



James Symmes

EAGLE SCOUT BANQUET

March 21, 2013



James Symmes joined Scouting in 2009 as a Boy Scout with Milford Troop 4 as a member of the Lightning Patrol. After two years, he and his patrol mates aptly renamed their patrol the Adventure Patrol. James favorite Troop activity was the High Adventure trips. He also enjoys the Troop's annual January "freeze out" camping trips. One memorable trip saw the night time temperature dip to -7F. On this trip, James was one of only a few scouts that actually stayed warm by sleeping in a snow shelter constructed with patrol mates Matt Bedard and Dante Chiacchia.

James has participated in two Troop high adventure trips, including the 2010 week-long 50 mile Penobscot River wilderness canoe trip, and the 2012 Colorado High Adventure trip to Camp Tahosa, which included a 50 mile backpacking trip over the continental divide. He is also a 2-time veteran of the Troop's attendance at Camp Resolute.

For his Eagle Scout Service Project, he led a team of volunteers that constructed garden boxes for the residents of the Hopedale Housing Authority complex on Hopedale Street. The boxes serve the elderly residents of the complex, and provide a safe and convenient means of growing flowers and vegetables within easy reach of their residence. James says his most valuable project experience was learning how to manage people. He also developed an appreciation of how good planning can impact a project. His project was sponsored by the Hopedale Housing Authority.

Outside of Scouting, James is a sophomore and honor student at the Blackstone Regional Vocational Technical High School, where he enjoys competition on the school's math and robotics teams. He plans to use his remaining years at BVT to prepare for college, explore vocational opportunities, and pursue new interests. While he has yet to nail down specific career goals, he looks forward to using his talents to pursue a career that will allow him to provide for himself and others.

James offers this advice to his fellow Scouts: "Take everything scouting has to offer, go on lots of trips, and go for lots of badges."

