



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. 7	PLC Dater School – 7:30 PM	Jan. 28	Troop Meeting Dater School – 7:30 PM
Jan. 14	Troop Meeting Dater School – 7:30 PM	Feb. 4	PLC Dater School – 7:30 PM
Jan. 17-18	Winter Cabin Camping Camp Turrell	Feb. 7	Iditarod 2009 Crestwood Lake, Allendale – 7:45AM
Jan. 21	Scout Snow Tubing Campgaw Mtn., Mahwah – 6-8PM	Feb. 11	Troop Meeting Dater School – 7:30 PM
Jan. 22	Committee Meeting Municipal Building – 7:30PM	Feb. 18	Troop Meeting Dater School – 7:30 PM
Jan. 24	St. John’s Soup Kitchen Newark – 6:30AM-12PM	Feb. 25	Troop Meeting Dater School – 7:30 PM

WINTER CAMPING



Our annual winter cabin camping trip is filling up fast. We're headed to Camp Turrell which is just about an hour away in the Catskill Region. We're leaving Saturday morning January 17, 2009 and will return in the afternoon on Sunday, January 18th. We will be staying in the fabulous Kluge Lodge which is loaded with amenities such as a wood stove and running water. There is even electricity! During the day, we will have all sorts of activities depending on the weather. Hopefully there will be plenty of snow on the ground but if not, we'll have fun anyway. I need your permission slip no later than January 10 to ensure you can come on the trip. We already have a number of limited spots filled. If you are planning to come, please send ASM Erik Endress erikendress@optonline.net an email or via cell at 201-320-3216. You can drop off [permission slips](#) at his house, 10 White Terrace (off of Franklin Turnpike) in the mailbox anytime.

SNOW TUBING

Are you ready for some fast paced fun? Who can get down the hill the fastest? It's time for our annual trip to the slopes! Troop 31 is heading for the hills on Wednesday January 21. We'll have our table set up by 6pm so



you can get your lift ticket and start on up the mountain. The [permission slip](#) and [tubing release](#) forms are available on the Troop's website, so get them in to Mr. McKiever by January 18. The cost is only \$10 for each scout (this is a good opportunity to help recruit a friend to join the Troop!) And guess what? No Uniforms! Just dress for the cold and snow! Boots, hats, and gloves! See you on the mountain!

SOUP KITCHEN



Come join us on January 24th for our annual trip to St. John's Soup Kitchen in Newark. Scouts who attend will get 4 service hours. We will be making sandwiches and restocking the pantry and serving breakfast. All scouts are encouraged to attend. If you cannot join us, consider donating old coats, blankets and non-perishable food items. Shop-Rite and other local merchants donate food as well. For any questions, please call Mr. Watters @ 201-818-9542

IDITAROD

Reminder: The famous Alaskan Sled Race comes to NNJ on February 7th - **Join us for Iditarod 2009** - to be run on the frozen wastelands of Allendale's Crestwood Lake. Pre-Registration Deadline - Wednesday, January 14th! Teams of 8 Scouts will test their skills as they trek their sled and gear to various "towns" in an effort to gather golden nuggets of skills & knowledge. See website for [permission slip](#) and details, or email: ASM Bill Welsh wwelsh123@hotmail.com.



SCOUTMASTER'S CORNER



Happy New Year to all! Hope you all had a fantastic Holiday Season and are now ready for some serious Scouting action! January is a busy time and a great opportunity to try new things. All you have to do is check out the calendar to see what's going on.

How about getting outside and having some snow excitement? There are two shots at this- you can glide down Campgaw Mountain in a tube or get away for the weekend at Turell in the Catskills. Choose either one, or why not both?! It'll be a lot of fun!

After you've had some snow time, remember one of the more serious and rewarding events of the year - Mr. Watters' annual trip to the Soup Kitchen to help those who really need it. These are tough times for a lot of people, and this trip can help make a difference. The service hours you'll earn are nice, but the help you give is what counts.

I saved this for last. I'd like to give a big "shout out" to Andy Mac for earning his Eagle rank. Congratulations Andy on a job well done! Now get ready to run some events as one of our newest ASM's!

Well, we rang in the New Year and now its time to get to work!

Yours In Scouting,
Mr. M. McKiever
Scoutmaster, Troop 31

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