



# TROOP 175

**We're looking for...  
a few good boys**



*July 2010*

*Wrangell Mountains*

*Kennecott, Alaska*

Brad Mead

Scoutmaster

73 East Weatogue Street

Simsbury, CT 06070

Home Phone (860) 658-0150

Office Phone(860) 677-0000

Mobile Phone(860) 614-1484

[bradmead@deltanow.com](mailto:bradmead@deltanow.com)



## TROOP 175 IN SIMSBURY IS LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD BOYS

Boy Scout Troop 175 is looking for boys with a sense of adventure and fun to join us. Our Troop is sponsored by St. Mary's Church in Simsbury and meets on Thursday nights from 7-8:30 PM. Boys of all faiths are welcome.

### Monthly Trips That Test Our Skills

In the best traditions of Scouting, we are an adventurous Troop with an emphasis on the basic skills of Scouting and putting those skills to test every month on challenging trips. We are an "All Weather" Troop. We have been camping and biking on Block Island; Bobsledding with the US Olympic team in Lake Placid (camping in snow caves that night), learned to scuba dive in Massachusetts and explored survival camping at our annual "Deep Freeze" survival shelter trip. The Troop has also gone skiing in Vermont, climbing, skiing, and boarding in Tuckerman's Ravine on Mt. Washington, climbed two different mountains in the Adirondacks, canoed in Maine and did a five day trip to Algonquin National Park in Canada where we canoed and camped in the Canadian wilderness. In 2010/2011 we have added more trips to our program



### 2010/2011 Trips – the Challenges (and fun) Continue

- **September** - Camping trip to Hammonasset State Park. Iron Chef Cooking Competition
- **October** – 2 day Bicycle trip on Block Island.
- **November** - Annual Webelos Challenge on our "home" turf, Onion Mountain in West Simsbury. This is a great event where Cubs are invited for a full day of Scout activities and to work with our Scout patrols on making rope bridges, furniture, campfires, orienteering and zip lines. In the evening, the patrols will cook a meal with the Cubs followed by a Troop campfire with songs and skits put on by the Scouts. Cubs are invited to spend the night camping (with a parent)
- **December** - We will do a winter orienteering course and some backcountry skiing and camping.
- **January** - Operation "Deep Freeze", where scouts will build survival shelters and learn cold weather camping.
- **February** - Our annual ski and snowboard trip to Vermont.  
1 Week sailing trip in the Caribbean.
- **March** – This is our cross-over trip for Webelos joining our troop and we'll be doing the Boston Freedom Trail. We'll be camping 2 nights near Boston. Dads/Moms invited – as always.
- **April** - Once again we will go to Tuckerman's Ravine on Mt. Washington in the White Mountains. This is one of our most popular trips.
- **May** - We will climb Mt. Greylock in MA.
- **June** - 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Boy Scout Adventure Race. This race was developed by Troop 175 and involves biking, running, canoeing, rappelling, orienteering and climbing in Simsbury in a 16 mile, 4 hour race. The other two Simsbury Scout Troops join us. Boys Life Magazine published a full picture, 6 page article of the race in April 2010, featuring Troop 175.



After school ends, we'll take a four day canoe trip in Maine. This is a mini expedition trip as we will carry everything we need with us.

### **An Emphasis on Leadership Training**

Every spring, we hold our annual Junior Leader Training Program for the older Scouts (First Class & above) based on the US Army Ranger program called "No Excuses Leadership". We hold the program in March in the White Mountains at one of the huts maintained by the Appalachian Mountain Club. It's a challenging but fun weekend. We snow shoe in deep snow into the mountains with full packs. There we practice our Scout rescue skills in the snow, engage in team missions, and discuss the leadership styles of many of the great explorers. This year we will return again to the White Mountains in March and continue our leadership training at Lonesome Lake Hut.

### **Immortals - The Best of the Best**

As an outgrowth of our Junior Leadership Training Program, we developed something special for Scouts who want to push harder and discover new capabilities. They are known as the "Immortals" and are our most advanced Scouts, who have learned and developed extensive survival and wilderness skills taught by our adult leaders. They wear special patches on their uniforms, are given black Machetes at their induction into the group and participate in extreme outings. Their motto is: "*to Learn, to Teach, to Serve, and to Lead*". They operate without tents, choosing on every trip to build shelters, and they never start a fire with matches, using only flint and steel. They move very quickly through the woods, and improvise almost everything they need from their surroundings .



We were proud when our group of "Immortals" was invited to visit the US Army Mountain Warfare School by its Commander, and to train with the Special Operation Groups that were learning winter mountaineering and avalanche skills.

We constantly work to invent new challenges to test their skills and maximize what they can learn from difficult situations. Last year, we blindfolded the group and drove them 3 hours into the Vermont countryside where they were dropped off on the backside of a mountain in a rainstorm with no maps, no radios, no GPS, no tents, some food, water, and instructions to find the largest lake in the area (about 4 miles away, but they didn't know that). The goal was for the scouts to get a water sample and return it to the drop off in 48 hours. At the next Troop meeting, we presented the same challenge to the younger scouts and asked how they would accomplish this challenge. By the way, like in all of our Scout programs, adults were present at all times for safety.



This Spring, the Immortals took on a new challenge - they hiked the entire White Mountain Presidential Range – 9 peaks , 8,500 vertical feet, 19 miles - all in 13 hours.

### **The Ultimate Adventure – International Expedition Trips**

Each summer, Troop 175 provides an opportunity for its most experienced Scouts to go on an International/Domestic Expedition Trip.



**Kilimanjaro** - In 2007, nine of our Scouts and their parents traveled to Africa to climb Kilimanjaro. A trip in the planning for over two years, it was an extraordinary adventure. We spent five days climbing the largest freestanding volcano mountain in the world. In the process, we went through five climatic zones. Our group of 24 had 76 Tanzanian support Staff as everything has to be carried up the mountain. Our Tanzanian Guides were the best on the mountain and each two-climber team had a guide. On day six we started our final assault at midnight from 15,500 feet, climbing up the crater wall. The temperature was 15 degrees; the oxygen level less than half at sea level. We climbed for six hours with four, five-minute breaks. The crater wall was steep and in the dark under a full moon the group slowly moved to the summit. At 6 am we reached the first summit at Gillman's Point. Water bottles were frozen, and fingers and toes had lost most feeling, but after a brief regroup it was on another two hours around the crater to the final summit at Uhuru

Peak at 19,341 - the rooftop of Africa. Our group took a round of pictures and then went back down the crater wall and eventually down to 12,000 feet by 5 PM that afternoon. Everyone agreed that it was the longest – but most memorable day – of their life. We are targeting to return in 2012.

**Amazon Jungle** – In 2008, we took eleven of our Scouts and Leaders deep into the Amazon Jungle. We flew to Lima, Peru and then into Iquitos, a city on the Amazon River that is the largest city in the world that is inaccessible by road. After a journey up the river of 110 miles we went through jungle training for 3 days with local Indian guides and then departed with a full expedition into a part of the Amazon that had rarely seen humans. Under the auspices of Dr. Paul Beaver and the Amazon Research Center, we observed and cataloged rare species of monkeys. Along the way we had to deal with tarantulas, poisonous snakes, deep mud, wild boars and incessant rain. It was an extraordinary experience.



**Philmont Scout Ranch** – In 2009, 9 scouts and 3 adults from Troop 175 traveled to Cimarron New Mexico for an unforgettable 2 week backpacking adventure in the Sangre De Cristo mountain range. Philmont was donated to the Boy Scouts in 1947 consisting of 220 square miles of high altitude terrain.

Our crew hiked approximately 65 miles carrying fully loaded backs enabling us to be self sufficient for our 2 week stay. We climbed one of the highest peaks, Mount Phillips at elevation 11,711'. Later that afternoon we cooked our dinner while watching the sunset behind the valley below.

Philmont is a wonderful experience not only for the outdoor adventure but also for the wilderness and leadership skills each scout mastered along the way.

**North to Alaska** – This past summer we took 38 members of our troop for a two week adventure in Alaska. We rented 8 RV vehicles to act as mobile bases and climbed in the Wrangell St Elias range, (home to some of the tallest mountains in the world), fished in the Kenai for Salmon and Halibut and went Whitewater Rafting in one of the toughest rivers in the world with all Class 4 and Class 5 Whitewater. We went kayaking in Glacier Bay with the otter and seals, followed the gold rush route down the Yukon River to Dawson City and spent many a night in the pristine wilderness around large campfires.



### **Maintaining the Scout Tradition of Public Service**

Troop 175 is also actively involved in the community and demonstrates that a "Scout is Helpful" on a regular basis. Our Scouts have done numerous projects for our sponsor St. Mary's including; setting up and helping to run the St. Mary's Carnival, building steps from the parking lot, building a new Christmas crèche for the Church and rehabilitating the rear entrance to the Church with a new fence and sign. Our scouts have also collected school supplies and delivered them, in person, to a community in an impoverished part of India, designed and placed new signs educating visitors about the history of Simsbury along Iron Horse Blvd, constructed birdhouses for Roaring Book Nature center, initiated a new "green" effort for the Town of Simsbury by building and placing recycling bins in eight public locations around town, collected hundreds of suits for a charity in Hartford, and performing important trail maintenance at the Onion Mountain Park. This last year, Carter Hill's Eagle Project collected 900 lbs of clothes and food. He and his dad personally delivered them to 5 orphanages in Tanzania while teaching leadership skills to the kids in the orphanage.

In 2008 we organized the Michael Bubnash Adventure Race where we raised (with the other 2 Simsbury Troops) over \$25,000 for Michael's medical care, an Eagle Scout from another Simsbury Troop. Our Scouts put on their uniforms spread the word to local businesses and spoke from church pulpits all over town and collected the money in coins, cash, and checks. Some of our 3-man teams raised over \$4,000 for a boy they had never met, but whom they knew was a fellow Scout. We believe strongly in "being part of something larger than one's self".

### **Helping Scouts Down the Path of Advancement – Our Record and Philosophy**

Troop 175 has an enviable record of working with boys to help them achieve the skills and knowledge they need for advancement, including the ultimate rank in Boy Scouts, Eagle. In the history of our Troop, 70 boys have advanced to the rank of Eagle, including 29 in just the past five years. This high level of achievement is virtually unprecedented, and we are justifiably proud of these motivated achievers. This year, we anticipate having an additional 4 scouts earn this rank, the highest award in Scouting and one that we take seriously in terms of preparation. It's interesting to note that, in general, our Scouts earn this award at the age of 16 or 17, which is older than in many other Troops. While it is possible to receive your Eagle at a younger age, it is rare in our Troop because we believe that the Eagle badge means boys take the time not only to earn merit badges, but also to learn how to lead. We believe that there is no shortcut to learning leadership. It takes time and experience. Frankly, our older boys stay active because we provide the type of adventure that holds their interest. It is often said that no award or honor received prior to a boys eighteenth birthday is so revered in later life as the Eagle Scout Badge. Ask any Eagle Scout.

### **Leadership**

We are proud of our adult leadership at Troop 175. It's deep and experienced. Our adult leaders have camped, climbed, fished, hunted and explored on many expeditions. They are all great teachers. In addition we have a very high participation by the Dads (and Moms) in our Troop and it is not unusual to have 15-20 dads/moms on a trip. No experience is necessary and if you were never a Scout as a boy this is your second chance to learn the ropes. We have a Parents/Leaders Patrol, the "Usual Suspects," on each trip and we eat very well (a source of some pride and a fair bit of competition) and share a lot of experiences as parents and as professionals from all walks of life.

Our Troop is boy led, and our leaders are selected by the adult leadership based on their performance and ability to lead. The senior patrol leaders and patrol leaders share their wisdom and pass on their knowledge to the younger Scouts through our trip and advancement programs. Boy Scouts is one of the very few organizations where boys can be put in leadership positions at ages as young as 12. Good leaders often appear early and the fun of scouting is watching them "take the lead". Troops are only as good as the boys who want to step up and take charge and the adult volunteers who are there to assist. Our 2010 – 2011 leaders are:

#### **Robert Carter – Senior Patrol Leader (Lead Scout)**

A Life Scout, Rob is 17 and a Junior at Simsbury High School. He was a member of the 2009 expedition to the Philmont Boy Scout Ranch in New Mexico and the 2008 expedition to the Amazon jungle in Peru. Rob led the 2010 Presidential Traverse. He is a committed athlete, and plays basketball for Simsbury High School. An avid traveler, he has traveled extensively through Greece, Italy and the United Kingdom. Rob is a member of the Immortals and last year's Immortals Chief.



#### **John Epstein – Assistant Senior Patrol Leader**

Jon is a Star Scout and is currently a Junior at Simsbury High school. He was on the last trip to Philmont Scout Ranch. He has hiked up Mt. Washington numerous times and has also completed the Presidential Traverse. Jon is active in Lacrosse, Iron Works, and has recently started to compete in triathlons with the hope of doing a Iron man in the future. Serving as a cadet on the Simsbury Volunteer Fire Department he is learning great skills that he can apply to scouting. John is a member of the Immortals.



#### **Rob Burke- Assistant Senior Patrol Leader**

Rob is a Life Scout ,17 and a Senior at Simsbury high School. Rob is the front man for the band Anti- Armistice that plays to sell out crowds in the Simsbury area. He long boards, surfs and snowboards in his spare time.



Isaac Peacock – Assistant Senior Patrol Leader

Isaac Peacock is an Assistant Senior Patrol Leader and a Life Scout. He is a freshman at Simsbury High School, plays football, and plans to join the crew team later in the year. He is 14 and has hiked up Mt. Washington, summited a 14-er in Colorado, and completed the 2010 Presidential Traverse. He enjoys fishing, camping, hunting, and almost anything that involves the outdoors. He is a member of the Immortals.



Eric Barch - Assistant Senior Patrol Leader

Eric is a Life Scout and a Freshman at Simsbury High school. He has served as a Patrol Leader and Den Chief, and is a member of the Immortals. He has been a member of teams that have medaled in the Simsbury Adventure Race all three years, including the youngest winning team as a sixth grader. Along with working on mechanical things, he enjoys camping, biking and the outdoors. He was a member of the 2010 Presidential Traverse and has hiked in the Grand Canyon. He is also currently a member of the SHS Cross Country team.



Tommy Adamowicz - Assistant Senior Patrol Leader

Tom is a Life Scout and a junior at Simsbury High School and has been involved in Scouting since 1st grade. He's been a patrol leader for the past 2 years. Tom was part of the 2009 Philmont expedition where he spent 2 weeks high altitude hiking in New Mexico. He is an outdoor enthusiast who enjoys freestyle skiing, mountain biking, BMX, long boarding and also playing guitar.



Keegan Rice- Immortals Chief

Keegan is a Life Scout and a Freshman at Simsbury High School and a member of its JV soccer team. He has earned over 31 Merit Badges. He has been a Patrol Leader and Instructor and the youngest member ever inducted into the Immortals. He helped lead the 2010 Trans Presidential Range Traverse and helped organize and lead the 2010 Alaskan expedition. He is also a member of the Three man winning team for the Simsbury Adventure Race two years in row and co-holds the record for the course. He is active in sports and competes in soccer, track and snowboarding.



**Adult Leadership**

Brad Mead - Scoutmaster

Brad is an Eagle Scout and has hiked, climbed, paddled and explored in over 135 countries; a passion developed during his scout days in the 1960's. He has been on or led 5 Himalayan expeditions, four Amazon basin expeditions, a Haute Route team over the top of the Alps in winter, climbed the Matterhorn, the Eiger, Jungfrau, Mt. Blanc, two first ascents in the Wind Rivers, the Kilimanjaro expedition in 2007, the Amazon Jungle expedition in 2008, the 2010 Presidential Traverse and the 2010 Alaskan expedition. He is a graduate of National Outdoor Leadership School in Lander, Wyoming. He is a licensed pilot, deep water scuba diver, skydiver and sailing captain and is a member of the Immortals. He is trained in CPR, Wilderness First Aid and High Altitude Rescue. Brad is the CEO and President of Delta Capital Group, an investment bank in Simsbury, CT. His two sons Ryan and Jeffery received their Eagle Scout awards in May 2008 and are now juniors in College.



Peter Adamowicz - Assistant Scoutmaster

Peter is an avid fly fisherman and paddler. A Cub Scout Den leader for 5 years and an assistant Scoutmaster for the last 5 years, he is currently the Troop's lead trip planner. He is CPR certified, SOLO Wilderness First Aid Trained, and a member of the Immortals. He was one of two adults that led the Philmont 2006 Crew to the National Scout Ranch in Cimarron, New Mexico. He also led the Philmont 2009 trip and helped lead the Amazon Jungle trip in 2008. Peter is VP and Chief Estimator with Gilbane Building, 5th largest construction company in the United States. His son, Lee, is an Eagle Scout. His youngest son, Tom is an Assistant Senior Patrol Leader and Life Scout.



Bill Rice - Assistant Scoutmaster

Bill is an Assistant Scoutmaster and former scout. He and his family have hiked and camped in many of our country's national parks. Bill co-led the 2010 Alaskan Expedition. Bill is President of the Web Marketing Association, developed our troop Google group and Web Site, and is the Troop Merit Badge Coordinator. He will co-lead the 2011 Philmont Trip. He also instructs the scout leadership in public speaking skills once a month. His son Keegan is currently a Life Scout and Immortals Chief.



Hunter Peacock - Assistant Scoutmaster

Hunter is a former scout who served as the first Senior Patrol Leader in his hometown Boy Scout troop. Throughout his adult life, he has enjoyed organizing numerous outdoor adventures for family and friends ranging from climbing trips to western mountains including Mt. Whitney, Shasta, Hood, and Rainier to desert backpacking trips in the Grand, Paria, Escalante, and Zion Canyons. He is a certified open water scuba diver. Hunter manages treasury operations for Ahlstrom Capital Corporation. His son, Isaac is currently a Life Scout, an Assistant Patrol Leader and a member of the Immortals.



Gary Barch - Assistant Scoutmaster

Gary has been active in the Simsbury Scouts for 6 years. He enjoys the outdoors, especially fishing, camping, hiking, mountain biking and canoeing. He also enjoys photography and is PDIC certified in Scuba Diving. Gary organizes the Simsbury Fly-In Scout volunteers and is involved in other events throughout the year. He works for Design Innovation in Avon, CT as a toy and product developer. His oldest son, Eric, is currently a Life Scout, an Assistant Senior Patrol Leader and a member of the Immortals. His younger son, Kevin, is a Tenderfoot Scout.



Mark Bushey - Assistant Scoutmaster

Mark is a former Cub master for Cub Scout Pack 175, and is a lifetime member of "The North American Hunting Club". An avid outdoorsman he enjoys; Hunting, Fishing, Camping, Cooking, and is PDIC certified in Scuba Diving. He works as a QA Consultant for The Hartford Insurance Company. His son, Steven is a Star Scout.



Ann Carabillo - Assistant Scoutmaster

Ann Carabillo is the Boys Rowing Coach at Simsbury High School. She has been coaching for 20 years. She is a USRowing Level 3 Certified Coach. Ann is also a certified Red Cross instructor and is in charge of all Troop training. Ann is the President of the Connecticut Public Schools Rowing Association and Regatta Director for the State Championship. She is also on the Regatta Committee at the New England Championship. Many of Ann's rowers are also fellow Scouts and Eagle Scouts. Her son, Nicholas is a Patrol Leader, Life Scout and a member of the Immortals.



Gerry Burke- Assistant Scoutmaster

Gerry is an accomplished outdoorsman. He sails, canoes, fishes, skies, and road bikes. He is a certified scuba diver and certified in CPR. Gerry also runs our summer camp program. He will co-lead the 2011 Philmont Trip. He is an international consultant in electrical design engineering. His son, Rob is a Life Scout and Senior Assistant Patrol Leader. His other son, Kevin is a Star Scout and Patrol Leader.



Bob Gilmore - Assistant Scoutmaster

Bob is an Eagle Scout. He has been an Assistant Scoutmaster with Troop 175 for 10 years, and is a member of the Immortals. He has extensive outdoor experience including three extended trips to the BSA Maine High Adventure Base – one as a Scout and two as an adult leader, backpacking on the Vermont Long Trail, and annual extended hunting trips to the remote North Woods of Maine. Bob works as a natural resource biologist with the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, Inland Water Resources Division. He is also a registered Soil Scientist. He holds an MS degree in Wildlife Management (Frostburg State) and a BS degree in Natural Resources (URI). Bob's professional interests include wetlands ecology and wildlife, fisheries and soil science. His son, Brian, received his Eagle Scout Badge in 2006.



David Carter - Assistant Scoutmaster

David is a former scout and has re-found his Scout skills as an adult leader. He teaches numerous merit badge classes and has traveled with the troop on trips in 10 states. He helped lead the Amazon 2008 trip. David came to Simsbury following 20 years in Washington; most recently as a Presidential appointee and executive at the Export-Import Bank of the U.S. Currently, he is Sr. Vice President of corporate communications for Magellan. He has two sons, Cortlandt, who received his Eagle award in June 2009 and is a sophomore in college, and Robert, a Life Scout and the Senior Patrol Leader.



Peter Van Loon - Assistant Scoutmaster

Peter is an Eagle Scout and a previous member of the Navy's Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team. He returned in 2007 from Afghanistan training Afghani Regulars. He has extensive experience in the outdoors, both mountains and deserts. He co-led the Philmont 2009 Trip and spent this next year in Djibouti as a member of the Navy Reserve. He works in Aetna's Finance as steward of their IT department. His son Jacob is a Life Scout.



Tom Nicholson - Assistant Scoutmaster

Tom began his scouting career as a youth in Adirondack, NY and recently held Pack, District and Council leadership positions in N.J. before moving to CT. He has been a Scout University and District Trainer and received the Wood Badge. He is a hunter, kayaker, scuba diver, skier and fisherman. He coaches at Fastpitch Nation and works for Eastern Mountain Sports in their retail division. He is a member of the CT First Company Horse Guards. His son TJ is a Tenderfoot scout.



Max Drake - Assistant Scoutmaster

Max Drake, is a graduate of Simsbury High School. He is 19 years old and is a Life Scout. Max is an expert at all aspects of Scouting and one of our most expert teachers of younger scouts. Outside of Scouting, Max is an avid mountain biker and is a founding member of the Immortals.



Ken Gutierrez - Assistant Scoutmaster

Ken has been involved in scouting at the Cub Scout level for the last 6 years where he served as a Den Leader. He is now learning the ropes as a troop trip planner. He is an avid fly fisherman and "relaxes" by visiting exotic fishing destinations around the world. He is a physician, practicing Anesthesiology at the St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center in Hartford. His youngest son, Matthew is a Tenderfoot. His older son, Andrew, a Star Scout and is an assistant patrol leader.



### Richard Cady - Assistant Scoutmaster

Rich has been a Scouter for over 15 years. He's earned the Wood Badge Award for advance Scout leader training and attended the Philmont Training Center. He is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow and has earned both the Boy Scouter and Boy Scout Training Awards. His junior leaders nominated him for his receipt of the Scoutmaster Award of Merit. Rich enjoys the outdoors and has served as adult Advisor for Florida Sea Base and Philmont Trek Crews. He was 1st Assistant Scoutmaster for Troop 503 at the 2005 National Scout Jamboree in Virginia. He served the Metacomet District in several capacities. For his service as Troop 175 Scoutmaster for over 8 years, he received the 2006 Simsbury "Hometown Hero" Award.



### Attendance

The non-school life of most boys in Simsbury is sports. Many of our Scouts play competitive sports and indeed often captain their Varsity teams. We require a 50% meeting attendance and a 50% trip attendance in order to advance rank in our Troop. This allows boys to do both sports and Scouts.

### Parent Involvement

Troop 175 is successful because of the volunteer work of dozens of parents. Our Troop Committee, chaired by Jamie Kalamarides, meets once a month and consists of 16 positions that are filled by individuals who spend many hours making sure we have the resources to run an organization of 110 Scouts. In addition, we have many Moms and Dads who take on one project a year or are regulars on our trips, where we need many drivers to move this Troop to the different trip venues. The reward is many new friendships and many nights around a campfire sharing stories, values and occasionally politics. We often have parents come on trips when their kids can't go. We welcome all assistance anytime, anywhere. Many of our Adult Leaders stay on even after their sons turn 18 and go off to college. We encourage this continuity and experience. For many of us Scouting is life long passion - not something that occurs just during our son's teenage years.

### How to Join

If you're a Cub, we will be contacting you throughout the year as we have various events.

If you're not a Cub, are at least 11 years old or have completed 5<sup>th</sup> grade, then please go to our website.

If you are already a Scout and have just moved to the area, give the Scoutmaster a call. We would love to have you join us.

### Troop Website

The Troop Website ([www.simsburytroop175.org](http://www.simsburytroop175.org)) packed full of information on our Troop policies, registration information, and programs. It also links to Troop Photo Albums with over 4,000 pictures of "Scouts in action".

### Final Thoughts

We are very excited about what we do at Troop 175. The values expressed by the Scout Law and the Scout Oath are great compasses to teach and to live by. Coupled with the Scouting Skills and "friendships made for life" the Scouts is a well-defined path through a boy's "years of change." In 2007, as we were coming down Mt. Kilimanjaro, I asked one of our Scouts "When did you know you were going to make it to the Summit?" He looked at me and smiled and said "before I left my house Mr. Mead, before I left the house." The confidence, the spirit and the skills – it's what Scouting does. Its why Scouting Counts. Come be a part of it.



Yours in Scouting,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brad Mead".

Brad Mead,  
Scoutmaster Troop 175

73 East Weatogue Street  
Simsbury, CT 06070  
bradmead@deltanow.com  
860-658-0150