



Newsletter



This Month's Meetings

Nov 22nd – Class B – BUMC
Admission: When was the first Thanksgiving?
Bring Scouting for Food donations

Nov 29th – Class B – BUMC
Admission: Trip permission form

Dec 6th – Class A – BUMC
Admission: Name a local plant/animal

Scouting for Food

This year's Scouting for Food Drive is underway. Your scout should have received Bags and information sheets to distribute to neighbors and friends. If not, please contact Sarah Reindel, our coordinator. The food should be collected on November 19th, and brought to the regular Tuesday night Meeting on November 22nd.

The scouts will sort and count the donations that evening. The items will be distributed to two local food pantries, one at Trinity Presbyterian church, Berwyn and the other at Wayne United Methodist Church.

Contact Mrs. Reindel (610) 687-2705 with any questions, or if you are able to help deliver the items to the party on evening of the 22nd.

Leftover Popcorn

Kate VanMeter has some popcorn in stock that is available for the scouts to sell. Please contact Kate directly to find out what items she still has.

Eagle Court of Honor



Date: Saturday, November 26th, 2011

Time: 2:00 PM

Place: Berwyn United Methodist Church Sanctuary

This fall the troop is honoring six scouts (Colin Weissman, Scott Dixon, Joseph Digiorgio, Kevin Haddad, Deri Harris and Ben Levin) who have completed their requirements for Eagle Scout rank. To have such a large group receiving this honor together is a very unusual event, especially in a troop of our size. **PLEASE plan to attend this exciting and inspiring event with your scout!**

Current scouts participate in the ceremony, and everyone is invited to attend a reception afterward in celebration of this impressive achievement. The event will be Class A for all scouts attending.

The Troop believes that no scout should be excluded from activities because of financial considerations. We have a fund that can help with this issue. If you require further details, please contact Scott Wilson, Sherri Gartner or Joe DiGiorgio.

Camping Weekends & Scouting Parents

I'm writing this segment in an attempt to help all parents understand the need for additional parental oversight on our camping weekends. The overriding commandment for the adults attending any scout event is "Two Deep Leadership" **AT ALL TIMES**. In a nutshell, Two Deep Leadership (2DL) is the foundation of our Youth Protection policy. It is designed to protect both you and our scouts. In light of the events going on at Penn State this week, the circumstances would have been very different if **The Second Mile** was required to implement 2DL.

When scheduling our camping weekends, we have struggled to get commitments from parents. The scouting program isn't just about your scout. The scouting program is designed to bring families together, develop new friendships, mentor leadership to the older scouts, to be the example for our scouts to follow, and many more reasons. I've uploaded to the Troop website a very interesting booklet called Growing Up Right, Growing up Strong regarding the scouting program and the need for adult involvement. Please take the time to download and read it here: (<http://www.paoli181.com/forms.aspx>)

All that being said, to maintain 2DL, every camping outing has a minimum number of adults required. The typical minimum is four adults. This allows the adult leadership to maintain 2DL even in the event of a scout injury, equipment failure (car, hiking, biking, etc.) or adult injury. We typically have 20-30 scouts attending any camping weekend and with this many scouts to move plus their camping equipment, transportation can become a challenge in addition to other logistical needs.

Lastly, please note that I've used the term "adult". In BSA, an adult is anyone over the age of 18 that has completed Youth Protection training. This would include older scouts (over the age of 18), Dads, Moms, Grandpas, Grandmas, Uncles, Aunts, Cousins, etc. You get the idea. Please help make the planning of our monthly camping trips easier and step up to commit to one or two weekends a year. Who knows, you might just have some fun ☺

Scott Wilson
Scoutmaster



THANKS and Congratulations!

Special acknowledgement to Jordan Nadel who completed his Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Training last weekend in Avondale. Jordan was the winner of the dessert contest with his "Chocolate Goopy Surprise Dutch Oven Cake."

This is a required course for all registered Leaders with the troop.

October Camping Trip

The October trip to hike a portion of the Horseshoe Trail (about 15 miles) was an ambitious undertaking for a group of young scouts. They did have a good time, but many scouts did not complete the hike, and had to be picked up part way through.

The biggest problem with this trip was getting parents to participate. Leadership was not maintained according to the BSA's "two-deep" requirement, which states that at no time should one adult be by themselves with a scout or scouts.

Upcoming Parents Meeting

The next parents' meeting is 7:00 p.m. on **Sunday, December 4th** at BUMC.

We encourage at least one parent from each family to attend the meeting and be part of the planning process to put together the best possible program for our scouts.

Message from the Troop Quartermaster

Younger scouts have not been taught how to take care of troop gear. We are starting a system of monthly equipment demos to show scouts how to use each piece of gear in the shed. Last month I did a demonstration on proper use and care of the dutch ovens. This month the topic will be setting up all types of cookstoves.

October's camping trip equipment return went fairly well. Only one tent was not returned on time, and all the scouts who did return equipment had properly dried and cleaned it. I hope this continues to be true through the rest of the scouting year.

Ryan Nadel
Troop Quartermaster



Congratulations!

Jason Linderman, Michael VanMeter and Matt Paolizzi completed their Order of the Arrow Ordeal Weekend this fall. Order of the Arrow is Scouting's National Honor Society. Octoraro Lodge 22, Chester County's chapter, is comprised of over 850 active arrowmen that donate thousands of service hours each year to help maintain the Horseshoe Scout Reservation and encourage camping in Chester County Council. All three boys did a great job and now represent Troop 181 in Octoraro Lodge 22.

December Trip

December's trip will be a day trip to French Creek State Park on Saturday, December 3rd. The scouts will be taking a hike, followed by an afternoon game of "Hounds and Hares" which includes clues, pursuit and prizes. Each scout should bring a bag lunch and snacks, and be dressed properly for the weather.

Thank you to Joe Digiorgio for planning this trip. Look for more details coming soon via YahooGroups.

January Camping Trip

The January trip is scheduled for the weekend of January 27th. The trip will be an ice hike at Rickett's Glen and cabin camping in the Poconos. Rickett's Glen is a park that contains lots of waterfalls, which are frozen up in January. Crampons are required for safety. Due to equipment supply, this hike will be limited to a total of 19 adults and boys. Thanks to Mike Harris, who has planned and run this trip for many years.

This hike is a favorite among the boys! This trip will be first come, first serve. Watch yahogroups for more information.

Attention Life Scouts! If you are looking for ideas for your Eagle project, please contact Mr. Piotti. As always, Mr. Piotti will be able to answer any question regarding the process of progressing from Life to Eagle ranks.

Also, if you know of a project that may interest one of our Life scouts, please let Vince Piotti know about it!



Barnes & Noble Fundraiser



Once again, we will be participating in Barnes & Noble's Holiday Gift wrapping. We are scheduled to staff the gift wrapping table on Sunday, December 18th during their regular store hours (10:00 am to 9:00 pm). During the day, the scouts will wrap gifts for donations. The funds raised will be divided between the scouts who worked and deposited directly into their scout accounts.

An online sign up will be made available closer to the event. Watch YagooGroups for more information. We will need to fill the day with at least 3 scouts and 2 adults per 2 hour time slot.

Special thanks to Lauren Feldman, Cathy Dernoga and Jayashree Bhaskar for organizing this opportunity.

Do you have these items?

The troop is always interested in any used cooking utensils, large pots or pans that you may be ready to get rid of. Also, game items such as frisbees or footballs will be happily accepted for the "Troop Game Box." Bring items to any meeting!



Insurance and Driving Our Scouts

Please remember to be safe and obey speed limits when driving with our scouts in your car. You are carrying the most precious cargo!

In order to simplify the tour permit application process for troop trips, please provide your Car insurance information to our Camping Coordinator, Ed Maier.

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.

Class B Shirts

Our moisture wicking Class B shirts are available for purchase. The price varies according to the type and size. Please contact Sharmon Prialux (610-647-3620 or sharmonp@comcast.net) if you want to place an order.



High Adventure 2012

Plans are underway for High Adventure 2012 to **Florida Sea Base!** Joe DiGiorgio has reserved August 3-9 for the Coral Reef Sailing Adventure which is fully subscribed. Watch for e-mails from Joe DiGiorgio for further information.

Troop Equipment Policies

Troop Equipment policies were discussed at the October Parents Meeting. Equipment is the largest portion of the troop budget. Due to the increase in the size of the troop over the last two years, the troop has had to purchase more tents to be sure we can accommodate all of the scouts on a large trip. **Parents should use their own personal tent, or borrow one from another troop family for camping trips, rather than relying on the troop to supply one.** If you do not own your own tent, there are plenty of families in the troop who are willing to loan theirs out. Post a request on YahooGroups prior to a trip if you need to borrow one.

The troop gets requests from families, cub scout groups and others to loan out troop gear. It has been decided that the only time troop equipment will be loaned is for training of our own members or parents. For example, if you are going to a leadership training class and do not own the equipment you need, then you can make a request of the Adult Quartermaster to borrow it. Otherwise, the gear will only be used for Troop 181 events.

Troop Yahoo Groups Sign-Up

If you haven't already signed up for the YahooGroups for Troop 181, please do so. Send an e-mail to:

paoli181-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

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.

Current Eagle Projects

Currently, we have a few scouts who are working on their eagle projects. David Siah is doing his project at Wayne United Methodist Church, John Bravacos at Malvern Retreat House, Dhananjay Bhaskar at Home of the Sparrow and Andrew Weissman at Devon Elementary.

Please encourage your scout to sign up to help at these projects. Your scout can earn service hours toward their next rank advancement!

Look for more information via YahooGroups.

Especially on trips where long hikes are planned, it is a good idea to send your scout with some healthy trail-ready snacks in their daypack. Some ideas include GORP (good old raisins and peanuts), commercial trail mix, granola or power bars, beef jerky, dried fruit or peanut butter crackers. This will keep your scout energized throughout the hike!

TIP

Want to be a Registered Leader?

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**
- **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 (www.cccbsa.org).

Adult Leadership Positions

Fundraising Coordinator

We are still in need of a Fundraising Coordinator. This person will oversee the various events we have planned over the year. All of the individual events have chairs, so it is more of a managerial role. Please contact Sherri Gartner if you are interested.

The parents in our troop, by filling vital roles, keep our troop strong. Your help is always needed!

Recommended Adult Training

It is **MANDATORY** for any adult going on a trip to complete the Youth Protection Training through BSA. (www.myscouting.org) Please let Kate VanMeter know when you have completed the course.

Other training courses that the troop recommends are:

- Trek Safely
- Weather Hazards
- Safety Afloat
- Safe Swim Defense
- Climb-on safely

All of these courses can be completed in a short period of time online at myscouting.org

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 Wilson.

Friday Night Dinner Option

At the recent Troop Committee Meeting, the option of having scouts pack a bag dinner for some trips was explored. It was determined that it will be left up to the adult planning the trip to decide whether it would be best to have scouts pack a dinner on Friday night to save time and be able to get to the campsite in a more timely manner.



If you are scheduled to plan one of the upcoming trips, know that this option is open to you.

Upcoming Scouting University

Date: February 11, 2012

Registration opens: Soon

Scouting University is a day of learning and fun for both Boy and Girl Scouts from various regions to earn two merit badges in one day and to visit a college campus. Classes are held at Elizabethtown College. The badges are taught by students and faculty during morning and afternoon sessions. Scouting



University sessions cover a wide variety of badge topics, from first aid and self defense to computers, crafts, science, business, and ethics topics. It is an excellent chance for scouts to earn up to two badges in one day and meet fellow scouts from surrounding areas.

Spots typically fill quickly, so register early: www2.etown.edu/sife/scoutinguniversity.asp

Sign-up to receive up-to-date information about Scouting University 2012: ScoutingU@etown.edu

Troop Adult Leadership

Sherri Gartner – Troop Committee Chair

610- 408-9384

Scott Wilson - Scoutmaster

610-964-8467

Ed Maier– Camping Committee Chair

610-725-8095

Vince Piotti – Advancement Committee Chair

610-296-9058

Christine Linderman - Court of Honor Chair

610-722-9914

Joe Linderman – Cabin Committee Chair

610-722-9914

Kathy Nadel – Newsletter

610-578-0603

Joe DiGiorgio – Finance Committee Chair

610-688-1126

Jon VanMeter- Quartermaster

610-247-8889

Kate VanMeter – Training Coordinator

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

Evelyn Shreve - Summer Camp Coordinator

610-688-3005

Christine Linderman- Registrar

610-722-9914

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

Mark your Calendars!

Summer Camp 2012 dates:

**Sunday July 22 to
Sunday July 29**



Calendar of Key Events

November 11-13 - Lincoln Caverns
Camping Trip

November 22 – Meeting - BUMC - Class B
Scouting for Food

November 26 - Eagle Court of Honor -
BUMC - 2:00pm

November 29 – Meeting - BUMC - Class B

December 3 - Trip to French Creek
State Park

December 4 – PLC and Quartermasters
Meeting - 5:00pm

December 4 – Parent’s Meeting - BUMC -
7:00pm

December 6 – Meeting - Class A - BUMC

December 18 - Barnes & Noble
Giftwrapping Fundraiser

January 27-29 - Ice Hiking Trip to
Rickett’s Glen

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

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.