

# HATBORO BOY SCOUT TROOP 3

Cradle of Liberty Council, BSA

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## TROOP 3 NEWSLETTER

Dear Scout Families,

June marks the beginning of our new troop year. The boys have selected their new senior patrol leaders for the year (George Balot and Patrick Lavelle) and have divided themselves into new patrols. Next up is for the group of boy leaders to decide on the activity plan for the coming year. I know of no other organization that relies on their youth to make such key decisions about the operation of the group. The fact that our scouts are up to the task is a reflection of the training that begins the very first day a young Webelos scout crosses over to Troop 3. A key element of the Boy Scout program is to put the boys in increasingly challenging situations and let them learn to handle those increased expectations. As Scoutmaster I get to see the culmination of this growing process. It is my honor to have been able to work with last year's Troop Leadership Council. The TLC was led by Senior Patrol Leaders Nick Kelly and Jason Graf. They were joined by our group of patrol leaders and other troop leaders. The TLC did a great job of working together – listening to one another's ideas and making plans for the troop moving forward. Thanks to all that made the 2013-2014 scout year a successful one. And now on to the new troop year.

### UPCOMING EVENTS THIS MONTH:

**TLC Meeting:** The newly formed TLC will meet Wednesday, June 11, 7:30pm at Mr. Gentry's house. This is a very important meeting since we will be finalizing the 2014-2015 annual plan. If a patrol leader cannot attend then he needs to make sure his APL or another scout will attend in his place. This goes for all TLC meetings.

**Summer Camp Preparation:** It is almost time for summer camp. The troop should have a great time at Resica Falls. An information letter will be sent out in a few weeks with information about what to bring. In the meantime there are several key dates that should go on the family calendar.

**June 9, 7:30 pm:** Troop meeting at Hatboro Baptist – **merit badge sign-up**

**June 28, 7:00 pm:** Troop meeting at Upper Moreland Swim Club – **summer camp swim test**  
(3505 Moore Rd, Hatboro, off of Lukens Lane)

**June 28, 7:45 pm:** At the swim club... **parents' informational meeting for summer camp**

Do not worry if you have to miss one of these summer camp meetings due to family scheduling conflicts. But if you know you are going to miss the merit badge sign-up night June 9 then please let Mr. Dutill know so that you can sign up for badges on a different night.

## **Service to the Community:**

June 7, **Horsham Day.** Our VT3 video crew will be videotaping activities at the Horsham Day celebration. If you are interested in helping please contact Mr. John.

**June Trip, Dorney Park and Camp Delmont, June 20-22:** Our June camping trip will find us camping at Camp Delmont (Musser Scout Reservation). We will spend Saturday at Dorney Park. We will be able to ride the coasters as well as cool off in the water park. It should be a fun way to close out the school year. We will meet at Hatboro Church at 6pm on Friday and will be back by 1pm on Sunday. The troop cost of the trip for Dorney and camping will be \$42. (There will also be a cost for patrol food.) Please let your patrol leader know by June 9 as to whether you plan to attend. A copy of the informational flier has been posted on the troop website.

**National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT, also known as Silver Stage):** The Cradle of Liberty Council is offering three different sessions of its acclaimed NYLT program for scouts 13-17 years old. The 3 different sessions are scheduled for June 22-28, August 3-9, and two weekends Sept 26-28 & Oct 3-5. This is a great experience for scouts no matter whether or not they want to take on a troop leadership position. The cost is \$265, but the troop will reimburse 50% of the cost when the course is completed. Please let Mr. Gentry know as soon as possible if you would like more information on the training program.

**Order of the Arrow Vigil Honor:** We are proud to announce that one of our leaders, Dan Murphy, successfully completed his Vigil ceremony May 18. This is the highest honor in the Order of the Arrow and requires election by the council's Unami Lodge. We congratulate Dan on this high honor..

**Eagle Court of Honor: Chris Atras, June 2:** An Eagle court of honor is an important event in the life of the new Eagle Scout and his family. But it is also an important event in the life of the troop. All of our scouts benefit from seeing one of their peers achieve this high rank. Please join us as we recognize Chris's accomplishments.

## **PAST EVENTS**

**Hot Air Balloon Program:** Thanks go to Mr. Howanetz for arranging our May program on hot air ballooning. He arranged for Scott Saxton of Endless Mountains Hot Air Balloons, Inc. to come out to our meeting and demonstrate his equipment.

**Service to the Church and Community:** We had several service opportunities in May. Thank you for everyone who helped out.

**Mulching the Hatboro Baptist Garden Beds.** We had a great turn-out of scouts and adults who spread mulch on the Hatboro Baptist garden beds. It is always nice when we can help out the church in such a visible way.

**Hatboro Library Bazaar.** We also participated in our semiannual donation of time to help the Hatboro library. They rely on the money earned by the sale of used books to help cover

their operating costs. Those sales would not be possible without the troop moving the 3000+ books from their storage shed to the sales tables. We will meet at the library at 8am to set-up the books and then will put the books back away at 3pm. You do not need to wear a uniform for this good turn.

**Warminster Memorial Day Parade Color Guard.** For the second year in a row the troop provided a color guard of Jim Iaia, Chris Atras, Dawson Stremme, and George Balot. It is quite an honor to be at the very front of the parade, carrying the U.S. flag to honor all those who have served our country

**May Trip, Canoeing on the Mullica River:** Our May camping trip took us to New Jersey to canoe on the Mullica River. We had great weather for the trip, which was good since we did have several canoes that decided they wanted to cool off by taking an unanticipated swim in the river. Thanks go to Mr. Gomez and Mr. Atras for organizing this trip, and to Mr. Dieterly and Jeff Dieterly for driving canoes even though they were not camping with us that weekend.

**Pack 410 Monthly Meeting:** Troop 3 was asked to provide the May program for Pack 410 (Simmons Elementary in Horsham). This was a good opportunity to be involved with one of our local Cub Scout packs. Thanks go to Dan and Bob Lee, Scott Herbine, Joe Moore, and AJ Larsson for their participation. We put on a successful evening of First Aid skills, albeit an evening with lots of boisterous energy supplied by the Cub Scouts.

**June Calendar**  
Theme = Engineering

**Assignments:** Preopening (Duct Tape), Opening (Me), Closing (Phoenix), Service (Florida Monument)

**Monthly Troop Outing:** Dorney Park Trip, June 20-22

May 31 – **Troop Room Clean-out**

June 2 7:15pm – **Troop Meeting** – Chris Atras Eagle Court of Honor

June 7 – **Horsham Day**

June 9 7:15pm – **Troop Meeting** – Summer camp merit badge sign-up and troop annual plan discussions

June 11 7:30pm – **TLC** – Mr. Gentry's house, 6 Sweet Gum Ln, Horsham

June 11 7:00pm – **District Roundtable**– Picnic at Alverthorpe Park (Enter the Park from the Jenkintown Road Camping Entrance)

June 12 7:30pm – **Staff Meeting** – location to be announced, annual plan presentation

June 16 7:15pm – **Troop Meeting** – Design of egg drop containers

June 20 6:00pm – **Dorney Park Trip** - Meet at Hatboro Baptist Church

June 22 1:00pm - Return to Hatboro Baptist Church

June 23 7:15pm – **Troop Meeting** – Building and testing of egg drop containers

June 30 7:00pm – **Troop Meeting** – Swim tests and free swim at Upper Moreland Swim Club (3505 Moore Rd, Hatboro, off of Lukens Lane).