

# Troop 181 Newsletter

www.paoli181.com



### Skiing at Elk Mountain

The February camping and skiing trip to Camp Minsi and Camelback ski resort respectively went off without a hitch! The weather was splendid. The scouts and adults had a great time and best of all, no one got injured! Thanks to **Mike Dixon** who organized the trip!



### 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 14<sup>th</sup>**. Please arrive at **BUMC** in **Class A** uniform (and sneakers), well in time for a **7:30 AM departure** to **Phelps School**. It is located at the intersection of Sugartown Road and Paoli Pike. Please refer to the e-mail for a list of supplies needed. Check out this [additional information](#) from the council as well as some [sample problems](#) from previous years. **Gale Robinson-Smith**, our intrepid First Aid trainer, is coordinating this event.



### Troop Swim at Immaculata University

Our annual Troop Swim will be on **Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>** from **2-4 p.m.** at Alumnae Hall, Immaculata University. Some scouts may want to use the opportunity for advancements. We

would highly appreciate if someone from the troop with a Red cross or YMCA lifeguard certification can step up to volunteer as a lifeguard for this event. Please let **Linda Bravacos** know.



### Spring 2009 Camping Trip

The Scouts are going to Washington, DC **March 20<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup>** as a camping trip which **Jack Warnock** is organizing. We will stay at the [National Park in Greenbelt, MD](#) metro into the city and walk the historic President's Trail. This will be a no-cooking camp out with dinner on Saturday night at Grand Slam at the Hyatt in downtown DC. See the [fact sheet](#) for details.

### April Camping/Backpacking Trip

Please mark your calendars for the April camping and backpacking trip. It is scheduled for the weekend of **April 17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>**. Stay tuned for details. **A.B. Maynard** is coordinating this trip.

### May Family Outing

This event scheduled for **May 30<sup>th</sup>**, was discussed at the Parent Committee meeting. It has always been difficult to pull off something for this time of the year with competition from sports activities on weekends among other things. There was a suggestion that organizing a day trip to Valley Forge with a picnic and hiking planned might be a better

option. Any volunteers to coordinate this event? Please let us know.



### **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 8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> and May 15<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup>**. 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 8<sup>th</sup> grade or older. Questions can be emailed to this year's Course Director, Jeff Kearney, at [jeffrey.kearney@comcast.net](mailto: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](mailto: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 26<sup>th</sup> - August 2<sup>nd</sup>**. The cost of summer camp is \$305, if paid by May 5<sup>th</sup>, 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**

We are happy to report that two new scouts, **Stephen Toner** and **Connor Jamison** from Pack 98 have recently joined us. Webelos continue to visit with us during regularly scheduled troop meetings to learn more about our Troop. Recently Webelos and parents from Pack 111 visited. While the parents heard from our **recruiting coordinator, Jack**

**Warnock** about the Troop, their sons enjoyed activities with our Scouts.

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 **Stephen Toner** and **Connor Jamison** who joined our troop from Pack 98.

Congratulations to:

- **Vincent Smith** who earned **Life Rank**



### **2010 National Jamboree Application information**

The centennial National Jamboree is scheduled to be held from **July 26<sup>th</sup>-August 4<sup>th</sup> 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**

#### **March 3<sup>rd</sup> – Class A – BUMC**

- Knot – Sheep Shank

- First Aid prep
- Art -- *bring books*
- Advancement
- Big Game

### **March 10<sup>th</sup> – Class B – BUMC**

- Knot – Fisherman's knot
- First Aid
- Lashing Olympics
- Quartermaster Check

### **March 17<sup>th</sup> – Class B – BUMC**

- Knot – Granny Knot
- Camp Prep
- Patrol Project
- Art – *Bring Blank T-Shirt*

### **March 24<sup>th</sup> – No Meeting**

### **March 29<sup>th</sup> – PLC Meeting at Harris'**

### **March 31<sup>st</sup> – Class B – BUMC**

- Knot – Figure 8 Knot
- Andrew Sharo's Eagle Project

### **Next Parents' Meeting**

The next parents' meeting is at **7:00 pm on Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at BUMC**. *Please note the new time.*

### **Troop Website**

Need information about the Troop between parents' meetings and Newsletters? Check the Troop website: [paoli181.com](http://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](#)

### **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](mailto: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@yahoogroups.com](mailto:paoli181-subscribe@yahoogroups.com). Having trouble with sign up? Contact KS Bhaskar for help: [bhaskar@acm.org](mailto:bhaskar@acm.org). Please note 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:** 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**

We are disbanding these assignments henceforth.

**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**

**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*