



news & views

BSA Troop 31 State College, PA

October 2025

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

UPCOMING

Service Campout Recap

The service campout at Seven Mountains Scout Camp was one of the best-attended Troop 31 events of its kind in some time, with sixteen Scouts and eleven adult Scouters spending the weekend in the great outdoors. The main purpose of the campout was to complete service projects, and the group got an early start, waking up and emerging from their tents by 6:30 to begin making breakfast so that they could get right to work.

The first Saturday task was to move nine boats, thirteen canoes, and fourteen kayaks and standing paddle boards from the lakeside to their winter storage pavilion more than 100 yards away, and the Scouts had it all wrapped up before noon. That afternoon they completed a second project, moving several of the large wooden camping platforms to the periphery of a site that was scheduled for a big group event the following weekend. While the platforms were built on a frame of 4x4 lumber and weighed a few hundred pounds, as many as twelve scouts at a time made light work of the task by way of many hands.

That evening, everyone prepared dinner for their patrols (with a number of Scouts thereby completing cooking requirements), and some of the newer members of the troop built a fire (also completing rank-up requirements) for cooking and for that evening's program of skits, songs, and decidedly dad-like jokes. A great time was had by all, and Rick Marboe expressed sincere thanks on behalf of Seven Mountains for all the service work that we accomplished!

October 7

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

October 8

Committee Meeting, 7pm, St. Paul's

October 10-12

Iron Chef Campout

October 12 & 26

Fitness Requirements, 4:30pm, State High track

October 14

Movie Night, 7pm, St. Paul's

October 18

- Scouting for Food-Door Hanger Distribution
- Sandoval-Strausz Eagle Work Day, 1-4 pm

October 21

Corn Maze 6:30pm, Harner Farm

October 25

- Scouting for Food Pickup
- Sandoval-Strausz Eagle Work Day, 1-4 pm

October 28

Halloween Party
7pm, St. Paul's



Welcome

A big Troop 31 welcome to the Movit family and the Boyd family!



Reminders

- **Intro to Outdoor Leader Skills** is October 11-12 and registration can be found at <https://scoutingevent.com/497-101397>
- **Wilderness First Aid** is October 25-26 and registration can be found at <https://scoutingevent.com/497-103078>
- **Annual Health form/Behavior Expectations** are due. These can be emailed to Katie Brumberg at katie.brumberg@gmail.com
Health: https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-001_AB.pdf
Behavior: <https://www.troop31.us/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Behavioral-Expectations-for-Troop-31-2023.pdf>
- **Scouting for Food** door hanger distribution is Saturday, October 18 and food pickup is Saturday, October 25. Mark your calendars!
- The Game On! **Fall Camporee** is coming November 14-16. We will need Scouts and Adult Leaders to ensure a successful weekend. Keep an eye on your email for details or reach out to Jodi Vender at jvender@gmail.com with questions.
- The **Iron Chef Campout** will be held October 11-12. You know the drill - this is a cooking-themed campout. Plan your patrol menus as usual, and you will be given last-minute mystery ingredients that you need to use. There will be judges for the most creative use of the mystery ingredient AND the best-tasting food. This is also an opportunity for younger scouts to advance in rank!

Annual Adult Planning

The Adult Annual Planning meeting will be held **October 26, 1-3pm - location TBD**. This gives *all* adults (registered and non):

- * an opportunity to be aware of the Troop's upcoming calendar of events and plan properly for them.
- * an opportunity to ask questions of the Scoutmaster and Committee Chair.
- * to know what your Scout is doing month-to-month
- * to learn where YOU can best support your Scout and the Troop

Court of Honor Update

Congratulations on the following rank advancements at the Court of Honor on September 30 2025. Other awards included 93 merit badges and 12 special awards.

Scout rank: George L., Stephen L., Georgia W.

Tenderfoot: Tessa B., Gabe D.

1st Class: Aiden D., Astrid H.

Star: Penelope H.

Eagle: Preston B.

Eagle Bronze Palm: Preston B.

Other recognition and awards included:

Order of the Arrow Induction Membership:

Rishi B., Ceci S-S., Sarah W.

Order of the Arrow Brotherhood Membership:

Jonathan W., Adult: Mike W.

Triple Crown of National High Adventure Award: Ian H.

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
Program

kfb3@psu.edu



Brian Brandenburg (t) (w)

brian.brandenburg123@gmail.com



Cathleen Cahill (t)

cdcahill@gmail.com

Christine Clouse (t)

artzkitten@gmail.com

Nick Delose (t)

lks187@psu.edu

Lacey Goldberg (t)

corina.graif@gmail.com

Corina Graif (t)

Monena Hall (t)

nfhall@gmail.com

Nathan Hall (t)

paulharis@aol.com

Paul Haris (t)

Ken Hillsley (t)

klh124@psu.edu



Christina Hill (t)

chill9687@gmail.com

Dawn Lorenz (t)

John Messner (t)

i.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 (t)

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 (t) 814-852-9468
Council Representative

nickjp121@gmail.com



Monena Hall (t)
Secretary

Alan Wrye (t) 814-237-0108
Advancement

awwrye@comcast.net

Jennifer Wissemann (t)
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 (t)
Adult Volunteer Clearance Coord.

emmyg53@gmail.com

(open)
Summer Camp Coordinator

Tory Jenkins (t)
Webelos Coordinator

tory.jenkins@gmail.com

Gargi Bhattacharyya (t)
Trading Post

gargi.bt@gmail.com

Anne Messner (t) (w)
Community Service Coordinator

messnerski@gmail.com

(open)
Fundraising Chair

ADVISORS

Brian Brandenburg (t)
Webmaster Advisor

brian.brandenburg123@gmail.com

Cathleen Cahill (t)
Historian Advisor

cdcahill@gmail.com

Jodi Vender (t)
Outdoor Ethics Guide Advisor

jvender@gmail.com

(open)
Chaplain Advisor

Anne Messner (t) (w)
Scribe Advisor

messnerski@gmail.com

Christine Clouse (t)
Den Chief Advisor

artzkitten@gmail.com

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Bernadette Brezovec (t)
Tracy Burns (t)



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



davideng321@gmail.com