



# Troop 61 Newsletter

## February 2012

### December Court of Honor



## Blue Mountain Ski Trip!!

By: Paul Anouna

For our ski trip this year we are going to Blue Mountain ski resort. This is one of my favorite trips all year. Over the years we have been to many different ski resorts and Blue Mountain is one of the best (not including Colorado). On the mountain there are tons of trails. If you are a beginner in skiing or snowboarding there are a variety of trails that could suit you. Also if you are an expert there are many black diamonds and double black diamonds. If you're not into skiing or snowboarding and you're the person who likes to slide down the mountain in a tube, they have that too. If you aren't the best at skiing or boarding take a lesson. They have lessons for beginners all the way through experts. If you are tired from all that fun, then sit at the benches where you can watch people make amazing ice sculptures. GO TO BLUE MOUNTAIN WITH THE TROOP. You will have fun.

## **Youth Protection in Scouting**

Child abuse incidents have received a lot of coverage in the news lately, so I thought it would be good to review some highlights of BSA policies for protecting our charges.

Every scout, leader and family member has a role to play in protecting our children. Scouts can do a lot to protect themselves and each other! This may not be the most interesting article you've ever read, but it's incredibly important.

### ***How does the BSA help prevent child abuse in Scouting?***

The BSA has adopted a number of policies aimed at eliminating opportunities for abuse within the Scouting program. These policies focus on leadership selection and on placing even greater barriers to abuse. New leaders are required to take Youth Protection training

before submitting an application for registration. The BSA's Youth Protection training has been in existence long enough for it to be understood and accepted as a mandated training for **ALL** registered and new BSA adult volunteers. In Troop 61, parents are encouraged to take the training as well, and some of our youth leaders have even been trained.

### ***Scouting's Barrier to Abuse***

The BSA has adopted the following policies for the safety and well-being of its members. These policies are primarily for the protection of its youth members; however, they also serve to protect adult leaders.

**Two-deep leadership on all outings required.** Two registered adult leaders, or one registered leader and a parent of a

participating Scout or other adult are required for all trips and outings. There are a few instances, such as patrol activities, when the presence of adult leaders is not required and adult leadership may be limited to training and guidance of the patrol leadership. With the proper training, guidance, and approval by the troop leaders, the patrol can conduct day hikes and service projects. Appropriate adult leadership must be present for all overnight Scouting activities.

**One-on-one contact between adults and Scouts prohibited.** One-on-one contact between adults and youth members is not permitted. In situations that require personal conferences, such as a Scoutmaster's conference, the meeting is to be conducted in view of other adults and youths.

**Separate accommodations for adults and Scouts required.** When camping, no youth is permitted to sleep in the tent of an adult other than his or her own parent or guardian.

**Privacy of youth respected.** Adult leaders must respect the privacy of youth members in situations such as changing clothes and taking showers at camp, and intrude only to the extent that health and safety require. Adults must protect their own privacy in similar situations.

**Inappropriate use of cameras, imaging, or digital devices prohibited.** While most campers and leaders use cameras and other imaging devices responsibly, it has become very easy to invade the privacy of individuals. *It is inappropriate to use any device capable of recording or transmitting visual images in*

*shower houses, restrooms, or other areas where privacy is expected by participants.*

**No secret organizations.** The Boy Scouts of America does not recognize any secret organizations as part of its program. All aspects of the Scouting program are open to observation by parents and leaders.

**No hazing.** Physical hazing and initiations are prohibited and may not be included as part of any Scouting activity.

**No bullying.** Verbal, physical, and cyber bullying are prohibited in Scouting.

**Youth leadership monitored by adult leaders.** Adult leaders must monitor and guide the leadership techniques used by youth leaders and ensure that BSA policies are followed.

**Discipline must be constructive.** Discipline used in Scouting should be constructive and reflect Scouting's values. Corporal punishment is never permitted.

**Appropriate attire for all activities.** Proper clothing for activities is required (such as swimsuits).

**Members are responsible for acting in accordance with the Scout Oath and Scout Law.** All members of the Boy Scouts of America are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the principles set forth in the Scout Oath and Scout Law. Physical violence, theft, verbal insults, drugs, and alcohol have no place in the Scouting program and may result in the revocation of a Scout's membership.



**Units are responsible for enforcing Youth Protection policies.** Adult leaders of Scouting units are responsible for monitoring the behavior of youth members and interceding when necessary. Parents of youth members who misbehave should be informed and asked for assistance. Any violations of the BSA's Youth Protection policies must immediately be reported to the Scout executive.

***\*How can parents help protect their children?***

The BSA recognizes the need for open lines of communication so that children are encouraged to bring any troubles to their parents for advice and counsel. In addition, parents need to be involved in their children's Scouting activities.

Parents also need to review the booklet, *How to Protect Your Children From Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide*, inserted in every Boy Scout and Cub Scout handbook. The information in this booklet should be the subject of discussions between Scouts and their parents prior to joining a pack or troop.

## Geology and Skiing

By: Mr. Galbraith

So what do geology and skiing have in common. More than you might think. For when you no longer mine coal from under a mountain you can open a ski resort on the mountain. When a zinc mine closes you can turn it into a museum. When Sterling Museum was a mine it's president about 100 years ago was a man named Palmer. You need a furnace to smelt zinc and the mining


company found the energy needed in the coal from under Blue Mountain. And though it is said he wasn't happy about it the mine's new company town bears the president's name. And it is thus that 100 years later Troop 61 goes skiing in Palmerton, PA having already toured Palmer's Sterling Mine.

# February 2012

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
			1 National Freedom Day	2 Groundhog Day  Candlemas	3 Ski Trip at Blue Mts., Camp at Palmerton Lutheran Church	4 Ski Trip at Blue Mts., Camp at Palmerton Lutheran Church
5 Ski Trip at Blue Mts., Camp at Palmerton Lutheran Church  PLC Meeting	6 Meeting	7 Tu B'Shevat  Full Moon	8 Boy Scout Day!!!!!!	9	10	11 Merit Badge Fairs, Edison NJ
12 Merit Badge Fairs, Edison NJ	13 Meeting	14 Valentine' s Day <3  Last Quarter of Moon	15 Troop Committee Meeting	16	17	18
19	20 Presidents Day  Meeting	21 Fat Tuesday/ Mardi Gras  New Moon	22 Ash Wednesday	23	24	25

26	27 Meeting	28	29 Leap Day			
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## March 2012

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
				1	2 Read Across America Day/ Dr. Seuss's Birthday	3
4 PLC Meeting	5 Meeting, Court of Honor	6	7	8 Purim	9	10 Chuck Norris's Birthday
11 Daylight Savings Time Begins	12 Meeting	13	14	15	16	17 St. Patricks Day 

18	19 Meeting	20 First Day of Spring	21 Troop Committee Meeting	22	23 Baltimore Aquarium & Aberdeen Campgrou nd	24 Baltimore Aquarium & Aberdeen Campgrou nd
25 Baltimore Aquarium & Aberdeen Campgrou nd	26 Meeting	27	28	29	30	31

# **TROOP WEB SITE**

If you forgot our calendar of outings, or if you want to see pictures of recent camping trips or even Eagle Projects, you should go to

<http://www.pack61eastbrunswick.org/Troop61/troopp61.html>

The Troop Newsletters  
are also posted there.  
-Mr. Weibel

Please tell  
me any  
comments  
that you



have- Evan

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