



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

January 2009

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Important Dates to Remember

Jan. 13	Snowtubing <i>Campgaw Mountain, Mahwah</i> 6 – 8 PM	Feb. 3	PLC <i>Dater School – 7:30 PM</i>
Jan. 16-17	Winter Cabin Camping <i>Camp Turrell, Cuddlebackville, NY</i> 9 AM – 1 PM the next day	Feb. 6	Iditarod Competition <i>Crestwood Park, Allendale</i> 7:45AM – 4PM
Jan. 20	Troop Meeting <i>Dater School – 7:30 PM</i>	Feb. 10	Court of Awards <i>Masonic Lodge – 6:30 PM</i>
Jan. 23	Soup Kitchen <i>St. John's Church, Newark</i> 6:30 – 11 AM	Feb 17	Troop Meeting <i>Dater School – 7:30 PM</i>
Jan. 27	Troop Meeting <i>Dater School – 7:30 PM</i>	Feb. 19-21	Council Ski Days <i>Belleayre Mountain, NY</i>
		Feb. 24	Troop Meeting <i>Dater School – 7:30 PM</i>

March on Deck:

Challenger Center overnight
Thunder Mountain shooting

KEEP A LOOKOUT! THERE IS A NOBE SIGHTING!

INTEREST FORMS WILL BE GOING OUT SOON!

OUR WEEK IS SET! AUGUST 1 TO AUGUST 7.

MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA TO START THINKING ABOUT THE MEDICAL FORMS

IDITAROD

Waqaa! That's Hello, in Yup'ik (an Eskimo language),

It's that time of year again! The snow is here, and men and



women are now gathering to compete in a dog sled race of over 1000 miles across the bitter frozen mountains and valleys of Alaska. This race is called the **Iditarod**. All Scouts from Troop 31 are invited and encouraged to participate in the Boy Scout version of this event:

The 2010 Iditarod Sled Race will be held Saturday, February 7th across the frozen wastelands of Crestwood Lake in Allendale.



Learn about or improve upon your Scout skills in fire-building, cooking, orienteering, knot tying, and more as you pull a wooden sled full of the necessary Scout equipment in a one day event. The Iditarod race packet should be downloaded from here [Event detail package](#).

Permission slip available on Troop 31 website (<http://www.bsa-troop31.org/>)

IMPORTANT: The **FIRST** thing to do is indicate your interest to Mr. Welsh by email wwelsh123@hotmail.com. **SECOND** thing: return your permission form ASAP. **Any scouts and sled teams that commit before Thursday, January 14th get 3 gold bonus points!** Teams consist of up to 8 Scouts; Trekker Teams of up to 3 Senior Scouts. Let's race through the snow and show off our Scouting skills. Deadline for registration is January 30, 2010. (But let's get those 3 bonus points for pre-registration!!)

PS - this event is a LOT of fun!!!

ANNOUNCING... **TROOP 31 SCOUTS 24/7!**

There were no submissions for this section this month. I'm sure the Scouts have been busy and filling their days with lots of events outside of Scouting. If you would like to share your achievements, or if you know of a brother Scout who has excelled in this area, please notify Scoutmaster McKiever so they may be recognized.

SCOUTMASTER CORNER

A Very Happy New Year to all of you! I hope you all had a great Holiday Season! Now it's time to get back to business. January kicks off a busy time in Scouting, and Troop 31 leads the way. There are many opportunities to get outside and



enjoy the winter. Our annual snowtubing at Campgaw is right around the corner. I hope you all have put your permission slips in! Mr. Bailey has everything under control! This is a great chance to invite a friend to a Scouting event and get that requirement signed off!

Right after tubing, we have our Winter Cabin Camping at Turrell. If last year is any example, we're in for a great time! Lots of snow is forecasted, so don't forget your sled! This event fills up fast, so make sure you contact either Mr. Endress or Mr. Odin!



One of the Troop's more significant outings is here too. It's Mr. Watters trip to work in the Soup Kitchen. While we were counting our blessings this Holiday Season, many were not so fortunate. This is a great chance to give something back to those who really need it. This is Scouting at its finest! Make the time and give a hand!



Keep checking the website for fun adventures. Ask your Patrol Leader what they are planning. If you have any ideas what you would like the Troop to plan, let us know! The ideas for all these events came from Scouts. Lets keep trying to find new and bigger adventures to participate in.

Remember, what we do as a Troop, is up to you!

Yours In Scouting,
Mr. McKiever
Scoutmaster
Troop 31

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