



# Newsletter



## Save these Important Dates!!



We have two upcoming Courts of Honor which are important to your scout and to our troop! 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 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. This is a Class A event! 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.

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 the 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.



***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

Jan 15 - EQUIPMENT RETURN 7:30PM

Jan 22 – Class B — BUMC - 7:30 PM

Jan 29 – Class B — BUMC - 7:30 PM

## B&N Fundraiser Recap

On December 16, the troop staffed the Gift Wrap table at Barnes & Noble in Devon.

The troop earned \$160 that will be divided among the scout accounts of the scouts who participated.

Thanks to Lauren Feldman for organizing!

## 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

You are invited to attend the upcoming Finance Committee Meeting on Saturday, February 2nd. The meeting is scheduled for 9:00am, and will be held at the DiGiorgio's home at 309 Dundee Place, Devon.

Please let Joe DiGiorgio know if you are planning to attend. All are welcome!

## 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.

## 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. Rates for lift tickets and equipment rentals will be at a group rate. Lessons are available as well. There will be an opportunity to work on the Snowsports merit badge. More details and permission forms will come shortly via Yahoo Groups.

Contact Jordan Nadel with any questions.

## Adult Quartermaster Thank You

Thank you to Jason Feldman who has agreed to take over the Adult QM position from Jon VanMeter in February. We wish him well in his new position.

Also a very sincere thank you to Jon VanMeter for his countless hours spent mentoring the Quartermasters and managing gear purchases over the past few years. Jon really did help transform that position to one where the boys take more responsibility for their own gear.

Please say thanks to both of these dads for volunteering their time to help the troop and our boys!

## 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](mailto:michele.harvey@sap.com)

## Upcoming Parents Meeting

The next parents' meeting is 7:00 p.m. on **Sunday, January 27th** 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 is coming up shortly, so we will need to finalize that list. If you or your scout would like to go, please contact Scott Shreve very soon.

## Jamboree 2013

Jamboree Troop Meeting

January 24, 2013

7pm

East Brandywine

Township Building

1214 Horseshoe Pike

Downingtown, PA

Please contact Chris Mulhull, the Scoutmaster

for Jamboree Troop A407 with any questions. [CDMulhall@gmail.com](mailto:CDMulhall@gmail.com) or cell phone is (610) 350-8419.



Medical forms are now available through the Jamboree Dashboard. Please start working on them. All forms must be completed and submitted to BSA Event Registration in Texas NO LATER THAN April 15, 2013.

## 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](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](http://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.

## Scouting University for Adults and Youth - February 2

Well there is not a lot to report about on training this month other than the biggest, best and most bodacious University of Scouting you will ever have the chance to attend right here in Chester County Council. Yes my scouting friends the 2013 University of Scouting is on Saturday February 2, 2013 at the Chester County Technical College High School in scenic West Grove, PA. Course offerings and registration details are posted at <http://bit.ly/2013UoS>. Now what I need you to do today is the following:

1. Go to the site, look over the course catalog, pick the courses you want to attend, and register for them.
2. Forward this email with the catalog attached to every adult leader, pack, troop or

crew parent, and youth leader in your unit. Yes, I said youth leader because Introduction to Leadership Skills Troops/Crews, Den Chief Training and Trainers EDGE are there specifically for them. Yes, I said parents because they can have a lot fun with these courses too.

3. Talk it up with all of your friends because a taste of Scouting like this can do a lot to get them excited and join the program.

So once more I will say that I believe that every Scout deserves a fully trained leader – adult and youth – and to have fun too. See you on the 2nd!

Regards,

Jack Warnock

## 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](http://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](mailto:paoli181-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)**

Remember that any e-mail sent to [paoli181@yahoogroups.com](mailto: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

**Jon VanMeter**- Quartermaster  
610-247-8889

**Kate VanMeter** – Training Coordinator  
610-247-8889

**Jack Campbell** - Charter Organization  
Representative

**Mike Ryczyn** – Recruiting Coordinator  
610-240-7769

**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 15-17** - Ski Trip - Jack Frost Mountain

**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	Jeff Paolizzi
Geoff DiDario	Vince Piotti
Joe DiGiorgio	Scott Shreve
Jason Feldman	Jon VanMeter
Ted Huck	Scott Wilson
Joe Linderman	
Jordan Nadel	