



# Newsletter



## Our New Scoutmaster

Welcome to Joe Linderman as he takes the helm as our new Scoutmaster. Joe is moving up from his Assistant Scoutmaster position to fill the big shoes left by Scott Wilson. He asks for all of our patience as he learns his new role in the troop. Joe and the Assistant Scoutmasters will be taking more of a team approach in the coming months to divide the tasks and lessen the burden on one individual. Should you have any questions or ideas, please contact Mr. Linderman or Sherri Gartner, Troop Committee Chairperson. Welcome and Thank You to our new Scoutmaster!

## First Aid Meet

On March 24th, Troop 181 will be participating in the First Aid Meet help by Council at Oxford High School. 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. The boys have been practicing for the past few weeks in preparation for the First Aid Meet. Please encourage your scout to attend! Adults are always needed to help at the event. Participants will meet at BUMC at 6:45 on the morning of March 24th.

Please RSVP to Mr. Linderman if you plan to attend. Parents, please RSVP if you are willing to drive and how many you are able to take in your car.



## Special Thank You

We would like to send out a hearty Thank You to Scott Wilson for many years of hard work and dedication to Troop 181 as our Scoutmaster! Mr. Wilson spent countless hours each year performing the administrative and management duties that helped Troop 181 run smoothly. His mentoring of our boys over these years has been appreciated greatly. We know his expertise will be needed as we make the transition to new leadership. THANK YOU!

## Summer Camp Deposits Due

A \$35 non-refundable deposit is due no later than March 27th to Evelyn Shreve. Please make your checks out to Troop 181. The total cost of camp this year is \$335. In April you will receive notification of the amount in your son's scout account, which is available for them to use toward the cost of Summer camp. The balance of the funds will be due May 8th.

*(SEE MORE ON SUMMER CAMP p. 5)*

## This Month's Meetings

March 13 — Class B — BUMC  
Admission: Trip permission forms & money  
**7:00 pm start for Washington participants**

March 20th — No meeting

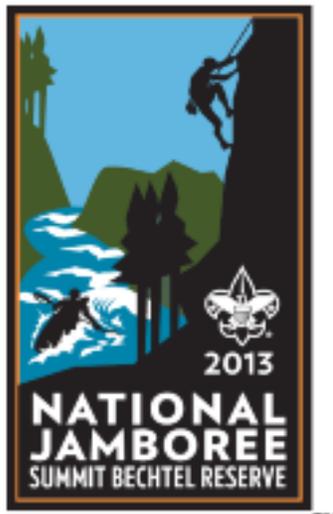
March 27th — Class B — BUMC

## Last Call for National Jamboree 2013

Sign up NOW if you plan to attend the 2013 National Jamboree in West Virginia. Chester County Council has the opportunity to send 6 troops (36 youth and 4 leaders each) and 1/2 of a Venturing crew (18 youth and 2 leaders).

Why is it important to sign up NOW? Because in March 2012, we must "lock-in" our commitment to a number of troops. If we have not filled 6 troops by then, we will "lock-in" only the number of troops that have been filled, capping the opportunity for Chester County Scouts at the lower number.

The cost for the Jamboree is approximately \$1,200 if you register before the end of January. After that, the cost will increase to about \$1,300. A deposit of \$150 is due at registration with the balance paid in installments through the year. Go to <https://summit.scouting.org/en/Pages/default.aspx> to register and for more information.



such as Devon 50 or T78. When my son attended Jambo in 2010, he was the only scout from T181 to sign up but it made no difference. The boys will have some meetings with their provisional troop before they go to get to know each other, assemble themselves into patrols and elect leaders. JB had no trouble feeling a part of the group, ran for a leadership position and ended up as quartermaster. The adult leaders were very experienced and skilled at working with the boys within the patrol method. As a parent, I was reassured that my son would be safe and well looked after, after I had met our SM and ASMs.

Once you are signed up, you will begin to receive mail from Council about important dates and informational meetings. Everything that you need to know - what to bring, how to make sure they have money, keeping in contact, etc. - will be told to you.

Age restrictions for youth: "Must be at least 12 years of age by the first day of the jamboree or an 11 year old that has graduated the 6th grade, but has not reached their 18th birthday by the last day of the jamboree." JB was 14 when he made the trip. Did I think he was too young? Yes. Was he too young? No. The entire Jamboree is set up to make sure ALL the youth, no matter what age, have an awesome experience. They will have grown when they come home.

At Fort AP Hill family could visit any day and there were some evening events that family could stay for as well. We did go for one (HOT) day to visit JB and were reassured by what we saw. I don't know what the rules will be for visiting at the Summit but I'm sure there will be a plan for family visits.

Finally, Jamborees are held every FOUR years. So, if your son is 14 in the summer of 2013, this will be his only chance to go to a Jamboree as a scout.

Can you tell that I would highly encourage every family to send their scout to Jamboree at least one time? It's an amazing adventure for the boys. If anyone has questions, please see me/email me/call me. I'd be happy to fill you in more about my family's experience.

-- Linda Bravacos

### From Linda Bravacos:

*Jamboree runs from July 15 - July 24. My guess is that our Council will tack a day or so on to the beginning for travel. For the last Jamboree in Fort AP Hill, our Council took the boys on a tour of Gettysburg and some other Civil War battlefields for a day and they camped that night close to Fort AP Hill so that they could be properly staged for arrival.*

*The registration page on the [summit.scouting.org](https://summit.scouting.org) website has registration for youth, leader and staff. Each family registers individually, not as part of T181. Council will assemble provisional troops, keeping boys together from the same region. So, you can expect that your son will be in a provisional troop made up of other T181 scouts, plus those from local troops*

## March - Washington D.C. Weekend

Shawn Rock is our Adult Coordinator for the March Camping Trip to Washington, D.C. We will be camping at Greenbelt Park in Maryland the weekend of March 16th-18th. Saturday will be spent in D.C. with a tour of the Capitol arranged through Senator Gerlach's office, and time spent at the Smithsonian Museums. **CLASS A UNIFORMS ARE REQUIRED FOR SATURDAY.**

Forms and itinerary have been posted to YahooGroups. Please contact Shawn with any questions or concerns. **NOTE: All adults (18 and over) MUST complete Youth Protection Training Prior to going on any trips.**



*The Troop believes that no scout should be excluded from activities because of financial considerations. We have a fund that can help with this issue. If you require further details, please contact Scott Wilson, Sherri Gartner or Joe DiGiorgio.*

## April - Deep Sea Fishing Trip

Deep Sea Fishing and Camping on the grounds of the Coast Guard Training facility is being planned by Ed Maier for the weekend of April 13th-15th. We will be spending Saturday afternoon on the "Cape May Lady" with the hope of catching some Striped Bass. The ship is 68 feet and can accommodate up to 50 guests. Family members are welcome to join, however our campsite is limited to 25 persons, so scouts will be taken on a first-come, first-serve basis. You are welcome to attend the fishing trip only! The cost for fishing is \$40 per person. More information is available here: [www.sjmarina.com](http://www.sjmarina.com)



Please let Ed Maier know ASAP if your son wants to attend this trip.

## May - Whitewater Rafting

Jeff Paolizzi is planning our May Camping trip to Whitewater Raft on the Lehigh River. The trip will be scheduled for the weekend of May 11th and 12th, and will be a one-night trip. This is a dam release weekend. Cost is \$53 for the rafting, with an additional \$12 to rent a wetsuit. More details will follow.



## February Ski Trip Recap

A ski trip to Jack Frost Mountain in the Poconos was a success! Weather was good and 7 of our scouts earned their snowsports merit badge.

Thanks to Jordan Nadel and Dirk Soutendijk for planning this trip.

## 181 Contributions to Friends of Scouting

A hearty THANK YOU to all who have contributed to the Friends of Scouting campaign this year. We have raised \$3,215 to date with 64% of our Troop families participating! This annual fundraising campaign is necessary to provide a quality Scouting program in our Council. Every year there is a need for financial support to maintain existing programs, to develop new programs and to ensure Council camps remain open. The essence of the Family Friends of Scouting campaign is to raise money to help the Chester County Council defray the actual

cost of delivering and running the Scouting program. Program fees, special events and fundraisers pay

only a portion of the cost. Your FOS pledge supports your son, your unit, your District and your Council. Only through your support can we keep the Scouting light burning brightly into the future!



Linda Bravacos

## A Pioneer's Journey

April 13 - 15, 2012

This "old school" pioneering weekend at Horseshoe is an outstanding merit badge combined with outdoor program opportunity! The entire program will be completed outdoors. Participants will tent camp and cook their own meals. The goal is for all Scouts to leave with their pioneering merit badge complete. Participate in the a leader's "hot" chili cooking contest. Fee: \$7 per camper (includes patch) plus \$35 per unit campsite (registration) fee. Visit <http://www.cccbsa.org/events> for details.



## 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.

## Get Connected

Chester County Council has a Facebook page! Sign up for our new Facebook page and keep up with the latest activities and information in the Chester County Council.

## Class B Shirts

Our moisture wicking Class B shirts are available for purchase. The price varies according to the type and size. Please contact Sharmon Prialux (610-647-3620 or [sharmonp@comcast.net](mailto:sharmonp@comcast.net)) if you want to place an order.



## Upcoming Parents Meeting

The next parents' meeting is 7:00 p.m. on **Sunday, March 25th** 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.

## ANOTHER change to Adult Training

One area where the troop was lacking for the 2011 Journey to Excellence was in Adult Training. We would like as many parents as possible to take the following courses online *in addition to* Youth Protection :

- **This is Souting**
- **Boy Scouts: Fast Start**
- **Troop Committee Challenge - THIS IS AN ADDITION**

These courses should only take you about 30 minutes each to complete on [www.myscouting.org](http://www.myscouting.org). Please use the Council's code #539 so that the verification appears in the Chester County Council's records. Also, as a back up, please print out the certificate and get a copy to Kate VanMeter or Sherri Gartner. While you are focused on getting trained, feel free to take any of the other courses available, such as:

- Trek Safely
- Weather Hazards
- Safety Afloat
- Safe Swim Defense
- Climb-on safely

If you have any questions, please contact Kate Van Meter.

## Advancement Notes

**New Eagle Scout paperwork** will be instituted in 2012. Please see Mr. Piotti for details on what requirements are changing and how to comply.

### Attention Life Scouts!

If you are looking for ideas for your Eagle project, please contact Mr. Piotti. As always, Mr. Piotti will be able to answer any question regarding the process of progressing from Life to Eagle ranks.

Also, if you know of a project that may interest one of our Life scouts, please let Vince Piotti know about it!



## Annual Dues

The annual dues invoices have been sent out. Please send your payments to Donna DiGiorgio ASAP. Please contact either Donna or Sherri Gartner if you have not received your invoice or if you have any questions. Thank for your prompt attention to this matter.

## MORE about Summer Camp

Please be aware that your son must have a new Medical Form completed and signed by their doctor in order to attend camp. Also, if you are an adult attending camp for 72 (or more) consecutive hours, you must also complete the medical form. The troop bears the cost for adults attending camp.

An online sign-up form for adults who want to attend summer camp is available here: [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/70A0844AB7-adult](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/70A0844AB7-adult) Should you have any questions, please contact Evelyn Shreve.

## Cabin Committee

Since Mr. Linderman has become our new Scoutmaster, he has given up his duties as Chair of the Cabin Committee. The Cabin Committee is responsible for making sure the cabin in Airdrie Preserve is maintained and in good condition for our meetings there. Monitoring of the cabin every few weeks is needed to be sure there have not been break-ins or vandalism. Maintenance of the generator and planning a Spring Clean-up is also part of the job. If you are interested in taking on this role, please speak to Sherri Gartner.

## Exterior Troop Sign for BUMC - Your vote is needed

The troop would like to have a sign made to place on the property at the church alerting passersby that it is the home of Troop 181. Several designs were sent out via email by Scott Wilson for everyone to review and vote in the online poll on prior to the next Parent's Meeting. Please take a moment to review the designs and vote on the one you prefer.

## Roster and Calendar Updates

The most up-to-date Roster can be found in the Files section of our YahooGroups website. The most up-to-date Calendar can be found on the Troop website

## New Neckerchiefs - Designs Needed

The troop is hoping to get new neckerchiefs made before summer camp. One design was submitted to Mr. Wilson a while back. If any other scouts are interested in trying to create a new neckerchief design for the troop, please contact Mr. Linderman as soon as possible.

## Troop Website

Need information about the Troop between parents' meetings and Newsletters? Check the Troop website: [paoli181.com](http://paoli181.com) Our website is kept updated with Scout Leadership positions and other important news and information.

## Mark your Calendars!

Summer Camp 2012 dates:

**Sunday July 22 to  
Sunday July 29**



## Troop Adult Leadership

**Sherri Gartner** – Troop Committee Chair

610- 408-9384

**Joe Linderman** - Scoutmaster

610-722-9914

**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

**OPEN** – Cabin Committee Chair

**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

**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.

## Calendar of Key Events

**March 13** - Meeting - BUMC - Class B

**March 16 -18** - Camping Trip to  
Washington, DC

**March 24** - First Aid Meet  
Oxford High School

**March 25** - PLC Meeting 5:00 pm  
QM Meeting 5:00 pm

**March 25** - Parent's Meeting 7:00pm

**March 27** - Meeting - BUMC - Class B

**April 3** - Meeting - BUMC - Class A

**April 13-15** - Camping /Deep Sea Fishing  
Cape May, NJ

**May 11-12** - Camping/Whitewater  
Rafting Trip