

# Troop 9 News

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## Destination: Newport Naval Base

Spring will be in full swing soon, and even us 'lifelong' New Englanders are ready to say goodbye to what seems like the winter that will never end.

Troop 9 is busily planning its' warmer weather camping in April, May, June and July. First up will be our April trip to the Newport Naval Base. As young Scouts, Mr. Atlas and Mr. Ritacco attended a weekend trip there with Troop 9 when our Scoutmaster, Mr. Petterson, arranged it back in the early 70's. It was a lot of fun back then and we expect no less this time around.

We'll leave from Worcester on Friday, April 16 and travel to our overnight camping spot, Fort Adams State Park, which is nearby the base. All day Saturday our Scouts will enjoy tours of the various important sites on the naval installation, such as the Naval War College Museum, a guided tour at the Surface Warfare Officer School, and boarding and touring an active U.S. Coast Guard Cutter. We'll have our meals at the Officer's galley, a swim at the indoor base pool and enjoy use of the bowling center in the evening.

On Sunday morning we'll honor the 12th Scout Law by attending services in the Base Chapel after breakfast, and then head home...stopping for lunch along the way at...Wright's Chicken Farm!

Watch for the trip forms, to be released next week !

### Scout Birthdays this month:

- Matt Gentile    March 26
- Ryan Ingellis    March 27

## Scout Sunday Service Well Done

Our Scout Sunday at People's Church was well-supported by our Scouts, with 25 Scouts attending!

Scouts participated in the service by doing gospel readings, serving as ushers and greeters, and color guards. Our charter was presented to the church and Pastor McCarthy was both engaging and inspirational in his remarks to the congregation, sharing his own Scouting experiences as well as talking about the importance of incorporating Scouting values in our everyday lives.

We are fortunate, indeed, to have such a great Scouting partner in People's Church.

## Every Scout Belongs at Summer Camp

A Harris study conducted nationally a few years ago concluded that a boy's participation at Scout summer camp was one of the key factors impacting a positive and healthy emotional and physical benefit. The gains realized from the interaction with other Scouts and leaders, learning skills of self-reliance and opportunities for outdoor experiences, teamwork and leadership build a young man's confidence and self-esteem in ways few other programs offer.

The adult leadership of Troop 9 has over 150 years of experience, collectively, in their personal involvement in the Scouting program. We have led Scout Troops at camp for a cumulative total of nearly 100 summers. Although we have no financial stake in each Scout attending camp, we all personally feel strongly that each Scout in Troop 9 should attend with us on July 11– 18, for their own benefit. A \$25 deposit holds a Scout's space at camp!

## Trip to New York On the Horizon

On the weekend of May 21–23, Troop 9 will travel to New York state and stay for two nights at a Scout camp in the Adirondack Mountain region. But that's only the beginning of our adventure. From there we'll travel to Cooperstown to the National Baseball Hall of Fame! After spending the day there, we'll return to camp for a good night's sleep, and then on Sunday we'll head to Howe's Caverns for a tour of the caves there.

The weekend cost includes touring, camping, patches and meals. The cost? A mere \$75. per Scout and \$85. per adult.

Trip forms and more information will be released next month, but Scouts will want to circle the dates on their calendar now and plan to be there with us!

## Other Important Dates to Remember

- On Wednesday, March 24th all Star and Life Scouts are encouraged to attend—with their parent—at the Council's Life-to-Eagle information seminar, to be held at UMass Medical School. This is a crucial step in getting ready, and motivated, to make that last push toward Eagle! See Mr. Atlas to let him know of your plans to attend.
- On Thursday, April 1st Troop 9 will hold its' meeting at the State Police Barracks in Millbury, instead of at People's Church. We'll tour the facility and learn more about the newest barracks in Mass.