



September 13, 2006

Dear Parents and Families,

On behalf of all the Adult Leaders, I would like to welcome you and your sons back for another exciting 2006 – 2007 scouting year. We have many exciting and challenging activities planned for troop meetings and outdoor events.

This past year was filled with many outdoor adventures, including camping, backpacking, and hiking activities. The 2005 – 2006 year finished off with a great week at Camp Resolute and the great 50 Miler Adirondack Canoe Trip.

Over the past year there were many awards, merit badges, and badges of rank earned by the scouts. Five scouts were presented with their Eagle Scout award. Each participant on the Adirondack trip earned the BSA 50 Miler award. Mike Alley became the first scout in our troop to earn the 50 Miler award both “afoot” (backpacking) and “afloat” (canoeing). We were very proud that all 11 new scouts transferring from Cub Scouting earned both their Scout and Tenderfoot badges.

Our scouts participated and completed many service projects, totaling over 2,000 hours of community service to others. There are five additional Eagle Scout projects in process for this year alone.

For the 2006 – 2007 year, there will be a mix of new and familiar outdoor activities and locations. Our planned outdoor program includes:

- |                  |                             |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| - October, 2006  | Pioneering Camping          |
| - November, 2006 | Backpacking Trip            |
| - January, 2007  | Winter Camping              |
| - February, 2007 | Winter Sports Camping       |
| - March, 2007    | Hiking Adventure            |
| - April, 2007    | Tri-River District Camporee |
| - May, 2007      | Bicycle Trip                |
| - June, 2007     | Whitewater Adventure        |
| - July, 2007     | Camp Resolute               |

In addition, we plan to have several Venture Scout camping/adventure trips during the year.

Our troop meetings activities will include old favorite activities including: cooking, games, scoutcraft, pioneering, engineering, advancement, demonstrations, and merit badge classes. We will also include guest speakers for the year. The Venture scouts will also have their own program that will mix with the regular troop meetings and outdoor activities.

The troop meetings will continue to be held 7:00 – 8:30 PM on Thursday nights at St. Mary's parish center. The first meetings for this year will be a bit different than past years.

**The first meeting for Venture Scouts ONLY (scouts in the ninth grade and up) will be Thursday, September 21. This will be an organizing meeting and a work – night, so scouts should wear old clothes (no uniforms). Tell the scouts not to worry about working too hard – we will have pizza after.**

**The first meeting for ALL OTHER SCOUTS (scouts in grades six through eight) will be Thursday, September 28. This will be our organizational meeting for the year, for election of Patrol Leaders, Assistant Patrol Leaders, and Senior Patrol Leader. Venture scouts will come to the meeting as well.**

Dues for the year are \$40 per scout with a \$60 cap per family. Also enclosed in the mailed version of this letter is the annual health information update. Please complete the form (“up to date” is fine for the immunization dates”) and return the dues and the health form no later than the September 28<sup>th</sup> troop meeting. **If your son would like to continue in the troop but cannot attend the September 28 meeting, you must call or email me before September 28 in order that we can assure him a place in the troop and complete the planning for the new year.** Telephone 508-478-5915 or email at [kirchner5@comcast.net](mailto:kirchner5@comcast.net) Dues and health forms for scouts who can't make the meeting should be mailed directly to the Troop Treasurer, Mrs. Judy Alley at 7 Paula Road, Milford.

For scouts who had signed up for the June canoe trip (cancelled because of weather) enclosed is a refund for the partial refund that the troop received from the canoe outfitter.

The complete calendar of events for 2006 – 2007 will be out soon. Here are a few dates for some upcoming events:

- A Troop Court of Honor on Thursday, October 12 for all the awards and badges earned since the June Court of Honor. The event will start at 7:00 PM and conclude by 8:30 PM. This is not a dinner Court of Honor, but refreshments will be served after.
- The Troop camping trip for October will be on October 21 - 22 at our troop campsite in Milford. More information to follow.
- The Troop's annual Halloween Party will be Thursday, October 26. More information to follow.
- Scouting for Food for scouts interested in participating will be the weekend of October 28 – 29. More information to follow.

Please call or email if you have any questions. In addition, on behalf of all the Adult Leaders, a sincere thank you for all of the help from families and friends over the past year. Looking forward to an exciting year!

Very truly yours,

David Kirchner  
Scoutmaster

Enclosure(s) - for the mailed letters