

# Michael James Weber

## Eagle Scout – Troop 4 Milford



In September 2005, Michael joined Scouting as a Pack 4 Tiger Cub. His den was led by Mark Hobart and his father, Brian Weber. Michael's favorite Cub Scout memories were of the Pack's annual Rocket Day. He recalls that, without fail, his rocket would end up stuck in a tree or on a telephone wire. One year, he lost a missile-shaped rocket on the lights at Fino Field. Although disappointed, later that year he found the same rocket kit under the Christmas tree and built it again with his dad. To this day, he has never flown that rocket (It's the white one on Michael's display table). In 2010, Michael earned Cub Scout's highest award, the Arrow of Light, after which he joined Troop 4.

In Troop 4, Michael was a member of the Hawk Patrol. One of Michael's favorite Boy Scout activities is camping at Camp Resolute. Michael enjoyed working on the "fun" (i.e. vacation-like) merit badges such as Fingerprinting and Basketry. According to Michael, "A week in the woods with all of my friends at camp is the best during the summer." Michael's most memorable experience with Troop 4 was a white-water rafting trip in June 2014 through exciting and famous Class III-IV rapids of the Kennebec River in Maine. After successfully navigating the "Rock

Garden", "Big Mama" and "Magic Falls", Michael's boat was done in by the "Whitewasher". He soon realized that he and Andrew Terrill were the only men left in the boat. No guide. No Mr. Weber. No friends. No Mr. Kehoe. Looking around them, Andrew and Michael saw their boat mates floating in the water (still class IV rapids mind you). Instinctively, they began pulling everyone back into the raft like fish at the market. Michael recalls, "I first pulled Taabish into the boat. His eyes were so wide open he looked like he was a Japanese anime cartoon character." After they thought they had everyone back on board, someone realized that they hadn't picked up Anthony Matondi. Looking over, Michael saw him float by, out of reach, with the expression of one who was heading to the gallows (but he still had his paddle). Anthony was quickly picked up down river by another boat and lives to raft another day.

Michael's Eagle Scout Service Project involved creating a courtyard gathering area at St. Mary of the Assumption Church. Michael led a team to remove the overgrown vegetation and thorns, build an arbor, and construct a privacy fence to shield the fire escape from view. The team planted perennial flowers, and laid stone and wood chips to complete the project. His project taught him that it was better to be prepared and that being prepared always made the task of the day easier to accomplish. He certainly understands why "Be Prepared" is the scout motto!

Michael remains active outside of Scouts. He regularly volunteers at the Milford Food Pantry with his younger brother and Troop 4 scout, Andrew Weber. He is completing his junior year at Milford High School, where he is a member of the Soccer Team, Track and Field Team, Marching Band, Concert Band and the National Honor Society. After high school, Michael plans to pursue a degree in Engineering.

Since earning the rank of Eagle, Michael continues to serve the Troop actively. His advice to the younger Scouts: "Keep an open mind about different experiences that you may encounter during your scouting career. I know that I wasn't a big fan of hiking extended distances (I really disliked it), but looking back those trips ended up being some of the most fun."