

John Arnold earns rank of Eagle Scout

Westborough, MA, February 13, 2014 – Westborough Boy Scout Troop 100 will award the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout to John James Arnold at 3:00 pm on Saturday, February 22, 2014. The ceremony will be held at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 183 West Main Street, Westborough. The rank of Eagle, Scouting's highest rank, is recognized throughout the world as an especially significant achievement.

John crossed over to Boy Scouts in June 2007 from Cub Scout Pack 1 of Southborough where he earned the Arrow of Light Award. As a Boy Scout, John earned a total of 32 merit badges. Through the years with Troop 100, John has held numerous important leadership positions including Quartermaster, Troop Historian, Troop Guide and Instructor.

An active year-round camper with Troop 100, John attended local monthly camping trips as well as a week at Camp Resolute in Bolton, MA during the summer. He participated in Knox Trail Council's Freeze Out Camporees, and was a member of annual merit trips, earned by Troop 100's most active scouts, to Gettysburg (2008) and Nantucket (2009). The Gettysburg merit trip is remembered as John's favorite.

Perhaps John's greatest contribution to Troop 100 has been his commitment to earn top fundraiser for the Pancake Breakfast ticket sales several times through the years. John helped teach younger scouts the art of ticket sales and worked to develop an informational sheet for scouts and parent drivers. The Pancake Breakfast is Troop 100's only fundraiser of the year, paying for all equipment, program supplies and fees while teaching scouts the importance of hard work and commitment.

John's service to the community has included the Pancake Breakfast, the annual Senior Citizen's dinner, trail maintenance at Walkup and Robinson Reservations in Westborough, and marching in the Memorial Day parade with Troop 100. In 2012, John organized the musical entertainment for the annual Senior Citizen's dinner. He directed the ensemble in several rehearsals and arranged the musical selections personally to great success in delivering a memorable dinner concert.

For his Eagle Project, John led a team of volunteers to clear, clean, build shelving for, and organize the Westborough Players Club prop and storage room. The room is located in the basement of the historic Harvey Building in Westborough. This project required removal of many set pieces from current storage locations, disposal of pieces no longer needed, cleaning the entire basement of the building, building and installing shelving units, re-categorization and re-storage of all the set pieces on the newly constructed shelves.

In addition to scouting, John has been involved in many activities. John is very active musically. A vocalist, John also plays saxophone, clarinet, and piano. John is also heavily involved with volunteer work at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, as piano accompanist for the children's choir, and as a Sunday School teaching assistant.

The son of Kent and Joan Arnold of Southborough, John is the brother of Emily and Anne Arnold. After graduation from Algonquin Regional High School this year, John plans to attend college and pursue a degree in Chemical Engineering.