



# Trails of Troop 48

*Doing more before breakfast than most people do all day.*

November 2009

White Horse District – SNJ Council

## 2009 Troop 48 Yard Sale

On a cloudy Saturday morning, a group of boy scouts woke up extra extra early, got their salesmen voices on, and started to set up our items for our annual yard sale. Once our tables were set up, and the troop 48 yard sale signs were up, we were ready to start selling. Something new this year was a refreshment stand. Deb Sperling was fired up and ready to start selling some hot chocolate. As we worked the weather was holding up nicely until like a lot of Troop 48's outings, the clouds rolled in, the wind started to howl, and the rain came in. We were ready.



### **UPCOMING EVENTS...**

- 11/5**            Battleship NJ Work Party
- 11/11**            Spaghetti Dinner
- 11/20-22**        Batona Campground Trip
- Dec 5**            Court of Honor
- 1/10/10**         Jack Frost Ski Trip
- 1/29-31**         WH District Klondike Derby

We had tarps on the DVD'S, clothes, and other items. As we took refuge under the porch of the church, a few brave souls took their time to stop and look at our items despite the rain. Once the rain lifted, we got back to business. After all the work was done, Mr. Dambly came over to the church and we packed the items that did not sell into the truck to take to the Goodwill. Over all, it was a great day. We made \$1075.91. Mike had said it was twice what we made last year. Lets hope we can triple it next year!

By: Nicholas Maurer

For a complete listing of this year's events, see page 4!!!

## MS 150

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It was a brisk Friday evening as we loaded up the trailer for another adventure into the Pine Barrens. This time we were destined for the small campsite of Buttonwood Hill. After we threw the personal gear into the trailer and loaded up into the cars, our band of high energy adventurers drove out to our predetermined destination.

Upon arriving, it was called to our attention that we were not the only ones using the camp site for the weekend, which led to us having to try and be somewhat quiet during the evening hours. The first order of business was to set up the ever problem some rain fly which took a good bit of time to set up. Following that, the task of putting up tents was attended to, which took a bit of reorganizing before we got it right, but once we figured out where the road was, we were fine. The night was ended with cookies, as usual, and then bed since we had an early start the next morning.

5:30 AM, this is the time we got up on Saturday morning. Now one might ask why we would ever get up at such an early hour in the morning, and there are two very good coinciding answers to this question. Firstly, we needed to be at the MS 150 rest stop by 7 that morning and we had to cook our morning breakfast of pancakes. Secondly, it builds character, which I find to be the more reasonable answer, but others may

beg to differ.

Once we arrived at the rest stop, not a minute shy of seven, the first priority was to unload the truck full of supplies for the stop. The supplies consisted of jugs of water, Gatorade, oranges, pretzels, and other assortments of energy snacks. The way the station worked was there were tables forming a u-shape where all the supplies for the bikers were placed. This way the bikers could get the snacks, and we could replenish them easily, without getting in the way. Since we had time to kill before the bikers arrived, the decision was made to take a tour of the graveyard by the church, led by our graveyard expert. This proved to be quite interesting since some great historical people of long since forgotten towns in Southern New Jersey were buried there. Once the bikers began to arrive, half of us went about the task of running the rest stop while the other half went up to the road to cheer them on, boosting their moral to finish the ride.

The rest stop was only open till 1 o'clock, so after packing everything back up in the truck and collapsing the tables, we headed back to our campsite. Since we had some time to eat up, we decided to head over across the road to the river. This meant of course that it was time to go swimming, and those who had brought the proper swimming gear and

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**Don't forget to check out the Troop website for pictures, forms, the troop schedule, and much more!**  
**[www.troop48berlin.org](http://www.troop48berlin.org)**

## The Canoe Trip- October 2009

By Luke Sperling

At 7:00pm on Friday, October 23, 2009, Troop 48 started out on a trip to Bodine Field, Woodland Township, NJ. We had met up at the shed at 6:30 pm to load up the trailer with the troop gear, personal gear and food for the weekend. I was recently elected Quartermaster and had shopped for all of our groceries. Jiff had planed an excellent menu at our Wednesday night meeting and entrusted me with a shopping list. We got everything packed up and headed out to the Pine Barrens. Our caravan consisted of Mike's Subaru, Mr. Norton's van pulling a trailer of canoes, Mr. Farrell's GMC pulling the troop trailer, and Mr. Panu's van. We looked like we were headed on an awesome adventure! When we got to the camp site we started to set up the tents. KP and I were having some difficulties setting up my tent up. Alex helped us set up our tent. When everybody finished setting up the tents we put up the big rain fly. Jiff told us what to do and when to do it. We set up the kitchen for the night. We lucked out and dodged the rain on Friday night.

On Saturday morning we found out that we did not have stoves. We borrowed the leader's stove in exchange for doing all of their dishes for the weekend. We made pancakes. Everybody got changed and got ready to go on the canoe trip. I had time to go fishing with Mike T. before the canoe trip. We didn't catch anything, but we got our bait taken. Our plan was to canoe the Wading River from Hawkins Bridge to Bodine Field. When we got to the river we unloaded the canoes and put them in the water. Our route was 9.1 miles long. The water was very cold. We stopped about 3 times. Mike McCormick, AKA Cornmix, helped KP and I get out of a jam. We had managed to wedge our canoe between fallen trees. He told us to jump up and down and rock the canoe. KP, who is a blackbelt in taekwondo, had to break off a piece of the tree to free the canoe. The current kept pushing us back into the fallen trees. All in all, it took us about a half- hour to free the canoe. The rest of the troop waited for us a short bit downstream. We enjoyed a picnic lunch of PBJ bagels and cheese doodles on a small beach. The canoe trip took time, strength, energy, and patience. We successfully canoed over 9 miles together. We had rain twice while on the river. Alex was our solo kayaker for the day. Many of us took it upon ourselves to go for a swim and take a break from our canoeing. When we got back to camp we pulled the canoes out of the water and put them back into the rack. We all enjoyed a cup of hot chocolate upon returning to our campsite. For dinner we made hamburgers and turkey sausage. We had made our traditional bug juice, AKA cherry Kool-Aid, but the water was so full of minerals that it tasted really awful and smelled like rotten eggs. Most of us had just one small, nasty cup. For dessert we had smores, but someone seemed to have had a craving for most of the chocolate. Those of us on KP did the dishes, while some of us got to relax or practice making fires. With KP done, it was officially time for a game of manhunt. My team consisted of Mike T., Alex and I. The other team was KP, Tim, and Evan. A big storm rolled in on us and ended our game of manhunt. It put an end to my dry tent, too.

At 6:00a.m. on Sunday morning Jiff woke us up and we all began to pack up. We finished packing up at about 7:00. We had Poptarts for a quick and easy breakfast, which is what we typically have on days when we are breaking down camp. Then we put away the kitchen and rain fly. We left at 8:00. We visited the old paper making factory. Then we visited the old fire tower. We could see Philly and Atlantic City from the top of the tower. Finally we went to an abandoned factory. Everyone was shooting each other in a game of cops and robbers and exploring the area. Some of us explored underground areas. It was a good camping trip. A little rain can't keep Troop 48 down!

## ***EASY TROOP 48 FUNDRAISER!***

Wish you could do more to support Troop 48 but never seem to find the time? Well now you can *and* take care of your errands at the same time when you use **Shop Rite** gift certificates purchased through Troop 48! These gift certificates come in handy denominations of \$25 and \$50 and are sold by Deb Sperling during each troop meeting. With every card you purchase the troop makes money!

## Schedule for 2009/2010

- November 5 – Battleship NJ Work Party
- November 11 – Spaghetti Dinner
- November 20-22 – Batona Campground, Tabernacle, NJ
- December 5 - Court of Honor
- January 10 - Ski Day at Jack Frost Mountain, The Poconos
- January 29-31 - Klondike Derby
- February 7 - Super Bowl Sunday Hoagie Sale
- February 19-21- Rodney Scout Reservation, Northeast, MD
- TBA - Shotgun & Rifle Merit Badge Day
- March 26-28 – Gettysburg, PA
- April 16-18 – Bike Trip on the Valley Forge Rail Trail, Philadelphia to Valley Forge, PA
- May 21-23 – kayaking and swimming at Assateague Island National Seashore, MD
- June - Swim Day
- June/July – Advancement Camp
- July 26 – August 4 – BSA 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary National Jamboree
- August 7-13 – Summer Trip to Acadia National Park in Maine

### PARENTS: INTERESTED IN GETTING MORE INVOLVED IN SCOUTS?

*Troop 48 is always looking for new parents to help handle the variety of adult roles that make Boy Scouting a positive experience for our children. Adult leadership in Troop 48 is on a volunteer basis, and offers ways to get involved even if you can only offer a small commitment.*

*For more information contact:*

*-Mike McCormick (Assistant Scoutmaster)  
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*-Michael Gallagher (Committee Chair)  
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even those who hadn't joined in on the event. Also while we were there some scouts climbed a nearby tree which is always a good competition to see who can go up the furthest.

Upon changing from swimming, we departed for Ocean City where we were going for our dinner and to hang out on the board walk for a bit. At the music pier we enjoyed our spaghetti dinner, and view of the ocean. Following that, we split up into patrols and wandered around the boardwalk for two hours. In the end we all ended back up at the arcade where we played arcade games and even some pool. To finish the evening, after returning to camp, we went about building a fire to which we could chat around. After a few attempts, we finally got it going and used up all the wood that we had brought with us from the shed. That night we also packed up mostly everything including the rain fly.

We awoke early the next morning, although not as early as Saturday morning, and packed up what was left including our tents and patrolled the area. This was completed in good time, so we were able to move on to our next and final event for the weekend, Batsto. The ghost town of Batsto, preserved by Wharton State Forest, is quite a step back in time and is intriguing to see all the old houses and business of the town's hey-day. After spending an hour of half or so, we departed Batsto, to the dismay of some, but we needed to get back sooner or later. And so, the trip ended with a old historical aspect of our very own state, which is always a cool thing to think about when you do think about it. –Dan Smith

# Upcoming Trip! By Mike McCormick

## Batona Campground Trip

Friday, November 20-Sunday, November 22

Troop 48 will be heading out to the Batona Campground in lovely Tabernacle, NJ for our annual November campout. While Goshen Pond will be missed (it is currently closed due to state budget issues), good times will be had at the nearby Batona Campground! As in previous years (going back to at least 1992 when I attended), WEBLOS from several of the local Packs will be camping out with the troop to see what its like to be a Boy Scout in Troop 48.

Previous years activities have included an obstacle course, monkey bridge building, short hikes, and large fires. This year will have its own slate of fun activities.

**Please meet at the shed at 6 pm on FRIDAY! The cost is \$25, the permission slip is attached to this newsletter!**

**Here is a list of suggested things to bring on a weekend camping trip.**

### **Basic Camping Equipment List for Weekend Camping Trip**

By the Scouts of Troop 48, Berlin, NJ

These are the *suggested* items to be taken on a camping trip lasting three days and two nights. Depending upon the time of year, some of these items might not be needed on a particular camping trip. **Items in bold are the most important items for any camping trip.**

Shelter

·1 Tent w/ tent stakes

2 Ground cloth (aka, a tarp for under your tent)

Bedding

·**1 Ground pad/sleeping pad (thick blanket for under the sleeping bag can work too)**

**2 Sleeping bag**

3 Blanket(s)

4 Pillow (optional)

Clothing

NOTE: *It is always important to dress in layers, especially during cold weather camping!*

·**1 Boots and/or Sturdy footwear**

2 Extra pair of shoes

**3 Pairs of Socks – 6 (wool socks if you have them)**

4 Underwear – 3 pairs

5 Pants/jeans – 2 or 3 pairs

6 T-shirts – 4

**7 Sweatshirts – 2 to 4**

8 Heavy jacket – 1

9 Gloves – 1 or 2 pair

10 Long underwear/underarmor

11 Baseball cap/stocking cap (**ORANGE hat during hunting season**)

**12 Sleepwear: t-shirt(s) and sweatpants**

13 Bathing suit

Toiletries:

·**1 Toothbrush & toothpaste**

2 Deodorant

3 Soap/hand sanitizer and washcloth

4 Toilet paper

5 Towel

Other gear:

·1 Day pack (think lightweight school backpack)

2 Boy Scout Handbook

**3 Raincoat/poncho**

4 Flashlight

**5 First aid kit**

**6 Water bottles/canteens - 2-4, depending on size and planned activity**

**7 Trash bags – 2 or 3**

8 Pocket knife

9 Hand warmers

10 Fire starters

11 Matches/Lighter/flint and steel

12 Sun tan lotion

13 Bug spray

14 10' Length of rope

15 Pen and paper

16 Deck of cards

17 Small camp chair

**All items may be packed in a camping backpack or a large duffel bag.**

# PERMISSION SLIP



When?: Friday November 20 - Sunday, November 22. Please arrive at the church on Friday at 6 PM. We will pack and depart around 6:30 PM. Please eat dinner before you come!

Where?: Batona Campground, Carranza Rd, Tabernacle, NJ.

Cost?: \$25 per scout. Cash or Check (made out to Troop 48) is fine!

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SCOUT: \_\_\_\_\_ has permission to attend the troop activity/trip and has permission to engage in all activities, except as noted below. I hereby give permission to the physician selected by the adult leader in charge to treat, hospitalize, and secure proper anesthesia and/or order injection or surgery for my son/ward.

RESTRICTIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

If your son is required to take medication or has any other special needs, please list the details below:

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