

Troop 181 Newsletter

www.paoli181.com



November Camping at BUMC

We had a great turnout of Scouts and Webelos at the November recruiting event held at BUMC on November 14 -16, despite a rainy start. Our Scouts ran an educational and engaging program for the visiting Webelos. Thank you to **Mike Ryczyn** and **Scott Wilson** for overseeing this event and to all of the Scouts for making it a success!



Ice Climbing at Ricketts Glen State Park

Mike Harris is once again organizing this very popular trip to Camp Lavigne the weekend of **January 8th – 10th**. We will spend Saturday hiking the frozen waterfalls in [Ricketts Glen State Park](#) using hiking crampons (provided by the Troop) and ski/hiking poles (ideally provided by Scouts, but Mr Harris has some spare sets). If you are planning to make this trip, let Mr. Harris know as soon as possible; we are limited to 18 participants, including adults.



High Adventure 2010 Update

The Scout-led High Adventure Committee has voted to travel the length of the C&O Canal, from Cumberland, WV into Washington, D.C. The crew will bike and canoe the canal from July 17 - 25. The cost is yet to be determined; much planning remains to be done. Any Scout who will be 14 years old by next summer and who will hold a rank of at least First Class can participate. Mr. Harris is overseeing this trip.



Winter Camping at Camp Ware

Winter camping lived up to its name during our weekend at Camp Ware, December 4 – 6, as the snow and cold arrived on Saturday morning. The boys had great fun at the rifle range, hiking and performing the chores critical to winter camping, such as splitting wood and cooking. This was also a recruiting event and we were once again joined by several Webelos and parents. Thanks to **A.B. Maynard** for organizing this event.



Klondike Derby

Mark your calendar for the annual Klondike Derby to be held at Marsh Creek Park on Saturday, **February 6 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm**. This year's theme is "Yukon Gold Rush". **Gene Christner** is organizing this event.



Eagle Court of Honor

On **Saturday, January 2, 2010**, we will be celebrating an Eagle Court of Honor and recognizing the rise to Eagle of five Scouts. Mark your calendar to be at BUMC for the ceremony at **3:00 P.M.** with dinner to follow in Schieck Hall. We are expecting a number of our alums to join us as well. For new Scouts, this is a Class A event! During this event, we will recognize **Dave Miller** for the service that he has given to our Troop and our sons!

Scout Recruiting

Mike Ryczyn, our Recruiting Chair, planned

several recruiting activities this fall and winter; one remains:

On **January 10, 2010** we are assisting Pack 113 with their Pinewood Derby Workshop held at BUMC. Recapture the fun of making Derby cars while helping the Troop recruit Webelos to join our Troop! Scouts and parents will be needed to help with this event.

Don't be surprised to see Webelos at Troop meetings. Webelos have been invited to arrange for visits as they make up their minds as to which Troop to cross-over to.



Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following Scout who have advanced in rank between November 2, 2009 and December 12, 2009:

Ben Levin to Life

Congratulations to the following Scouts have earned merit badges since our last newsletter:

Stephen Griffin - Personal Management
Kevin Haddad – Canoeing and Citizen in the Community



Fundraising Committee News

To make our Troop budget, each Scout's annual contribution is **\$130**. Fundraising activities are designed to enable any Scout who wishes to do so to raise his entire contribution. Any money raised that exceeds the annual contribution can be used by the Scout to fund his personal scout-related needs. Two fundraisers were planned for the fall to enable the Scouts to raise money; one remains:

The **Barnes & Noble gift wrapping** is scheduled for **Wednesday December 23rd** at the store located on Swedesford Road in Devon from 4 PM until 10 PM (or closing). Thanks to those who have signed up already! We still **need one more Scout** to volunteer for the 8-10 PM time slot, preferably an older Scout. Would you please take a look at your calendar and step up?

The Fundraising Committee has arranged for our participation in the eScrips program with Genuardi's. To participate in the eScrips program or for additional information about any fundraising activity, contact Fundraising Co-Chair **Susan Morris** or **Cassie Jamison**.

Scouting For Food



Thanks to all the families who contributed to the Scouting for Food drive! **Javad Siah** and **Donna McCarty**, who organized this drive, reported that 415 items were collected and delivered to the food closets at Wayne United Methodist Church and Trinity Presbyterian in Berwyn, which is BUMC partner.



Morning of Service to BUMC

On Wednesday morning, December 30th, the Troop will assemble at BUMC to give back to our chartering organization by performing small repairs and maintenance on church buildings. Drop in between 9 am and noon to help; stay as long as you can. Service hours count toward advancement or merit badges. Lunch will be provided at noon. **Scott Wilson** is coordinating this activity.



January Church Service at BUMC

Troop 181 has accepted an invitation from BUMC to assist with their two morning church services on Sunday, January 17, 2010. Scouts will participate as greeters, ushers, acolytes, readers, etc. **Scott Wilson** has graciously stepped forward to deliver the homily. Please mark your calendar to come out and help; many hands will be needed. This Sunday is in addition to our annual celebration of Scout Sunday, which will be held on Sunday, February 14, 2010.

Finance Committee News

Dues are due! Invoices for \$193 have been e-

mailed to all Scout families. Please help out and pay your invoice now so that we do not have to send repeat invoices!

Financial assistance is always available to help families meet Troop expenses, camping costs and other costs associated with Scouting. For example, no Scout should be kept from high adventure because of an inability to meet the expense. Cases are considered on an individual basis. If you need financial assistance, please speak with Scott Wilson, Joe DiGiorgio or Linda Bravacos.



National Hall of Leadership

BSA has created the National Hall of Leadership as part of the 100th Anniversary Celebration of Scouting. The objective is to gather and share the significant positive impact Scouting leadership has made on the quality of life in our local communities. Anyone can nominate a Scout for this recognition; a nominee must simply be a living Scout or Scouting volunteer who may or may not currently be officially registered with the BSA. A nominee may be young or old; there is no age limit for nominees. There is no limit on the number of individuals you nominate. Why not take a few moments to recognize someone who has made a positive impact on your life as a Scout? Nominations are submitted online in the form of a 450 word story. Click [here](#) to learn more and to nominate someone. The nomination period closes on February 8, 2010, but don't wait! Chester County Council is collecting local stories from the national submissions for our own local Hall of Leadership. Let someone know they mattered to you by taking the time to make a nomination!

Counselor in Training at Horseshoe

Looking for a way to get more out of Scouting? What about serving as a Counselor in Training this summer at Horseshoe? Council is looking for Scouts, ages 14-15, to take advantage of

this leadership opportunity. For roughly four weeks, CITs rotate through four different department areas and in each area they help run the daily operations. Duties might include helping a counselor teach merit badges, prepping for merit badges, and other work around the department area. For more information, click [here](#), and then choose the button on the right "2010 Summer Staff Click Here" From the next menu, choose the Parent's Information Sheet. Still have questions? Camp Director John Lukowski can help: 610-917-9313

Scouting University

Scouts are invited to participate in the Scouting University, a merit badge opportunity, on January 30, 2010 at Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, PA. Registration is ongoing and is on a first-come, first-served basis. Sign up directly on the [Elizabethtown College website](#). The Troop will organize transportation to and from the event as a day-outing. The packet of information about this event that Scott Wilson handed out at the first November Troop meeting, can be found on our [YahooGroups website](#).



Class B Shirts

Donna DiGiorgio is the keeper of the Class B shirts. If anyone needs a shirt, see Donna. Cost is \$10.

Roster and Calendar Updates

The most up-to-date Roster can always be found in the Files section of our YahooGroups website. The most up-to-date Calendar can always be found on the Troop website and in the [Files](#) section of our YahooGroups website.

PLC News

December 1st – Class A – BUMC

-Admission: signs of a stroke



December 8th – No Meeting**December 15th – Class B – BUMC**

-Admission: ways to purify water

December 20th – PLC meeting at Bravacos'**December 22nd – Class B – BUMC**

-Admission: \$5 wrapped gift for Secret Santa

December 29th – No Meeting**Next Parents' Meeting**

The next parents' meeting is at **7:00 pm on Sunday, January 3rd at BUMC.**

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.

**BSA's new rank requirements**

Please refer to the following link for updates: [2008 Rank Requirement Changes](#).

As of January 1, 2010 there will be additional rank requirement changes. A file has been posted on our Yahoo Groups site with the new requirements: [2010 Rank Requirement Changes](#)

Adult Youth Protection Training – Online!

All adults/parents who participate in troop outings and trips must take Youth Protection Training once every two years. This is a BSA requirement and protects you and our Scouts. It is easy and quick since you can take it online in 30 minutes. Go to [BSA Online Learning Center](#) and click on the Youth Protection Training tab. This will take you to the E-Learning Portal. If you have a MyScouting

account, just sign in as usual. Otherwise, register for a MyScouting account so that you can access the online training. Please follow the instructions on [CCCBSA Adult Leadership Training Courses](#) on how to print your certificate after the completion of the online course and how to have it recorded. If you are a registered leader and need your BSA number, e-mail the request to Counsel at scouting@cccbsa.org and the number will be e-mailed back to you promptly.

Let **Cindy Sharo**, our training coordinator, know that you have completed the Adult Youth Protection Training.

Another great online course is the **Troop Committee Challenge** which Cindy recommends for those families whose sons joined the troop in the past two years. This, as well as other great courses that might interest you can be found at the [BSA Online Learning Center](#). They are quick and free and will help the Troop and you!

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

Troop Yahoo Groups Sign-Up

The beauty of Yahoo Groups is that all email sent through Yahoo Groups will be forwarded to you directly at the email you have registered. If you are having trouble with this feature, please contact KS Bhaskar for help at bhaskar@acm.org.

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.

Having trouble with sign up? Contact KS Bhaskar at bhaskar@acm.org.

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

Linda Bravacos – Troop Committee Chair
610-647-8951, 610-316-7902 cell

Scott Wilson - Scoutmaster
610-964-8467

A.B. Maynard– Camping Committee Chair
610-578-0493

Vince Piotti – Advancement Committee Chair
610-296-9058

Donna McCarty- Court of Honor Comm. Chair
610-644-0255

Susan Morris, Cassie Jamison – Fund Raising Comm. Co-Chairs
Susan 610-889-7497; Cassie 610-725-0628

Mike Dixon – Cabin Committee Chair
610-827-1991

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

Joe DiGiorgio – Finance Committee Chair
610-688-1126

Mike Harris- Quartermaster
610-647-0808

Cindy Sharo – Training Coordinator
610-293-9177

Mike Brown - Charter Organization Representative
610-688-2853

Mike Ryczyn– Recruiting Coordinator
610-240-7769

John Bravacos- Friends of Scouting Chair
610-647-8951

Donna DiGiorgio- Treasurer
610-688-1126

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

2009-2010 Calendar of Key Events

December 23 – Barnes & Noble fundraiser – Swedesford Road, Devon

December 30 – Morning of Service -BUMC

January 2 – Eagle Court of Honor and Farewell Reception for Mr. Miller - BUMC

January 8-10 – Ice Hiking - Ricketts Glen

January 10 – Pinewood Derby Workshop - BUMC

January 17 – Sunday Services - BUMC

January 30 – Scouting University - Elizabethtown College

February 2 – Winter Court of Honor and Potluck Dinner - BUMC

February 6 – Klondike Derby – Marsh Creek

February 8 - **100th Anniversary of Scouting!**

February 14 – Scout Sunday - BUMC

February 20 – Ski trip, day trip only (location TBD)

March 12-15 – DC camping trip - Greenbelt National Park or Manasses, VA

March 13 – First Aid Meet (location TBD)

April 30-May 2 – UMC Camping and Service Weekend – UMC Poconos campsite

April 23-25 – OA Ordeal Weekend - Horseshoe

May – Beach Jam – Wildwood (date TBD)

May 7-9 – NYLT Weekend #1 - Ware

May 14-16 – NYLT Weekend #2 - Ware

June 4-6 – OA Ordeal Weekend - Horseshoe

June 12 – Family Outing (location TBD)

June 12-13 – Jamboree Shakedown (location TBD)

June 27-July 4 – Science Camp - Ware

July 4 – 11 - Summer Camp – Roberts at Horseshoe

July 17 – 25 – Tentative High Adventure – C&O Canal

July 25 – August 4 – Jamboree – Fort Hill, VA