

HATBORO BOY SCOUT TROOP 3

CRADLE OF LIBERTY COUNCIL, BSA

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Troop 3 Newsletter

Dear Scout Families,

As we close out this our 70th year, I take the opportunity to reflect on what we have accomplished in the year that has been and where we as a troop are headed. There is absolutely no doubt

A large, gold, glittered graphic of the year "2019" is positioned to the right of the first paragraph of the letter.

that it has been an exciting year for us as a troop. Thinking about the program, we truly thought out of the box in 2019. In January we went to Sterling Mine in New Jersey which I thought was outstanding and then our summer camp at Goose Pond and finally last month to the Speedwell Forge Wolf Preserve. There is always something for everyone.

As a troop, we said goodbye to our Troop Committee Chair of 33 years and then celebrated Dave and Cindy Cooper with a grand retirement dinner. In addition, we welcomed a new Troop Committee Chair in Dan Marks and I have to say, that Dan has picked up where David left off and we have not missed a beat. And then in September we joined together as a scouting family in what might be the highlight of the year as we celebrated 70 years with our 70th Anniversary and Troop Family Picnic. As part of our 70th Anniversary we officially incorporated two new awards, the Robert M. John Scout of the Year and the David W. Cooper Honored Scouter Award. Recognition is something I have wanted to do for a very long time.

In addition to all of that, we continue to have the best program around. We have a very active Venture Crew and then there is VT3 which has seen great new growth. This past summer we went to Goose Pond where we completed 115 merit badges and 11 rank advancements. And speaking of rank advancement, we celebrated 3 new Eagle Scouts with several more waiting in the wings for 2020. We also completed some new service projects including H.A.T. Packs and helping remove invasive crayfish at Valley Forge as a part of the crayfish corps and of course continued our tradition of work at Hatboro Baptist Church, Hatboro Library and the Lobster Pot.

One of the themes of the 70th Anniversary was: "Preserving our Past and Excited for the Future." We truly have been Leading the Way since 1949.

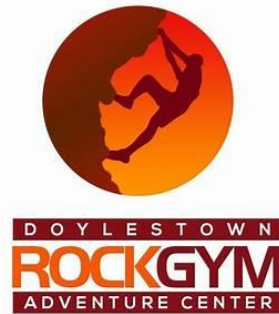
And speaking of our future, it is time to talk about what is ahead for Troop 3. 2020 promises to be another exciting year. In just 5 short years we will celebrate another milestone anniversary, however, there is much more terrific scouting to go before we get there.

I want to extend my sincere thanks to everyone who has been involved in Troop 3 in any capacity this year. To all of our Troop 3 families, may you have a Happy Holiday Season, I wish you Peace and Joy and may you have a Happy and Healthy New Year!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Doylestown Rock Gym

On Friday December 6, 2019, we will head to the Doylestown Rock Gym where we will spend Friday night climbing and then stay overnight in the big room at the gym. We will then get up on Saturday and after a light breakfast, we will climb again until 10 AM when we will depart for home. Mr. Chris Marks is making the arrangements for this event so if you would like to participate, you can contact Chris at christophermarks2@gmail.com. We must have 1 adult for every 5 youth so I encourage our adult staff to consider this event. We can not climb without this ratio. The cost of the trip is \$40.00 for climbers and \$5.00 for non climbers.



Hatboro Main Street Train Show Service

The same weekend as the Rock Gym (December 6 and 7) is the Hatboro Main Street Train Show at Keith Valley Middle School. There are many tables to be set up and then taken down and the organizers could use the help. If you are able, we will meet at the back of the middle school at 4 PM on Friday December 6 to setup and then at 3 PM on Saturday December 7 to take it all down. If you can help, you can still go to the Rock Gym as meeting for that event is 6 PM. We will be done at the Rock Gym by the time take down help is needed.

Project Blue Light



On Tuesday December 10, 2019, Troop 3 will again assist the Horsham Township Police Department with the 21st Annual "Project Blue Light" program. For those that don't know, Project Blue Light is a national program that seeks to remember police officers who gave their lives in the line of duty in service to their community. There are 28 police officers in Montgomery County who have paid the ultimate price. As in years past, Troop 3 will assist in the production of the ceremony including sound, lights and filming the event for broadcast. We will meet at the Horsham

Township Municipal Complex on December 10 at 5 PM to set up for the ceremony. The ceremony begins at 6:30 and we should be finished by 8 PM. This is a uniformed event. If you are interested in helping with this event, please speak with Mr. John.

Wreaths Across America



2019 will mark the 3rd year that we have participated in "Wreaths Across

America". For those of you that are not aware, this is a National Program where Christmas Wreaths are placed on graves of our deceased service men and women across the country. For the past two years we have gone to Washington Crossing National Cemetery, however, this year we have decided on another venue. Washington Crossing is a beautiful cemetery, but it is small and crowded with only 12,000 wreaths to place. We have decided to go to Indiantown Gap National Cemetery this year. This is east of Harrisburg and has 45,000 wreaths to place. We will depart for Indiantown Gap at 8:30 AM. It is a 2 hour drive and we should arrive well ahead of the 12:00 noon ceremony. Wreath placing begins at 1 PM. The date of Wreaths Across America this year is Saturday December 14. This is a great event for families so if you would like to attend as a family please let me know. If just your son is going, I need to know that also by Monday December 9.

Christmas Caroling

Our final troop meeting of the calendar year will take place on Monday December 23, 2019. This is the night that we will go Christmas Caroling for those in our scouting family who need some holiday cheer. This is one of the best events of the year. We will depart HBC at 7:30 PM. When we return to HBC we will share some cookies and hot chocolate. I ask each scout to provide 1 dozen cookies to share with the families we sing for and then as part of our holiday party. If you know a family who is in need of some holiday cheer, please speak to me and we will do our best to get there. This is one of the great traditions of this troop and I sincerely hope everyone turns out for this great night



Lehigh Valley Phantoms Hockey

Mr. Pfeil has made arrangements for us to visit Allentown and the home of the Lehigh Valley Phantoms Hockey Team on Saturday December 28, 2019 at 7:05 PM. We will be seeing the

Phantoms take on the Utica Comets. The cost of the tickets is \$18.00. Our sets are reserved in section 205. More information on this event is coming soon.

PAST EVENTS:

Speedwell Forge Wolf Preserve



Troop 3 spent a very cold weekend in Lancaster County from Friday November 15 thru Sunday November 17. The troop spent the weekend at the J. Edward Mack Scout Reservation and then visited Speedwell Forger Wolf Preserve on Saturday morning. After leaving the Wolf Preserve, the Troop then visited the Sturgis Pretzel Factory in Lititz, Pa. Speedwill Forge is a place that we have never visited before so for everyone on the trip it was a great experience. A huge thank you to Mr. Lavelle who put it all together and for all the adults who went on the trip. Mr. Grimes served as acting Scoutmaster and Jesse Senegeto served as out acting SPL. In addition, Jason Caetano was the Master of Ceremonies at the Saturday night campfire and Jack Thompson was our Chaplains Aide for Sunday Scouts Own. Thanks to everyone for a great weekend.



Veterans Night

On Monday November 11, 2019 we continued a long standing Troop 3 tradition by celebrating our Veterans. I want to thank Mr. McKay and Mr. Murphy who spent considerable time putting the program together and then I want to thank all of our scouts who participated. It was a pleasure to host our State Representative Mr. Tom Murt with us and our Keynote speaker for the night Mr. Drew Meschter who spoke about the 1st Philadelphia City Troop and their very impressive history. A special thanks to everyone who was on hand for this very special event.

Hatboro Holiday Parade

Without a doubt, the largest VT3 event of the year is the Hatboro Holiday Parade. VT3 was out in full force on Sunday November 24, 2019. The crew began the set up at 10 AM. They were ready to go by the time the parade stepped off a 2 and then had everything cleaned up by 5 PM. There are so many people involved with this production. A huge thank you to everyone listed below.. Carpenter and Scaffolds - Dan Murphy, Truck, supplies and transport - Bruce McCaffrey, Parade Spotters - Matt Atras and John Jevit, Assistant to the announcer - Gary Pfeil, Scaffold floor - Doug Sams, Audio Mixer and Production Engineer - Greg Howanetz, Camera Operators - Cameron Arbuckle, Brady Brzowski, Bob Lee, Apollo Marks, and Jack Thompson, Setup and takedown - Mike Balot, Jason Caetano, Jeff Dieterly, video mixer, editor and producer - Bob John and catering - Barbara John.

Scouting For Food

We did very well with our Scouting for Food collection this year. As a troop we collected 1015 items. All of the food we collected went directly to the pantry at Lehman Church. This was a better showing then last year and I know the pantry director at Lehman is very grateful. The top patrol was the Iron Potatoes patrol who collected almost half of our total. Congratulations to the Iron Potatoes. In addition, several of our scouts assisted Cub Pack 17 with their Scouting for Food project. Thanks to everyone for making this annual event successful and especially to Mrs. Deb Schubert for organizing this for us.



NEWS AND NOTES:

Pennsylvania Child Protection Law

In 2015, Scout Leaders across the Commonwealth were required to comply with the Pennsylvania Child Protective Services Law. At that time, every scout leader (including every leader in Hatboro Troop 3) was required to submit a criminal background check, a Department of Welfare check on child abuse investigations and an FBI clearance or if you have lived in

Pennsylvania for 10 years, a waiver. Those checks were only good for 5 years and therefore, if you submitted one in 2015 they are due again in 2020. If you are unsure, please speak with either Keith Grimes, Brian Dutill or myself.

Newsletter

When we made the change to Constant Contact to produce the newsletter, one of the reasons that we selected Constant Contact was because we were getting reports as to how many people were actually reading it. One of the things that I have learned is that less than 1/2 of the subscribers to our newsletter read it. I have received feedback that I get wordy. I consider the newsletter to be important so I will continue to publish it every month, however, if you do not wish to receive the newsletter any more, please send me an email at bwaeltz@verizon.net and I will remove you from you from the email list. While I will be happy to remove subscribers, I am also looking to expand distribution to our scouts. They have said for a long time that they don't receive the newsletter. We are currently looking at a method to have the newsletter sent to their phones each month. This will be an opt in program and will only be sent with parental permission. Look for more information on this coming soon.

Re-Charter Information

Our annual re-charter is now complete. This is a huge undertaking as we have to collect fees from every family, go over the current charter to ascertain who will remain and who will be dropped and this year we had additional complications as we had to collect the new criminal background check forms and then wait for the National Office to decide on the fee increase. With all of that we were still able to submit the charters for both the Troop and Crew before they were due. A huge thank you to our treasurer and registrar Brian Dutill. And by the way, he also submitted the charter for Pack 300!

December Staff Meeting



Our December Staff Meeting will be held on Thursday December 12, 2019 at 7:30 PM. This meeting will be held at Keith Grimes home at 421 Jefferson Ave, Hatboro PA. One of the great traditions about our December staff meeting is that we have a small holiday party before the business meeting. A huge thanks to Keith and Kris Grimes for opening their home to us to continue this great

tradition. We hope that many of our parents, staff and committee come to this meeting and share some holiday greetings with each other. Our only request is that everyone bring a favorite food item or beverage for all to share.

GREAT THINGS OUR SCOUTS AND SCOUTERS ARE DOING:

Philadelphia Thanksgiving Parade

If any of you were like me on Thanksgiving morning, I sat and watched the the 100th 6ABC Dunkin Thanksgiving Day Parade. While I was watching the parade, I happened to see the Boy Scouts from the Cradle of Liberty Council walking the parade route collecting food for "Scouting for Food." There right in the middle of my TV were our own Bob and Robert Jones walking the parade route. Bob and Robert have done this for a number of years and so I thank

them for representing Troop 3 in this great endeavor. Congratulations Bob and Robert!

Semi-Annual Change of Senior Patrol Leader

Beginning on Monday December 2, 2019, we will have our semi-annual change in Senior Patrol Leader. Back in May when Manas Date was elected, he decided that he wanted to do only 6 months and that the second highest vote getter, Nathan Kephart would do the 2nd six months. Manas has now completed his term and Nathan begins his term this week. Congratulations Manas on a job well done.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Happy Birthday to the following who are celebrating their birthdays in the month of December

- Lester Blum - 12/05
- David Cooper - 12/12
- Lee Faden - 12/18

ACTIVITY CALENDAR

[CLICK HERE FOR DECEMBER CALENDAR](#)

THEME:
PIONEERING

ASSIGNMENTS:

SCOUT SKILL:
None

- **Pre-Opening:** PAW
- **Opening:** Louie's Guards
- **Closing:** Boxing Marshmallows
- **Service:** Iron Potatoes

Meetings	Service	Camping	District/ Council Events	Other
12/2 Troop Mtg. 12/3 TLC 12/9: Troop Mtg 12/12 Staff Meeting 12/16: Troop Mtg 12/23: Caroling 12/30 No Meeting	12/6 & 12/7 Hatboro Main St Train Show 12/10 - Project Blue Light	12/6 - 12/7 Doylestown Rock Gym	12/11: Roundtable	12/14 Wreaths Across America 12/28 Lehigh Valley Phantoms