

# TROOP 73 VALLEY FORGE

## TROOP LEADERS

Scoutmaster - Tom Savoy  
Senior Patrol Leader - John Godlewski  
Asst. Senior Patrol Leader - Brian Kaehn, Andrew Bohl  
Patrol Leaders - Dan Wagner, Owen Kaehn, Iain Riley  
Scribe - Tim Pellegrino  
Quartermaster - Mark Staab  
Troop Historian - Brian Consolo  
Troop Librarian - Steve Ayers  
Troop Photographer - Derek Paquette  
Troop Guide - Owen Kaehn

**There is no meeting  
planned for December 27th  
due to holidays!**

## ACTIVITY PLANNING

The PLC meets once a month to develop the plans for the upcoming meetings and weekends. The next PLC meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 2nd. Please provide your input to any of the PLC members prior to that meeting.

### December -Business

Andrew Bohl will head up this theme. We plan to start the E Trade game in January so this will be a perfect time for us to start practicing.

### January - Snow Sports

Skiing, Snow Boarding, Tubing, Cross Country Skiing, Snow Shoeing... what else can we say it will be great.

### February - First Aid

A yearly event that prepares us for the Annual First Aid Meet to be held in March.

### March - Fire Safety

With meetings being held at the Valley Forge Fire House, it is a good opportunity for us to improve our skills to protect against the evils of fire and smoke related disasters. Webelos Woods Weekend.

### April - Water Sports

A month filled with water sports including white water rafting.

### May - Biking

From knowing how to fix up your bike to mountain biking May is a great time to get out on our bikes and explore the world around us.

### June - Fishing

Plans for June are very preliminary but our current thinking is a deep sea fishing trip. Get your Dramamine Ready.

### July - Summer Camp

The dates for summer camp has been scheduled for July 15th - 22nd.

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**Have a Safe and  
Happy Holiday  
Season and we  
will see you in  
January 2001.**



Dear Parents:

We would like to invite you and your family to participate in Troop 73's Annual Blue Mountain Ski Trip. The date for the trip is January 7th. This trip is going to be a day trip leaving from the Firehouse early Sunday morning. The cost for the weekend is still to be determined. This event promises to be quite spectacular with a well planned program for the scouts, parents and brothers and sisters. Our theme for the month of January is Snow Sports, therefore we have a day jam packed with opportunities to learn better skiing skills.



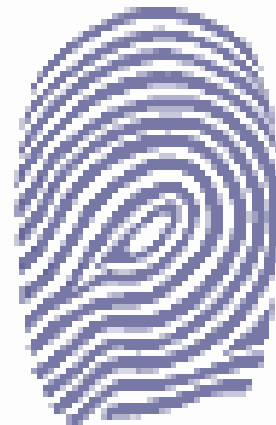
## *Wilderness Survival*

November was Wilderness Survival Month. The activities for the month focused on this very powerful subject. Many scouts from our troop participated in the Wilderness Survival Training working towards the Wilderness Survival Merit Badge. The final test is still being graded by Jon Godlewski but the results thus far exhibit our newly learned skill set.

## *Fingerprinting Merit Badge*

In other merit badge news, the Pinetree Patrol and Greg Hagopian headed to the Schuylkill Township Building to learn the skills required for Fingerprinting Merit Badge. Under the leadership of Owen Kaehn, they were able to complete the merit badge. Some said it was a "fun and interesting experience." Others said that they got a true feeling of being a con. I wonder what skeletons are in their closets.

These are the individuals who participated in this event Ryan O'Donnell, Asher Condit, Brian Carr, Greg Hagopian, Tom McAvoy, Michael Mitten and Tim Pellegrino.



**Scouting For Food...**



**Kraft**  
Mac 'n Cheese  
**ON SALE**  
3/ \$2.00



**Stove Top**  
Stuffings  
Reg \$1.79  
**NOW \$.88**

In the month of November 12 boys from Troop 73 took part in the event know as Scouting for Food. Over all we collect a total of 92 bags. Over 520 items. We extend a sincere thank you to the Pinetree Patrol who led the way and delivered all of the food. Your effort paid off in feeding a large group of families and people around the holiday season. Thank you!



**Tang & Capri Sun**  
10 Packs  
Reg \$2.99  
**NOW \$1.99**



**Taco Bell**  
Taco Dinner Kit  
**ON SALE**  
2/ \$4.00

Among those who participated were:

Brian Carr	9 bags
Asher Condit	10 bags
Jon Godlewski	7 bags
Alex Kaehn	12 bags
Owen Kaehn	12 bags
Brian Kaehn	12 bags
Cliff Krause	10 bags
Tom McAvoy	5 bags
Dave Midgley	2 bags
Michael Mitten	4 bags
Ryan O'Donnell	4 bags
Steve Rapp	5 bags

A sincere thank you to everyone who together collected 92 whole bags.

**Christmas Tree Sales**

Christmas Trees Sales started Thanksgiving Weekend and were sold out by December 18th. Overall the season was good and our new location proved to be successful for us. The money raised from the tree sales helps support the local troops in the Paoli area including Troop 73. This was our biggest fund raiser and a great way for all the scouts to earn money for their scout account that helps them pay for summer camp, camping trips and other great activities.

So don't even think of buying a tree from someone else. Troop 73's trees are the best.



*Seasons Greetings*

## *We did it again...*

This Year's Parent  
Son Weekend

``What a great  
time!''

As most of you know the Parent Son Weekend was an absolute blast. We had such a fun time. Dan Wagner acted as the Senior Patrol Leader and he did a great job of keeping the weekend on schedule.

## The First Day

The first night was a normal camping trip night, which consisted of a game, snack and of course the dreaded *Taps*. But when we woke up to some great eggs the party started kicking. John Ahn who was our chef for the weekend made some excellent home cook'n. Breakfast consisted of eggs, and an English Muffins. It was U'm U'm good.

Next we headed off into stations. The stations were all based around Wilderness Survival. One of the stations was lead by Eric Consolo and Tim Pellegrino. In this station you had to build a water catching device and stalk Tim. Some said it was absolutely awesome.



Dan Wagner headed up the environment station. His program consisted of understanding the different environmental conditions where wilderness survival techniques could be required. The end of his session required each group to demonstrate through a skit the key survival techniques. All the groups were very creative and exhibited that they had learned a great deal of valuable information.



Andrew Bohl provided a great session on shelters. This was a very important station and one that was put into practice during the weekend.



Jon Godlewski and Brian Consolo headed up the fire and signaling session. The final test of this session was a major cooking fire that was used to cook our utensilless (if that's a word) meal for lunch.



Speaking of lunch, the Troop had foil pack meals over an open fire. Jon and Mr. Staab made the fire. Everyone considered the meal a great success. After lunch it was siesta, better known as free time.

Thank you Mr. Bohl for the photos.



During the afternoon we built our shelters, which goes to prove Andrew must have done a great job. The reason for the shelters was that we need a place to sleep. Oh wait. I didn't tell you. We were going to sleep outside while the parents spent the night in a nice heated cabin with running water and electricity. *Lucky us.* The shelters were wonderful examples of survival architecture, each unique and each strong enough to handle the wind and the cold evening temperatures.



The evening activities included a wonderful dinner of ham, potatoes, vegetables, salad and bread. Dessert was an assortment of home made pies and of course topped with ice cream.

The evening ended with a camp wide Camp Fire hosted by Troop 73. All the Troops and Cub Scout Packs that participated had a great time including Camper Kerry and Junior Jon.