



Troop Four Family Newsletter May 2, 2007

Return of Troop Camping Equipment: please return all troop camping equipment. The troop will need it for the upcoming May Cycling trip.

Merit Badge Classes: for *Wilderness Survival* and *Personal Management* are finishing up in May. We will be working with individual scouts and small groups to finish up the badges. The *Cycling* merit badge has been started – in conjunction with the May cycling camping trip. Scouts will have the opportunity to finish the *Wilderness Survival* and *Personal Management* merit badges before the June Court of Honor.

Scouts Working on Their Second or First Class Rank: The Venture Scouts are doing a great job with teaching the rank requirements for the Second and First Class badges. We are working to finish up by the June Court of Honor. The scouts need to be sure that they have the “troop activities” requirement done to advance by June. For Second Class a scout must participate in at least 5 troop activities (other than troop meetings), at least two of which must be camping trips since joining the troop. For First Class, a scout must have at least 10 activities at least 3 must be camping trips since joining (the 5 for Second class count for these).

A “Shake Down” Bike Trip: will be on Sunday May 6 Scouts should meet at the parish center at 4:00 PM with their bike/helmet/water. We will complete a 10 mile bike ride requirement and some other Cycling merit badge requirements too. The cycling will be done on the new bike trail which passes very close to the parish center. Prior to the ride, scouts will have another opportunity to complete their mandatory bike inspection and check list. We will wrap up and be done at the parish center at 6:00 PM.

The May Troop Bicycling/Camping Trip: is set for Friday, May 18 through Sunday May 20. The troop will be camping and cycling on Cape Cod! We have reserved a camping site at Nickerson State Park on the Cape for Friday and Saturday nights. This will be a great trip and a chance to work on the Cycling merit badge.

The troop will meet at 5:00 PM Friday May 18 at the parish center. We will leave the parish center for the campground at about 5:30 PM. **Scouts should have already eaten dinner before meeting at the parish center.** We will arrive at the campground and set up camp for Friday evening.

On Saturday morning, the troop will divide into two cycling groups – advanced and beginners. Scouts can go with the group that they feel most comfortable with. There will be adult leaders for both groups. We will cycle in the morning and return to the campground for lunch. After lunch, we will cycle on different routes until dinner. After dinner at the campsite, scouts will have a chance to explore the park. On Sunday morning, there will be opportunities for a short ride. We will leave the campsite in the morning and return to the parish center for pickup at 3:00 PM **Scouts will need to bring some \$ for a fast food lunch on Sunday and an ice cream stop on the bike trail Saturday.**

We will be cooking patrol style for Saturday breakfast, lunch & dinner and Sunday breakfast. Scouts will need to bring some \$ for Sunday lunch. We will be camping in tents on Friday and Saturday nights. Besides their regular personal camping equipment, scout should bring:

- a bike (we will have spare tubes and repair equipment)
- **a bike helmet (required)**
- sun block
- water bottle to carry on bike

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We will need a few parents to drive to/from the event. If you can help out, please indicate on the permission slip. **If your son would like to attend, please complete the attached permission slip and return by the May 10 troop meeting. If your son would like to attend but will not be at the troop meeting on May 10 please email Dave Kirchner before the 10th.** We will be doing all the planning for the trip at the May 10 troop meeting, so please be sure to let us know if your son will be attending.

This will be a great trip and a chance to see some really scenic parts of the Cape. Hope to see you there!

Milford Memorial Day Parade: Troop 4 will participate in the annual Milford Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 28. We will meet in uniform at 9:30 AM at the starting point in the Stop and Shop/99 Restaurant parking lot. The parade will start at 10:00 AM and end at Draper Park about 11:30 AM. This is the only parade event that the troop does each year and we would like as many scouts as possible to attend.

June Court of Honor: Our annual year end June family Court of Honor will be on Thursday, June 14. There will be lots of awards earned by the scouts given out that night and family members are welcome to attend. More information on the way.

Boards of Review: for scouts advancing in rank will be help during the May 24, 31, and June 7 troop meetings. If the scout is ready for the board of review we will notify him.

The June High Adventure White Water Trip: will be Saturday, June 23 through Monday June 25. We will be whitewater rafting in Maine on the Kennebec River! We are also using a new outfitter for the trip and we are staying at a campsite that has a pool, hot tub, climbing wall and hot showers. This is a great adventure – please mark your calendars for the event. We will also need some parents to drive and stay for the event (you don't have to do the white water). More information on the way.

Camp Resolute 2007: The Knox Trail Council has extended the “early bird” discount rate of \$275/scout for a few more weeks. If your son would like to attend Resolute this year and has not paid yet, please drop off the \$ at the May 3 or May 10 troop meetings. **New Scout cross-overs from Webelos still have until May 24 to get the discounted rate.**

Venture Scout Corner *Information Especially for Venture Scouts:*

Career Presentation for May: we have extended the Law merit badge classes with attorney Ms. Kristen Rowan for the next week or two. In addition we will try to add another career presentation for May. So far this year we have had at the troop meetings: firefighters, personnel management, engineering, and law careers presented.

Troop Bicycling/Camping Trip for May: This will be a great trip to work on the Cycling merit badge and see some of the Cape too. We will also need Venture Scouts to help run the trip.

This is a great way for some of the Venture Scouts to help meet their activity and leadership requirements for advancement.

Upcoming Event Dates & Reminders:

- May 3 is a regular troop meeting
- **Sunday May 6 Sunday is the “shake down” cycling trip**
- May 10 is a regular troop meeting
- May 17 is a regular troop meeting
- **Friday May 18 - Sunday May 20 is the Cape Cod Bicycling Adventure**
- May 24 is a regular troop meeting and Board of Review
- **Monday May 28 is the Milford Memorial Day Parade**
- May 31 is a regular troop meeting and Board of Review
- June 7 is the last regular troop meeting for the year and Board of Review
- June 14 is our year end family Court of Honor
- **Saturday June 23 – Monday June 25 is our White Water High Adventure Trip**
- **Sunday July 22 – Friday July 27 is Camp Resolute**

Troop Four Website: checkout the Troop 4 website at: www.troop4milford.org we have lots of information and event calendars/dates listed.

Please call the Dave Kirchner at 508-478-5915 or email at kirchner5@comcast.net if you have any questions.