



news & views

BSA Troop 31 State College, PA

April 2023

NITTANY VALLEY DISTRICT, JUNIATA VALLEY COUNCIL * CHARTERED BY SC DOWNTOWN ROTARY CLUB

UPCOMING

Nittany Mountain District Recognition

At the Nittany Mountain District Recognition dinner on March 12, Mr. Brezovec received the Nittany District Award of Merit for his years of service for organizing Scouting for Food and all the other years of service to the Troops. Congratulations!

Senior Patrol Leader Elections

Congratulations to S. Walker and Z. Sullivan who were elected the Senior Patrol Leaders for Troop 31B and Troop 31G respectively. They will begin their terms June 1 and serve through December 1.

Welcome

We would like to welcome our two newest Scouts who crossed over from Pack 375 on March 26:

- A. Hill, Troop 31 B
- G. Humphrey, Troop 31 G



April 4

Adult Leaders Mtg, 6pm, St. Paul's
Egg Stuffing, 6pm, St. Paul's
PLC/Rank up, 7pm, St. Paul's

April 11

Hiking MB, 6pm, YMCA
Swim Test, 6:30pm, YMCA

April 12

Seabase Snorkel Trng, 6pm, St. Paul's
Committee Meeting, 7pm, St. Paul's

April 16

Seabase Snorkel Trng, 2pm, PSU Nat

April 18

Military Museum Tour, 7pm

April 21-23

Seabase Trainer, Bald Eagle State Park

April 22

Watershed Cleanup

April 25

Boal Mansion Tour, 7pm

April 28-30

Spring Camporee, Ag Progress

April 29-30

IOLS Training, Seven Mtns

Behavioral Expectations

Troop 31 has recently redrawn our Behavioral Expectations and sent the document out to all Scouts and Scouters via email.

To help all Troop members feel safe and have fun, all Scouts and adult leaders are expected to follow the Scout Oath and Law. The Behavioral Expectations reinforce that and for clarification, specifically cites behaviors that are responsible, irresponsible or nonnegotiable.

This document is to be signed by all Troop members to show that they (and Scout Parents) understand what is expected and the consequences for irresponsible or nonnegotiable behavior.

Please read, sign, and return the form to Mrs. Walker at your earliest convenience. Hard copies will be available at Troop meetings.



Scribe Corner

Thank you to Saint Paul's UMC for providing us with a meeting space for free and allowing us to store many things in the closets.

-by E. Repine, Troop 31B Scribe

Elks Hoop Shoot

March 4, 2023



*Mr. Thorndike, Mr. Hillsley, M. Peoples, C. Brumberg,
R. Thorndike, E. Repine, Mrs. Brumberg
-photo by Mrs. Peoples*

Points of the Scout Law

When we recite the Scout Oath, we say, "I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and **to obey the Scout Law...**" and we follow the Oath with the Scout Law, which tell us what traits exemplify a Scout. Let's look at three of them:

A Scout is Obedient

A Scout follows the rules of his/her family, school and troop. S/he obeys the laws of /her community and country. If s/he thinks these rules and laws are unfair, s/he tries to have them changed in an orderly manner rather than disobey them.

A Scout is Cheerful

A Scout looks for the bright side of things. S/he cheerfully does tasks that come his/her way. S/he tries to make others happy.

A Scout is Thrifty

A Scout works to pay his/her way and to help others. S/he saves for unforeseen needs. S/he protects and conserves natural resources. S/he carefully uses time and property.



This month's theme:
American History

Follow Troop 31 on Facebook at:
www.facebook.com/Troop31StateCollegePa

Visit www.troop31.us for more information.

Physical Fitness Merit Badge

Who is ready to start fitness activity this Spring? Every two weeks, Mr. Brezovec will meet at the SCAHS track to achieve the twelve-week fitness program. Future meeting dates are April 16th and April 30th and will continue from there to give the best opportunity to attend for the 12-week program (and/or four weeks for rank advancement opportunity).

This time is for anyone simply working on their rank advancements, starting the MB, finishing the MB or anywhere in between. Keeping fit is the ultimate goal in mind, in spirit and body! See you at the track!



- May 12-14 - Gettysburg Campout
- May 16 - Spring Court of Honor
- June 9-11 - ILST/Advancement Campout at Black Moshannon State Park
- August 11-13 - Biking the Great Allegheny Passage in Somerset County
- September 15-17 – Beach Campout at Cape Henlopen State Park, Delaware



Rock Climbing at Climb Nittany, 3/28/23, photo by Mr. Peters

Hiking Merit Badge

It's Eagle-required/optional. In other words, for Eagle rank, you need to pick one of Hiking, Cycling or Swimming Merit Badges. But beyond that, Hiking is a great merit badge to earn. People who hike are in better health than the general population. Hiking is something you can enjoy for your entire life (Look at me! Old guy who still hikes!). You can see much more hiking than you can from a car window. Vistas, abandoned railroad tunnels, waterfalls, ghost towns, wildlife.....and much, much more.

We'll be starting the Hiking Merit Badge on April 11 at 6pm at the YMCA (before the swim test meeting) with the plan of completing it by early summer. Once we know who will be working on the badge, we'll try to decide on hike dates.

This will be open to any Scout. Note that BSA updated the requirements for this MB at the beginning of the year. If you have already started working on this badge (before the end of 2022) you may use the old requirements. If you are now starting this MB, you'll be using the new requirements.

What you should do if you plan on starting the hiking merit badge:

1. Get a blue card from your Scoutmaster
2. Email Mr. Baker at kfb3@psu.edu (cc another adult) so he knows how many people to plan for.
3. Download a copy of the requirements to your phone



Leadership

(t) Fully trained for position

(w) Wood Badge

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 *troop shed key*

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