



Boy Scout Troop 461
Zion Mennonite Church
Souderton, Pennsylvania

Troop Web Site <http://www.soudertontroop461.org>
E-Mail webmaster@soudertontroop461.org
Web Master Timothy P. Wile, Asst Scoutmaster



NEWSLETTER

Volume 47, No. 11

December 2005

Calendar of Upcoming Events

- December 3 Life to Eagle seminar, 9.00am start at North Wales Scout cabin - contact Harold for directions.
- December 5. Troop meeting - Patrol competition - maps & compass. **FINAL SIGN-UP FOR MEN-O-LAN WEEKEND!**
- December 9-11 Camp Men-O-Lan weekend. Departure from Harold's by 7.30pm. Please be prompt! See Page 2 notes. Advancement and fellowship. Outdoor activities will include patrol competition - orienteering course - if owned bring a compass. 2-hour use of gym. Fee \$15 per person. MERIT BADGES - computers, basketry, camping, cooking; leatherwork.
- December 12. **PATROL LEADERS COUNCIL** - 7.30pm, in library.
- December 12. Troop meeting - Hobbies & Communications.
- December 18. Troop Swim - 1.00pm to 2.30pm at SAHS pool; Bill Brandis, 723-0140. All Scouts needing swimming requirements or the merit badge should come. Adults are welcome. Come by 1.00pm.
- December 18. **EAGLE SCOUT COURT OF HONOUR**, 4.00pm, at troop meeting room at Zion Mennonite Church. Ceremony for Joshua Comden & Troy Gärthe. All welcome.
- December 19. **TROOP COMMITTEE MEETING** - 7.30pm in library.
- December 19. Troop Meeting - Hobbies & Communications. Board of Review. **SIGN UP FOR JR LEADERS WEEKEND!**

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Harold L. Frederick, Jr.
Scoutmaster
HLFrederickJR@verizon.net

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Committee Chairman
Rigel_one@hotmail.com

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December 26. **NO SCOUT MEETING - HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS
and HOLIDAY SEASON**

CALENDAR OF FUTURE PLANNED EVENTS

February 24-26 Snow camp & snow sports at Big Boulder. Cabin camp at Resica Falls Scout Reservation.

April 28-30 Hiking and Fishing Weekend at Rescia Falls Scout Reservation.
NOTE DATE CHANGE!

June 2-4 Rifle & shotgun shooting weekend at Community Rod & Gun Club, Bechtelsville, PA. **NOTE DATE CHANGE!**

June 23-25 Rock Hall Yacht Club, Maryland.

August 6-12 Summer camp – Rodney Scout Reservation, Maryland.

August 26 Parking for Chicken BBQ at Souderton Mennonite Homes.

CAMP MEN-O-LAN NOTES

1-Anthony Rivellini and Zach Brong will be in charge of meals, under adult guidance.

2-Materials for Basketry merit badge will be available, the cost is \$15.50 (troop wholesale price) for the required stool and 2 baskets. If you already have the materials, bring them with you; if they need to be replaced, contact Harold. OR you can complete them if you started them earlier. Additional requirements now.

3-Adult participation welcome. Heated indoor cabins will be used.

4-A SPECIAL BOARD OF REVIEW IS PLANNED. COMMITTEE MEMBERS are asked to attend Saturday evening [come for supper, too].

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2006 SUMMER CAMP – RODNEY SCOUT RESERVATION, MARYLAND

Our troop now has confirmed reservations at this scout camp for the week of August 6-12, 2006, in campsite - Susquehannock. This week was selected so as not to conflict with other events , such as NOAC. This is a regular council camp, with meals in a dining hall. This will be the 1st time our troop will camp here. Adults are needed for leadership and transportation. A \$25.00 deposit to hold a place is DUE BY January 16, 2006. Full details were emailed to everyone on November 23, 2005 [if you need a copy, contact Harold]. ! Let's All Go !

CAMP MEN-O-LAN WEEKEND – G R E A T

Thanks to: Chris Kulp and David Pulli for laying out the compass orienteering course, held in spite of the snow, and to the adults who helped the patrols along the way [Peter Detwiler's patrol did it in the fastest time]; to Andrew Cowles for running the Computers merit badge, with 10 Scouts earning this badge; to Harold Frederick for helping with the Camping merit badge [5 additional Scouts worked on Camping merit badge]; Anthony Rivellini was the cook for the weekend, and Scott Forwood supplied the cookie dough for 12 dozen cookies baked Friday night, and eaten by the end of supper Saturday. Thanks to everyone else who helped make this weekend a success.

ADVANCEMENT COMPLETED – CONGRATULATIONS

Tenderfoot - Michael LaTourette; **First Class** - Ben Gehringer; **Eagle Troop Board of Review** - Zachary Wile. **Merit badges** - Adam Gambone - Communications.

2006 SUPER BOWL HOAGIE/STROMBOLI SALE

This year the sale packets are being distributed at the January 9, 2006 troop meeting. All orders and payments are due on January 23, 2006, with the pick-up/delivery date being February 4, 2006. This is our 2nd fund

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raising opportunity this year to earn credit for the 2006 summer scout camp or other scouting activities. [Popcorn Sale was the 1st.] Let's make it our best sale ever!

SCOUTING FOR FOOD PROJECT

Thanks go to all Scouts and adults who helped put out bags on Saturday, November 12th, and helped with the food collection, etc., on November 19th. We collected a total of 2736 items. Also, thanks to the adults who helped staple on or enclose notices in over 1,000 bags on Nov. 7. It did pay off!

NOVEMBER WEEKEND AT HAWK MT/APPALACHIAN TRAIL VERY SUCCESSFUL

The weather was very nice for backpacking on the Appalachian Trail, from Route 501 eastward and back to the Hawk Mountain Scout Camp. 8 Scouts and 2 adults did this hike. 3 other Scouts and 4 other adults stayed at camp. These additional adults allowed the vehicles transporting the hikers to be brought back to camp. Andrew van der Kleut took charge of the meal preparation and supper was done in Dutch ovens [assisted by Tim Wile]. Thanks to everyone who helped.

TROOP CONTINUES TO COLLECT ALUMINUM CANS & OTHER SALEABLE MATERIALS

Just put them on Harold's front porch behind the bushes. Last year we earned \$212.50 for the materials and cans collected. These funds are used for program material and merit badge books, and help to keep the annual registration fees lower.

CHARTER RENEWAL FOR 2006

Each year our troop has to renew its charter and the members who want to continue their membership thru the coming year. This is part of why

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annual dues/registration fees are collected. In this process, those members who do not wish to continue, are dropped from the troop. This year the following members have decided to leave the troop - Scouts Matt Baldovsky, Harley Nelson, Dan Radcliff, Dylan Rauschenberger; Adults James Baldovsky, Scott Phoenix, Rudy Rauschenberger, Jeff Schatz, Ken Schatz, Dennis Snyder. We wish them well in their next endeavors.

SCOUT TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Several training opportunities are now available online, including fast start and youth protection. Simply go to the CRADLE OF LIBERTY web site. PLEASE NOTIFY Harold when taking these. You even get a certificate printed out for Youth Protection, and every adult should take both of these topics. Also, all adults are encouraged to attend the December roundtable for ESSENTIALS training 7.00pm to 9.00pm. Contact Harold for details. Fast Start is required [Harold has a tape, or do it online].

POPCORN SALE RESULTS

Our Gross Sales totaled \$3,296.00 [which was about 50% better than 2004], giving the troop a net profit of \$988.80, of which 90% [a total of \$889.92] was transferred into the Scout Savings Accounts, according to each Scout's individual sales. Those wishing to know the amount transferred into their savings account should contact Harold. Thanks go to Kathy Rhoads as chairperson.

EUROPEAN TOUR FOR 2006 UPDATE

After careful consideration of all the facts by the leaders in charge, namely, Timothy Wile and Harold Frederick, this trip has been cancelled. On all previous European trips, Scouting activities were the main part of the trip, with some sightseeing when possible. The original 2006 plan was to join Group 12 of Vienna, Austria, for home hospitality and sightseeing, plus attending their District Scout Camp, plus touring 3 additional countries. However, the Austrian leaders notified us that they felt our participation in

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their District Scout Camp would not be appropriate. Also, contacts in Poland dried up, and no new contacts materialize there or in any other country. With the anticipated higher air and land travel due to higher fuel prices, it was felt that it was too late to proceed any further with the remaining original plans or even to revise the travel plans.

PATROL REORGANIZATION/ELECTIONS HELD

The following reorganization of our patrol and troop leadership took place in early November, as listed below:

Senior Patrol Leader - Chris Kulp.

Asst Senior Patrol Leaders - David Pulli, Troy Radcliff.

New Patrols:

Bat - Michael Hay, PL; Andrew Floro, APL - election later.
Michael Haupt, Michael LaTourette, Anthony Rivellini.

Bear - Zachary Brong, PL; Tyler Wood, APL. Darius Dorsey,
Joshua Floro, Adam Gambone.

Flaming Arrow - Jon-Pat Carroll, PL; Andrew van der Kleut,
APL. Ben Gehringer, Keith Hunter, Derek Radcliff, Andrew Rhoads.

Stinger (Bee) - Peter Detwiler, PL; Travis Brown, APL. Andrew
Isban, Nathan Lanan, Justin Seelaus.

Troop Guides - Nathan Johnson, Justin Nice, Max Schwyter, Sam
Schwyter.

Jr ASM - Rob Donahue, Micah Victoria.

To be assigned - Arthur Forwood, Spenser Forwood.

Have a SAFE & ENJOYABLE HOLIDAY SEASON and a HAPPY NEW YEAR!