

Troop 181 Newsletter

www.paoli181.com

A Very Warm Welcome!



We extend a very warm welcome to all the new scouts who joined our troop in the past few weeks. They are: **Carter DelCiello, Brandon Dernoga, Mark Destefano, Connor Feldman, Thomas Huck, Nicholas Maier, Liam McLaughlin, Niklas Pearson, Nick Piotti, Vikram Raghupathi, Brendon Rock, Ryan Savering, Donovan Shuler, Will Soutendijk, Eric Weissman.**

We welcome them and their families into our fold and look forward to all their new energy enthusiasm!



March Camping Trip

Our March Camping Trip went off very well with many of our newest scouts joining us on their first camping trip with the troop! It included a walking tour of the historic area of Philadelphia, a scavenger hunt (won by the Foxhound Patrol) and ended with lunch at the Reading Terminal Market. Thanks to all the parents who provided adult leadership and to **Scott Wilson** for organizing this trip!

April Camping Trip



The scouts had a great time at the Ockanickon Scout Reservation where we took part in their COPE program on **April 8 – 10**. Here's Eric Hohenschuh's report of the weekend: *"The low course we selected included balancing the troop on a giant see-saw, a 6-foot trust fall, and scaling a 12' wall as a team. Some of the skills learned included listening to the entire group including the youngest scouts when brainstorming for strategies to solve a problem (how to build a bridge over the river of cheese), and the importance of following a single leader in*

execution of a plan---balancing the see-saw. It was raining pretty hard when we got to camp Friday evening but Saturday cleared up and we had a nice patch of warm sunshine in the afternoon which the troop put to good use with advancement activities and games of one-two tag and freeze tag. The two eating patrols put on quite a show at dinnertime with the Nadel twins trying to outdo each other. Mike's patrol's kitchen, led by Ryan, offered a tasty beef and chicken noodle stir-fry while Joe's patrol's kitchen led by A.J. featured beef soft tacos with cheese and Mexican rice. Despite our best efforts trenching the puddles in our immediate campsite, it never did dry out, but we had a great time." Thanks to **Eric Hohenschuh** who coordinated this trip!

White Water Rafting in May



The May camping trip to **Lehigh River Scout Adventure Camp** is scheduled for **May 13 – 14**. Please arrive at the church in time for a **5:30 PM** departure on **Friday, May 13**. We will be staying overnight at the Whitewater challenger's campsite at a reduced scout rate. We are booked on a 9:40 AM trip "2B" on Saturday morning. In order to get the discounted rates, **Steve Gartner** who is coordinating this trip, needs firm commitments by **April 15th**. Please refer to his **e-mail** for further information as well as look for future updates.

Spring Cabin Cleanup



The first Troop meeting of 2011 at Troop 181 cabin is scheduled for Tuesday April 26th. This is short notice and with Spring break, Palm Sunday, Easter Sunday and Ockanickon Camping weekends the options for Cabin clean up are few. Like the past few years the clean up only takes **2 to 3 hours** at

the most. Any parents, cabin committee members and scouts participation would be appreciated and beneficial. Many hands will make work light. The clean up would consist of sweeping the floors in the cabin, re-stacking the benches, cleaning of the fireplace ashes, sweeping leaves off the roof, raking some of the leaves around the cabin and fallen tree branch clean up. If you can attend bringing gloves and a leaf rake is all that is needed. Most of the other tools are at the Cabin. Trash bags and several brooms will be supplied. This would be a good opportunity for the newer scouts and parents to see and locate the cabin before the first meeting. The cleanup day is scheduled for **Saturday morning (9am) on April 16th**.

Please check the website for the directions to the cabin. **Joe Linderman** is organizing this event.



National Youth Leader Training Conference

NYLT is an exciting, action packed program designed to provide youth members of the Boy Scouts of America with leadership skills and experience they can use in their home troops. The leadership skills taught can be used in any other situation demanding leadership of "self" and "others." Training is conducted by the Council Leadership Training Committee using an outline developed and approved by the Boy Scouts of America.

Scouts who are First Class, Star or Life are encouraged to sign-up for this Conference which will be held at Camp Ware on the weekends of **May 6 - 8 and May 13 - 15**. Scouts **must** commit to **both** weekends, from 5:30 pm on Friday until 3:00 pm on Sunday, to participate. The cost is \$190 before March 31st and \$215 thereafter. The Troop will reimburse 50% of the cost to the family of any participating Scout. **Register** online now as space is limited.

Scouts must ask Mr. Wilson for permission to attend NYLT before registering. This is a program requirement.

Science Camp

It is not too late to **register** for Chester County Council's Science Camp to be



held from **June 26th to July 2nd** at Camp Ware. You get a discounted rate if you register by **April 30th**. This is a fun and educational camp where the boys can earn science related merit badges that may be difficult to otherwise complete. The camp is open to boys who have been active with a Boy Scout Troop for the past year, have already attended a week of summer camp, and have attained the rank of Second Class.

Don't wait to sign up as camp closes once full! Registration for Science Camp is done by individual families, and not by the Troop. For more information about Science Camp, including a list of all the merit badges offered and registration information, visit **Science and Radio Merit Badge Camp**.

Summer Camp



Summer is just around the corner and so is our week of camp at Camp Horseshoe. Now is the time to sign up for a week of fun while learning and strengthening scout skills. The Troop will be at Roberts Campground from **July 24 - 31**. The cost of summer camp is \$320, if paid by May 10, and \$360 thereafter. Summer camp is a great opportunity for our Scouts to work on advancement and to earn merit badges. Everyone leaves summer camp with stories to tell. Let **Evelyn Shreve** know if you plan to attend summer camp.

Medical forms are due to Mrs. Shreve by **July 12**. Every scout must have a **medical form** Parts A-C, signed by a doctor (Part C) within the last year. If you are taking your son to have a physical in the near future, you may want to take this form with you for the doctor to sign.

Adult leaders are needed for summer camp. Because we have a great number of scouts signed up to go so far, we must have 3-deep leadership at all times and this means having 4 leaders on-site in case someone must leave. Leaders are called away from camp for a variety of reasons, so we must plan for this contingency. **Please check your calendars and let Mrs. Shreve know if you can be an adult volunteer.** Adult volunteers for one-night are gladly accepted, but we are thrilled to have adults who can stay over for more than one

night; the continuity helps the Scouts and the adults.

The Troop believes that no scout should be excluded from summer camp 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.



High Adventure

This year's High Adventure trip is to the **Northern Tier** – Atikokan, Ontario starting **July 5th** (fly out) through **July 14th** (fly home), with seven days on the trail. **Mike Harris** and **Jon VanMeter** will be leading this trip. There are five scouts signed up to go on this trip.

Plans are underway for High Adventure **2012** to Florida Sea Base! **Joe DiGiorgio** has reserved **August 3-9** for the **Coral Reef Sailing Adventure** which is fully subscribed. Watch for e-mails from **Joe DiGiorgio** for further information.



Eagle Projects

Colin Weissman presented his Eagle project proposal at the Troop Committee meeting and got approved. Here's Colin's description of the project:

"My Eagle project, is to make the courtyard of Devon Elementary School into an outdoor classroom and garden for all grades kindergarten through fifth grade. This involves constructing five raised plant beds. I am going to have scouts measure and cut the materials so that we can begin construction. by installing vertical posts and corner posts on the inside of the plant bed. After that we are going to construct the outside of the plant bed. Once all five beds are all level, I am going to have a day where scouts come and help by bringing soil from the outside play area, straight into the courtyard by wheel barrows. The younger scouts will be in charge of leveling the soil in

the plant beds and making them as smooth as possible. After all of the beds have soil in them and are leveled out, the scouts would place or install walk ways around the plant beds."

Please watch your email for announcements of the work schedules for Colin Weissman's and Andrew Weissman's Eagle projects. Both will need help from every scout in the troop to complete their projects.

Attention Life Scouts! If you are looking for ideas for your Eagle project, there are some projects which are "Eagle worthy" associated with the **Open Land Conservancy**. Please contact Mr. DiGiorgio or Mr. Piotti, if you are interested.



FOS Update

A big THANK YOU to everyone who has contributed to FOS this year! Our Troop has made contributions/pledges totaling \$3,180 with nearly 100% of our families participating. We have attained Honor Unit status, meaning our advancement patches are free for the coming year based on the level of contribution from our families. At the Pacesetters' Dinner, **John Bravacos** seated a table and raised an additional \$2,150 for the campaign which will be credited to our Troop. If you owe on your pledge and can complete payment by June 30, please do so as that's when the campaign year ends. Payments can be mailed to Council with a notation referencing FOS.

Adult Leadership Positions

The latest list of **Troop Committees** has been updated and posted on our YahooGroups site. The parents in our troop, by filling vital roles, keep our troop strong. We are currently seeking to fill the positions of **Court of Honor Committee Chair** as well as **Camping Committee Chair**. If your skills and talents match this position and you can volunteer, please speak with or e-mail Sherri Gartner or Scott Wilson.



Congratulations!

Congratulations to Troy Gartner who earned his Pottery Merit Badge.

Interactive BSA Uniforms Site Launched



The new, [official uniforms website](#) is now

active. The interactive format takes visitors through Scouting's ranks and programs, with 360-degree views of what the official uniform should look like when complete. Other features include drag-and-drop insignia, full descriptions of each uniform piece, and a "Shop Now" link that takes you directly to the [Scoutstuff.org](#) site.

Class B Shirts



Our newly revamped moisture wicking Class B shirts designed by **Kathy Nadel** are now available for purchase. The price varies according to the type and size. Please contact **Joe DiGiorgio** if you want to place an order.

Got Photos?

Do you have photos from an event to post on the Troop 181 website? Scott Wilson will take care of uploading the photos. Please save your photos to a memory stick/flash drive and deliver to Scott. Any questions, need to borrow a memory stick, other problem? Contact Scott.

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.

PLC News

April 5 – Class A – BUMC

- Admission: Square Knot
- Camping Prep: Ben & Dhananjay
- Camping Demo: Andrew S.
- Joe's game

April 12 – No Troop Meeting

- TNT Entertainment for Patrol of the Year

April 19 – Class B - BUMC

- Admission: Water Bottle
- Orienteering: Dhananjay & Joe
- Fitness: Dhananjay & Joe

April 26 – Class B – Cabin

- Admission: Hiking Boots + Flashlight
- Hiking (PL's courses)
- JB's Marching Talk
- Merit Badge Process Overview: A.B.

May 1 – PLC Meeting – BUMC

Next Parents' Meeting

The next parents' meeting is **7:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 1 at BUMC**. Please plan to attend and bring your calendar! There will also be a new parents' orientation prior to this meeting.

facebook [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.

Troop Website

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



Adult Training

All registered adult leaders and all adults who have regular contact with Scouts whether in Troop meetings or on camping trips must take **Youth Protection Training** once every two years. **This is a BSA requirement** and protects you and our Scouts. We encourage new parents to get on board by getting their YPT certification. The online course can be found at [BSA Online Learning Center](#). When you have completed the course, please print your certificate and provide a copy to our new Troop training coordinator, **Kate VanMeter**, so that the



Troop will have a record.

A big THANK YOU to all of the registered adult leaders who have completed Youth Protection Training – that's all of you!!! We still need ALL adults who are not registered but who attend Troop meetings, campouts and other special events to complete their training. Every parent should go online and complete Youth Protection Training so that you are ready to step up to help.

Need to know what training to take? Registered leaders must complete 5 specific courses to be “fully trained.” These are: Fast Start, This is Scouting, Scoutmaster Specific Training, Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills and Youth Protection Training. Three of these courses can be taken online at myscouting.org. The remaining two courses are offered periodically through Chester County Council; check their [website](#) for more information. Need more information? An “Adult Training Continuum” has been posted on our [YahooGroups site](#).

Some additional training is required for certain Scout activities. For example, when swimming is planned on a camping trip, an adult on the trip must be trained in Safe Swim Defense, Safety Afloat and CPR. Best practices require that some adults on every camping trip be trained in CPR and first aid. We have posted on our [YahooGroups site](#) a record of our adult training. To keep our records up to date, please send **Kate VanMeter** a copy of the certificate you receive each time you complete a boy scout training program. If you are CPR certified, have completed a first aid course or are a medical professional, please provide Kate with this information as well.

Every Scout deserves a trained leader. Please do your part to oblige him.

Troop Yahoo Groups Sign-Up



Click to join [paoli181](#)
Contact **K.S. Bhaskar** if you have trouble signing up.

If you haven't already signed up for the **Yahoo Groups 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.



Troop Adult Leadership

Sherri Gartner – Troop Committee Chair
610- 408-9384

Scott Wilson - Scoutmaster
610-964-8467

Eric Hohenschuh – Camping Committee Chair
610-651-0252

Vince Piotti – Advancement Committee Chair
610-296-9058

Position Open - Court of Honor Comm. Chair

Joe Linderman – Cabin Committee Chair
610-722-9914

Jayashree Bhaskar – Communications
Comm. Chair 610-296-7332

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

Chrisitne Linderman- Registrar
610-722-9914

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

2010-2011 Calendar of Key Events

May 6 – 8 - NYLT Weekend #1(tentative) – Ware

May 13 – 15 - NYLT Weekend #2(tentative) – Ware

May 20 – 22 – Camping/Whitewater rafting – TBD

June 17 – 19 – Camping/Beach – TBD

June 26 – July 2 – Science & Radio Camp – Ware

July 5 – July 14 – High Adventure -Northern Tier

July 24 – 31 – Summer Camp – Horseshoe

September 16 – 18 – Camping - Gettysburg