



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](http://www.bsa-troop31.org)

## March 2009

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### Important Dates to Remember

Mar. 4	PLC Dater School – 7:30 PM	Apr. 1	PLC Dater School – 7:30 PM
Mar. 11	Troop Meeting Dater School – 7:30 PM	Apr. 4	Scouting for Food-collection Stephens' house in Ramsey
Mar. 14-15	Challenger Center Overnight Airmont, NY 5PM-10AM	Apr. 4-5	Overnight Hike Yaw Paw to Glen Gray
Mar. 18	Troop Meeting Dater School – 7:30 PM	Apr. 8	Troop Meeting Dater School – 7:30 PM
Mar. 25	Troop Meeting Dater School – 7:30 PM	Apr. 15	No Troop Meeting (Schools Closed-Spring Break)
Mar. 26	Committee Meeting Dater School – 7:30 PM	Apr. 22	Troop Meeting Dater School – 7:30 PM
Mar. 28	Scouting for Food-distribution All throughout Ramsey!	Apr. 24-26	Beaver Days Camp Glen Gray
Mar. 28	Trap & Skeet Shooting Thunder Mountain, Ringwood, NJ	Apr. 29	Troop Meeting Dater School – 7:30 PM

### CHALLENGER CENTER

Mission to the Moon at the Lower Hudson Valley Challenger Center  
Saturday March 14<sup>th</sup> 5:00pm to Sunday March 15<sup>th</sup> 10:00am  
*Still a few seats left!!!*

Take a 3 hour round trip to the Moon, and get a start on (or continue) your Space Exploration merit badge! Be part of the crew on the spaceship or in mission control. We will be completing



merit badge requirements 2 (Collector's card) and 7 (Design a space base), and we will be building a rocket for requirement 3. Later this year, launch your rocket with the staff of the Challenger Center to complete requirement 3. In March of 2010, we will complete requirements 1, 4, 5, 6, and 8 during a Mission to Mars. Drop-off is on March 14th at 5:00pm, and pickup is on March 15th at 10:00am. Pizza for dinner, bagels for breakfast. Spacefare is \$55, which includes a model rocket kit. Contact Wayne Miller at

[wmiller@ftt.com](mailto:wmiller@ftt.com).

### **THUNDER MOUNTAIN TRAP & SKEET SHOOTING**

Join us Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> for a great morning of shooting at Thunder Mountain Trap and Skeet Range. We will leave the Ramsey Boro Hall at 9AM and should be back by 1PM. The cost is \$19.50 per scout for 25 rounds of clay birds.

Instructions, skeet, firearms, shotgun shells and the launch fee are all included in this cost. The permission slip will be on the website very soon so keep checking! Contact Jay McMahon with any questions ([jm25@optonline.net](mailto:jm25@optonline.net)).



### **SCOUTING FOR FOOD**

It's almost time for the annual Scouting for Food campaign benefiting the Center for Food Action in Mahwah. Hunger affects all communities, even Ramsey, so we would like each and every Scout in Troop 31 to be involved. ***Our goal is 100% Scout participation!*** Here are the dates:



3/25 – Scouting for Food bags will be distributed at the Troop meeting.  
3/28 – Scouts are to distribute the bags to 10 households of friends and family.

4/4 – Scouts are to pick up the filled food bags and drop them off at the Stephen's house in Ramsey between 10 AM and noon.

All participating scouts will receive service hours. Any questions, contact Laurie Stephen at [cls221@verizon.net](mailto:cls221@verizon.net).

### **SCOUTMASTER'S CORNER**

Springtime. A wonderful time of the year to get outdoors and enjoy Mother Nature. Troop 31 is shaking off the cobwebs and taking it outside!

There are many opportunities for you to spend the night outdoors. This month we're traveling to the far away reaches of the Universe at the Challenger Center. While this trip is actually indoors, complete with pizza, you can finish off that Space Exploration Merit Badge. You'll also get that rocket to launch, which is pretty cool.

Future scheduled events include an overnight hike from Yaw-Paw to Glen Gray, Beaver Work Week-end at Glen Gray, the Merit Badge Fair, Shoebox Camping, New Scout Camping and a Canoe Trip Overnighter. Not enough for you? NoBe is approaching fast (turn in those interest forms!). Those are just the overnights!



My advice? Make sure your equipment is ready to go! Check all your gear and replace whatever needs attention. The long winter is just about over! And to all you new Scouts, welcome and be prepared for some great outdoor activities! Troop 31 is going into the field!

Yours In Scouting,  
Mr. McKiever  
Scoutmaster

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