



Troop 251 Hooter Gazette

September, 2008



Hiking Dead Man's Hollow

On September 6th, we took a "conditioning walk" through Dead Man's Hollow. The walk began at the Boston access of the Yough River Trail ("YRT"). The first hike of the season was an easy one, with a soft path and no steep grades. Leaders familiar with the trail were dismayed to see that it is not being maintained as well as it used to be, but everyone had a great time and got some exercise. At the end of the hike, the scouts wanted to find another trail and keep hiking!



Dead Man's Hollow was just a warm-up! There are more hikes planned, including a backpacking overnighter in October!

Nalgene Rhythm Band Performs at Fall Court of Honor

Our Fall Court of Honor and end-of-summer picnic was held at North Irwin Park on August 24th. You can always count on Scouting families for great food, and this picnic was no exception! We enjoyed familiar dishes and new recipes, burgers and dogs, salads and veggies, cookies and goodies ... and Mrs. Sudsy's baked beans! Mr. Bratkowski and Mr. Bongartz manned the grills, and Mr. Fuller cooked a mountain of sweet corn. After dinner, we were treated to an encore performance of the *S/V Vivid Nalgene Rhythm Band*, with **Ben, Zach, Adam**, Mr. Kaigler, and Mr. Fuller proving once again that Nalgene bottles aren't just for staying hydrated! Mr. Morgart spoke of the past year's activities, reminding us of all that we've done, and of some of the activities ahead. The Court of Honor that followed highlighted the progress of our Scouts with a long list of Merit Badges and other accomplishments.



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This edition of the Hooter Gazette was originally published to the web in HTML format. Beginning with the November edition, the format changed to PDF to facilitate archiving and printing. Editions published in July through October were subsequently archived in the new format. No changes have been made to content.

Fundraising Success!

Our recent Virginia Diner nut sale was a big success. The fundraising goal for the sale was met, and our customers got to enjoy the delicious products from Virginia Diner. A hearty "Way to go!" to our scouts, and to everyone who helped in any way. And "Kudos!" to Mrs. Bratkowski for meeting the goal that she set! If you missed the sale, or if you just can't get enough of those Virginia Diner nuts, you can still place your order at <http://virtual.virginiadiner.com>. Be sure to select Troop 251 when you create your online account, and the troop will receive a portion of every dollar you spend!

Of course, the focus at the moment is **popcorn!** This is an important fundraiser, not only for the troop, but for the District as well. Our popcorn chairperson, Mrs. Flaherty, has a good plan for a successful sale. Let's do everything we can to make that happen! Check the troop calendar for store-front sales opportunities. The more you sell, the more you earn towards your future scouting activities!

First Aid: Be Prepared!



What better way to start the fall Scouting season than by getting back to the basics? Beginning with the regular troop meeting on Sept. 11th, Mr. Morgart is planning to hold first aid practice at the second regular meeting of every month. Mrs. Sudsina and Mrs. Bratkowski led the first session with a refresher on splinting and the immobilization of injured extremities.

Hiking for Ice Cream

Our second hike of the season, on 9/20, took us from the Buena Vista access of the YRT to Sutersville and back, for a total of just under 6 miles. The Scouts played "pass the brick" from backpack to backpack along the way. We're not sure we want to know why someone had a brick in his pack at the beginning of the hike! The return trip was made a little more difficult by the additional weight of the ice cream that the hikers picked up at the Yough-Twister in Sutersville! This hike was planned for later in the evening, so that the trail was dark by the time we got back to Buena Vista.

Our first hike was a little over 3 miles, this one a little under 6. The next hike, scheduled for September 28th, will be our first 10-miler of the season. Scouts who are planning to participate in the backpacking overnighiter in October are encouraged to take advantage of these shorter "fun" hikes, in order to get ready for the more demanding ones ahead.



Scout Leadership

Elections were held on August 28th, and the leadership positions in the troop were entrusted to:

Senior Patrol Leader	Steve	Librarian	Kevin B.
Assistant Senior Patrol	Adam	Scribe	Bradley
Leaders	Joe Joe	Troop Guide	Nick D.
	Ben	Historian	Jacob
Quartermaster	Adam	Chaplain Aide	(open)
		Bugler	(open)

To contact your Senior Patrol Leader, simply send an email to SPL@t251.org.



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Write for the *Hooter!*

Your editor cannot be everywhere that the troop goes. Please send reports of events and activities to hooter@t251.org. Not only will it help to keep everyone informed, it's also a good opportunity to develop your writing skills! Articles from Scouts, Scouters, and parents are all welcome!

The *Hooter Gazette* is the newsletter of Boy Scout Troop 251, Larimer, PA, USA. Views and opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of Troop 251, the Boy Scouts of America, or of our Chartered Organization, St. John's United Church of Christ. Questions or comments should be sent to the editor: hooter@t251.org. **More information regarding Troop 251 is available at the troop web site: <http://t251.org>.**