

Troop 181 Newsletter

www.paoli181.com

April Camping/Backpacking Trip



The April camping and backpacking trip took place on the weekend of **April 18th – 19th**. We hiked the Appalachian Trail starting at Hawk's Mountain and ending near Allentown. The trail was rocky and harder going than anticipated but the Scouts and Leaders persisted and had a fun and growing weekend. On the upside, the weather cooperated and everyone was able to enjoy the first true weekend of the spring. Thanks to **A.B. Maynard** for organizing the trip and to **Joe DiGiorgio** and **Mike Harris** for providing three-deep leadership along the trail!



Cabin Cleanup

The Cabin Committee held the annual clean-up on **May 9th**. A crew of parents and Scouts helped to get the inside and outside of the cabin in shape. You will notice new lighting and a re-organized the Eagle board to honor all of Troop 181's Eagle Scouts when you visit the cabin next. **Mike Dixon** chairs the Cabin Committee and coordinated this event. A big THANK YOU to everyone who contributed some Saturday morning hours to help out!



May Bike Trip

The May camping/bike trip is set for **May 16th – 17th**. This is an opportunity to ride your trail bike along the trails outside of Jim Thorpe, PA

starting with the Switchback trail. Camp will be set up at Mauch Chunk Lake Park on Saturday night. Trip details have been sent by e-mail. **Gene Christner** is coordinating this event. Please let Mr. Christner know by e-mail if you are planning to go on this trip.



May Family Day

This event scheduled is scheduled for **May 23rd** (yes, this is a change to the calendar!) at **Valley Forge Park at 1 PM**. We will picnic at the [Betzwood Trailhead](#) on the north side of the Park. All Scout families are invited. The Troop will supply a grill, burgers and hotdogs. Families with last names ending A-H bring a beverage to share, I-R bring chips to share and S-Z bring a dessert to share. There is something for everyone to do here – bring your bike to ride the trail, frisbees, whiffle bats and balls, jump ropes, a deck of cards, a board game, etc. Plan to skip stones across the Schuylkill or stick your toes in the water. **Scott and Barbara Wilson** are organizing this event.



Sun and Surf Camping at Cape Henlopen

Please mark your calendars for our June camping trip to Cape Henlopen from **June 19th- June 21st**. This is always a favorite trip with the Scouts. There will be fishing, crabbing, time on the beach, swimming, games and some good old fashioned advancement. Questions? Please ask **Mike Ryczyn, A.B. Maynard** or **Chris Szupica**.

A few reminders!

Younger scouts—please practice your swimming to pass the red-white-blue swimming ability test for Camp Horseshoe.

Younger scouts again-check requirement 10a for Tenderfoot. You can advance rank to Tenderfoot at summer camp if you have completed the physical fitness requirements at 10a. You will need 30 days to complete 10a.



Friends of Scouting Update

Giving this year for the Troop is \$1,839. Compared to 2008 (\$3,300) and 2007 (\$3,235), we have a ways to go. Your donation to Friends of Scouting supports the high-quality program that all Scouts in Chester County receive. If you have not made a donation yet, you can still do so by [clicking here](#). Thank you for your support!

A New Cabin for Troop 181???

At the May parents' committee meeting there was further discussion of the possibility of building a new Troop cabin on the grounds of BUMC, near the location of the Scout Shed. The concept was also presented to the Scouts at the May 5th meeting. Overall, a favorable reaction has been received. Since a project of this magnitude will take a great deal of time and effort, some preliminary steps are now planned to further consider its feasibility. An e-mail will be sent shortly with more information about how this project will be moving forward through these preliminary steps and asking for volunteers to help out.



Summer Camp

Jane Harris is looking for **adult volunteers** who can spend a few days and nights at the camp with our scouts. The Troop will be at Roberts Campground from **July 26th – August 2nd**. Please take a look at your calendars and let

Mrs. Harris know if you can help.

If you haven't signed up for summer camp, you still can. The cost is now \$340 since the discount period has closed. 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.

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. Turn your completed medical form in to Mrs. Harris – remember, she needs them before the start of camp! Here's the [new form](#)

Scout Recruiting

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!

Congratulations to:

- **Jack Franz** who earned **Second Class** rank
- **James Yan** who earned **Tenderfoot** rank
- **Jason Linderman** who earned **Scout** rank
- **Colin Weissman** who earned the **canoeing** merit badge.

Congratulations to the following Scouts who earned the Presidents' Historical Trail Medal:

Deri Harris, Ian Wilson, Jack Franz, Connor Jamison, Stephen Toner, Mike Warnock,

Michael Ryczyn, John Bravacos and Joe DiGiorgio.



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** at a cost of \$1,300. Chester County Council is organizing crews for this trip and coordinating all details. The application for the 2010 National Scout Jamboree is 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

We are happy to report that **Susan Morris** and **Cassie Jamison** have volunteered to co-chair the Fundraising Committee.

Along with their committee, Susan and Cassie will plan the fundraising events to be held this year. **Committee volunteers are needed!** Please see Susan or Cassie for more information; their phone numbers are at the end of this newsletter. The first committee meeting will be held on **Tuesday, May 12** during the Scout Meeting at **BUMC** – drop in to help out! Our Scouts are strongly encouraged to participate in as many fundraising activities as they can, but at least a minimum of one. To make our Troop budget, each Scout's annual contribution is **\$125**. Fundraising activities are designed to enable any Scout who wishes to do so to raise his entire contribution.

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

May 5th – Class A – BUMC

- Knot – Sheet Bend
- Marching
- Mr. Wilson's presentation

May 12th – Class B – BUMC

- Five sign of heart attack (instead of knot)
- Bike Demonstration
- Camping prep
- Quartermaster Meeting: ALL QMs NEEDED (if you can't go, contact Andrew Sharo)
- Vince's Patrol Activity

May 19th – No Troop Meeting

May 26th – Class C – BUMC

- Mulching. Please come dressed to handle the mulch.

May 31st – PLC Meeting at Harris'

Next Parents' Meeting

The next parents' meeting is at **7:00 pm on Sunday, June 7th 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 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 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. Having trouble with sign up? Contact KS Bhaskar for help: bhaskar@acm.org. Please note that any e-mail sent to 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.



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

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

May 16-17 – Camping – Bike trip

May 23 – Family Picnic at Valley Forge Park

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*