

Troop 181 Newsletter

www.paoli181.com



February Ski Trip

With the spring weather we are now enjoying, it's hard to remember that the Troop's annual ski trip was only a month ago, on Sunday, February 21st. Twenty-five Scouts and adults skied and snow-boarded at Jack Frost. The weather turned out to be perfect and the boys had a great time skiing and snowboarding! Thanks to **Mr. DiGiorgio** and **Mr. Nadel** who planned this day trip and insured its success!



Klondike Derby

Klondike Derby, twice scheduled in February, was finally canceled due to inclement weather. It is rather ironic that an Alaskan themed event was canceled due to snow! But then, this year's weather was out of the ordinary. Let's hope for better weather next year. Thanks to **Mr. Christner** who kept us informed of all of the schedule changes!



March Camping Trip to Washington D.C.

A record number of Scouts, including some of our newest members and their parents, went on our spring camping trip to Washington, D.C. Everyone on this trip earned bragging rights having slept in and marched through high winds and heavy rain. Despite the weather, the boys had fun and saw a lot of historic sites in D.C. on foot and enjoyed a meal at Grand Slam Sports Bar before heading back to the campsite on Saturday night. Thanks to **Mr. DiGiorgio** and **Mr. Christner** who coordinated this trip and to all of the parents who braved the inclement

weather to allow our Scouts to have this experience!



April Camp at Pocono Plateau

Please mark your calendar for the April camp out during the weekend of April 30th – May 2nd at [Pocono Plateau](#) in Cresco, PA. Pocono Plateau is a campsite owned by the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church near Mountainhome in the Poconos. This weekend is a mix of service and fun. Scouts will put in four hours of service as directed by the camp staff, such trail marking, brush clearing, etc. In return, we will have use of a [climbing tower](#) as well as other facilities. We will be tent camping and cabins are available if the weather turns bad.



Beach Jam

In May our camping trip will be to [Beach Jam](#), a scouting event held in Wildwood, NJ at Morey's Pier over the weekend of May 21 – 23. Scouts will camp on the beach and have the opportunity to work on two merit badges, Oceanography and Aviation. An optional dolphin watching trip is available, for an extra fee. In addition, Scouts will have access to the amusements on Morey's Pier. This should be a fun-filled weekend.

The Troop is paying a portion of the registration for this trip. The cost to each participant is \$34. Dolphin watching is \$17 additional. Beach Jam is held rain or shine and there are no refunds. If you commit to go, you commit to pay.

Russ Levin is coordinating this trip for the Troop. If you are planning to go and have not

yet registered for merit badges or the dolphin watching trip, contact Dr. Levin to see what is still available.

June Family Outing

This event is tentatively scheduled for **Saturday, June 12th**. Last year's family picnic at Valley Forge Park was a success and we are looking to plan a similar event that will bring the Troop together to socialize. We are looking for volunteers to plan and coordinate the event. If you can take on this short-term project, please contact Linda Bravacos.

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.

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. **Colin Weissman** will be part of the training staff for this year's NYLT.

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 7 - 9 and May 14 - 15**. Scouts **must** commit to both weekends, from 5:30 pm on Friday until 3:00 pm on Sunday, to participate. The cost is \$185 before March 31st and \$210 thereafter. The Troop will reimburse \$93 to the family of any participating Scout. [Register](#) online now as registration will close when the Conference is full.

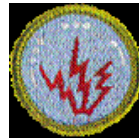
Scouts must ask ask Mr. Wilson for permission to attend NYLT before registering. This is a program requirement.



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. Look for announcements asking for firm commitments from the scouts who intend to go.

Science Camp



Registration is open for Chester County Council's Science Camp to be held from **June 27th to July 3rd** at Camp Ware. 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. This year, **Mr. Bhaskar** will be teaching the Computer merit badge.

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 Merit Badge Camp and Radio Camp for Boy Scouts](#).



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 4th - 11th**. The cost of summer camp is \$315, if paid by May

4th, and \$350 if paid later. 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 **Jane Harris** know if you plan to attend summer camp. A non-refundable deposit of \$35 is due to Mrs. Harris by **March 23rd**.

Medical forms are due to Mrs. Harris by June 15th. Every scout must have a [medical form](#) signed by a doctor 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. We must have 2-deep leadership at all times and this means having 3 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 let Mrs. Harris 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, Linda Bravacos or Joe DiGiorgio.

Friends of Scouting

Please be generous in supporting Chester County Council; Council supports all of our Scouts directly and indirectly through program and training. Return your FOS Pledge Cards with your donation or pledge as soon as possible to **John Bravacos**, our FOS chair.

Scout Recruiting

We are very happy to announce that **Mike Ryczyn** had a successful year as the Recruiting Coordinator! In all, there are eleven scouts who are committed to joining our troop. A huge thanks to Mike for all his efforts!



Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following Scouts who have advanced in rank between February 6 and March 21, 2010:

Doug Hohenschuh, AJ Nadel, Ryan Nadel, Matt Paolizzi - Scout

Congratulations to the following Scouts who have earned merit badges between February 6 and March 21, 2010:

Scott Dixon – Communications

Clark Hillenbrand – Personal Management



Fundraising Committee News

The Fundraising Committee, co-chaired by **Sue Morris** and **Cassie Jamison**, has outlined a program for 2010. Scouts will have an opportunity to earn money to put toward Scout related expenses this year by participating in a car wash, the Paoli Hospital evacuation exercise, and the Barnes & Noble gift wrapping. All of these have been successful fundraisers in the past. Scouts can choose to participate in as many fund raisers as they wish.

In addition, the Troop will sponsor one sales type fund raising activity. The Troop will choose one from the following – a popcorn weekend sale blitz, a Joe Corbi pizza sale, a battery sale, or a seed packet sale. A poll of the Troop will be posted soon – watch your e-mail for more information.

The Fundraising Committee has also 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 either fundraising co-chair.

Scout Sunday

The annual Scout Sunday service was celebrated on Sunday, February 14th at BUMC. Seven scouts attended and helped out in this

service, an activity which is an important bridge between our Troop and our sponsoring church.

Junior Leadership Training Refresher

The Troop Junior Leader Training was held on Saturday, March 6th at BUMC. It was an abbreviated refresher course of the training course the scouts, first class and above attended in the fall of 2009.

In addition to the standard JLT topics, we discussed strategies for managing the new scouts who have joined the troop during February and March and each PL has developed a set of goals for each Patrol and for the Troop.

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



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 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

March 9th – Class A – BUMC

- Planning for the DC trip
- Quartermaster checks

March 16th – No Meeting

March 23rd – Class B – Cabin

- Name the 3 types of lashings and describe their use for admission
- Lashing activity
- Bench game

March 30th – Class B – BUMC

- Name two ways to secure the end of a rope for admission
- Whipping and fusing ropes
- Flag activity

Next Parents' Meeting

The next parents' meeting is at **7:00 pm on Sunday, March 28th at BUMC**. Parents of families new to the Troop will meet with the Scoutmaster and Committee Chair the same evening starting at **6:25 pm**.

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

A new Scout handbook has been issued for 2010. All Scouts with earlier handbooks have been given an envelope containing a handout of the new rank requirements, plus two stickers to attach to their handbooks. The envelope should be kept by the Scout with his handbook.

When a boy becomes an Eagle, he will be required to have fulfilled the new rank requirements for each rank he achieved in 2010 and going forward. Any boy who already held Life before 2010 does not need to worry about the new rank requirements for himself but he does have to be aware of the new requirements so that he can help younger scouts advance. The new rank requirements can be found in a Word document posted at the YahooGroups website, [click here](#).

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 Rycyzyn– 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

April 16-18 – Webelos Woods – Paoli
Battlefield in Malvern

April 23-25 – OA Ordeal Weekend - Horseshoe

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

May 7-9 – NYLT Weekend #1 - Ware

May 14-16 – NYLT Weekend #2 - Ware

May 21-23 – Beach Jam – Wildwood

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 – High Adventure – C&O Canal

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