

*Merry Christmas from Troop 251 !*



# Troop 251 Hooter Gazette

Larimer, PA  
December, 2009



*Nothing says "Merry Christmas"  
quite like a 100-cubic-foot Grinch-  
green two-wheeled gift box full of  
Boy Scouts*

*Irwin  
Light-Up  
Night 2009*

## THE 2009 EDITION

of the Irwin Light-Up Night Parade started right on time: 6:30 PM on Thursday, November 19th. A half-hour later, Troop 251's cardboard creation rolled out onto 2nd Street enroute to Main. Twenty minutes later, it was all over. The lid was closed, and our gift box became, for a while anyway, the fastest 5'x8' Christmas present on Rt. 30.

The story began, as it did last year, in the Sudsina's garage, where Mr. Fuller's trailer was wrapped in cardboard. Fueled by soft drinks and slices of Pasquale's pizza, we managed to get the first coat of paint on the cardboard without doing major damage to the trailer or to the ga-

rage. On the second day, the lid was constructed from a single sheet of heavy-duty corrugated cardboard, folded and reinforced with 2x4's. Ribbon and a huge bow made from polyethylene foam packing sheets finished the job.

Or so we thought ...

When we picked up the trailer on the night of the parade, we were surprised to find that our plain green box had been decorated with Christmas tree silhouettes and snowflakes. Obviously the work of elves, the decoration turned our green cardboard into something resembling wrapping paper. The gift box was finished! Now all we had to do was to assemble it.

Final assembly was done at the staging area, in Irwin. We got a lot of stares as we slowly made our way down the highway toward Irwin. But the float arrived intact, with only a couple of pieces of ribbon having to be removed enroute to keep from being lost.



The lid was mounted in the open position. Battery-powered lights were added. Half of the Scouts climbed into the box to ride through the parade, while the other half picked up bags of candy to hand out to the children along the route.

## Scouting Hierarchy: Part XII — WOSM

Over the past 11 months, this column has given brief descriptions of the various “levels” of Scouting within the United States. But Scouting is much larger than just our country. This month, we’ll look at the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM).

As a member of the Boy Scouts of America, you are also a member of the WOSM — along with 28 million Scouts and Scouters around the world.

The WOSM operates in 160 countries, supported by the National Scout Organizations. Headquar-

tered in Geneva, Switzerland, the World Scout Bureau divides the world into six regions: Africa, Arab, Asia-Pacific, Eurasia, Europe, and our region, Interamerica.

The WOSM has roots that go back to 1920, when the first World Jamboree was held in England. That same year, Baden-Powell was named Chief Scout of the World. The first International Committee was formed two years later, in France. The most recent countries to join include Kazakhstan, Montenegro, Cambodia, Syria, and the Ukraine.

## Christmas Hike 2009



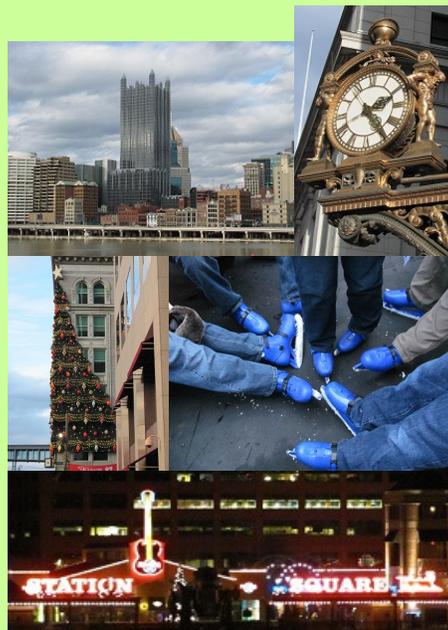
Our second annual “urban hike” through the Golden Triangle on 12/27 was a big success, with our group of 25 enjoying a crisp, clear day with temperatures in the low 40’s.

This year we were joined in our walk by a group of Webelos from Pack 270 who were working on their Outdoor Activity achievement. Our itinerary was very similar to last year’s. We started at Station Square, walked across the Smithfield Street Bridge, and then walked north on Grant Street to the Crèche where we paused for a brief time before continuing our hike. Along the way, we got to see the window displays and the clock at Macy’s, and posed for a group photo in front of the Christmas tree at the Courthouse.

Leaving the Crèche, we walked down to the

site of the tunnel construction, and went around the block to see the tree on the corner of the Horne’s building. Then it was on to the most popular stop on our itinerary, PPG Place, for an hour of open-air ice skating.

Our tour of the Golden Triangle ended where it began, but not until we had taken a ride on the Monongahela Incline and viewed the city from atop Mt. Washington.



## How Well Do You Know Camp Conestoga?

Have you figured it out yet? Or have you cried

**UNCLE** ...?

This word can be found on a sign above the entrance to the dining hall ... the Uncle Ben Robinson Dining Hall.



So, who was Uncle Ben? Uncle Ben Robinson was a Scout Leader who was very much a part of camp life at the Eberly Scout Reservation (then known simply as Camp Conestoga) in the 1950's and '60's.

## Rechartering

It's that time of year again! If you haven't already paid your rechartering fees, please be sure to bring a check to the troop meeting on January 7th!

**Klondike Derby!**  
**Saturday, January 9**  
**Camp Tenacharison**

## Summer Camp Registration

The \$50 registration fee for Summer Camp is due to the Troop by the regular meeting on March 4th. Camp fee this year is \$275.

## Chairman's Corner

Here in the United States, those of us at the lower levels of scouting typically do not pay a lot of attention to the activities of the World Organization of the Scout Movement. Perhaps we should. As our world becomes smaller, we are behooved, I think, to learn more about the other societies with whom we come into contact.

Though we share a common framework — the Scout Law and Promise — you'll find that Scouting in other lands looks very different from what we know as Boy Scouting. In South Africa, for example, the highest rank attainable is Springbok, named for the majestic brown and white gazelle that is native to that country. In Sweden, where Scouting — or, rather, Guiding and Scouting — is very popular, the motto is "Be prepared! Always prepared!" ("Var Redo! Alltid Redo!")

The next time you're surfing the web, search for "boy scouting" and the name of the country you'd like to learn about. You might be surprised at what you'll find.

- Chuck Fuller, Committee Chair, Troop 251 BSA

## Write for the Hooter!

Your editor cannot be everywhere that the troop goes. Please send reports of events and activities to [hooter@t251.org](mailto: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](mailto:hooter@t251.org). **More information regarding Troop 251 is available at the troop web site: <http://t251.org>.** All articles and photos are © 2009 Troop 251 BSA except where noted.