



# news & views

## BSA Troop 31 State College, PA

### September 2023

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

UPCOMING

## Court of Honor Update

Congratulations on the following rank advancements at the Court of Honor on August 29, 2023:

*Tenderfoot:* Gillian H.

*Star:* Austen C., Michael H., Evan R., Ceci S., Lincoln S., Nick S., Tim V.

*Life:* Preston B.

*Eagle:* Josh F.

*BSA Triple Crown Award:* Sam W.

Other awards included 92 merit badges and 75 special awards.



## Popcorn

Popcorn fundraising time is upon us. This is a great opportunity to support your camping and high adventure goals by adding to your troop account. There are three ways to fundraise by selling popcorn.

1. **"Take Orders"** by selling directly to your family, friends and neighbors. Please record your sales using the forms that were mailed to you.
2. **Popcornordering.com** - If you have friends and family who are distant, they can order direct on this website. They can search for your name and the order will be credited to your fundraising
3. **"Show and Sell"** where we setup a table at a local location and sell popcorn to the general public. Check your email for a link to sign up. Our dates are 9/23/23 – Lowes Valley Vista and 10/14/23 – Walmart Benner Pike.

### September 5

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

### September 10

Personal Fitness MB, SCAHS track, 6pm

### September 12

Troop Meeting, 7pm

### September 13

Committee Meeting, 7pm, St. Paul's

### September 15-17

Beach Campout, Cape Henlopen, DE

### September 19

Troop Meeting, 7pm

### September 23

Popcorn Show and Sell, Lowes, 9am-2pm

### September 24

Personal Fitness MB, SCAHS track, 6pm

### September 26

Prep for Recruiting Day, 7pm, St. Paul's

### October 6-8

Fall Camporee, Howard

### October 14

Popcorn Show and Sell, Walmart BP, 9-2

## Biking Campout

Maple Bacon, yum. Aside from good food, Troop 31 Scouts and Scouters enjoyed a "short" bike ride on one of the most interesting sections of the Great Allegheny Passage.



We planned on a 15 mile roundtrip, but if we go only a couple miles farther, we can see something cool, then another mile and a half, and so on. By the time we were done, we'd completed 32 miles. The Salisbury Viaduct, Meyersdale Visitor Center, Bollman Bridge, Keystone Viaducts, Eastern Continental Divide, Big Savage Tunnel and finally dipping our toes into Maryland at the Mason-Dixon Line. The ride was topped off by what else, ice cream!

The highlight of the evening was Nature's Light Show, as the bulk of a fierce thunderstorm passed by to our north; when it started to rain, it was into the tents and Adirondack for us.

On the way home Sunday, we stopped at the Flight 93 Memorial to learn the story of 40 American heroes. A truly memorable weekend for all.



## Personal Fitness Merit Badge

The Personal Fitness merit badge continues every two weeks at the high school track at 6pm. The September dates are:

- September 10
- September 24

## Troop Volunteer Opportunities

**\*NEW\* Secretary:** The Troop Committee Secretary keeps the minutes of meetings and distributes meeting notices. At each monthly troop committee meeting, the Secretary reports the minutes of the previous meeting. This person is responsible for maintaining the official copy of record for all of Troop 31's documents such as meeting minutes and agendas, and policy or guideline documentation.

**\*NEW\* Membership & Communications Subcommittee Chair:** This committee is responsible, in consultation with the Scoutmaster, for the Troop's internal/external communications and membership relations. The chair oversees activities to facilitate efficient and effective communications to ensure timely parent knowledge of troop activities and events. The committee promotes public relations communications to the outside public that promote Troop 31's image in the community. The committee works with the Troop Webmaster advisor to ensure the website provides an effective and efficient means of keeping all scouts and parents informed. This sub-committee could potentially be combined with YPT and training tracking.

**Hospitality Chair/Co-Chair:** This person (or persons) is responsible for organizing those Troop events where food is provided and/or where Troop dining supplies are needed. These are usually Troop Courts of Honor in the Spring and at the end of the Summer, the Webelos Woods event in the Fall, and the Holiday Camp at Seven Mountains in December. If a space for the event must be reserved, such as a park pavilion or the Dining Hall at 7MSC, it is the responsibility of the Hospitality Chair(s) to secure it. This role also offers support for Eagle Scout families who are planning an Eagle Court of Honor.

If interested, please contact Kelly Walker at [kelmick@aol.com](mailto:kelmick@aol.com).

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

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

## Annual Planning

Month	Theme	Event-Site	Dates
October 2023	Spooky Stuff	Fall Camporee	Oct 6-8
November 2023	Cooking	Iron Chef (TBD)	November 10-12
December 2023	Holiday Fun	Holiday (7MSC)	December 1-3
January 2024	Self-Improvement	Klondike (7MSC)	Jan 26-27
February 2024	Winter Sports	Skiing (TBD)	
March 2024	Animals	Pittsburgh Zoo	
April 2024	Wilderness Survival	New Scout (TBD)	
May 2024	Botany	Spring Camporee (TBD)	
June 2024	Outdoors	Backpacker (AFT)	
July 2024	Miscellaneous	Summer Camp (TBD)	
August 2024	Cycling	Bikepacker (GAP)	
September 2024	Infrastructure	Big City (Pittsburgh)	



# Leadership

(t) Fully trained for position

(w) Wood Badge

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