



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

news & views

BSA Troop 31 State College, PA

December 2023

UPCOMING

Ed Brezovec Memorial Scoutmaster Fund

Mr. Brezovec was such an integral part of our Troops, and his contributions were immeasurable. With his passing, we are establishing a fund for the current Troop 31 Scoutmasters to draw from each year at their discretion. Examples might be recognizing individuals, assisting families, buying ice cream at summer camp or other things to help the Troop to succeed well into the future while recognizing Ed for his contributions.

In order to make this Fund a success and to keep his memory alive in the Troops, we are asking you to consider donating to the fund. Donations are to be made out to "Troop 31" and mailed to the Troop Treasurer, Mr. Chris Rand, 1369 Penfield Rd State College PA 16801. Please label the donation "Scoutmaster Fund" or include a note we may share with Mr. Brezovec's family.

Mr. Brezovec's employer announced at his Memorial Service on Sunday November 5th adonation of \$5,000. The Brezovec family is donating \$1,693.26 to the MemorialFund. This is a tremendous start towards our goal of \$15,000, which we will easily reach if everyone donates in his memory as he did when he gave his time and love to Scouting. Please ask an employer or other if gift matching is available. We would like to achieve this goal by December 31, 2023.

If Mr. Brezovec made a difference in your and/or your Scout's life, let's celebrate and honor him for his dedication to Scouting.

December 5

Adult Leaders Mtg, 6pm, St. Paul's
PLC/Rankup, 7pm, St. Paul's

December 13

Committee Meeting, 7pm, St. Paul's

December 15

Ice Skating, 5:15-6:45, Pegula Ice Arena

December 18

Climbing, 7pm, Climb Nittany

December 26

No Meeting

January 26-27

Klondike Derby



Photo: Troop 31 Holiday Campout, 12/2/23
Seven Mountains Scout Camp

Philmont Trainer

Troop 31's Philmont crew recently participated in a trainer outing hiking 7.5 miles and camping along the Allegheny Front Trail by Sixmile Run Creek and Road - just west of Black Moshannon State Park.

They were joined by three sister crews: two from T34 in Bellefonte and one crew from T245 in State College (American Legion) for the outing. They are planning, travelling and pre-treking with these 3 other crews for Philmont, which will take place in the second-half of June 2024.

The weather was perfect and T31 enjoyed getting to know the scouts and leaders of the other crews, and practicing the packing, hiking and camping skills needed for Philmont.

Scouts attending included Riley T., Marek S., Ryan H., Tim V. and Evan R. Leaders were Mr. Thorndike and Mr. Hillsley.



11/4-5/23, photos from Mr. Thorndike

Court of Honor Update

Congratulations on the following rank advancements at the Court of Honor on December 2, 2023:

Tenderfoot: Kate S., Mackie S.

2nd Class Cole S.

Life: Cooper B., Theo O.

Eagle: Asher C.

Other awards included 24 merit badges.

Those completing their OA ordeal are Lincoln S. Marek S. and Mrs. Hill.

Scouting for Food

Scouts could be seen jumping in and out of cars, trucks, and vans all over Centre County on the last weekend of October and the first weekend of November 2023. They braved going out during a home game weekend amidst the carved pumpkins and Halloween decorations, to adorn over 5,000 doorknobs with the emblematic Scouting for Food door hangers, which alert the community of our effort to collect food for the less fortunate.

A new addition to our effort could be seen at neighborhood entrances as Mrs. Ross volunteered to have new signage printed to help remind our neighbors of the approaching pickup.

Food pickup Saturday was a huge success as our Scouts and Scouters, along with their families and friends, joined together to honor our former Scoutmaster and Scouting for Food Coordinator Mr. Ed Brezovec after his untimely passing. It was indeed a beautiful morning, and it was made even more so with the faces of our volunteers engaged in cheerful service (and eating doughnuts and consuming cocoa!)

Our troop always has a great turnout for this event, and this year was no exception. In total, 23 Scouts, eight siblings and friends, and 39 adults and parents joined together to collectively spend over 200 hours hanging door tags and collecting food.

This was truly a celebration of Mr. Brezovec's life and his generosity to those less fortunate. The Food Bank and families of Centre County thank you for your continued support.

Little Necessities Box

These are the current needs for the Little Necessities Box. Donations can be made anytime to the box in Sidney Friedman Park.



Iron Chef Campout

On a truly beautiful fall weekend, Troop 31 Scouts and Scouters camped at Seven Mountains Scout Camp where the theme was, what else, FOOD. The Iron Chef competition challenged Scouts to come up with original, yet tasty, creations that were judged by the Senior Patrol Leaders. For an added twist, mystery ingredients such as cinnamon, vegemite(!) and pumpkin were introduced into their recipes.

But it wasn't all cooking and eating. Saturday afternoon, Cub Scouts from several Packs joined us to see what Scouting BSA is all about. Troop 31 Scouts instructed them in knot tying, Leave No Trace and Outdoor Ethics before blowing off a little steam by playing gaga ball and human foosball. Hopefully, the Cubs had fun and we'll see them join the Troop when they're old enough.

For those who keep track of such things, the hardy Scouts and Scouters woke up Sunday to a brisk temperature of 23 F; a little taste of upcoming winter camping.



Photo Collage



*Thompson Woods Cleanup
10/10/23, photo by Mrs. Messner*



*Pizza making
11/28/23, photo by Mr. Hillsley*

Holiday Campout

Troop 31 held its annual Holiday Campout Dec 1-3 at 7 Mountains Scout Camp, taking over the dining hall for a weekend of fun and games, and great meals. The scouts built their "gaming palace" in one corner of the dining hall, while another section was dedicated to nerf soccer games.

Scouts spent Saturday morning cleaning patrol boxes, and outside a bit Saturday afternoon playing gaga ball. Mrs. Walker and many volunteers prepared delicious meals throughout including the famous Holiday turkey dinner feast Saturday night. Afterwards, scouts enjoyed the always fun post-dinner gift exchange.

So many people helped to make this a great weekend for the troop - thank you all!



Turkey dinner



Patrol box cleanout

Photos by Mr. Hillsley



Mrs. Peters receives her red jacket.



The gaming palace

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

Visit www.troop31.us for more information.

Leadership

(t) Fully trained for position

(w) Wood Badge

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troop shed key

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