

# Troop 251 Hooter Gazette

Larimer, PA

January, 2013



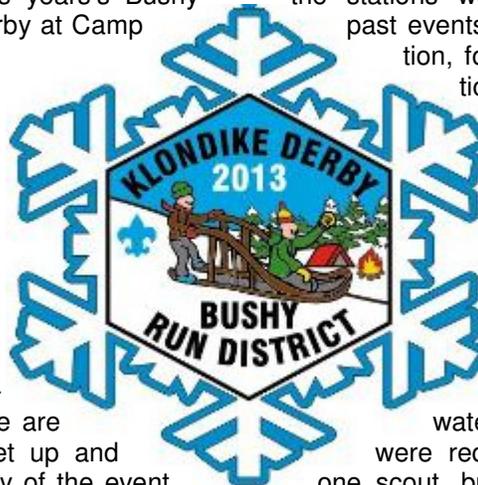
*On the Horizon*

## 251 Hosts Klondike Derby

Feb 3	Scout Sunday
Feb 12	Norwin Reality Tour
Feb 15	Snow Tubing
Feb 19	PLC Meeting
Mar 19	PLC Meeting
Mar 23	Top Roping
Mar 28	NO MEETING
Apr 5-7	Spring Camporee
Apr 9	Norwin Reality Tour
Apr 12-14	OA Weekend
Apr 16	PLC Meeting
Apr 20	Scouting for Food
Apr 27	Scouting for Food

For detailed info on upcoming events, consult the troop calendar at [t251.org](http://t251.org).

On the weekend of January 11-13, The scouts decided that the stations one hundred and fourteen scouts from the Westmoreland-Fayette Council formed 17 patrols and took on the challenges of this year's Bushy Run Klondike Derby at Camp Tenacharison. The stations we've encountered in past events. At the first aid station, for example, the additional twist was that the "victim" had to be transported out of the woods to the station. Fire building required that they burn through not one, but four strings from 12" to 30" high — and then boil a pot of water. Shelter builders were required to shelter not one scout, but their entire patrol. The knot race went beyond the Tenderfoot requirement, and the orienteering station mixed easy controls with a few trickier ones for a total of nine controls. Our most unique station, though, introduced the joys of the bow saw to many scouts who had never used one before. Even the sled race got the "251 treatment", with a new course that required two laps around the activity area.



The fun for the Scouts of Troop 251, however, began long before that weekend.

It takes a lot of people to host an event like a Klondike Derby. There are stations to be set up and staffed on the day of the event. There is scheduling to be done, and logistics. There are trophies to be ordered, and coordination with the District. And let's not forget the Camp Staff provided by Bushy Run District and the BB range master from Troop 252. Then there's the luckiest of all, the food judges!

Before all of that occurs, the most important part of the work begins. In keeping with Mr. Peschock's direction of keeping the troop "boy-led", a "Klondike Committee" was formed to plan the activities for the event. Under the leadership of **Justin** and **Austin P.**, the Klondike Committee selected the theme for the event: *Scout Survival*. The idea was to create stations which tested the winter survival skills of the participating units. Each station was designed by one of the patrols in the troop.

There is even a hidden 251 element in the patch that the scouts designed to commemorate the event. Look closely, and you will see that there are (2) scouts, (5) trees, and (1) camp. The last time that Troop 251 hosted a District event, "Mr. P" was our Scoutmaster. With the hosting of this event, we are saying to all of Bushy Run District, "*Troop 251 is back!*"

## Norwin Reality Tour

Service projects take many forms. Most seem to involve physical labor of one sort or another. Every once in a while, though, we get an opportunity to help others through education. situations, the damage that drugs can do to a person, and to that person's family and friends.

Such is the case with the Reality Tour, a national anti-drug program that recently set up a series of presentations in Norwin.

Troop 251 is proud to be associated with the Norwin Reality Tour, having participated since this past November by providing "actors" to play age-appropriate roles in the skits.

Reality Tour is a hard-hitting, no-holds-barred lesson on the impact of drug addiction. Targeted at teenagers and their parents, Reality Tour demonstrates, through skits and scenarios from real-life

To date, eight of our scouts have volunteered their time and talents to this worthy cause. **Mike, Chris, Jake S., Adam B., Austin P., Nck, Ben,** and **Tim** have either participated in, or prepared for participation in, one or more Reality Tour scenarios.

The Reality Tour is held on the second Tuesday of every month, with sessions planned through June.

## Klondike Derby 2013: Scout Survival

Their planning tasks behind them, it was time for the troop to face, for the first time, the challenges that they had designed. It's one thing to imagine an activity, and quite another to actually do it.

ceremonies were at 8:45, and the stations opened for business at 9:00.

Friday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, was a rainy day in the low 50's, not exactly Klondike weather, though someone reminded us that there are mud and rocks in Alaska, too. Saturday, the day of the event, was even warmer. The rain had stopped by early morning, and there was not a flake of snow to be found in all of Camp Tenacharison.

Troop 251 fielded two patrols this year. The *Baconators*, led by **Austin P.**, included **Cameron, Andy, Christian, Derek, Vance, Kevin L., Chris, Nick,** and **Brandon**. The *Hiking Vikings*, led by **Justin**, was made up of **Jake S., Jon, Kevin B., Andy, Ben,** and **Skyler. Zane, Mike,** and **Tim** volunteered to play "victim" at the first aid station.

The troop was camped for the weekend at the site just west of Boy Scout Camp Road. Saturday morning brought the usual breakfast of bacon and eggs. But there was no time to waste, as opening

The patrols from 251 were well-matched, ultimately finishing in the middle of the pack. Somewhat ironically, their sled race finish was the same as their overall ranking. The two sleds from 251 crossed the finish line one behind the other ... somewhere in the middle of the pack.

### Scoutmaster's Minute ...

### A Job Well Done!

As I'm sure everybody is aware our troop planned and put together the Bushy Run District Klondike Derby this year. During the Klondike Derby as I walked around and talked to all those in attendance it was apparent that we had done a good job, all I heard were rave reviews from the scouts and adults. They were impressed at the new twists that our troop came up with to make some typical events different and more challenging, and the different events we incorporated that were either new or haven't been done in a few years. I heard people mention that our troop raised the bar by making the events a little more challenging and expecting the scouts to be able to use the skills they've learned in scouting. Our planning of the Klondike Derby was a success – A job well done!

I would like to thank our scouts, adult leaders, scouters, and parents for all the help to make this event a great success. Thank you!

- Mr. Michael Peschock, Scoutmaster

# Klondike Derby — A Day in Pictures



January 12, 2013



## CPR, AED, & First Aid



The Scouts of Troop 251 are ready for any medical emergency that they might encounter, thanks to Mr. Jeff Tirpak of Rescue 8, and our own Mrs. Sudsina.

On January 17th, the troop met in Rescue 8's training center for our biennial recertification in CPR and AED. For some of the scouts, it was their first time

in a CPR class, but everyone did great! A week later, we were back at Rescue 8 for First Aid training.

This is the third time that Mr. Tirpak has presented these courses for the troop. Hopefully, we'll never need to use the training. But we'll be prepared when the time comes!

## The Winners!

### Congratulations to the winners of the 2013 Bushy Run District Klondike Derby!

Overall	Patrol Name	
1st Place	Troop 257	Coffee Cup
2nd Place	Troop 230	Lockouts Over
3rd Place	Troop 461	Penguins
Sled Race		
1st Place	Troop 201	Hamb
Cook-Off (Scouts)		
1st Place	Troop 259	Silver Foxes
2nd Place	Troop 230	Lockouts Over
Cook-Off (Leaders)		
1st Place	Troop 201	
2nd Place	Troop 461	

## Chairman's Corner

Hosting a District event is a non-trivial undertaking, and requires a lot of human capital to do it right. Thankfully, Troop 251 is blessed with a sizable group of leaders and parents who give freely of their time to make sure that our program, and our sons, are successful. The day of the big event saw Messrs. Peschock, Varner, Powell, Hornicak, Alexander, A. Fuller, Langford, Chenot, and Bongartz, Mrs. Eckels, Mrs. Spagnolli, Mrs. Peschock and Mikhayla, Mrs. Fuller, and your Editor, performing any number of tasks to keep things moving. Special thanks to Range Master, Mr. Fencil from Troop 252, for without him there would have been no BB range, and to Mr. Frye of Troop 201 for building the campfire for the cracker barrel. It was also great to see Mr. & Mrs. Snyder manning the Staff Lodge for the weekend!

The real heroes of the day were the scouts, who put weeks of effort into planning the stations. Their challenging tasks raised the bar, I'm sure, for future Klondike Derbies and camporees! They brought something back to stations that has been missing for awhile, and reminded us all that it can be fun *trying*, even if you don't complete the given challenge. Giving it your best, after all, is what Scouting is all about.

- 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 © 2013 Troop 251 BSA except where noted. All rights reserved.