

NEW PARENTS ORIENTATION – SCOUT TROOP 333

Cub Scouting vs. Boy Scouting – Primary Differences

- Troop is led by boys – supported by adults
 - Campouts**
 - Boys plan campout activities
 - Boys assign duty rosters
 - Boys plan meals – procure the food and cook their own meals within their Patrols.

Attending adults are there to assure safety.
HQ Patrol (attending adults) plan their own meals – procure food and cook within their patrol.
 - Older, more experienced Scouts provide guidance and training for the younger Scout.
 - Advancement
 - The Scout – not his parents, initiates Rank Advancement and Merit Badge work.
 - Board of Reviews, Scoutmaster Conferences
 - Weekly Troop Meetings and/or Monthly Campout Activities available throughout the year for all scouts.
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What the Boys want from Troop 333

During each scout's Board of Review he is given an opportunity to express his thoughts on what he wants from his scouting experience in our Troop. These are the things our boys tell us most often:

- To Have Fun
- A boy-run troop
- Adults who have the Scout's best interests in mind
- Safe scouting activities
- Encouragement in advancement and participation
- Learning opportunities

KEY SCOUTING TERMS

- **Patrol** – the smallest organizational unit of a troop; generally comprised of 6 to 10 scouts in similar age.
- **Patrol Leader** – elected by the patrol members for a 6-month term as the leader of the Patrol. Key responsibilities:
 - Communications between the Patrol and the Sr. Patrol Leader
 - Organization of campout participation (who is attending, leads menu planning and assigns a scout to purchase the food for the Patrol).
- **Senior Patrol Leader (SPL)**– elected by the scouts for a 6-month term as the leader of the Troop. Is supported by Patrol Leaders and adult leadership.
- **Patrol Leaders Council (PLC)** – monthly leadership meeting. Chaired by the SPL, guided by Scoutmaster, attended by Patrol Leaders and Asst Patrol Leaders, open to all Scouts.
- **First Class Uniform** – Official Boy Scout shirt with current rank, Official Boy Scout pants, Official Boy Scout socks and neckerchief.
- **Mid-Adventure** – summer activity open to all level of scouts, but primarily designed to appeal to scouts in their first 1 to 3 years.
- **High Adventure** – summer activity restricted to older scouts who are First Class rank or above. Opportunity to challenge oneself physically and mentally with a great experience that builds on scouting skills.
- **Troop Committee** – adult leadership organization responsible for supporting the Troop program and handling Troop administration.
- **Court of Honor**- advancement ceremony held twice a year (Spring & Fall) to recognize the achievements of all scouts in rank and merit badge awards.

ADVANCEMENT

- Failure to advance in rank is the #2 most common reason boys leave scouting, not having fun is #1.
- Participation in the monthly campout activities and attending summer camps maximizes your son's opportunity for advancement.

- **RANK Classifications:**

Scout
Tenderfoot
Second Class
First Class
Star
Life
Eagle

- **PACING ADVANCEMENT PROGRESS**

- Attain 1st Class Rank by their 2nd Summer Camp
- Attain Star Rank by their 3rd Summer Camp
- Attain Life Rank by their 4th Summer Camp

- **ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE**

(Adult Volunteers)

Our troop's advancement committee monitors the progress of each Scout, especially early in their careers. The Scoutmaster and committee members are kept informed of those boys not advancing during a 6 – 12 month period of time.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

The boys establish a Troop Calendar that is jointly approved by the Committee Members. The calendar runs from August – July, highlighting the following activities:

Troop Meetings

When: Every Tuesday

Location: Church

Time: 7:00PM – 8:30PM

Parents are welcome to visit, or stop in anytime.

Troop Campouts (held once a month)

Date, Theme, Location

Patrol Leaders Committee Meetings (PLC)

When: Last Thursday of the month.

Location: Upstairs meeting room at Church.

Time: 4:00PM – 5:30PM.

Attendees: Patrol leaders, asst. leaders, scoutmaster and committee members.

Troop Committee Meetings

When: 1st Wednesday of each month

Location: Upstairs meeting room at Church.

Time: 7:30PM – 9:00PM

Attendees: Open to all parents, and committee members.

Special Activities: Service Projects, Fundraising

DISTRIBUTION OF TROOP CALENDARS

August Burger Burner @ Hudson Springs Park.

All scouts and their families are encouraged to participate in the Annual Burger Burner to kick-off the new scouting year.

Troop Calendars are distributed and sign-up sheets for adult leaders and volunteers are available for the monthly activities.