



Hooter Gazette

Larimer, PA

June, 2013



On the Horizon



Layton Island Overnighter

Jul 4	NO MEETING
Jul 5	10-mile Hike
Jul 7-13	Summer Camp
Jul 16	PLC Meeting
Jul 18	Troop Meeting
Jul 25	NO MEETING
Aug 1	Troop Meeting
Aug 15	Troop Meeting
Aug 16-18	Gettysburg
Aug 25	Fall Court of Honor
Summer 2014	Northern Tier

Situated in the middle of the Youghiogheny River, halfway between Connellsville and West Newton, Layton Island is fast becoming one of Troop 251's favorite river destinations. On June 22nd, thirteen scouts — **Mike, Chris, Nick, George, Vance, Zane, Jake S., Austin P., Ben, Tim, Christian, Brandon,** and **Andrew S.** — accompanied by Messrs. Alexander, Hornicak, and Peschock, set out on the troop's third visit for a night of camping on the land mass in the Yough. This was the first visit since 2011. Last year's trip, you may recall, was scuttled due to heavy lightning in the area.

Arriving at the island, the guys encountered six-inch-deep mud at their take-out point, and set about to make a path across the muck using flat-faced rocks gathered from the area. Toads like the one in the photo below "covered" the island, according to one scouter. The flotilla arrived at West Newton around 3pm on day two, sweaty and tired, and looking like they had great fun!



Photos by Mr. Hornicak →

Photo by Mr. Peschock

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



SALE

Fees at Camp Conestoga continue to be among the lowest in the region, thanks to prudent management of the facilities by the folks at Westmoreland-Fayette Council. Despite their best efforts, however, Summer Camp costs are going nowhere but up. Fundraisers, such as the hot dog sales on June 1st and 15th, are offered by Troop leaders to help the scout to pay his own way.

For the hot dog sale, Busy Beaver in White Oak supplied the hot dogs, buns, grill, and propane. In addition, the troop purchased water, pop, and chips to sell. Eleven scouts took advantage of the opportunity, generating a total profit of \$432.37, all of which went straight into the scouts' ISAs. That works out to \$24.02 per shift.

Reality Tour Wrap-Up

The Norwin Reality Tour has completed its season of hard-hitting, *in-your-face* anti-drug education. National in scope, Reality Tour demonstrates, through skits and scenarios from real-life situations, the damage that drugs can do to a person, and to that person's family and friends.

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.

Eight of our scouts have participated in one or more sessions this year. Plan now to get involved when the Norwin Reality Tour begins its new season in September!

Summer Meeting Schedule

It seems like we've just begun our summer schedule, and the end is already in sight. With Norwin's school year beginning on August 20, there are only three summer troop meetings left:

July 18
August 1
August 15

Committee meetings will be held in conjunction with the troop meetings on July 18 and August 15.

The regular troop meeting schedule begins again on August 22. Don't forget to wear your Class A uniforms!

Scoutmaster's Minute ...

We Make a Difference

As we look back over the things that we have accomplished we will notice that we make a difference. Things that we do have affects on other people. Whether those people are in our immediate family and friends, part of our troop family, or just people that we run into in our everyday lives – actions that we take can and do make a difference in their lives.

I have realized at different times during my life that my actions serve as an example to those around me. I try to always provide the best example through my actions, but at times I realize I could have done better.

Simple little actions can brighten someone's day, like;
Just smiling as you pass by
Cheerfully saying hello
Holding a door for someone
Offering to help someone

Little things we do – make a difference in our lives and those around us.

- Mr. Michael Peschock, Scoutmaster

Family Night at Summer Camp

Family Night at Summer Camp is one of the great mysteries of Scouting. Herewith, for first-timers and veterans alike, are some things that you'll want to know.

First, know this: No open-toed shoes are permitted in camp. Wear your tennis shoes and be prepared to walk — from camp to the lake to campfire and back.

Council has an evening of activities planned, that typically run from the end of the last merit badge session of the day, until nightfall. Of these, the one event that you'll not want to miss is the OA

Call-Out ceremony, an impressive induction of selected scouts and scouters into the Order of the Arrow. Bring a blanket or camp chairs, and your camera! From Call-Outs, everyone goes to the campfire circle to bring the evening to a close.

The most anticipated event for the scouts, however, is dinner. Troop 251 chooses to eat in camp. The boys have been eating camp food since Sunday, and a favorite meal with the family is appreciated more than you may realize. Don't forget drinks and utensils! You'll typically have until 7:00 to eat, depending upon which early-evening activities you choose to attend.

Woman's body found in Youghioghenny River
Boy Scout troop finds body

Chairman's Corner

It's not the sort of memory that we want to take away from our days in Scouting, or the kind of story that we want to have associated with our troop. But unfortunate incidents do occur that test our abilities as scouts and as leaders. Such was the case two hours into this month's canoe trip. The story has been the subject of much news coverage, locally and statewide, and need not be retold here. The real story is how it was handled by our scouts and by our leaders. By all accounts, our scouts maintained their dignity and respect throughout, while the leaders took control of the situation at the scene until the authorities arrived. Communication flowed quickly to everyone who needed it. Families of the scouts on the river that day, as well as the District and Council Executives, were all alerted well in advance of the news reports. It's situations like this, the out of the ordinary events, that prove the mettle of a troop. All that we can do now is to pray for the family and friends of the deceased.

- 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.