

HATBORO BOY SCOUT TROOP 3

CRADLE OF LIBERTY COUNCIL, BSA

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Troop 3 Newsletter

Dear Scout Families,

First of all, may I wish each of our scout families, a very happy New Year. May this year bring you health and prosperity. As we begin the New Year, I want to talk about some very important changes coming to Troop 3 in 2020.

At last month's staff meeting, I informed the Troop Staff that I would be stepping down as Scoutmaster effective May 31, 2020. Prior to that meeting, I also informed the Troop Committee Chair and I also told Keith Grimes. This was a difficult decision, but I know that this is the right decision for me. I had wanted to make this move in 2019, but with the departure of Dave Cooper as Committee Chair, I decided to

wait until Dan Marks was fully ready as the new Troop Committee Chair. I believe that we are at that point now. Scouting is an incredibly important part of my life and certainly scouting in Troop 3 has been rewarding. As I reflect on my time with this troop and most especially my time as scoutmaster, I must say that I have loved every minute of the experience. I have seen boys turn into men and so many of them have gone on to lead very successful lives with great careers and now their own families. This is why scouting is so incredibly important and the memories of my time as Scoutmaster will last me a lifetime. Since I joined this troop in 2005, I have made some great friends, some of whom, will be friends for life. I also believe that I have made an impact on the lives of some of the youth we serve, at least that is my hope.

Over the next few months, Dan Marks, Keith Grimes and I will transition the scoutmaster role and it is my feeling that Keith will step into that position sometime in early May. Until that time, I will remain in that position doing all of the things that the Scoutmaster of a scout unit does. Whenever there is a transition in the Key 3 of a unit, it is the hope that it will be a seamless one. It certainly was the case when I took over in 2015 and I am sure it will be the case now. I know this troop will support Keith to the fullest.

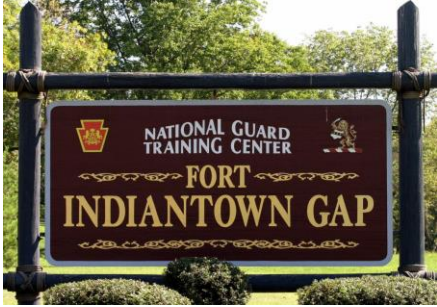
As for what is next for me, I am not sure about that yet. I have considered a number of things,



however, the one thing I do know is that I will remain until Keith is fully ready to go as the 15th Scoutmaster of Troop 3.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Ft. Indiantown Gap Trip



Our January trip will take us to Ft. Indiantown Gap. We will stay in the barracks at FTIG from Friday, January 10 thru Sunday, January 12, 2020. We will depart on Friday as normal by 6:30 PM. On Saturday, we will visit the State Capitol in Harrisburg and after that tour, we will have lunch at the food court in Strawberry Square. On Saturday night we have rented a bowling alley, where we will bowl and have dinner. On Sunday we are trying to arrange a tour for the airplane repair facility at FTIG. We will have breakfast in the FTIG community

center both days. This is always a great trip so don't miss out. The cost is \$46 and includes everything. Mr. Balot **MUST** have your reservation by Monday, January 6, 2020. The flyer has been previously emailed to everyone on or about December 23rd. Contact Mr. Balot at skateremt@gmail.com with any questions.

OA Election

Our annual Order of the Arrow election will take place on Monday, January 27, 2020. If you are a 1st class scout and go camping often, then you are eligible to be elected into this camping honor society. In order for us to hold an election, we must have 1/2 +1 of our registered youth in attendance. Please do not miss this night.

Bear Creek Family Ski Night

Our Bear Creek Family Ski Night will take place on Friday, January 24, 2020 from 4 to 9 PM. A ski night flyer was sent to every home by email on December 30 outlining the details of the event. If you are planning to go (remember this is a family event and families and friends are invited) please read the form that was emailed carefully. There are a great number of details in this form. All forms and money must be returned to Mr. Pfeil by Monday January 13, 2020. Please note that we have 8 snow tubing slots available from 7 PM to 9 PM. The cost of the event is based on what you participate in at Bear Creek. Finally, Snow Sport MB is available for an additional cost.

PAST EVENTS:

Doylestown Rock Gym



A big thank you to Mr. Chris Marks who planned and organized our December

Trip to the Doylestown Rock Gym. The troop arrived on Friday, December 6 and climbed that evening. They then stayed overnight at the Rock Gym and climbed the following day before they departed for Hatboro. Everyone in attendance had a great time. An additional word of thanks to the adults who went along with Mr. Marks to make this a great event.



Project Blue Light

On Tuesday December 10, 2019, our VT3 crew once again assisted the Horsham Township Police Department in the staging, and lighting and filming of the 21st annual Project Blue Light ceremony. I want to thank Jesse Senegeto who was the only scout to attend, however, I also want to thank Mr. John, Mr. McCaffrey, Mr. Howantez and Mr. Chris Marks for helping out.

Wreath's Across America



On Saturday, December 14, 2019, a group of scouts and



scouters traveled to the Indiantown Gap National Cemetery and participated in the nationwide program "Wreaths Across America". This is the first time we went to Indiantown Gap and it turned out to be a wonderful day even though it was very wet. It rained most of the day, however, those who went along did not complain, but went to work and helped to place wreaths on the graves of our military men and women. We also attended the Wreaths Across America ceremony held prior to placing the wreaths. Thanks to everyone who attended this incredible and rewarding day.



Phantom's Hockey

A very small group of our families attended the Lehigh Valley Phantoms Game v. the Utica Comets on Saturday December 28. No matter, we still had a lot of fun watching a great hockey game in a great venue. Big thanks to Mr. Pfeil for organizing the event and then to Mr. Jones who took over as Mr. Pfeil could not attend.

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 Dutilleul or myself.

Ham and Turkey Supper

At our December staff meeting we spent a considerable amount of time discussing the Ham and Turkey supper which is coming up in March. The date is March 7, 2020 and it takes the entire troop to make this work. We planned this date to avoid conflicts with school calendars. **We ask everyone (scouts, scouters, and parents) to mark the date as we need your help**. This is the only fundraiser we have over the course of the year that funds troop operations directly (pancake breakfasts impact individual scouts) and therefore, we need all hands on deck to make this event successful. Funds raised through the Ham and Turkey Supper go towards awards, equipment replacement and repair, and camperships among other things. With fewer scouts on the charter this year, it will be even more important that we have everyone's participation. Ticket sales were down last year and we'd like to see a rebound this year. As every scout benefits from the funds raised, every scout should be selling their Ham and Turkey Supper tickets. Again, this is the only fundraiser of the year. Tickets will be distributed at the end of January. Please put the date on your calendar now and make a commitment to participate. We thank everyone for the help.

Remind (Please read this section as there is important communication info)

As some of you know by now, we are currently working to improve our communication with the Troop. To that end, our Senior Patrol Leader has established a method to communicate using an app called Remind. If your scout has not yet joined Remind, I would ask that they contact the Senior Patrol Leader as soon as possible so that they may receive timely information and reminders quickly. We intend on using this as a method for scouts to receive the newsletter as well. The site is administered by Nathan Kephart, however, he has included Keith Grimes, Dan Marks and myself as admins so that we may monitor what is being sent. This is intended as a way for the SPL to communicate to the scouts. In addition, Nathan has built a second remind class for scouters and parents so they will be able to receive timely information from the Troop Administration. If you would like to join the adult remind class, please contact me and I will give you instructions on how to join. I will not publish instructions on our website as we want that information to remain private. You can contact me via email at bwaeltz@verizon.net

David Cooper Honored Scouter Award

As we announced in September, the David W. Cooper honored scouter award is one of the two awards that we will present annually. This award recognizes scouters who live by the scout oath and scout law and are committed to making Troop 3 the best program for our youth. Any registered scouter can be nominated and nominations can be received by either a scout or another scouter, If there is someone you would like to nominate please speak to the Troop Committee Chair, Mr. Dan Marks. Nominations can be received through the end of February.

New Health Forms for 2020

Scouts BSA has announced that there will be a new version of the BSA Medical Record effective for 2020. The information below is directly from a blog I read called "Bryan on Scouting: It reads in pertinent part

Every few years, the BSA updates its Annual Health and Medical Record after consulting with health care professionals, Scout executives, council and camp health officers and other experts to ensure it is up-to-date and helpful. This was one of those years, meaning a new form is available for everyone to use for 2020. Your AHMR is valid through the end of the 12th month after the date it was administered by your medical provider. For example, if you got your physical on Nov. 3, 2019, it's valid until Nov. 30, 2020. Next year will be a transition year, so you can use either the old or new form, but everyone in all Scouting programs must use the updated AHMR form starting Jan. 1, 2021. The old form will be obsolete at that date. So, the BSA recommends using the new form on your next physical exam or if you're a new participant in 2020. Since at least the 1930s, the BSA has required the use of standardized health and medical information. The last time this form was updated was in 2014. The changes made this year were minor, such as some conditions listed in the health history section. The Annual Health and Medical Record is required for Scouts and adult leaders who want to go on Scouting events, campouts and high-adventure trips. Note that there are different parts to the AHMR:

- *Part A is an informed consent, release agreement and authorization that needs to be signed by every participant (or a parent and/or legal guardian for all youth under 18).*
- *Part B is general information and a health history.*
- *Part C is your pre-participation physical exam completed by a certified and licensed health*

care provider.

GREAT THINGS OUR SCOUTS AND SCOUTERS ARE DOING:

Washington District Eagle Board of Review

Jason Caetano will be taking the final step in his trail to Eagle on Thursday, January 9 as he will appear before the Washington District Eagle Board of Review. I wish Jason the best of luck as he completes this long process.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



Dave Patchjell 1/30

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

Jason Caetano 1/8
Michael Brown 1/9
Cameron Arbuckle 1/21
Josh Summer 1/31
Bob Swan 1/5
David Stremme 1/15
Tom Batman 1/18

ACTIVITY CALENDAR

[CLICK HERE FOR JANUARY CALENDAR](#)

THEME:
STEM

ASSIGNMENTS:

SCOUT SKILL:
None

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

Meetings	Service	Camping	District/ Council Events	Other
1/6 Troop Mtg. 1/13 Troop Mtg 1/15: TLC 1/16 Staff Meeting 1/20: Troop Mtg 1/27: Troop Mt.		1/10 thru 1/12 Ft. Indiantown Gap Trip	1/8: Roundtable 1/9/ District Eagle Board of Review	Bear Creek Family Ski Night 1/24