



news & views

BSA Troop 31 State College, PA

May 2025

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

UPCOMING

Backpacker Lite

For our April campout, the Troop backpacked in the Quehanna Wild Area. Remote, but not all that far from State College. We hoisted everything we needed to survive onto our backs and set off into the woods. It was a nice mix of Philmont veterans and younger Scouts; along the way we learned (or re-learned) navigation skills, how to set up camp, purifying creek water, hanging bear bags, human sumping and much more. We fell to sleep with the soft rush of Meeker Run in our ears. Along the way we hiked to a fantastic vista, through wonderful forested areas, past burbling waterfalls, and huge rock formations.



-photo and article by Mr. Baker

Watershed Cleanup



4/12/25, photo by Mrs. Messner

May 4

Eagle Scout Court of Honor, 2pm, St. Paul's

May 6

Adult Leader's Meeting, 6pm

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

May 13

Thompson Woods Cleanup, 6:30pm

May 14

Committee Meeting, 7pm, St. Paul's

May 16-18

New Scout Campout, Black Mo State Park

May 20

Animal Trivia/Bingo, PL Elections

7pm, St. Paul's

May 27

PSU Ag Activity

Upcoming:

June 8 – 13

NYLT, Camp Karoondinha, see page 2

June 22-28

Summit High Adventure, West Virginia

Training

Our adult leadership stands at 73% trained. Please log into your my.scouting.org profile and complete your online training modules. If your name is not on the list below, you have training to do! Reach out to Kelly Walker at kelmick@aol.com if you have questions.

THANK YOU to the following fully trained adults!

*Kurt Baker
Gargi Bhattacharyya
Brian Brandenburg
Emily Brandenburg
Katie Brumberg
Monena Hall
Nathan Hall
Tracy Burns
Craig Colwell
Bernadette Brezovec
Zachary Brezovec
Christina Hill
David Eng
Ken Hillsley
Tory Jenkins
Hyeseon Kim
Rick Marboe
Anne Messner
John Messner
Don O'Connell
Jeannie Peters
Nick Peters
Frank Savino
Jay Searles
Jodi Vender
Neil Sullivan
Phil Thorndike
Aaron Vath
Kelly Walker
Jennifer Wissemann
Mike Wissemann
Alan Wrye*

Centre Gives

The success of Scouting depends on those who support it. Please consider making a donation to Friends of Scouting during Centre Gives, **May 14-15**.



Welcome!



A big Troop 31 welcome to new Scout George L. who crossed over from Pack 31 on April 16.

Youth Protection Training

Juniata Valley Council is requiring that adults complete their YPT annually instead of every 2 years.

Please check when you last took the 3 modules of YPT. If it has been a year or more, please take it again.

NYLT

If you are 13 years old, you can participate in a week-long NYLT, a youth leadership training program. The deadline to register is May 2. If interested, see Mr. Sullivan for more information.

The Troop Committee offers NYLT scholarships for up to 3 Troop 31 Scouts who wish to attend.

Clearwater Conservancy

Looking for service hours? Clearwater needs help cleaning up streamside buffers. Work includes tree planting, general maintenance and tree shelter maintenance. Work dates are:

- Thursday, May 1, 4-6pm, Boalsburg
- Tuesday, May 6, 4-6pm, State College
- Thursday, May 8, 4-6pm, Boalsburg
- Wednesday, May 14, 4-6pm, State College
- Thursday, May 15, 5-7pm, Port Matilda

If interested in helping, please contact Jill at jill@clearwaterconservancy.org

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

SCOUTMASTER

Neil Sullivan (t) 202.210.8398 sneilus@yahoo.com

ASSISTANT SCOUTMASTERS

Kurt Baker (t) 814-867-5702 kfb3@psu.edu

Brian Brandenburg (t) (w) brian.brandenburg123@gmail.com

Cathleen Cahill cdcahill@gmail.com

Christine Clouse artzkitten@gmail.com

Lacey Goldberg lks187@psu.edu

Corina Graif corina.graif@gmail.com

Nathan Hall nfhall@gmail.com

Paul Haris (t) paulharis@aol.com

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) kelmick@aol.com

Don O'Connell 814-330-5121 doconnell@t2binteriors.com

Nick Peters 814-852-9468 nickjp121@gmail.com

Monena Hall
Secretary

Alan Wrye (t) 814-237-0108 awwrye@comcast.net

Jennifer Wisseman t31treasurer@gmail.com

Phil Thorndike (t) jpthorndike87@gmail.com

Quartermaster

 troop shed key

TROOP COMMITTEE

Rick Marboe (t) (w) 814-880-5199 rick@marboe.com

Kelly Walker (t) kelmick@aol.com

Lori Smith lasmith723@gmail.com

Katie Brumberg (t) katie.brumberg@gmail.com

Emily Brandenburg emmyg53@gmail.com

Ken Hillsley (t) klh124@psu.edu

Tory Jenkins (t) tory.jenkins@gmail.com

Gargi Bhattacharyya gargi.bt@gmail.com

Anne Messner (t) (w) messnerski@gmail.com

(open)
Fundraising Chair

ADVISORS

Brian Brandenburg brian.brandenburg123@gmail.com

Jodi Vender (t) jvender@gmail.com

(open)
Chaplain Advisor

Anne Messner (t) (w) messnerski@gmail.com

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Bernadette Brezovec (t)

Tracy Burns (t)

Craig Colwell (t)

David Eng davideng321@gmail.com

Monena Hall

Mechteld Hillsley

Hyeseon Kim (t)

Frank Savino (t)

Mignon Vath

