



# news & views

## BSA Troop 31 State College, PA

### March 2025

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

UPCOMING

## Be Fully Trained

Our Scouts deserve fully trained adult leaders. Are YOU fully trained?

- GO TO MY.Scouting.org
- CLICK ON MY TRAINING
- CLICK ON REQUIREMENTS

A list of required training for your position will appear. SCO indicates an online training module. You can also run your personal Member Training Report that will concisely list what you have completed and what you have not. When complete, an image of a brown "TRAINED" patch will appear next to your position title.

### Introduction to Outdoor Leadership (IOLS)

One requirement that is in an in-person format only is IOLS. The next offering by JVC is slated for April 26-27 at Seven Mountains Scout Camp. For details and to register, go to [scoutingevent.com/497-90860](http://scoutingevent.com/497-90860)



#### **March 4**

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

#### **March 11**

STEM Movie Night, 7pm, St. Paul's

#### **March 18**

Messner Lab Tour, 7pm, PSU West Campus

#### **March 19**

Committee Meeting, 7pm, St. Paul's

#### **March 22-23**

Merit Badge U, 7MSC

#### **March 25**

Backpacking/OA Elections, 7pm, St. Paul's

#### **April 1**

Easter Egg Stuffing

#### **April 8**

Swim Test, 7pm, YMCA

#### **April 12**

Watershed Cleanup Day



## Troop MVP Award Nominations

Each year, Scouting units across the Juniata Valley Council have the chance to recognize a special person in their Pack, Troop or Crew. The unit Most Valuable Person or "MVP" award is designed to honor an adult individual who goes above and beyond the call of duty to support the Scouting program and our youth.

Nominations can be submitted by **anyone with** an involvement in Troop 31 – a Scout, parent, Committee Member, Scoutmaster, Patrol Advisor or a member of our Charter Organization, State College Downtown Rotary. Previous winners are ineligible.

Please submit your nominations for Troop 31B and, perhaps for the last time, for 31G to Mrs. Walker by email at [kelmick@aol.com](mailto:kelmick@aol.com) on or before **March 7th**.

## Nittany District Recognition Dinner

The Nittany District Committee invites all Scouts, Scouters, families, and volunteers from the troop to attend the 2025 Nittany District Recognition Dinner on March 29 at 6pm. The event is to recognize the accomplishments of our Scouters over the past year including the District Award of Merit. See the attachment included in the newsletter email for more details.



## Troop Dues

Annual Troop dues for YOUTH ONLY are due. Please either:

- Submit a check payable to Troop 31 for \$50
- Send an email to the Troop treasurer at [T31Treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:T31Treasurer@gmail.com) to indicate payment from the Scout's Troop account; be sure there are sufficient funds.



Bowling, 2/18/25



Elks Hoop Shoot, 3/1/25, photo by Mrs. Messner

Follow Troop 31 on Facebook at:  
[www.facebook.com/Troop31StateCollegePa](https://www.facebook.com/Troop31StateCollegePa)

Visit [www.troop31.us](http://www.troop31.us) for more information.

# Leadership

(t) Fully trained for position

(w) Wood Badge

## SCOUTMASTER

Neil Sullivan (t) 202.210.8398

[sneilus@yahoo.com](mailto:sneilus@yahoo.com)

## ASSISTANT SCOUTMASTERS

Kurt Baker (t) 814-867-5702  
Program

[kfb3@psu.edu](mailto:kfb3@psu.edu)



Brian Brandenburg (t) (w)

[brian.brandenburg123@gmail.com](mailto:brian.brandenburg123@gmail.com)  
[cdcahill@gmail.com](mailto:cdcahill@gmail.com)



Cathleen Cahill  
Christine Clouse  
Lacey Goldberg  
Corina Graif  
Nathan Hall  
Paul Haris (t)

[artzkitten@gmail.com](mailto:artzkitten@gmail.com)

[lks187@psu.edu](mailto:lks187@psu.edu)

[corina.graif@gmail.com](mailto:corina.graif@gmail.com)

[nfhall@gmail.com](mailto:nfhall@gmail.com)

[paulharis@aol.com](mailto:paulharis@aol.com)



Ken Hillsley (t)

[klh124@psu.edu](mailto:klh124@psu.edu)

Christina Hill (t)

[chill9687@gmail.com](mailto:chill9687@gmail.com)



John Messner (t)

[j.messner@me.com](mailto:j.messner@me.com)

Brian Opperman (t)

[brianbob99@gmail.com](mailto:brianbob99@gmail.com)



Jeannie Peters (t) (w)

[jpp198@gmail.com](mailto:jpp198@gmail.com)

Andrew K. Sandoval-Strausz

[aksandov@gmail.com](mailto:aksandov@gmail.com)

Phil Thorndike (t)

[jpthorndike87@gmail.com](mailto:jpthorndike87@gmail.com)



Aaron Vath (t)

[avath@progressrail.com](mailto:avath@progressrail.com)

Jodi Vender (t)

[jvender@gmail.com](mailto:jvender@gmail.com)

Michael Wissemann

[michael.w.wissemann@gmail.com](mailto:michael.w.wissemann@gmail.com)

## TROOP COMMITTEE

Kelly Walker (t)  
Chair

[kelmick@aol.com](mailto:kelmick@aol.com)



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

[doconnell@t2binteriors.com](mailto:doconnell@t2binteriors.com)



Nick Peters 814-852-9468  
Council Representative

[nickjp121@gmail.com](mailto:nickjp121@gmail.com)



Monena Hall  
Secretary

Alan Wrye (t) 814-237-0108  
Advancement

[awwrye@comcast.net](mailto:awwrye@comcast.net)

Jennifer Wisseman  
Treasurer

[t31treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:t31treasurer@gmail.com)

Phil Thorndike (t)  
Quartermaster

[jpthorndike87@gmail.com](mailto:jpthorndike87@gmail.com)



troop shed key

## TROOP COMMITTEE

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

[rick@marboe.com](mailto:rick@marboe.com)

Kelly Walker (t)  
Hospitality

[kelmick@aol.com](mailto:kelmick@aol.com)

Lori Smith  
Newsletter

[lasmith723@gmail.com](mailto:lasmith723@gmail.com)

Katie Brumberg (t)  
Merit Badge Coordinator

[katie.brumberg@gmail.com](mailto:katie.brumberg@gmail.com)

Emily Brandenburg  
Adult Volunteer Clearance Coord.

[emmyg53@gmail.com](mailto:emmyg53@gmail.com)

Ken Hillsley (t)  
Summer Camp Coordinator

[klh124@psu.edu](mailto:klh124@psu.edu)

Tory Jenkins (t)  
Webelos Coordinator

[tory.jenkins@gmail.com](mailto:tory.jenkins@gmail.com)

Gargi Bhattacharyya  
Trading Post

[gargi.bt@gmail.com](mailto:gargi.bt@gmail.com)

Anne Messner (t) (w)  
Community Service Coordinator

[messnerski@gmail.com](mailto:messnerski@gmail.com)

(open)  
Fundraising Chair

## ADVISORS

Brian Brandenburg  
Webmaster Advisor

[brian.brandenburg123@gmail.com](mailto:brian.brandenburg123@gmail.com)

Jodi Vender (t)  
Historian Advisor

[jvender@gmail.com](mailto:jvender@gmail.com)

(open)  
Chaplain Advisor

Anne Messner (t) (w)  
Scribe Advisor

[messnerski@gmail.com](mailto:messnerski@gmail.com)

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Bernadette Brezovec (t)  
Tracy Burns (t)



Craig Colwell (t)  
David Eng  
Monena Hall  
Mechteld Hillsley  
Hyeseon Kim (t)  
Frank Savino (t)  
Mignon Vath



[davideng321@gmail.com](mailto:davideng321@gmail.com)