

HATBORO BOY SCOUT TROOP 3

Cradle of Liberty Council, BSA

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TROOP 3 NEWSLETTER

Dear Scout Families,

This is the time of year when we welcome new scouts to Troop 3. We have a number of Arrow of Light Webelos who will be joining Troop 3 this month. As I write this newsletter, I don't have exact numbers but I know there are some from Cub Pack 59, Cub Pack 554, Cub Pack 410 and Cub Pack 17. There are also several who are joining after never being in a scouting program. We have already welcomed two scouts to our troop who fit this category. We will be looking to add an entire new patrol to our troop. It is great for me as scoutmaster to see our troop continue to grow. I always tell visiting parents that my first priority is that boys find some home with a Boy Scout troop that they feel comfortable with, whether it is our troop or some other troop. I think that Troop 3 has a lot to offer, but more importantly I want to see all of the boys in our community have the benefit of what Scouting has to offer. Scouting is not about what boys initially bring to the troop, but rather it is all about the skills and confidence that they develop during the years while they are in Scouting. I encourage everyone to make these boys feel welcome. Think back to when you were first joining this troop and what you felt like. It is up to all of us to make them feel comfortable so that they will want to stay in scouting.

UPCOMING EVENTS THIS MONTH:

Ham and Turkey Supper, March 11: The date for the annual ham and turkey supper is Saturday, March 11. The dinner is an important event for the troop and it is expected that all scouts and their parents will help. It is the one fund raising event we do during the year for the benefit of the troop. Proceeds go to buying all of the awards the boys earn and to keeping our camping equipment in good repair. Tickets have already been distributed to the scouts. Unsold tickets and money need to be returned by the start of the troop meeting March

6. Boys going on the Mt. Washington trip will need to arrange with Mrs. Stremme to return their tickets before they leave for New Hampshire.

The other critical part to running a successful supper is having both boys and parents involved with the operation of the dinner. As said before, it is expected that all boys and parents participate in this event. We are using an online signup for our parent and Scouter volunteers. Please go to the site at: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0E44AFAD2DA20-2017> for sign up for times that you can help. Boys are being asked to sign up at the troop meeting. Boys will set up tables at 9:30 am on Saturday, and then should return to the church in uniform (but no neckerchiefs) by 3:30pm.

Hawk Mountain Trip: Come on out and join us as we are back to outdoor camping, (we have access to a cabin in the event of extreme weather). This is a great opportunity to finish your Merit Badge as we will be shooting all weekend long and have many other great opportunities planned as well as a hike at Hawk Mountain.

Hawk Mountain is a mountain ridge, part of the Blue Mountain Ridge in the Appalachian Mountain chain, located in central-eastern Pennsylvania near Reading/Allentown. The area includes 13,000 acres of protected private and public land. Many of the boulders were formed by periglacial processes in the Pleistocene epoch, or "ice age". There will be shooting going on all weekend as well as other events. The cost of the trip is \$ 24.00. Mr. Jones is planning this trip and a flyer is a part of this e-mail.

Crossover Ceremonies: On Sunday March 5, 2017, Troop 3 will take part in two crossover ceremonies. The first will be for Cub Pack 59 and will take place at St. David's Roman Catholic Church on Easton Rd in Willow Grove. Their Blue and Gold Banquet runs from 1 PM to 4 PM with the crossover taking place around 3 PM. They are looking for scout volunteers to assist with the running of the party beforehand. If any scout wants to attend, please let me know as soon as possible. I will also need some assistance with the cross over. If you would like to help with this, please let me know. Then at 5 PM, the same day, we will be at Lehman Methodist Church on York Rd in Hatboro for the Pack 17 Crossover. The crossover will take place at around 6 PM. Any scout who would like to help with this event is asked to see me also. I will also need some adult help with both crossover events. Finally there will be a cross over at Simmons Elementary School on March 18. This is the same weekend we are at Hawk Mountain. I will need some assistance with this also.

Washington District Pinewood Derby: The Washington District Pinewood Derby takes place on Sunday March 19 at Willow Grove Park Mall. This is usually a Cub Scout event, however, this year, there is an open class. This means that any scout, scouter or parent can make a car and enter it in the open class. Anyone interested should see me for details. Additionally, the District is looking for scouts to help run the event which is chaired by our own Assistant

Scoutmaster, Lester Blum. Anyone who might be able to help with the event should see me for details.

Mt. Washington Trip: After months of preparation, our Venture Crew departs for Mt. Washington New Hampshire on Saturday March 4. They hope the weather hold so that they are able to summit sometime on Monday. They will return to Hatboro by Tuesday March 7. We wish them well as they travel to New England.

PAST EVENTS:

Resica Falls Trip: We spent a great weekend at the Cradle of Liberty Councils Resica Falls Scout Reservation the weekend of February 24-26. Many of our scouts spent time at the shooting ranges while a number of scouts took in the beautiful scenery of the reservation at Signal Mountain and then again at Little Falls. Thanks to Mr. Lavelle who put it all together and to all the other adult staff who came along and helped out. Unfortunately skiing had to be canceled due to the weather.

Scout Sunday: Our Scouts did a great job at the Hatboro Baptist worship service on Scout Sunday. Multiple people in the congregation went out of their way to comment on how impressed they were with our boys. Thanks go out to all the Scouts who played a role in the service, and they include Dawson Stremme our SPL, Ben Iaia, Dan McKay, Jake McHugh, Dan Lee, Matt Lee, Manas Date, Nathan Kephart, Ethan Allen, Tom Dutil, Jimmy McGlumphy, Harry Schultz, Bobby Jones, Ivan Kakiko, Jesse Senegato, and Ethan Stanzlis. I also want to thank Brian Ehly who put the program together along with Pastor Doug Stratton and the church staff. We are thankful for all the support that the church offers us as our charter organization.

Mr. Grimes Wood Badge Beading Ceremony: On Monday February 13, 2017, Lead Assistant Scoutmaster Keith Grimes was recognized by the Washington District Training Chair, Mark Kenney for completing his Wood Badge Course. Wood Badge is the premier adult training program for scouters in the Boy Scouts of America. After working his "ticket" successfully, Mr. Grimes received his Wood Badge beads, a tradition that dates back to Gilwel Park in England and Scouting's founder, Sir Robert Baden Powell. Congratulations Mr. Grimes on completing his Wood Badge.

Ryan Walsh Eagle Ceremony: I want to thank everyone who was in attendance or who participated in Ryan Walsh's Eagle Ceremony on February 20. It was a great night for the Walsh family and a fitting tribute to all that Ryan has accomplished in scouting. I especially want to thank Bob John for the multimedia show, the McCaffreys for taking care of refreshments and Dave Cooper for the program.

NEWS AND NOTES:

Summer Camp 2017: As everyone knows, Troop 3 will be going to Resica Falls in July of this year. Mr. Dutill has already been doing quite a bit of work behind the scenes. There will be three payments of \$130.00 due for camp fees and the **second** payment will be due on Monday March 6, 2017. We estimate the total fee will be \$390.00 for scouts. Everyone should go to camp so if you need help paying for camp, camperships are available. Please see me or Mr. Cooper if you need a campership. In addition, camperships are available from the Cradle of Liberty Council and we will have a second pancake breakfast in May. Camp cards will also be available again this year and should be out in mid-March. **Important, Please Note:** Anyone attending either Philmont, the National Scout Jamboree or NYLT can attend Resica Falls at ½ price. If you are attending one of these events and were not going to go to summer camp, please reconsider based on this information. Please inform Mr. Dutill so you can be properly recorded.

New Troop Tents: I am pleased to announce that after an exhaustive search that began last fall, the troop committee gave its final approval to the purchase of new tents at the February meeting. With that approval in hand, Brian Ehly and Jim Lavelle went to EMS and purchased 35 brand new tents. The amount spent was much less than the \$10,000.00 authorized by the troop committee. It is my hope that the tents will be in service soon. We still have to put a new equipment policy in place and learn how to setup, take down and care for these tents. I hope that these tents will last a long time. I want to thank the TLC, the troop committee and especially Brian and Jim for bringing this all together.

Troop Electronics Policy: Troop 3 has a longstanding policy on the use of electronics during meetings and camping trips. I have seen an increase in the use of electronics during both meetings and trips and based on that, have begun to write an electronics policy. This policy is currently in draft form and will be presented to the troop committee on March 9 for review and approval. It does not change the current policy, it is now simply in written form. Once approved, I will ask all scouts and their parents to read the policy and then sign it. I appreciate the support of our parents with this policy.

OA Elections: On Monday February 6, 2017, Troop 3 held its annual Order of the Arrow Elections. This is the Boys Scouts of America Honor Society and all members are elected by their peers. I am happy to announce that 8 youth members were elected to the Order of the Arrow. Several youth members elected were the tapped out at our Resica Falls Trip in February. They included Chris Meixsell, and AJ Larsson. There are several more candidates that must be tapped out. They now have one year to complete their ordeal and become full members of the lodge. There are several opportunities through the year including Summer Camp at Resica Falls.

Olympia Scope: The Cradle of Liberty Council will host the 50th Anniversary of “Olympia Scope” the weekend of May 18 to 22, 2017 at Hart Scout Camp. We will be hosting a contingent of Canadian Scouts for the 4 days. Anyone who might be interested in Olympia Scope should contact Assistant Scoutmaster Bob Genn at 215-672-1972 or by e-mail at bbegnn266@Verizon.net.

National Youth Leadership Training: National Youth Leadership Training is an exciting action packed program for councils to provide youth members with leadership skills and experiences they can use in their home troops and in other situations demanding of leadership of self and others. To be eligible for NYLT, the scout must be 13 years of age by the start of the course and be First Class. The cost is \$420.00 and there are five sessions to choose from. The cost is one half the price if this is your second week of camp and the troop will pay ½ the cost when the scout completes the program. Anyone interested in NYLT should speak with me regarding their interest.

MARCH CALENDAR

Theme – Shooting Sports

Assignments:

Pre-opening: Dark Knight **Opening:** We Do Not **Closing:** DKP **Service:** 7 Keiths

MARCH BIG EVENT – HAWK MOUNTAIN

March

Troop Calendar

2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 TLC – 7:30PM Mr. Waeltz's house	2	3	4 Mt. Washington Trip Departs
5 Crossovers St. Davids Church 2pm Lehman Church 5 pm	6 Troop Meeting 7:30 PM HBC – Intro to Rifle Ham and Turkey Tickets Due	7 Mt. Washington Trip Returns	8 Washington District Roundtable 7:15 PM Roychester Comm Ctr	9 Troop Staff and Committee 7:30 Pm 133 Loller Rd, Hatboro	10	11 Ham & Turkey Setup 9Am Ham & Turkey Dinner 3:30 PM
12	13 Troop Meeting 7:30 PM Intro to new tents	14	15	16	17 Depart for Hawk Mountain 6:30 PM	18 Hawk Mountain Crossover at Simmons Elementary
19 Hawk Mountain	20 Troop Meeting 7:30 PM Intro to Shotguns	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 Troop Meeting 7:30 Intro to Pistols	28	29	30	31	