



# news & views

## BSA Troop 31 State College, PA

### April 2025

NIITTANY VALLEY DISTRICT, JUNIATA VALLEY COUNCIL \*CHARTERED BY SC DOWNTOWN ROTARY

UPCOMING

## Merit Badge U Campout

Troop 31 took part in the Council-wide Merit Badge University at Seven Mountains Scout Camp where our Scouts earned over 40 Merit Badges! But it wasn't all Merit Badges. A Friday night campfire that featured a dog with no nose, Sam McGee and no punch line was enjoyed by all. Two crystal clear nights with a roaring campfire that took the edge off of the cold. Each patrol cooked a variety of great food that kept stomachs from growling.



We had a great turnout, 17 Scouts, all of whom enjoyed another weekend in Pennsylvania's great outdoors during (theoretical) Spring. Everybody is wishing they can put their winter sleeping bags away for six months, but we still have April to contend with! Looking forward to Watershed Cleanup and Backpacker Lite.

*-photo and article by Mr. Baker*

## Thank You

A note from the Elks Hoop Shoot:

"Thank you, Thank you, Thank YOU! This year we had 53 Elks and 6 Non-Elks volunteers. Everything went very smoothly and could have not been done this well without YOUR help! I am so grateful and blessed that I have you to help me give the shooters and parents a great week-end. Thank you so much!"

### **April 1**

*Adult Leader's Meeting, 6pm*

PLC, EGG STUFFING, 7pm, St. Paul's

### **April 8**

Swim Test, 7pm, YMCA

### **April 9**

Committee Meeting, 7pm, St. Paul's

### **April 12**

Watershed Cleanup Day

### **April 12-13**

Backpacker Lite, Quehanna Wild Area

### **April 15**

Master Gardener Presentation, 7pm, St. Paul's

### **April 22**

Wildlife ID, 6:30, St. Paul's

### **April 29**

Plant ID, 6:30pm, St. Paul's



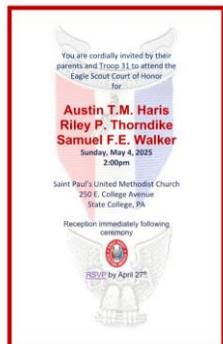
### **Upcoming:**

### **May 13**

Thompson Woods Cleanup

## Court of Honor Invitation

We invite our Troop 31 family to attend the Eagle Court of Honor for Austin Haris, Riley Thorndike, and Sam Walker on May 4th at 2pm at St. Paul's. These ceremonies are special, and youth are encouraged to participate to get a firsthand look of what they are all about! Please RSVP **on or before April 27** to Kelly Walker at [kelmick@aol.com](mailto:kelmick@aol.com)



## Annual Troop Dues are Due!

Please be sure to pay **annual Troop dues of \$50** for youth members. These dues enable us to provide patches and Merit Badges and other items throughout the year. You may pay via check to Troop 31 and give to our Troop Treasurer Jennifer Wissemann or email her at [T31treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:T31treasurer@gmail.com) to request the dues be debited from your Scout's Troop account. You may check your Scout's Troop account balance in TroopMaster to ensure there are sufficient funds to cover the amount.

## Backpacker Lite

This a one-night backpacking trip in the Quehanna Wild Area on April 12-13 to learn new skills, refresh old ones and see the wonder that is Pennsylvania. Any Troop 31 Scout or registered adult can join us! This is the same day as the Watershed Cleanup but you can do both! All Scouts participating in the Backpacker Lite will returned to Levin's Sunday pm.

### If you are participating in Watershed + Backpacker:

Bring your backpacking gear to the meeting point of Watershed at Curtin Village; we'll put it in vehicles to shuttle to our takeout point. *Bring a separate set of dry hiking clothes; these will also go into a vehicle so you can change out of your wet Watershed clothes and into dry hiking clothes after Watershed. Bring two pairs of footwear/socks; one set that WILL get wet during Watershed and another set that are your hiking boots/socks. The hiking boots will go into a vehicle with your dry hiking clothes. DO NOT wear your hiking boots on the water. Lunch will be served by the Committee at the takeout point.*

### If you are only participating in the Backpacker Lite:

Meet at Bullit Run at 12:30PM on Saturday, 12 April. Dress in your hiking clothes and boots; bring your backpack. Eat lunch at home before arriving.

## Youth Protection Training

**IMPORTANT!** Effective March 27, 2025, all adult leaders must take their Youth Protection Training **annually**.

Anyone who is 366 days past the date they took the training will be considered lapsed and will be barred from all Scouting activities until they complete all components of the online training and send their certificate of completion to Juniata Valley Council.

This policy is being instituted due to the abysmal YPT and training compliance rate within our Council.

Please contact Kelly Walker at [kelmick@aol.com](mailto:kelmick@aol.com) with any questions.

## Training

Registered adults: find your leadership position. Review the required training modules. Compare to what you have completed in [my.scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org). Take any training not yet completed.

NOTE: IOLS is being offered April 26-27 at Seven Mountains Scout Camp. Information and registration here <https://scoutingevent.com/497-90860>

## Mental Health First Aid Course

Jana Marie Foundation is offering a few no-cost Mental Health First Aid courses and they are quickly approaching. Each course has a self-paced introduction that takes approximately two hours to complete prior to the course. This is done virtually through an account that will be assigned to you after you register. Then there will be an instructor-led portion that will provide the opportunity to learn more about the 5-step ALGEE action plan and practice the steps through video demonstrations and scenario work. If you are interested in registering, please email Marisa with your name and email address at [marisa@janamariefoundation.org](mailto:marisa@janamariefoundation.org)

**April 8, 2025, 9:00am - 3:00pm**- Penn State Campus: Youth Mental Health First Aid (for adults assisting young people)

**April 9, 2025: 9:15- 3:15pm** - downtown State College: Youth Mental Health First Aid (for adults assisting young people)

# Leadership

(t) Fully trained for position

(w) Wood Badge

## SCOUTMASTER

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## ASSISTANT SCOUTMASTERS

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Michael Wissemann

## TROOP COMMITTEE

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Quartermaster

 troop shed key



Cooper B. Eagle Work Day, 3/16/25, photo by Mrs. Walker

## TROOP COMMITTEE

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Community Service Coordinator

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Fundraising Chair

## ADVISORS

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Chaplain Advisor

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Scribe Advisor

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Mignon Vath

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