



News & views

BSA Troop 31 State College, PA

Fall 2016

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

IN THIS ISSUE

Upcoming events:

Here's a glimpse of what's to come

Scouting for Food

Be there – Nov 5th & November 12th!
All hands on deck. Please come out to distribute door hangers for Scouting for Food on November 5th. Collection day will take place on Saturday, November 12th.

Meet at the Sutliff dealership to do our annual good turn! Stay tuned for details.

Webelos Woods

Troop 31 will be hosting a Webelos Woods campout Nov 18-20th. Please come out to meet area Webelos scouts and show them what Troop 31 is all about! More information will be shared soon.

Holiday Campout

The annual holiday campout is around the corner—December 2-4th! It will be held at the 7 Mountains Dining Hall. Watch your email inbox for an announcement with permission slip soon.

We plan to have the customary turkey dinner on Saturday evening along with our fun-filled gift exchange.

The Dining hall has 6 ovens and we will gladly accept donations of thawed or fully cooked birds. Please contact Anne Messner (messnerski@gmail.com) and let her know if you are willing to donate.

(Cover photo from September's Pirate Campout, from Hyeson Kim)



WE WANT YOU!

To turn in your membership form and dues!

Deadline is December 1, 2016 – or turn it in before the 11/29 troop meeting! This form is good for the 2017 membership year. See p 9 >



Summer Fun

Check out the photo round up inside.
See pages 5-6>

Congratulations New Eagle Scouts: Davis Kelleher and Erik Norloff

Davis Kelleher, Eagle Scout #183

Davis crossed over to Troop 31 from Pack 82 in March 2009. He moved steadily through rank advancement and became a Life Scout in March of 2014. Davis held a variety of Troop leadership positions that included Den Chief, Troop Guide, and most recently served as the Leave No Trace trainer. In addition to participating in numerous campouts, Davis was a crew leader for the 2014 Sabbatis High Adventure trip, and attended the 2013 National Jamboree at the Summit in West Virginia.

For his Eagle leadership project, Davis proposed and organized a program to gather donations of pet supplies and food for PAWS. This resulted in collecting over 1,300 pounds of food and supplies and nearly 90 volunteer hours.

Davis recently graduated from State College Area High School where he was part of the track team and several music groups. Davis would like to make his career and contributions in music composition.



Erik Norloff, Eagle Scout #184

Erik joined Troop 31 in March, 2013 having crossed over from Pack 67. In his time with our Troop he has been very involved in many activities including summer camps at Seven Mountains and Sabbatis. Erik was a member of the Sea Base Adventure crews this past summer and plans to attend Philmont Scout Ranch next summer. His Troop leadership roles include Historian, Scribe, Patrol Leader, Troop Guide, and Assistant Senior Patrol Leader.

For his Eagle Scout Project, Erik provided the leadership to design, construct, and install a kiosk with an information board and bench that is now in use at the Giving Garden facility next to Mt Nittany United Methodist Church. This beneficial project involved numerous adult and Scout volunteers that contributed over 223 hours of community service.

Erik is an honors student at State College Area High School where he is part of the XC team and concert band. He would like to pursue a career in medicine.



Aviation Day 2016

Scouts from in and around Juniata Valley Council attended Aviation Day at the University Park Airport in August.

Thanks to everyone who provided support to make this day happen!

Photo from Frank Savino



Summer backpacker lite

In early August, the Troop backpacked through the scenic Penn State Stone Valley forest and camped along the very low, yet picturesque, Shaver's Creek. This was the first backpacking trip for many Scouts and they had a great time while learning the methods of back country cooking, water purification, campsite layout and bear bag hanging.

After eating lunch on the deck at the Shaver's Creek Nature Center, several of us took in the raptor demonstration before we hit the trail on the way to the campsite. As there were several ways to get from our starting point to the campsite, there was an opportunity to practice land navigation skills. After a most successful trip, the Scouts agreed that they're now ready for a longer backpacking trip.

Photos from Kurt Baker



Summer Camp RECAP

Bashore

Back in June, our scouts arrived at Bashore Scout Reservation on Blue Mountain, in Northern Lebanon County, ready to accept the challenge that Bashore's program had to offer. Of the many accomplishments achieved by each scout, here are a few highlights:

- 34 Scouts Attended
- 120 Merit Badges earned, with 36 partials
- >40% of the Merit Badges attempted were Eagle Required
- 8 Rank Advancements (5 T-Foot, 2 2nd Class, 1 Star)
- 5 Mile-Swim swimmers (John Brownstead, Cale Brownstead, Matt Allgeier, Mr. Olehaf, Mrs. Brauser)
- Fastest mile swimmer in Camp! - Matt Brownstead
- Clean campsite award for the Troop (>95% on daily campsite inspections)
- Baden Powell Patrol award for ALL 4 Patrols!
- Troop Award of Excellence - one of only 3 Troops in camp to earn this, and the biggest of the Troops to do so!
- Zac Brezovec honored with the Campcrafter of the week award
- Jacob Stangel honored with C.O.P.E. Award
- Many scouts completed the Polar Bear Plunge patch, which means they were in the lake at 6:45AM for swimming at least 3 of the 5 days!

Overall, our scouts got to experience many things at camp, including boating and swimming in the Lake and Pool, climbing on the outdoor and indoor climbing walls, outpost, a night under the stars for astronomy merit badge, a camp-wide game with a rainy start that ended with the Scoutmaster Splash Competition, a 3D archery course, and almost 50 merit badge offerings.

-from Jon Pitt

Honor Scout

Finally, each year Troop 31 recognizes one scout who stepped up to provide leadership and scout spirit beyond their position. This year, the youth and adult leadership from summer camp have agreed that **Declan Flanagan** is Troop 31's Honor Scout from 2016 Bashore Summer Camp. Declan contributed without being asked to many points of the Baden Powell Patrol award for his patrol. Congrats Declan, and keep up the good work.

-from Jon Pitt

7 Mountains

Congrats to the six 7 Mountains Summer Camp attendees who earned 23 merit badges this week! What a truly fantastic experience by ALL scouts and leaders as the scouts also earned recognition as Honor Patrol and Honor Troop.

Other individual accomplishments included Luc Schrauf with the Indubitable Knot recognition for his active Scoutcraft program area participation and also recognized with the White Achin award as the T31 representative scout who best lived up to ideals of the Scout Oath and Law while at camp.

-from Ed Brezovec

SAVE THE DATE

Seven Mountains Scout Camp – Juniata Valley Council
July 23-29th, 2017

Photo Roundup



We sent 4 crews to the Florida Sea Base High Adventure. Check out some of the fun they had on their pre-trek activities and during their Out Island and Sailing Adventures.



More Photos!



Above: Scouts who attended 7 Mountains this summer.
Below: Scouts at Bashore



Above: The winners of the marshmallow launch at Pirate Campout in September.

Below: New Order of the Arrow members Joe Messner, Sam Krantweiss, Ben Krantweiss, Hayden Davidson, Sean Kelleher, and Mr Brownstead completed the Fall Ordeal on August 20, 2016.



Hornaday Award project

Thank you to all of those who came out and helped with Tom Branstetter's invasive species project this summer! We successfully removed the invasive teasel, mullein, and burdock plants from Clearwater Conservancy's pollinator field.

If you didn't have the chance to make it out to this project, stay tuned for future opportunities!



The Troop Committee Needs You!

Troop 31 is seeking assistance to fill the following adult leader positions. Below is an overview of the opportunities available. We can provide additional information and training to interested parents and friends.

Popcorn Sales coordinator- Seasonal (fall), mostly administrative. (Can be two co-chairs.)

Assist with popcorn sales this year and then chair or co-chair in 2017. Disseminate popcorn information to the Troop. Coordinate popcorn sales at sites. Collect and submit orders and payments. Organize distribution of popcorn products.

Webmaster Advisor: Year round, work primarily with Scout

The Webmaster Advisor provides guidance to the troop Webmaster regarding the development and maintenance of content on the Troop 31 website, along with other responsibilities. The primary tasks include: 1) meeting with the webmaster at the monthly PLC meeting to discuss website updates including the development of online polls for different activities; 2) developing ideas with the webmaster for future website plans and reviewing revisions prior to posting; 3) maintaining the Troop 31 General Distribution list; and 4) participating in troop committee meetings

Chaplain Advisor: Year round, work primarily with Scout

Job Description: The Chaplain Advisor works with the Scout Chaplain. This is a year round position that works primarily with the Scout to help them plan and coordinate events and services.

Responsibilities:

- Attend monthly PLC meeting to meet with Chaplain. (1st Tuesday of the month)
- Serve as advisor to Chaplain to assist them with planning upcoming events including Scout Sunday, which is the first Sunday in February
- We're also hoping the Scout Chaplain will help encourage organizing worship services during campouts and that will encourage other Scouts to sign up, plan, and lead the worship services during campouts to provide an additional opportunity for Scouts to complete the Communications merit badge requirement.

Merit Badge Counselors – Needed for many Eagle badges and electives. Inform scouts about subject matter. Ensure scouts fulfill requirements as listed in pamphlet/online. Fill out blue cards. This is a very flexible position that can be done when you have time and scouts are interested.

Questions? Please contact Troop 31 Volunteer Coordinator- Lisa Kerchinski esk10@psu.edu or Scoutmaster, Jon Pitt jonathanspitt@gmail.com or Committee Chair David Eng davideng321@gmail.com Thank you for your consideration.

Calendar for Nov/Dec 2016

Tuesday, Nov 1	6pm	Adult Leaders Meeting	Fri-Sun, Dec 2-4		Holiday Campout
Saturday, Nov 5	7pm	PLC	Tuesday, Dec 6	6:00pm	Adult Leaders Meeting
Sunday Nov 6	AM	Scouting for Food Bags	Tuesday, Dec 13	7:00pm	PLC
		Philmont Crew Selection		7pm	Troop Meeting
		OA Family Banquet			
Tuesday Nov 8	7pm	Meeting – NOVA award activities	Tuesday, Dec 20	7pm	Meeting
Saturday Nov 12	AM	Scouting for Food Pickup	Tuesday, Jan 3	6:00pm	Adult Leaders Meeting
Tuesday, Nov 15	7pm	Meeting – NOVA award activities	Tuesday, Jan 10	7:00pm	PLC
Fr-Sun Nov 18-20		Webelos Woods Campout	Sat-Mon, Jan 14-16	7:00pm	Troop Meeting
Tuesday, Nov 22	7pm	Night Hike			Big City Trip - Baltimore
Tuesday, Nov 29	7pm	TBD			

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

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


SCOUTMASTER

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Leadership Coordinator

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Community Service Coord.

Chris Solo christopherjsolo@gmail.com
Summer Camp Coordinator

ADVISORS

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Trading Post

(open)
Chaplain Advisor

Anne Messner messnerski@gmail.com
Scribe Advisor

 troop shed key

Troop 31—2017 Registration Form

(form and payment due 12/1/16)

I would like to register for 2017: Yes No Not at this time

Please register my son. I will pay in _____

Name:		<input type="checkbox"/> Scout
		<input type="checkbox"/> Leader
Address:		
Email:		
Dues: \$75 per Scout (new and re-registering) \$45 per scout if transferring from another troop \$45 Webelos crossover \$30 per Adult (new and re-registering)		
Payment: <input type="checkbox"/> Check no. _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Use Troop account		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes I hereby assign and grant to the local council and the Boy Scouts of America the right and permission to use and publish the photographs/film/videotapes/electronic representations and/or sound recordings made of me or my child at all Scouting activities, and I hereby release the Boy Scouts of America, the local council, the activity coordinators, and all employees, volunteers, related parties, or other organizations associated with the activity from any and all liability from such use and publication. I hereby authorize the reproduction, sale, copyright, exhibit, broadcast, electronic storage, and/or distribution of said photographs/film/videotapes/electronic representations and/or sound recordings without limitation at the discretion of the Boy Scouts of America, and I specifically waive any right to any compensation I may have for any of the foregoing.		
<input type="checkbox"/> No		
Driver Information		
Please complete if you are new to Troop 31 or if your information has changed since last year and you plan to drive Scouts to any event. This information is required to complete Tour plans, which are required for all off-site outings.		
Driver 1 Name	Driver 2 Name	
PA Driver's License #	PA Driver's License #	
Phone:	Phone:	
Email:	Email:	
Vehicle 1 Year, Make, Model	Vehicle 2 Year, Make, Model	
Owner	Owner	
How many seatbelts? _____.	How many seatbelts? _____.	
Will you ensure everyone wears a seatbelt? Yes/No	Will you ensure everyone wears a seatbelt? Yes/No	

Does your insurance meet or exceed:

\$50,000/person	\$100,000/accident	\$50,000/property
Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No