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AND MORE!!!

From the Scoutmaster

After 40 Years, Troop 101 Leaves the Elks Lodge **The Troop Moves on to Blessed Sacrament**



Jim Potjunas Scoutmaster

When last we left our heroes during the last edition of this newsletter, the Troop was facing an uncertain future. We were told to be on our way out of the Elks Lodge by spring and it wasn't clear just where we might end up.

Then, things got scarier before they got better.

The owner had a new business opportunity that involved almost immediate expansion into the basement. They were to begin remodeling the bathrooms and our departure date was moved up to the end of the year. The speed of that deal has slowed down and we have been extended to the end of January with a possible monthly extension.

Meanwhile, we are in the process of completing arrangements with Blessed Sacrament to move the Troop over to where Pack 101 meets and where many of you Alumni have supported us at the Spaghetti Dinner these past three years. We are juggling meeting days and places with the Cub Dens and we see several opportunities for synergies between us. That part of this big change may ultimately be very beneficial for all parties, Pack, Troop, and church.

To address the storage issue, we are working through the details of constructing a building on church property across the parking lot. I have a new-found appreciation for the many details that go into such an undertaking and we are just in the final planning stages. If all goes well, we will have quotes and estimates back right around the time this newsletter is published, but not in time to let you know. I am convinced it will be higher than I hoped, but also that it will be what we need both now and for the future of the Troop. We will then begin the task of a capital campaign to raise the money. You will certainly be hearing more about that.

Assuming that we are successful with fundraising, (see, you are already hearing more!) we would hope to break ground around the end of March as weather permits. I am told that we would be able to move gear in about 30 days. Meanwhile, sometime before that, we will have to move our meetings from one location to the other, but as of now we can leave our equipment in the back room downstairs and have limited access to it for camping. All of this is subject to change should there be a change in the business plans.

So, there will be some Saturday in the very near-future where Scouts, parents, and Leaders will all show up to empty out our old home of these past 40 years. Eagle pictures, posters, and display cases will be packaged for storage as there is no place for them in our new home at this time.

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Feature profile: Mike LaPolla

Troop 101 Eagle Scout #20 - July 11, 1986

It's really no wonder Mike LaPolla ended up doing Scouting for a living.

The old saying "An apple doesn't fall far from the tree" holds true as Mike carries the LaPolla family name into the ranks of professional Scouting.

After all, the LaPolla family name is synonymous with Troop 101 and Scouting in Trumbull County. Alumni Association charter member and LaPolla family Patriarch, James D. LaPolla, MD (Ret.) has held a number of important Council positions and is the recipient of several BSA National leadership awards. Sons James Jr., Ken, Vince, and Mike, are all Troop 101 Eagle Scouts, numbers 1, 3, 11 and 20, respectively.

For the past 16 years, Mike has served the Boy Scouts of America in Colorado, Ohio and now Pennsylvania. He is employed by the BSA's Northeastern Pennsylvania Council located in Scranton, Pennsylvania and was promoted in 2012 to Minsi Trails Council in charge of Monroe County, Pa.

To date, Mike is the only member of the Troop 101 Alumni Association to become a paid, professional Scouter. The Alumni Quarterly (AQ) had a chance to catch up with him recently from his home in the Scranton, Pennsylvania area.

AQ: You hold the distinction of being the only Troop 101 Alumnus to make Scouting a profession. We're impressed!

ML: Impressed? You're kidding? The only one? Probably because everyone else wanted to make money for a living! Seriously, thank you for saying that.

As you know, my brother Jimmy was the first Troop 101 Eagle

Scout and I had to top that, so now I did, but I have to be honest, I have carried over into my profession everything I learned in Troop 101. I try to share my past experiences with volunteer leaders to help make their program better. So, in essence, Troop 101 has made me successful in this profession. And per Jim Potjunas, I teach them everything opposite of what I did as a Scout. LOL!

AQ: Let's continue with that thought. Let's talk about the Troop Leaders and Adult Volunteers who guided and inspired you, the people who helped instill your Scouting spirit.

ML: That's a really tough question, because Troop 101 was blessed to have so many great volunteers and Leaders. Please bear in mind, there is no particular order to the people I am naming here: Mr. Bill Brown for pulling my ear, literally, to join Scouts. Don Wasilewski and Chuck Joseph for acting like kids with us Scouts on almost every campout. Mr. Kostolansky, a mentor, for teaching me a lot about being "accountable" for my own path to Eagle and Jim Potjunas, for being that proverbial "foot in the ass," for which I needed and why I am pretty sure he walks with a limp today.

My brother Kenny also inspired me. I always wanted to be one better than him and that was not easy, nor accomplished. I did all of the trainings he taught. I wanted to be a youth executive in the Order of the Arrow

AQ: Which one person in the Troop really stood out as a role model for

what you are doing today?

ML: Ned Gold. Ned took me on many adventures like skiing, camping, Philmont, Jamborees and much more. One memorable moment was being an Honor Guard for Green Bar Bill at the 1984 National Jamboree with Greg Gold. I owe a lot to Ned for helping me then and becoming who I am now.

I was a professional caddy for several years, which I enjoyed, but decided to retire. My father then suggested I become a professional Scouter and wanted me to talk to Ned about it. Well, for those of you who know Ned, he made it sound like I was going to work in Jamaica and live the high life. I took him up on the idea and it was all downhill from there. (LOL!).

AQ: Years ago, we overheard a veteran Scout Executive refer to an age-old saying, which he described as the Professional Scouters' Creed: "Ashes to ashes and dust to dust, if a Volunteer won't do it, then you must." Is that true?

ML: Yes, well, one of the greatest myths about professional Scouting is that you get to go camping and do all the fun Scouting stuff. Well, I am here to tell you that is not the case. Being in the profession is a business. Recruiting youth and volunteers, raising funds, starting units, training volunteers, running special activities, marketing the program, running camp and being active in the community through service organizations are just some of the jobs. And believe me, it doesn't end there. You can ask my wife. I work more nights than days and more weekends than weekdays. Why? Because my schedule revolves around the volunteer's schedule. I am here to serve them and they meet at night and on the weekends.

AQ: What has been your toughest challenge in this job, so far?

ML: Starting up an inner-city Scout Troop in Scranton. I had the responsibility of getting boys to join the Troop, go camping and earn advancements. Challenge number one: their reluctance to wear a Scout uniform in a housing development. Challenge number two: they did not



Mike on the job at camp



Mike - Caddying

want any part of me or Scouting.

However, after several attempts, that inner-city Troop finally got off the ground with five boys. These kids had never been outside the development. Granted, they liked camp fires, but they didn't understand the real purpose of Scouting.

So, I was Scoutmaster for two years and exposed them to summer camp, weekend campouts, Klondike Derby and community service. Just this past year, two Eagle Scouts came out of that Troop. I have to give all the credit for this to Jim Potjunas and his staff for being my role-models, because as Scoutmaster, it was extremely difficult, yet extremely rewarding.

AQ: There must be other rewards of the job, right? Camaraderie, fellowship?

ML: I would say my greatest achievement was being accepted by the volunteers. Professionals are usually looked at as "the devil." We only come around for money, or applications, or something else. Well, that is true, but I went around just to say, "hello," to see what each unit is doing, to offer help and whatever else they needed. When I left the NEPA council, the volunteers had raised enough money to give me two James West awards. James West is a \$1000 endowment gift to a council. I cried like a baby at the Council dinner, which was my most embarrassing moment, according to my wife.

AQ: Obviously, the Scouting movement is trying to stay relevant and current, but change

is a tall order, isn't it?

ML: In the coming year, the Cub Scouting program will be taking on a revamped and condensed program to better serve the working family. Cub Scout volunteerism has declined due to dual working parents or single parents. The new program will help recruit parents to be leaders.

On the Scouting level, National (BSA) keeps adding merit badges to reflect the times; Computer Programming and Snow Sports, for example. And then there's technology. Did you know that the Boy Scout handbook is now online and right in the palm of your hand?

I recently went to a Troop Court of Honor where the youth did the whole program from their iPhones. Many old-time Scouters scoffed at the idea, but it is 2014 after all. Think about it. If a Scout got lost in the woods and had an iPhone, he has a plethora of information at his fingertips to find his way out; Compass, hand book, flash light, first aid help and so much more.

AQ: Amazing. Despite changes, there are some Scouting traditions that remain sacred, but what are you seeing today on the Unit level?

ML: I know Scouting has changed and also I know I am going to catch heat for this, but I believe we have left the idea of earning badges and ranks at the front door. Today, there are too many units that have become "merit badge factories." I truly believe merit badges were fully intended for youth to seek a counselor and learn about the merit badge. It was meant to be a tool for future vocations. Today, it is too often used as a "number" to gain a rank.

Another big change is camping. As a youth in Troop 101, we went camping every

month to some place new and different. Today, units go camping every other month or go camping at the same campground. That is one of the things I enjoyed about Troop 101. We went everywhere. It wasn't repetitious. We weren't bored. Today's youth are dropping out of Scouting out of sheer boredom, but the units that have a great outdoor program are that ones that excel and prosper. How do you have a great outdoor program? Volunteers! That is the biggest change in Scouting. Good volunteers are few and far between and getting more and more difficult to find.

AQ: What do you see for the future of Scouting?

ML: Again, I am going to take some heat for this one, but I cannot help believing that we are moving toward the age of "mega units." Membership has been on the decline for many years now and the reason is not recent issues, lawsuits or policy changes. It is the ever-increasing number of activity choices for youth today and we are constantly competing for their interest. Therefore, I believe we are going to have mega units of 80-100 youth with enough volunteers to sustain them. You cannot have a quality program with eight youth and two active adults that never go camping. Parents will seek out the active units, which will make big units bigger. Again, that's just my opinion.

AQ: With that being said, you probably feel pretty lucky to have been a Scout when you did?

ML: Well, back then we didn't have the Internet, iPhones, computer games or cable TV. We had 30 acres in our backyard, which sparked our imagination, curiosity and excitement. My brothers always did stuff outside and I emulated them. Much of what they were doing involved Scouting and it was the main focal point in our house. Patrol meetings, First Class campouts, storage of canoes and equipment. My father coming to Summer Camp and doing the checking of physicals

My brother Jimmy was always the leader. Forcing us to do stuff like singing Christmas Carols in the neighborhood because it was "cheerful," even though I was never so sure the neighbors agreed.

The most annoying part of being a Scouting family was the patch



Mike in June 1978 with Terry Orr & Jim Potjunas

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Troop Moves on to Blessed Sacrament continued from page 1

Despite all of this, we will be camping in the snow at Winter Event in January. There is a Campout and snow tubing trip in February where we hope to entice a new generation of Webelos to come join us.

There's an Eagle Court of Honor in January, another who plans to file before the year is out and teenage promises from two or three more who swear they are done procrastinating.

That 40th Anniversary Reunion that you will doubtless read more about in other parts of this newsletter will likely contain a good

bit more nostalgia and some bittersweet memories than originally planned.

We hope you can join us for that. We hope you will continue to support us in our efforts to build and move when the time comes. Above all, we hope that the work we are doing today is creating the foundation for the next 40 years.

-Jim



**Tim Ross
President**

Happy New Year and thank you for your continued support! 2015 is going to be a very important year for the Troop and the Alumni Association.

It's hard to believe, but the Alumni Association enters its 25th year in 2015. My personal thanks to everyone who helps make it successfully happen.

Today, you are looking at an organization that continues to reinvent itself without forgetting its original purpose. It all goes right back to our mission statement and a pledge to not only assist with financial matters, but also preserve the rich history of Troop 101. We are blessed with what I feel is the best corps of Leaders and adult volunteers, and a great bunch of young men.

We want to ensure that the opportunities available to all the youth who participated in the past will continue to be available in the future. We are working hard to involve you in events and activities, which brings many generations together in the name

From the President Happy New Year!

of the spirit and wonderful traditions of Scouting and its heritage. Events such as our Holiday Party and Family Camp with the Troop continue to bring our Scouting families together and next year we are planning our 40 year reunion for Family Camp in June. Paul Kuszmaul has more on that on page 7. We hope to have multiple generations of past Troop members attending and sharing experiences. Please plan to attend. We guarantee you'll have a great time.

As Jim pointed out in his page one article, 2015 will be a major transition year for the Troop. Moving out of the Elks Lodge is a big, big change for the Troop. If there is anyone who has a soft spot in his or her heart for this Troop, we need you to be able to step forward and help us build for the future. Can we count on you?

On behalf of the Troop Alumni Association's Board of Directors, I would like to say thank you for your support and continuing with us on our mission, as Lord Baden-Powell envisioned in providing top-quality scouting for all boys and their families, everywhere.

Happy New Year to you and yours!

-Tim

Troop 101 Spaghetti Dinner - Did somebody say spaghetti?

Come enjoy a great meal at the 37th annual Troop 101 Spaghetti Dinner, Palm Sunday, March 29th at Blessed Sacrament Church's Regan Hall, Noon to 6 p.m.!

Enjoy a delicious spaghetti Dinner with all the trimmings. \$8 for adults, \$5 for children under the age of 12.

You can buy a ticket from a Scout, get one at the door, or even stop in for carry-out! Pre-order 12 or more dinners and get free delivery! That's right, we'll deliver to your door.



But if you show up, you can bid on some really awesome gift baskets! Eagle's Wings holds their Basket Sale at the same time! Don't miss out!

This is one of only two fundraisers the Troop holds each year, and we once again, are counting on you for support!

Thank you!





Mike, Jackie, and Jack

collecting. We would go on summer family camping vacations and my brother Jimmy would always want to stop at the local Scout Shop to get a Council strip, no matter how far off the path it was.

I miss those days, to be honest. Well, maybe because I had no responsibilities back then.

AQ: And looking back, you no doubt have some stories about your days as a young Scout with the Troop?

ML: Stories? Yes, I have a lot of stories, most of which are not article-worthy. I do remember one winter campout at Chickagami when the high temperature for the day was 4 degrees above zero! Overnight, the eggs, bread, milk and even the wood froze solid! After hours of trying to get a fire started, the Leaders called-off the campout and packed-up to head home. However, we couldn't get home. Why? The cars wouldn't start. It was

too cold. The batteries were all dead. And being true 101, we were staying in Adirondacks.

Algonquin is by far the most memorable trip I have taken with the Troop. If you are a Scout and have not gone – GO! A week of portaging a canoe from one pristine lake to another is unforgettable.

The Algonquin story that goes with it? Well, Phil Hockenberry found a moss covered stream that was a perfect waterslide. He went down, broke his toe and was unable to walk. Unfortunately for him, we were in the middle of nowhere. We used our Scout skills to mend him but he needed medical attention. They walked him for several miles up a logging road and luckily found some loggers to help get him to civilization.

AQ: And I bet there are a lot of fellow Scouts you'll never-ever forget.

ML: There are so many Scouts that made my time in Troop 101 memorable, that there isn't enough room in this article. L.J. Zazycki, Phil Hockenberry, Gregg Hillman and Jim Villareal because of their being Senior Patrol Leaders during my time and/or helped me become a better leader. Greg Gold, Greg Rossi, Paul Szablowski and Rich Hessleman for always picking on me, but in good fun (I hope!). Most importantly, Bill VanHuffel for being my tent mate, First Class Camp buddy and good friend. Bruce Emmerth and Rusty Kratochvil for always being my weekend-

warrior trouble-makers. I am pretty sure Jim Potjunas would agree with that.

AQ: We haven't talked about your family.

ML: I have been married to Jackie Tighe LaPolla for the last seven years and we have one son, age four and another "something" (as of this article) due any day now. Going back to the idea of a Scouting family, I met my wife at the Scout Shop here in Scranton and my brother Jimmy met his wife at the Scout Shop in Warren. How ironic, right?

One of the greatest benefits of my profession is the ability to bring my son with me on camp calls. This past year he attended one of my day camps as a Pixie. One boy, seven girls, but he wasn't complaining! He shot a bow and arrow, BB guns, caught his first fish, tied his first knot, made his first banana split, and so much more.

To me, that is Scouting. And for those who are not in Scouting, this is what they are all missing out on.



Mike and Jackie

Looking for Help

Are you looking to help out Troop 101? Maybe you want to help, but don't want to take on too much? We are always on the lookout for those willing to help the Alumni Association. We will soon be in the market for someone to take over the job of framing Eagle Certificates awarded to Scouts.

This is a job that doesn't require a whole lot of time, but it is one of those small tasks the Alumni Association performs that makes a difference at each and every Eagle Court of honor.

If you might be interested in helping with framing certificates, or are interested in helping, but would prefer to help with something else, please contact Tim Ross.

Call 330.856.6901 or e-mail tross4@neo.rr.com



Trivia

1. What year was the Order of the Arrow founded?
2. In 1998, the Order of the Arrow adopted a new logo. How many logos have there been over the years?
3. What is the second point of the Outdoor Code?
4. What does C.O.P.E. stand for?
5. Which merit badge was discontinued December 31, 2014, and replaced with Digital Technology?

Fun Facts

In 1948 the OA, recognized as the BSA's national brotherhood of honor campers, became an official part of the national camping program of the Boy Scouts of America.

The OA has over 171,000 members in lodges affiliated with more than 290 local BSA councils.

5. Computers
Experience

4. Challenging Outdoor Personal
3. Be careful with fire

2. 3

1. 1915

Answers

An Early Christmas Present

What will S.T.E.M. from this early gift

Technology is always changing in today's world, and as part of these changes new and exciting tools are often developed. While Scouting has been putting a lot of focus on encouraging interest and curiosity in STEM, (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), the availability of some of these technologies is often limited.

Recently we received an email from Eagle Scout George Burin III announcing an early Christmas present to the troop. George, who works for Bosch, sent a 3D printer and filament spools to the Troop.

On December 15th, we shared George's gift with the scouts of Troop 101 by setting it up during the Troop meeting and printing a tent. Through the duration of the meeting scouts and adults gazed in wonder as the small tent materialized before them inside the Dremel 3D printer.

The excitement and curiosity was quite evident during the meeting as patrols began to think of what they might be able to do with the new printer. Thanks to the interest, we will be having several demos on 3-D design and printing in the upcoming months as our Scouts experiment and learn. The only limit, what can they imagine? Thank-you, George, for the opportunity!



Troop/Alumni Business Directory

Below is a listing of businesses that have supported us in the past 12 months. This will be a regular feature in the newsletter and on the website. While we are not permitted to endorse anyone's products, it is appropriate to show our appreciation and make our members aware of those businesses that support our organizations.

Adam Gregory Photography	Gia Russa	Premium Meats
Amazon Smile	Giant Eagle	Station Square Restaurant
Blessed Sacrament	Gordon Food Service, Inc.	Time Warner Cable
D'Urso Bakery	Lowe's	WalMart
DiRusso's	Niles International	
Gander Mountain	Olive Garden	





Troop 101 40th Anniversary Reunion Update

By Paul Kuszmaul, Reunion Committee Chairman

As another year comes to a close, we reflect on all that we accomplished over the past twelve months and most of us cannot believe how fast time seems to pass by. In today's electronic world, where information and communications are only a tap of an icon or app away, we can feel very connected with our coworkers and friends, yet there is an element of this type of communication that cannot be duplicated on a silicon chip.

As interesting as your Facebook post may be, there is no electronic substitution for a face to face conversation with a friend along the shore of a lake. A thread of Tweets does not even begin to compare to a group of friends reminiscing of days gone by around a camp fire. Don't get me wrong, modern day electronic communication is great and our Troop utilizes it more than any other unit or organization that I know, but our Troop also understands there is no substitution for packing up the gear in "Big Blue" and heading somewhere outside once a month.

This year marks a milestone in our Troop's history in that it has been organized and turning young boys into great young men for forty years. Just like the year 2014, the past forty years have gone by quickly and we are now finding ourselves servicing Scouts who are sons from our earlier Scouts.

This summer, on the weekend of June 12-14, 2015 at Pymatuning State Park, we are having a reunion to get together and reflect on the past forty years of Troop 101. You will have a chance to communicate outside in that special way that your smartphone cannot duplicate with members both past and present. Please plan on attending to catch up with old friends and meet new ones that share the devotion and know the importance of the Scouting movement.

Do not be afraid that you have been away so long that you will not know anyone, because the way our weekend program is designed, you will meet new friends and go home with a renewed spirit from your past and toward the present of Scouting.

I'd also like to mention that not only will you have fun on this get together, you will also eat well in that we will be having our first ever Troop 101 Ox Roast feast on Saturday night.

Have a Blessed New Year and I hope to see you in June.

- Paul

Register for the Trip now at: <http://troop101.net/alumni/2015Reunion.aspx>

You can even pay online!



Eagle Photographer

Eagle Scouts deserve a professional photo

Over three decades ago, a Scouter and photographer from North Jackson named Jack Aciri was unhappy with what he saw in the newspaper. There was all kinds of coverage about what kids were doing wrong and sometimes there was an article about a boy receiving Scouting's highest award, the Eagle Scout. But those pictures of the Eagles were seldom good.



I know when I got mine, it meant a trip down to the Tribune offices and they grabbed the nearest photographer walking by and stood me against a white wall. Two minutes later it was done. So, Jack offered to do a professional sitting for each Eagle in both the Mahoning and Western Reserve Councils and gave them two black and white prints for the newspapers. Of course, families could purchase as many other pictures as they wanted. Troop 101 always had the Eagle purchase a 5x7.



James LaPolla - Eagle 1

It was at our 25th reunion that we dedicated the Eagle Wall. We since have added many pictures. Jack Aciri was present for one of the Elks Eagle Recognition Dinners and got to see it. Years went by and his son, also an Eagle Scout, took over the studio and kept up his dad's practice. Every Eagle packet in our Council went out with a flier letting Scouts know they could come to the studio. Now, he too, is retiring, but who will take his place?

We put the word out that the Troop was in search of someone to keep up the tradition for us. After all, our Eagle Wall now has nearly 140 pictures. That's when former Scout and professional photographer, Adam Gregory, saw a Facebook post from a couple of our mom's discussing it. Adam has offered to do the pictures for our Eagles going forward. Although never an Eagle himself, Adam appreciates the accomplishment and we appreciate him stepping forward to help out his old Troop.

- Jim



Matthew Eustace - Eagle 137

Both Photos featured taken by Aciri

The BSA Announces Theme and Logo of the 2017 Jamboree

LIVE SCOUTING'S ADVENTURE AT THE 2017 NATIONAL SCOUT JAMBOREE



MOUNT HOPE, West Virginia - The Boy Scouts of America have announced the official theme and logo for the 2017 National Scout Jamboree, a celebration of Scouting held every four years for Scouts, Venturers, volunteers, and staff from across the nation.

The 2017 theme, "Live Scouting's Adventure," speaks both to Scouting's century-old tradition of creating adventures that develop young people into the leaders of tomorrow and to the developing adventures of the next century of Scouting.

The "Live Scouting's Adventure" theme and logo symbolize the adventurous spirit and exciting high-adventure and outdoor opportunities available to youth and adult members in the Scouting program.

"We know that our members live Scouting's adventure every day by pursuing challenging and diverse experiences," said Ralph de la Vega, chairman of the All Markets Initiatives Committee and the 2017 National Scout Jamboree. "We're proud to provide these outdoor opportunities to our youth members, who often do not experience these activities anywhere else."

This will be the second jamboree held at the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve in West Virginia's adventure sports region known as the New River Gorge. Located on a sprawling 10,600 acres, the property includes more than 5 miles of zip line and challenge courses, 36 miles of mountain bike trails, and 13 acres of shooting sports ranges, as well as venues for kayaking, rock climbing, bouldering, skateboarding, BMX, and various other activities. The 2013 National Scout Jamboree welcomed approximately 30,000 Scouts, Venturers, volunteers, and staff.

"The new jamboree theme reinforces one of the Summit Bechtel Reserve's purposes of helping to redefine Scouting's adventure for the next century. Participants of the 2017 National Jamboree will experience that difference every day they are here," said Dan McCarthy, director of the Boy Scouts of America Summit Group. "Our goal is to give as many Scouts and Venturers as possible a chance to participate in this truly life-changing experience at this unique facility."

Since the first jamboree was held in 1937, it has become the BSA's most iconic event, providing Scouts from all backgrounds, faiths, and cultures an opportunity to gather together and celebrate Scouting and the experiences they will remember throughout their lifetimes. This flagship event showcases the essence of Scouting and the rich tradition of the organization's values.

The jamboree is open to active youth members and adult volunteer leaders in BSA programs and will be held July 19-28, 2017. Staff members will be able to register for the jamboree in April 2015, while registration for youth and adult participants will open in May 2015. To learn more about the 2017 National Scout Jamboree and the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve, please visit www.bsajamboree.org or <https://summit.scouting.org>.

Planned Changes Will Increase Boy Scouting's Relevance



Even as the BSA celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2010, the organization was already charting the course for its second century. The 2010–2015 National Strategic Plan outlined dozens of goals designed to strengthen Scouting for the decades to come. Among the most important of those goals: ensuring that the BSA's programs remain relevant to and engaging for all youth.

Achieving that goal led to major overhauls of Cub Scouting and Venturing, as described in previous Alumni Alive articles. Now, Boy Scouting gets its turn.

Veteran leaders can rest easy, though, because changes being made to the BSA's flagship program are relatively minor.

"The existing Boy Scout requirements were found to align well with the aims of Scouting and with the desired outcomes identified by the task force," says Diane Cannon, chair of the 411 Task Force's Advancement Track. "Scouts will find some new requirements and a realignment of existing ones, but the basic structure of the Boy Scout advancement program will remain unchanged."

Boys will keep on learning new Scouting skills in the Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class ranks, as they have for many years, and the requirements for those ranks may be worked on simultaneously. Once Scouts reach First Class, they will continue, as before, to earn merit badges, complete service projects, and serve in positions of responsibility while journeying toward the Star, Life, and Eagle ranks.

So what's changing? A few things:

- The Scout badge will become a rank.
- Service will be required at all ranks, and half of the Life service hours must be related to conservation.
- The Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class requirements will be tweaked to emphasize healthy eating, physical fitness, and outdoor ethics.
- Each rank's Scout spirit requirement will ask Scouts to explain how they have done their duty to God and otherwise lived by the Scout Law.

Revised requirements will be unveiled at the BSA's National Annual Meeting in May 2015. New Scouts must use the new requirements starting on Jan. 1, 2016. Those who have joined prior to that date will be able to transition during 2016 but must begin using the new requirements by 2017.

<http://Troopphoto.Troop101.net>

The Troop 101 photo gallery now contains over **67,000** photos from 1975 to the present.



August - 2003



June- 2009



2005 Reunion



2005 Reunion



2010 Reunion



2010 Reunion

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

• January

January 18 - Matt Eustace Eagle Court of Honor

January 23 - 24 - Winter Event

• February

February 7 - Skiing at the Peak

February 20 - 22 - Manatoc Camp & Snow Tubing

• March

March 20 - 22 - Camping Trip TBD

March 29 - Spaghetti Dinner

• April

April 24 - 26 - Butler Camping Trip

April 27 - Court of Honor

• June

June 12-14 - Troop 101's 40th Anniversary



**"IT'S THE SPIRIT WITHIN, NOT
THE VENEER WITHOUT, THAT
MAKES A MAN."**

- Lord Baden-Powell

**FOR MORE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES BE SURE
TO CHECK OUT THE TROOP CALENDAR AT
<http://Troop101.net/calendar.asp>**

What the Troop has been up to since our last issue



Wilderness Survival Weekend Campout

A group of Troop 101 Scouts took on the wilds the weekend of October 6. The goal: survival. The Wilderness Survival weekend was a chance for this group to practice the skills needed to survive should they ever be lost in the wilderness. They practiced building shelters, making fires, finding food, first aid, and signaling. What do you think? Could you survive?



Morrison Run, Pennsylvania Backpacking Trip

The October 21st hike was a cool place to be - and wet, maybe a little muddy. But that didn't dampen their spirits as Troop 101 backpacked the rugged Morrison Run Trail in Northwest Pennsylvania's Allegheny National Forest.



Troop Halloween Party

The woods were full of Ghouls at night, and Troop 101 was in for a fright! Everyone had an excellent time at the annual Troop Halloween party on October 27th. Special thanks to Eagles Wings for putting the party together, and the Owl Patrol for setup, and the Haunted Trail.



Tomlinson Run, West Virginia

We added another awesome camp out to the Troop 101 history books at West Virginia's scenic Tomlinson Run State Park. The Troop took on some cool games and activities the weekend of November 9th for a lot of fun. Even the weather cooperated with us for this beautiful weekend.



Troop Christmas Party at the Ali Baba Grotto Hall

The festivities took place December 17th, and the fun was evident. The traditional game of Warhammer took place, as well as a fun game of football. The food was excellent, and the court recognized the efforts of Scouters, and leaders alike.