



Troop 14 Holliston

Boy Scouts of America
St. Mary's Parish * June, 2020

Meetings: Monday Nights 7:00 - 8:30 PM
Lower Church Hall (Suspended)

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St. Mary's Boy Scout Troop 14 meets weekly on Monday nights in the Lower Church. If interested in joining Troop 14, just contact the Scoutmaster. It is an ideal organization for boys 11-17 years old.

UPCOMING TROOP EVENT: End of Year Virtual Court of Honor on Monday, June 22; Scouts presented with Awards and Badges earned over the past five months.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 14 CONTINUES WITH WEEKLY MEETINGS AND FINDING WAYS TO SAFELY CARRY ON WITH THE OUTDOOR PROGRAM: Troop 14 is continuing to safely deliver the Scouting Program to its Scouts through weekly meetings (via the internet), advancement, skills, leadership, Service Projects and getting outdoors through camping and hiking. Here are a few activities we did in May.

VIRTUAL TROOP MEETINGS: For three months now we have been holding weekly virtual meetings with 80% to 90% of the Scouts attending, including four new Scouts that recently joined. This past month many Scouts finished the Public Health Merit Badge and have started working on the Electricity Merit Badge, where they are learning about electrical emergencies, how to conduct a home electrical inspection, and building a couple simple electrical projects. The Scouts also had their yearly planning meeting where they identified various campouts and activities for the upcoming year. Of course during the meetings, there was time for some fun and games.

VIRTUAL CAMPOUTS: COVID-19 is not going to stop Troop 14 from Camping!! On May 2 and again on May 16, the Scouts and leaders of Troop 14 packed their gear and headed to the vast wilderness of their own back yards to camp. The campouts started with a 15-minute late afternoon virtual Zoom check-in where expectations and instructions were given. Then the Scouts set out (individually) to set up their tents, and cook dinner outdoors, either for themselves or for their families. The Troop regrouped that evening, again virtually on Zoom for an hour to judge each other's meals and do activities around their own campfires. Throughout the campout Scouts shared photos on a Private Group Troop 14 Face Book page. The campout ended the next morning with another 15-minute virtual Zoom meeting to judge breakfast and close the campout. **Photos Left. View Slideshow at:** <https://bit.ly/3dxQVca>

SERVICE PROJECT: Danny B., a Patrol Leader in Troop 14 wanted to find a way to lift the spirits and thank all the heroes who are working tirelessly to help others in need during this Pandemic. Danny recruited seven of his fellow Scouts to work on a Service Project called "Cards for Frontline Workers." Together they made 29 handmade cards and sent them to various organizations including Timothy Daniels House, Holliston Pantry Shelf, MetroWest Hospital, Wingate Sudbury and Boston Healthcare for the Homeless. What a great way to thank those Frontline heroes. Click the following link to see a slideshow of this creative and meaningful project: https://media.Trooptrack.com/uploads/My_Video_1.mp4

HIKING CHALLENGE: As written in last month's Newsletter, Scoutmaster Chris Baribeau challenged the Troop to get outside and hike! The challenge started in mid-March and will go until mid-June. The Scouts, hiking with their families and following social distancing guidelines, are continuing to log in their miles. As of May 22, the Scouts and leaders have logged a total of 811 miles. Luke B. remains far in the lead with 130.9 miles. Can they break the 1,000-mile barrier? Will anyone come close to Luke? Check in next month and see the results!





A PIECE OF TROOP 14 HISTORY, WEARERS OF THE BLACK WATCH TARTAN NECKERCHIEF: A few years after the First Charter was granted by the Boy Scouts of America to St. Mary's Church in 1965, Troop 14 adopted a custom neckerchief pattern called "The Black Watch Tartan." The 1972 Summer Camp photo **shown above**, documents the neckerchief being proudly worn by Troop 14 Scouts. Our Troop still wears it today!

As the story is told, back in the late 1960's, Scotty McGuinness, a long time Resolute Summer Camp staff member befriended St. Mary's Troop 14. At the end of that Summer, Scotty provided a bolt of his Clan's (family's) tartan to Troop 14, granting them permission to use the material for their neckerchiefs. This was a great honor, and as you will see on the next page, connected our Troop to a venerable tradition.

The Black Watch, 3rd Battalion, founded on July 1, 1881, is an Infantry Battalion of the Royal Regiment of Scotland. The Black Watch is the most senior Highland Regiment in Scotland. **Photo Top Right.** The Black Watch Tartan is worn by the Scottish Infantry to honor the brave and loyal villagers who lived by many of the points of the Scout Law that we live by today. To the best of our knowledge, Troop 14 Holliston is the only Boy Scout Troop that wears the Black Watch Tartan.

One of the responsibilities of the Black Watch Regiment in modern times is to guard Edinburgh Castle in Scotland. This site is sacred as it contains the Chapel and Tomb of St. Margaret of Scotland. **Photos Center Right.**

Margaret was born into royalty in Hungary around 1045 AD. Her father was Edward Atheling, heir to the English throne, and her mother was Princess Agatha of Hungary. Her family returned to England when she was 10 years old, but the Norman Conquest forced them into exile. By this time, her father had died, and her mother fled with the children. They boarded a ship which crashed onto the coast of Scotland, where they remained.

In 1070, at the age of 25, Margaret married the king of Scotland, Malcolm Canmore. As queen, Margaret's faith had a strong influence on her husband's reign. She softened his temper and led him to practice virtue. She dignified the court, providing an example of purity and reverence that led others to follow in her path. She and the king prayed together and fed the hungry, offering a powerful witness of faith to the people they served.

In addition to being a model wife and mother, Margaret worked tirelessly to bring justice and relief to the poor of Scotland. She also built churches and encouraged practices of religious devotion. In her private life, she exhibited great prayerfulness and piety. Her influence was seen not only in her husband's life, but throughout all of Scotland.

Margaret died in 1093, just four days after her husband and one of her sons were killed in battle. She was canonized in 1250 by Pope Innocent IV and named Patron of Scotland in 1673. So beloved is the memory of St. Margaret in Scotland, that she is revered there by people of all faiths.

Like St. George, Patron Saint of the Boy Scouts of America, St. Margaret has the appellation "Dragon Slayer" – the only female saint to bear this title. It recalls her fearless battles against the evils of poverty, ignorance, and injustice on behalf of her people.

St. Mary's Church, Holliston, contains a beautiful stained-glass window of St. Margaret of Scotland.

Photo Bottom Right.

