



**~~Current Calendar/ Upcoming Events~~**

- April 12 – 14 we are camping at Camp Squanto and it will be a tent camp out. There will be a conservation project for anyone who needs it for Camping merit badge, and we are also trying for the COPE course that weekend.
- May 3 – 5 at Wompatuck is an opportunity for low impact camping. Any scouts needing a dutch oven or other gear for this type of activity should speak to the Troop quartermasters: Bradley Davis and Colin Denizkurt.

**Happy Birthday (some belatedly) to the following:**



Liam Tierney	March 4
Sean O'Connell	March 13
Dan Finn	March 14
Zach Zooleck	March 21
Gabe Montenegro	March 24
Anthony Milisi	April 6
Kevin Bruno	April 9
Colin Ames	April 16
Nick Ames	April 17

**Congratulations to Mr. Barry!**

The leaderships, scouts, and families of Troop 9 would like to extend our sincerest congratulations to Mr. Barry on his retirement from Stop and Shop. We wish him all the best as he enters this new phase of his life.

**Summer Camp 2013!**

- There will be a summer camp information meeting for parents on Thursday, April 11th starting at 7:30. We strongly encourage any parent whose son will be attending camp (or thinking about attending camp) for the first time to attend.
- Troop 9 will be heading to Camp Squanto for our annual summer camp during the week of June 30-July 6, 2013.
- Don't forget those medical forms—including Part C (signed by a health care provider). See Mrs. Jaklitsch if you need a form or have any questions.



**Scout History Books**

Start your Scout History book. Mrs. MacLean has 5 books available if anyone needs them. E-mail her at [MCarrieJeff@aol.com](mailto:MCarrieJeff@aol.com) or see her at a troop meeting.

**Troop Committee Meeting**

The next troop committee meeting will be Wednesday, March 13th at 7:30. The location will be announced once confirmed. Any parent or guardian is welcome to attend. It's a great way to learn what it takes to keep our troop moving forward. If you have any questions ask any troop leader. If you need a ride, call Carrie MacLean 781-799-9144.

**HIGH ADVENTURE 2014**

Troop 9 has one a lottery for a Coral Reef Adventure at Florida's SeaBase for February vacation of 2014 (Feb. 15 - 21). We immediately filled a boat with a crew of 8 scouts and adults. However, we would like to extend an invitation to the rest of the troop to attend the same week and the same adventure, but on a separate boat. Each boat requires a crew of 6 - 8. Eligible scouts must be a rank of at least First Class and be 13 years old and be in the 8th grade by the time of the trip. A deposit of \$100.00 per person would be required to secure a spot on the crew and is non-refundable. However, it is transferable within a crew. If you are interested, please email me as soon as possible. Preference will be given to those scouts who attended previous SeaBase meetings. However, there's no reason we couldn't fill 3 boats!!!



If you would like further information the link to our adventure is:

<http://www.bsaseabase.org/Adventures/coralreef.aspx>



**WANTED:** Photographers to take pictures at events and camp outs. Pictures should be 600 dpi and JPEG in order to be used in the Weymouth News. Photos can be placed on a thumb drive and will be returned to you once transferred. Please contact Mrs. MacLean at [MCarrieJeff@aol.com](mailto:MCarrieJeff@aol.com)

**Dues Payments:** If you have not paid your dues, please see Tricia Conway or Phil Barthel as soon as possible to discuss payment arrangements.

**REMINDER:** All participants and drivers in any scout related activity must have a YP certificate in to Ed Palmer in order to attend.

### Merit Badge Procedure

- To start a merit badge, see scoutmaster for approval to start a merit badge.
- Once approved he will direct you to see Mrs. Bonarrigo to be assigned a merit badge councilor for the badge you will be working on. Mrs. Bonarrigo will start an Application for Merit Badge (blue card), and pass on information to the Advancement Coordinator, Mrs. Bekerian.
- Scouts may obtain merit badge books from Troop Librarian or view requirements online at [www.scouting.org/meritbadges.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/meritbadges.aspx).
- Scout will then contact the merit badge councilor assigned and inform them that they are beginning the merit badge and determine how to best communicate with the merit badge councilor.
- Once a scout has completed a requirement, he will seek out the merit badge councilor to be signed off for the requirement completed.
- The councilor (or scout) will obtain the blue card from Mrs. Bonarrigo, sign off the requirement as completed and return the blue card to Mrs. Bonarrigo.
- Mrs. Bonarrigo will pass on the completed requirements to Mrs. Bekerian.
- Once the merit badge is completed, the councilor will sign the blue card as complete, Mrs. Bonarrigo will have the scoutmaster sign as completed and the finished application will be forwarded to Mrs. Bekerian.

All partial merit badge applications (blue cards) will be available at scout meetings. If a scout is having difficulty getting in touch with their merit badge councilor please see Mrs. Bonarrigo for assistance. Many requirements for merit badges may be completed during camping trips so remember to ask councilor to check off the requirement as done at the next scout meeting. Scouts are responsible to set up times to meet with their merit badge councilors, not all merit badge councilors will be at every scout meeting. " **Youth protection guidelines will be followed at all times**"

### **Partial Merit Badges from Summer Camp or MBU**

If a scout obtains a partial merit badge from summer camp or MBU, a Blue Card will be started for him. He will be assigned a new troop councilor to assist him in completed the requirements. It is the scout's responsibility to contact the merit badge councilor for assistance.

### A Reminder from the Advancement Chair

Hi everyone,

Just a reminder to the scouts to please take care of the merit badge and rank patches they receive and not lose them. I have had several scouts approach me about getting replacements. The Troop will replace the occasional one at no cost to the scout, but beyond that the scout will have to foot the cost. The Troop only has limited funds in the advancement budget and at \$2.50 a patch, that can add up with 51 scouts in the Troop. The scouts all received history reports in 2012 and were told to review them and let me know any patches they were missing. I only heard from a few boys at that time, so I am assuming that the rest all had what they needed.

Thank you,  
Becky Bekerian  
Advancement Chair

### Important Committee Announcement

Dear Troop 9 Scout and Parents:

Given the size of Troop 9 and the number of scouts interested in our activities, the cost for reserving sites large enough to accommodate everyone who would like to attend has skyrocketed. We base the amount of space or number of sites we need on the scouts and adults signed up on the sign-up sheets that are out several weeks before the activity.

Each sign-up sheet has a deadline date by which we ask that everyone either add their name to the roster or remove their name. We will e-mail the roster for each activity to all parents before the deadline date so they can see if their son is signed up or if there may be a conflict. Typically the deadline date is the date when we have to confirm our reservation, give the number of people attending and make sure we will have enough space for everyone.

Food is purchased and reservations are finalized based on the number of scouts and adults on the roster/travel document as of the deadline date. On several recent trips, we have had scouts and adults cancel after the deadline date, which is too late for us to make adjustments and we end up paying for space and sometimes food that we no longer need. Those costs are substantial and the Troop 9 Committee has decided that they should no longer be incurred by Troop 9.

If any scout or adult cancels out of a trip or activity after the deadline date, there will be a minimum \$15 fee charged that must be paid before the scout or adult can attend the next Troop 9 activity. If food is purchased, they will also need to pay \$10 for food before the next Troop 9 activity.

Since sometimes collecting food money goes on well after a camping trip is over, we are asking that everyone now prepay the \$10 food cost on the deadline date. This will allow the patrol members purchasing food to have the food money in hand while at the grocery store and no one is left chasing money later.

If you have any questions or concerns about these new policies, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you.



## Scoutmaster Minute

It has been many, many years since I crossed over from Pack 9 to Troop 9, but I can still remember my first troop meeting at Pond Plain. It was a Wednesday night (Troop 9 met on Wednesday nights way back then) and none of us five new scouts knew what to expect when we entered the hall.

No sooner had we walked in when these two great big guys came up to us and said in a tough voice "Do you know who we are?" Most of us were too scared to say anything, although one of the other new scouts managed to squeak out a "No." and I think he added a "sir" on to the end of that. The smaller of the two said "I'm Tim and I'm the senior patrol leader, the scout in charge of Troop 9." Tim pointed to the bigger guy and said "This is Pete and he's my assistant." Pete just grunted. Not knowing what to say or do, I think we just stood there for what seemed to us to be an eternity wondering how long before mom or dad came to get us. In reality, it was only a few seconds before Tim said in a much friendlier voice that he was glad to be the first to welcome us to Troop 9 and that if we had any problems to come to him or Pete and they would take care of it. They then introduced us to Mr. Duseau, the scoutmaster and Rich and Rusty the two patrol leaders.

Myself and two of my friends joined Rich in the Frog patrol, while the other two new scouts joined the Panther patrol. We spent a little while in patrol corners meeting the other patrol members and talking about what would be our first campout in a few weeks, to Camp Sayre in the Blue Hills. After that, we played British Bulldog and then ended our first meeting by starting the First Aid merit badge. There wasn't anything extraordinary about that meeting, but it was new to me and aside from those first seconds of terror when Tim and Pete introduced themselves, I was welcomed almost immediately as a member of Troop 9.

The point to this trip down memory lane is to remind everyone that at one point we were all new scouts (or adult leaders) to Troop 9. I would say that most of us experienced a level of uncertainty, nervousness or fear when we came to our first troop meeting. Keep that in mind as the new scouts from Pack 9, Pack 87 and Pack 2 attend their first meetings as members of Troop 9. Please welcome them and make their experience a good one, hopefully just as you were welcomed into Troop 9 when you attended your first troop meeting.

***Phil Barthel, Scoutmaster***

## SPECIAL INVITATION TO TROOP 9 SCOUT PARENTS

Have you ever wanted to know what the process is when your son has his board of review for rank advancement?

I would like to invite every parent the opportunity to attend a future board of review to see first hand the process a scout goes through sitting in front of a board of committee members.

As a parent, you will see what your son goes through in his efforts to advance in rank. You will see how the process helps a scout handle the interview process, an interview process that he will need for college and the business world. What questions he may have to answer. What is expected in his uniform, his personal history book, and what is expected of the scout in the future if he passes his board of review.

You will hear the discussion by the committee as we discuss the scout's progress and share our thoughts as to what we expect from the scout and conduct a vote. The only restriction is that a parent can't attend their own son's board of review.

I am instructing the committee members to ask and invite parents to our boards of review. I hope you take advantage in seeing the board of review process in action as well as obtaining a better understanding and knowledge as to what your son might expect as he strives to advance in rank in our Troop.

Tim Barry  
Committee Chairman  
[Tbarry3076@aol.com](mailto:Tbarry3076@aol.com)

P.S

Our next committee meeting is scheduled for April 24 at 7:30 P.M.

Location is at Phil Barthel's law office building. ALL Parents are welcome to attend any and all committee meetings. We will provide you with directions.

Your involvement in your son's scouting years does have a direct effect on how your son will advance. So get involved!!!!

***Yours in Scouting  
Tim Barr  
Committee Chairman,  
Troop 9  
Weymouth Ma.***

