



Trails of Troop 48

Doing more before breakfast than most people do all day.

November 2013

White Horse District – Garden State Council

MS 150 CAMPING TRIP

by Magnus P.

I liked this camping trip a lot because of what we did over the trip. On September 28th and 29th we gave out water to the bikers who were biking against MS. It was hot outside. Really hot. And all us scouts who were the leaders of the stop were either passing out snacks, water or juice, or sitting at the tables with all of the food there. I was passing out the juice and water for the most of it. And I'm sure I did a great job at doing it. I also think everyone else did great too. So I'm proud of myself, the troop, and the bikers mostly. And the troop was the leader of the rest stop on the 28th. I was very proud to see no one was complaining about anything. So I'm sure everyone had a fun time helping out.

Later that day we went down to the boardwalk in Ocean City and our time there was a blast! We got to play in the arcades, get awesome food, and my group of scouts joined up with another group of scouts. The arcade we were in had a lot of games! I played the racing ones mostly. I also tried a flight simulator. So, after all the time we had at Ocean City, we got back at camp and I decided to sleep outside without a tent. And It was fun! And after handing out water, going on the boardwalk, and sleeping without a tent, we headed back to the shed. And that was a really fun trip. I mean it.

UPCOMING EVENTS...

Nov 15-19	Goshen Pond
Nov 25	Scouting for Food Distribution
Dec 11	Court of Honor
Dec 13-15	Valley Forge Campout
Dec TBA	Battleship NJ
December	Gift Drive



This month in Scouting!

Friday to Sunday, November 15 – 17 – Goshen Pond Campout – Shamong, NJ - \$20 by 11/6. \$45 after 11/13. This November we return to one of our oldest haunts – Goshen Pond Campground in Shamong, NJ. There, we'll be entertaining ourselves and the Cub Scouts with an obstacle course, a short nature hike, and an awesome fire. It will probably be chilly, so check out the article on winter camping in this issue of the newsletter!

Monday, November 25 – Scouting for Food Distribution – Holy Communion Lutheran Church, Berlin, NJ – 6 PM to 9 PM. You helped collect food for our neighbors, come help pass out Thanksgiving dinner to needy families from all over our region. Scouts will help carry bags and frozen turkeys to cars! Gloves are a good idea!

Sleeping Warm This Winter By Scout Scoutly

That most Scoutly of camping times approaches – WINTER! No mosquitos! No ticks! No other campers crazy enough to be camping outside with us! Yes, winter is THE most fun time to camp, the time that separates us from the Cub Scouts.

“But Scout,” you might say, “It’s COOOOOOLD out there!”

To which I’ll reply, “It builds character!”

HA! Just kidding! I’d tell you how to keep warm:

- **Eat.** Your body makes heat the same way that a fire does, by burning fuel. As a person (and not a fire), your fuel is food. Eat dinner and snack with your patrol! Hot chocolate is great too!
- **Bring a sleeping pad.** Or two! When you are in your sleeping bag, the cold ground pulls far more heat out of you than the cold air. A pad acts as an extra layer of insulation between you and the ground. I use two cheap foam pads under me at night.
- **Buy chemical handwarmers like “Hot Hands”.** They are cheap and sold at Target/Walmart/camping supply stores. One in your pocket during the day can be switched between your gloves to keep your hands warm, but one (or ever better, two or three) in your sleeping bag at night will help keep you toasty and warm.
- **Pack blankets and/or a sleeping bag liner to go with that sleeping bag.** A cheap fleece or down blanket (available at Target/Walmart/REI/LL Bean and other places) or a sleeping bag liner (available at camping goods stores like LL Bean and REI) can be placed in your sleeping bag, keeping you warmer at night. Throwing some old comforters or other blankets under your sleeping bag (again, more layers to keep the cold ground from sucking the heat out of you) and/or on top of you acts the same way that layers do during the day. Cold? Use three or four blankets... cocoon yourself in!

- **Don't wear a lot of layers to bed.** Your sleeping bag is not a heater (even with hand warmers in it), it needs your body heat to warm it up. You should wear a fresh, dry t-shirt to bed with either lightweight shorts or one layer of lightweight long pants (flannel pajama bottoms if you have them, gym pants or jogging pants if you don't) and count on the layers of blankets to keep you warm. If your cold, add blankets over and under you, not clothes!
- **Keep your face OUT of your sleeping bag.** Moisture from your breath will make you much colder in the long run. Wear a stocking hat or even a ski mask on your head to keep that part of your body warm. If you have the extra blankets, pull them over your head to make a pocket of warm air for your face.
- **Put articles for your base layer of clothing in your sleeping bag with you.** Your underwear, long underwear, and t-shirt for the next morning should be kept in your bag with you. This will make them much warmer in the morning than if they are sitting out all night. For those that wear contacts, keep the case in your bag with you so that they don't freeze your eyeballs when you go to put them in the morning. Your eyes will thank you. Still have room in your sleeping bag? Stuff more clothes in there! The less air space there is to heat up in your bag, the easier it is to warm it up (and keep it warm).
- **Finally, share a tent with other people.** A tent with two, three, or more people in it is always going to be warmer than a tent with just you in it. Consider using a separate tent for your gear so that you can fit more people in your tent.

The troop always takes extra blankets with us, and patrols often have hot chocolate, but nothing will keep you as warm as coming prepared!

“The object of the patrol method is not so much saving the Scoutmaster trouble as to give responsibility to the boy.” ~ Sir Robert Baden Powell,
Founder of Scouting

Upcoming Events - 2013-2014!

Friday to Sunday, November 15-19 – Goshen Pond Campout – Shamong, NJ.

Wednesday, December 11 – Court of Honor – TBA location.

Friday to Sunday, December 13 to 15 – Valley Forge Campout – Valley Forge, PA.

December Last week TBA – Battleship NJ Cleanup

Sunday, January 5 - Troop 48 Ski Trip – Jack Frost, PA

Friday to Sunday, January 10-12 – Troop 48 Klondike Derby – Shamong, NJ

Sunday, February 2 – Super Bowl Hoagie Sale – Berlin, NJ

Friday to Sunday, February 21-23 – Rodney Campout – Northeast, MD.

Friday to Sunday, March 21 – 23 – Sandy Hook Campout – Sandy Hook National Recreation Area, NJ.

Friday to Sunday, April 11 – 13 – Hickory Run Campout, Jim Thorpe, PA.

Friday to Sunday, May 30 – June 1 – Native American Campout.

Friday to Sunday, June 20 – 22 – Lums Pond Campout, Bear, DE.

Friday to Sunday, June 27 – 29 – 4th Annual Alumni Campout (for leaders and former Scouts, aged 18 and older) – World's End State Park – Muncy Valley, PA.

Friday to Sunday, July 18 – 20 – Whitewater Rafting – Hickory Run State Park – White Haven, PA

August – Summer Trip to Massachusetts!

September 26-28 – MS 150 City-to-Shore Bike Ride - NJ