



The year 2004 was highlighted by the presentation of three Eagle Scout badges and by an exciting high adventure trip to Colorado.



January... The annual cross country ski trip to the White Mountains of New Hampshire and a weekend trip to cabins at Camp Mattatuck kept our Scouts active in the cold weather. **February...** A hearty group of ice fisherman had a successful day on the ice on a private pond in Massachussetts. ♦ Good snow provided an ideal atmosphere for the Klondike Derby. **March...** Our new members were challenged by a 5-mile hike on the Jericho and Mattatuck Trails. ♦ The troop shot 22-caliber rifles at a Naugatuck shooting range. ♦ Later in the month we camped at Camp Mattatuck. ♦ Bill M.

assembled a group of volunteers who painted the Our Lady of Lorretto Church hall. ♦ Scouting's highest rank, Eagle Scout, was awarded to Marc B. **April...** Steep Rock Reservation provided an ideal setting for a low-impact camping trip. ♦ The Scouts visited an indoor climbing facility.

May... To qualify for Eagle Scout Ian S. led the troop in the design and building of a frisbee golf course at YMCA Camp Mataucha. ♦ We took part in what turned out to be the last Blue Trail District Camporee, held at White Memorial Foundation. Orienteering was the theme. During the summer a re-alignment of districts saw Blue Trail District disband, and Watertown and Middlebury joined the former Mattatuck District to form the new "Mad River" District. ♦ Cory S. and Matthew B. received their Eagle Scout awards. ♦ Thomas D. designed and built a 15'x8' American Flag made of flowers for the lawn adjacent to the gazebo on Academy Hill. This was Tom's Eagle Scout Community Service Project. ♦ The troop had a strong turnout of marchers for the Memorial Day Parade.

June... Our high adventure Scouts paddled the Housatonic River and backpacked the Appalachian Trail. **July...** Two high adventure crews went out on the trail.

One crew traveled to Packard High Adventure Base in Pueblo, Colorado for white water rafting and hiking. They reached the summit of a 14,000-foot peak! The other crew took a rugged 3-day hike on the Appalachian Trail in Connecticut and Massachussetts. ♦ Justin M. worked on the waterfront staff at Camp Mattatuck the entire summer. ♦ The troop committee led a group of adult leaders in erecting a playscape at Veterans' Park. **August...** The troop returned to Camp Mattatuck for a week of good Scout camping.

September... We participated in the Merit Badge Weekend at Putnam Park, but rain and wind produced by a hurricane shortened our stay. We packed out at noon on Saturday! ♦ We revisited the indoor climbing gym.

October... The troop ran the snack bar at the annual Fall Fair and raised over \$400 for the church. In addition, the troop committee and chef Brian Turner prepared a wonderful Roast Beef Dinner that evening. Both the church and Troop 52 benefited from this additional delicious fund raiser ♦ A "Wilderness Survival" camping trip to Camp Barbour in Norfolk saw the Scouts sleep in rustic shelters and cook primitive meals. We also got a visit from a survival expert at a troop meeting



that month. ♦ Mr. Tim Martin, a certified Scout archery instructor, provided an open archery shoot at Camp Mattatuck for 11 Scouts. ♦ The troop and cub pack participated in the annual Scouting for Food drive, collecting two truckloads of food for the Watertown Food Bank. **November....** ♦ An early snowstorm made the hiking at Sleeping Giant Park more interesting. ♦ A "penny war" competition raised funds for Christmas toys donated to needy children in town. ♦ Our "Iron Chef" campout at Sessions Woods in Burlington saw the Scouts cook tasty meals like roast pork loin, meat loaf, stuffed peppers, acorn squash with apples and cinnamon and other delicacies. ♦ Mike J. supervised the planting of several shade trees at Bethlehem Fairgrounds as part of his Eagle Scout Community Service Project. **December...** A small crew of Scouts camped at White Memorial Foundation to practice skills to qualify for the Low Impact Camping Award and Camping Merit Badge. ♦ The following week the rest of the troop camped at Camp Mattatuck.

Milestones & Achievements... Elected for membership in the Order of the Arrow were Cory S., Jacob H., and Justin H. Justin M. was elected Chapter Vice Chief. ♦ The Rev. Oscar Locke Award for outstanding Citizenship was presented to Max M. Justin M. received the Walter Thorne Award for leadership and Scoutcraft skills. Matthew B. was awarded the Joe LeClair Jr. Award for dedication to Troop 52. ♦ The Blue Trail District awarded Assistant Scoutmaster Brian Shannon the District Award of Merit for his distinguished long-term service to Troop 52, Camp Mattatuck, the Order of the Arrow, and the Connecticut Rivers Council climbing program.

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

¹ Total includes multiple advancements by one boy and any Eagle Scouts on the roster.

² Includes any Eagle Scouts on the roster.

Service Project	Led by
Painted Our Lady of Lorretto Church hall	Bill M
Frisbee Golf Course at YMCA Camp Mataucha	Ian S.
Planted American Flag on Academy Hill	Tom D.
Relocate Playscape from Griffin School	Troop Committee
Church Fair food booth	Paul Hoffman
Scouting for Food Drive	Brad Hanover
Planted shade trees at Bethlehem Fairgrounds	Mike J.
Penny War for Social Services	Yvonne Walsh
Projects at Camp Mattatuck	Jon Andrew

Troop 52 thanks the Union Congregational Church for its support.

Joseph LeClair III
Scoutmaster

Gerald McClellan
Committee Chairman



Joseph LeClair Jr.
Charter Representative