



Matthew Bedard

EAGLE SCOUT BANQUET

June 14, 2012



Matthew Bedard joined Scouting as a Tiger Cub in Milford Cub Scouts Pack 4. He was a member of Den 3, later known as the Cyclone Patrol. His den was led by his father Phil Bedard. His camping passion started at a young age during his patrol's frequent camping trips. Matthew also loved the annual Pine Wood Derby, where his cars won the "most realistic" category three years in a row. He decided to join Troop 4 in the footsteps of his older brother Patrick, and along with 8 other scouts from his patrol. Matthew earned his Arrow of Light and became a Boy Scout in 2008, at the age of 11.

In Troop 4, Matthew started as a member of the Lightning Patrol. After two years, he and his patrol mates aptly renamed their patrol the Adventure Patrol. Matthew loves to attend the Troop's frequent camping and high adventure trips. He has a special affinity for any backpacking trip that climbs above tree line. Matthew has participated in many high altitude trips, including the 2008 Colorado High Adventure trip, 2009 Mount Washington Adventure, and 2011 Presidential Range Adventure. He is also a veteran of the Troop's 2010 week-long 50 mile Penobscot River wilderness canoe trip. This summer, he's registered to attend the BSA Lifeguard program at Camp Resolute this summer.

For Matthew's Eagle Scout Service Project, he constructed a picnic area and restored a historic stone shelter on Hopedale Pond's Fisherman's Island. His team cleared years of accumulated trash and brush, re-mortared the stone shelter, and constructed a picnic table, park sign, and a canoe tie-up post. The re-mortaring required hauling over one ton of mortar mix to the island by boat. The project was a valuable learning experience which developed Matthew's leadership, communication and project planning skills. The project was sponsored by the Hopedale Parks Department.

Outside of Scouting, Matthew has completed his freshman year at Hopedale High School. He is a varsity member of the cross country team, and a captain on the indoor and outdoor track and field teams. As he continues his participation on his Hopedale sports teams he looks forward to joining other school organizations and plans to use his Scouting skills to assume positions of increased leadership. Matthew looks forward to assisting his fellow scouts on their Eagle Scout Service Projects. Matt's Scouting advice to his younger troop mates: "Never be satisfied with just enough; if you exceed you will succeed."

