



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

TROOP 31 RAMSEY, N.J.

SERVING THE
YOUTH OF
RAMSEY
SINCE 1912

Visit the Troop 31 website at www.bsa-troop31.org

April 2009

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Important Dates to Remember

- | | | | |
|---------|--|------------|---|
| Apr. 1 | PLC
Dater School – 7:30 PM | Apr. 23 | Committee Meeting
Dater School – 7:30 PM |
| Apr. 4 | Scouting for Food – drop-off
- Stephen's house in Ramsey -
Until 1pm or call Mrs. Stephen | Apr. 24-26 | Beaver Days
Camp Glen Gray, Mahwah |
| Apr. 8 | Troop Meeting
- Order of Arrow Election -
Dater School – 7:30 PM | Apr. 29 | Troop Meeting
Dater School – 7:30 PM |
| Apr. 15 | No Troop Meeting
(Schools Closed-Spring Break) | May 2 or 3 | Orienteering Course
Dater School – 7:30 PM |
| Apr. 18 | Ramsey Town Clean-up
10AM – 2PM | May 6 | PLC
Dater School – 7:30 PM |
| Apr. 19 | Mets Game vs. Brewers
CitiField – 1:10pm game | May 13 | Troop Meeting
Dater School – 7:30 PM |
| Apr. 22 | Troop Meeting
Dater School – 7:30 PM | May 15-17 | Camping
- Shoebox, Merit Badge, Cabin &
New Scout Tent Camping -
Camp Glen Gray, Mahwah |

SCOUTING FOR FOOD

There is a lot going on this Saturday: Scouting For Food, the Glen Gray Hike and opening day of Little League baseball! As you know, we would like 100% Scout participation for the Scouting for Food drive. If you are attending the hike, please drop your collections off early Saturday morning in front of the Stephen's garage at 221 West Oak Street in Ramsey.



If you have a baseball game, we will work around your schedule. Please pick up your food bags on Saturday and drop them off when you can. If you are going to drop them off past 1 PM, please call Mrs. Stephen at 201-934-4941 so she can

make arrangements to deliver your collections to the Center for Food Action.

ORDER OF THE ARROW ELECTION

During the April 8 Troop Meeting, we will be holding a special election for the Order of the Arrow. Several of our Scouts have attained the qualifications needed for this honor. They hope to join the Scouts of the Troop who already are members of the Lodge. If you would like further information concerning the Order of the Arrow, please contact Scout Matt Lynch.



LET'S GO METS



When you think of springtime, how many of you think of baseball? We are continuing our tradition of attending a Met game this year! A new stadium? No problem! We have a limited number of tickets for the Sunday, April 19 game against the Brewers. It is the first Sunday game played at new CitiField! Interested? Contact Scoutmaster McKiever for information.

BEAVER DAY AT GLEN GRAY

Saturday April 25, 2009 is Beaver Day at Camp Glen Gray. As Price cabin sponsors we are asked to participate and assist with this work day effort. We will be painting a cabin that is not sponsored, if the weather cooperates. We expect all Scouts to spend part of the day helping in this effort. All supplies needed will be provided by the camp. Details will follow. Lunch will be provided to all who participate. A nice dinner will be provided and cooked by the ASM's Saturday evening for all who wish to stay and perhaps spend the night. Separate camping permission slips will soon be posted.



ORIENTEERING COURSE & GEOCACHE HUNT



On the first weekend of May, Troop 31 will be running an orienteering course at Ramapo Reservation. Scouts will get plenty of practice using a compass, shooting bearings, estimating distances and will finish with a great view of the valley. The course will fulfill First Class requirement #2. It is a day trip and will only take around 2hrs to complete. **The exact day (Sat or Sun) and time will be determined by the interested scouts. If you're interested, please be prepared to sign-up at the 4/8 meeting!!!**

If there are enough scouts interested we will also have a geocache event for those scouts who have already earned their orienteering requirement. (To learn more about geocaching see <http://www.geocaching.com>) You can also contact Mr. Knipp at mail4pk@yahoo.com if you're interested or have any questions. The permission slip will be on the website shortly.

MERIT BADGE FAIR

Saturday May 16, 2009 is Spring Merit Badge Fair at Camp Glen Gray. Scouts can work on 2 badges that day - one in the morning and one in the afternoon. This is an *excellent* opportunity to work on and complete some non-Eagle required merit badges. A separate permission slip is required. Details will be posted soon on the troop's web site. Be prepared with all pre-req's. Camping will also be available, and a separate permission slip is necessary.



NoBeBoSco REMINDERS

We have a great turnout for NoBe this year, from high-ranking senior scouts to our newest troop members. This is going to be a great summer camp experience. Remember, if you want to save \$30 on the registration fee, please turn in your registration form ([http://www.bsa-](http://www.bsa-troop31.org/Summer_Camp_Registration_2009.pdf)



[troop31.org/Summer_Camp_Registration_2009.pdf](http://www.bsa-troop31.org/Summer_Camp_Registration_2009.pdf)) and the \$295.00 fee by the April 8th troop meeting to Mr. Floyd. After April 8th, the fee becomes \$325.00. If you want to use money from your scout account towards your NoBe payment, contact Mr. Floyd to find out how much is in your individual account. Also remember: It is never too early to get

your physical exam – and don't forget to take the official BSA Medical Form (<http://www.bsa-troop31.org/2009BSAhealthform.pdf>) with you to have your doctor fill out the appropriate sections. *This goes for the leaders coming to NoBe, as well!* Give or send your completed medical forms – with a copy of your medical insurance card – to Mr. Floyd as soon as it is complete.

SCOUTMASTER'S CORNER

We're off to a great start on our outdoor program this year! Your Senior Patrol Leader and his staff have done an excellent job! They have put in many hours planning and coordinating all the outings.



What makes these outings successful is the participation of the Scouts. This Troop has a history of being very active. There are all sorts of events one can participate in.

I'd like to highlight two words I wrote in the last couple of sentences. *Active and participate.* While it's obvious that every Scout can't attend every outing, try not to stand on the sidelines. That's not fun. Scouting is all about having fun and getting outside. Remember, it's always better to have fun than to watch others having the fun!

I look forward to seeing you on the trail!

Yours In Scouting,
Mr. McKiever
Scoutmaster
Troop 31

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