

— The Kutztown Area —

# Patriot

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## Council collects Boy Scout memories

Patriot photos by Samantha Mattie

Stephen Henning of Fleetwood invites past and present Boy Scouts to share their memories with the Hawk Mountain Council for a commemorative book in celebration of the Boy Scouts of America Centennial. Right Carl Ganster, of Wyomissing, shows his Boy Scout memories.

# Council collects Boy Scout memories

By **Samantha Mattie**  
Patriot Intern

Hawk Mountain Council invites past boy scout members to share their experiences in a commemorative book in celebration of the Boy Scouts of America Centennial.

"People think their items need to be historical, but this whole project is about sharing memories of scouting," said Stephen Henning, 68, of Fleetwood.

Recently, the council welcomed past scouts to share their memories at the Hawk Mountain Council Beaver Family Center, 5027 Pottsville Pike, Reading, on Feb. 4 and 7. Local Scout leaders were present to copy and record stories, photos and memorabilia.

Henning will complete the

first layout in April and hopes the entire project will be complete by November.

The book, which will explore the legacy of Scouting in the community during the past century, will coincide with the Boy Scouts of America's centennial celebration February 2010.

Henning first became involved with Boy Scouts when his former boss asked him to help out with his son's troop. Since then, he worked for the Boy Scouts for 13 years and retired six years ago.

While Boy Scouts was first introduced to the United States in 1910, scouting in the area dates back to 1916. In 1970, two councils, the Appalachia Trail and Daniel Boone, merged to form the Hawk Mountain Council.

"Scouting is an organization

to meet people who are interested in developing the character of the youth," said Darnall Daley, Jr., 71, of Wyomissing, a member of the Hawk Mountain Council. "It also teaches the youth how to live their lives with honor."

Daley was council commissioner for Hawk Mountain Council 1986-2002, camp commissioner at Hawk Mountain Scout Reserve 2006 to present, and host of 30-minute TV program "Scouting Perspective" on BCTV Reading, since 2007.

Ella Vollenweider, 58, of Mohntown, brought photos of her late brother, Randall Keinard, to add to the collection. Keinard was very active in scouting in Birdsboro. He achieved the highest rank of

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Eagle Scout. He was a teacher at Muhlenberg High School and a swim coach at the Reading YMCA.

Robert Fleck, 57, of Reading, was a member of Boyertown's Troop 3. He commended his scout leaders, Robert S. Frain and Ralph Hoffmann, for the experiences.

"Other troops did not do many of the things my troop did. The willingness and the time commitment from my scout leaders made what we

did possible," said Fleck.

Fleck attended Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico in 1966 and the World Jamboree held in Idaho in 1967.

"The World Jamboree was a great cultural experience. Thousands of scouts from all over the world - New Zealand, Australia, South Korea, France - came for the 10-day event," said Fleck.

Carl Ganster, 51, of Wyomissing, joined Stouchsburg's Troop 402 in 1964. He later became an assistant scout master for Wyomiss-

ing Hills Troop 437 in 1975 when his sons were scouts.

Ganster brought boxes of his scouting memorabilia and a 1944 photo of his father, Forrest, who was a member of Stouchsburg's Troop 44.

The last book commemorating the Boy Scouts in the area was published by Newton W. Geiss in 1968.

Community members are invited to continue to share Scouting photographs, memories, and artifacts. For more information, visit [www.hmc-bsa.org](http://www.hmc-bsa.org).

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