub and Brownie age.

For younger scouts (CS Bears and Webelos; GS-Brownies and Juniors) a show titled, *Earth, Moon and Sun* will be presented. This show outlines why we see what we do in the sky including moon phases and the moving Suns and stars.

For older scouts (GS Cadettes and up and BS, all ages), *Two Small Pieces of Glass* will be presented. It covers the history of the telescope and how it works. It also explores famous astronomers and discoveries over the years.

Attending **ONE** scout show and **ONE** sky map program covers many of the listed requirements/activities listed in the scouting handbooks. A troop may choose to come to one or the other, but one of each is most common.

Reservations:

- Required to guarantee seating, e-mail preferred or phone, (847) 888-5324
- Maximum capacity of 50 in planetarium chamber
- E-mail the following to peggyhernandez@u-46.org
 1. Contact information, group name, troop #, e-mail and phone number
 2. Number of seats (total)
 3. Program name and date (see below)
 4. You will receive a confirmation letter via e-mail. Please contact me if the number changes by more than 3.

Schedule:

Set dates are listed below. There are multiple troops possible at each show/program. All planetarium programs are recommended for ages 6 and up.

Sky Map Programs

All scouts (ages 6-up) Thurs, Sept. 29, 2011

All scouts (ages 6-up) Mon. Feb. 13, 2012

Scout Shows

Brownies/Bears, *Earth, Moon, and Sun* (gr. 2-5), Thurs. Oct. 13, 2011

Boy and Girl Scouts, *Two Small Pieces of Glass* (gr. 5 and up) Thurs. Nov. 10, 2011

Brownies/Bears *Earth, Moon, and Sun*, (gr 2-5) Mon. March 5, 2012

Boy and Girl Scouts *Two Small Pieces of Glass*, (gr. 5 and up) Mon. April 23, 2012

Program time:

- Starts at 5:30pm, 50-60 minute program

Admission:

- \$3.00 per person, one adult minimum per 6-8 scouts
- Cash or checks accepted no coins please. Make checks payable to *U-46 Planetarium*; please make out one check per troop. Receipt available upon request.

Closures:

- If for any reason School District U-46 closes, the planetarium will also be closed.

Contact info:

Planetarium: 312 Watch St. Elgin, IL 60120 (This is NOT the mailing address)

Mailing address: Peggy Hernandez, Planetarium, math/science office

355 E. Chicago St. Elgin, IL 60120

Phone: (847) 888-5324