



Troop Four Family Newsletter May 23, 2006

Memorial Day Parade: Troop 4 will participate in the annual Milford Memorial Day parade on Monday, May 29. Scouts should meet at the Stop & Shop parking lot next to the 99 Restaurant. The parade will start at 10:00 AM and proceed up Main Street to Draper Park for pickup at about 11:30 MA. Scouts should wear their uniforms. *Scouts should please try to attend to show our support for this important community service.*

In addition, any scouts who would like some service hours can help flag the graves at Pine Grove Cemetery (across from Wendy's on Dilla St.) on Saturday, May 27 from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM.

Boards of Review for Upcoming Court of Honor: will be held during the May 25, June 1, and June 8 troop meetings. We will email the scouts if they are ready for the Board of Review. Scouts for the Board of Review should bring their Scout Handbook, wear their uniform, and merit badge sash if they have one.

Eagle Scout Court of Honor: will be held on Thursday, June 15. Please see the attached invitation for details. Congratulations to Eagle Scouts Joshua Avery and Alex Mattscheck! This is a family court of honor for all the scouts and their families. There will be many awards that will be presented to all the scouts for advancement completed since the last Court of Honor. This is a dinner court of honor, please be sure to respond to the attached invitation.

Camp Resolute Update: Important Stuff!!!

The \$279 due for new scouts (crossovers from Webelos) has been extended from May 25 to the June 1 troop meeting.

For all parents and adult leaders planning on spending a day and/or one or more nights at Camp Resolute: Please call or email Dave Kirchner before June 1 with your social security number and birth date. Massachusetts Law requires summer camps to do CORI checks on all adults staying overnight and the Council must have the information to complete the check. This is required for registered leaders as well.

Parents, we need help for adult coverage at camp this year. Many of our adult leaders are taking a week for the Adirondack trip, so we are counting on parents to help out at Resolute this year. Please call or email Dave Kirchner with the dates, day/nights and times that you can help out by June 1 (please be specific – we are putting together a schedule –thanks).

Merit badge sign-up by scouts: The Council has changed the sign-up procedures for this year, and the troop must sign up the scouts on-line. Please email the scouts merit badge course selections to Dave Kirchner or drop off the “blue cards” by the June 8 troop meeting. If you email the selections, just hand the blue cards in with the health form. Sorry about the change, the Council informed us about the new procedure after we sent the information packages to the families.

Adirondack 50 Miler Canoe Trip Update: Important Stuff Too!!!

Information packages for all the participants were mailed out on May 23. If you have not received a package by Thursday, May 25 please let Dave Kirchner know.

The final \$ due for the trip has been extended to the June 1 troop meeting. Please refer to the information in the package for details.

Blackstone Canal Troop Canoe Trip: will be on **Saturday, June 24 through Monday June 26 on the Blackstone Canal and River.** This is a great opportunity to do some canoeing and camping combined, plus this is a great chance for the scouts going on the Adirondack 50 Miler to get in some training. The trip is designed so that all of our scouts can participate in a canoeing adventure, and give some challenging canoeing to our older scouts as well.

The troop will leave Milford Saturday morning, drive to our campsite at the Blackstone Canal State Park in Uxbridge, eat lunch and drive to the “put in” spot in Grafton. We will canoe down the Blackstone River to our campsite in the Park. Sunday morning the troop will paddle down the Black Stone River after breakfast to a lunch spot on the river. After lunch, we will paddle back up the river to the campsite for some canoe contests and other outdoor games. Scout should bring their fishing gear for the trip if they have some - the River is rumored to have some “pole busting” carp in it. On Monday morning we will break camp and canoe down river with our gear, stop and eat lunch, and continue to our “pull out” location in South Uxbridge.

For personal gear scouts should pack for a regular three day - two night trip, and be sure to wear sneakers (hiking boots are too heavy for this trip) and bring swim trunks for canoeing. Scouts should also bring sunglasses, a hat with a brim, and plenty of sun screen. Attached is the personal gear checklist from our Backpacking trip to use as a guide. Scouts will be paired up for canoeing with friends, but we will make sure that the canoes are balanced out so that each scout will have a comfortable day paddling. As with all our canoe trips, scouts will be able to go at a comfortable pace.

The troop will meet at the parish center at 8:00 AM Saturday morning and leave for the Blackstone State Park by about 8:30 AM. We will return to the parish center for pickup by 3:00 PM Monday afternoon (a little later than our normal noon pickups for troop camping trips). Scouts need to bring a bag lunch for Saturday and we will be patrol cooking on fires for Saturday dinner, Sunday breakfast, Sunday dinner and Monday breakfast. We will also have patrol lunches on the river for Sunday and Monday. We will be sleeping in tents Saturday and Sunday night.

Since this is a canoe trip, all scouts must be able to pack all of their personal gear in their backpacks or duffel bags. The troop has one or two backpacks and one or two small sleeping bags in case scouts need to borrow one. Please call or email Dave Kirchner if you son needs one.

The troop has rented canoes from a local outfitter for the trip and received a significant discount on the rental rate. Each participant will have to pay \$30 to help offset the cost of the canoe rentals. Please make the check payable to Troop 4.

We need help with driving to the Park and driving to the “put in” spot in Grafton on Saturday. We will need help with the driving on Monday afternoon from South Uxbridge to Milford. In addition, we will need adults to stay for the trip. Our annual June two night camping trips have traditionally been trips where many parents stay and everyone has a great time.

We will be planning the food menus and patrol gear requirements for the trip at our June 8 troop meeting.

If you son will be attending please drop off the attached permission slip and \$ no later than the June 8 troop meeting. Please mail or drop off the slip and \$ to Dave Kirchner at 6 Camp Street, Milford before June 8 if your son will be attending but won't be at the meeting on the June 8.

Upcoming Event Dates & Reminders:

- Monday, May 29: Memorial Day Parade in Milford
- Thursday, June 1: balance of Adirondack High Adventure \$ due
- Thursday, June 1: Camp Resolute fee due for new scouts/Webelos crossovers and CORI check information due for parents attending Camp Resolute.
- Thursday, June 8: \$ and permission slips due for June Blackstone Canoe Trip Last regular troop meeting until the fall.
- Thursday, June 15: Troop Court of Honor
- Saturday, June 24 – Monday June 26: Troop canoe trip
- Sunday, July 16: Start of Camp Resolute week at camp in Bolton, MA.
- Saturday, July 29: Start of the Adirondack 50 Miler Canoe Trip

Troop Four Website: is www.troop4milford.org

Please call the Dave Kirchner at 508-667-6675 or email at kirchner5@comcast.net if you have any questions.

Have A Great Summer!