

The Boy Scouts of America are alive and well!



by
John H Vargo,
Publisher



Wayne Smith and his father Warren, Scoutmaster of Troop 49 at Washington's Tomb.

Boy Scout Troop 49 at Washington's Tomb.



Warren Smith, age 53, has 43 scouts in his Troop 49, Ossining, NY. When you speak with Warren you feel the vibration and enthusiasm that he gives off! When describing his troop, they're accomplishments and many trips that they have taken over the past few years one trip stands out.

On a scout trip three years ago, Warren took the troop to Mount Vernon, Virginia, Washington's home for many years.

One of the exhibits was of a painting done by John Trumbull and given to the Washington's.

When Boy Scout James McCarthy, now age 18, saw the painting he knew what his Eagle Scout Project would be. He would build a monument to George Washington in Verplanck using Trumbull's painting showing the spot where Washington reviewed the Continental Army and French troops as they marched together on the shoreline of the Hudson River at Verplanck's Point.

That idea and a trip to the newly built Veterans Memorial Park at the foot of Broadway in Verplanck developed the idea. Dan McCarthy, Jimmy's father, along with his Dad's friend Kenny Lewis, were very supportive of the idea and suggested he meet a local artist in Peekskill, Wilfredo Morel. Wilfredo too was very supportive of the idea and suggested a local artisan to help with the bronze plaque.

As the project developed, it became important to create a monument that would withstand the elements and be a permanent historical reference for our community. Many people donated their time, resources and energies to help Jimmy complete his project, including Kenny Lewis, Glenn Griffin, Robert Portal, Scoutmaster Warren Smith, and many Scouts from Troop 49.

Jimmy decided that he would use the money he made from his summer job at the Croton Sailing School as a Launch Operator to pay for most of the cost of the monument. With the three thousand dollars from his summer job and another thousand from donations, Jimmy, with the help of many people, finished the monument in mid-November, 2016, before his 18th birthday and in time to achieve his Eagle Scout Award.

Jimmy McCarthy is a senior at Fordham Prep. His goal is to select a college and study business and economics, and later pursue a career in business and finance.

Eagle Scout Jimmy McCarthy's monument at Verplanck's Point is an outstanding example of what can be done with an idea, perseverance and dedication to that idea.

Good luck Jimmy with the rest of your life!

Jimmy McCarthy and the monument he built.

