



Trails of Troop 48

Doing more before breakfast than most people do all day.

October 2014

White Horse District – Garden State Council

Trees and Bees: Adventures in Backpacking

by Sherveer P.

Our journey begins on August 3, 2014 in Mohawk State Park. The backpackers woke up at 6 a.m. because we had to leave our camp by 7 a.m. None of us want to get up on the first day, but when Mike shakes your tent and says, "Packs up one hour," you have to. But right before we left Jeremy asked me if I wanted I walking stick. I said yes, then he handed me a golf club. We each carried one on the whole trail. By the time everyone was ready, it was 7:05 a.m. It was a long car ride to our drop off point, but I slept for half of it. "The first day is always the worst," as the Troop 48 saying goes, and it is. We had to walk 13 miles that day but it felt like 30. We passed by a beautiful swamp which had a large beaver dam. On the way there we stopped at a shelter which had an amazing view. At the end of the day we were climbing up a mountain to get to a fire tower. The fire tower had the top part

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Backpacking crew on top of Mt Greylock. Success!

UPCOMING EVENTS...

- Oct 11 & 12** **Josh's Eagle Project**
- Oct 17-19** **French Creek Camp**
- Nov 7 -9** **Goshen Pond**
- Nov 1 - 24** **Scouting for Food**
- Nov 24** **G.I.F.T Food Distribution**

Friendly Reminders! By Mike McCormick

- The official communication for Troop 48 is by e-mail. Not on the list? E-mail Mike @ michaelmccormick26@gmail.com and I'll happily add you! This goes for Scouts and parents!
- Boy Scouts is a program based on Scout-to-Scout interactions! Going on a trip? Tell your Patrol Leader! Running late? Tell your Patrol Leader! Can't make a meeting? Tell your Patrol Leader! Have a question about something? Ask your Patrol

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opened which gave a full 360 view of valley and mountains. We ate our dinner there but we had to move further to our shelter. There wasn't much space at the Goddard shelter area so half of us slept there and the other half stayed by the fire tower.

The next day we woke up at 6 a.m. This day was probably the hardest. The beginning was fairly easy. We crossed a bridge where we filled up our water bottles, but then the hard part came when we went straight down the hill which was half a mile but then the incline was a 45 degree angle but felt as though it was straight up. There were many loose rocks and a lot of mud which made us lose our balance a couple of times. At the bottom was a large river with a bridge which we had to cross, but the difficult part didn't end because then we had to climb uphill again.

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Goshen Pond to Atsion to Batsto

By Magnus

We got our stuff unpacked at Goshen, and got our camp set up. We couldn't wait for tomorrow, when we started our backpacking part of the trip. After we slept, we broke camp and started our hike. We hiked on the road for a bit until we got to the Atsion station. The scenery was pretty nice, if you ask me. Then we continued into the woods. There were some huge trees, but they have fallen. There were some other nice looking spots, too. We walked along near the Mullica River for a bit, until we reached our campsite called Mullica Camp. Then we unpacked our stuff and rested there for the rest of the day.

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Ready for rappelling, Massachusetts summer trip.



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This took us nearly an hour and a half but we took a break at the top. While walking Jeremy took out the Book of Questions. The book contains many odd questions and we asked few thru hikers some random ones and laugh out of it. After that we hiked to a view point which had raspberries bushes loaded with fruit everywhere, which we ate. Our camp for the night was at the Mellville Naunheim Shelter.

The third day was the easiest. We stopped at river and right next to it was a nice view of a marsh. We hoped we would see bears but we didn't. We then hiked up a mountain and at the top we practiced our golf shots. Later on we reached the Vermont/Massachusetts border. That was where we took our day three picture. It was mainly flat after that but then we had a huge drop. I thought I was going to slip on the rocks but we made it to the bottom safe and sound. We finished at the Sherman Brook campsite.

The last day was probably as hard as the second one. We started off going flat. Then we hit the trail and passed right though a tiny town. We walked through it and we got to the bottom of Mt. Grey lock. We did around 8 miles in total. We had already done 2 plus miles when we got to the bottom. So the rest of it was all uphill. The first part was three to four miles to a viewpoint. We decided to use Mr. Purcell's binoculars to look down at the view of the valley. The second part was 2 plus miles and the final part was a steep uphill of 500 feet. But it was all worth it.

We had an amazing view at the top. I wish the tower at the top was open but it wasn't. It felt good finishing the trip. We then went and got Domino's pizza which we devoured in seconds. Nothing had ever tasted so good.

This backpacking trip was a lot of fun. There were a many grand vistas to see. Backpacking takes you to places inaccessible by car. If you always think of that while backpacking you will have good time. There were a lot of things that I didn't put in this story. But for that you would have to come on one our awesome backpacking trips.

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Leader! Your Patrol Leader can't help? He'll send you to the Senior Patrol Leader! The last stop in the chain is me, but I'm going to ask if you checked with your patrol leader first!

- www.troop48berlin.org – Pictures, our calendar, forms, announcements, and more! One stop shopping for all things Troop 48!

- Purple should be worn to ALL meetings!

- Merit Badges can be worked on ANY TIME! Pick one, fill out a blue card, come see me to get it signed and away you go! You can work on ANY merit badge! Don't see a counselor in the troop? No problem! I'm happy to send you a list of counselors in the area who would be delighted to work with you!

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- Trails of Troop 48, our Troop Newsletter, is ALWAYS looking for writers, cartoonists, and photographers! Just talk to Mike if you're interested! Thank you to Magnus for writing so many articles last year, and to Lucas and Shiv for helping this month!

- A reminder that Scouts are **NOT** allowed to bring cell phones on trips. This is due to safety and privacy concerns. If your parent needs to contact you on a trip, they can always call the Scoutmaster or one of the Assistant Scoutmasters. Scouts who do not follow this policy will have their cell phones confiscated by the Scoutmaster/Assistant Scoutmaster. Not responsible for phones that are lost, broken, or have their background changed to adorable kittens while under our care.

Exceptions may be made ONLY when the Patrol Leaders Council decides that phones are necessary for a particular trip, at which point Skippy will designate which Scouts need to have their phones (most likely Patrol Leaders).

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pg 2...

During the time we were there, most of us started swimming or just hanging out at the shore area there. After that, we made our own dinners and messed around a bit more at the small shore, building little fort-like structures and destroying them with big and small mud balls. After doing that for some time, we went to bed and slept.

We woke up in the morning, got our things packed and started to head out of camp towards Batsto. As we were backpacking, we came to this pond-like area, where there was a tree that was over the edge of a small cliff, only holding on by a thin layer of sand. We kept on hiking, and we came through an area where it had more pine than any other parts on the hike. It was a sandy trail from there on, and it was also a detour trail due to a damaged bridge. We reached Batsto, and hiked through it until we reached the cars. It was the end of the backpacking trip.

Lehigh Biking Run

By Magnus

At camp, it was a nice and cool temperature there, and it wasn't breezy. But it was cloudy a bit. We got all our stuff unpacked, and got our camp set up. We got there pretty late, so there was nothing to do other than set our tents up and go to sleep. The next day, we got up early, and we saw that it rained last night. After we ate our breakfast, and got our bikes dried, we started our biking. We started on this trail in the woods. It was near a stream and it was really bumpy.

Then we got to this hill that went around a big body of water, and the way down was really fun, and it was back into a really wooded area trail. The stream was pretty close to us, and the trail seemed like it got even rougher. We crossed over a road to get to another trail, and the other trail was really interesting. It started by just a normal forest trail. Then we got to a part where the trail, just the trail was there. Everything next to the trail was a far way down. I'm not sure how far, but all I know is that if you lost balance and fell, you would have a few problems. While we were biking, we seemed to be going up a bit, because on next break, we were pretty high. But, on our way to our break area, we came across this ditch full of stones. I don't think any of us fell there. We got to our rest stop soon after that and there was a wagon there with coal in it. I thought it was pretty cool. After our break, we came across a huge, HUGE hill on Packer Hill Road, and it was dangerous. Luckily, we didn't have any casualties. As we rode through Jim Thorpe, I saw an older car. I thought that was interesting. Then, we made a wrong turn witch made the trip a bit longer, but we saw cool things, like ice that looked like waterfalls and, it was especially cool since we were in April. I thought that was pretty neat. So when we turned

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around and started going the right way, on to D&L Trail in Lehigh Gorge State Park, it was flat ground for a bit, then we saw an old building, and then right after that was a bridge. The view from it was so cool, and we were pretty high. We biked some more, then we reached Turn Hole Tunnel. We walked through the tunnel, and there were some ice chunks. Even when it was dark, I could tell how slippery some spots were.

After the tunnel, we rode our bikes several miles back, after walking our bikes up that steep hill,

and then we headed back for camp at Mauch Chunk and relaxed there before going to sleep, then the next morning, we headed home.



Lehigh BikeTrip – April 2014

I'd also like to congratulate the three bikers who biked the whole very hard time, Tim S., Stephen C., and Magnus P. And also a special thanks to Mr. Purcell for staying behind the bikers and making sure no one was left behind.

Hooked on Sandy Hook By Magnus P.

In March, the troop went to a camp called Allaire State Park, and a place called Sandy Hook in New Jersey, which is off into the shore. Us scouts set up camp and hung out at the camp for a bit, then we went to bed for the hike that was the day after. The next day, we got up early, around 6:00, so we could get to Sandy Hook early, and start our awesome hike. We started off in a parking lot which was near a village-like place. I'm not sure what kind of place it was, but it was a neat looking place, even if the front porches looked like they would fall any second. But in the parking lot, we saw that a trail from the lot went to the beach, so we hiked down the trail and to the beach. Then we started our hike when we got back to the lot. As we were hiking, we also saw a cannon. We got a few nice shots of it with us on it! As we hiked along the shore, we saw the waves crashing against the ground, and the strong gusts of wind. We saw some other really interesting things, like Nike missiles, Fort Hancock, and a lighthouse. Fort Hancock is pretty old, since it was in service in 1874 to 1919, so I'm sure most of us liked walking in it. But we couldn't go into the tunnels in the fort, sadly. As we continued the hike, we could see the shore, and we could see New York City! It was an amazing view. We continued hiking past an old factory looking building. It was pretty cool looking, but we couldn't go in it because of safety issues. So we continued hiking to a big stand, looking out into the ocean. We continued the hike on the nice trail, and we were by the shore, going on some really neat structures. I'm not sure what they were, but they were fun to be on. We finished the hike, went back to our camp sites, and finished the great camping trip the next day. I'm sure most of us enjoyed being near the big bodies of water.



Several kids who should be not be near a missile.

“The object of the patrol method is not so much saving the Scoutmaster trouble as to give responsibility to the boy.”

~ Robert Baden-Powell

2014-2015 Troop 48 Schedule!

October 11 & 12 – Josh’s Eagle Project
Friday to Sunday, October 17-19 - French Creek State Park, PA

October 28 – November 24 – Scouting for Food
Friday to Sunday , November 7-9– Goshen Pond, NJ – Cubs
Monday, November 24 – GIFT Food Distribution

Friday to Sunday, December 12-14 – Monmouth Battlefield State Park, NJ – Explore
Wednesday, December 10 – Court of Honor

Friday to Sunday January 9 to 11– Klondike, NJ
Sunday January TBA– Ski Trip, PA
January – Super Bowl Hoagie Sale

February 1 – Super Bowl Sunday Hoagie Day
Friday to Sunday, February 20-22 – Belleplaine, NJ – Yurt campout

Friday to Sunday, March 13-15 – Killians Pond, DE - Hiking

April TBA - Backpacking Trip
Friday to Sunday , April 24-26 – Pequea, PA - Campground

Friday to Sunday , May 15-17 – Weisner State Park/Knoebels Grove Trip, PA
– hiking and park

Friday to Sunday , June 5- 7– Cape Henlopen, DE – Sea kayaking
Saturday, June 20 – Monmouth Battlefield Reenactment, NJ
Friday to Sunday, June 26-28 – Alumni Trip, NJ

Friday to Sunday , July 17-19 – Great Egg Harbor River Canoe Trip, NJ

August TBA - Lake George Summer Trip, NY

September 26-27 – MS 150