



Bartlett Trivia Game

On Friday evening Cubs, Scouts and Venturers will have the opportunity to meet the staff and get to know the camp site a little better by participating in the Bartlett Trivia Game.

The following is a brief account of Capt. Bob Bartlett's life. Much more can be learned about this explorer by surfing the web or reading one of the many books written about him.

Born in Brigus, Newfoundland, Robert Abram Bartlett was the eldest of 10 children. From an early age Bob Bartlett fished in the summer months and took part in the winter seal hunt. He was captain of the Newfoundland sealers. By the time he was 17 years old he had mastered his first ship and began a life-long love affair with the Arctic.

Between 1905-1909 Bartlett was captain of the *Roosevelt* and accompanied Commander Robert Peary on his attempts to reach the North Pole.

In 1914, Bartlett's leadership in the doomed *Karluk* Expedition helped save the lives of most of its stranded crew after leader Vilhjalmur Stefansson abandoned the expedition. After being stranded on Wrangel Island for several months, Bartlett walked 700 miles over the ice of the Chukchi Sea and across Siberia and then mounted an expedition from Alaska to rescue his surviving companions from Wrangel Island.

In 1917, Bartlett again went to the rescue of another ill-fated expedition, Donald Baxter MacMillan's Crocker Land Expedition. They had been stuck in the ice for 4 years.

Bartlett commanded his own schooner, the *Effie M. Morrissey* from 1925-1945. He led many important scientific expeditions to the Arctic sponsored by American Museums, the Explorers Club and the National Geographic Society and helped to survey the Arctic for the United States Government during WW II.

In 1927 the Boy Scouts of America made Bartlett an Honorary Scout.

Bartlett died on April 28th, 1946 in a New York hospital from pneumonia. He was 70 years old. He was buried in his hometown of Brigus, NL. Hawthorne Cottage, Bartlett's place of residence in Brigus, is a National Historic Site.