



Newsletter



Be in the Know about Summer Camp at Horseshoe

The planning process has begun for Summer Camp at the Horseshoe Scout Reservation. The troop will attend the week of July 28 - August 4th, and will once again be staying at the Roberts campsite.

As returning scouts know, summer camp at Horseshoe is a great place to earn merit badges, participate in fun activities and forge bonds with fellow scouts.

Please let Evelyn Shreve, our Summer Camp Coordinator, know if your son plans to attend. RSVP and Deposit Deadline - Tuesday, March 19th - Full payments (\$345) are encouraged to streamline paperwork and emails. Alternatively, you may make a deposit payment of \$50 (the balance will be due on May 7th). Please make your check payable to "Troop 181" and give to me or Scott during the next troop meeting (3/12 - note there is only an equipment return on the 19th following the Hawk Mountain camping trip), or you can drop it in the mail to Evelyn Shreve at 214 Hedge-mere Dr., Devon PA 19333. Many of our scouts have money in their fundraising accounts and Evelyn will send you the balance owed once she has collected the deposits. If you are planning on paying camp fees in full at this time, please email Evelyn ASAP and she can let you know your scout's account balance that can be used to offset camp fees. Note that the troop has a designated fund set aside for camp scholarships so that no scout will be excluded due to financial considerations. If you need details, please contact Joe Franz.

Required Medical Forms:

Every scout who attends Summer Camp must have a Boy Scout medical form on file with the Council. You will need to file a new one since last year's form will expire by the date of this year's camp. Parts A, B and C of the health forms are required. *See link below.*

Keep in mind that the form needs to be signed by your scout's doctor so please plan accordingly and take into account camp dates when making the appointment for your scout's next physical exam. **Medical forms are due by July 10th.**

This will be Evelyn's last year as Summer Camp Coordinator. The troop is looking for someone who can work with her this year in order to be able to take over for next year. Please contact Evelyn or Sherri if you are interested in finding out what this job involves. We need your help to keep the troop running and give our scouts a great program.

This Month's Meetings

March 12 - – Class B — BUMC - 7:30 PM
Trip permission and money

March 19 – Equipment Return - BUMC
Shed - 7:30 PM

March 26 – No Meeting - Spring Break

April 2 – Class A - 7:30 PM -
AT THE CABIN, bring flashlights!

Health Forms <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/HealthandSafety/ahmr.aspx>

Horseshoe Information <http://cccbsa.org/images/Camping/forms/2013HSBSProgGuide.pdf>

March Camping Trip - Hawk Mountain

Friday March 15- 17 is our next campout and hike at Hawk Mountain. Please be on the lookout for details on meeting times and permission forms via Yahoo Groups.

The troop will be camping at the Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation, which is about 8 miles from the conservatory.

Boys should be prepared to hike on a portion of the Appalachian Trail, and bring with them a daypack, water bottles and layered clothing. Please remember to pack rain gear. A pair of binoculars would be a great addition to their normal scout gear.

Contact Jason Feldman with any questions.



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 Franz with requests or concerns.

April Camping Trip Canoeing, NJ

Our April trip will be the weekend of April 26th - 28th. **PLEASE NOTE this is a change from from the original schedule.**

Mr. VanMeter is planning an exciting adventure in New Jersey, which will include canoeing and camping in the wilderness.

If you have a canoe or a kayak that you can bring, please let Mr. VanMeter know.

All the gear will need to be carried in and out via the water, so this is a good opportunity for the boys to get another taste of planning ahead and being thoughtful about what they actually need!

If you have any questions, please get in touch with Mr. VanMeter.

The Digital Scout

Your son is getting ready to test for his next rank advancement and he's struggling with the knots. How can you help him if you've never tied a bowline yourself? Get out your smartphone and check out one of these apps:

Animated Knots
Knots and Splices
Knots 3D
KnotsGuide

<http://www.outsideonline.com/outdoor-gear/gear-guy/What-Are-the-Best-Knot-Tying-Apps.html>

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!

February Ski Trip to Jack Frost Mountain **By: Mr. Shreve**

The winter ski trip is a perennial favorite of the boys and this year's excursion was no exception! The weather cooperated nicely, not too hot, not too cold and even a little bit of fresh snow when we woke up on Sunday morning. 22 boys skied and of that 4 earned their Snow Sports Merit Badge and 8 were first time skiers. We also had one first time parent!

It was thrilling to see the new skier's grow over the course of the two days and go from fear of falling to a solid level of confidence in their new found skills and abilities. The annual ski trip, like many others, provides a real bonding opportunity for boys and parents. It's especially rewarding to "experience a first" with your son no matter whether it's their first overnight back packing hike, first white water rafting trip, or as in this case...first ski weekend. Needless to say a first only comes around once. If you missed this one, don't miss the next. We've got four more great trips lined up before the summer, so come out and camp with your son. He won't soon forget it and I promise....you won't regret it!

Finally, this trip would not be possible without the expert organization of "Team Nadel" (and it really is a team). Thanks to Jordan's efforts, once again we got discounted passes for everyone and were able to stay at the Arrowhead Lake Association Club House with full use of their facilities for no charge. Mrs. Nadel made Troop 181 neck warmers for all the boys and A.J., Ryan and Evan all provided expert ski instruction at no charge. Thanks Team Nadel for a great trip!



Note from Mrs. Nadel - It's always nice to have a mom or two attend! Thanks Mrs. Gartner, Mrs. Dernoga and Mrs. Shuler!

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, April 7th** 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 is 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.

Thank you!

Our Registrars, the Lindermans, have turned over the position to Michele Harvey. This job entails making sure all of the rank advancements, merit badges and awards are recorded properly with Council and the boys receive their recognitions promptly. Thank you to both of the Lindermans, and to Mrs. Harvey for your time!

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

Michael Dernoga - Court of Honor Chair

610-647-3994

Ted Huck – Cabin Committee Chair

610-722-9475

Kathy Nadel – Newsletter

610-578-0603

Michael Dernoga – Finance Committee Chair

610-647-3994

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

Ramesh Raghupathi- Treasurer

610-647-7022

Evelyn Shreve - Summer Camp Coordinator

610-688-3005

Scott Shreve - High Adventure Coordinator

610-688-3005

Michele Harvey- Registrar

610-688-0445

Lauren Feldman - Fundraising Coordinator

610-251-2332

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

Mark your Calendars!



Summer Camp 2013 dates:

**Sunday July 28 to
Sunday August 4**

Calendar of Key Events

March 12 - – Class B – BUMC - 7:30 PM
Trip permission and money

March 15 - 17 - Camping Trip -
Hawk Mountain

March 19 – Equipment Return - BUMC Shed
- 7:30 PM

March 26 – No Meeting due to Spring Break

April 2 – Class A - 7:30 PM -
AT THE CABIN, bring flashlights!

April 7 - PLC Meeting 5:00 PM BUMC
Quartermasters Meeting 5:00 PM
Parent's Meeting 7:00 PM

April 26 - 28 - Camping Trip -
Canoeing in NJ

May 10-12 & 17-19 NYLT
Camp Ware

May 17 - 19 - Camping Trip - Fishing in NJ

July 15 - 2013 National Jamboree begins

July 28 - Summer Camp Begins

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