

Notes on Conducting a Successful Deployed Grad Booodle Bash

Rev - 2017-02-27

- Select a date 2-3 months in advance. Typically, the club has held the event in February, as a standalone event, rather than coinciding with a Club General meeting.
- Recruit a host family; ideally, a family of a currently deployed grad. The club's gmail distribution list of graduate families is helpful.
- Make a decision of whether to limit the recipients to MA grads or not. Many, but not all, past booodle bashes were limited to MA grads. If you expand beyond MA, just be conscious of the added effort to collect booodle, and the added shipping cost (\$20-\$40 per box, depending on size).
- Announce the date a month or two in advance by newsletter and facebook post. Issue reminders by email a couple weeks before, and a few days before. Include a list of suggested booodle items. See recommend list maintained on this same website location. Note: do not send aerosols or cans under pressure (e.g., shave cream). Be sure to include a request that attendees RSVP to the host family.
- Consider using the club website to raise additional funds for shipping and/or booodle. This has worked well in the past, particularly for families that can't attend but still want to help. You can provide a link to our existing club web page that has our general donation (via paypal) feature. Ask that they use the memo field to say "Deployed Booodle Bash" so the treasurer knows that the donation is for.
- Graduate booodle bashes tend to involve more and larger items than cadet booodle bashes, so consider using larger size boxes. To give yourself some flexibility, you can purchase multiple size boxes from a paper store, and then simply return those that you don't use.
- Getting names of deployed grads to receive the booodle can be a bit tricky. Start by making request to graduate families via our gmail grad family distribution list. This group is likely to know more deployed grads than our current members, so ask for their assistance to identify graduates deployed overseas. If you identify 5-10 deployed MA graduates, you're doing pretty good.
- Be sure to take a picture of everyone around the booodle when all assembled, but before the boxes are sealed. Post the picture on the website, face book page, and include in the newsletter.
- For those that provided on-line donations, send an acknowledgement via email with the amount of the donation so they can use as a tax donation receipt.
- There are multiple options for shipping. More convenience/speed comes at higher price. Consult the Post Office or other shipping company for advice, options, pricing.