



~~Current Calendar/ Upcoming Events~~

- Dec. 20 SkyZone
- Jan. 4-6 Ski Trip to Shawnee Peak
- Jan. 12 Bottle Drive
- Jan. 25-27 Camp Massasoit
- Sat. Feb. 2 Klondike Derby
- Feb. 22-24 Camp Nobscot in Sudbury

Happy Birthday (some belatedly) to the following:



Joe McKay	Dec. 1
Brian Kelley	Dec. 13
Ed Palmer	Dec. 17
Jack Duggan	Dec. 19

A Note from the Quartermaster

At this weekend's campout it became clear that we must start deciding what gear we should pack and how to pack it. Phil, myself and a couple of the scoutmasters as well as the quartermasters will decide what to pack in the trailer for the campout, but it is up to the scouts to decide what they need to bring. One thing we need to do is eliminate sleeping bags in trash bags. They make stuff bags that can be purchased for around \$11.50 at REI that will compact them down to make space. We will be broaching this subject at a future meeting.
Jim Gallahue

HIGH ADVENTURE 2014

If you are at least 13 years old and in the 7th grade now, and you want to do something exciting, then it is time to get a group of your fellow scouts together and start talking about a High Adventure trip for 2014. Between the four national High Adventure bases, dozens of Council bases and hundreds of commercial outfitters, an awesome High Adventure trip is out there waiting for the scouts of Troop 9. Look for emails from Mrs. Zooleck.

Service Projects

Thank you to everyone who attended this weekend's Pond Plain cleanup. If you did not attend, sign up sheets for the Knights of Columbus or American Legion Bean Post projects will be posted in the near future. All scouts are required to do at least one.

Dues Payments

For those scouts who have not yet paid their dues, please see/call Tricia Conway or Phil Barthel as soon as possible to discuss payment arrangements.

Scoutmaster Conferences

Whenever a scout completes all of the requirements for his next rank, it is the responsibility of the scout himself to request a scoutmaster conference. Scouts can speak with Phil at a troop meeting or campout, email him at t9scoutmaster@comcast.net or sign-up on the Scoutmaster Conference Sign-Up sheet to request a conference. Scoutmaster Conferences will be conducted in the order they are requested.

Camp Massasoit and Camp Nobscot

These two trips are cabin trips, meaning we have cabins to stay in. Scouts interested in sleeping outdoors will be welcome to, but will need to go over their **plan and gear** with an assistant scoutmaster **prior** to the campout.

Camp Nobscot involves a ½ mile hike from the parking lot to the cabin, so plan on packing your gear so that it can be carried on your back or over your shoulder.

Camp Squanto Mini Recap

The scouts and adults of Troop 9 hosted 4 Webelos IIs and their fathers from Pack 9 last weekend at Camp Squanto. The weather was cold and rainy Friday night into Saturday morning, but that did not stop the scouts and adults from setting up their tents and spending the night outside. Troop 9's Venture Patrol headed out for an outpost on Whippoorwill Hill. Saturday saw Troop 9 scouts taking the Webelos on a tour of Camp Squanto, playing games and working on advancement with them and including them in a rousing campfire Saturday night. Several scouts completed requirements for their own rank advancement and will be having Scoutmaster Conferences and Boards of Review in the near future. Great job all around.

Ask Andy Rules No. 82 and 94

- Some Scoutmasters are sort of like Slinkies... not really good for very much, but you can't help smiling when you see one tumbling down the stairs.
- There's no such thing as "bad weather" for Scouting... only bad clothing or equipment decisions.



Scoutmaster Minute

Looking back at the first third of the scout year, we've done a lot and we have a lot more to look forward to over the next seven months. I am proud of the effort the scout leadership has put into their positions and the way they are coming together. They are active and committed to making the PLC work and I know we are a better troop due to the time and effort they put in. Good job scouts.

I don't know about you, but I thoroughly enjoy winter. Whether it is skiing down some mountain, hiking or snowshoeing through the woods, playing football on a snow covered field, building a snow fort, nailing that annoying kid with a snowball, skating on a frozen pond or sledding and tubing down some hill, I have a lot of great outdoor winter memories. Of course, there is a lot to be said for just sitting inside a warm house, sipping hot chocolate and watching the snow fall too.

I think I've always enjoyed winter because I've been prepared for whatever it is I am doing. For all the fun things winter has to offer, winter can also be extremely dangerous and even deadly if you are not prepared. We have 2 camping trips and a ski trip planned for January and February and I expect all participants to be prepared for whatever weather conditions we experience. For the most part, scouts did very well this past weekend at Camp Squanto, but for those who may have been a little cold or wet, use it as a learning experience. Scouting and experience can give you the knowledge to be prepared, but it is up to you to use that knowledge.

In closing, to all of the scouts and adults of Troop 9, and their families, best wishes for a happy and joyful holiday season, a Happy New Year and a safe and fun filled winter break.

Phil Barthel, Scoutmaster

A Note of Thanks from

Our Scoutmaster and Committee Chair

Phil and I would like to thank all the scouts and parents who participated in informing the town councilors of your support for Pond Plain either by your emails, phone calls, and attendance at town hall. Your support shown when given last minute notification shows us that we can depend on all of you when we need your help. It really touched us to see all the scouts and parents from not only Troop 9 but Pack 9 as well file into the town hall in masse and fill the council chamber to let the town council know that we wanted to get back home at Pond Plain hall. You all helped make our point. We have always been proud being associated with scouting and watching Eagle Scout Matt Norton, Zach Rush, and young Luke Kettell speak at the public meeting is all we needed to reaffirm why we dedicate our time to scouting, and in particular to Troop 9.

We hope to get back into the hall as soon as possible. The work to get back home continues. I'm sure that you all have heard the line "the gift that keeps on giving". Troop 9 is and always will be that gift to both of us. Thank you all and may you all have a Merry Christmas and a safe Happy New Year.

***Yours in Scouting
Tim Barry
CommitteeChairman,
Troop 9
Weymouth Ma.***

***Yours in Scouting
Phil Barthel
Scoutmaster
Troop 9
Weymouth, Ma.***

