## Boy Scout Troop 52 Annual Report

January, 2007

We often say that Leadership, Service, and Adventure best describe the Scout's experience in Troop 52. In the year 2006 this was very true. Some hightlights...



Four traditional trips made winter fun and challenging. The high adventure crew stayed at the Appalachian Mountain Club's Highland Center for a weekend of cross country skiing. The following week the troop

slept in cabins at Camp Mattatuck. Troop 52 had a strong showing at the annual Klondike Derby as Golden Eagle Patrol finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Senior Division, while Moose and Grizzly finished 4<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> in the Standard Division. Moose was also



recognized with the "Red Lantern Award" for the best patrol spirit.

February's Talent Night was a fun time when Scouts showed off their musical and acting skills. Patrols also made 5-minute movies. It was a memorable night!

We held an Adventure Hike in March on the Jericho Trail that challenged patrols in a variety of skills, and in April we hiked at the spectacular Macedonia Brook State Park. Our March and April camping trips were at Camp Mattatuck and Camp Barbour. In May we participated in the district camporee at Camp Mattatuck. We camped at the COPE field Friday night, then backpacked to the north end of camp on Saturday. In June the boys enjoyed hours of off-road cycling while we camped at White Memorial Foundation

Mike Hoffman received the Rev.Oscar Locke Award for Citizenship and Josh Bartlett was awarded the Walter Thorne trophy for Scouting skills. Scouting's highest rank, Eagle Scout, was presented to Eric Westcott in June.



Two high adventure trips made this summer memorable. One crew paddled ocean kayaks and cycled at Acadia National Park in Maine, then climbed to the top of Mt.Katahdin. A second crew flew west for white water rafting, followed by ten days of backpacking at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico. The trip was preceded by several practice hikes in Connecticut. In August, the entire troop enjoyed a wonderful week at Camp Mattatuck, where Justin Martin and Josh Bartlett spent the entire summer on staff.

Justin Martin led the troop in planting shrubs on the hillside overlooking Watertown High's football field. The big "W" is a boost to

team spirit. Justin received the Eagle Scout badge in September, along with the Joe LeClair, Jr. Award for dedication to Troop 52.

The troop camped at Mattatuck in August. Every member participated in at least one summer trip, and many boys took part in two!

In September we camped at Cape Cod for the first time and peddled the Rail Trail. Six members learned engineering-based merit badges at Sikorsky Aircraft for a weekend. The troop earned over \$400 for the church at the Fall Fair. October saw a small group of Scouts climb at Mattatuck's climbing wall. Our fall camporee had a pioneering theme with troops competing in a catapult building contest.

With assistance from other members, Justin Hanover designed and built soccer benches at Veteran's Park as part of his requirements to become an Eagle Scout. The annual patrol-vs-patrol Penny War raised over \$180 for holiday gifts for needy children. In November the troop held its "Mountain Man" campout at Camp Barbour in Norfolk, and in December camped in Adirondack-style lean-to's at Camp Sequassen in New Hartford.

After 71 years of active service in Troop 52, Joe LeClair, Jr. has decided to reduce his activities with the committee and resign as Advancement Chairman. Joe has served in numerous capacities in the troop and district, including 14 years as Assistant Scoutmaster, 21 years as Scoutmaster, and 30 years on the troop committee.



	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Current Roster <sup>3</sup>
Number of Scouts at beginning of year	49	55	44	36	42	57	50	40	48	51	56	48	39	38	43
Number of Scouts at end of year <sup>3</sup>	55	44	36	42	57	50	40	48	51	56	48	39	38	43	
Scout													7	12	3
Tenderfoot Scout	14	9	6	10	32	14	6	14	14	10	7	6	3	10	13
2 <sup>nd</sup> Class Scout	7	3	11	5	13	22	3	10	6	6	7	6	5	1	2
1 <sup>st</sup> Class Scout	4	4	4	3	11	14	13	1	4	11	3	9	3	5	12
Star Scout	2	3	5	1	3	4	7	5	4	4	3	5	1	4	4
Life Scout	4	2	2	2	1	3	2	5	4	1	4	4	1	4	7
Eagle Scout	2	1	3	2	2	2	2	0	0	4	1	4	4	2	2
Total Rank Advancements <sup>1</sup>	33	22	32	23	63	59	33	35	32	36	27	37	17	26	
Number of Scouts who advanced in rank <sup>2</sup>	N/A	21	25	18	50	43	31	24	29	34	25	35	15	21	
Merit Badges	98	31	68	46	119	129	115	133	130	130	98	121	63	107	

Total includes multiple advancements by one boy and any Eagle Scouts on the roster. Does not include "Scout".

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Two Scouts turned 18 in 2006...Daniel Kiernan, Max McLenna

Service Project	Led by			
Watertown "W" at football field	Justin Martin			
Vegetable Garden at	Max McLenna			
Soccer benches at Veteran's Park	Justin Hanover			
Church Fair food booth	Joe LeClair, Jr.			
Scouting for Food Drive	Brad Hanover			
Penny War for Social Services	Yvonne Walsh			

## Troop 52 thanks the Union Congregational Church for its support.

Joseph LeClair III Gerald McClellan Stephen Ramponi
Scoutmaster Committee Chairman Charter Representative

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Includes any Eagle Scouts on the roster.