



# South Mountain District News



Minsi Trails Council. B.S.A.

December 2008

## 2008 Dates to Remember

### Date Change: District Annual Meeting

Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	12-03-08 [2]
District Annual Meeting 7:00pm	12-09-08 [1]
New Leader Essentials	12-08-08 [98]
Cub Leader Specific	12-08-08 [98]
Venturing Forum	12-15-08 [5]
District Commissioners 7:00pm	12-17-08 [3]
OA Family Banquet	01-03-09[96]
District Meeting 7:30pm	01-06-09 [1]
Re-charter Day	01-10-09 [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
- [96] Skytop Lodge, Skytop PA
- [98] First UCC in Hellertown

### South Mountain District 2009 Recognition Dinner Date Change to 25<sup>th</sup>

**Date:** Saturday April 25, 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.

### MINSI TRAILS COUNCIL ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING AND RECOGNITION DINNER

#### 2008 Silver Beaver Class

David Abraham  
John Arno  
Eric Chiles  
David Hay  
Phil Nonemaker  
Nyles Possinger  
James Roberts  
Kim Snyder



**Date:** Friday, January 30, 2009  
**Time:** 6:00PM, Gathering, 6:45 Dinner  
**Location:** Jordan Lutheran Church  
5130 Snowdrift Road Orefield, PA  
**Cost:** \$25.00 per person  
Make checks payable to "Minsi Trails Council," PO Box 20624, Lehigh Valley, PA 180020624  
Registration is due by 1/16/09

#### **Highlights of the Evening ·**

- Council Annual Business Meeting and Election of officers
- Good Food and Fellowship
- Award Ceremonies and recognition of Centennial District Award
- Distinguished Commissioners
- Adult Religious Award
- Community Service Awards
- Silver Beaver Court of Honor

**Directions:** From route 78 take the 309 N exit follow Route 309 to Snowdrift Road; make a left on Snowdrift Road, Church is on the right..  
From Route 22: Take the Route 309 N exit and follow 309 N until Snowdrift Road. Make a left on Snowdrift Road and proceed to the church.  
From Route 476: Take Route 476 to the Route 22 Exit and head East on 22 to the Route 309 N Exit. Take Route 309 N to Snowdrift Road and make a left on Snowdrift Road



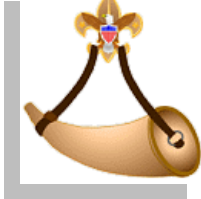
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## Powder Horn Cluster Course Information

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 age youth 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

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 overnigher 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](mailto:rmonto@aol.com)**  
**610-253-8272**

## 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.



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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.

First Aide Meet	03-14-09
Outdoor Leader Skills part 1	03-26-09 [1]
Pinewood Derby	03-28-09
Outdoor Leader Skills part 2	03-31-09 [1]
Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	04-01-09 [2]
Outdoor Leader Skills part 3	04-04-09 [93]
District Meeting 7:30pm	04-07-09 [1]
Eagle Board of Review	04-09-09 [1]
Venturing Leader Training	04-11-09 [5]
NYLT Weekend 1	04-17-19-09 [6]
Boy Scout Youth Protection	04-18-09 [2]
Venturing Forum	04-20-09 [5]
NYLT Weekend 2	04-24-26-09[6]
District Recognition Dinner	04-25-09 [1]
District Commissioners 7pm	04-29-09 [3]
District Meeting 7:30pm	05-05-09 [1]
Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	05-06-09 [2]
Eagle Board of Review	05-14-09 [1]
College of Commissioner Science	05-15-17-09 []
Powder Horn Weekend I	05-15-17-09 [98]
Venturing Forum	05-18-09 [5]
District Commissioners 7pm	05-27-09 [3]
Powder Horn Weekend II	05-29-31-09 [98]
OA Spring Weekend	05-29-31-09 [6]
District Meeting 7:30pm	06-02-09 [1]
Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	06-03-09 [2]
Eagle Board of Review	06-11-09 [1]
OA Conclave	06-12-14-09 [97]
Venturing Forum	06-15-09 [5]
Coopersburg Day Camp	06-15-19-09
District Commissioners 7pm	06-24-09 [3]
Eagle Board of Review	07-09-09 [1]
OA Summer Family Picnic	07-11-09
Bethlehem Day Camp	07-13-17-09
Venturing Forum	07-20-09 [5]
District Meeting 7:30pm	08-04-09 [1]
Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	08-05-09 [2]
Eagle Board of Review	08-13-09 [1]
Cardboard Boat Regatta	08-14-16-08 [4]
Venturing Forum	08-17-09 [5]
District Commissioners 7pm	08-26-09 [3]
District Meeting 7:30pm	09-01-09 [1]
Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	09-02-09 [2]

## 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 [96]
District Meeting 7:30pm	01-06-09 [1]
Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	01-07-09 [2]
Eagle Board of Review	01-08-09 [1]
Re-Charter Day	01-10-09 [1]
Cub Winter Event	01-17-09 [94]
Venturing Forum	01-19-09 [5]
District Commissioners 7pm	01-28-09 [3]
Council Dinner Annual Meeting	01-30-09 [95]
District Meeting 7:30pm	02-03-09 [1]
Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	02-04-09 [2]
Eagle Board of Review	02-12-09 [1]
Klondike Derby	02-14-09
Venturing Forum	02-16-09 [5]
Trainer Development Conference	02-21-09 [93]
District Commissioners 7pm	02-25-09 [3]
District Meeting 7:30pm	03-03-09 [1]
Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	03-04-09 [2]
Eagle Board of Review	03-12-09 [1]
University of Scouting	03-14-09
Venturing Forum	03-16-09 [5]
District Commissioners 7pm	03-25-09 [3]



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OA Fall Weekend	09-11-13-09 [4]
Eagle Board of Review	09-10-09 [1]
Venturing Forum	09-21-09 [5]
SM & ASM Leader Specific Part 1	09-10-09 [ ]
SM & ASM Leader Specific Part 2	09-15-09 [ ]
District Commissioners 7pm	09-30-09 [3]
Fall Camporee	10-02-04-09
District Meeting 7:30pm	10-06-09 [1]
Roundtable / OA Chapter 7:30pm	10-07-09 [2]
Eagle Board of Review	10-08-09 [1]
Venturing Forum	10-19-09 [5]
Cub Fall Event	10-17-09
District Commissioners 7pm	10-28-09 [3]
District Meeting 7:30pm	11-03-09 [1]
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]
Eagle Board of Review	12-10-09 [1]
Venturing Forum	12-21-09 [5]
District Commissioners 7pm	12-30-09 [3]

- [98] Camp Turell –NNJ Council
- [99] Lehigh Carbon Community College

## Merit Badges



**Effective, October 15, 2008,**

any counselor who is not on the official list on the website cannot begin to work with a Scout(s) on any new merit badge(s). Effective December 1, 2008, No merit badges will be sold to units who do

not list the name of the counselor for each merit badge on the advancement report. This is not a new policy – it is a Minsi Trails Council policy that has been on the books for many years. Names will be checked against the official list.

If you have a counselor who is not on the list, and wishes to serve, he/she must fill out a new adult application and a Merit Badge Counselor application. Counselors submit the applications to the Council. Counselors will be notified of acceptance within three weeks of receipt of application. Applications may be secured from the web page [www.minsitrails.com](http://www.minsitrails.com) under “Resources,” “Scouting Forms,” and “New Adult Applications.” Use pages 4 and 5 (both pages must be filled out and submitted). The merit badge Counselor form is further down the same page.

Questions contact Council Registrar Charles Chase [cchase@minsitrails.com](mailto:cchase@minsitrails.com) or Merit Badge Counselor coordinator Priscilla Nagy [prnagy@minsitrails.com](mailto:prnagy@minsitrails.com)

The following names are from Council who live in the South Mountain District. They need to fill out a new Merit Badge Application form

- David Landis
- Allen Male
- Peter Mayes
- Robert Wingrove "

If you have any questions contact John Arno, District Merit Badge Chair. at **610-866-1810** or [llordbadenpowell@aol.com](mailto:llordbadenpowell@aol.com)

### 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
- [92] South Mountain Park
- [93] Banko Center, LVH Muhlenburg
- [94] Hellertown UCC Church
- [95] 5130 Snowdrift Road Orefield, PA
- [96] Skytop Lodge, Skytop PA
- [97] Resica Falls Scout Reservation



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## Venture Leadership Skills Course

January 2009



The Venturing Committee is planning on hosting a VLSC course in January in Easton, PA.

**WHAT IS IT:** A course designed for young adults in Venturing Crews to help teach the attitudes and skills of leadership. This course is required for the Silver Award.

**WHEN:** 7PM Friday January 9th thru 4:30PM Saturday January 10<sup>th</sup> 2009

**WHO:** Open to all Venturers of all Crews.

**COST:** \$20.00 Includes Friday night cracker barrel, Saturday breakfast and lunch. All Training Materials and the VLSC Patch and Certificate issued upon completion of course.

**UNIFORM:** Crew Activity Uniform or Field Uniform or clothes appropriate for a scout function.

**WHAT TO BRING:** Sleeping bag, pillow, Sleeping Pad, Toiletry articles, change of clothes, Personal items books, camera, radio, CD player with headphones, Pen, Pencil and a thirst for knowledge.

**QUESTIONS:** Please call or email John Arno at [lloordbadenpowell@aol.com](mailto:lloordbadenpowell@aol.com) or 610 866 1810.

More information will follow at the monthly Forum at the Scout Office on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of the Month at 7:00pm..

## Trainer Development Conference

February 21, 2009



For any Scouter and Venturing Leader interested in learning Training skills. 8:00 to 4:00pm at the Banko Center LVH-Muhlenburg, This course will have two levels, the BASIC Course and the ADVANCED Course. Form detail information contact Don Miles at 610-865-3844 [donmiles@rcn.com](mailto:donmiles@rcn.com)

## Ranger Camp

# RANGER

May 16 17, and May 30 & 31, 2009

**Course Vision:** Provide an exciting outdoor skills course, unlike any other Venturers or Older Boy Scouts have ever experienced.

**Who should attend?** This course is for all Venturers and Boy Scouts (Boy Scouts age 14 and over)

**Program Content:** The following topics are scheduled to be presented: Air rifle, Archery, Backpacking, Bouldering, Canoeing, Climbing, Conservation, Consultant Crew Relationships, Cooking Instruction, Ecology, Emergency Preparedness, Fishing, Fly Fishing, Kayaking, Land Navigation, Leave No Trace, Outdoor Living History, Mountain Biking, Rappelling, Rifles, Sailboats, SCUBA, Shotgun, Snorkeling,

**Wanted:** Consultants to instruct the above sessions.

**Course Dates:** Two weekends of May 15, 16 17, and May 29, 30 & 31, 2009.

**Course Location:** Dow Drukker Scout Reservation; Camp Turrell / Camp Kluge

**Course Cost:** \$200.00

**Course size:** This course is limited to 48 participants. Once the course is filled, participants will be given an option of being placed on a waiting list in case of cancellations.

**Recognition:** Participants are awarded a certificate of completion of any requirements met during the event and a Custom Ranger Patch and Ranger Camp Certificate

If your Crew or Crew members have interest in this course, contact John Arno at [lloordbadenpowell@aol.com](mailto:lloordbadenpowell@aol.com) or 610 866 1810 or Bob Monto at [rmonto@aol.com](mailto:rmonto@aol.com) for an application.



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## Scouting for Food

Packs 333, 334, 364, and Troops 334 & 364, all of Southern Lehigh School District, are pleased with the community's generous response to Scouting for Food this year. Our collecting station at Saint James Lutheran Church in Coopersburg received a total of 8,781 items, weighing more than 10,000 pounds. The cubs, scouts and scouters began preparations at 8:00 am at the church and completed delivery to a local food bank by 2:00 pm. Since Southern Lehigh's food bank had already been well supplied by a USPS food drive last month, our items went to the nearby Quakertown food bank. The Quakertown food bank serves 563 needy families in Upper Bucks County. This is a fine example of the principles of the Scout Oath and Law in action.

See Flyer on the SMD Website

## 2009 National Youth Leadership Training

April 2009

Minsi Trails Council to run National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) Course.



What's new this year? The Minsi Trails Council will be sponsoring a two Troop course in 2009 to provide additional opportunities for the Scoutmasters to train your youth leaders. The National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) course supports Scoutmasters in their primary responsibility of training youth leaders. The Minsi Trails Council will offer the two weekend course in April, 2009.

Built on the legacy of past youth leader training courses, NYLT integrates the best of modern leadership theory with the traditional strengths of Scouting experience. Through activities, presentations, challenges, discussions, and audio-visual support, NYLT participants will be engaged in a unified approach to leadership that will give

them the skills and confidence to lead well. Through a wide range of activities, events, games, and adventures, NYLT participants will work and play together as they put into action the best that Scouting has to offer

The course is set up to represent a month in the life of a Scout Troop. Patrols experience the stages of team development. Scouts discover that leadership requires vision, goals, and planning. Participants are provided a "toolbox" of leadership skills.

The National Youth Leadership Training is an outdoor experience for boy leaders in support of the Scoutmaster's responsibility for the training of Troop youth leaders. It is conducted by the council leadership training committee using an outline approved by the Boy Scout Division of the Boy Scouts of America.

The two-weekend course will occur Friday, April 17 to Sunday, April 19 and Friday, April 24 to Sunday April 26 at Settlers Camp. Space is limited to 96 Scouts. Scouts must be 14 years old by September 1, 2009 and be a Star Scout. The Cost is \$170 per Scout. (\$190 per Scout if full payment is not received by April 3, 2009) A \$75 deposit is due with the registration form. The remainder of fee is due by April 3, 2009. Information and registration fliers are being mailed to each Scoutmaster and Committee Chairs.

Charlie O'Connell of Pocono District and Bernhard Suess of South Mountain District have been selected to serve as the Scoutmasters for the two Troops. A Youth staff and other adults have been selected and have been meeting to prepare for this great course.

Check out the information and registration form on the Council webpage: and at

[www.minsi-nylt.com/index.htm](http://www.minsi-nylt.com/index.htm)

and at

[www.minsitrails.com](http://www.minsitrails.com)

If you have any questions please contact Wayne Gross, NYLT Coordinator, by email at [wegseg@msn.com](mailto:wegseg@msn.com)



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## Scouting for Food Committee Report

Date: November 23, 2008

On the weekends of both November 1 and November 8, 2008, the Scouting for Food service project was completed by scouts and parent volunteers within the South Mountain District. The preliminary indication from Council was that our efforts were quite successful. What follows are the results that were reported thus far. Other units that had not yet reported were identified and at the direction of council, I made calls to encourage all units to file a report so final results could be tabulated.



I place 8 follow up calls with the following units: Troop 191, 340, 416, 349, 334, 339 and Packs 335 and 346. Troop 191 did participate and will furnish council with a report.

Don Sachs, Marketing Director for Minsi Trails explained in an email that South Mountain District collected the most food to date with 46,542 pounds reported to council thus far. He stated that for all units in all districts the total collected was 192,282 pounds.

Units that did collect reported that the following local pantries received donations: Notre Dame of Bethlehem, Bethlehem Salvation Army, South Bethlehem Neighborhood Center, New Bethany Ministries, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, New Jerusalem Lutheran Church, Central Moravian Church, Northeast Ministries, St Simon and Jude Church, St Theresa Roman Catholic Church, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church and the Quakertown Food Pantry.

	YOUTH	ADULTS	LBS	ITEMS	HOURS
<b>PACKS</b>					
302	34	34	1524	1415	170
306	19	18	1462	1358	4
311	12	9	842	782	7
317	95	58	4000	3718	6
319	27	15	2225	2066	145
329	17	19	789	733	72
333	40	28	3002	2788	408
334	41		3273	3040	164
343	45	45	2033	1888	113
347	19	20	956	888	3
349	19	17	764	710	45
359	25	23	1051	988	72
360	15	16	872	810	139
364	29	23	2235	2075	208
368	26	28	2742	2546	230
1742	15	8	712	661	50
<b>TROOPS</b>					
300	15	10	335	311	165
<b>T301 &amp;</b>					
P199	23	16	1444	1341	144
302	34	33	1524	1415	179
306	14	6	1664	1545	36
311	7	6	840	780	8
317	21	15	1320	1222	108
318	15	15	2025	1872	120
319	11	7	839	779	50
T & P 335	29	21	728	676	150
347	12	10	741	688	220
T & P 352	45	25	1261	1171	105
359	29	28	1545	1430	257
362	21	22	2081	1932	105
364	12	12	1436	1333	140
383	6	3	277	257	27
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>772</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>46542</b>	<b>43218</b>	<b>3650</b>



I wish to acknowledge the efforts of Bernadette Hay, Betty Schrantz and Sandy Brueningsen for their support and assistance to me with food drive this year. Bernadette Hay has resigned her position for next year and I would appreciate a referral if someone would be interested in working along with me.

Don Sachs is organizing a follow up meeting for all of the district chairpersons to discuss how the event went and hear suggestions for next year.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Mark Firth*, SFF Chair

### 2009 Training Requirements

In support of the Council's Strategic Plan of having every Scout led by a trained leader, the Executive Board of the Minsi Trails Council has renewed the training requirements for 2009.

In 2004, all Cubmasters, Scoutmasters and Crew Advisors were required to complete the basic training for their position before the council would renew their unit's charter.

In 2005, this training requirement was expanded to include the Committee Chairmen of each unit.

In an effort to bring training to the volunteer leaders who work directly with our youth, the Executive Board has adopted an additional training requirement for 2006.

Beginning in January 2006, all newly registered "direct contact" leaders, age 21 and over, must complete the basic training for their position by the unit's rechartering date or the Council will not re-register that person in that position. Beginning in January 2007, any 18, 19, and 20 year old Assistant Scoutmasters must complete training by the year of their 21<sup>st</sup> birthday.

"Direct contact" leaders for Cub Scout Packs include: Tiger Cub Den Leaders, Cub Scout Den Leaders, Webelos Den Leaders, Cubmasters, and Assistant Cubmasters.

"Direct contact" leaders for Boy Scout Troops include: Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters.

"Direct contact" leaders for Venturing Crews include: Venture Crew Advisors and Associate Crew Advisors.

This training requirement would not apply to existing leaders unless they changed their position after January 2006. Limited exceptions may be considered by the Council Training Chairman based on individual circumstances. Our hope is that over the next four to five years, as we train all of our new leaders coming into our organization, we will realize our vision of having every Scout led by a trained leader.

National BSA studies have shown that, on the whole, Scout units led by trained leaders present a higher-quality program that retains boys longer in Scouting. This is key to our council's long-range plan, which calls for retaining boys longer so as to have a positive impact on their values & character.

### What Makes a Trained Leader?

#### Youth Protection Guidelines

**Cub Scout leaders** are considered trained when they have completed Cub Scout Leader Position Specific Training, and New Leader Essentials.

**Scoutmasters and assistant Scoutmasters** are considered trained when they have completed New Leader Essentials, Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster Leader Specific Training, and Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills.

**Troop committee members** are considered trained when they have completed New Leader Essentials and the Troop Committee Challenge as their leader-specific training.

**Varsity Scout leaders and assistants** are considered trained when they have completed New Leader Essentials, Varsity Scout Leader Specific Training, and Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills.

**Venturing crew Advisors, assistant Advisors, and crew committee members** are considered trained when they have completed New Leader Essentials and Venturing Leader Specific Training.



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## Senior District Executive's Corner



Dear South Mountain District  
As 2008 is coming to a close, I sincerely thank you all for the time and energy you commit to the scouting program. The South Mountain district has top notch volunteers who are committed

to delivering a fun and meaningful scouting program for our youth. I am pleased to be working with you in the district where I had dedicated volunteers share with me the Venturing program. My experiences as a youth in the South Mountain district changed my life and certainly opened doors for my future. Again, thank you for all that you do. I wish you and your families a happy holiday season and a joyous and healthy new year. - Amy

Amy Frantz, Senior District Executive

## District Chairman's Corner

Dear Scouting friends On the eve of this festive holiday season, I want to write a few words of appreciation for all you do to promote and support Scouting. It was when our son was entering 4<sup>th</sup> grade that our family moved to



Bethlehem. As Kevin started the new school year, and looking for a connection to other boys as we were still new to the area, he joined the school PTA sponsored Cub Scout Pack. That decision was a gift beyond description. For the next 8 years Kevin was involved at every level of scouting he could get hold of, experiences only available through Boy Scouts. He attended Troop meetings every Thursday, went on every weekend event the unit offered, spent a week at Camp Minsi every summer, earned over 30 merit badges, reached the rank of Life Scout, attended a National Jamboree, and went on a high adventure trek at Philmont. He did just about all a boy could do. It was an incredible run that touched

and blessed his life in ways that will last...a lifetime.

Kevin is now 22 and no longer actively involved in BSA. He will be when he has a son, or so he promises. I am still involved as a way to say "thanks" to the many who made this experience possible for him and for our family. So, as we enter these days of "giving" on many levels, I thank you for giving as you have and for all that it has meant to so many boys, one "belonging" to me.

Yours in Scouting,  
Gary T. Marsh  
District Chair



See Flyer on the SMD website

<http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/documents/2009BoyScout-GlobeTrotters.pdf>

## District Committee



Gary Marsh  
610-997-0958

[gmarsh6@ptd.net](mailto:gmarsh6@ptd.net)

Eric Chiles  
610-865-5787

[ejchiles@aim.com](mailto:ejchiles@aim.com)

Amy Frantz  
610-465-8558

[afrantz@minsitrails.com](mailto:afrantz@minsitrails.com)

District Chair

District Commissioner

Senior District Executive

## South Mountain District Newsletter

The South Mountain District is a geographical area located in Lehigh and Northampton counties which serves the school districts of Bethlehem Area, Saucon Valley, and Southern Lehigh. Municipalities within the South Mountain District include Bethlehem, Bethlehem Township, Center Valley, Coopersburg, Fountain Hill, Freemansburg, Hanover Township, Hellertown, Lower Milford, Lower Saucon, Steel City, and Upper Saucon.



# South Mountain District News



Minsi Trails Council. B.S.A. December 2008

<b>Rod Long</b> <b>New Unit Chair</b> 610-838-6768 (H) 610-282-4444 ext. 122 (W) <a href="mailto:longbsa@enter.net">longbsa@enter.net</a>		<b>610- 838-5485</b> <a href="mailto:RBMJWilliams@verizon.net">RBMJWilliams@verizon.net</a> <b>Sandy Brueningsen</b> <b>Cub Scout Training Coordinator</b> 610-865-5380 <a href="mailto:sbruenin@fast.net">sbruenin@fast.net</a>	
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