



Newsletter



Court of Honor This Tuesday



Please plan to attend our **February Court of Honor**, which is the time we recognize all of our scouts for their individual achievements since summer camp. This will be held on **Tuesday, February 5th, 2013**. At 7:00 pm, we will begin with a potluck dinner, followed by the awards portion of the evening. The troop will provide all drinks, paper goods and desserts. Please plan to bring a dish to share that serves 6-8 people. It could be an entree, salad, anything you like.



This is a Class A event! Please have your scout wear their full uniform, including merit badge sash. If you and your scout are able to arrive at 6:30 to help get tables and chairs set up, it would be much appreciated.

If you have a parent's ribbon, please remember to wear it! If you do not yet have one, and your scout has advanced in rank, you will receive one.

Scout Uniforms are Important

All scouts should be coming to meetings dressed appropriately in their uniform. The first meeting each month is typically Class A, and all other meetings are typically Class B.

The meeting on February 12th will include a demonstration of how to properly wear the Class A, and all of the pieces that are necessary. The Class B uniform is simply the green troop shirt. In winter it may be worn over another shirt for warmth.

Please encourage your scout to wear the uniform required for each meeting. If you need Class B shirts, please contact Michele Harvey at michele.harvey@sap.com

The Troop believes that no scout should be excluded from activities because of financial considerations - this includes Summer Camp, High Adventure, Jamborees and monthly campouts! We have a fund that can help with this issue. If you require further details, please contact Joe DiGiorgio with requests or concerns.

This Month's Meetings

Feb 5 - COURT OF HONOR 7:00 PM
CLASS A UNIFORM REQUIRED

Feb 12 - Class B - BUMC - 7:30 PM
PATROL LEADERS WEAR CLASS A

Feb 26 - Class B - BUMC - 7:30 PM

February Trip - Skiing at Jack Frost

Coming up in February, Troop 181 will be taking it's annual ski/snowboard trip. February 15-17, 2013 we will be traveling to Jack Frost Mountain in the Poconos and staying overnight at Arrowhead Lakes in their Clubhouse. Any moms who would like to go along will be staying at the Nadel's Pocono house, as there is no way to accommodate both males and females in the clubhouse.

We will be skiing both Saturday and Sunday. Snowtubing is an option as well. Please see Yahoo Groups for the complete information and forms needed. If you have trouble accessing the forms, please email k.nadel@comcast.net

Group Lessons are available for both snowboarding and skiing. These lessons take a beginner skier from putting on their equipment through

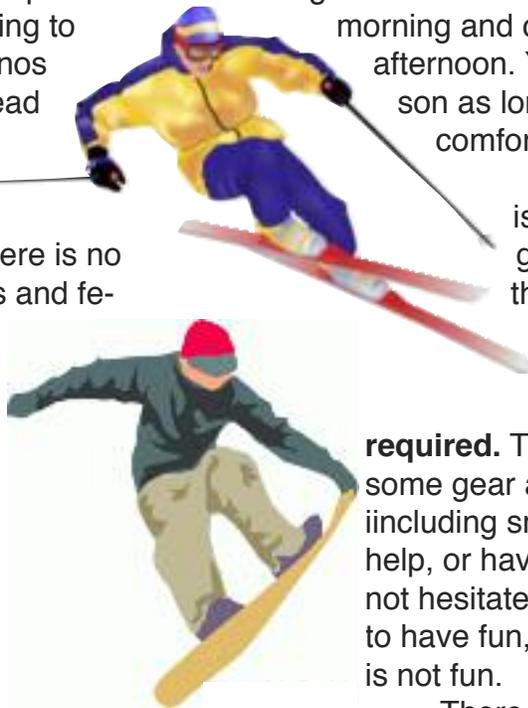
safely making it down the beginner slope and riding the lift. Lessons run for 3 hours in the morning and continue for 3 hours in the afternoon. You may stay in the lesson as long as you need to feel comfortable.

Proper layered clothing is essential. A list of suggested items is included in the forms posted on YahooGroups. **Snow pants, warm coat and waterproof gloves are**

required. The Nadel family has some gear available to be borrowed, including snow pants. If you need help, or have questions, please do not hesitate to ask. We want the boys to have fun, and being cold and wet is not fun.

There will be an opportunity to work on the Snowsports merit badge.

Contact Jordan Nadel with any questions.



Upcoming First Aid Meet

On March 9th, Troop 181 will be participating in the Council's First Aid Meet to be held at Episcopal Academy. This event is a fun event with two levels of competition - "Band-aids" and "Blood and Guts." Patrols are given scenarios, volunteers play the victims, and the scout are scored on how well they assess the situation and the steps they would take to treat it. Please encourage your scout to attend! Adults are always needed to help at the event.

Finance Chair and Treasurer Thank You

Thank you to Joe and Donna DiGiorgio, who have been our Finance Chairperson and Treasurer for many years. Now that their son is getting close to aging out, they will be turning over the reins to Mike Dernoga as Finance Chair, and Ramesh Raghupathi as Treasurer.

As always, we truly appreciate our volunteers, and we thank our Finance Committee for stepping up to help the troop. Please be sure to thank ALL of these parents for their time!

Changes to Troop Permission Forms and Adult Medical Forms

In order to have more of the critical information needed in the case of an emergency medical treatment, we will be making a small change to the troop permission form. We will ask that you provide information on any medications your child is currently taking prior to each campout. Please understand that providing this information is always at your discretion, but is being requested for safety reasons, and in the best interest of your child.



In addition, we will now require that adults traveling on the campouts also complete the same permission form. These forms are carried on the trips and could help EMT/medical personnel care for our members in case of an accident or emergency.

Also, in compliance with the BSA, all adults should complete a Part A of the medical form. Link below:

<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsorce/HealthandSafety/ahmr.aspx>

Part A does not require a doctor's visit. It is basically a health history, which the troop should keep on file for adults as well as scouts.

These changes are for your safety. Please help us by providing these documents!

Class B Shirts

Our moisture wicking Class B shirts are available for purchase. The price varies according to the type and size. Please contact Michele Harvey if you want to place an order. michele.harvey@sap.com

Upcoming Parents Meeting

The next parents' meeting is 7:00 p.m. on **Sunday, March 3rd** at BUMC.

We encourage at least one parent from each family to attend the meeting and be part of the planning process to put together the best possible program for our scouts.

2014 High Adventure

Troop 181 was able to secure 2 crews for the Summer of 2014 to go to Philmont Scout Ranch. Mr. Shreve is forming his final list of interested scouts and parents. The first deposit of \$300 is due now, so we will need to finalize that list. There are still room for others. If you or your scout would like to go, please contact Scott Shreve ASAP.

Dues Notices Sent

Troop dues notices have been sent out. If you did not receive one, please contact Sherri Gartner ASAP.

Scholarships are ALWAYS available! If you would like more information, do not hesitate to contact Joe DiGiorgio for details. Scouts should not be excluded from activities for financial reasons.

Finance Committee Meeting

The Finance Committee Meeting originally scheduled for Saturday February 2nd, will be rescheduled. Please watch YahooGroups for details. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend.

IMPORTANT: Training Information for all parents

“Scouting’s Journey to Excellence” is the BSA’s new council performance recognition program designed to encourage and reward success and measure the performance of our units, districts, and councils. It is replacing the Centennial Quality Awards Program as a means of encouraging excellence in providing a quality program at all levels of the BSA.

See the requirements by visiting:

http://www.scouting.org/filestore/mission/pdf/2013_JTE_Troop.pdf

Our goal is to once again earn the Gold Level in the Journey To Excellence, which requires parents to have taken the “Troop Committee Challenge” e-course offered on www.myscouting.org. This is a simple course that only requires only about 20 minutes of your time. Once you have completed the course, please provide a copy of the certifi-

cate to Kate VanMeter or Sherri Gartner so your completion can be properly recorded and counted toward our troop’s Journey to Excellence.

Please also take a look at the other on-line training and complete as many of the courses as you can. Certain camping trips require that we have adult supervision with specific training. For example, water based trips require the Safe Swim Defense course, and/or Safety Afloat. We are unable to submit the Tour Permit without the proper training. Other good ones to complete are Weather Hazards and Trek Safely.

Please do your part to help out Troop 181 and take these courses. If you have any problems or questions, please contact our Training Coordinator, Kate VanMeter.

HONORING OUR EAGLE SCOUTS

Did you know that according to the Boy Scouts of America, between 1911 and 2008 only 2.2% of scouts earned the rank of eagle?

On the afternoon of **March 9th**, the troop will be honoring John Bravacos, Stephen Christner, Andrew Weissman and Ian Wilson during an **Eagle Court of Honor**. This is the highest rank a scout can earn, and it is important that the current scouts attend and participate in the ceremony.

This is also a Class A event! If your scout has a younger sibling



who is a Cub Scout, they should attend in their uniform as well.

The ceremony will be held at 3 pm in the church sanctuary at Berwyn United Methodist, followed by refreshments in Shieck Hall.

If you or your scout has not yet attended an Eagle Court of Honor, please try to do so. It is inspiring for the younger boys to see scouts reach this pinnacle of scouting, and this important milestone in their lives.

Youth Protection Training

As an adult involved in the troop, we ask that everyone take the Youth Protection Training (YPT) that is offered as an online course through myscouting.org. If you are going to attend a campout, this is MANDATORY! Please take the 20-30 minute e-course now and print out the certificate at the end. Then please provide a copy to Kate VanMeter our Training Coordinator, or Sherri Gartner, our Troop Committee Chair. If you filled out the Adult registration form, please enter your ID number when you take the course so it gets linked to your account.

If you are a veteran parent, please remember to keep your YPT current. It is required to be retaken every 2 years. Please see Kate VanMeter's recent Yahoo Groups email with attached training spreadsheet for more information about when you are up for renewal.

Troop Yahoo Groups Sign-Up

If you haven't already signed up for the YahooGroups for Troop 181, please do so. Send an e-mail to:

paoli181-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Remember that any e-mail sent to paoli181@yahoogroups.com will be forwarded to everyone who is a subscriber to the group.

IMPORTANT: You must be signed up to receive Yahoo Groups e-mail. If you are not signed up, you will not receive Troop announcements, notices and other important information about the Troop. All of these are now being sent only through Yahoo Groups.

PLEASE Donate!

Before you get rid of those stained kitchen towels or any old cooking utensils, please consider donating them to the troop! The Quartermasters routinely inspect all of the Patrol Box contents and do their best to replace items that are getting badly worn or are broken. We like to have a supply of items for those times when something goes missing as well. Our most common items that require replacement are:

Kitchen towels

Potholders and Oven mitts

Cooking utensils

We would be very happy to accept your items at any meeting! Please see the Troop Quartermaster or the Adult Equipment Coordinator. Thanks!

Parent Participation Needed

As our troop has grown, we are seeing that the monthly campouts typically have 20-25 scouts attending. We are pleased to see that the scouts are excited about our activities. We would strongly suggest that one parent from each family plan to attend at least one campout a year! It is very instructive to see the scouts in action when they are out on the trail or doing their camp activities.

Know of a Service Project?

We will have a large number of scouts that will need a service project for their Eagle Scout rank in the upcoming year or two. If you are involved with a church, community organization or non-profit that would be able to provide a service project involving approximately 100 hours of work, please contact Vince Piotti. Approximately 1/3 of the hours are typically completed by the scout.

Troop Committee

Sherri Gartner – *Troop Committee Chair*

610- 408-9384

Joe Franz - *Acting Scoutmaster*

610-644-1049

Ed Maier– *Camping Committee Chair*

610-725-8095

Vince Piotti – *Advancement Committee Chair*

610-296-9058

Christine Linderman - *Court of Honor Chair*

610-722-9914

Ted Huck – *Cabin Committee Chair*

610-722-9475

Kathy Nadel – *Newsletter*

610-578-0603

Joe DiGiorgio – *Finance Committee Chair*

610-688-1126

Jason Feldman- *Quartermaster*

610-251-2332

Kate VanMeter – *Training Coordinator*

610-247-8889

Jack Campbell - *Charter Organization Representative*

Jeff Paolizzi – *Recruiting Coordinator*

610-251-9308

John Bravacos - *Friends of Scouting Chair*

610-647-8951

Donna DiGiorgio- *Treasurer*

610-688-1126

Evelyn Shreve - *Summer Camp Coordinator*

610-688-3005

Scott Shreve - *High Adventure Coordinator*

610-688-3005

Christine Linderman- *Registrar*

610-722-9914

Lauren Feldman - *Fundraising Coordinator*

610-251-2332

Please see the troop roster for the Boy Scout Youth Leadership contact information.

Mark your Calendars!



Summer Camp 2013 dates:

**Sunday July 28 to
Sunday August 4**

Calendar of Key Events

Jan 15 - EQUIPMENT RETURN 7:30PM

Jan 22 – Meeting – BUMC - 7:30 PM

Jan 27 - PLC Meeting 5:00 PM
Quartermasters Meeting 5:00 PM
Parent's Committee Meeting 7:00 PM

Jan 29 – Meeting – BUMC - 7:30 PM

Feb 5 – Court of Honor – BUMC - 7:00 PM
CLASS A Uniform and Potluck dish

Feb 12 – Meeting – BUMC - 7:30 PM

Feb 15-17 - Ski Trip - Jack Frost Mountain

Feb 26 – Meeting – BUMC - 7:30 PM

March 9 - First Aid Meet - early morning
Eagle Court of Honor - 3:00 PM

March 15 - Camping Trip - Hawk Mountain

April 19 - Camping Trip - Canoeing in NJ

May 17 - Camping Trip - Fishing NJ

Adult Leadership

Joe Franz - *Acting Scoutmaster*

610-644-1049

Assistant Scout Masters

Bhaskar

Jordan Nadel

Geoff DiDario

Jeff Paolizzi

Joe DiGiorgio

Vince Piotti

Jason Feldman

Scott Shreve

Ted Huck

Scott Wilson

Joe Linderman