



# Trails of Troop 48

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

February 2011

White Horse District – SNJ Council

## 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Court of Honor

By Mike McCormick



On December 16, 2011, Troop 48 held our 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Court of Honor at Hope Church in Voorhees. Despite terrible traffic issues due to the snow, there was a good showing of Scouts, their families, and alumni. For the very first time, the Scouts ran the entire evening. Dan S, Jif, and Steven H wrote the script for the ceremony and took turns presenting, as well as creating a very entertaining slide show of the year’s events. They did an excellent job.

The troop also took time out to thank Committee member Bob Faust for his twenty years of service to the troop. Mr. Faust is one of those people who may serve in the background. but without whom the troop would simply not be able

to function without. He has served as the Troop’s treasurer and Advancement Chairman for many years. In appreciation for that, the troop presented him with a painting created by our own Shane Kier, an Eagle Scout with the troop.

And, of course, there were the annual awards. This year’s winner of the Silver Bullet, given to the most active Scout in the troop, went to Luke S. who attended all 12 camping trips last year, as well as all but two other troop activities. This year’s Walter Kovalski III & Andrew Baldyga Memorial Award Winner, given to the Scout who best exemplifies the Scouting Spirit, was given to Dan S. Dan has served as both Senior Patrol Leader and Assistant Senior Patrol Leader in the past year, as well as our Webmaster and has written many articles for the newsletter.

Afterwards, many deserts were eaten and many stories were swapped.

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

- February 6** Super Bowl Sunday Hoagie Sale
- February 11 to 13** Antietam Battlefield, Sharpsburg, MD
- March 4 to 6** Maryland Biking Trip
- April 15 to 17** Pequea
- April** 50 Miler Backpacking Trip
- April 29-May 1** Troop 48 Alumni Campout

## **Thanksgiving Food Distribution** **at Holy Communion Lutheran Church**

Written by: Jiff

**On Monday 11/23/10, the troop participated in distributing food at the Lutheran church for those who could not afford to provide a Thanksgiving meal to their families. The people that participated were Skippy, Pranav, Mike McCormick, Mike Gallagher, Danny Balise, and myself. We distributed turkeys, stuffing, canned vegetables, and all other Thanksgiving accouterments. We even had apples so that Apple pies could be made. We helped carry all of this food to the cars. Danny helped pack the food into easily carried bags. Jokes and smiles were exchanged. Many people were helped Despite the numbers, (the line wrapped around the church), we had plenty of food left over for other food drives in the future. That doesn't mean we stop donating. It won't last long. thanks to all of those who came and to those who donated.**



### **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 Sperleng during each troop meeting. With every card you purchase the troop makes money!



# Operation Bunny Rescue

By: Nicholas Maurer

On Saturday morning our troop set out to the Berlin Bunny Rescue with one goal in mind: to paint two bunnies' cages and to clean up their back yard. While half of the troop was cleaning the property up, me and about 6 other guys were painting the cages. We worked for the majority of the morning and every so often some of the outside crew would come in and admire the bunnies including one bunny that goes by the name of fluffy who was probably about 10 pounds of fur and 2 pounds of bunny. When we discovered him all work stopped for about 10 minutes, just to admire the bunnies then back to work and then soon we ate lunch took a group picture and then we packed up and went home. We felt good at the end of the day because it felt good to give a couple of bunny's new homes and a clean place to play.





Who wants to go to a Phillies game!? Tuesday March 29 is Scout Night, with the Phightin' Phils facing the Pittsburgh Pirates.

If the Scouts were interested, we can show up early (5:30 PM) in Class A uniforms and parade on the field itself. If we walk, there is a Scout Night patch that they would receive. If they don't walk on the field, there is no patch, but there is still a cheap ticket to see the Phillies and a good time to be had!

Family members would not be able to walk on the field with the boys, but the whole family is welcome to take advantage of discount tickets. If we get a group of 25 or more people together, then our troop name and number will appear on the scoreboard.

Where are the tickets? I will be attempting to purchase tickets for the group in Right field (first choice - Field Level Outfield (101-107), second choice, Pavilion (201-205)) at a cost of \$14 per person. This will put us close to the field and will give the group a great view not just of the game, but of the new scoreboard.

Anyway, if your Scout is interested, please let me know how many tickets your family is interested in! I want to place our order by Thursday, February 11, so that gives everyone two Wednesdays to decide and get their money in!

This should be a great time!  
Mike McCormick



**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)**

# PERMISSION SLIP – Antietam



**When?:** Friday, February 11 – Sunday, February 13, 2011.  
Please meet at “the shed” at 6 PM, it’s a long drive so we will be aiming to leave by 6:30!

**Where?:** Antietam National Battlefield, Sharpsburg, Maryland

**Cost?:** \$25 - Please make checks payable to “Troop 48”

Troop 48 heads to Maryland to explore an important battlefield from the Civil War

Please eat dinner before you come Friday!

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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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# PERMISSION SLIP – Bike Trip



**When?:** Friday, March 4 – Sunday, March 6, 2011.  
Please meet at “the shed” at 6 PM, we will be aiming to leave by 6:30!

**Where?:** C & O Canal Trail, Maryland

**Cost?:** \$25 - Please make checks payable to “Troop 48”

Troop 48 will bike the day away in beautiful Maryland

Please eat dinner before you come Friday!

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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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## **Earn Mammal Studies Merit Badge!**

Where?: The Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia, PA

When?: Sunday, March 27 at either 10:15 AM to 12:15 PM or 1:30 to 3:30 PM (I will attempt to sign us up for the morning session). We will meet at the church at 8:45 AM if we get into the morning session.

How much?: \$19 per Scout (checks payable to Troop 48), the cost of the session.

What will we do?: Scouts will complete all but one requirement for Mammal Studies Merit Badge. The requirement that is not completed is a take-home project to build a bat box, a picture of which will be mailed to the merit badge counselor to complete the merit badge. We will also have lunch at the museum (pack a lunch or bring money for the cafeteria) and spend an hour or two exploring the rest of the museum.

***Please let me know if your Scout is interested! I need a headcount and payments by the end of the meeting on Wednesday, February 9!***

Also, I could use one or two brave volunteers to be the other leaders for this trip. Let me know if you are brave enough to drive in Philly and can help!

Merit Badge Requirements - [http://meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/Mammal\\_Study](http://meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/Mammal_Study)  
Course Information - [http://www.ansp.org/activities/pdf/Boy\\_Scout\\_Merit\\_Badge\\_Mammal.pdf](http://www.ansp.org/activities/pdf/Boy_Scout_Merit_Badge_Mammal.pdf)

Mike McCormick  
[www.troop48berlin.org](http://www.troop48berlin.org)  
(856) 287-2155



# PERMISSION SLIP – Academy of Natural Sciences



When?: Sunday, March 27. Our meet up time at the church will depend on which session we get in to.

Where?: Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, PA

Cost?: \$19 per Scout

On this trip, Troop 48 will be earning Mammal Studies Merit Badge.

Pack a lunch or bring money for the cafeteria!

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

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

I will be available to provide transportation for \_\_\_\_\_ scouts. (number)

\_\_\_ on the trip out  
\_\_\_ on the trip back.

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



