



South Mountain District News



Minsi Trails Council. B.S.A.

October 2008

Dates to Remember

NOTICE: Roundtable is the 1st not the 8th.

Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	10-01-08 [2]
Fall Hike-O-Ree	10-4-08
District Meeting 7:30pm	10-07-08 [1]
New Leader Essentials	10-14-08 [2]
SM & ASM Leader Specific	10-18-08 [2]
Venturing Forum	10-20-08 [5]
Cub Leader Specific	10-??-08
Commissioner Basic Training	10-18-08
Cub Fall Event	10-18-08
District Commissioners 7pm	10-29-08 [3]
Troop Committee Training	11-01-08 [2]
Scouting for Food – Bag Drop off	11-01-08
District Meeting 7:30pm	11-03-08 [1]
Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	11-05-08 [2]
Scouting for Food – Bag Pick up	11-08-08
OA Section Officers Seminar	11-7-9-08 [99]
OA National leadership Seminar	11-12-14-08 [99]
Popcorn – Pickup	11-15-08
Venturing Forum	11-17-08 [5]
District Commissioners 7pm	11-19-08 [3]
Commissioner Doctor Degree program	11-22-08
District Annual Meeting 7:00pm	12-02-08 [1]
Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	12-03-08 [2]
New Leader Essentials	12-08-08 [2]
Cub Leader Specific	12-??-08
Venturing Forum	12-15-08 [5]
District Commissioners 7pm	12-17-08 [3]
Recharter Day	01-05-09
OA Family Banquet	01-03-09
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] Emmanuel Evangelical Congregation Church,
E. Union Blvd. & Center Street, Bethlehem
- [4] Camp Minsi
- [5] Minsi Trails Council Office
- [6] Camp Trexler
- [99] Camp Alpine

Powder Horn Cluster Course Information

May 15, 16 17 & May 29, 30 & 31 2009



Northern NJ Council's First Powder Horn Course will be conducted over 2 weekends of 3 days each on May 15, 16 17 & May 29, 30 & 31 2009 at

Camp Turrell.

This course has set a waiting list of participants wanting to attend. If you are interested in attending, contact Bob Monto to be on the participants list. Our Staff is now assigned and we have 90% of our consultants.

Staff assigned from Minsi Trails include Bob Monto Course Mentor Emeritus, John Arno ACD-Ranger Camp a Youth program being developed. Ranger Camp will have Venturers and Venture youth age scouts working on the Ranger skills. Steve Mehl ACD-Logistics and others will be consultants and staff. Alex Stirton will serve as Shooting Sports Consultant with John Wolfgang from NASA.. Mike Dolan will serve as Working with Teens Consultant. We have experts instructing in Backpacking, Cave Exploring, Dutch Oven Cooking (estimate of over 100 Dutch Ovens) Discover SCUBA, Hunter Education, Teams from NASA will be doing GPS with Map and Compass, and Starts, NOLS the authors of Leave No Trace will cover sessions, NY Explorers club We have a Western Cookout with a Civil War Battle. Many other participants and staff are registering from Minsi.

The course has a limit of 48 participants and as of this month we have an "I am interested list" of 90+ Scouters. We have close to half of the participants paid and registered already. Rush your application with deposit in ASAP. Course is expected to fill by November.

This will be the first time that we ran a separate youth Ranger program during a Powder Horn. John Arno will serve as Ranger Course Director as well



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as Powder Horn Living History Consultant. That explains why he is Pierre and John at the same time.

The following topics are required and will be presented: Backpacking, Communications, Conservation, Cooking, Emergency Preparedness, First Aid, Land Navigation, Map & Compass, Global Positioning System, Stars, and Leave No Trace – Camping, an overnighter and Wilderness Survival.

These sessions are electives and will also be presented: Cave Exploration, Project COPE, Cycling/Mountain Biking, Expedition Planning, Fishing, Hunter Education, Life Saver, Mountaineering, Outdoor Living History, Physical Fitness, Plants and Wildlife/Ecology, Safety, SCUBA, Shooting Sports, Watercraft, Canoeing/Kayaking, Small Boat Sailing/ Sail boarding, Wilderness Survival, Winter Sports, Working With Teens, Normal Adolescent Development-Middle School-Early High School, Normal Adolescent Development-High School and Beyond, Issues Facing Teens in Today's Society, Behavior Principles. Some elective sessions are subject to change.

To request more information contact;
Robert Monto at rmonto@aol.com
610-253-8272

South Mountain District 2009 Recognition Dinner

Date: Saturday April 18, 2009, 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.



2010 National Jamboree



Registrations for our 100th Anniversary Jamboree at Ft. A.P. Hill have been brisk. Councils are actively promoting this historic event.

The following information will be helpful:

1. Those applying for council troop leader positions should ONLY apply for that role. Individuals NOT selected may then call the Jamboree Division and request that the application be switched to Jamboree staff consideration. No additional application fee is required. Do not apply twice.
2. Anyone who has completed earlier versions of Wood Badge will have met the Wood badge requirement for staff positions requiring same.
3. The Jamboree Registration website was suspended for a few weeks to allow for the correction of several software issues. A few other areas of the electronic form have been improved or clarified.
4. Councils will receive a Jamboree promotion DVD soon.
5. Local Council Jamboree staff advisors will receive periodic updates from the region and the BSA's Jamboree website will continue to be updated as well. This Jamboree, our last at Ft. A.P. Hill, promises to be the most exciting yet.

Order of the Arrow Section Officers Seminar

November 7 - 9, 2008

Scheduled for November 7 - 9, 2008 the Order of the Arrow Section Officers' Seminar will be held at Camp Alpine, NJ. Invitations will be sent to all newly elected and re-elected section chiefs, vice chiefs and secretaries. In addition to the section adviser and the section professional staff adviser, the conclave youth chairman and service lodge conclave adviser are also invited



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2009 Dates to Remember

The following dates are for your planning of unit activities. Most dates are final but some may change for unknown reasons. We hope this will help you in planning your calendars.

OA Lodge Banquet	01-03-09	Venturing Forum	05-18-09 [5]
District Meeting 7:30pm	01-06-09 [1]	District Commissioners 7pm	05-27-09 [3]
Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	01-07-09 [2]	Powder Horn Weekend II	05-29-31-09 [98]
Eagle Board of Review	01-08-09 [1]	OA Spring Weekend	05-29-31-09 [6]
Re-Charter Day	01-10-09 [1]	District Meeting 7:30pm	06-02-09 [1]
Cub Winter Event	01-17-09	Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	06-03-09 [2]
Venturing Forum	01-19-09 [5]	Eagle Board of Review	06-11-09 [1]
District Commissioners 7pm	01-28-09 [3]	OA Conclave	06-12-14-09 [97]
District Meeting 7:30pm	02-03-09 [1]	Venturing Forum	06-15-09 [5]
Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	02-04-09 [2]	Coopersburg Day Camp	06-15-19-09
Eagle Board of Review	02-12-09 [1]	District Commissioners 7pm	06-24-09 [3]
Klondike Derby	02-14-09	Eagle Board of Review	07-09-09 [1]
Venturing Forum	02-16-09 [5]	OA Summer Family Picnic	07-11-09
District Commissioners 7pm	02-25-09 [3]	Bethlehem Day Camp	07-13-17-09
District Meeting 7:30pm	03-03-09 [1]	Venturing Forum	07-20-09 [5]
Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	03-04-09 [2]	District Meeting 7:30pm	08-04-09 [1]
Eagle Board of Review	03-12-09 [1]	Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	08-05-09 [2]
Venturing Forum	03-16-09 [5]	Eagle Board of Review	08-13-09 [1]
District Commissioners 7pm	03-25-09 [3]	Venturing Forum	08-17-09 [5]
First Aide Meet	03-14-09	District Commissioners 7pm	08-26-09 [3]
Outdoor Leader Skills part 1	03-26-09 []	District Meeting 7:30pm	09-01-09 [1]
Pinewood Derby	03-28-09	Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	09-02-09 [2]
Outdoor Leader Skills part 2	03-31-09 []	OA Fall Weekend	09-11-13-09 [4]
Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	04-01-09 [2]	Eagle Board of Review	09-10-09 [1]
Outdoor Leader Skills part 3	04-04-09 []	Venturing Forum	09-21-09 [5]
District Meeting 7:30pm	04-07-09 [1]	SM & ASM Leader Specific Part 1	09-10-09 []
Eagle Board of Review	04-09-09 [1]	SM & ASM Leader Specific Part 2	09-15-09 []
Venturing Leader Training	04-11-09 [5]	District Commissioners 7pm	09-30-09 [3]
Boy Scout Youth Protection	04-18-09 []	Fall Camporee	10-02-04-09
District Recognition Dinner	04-18-09 [1]	District Meeting 7:30pm	10-06-09 [1]
Venturing Forum	04-20-09 [5]	Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	10-07-09 [2]
District Commissioners 7pm	04-29-09 [3]	Eagle Board of Review	10-08-09 [1]
District Meeting 7:30pm	05-05-09 [1]	Venturing Forum	10-19-09 [5]
Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	05-06-09 [2]	Cub Fall Event	10-17-09
Eagle Board of Review	05-14-09 [1]	District Commissioners 7pm	10-28-09 [3]
College of Commissioner Science	05-15-17-09 []	District Meeting 7:30pm	11-03-09 [1]
Powder Horn Weekend I	05-15-17-09 [98]	Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	11-04-09 [2]
		Scouting for Food – Bag Drop off	11-07-09
		Eagle Board of Review	11-12-09 [1]
		Popcorn – Pickup	11-14-09
		Scouting for Food – Bag Pick up	11-14-09
		Venturing Forum	11-16-09 [5]
		District Commissioners 7pm	11-25-09 [3]
		District Annual Meeting 7:00pm	12-01-09 [1]
		Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	12-02-09 [2]



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Eagle Board of Review	12-10-09 [1]
Venturing Forum	12-21-09 [5]
District Commissioners 7pm	12-30-09 [3]

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] Emmanuel Evangelical Congregation Church,
E. Union Blvd. & Center Street, Bethlehem
- [4] Camp Minsi
- [5] Minsi Trails Council Office
- [6] Camp Trexler
- [97] Resica Falls Scout Reservation
- [98] Camp Turell –NNJ Council
- [99] Lehigh Carbon Community College

Fall Hike-O-Ree

October 4, 2008

Registration deadline September 17, 2008
 When to Arrive at SEPTA Lansdale Station
 Check in 8:00am to 8:30am
 The train leaves promptly at 8:50am
 See **SMD Web page** for flyer

Chaplain Aid Training

November 29, 2008

10:00AM to 3:00PM

For ALL Chaplains and Chaplain Aids

Minsi Trails Council Chaplain Corp

Assention Parish

Polish National Catholic Church

2105 Jennings Street, Bethlehem, PA

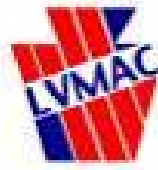
Contacts are Jeff Bauer 610-966-2925

Dave Gower 610-849-0645

\$10.00 registration fee includes lunch and all materials



Veteran Visitation Program



The LVMAC Veteran Visitation Program mission is to visit our veterans residing in state certified personal care and nursing home facilities located in both Northampton and Lehigh County. Our program provides the ability for organizations to coordinate visits through the use of an on-line calendar, in addition to seeking funds for their programs. In return participating organizations are asked to share information on their programs which provides the opportunity to grow the program by increasing the number of facilities visited and the number of visits to our veterans residing in those facilities.

Additional information is available on the Veterans Affairs Committee Program Website <http://lvmac-visitation.org> which you might find of interest. Should you have any questions please feel free to contact me vial email.

You may not be aware of the fact that the Minsi Trail Council is a member organization of LVMAC
 Mary Kocher
belsnickel3@yahoo.com

Paintball, Lasertag Policy Clarified



In a memo to Scout Executives the National Risk Management and Health and Safety groups have clarified the prohibition on Paintball and Laser Tag activities within the Boy Scouts of America's programs.

May 14, 2008

To: Scout Executives

From: Director, Insurance and Risk Management

Subject: Unauthorized and Restricted Activities

Risk Management and Health and Safety have received several inquiries as to whether paintball and laser tag are authorized Scouting activities. Per the Guide to Safe Scouting, "The following activities have been declared unauthorized and



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restricted by the Boy Scouts of America . . . Pointing any type of firearm (including paintball, dye, or lasers) at any individual is unauthorized.”

Over the last several years, we have learned of three serious eye injuries that have taken place on Scouting outings in which paintball was one of the activities. Be aware of the following alert, which soon will be posted on the Scouting Safely area of Scouting.org:

Paintball is prohibited in Scouting!

Paintball poses a significant risk of injury, especially among children. In contrast to other Scouting activities involving firearms, the object of paintball is to fire a pellet—at a speed of at least 300 feet per second—at another human. A paintball that hits the body may produce a mere sting or welt, but a paintball that strikes an eyeball can cause severe injury to the eye and even blindness. The Consumer Product Safety Commission noted three deaths between 2002 and 2005 from paintball gun equipment.

At the request of the Risk Management Advisory Panel, the Health and Safety Committee is working to establish guidelines for laser tag activities, including and not limited to indoor commercial facilities. The guidelines will become part of the Guide to Safe Scouting.

Flag Retiring Ceremony

November 1, 2008



On Veteran’s Day, Tuesday, November 11th, Boy Scout Troop 364 will honor our nation’s colors with a flag retirement ceremony. The ceremony will be held at Living Memorial Park near the Troops’ cabin (near Mustang pavilion), at 7:30 PM.

We would like to invite the community, Veterans, and scouts to help remember the Veterans from all branches of our military. Boy Scouts need to be dressed in their field uniform, formally known as “class A”.

If you would like BSA Troop 364 to retire a flag, it can be brought to our troop cabin on Tuesday nights from 7-8:30 PM. Flags for retirement can also be dropped off at the Yellow Barn in Center Valley, on Rte 309N, on the weekends. If you are retiring a flag, you may write on a piece of paper where the flag was displayed, if you choose.

Why retire the flag? If an American flag is torn or worn out it should be retired and not displayed. A new flag should replace it. It should be retired in a respectable way with a proper ceremony.

TUNKHANNOCK CHAPTER WITAUCHSOMAN LODGE #44 ORDER OF THE ARROW



The Tunkhannock Chapter of the Witauchsoman Lodge meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the same location as the South Mountain District Roundtable (St. Luke’s Hospital and Health Network Education Center).

Tunkhannock Chapter members provided cheerful service at Camp Minsi on August 23, 2008. They installed benches at the newly expanded Chapel. They expect to finish the project at the Fall Fellowship Weekend in September. The Arrowmen also ate very well thanks to Dave Ellis.

Upcoming Events

CHAPTER MEETING Sept. 3, 2008
ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2008-2009

IMPORTANT FOR ALL YOUTH ARROWMEN TO ATTEND THIS MEETING!!!

FALL FELLOWSHIP WEEKEND Sept.5-7, 2008 @ Camp Minsi This is a great opportunity for all Arrowmen who became Ordeal prior to 2008 to seal the bonds of Brotherhood. There is no additional cost. **THIS IS A LIMITED OFFER.** Please register at the Council Office – (610) 264-8551

LODGE FAMILY BANQUET Jan. 3, 2009 at SKYTOP LODGE (SKYTOP, PA) in the Poconos.

NOAC 2009 August 1-6, 2009 at Indiana University NOAC is the National Order of the Arrow Conference where over 8,000 Arrowmen from across the



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country gather on a University Campus for a week of training, fellowship, and fun activities. **SLOTS ARE LIMITED.** Youth Arrowmen sign up at Council Office (\$100 deposit).

Reminder – 2008 & 2009 membership dues can be paid at Chapter meetings.

Who to contact:

Chapter Chief: Mike Mayrosh, Jr. (610) 866-4968

Chapter Advisor: Dave Hay (610) 861-4494

unkhannock

Website

is

www.tunkhannockoa@yahoo.com

SCOUTING FOR FOOD DATES



Scouting for Food

Bag Drop off 11-01-08

Bag Pick up 11-08-08

See SMD Web page for flyer

Cub and Scout Leaders of the South Mountain District:

My name is Mark Firth, I am affiliated with Pack/Troop 352 in Bethlehem and I will be serving you and the district this year as chairman of the 2008 Scouting for Food Drive.

Our hope is that your unit is already planning to participate as this is proving to be a very critical year for our area's most needy. Food costs have risen sharply forcing more needy families to increasingly rely upon the resources of our food pantries. Secondly, due to the economy, fewer people are able to make donations as they had in years past. Food pantries are experiencing food shortages while at the same time reporting increasing demand. Last year with your help the council collected 200,000 pounds of food that reached those most in need just before Thanksgiving. Now more than ever we need your help.

Scouting for Food will be held on Saturday, November 1st (bag distribution) and Saturday, November 8th (door to door donation pick-up).

I wanted to reach out to everyone and pass along some important details. Firstly, if you are a newly

created unit and do not have a geographic area to cover, please contact me immediately so this can be arranged. Secondly, if you do not have maps of your unit's assigned area from last year please contact me quickly so we can provide these materials to you. If you have questions, I will be presenting at the district's October Round Table meeting or just give me a call.

Providing the council has all the materials ready, we will distribute bags at the roundtable meeting **OCTOBER 1.** If not, you must make arrangements to pick them up at the council office ahead of time.

Helping me this year are three Co-Chairs. The Co-Chairs will be available to help solve any logistical issues that may arise on a more local level.

If you do not have a food pantry yet in mind, please locate one in your area. If you need assistance in locating one we can suggest a couple. Please note, the food pantry at St. Francis Church, Bethlehem Twp is no longer in operation. Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church however just opened one in the area and will accept donations. Contact there is Carol Salabski (610) 867-8409.

The council is still working out details about how units will report their results. Patches are also still in the works. Once this information is known, it will be passed along.

Thanks to all of you for getting involved and taking part in this important project with your scouts and scout families. Let's have a great year as we are being counted on.

Yours in Scouting,

Mark Firth

(610) 866-2660 Hm

(908) 797-1508 Cell

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District Committee



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Eric Chiles District Commissioner
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Amy Frantz Senior District Executive
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John Arno Merit Badge Chair
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OPEN Finance Chair,
Membership Chair

Leonard Perrett Marketing Chair
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Donna Bonney



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Rich Santee

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Bernie Suess

District Webmaster

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