



TROOP 9 NEWS



December 2010

www.troop9weymouth.com

~~Current Calendar/ Upcoming Events~~

- **Dec. 10** Troop Day Activity: 5wits/Monster mini golf.
- **Jan. 8** Bottle Drive
- **Jan. 21 - 23** Camp Resolute
- **Feb. 5** Klondike Derby
- **Feb. 11-13** Camp Nobscot in Sudbury with Hike to cabin on ridge.
- **Feb. 18-20** Winter trip with skiing and non-skiing activities.

*****REMINDER*****

Dues for this scouting year have been set at \$125 and were due by November 4, 2010. If you have a second scout in the troop, payment for the second scout is due today, December 9th. Troop 9 relies on dues payments to cover the cost of Troop activities, camping trips, badges, etc. If anyone has a problem making their dues payment at this time, please contact Tricia Conway or Phil Barthel. Thank you.

Upcoming Campouts

Our next two camping trips are to Camp Resolute in Bolton (1/21-23) and Camp Nobscot in Sudbury (2/11-13). On both trips, cabins or lean-to's will be available, but scouts will have the option of sleeping in tents or building their own shelters provided they are prepared with the appropriate gear and clothing. For those scouts complaining that we do not have the round cabin at Camp Nobscot, get over it as we had to make a choice to go with a bigger cabin or limit the number of people who could attend. We chose the bigger cabin.

Scout Books

If anyone would like to a 3-ring binder and plastic sheet protectors to start their scout book, please contact Mrs. MacLean 781-337-4028.

Shawme-Crowell Campout

The Shawme-Crowell Campout was cancelled in part because we only had two registered troop leaders committed to attending. Troop 9 policy for overnight trips is to have a minimum of three registered troop leaders. Holiday preparations and parties prevented many of our regular leaders from attending this campout and we do not expect leader coverage to be an issue for future camping trips.



Rank Advancements

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| • Anthony Milisi | Tenderfoot |
| • Paul Bonarrigo | 2nd Class |
| • Alex Preble | 2nd Class |
| • Michael Jaklitsch | Eagle Scout |
| • Jason Gurney | Eagle Scout |

Please be sure to offer congratulations to each of these scouts!

Thank You

Thank you to all of the scouts for your unselfish service during the month of November. November is our busiest service month and over the course of the month we had scouts staff veterans dinners at the Weymouth Elks and the American Legion Post, assist Pond Plain with cleaning the yard and with their annual rummage sale, march in the Veteran's Day Parade and put on a camping trip for the benefit of the Webelos IIs from Pack 9. Your behavior was excellent and your service is a credit to yourselves and was appreciated by the many veterans who saw you and were helped by you, by the members of the Elks and Legion posts, Pond Plain and us in Troop 9. On behalf of all of these people, "THANK YOU!"

Gettysburg Trip

Troop 9 is anticipating a trip to the Gettysburg National Military Park in Pennsylvania during the April vacation week. Patches can be earned by participating in several hikes about the park, that highlight the fighting that occurred during the American Civil War from July 1st to July 3rd 1863. The central portion of the patch (Abraham Lincoln's profile) is earned by hiking approximately 7 miles through the town and ending in the soldier's cemetery and the site where Abraham Lincoln delivered his Gettysburg address. The Johnny Reb trail is about 10 miles in length and covers the area from Cemetery Hill, Culp's Hill, down to Spangler's spring. Trenches dug by Union soldiers can still be seen on this part of the battlefield. The Billy Yank trail is a 15 mile hike that includes touring the Union positions along Cemetery Ridge, the Peach Orchard, and Little Round Top. It continues down Seminary Ridge along the Confederate artillery positions, and ends with a hike across the open ground of Pickett's Charge, ending at the "High Water Mark of the Confederacy," where Lee's army was defeated. The patch collection is completed and the medal earned by visiting the President Eisenhower farm nearby. President Eisenhower served as the commander of the D-day invasion of France, and was then elected President of the United States prior to John Kennedy.

An additional possibility this year is to combine this trip with a single day side trip to the Antietam battlefield in Maryland (about 40 miles away). Antietam was the single bloodiest day of battle in the American Civil War on September 17th, 1862. The battlefield includes such memorable sites as the "cornfield," "North Woods," a sunken road called "Bloody Lane," and the famous "Burnsides Bridge." The battlefield looks very different from Gettysburg with many hills, sharp valleys, and much fewer battlefield markers. Patches can be earned by a 13 mile hike of the battlefield.

Every effort is being made to keep cost to a minimum. Costs will cover transportation (possibly bus), and food and camping for just short of a week. Anticipated costs for this even are expected to be \$150 to \$200 per person. Comments, interest, and questions can be made to Dr. Jaklitsch.

Troop 9 News

Troop 9 has been featured in the Weymouth News on a fairly regular basis. Fifteen stories on camping trips, courts of honor and community projects along with photos have been published so far this year. These stories would be a nice addition to your scout book! If anyone is interested in writing a story (with or without help) please see Mrs. MacLean.



Scoutmaster Minute

I've started this Scoutmaster Minute about a dozen times now as there were many topics that presented themselves for a Scoutmaster Minute. I could write about the impact volunteering and giving has on the recipients. I could write about rumors, reputations and choices. I could write about two Troop 9 scouts becoming Eagle Scouts (congrats by the way to Michael and Jason). I could write about the upcoming holiday season and New Year. I could recap the highs (many) and lows (a few) of Troop 9's first third of the scout year.

What I've finally chosen to write about is nothing. Instead of me writing this month's Scoutmaster Minute, I'll let each of you think about the topics I listed above and come up with your own Scoutmaster Minutes. Not so much what you think I would have written, but what you would have written in my place.

Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and best wishes for a safe and fun holiday season and New Year to each and every Troop 9 scout, leader, and family.

Phil Barthel, Scoutmaster



Notes and Announcements from the Committee Chairman

Thank you once again to all the parents who have committed to and served on a bottle drive. Our next bottle drive is January 8 and the following families are on the roster:

Mallon, Munger, Crisafulli, Preble, Milisi, Maclean (Nick), Gurney, Neville.

Please remember there will be an additional \$100 fee assessed to parents who do not attend their assigned bottle drive. Any questions or concerns may be addressed to me, Troop 9 Committee Chairman Tim Barry at tbarry3076@aol.com.

On a more festive note, I would like wish all the scouts, parents, and volunteers of Troop 9 a happy and healthy holiday season.

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