Wait a second, White Chocolatey Pretzels?
In a tin? With a Terry Redlin Print?
Do you wish you had those in your product line up?
Well now you do, along with several old favorites and some exciting new flavors!
Welcome to the 2020 Sioux Council Popcorn sale! There are MANY changes this year. Pecatonica River has stepped in as our vendor and we are extremely excited to have them on board. Their customer service, product line up and quality are second to none. As you review what they have to offer, you will soon notice that pricing and quantities are extremely similar to years past.

Once you try the product, you will agree that Pecatonica River Popcorn far outpaces the competition in the “Taste Factor”! Let’s make sure we are all on the same page with a few of the changes:

- New company, new materials, new product and lineup!
- Yep, White Chocolate Pretzels are BACK!!!
- Deluxe Caramel corn was cancelled with our other vendor. Pecatonica River offers it and we will be offering it!
- Tins! You wanted them, you got them.
- More “Trendy Flavors”. We have those too.
- Tasting Kits for all unit kickoffs. Yep, you get to taste ALL the product.
- Trails End announced this spring they will be discontinuing their scholarship program. New Popcorn Vendor, Pecatonica River will grandfather in ALL Scouts who were previously in the program at 7% of sales going forward!
- Squares can still be used. Last year’s Square readers can be used but a new account must be made with Square. In 2019 the council covered transaction costs. In 2020, as long as the units use the link at the bottom of the one page document (squareup.com/i/PRPOPCORN1) they will get free processing on up to $1,000 in credit card transactions for the first 180 days. This “clock” starts at the time of the application.
- There will be an online portal for sales, similar to 2018. It is a very intuitive and user-friendly website. For training and info, please visit https://www.siouxcouncil.org/popcorn

- There will be no Point of Sale App this year.
  - Trails End completely changed their platform for 2020 and no updates to the end users had been made in April when the Council Executive Board and Popcorn Committee (all volunteers from across the districts) made the decision to switch vendors. While the app was beloved by some and loathed by others, it was decided the ability to avoid Trails Ends predicted product shortages in the fall of 2020, their inability to communicate where their app was headed and the diminished product line up (loss of White Chocolate Pretzel’s, Deluxe Caramel Corn, Sweet & Savory to name a few), the time to change was now.

- Commission Structure
  - Attend Program Planning 2%
  - Attend August Popcorn & Membership Kickoff, submit an approved calendar and budget, 3%
  - Sell 3% more than 2019 as a unit.
  - Prizes are back! In this packet you will find a prize sheet. Scouts can choose between the physical prize or the Amazon gift cards. A valid email will be required to receive gift cards.

Think of popcorn as the means to engaging your Scouts in the core component of Scouting: outdoor activities, character development and learning. Consider these real examples of how local Scout groups spent their popcorn funds in the past:

“Popcorn sets our budget for the year and pays for just about everything we do. It enables us to run a great program without having to go to parents for money to pay for each event.”

“This popcorn sale and a well thought out budget help pay for the membership fee increases”

“We plan to have a WOW event to celebrate being able to meet again.”

“We use popcorn as the ONE needed fundraiser that finances a year of great program”

“We pay for summer camp for Scouts BSA members who reach their sales goals”
Fundamentally, Scouting is an organization that thrives only with a growing number of youth participants. The more young people enrolled in Scouting, the better it is for future generations.

So, what’s the simplest way to attract new youth into Scouting? Cool outdoor programming. What’s the simplest way to pay for cool outdoor programming? How about a fundraiser that can net up to 30% of sales for your Scout group?

Kernel Responsibilities:

So, you are the Popcorn Kernel. Congratulations! In your leadership role, you must do a few things:

1) Create an account on Prpopcorn.com:

Tutorials can be found at [https://pecatonicariverpopcorn.com/tutorialVideoLinks.html](https://pecatonicariverpopcorn.com/tutorialVideoLinks.html).

Each Pack/Troop/Crew must complete an online commitment form. This should be completed by the Popcorn Kernel. The purpose of this commitment form is to gather all your contact information for sale communication and create your account to manage your sale. This is where you will place your orders, track inventory and generally manage your sale! There are detailed directions on creating these accounts at [https://www.siouxcouncil.org/popcorn](https://www.siouxcouncil.org/popcorn)

**All popcorn communication is done through email. It is vital for you to commit to the sale (using an email address you check) and read all of the correspondence. If you don’t do this, you will be hopelessly lost.**
After you have filled out the commitment form, you will have the keys to actively manage your sale. Make sure you write down your log-in information!

2) Place a Wagon sale order (optional)
When determining your initial Wagon Sale order (think of Wagon Sales as a “pre-order” of unsold products for your Scouts to take door-to-door or sell in front of stores), it is important to note a few points. Council will provide a recommended order:

You must order in full cases for the Wagon Sales order. Every product comes eight to a case, with the exception of the Trio, Cheese Lovers, and Chocolate Lovers (those are one/case).

The last day to place a Wagon Sales order is Tuesday, September 8th. No exceptions. Please don’t wait to the last minute to order. Save time, money, and hassle by allowing enough time for someone from the popcorn staff to reach you for clarification on an order.

Here’s an example: Say your Pack/Troop/Crew has historically never sold more than $5,000 total (Wagon Sales plus Take-Order) but you submit an initial order of $10,000. Very likely a popcorn staffer will need to discuss that order with you and the rationale behind its amount. Do you have many more Scouts selling? Do you have a solid plan with unit-level incentives? Is a kick-off scheduled? Etc. These would all be reasons to approve the order, but it would just need a clarifying conversation, which would take time. So, don’t wait until the last minute!

3) Hold a Popcorn Kick-off:
This is the single easiest way to increase your Pack/Troop/Crew sale. The concept is simple. A kick-off is nothing more than an event to excite your sellers and educate parents. Ideally this is a standalone event, (not just a portion of your regular meeting) that is high energy, fun and informative.

Introduce prizes. Have unit-specific prizes; like all $850 sellers get to toss a pie in the face of a leader. Distribute all the order forms and other sales materials. You will have received a tasting kit full of popcorn samples prior to the training session you attend. Your unit kick-off is an excellent time to do a taste test with your Scouts. The popcorn tastes fantastic!! Let your Scouts and their families have a taste to get excited about selling! Tell families what the money earned will be going towards. “We will help you pay your fees, including the scheduled increase”. The goal is to have everyone leave the kick-off excited and motivated to sell. Remember, popcorn is program!
4. Manage your inventory (Wagon Sales only):

**Inter-Unit Transfer.** So, you received your Wagon Sales product, sales have been going great, but you are really in need of a case of X product. What do you do? One option is to swap product with another Pack/Troop/Crew.

The concept is simple, get hooked up with a Scouting group that has what you need, fill out the Inter-Unit Transfer form and email the signed form to **sioux.popcorn@scouting.org**. Both Scout units will have their respective invoices updated by a member of the popcorn staff. After that has occurred, the change will be reflected on your dashboard screen of the popcorn system when you log in. This form can be found on our website at [https://www.siouxcouncil.org/popcorn](https://www.siouxcouncil.org/popcorn) or on the flash drive included in your popcorn packet.

Let’s do an example of a real-life inventory control:

So, your first few weeks of selling have gone great (awesome!!), but your garage (where you store your entire Pack/Troop/Crews inventory) is empty. You have a storefront sale right around the corner. What should you do?

This is a good problem to have. It means your Scouting program year is on its way to being fully funded. There are a couple of things you can do to get more product during the sale:

- **Shuffle what you have.** Contact each selling family and ask them to return unsold item to you. If you gave each Scout a “selling kit” of product, let’s be honest, every Scout will not sell their full allotment. You could also direct your Scouts to bring some of their product to your storefront sale to have an inventory.

  - **Visit with your District Kernel** - They should have a good idea of what is out there to swap.
-Remember Take-Order. Any and all product needs can be filled using the final take-order. This gives you the ability to use some existing inventory for store front sales, while continuing to sell door to door and to family/friends knowing those sales can be filled via the take order. **Take order should play a role in your sale.** This order is due Monday, October 26 and is placed online using the same procedure as Wagon Sales. **There are no returns on any take-order products, so order just what you need! You do not need to order in full cases for Take-Order.**

![Unit Master Record & Prize Summary Table]

5) **Read your email:**

During the sale, popcorn blast emails will be sent regularly. The emails contain sales methods, vital information and humor. It's hugely important you read them or you will be hopelessly lost, confused and/or frustrated.

6) **Order Prizes:**

Prizes are ordered online using your account on prpopcorn.com. Instructions for placing these orders will be posted on [https://www.siouxcouncil.org/popcorn](https://www.siouxcouncil.org/popcorn). These prize orders are due no later than 10/26. Physical prizes will be shipped directly to the popcorn kernel and gift cards (prize gift cards and bonus gift cards) will be emailed out from the Sioux Council.

7) **Pay your bill:**

Wagon Sales invoices are due no later than Monday, November 16th. All selling units must have a zero-balance invoice no later than Friday, Dec 4th.
8) **Have fun!**

Being a Popcorn Kernel is one of the most important jobs in Scouting. Think of it this way, you can properly fund a year’s worth of Scouting program for your Pack/Troop/Crew. All the outdoor fun and adventure that costs money is in your control. You can be the hero of your Scout group.

Remember, the way to keep young people involved and engaged in Scouting is by offering a cool outdoor program. You can make that happen through the popcorn sale. **Remember to keep an eye on your email (the address you supplied to the commit to sell form) for updates. Thanks! Have a Great Sale!**

**Resources contained in your Kernel Packet**
- Order forms and descriptions of product line up (be sure and check out the lineup. It is outstanding!
- Table Tents
- Door Hangers
- Extra Prize Fliers, Disney Fliers, Missed House forms.
- Flash Drive with digital downloads of forms.
- Scout Boss Training Documents

**Be sure and check your email often AND look for updates, forms/documents** and short tutorial videos on how to order, return, select prizes, and much more can also be found at [https://www.siouxcouncil.org/popcorn](https://www.siouxcouncil.org/popcorn).
HOW TO BILTZ A COMMUNITY

➢ Plan a large scale canvassing for your assigned area or community for a Saturday morning, as a den meeting or as a unit meeting.
➢ Organize your unit’s area / community either by scout, family, den or patrol.
➢ Scouts should be assigned “buddies” because they should always sell in pairs. If the areas are divided up by individual scouts or families, a family member must be present with them.
➢ Use a street map to highlight the streets of assigned areas and provide this to the scout.
➢ Provide Scouts / Families with Wagon Sales Product (One-Stop-Shop)
➢ As scouts are going door to door and they find that no one is home, use the “Missed House Tracking Form” provided for you.
➢ Conduct a follow-up event / activity (usually 2-4 hours later) to recognize everyone for their efforts and announce how much money was raised. A pizza party is a great way to do this.

TRAIN YOUR SALES Force (SCOUTS)

*Prepare your Scouts for the task at hand by following these important guidelines:*

➢ During Pack, Den and Troop meetings, use role-playing to practice the sales technique. Remind them that professional salesmen do this all the time...Practice makes perfect!
➢ Be prepared...Always have an extra pen or pencil.
➢ A Scout is clean...Make sure they always wear their uniform.
➢ A Scout is courteous...Always be polite.
➢ A Scout is kind...Always say “Thank you,” even if they do not place an order.
➢ A Scout is cheerful...Call the customer by their name if they know it.
➢ A Scout is trustworthy...Be honest when telling a customer how great the Trail’s End Gourmet Popcorn really is.
➢ A Scout is helpful...When describing the products, always hold up the picture of the products so the customer can see them.
➢ A Scout is friendly...Always smile.
➢ A Scout is loyal...Never, ever give up.
**Important Dates:**

Popcorn and Membership Kickoffs:
Must attend one Membership Zoom and One Popcorn Zoom as well as turn in an approved budget & calendar.
Popcorn, 7pm, Aug 3rd or 11th. Membership, 7pm, Aug 10th and 13th

September 8: Wagon Sales Pre Orders Due

September 24: Popcorn Pick Up

September 25: Popcorn Sale Begins

September 25-27: Blitz Weekend

October 21: End of Unit Popcorn Transfers

October 22: Popcorn Sale Ends

October 26: Final Orders Due
Returns Reports Due, Prize Orders Due

Remember that the Unit Master Sales Record and your Unit Prize Order is due following placing your final order. Prizes will not be shipped until both are received.

November 13: Final Popcorn Pick Up, Payment for Wagon Sales Popcorn Due.

December 4: Final Popcorn Payment Due
District Pick up and Distribution

• Emails will be sent to the unit popcorn chairs with a scheduled pick up date and time.

• Upon arriving to the pick up location YOU WILL BE RESPONSIBLE to double count your separated order to verify that it is accurate. Once verified you will be asked to sign a packing slip.

• Be sure that vehicle arrangements are made so that ALL your product will fit into the vehicle(s) that arrive. You will pick up your popcorn along with other units/groups. Bring some other adults with you to assist in loading your order. Bring enough vehicles or a vehicle large enough to pick up your order. A good rule of thumb is a mid-size car holds 20 cases, a Jeep Cherokee holds about 40 cases, and a minivan holds 60 cases. Please plan accordingly. A Dock High Ryder type truck is the best for large orders.

Pick up Locations *

Pre Order Pick up - September 24, 2020
Take Order Pick up - November 13, 2020

Due to the ever-changing aspects of 2020 and the Covid 19 virus we will be updating pick up locations in each district should any changes arise. Please visit https://www.siouxcouncil.org/popcorn for the most recent updates.

Troop Prize Opt-Out

Please visit https://www.siouxcouncil.org/popcorn for more details.

Contact Information
Council Kernel, Dan LeVasseur, dan@abigmailbox.com, (605)- 520-6967

East District:
Kernel, Brent Porter- porterb84@hotmail.com, (605) 323-70656
Staff Advisor, Micah Noteboom, Micah.Noteboom@scouting.org, (605) 323-0740

North District:
Kernel: Dan LeVasseur, dan@abigmailbox.com, (605) 520-6967
Staff Advisor, Angie Leadabrand, Angelica.Leadabrand@scouting.org, (605) 880-9520

South District:
Kernel: Becky Cordell, cordellb30@gmail.com, (605) 660 2655
Staff Advisor: David Haen, david.haen@scouting.org,