



# TROOP 89 NEWSLETTER



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

May 2009

## GENERAL NOTES:

- **Thank you to Rick and Lisa McKinney** (chairs), Bob Ailinger, Steve Callahan, Paul Daniele, Dianne Lambert, Hilli Passas, Rodrigo Luna, Greg Schwartz, Jim Schwartz, Patti Schwartz, and Tom Wooden for organizing, cooking, serving, cleaning and everything else at the District Dinner held at our American Legion. Thanks to scout Parker Wooden for participating in the opening flag ceremony. This is a fundraiser that the adults run for our troop, so a big thanks to them for giving of their time and skills!
- **New Scouts** – please be sure to go over the pamphlet at the front of your Scout book with your parents and after you complete it have them initial the front page. 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.
- 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.
- **Troop T-Shirts** – The troop has upgraded our Troop t-shirts to a quick dry material (100% polyester Move™ Moisture Management with Odor Control). If you are interested in purchasing additional t-shirts, they will be available for \$10 each (there is also some inventory of the old style cotton shirt available for \$5). We expect to have them available for the June 4<sup>th</sup> Troop meeting. The Troop t-shirt is part of the Summer Camp uniform and it is strongly recommended that each Scout has at least 2 for the week. Don't forget to put your name on the shirt – they are all the same and Scouts often get confused about which one is theirs.

## ADULT NOTES:

- We are looking for a **Troop Committee Secretary**. This person will attend all Troop Committee meetings, take notes and prepare a draft of the minutes for each meeting. Please speak to Mr. Jim Schwartz, xxx-xxxx, if you want to learn more about this position.

## TROOP 89 SWIM TEST (May 19<sup>th</sup>)

Westwood Community Pool at the Westwood High School  
Coordinator: Mr. John Dalton, Activities Coordinator

30 Nahatan Street, Westwood MA

On Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 – 8:30 pm we will meet at the Westwood Community Pool at the Westwood High School. The Troop will be conducting the BSA swim test this evening. **All scouts attending summer camp this year or the White Water Rafting trip (and have not successfully passed the BSA Swimmer test) are expected to attend the swim test.** This required swim test is usually conducted at Camp Squanto on the first day a scout reports to camp. The Troop is attempting to get as many scouts tested prior to summer camp to allow for a smoother transition on the first day of summer camp. All scouts planning on attending the White Water Rafting trip in June must be classified as a "swimmer" based on passing the BSA test or equivalent within the last year. This is also an opportunity for all new scouts and new scout parents recently joining the troop or any scout who was not classified as a "swimmer" based on BSA test at summer camp last year to be tested prior to the White Water Rafting trip. Successfully passing the BSA swim test is mandatory for all wishing to participate in the White Water Rafting trip.

Bring a bathing suit (no cut-offs allowed) and towel - a locker room is available for changing. Swimmers are required to shower off briefly before entering pool.

## 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, stop at Baxter Park for a ceremony at the flag pole, 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) and a **water bottle**. Also, please ensure the new epaulets and troop numerals are on your uniform.

**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 – notify the Scoutmaster if you will not be there for either event. **Don't forget your water bottle for the Memorial Day parade.**

## TROOP ELECTIONS (May 28th)

Troop elections will be held during the May 28<sup>th</sup> meeting. If you are planning on running for patrol leader or senior patrol leader, please remember the attendance requirements of 60% and 70%, respectively. If you are concerned about your participation level, please ask the current SPL to check your numbers.

## RELAY FOR LIFE OPENING CEREMONY (June 12th)

Wheelock School

*Coordinator: Mrs. Patti Schwartz, Good Turn and Service Coordinator, xxx-xxxx*

Once again, the Scouts have been asked to help with the flag ceremony at the opening events for Relay for Life. At least four Scouts and one other adult are needed to present the colors on Friday night. Please speak to Mrs. Schwartz to sign up.

## WHITEWATER RAFTING TRIP (June 13-14<sup>th</sup>)

Deerfield River, Charlemont, MA

*Trip fee: \$115/person*

*Payment deadline: May 14, 2009*

*Coordinator: Mr. George Lester, Trip Coordinator, [tripcoordinator@troop89medfield.org](mailto:tripcoordinator@troop89medfield.org)*

For our June trip, Troop 89 will be going on a whitewater rafting trip on the Deerfield River in Charlemont, MA. (a two hour drive from Medfield). **The signup deadline will be the Troop meeting on Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup> (please bring check and completed signed release form).** This is a firm deadline because we have to give a count to the rafting company. Please note, we only have 30 guaranteed places, so it may be necessary to have a waiting list if more than that sign up. The rafting company says it is likely more spaces will become available from cancellations, however.

**Trip dates are June 13-14.** The actual river rafting is Sunday June 14. We have to raft on Sunday because the trip is not offered on Saturday due to the dam release schedule. We will depart Medfield at 9:00 am Saturday and return approximately 7:00 pm Sunday. On Saturday afternoon, Scouts with canoeing experience will be able to canoe a lower section of the Deerfield River from Charlemont to Buckland through mild rapids. For others there will be hiking, games or advancement at the camping area. Trip cost will be \$115 per person, which includes the rafting trip, all meals, camping on the River and transportation. All Scouts and adults participating must be classified as a "swimmer" based on passing BSA test or equivalent. **Further details of this event were e-mailed on May 13<sup>th</sup> along with a release form.**

**TROOP 89 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION (June 27<sup>th</sup>)** Rocky Woods, Medfield, Massachusetts  
*Coordinator:* Troop 89 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee

Details on our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on June 27 at Rocky Woods were included in an invitation e-mailed earlier this month. **All Scouts are "strongly encouraged" to attend this event to meet our troop alums and share Scouting experiences.**

All current Scouts should wear their Class B uniform (Troop t-shirt and Scout shorts) to this event. There is no charge for current Scouts, leaders, and committee members. Family members are welcome at \$5 each, \$15 max per family as outlined in the invitation. **Remember to RSVP by June 20 if you are attending.** Any questions may be sent to [50th@Troop89Medfield.org](mailto:50th@Troop89Medfield.org).

**2009 SUMMER CAMP (July 26 – August 1)**

Camp Squanto Scout Reservation, Plymouth, Massachusetts  
*Trip fee:* \$320 (after May 1)

*Coordinator:* Mr. Jim Schwartz, Committee Chairman, xxx-xxxx

**It's not too late! You may still sign up for summer camp.** Just let Mr. Schwartz know as soon as possible. The total fee is \$305 (plus late fee of \$15). Please talk to Treasurer Ralph Marto if cost would prevent your Scout from participating.

Summer camp provides the greatest opportunity for advancement all year. New Scouts can quickly jump-start their Scouting careers, while veteran Scouts will gain valuable leadership experience in addition to continuing their own advancement. 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 (we currently have over 35 Scouts planning to attend), and we hope this year will be no exception.

**Merit badge and activity sign-up information will be e-mailed to scouts later this month. Merit badge and activity sign-up, collection of medical forms, and photo reservations will be done at our June 4<sup>th</sup> meeting.** Please schedule your Scout for a check up prior to June if he hasn't had one within 12 months of July 26<sup>th</sup>. The Squanto medical form was attached to the April newsletter. Visit <http://www.campsquanto.net/leadersguide>, under "Camp Forms and Applications" on left side and choose "Medical Form" if you cannot find your copy.

**ADDITIONAL SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITIES**

*Coordinator:* Mr. Jim Schwartz, Committee Chairman, xxx-xxxx.

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](http://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)**

[www.troop89medfield.org](http://www.troop89medfield.org)

*Coordinator:* Mr. Phil Carpino, xxx-xxxx.

There are only two slots left for Scouts. Please refer to the handout from the March 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. A second deposit of \$200 is due on June 15, 2009 with final payment due July 15, 2009.

**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, xxx-xxxx.

We have a group of boys and adults interested in attending Philmont for the high adventure trip in the summer of 2010. 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 ASAP.

**2010 NATIONAL JAMBOREE – CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF SCOUTING  
(July 26- August 4, 2010)**

**Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia**

Deposit Amount: \$200

Payment deadline: Recommended to do ASAP

*Coordinators:* Mr. Rick McKinney and 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](http://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](mailto:troop89newsletter@comcast.net).*