



TROOP 9 NEWS

November 2010
www.troop9weymouth.com



~~Current Calendar/ Upcoming Events~~

- Nov. 7 Weymouth Elks Veterans' Dinner
- Nov. 11 Veterans' Day Parade
- **Nov. 18 Board of Review Night**
- Nov. 19 – 21 Camp Cachelot campout and Webelos Overnight in Plymouth
- Nov. 21 Veterans Dinner/American Legion Post
- **Dec. 16 Board of Review Night**

Happy Birthday to the following:



Joe Conway	11/8
Mike Conway	11/8
Mathew Norton	11/28

Pack 9 Fundraiser

In an effort to raise some funds and to assist people with their holiday shopping, Pack 9 is offering various sleeping bags, knives, compasses, and assorted scouting accessories at 40% of list prices. 10% of the sales from this fundraiser goes back into the Pack. A description of available products along with a price list will be at the troop meeting. You may also contact Becky Bekerian with any questions or to assist with orders. She can be reached by email at capeforchu@aol.com or by phone at 781-337-5493.

High Adventure Trip Meeting

Sometime in late November or early December, we will be holding a meeting for scouts who will be at least 14 years old as of September 1, 2011 and who are interested in participating in a high adventure trip in late 2011 or in 2012. The purpose of the meeting is to go over some high adventure options and to go over requirements in order for scouts to participate. Parents will be invited to attend the meeting.

A Note from the Editor (Mrs. Z)

If you have or are going to celebrate a birthday, and you are a new scout or I have forgotten your birthday on the birthday calendar, please email it to me at: soozootoo@comcast.net

Also, if you would like to receive this newsletter electronically (and save a few trees) please email me at the same email address. Thank you.

Cold Weather Camping

In the PLC's review of the Wompatuck Campout, it was mentioned that several scouts complained of the cold weather. While the temperature at night did get down to the high 30's, most of you know we have camped (and will be camping) in much colder weather. We live in New England where the weather on any given campout is a roll of the dice.

What is cold to one person may not be cold to another because each of our internal thermometers are wired differently. How many times on a campout have we seen one scout walking around in a T-shirt and shorts while another scout is bundled up like Nanook the Eskimo? I don't know into which category you fit and whether you found Wompatuck cold or not, but it is important that each of us be prepared for cold weather when we camp. Here are a few tips to follow to keep warm on campouts:

- Dress in layers during the day, adding or removing clothing as needed
- Always bring a knit/wool hat, gloves and extra socks. Body heat escapes quickly through the head and extremities.
- At night, change out of the clothes you wore during the day. If you have been active during the day or even just sitting around the campfire, your body sweats and wet clothing is cold. Do not keep wet clothing in your sleeping bag with you.
- At night, wear a dry knit hat and dry socks to sleep and fill some of the "dead air" in your sleeping bag with the clothes you will be wearing the next day.
- We always have hot chocolate and soup available, so don't be afraid to ask for some.
- Know the signs of hypothermia and never hesitate to let an adult know if you think you or someone else may be suffering from hypothermia. Better to be safe.
- Check out your Boy Scout handbook for more tips.

Scoutmaster Conferences and Boards of Review

To clear up any confusion on the rank advancement process, it is the responsibility of the scout to request a Scoutmaster Conference when he thinks or knows he has completed all of the requirements for his next rank. It is during the Scoutmaster Conference that we will review the requirements to make sure everything has been completed and to sign off on the participation and Scout Spirit requirements. If everything is in order, the scout will be added to the next Board of Review night schedule.

Scoutmaster Conferences can take place at any troop meeting or camping trip, provided that the scout notifies Phil Barthel at least the day before he wants a conference. Board of Review nights are scheduled once a month (Nov. 18th is the next one, followed by Dec. 16th). Additional Board of Review nights will be scheduled if a large number of scouts are ready to advance. The schedule for Boards of Review will be set on the Thursday night before the Board of Review night.



Notes from the Committee Chairman

I would like to take this opportunity to ask that all parents read this month's Scoutmaster Minute, and take the time to read and reflect upon the Boy Scouts of America article on bullying that will be distributed. As mentioned in the Scoutmaster's Minute, we do not believe that bullying is a major issue in Troop 9. With that being said, we want to assure scouts and parents alike that we take the issue seriously and will not tolerate bullying in our troop. The Troop 9 Committee spoke at length last month on this issue and the theme that emerged was that all adults involved in Troop 9 are responsible for the safety of the boy scouts in our charge. We ask that you and your scout discuss this issue, and that we continue to promote the values embodied in scouting both in and outside of scout activities.

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

**Next Committee Meeting November 30, 2010
7:30 p.m. at Pond Plain Hall
Everyone is invited to attend**



Scoutmaster Minute

Mr. Barry, Mr. O'Hare, Mr. Norton and I are in the process of sitting down with each and every scout to discuss the topic of bullying. As most of you are aware, bullying is a major topic in the news today and the Boy Scouts of America recently published an article relating to bullying, copies of which will be distributed to everyone in Troop 9.

The purpose of our meetings with the scouts is to share with them information on bullying and to get feedback from them on how they define bullying, if they have been bullied or if they consider themselves a bully. We have been, and will be upfront, with scouts who we feel have demonstrated behavior that is or could be interpreted as bullying, and these scouts are on notice that we expect the behavior to stop. No two of our meetings have been the same, but our conversations with the scouts have been good and productive and we are getting some great feedback from them.

We do not think bullying is a major problem in Troop 9, but we are aware of a few instances. It is our hope that by having these meetings with the scouts now, we can put a stop to any bullying within the troop and prevent bullying from becoming an issue so that Troop 9 is a safe and fun environment for all scouts.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact any of us.

Phil Barthel, Scoutmaster
Tim Barry, Committee Chairman
Peter O'Hare, Vice-Committee Chairman
Patrick Norton, Assistant Scoutmaster

*******REMINDER*******

Dues for this scouting year have been set at \$125 and are due by November 4, 2010. If you have a second scout in the troop, payment for the second scout will not be due until December 9th.