



Troop 615 News



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June 2014

Scout Master Minute

Summer is here! The weather has warmed, we're in the last half days of school, and that can only mean one thing: summer camp is coming! For the first year Scouts and their parents; get ready for an amazing, exciting, and fun filled week. For the veteran Scouts, you already know how much fun summer camp is!

First year Scouts attending summer camp go through a set of merit badges and activities that are all part of the Dan Beard program. The first year boys will be together throughout the day, going from one station to the next where they will complete at least two merit badges (and probably a couple more). The boys are busy throughout the day, yet they will still have time to relax. There's a Magic Tournament, water carnival, volleyball tournament, siesta time after lunch, time for swimming before breakfast each day (the boys can become members of the Polar Bear club...yes, there IS a patch available for those that get up early and swim every day!), mountain board riding, and additional activities in the evening.

The Troop gets together for all meal times. Full Field uniform (Class A) is required at meals. If you are missing any uniform elements (socks, neckerchief slides, etc.), please get those pieces from the Scout shop ASAP. Speaking of meals, the food at OSR is very, very good. There are always at least two main course options provided at each meal. In addition, there is an extensive salad bar as well as bread and peanut butter and jelly. The boys all work together to help serve and help clean up after meals. After mealtime but before dismissal from the dining hall, there are always P. E. R.s (program enhancement reminders) and songs sung by the camp staff. The staff at camp does a great job of getting the whole dining hall involved in the show. Get your singing voice ready!

If you have any questions about summer camp, please ask.

YIS,

Dr. Anderson

Troopmaster Web Demo **Rescheduled**

Please join us at the **Committee Meeting on Wednesday, 7/9** for a demonstration on the new Troopmaster Web Application. This new application will tie into our existing Troopmaster (the database we use to keep track of everything!) and allow access from the web. Parents and scouts will be able to view their own records and keep track of attendance, merit badges, rank advancement, etc.

The troop will be purchasing this new software once everyone gives their thumbs up in approval.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

PLC (PATROL LEADERS CONFERENCE) MEETINGS

ALL PATROL AND ASSISTANT PATROL LEADERS NEED TO ATTEND
7/9, 8/13, 9/3 6:00 PM

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

ALL ADULTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND 7/9 (TROOPMASTER WEB DEMO), 8/13, 9/3 7:00 PM

SEMI-ANNUAL PLANNING – AT TROOP MEETING - 6/25 - (THIS IS WHERE THE SCOUTS PLAN WHERE THEY WANT TO GO!)

TIM HOWARD'S WOODBADGE BEADING CEREMONY – 6/28 6:30 PM, CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION CHURCH HALL

SUMMER CAMP – CAMP OCKANICKON
7/20-7/26

CHARTER BOAT FISHING DAY TRIP – TENTATIVE – 8/10

PATUXENT NAVAL BASE OUTING – 8/15-8/17

ELECTIONS – ASPL AND PATROL LEADERS – 9/3

COURT OF HONOR – 9/13

SERVICE PROJECT – HEALTH FAIR – 9/13-9/14

MAIZE QUEST OUTING – NEW PARK, PA – 9/19-9/21

WEBELOS-O-REE – CAMP SAFFRAN – 10/17-10/19

NEW YORK CITY DAY TRIP – TENTATIVE – 11/2 OR 11/3

June Outing – Gettysburg 6/6-6/8

Four score and seven weeks ago (actually, more like 3 weeks ago) Troop 615 travelled to Gettysburg, PA. We were fortunate to win a lottery position to camp out on the National Park grounds at McMillan Woods. The camp site sits on an actual part of the Civil War battlefield. The campground also served as a Civilian Conservation Corps campground as well as a WWII POW camp. The battlefield tour on Saturday was led by Tommy DeWeese, our own Gettysburg expert and prior Troop 615 Scout Master. The troop visited many noted areas of the battlefield including McPherson Ridge (site of the first shot), Pickett's Charge and Little Round Top which overlooked the Slaughter Pen and the Devil's Den. We also learned about many noted Civil War commanders like Union Colonel Joshua Chamberlain and Confederate General James Longstreet. The troop also enjoyed a nice tour of the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center. In addition to viewing many artifacts from the battle, they also watched the film "**A New Birth of Freedom**" and the fully restored Gettysburg Cyclorama that dramatically depicts "Pickett's Charge". We also had the chance to watch a gun crew demonstrate the field firing of cannon.....loud noise and all.

Back at the camp site the adults were treated to another culinary feast, compliments of Dr. Albuerne, Mr. Pierre and Mr. DeWeese. Four flags were officially retired that weekend and the scouts got to play a game of *Mafia* with the person who brought that game into our troop, Mr. DeWeese. Breaking with our camping tradition, not a drop of rain fell on us that weekend. The weather was sunny and perfect for a nice outdoor outing! Thank you Mr. DeWeese for leading us on such a great weekend in Gettysburg!





Court of Honor – 6/11/14



Thank you to Brendan Rice and Mark Schlining for hosting the Court of Honor.



1st Class



New Scouts



Star



Tenderfoot



Eagle Sponsorship for the Bull Pork Roast – Congratulations Dr. Albuerno and Mrs. Stevens (not pictured)



2nd Class



Jewish Religious Emblem

Congratulations to all the scouts that earned merit badges, rank advancements and other special awards!

Thank you to Mrs. Luther for organizing the ice cream social! The scouts and families loved it.

Help Wanted



Hospitality Coordinator – Have a flair for parties? Check out this position! Mrs. Luther will be stepping down as our Troop 615 Hospitality Coordinator. For this job you would assist in planning the potlucks for the 3 Court of Honor ceremonies and our End of Year Celebration. Mrs. Luther would be happy to give you a run down on the job duties. Thank you Mrs. Luther for all you have done!

Fruit Sale Coordinator – Want to help Scouts to raise money for their Scout Accounts? Please check this job out! Mr. Matthews will be stepping down as Mr. Cho's partner in crime for fruit sales. Mr. Cho needs someone to help him with the fruit sales November – January. The main duties for this job would be to send communications/fliers out to our existing customer base, put announcements in the Church of the Resurrection's bulletin, and arrange for delivery and to help out at the 3 fruit deliveries. Please speak to Mr. Cho if you are interested in this position. Thank you Mr. Matthew!

Web Master – Are you a techy type person? If so, put your skills to use in this job! Dr. Anderson has been acting as our Troop 615 webmaster. We need to find a volunteer to take this over for him. Duties would include keeping our website up to date and also working with scouts that hold the "webmaster" leadership position so they can contribute to our site as well. Please speak to Dr. Anderson if you are interested.

Assistant Scout Masters – Love to camp? Here is the job for you! Every year our troop needs to add a few more Assistant Scout Masters to our ranks. The duties would include assisting at weekly meetings, attending monthly leadership meetings and going on monthly outings with the troop. ASMs work very closely with the Scouts and help them to advance in Scouting. Please speak to Dr. Anderson if you are interested.

Our troop is run 100% by volunteers. We ask that every family volunteer in some way to help the Troop.

Helpful Summer Camp Links



Link to Summer Camp Parent Guide:

<http://www.ockanickon.org/summer-camping/parent-guide-map/>

Summer Camp Merit Badge Link:

<http://www.ockanickon.org/summer-camping/program/mb/>

Care Packages and Mail:

Ockanickan Scout Reservation
c/o Troop 615 - Quabosco
5787 State Park Road
Pipersville, PA 18947

Mail delivery may be delayed so it is recommend that you send any letters and care packages early. As an alternative you can provide the letter and/or care package to the program staff on Sunday, 20 July right before departure. Please do not put perishable items in the care package and don't send too much. All food must be kept in the trailer and scouts will not have a lot of time to eat snacks.

Trading Post Care Packages: The Trading Post has care packages you can purchase too.

<http://www.ockanickon.org/summer-camping/tp/>

Ockanickon Packing List

Key : E - Essential, O - Optional, X - Not Allowed

CLOTHING

Scout Uniform E
Class B Scout Shirt (Troop t-shirt) E
Hat E
Sweatshirt/Sweater E
Underwear for a week E
Socks for a week E
Sleeping clothes (pajamas) E
Swim Trunks E
Towel E
Raingear/poncho E
Long pants (Those taking Lifesaving and Swimming need an extra pair) E
Hiking boots or other closed toed shoes E
Spare Shoes or sneakers (no open toed shoes at camp) E
Wristwatch O
Jacket O

BEDDING

Sleeping bag or blankets E
Bed Sheet for hot evenings O
Pillow and Pillow case or camp pillow O
Sleeping pad (foam or self inflating) E
Camp Stool or inexpensive folding chair O

PERSONAL

(Avoid fragrant items as they attract insects)
Toothpaste, toothbrush E
Deodorant E
Towel (Beach Towel if swimming, bath towel or camp towel are fine to wash up) E
Non-aerosol Sunscreen E
Soap E
Comb O
Mirror O
Non-aerosol Insect repellent O
Shampoo O
Shaving Needs (if any) O

MISCELLANEOUS

Flashlight or headlamp E
Spare Batteries E
Canteen or Water Bottle (like a Nalgene) E
Personal first aid kit E
Money for Trading Post O
Fishing gear (barb less hooks or hooks with barbs flattened) O
Playing Cards, Magic Cards, Chess, Checkers, Frisbee, Soccer ball, etc O
Book for free time O
Battery Lantern O
Pocketknife (cannot be used without Totin' Chip) O
Compass/GPS unit (Compass is required for Orienteering) O

MERIT BADGE MATERIALS

Scout Handbook (in a zip lock bag to keep it dry) E
Specific Merit badge materials – YOU MUST BRING YOUR PREREQUISITES TO CAMP. E
Pencil O
Merit badge pamphlets O
Daypack to carry merit badge materials O

NOT ALLOWED

Sheath knives X
Electronic games X
TVs X
Guns or bows of any kind X
Fireworks and other dangerous things X

Summer Camp Tote:

<http://www.walmart.com/ip/Sterilite-92-Qt-Footlocker-Set-of-2/16415912>

Training Opportunities!

Powder Horn

What: Powder Horn will give you the necessary skills to oversee a high adventure program. It will also help you identify local resources for your group's program.

When: 8/4-8/7

Where: Camp Spencer, Broad Creek Memorial Scout Reservation

More Information:

<http://www.baltimorebsa.org/powderhorn/48936>

National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)

What: NYLT is an intense, but fun, 6-day outdoor learning experience conducted over two weekends. It is designed to provide all youth members of the Boy Scouts of America with leadership skills, confidence and experience that they can use in their home troops and crews. NYLT will support the Scoutmaster, Coach or Crew Advisor's role in training youth leaders and will enhance leadership skills in a Scout or Venturer who already possesses the foundation through attendance at a troop, district, or crew-led leadership training course.

When: 8/11-8/16

Where: Camp Oest, Broad Creek Memorial Scout Reservation

More Information:

<http://www.baltimorebsa.org/nylt/39771>

Wood Badge

What: Leaders will learn contemporary leadership skills that will change your scout units, your work places, and your families. This is a FUN course that is a mix of classroom learning with games and activities that reinforce the teaching sessions.

Who: You must be a registered member of Boy Scouts; completed Basic Training for registered position; current health forms

When: Orientation: Thurs 8/24 7:00 PM; Weekend 1: 9/20-9/22; Weekend 2: 10/24-10/26 (2 Patrol Meetings - TBD)

Where: Orientation: BAC Service Center 701 Wyman Park Dr. Baltimore, MD; Weekends: Camp Spencer – Broad Creek Scout Reservation

Cost: \$250

More Information:

<http://www.baltimorebsa.org/wood-badge/n6-220-14-2/54871>

STEM Day at Aberdeen Proving Ground



STEM NOVA Awards, STEM Merit Badges and Adult Training Available

When: Saturday, September 13, 2014 8:30 AM till 3:30 PM

Where: Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD

Cost: \$19 (register before 8/15 and receive a commemorative patch and t-shirt)

Register Online:

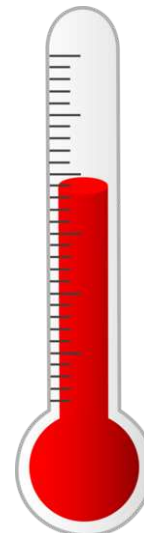
<http://www.baltimorebsa.org/event/stem-in-scouting-at-apg/1545278>



Health Forms Past Due!

Health forms were due **June 11th!** Please turn in those health forms as soon as possible. If you have questions, contact Jen Cawthra. A helpful guide is available to help minimize errors and omissions on the forms. The health form and helpful guide are available from the Troop 615 web site:

<http://www.bsa615.com/documents/forms/>



Health Forms
50% Complete!

Advancement Updates

Rank

Scout – Timothy McShea

Merit Badges

Family Life – Adam Albuerne

Citizen in the Community – Adam Albuerne

Cooking – Adam Albuerne, Gavin Moore

Fish and Wildlife Management – Connor Maloney

Oceanography – Joey Peters

Personal Management – Garrett Snyder

Other Awards

NOVA – Math – Joey Peters

NOVA – Designed to Crunch – Joey Peters

Jewish Religious Emblem – Sam Seliger, Jake Klein & Ethan Zimmerman



Great Job Scouts!