



NITTANY VALLEY DISTRICT, JUNIATA VALLEY COUNCIL * CHARTERED BY ST. PAUL'S UMC

news & views

BSA Troop 31 State College, PA

Mar/Apr 2016

IN THIS ISSUE

Welcome New Scouts and Parents: New Scout/New Parent Campout, April 9-10

This is a weekend of information, learning and fun for Scouts and parents to learn more about Troop 31 and camping. Please visit the [signup form](#) now.

Meeting and Departure: 9:00 AM, Saturday, April 9th from WOLF FURNITURE's parking lot. Departure will be at 9:15 AM. Directions to the site are included as separate attachment for those who wish to arrive at separate times on Saturday or Sunday.

Return: Scouts will return home on Sunday, April 10th about 11:30 AM. We will need enough parents to be available to stay the evening and get the scouts back home. We will follow-up at the meeting site to confirm coverage.

Questions? Contact Kevin LeVan or Ed Brezovec.

New Scout Training

1. Campout gear inspection
2. Tent Setup
3. Campfire Safety/Starting a Campfire/Fireman Chit
4. Patrol Kitchen & Stove Setup/Cooking
5. Ax Yard Setup/Toten Chip/Pocket Knife use
6. Rope Uses/Knot Tying
7. How to conduct a Flag Ceremony
8. Basic First Aid Training
9. Outdoor Code/Safe Hiking - Buddy System

New Scout Parents' Orientation

Each year we provide a Troop 31 Orientation for the new scout parents. This is an all-day/overnight event hosted by the Troop Committee. Parents may sleep indoors or pitch a tent while the Scouts utilize new skills to camp outside. All your meals are provided free, however donations are always welcome.

(Cover photo this issue from Mystery Trip – submitted by Kurt Baker)



Event recaps and community service>

Troop 31 Scouts have been doing great things in the community. Check it out >



Around the corner: Spring Camporee Apr 29-May 1

We need everybody's help to make this camporee "Keystone to Liberty" a big success. See [page 3](#)>

Congratulations Jacob Witt: Eagle Scout #179

Jacob joined Troop 31 in March of 2010. He worked on his advancement at an impressive rate, by attaining his Life badge by October, 2012. On his trail to Eagle, Jacob has earned a total of 36 merit badges, and participated in high adventure treks at the Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico, and the Northern Tier Canoe Base in Manitoba, Canada. Jacob has held Troop leadership positions as an Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Scribe, Patrol Leader, and Troop Guide.

For his Eagle Service Project, Jacob rebuilt the Swim Team Award Podiums for the State College Area YMCA. This useful project involved work from 17 different volunteers, and over 218 hours of community service.

Jacob is a junior at State College Area High School, and when he graduates next year, he is planning to attend college to study architecture.

Jacob and his family are planning his Eagle Court of Honor for Sunday, April 17th, where he will be recognized along with Jordan Hillsley.



Troop 31 5K Run/Walk

Help us raise money for the
Rhodes Pavilion!

Troop 31 5K
May 8, 2016
Tudek Park

- **Registration:** \$20 per person if registered by May 7th; \$25 per person on the day of the race.
- **T-Shirts** are guaranteed for the first 100 registrants by April 15.
- **Online Registration is available here:**
www.imathlete.com/events/Troop315KRunWalk.
- **Paper registration forms will be available at meetings**, posted on the website, and also available throughout St. Paul's and later in the month at Rapid Transit Sports. Forms can be mailed to the address on the form or hand-delivered to Hayden Davidson.
- **Spread the word!** Please forward this information to your friends and family! Looking forward to a successful event.
- **Questions? Contact Hayden Davidson.**



Calling all Troop 31 scouts, scouters, and adults:

Spring Camporee: Your help needed

April 29 – May 1, 2016 * PA Military Museum, Boalsburg PA

Please sign up now to assist in the following logistical and operations areas:

Friday 4/29

- Food prep and/or cooking for lunch, dinner and evening Cracker Barrel -- this is for adult staff, not Scouts; roughly 20 people
- Daytime site setup - erect EZ Up canopies, set up registration table, install signage, running errands, etc.
- Evening arrival help -- direct traffic to parking and campsites, handout information, answer questions

Saturday 4/30

- Food prep and/or cooking for breakfast, lunch, dinner and evening Cracker Barrel -- this is for adult staff, not Scouts; roughly 20 people
- Registration, parents information desk, communications, running errands, etc.

Sunday 5/1

- Food prep and/or cooking for breakfast -- this is for adult staff, not Scouts; roughly 20 people

We need Moms, Dads and siblings over age 16 to help. No Scouting experience or heavy lifting needed. Work two hours or two days -- it's up to you but PLEASE volunteer for at least one shift. The venue is in Boalsburg so it couldn't be much closer and you can come and go as you please.

Contact Craig Colwell at ccolwell17@gmail.com or via text / phone at 814-777-2999 for more details about available times and duties.

Event RECAP

Stromboli fundraiser

We raised more than \$1,300 this year with the Stromboli and bake sale fundraiser. All scouts who volunteered will receive a portion of the proceeds in their scout account! Thank you Eileen Lang for organizing!



Scouts bake Stromboli for the annual fundraiser.

Mystery Trip Recap

Where, under one roof, can you see vintage Harley-Davidsons, carousel horses, 10,000 license plates, a fire pole, a player guitar and a Victrola? Well, Bill's Bike Barn in Bloomsburg, of course. The Scouts explored the Barn during our annual Mystery Trip, this year organized by Ethan Locke. All sorts of obscure treasures were found.

From there it was on to lunch next to the swiftly flowing Susquehanna, before we headed to Incredible Popcorn where the nice proprietors set up a table for the Scouts to create their own popcorn mixture. From there, after a short jaunt on I-80, we pulled into Clyde Peeling's Reptileland where those who dared, petted snakes and alligators. The day was topped off by dinner and milkshakes (for some) at the Purple Cow in Lewisburg. Our state is full of things to do and see; the Troop took care of a couple more items on the list of cool things in Pennsylvania.

-from Kurt Baker

Please remember to send pictures from Troop events to deb_norloff@yahoo.com so we can include them in the newsletter!

March campout recap

Scouts and adults all enjoyed time away from the "real world" last weekend. The PLC planned and executed an exciting weekend of team building activities, interspersed with plenty of time to relax, talk and get to know each other better.

A couple of people even managed to find time for a five mile hike to Penn's Lookout.

There was capture the flag, and ultimate Frisbee, among other things. Lots of good food as well. It's true the temperature did dip down to 22°F, but Troop 31 is a troop with lots of experience camping in cold weather. And by recent standards, this weather was almost balmy.

-from Jeannie Peters



Don't forget to wear your belt totem!

Troop 31 Scout presents gift to track and field teammates

We've all heard about good turns—but this one is really something special.

Life Scout Isaac Messner has been battling Hodgkin's lymphoma since 2014. On March 23, 2016, Isaac was recognized across State College and in the local media for an awesome act of kindness. Using his wish from the Make-a-Wish foundation, he presented new track uniforms to his high school teammates.

From the Centre Daily Times article:

"I never really wanted to anything for myself. I stay very active and very busy," Messner said.

He was adamant about using his wish to do something for others.

Make-A-Wish had recently adopted an "I Wish to Give" category for children looking to indulge in altruism. According to Lindsey Herzing, the organization's Punxsutawney regional manager, Messner was the first in her jurisdiction to make good on that offer.

"He's a senior. He's going to graduate and he's leaving the uniforms here for the school," Herzing said.

Read more here:

<http://www.centredaily.com/news/local/community/state-college/article67886742.html#storylink=cpy>

Great job Isaac!



On March 23, Isaac presented new track uniforms to his high school teammates. Photo credit: SCASD website

Order of the Arrow

By Troy Heatwole

It all started at Sabattis summer camp when I doing KP and we were finishing up and we were called over to a circle. We were greeted by a man dressed like a Native American and he was to tap us out to be in the OA.

He explained why he was here and started the ceremony. This was the first time I saw one up close so I was not sure what to think. He was walking around in circles and stopped at me. I had no idea what was going on so I didn't think much. Then he told me I was invited into the OA. I then joined him by putting my arm on his shoulder and walked with him to tap out the other candidates.

I was excited to do the Ordeal. A month later I took my ordeal and made my way into the OA. The next OA campout I went on was the Woodchuck weekend. It was kind of weird with no one in my troop being there with me, so I hung out with people from other troops. This got me to know them better and where they came from. It was cool to be with other people that I didn't know.

After a while I was telling my friends how great the OA was and they were excited to get in once the next election rolls



around. After the next election, a few of my friends got in, and some who were recently inactive became more interested. So once the next ordeal came a long I had friends in other troops, and in my own having fun at these events.

After all that, I became the troop OA Rep, so I could make the troop more active in the OA. I've been doing this for about 4 months and ran my first election.

The OA was a great experience for me and I want to help by growing its influence within the troop. I believe that this will help unify us with the OA and the council to better strengthen us as a whole.

Religious Emblems A Scout is Reverent: PRAY & Ad Altare Dei

Students in the God and Life program seek to understand their call to a life of discipleship. This class is intended for scouts who will be in 9th-12th grade in the fall.

The *God and Church* program will lead young people on a faith journey with three parts: meeting Jesus, worshiping God, and witnessing and ministering for Christ. This class is intended for scouts who will be in 6th-8th grade in the fall.

We are also looking for interested scouts who would like to work on their Ad Altare Dei religious emblem for the Catholic Christian faith.

Take the Survey:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1pTGYztNZeOC3MR8zkan8dUnj9VW8c99e0FEelcT8_o8/viewform?usp=send_form

Questions? Contact Deb Norloff

PRAY Awards

PROGRAMS OF RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES WITH YOUTH (P.R.A.Y.), 11123 S. TOWNE SQUARE, STE. 6, ST. LOUIS, MO 63123
PHONE 314-845-2318 OR 800-933-PRAY (7729) FAX 314-845-0038 E-MAIL PRAY@PRAYPUB.ORG WEB WWW.PRAYPUB.ORG

God and Me (Grades 1-3)
Children will become best friends with Jesus and tell their story of "God and Me" together. Children will make a game to each lesson and keep their games in a GAMEBOX (see below) for their family.

SECTION 1: God Created Me
SECTION 2: Jesus is God's Gift to Me
SECTION 3: I Can Talk with God
SECTION 4: Because God Cares for Me, I Can Care for Others

4. CHASE - In God's family we love the Master What Jesus Wants Us to Love. We Follow Him.
5. BAKE - Being in God's Family helps Us When Things Are Tough.
6. EAT, SHARE, ENJOY - In God's Family We Share as a Response to God's Love.

God and Church (Grades 4-8)
The God and Church program will be a journey to meet Jesus, worship God, and witness and minister for Christ. Participants will create a video or a photo album to share their faith journeys with others.

UNIT I - My Journey: Meeting Christ
• Meeting Jesus, the Person
• Meeting Jesus, the Son of God
• Meeting Jesus, the Head of the Church

UNIT II - My Journey: Worshiping God
• Learning How Christ Worshiped God
• Exploring How My Congregation Worships God
• Discerning How I Can Worship God

UNIT III - My Journey: Witnessing and Ministering for Christ
• Learning How Christ Witnessed and Ministered to Others
• Exploring How My Congregation Witnesses and Ministers to Others
• Discerning How I Can Witness and Minister to Others

God and Life (Grades 9-12)
The God and Life study is based on the life of the Apostle Paul as recorded in Acts 9:1-31.

SECTION 1: God calls all kinds of people.
SECTION 2: God doesn't expect us to do it on our own.
SECTION 3: Each of us must make a personal response to the call of God.
SECTION 4: God gives strength to face adversity.
SECTION 5: God can accomplish great things through those who are willing to do God's will.

Four Star Recognition
A special recognition is available for young people who complete all four levels of the P.R.A.Y. series. Start now; students cannot go backwords to earn younger awards!

Adult Mentor Program
The Adult Mentor program is an optional program for parents who have children enrolled in the P.R.A.Y. series. Parents will have a workbook to complete as they work side by side with their children.

Adult Recognitions
Adults who have served youth through their church and a national Scouting agency may be nominated to receive an Adult Recognition. Visit www.praypub.org to download nomination forms.

GAMEBOX
VIDEO
PIZZA

Calendar for April/May 2016

Fri-Sun, Apr 1-3		Survivor Campout	Tuesday, Apr 19	7pm	Meeting: Backpacking gear demo
Sat, Apr 2		New Scout 5 mile hike	Sat Apr 23		Watershed Clean up
Tuesday, Apr 5	6pm	Adult Leaders Meeting	Sat-Sun Apr 23-24		Sea Base Trainer/Backpacker lite
	7pm	PLC	Tuesday, Apr 26		Night hike/Campout prep
Fri-Sun, Apr 8-10		New Scout Campout	Fri-Sun Apr 29-May 1		Spring Camporee
			Tuesday May 3	6pm	Adult Leaders Meeting
Tuesday, Apr 12	7pm	Swim Tests		7pm	PLC
Sunday, Apr 17	1:30PM	Eagle CoH	Saturday, May 7		Sea Base Trainer (tentative)
			Sunday, May 8	2pm	Troop 5 K


Check www.troop31.us for more info and calendar updates!

(t) Fully trained for position (w) Wood Badge

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