



# Newsletter



## Planning for a Great Scouting Year

Thanks and Congratulations go out to our new Scout leadership. Michael VanMeter and Matt Paolizzi have taken the reins as our Senior Patrol Leader and Assistant Senior Patrol Leader. We also congratulate our new Patrol Leaders: Bryce Gartner, Massimo DiDario, Nathan Shreve, Ian Weissman and Thomas Huck. The boys have plans for some great camping trips this year, and are working to make sure all of our scouts are able to learn new skills and advance in rank. Thanks guys!

## 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.

## Thanks to Adult Leaders and Parents

The scouts had a great time at Camp Horseshoe this summer! They could not have done it without all of the trained leaders and parents who took the time out of their own personal schedules to be at camp. Special thanks go out to our Scoutmaster, Mr. Franz who stayed at camp all week. Also a special thanks to our Troop Committee Chair, Sherri Gartner, who made it to camp on Saturday morning even after having surgery the previous Wednesday. THANK YOU!

***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

Sept 18 – Equipment Return –  
BUMC Shed - 7:30 PM  
Bring back aired-out tents and  
cleaned Patrol Boxes

Sept 25 – Class B – BUMC - 7:30 PM

Oct 2 – Class A – BUMC - 7:30 PM

## Sea Base 2012 Trip

In August, we sent a crew of scouts to Sea Base in Florida. Sea Base is one of the 3 Scout High Adventure Bases. Our scouts went on the Coral Reef Adventure which included sailing, snorkeling and activities on land.

Thanks go out to the two adults who attended the trip and made this adventure possible - Jon VanMeter and Drew Reindel. This trip would have had to be cancelled without your willingness to be a chaperone! Our sincere thanks to both of you for your time.

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## October Campout Ockanickon Scout Reservation

In October, we will be taking a trip to the Ockanickon Scout Reservation in Pipersville, PA. The activities will include tent camping and a Ropes Course/Rock Climbing. The trip will be October 12 to 14th.

Look for more details to come at the next parent's meeting and via YahooGroups.

## Equipment Return Night

On the Tuesday Evening following the monthly campout, an Equipment Return is scheduled instead of the regular meeting. At 7:30 pm, ALL SCOUTS WHO ATTENDED THE CAMPOUT and ALL APLs/ QUARTERMASTERS are required to meet at the shed to be sure gear is dry and in good order before being stored.

If your scout took home a tent to be cared for, he should have already aired it out until it is dry. THIS IS A SCOUT'S JOB, NOT A PARENT'S JOB! This can be done by setting up the tent in the sun, or by hanging it to dry over a clothesline. In wet weather it can be hung in your basement or garage. The tent should be checked for any damage and your scout should have swept any dirt/leaves off of the ground tarp. Tents are NEVER to be washed! This removes their waterproofing!

If your scout has brought home a patrol box, he should bring it to the equipment return with all of its contents having been thoroughly cleaned. This is a SCOUT job! Your scout should also clean the box itself.

If you have any questions about tent care, or Patrol boxes, please contact the Troop Quartermaster, A.J. Nadel, or the Adult Quartermaster, Jon VanMeter.

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## Advancement Information

Vince Piotti, our Advancement Chair, reported on the status of Eagle Projects ongoing within the troop. We have several scouts who are approaching their 18th birthdays and need to finish projects, paperwork or badges. Vince reported that typically there are a few Eagle required badges that hold up the scouts. It might be a good idea to be sure your scout completes these badges prior to starting their project to allow them to better focus on the task at hand. One of the badges he strongly recommends be completed is

Personal Management.

Vince would like to hold a meeting for scouts who are currently at the rank of Star and their parents. This meeting will provide some framework for the scout to start thinking about an Eagle project and how to get ready for the Life-to-Eagle process.

Also, this fall the Troop will hold Junior Leadership Training. This should be attended by those scouts at the rank of First Class and above. Dates will be coming shortly.

## 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 certificate 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.

## ScoutingU at Elizabethtown

Once again, a one day merit badge opportunity will be offered at Elizabethtown University on February 9, 2013.

Registration will open around October 1st, and spots fill quickly. Your scout could complete 2 badges that day. If you are interested in details or signing up for the email list, please visit

<http://groups.etown.edu/scoutingu/>

A list of merit badges to be offered is available on the website. Please talk to your scout soon so he does not miss out on the badges he needs or wants! There are prerequisites for most of the badges that the scout will need to complete at home prior to ScoutingU if he wishes to complete the badge.



## 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.

## Packing Notes

As our troop has grown and has gotten younger, we have noticed that the boys are bringing more personal gear than is really needed for a weekend campout. The scout's personal gear should consist of a sleeping bag in it's stuffsack, a sleep mat, and a school sized backpack or SMALL duffel bag. Please do not place all of these items in one large duffel bag. It is easier to pack the cars with smaller individual items.

Scouts should use their sleeping bag's stuffsack filled with clothing or their jacket as a pillow, or you can purchase a small compressible or inflatable backpacking pillow. See the links at the bottom of this page for options.

**The scout should pack his own personal gear.** Please allow them to pack only what they think is essential. They really do know what they need!

## 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, October 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.

## Finance Committee Meeting

The yearly Finance Committee Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, October 6th at the DiGiorgio's house (309 Dundee Place, Devon) at 9:30 a.m. to establish a budget for the coming Scouting year. It will last no more than one hour. All parents are welcome.

Please reply if you will attend. Thank you. YIS, Joe DiGiorgio (610-688-1126)

## 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. The other 2/3 of the hours are completed by others being managed by the scout.

## GEAR WEBSITES for Camping Pillows:

**CAMP MOR** [http://www.campmor.com/outdoor/gear/SubCategory\\_\\_\\_40000000226\\_200368359](http://www.campmor.com/outdoor/gear/SubCategory___40000000226_200368359)

**REI** <http://www.rei.com/search?query=pillows>

**BACKCOUNTRY** <http://www.backcountry.com/Store/catalog/search.jsp?q=pillows>

**ALPS MOUNTAINEERING** <http://www.alpsmountaineering.com/alps/products/bags/sleeping-bag-accessories>

or search Amazon.com or your other favorite sites for travel pillow, camping pillow etc.

## Diamond Rock Training Update

### IOLST

For every Boy Scout and Venturing leader needing to be "Trained" or just wanting to have some great camping fun, Introduction to Outdoor Leaders Skills Training (IOLST) will be on October 6 and 7 at Camp Jarvis. Registration is available for all at <http://bit.ly/OctIOLS> on the CCC website. Every participant must attend the patrol prep session on Thursday, Sept. 27 at 7:00pm at the Council Service Center for camp preparation, patrol formation, menu preparation, division of responsibilities and much more. We can only include the first 48 Scouters who sign up, so please tell each and every one of your adult leaders who need this to be "Trained" to sign up today.

### DEN CHIEF TRAINING

Den Chief Training will be on the morning of Sat. October 6th at Troop 76's cabin in Frazer. The lead trainers are some of our impressive, young NYLT grads. The registration for this course is at <http://bit.ly/OctDenChief>

Being a Den Chief is an important leadership position for Boy Scouting. It counts for rank advancements, but the scout must be trained prior to holding this position. He will get to show the Cub Scout a lot of scout skills, lead them in games and activities, and be the Den Leader's right hand man. The boys will definitely be looked up to, which is a great feeling for these young leaders! Contact your local Cubmasters for Den Chief opportunities.

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## Parent Contact List

Please add your contact information and cell phone numbers into the form available on YahooGroups. This list can be printed out for campouts so all drivers will have other adults phone numbers in case of emergency.

Thank you for your cooperation.

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## Upcoming Camping Trips

Thanks to Ed Maier who will once again be our Camping Coordinator this year. We generally try to camp on the third weekend of the month, unless holidays prevent that, or camping sites are booked. Please take a look at the next page of the newsletter to see what has been planned by the scouts for each month's campout. Thanks to the adults who have agreed to take one or more of the weekends and handle the logistics.

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## New Quartermasters

Congratulations to the newly appointed Quartermasters. Our Troop Quartermaster is A.J. Nadel. His assistant is Connor Feldman. Patrol Quartermasters are: Colin Hitt, Troy Gartner, Eric Weissman, Chris Turocy and Ryan Nadel.

The Quartermasters are responsible for tracking and maintaining the troop gear. This includes making sure gear is returned in good condition and stored neatly in the shed. Quartermasters are required to attend a monthly quartermaster's meeting on the same Sunday as the Parent's Meeting each month. The meeting is held at 5:00PM. In addition, the quartermasters are required to attend the Equipment Return following each campout. In the event that they are unable to make it to any of these meetings, they are asked to get a replacement from their patrol.

Congratulations boys!



# Troop 181 – 2012/2013 Camping Calendar

Month/Date	Destination	Activity	Patrol Leader	Adult Leader
Oct .12-14, 2012	Ockanickon Scout Res., Pipersville Bucks County	Ropes Course/ Rock Climbing/Camping	Ian Weissman	Mike Dernoga
Nov. 17-18	Appalachian Trail (Open location) i.e. Delaware Water Gap / Tuscarora	Hiking/Camping/Back-Packing	Thomas Huck	Joe DiGiorgio
Dec. 1-2	Berwyn (BUMC)	Recruitment/Activities Camping	Bryce Gartner	Sherri Gartner
Jan. 18-20	Ricketts Glen	Ice Hiking/Camping	Mike Vanmeter	John Vanmeter
Feb. 15-17	Ski Trip (Poconos) Jack Frost/Big B	Ski/Boarding/Tubing Overnight	Nathan Shreve	Jordan Nadel
March 15-17	Hawk Mountain (Berks County)	Hiking/Camping	Massimo DiDario	Jason Feldman
April 19-21	Bastow /Pine Barrens	Canoeing/Camping	Nathan Shreve	John Vanmeter
May 17-19	Barnegat Bay	Bay Fishing/Camping	Matt Paolizzi	John Vanmeter
June 14-16	Knoebles Amusement	Family Fun	Bryce Gartner	Ed Maier
July 28- Aug. 4	Summer camp - Horseshoe			Evelyn Shreve
September, 2013	Gettysburg	Hiking/Camping	Thomas Huck	Gene Christner
Plan Bs	Valley Forge or French Creek	Hiking/Orienteering <small>Camping dates may change based on availability</small>		

## 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

**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

**Sept 18** – Equipment Return — BUMC  
7:30PM

**Sept 25** – Class B — BUMC - 7:30 PM

**Oct 2** – Class A — BUMC - 7:30 PM

**Oct 7** – PLC Meeting — BUMC - 5:00 PM  
Quartermasters Meeting - 5:00 PM  
Parent's Meeting - 7:00 PM

**Oct 9** – Class B — BUMC - 7:30 PM

**Oct 12-14** – Camping Trip  
Ockanickon Scout Reservation

**Nov 17-18** – Camping Trip  
Backpacking Appalachian Trail

**Dec 1-2** – Camping/Recruiting Weekend  
Camping at BUMC

## Adult Leadership

**Joe Franz** - *Acting Scoutmaster*

610-644-1049

### Assistant Scout Masters

Bhaskar

Joe DiGiorgio

Joe Linderman

Jordan Nadel

Jeff Paolizzi

Vince Piotti

Scott Shreve

Jon VanMeter

Scott Wilson