



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

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October 2008

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- 22 September Troop Meeting – Cub-O-Ree Preparation – Rope Whipping – Hand out order forms for Popcorn Sale.
- 29 September Troop Meeting – Cub-O-Ree Preparation – Lashing Instruction & Practise – Work on Gateway for Cub-O-Ree.
- 6 October Troop Meeting – Cub-O-Ree Preparation – Finalise Gateway Preparation – Assignments for Cub-O-Ree.
YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING for ADULT LEADERS.
- 8 October General Nash District Roundtable – Trinity Lutheran Church, Main Street, Lansdale, at 1930 hours (7:30 p.m.).
- 10-12 October General Nash District Camp-O-Ree/Cub-O-Ree at Upper Gwynedd Township Community Park, North Wales, Pennsylvania. Cost - \$25.00/person.
- 11 October General Nash District Cub-O-Ree – Upper Gwynedd Township Community Park, North Wales, Pennsylvania, 0800 through 1700 hours (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.).
- 13 October Troop Meeting – Route preparation for November hiking/backpacking trip.
- 20 October Troop Meeting – “How to Pack for a Hiking or Backpacking Trip” – What to take, and, more importantly, what not to take – lessons learned by SPL Justin Seelaus

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and ASPL Adam Gambone from their experiences on this past summer's boot and paddle adventure.

20 October Troop Committee Meeting – 1945 hours (7:45 p.m.) in Zion Mennonite Church Library.

24 October Popcorn Sale Ends

27 October Troop Meeting – Order forms and monies from popcorn sales due.

3 November Troop Meeting – Final meeting before November hiking/backpacking meeting. Final head count & signup.

10 November Troop Meeting

12 November General Nash District Roundtable, Trinity Lutheran Church, Main Street, Lansdale, at 1930 hours (7:30 p.m.).

17 November Troop Meeting

17 November Troop Committee Meeting – 1945 hours (7:45 p.m.) in library of Zion Mennonite Church.

CALENDAR OF FUTURE PLANNED EVENTS

7-9 November 2008 – Hiking & Backpacking weekend.

15 November 2008 – Scouting for Food – Meet at Zion Mennonite Church to hand out donation bags in our troop's area of responsibility. Meet at Church at 1000 hours (10:00 a.m.).

22 November 2008 – Scouting for Food – Meet at Zion Mennonite Church to collect food donations, sort donations and deliver

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donated food to Indian Valley Opportunity Centre (IVOC). This day involves more time and effort so extra help is greatly appreciated.

1 December 2008 – General Nash District Den Chief Training.

12-14 December 2008 – Annual winter cabin camp at Camp Men-O-Lan, Quakertown, Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

23-25 January 2009 – General Nash District Klondike Derby at Camp Hart, Musser Scout Reservation, Green Lane, PA.

February 2009 – Winter camping weekend – possibly at French Creek State Park or Resica Falls Scout Reservation.

March 2009 – Camping & hiking weekend at Gettysburg National Military Park.

April 2009 – Spring camping weekend at Ockanickon Scout Reservation or possible revised trip to Gettysburg National Military Park.

May 2009 – Annual shooting sports weekend at Community Rod & Gun Club in Bechtelsville, Berks County, Pennsylvania.

June 2009 – Civil War Forts Tour Weekend – a new adventure for our troop this year. A ferry will be taking us to three (3) Civil War era forts along the lower Delaware Bay

13-19 July 2009 – Annual troop summer camp at Camp Buckskin of the Curtis S. Reed Scout Reservation in the Adirondack Mountain Region of upper New York State.



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SEPTEMBER CAMP AT FIRESTONE

Beautiful autumn weather provided us with great start to the 2008 – 2009 camping season. Seven (7) Scouts were accompanied by three (3) adult leaders spent a relaxing weekend from 19 through 21 September 2008 at the Firestone Explorer Base at Resica Falls Scout Reservation in the Pocono Mountains. The troop stayed at the Porcupine Ridge camp site, a favourite of our troop for many years. Most of the



sites at Firestone have two (2) Adirondack style shelters so there was a limited need for tents. The adult leaders took advantage of ASM Scott Forwood's pop-up camper to sleep in, although an electrical failure in the camper made the experience a bit more rustic than they originally anticipated.



In addition to the usual camp activities of gathering wood, cooking, and cleaning up, there was plenty of time of other activities. The boys took a hike to the one swimming hole they did not get to during summer camp.

With the recent cool weather in the Pocono's reports are that "Cool Dip" is a well earned name for this spot. While there Josh Burke completed his First Class swimming requirements. Also on this trip several timber spars were collected to

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be used in future pioneering projects – including our planned gateway project for the upcoming Cub-O-Ree. A great time was had by all.

2008 GENERAL NASH DISTRICT CUB-O-REE

The weekend of 10-12 October 2008 will see General Nash District hold its annual Fall Camp-O-Ree and Cub-O-Ree at the Upper Gwynedd Township Community Park in North Wales. The Cub-O-Ree is an annual event sponsored by our district to give area Cub Scouts a taste of what Boy Scouting is all about and check out the various Boy Scout Troops in the General Nash District. In 2007, there were more than 1,000 Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts in attendance!

Theme is year is the “Knights of Nash” – a medieval or Middle Ages theme. Rather than our traditional international games, the Troop decided this year to demonstrate International Foods. From Austria – pancakes with spiced apples, from Iceland – Loveballs, and from Canada – Maple Cookies. Naturally, we will be providing samples of all three items to our guests and visitors.

We will be leaving from the Zion Mennonite Church parking lot at 1900 hours (7:00 p.m.) sharp!! There is a great deal of setting up to be done Friday night and Saturday morning before the Cubs and families arrive. We anticipate returning to the church between 1100 (11:00 a.m.) and 1200 (12:00 noon) on Sunday. The cost of this event is \$25.00 per person. Sign-ups will begin at the 29 September 2008 troop meeting.

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ADVANCEMENT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to those Scouts who completed advancement at the troop's annual summer camp at Resica Falls Scout Reservation from 6 through 12 July 2008.

Merit Badges: Peter Detwiler – Indian Lore, Orienteering, Soil & Water Conservation & Wood Carving; Spenser Forwood – Canoeing, Leatherwork & Rowing; Adam Gambone – Canoeing, First Aid; Orienteering, Soil & Water Conservation & Wood Carving; Andrew Isban – Orienteering & Wood Carving; Andrew Rhoads – Camping; Brandon Rhoads – Leatherwork, Nature & Swimming; Justin Seelaus – Mammal Study, Orienteering, Shotgun Shooting, Soil & Water Conservation, Rowing & Wood Carving. **Dan Beard Programme:** Brandon Rhoads.

CENTENNIAL JAMBOREE 2010!!

The Boy Scouts of America will be celebrating its 100th Anniversary in 2010 with a National Jamboree that is to be held from 26 July 2010 through 4 August 2010 at Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia. The BSA uses approximately 3,000 acres of Fort A.P. Hill for its National Jamborees and the Fort has been the site of every BSA National Jamboree since 1981. It is expected that approximately 50,000 Scouts and Scouters from the USA and around the world will attend the BSA Centennial Jamboree at Fort A.P. Hill in 2010.



In order to attend the National Jamboree as a Scout, a boy must be registered as a Boy Scout or as a Varsity Scout, must have attained the age of twelve (12) years or have completed the sixth grade and have attained the rank of First Class Scout by 1 July 2010. Additionally, in order to attend as a Scout, the member must not have attained his

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eighteenth (18th) birthday by 4 August 2010. The Scout must also attend pre-jamboree training that includes monthly meetings with the Scout's jamboree troop at three (3) pre-jamboree camping weekends.

Participants to attend the 2010 Centennial National Jamboree are chosen by the local BSA councils. Youth applications and additional information can be obtained at the National Jamboree website at <http://www.bsajamboree.org/>. Youth applications must be endorsed by the applicant's Scoutmaster and submitted to Cradle of Liberty Council with a ten dollar (\$10.00) non-refundable application fee. This fee is not part of the jamboree fee that is set by each council. Applicants will be notified by their respective councils if they are chosen to attend the National Jamboree and to which jamboree troop they are assigned.

Troop 461 has had several of its members attend the past two (2) National Jamborees, held in 2001 and 2005, and several of our members attended the 2007 World Jamboree held in England. If any member is interested in attending the 2010 National Jamboree, please speak with one of those Scouts about their experiences.

SCOUT UNIFORM REMINDER!!

It hardly needs to be stated, but the Boy Scouts of America is a uniformed organisation and it is our uniform that identifies us as a member of the BSA and of Troop 461. It is not only encouraged, but expected, that Troop members and leaders wear their Scout uniforms when participating in Scout events, such as meetings, camping trips, service projects (where appropriate), etc.

When Yocum & Gottshalk's department store of Souderton closed its doors some years ago, the unsold uniform parts on hand were offered to Troop 461. This was the beginning of Troop 461's Uniform Exchange Programme. Up to May 2007, Harold Frederick maintained the troop's

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Scout uniform exchange. Julie Youtz (Ben Gehringer's mom) has since taken over this operation. Contact Julie at 215-703-0733 if you have a need for a Scout uniform part or have an outgrown uniform shirt or pants to donate to the Troop uniform exchange.

We would like to see all scouts in full uniform, if uniform parts are available. There is no charge presently to secure another uniform part, but where doing so, we ask the older, i.e., too small, item by turned in for another scout to use. In doing so, PLEASE LEAVE THE "SOUDERTON, PA, 60 YEAR AND 461" BADGES ON THE UNIFORM SHIRT. If new ones are needed, they are available from the troop at no cost. You may remove all other badges, but please do so carefully so as not to tear or cut the shirt.