

Troop 181 Newsletter

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November Camping at BUMC

We had another successful November camp out, designed as a recruiting event, held over the weekend of November 13th – 14th at BUMC. A total of 28 cub scouts attended the event. Our boys did a splendid job leading the various activities for the visiting scouts! In addition, there were alums who participated in the Cracker Barrel reunion. A huge thanks to **Scott Wilson, Mike Ryczyn, Jon VanMeter** and all the others who put in a lot of hard work to make this event a success!



December Camping at Camp Horseshoe

We were joined by several Webelos and their families for the camp out on December 3rd - 5th at Camp Horseshoe. The boys had great fun at the rifle range, hiking and performing the chores critical to winter camping, such as splitting wood and cooking. Thanks to **Mike Ryczyn, Scott Shreve** and **Joe DiGiorgio** who helped coordinate this event.

Ice Hiking at Glen Onoko Falls Trail



Mike Harris is once again planning this very popular mid winter hike during the weekend of **January 7th – 9th**. We will spend Saturday hiking the frozen waterfalls in **Glen Onoko**. We will be using hiking crampons (provided by the troop) and ski/hiking poles (ideally provided by scouts but Mr. Harris

has some spare sets) which will limit the number of people able to attend to 18 including adults. To sign up, please send Mr. Harris an e-mail. We need four adults to go on the trip to provide two deep leadership at all times in case we need to split up. We will be camping at the [Trexler Scout Reservation](#). Please see the [fact sheet](#) for further details.

Winter Court of Honor



The Winter Court of Honor for Troop 181 is scheduled for **Tuesday, February 1st at BUMC starting at 6:15 PM**. The celebration will start with a Family Style Dinner and will be followed by the Troop Court of Honor. All family members are invited and encouraged to attend! Stay tuned for more details to follow.

The Court of Honor program will include our Friends of Scouting (FOS) Kickoff, presentation of Merit Badges and Rank Advancement, the introduction of newly elected Troop leaders, the announcement of the Patrol of the Year and the presentation of recognition ribbons for the flag standard. Mothers, wear your ribbons!

Klondike Derby



Mark your calendar for the Yukon Gold Rush, this year's Klondike Derby, to be held at Marsh Creek State Park on Saturday, February 5th. Patrols will run for the gold through Kodiak, Skagway, Juneau, Skagwa, Little Diomed and Port Deposit, giving their Scout skills a work out along the way. This is a morning event. Once again, **Gene Christner** has stepped up to lead this event. Watch for an e-mail with more details and to sign up.

Scout Sunday



The annual Scout Sunday service will be celebrated on **Sunday, February 13th at BUMC** at the 10:30 AM service. All Scouts and their families are welcome to attend this service. We will need several Scouts to help with readings.

Scouts should plan to arrive at the Church at **10:00 AM in Class A uniform**. The service is over at about 11:30 AM.

Skiing at Jack Frost



Please mark your calendars for our upcoming ski trip to [Jack Frost](#) in the Poconos the weekend of **February 25th – 27th**. **Jordan Nadel** is coordinating this trip with many exciting activities planned. Stay tuned for more information to follow.

First Aid Meet

The First Aid Meet will be held at **Downingtown Middle School** on the morning of **Saturday, March 12**. This event is still in the planning stages. Please mark the date on your calendar and stay tuned for more details.

High Adventure 2011

Joe DiGiorgio has taken the lead in organizing the high adventure trip for 2011. 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. We can have as many as nine scouts in a crew and two adults for a total of eleven people. Currently, there are five scouts signed up and room for four more. Please let **Mr. DiGiorgio** know asap if you have not already signed up but wish to go on this trip.



Eagle Projects

Joseph DiGiorgio recently completed his Eagle project and he extends thanks to all those who helped him accomplish that.

Adult Leadership Positions

Thanks to **Sherri Gartner** who has stepped up to be the Troop Committee Chair, taking over from Linda Bravacos! Many thanks also to Linda for her invaluable service!

Scout Recruiting

Mike Ryczyn reports that there was a lot of positive feedback from the cub scouts and their families who visited us during our November and December camp outs. Out of the 28 scouts who attended, there are at least three who have committed to crossing over to our troop, as well as several others who are leaning towards it.

On **Sunday, January 16th**, we will be hosting a Pinewood Derby workshop for Cub Scouts from Pack 112 at BUMC. **Joe Franz** will be on hand to help with the woodworking. Recapture the fun of making Derby cars while helping to recruit Webelos join our troop. Scouts and parents will be needed to help with this event.

A huge thanks to Mike for all his recruiting efforts!



Congratulations and Welcome!

Congratulations to the following scouts who have advanced in rank:

- Kevin Haddad** – Life
- Ryan Nadel** – Second Class

Congratulations to the following scouts who earned merit badges:

- Bryce Gartner** – Oceanography
- Douglas Hohenschuh** – Oceanography

A very warm welcome to **Mark DeStefano** and his family who recently joined our troop!

Troop of the Year Award

A belated announcement that Troop 181 was awarded **Troop of the Year** for the year **2009** by **Diamond Rock District**. It was awarded based on a number of criteria including: youth led program; active adult involvement; camp and outdoor activities; Journey to Excellence; Friends of Scouting; summer camp attendance etc. Kudos to all in the troop to have earned this and especially to **Scott Wilson** for leading the troop!



Fundraising Committee News

Susan Morris and **Cassie Jamison**, fundraising committee's co-chairs ran the very successful **Joe Corbi** sale again this year. You can still order online for the upcoming holiday gift giving season at [Joe Corbi's](#), with your products to be delivered to your home or directly to your gift-recipients, and the profit from the sale will be added to your Scout Account. Contact Ms. Morris or Ms. Jamison if you need help with online ordering.

The **Barnes and Noble** gift wrapping fundraiser is scheduled to be held on **December 19th** from 10 AM until closing time at the Valley Forge location. Thanks to all those who have volunteered. Look for e-mail sent by **Jayashree Bhaskar** for details .

Attention! **Kate VanMeter** says that she still has 5 bags of Butter Toffee Light popcorn, 20 oz. each that she is looking to unload. Please contact her immediately if you can help her out!

Finally, the Fundraising Committee has arranged for our participation in the eScripts program with Genuardi's. To sign up, see either of the fundraising co-chairs.

Scouting For Food

Thanks to all the families who donated for our annual Scouting For Food drive. We collected 400 canned/boxed items. 20 boys participated and

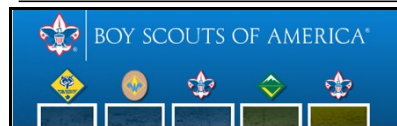


parents **Sherri Gartner** and **Sarah Reindel** helped to deliver the food to two pantries: Caring Cupboard at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Berwyn and the Deacons Pantry in Frazer. Thanks to **Sarah Reindel** who coordinated the food drive!

Finance Committee News

The Finance Committee led by **Joe DiGiorgio** met recently to discuss the annual budget. The annual dues for the year 2011 are set at \$150 and the rechartering fee is \$63. Statements have been sent out to all families by e-mail. Please pay your dues promptly! Instructions for payment are on the invoices. If your payment has not been received, you have been sent a follow-up reminder e-mail. Please help out and pay your invoice now so that we do not have to send any further follow-up! If you **need financial assistance**, please speak with Scott Wilson, Joe DiGiorgio or Linda Bravacos. Arrangements for a payment plan can be made by contacting the same individuals.

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

We are revamping our Class B shirts both in design and fabric content. Thanks to **Kathy Nadel** who has come up with a beautiful logo for the shirt and to **Jordan Nadel** who has located a supplier for the moisture wicking shirts. The price is going to be approximately \$12-\$13. Shirts are expected to be received from our supplier by the end of the year.

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



December 7th – No Troop Meeting

December 14th – Class A – BUMC

- Admission: Sheep Shank
- Announcement: Giftwrapping at B&N
- First Aid by Rank

December 21st – Class B – BUMC

- Admission: Bring a gift for Gift Exchange (approx. \$5)
- Gift Exchange
- Party (Gobblestompers bring Utensils, Cups, and Napkins; Killa Rabbits bring Baked Goods; Border brings Drinks; Foxhound brings Chips/Salty foods)

December 28th – Class B – BUMC

- Movie Night

January 2nd – PLC Meeting – BUMC

Next Parents' Meeting

The next parents' meeting is **7:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 2nd at BUMC**. Please plan to attend and bring your calendar!

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.** The online course can be found at myscouting.org. When you have completed the course, 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

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@yahogroups.com.

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

Remember that any e-mail sent to paoli181@yahogroups.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

A.B. Maynard, Eric Hohenschuh – Co-Camping Committee Chairs

610-578-0493 (AB), 610-651-0252 (Eric)
Vince Piotti – Advancement Committee Chair
610-296-9058

_____ - Court of Honor Comm. Chair

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

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

Cindy Sharo/Kate VanMeter – Training Coordinator
610-293-9177/610-247-8889

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

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

2010-2011 Calendar of Key Events

January 7 – 9 – Winter camping - Glen Onoko/ Jim Thorpe, PA

February 5 – Klondike Derby

February 13 – Scout Sunday

February 25-27 – Ski weekend – Jack Frost/Big Boulder

March 12 – First Aid Meet

March 18 – 20 - Pocono Plateau camp – Cresco, PA

April 8 – 10 - Camping - Ockanickon Scout Reserve – Pipersville, PA

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