



Hooter Gazette

Larimer, PA

April, 2013

On the Horizon



May 3	Troop Swim & Test
May 10-12	Fish-'n-Fun Camp
May 14	Norwin Reality Tour
May 19	Troop Shoot
May 30	Summer Court of Honor
Jul 7-13	Summer Camp
Summer 2014	Northern Tier

For detailed info on upcoming events, consult the troop calendar at t251.org.

Bows, Bullets, and Bazookas

Arrows, rifles, and anti-tank weapons were all on the agenda for the Bushy Run Spring “shooting sports” Camporee at the Pitcairn Monroeville Sportsmens Club the weekend of April 6th.

Of course, no one actually got to load and fire the bazooka. Nonetheless, it was a rare opportunity to shoulder a WWII-vintage anti-tank weapon, courtesy of a group of re-enactors who set up camp alongside the scouts.



Photo by Mr. Alexander



Photo by Mr. Alexander

Brandon, Ben P., Mike, Jon, Cameron, Kevin P., Skylar, Kevin B., Christian, Jacob S., Chris, and Austin P. did get to test their bow-and-arrow skills on the archery range, in addition to shooting .22's, black powder, and shotguns. Messrs. Alexander and Powell led the troop.

Mud Up To Our Eyeballs

Admit it: It feels good to do a good turn. *And it feels even better when doing that good turn involves ankle-deep mud!* There was no staying clean on April 13th, when Pack 293 invited Troop 251 to participate with them in this year's Westmoreland Cleanways' Fugitive Tire Roundup.

Along with Girl Scout Troop 22062, the gang sought to clean up what they estimated as 600 tires that had been discarded in the woods. When all the work was done, 927 tires had been pulled, dragged, cut, carried, and rolled from their muddy resting place next to a picturesque historic church.

It was hard work, and a lot of fun, too. But the hardest work was yet to come, when the scouts got home ... cleaning those muddy clothes and boots!



A Bag-Count Record!

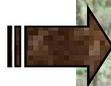
Sometimes, the fruits of your labor — or, in this case, the canned goods — aren't realized until some amount of time has passed.

Two years ago, 251 expanded our Scouting for Food territory to include all of Larimer in addition to our traditional area of North Irwin. Despite covering almost twice the number of homes, our collection didn't grow. In fact, it shrunk by a few bags.

This year, though, our slow streak ended, and we collected a total of 161 bags of non-perishable food items for St. John's United Church of Christ. That's more than a 70% increase over the past three years' results! The good people of Larimer and North Irwin deserve a hearty *Thank You!* for opening their hearts to their neighbors in need.

The Troop 251 flyer distribution team number 18 scouts and 10 adults. Our collection crew was only a little smaller, with 15 scouts and 9 adults canvassing our area. Great work, gang! Let's do it again next year!

Mr. Hornicak frequently sends photos of outings that your editor can't attend. He said, of this photo at Table Rock, "I told them all to turn around for *one for the newsletter.*"



Day Hike at DMH

On April 20th, Troop 251 invited the Cubs of Pack 293 to join us at one of our favorite haunts, Dead Man's Hollow.

The hiking party, consisting of Cubs, Scouts, siblings, leaders, and parents, gathered at Catfish Pond and followed a path that took them past two of our troop's Eagle projects, the bridge above the pond, and Table Rock Trail. A stop to check on our geocache, *Dead Tree: Hollow*, was also on the itinerary.



Photo by Mr. Hornicak

Scoutmaster's Minute ...

Respect

At work, I receive a daily safety huddle email message that deals with different safety concerns each day. A few days ago I received a safety huddle message that had me thinking about scouting – it was about respectful behavior.

I have often talked about respect and respectful behavior with the scouts in our troop. Respect for yourself, respect for all people around you, respect for your things, respect for other people's things, etc. I have also discussed the result when you are disrespectful and how it harms your name and the name of others associated with you, such as; parents, scout troop, sports teams, etc.

The best way to keep your good name is to respect yourself and others and not cause any harm to your name in the first place. Because it is difficult sometimes seeming impossible to fix a name and get others' respect back after causing harm to your name.

- Mr. Michael Peschock, Scoutmaster

Special Thanks...

During the month our troop has participated in several service projects:

Fugitive Tire Roundup – with Cub Scout Pack 293 and Girl Scout Troop 22062
Scouting for Food – flyer distribution
Scouting for Food – food collection
Pet Friends Rabies Clinic

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everybody for their continued support of our troop's service projects and activities. I would also like to pass on a few things that I have heard from those people we have been working with over the course of the last month.

After the Fugitive Tire Roundup, I heard the following things: The boy scouts worked extremely hard, they are more mature and well behaved than was expected, and they worked extremely well with all of those in attendance from the younger scouts to the adults from all of the scout organizations that were there. Adults from the troop worked extremely well with everybody and were engaged and helpful to all of the scouts in attendance regardless of which scout organization the scouts were from.

During and After the Pet Friends Rabies Clinic, I heard the following things: The boys are so well behaved and extremely hard working. With all of the rain and changes to the usual way we do things we could not have done this without the help of Troop 251.

From what I'm hearing, our troop is building quite a reputation for itself. Let's keep up the great work!

- Mr. Peschock

Friends of (Pet) Friends

Article by Mr. Peschock

Sunday, April 28th from 2pm to 5pm, **Austin P., Mike, Bradley, Tim,** and **Skylar** helped out at the Rabies Clinic. The primary goal was to keep the animals safe and out of harms' way of the traffic as others entered the parking lot. Due to the rain on Sunday, the usual method of lining up all the animals and their people to wait their turn was modified. Upon entering the parking lot the people were given a number, scouts directed people to parking spaces, and then would call out numbers to get the people and their animals inside for their rabies shots. This worked well and kept the people happier than if they would have had to wait for 30 minutes while standing in the rain.

At the end of the day the final count was 133 people arrived with animals during the course of the 3 hours and 171 rabies shots were distributed to their animals. An excellent accomplishment for all involved. Thanks to those who showed up and helped out.

A Scout is:

Trustworthy
Loyal
Helpful
Friendly
Courteous
Kind
Obedient
Cheerful
Thrifty
Brave
Clean
Reverent

Troop Leadership		Election Results						
SPL	Austin P.	<p>Troop elections were held on 4/4. Patrol elections were held two weeks later, on 4/18.</p> <p>The table at left shows the newly-elected troop leadership. Below are the names of the leaders of the six patrols.</p>						
ASPL	Justin, Andy, Cameron.							
Troop Guide	Trevor							
Quartermaster	Bradley							
Scribe	Ben P.							
Historian	Jacob S.							
Librarian	Mike							
Instructor	Kyle							
Chaplain	Ben T.							
OA Rep	Kevin B.							
Leave No Trace Trainer / Custodian	Jacob F.	Patrol Leadership						
		Feagle	Dragon	No Name	Duct Tape	Cyclone / Panther	Phoenix	
		Patrol Leader	Jacob F.	Kevin L.	Brandon	Skylar	Christian	Kevin P.
		Asst Patrol Leader	Trevor	Kyle	Zane	Tim	Nick	Ben
		Patrol Scribe	Kevin B.	Austin G.	Ben P.	George	Jacob S.	Joe



This camera-shy mole — the largest that any of us had ever seen — created a little excitement when he scurried out from under that huge pile of tires!

Chairman's Corner

Congratulations to all of our new (and returning) troop and patrol leaders! I encourage you to learn what you can while serving in your new position, and to give to the troop what the position offers. To the Patrol Scribes, I hereby make an offer. Send me a couple of lines each month about what your patrol is doing, and I'll create a Patrol Report column in the *Hooter*.

I have lots of kudos to hand out this month, starting with Messrs. Alexander and Powell, who camped with the troop at the Spring Camporee. Mr. Peschock deserves a kudo or three for all of the activities that he's led this month. Major kudos to all of the leaders and parents who showed up to help with the tire roundup and the food drive. And let's not forget our friends at **Norwin Landscape Supply**, who were there to help with the tire roundup.

Next month's calendar begins with a troop swim at the Norwin High School pool. This is more than an evening of aquatic fun. It's also an opportunity to pass your swimming test for Summer Camp. If you don't do it at Norwin, you'll have to take time out of your day to do it when you get to camp. I encourage everyone who's going to camp to make time to attend this event.

- 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. 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>. All articles and photos are © 2013 Troop 251 BSA except where noted. All rights reserved.