



TROOP 89 NEWSLETTER



April 2009

GENERAL NOTES:

- **Thank you to all who participated in the Scouting for Food drive!**
- A big **thank you to Mrs. Sue Schaub** who has retired from her role as Troop 89 Newsletter and Email Coordinator. For over seven years, Mrs. Schaub attended all committee meetings, coordinated the troop newsletter and maintained the Troop 89 email list.
- The Troop distributed the **new epaulets and troop numerals** at the March 12 meeting. If you have not received yours please ask at the next meeting. Please update your uniform with these new epaulets and troop numerals as soon as possible. Also ensure that you have your current rank, leadership and patrol patches on your uniform. There will be a **uniform inspection on April 16th**. We want all uniforms to be updated for that inspection.
- Mr. Sauro would like to remind parents and scouts that all troop equipment needs to be returned at the first meeting following the trip. If the scout is not able to make it to the meeting he should make arrangements to get the equipment there so that it can be checked in by our quartermaster.
- Each scout should take care to **handle troop equipment properly and care for it appropriately**. We have had recent instances of scouts dragging tent bags across the parking lot instead of picking the bag up or putting tents away wet. **Remember that the troop has money invested in equipment for the troop use (in some cases the equipment is new) and it is every scout's responsibility to care for it properly.**
- **New Scouts-** please be sure to go over the pamphlet at the front of your Scout book with your parents. This is one of the rank requirements for the Scout rank (Chapter 1, page 4). Also, remember to bring your Scout handbook to all meetings.

ADULT NOTES:

- We are looking for an **Assistant Trip Coordinator**. This person will help with the paperwork details associated with a trip. Please speak to Mr. Jim Schwartz, xxx-xxxx, if you want to learn more about this position.
- Mr. Rick McKinney needs some parent volunteers to help in the kitchen, serve food, etc. for the **District Dinner being hosted on Friday, May 8** at the Legion. By hosting the annual district adult recognition dinner, our Troop gets to put a little extra money back into our budget. Please email Mr. McKinney to sign up.

HIGHLAND GAMES (CAMP SQUANTO) (May 1-3)

Camp Squanto, Carver, MA

Trip fee: \$25

Coordinator: Mr. George Lester, Trip Coordinator

Payment deadline: April 16, 2009

For our May trip, Troop 89 will participate in the "Highland Games", a weekend of Scottish themed fun and games at Camp Squanto, bringing together troops from the Seven Rivers district of Old Colony Council. This will be a fun chance to meet Scouts from other troops, and defend Troop 89's tradition of competitive excellence in these kinds of multi-event, Council-wide challenges (like Apache Relay at summer camp).

The Highland Games will combine traditional Celtic sports competitions that originated centuries ago in the Scottish Highlands with a few Scouting twists! You will compete in fun and challenging Celtic tests of strength, endurance and skill. Further details of this event were e-mailed earlier last week and have been included as an attachment. Adults are needed to drive. If you have not signed up for this event please do so as soon as possible.

EAGLE COURT OF HONOR (Saturday, May 9, 1:00 pm)

United Church of Christ, 496 Main Street, Medfield
Coordinator: Mrs. Patti Schwartz, Advancement Chair

Scouts and parents please join us to honor the special achievements of our newest Eagle Scouts Lee Abecunas, Justin Williams, and Will Schaub. Invitations will be mailed soon, please RSVP.

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND ACTIVITIES (May 23 and May 25)

On **May 23** at 9:30 a.m., we will meet at the Scout Shed to **clean up** the grounds at the **American Legion**. The Legion is Troop 89's Charter Organization. They sponsor us and provide us with a place to store all of our gear. As the Memorial Day parade terminates at the Legion, it is important that the grounds are free from litter. Please come prepared with a pair of work gloves. .

On **May 25** at 9:30 a.m., the Troop will meet behind Town Hall for the **Memorial Day parade**. The parade will proceed west on Main Street, pass through the Vine Lake Cemetery, and conclude at the American Legion where hamburgers and hot dogs will be served. Please come dressed in your full "Class A" uniform including scout pants (or shorts), tan shirt, Troop 89 hat, belt, socks and hiking boots or leather shoes (no sneakers).

Attendance at both activities is mandatory. The only exceptions are if your family is traveling out of town or if you are in the high school band.

2009 SUMMER CAMP (July 26 – August 1)

Camp Squanto Scout Reservation, Plymouth, Massachusetts
Trip fee: \$305 *Payment deadline:* April 30th
Coordinator: Mr. Jim Schwartz, Committee Chairman

Summer camp provides the greatest opportunity for advancement all year. New Scouts can quickly jump-start their Scouting careers, while veteran Scouts, in addition to continuing their own advancement, will gain valuable leadership experience. Most of all, summer camp affords an atmosphere of camaraderie, teamwork, and fellowship. We live, work, and compete together as a troop and have a lot of fun along the way.

We hope that each Scout, along with his parents, will seriously consider the benefits of summer camp and will choose to join us at Camp Squanto this year. Troop 89 has traditionally maintained a strong presence at summer camp, and we hope this year will be no exception.

The total cost for the week is \$305 per Scout. The full payment is required by Thursday, April 30th. An additional \$15 per Scout *late fee* must be charged after this deadline. Please talk to Treasurer Ralph Marto if cost would prevent your Scout from participating. If you cannot make the meeting, please mail payment to Mr. Marto at 26 Farm St.

Merit badge sign-up and collection of medical forms will be done at a meeting in early June. Please schedule your Scout for a check up prior to June if he hasn't had one within 12 months of July 26th. The **Squanto medical form** is attached.

ADDITIONAL SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITIES

Coordinator: Mr. Jim Schwartz, Committee Chairman

In addition to Troop 89's week at camp, Camp Squanto offers additional opportunities available to Troop 89 Scouts. These specialty camp weeks are offered directly by Camp Squanto and **are not coordinated by the troop**. If you are interested, visit www.campsquanto.net to sign up (select "Summer Camp", "Leaders Guide", "Camp Forms and Applications" on left- side list, and then "eagle week registration" or "provisional camp application" on left-side list).

- Scouts may attend camp any time as part of the **Provisional Troop**. The Provisional Troop is made up of Scouts that want additional time at camp, Scouts that can't attend camp when their troop attends, and Scouts whose troops don't go to summer camp.
- **Eagle Week** offers Scouts First Class or higher an opportunity to focus on merit badges required for the Eagle rank. Since these are difficult merit badges, it is recommended that Scouts be 14 years of age and a STAR Scout by the time Eagle Week starts. This year Eagle Week will be held August 9-14.

The cost for these specialty weeks is \$320 (there is no early bird discount). If this will be the second week (or more) of camp this summer for the Scout, then the price is discounted to \$225.

PENOBSCOT HIGH ADVENTURE (Aug 9-15, 2009)

Coordinator: Mr. Phil Carpino

There are only two slots left for Scouts. Please refer to the handout from last month's newsletter for information and speak to Mr. Carpino ASAP if you are interested. Eligibility requirements are 14 years of age and achieved the rank of first class.

2010 HIGH ADVENTURE TRIP – PHILMONT (July 8 – 22, 2010) Cimarron, New Mexico

Deposit Amount: \$200

Payment deadline: April 16, 2009

Coordinator: Mr. Phil Carpino, Assistant Scoutmaster

We have a group of boys and adults interested in attending Philmont for the high adventure trip in the summer of 2010. In order for this trip to be a reality we need deposits from the group by April 16, 2009. Eligibility for this trip is limited to scouts who will be 14 years of age and achieved the rank of first class by the summer of 2010. Estimated cost of this trip is \$2,000 per person. If you are interested in this trip, please speak to Mr. Carpino ASAP and get your deposit in by April 16, 2009.

2010 NATIONAL JAMBOREE – CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF SCOUTING Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia (July 26- August 4, 2010)

Deposit Amount: \$200

Payment deadline: Recommended to do ASAP

Coordinator: Old Colony Council

Old Colony Council gave a presentation at the April 2, 2009 Troop meeting on the 2010 National Jamboree celebrating 100 years of scouting. Some scouts have expressed an interest in attending. The attendance requirements for this trip include achieving first class rank by July 1, 2010, are at least 12 years old or have completed the sixth grade by July 1, 2010 and approval for participation by the Scoutmaster. Please note that this event will conflict with the traditional Troop 89 Summer Camp week at Camp Squanto. If you are interested in this event it is strongly recommended that you obtain Mr. McKinney's approval first and then complete the on-line registration with a \$10 non-refundable processing fee as soon as possible. The on-line registration is located at www.MyScouting.org. Once you complete the on-line registration a copy along with \$200 deposit is due to Old Colony Council. Council estimates the total cost of this trip to be approximately \$1,600. Further details of this trip are included in the attachment.

Enewsletter problems/questions? Address change? Please send an email to troop89newsletter@comcast.net.