



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

TROOP 31 RAMSEY, N.J.

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YOUTH OF
RAMSEY
SINCE 1912

Visit the Troop 31 website at www.bsa-troop31.org

May 2010

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Important Dates to Remember

May 19	Troop Meeting (SPL Election) <i>Masonic Lodge – 7:30pm</i>	June 5-6	High Adventure Hike/Overnight <i>Appalachian Trail to Bear Mountain</i> <i>Saturday 8am – Sunday 1pm</i>
May 22	Car Wash (Bake Sale, too!) <i>Ramsey High School – Time TBD</i>	June 9	Court of Awards <i>Masonic Lodge – Time TBD</i>
May 23	Dave Sroczynski’s Eagle Ceremony <i>Masonic Lodge – 3:00pm</i>	June 12	Waterfront Beaver Day <i>Camp Glen Gray – Time TBD</i>
May 26	Bonfire <i>Campgaw Mountain – 6:00pm</i>	June 14	Flag Day <i>Check your schools for ceremonies.</i>
May 27	Committee Meeting <i>Municipal Building – 7:30pm</i>	June 16	Troop Softball Game <i>Finch Park – 6:00pm</i>
May 31	Memorial Day Parade <i>Ramsey – Time TBD</i>	June 23	Troop Meeting <i>Dater School – 7:30pm</i>
June 2	Annual Planning PLC <i>Dater School – 7:30pm</i>	June 26	Mets Game <i>Citi Field, Queens, NY – 1:10pm</i>

On-Deck Events:

July 17-24 – West Virginia High Adventure Camping

August 1-7 – Summer Camp @ NoBeBoSco

TROOP ELECTIONS

It’s almost that time again! Hard to believe, but we will be holding our Troopwide elections on May 19th. If you have any interest in running for a Leadership position, please contact Scoutmaster McKiever. The Leadership positions include Senior Patrol Leader and Patrol Leader. The Senior Patrol Leader will be in place for NoBe, as is our tradition.



MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Please meet at the Lutheran Church parking lot at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, May 31st. We will march up Main Street to the renovated Memorial Park, where there will be a ceremony honoring the soldiers of Ramsey who died defending the United States. Water will be provided by the Troop once we reach the park. Since this is a special event, each Scout will be given double tickets for attending. This will be the last chance to earn tickets before the prize drawing at the June Court of Awards.



HIGH ADVENTURE HIGH – JUNE 5th and 6th



This will be a 13-mile hike starting at Tiorati Circle on Seven Lakes Drive. We will follow the Appalachian Trail to Bear Mountain and camp out on the trail. The high adventure part will be as follows. You will pack everything you need on your back - *that means sleeping bag, tent, clothes, and all your own food and snacks on your back.* The troop will be supplying nothing, unless of course you need a tent from the troop room. We will be checking all packs to make sure you have essentials, meaning plenty of food, snacks and of course water. Any questions, please contact Paul Keosayian at keosayian@verizon.net. This is a great hike for the Life Scouts and Venturers. I would like to see a big turnout of the older boys. The permission slip is on the website: http://www.bsa-troop31.org/100605_High_Adventure_Hike.pdf.

MEET THE METS!

What says *summer* more than a hot dog at a baseball game? This year Troop 31 was lucky enough to get a hold of tickets to Citi Field for the Saturday, June 26 Mets afternoon game against the Minnesota Twins! The weather should be warm, and Citi Field is very Scout / family friendly. The seats are located in the Promenade Reserved section. The price is \$20 each (scout or family/friend). Please contact Scoutmaster McKiever for more information.



WEST VIRGINIA TRIP

Summer is fast approaching, and we are planning our annual week-long adventure summer trip. This year we will be going to Bluestone State Park, Hinton, West Virginia from July 17th to July 24th. Come join us for a week-long experience of adventure, camping, and fun located in the middle of the Appalachian mountains. Activities will include river and lake canoeing, hiking, an underground cave adventure, swimming, fishing, and of course gourmet camp cooking. If interested please



contact Mr. Rutkowski with any questions: 201-825-4270 or stan88@optonline.net. Permission slip is posted on the website.

THE EAGLES ARE SOARING!

Troop 31 would like to congratulate our newest Eagles:

Brendan Walsh Eric Stephen Dave Sroczynski

All three of these Scouts are fine young men and great examples of the Scouting way of life. Throughout their careers in Scouting, Brendan, Eric and Dave have always led the way for our Troop. Their leadership, dedication, and willingness to help others are an inspiration for those coming after them. Best luck to our new Eagles!



SCOUTS 24/7

1. Congratulations go out to Dave Sroczynski for being named Valedictorian for Ramsey High School Class of 2010! What a great honor Dave. We always knew you had it in you, Dave!
2. Welcome to the "Uniformed" family Stuart Zweighaft! Stuart is our newly trained ASM and will also serve as Merit Badge Counselor for several MB's. Thanks for helping the Troop out! Did they tell you about it being one hour per week?
3. Danger Will Robinson! Nice showing by Joseph Romeo a couple of weeks ago. His Suffern High School team placed second in the Annual Robotics Tournament in New York City. Should be a Merit Badge involved somewhere in there!



SCOUTMASTER CORNER

What a wonderful year Troop 31 has experienced! We had many adventures, saw new sites, got re-acquainted with several favorite campgrounds, and welcomed a very large Tenderfoot class! We were very successful in rank advancements, as illustrated by our recent Flock of Eagles, and earned quite a number of Merit Badges. New skills were learned, and many new friendships developed.



All this wouldn't be possible without the help of a group of highly motivated volunteers. Our "Secret weapon" is our ASM's and our dedicated Committee. I know I have sung this group's praises before, but what I haven't touched upon is their sense of commitment.

No Troop can be successful if there isn't a group of Adult Leaders who oversee the program. Troop 31 has such a group. Throughout the Scouting year

they work hard behind the scenes to ensure that our boys have a great program.

Each year a few move on, as boys age out or work schedules change. We must fill these gaps so the Troop remains strong. If you are interested in helping out the Troop, as an ASM or simply an adult volunteer, now is a good time to step up. Contact either our Committee Chairperson Mary Ellen Endress, or me, and we'll guide you through the steps. We all want our boys to get the most out of Scouting. What might surprise you is that you too can enjoy this time in their life!



Yours In Scouting,
Mr. M. McKiever
Scoutmaster, Troop 31

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