

# HATBORO BOY SCOUT TROOP 3

Cradle of Liberty Council, BSA

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## TROOP 3 NEWSLETTER

Dear Scout Families,

So spring has finally arrived. Flowers will soon be blooming, and the trees turning green. It's time to put away the snow shovels and take out the lawn mowers. I know I can't wait for what is ahead. I love the warm weather because I can get out and enjoy the fresh air. So, here we are at the change of another season. Like many other families, we have started the "Spring Cleaning" in our house. Think about that term, "Spring Cleaning". For most of us it could simply mean having a chance to open some windows, put winter clothes away, maybe cleanup the yard and get ready for the warmer weather. If you are a scout in Hatboro Troop 3, I think the term means so much more.

During the winter months, we don't really concentrate on advancement. With the arrival of Spring, it's time to clean up our advancement work and get ready for what is ahead in what promises to be a very busy summer. If you have a few requirements to complete for a merit badge, consider getting them done now. Maybe, you only need to do one or two more things to complete your next rank advancement. Make the decision to get it all cleaned up now and go into the spring and summer with a fresh start. Summer camp will soon be here and it will be time to make some serious advancement decisions.

### UPCOMING EVENTS THIS MONTH:

**Washington District Day of Service:** Washington District is trying something new this year with the Washington District Day of Service. This event will be held on Saturday April 1, 2017. The event will be held at Boy Scout Park at Meadowbrook and Valley Roads in Abington Township. This park was selected because of the name. It is very overgrown and is in need of cleaning. I encourage

all of our scouts to participate. You should arrive by 9 AM and bring work gloves, pruning shears or loppers, water and sunscreen. You may stay ½ day or the entire day of you choose. Lunch will be provided by the district.

**Semi Annual Parents Night:** Our semi-annual parent's night will be held on Monday April 3, 2017 at 7:30 PM in the Sanctuary at HBC. We will recognize all of the advancement that the scouts have accomplished in the past 6 months and will look back at all the activities the boys have engaged in over that time. These include all of the trips we have been on since October. It is always amazing to see all of the things Troop 3 does in a 6-month period. We will also be doing several special recognitions. This is an important night for the troop, so please plan on attending. I would ask anyone who is able to be at the church by 6:45 PM to assist in the sanctuary setup.

**Allaire State Park and Wall Stadium:** Our trip this month will take us to central New Jersey down at the shore. We will leave for Allaire State Park on Friday April 21, 2017 and will spend the weekend at Allaire State Park. We will visit the Aquarium on Saturday and then on Saturday evening go over to Wall Stadium to see the races. This promises to be an exciting weekend so don't miss out. We will announce the cost of the trip this week. See Mr. Lee if you are interested in going.

**Service to Hatboro Baptist Church:** Each year as a troop, we provide a service project to our sponsor, Hatboro Baptist Church. This year we will provide that service on Saturday April 29, 2017. We will once again clean all of the flower beds around the church and then spread mulch in each of the beds. More information on this will be coming soon so please mark your calendars and ask your son to help us with this project. The more hands we have the faster we get the work done.

#### **PAST EVENTS:**

**Ham and Turkey Supper:** Our annual Ham and Turkey Supper fundraiser is now behind us. There were so many people involved with this day that it is virtually impossible to thank them all, however, I mention a few people who did incredible work. Bob and Jeff Dieterly arrived at the church somewhere around 5AM to get the turkeys cooking. I think it was after 7pm that they finally left. Thanks to both of them for their incredibly hard work. Lea Stremme put in many hours of work arranging schedules, taking care of tickets and a host of other jobs. I thank her for all of her hard work. Many scouts and scouters came out and worked the dining room. Without them, none of this would have been possible. I also want to thank all of the parents and alumni who came out and helped out in the kitchen. We could not do this without everyone pitching in. I also thank Larry Wilkes for printing the tickets once again. We raised over \$5,200 which will run the troop for the next year. Thanks everyone.

**Hawk Mountain Trip:** The week we were supposed to travel to Hawk Mountain was the same week that we had our worst snow storm of the season. Hawk Mountain received over 2 feet of snow and without an easy access road, I felt it was necessary to cancel the trip. We looked to re-schedule this trip, but unfortunately, there is no time in the schedule to do so. Anyone that paid for the trip should have had that money refunded. We will look to next year to add this to the schedule again.

**Webelos to Scout Transition:** We have now completed all of our crossover ceremonies and I am so pleased to report that we have taken in 12 Webelos from various cub packs and one new scout who was not with a pack. This signals growth in our troop which is a great sign that scouting in general is growing. I look forward to a fantastic year for these new scouts.

**Mount Washington Trip:** On Saturday March 4 our Venture Crew departed for Mt. Washington New Hampshire. I am pleased to report that the crew reached the summit of Mt. Washington. Thanks to Dan Murphy who planned the trip and to Keith Grimes, Dave Stremme and Gary Pfeil who went along.

## **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.

**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.

**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:** As I reported last month, 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. At our February trip I tapped out two scouts who were elected to the OA and then on Monday March 20, I tapped out 6 additional scouts. These scouts included, Sean Delaney, Dan Lee, Aaron Gauthier, Michael Jaeschke, Nathan Kephart, and Harry Schultz. I am also waiting on approval from the lodge for 2 adult nominations. 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.

**New Kayaks:** I want to thank George Fesmire who takes care of our entire fleet of canoes and kayaks. George has stored our fleet on his property and does maintenance on them as needed. We currently have three kayaks and recently George donated \$2,000 to purchase three more kayaks along with all of the additional equipment needed. Thanks George for your generous donation.

**April Washington District Roundtable:** I was recently contacted by Washington District and asked if our Troop Leaders Council could attend the April Roundtable to demonstrate how an annual planning session works. That being said, the District Roundtable is Wednesday April 12, at the Roychester Community Center in Abington and I have asked all of the members of our TLC to attend. We will do some work ahead of time to prepare. I encourage all of our adult leaders to attend roundtable that night.

## **APRIL CALENDAR**

### **Theme – Racing**

#### **Assignments:**

**Pre-opening:** 7 Keith's **Opening:** Dark Knight Closing: We Do Not **Service:** DKP

## **APRIL BIG EVENT – ALLAIRE SP/WALL STADIUM**

# April

2017

## Troop 3 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 9 AM – Washington Dist Day of Service. Boy Scout Park - Abington
2	3 Parents Night 7:30 PM HBC Sanctuary	4 TLC Meeting – 7:30 PM Mr. Waeltz's house	5	6	7	8
9	10 Troop Meeting 7:30 PM HBC	11	12 Washington District Roundtable 7:15 PM Roychester Comm Ctr	13 Troop Committee & Staff – 7:30 PM Mr. Coopers house	14 GOOD FRIDAY	15
16 EASTER	17 Troop Meeting – 7:30 PM HBC	18	19	20	21 Depart for Allaire SP 6:30 PM	22 Allaire SP and Wall Stadium
23 Arrive at HBC from Allaire SP	24 Troop Meeting – 7:30 PM HBC	25	26	27	28	29 Mulching – HBC 9:00 AM
30						

