



Boy Scout Troop 461
Zion Mennonite Church
Souderton, Pennsylvania



Troop Web Site <http://www.soudertontroop461.org>

E-Mail tim_wile@msn.com

Web Master Timothy P. Wile, Scoutmaster

NEWSLETTER

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CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- 14 June - Troop Meeting – Rifle & Shotgun Safety; Head Count for Spring Shooting Sports Weekend.
- 18-20 June- Spring Shooting Sports Weekend at the Community Rod & Gun Club; Bechtelsville, PA; tent camping; depart Zion Mennonite Church at 1930 hours on Friday, 18 June 2010.
- 21 June - Troop Meeting – Fire Safety and Prevention; Perseverance Volunteer Fire Company, North Second Street, Souderton, PA.
- 21 June - Troop Committee Meeting – Zion Mennonite Church Library; 1930 hours.
- 28 June - Troop Meeting – Summer Camp Preparation – Monthly Board of Review, if needed.
- 5 July - Independence Day Holiday – No Troop Meeting – Have a Safe and Enjoyable Independence Day Holiday.
- 12 July - Troop Meeting – Last Preparations for Summer Camp at Ockanickon Scout Reservation; turn in medical forms.
- 18 July - Troop departs Zion Mennonite Church for Summer Camp at Ockanickon Scout Reservation.
- 19 July - Troop at Ockanickon Scout Reservation for Summer Camp – No Troop Meeting.

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- 24 July - Troop returns from Summer Camp at Ockanickon Scout Reservation.
- 26 July - Troop Meeting –
- 26 July - Troop Committee Meeting – 1930 hours in Zion Mennonite Church Library.

CALENDAR OF FUTURE PLANNED EVENTS

- 18-20 June 2010 – Spring Shooting Sports Weekend at Community Rod & Gun Club, Bechtelsville, Berks County, Pennsylvania.
- 18-23 July 2010 – Summer Camp at Ockanickon Scout Reservation, Pipersville, Bucks County, PA
- 28 August 2010 – Annual Service Project at Souderton Mennonite Community – Parking for Chicken Bar-B-Que.
- 17-19 September 2010 – Autumn Fun Camp at Firestone Camp, Resica Falls Scout Reservation, Marshall's Creek, PA.
- 8-10 October 2010 – General Nash District Cub-O-Ree/Camp-O-Ree at Upper Gwynedd Park, North Wales, PA
- 5-7 November 2010 – Gettysburg Trail Weekend – Part Two; Cabin Camping at Camp Tuckahoe, Dillsburg, York County, PA; Complete remaining portions of Gettysburg Historical Trail.
- 4 December 2010 – General Nash District Life-to-Eagle Seminar at Upper Gwynedd Township Building; North Wales, PA.
- 10-12 December 2010 – Winter Camping & Hiking Weekend at Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation (Cabin Camping). Hiking on Appalachian Trail (weather permitting).

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14-16 January 2011 – Winter Shooting Sports Weekend at Community Rod & Gun Club, Bechtelsville, Berks County, Pennsylvania.

4-6 February 2011 – General Nash District Klondike Derby at Camp Hart, Green Lane, Montgomery County, PA.

ADVANCEMENT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Tenderfoot – Jacob Aleman. **Life** – Ben Gehringer. **Eagle Scout District Board of Review** – Adam Gambone. **Merit Badges** – Andrew van der Kleut: Citizenship in the Community, Communications, Personal Fitness and Safety; Sean van der Kleut: Electricity.

TRAINING CHANGES

Effective immediately, the Boy Scouts of America is now requiring all prospective volunteer leaders to have taken and completed Youth Protection Training prior to submitting an adult leader application. A certificate of completion for Youth Protection Training must accompany all new adult volunteer applications.

For currently registered adult leaders, Youth Protection Training must be re-newed every two (2) years. Adults who are not current with their Youth Protection Training will not be re-registered for the following charter year.

Youth Protection Training can be accomplished online by going to <http://www.myscouting.org/>. A person does not have to be a registered volunteer or have a BSA ID number in order to take the training. Simply log onto MyScouting and create an account. From the MyScouting portal, click on E-Learning and take the Youth Protection Training. Upon completion, print a certificate and submit it with the

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adult volunteer application or provide it to your unit training coordinator or unit leader for processing by the Cradle of Liberty Council.

SHOOTING SPORTS WEEKEND AT BECHTELSTVILLE

Troop 461 will hold its spring shooting sports weekend at the Community Rod & Gun Club located in Bechtelsville, Berks County, during the weekend of 18 through 20 June 2010. This is the twenty-sixty (26th) consecutive year that the Community Rod & Gun Club has allowed our Troop to use their facilities for our shooting sports weekend.

This year's program will include both small bore rifle shooting, *i.e.*, .22LR calibre rifles, as well as shotgun shooting. Scouts will have the opportunity to complete the shooting portion of Shotgun Shooting Merit Badge during this weekend as well as attempt to complete some of the shooting and book portions of both Rifle and Shotgun Shooting Merit Badges.

In addition to the small bore and shotgun shooting, there are plans for an exhibition and demonstration of other types of firearms, including some larger bore, black powder, and historical firearms that the Scouts and others in attendance will be able to observe in operation.



As in years past, this is a tent camping weekend with the gun club's clubhouse being utilised as a dining facility and gathering place for instruction and meetings. The clubhouse also has restroom facilities, *i.e.*, indoor plumbing.

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The cost of the weekend is twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), which is our usual weekend camping trip cost being due to the cost of .22LR and shotgun ammunition for the weekend. Scouts who desire to attempt to try and complete the shooting portion of the Shotgun Shooting Merit Badge must advise either SM Tim Wile or Treasurer Maria van der Kleut prior to the camp so that sufficient shotgun ammunition is procured. There is an additional ten dollar (\$10.00) charge for those wishing to shoot for the Shotgun Shooting Merit Badge to cover the cost of the additional shotgun ammunition and clay targets. As is our usual protocol, signed permission forms are required for each of the Scouts participating in the shooting sports weekend. Parents are enthusiastically welcome to accompany their Scouts for this weekend!

The Troop will depart from the parking lot of Zion Mennonite Church at 1930 hours (that's 7:30 p.m. for you 12-hour clock types) expect to be at the gun club by 2030 hours. Departure is planned on Sunday morning between 1030 and 1100 hours and we should be back at the Zion Mennonite Church parking lot by 1200 hours on Sunday.

SCOUTS ENJOY FISHING WEEKEND AT CAMP HART



Our May fishing weekend at Camp Hart in Musser Scout Reservation near Green Lane, Pennsylvania went well during the weekend of 14 through 16 May 2010 was a rousing success despite the attendance of only five (5) Scouts and five (5) adult leaders. The Scouts in attendance spent most of Saturday fishing in the

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Unami Creek, which runs through both Camp Hart and Camp Delmont. Most of the Scouts did their fishing near the Camp Hart dam and by the old Hart waterfront. Two of our more enterprising and adventurous members – who for obvious reasons will remain unnamed – checked out the unlocked Boathouse and discovered a serviceable aluminium rowboat, oars and personal flotation devices, which they proceeded to “borrow” from the camp to try their luck fishing at some inaccessible places along the Unami Creek. Unfortunately for them, their ill-gotten gains afforded them no major advantage in fishing as they had no more luck than did their shore-bound comrades. The photo at right shows one of our lucky fisherman proudly displaying his first catch of the day!



Despite the fact that it was an absolutely beautiful weekend, we were the only Boy Scout unit in camp. That worked to our advantage in that the Campmaster assigned us to the Staff Area at Camp Hart that is equipped with quite a few Adirondack shelters with bunks and even electricity! Firewood was plentiful and to say we were spoiled would be an understatement.

ASM Scott Forwood took care of the menu and cooking for the weekend and the highlight of Saturday was chicken kabobs cooked over the fire. Friday night's snack was hot dogs and sauerkraut so no one went to bed hungry.

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HAROLD L. FREDERICK, JR., MEMORIAL GARDEN

Near the red barn by Zion Mennonite Church, a small plot of land is fast turning into a living and fruitful memorial to our late Scoutmaster, Harold L. Frederick, Jr., who passed away this past January. The memorial garden is the Eagle Scout service project of our Senior Patrol Leader, Andrew van der Kleut, and is well underway on a small patch of land where the original farm house that went with the barn was formerly located. The memorial garden will produce vegetables for use by Zion Mennonite Church's "Table of Plenty," a programme to which Harold was a regular contributor, often from the produce of his own home garden. Harold was also a life long member of the Zion Mennonite Church, our Troop's sponsoring organisation.



In addition to providing the plot of land for the memorial garden, members of the Zion Mennonite Church also provided monetary contributions for the materials needed to construct the facility. The completed memorial garden will include a perimeter fence to keep out critters and the curious. Already plants are poking out of the ground and the first green pepper was spotted on one of the pepper plants!

A very fitting living memorial to a man who gave so much during his lifetime to the Boy Scouts as well as to his community in general. We are confident that Harold would be pleased.

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SUMMER CAMP 2009 – OCKANICKON

Our annual Summer Camp is coming up in slightly over a month and is scheduled for the week of 18 through 23 July 2010 at Ockanickon Scout Reservation (OSR) near Pipersville in Bucks County. Ockanickon has been one of our Troop's favourite camping sites for more than two decades and our Scouts have enjoyed many memorable weekends and summer camps there.



Troops are requested to arrive at OSR for check-in between 1400 and 1600 hours on Sunday. Therefore, we should depart Zion Mennonite Church for camp no later than 1300 hours on 18 July 2010. Troops will meet their site manager in the parking lot at OSR who will take the Scouts and Leaders to their camp sites. The Troop will remain in their assigned camp site until they are called for the medical re-check. During the medical re-check, the Scouts and Leaders will have their temperatures taken and any individual with a temperature of 101° Fahrenheit or higher will be sent home. OSR recommends that the parents take their son's temperatures in the morning prior to leaving for OSR and if the child's temperature is 101° Fahrenheit or higher, that they do not send their son to camp. If the person's fever breaks and their temperature lowers to less than 101° Fahrenheit, they can come to camp at that time.

OSR requires that all Scouts and Leaders have a current BSA medical form that has been accomplished no earlier than August 2009. A copy of the current medical form will be retained at the OSR health lodge and it is recommended that the unit leader also retain a copy in the camp site. **A copy of the Scout or Leader's medical insurance card, if applicable, must be attached to the current BSA medical form.**

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Medications for Scouts and/or Leaders may be kept either at the health lodge or in the camp site. If unit medications are kept at the camp site, they are required to be kept in a locked box or cooler. All medications must be in their original prescription bottles and no more than a week's worth of medications should be taken to camp. Scouts will be permitted to keep emergency medications such as inhalers and epi-pens on their persons. A Scout's parents are responsible for ensuring that their son takes his required medication – OSR and its staff assume no responsibility for ensuring that any particular Scout takes his required medication.

For Scouts or Leaders who suffer from food allergies or have other dietary concerns, the tentative camp menu will be posted on line.

Finally, for any particular questions, the camp nurse can be reached by email at healthlodge@ockanickon.org.

Swimming re-checks will also be accomplished on Sunday afternoon unless the Troop has performed their respective swimming re-checks prior to arrival at OSR. OSR strongly recommends that Troops perform the swimming checks prior to arrival at OSR.

Troop photographs will be taken between 1700 and 1800 hours on Sunday. The photographs are taken and processed by the OSR Venture Crew and the cost is \$8.00 for an 8 x 10 colour photo. Sunday dinner will consist of hamburgers, hot dogs and associated side items and will be served in the dining hall between 1700 and 1830 hours on a come as you wish basis. Parents may stay for dinner on Sunday evening upon paying the per person fee for the meal.

Dan Beard – Sign up for the Dan Beard programme occurs at the Sunday evening leader's meeting. The programme is a day-long programme and commences at 0915 hours each morning. Scouts participating in the Dan Beard programme can expect to earn the

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Swimming and Mammal Study merit badges along with completing a number of requirements towards Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class ranks. The Scouts participating in Dan Beard will be organised into patrols and will rotate between the various ScoutCraft areas as necessary for the topics being covered. For any Scout who is a non-swimmer, the programme will include instructional swim designed to familiarise the Scout with being in the water and bringing the Scout up to the swimmer level by the end of the week.

Science Merit Badges – OSR offers a number of science-oriented merit badges through its Science Centre and all of the badges science related merit badges at OSR can be completed during the week of summer camp. All of the science-related merit badges require some writing so Scouts planning on taking any of those badges should come to camp with adequate writing paper and writing instruments. Astronomy merit badge requires one (1) night visit and there is a \$5.00 charge for supplies for the Electronics merit badge.

Photography Merit Badge – Scouts interested in Photography merit badge must be at least 13 years of age and provide their own digital camera or have one that they can use. There is a \$5.00 charge for materials for this badge and there is a mandatory Sunday evening session for this merit badge and a second evening session will be signed up for on Sunday evening. Sign up for this badge is in the camp office.

High Adventure – COPE is available for the older Scouts and is a week-long commitment. There will also be rappelling available for those Scouts working on the Camping merit badge. Non-COPE scouts interested in rappelling must attend the Monday COPE session and advise the COPE staff of their interest. Rock climbing is normally done outside by in case of inclement weather, it will be done at the Doylestown Gym at a cost of \$12.00. There is also a parental permission/waiver form that must be signed by a parent for the Doylestown Gym. This form is available on the OSR web site.

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Suggesting Packing List for Summer Camp

Personal Hygiene (fragrant items attract insects, avoid)

- Soap
- Shampoo
- Deodorant
- Shaving Needs (if any)
- Towel

Clothing

- Complete Field/Class A uniform for dinner and retreat consisting of Scout socks, shorts, and khaki shirt
- Troop or Scout shirt for Activities/Class B uniform for retreats during high heat
- Swim Suit
- Close Toed Shoes
- Rain gear
- Sufficient clothing for 7 days (coin op laundry facilities are available at camp, detergent is available at the Trading Post)
- Water-proof boots or hiking shoes
- Jacket
- Sleeping Bag
- Bed sheet for hot evenings
- Pillow or bag to stuff with clothing to use as pillow
- Spare shoes
- Extra socks

Outdoor Protection

- Hat
- Water bottle
- Sunscreen
- Non-aerosol insect repellent

Other

- Flash light
- Extra batteries
- Pencil
- Paper
- Money for extra activities/Trading Post

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- Items specifically required for specific activities (see Leader Guide)

Optional

- Compass/GPS unit
- Camera
- Playing Cards
- Fishing Equipment