

<<< FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE >>>

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**Members of Falls Church City's Boy Scout Troop 349 Tour the Capitol with
Congresswoman Nancy Boyda and meet Virginia Senator James Webb**

Falls Church, Virginia, 10/16/2009 – Members of Falls Church City Boy Scout Troop 349 went on a tour of the U.S. Capitol last week. The Scouts were there to work on their Citizenship in the Nation merit badge and were also treated to a special guided tour by Congresswoman Nancy Boyda.

During the tour, the Scouts were told famous stories about how the capitol was built as well as less known stories like the "doors to nowhere." They learned about the different portraiture on the walls and while in the rotunda they were told how the fresco of the "Apotheosis of George Washington" was commissioned and painted. The Scouts continued their tour and were shown Speaker Nancy Pelosi's office and viewed the Mall from the private Speakers Balcony.

While touring the Capitol the troop saw several of our nations representatives in the hallways and meeting areas. Among those were Senator Olympia Snowe, who was being interviewed by CNN, and they passed Senator John McCain twice on his way to meetings. Then they met Senator James Webb, asked him questions for their merit badge work, and had a troop photo taken with him.

The Scouts ended their tour in the Senate Gallery observing an open session on health care reform and other day-to-day Congressional business.

ABOUT TROOP 349: The Troop is open to any boy between the ages of 12 and 18, who has graduated from the fourth grade, and/or has received his arrow of light award. Boys desiring to join the troop are welcome at any time to attend a meeting and present themselves to the Scout Master for admission. Troop 349 meets every Tuesday evening at 7 PM between September and June at the American Legion Hall on Oak St. The troop web site contains more information about joining and what boy scouts is all about. Go to www.troop349.us and click on downloads to view the scout handbook and primer.

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Back Row L to R: Matthew Valley, Ian Griffin, Davis Hagigh, Senator James Webb, Jack Ulses, Truman Custer and Preston Custer. **Front Row L to R:** Jonathan Gilmour Timothy Gilmour - *Cub Scout Pack 657*, Neil Johnston, and Holden Saberhagen.



Senior Patrol Leader Preston Custer presenting Senator Webb with Troop 349 mementos, while fellow Troop members look on.

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