



South Mountain District News



Minsi Trails Council. B.S.A.

January 2008

Dates to Remember

Re-Charter Day	01-05-08 [1]
District Meeting 7:30pm	01-08-08 [1]
Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	01-09-08 [2]
Cub Winter Event	Cancelled
District Commissioners 7pm	01-30-08 [3]
Trainer Development	02-02-08
District Meeting 7:30pm	02-05-08 [1]
Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	02-06-08 [2]
Klondike Derby	02-09-08
Price of Freedom	02-14-17-08
SM & ASM Leader Specific part 1	02-19-08 []
Sea Base 0 Leave no Trace	02-24-29-08
District Commissioners 7pm	02-27-08 [3]
SM & ASM Leader Specific part 2	02-28-08 []
District Meeting 7:30pm	03-04-08 [1]
Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	03-05-08 [2]
New Leader Essentials	03-05-08 [2]
Troop Committee Training	03-05-08 [2]
Den Chief Training	03-08-08 [97]
InterCouncil College of Commissioner Service	03-15-08
District Commissioners 7pm	03-26-08 [3]
First Aide Meet	03-??-08
Pinewood Derby	03-29-08
District Meeting 7:30pm	04-01-08 [1]
Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	04-02-08 [2]
Outdoor Leader Skills part 1	04-17-08 []
Outdoor Leader Skills part 2	04-22-08 []
NYLT	04-18-20-08
NYLT	04-25-27-08
District Recognition Dinner	04-26-08 [1]
Outdoor Leader Skills part 3	04-26-08 []
District Commissioners 7pm	04-30-08 [3]
District Meeting 7:30pm	05-06-08 [1]
Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	05-07-08 [2]
JAMBO	05-16-18-08 [99]
District Commissioners 7pm	05-28-08 [3]
District Meeting 7:30pm	06-03-08 [1]
Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	06-04-08 [2]
District Commissioners 7pm	06-25-08 [3]
Bethlehem Day Camp	07-14-18-08
Coopersburg Day Camp	08-03-08-08
District Meeting 7:30pm	08-05-08 [1]
Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	08-06-08 [2]

Powder Horn weekend 1	08-22-24-08 [98]
District Commissioners 7pm	08-27-08 [3]
District Meeting 7:30pm	09-02-08 [1]
Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	09-03-08 [2]
Powder Horn weekend 2	09-05-07-08 [98]
Woodbadge weekend 1	09-05-07-08 []
SM & ASM Leader Specific	09-20-08 []
District Commissioners 7pm	09-24-08 [3]
Woodbadge weekend 2	09-27-29-08 []
Fall Camporee	10-03-05-08
District Meeting 7:30pm	10-07-08 [1]
Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	10-08-08 [2]
Cub Fall Event	10-18-08
District Commissioners 7pm	10-29-08 [3]
Troop Committee Training	11-01-08 []
Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	11-05-08 [2]
District Meeting 7:30pm	11-14-08 [1]
District Commissioners 7pm	11-19-08 [3]
District Annual Meeting 7:00pm	12-02-08 [1]
Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	12-03-08 [2]
District Commissioners 7pm	12-17-08 [3]
Recharter Day	01-05-09
District Meeting 7:30pm	01-06-09 [1]

Meeting Location Key

- [1] East Hills Moravian Church
1830 Butztown Rd, Bethlehem
- [2] St. Luke's Hospital and Health Network
800-801 Ostrum Street Bethlehem, PA 18018
- [3] Rosemont Lutheran Church on W. Broad St. in Bethlehem
- [4] Camp Minsi
- [5] Minsi Trails Office
- [6] Camp Trexler
- [97] Lehigh Carbon Community College
- [98] Goose Pond
- [99] Kutztown University, Kutztown, PA

District and Roundtable Meetings

Please be aware that thanks to the New Year's Day holiday, both the District Committee meeting and Roundtable will be held later in the month than usual. **District Committee will meet on Tuesday, 1/8, beginning at 7:30pm at East Hills Moravian Church, while Roundtable will be on Wednesday 1/9, starting at 7:30pm in St. Luke's Hospital Nursing Education Building.**



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There will not be a Winter Cub Event in January

Rather, the next district Cub Scout activity will be our Pinewood Derby in March. More details will be forthcoming ...

Newsletter Deadline

Cut off date for all submissions to the South Mountain District newsletter has been set by the district committee as the 25th of the month before the next newsletter. Packs, Troops, Crews, Commissioners and District committees should E-Mail your submissions to the editor, Bob Monto, at rmonto@aol.com, in a word document if possible, on or before the 25th.

VENTURING

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
1325 WEST WALNUT HILL LANE
P. O. BOX 152079
IRVING, TEXAS 75015-2079
[HTTP://WWW.BSA.Scouting.org](http://www.bsa.scouting.org)

The following is from

Charles J. Holmes, National Director
Venturing/Sea Scout Division, BSA

In case something about Venturing crosses your desk, one of the firm rules about Venturing-speak is that the name of the program is Venturing

Therefore, a crew is a Venturing Crew, not a Venture or Venturer crew.

A youth is called a Venturer.

Advisors and other leaders are Venturing Advisors and such, not Venture or Venturer leaders.

Venturing leaders take Venturing training, not Venture or Venturer training.

Florida Sea Base

Out Island Adventure
Leave No Trace Master Educator Course
February 24-29, 2007

JAMBO 2008 SAVE THE DATE



WHEN: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday,

May 16 - 18, 2008

WHERE: the beautiful campus of Kutztown

University, Kutztown, PA.

WHAT: Jambo 2008, the

premier Scouting event in east central Pennsylvania. See website for attachments. <http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletter.htm>

WINTER CAMP ACADEMY - BACKPACK TRAINING AT CAMP MINSI

WHEN: 15, 16, 17 February 2008 – Fri, Sat, Sun

LOCATION: *Camp Minsi - Athletic Field*

THE COST: Winter Camp Academy Training costs **\$45 per person** (all Scouts and Adults attending) to pay for food, equipment and outpost Winter Camp accommodations.

Woodbadge Course Dates:

1st Weekend – September 5-7, 2008

Friday, Saturday, Sunday

2nd Weekend – September 27-29, 2008

Saturday, Sunday, Monday

(Weekends start at 7:30 AM and end late afternoon on the last day.)



Powder Horn Cluster Course Information



The Next Cluster Powder Horn course will be conducted over 2 weekends of 3 days each on August 22-24 and September 5-7, 2008 at Goose Pond Scout Reservation, Lake Ariel, PA.

To request more information contact;

Walt Godshall at rosewalt68@msn.com

570-474-6968 & 570-606-6879

Or

Robert Monto at rmonto@aol.com

610-253-8272



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National Youth Leadership Training

April 18-20 and April 25-27, 2008

What's the Cost?

The cost for the conference is \$165.00 per Scout, which includes all food and training materials. If fees are not paid in full by April 4, 2008 the fee is \$185.00. Troops are encouraged to pay at least part of the fee from their budgets.



SEABASE TRIP

August 2, 2008

There are openings to participate in the Seabase Bahamas Tall Ship program in August 2008.

Information on the program is available on the Seabase Web site at [bsaseabase. Org](http://bsaseabase.Org).

Contact Tom Little, ASM troop 31 at T.Little@RCN.com or call 610-252-3779

South Mountain District 2008 Recognition Dinner



Mark your calendars now!

Date: Saturday April 26, 2008,
6:30 p.m.

Place: East Hills Moravian

Church

1830 Butztown Rd., Bethlehem, PA

Attendees: All Adult Scouters, Spouses, and Chartered Partners are cordially invited to honor all award recipients.

Start thinking now about who YOU or your UNIT would like to honor.

Re-charter Day

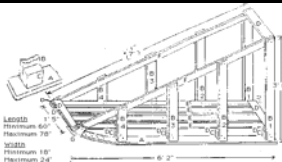
On Saturday, January 5th, our district's annual Re-Charter Day will be held at East Hills Moravian Church, 1830 Butztown Road, Bethlehem, from 9am-12pm. Packets have already been distributed to every unit and although this is mostly an on-line process, *the final printed charter and associated fees must be physically returned during our re-charter day*. If necessary, units can schedule a special appointment to complete this process by contacting Arby Beisel at rbeisel@minsitrails.com – otherwise, please read the attached information sheet. -RECHARTER

Kodiak Trek



Patriots' Path Council, BSA
Advanced Leadership Training
The White Mountains
New Hampshire
July 8 - 15, 2008

Klondike Derby



Camp Minsi

February 9, 2008

Cost \$5.00

See website for attachments.

<http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletter.htm>

Den Chief Training

Where: *Lehigh Carbon Community College*

At University of Scouting

When: Saturday, March 8, 2008

Time: 7:45 am – 3:30 pm

Cost: \$14, which includes Den Chief handbook, trained patch and certification cards

Meals: Boys may purchase lunch for an extra \$6.50 or bring their own.

You may register on line, or pay at council.

For more information contact – Chuck Decker at 610.432.1872

See website for attachments. <http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletter.htm>



The Minsi Newsletter Goes Electronic in 2008

Following the successful online pilot in October, 2007, *The Minsi* newsletter will now be available in an electronic version. Starting with the January/February 2008 edition, the Minsi Newsletter will be available online @ www.minsitrails.com or via email to your specified email address. ***The Minsi* will no longer be automatically mailed via postal mail unless specifically requested by the individual.**

Benefits of *The Minsi* online

- ✓ **Savings** – Minsi Trails will save nearly \$20,000 annually in printing and postage expenses - funds that can now be used for programs rather than postage and print.
- ✓ **Faster info** – the new electronic version will be distributed quicker via email and website than via printing and mailing, getting information to you faster.
- ✓ **Reach more readers** – online distribution will reach even more Scouters and parents. Through email and the website, parents and Scouts can now receive *The Minsi*. Currently, only registered adult leaders receive *The Minsi*.
- ✓ **Keeping current** – more parents and Scouters than ever are using and requesting more electronic communications.
- ✓ **More info** – with the electronic version we will be able to provide more content pages than available via print. Printed versions had more space limitations due to cost and the printing process.

One easy step to receive the electronic Minsi:

- ✓ Visit www.minsitrails.com and click on “Become a Member” on the home page. Just follow directions to input your information and *The Minsi* online will be sent to your email address, **OR**
- ✓ Visit www.minsitrails.com regularly to download the newsletter.

For leaders without internet access, all they need to do is to call the Scout office or complete the attached form and return it. We will continue to mail a hard copy of the newsletter to you.

Venturing Crew 99 hosts Open House

Venturing Crew 99, that meets at the former St. Joseph's Society Hall on Newport Avenue, may be the best-kept Scouting secret in Northampton for boys and girls ages 14 to 21.

Modeled somewhat after the Explorer program, but with different objectives, the Venturing Crew 99 has a coed membership. The sponsor is Our Lady of Hungary Catholic Church, which also supports programs for Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts.

At an open house Nov. 11 at St. Joseph's Hall, there were various stations at which demonstrations were held, from Dutch oven cooking, map and compass reading, back-packing, snow shoeing/cross country skiing and fishing supplies.

With the outdoors as a central part of its operations, the canoes that were present give testimony to what Crew 99 is all about. Leadership, teamwork, learning new skills and religion are a solid foundation for Crew 99 members.

Eric Knopp, an Eagle Scout, is Crew 99 president; Anthony LeBlanc, vice president of programs; Brandon Steigerwalt, vice president of administration; Brian Abraham, treasurer; Beth Heimbach and Thiah Rompilla, members.

Advisor David Abraham is also Crew 99 Venturing leader.

Abraham said an objective of Crew 99 Venture members is to learn a skill or skills, then build on them, after which they can teach others.

Jason Heckler, an Eagle Scout from Lower Nazareth, was a visitor at the open house and stated he was willing to join Crew 99.

Whether they take a canoe trip on the Lehigh River or elsewhere, Crew 99 members maintain a full plate of activities. Later this month, they will be at Indian Ladder Falls in the Poconos.

Abraham said to reach their destination, Crew 99 will not be on a marked trail; rather, they will hike through the brush, utilizing compasses and maps to navigate a safe path.

Also on tap for Crew 99 is a hiking trip along the Appalachian Trail. The lessons learned in backpacking and what to store are essential for a successful trip.



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Abraham said the Venturing program is certain to provide adventure for the young men and women in the months and years ahead.

Crew 99 meets on the second and fourth Sundays of the month at St. Joseph's Hall.

The Open House method of recruiting has been a good tool to help keep your Crew alive with new youth and adult leaders. For help with an Open House see flyer attached for Open House Tips.

For more information, call 610-844-3459.

Bill Evans of National adds is that the district should offer a Open House Chairman and adult advisor training session to educate and motivate sometime in mid-summer. Might also add in the follow up area to do a after-action/review, how-did-we-do meeting and in the general section something about getting everyone involved.

For additional information contact Bob Monto at rmonto@aol.com

District Pinewood Derby

Mark your calendars: DISTRICT PINWOOD DERBY will be held March 29th at Sacred Heart in Bethlehem Township. Check-in will begin at 9:30AM and races to go off at 11:00AM. Come with any tools and supplies you may need for your car. Just like last year there will be food and snacks to purchase. Any questions please feel free to contact Jim Reinhart at 610-868-4818.

Inter-Council College of Commissioner Service

Saturday, March 15, 2008

William Paterson University

300 Pompton Road

Wayne, New Jersey 07470

Hosted by Monmouth, Northern New Jersey, Minsi Trails and Patriots' Path Councils

Who Should Attend?

All Commissioners and other Leaders interested in seeing that our Youth receive a quality program of the Boy Scouts of America. Those looking for guidance; Those who want to get a broader picture of Scouting; Those who are looking for some hints on how to be more effective; Those who enjoy sharing your experience with others; Those who are looking for a way to "get in touch" with other Scouters.

If you fit into any of the above –then- the Inter-Council College of Commissioner Service is for you.

Our goal is simple - to make this the best training experience you've ever had!

See website for attachments. <http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletter.htm>

Trainer Development Conference

Saturday, February 2, 2008

8:00am to 4:00pm

Who should attend?

The Basic Course is designed for District Trainers / Pack Trainers, interested Scouters who have not attended a 'basic' course in recent years, and anyone who has always wanted to be involved in training.

The Advanced Course will be limited to ten (10) participants, and is intended for experienced Trainers wishing to improve their skills. Topic to be announced.

Time: Registration starts at 7:30 AM. Opening at 8:00 AM, Course will end at 4:00 PM.

Questions: Call Rod Long at 610-751-6768.

Location: Banko Center (LVH – Muhlenberg), Bethlehem, (just off 22 & Schoenersville Rd)

Cost: \$15.00 (Catered lunch, continental breakfast, and beverages included). Participant food is not allowed in the Banko Center. Deadline to register is January 25, 2007 - NO WALK-INS - Due to course material preparation and food orders

Application form attached



NOTICE - Attachments

Starting this month – ALL attachments will be posted on the District website

See website for attachments.

<http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletter.htm>



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Dear fellow Scout leaders,

As we come to the beginning of a new year, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for the many ways you serve the youth of our communities. As I meet with the South Mountain District Committee to help oversee the many units and activities that are so much a part of Scouting, I am continually amazed at the time and skills shared by people like you, all given with generosity and passion. Because of what you offer, we fulfill the mission of the South Mountain District entrusted to us, "to deliver the scouting promise enthusiastically through fun, character development and strong values". I look forward to reaching this vision with you as we prepare young people to make the very best of decisions over their lifetimes. With this in mind, read all that is in this newsletter, noting that which will be helpful to you as you serve in your vital capacity. I look forward to serving with you throughout 2008.

Yours in Scouting,

Gary Marsh, District Committee Chair

District Committee

Gary Marsh District Chair
610-997-0958
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Eric Chiles District Commissioner
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Arby Beisel District Executive
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Todd McGregor Popcorn Kernel

John Arno Venture Crews

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Linda Small District Dinner Chair
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Sandi Dale Scouting for Food Chair

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Donna Bonney FOS Family campaign Chair
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District Webmaster

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