



Dairy Farm tour, 11/19/24, photo by Mr. Harpster

news & views
 BSA Troop 31
 State College, PA

December 2024

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

UPCOMING

Combined Troop

Troop 31 has a new look! We have combined Troop 31B and Troop 31G into one Troop. Mr. Sullivan will serve as the Scoutmaster and Mrs. Walker will serve as the Committee Chair.

We have also reorganized the patrols. Please see the following chart to find your patrol.

TROOP 31 PATROL ORGANIZATION				
Patrol 1	Patrol 2	Patrol 3	Patrol 4	Patrol 5
Marek S. (PL)	Cole S. (PL)	Gavin H. (PL)	Anthony H.	Cooper B. (PL)
Austen C.	Henry S.	Derek J.	Ben R.	Aidan D.
Chris H.	Jonathan W.	Ferdinand H.	Eames A.	Astrid H.
Lincon S.	Evan R.	Olliver B.	Kira L.	Gabe D.
Preston B.	Ian H.	Stephen L.	Oskar G.	Gillian H.
Rishi B.	Riley T.	Theo A.	Penelope H.	Nela S.
Ryan H.	Simon S.		Sarah W.	Tessa B.
Tim V.	Theo O.			
	Nick S.			

December 1

5-mile hike, 1pm, Tudek Park

December 3

Adult Leaders Meeting, 6pm, St. Paul's
 PLC meeting, 7pm, St. Paul's

December 8

Tenderfoot and Personal Fitness, 4:30pm
 State High South Track

December 13-15

Holiday Campout, Seven Mtns Scout Camp

December 10

Troop Meeting, 7pm, St. Paul's

December 11

Committee Meeting, 7pm, St. Paul's

December 17

Troop Meeting, 7pm, St. Paul's



SAVE THE DATE:

Adult ASMs who need Intro to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) training:
 April 26-27, 2025 at Seven Mtns Scout Camp

Pie Sale



Expecting guests in December? Downtown Rotary has your pie needs covered AND they are giving back \$2 per pie sold by the Troop to the Troop. (Thanks, Rotarians!) Simply fill out your order in the Google form below **BY DEC 4TH**. You will pay with one check **made payable to Troop 31** when you pick up your order. (Have your customers pay you directly when you deliver their pies.) **All items are \$15.**

Pies will be available for pickup at the Walker house the evening of Friday Dec 20th.

Pie Order form:

<https://forms.gle/KsXLAYSp9GGTziNx9>

Cooking Campout Recap

Has anyone ever had a grilled cheese and Fruit Loops sandwich? Presentation is key. Scouts used their imaginations, ingenuity and some cooking skills to create culinary "masterpieces" that were enjoyed by everyone.

But that's not all we did. Games: cards, chess, gaga ball. Service: moving picnic tables, raking leaves, moving and stacking firewood. And oh, yes, the ever popular KP. We had a great turnout and the Scouts and Scouters were able to enjoy Camp Anderson on a dry, sunny fall weekend.

For those up early enough (well, I don't think any Scouts were) there was a fabulous sunrise and all weekend a lone, solitary kingfisher was spotted flitting around camp. It was a great weekend to be outdoors.



Cooking Campout, 11/8-10/24, photo and article by Mr. Baker

Holiday Campout

WHEN Friday Dec 13th - Sunday Dec 15th.

Family Holiday Dinner is 6:00pm Saturday,

December 14th. *RSVP deadline is Dec 6th*****

Court of Honor will also be Saturday, December 14.

WHERE Seven Mtns Scout Camp Dining Hall (Scouts sleep in the dining hall, but you are welcome to bring your tent if you'd like to do some wintertime camping)

WHAT General camaraderie, gaming, fresh donuts, a holiday meal, and a fun gift exchange!

HOW So, it can't happen without help. Please see the sign up below **for guests and volunteers**. There will be a separate signup for Scouts overnighing.

COST \$10 per **adult dinner-only** attendee

Family Meal Sign Up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0A49AAAA22AA8-53453287-2024>

Reregistration 2025

This year, all adults are responsible for renewing registration for themselves AND their Scouts. You will pay online through your my.scouting.org accounts for yourselves and your Scout. All those with registrations expiring 12/31/24 should have received an email notice from BSA to renew.

Scout *youth* pay annual dues of \$50 to the Troop, and these should be submitted via check payable to *Troop 31* to the Troop Treasurer, Chris Rand.

Questions? Concerns? Contact Kelly Walker at kelmick@aol.com

Are You Fully Trained?

Our Scouts deserve nothing less than a fully trained corps of Adult Leadership.

Don't know what you need? Go to your my.scouting.org profile and check in My Training.

Summit Sign Up

Troop 31's High Adventure trip for next year will be to the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia. We will be participating in the Summit Experience during the week of **22-28 June 2025 (7 days)**. We anticipate driving down on the 22nd and driving home on the 28th. You can read more about the Summit Experience here: <https://www.summitbsa.org/high-adventure/summit-experience/>

Sign-ups are now officially open. Scouts can sign up for this trek by giving Mr. Baker a \$100 non-refundable check. You can also pay using your Troop Account. Once we have the minimum number of people signed up (the minimum crew size for the Summit Experience is 5), we will officially register with the Summit for the dates listed above. There is no deadline for signing up; however there are a finite number of spots for this trek, so it's encouraged to sign up (i.e. give Mr. Baker \$100) early so we can cement our spot.

Summer Camp



Based on voting of the proposed camp options, Troop 31 overwhelmingly voted for Tuscarora Scout Reservation. **We will be going from July 13-19.**

Here is a link to the camp website. It looks like they have programs for younger and older scouts including a merit badge class schedule to know out some Eagle-required merit badges.

<https://www.bpcouncil.org/camping/tuscarora/summer-camp/>

SIGNUP - Click below:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1BExB9DfsQnfi6WPvwiamaJZajcTPopVYgdbpRIDbK98/edit?pli=1>

Adults, We will be looking for drivers to the camp as well as some adults who can stay the week. It is possible to stay a partial week. Also, if you are an adult who is interested in spending time with the troop at camp, you will need to become a registered adult.

Questions? Contact Mr. Sullivan at sneilus@yahoo.com

Medical Forms



It's time to update your BSA medical form!

What is the BSA Annual Health and Medical Record?

The Annual Health and Medical Record (AHMR) serves many purposes. Completing a health history promotes health and awareness, communicates health status, and provides medical professionals critical information needed to treat a patient in the event of an illness or injury. It also provides emergency contact information.

What forms do I need to fill out?

For activities less than 72 hours, you only need to complete Parts A & B. This includes your basic health history and list of immunizations; this does NOT require a physician's signature.

(For activities longer than 72 hours (i.e. summer camp), there is a separate "Part C" that needs to be completed and also requires a physician's signature. High-adventure camps also require separate health forms to be completed. You don't need to worry about these forms right now!)

How do I know if I need to fill out my AHMR?

All scouts and registered adults should have an AHMR. Please submit your forms to Mrs Brumberg by **December 13.**

Camperships

Troop 31 never wants a Scout to miss an opportunity due to financial need. If you seek financial assistance for High Adventure or other outings AND you have actively participated in Troop/Council fundraisers, you may be eligible for a campership.

Anyone interested should reach out to Kelly Walker at kelmick@aol.com

Season of Giving

Reminder that Downtown State College Rotary has a blessing box in Sidney Friedman Park for toiletry and personal care items. Please add to it if you are able.

Leadership

(t) Fully trained for position

(w) Wood Badge

SCOUTMASTER

Neil Sullivan (t) 202.210.8398

sneilus@yahoo.com

ASSISTANT SCOUTMASTERS

Kurt Baker (t) 814-867-5702
Program

kfb3@psu.edu



Brian Brandenburg (t) (w)

brian.brandenburg123@gmail.com



Cathleen Cahill

artzkitten@gmail.com

Christine Clouse

lks187@psu.edu

Lacey Goldberg

corina.graif@gmail.com

Corina Graif

nfhall@gmail.com

Nathan Hall

paulharis@aol.com

Paul Haris (t)

Ken Hillsley (t)

klh124@psu.edu



Christina Hill (t)

chill9687@gmail.com

John Messner (t)

j.messner@me.com



Brian Opperman (t)

brianbob99@gmail.com



Jeannie Peters (t) (w)

jpp198@gmail.com

Andrew K. Sandoval-Strausz

aksandov@gmail.com

Phil Thorndike (t)

jpthorndike87@gmail.com



Aaron Vath (t)

avath@progressrail.com

Jodi Vender (t)

jvender@gmail.com

Michael Wissemann

michael.w.wissemann@gmail.com

TROOP COMMITTEE

Kelly Walker (t)
Chair

kelmick@aol.com



Don O'Connell 814-330-5121
Chartered Org. Rep.

doconnell@t2binteriors.com



Nick Peters 814-852-9468
Council Representative

nickjp121@gmail.com



Monena Hall
Secretary

Alan Wrye (t) 814-237-0108
Advancement

awwrye@comcast.net

Chris Rand
Treasurer

t31treasurer@gmail.com

Phil Thorndike (t)
Quartermaster

jpthorndike87@gmail.com



troop shed key

TROOP COMMITTEE

Rick Marboe (t) (w) 814-880-5199
Adult Training

rick@marboe.com

Kelly Walker (t)
Hospitality

kelmick@aol.com

Lori Smith
Newsletter

lasmith723@gmail.com

Katie Brumberg (t)
Merit Badge Coordinator

katie.brumberg@gmail.com

Emily Brandenburg
Adult Volunteer Clearance Coord.

emmyg53@gmail.com

Ken Hillsley (t)
Summer Camp Coordinator

klh124@psu.edu

Tory Jenkins (t)
Webelos Coordinator

tory.jenkins@gmail.com

Gargi Bhattacharyya
Trading Post

gargi.bt@gmail.com

Anne Messner (t) (w)
Community Service Coordinator

messnerski@gmail.com

(open)
Fundraising Chair

ADVISORS

Brian Brandenburg
Webmaster Advisor

brian.brandenburg123@gmail.com

Jodi Vender (t)
Historian Advisor

jvender@gmail.com

(open)
Chaplain Advisor

Anne Messner (t) (w)
Scribe Advisor

messnerski@gmail.com

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Bernadette Brezovec (t)
Tracy Burns (t)
Craig Colwell
David Eng
Monena Hall
Mechteld Hillsley
Hyeseon Kim (t)

davideng321@gmail.com



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

Visit www.troop31.us for more information.



Happy
Holidays!