



Boy Scout Troop 461
Zion Mennonite Church
Souderton, Pennsylvania

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

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Web Master Timothy P. Wile, Scoutmaster



NEWSLETTER

Volume 49, No. 8

October 2007

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- October 1 Troop reorganisation; Senior Patrol Leader election. Rearrange troop gear into barn storage room. Sign-up for Cub-O-Ree/Camp-O-Ree.
- October 8 Troop meeting - Preparation for the General Nash District Camp-O-Ree/Cub-O-Ree. Final sign-up for this event. There is **NO FEE** for this weekend!!
- October 12-14. District Camp-O-Ree, Upper Gwynedd Park, North Wales. Departure is 7:00 o'clock p.m. at Zion Mennonite Church. Please note that there is **NO FEE** for this weekend!!
- October 13 General Nash District Cub-O-Ree, Upper Gwynedd Park, North Wales. 8:30 o'clock a.m. to 4:30 o'clock p.m. The theme this year is "Pirates," so dress, speak and act as such – within reason – during this activity.
- October 15 Troop Committee Meeting – 7:45 p.m. in Zion Mennonite Church Library.
- October 15 Troop meeting - Advancement, monthly Board of Review.
- October 22 Troop meeting – Deadline for Popcorn Sale orders – Please turn in your order sheets and monies to pay for the orders.
- October 29 Troop meeting - Halloween Party.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 461 NEWSLETTER

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Volume 49, No. 8

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Page 2

CALENDAR OF FUTURE PLANNED EVENTS

November 2—4, 2007 Monthly camping trip at Ockanickon Scout Reservation, Bucks County Council.

December 7—9, 2007 Winter camp at Camp Men-O-Lan, Finland, Bucks County.

January 11-13, 2008 Junior Leaders' training & fellowship weekend – Community Rod & Gun Club, Bechtelsville, Berks County.

February 22-24, 2008 Winter Snow Sports Weekend at Resica Falls Scout Reservation, Marshall's Creek. Snow sports at Big Boulder.

March 28-30, 2008 Hiking weekend on the Appalachian Trail.. Base camp at Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation, Hawk Mountain Council, Berks County.

April 17-19, 2008 Weekend camping trip at Ockanickon Scout Reservation, Bucks County Council. COPE course available as well as cooking and advancement.

April 15, 2008 Deadline for payment for Boot & Paddle Programme at Resica Falls for summer camp in order to get the discount rate.

May 15-18, 2008. Shooting Sports Weekend at the Community Rod & Gun Club, Bechtelsville, Berks County, Pennsylvania. Rifle & Shotgun Shooting merit badges will be available for a limited number of applicants..

June 6-8, 2008. Canoeing weekend – exact location to be announced at a later date.

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Page 3

July 6-12, 2008 Annual troop summer camp at Resica Falls Scout Reservation, Marshall's Creek, Pennsylvania. This is the troop's first summer camp at a Cradle of Liberty Council camp since the troop's 1997 trip to Resica Falls.

August 23, 2008 Service project – parking at the Souderton Mennonite Community Bar-B-Que. This is an easy way to accumulate service hours for advancement!



TWO NEW EAGLE SCOUTS

On Tuesday, October 2, 2007, Nathan Lanan and David Pulli completed their Eagle Scout District Board of Review and may for all intents and purposes be considered the troop's next two Eagle Scouts. Nathan and David make the third and fourth Eagle Scouts that have come from our troop in 2007, following Max Schwyter and Chris Kulp, who attained that honour earlier this year.

David Pulli is currently registered as an Assistant Scoutmaster (Reserve) with the troop and is currently attending Temple University. David graduated from Souderton Area High School in June 2007. David's Eagle Service Project was to conduct a book drive through the Souderton Area School District, to include the two middle schools and the high school. The books desired were to concentrate on the pre-school to high school age groups. The books were checked, placed into 8 groupings, and then delivered to both the Indian Valley Housing Corporation and the Boys and Girls Club of Souderton for distribution to needy families of children and teenagers. Total books collected and processed were 3687, plus 20 activity books, 12 VHS tapes, 10 audio books, 4 puzzles and 3 DVDs. Any books and items that were deemed

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Volume 49, No. 8

October 2007

Page 4

not appropriate for the above two organisations were donated to the Indian Valley Public Library.

Nathan Lanan is also now registered as an Assistant Scoutmaster with the troop and is in his senior year at Souderton Area High School. Nathan's Eagle Service Project was to clear an unsightly section of the parklands of Franconia Township along the Bambury-MOPAC Walking Trail. The area was formerly an island with steep walls around it. To make the park area safer, the island was turned into a peninsula, the area cleared of unwanted plants, replacing the removed plants with grass, and to erect a pergola, for future vine planting.

Following graduation from Souderton Area High School in June 2008, Nathan hopes to attend Gettysburg College, majoring in Education with the ultimate goal of becoming a teacher.

Congratulations to both Nathan and David for reaching this pinnacle of their Scouting experience!

NEW SCOUTMASTER TAKES OVER

Since Scoutmaster Harold Frederick is preparing to move into a villa at the Souderton Mennonite Community, both Harold and the Troop Committee decided that it was time for Harold to begin shifting some of his responsibilities onto a new leader and for Harold to concentrate on those jobs for which he is best suited. Therefore, as of September 15, 2007, the troop committee vested Harold with the title of "Scoutmaster Emeritus" and Harold will be taking over the duties of Troop Treasurer and will be registered as a member of the Troop Committee as of the next charter. Harold has served as Scoutmaster of Troop 461 since 1956, when the troop was reorganised, and Harold's

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Volume 49, No. 8

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Page 5

health concerns have mandated that he not attend the weekend events where tent camping is involved.

The new Scoutmaster of Troop 461 as of September 15, 2007, is Timothy P. Wile, a long time Assistant Scoutmaster with the troop. Tim has been a member of Troop 461 since December 1963, when he bridged to the troop from Cub Pack 398 in Souderton. Tim earned his Eagle Scout award in February 1966 and his God & Country religious award in 1967. Tim was also the first President of Explorer Post 2461 when it was reconstituted in 1968 and served on the summer camp staff at Resica Falls Scout Reservation during the summer of 1969. He began his tenure as an Assistant Scoutmaster with Troop 461 in December 1970, when he reached his 18th birthday, and has completed numerous training courses offered by the Boy Scouts of America, including Scoutmaster Fundamentals and Youth Protection. Tim is one of the troop's two rifle instructors who are certified by the National Rifle Association and has run the troop's shooting sports programme for the past 15 years. His wife, Leora, a registered nurse, serves on the troop committee and his son, Zachary, is an assistant scoutmaster with the troop. Zachary earned his Eagle Scout award with the troop in February 2006.



Tim Wile

Tim recently took early retirement from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation as of September 5, 2007, and will be re-establishing his private law practice in Lansdale sometime in the near future. Tim is also a retired Air Force Lieutenant Colonel, having spent nearly 26 years of active duty and reserve service with the Air Force, Air Force Reserve and the Army Reserve.

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Volume 49, No. 8

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Page 6

BOOT & PADDLE PROGRAMME REMINDER

Those Scouts who are interested in participating in the Boot & Paddle programme at the July 6—12, 2008, summer camp at Resica Falls should forward their fifty dollar (\$50.00) non-refundable deposit to troop treasurer Harold Frederick as soon as possible. Cheques should be made payable to “Boy Scout Troop 461.”

TROOP REORGANISATION

The troop held its annual Senior Patrol Leader election at the October 2, 2007, troop meeting and Justin Seelaus was elected Senior Patrol Leader for the coming Scouting year. Justin appointed Adam Gambone and Peter Detwiler as Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders.

Following the Senior Patrol Leader election, the troop realigned its patrol structure and there are now two, rather than three, patrols, plus the Senior Patrol. The Senior Patrol consists of the troop guides, assistant senior patrol leaders, any other older troop members having troop leadership positions who are not assigned to one of the two regular patrols. The Senior Patrol is headed by the senior patrol leader.

The following organisational chart illustrates Troop 461's organisation as of October 2, 2007.

Senior Patrol Leader - Justin Seelaus

Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders:

Peter Detwiler

Adam Gambone

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Volume 49, No. 8

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Page 7

Patrols

S-Men (Indians)

Ben Gehringer – PL
Josh Floro – APL
Josh Burke
Michael Hay
Andrew Rhoads
Anthony Rivellini
Sean van der Kleut

Puma

Zachary Brong – PL
Spenser Forwood –
APL
Andrew van der
Kleut – APL
Andrew Floro
Jordon Hay
Darian Serfass

Senior Patrol

Nathan Johnson
Sam Schwyter
Andrew Isban

While still registered as members of Troop 461, the status of the following members has not yet been finalised within the troop organisational structure:

Travis Brown
Troy Radcliff

Arthur Forwood
Nick Shurtz

Justin Nice

The following troop members, having reached their 18th birthday, are now registered as Assistant Scoutmasters:

Christopher Kulp
Max Schwyter

Nathan Lanan
David Pulli

Chris, Max and David are currently attending college and are considered as “reserve” Assistant Scoutmasters in that, as a result of their college studies and distance from home, they are not able to participate regularly in troop events.