



~~Current Calendar/ Upcoming Events~~

- Wompatuck Campout May 8 – 10
- Cemetery Flags Project May 16
- Gym Night TBA May
- Gunstock Campout May 29-31
- Bottle Drive June 13
- Court of Honor June 25

Happy Birthday to the following:



Matthew Ridder	April 3
Lucas Hurley	April 6
Kevin Bruno	April 9
Charles Dwyer	April 11
Colin Ames	April 16
Nick Ames	April 17



Scouts in the News

Brendan Pike was named MVP for the Weymouth High School Swim Team this year. Congratulations to Brendan!

Matt Norton, Assistant Scout Master with Troop 9 and Regis College sophomore was named Regis College Student-Athlete of the Week after having a strong day at the Pioneer Invitational hosted by Smith College on Saturday. Matt competed in mostly field events and took home first place in the high jump competition with a height of 1.83 meters. Matt also participated in the javelin throw and threw for 39.80 meters which was good for sixth place.

Message from Pond Plain Improvement Association

Thanks to all the parents who spent time the past two Saturdays helping finish the demolition work and cleaning up the downstairs hall. Pond Plain is very fortunate to have people who care about our future and are willing to help when asked. Thank you again. Sincerely, *Pond Plain Improvement Association.*

Summer Camp Announcements

The discounted Summer Camp payment is due by May 14. The cost will be \$360 for a full week and \$260 for scouts staying Tuesday through Saturday. The cost increased by \$20 after May 14th. If you have any issues concerning payment, feel free to speak with Tim Barry, Peter O'Hare, Phil Barthel or Mark Preble.

If anyone is interested in designing a t-shirt for summer camp, please give Evan your ideas no later than April 30.

BSA medical forms need to be filled out and returned to Bridget Jaklitsch as soon as possible. Please do not use old forms. It can be found on the internet by following this link: <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/HealthandSafety/ahmr.aspx>. Download the version that says "Are you going to camp?"

CONGRATULATIONS PHIL!!!

Our Scoutmaster, Phil Barthel, will be awarded the Great Ponds District Scouter of the year award. Please congratulate Phil on this most deserved accolade.

Help Wanted

Adult volunteer to assist Mrs. MacLean with Troop 9 News for the Weymouth News. Must be available to share the work by e-mail. Will work together to finalize documents and share story lines. Please contact Carrie if you have questions: 781-799-9144 or MCarrieJeff@aol.com

Miscellaneous Announcements

The Wompatuck campout will be an excellent time to participate in a campout while also being able to come and go to other activities. This will also be the last opportunity for scouts to work on advancement requirements.

Scouts who are interested in being the SPL for the 2015-16 Scouting Year should talk to Phil no later than June 4th.



SCOUTMASTER MINUTE

I'm a big picture guy and like to look at the now and the future. Believe it or not, but with summer camp just over 2 months away, we are winding down the 2014-15 Scout Year. After summer camp, the prep work for the 2015-16 Scout Year kicks in. I want us to finish the year strong and start the new Scout Year running with an exciting program and enthusiastic youth leaders.

With a camping trip to Wompatuck heavy on advancement, followed by a camping trip to Gunstock Mountain to challenge oneself, and with service projects, a gym night and Court of Honor interspersed over the next two months, we have a strong end to the 2014-15 Scout Year. Looking ahead, we'll have the Senior Patrol Leader for 2015-16 elected before summer camp and he will be assembling his leadership team over the summer. Couple that with an anticipated trip whitewater rafting trip on the Hudson River Gorge in New York, an application to attend the USMA Camporee at West Point, a ski trip, veterans' activities and deciding on another high adventure trip and we have what looks to be a promising 2015-16 Scout Year.

What we don't know is who will lead Troop 9 next year? What scouts will step up and take vital leadership positions? What adults will take a more active role and what adults will seek a less active role?

Over the next few months, you scouts will need to decide for yourselves what role you want to play in Troop 9 next year. Do you want to be the Senior Patrol Leader or a Patrol Leader and thus have a huge say in what Troop 9 does? Do you want to take a less prominent position of leadership to gain some experience? Do you just want to be a member of the troop with no leadership responsibilities? The choice will be yours, but start thinking about it now. If you want a leadership position next year, talk with scouts actively serving now to learn a little about positions you may be interested in. Leadership information packets will be available soon and training will be offered this summer.

While I do not expect a drastic change in adult leadership, change will take place as leaders shift around or take different roles. We are fortunate to have a solid nucleus of adult leaders, but that does not mean we have enough. Every adult leader has at least one key role in the operation of Troop 9 and many have 2, 3 or 12. If we want Troop 9 to continue to offer a quality program, we need to spread the roles out so as not to overburden leaders and so that Troop 9 can better absorb the impact when change occurs. Just some thoughts as we start to wrap up this year and start planning for next year.

Phil Barthel, Scoutmaster



Committee Corner

Keeping Our Scouts Safe

A Scouts safety is everyone's number one concern amongst the parents and Troop Leaders. Yet once again I need to bring this issue to all of your attention.

Several weeks ago, I was leaving the Troop meeting at the Knights of Columbus hall and, as I was walking towards the parking lot, I noticed that a young scout was leaving the hall by himself without a parent. There was a car parked at the hall entrance and the young scout proceeded to this car and got into it. At that moment, I immediately approached the car and stopped it from leaving. As it turned out, a parent was waiting for him in the car and did not take the time to go into the hall and make sure that the young scout was safely picked up.

We all have busy lives and sometimes people forget what the policy is for safe scouting. I drill this policy with the Troop leaders time and time again with one thing in mind - to keep every boy's (and adult's) experience safe. This young scout's safety, once he left the meeting room and began to go downstairs by himself, was in jeopardy.

I ask all of you as parents of Troop 9 scouts to please practice Scout Safety first in your thoughts.

PLEASE PICK UP YOUR SON UPSTAIRS IN THE MEETING ROOM. Please do NOT let him go downstairs by himself. Tell him to wait for you upstairs! Let's keep all of our young men safe. You will show your support to all our leaders by enforcing the policy. If you have questions concerning our policy for safe scouting, please refer to the Troop 9 Family guide that we passed out, or speak to any Scoutmaster or Committee member.

***Yours in Scouting,
Tim Barry
Committee Chairman***



Meet the PLC

Steven Lee
Junior Assistant Scoutmaster
17 years old, Senior

What is your current leadership position within the Troop? *Junior Assistant Scoutmaster*

What do you like best about Troop 9?

The part I like best about Troop 9 is the amount of different activities we do. Between whitewater rafting, ski trips, Gunstock, Sky Zone, and our long-distance trips, this troop does a lot more than most others in the area.

What is one of your favorite memories from a Troop 9 event or meeting?

The Troop's Ski Trips have always been one of my favorite events of the year. It's a ton of fun being able to spend a day on the mountain with everyone, especially with how entertaining everyone makes it each year. The fun doesn't stop when we get off the mountain, either; with all the activities we have back at the house, we never have a dull moment.

What do you do for fun in your spare time?

Outside of scouting, I spend a lot of my time practicing graphic design, sketching, and reading.

What is your favorite book?

My favorite books change frequently, but recently the Lorien Legacies book series has been at the top of my list.

What is your favorite movie/TV show?

My favorite TV show at the moment is Sherlock, a show on BBC.

What was your best vacation?

My best vacation would be either one of the trips my family took to Alaska or our trip to Italy.

Do you have any words of wisdom to pass on to the Troop 9 scouts and families?

Don't sit still. There was a time where I almost quit scouting because I didn't think I would have fun on the campouts. I was convinced to stay and give them a chance, and I had far more fun than I ever would have expected.

Meet the PLC

Kevin Kelley
Life scout
16 years old, 11th grade

What is your current leadership position within the Troop? *I am currently a JASM in troop 9*

What do you like best about Troop 9?

I love how the Troop is run by the scouts and PLC.

What is one of your favorite memories from a Troop 9 event or meeting?

My favorite memory in Troop 9 is when we went down to Washington DC and Quantico Virginia.

What do you do for fun in your spare time?

Because of track I pretty much don't have spare time so I guess more track.

What is your favorite book?

I don't read but my favorite book series ever from when I was younger definitely was the Magic Tree House series.

What is your favorite movie/TV show?

Saving Private Ryan is my favorite movie.

What was your best vacation?

Going on a cruise for 7 days in the Caribbean.

Do you have any words of wisdom to pass on to the Troop 9 scouts and families?

As many Eagle scouts have said. "You make your own fun" So if you aren't having a good time in the troop think about if you have done anything to try and

