



Troop 537
Brunswick, New York
Mahikan District, Boy Scouts of America

A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent.

Dear Supporter:

Patriot Hills of New York is an organization who has a mission statement I feel strongly about. I learned about their work when I volunteered at a fundraiser barbeque over a year ago. I met many civilians and military personal who were concerned about the lack of services available to our returning veterans. The unseen wounds of war are just as serious as the physical scars. Many soldiers have difficulty finding the services they need to help them readjust to their civilian lives. This was a concept that I had never thought about before and I decided that there must be something I could do to help returning veterans and raise awareness about their needs. I wanted to do something that would involve their children and provide a fun, safe environment where they could relax and bond. Here is what I have planned.

On July 25, 2012, Operation P.A.T.H. will take place. I have arranged with the management of the Olympic Regional Development Authority, (ORDA) to bring a 55 passenger bus of veterans and their teenage children to spend a day enjoying the Olympic venues in Lake Placid. They can ride a bobsled and use the biathlon range at Mt. Van Hovenburg. They will be the special guests at a "Wet and Wild" show and get passes to the top of the Olympic Jumping Complex. They will also ride a gondola to the top of Whiteface Mountain. They will have the opportunity to enjoy the village of Lake Placid and visit the Olympic Museum. I have made arrangements to provide lunch and dinner for everybody.

I need to raise the money necessary for this event so I am starting with an American Flag raffle. It seems appropriate to put "Old Glory" to work for those who have worked so hard for her. I have 2 flags that are hand stitched in Rensselaer County by Gettysburg Flag Works. I have also acquired a NYS commemorative 911 flag that Gettysburg Flag Works was commissioned by our governor to make. I am raffling these flags with the drawing to take place at my pancake breakfast on December 10th at the Center Brunswick Fire House.

I am also looking for support from community members, businesses and organizations who are interested in my project. I am implementing a "Support a Solider Campaign" through the Patriot Hills website. The cost to send one person on my trip is one hundred dollars. If you can help me through a tax deductible donation it will be greatly appreciated. You can also be assured that 100% of your donation will go to Operation P.A.T.H.

If a \$100.00 dollar donation is not possible I have broken down the cost as follows:

A donation of \$25.00 will provide transportation for a solider

Another donation of \$25.00 will provide lunch and dinner.

A donation of \$50.00 will purchase an Olympic Pass for the day.

A matching donation of \$100.00 will provide the same for a teenager.

I hope you will find the opportunity to consider contributing to my project. Thank you for any support you can supply.

Your donation can be sent to: Patriot Hills of NY

PO Box 142

Guilderland, NY 12084-0142

Thank you,
Yours in Scouting,

Matthew Murray
Life Scout