

Troop 181 Newsletter

www.paoli181.com



Ice Climbing at Ricketts Glen State Park

Thanks to **Mike Harris** for organizing this much anticipated camping trip in January. Conditions were just right for ice hiking. The scouts had a great time and earned bragging rights to camping in COLD weather!



Klondike Derby

The Koola Hula Derby was great fun! The activities for the boys focused on team building and using scout skills. Andrew and Deri led patrols well leaving little for the adult leaders to do. We had two Webelos and their parents join us. Here are some [pictures](#) from this event. Thanks to **Gene Christner** for coordinating this event.



Skiing at Elk Mountain

Our next camping/skiing trip is on the weekend of **February 20th – 22nd**. We'll be camping at **Camp Minsi** and skiing at Camelback. This popular trip is almost full; we have room for only two more. Let **Mike Dixon** know if you wish to sign up. For those who are going, please refer to the [fact sheet](#) for all the details.



First Aid Meet

The annual First Aid Meet hosted by Diamond Rock District will be held at the Phelps School in Malvern on the morning of **Saturday, March 14th**. Watch your e-mail for more details and sign up. **Gayle Robinson**, our intrepid First Aid trainer, is coordinating this event.



Troop Swim at Immaculata University

Our annual Troop Swim will be on **Saturday, March 28th** from **2-4 p.m.** at Alumnae Hall, Immaculata University. Please contact **Linda Bravacos** if you have any questions regarding event.

Spring 2009 Camping Trip

The Scouts voted to go to Washington, DC **March 20th - 22nd** as a camping trip which **Jack Warnock** is organizing. We will stay at the [National Park in Greenbelt, MD](#) and walk the historic President's Trail. This will be a no-cooking camp out with meals to be taken in DC. Stay tuned for details.

Webelos Woods

Webelos Woods has been canceled for this spring by Diamond Rock District. Webelos Woods may be scheduled for the fall. Information will be provided as it becomes available.



National Youth Leader Training Conference

[Register online now for National Youth Leadership Training \(NYLT\)](#)! The Conference this year is at Camp Ware on the weekends of **May 8th - 10th and May 15th - 17th**. The fee is \$200.00 per attendee with a \$25.00 discount for all registrations received by 3/31/09. **Troop 181 will pay half of the fee!**

Full attendance at both weekends is required for graduation. Since NYLT fills to capacity each year, scouts are encouraged to take advantage of the early bird discount and complete registration by **March 31st**. Remember to ask Mr. Wilson for permission to attend NYLT **before** registering.

NYLT is a two-weekend youth-led outdoor experience for youth leaders. The course focuses on growing leadership skills in new leaders to equip them to better lead their units. Training is conducted by the Council Leadership Training Committee using an outline developed and approved by the Boy Scouts of America.

Participants in the Course should be a Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, Assistant Patrol Leader, Troop Guide or a scout likely to assume one of these positions soon. The Course is designed for scouts who are now in 8th grade or older. Questions can be emailed to this year's Course Director, Jeff Kearney, at jeffrey.kearney@comcast.net



Science Camp



It is time to sign up for Chester County Council's Science Camp! Any scout can attend Science Camp to explore an area of interest, earn a merit badge or two and enjoy an extra week of scout activities and camping at Camp Ware.

The merit badges offered are: metalwork, photography, engineering, geology, environmental science (merit badge required), reptile and amphibian study, textile, radio and electronics. Scouts who take radio and electronics can sit for the Federal Technician Class Exam on Friday at Camp and, if they pass, receive their Ham Radio Operator's License. The 2009 registration information can be found [here](#). For more information, contact Chuck Coggins or Linda Bastian at cccsciencecamp@gmail.com.



Summer Camp

It's also time to sign up for a week of camping with Troop 181 at Camp Horseshoe. The Troop will be at Roberts Campground from **July 26th – August 2nd**. The cost of summer camp is \$305, if paid by May 5th, and \$340 if paid later. Summer camp is a great opportunity for our scouts to work on scout skills and advancement, earn merit badges and just have some fun while getting to know each other and the adult leaders better. Let **Jane Harris** know if you plan to attend summer camp.

Make a note as well that **medical forms have changed this year**. Council now requires a medical form signed by a doctor dated within a year of the date of camp; for us that means dated August, 2008 or later. Here's the [new form](#)

Scout Recruiting

With **Jack Warnock** taking the lead, Webelos recruiting is in full swing.

Several Webelos dens have asked to join us at regularly scheduled Troop meetings. So, don't be surprised if our ranks swell a little over the next few weeks as we are joined by Webelos considering joining Troop 181.

Scouts, earn the **BSA Recruiter Patch** by recruiting any of your friends and Webelos Scouts to **join the troop**. In fact, simply

pitching Boy Scouting to a friend is a requirement for First Class rank. **A very easy way to do this is to copy the tri-fold handout about the troop and give it to your friends.**

To find the tri-fold go to: [Troop 181 Brochure](#)

Parents can help too. **Please promote Troop 181 and recruit a new Boy Scout today.**



Congratulations and Welcome!

A very warm welcome to **Scott Wilson** in his new role as the **Scoutmaster of Troop 181!** Mr. Wilson was formally inducted during the Court of Honor on February 10th. We are grateful that he has stepped up to fill this role and we are confident that he will lead the scouts with great enthusiasm.

Scott takes over from **Dave Miller**. We thank Dave for his years of invaluable service and dedication to the boys of our troop! A fitting celebration to thank Mr. Miller for his service to the Troop is planned for the Summer Court of Honor at Camp Horseshoe on the evening of Saturday, August 1st.

Donna DiGiorgio has taken on the responsibility of Treasurer for the Troop. At the recent Winter Court of Honor we thanked our outgoing Treasurer, Ron Bellamy, for his many years of service to the Troop.

Congratulations to:

- **Dhananjay Bhaskar** who earned **Life Rank**

Congratulations to the following scouts who recently earned merit badges:

- **Henry Szupica** - Personal Management
- **Ian Wilson** - Citizenship in the World



2010 National Jamboree Application information

The centennial National Jamboree is scheduled to be held from **July 26th-August 4th 2010** at **Ft. A.P. Hill** in **Virginia**. The application for the 2010 National Scout Jamboree is now available at the [Chester County Council website](#). If you have already completed an application, don't forget to go back online to update it to include any new leadership positions.

[To see a promotional video and Jamboree map, visit the Jamboree Website](#)



Fundraising Committee News

Four fundraising events will be held over the course of the year, and Scouts are strongly encouraged to participate in as many as they can but at least one at a minimum. Of course, Scouts are welcome to participate in all four events. To make our Troop budget, each scout's annual contribution is **\$125**. These fundraising activities are designed to enable any Scout who wishes to do so to raise his entire contribution.

Attention: For those people from the troop who purchased popcorn, please note that Weaver Popcorn Company has issued a nationwide precautionary voluntary recall of 9.5 oz. Trail's End® Caramel Corn with Peanuts.

[\(click here for Press Release\)](#)

Scouting for Food

Thanks to all families who contributed cans of food this month to help restock the food pantry at Wayne United Methodist Church

On a related note, the parents agreed that we need to focus more attention on showing

compassion to others in our local community who are experiencing financial and personal difficulties. With that in mind, we are going to explore if groups of our Scouts could volunteer/serve in shelters and food kitchens in the area on an ongoing basis.

Class B Shirts

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

PLC News

February 3rd – Class B – BUMC

- Knot – Bow Line
- First Aid prep
- Art merit badge intro

February 10th – Class A – BUMC

- Tied shoes
- Cans of food for the WUMC pantry
- Court of Honor

February 17th – Class B – BUMC

- Sheet Bend
- Quartermaster Check
- Patrol Project
- Robot Presentation
- Art MB
- Menus and Ski Demo

February 22nd – PLC Meeting at Harris'

February 24th – No Meeting

Next Parents' Meeting

The next parents' meeting is at **7:30pm on Sunday, March 1st at BUMC.**



BSA's new rank requirements

Please refer to the following link for updates:
[2008 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

If you haven't already signed up for the **Yahoo Groups for Troop 181**, please do so by subscribing to the group. Send an e-mail to paoli181-subscribe@yahoogleroups.com. Having trouble with sign up? Contact KS Bhaskar for help: bhaskar@acm.org. Please note that any e-mail sent to paoli181@yahoogleroups.com will be forwarded to everyone who is a subscriber to the group. **IMPORTANT:** If you are **NOT**

signed up to receive Yahoo Groups mail, let Linda Bravacos know immediately so that you will continue to receive e-mail. All announcements, notices, etc. are now being sent only through Yahoo Groups.

Co-Scoutmaster Assignments

The following adult leaders have committed to be Co-Scoutmasters of the Month to support the troop:

February -- Mr. Bhaskar

March -- Mr. Weissman

Please call the Co-Scoutmaster if you have a "Mr. Wilson question" and he is not home. **Please remember to support our boys by attending the troop meetings to which you have been assigned (check your troop calendar for your commitment) so we always have at least "two-deep leadership" at each meeting.**



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

Vacant – Fund Raising Comm. Chair

610-964-8467

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

Jack Warnock– Recruiting Coordinator

610-722-2673

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.

2008-2009 Calendar of Key Events

February 20-22 – Camping – Skiing

March 14 – First Aid Meet

March 28 – Troop Swim

March 20-22 – Camping – DC/Greenbelt, MD

April 17-19 – Camping – Backpacking TBA

May 1-3 – Philmont Crew Training Weekend

May 15-17 – Camping – Bike trip

May 30 – Family Outing TBA

June 19-21 – Camping-- Fun in the Sun Cape Henlopen

June 27-July 11 – High Adventure Trek— Philmont

July 26-August 02 – Summer Camp – Court of Honor, family picnic at Camp Horseshoe

Aug. 16 – PLC Annual Planning Meeting for 2009-2010