



Newsletter



Winter Court of Honor

The Winter Court of Honor for Troop 181 will be held on Tuesday, February 7. The families of all scouts are invited to attend. This is a time to recognize the work of the scouts that has taken place since summer camp at Horseshoe, such as merit badges and rank advancements.



Volunteers are needed to come at 6:30 to quickly help set up the room with tables for dinner. Please let me know if you can help.

We will be starting dinner at 7:00, so everybody is invited to arrive at 6:45. We expect to conclude by 9:00, and will then need volunteers to put the tables away and clean up.

For the potluck dinner, please bring an entree/dinner to share. We are not dividing into any type of category of food. That is what makes a potluck fun! Cake will be provided by the troop, as well as all paper products and water.

Don't forget to bring your Parent's Ribbon if your scout has received a rank advancement since summer camp! Special thanks to Christine Linderman for organizing this event!



POTLUCK DINNER

Photos needed ASAP

Scott Wilson will be doing a slideshow to be shown at the Court of Honor. If you have photos of events including or since Summer Camp, 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. THANKS!

This Month's Meetings

January 17th – Class B – BUMC
Admission: how to treat hypothermia

January 24th – Class B – BUMC
Admission: How to treat for dehydration

February 7th – Class A – BUMC
Winter Court of Honor/ Potluck Dinner
PLEASE ARRIVE AT 6:45

January Ice Hiking Trip

The January trip is scheduled for the weekend of **January 27th**. The trip will be an ice hike at Rickett's Glen State Park (<http://www.rickettsglen.info/>) and cabin camping in the Poconos. Rickett's Glen is a park that contains 22 waterfalls, which are frozen up in January. This hike has always been a favorite among the boys!

The hike is a minimum of 4-5 miles and covers an elevation change of 700-800 feet. Please take into consideration that a certain level of fitness is required for this trip. Adults and scouts should be prepared for a challenging day. Layered clothing will be critical for staying comfortable and safe.

Crampons (metal spikes that fit over your boots) are required for safety and there is a \$10 fee to use them. Due to the troop's 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. Please contact him directly with specific questions.

This trip will be first come, first serve. Please contact Mr. Harris to find out if any space remains.

Barnes & Noble Update

Special thanks to Lauren Feldman, Cathy Dernoga and Jayashree Bhaskar for organizing this opportunity. The troop took in \$277 in donations, which will be distributed among the scouts who participated. Thanks to all who helped out.

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.

February Ski Trip

A ski trip to Jack Frost Mountain in the Poconos is being planned for Sunday, **February 19 and Monday February 20**.

This is President's Day so schools are closed. We will be meeting early on Sunday to drive to Jack Frost (1 1/2 hours). There will be an opportunity for those scouts who would like to work on their Snowsports merit badge to do so. Both snowboarders and skiers can participate in this badge.



Details on the cost and options will be out soon via YahooGroups. We will be getting a group discount and group lessons are available. All scouts **MUST** wear a helmet (available as a rental to ski or snowboard. This is a BSA rule!

Layered clothing is a necessity. Waterproof gloves, snow pants and heavy socks are also essential. Boys may wish to bring a scarf, bandana or neck gaiter and a pair of sunglasses or ski goggles as well.

Following skiing on Sunday, the troop will be staying overnight at the Arrowhead Lake

Clubhouse, which is about 15 minutes from Jack

Frost. **Any Moms who would like to attend the trip will be staying at the**

Nadel's house in Arrowhead Lake. We will ski/board again on Monday, and leave from the mountain to arrive home around dinner time.

More details will be coming shortly via YahooGroups. Thanks to Jordan Nadel and Dirk Soutendijk for planning this trip.



From the Scoutmaster

With a number of new parents participating during our troop Board of Reviews, there have been questions about what should go on during the review. I am attaching a link from the Boy Scout Trail website where you will find a very helpful description of how a Board of Review process works:

<http://www.boyscouttrail.com/boardofreview.asp>

Here are some key points:

1. The Board of Review is a time for parents and scouts to get to know each other. BOR members should ask questions about the non-technical aspects of a scout's life. This might include areas such as favorite camping trips, hardest requirement for this rank advancement, suggestions on how to improve our scouting program, etc.
2. The Board of Review is **not a retesting of requirements** - the Scout has already been tested on the skills and activities required for the rank by his Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader, and Scoutmaster

or Assistant Scoutmaster.

3. The Board of Review is a time to determine the Scout's attitudes, accomplishments, and acceptance of Scouting Ideals.
4. **A Board of Review should take from 15 to 30 minutes**, with shorter time for lower ranks.
5. This website provide typical questions that might be asked for each rank.

Hopefully, this will help everyone and demystify the BOR process. Lastly, this is a great opportunity for parents to get to meet our scouts in the best of circumstances and for our scouts to get to know you. Please volunteer to help with Boards of Review.

As always, if you have any questions, please call me directly.

YIS,
Scott Wilson
Troop 181 Scoutmaster

March Camping Weekend

Shawn Rock is our Adult Coordinator for the March Camping Trip to Washington, D.C. Plans are in the works for camping at Greenbelt Park in Maryland the weekend of March 16th-18th. Saturday will be spent in D.C. The specifics of the itinerary are still being decided, but the hope is to do something a little different than past trips.

There will be a limit of 30 people for the campsite. If you think you and/or your scout will be going on this trip, please let Mr. Rock know so he can get an idea of numbers for his planning.

If you have any questions, please contact Shawn directly.



Upcoming Parents Meeting

The next parents' meeting is 7:00 p.m. on **Sunday, January 29th** 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.

Annual Dues

The annual dues invoices have been sent out. Please send your payments to Donna DiGiorgio ASAP. Please contact either Donna or Sherri Gartner if you have not received your invoice or if you have any questions. Thank for your prompt attention to this matter.

Get Trained!

One area where the troop was lacking for the 2011 Journey to Excellence was in Adult Training. We would like as many parents as possible to take the following courses online in addition to Youth Protection :

- **This is Souting**
- **Boy Scouts: Fast Start**

These two courses should only take you about an hour to complete on www.myscouting.org. Please use the Council's code #539 so that the verification appears in the Chester County Council's records. Also, as a back up, please print out the certificate and get a copy to Kate VanMeter or Sherri Gartner. While you are focused on getting trained, feel free to take any of the other courses available, such as:

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

If you have any questions, please contact Kate Van Meter.

Advancement Notes

New Eagle Scout paperwork will be instituted in 2012. Please see Mr. Piotti for details on what requirements are changing and how to comply.

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!



Car Insurance Information Needed ASAP

In order to simplify the tour permit application process for troop trips, please provide your car insurance information, car make and model, and number of seat belts to our Camping Coordinator, Ed Maier. We need a complete list of updated information to comply with Council's tour permit requirements, and to be properly covered by the BSA insurance.

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

If you have any questions, please contact Ed Maier directly.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.



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.



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!



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

Lauren Feldman - Fundraising Coordinator

610-251-2332

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

Calendar of Key Events

January 17 - Meeting - BUMC - Class B

January 24 - Meeting - BUMC - Class B

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

January 29 - PLC Meeting - 5:00pm

January 29 - Parent's Meeting - 7:00pm

February 7 - Winter Court of Honor
BUMC - 6:45pm

February 11 - Scouting University
Elizabethtown College

February 12 - Scout Sunday - BUMC -
10:00am

February 19 - 20 - Ski Trip to Jack Frost

March 16 -18 - Camping Trip to
Washington, DC

Mark your Calendars!

Summer Camp 2012 dates:

**Sunday July 22 to
Sunday July 29**

