



# Troop 368 Handbook

## Fall 2016

Welcome to the Scouting adventure and the Troop 368 family. Get ready for hard work, exciting times and most of all, fun!

**To the Scouts:** This is *your* Troop. How well it functions, what adventures you experience, where you go, and what you do are *your* choices. Get involved with the Troop leadership. Take pride in your Patrol. Get to be good friends with the other Scouts in the Troop. Help out when needed, and when you have a job assigned, do it well. Work hard to become an Eagle Scout. You can talk to a lot of adults who once had the opportunity to become an Eagle Scout and did not. None of those adults will be glad to that they did not achieve the rank of Eagle and almost all will say that if they knew then what they know now, they would have spent the time and made the commitment to finish. No matter what your rank, remember that the Scout Oath and Law are more than just words we say at Troop meetings. The Scout Oath and Law are ideas Scouts use to guide their actions throughout their lives.

**To the Parents:** Your son is embarking on a new adventure. He will need your support, but you have to walk a fine line between encouraging him to do well and actually doing for him. Sometimes a thing not given teaches more than a thing easily gotten. Encourage your son to work hard and commit to working on his ranks and merit badges. Join us as a leader if you have the time and interest. Help out whenever you can to make this a better Troop. In addition, thank you for allowing your son to join us on this great adventure!

Yours in Scouting:

***Rev. Rebecca Luter***  
Farmington Presbyterian Church

***Scott Jenkins***  
Scoutmaster

***Don Yergeau***  
Committee Chairman

This handbook is written so both the Scout and his parents will better understand what Scouting is, how it functions, what Troop 368 can do for you and what you can do for the troop. Please call any of the leaders if you have a question or comment.

This is not written as a substitute for *The Boy Scout Handbook*.  
The Boy Scout Handbook is the **best** source of general and how-to information.

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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Who is Troop 368?

Troop 368 is chartered by Farmington Presbyterian Church of Germantown, Tennessee. The Scoutmaster is David Smith (901-237-9182). Troop 368 is in the Eastern District of the Chickasaw Council.

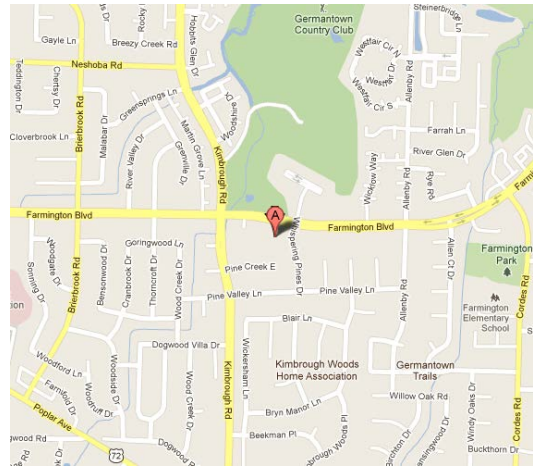
### Where and When does Troop 368 Meet?

Troop 368's regular meetings are held at Farmington Presbyterian Church, 8245 Farmington Blvd., Germantown, TN every Monday night.

Meetings begin promptly at 7:00 PM and are usually over by 8:30 PM.

Class "A" uniforms are worn at each meeting.

Parents / guardians are welcome to attend the entire meeting and strongly encouraged to arrive by 8:15 PM so that they will hear the week's important announcements and observe the closing ceremony.



### Should a parent/guardian attend Troop meetings?

YES! This is a great opportunity to get to know other members of the Troop 368 family and to hear, first-hand, news of upcoming events and activities. Active parents are the single most important factor that will determine how successful their son will be in Scouting! Scouts whose parents were actively involved attended more than twice the number of activities and attained more than double the rank of Scouts with less involved parents. For more information on adult support, see page 14 and page 43. WARNING: The Scouts run the Troop meetings, not the adults. As a result, Scout meetings are characterized by noise, confusion, general chaos and FUN.

### If my son has a question whom does he call?

Troop 368 follows BSA "boy-run" leadership philosophy. The Senior Patrol Leader runs the meetings and coordinates patrol activities with the Patrol Leaders. Your son is a member of a Patrol. His first point of contact should ALWAYS be with his Patrol Leader. If the Patrol Leader does not know the answer, the Patrol Leader should consult with the Senior Patrol Leader. Parents: Your first point of contact should be with the Troop Committee Chairman. The Scoutmaster's first priority at the meetings is to the Scouts. It is highly recommended that parents wishing to speak with the Scoutmaster do so at any time other than Monday evenings. Also, many questions could be answered or asked at our Troop 368 website, [www.bsatroop368.com](http://www.bsatroop368.com).

### Sometimes things appear disorganized. Why is that?

Because of the "boy run" philosophy, most boys are just beginning to learn about leadership, how to plan, how to conduct themselves, and about responsibility and follow-through. Consequently, there are missed phone calls, partial communications, and last minute fire drills. If you or your son is unsure about what is supposed to happen, your son should call his Patrol Leader for guidance and clarification.

### What is the Troop Committee?

The Troop Committee is made up of interested parents and other adults. The committee's main priorities are approving Troop programs and activities as planned by the Patrol Leaders' Council and Scoutmaster, and providing Troop program support as requested by the Scoutmaster, especially transportation and adult leadership for outings. The Troop Committee generally meets once per quarter during a troop meeting. All Parents are always welcome to attend any and all Committee meetings and are encouraged to join Troop 368's committee.

### **Who can “sign-off” advancement requirements?**

Parents can't sign off on advancement requirements. Basic Scout skills for Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class may be certified (signed off) by Scouts with the rank of Star or above or by uniformed adult leaders.

### **What do I bring to a campout?**

Personal equipment such as a sleeping bag, backpack, mess kit, flashlight, and sleeping pad are the Scout's responsibility. Scouts will need a good quality sleeping bag, sleeping pad, and eating utensils. Tents and cooking equipment are provided by the Troop. Scouts should strive to bring as little gear as possible and to pack it so that the Scout can carry all gear to his patrol's campsite in a single trip. *For more information, see page 34 or the Personal Gear Checklist on page 48.*

### **What kind of food do we buy for campouts?**

Each Patrol is responsible for menu planning, food purchasing and preparation for their individual Patrol. Patrols plan balanced meals, keeping in mind the basic food groups and making sure that the food will provide each Scout with the necessary energy they need for the challenges of camping. Unless a Scout has serious medical problems with certain food items, he will have to eat what is on the patrol menu. Considerations must be given to food packaging and containers. At times trash must be packed out; repacking food into labeled plastic bags is a great way to reduce packaging waste and food waste by only taking what the Patrol needs. Glass containers, prepared foods (canned, individually wrapped or pre-packaged) and food requiring refrigeration should be minimized. Foods subject to spoilage, soda, exotic, or expensive items should not be included. *For more information see page 31.*

### **Should a parent/guardian go on campouts?**

Parents and guardians are welcome to attend all Troop events and activities. The primary aim of adult participation in campouts is to “act like Scouts.” Accordingly, adults follow the same campout rules as Scouts. The principal benefits of the outdoor program are Scouts gaining self-reliance and sense of accomplishment that come with individual achievement. Therefore, parents should refrain from assisting their son's (or sons') patrol(s) with camp activities. Adults should bring problems or concerns (and compliments!) to the attention of the Scoutmaster or the Committee Chairman. Adults camp in their own designated staff campsite. Adults do not share tents with Scouts, including their own sons. *For more information see page 45.*

### **What else do I need to know about campouts?**

All planned camping trips or events will occur unless severe weather warnings are in effect. Yes, even in rain or freezing weather. The Committee Chairman and Scoutmaster will make the final decisions to cancel an event. By the way, the Troop assembles in the parking lot **behind the church** for camping.

### **Does a Scout have to attend every meeting and campout?**

All Scouts are encouraged to be in regular attendance at all Troop and Patrol activities and campouts. Attendance at meetings and activities is considered necessary to demonstrate “Scout Spirit.” A Scout must be active in Troop meetings and campouts to be eligible for ANY advancement. Scouts sometimes have other activities that conflict with Scouting. That's OK, just come back when you are done! Let the Patrol Leader know about the conflicts in advance. *For more information see Participation Policy on Page 54.*

### **How does a Scout earn merit badges?**

Work on a merit badge may be done at Troop meetings, in group outside meetings, on an individual basis (only with PRIOR Troop approval), at merit badge colleges, at winter camp or at summer camp. All merit badges require a merit badge counselor. A Scout of any rank may earn any merit badge. However, it is strongly suggested that Scouts below the rank of Star concentrate on skill learning for rank advancement. *For more information see page 24.*

### **How many merit badges are required to become an Eagle Scout?**

For the rank of Eagle, a Scout must earn one from each of 12 required categories. Eagles must earn an additional nine optional badges for a total of 21. *For more information, see page 24 of this Handbook or page 188 of the Boy Scout Handbook.*

### **How fast can a Scout earn Eagle?**

To be most beneficial to the Scout, advancement should be neither too rapid nor too slow. There are seven ranks, from Scout through Eagle. The first four ranks (Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class) emphasize basic skills. The Troop's goal is for each Scout to complete his First Class rank within one year of joining. The higher ranks (Star, Life, and Eagle) emphasize leadership and service. To advance, a Scout must be active, must do his best to live by the Scout Law and Promise, practice leadership, give service to others, learn Scout skills, and earn merit badges. The minimum time a Scout would need to complete his service time to qualify for Eagle is two years and four months. Troop 368 stresses Scouts to "Learn the Skill, Not Earn the Award." By focusing in skill learning and demonstrating leadership and service, the Scout will fulfill all the aims of Scouting.

### **How do I know my Scout will be safe at meetings and activities?**

The Troop operates under a "Safe Haven" policy at Troop meetings, on outings, and all Scout-related activities. Under this policy, all Troop activities constitute a Safe Haven, free from fear of physical and verbal abuse, where Scouts can take chances with new skills and ideas in a supportive atmosphere without fear of ridicule or retribution from other members of the Troop family. All Scouts and Scouters (adult leaders) are expected to live by the Scout Oath and Law. All activities that include adult leadership will strictly follow the Youth Protection and Safe Scouting guidelines as set forth by the Boy Scouts of America in the BSA publication *The Guide to Safe Scouting*. Adult leadership is *always* two deep, which means two leaders must be with the Scouts at all times.

### **What is so special about scouting?**

Only one in four boys in America will become a Scout. It is interesting to know that in general, of the leaders of this nation in business, religion, and politics, three out of four have been Scouts. Of any 100 boys who become Scouts...

- Each of the 100 will learn something from Scouting. Almost all will develop hobbies that will add interest throughout the rest of their lives. Many will find their future vocation through merit badge work and Scouting contacts.
- Seventeen will become Scout leaders and will give leadership and guidance to thousands of additional boys.
- Twelve will be from families who do not belong to a church. Through Scouting, these 12 Scouts and their families will be brought into contact with a church and will continue to be active all their lives. Six of the 100 will become pastors.
- One will use his training to save another person's life and many will credit their Scout training with saving their own life.
- Four will reach the rank of Eagle and at least one will later say that he values his Eagle badge above his college degree.



## HONOR ROLL OF EAGLE SCOUTS

Troop 368 was chartered at Farmington Presbyterian Church in 1974. Since that inaugural year the Troop is proud to have had **166** fine young men attain the rank of Eagle. Every one of those names is memorialized on a plaque at the Church.

Eagle Scout is the highest rank offered in Boy Scouts. A Scout must earn at least 21 merit badges, in addition to fulfilling requirements in leadership, service to others, and demonstrating proficiency in outdoor skills. The title of Eagle Scout is held for life, giving rise to the phrase "Once an Eagle, always an Eagle."

Becoming an Eagle Scout is a momentous accomplishment. It requires significant effort and dedication over several years. It is an important milestone in a young man's life, symbolic of his maturation from a teenager into a young adult. Attaining the Eagle rank exemplifies the successful physical, mental, and spiritual development of a Scout into a fine young man of character. When he leaves our Troop, we believe we have helped his parents provide a firm foundation for him to become a successful, productive member of society.

Troop 368 has also been blessed with others whose names you will not see on our plaque. For every Scout who has passed through the Troop, there have been many adult leaders who selflessly provided their time, their counsel, and their guidance. They helped with organizational tasks and as Merit Badge Counselors. They provided support at meetings, and on campouts. They have been Scoutmasters and Troop Committee members and dedicated adult volunteers. They handled all the administrative jobs required to keep a large Troop running. They passed on knowledge and skills and experiences gained over lifetimes.

When you see the name of an Eagle Scout from Troop 368, please know that his accomplishments were made possible by a group of fantastic adult leaders. We express our sincere appreciation to all past and present leaders of Troop 368. We know their lives have been enriched by their experiences in scouting.

***Troop 368 salutes the young men on the next page  
for their extraordinary accomplishments. We honor  
their efforts and their discipline, and their  
dedication to the scouting program. We celebrate  
their achievements in becoming Eagle Scouts.***

## Eagle Scout Honor Roll of Troop 368

<p>1977  <i>Douglas M. Milford</i>  <i>Eric Rochelson</i>  <i>Gregory S. Dwight</i>                      1978  <i>Leif R. Ericson, Jr.</i>  <i>John Mark Selberg</i>                      1979  <i>Jeffrey A. Faulk</i>  <i>David Brent Ericson</i>                      1980  <i>Kyle R. Kitchum</i>  <i>Kendrick D. Kitchum</i>  <i>David L. Millar</i>                      1981  <i>Christopher S. Turley</i>  <i>Brent E. Robertson</i>  <i>Kenneth B. Lang</i>  <i>Don A. Fisher</i>  <i>Richard Merwin</i>                      1982  <i>James A. Connor</i>  <i>Jeffrey A. Renfrow</i>                      1983  <i>Bradley P. Serff</i>  <i>Robert E. Swift, Jr.</i>  <i>Brian T. Baucke</i>  <i>William Ward Johnson</i>                      1984  <i>Jeffrey A. Breazeale</i>  <i>James S. Garulski</i>  <i>Timothy A. Milford</i>                      1985  <i>Kevin E. Esterwood</i>  <i>Edward F. Patterson, III</i>  <i>Alfred Buck Pittman, V</i>  <i>Patrick Scott Stevens</i>  <i>David F. Robertson</i>  <i>Herb H. Strebbins</i>  <i>Ross G. Reed</i>  <i>Christopher G. Strack</i>  <i>Thomas Robert Ilderton</i>                      1986  <i>Steven J. Iovanelli</i>  <i>Andrew R. Conner</i>                      1987  <i>David G. Anderson</i>  <i>Peter A. Moletierre</i>  <i>Mark Allen Connor</i>  <i>Daniel W. VanHorn</i>  <i>Kevin Scott McClung</i>  <i>Robert Gene Ray, Jr.</i>  <i>Jeff M. Hude</i></p>	<p>1988  <i>Mann A. Shoffner</i>  <i>Jason M. Fisher</i>  <i>J. Brandon Wann</i>  <i>Adam Ross Hodges</i>                      1989  <i>George N. Downer, IV</i>  <i>Keith Richard Brenneman</i>                      1990  <i>Christopher Aaron Stephens</i>                      1991  <i>James Paul Lively</i>  <i>Cameron C. Decker</i>                      1992  <i>James Seth Waddell</i>  <i>Michael Henry Lange</i>                      1993  <i>Brandon Alan Bell</i>                      1994  <i>Eric John Dinger</i>  <i>Leonard J. Ford</i>  <i>Shane Benton Bowen</i>                      1995  <i>Sean Munro Veazie</i>  <i>Joseph Thomas Cross</i>  <i>John David Williams</i>  <i>Dean Michael Tapper</i>  <i>Philip Frederick Counce, Jr.</i>                      1996  <i>Kenneth Mark Turpen</i>  <i>Steven Roxy Hockman</i>  <i>Ryan Phillip Miller</i>  <i>Michael Steven Podawiltz</i>  <i>Stephen Raymond McFadden</i>  <i>Zachary Ross Bowders</i>                      1998  <i>Justin Michael Adcock</i>  <i>Ryan Matthew Overholser</i>  <i>Craig Joseph Syzmanski</i>                      1999  <i>Donald Lloyd Counts, III</i>  <i>Ronald George Fittes, II</i>  <i>Bryan Isamu Nishimoto (1999)</i>  <i>Christopher David Pickler</i>                      2000  <i>Kevin Andrew Cerrito</i>  <i>Taylor Andrew Hesse</i>  <i>Jonathon Blake Nanney</i>  <i>Adam Marshall Rust</i>  <i>Stephen Ross Sparks</i>  <i>Jay Alan Stemberidge</i>  <i>Jeffrey McNeil Tyler (2001)</i></p>	<p>2001  <i>Adam Herman Briesemeister (2012)</i>  <i>Richard William Brown</i>  <i>Nicholas Cobb</i>  <i>Christopher David Denton</i>  <i>Jason Alan Sanders</i>                      2002  <i>Kenneth Kyle McWilliams</i>  <i>Andrew Tadashi Nishimoto</i>  <i>Andrew Ryan Sparks</i>                      2003  <i>Joseph Neal Shane</i>                      2004  <i>Gregory Ross Cobb</i>  <i>David Nelson Cox</i>  <i>Adam Kent Hopkins</i>  <i>William Tucker Vandenberg</i>                      2005  <i>Robert Bruce Cameron III</i>  <i>William Richard Cunha</i>  <i>Jason Christopher Errion</i>  <i>Bruce Marlow Medler</i>  <i>Ryan Thomas Stemberidge</i>  <i>Brandon Drew Whiteley</i>                      2006  <i>Drew Taylor Blair</i>  <i>Patrick Thomas Hesse</i>  <i>Stephen R.D. Mossman</i>  <i>Franklin William Wellborn III</i>  <i>Matthew Scott Wiseman</i>                      2007  <i>Ross Allan Hepner</i>  <i>Jeffrey Harold Higginbotham</i>  <i>John Allen McLain</i>                      2008  <i>Craig Michael Cerrito</i>  <i>Christopher Trenhun Wu</i>  <i>Tyler Patrick Roche</i>  <i>Lance William Waters</i>                      2010  <i>Cameron Lawrence Brittain</i>  <i>Nelson Stockdale Carney</i>  <i>Wade Walker Cline</i>  <i>Tyler Alexander Cobb</i>  <i>Michael Isiah Glenn</i>  <i>William James Kutteh</i>  <i>Zachary Warner Millar</i>  <i>Donald Allen Redley</i>  <i>Richard Fisher Vollmer III</i></p>	<p>2011  <i>Daniel Bradley Gabriel</i>  <i>Christopher Paul Hailey</i>  <i>Patrick Josef Jaeger</i>  <i>Nathan Ross Knox</i>  <i>Zachary Sheldon Rausch</i>  <i>Brian Raymond Turner</i>                      2012  <i>Dakota Christian Cline</i>  <i>Zachary David Crawford</i>  <i>Markus Vincent Boyd</i>  <i>Tyler James Boyd</i>  <i>Daniel Els Brewer</i>  <i>Ryan Lawrence Agee</i>  <i>Aaron Gray Cohen</i>  <i>Carter Hayden Fleming</i>  <i>Joseph Michael Redley</i>  <i>Jeffrey Cannon Crout</i>  <i>Warren James Smith</i>  <i>Spencer Houston Jones</i>  <i>Dylan Ryan Reed</i>  <i>Grayson Andrew Lee</i>  <i>Michael James Loyd</i>  <i>John Thomas Kutteh</i>  <i>Andrew Arnold Bryant</i>  <i>Carter Kay Eakin</i>  <i>Parker Louis Ehrlich</i>                      2013  <i>Benjamin James Woods</i>  <i>Adam Christopher Crawford</i>  <i>Anthony DaFu Montesano Vang</i>  <i>Justin Alexander Lynch</i>  <i>John Thomas Hicks</i>  <i>Nathan Merion Smith</i>                      2014  <i>Michael Sutherland Ware</i>  <i>James Duncan Fletcher</i>                      2015  <i>Alexander Brooks Fletcher</i>  <i>Beau Austin Carpenter</i>  <i>James Gibson Steed</i>  <i>Jonathan Blake Criswell</i>  <i>Thomas Caleb Criswell</i>  <i>Caleb Shawn Brimm</i>  <i>Austin Michael Russell</i>                      2016  <i>Grant Chapman Reid</i>  <i>Jacob Neal Shoof</i>  <i>Ian Mathew Daniele</i>  <i>Carter Vincent Williams</i></p>
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## BOY SCOUT OVERVIEW

Lord Baden-Powell, the founder of the Scouting movement in England in the early 1900s once described Scouting as “A Game with a Purpose.” There are three aims in Scouting:

1. *Growth in moral strength and character.* We encourage a Scout to look at his personal qualifications; his values, his outlook, and hopes for the future.
2. *Become a participating citizen.* By developing his relationship to others, he learns about his obligation to other people, to the society he lives in, and to the government that presides over that society.
3. *Develop all-round fitness.* Problem solving, self-respect, and a fit body meet the final aim of developing physical, mental, and emotional fitness.

The ideals of Scouting are spelled out in the Scout Oath, Law, Motto, Slogan and Outdoor Code.

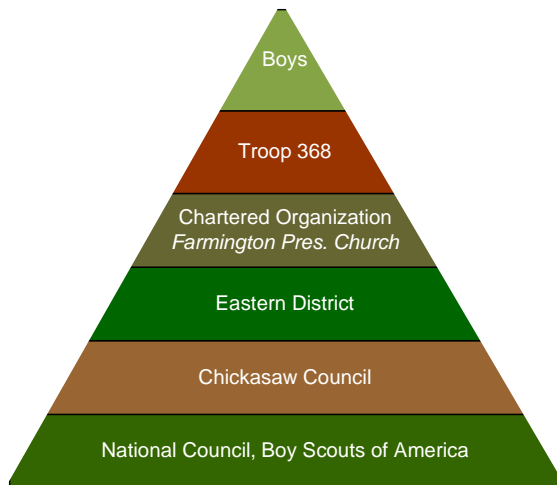
<p><b>Scout Oath</b> On my honor I will do my best To do my duty to God and my country And to obey the Scout Law; To help other people at all times; To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight.</p>	<p><i>The Scout Oath has three points: Duty to God and country, Duty to others, and Duty to self. The three upright fingers of the Scout Sign signify these three duties.</i></p>
<p><b>Scout Law</b> A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent.</p>	<p><i>There is only one Scout law. There are twelve points to the Scout Law.</i></p>
<p><b>Scout Motto</b> Be prepared.</p>	<p><i>A Scout prepares for whatever comes his way by learning all he can to keep himself strong, healthy, and ready to meet the challenges of life.</i></p>
<p><b>Scout Slogan</b> Do a good turn daily.</p>	<p><i>Good turns are helpful acts of kindness done quietly, without boasting and without expecting reward or pay.</i></p>
<p><b>Outdoor Code</b> As an America, I will do my best to – Be clean in my outdoor manners, Be careful with fires, Be considerate in the outdoors, and Be conservation minded.</p>	<p><i>I will take care of the outdoors for myself and others. I will keep my trash and garbage out of lakes, streams, fields, woods, and roadways. I will prevent wildfire. When I have finished using a fire, I will make sure it is cold out. I will leave a clean fire ring, or remove all evidence of my fire. I will treat public and private property with respect. I will use low-impact methods of hiking and camping. I will learn how to practice good conservation of soil, waters, forests, grasslands, wildlife, and energy.</i></p>

The eight methods used to meet the three aims of Scouting:

1. Scouting Ideals
2. Patrol System
3. Advancement
4. Outdoor Program
5. Adult Role Models
6. Leadership Development
7. Personal Growth
8. Scout Uniform

## Boy Scout Organization

A Boy Scout Troop is organized and administered by a Chartered Organization that is granted a charter annually by the Boy Scouts of America. The Chartered Organization agrees to provide an adequate meeting place and to select adults of good character to serve as Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmasters and Merit Badge Counselors. The Chartered Organization appoints a Chartered Organizations Representative to be the key liaison between the Troop and the Chartered Organization. The Chartered Organizations has the ultimate responsibility to ensure that the Troop operates in full accord with all BSA policies. Troop 368 is chartered by Farmington Presbyterian Church of Germantown, Tennessee.



A Boy Scout Troop is run by the boys, with adult supervision. The Troop is made up of patrols, each consisting of 6 to 8 boys, led by a Patrol Leader. The boy who leads the entire Troop is the Senior Patrol Leader. All boy leaders are elected by the boys in the Troop.

Troop 368 is part of the Eastern District, made up of about 35 troops located mostly in eastern Shelby County. We share joint activities with other troops in the district such as Camporee and training opportunities. Eastern District is part of the Chickasaw Council whose headquarters is in Memphis. The Council provides professional support, program information, Council camps and training opportunities for both boy and adult leaders

in seventeen counties in Tennessee, Arkansas and Mississippi. Chickasaw Council is part of the Southern Region. The Scouting program, books, literature, etc. are the responsibility of the Boy Scouts of America, National Headquarters, located in Irving, Texas. Troop 368 plans its program from September through September, matching the school year. Annual planning usually occurs in August.

The Troop 368 organization includes the following major components:

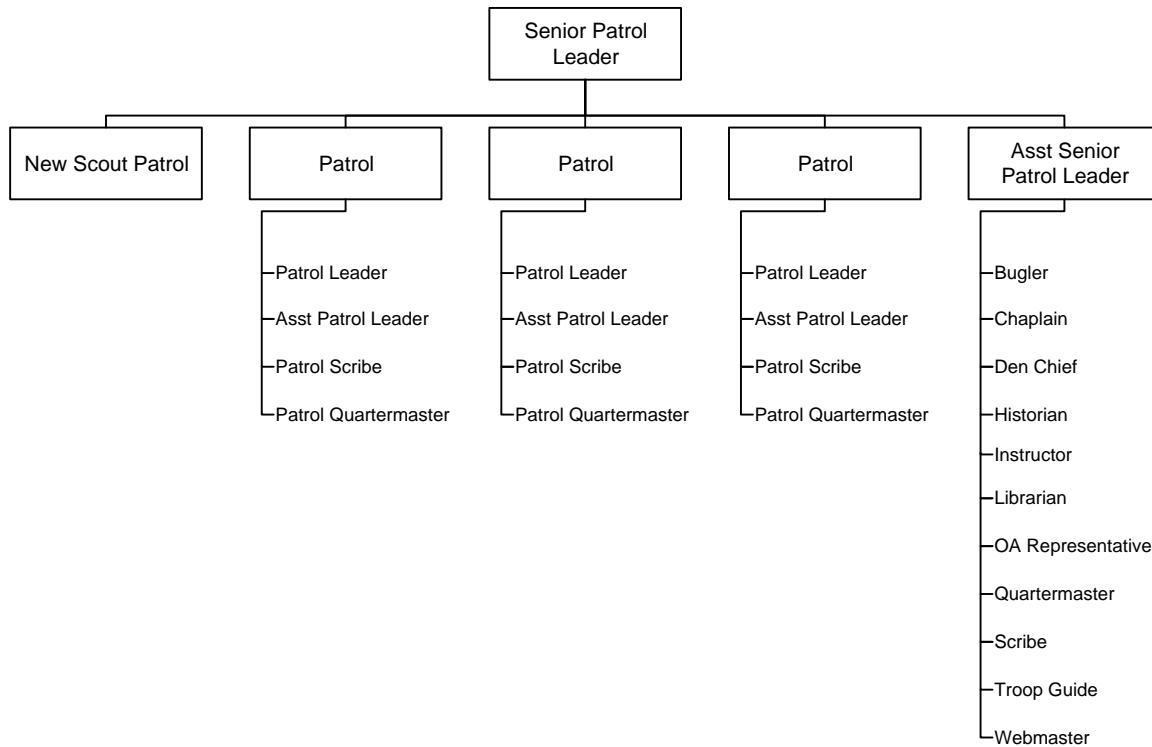
- Chartered organization (sponsor): Farmington Presbyterian Church
- Boy-Led Groups
  - Patrol Leaders' Council
  - Adventure Patrol
  - Regular Patrols
  - New Scout Patrol
- Adult Support
  - Troop Committee members
  - Uniformed adult leaders
  - Merit Badge Counselors
  - Parents

## Patrols & Patrol Method

The Troop is divided into patrols; each led by a Patrol Leader and his assistant. The patrols are under the direction of the Senior Patrol Leader and the Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders. They run the Troop meetings under the supervision of the Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters.

Troop 368 follows BSA “boy-run” leadership philosophy. The Senior Patrol Leader or Assistant Senior Patrol Leader runs the meetings and coordinates Patrol activities with the Patrol Leaders or Assistant Patrol leaders. While the boy-run leadership philosophy encourages the boys to learn through their mistakes, the Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters guide and assist the Senior Patrol Leader and Assistant Senior Patrol Leader in enhancing their leadership skills.

The Patrol Method was defined by the founder of Boy Scouts, Lord Baden-Powell, in 1907. A Patrol consists of 6 to 8 boys and a Troop consists of several Patrols. Each Patrol elects its own Patrol Leader who represents the patrol on the Patrol Leaders' Council. The Patrol works, learns, camps, and plays together as a unit. The Patrol Method is the most important and distinctive characteristic of Scouting and it is one of Scouting's eight methods. Regular patrols function as described in the Scout Handbook, Junior Leader Handbook and Scoutmaster Handbook.



When a Scout joins Troop 368, he is placed into a Patrol. Initially scouts are grouped into patrols based on similar ages. After a short period of being together with boys of the same age, Troop 368 then divides the scouts up into patrols with boys from old to young, following the original patrol method as designed by Lord Baden Powell. However, patrols can be reformed by the Scoutmaster and Senior Patrol Leader due to Patrol sizes or other factors.

Each Patrol member provides input into the Patrol's and Troop's activities. The Patrol depends on the Patrol Leader to communicate with the Troop's Senior Patrol Leader and Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, especially during PLC meetings.

### First Year Campers (FYC)

First Year Scout Patrols are special patrols established by the Troop for Scouts that are 11 years old and younger. These first year Scouts, sometimes called First Year Campers (FYCs), learn important Scouting skills in a dedicated, supportive environment. First year Scouts are assigned to Patrols by the Scoutmaster. Frequently, First Year Scout Patrols consist of boys who previously were members of the same Cub Scout Den or Pack.

Each First Year Scout Patrol has an older, experienced Scout assigned to it as a Troop Guide. The Troop Guide assists the Patrol members in learning camping and teamwork skills, while the Troop Guide learns important leadership skills.

## Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC)

The youth leadership governing body in the Troop is the Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC). The PLC is made up of the SPL, ASPL, Patrol Leaders, Scribe and other elected youth leaders. The PLC is responsible for planning and conducting the Troop's activities. This includes developing the annual program, the weekly Troop meetings, and the monthly outdoor activities. The Scoutmaster provides oversight of the PLC. Troop youth leadership positions and the PLC are discussed in the Boy Scout Handbook and are described in significant detail in the Junior Leader Handbook . The PLC meets with the Scoutmaster to review the Troop's activities and plan future events.

## Patrol Meetings

Each Patrol holds regular patrol meetings. Patrols will be allotted time for Patrol meetings during each Troop Meeting to discuss the details of an upcoming meeting or Troop activity. Patrol meetings also serve as time for Patrol Leaders to teach and reinforce scout skills.

These should not exceed 25 minutes in length. Meetings are recognized as necessary if the Patrol is to coach Scouts, develop teamwork, and provide the Patrol Leader with leadership opportunities. Patrol meetings, while not required other than the weekly Scout meetings, are encouraged. They may meet at the request of the Patrol Leader to plan and conduct advancement classes or other patrol activities. Any Patrol activity, at a Patrol Leader's home or the home of a patrol member, must be supervised by two adults, such as a Patrol Advisor or Assistant Scoutmaster.

## Program & Service Patrols

Occasionally, a patrol will be asked to perform the duties of a "Program" or "Service" patrol. The duties of a Program Patrol are to perform the opening and closing ceremonies at a troop meeting; see that necessary equipment is on hand before a meeting or training session; give leadership to campfire programs and be ready to introduce and lead songs and skits. The duties of a Service Patrol are to be responsible for the general cleanliness of the camp, especially for the latrines, washing places, meeting areas and campfire areas; assisting the quartermaster with various activities; setting up the troop campfire and extinguishing the fires as requested.

## Adult Support

There are many ways to support Troop 368 as an adult. The two main paths for parent and adult support in Troop 368 are: 1) Participation as a registered adult leader, or 2) Support as an active parent volunteer. *For more information see Page 44.*

**TIP:** Do not worry if you are not familiar with Scouting. Your valuable time, skills and abilities will be supplemented with training to make this an enjoyable experience for you and a valuable resource for the Troop.

## Troop Committee

The Troop Committee is made up of interested parents and other adults. Specific jobs cover activities, advancement, fund raising, training, transportation, treasury, etc. All committee members must be registered with the Boy Scouts of America and all should take the Scout Leader Basic Training offered by the BSA. The Committee has three primary functions:

- Approve Troop programs and activities as planned by the Patrol Leader Council and Scoutmaster
- Provide Troop program support as requested by the Scoutmaster, especially transportation and adult leadership for outings
- Secure new adult leaders as vacancies occur.

Regular voting members of the Troop Committee are the chairman and the registered adult leaders that are Troop Committee members. Parents are welcome to attend these meetings. Meetings are typically held quarterly during a troop meeting.

## Uniformed Adult Leaders

The uniformed adult leaders consist of the Scoutmaster and one or more Assistant Scoutmasters operating under the direction and control of the Scoutmaster. Their duties are to train and guide boy leaders and to use the Methods of Scouting to achieve the Aims of Scouting. The Scoutmaster has full responsibility for all program decisions of the Troop.

## Merit Badge Counselors

Merit Badge Counselors are registered adult leaders who would like to offer a learning opportunity as a coach and counselor in a merit badge in which they have an interest as a hobby or vocation.

## Parent Volunteers

Parents should participate actively as uniformed leaders, Troop Committee members, or Merit Badge Counselors if they want their son to succeed in Scouting. Troop records show that Scouts whose parents are not involved as registered leaders are not as successful in Scouting. If a parent chooses not to become a registered leader, there are plenty of other support opportunities for active parent volunteers.

## BOY SCOUT BASICS

### Membership Requirements

Any boy may join Troop 368 if he meets one of the following criteria:

He has earned the Cub Scout Arrow of Light Badge or  
He is 10 1/2 years old and has completed the fifth grade or  
He is between 11 and 18 years old

To join the Troop, an official Boy Scout Registration Form must be completed by the boy's parents or legal guardians and submitted, with his initial fees, to the Troop. A boy who graduates from Cub Scouting is eligible to register as a transfer. To do this he must present his current Cub Scout registration card (or have obtained his membership number from the Pack) along with his registration form.

### Dues, Fees and other Financial Matters

#### How Much Are Dues Each Year?

The total cost each year is \$90.00 for Scouts and \$60.00 for registered adult leaders and is due in November of each year in time for the Troop recharter. The dues pay for National registration fees, Boys' Life, Troop accident insurance, all awards earned by the Boy Scout and Troop operating expenses. No other weekly or monthly dues are collected.

National Registration Fees: This fee is paid to National BSA and is used for operation of the National Headquarters; to provide material to councils, Districts, and Troops.

Boys' Life Magazine: Boy's Life is a monthly magazine for Scouts and Scouters.

Troop Accident Insurance: This fee pays for a Troop-level insurance policy. This policy covers bodily injuries sustained while traveling directly to, or from, and while participating in, any Scouting activity {for example: Troop or patrol meetings, service projects, hikes, trips and camping}.

Awards: These include the rank insignia, badges, and merit badges and cards earned by the Scouts; program materials and supplies.

Troop operating expenses: Some of the major expenses the Troop incurs to provide a quality program for the Scouts include Court of Honor expenses, Leadership Training costs, newsletter printing and postage, propane and other immediate outing necessities, Troop equipment (as needed — tents, cooking

equipment, lanterns, etc.), one Troop Green and Gold neckerchief, slide, Scout Handbook and green shoulder loops for all new Scouts.

## Activity Fees

Scouts are asked to pay their own way for food and camp fees. Patrols will assume responsibility for purchasing their food for campouts. Typical activity fees for a weekend campout range from \$15 per Scout and up to cover meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday), camp registration fees, and an event patch. (there are additional fees for Friday dinner when the troop cooks)

## Scout's Personal Gear

It is the parent's responsibility to provide a complete Class A uniform. Personal equipment such as a sleeping bag, backpack, mess kit, flashlight, water bottle, and sleeping pad are also the Scout's responsibility.

## Fund Raising

Troop 368 uses fund raising as a supplemental source of income to the annual dues to support the programs the Scouts wish to pursue. Each Scout and his parents have an equal responsibility in participating in fundraising activities. Since these funds support all Scouts in the Troop, it is important that all members of the Troop fully support these efforts by participating to the maximum extent they can. Some fundraising activities also allow the Scout to receive monetary credit for dues, Summer Camp, and other Scouting activities. An easy way to earn money for your Scout and the troop is to participate in our Kroger card program. For every dollar you spend at Kroger, you get back 3½ cents and the Troop gets 1½ cents. Other fund raising activities are conducted as needed and include car washes, participation in Council-sponsored fundraisers such as Popcorn Sales, and other activities suggested by the PLC or the Troop Committee.

## Friends of Scouting (FOS)

"Friends of Scouting" is an annual fundraiser for the Chickasaw Council. The council does not get any share of a Scout's registration fee and depends on those who benefit from scouting to provide a significant portion of the annual operating income for council services.

## Typical Troop Meetings and Events

Troop 368's regular meetings are held at Farmington Presbyterian Church, 8245 Farmington Blvd., every Monday night except school holidays. The meetings begin promptly at 7:00pm and are usually over by 8:30pm. Scouts are encouraged to arrive earlier than 7:00pm to work on any advancement they desire or socialize with some informal games. There is a Troop campout every month during the months of September through May.

Each spring, the Troop participates with other Troops in a Camporee. Every summer the Scouts attend Summer Camp for a week of extended camping. They have the opportunity to earn Merit Badges and participate in fun events such as canoeing and swimming. The troop attends winter camp between Christmas and New Years. The troop also organizes annual opportunities for scouts to attend one of the four national scout High Adventure bases.

## Uniform & Insignia

The Boys Scouts of America is a uniformed organization. Wearing the Scout uniform tends to downplay the importance of a person's financial, social, and ethnic background, while clearly highlighting each individual's Scouting accomplishments. Each Scout displays his personal experiences and accomplishments by wearing his activity and advancement patches on his uniform. Scouts are expected to properly wear the uniform at all Scout activities.



**TIP** The Troop does not have a hard and fast rule regarding the discipline for not wearing the uniform. A rule is not needed because Scouts that do not wear the uniform are not showing “Scout Spirit” and not following the Scout Law. For all ranks above Tenderfoot, a Scout must “demonstrate Scout Spirit” in order to advance.

Class ‘A’ or ‘B’ are shorthand terms for the official Troop 368 uniforms. The proper uniform to wear is determined according to the nature of the activity or outing. Class A uniforms (sometimes called “Field” uniforms) are required at all Troop meetings, Boards of Review for rank advancement and Courts of Honor. Class A uniforms are also required for all external Troop activities (e.g., travel to and from activities and campouts, community service) unless otherwise directed by the Scoutmaster or Senior Patrol Leader. The Scout is to have respect for the uniform. Shirrtails should be tucked in and uniforms should be pressed and clean.

Class B uniforms are worn during a camping activity, work details, summer camp, at Patrol Leader Council meetings or other informal Scouting occasions or unless otherwise directed by the Scoutmaster or Senior Patrol Leader. Occasionally, the call will be made to wear Class ‘C’ which is just casual wear up to the discretion and appropriateness of the event.

<p><b>Class ‘A’ Uniform</b> <i>Mandatory Items</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Official Scout Shirt (long or short sleeves)</li> <li>• Official Scout Pants (long pants or shorts)</li> <li>• Official Scout belt and buckle</li> <li>• Scout socks</li> <li>• Troop 368 neckerchief * (Embroidered gold on a green background with troop patch)</li> <li>• Neckerchief slide *</li> <li>• Green shoulder loops *</li> </ul> <p><i>Optional Items</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scout Cap (for outdoors only)</li> <li>• Merit Badge Sash</li> </ul>	<p><b>Class ‘B’ Uniform</b> <i>Mandatory Items</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Troop T-Shirt</li> <li>• Official Scout pants</li> <li>• Official Scout belt and buckle</li> </ul> <p><i>Optional Items</i> Scout Socks</p> <p><b>Class ‘C’ Uniform</b> Scout-related T-shirt</p>
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*\*Provided by the Troop to each new Scout during a Webelos crossover or his first meeting. The Scout must purchase all other items.*

Uniforms may be purchased at the Scout Shop [171 South Hollywood, Memphis, TN 38112 (901) 323-7281]. The Troop recognizes that Scouts frequently outgrow their uniforms more quickly than it is economical to replace them. Please take this into consideration when making the size selection. The troop also maintains a Clothes Closet where new and or younger scouts can obtain uniforms turned in by older scouts who outgrew their uniform.

The Troop neckerchief is an official Boy Scout neckerchief with gold embroidery on a green background with the Troop Patch sewn on the neckerchief. An official Boy Scout neckerchief slide or one made by the Scout is permitted. String, rubber bands, cardboard or paper slides are not permitted. The neckerchief is to be worn under the shirt collar, with a neckerchief slide.

## Insignia & Patches Placement

The Class A uniform shirt needs the following insignia placed correctly:

- **LEFT POCKET:** Badge of Rank; Arrow of Light (if earned).
- **RIGHT POCKET:** Any temporary patch may be worn.
- **LEFT SLEEVE:** Chickasaw Council shoulder patch, "368".
- **RIGHT SLEEVE:** American flag, Patrol Patch, current year Journey to Excellence patch.

- World Scout Crest (above left pocket about 3 inches below shoulder seam)

Patch and insignia placement guides are found on the inside front and rear covers of the Boy Scout Handbook. Do not wear patches that are not included in the insignia guide. Not shown is the Journey to Excellence patch (sew on the right sleeve 4 inches below the shoulder seam just below the patrol medallion). Other sources for correct uniform guides: Uniform Insignia Guide on page 57 of this handbook; Boy Scout/Varsity Scout Uniform Inspection Sheet, No. 34283 and Insignia Guide, No. 33064.

Some patches are a permanent part of the uniform, such as the Troop number, the Chickasaw Council shoulder patch (CSP) and an American Flag for the Class A uniform shirt. Also, each time a Scout progresses in rank the new badge of rank replaces the old one on the left pocket.

Scouts are forever receiving patches for trips, hikes, and other sources. These patches are usually worn temporarily until another patch comes along. Only one temporary patch is worn at a time and it is positioned on the right hand shirt pocket. Some Scouts purchase a plastic holder for temporary patches. It has a buttonhole and is worn over the right pocket, thus making changing patches easy.

### Common Uniform Mistakes

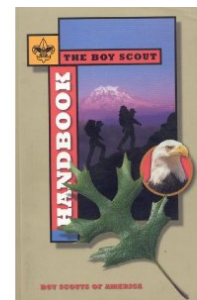
- Wearing an incomplete uniform.
- Patches in wrong places or wearing “outdated” patches. All Scouts are expected to wear only the badges and insignia they are currently entitled to wear and then in accordance with BSA instructions. Scouts are expected to promptly remove all badges following their removal from office, or upon election or appointment of a successor.
- Belt tab and buckle not “brass on brass”.
- Service stars. Only one service star is allowed for each program the Scout was or is in. A Scout can wear a service star for Tiger Cubs (orange background), Cub Scouts (yellow background) and for Boy Scouts (green background).
- Headgear. Only BSA headgear may be worn while the Scout is participating in an indoor formal ceremony or service duty (except in religious institutions where custom forbids) such as flag ceremonies, inspections, orderly duty or ushering service. In informal indoor activities where no official ceremony is involved, headgear is removed as when in street clothes. Non-BSA headgear is acceptable only during outdoor activities.
- Sashes. Only one merit badge sash may be worn. No patches [no badges of rank) may be worn on the back of the merit badge sash. The Order of the Arrow (OA) sash may only be worn during OA events and is not to be worn with the merit badge sash.

### Boy Scout Handbook

All members of Troop 368 must own a copy of the official Boy Scout Handbook. Troop members must use the Handbook edition applicable for when they joined Boy Scouts. The Handbook is available from the Scout Store in Memphis. The introductory section on Child Abuse is essential and must be read by both the Scout and his parents. This book is the Scout’s textbook and his record of achievement. He should be sure to put his name on the outside cover so he can identify it.

Scouts should bring the Handbook to every meeting.

Plastic or packcloth book covers are available to help keep the book clean, dry and in one piece. Scouts are highly encouraged to pack their Handbook in a zip-loc bag.



**Tip:** Scouts should safeguard their Handbook by clearly marking their name on the outside edge and protecting it from the elements. Remember all Handbooks look alike from the outside.

# SCOUTING WITH TROOP 368

## Registration

The Troop re-charters each December. At that time, the annual dues are collected and Scouts and adults are registered with BSA. Scouts and Parents are requested to provide certain personal information required for advancement and Safe Scouting. This includes home and business telephone numbers, social security numbers, automobile registration and insurance information.

## Conduct

The guidelines for acceptable behavior for all Scout activities are contained in the Scout Oath, Law, Motto, and Slogan as stated in the Boy Scout Handbook.

The Troop operates under a "Safe Haven" policy at Troop meetings, on outings and all Scout-related activities. Under this policy, all Troop activities constitute a Safe Haven, free from fear of physical and verbal abuse, where Scouts can take chances with new skills and ideas in a supportive atmosphere without fear of ridicule or retribution from other members of the Troop family. Adult supervision and Scout self-discipline are keys to making this policy work.

The Troop expects each Scout to be active, to advance regularly, to wear the full Scout uniform, to practice good manners and behavior, and to do his best to live by the ideals of Scouting as expressed in the Scout Law and Oath.

Each Scout in Troop 368 (and similarly, any of his family members) has a responsibility to protect and respect our meeting place as well as the property of the Troop and his fellow Scouts. Any damage or loss incurred (intentional, accidental, or otherwise) will be the responsibility of those who cause it.

Harassment, cheating, stealing, lying, swearing, tobacco, drugs or alcohol, unacceptable knives, pellet guns, fireworks/pyrotechnics, vandalism and conduct unbecoming of a Scout are not tolerated. Depending on the type of offense, different actions will be taken first by the Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster and then the Troop Committee. If the Scout continues to show undisciplined behavior, a special meeting between the Scout, his parents, the Scoutmaster, and the Troop Committee Chairman will be held and could result in his suspension or removal from the Troop.

## Communication

It is important that everyone be informed of news and events concerning the Troop. Information flows through several channels in Troop 368. Troop 368 considers effective communication to be key to the success of the Troop's program. For this reason, significant effort is made to "get the word out" regarding Troop activities and information.

In *troop meeting announcements*, Scouts are responsible for listening to instructions, understanding, remembering them and transmitting these messages to parents. A pocket or spiral notebook and pen will help and should be part of a Scout's uniform.

**TIP:** Parents should ask their son if there is any information that they need to know when he returns home from a meeting. Parents are also encouraged to arrive by 8:15pm at each Troop meeting to hear the same announcements.

A *call chain or phone tree* may be used to inform Scouts about Troop events and special requirements, instructions, or equipment needs.

- The Scoutmaster is responsible for informing the Senior Patrol Leader and adult leadership.
- The Senior Patrol Leader is responsible for informing the Patrol Leaders.
- Patrol Leaders are responsible for informing their patrol members.

The Troop's primary method of communication with parents and older scouts is through e-mail. Please make sure the Troop has your current e-mail address(es) to ensure you are on the distribution list.

A Troop calendar is distributed annually (usually in September) for the entire program year. Updates are discussed at the Patrol Leaders' Council and communicated at regular Troop meetings.

A Troop roster is available. The roster lists the Scouts by Patrol, identifying all Scouts with positions of responsibility in the Troop, with addresses and home phone numbers for each Scout. The roster is utilized in completing a phone tree notification of important information for all Scouts.

The troop website contains a current calendar of events and essential information about Troop activities and Scouting policies. It is available online at [www.bsatroop368.com](http://www.bsatroop368.com).

The Troop website is a great resource for permission slips, directions, important dates for your Scouting calendar, or other information. A FAQ, message board, and a Forms page are just a small part of the great wealth of information the Troop website provides.

The Troop holds parent meetings as needed to pass along important information, update the parents on newsworthy items and encourage them to become registered adult leaders.

## **Troop Elections**

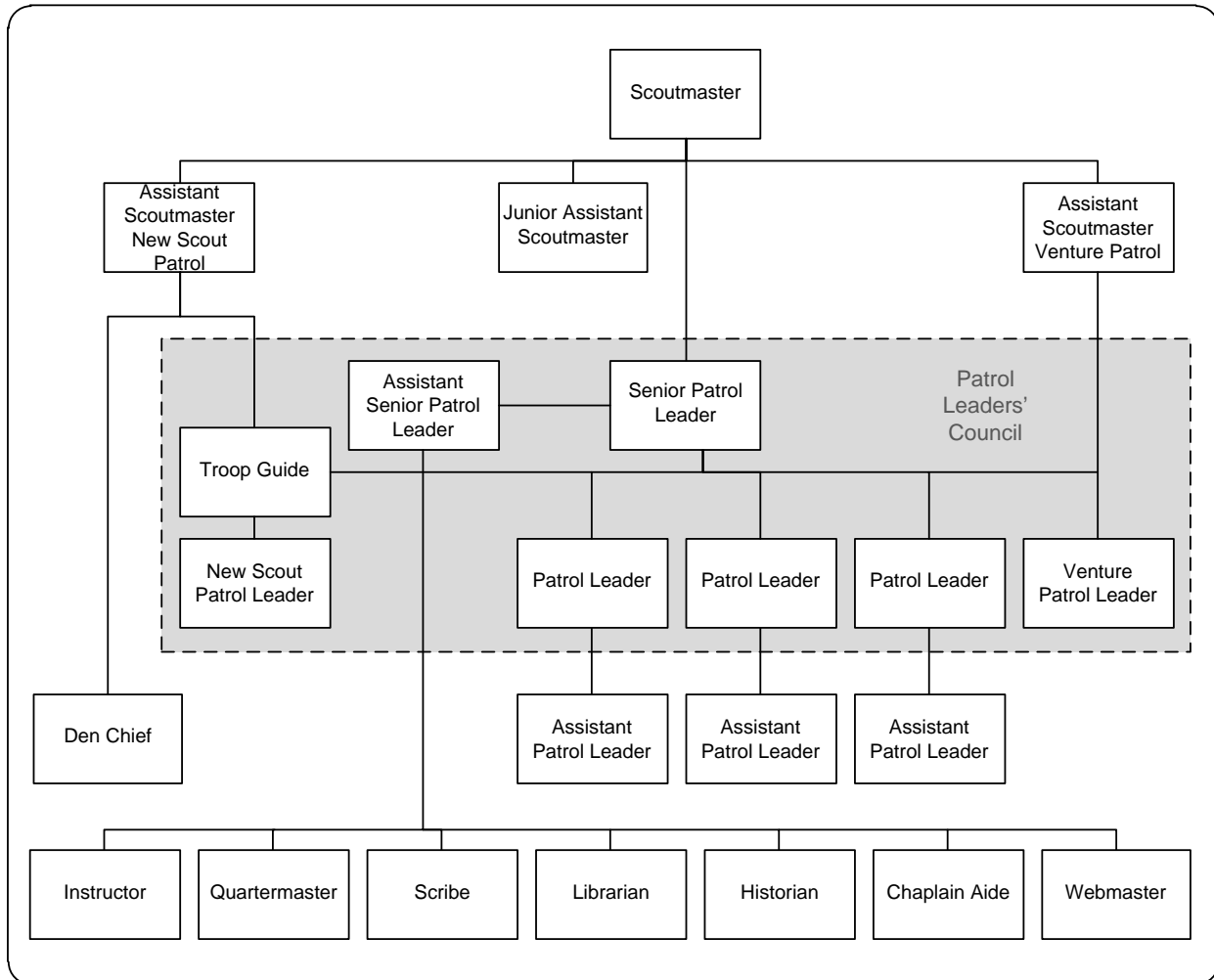
The two most important Troop positions (Senior Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader) are elected by their peers to six-month terms. Troop elections for the Senior Patrol Leader position typically occur in August and January. The Senior Patrol Leader is chosen by secret ballot of the entire Troop, and more than half the active Scouts must be present.

Patrol Leaders are elected in a similar manner in August and January by the members of their patrol. Patrol Leader candidates will have completed or agreed to complete Troop Leader Training (TLT), and have the approval of the Scoutmaster. Each Patrol Leader will select his own assistant. Patrol Leaders may succeed themselves once.

Should an elected or appointed leader be inactive with the Troop, or be determined to continue to be ineffective or unwilling after adequate counseling from the adult Troop leaders, he will be replaced in that office. The Scoutmaster will appoint a replacement until such time as an election can be held by the Troop.

Elected troop leadership will commit to attending all campouts and as many weekly meetings as possible to lead effectively. Lack of attendance is grounds for removal from office.

## Scout Leadership Organization Chart



### Training

An important part of Scouting is learning to be a leader. A Scout learns leadership through the patrol method in the Troop and at a Troop Leader Training (TLT) session conducted by the Troop. The purpose of TLT is to get the new leaders acquainted with each other and how to be a successful leader. All Scouts who assume a new leadership position, even if they have previously held that position, must attend TLT in order to be qualified as “Trained”.



### Order of the Arrow (OA)



The Order of the Arrow, or OA is a brotherhood of honor campers. Scouts become candidates for OA by being elected by their fellow Scouts as best exemplifying the Scout Oath and Scout Law. To become eligible for election a Scout must first hold the rank of First Class or above, and have experienced 15 days of camping during the two years before his election. The 15 days and nights must include one long-term camp such as Kia Kima Summer Camp, but no more than one long-term camp can count towards this requirement. In order for the Troop to conduct a youth election, there must be 50% of the active registered Scouts in the Troop present on the election day.

OA candidates are “called out” in a special ceremony, usually at the Spring Camporee. They must then prove themselves at an *OA Ordeal* where they are to reflect upon their Scouting life and obtain a deeper understanding of the Order. One adult per Troop per year can be recommended by the adult OA members of the Troop to the OA Committee. He must also attend the Ordeal.

## ADVANCEMENT

Scouts learn by advancing. Advancement is one of Scouting’s eight methods because it teaches useful skills, leadership and service. It is probably the one aspect we are the most familiar with, and the one most seem to focus the most on, but it is just a part of the process.

**TIP** Troop 368 stresses Scouts to “Learn the Skill, Not Earn the Award”. By focusing in skill learning and demonstrating leadership and service, the Scout will fulfill the aims of Scouting.

To be most beneficial to the Scout, advancement should be neither too rapid nor too slow. The Troop’s goal is for each Scout to complete his First Class rank within a year of joining. Scouts who reach First Class within a year usually stay, while those who do not usually drop out in their second year.

## Rank Descriptions

There are seven ranks, from Scout through Eagle, awarded as badges to be worn on the uniform. The first four ranks (Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class) emphasize basic skills. The higher ranks (Star, Life, Eagle) emphasize leadership and service; skills at this level are secondary. There are also Merit Badges to be earned as requirements for progressing through the various ranks.

## Scout Responsibility

To advance, a Scout must be active, must do his best to live by the Scout Law and Promise, practice leadership, give service to others, learn Scout skills (mostly in the outdoors), and earn merit badges.

## Procedures for Rank Advancement

A scout should follow these procedures for obtaining and recording his rank advancements:

- Meet the requirements for the advancement or award, including the Scoutmaster Conference and Board of Review, as set forth in the Boy Scout Handbook.
- Have his Scout Handbook signed by the appropriate adult leader(s) or senior Scout(s). Basic Scout skills for Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class may be certified (signed by Scouts with the rank of Star or above).

**TIP:** If the Advancement Chairman does not have the rank advancement or award posted to the Troop records, the Scout has not yet earned the advancement or award. Each Scout is responsible for showing his completed paperwork to the Advancement Chairman.

Scout advancement is a four-step process:

1. The Boy Scout learns by **DOING**
2. The Scout is **TESTED**
3. The Scout is **REVIEWED** (Board of Review)
4. The Scout is **RECOGNIZED** (Court of Honor)

Scouts start by earning the Scout Rank. The requirements can be found in the Boy Scout Handbook. These skills must be demonstrated to a uniformed adult leader or a Scout with the rank of Star or above who will then initial and date the Scout’s handbook. The initials or signature and date are required for the badge to be awarded. Many new Scouts who have earned the Arrow of Light as a Webelos Scout can complete these requirements within the first few meetings.

All advancement requirements are explained in the Scout Handbook and are listed through Eagle and Eagle Palms. References to pages in the Handbook with the information needed to complete each requirement are provided in parentheses after each requirement.

**TIP:** Make sure all advancement signatures and dates are placed in the back of the handbook under each respective requirement. The advancement requirements listed in the front of the Handbook are only work in progress worksheets.

The ranks of Tenderfoot Scout, Second Class Scout, and First Class Scout require skills learned at campouts, hikes, and Troop meetings, and service hours given to the community or religious institution. Please ensure all service hours are clearly documented. The requirements will then be initialed and dated in the Boy Scout Handbook as they are completed. A Scout may work on the requirements for all three ranks in any order, but will receive the ranks in order (i.e. Tenderfoot before Second Class, Second Class before First Class). Up to First Class, rank is considered directed advancement with programs designed to assist the Scouts.

The ranks of Star, Life, and Eagle are considered self-directed because the requirements exceed the basic skills of the lower ranks, with the Scout taking on full responsibility for his advancement with full support from the Troop. All requirements for advancement are tracked using the Boy Scout Handbook. Advancement through the seven ranks consists of performance in the following seven categories.

### **1. Active Service**

A Scout must be active in Troop meetings and campouts to be eligible for ANY advancement. A Scout must meet this standard for at least the minimum period of active service required for each rank. *For more information see the Participation Policy on Page 62.*

### **2. Basic Scout Skills**

The basic Scout skills for Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class may be certified (signed off) by Scouts with the rank of Star or above.

### **3. Merit Badges**

Merit badges are required to complete the higher ranks of Star, Life and Eagle. See page 25 on Merit Badges.

### **4. Leadership**

A Scout must hold an approved Troop office and execute it in an acceptable manner for at least the minimum period of active service required for Star, Life, and Eagle.

### **5. Service Projects**

This is useful service to the church, school or community, performed under the direction of Troop leaders or with the Scoutmaster's prior approval. It is important to future citizens to develop the habit of service to the greater community. An Eagle Scout candidate must be the leader in charge during his project and the Eagle project must benefit the community outside of Scouting. See the next section below on Service to Others.

### **6. Scoutmaster Conference**

After completing all requirements, and prior to the Board of Review, a Scout must schedule and meet with the Scoutmaster to discuss past progress and future plans.

### **7. Board of Review**

After completing all requirements, a Scout is reviewed on work done. The Troop Committee conducts reviews for all ranks from Tenderfoot through Eagle, under the direction of the Troop advancement chairman.

## Service to Others

Service projects, which include Troop projects and projects organized by Scouts who are working on their Eagle rank, are an integral part of the Scouting program designed to aid the development of character and citizenship. During the year, several Troop service projects will be undertaken. This may include a cleanup of Farmington Presbyterian Church where the Troop meets, or Scouting for Food which assists The Food Bank. All Scouts are expected to participate in Troop service projects.

Hours working on approved Troop and/ or Eagle Scout projects are required for advancement to most ranks. The time of service must be a minimum of 1 hour for Second Class and 6 hours for Star and Life ranks. This may be done as an individual project or as a member of a patrol or Troop project. Service projects only count towards the next rank being earned (i.e., hours for Life Scout must be accomplished while a Star Scout). Service hours cannot be used towards more than one rank. Service hours required by other clubs and organizations cannot count towards Scout service hours.

All service projects must be approved by the Scoutmaster before the project is undertaken. Non-Troop sponsored service projects for advancement must be approved in advance by the Scoutmaster to ensure the service is applicable. Service projects require a Scout to go out of his way to do the project. A Good Turn should not be misinterpreted as a service project. It is a part of the Scout's Duty to Others.

## Scout Spirit

Scout Spirit is the attitude a Scout projects on a consistent basis towards the world and people around him. This attitude should embody all points of the Scout Law, Scout Oath, Scout Motto, and Scout Slogan, at all times. Active participation, Patrol pride and an eager, helpful, and supportive attitude are also an important aspect of Scout Spirit. Scout Spirit for the rank of Eagle requires the scout to go above and beyond what is expected and can only be verified by the Scoutmaster.

## Merit Badges

After the Scout has learned the basic skills of Scouting he moves on to learning more in-depth skills. The Scout Handbook currently lists 129 Merit Badges which the Scout can earn. For specific information, a Scout should obtain a Merit Badge book (pamphlet) from the Troop library or Scout Shop which gives details and step-by-step help on meeting the requirements of a particular Merit Badge. Also available at the Scout Shop is a handy "Boy Scout Requirements" book, which lists all the Merit Badges and their requirements. Merit Badge worksheets and requirements can be found on-line.

Earning merit badges encourages the Scout to increase his skill in subjects he already likes while others challenge him to learn about new areas of knowledge. Many of the merit badges are designed to help increase his ability to be of service to others, to take part in outdoor adventures, to better understand the environment, and to play a valuable role in family and community. Many Merit Badges are vocational or hobby oriented.

A Scout of any rank may earn any merit badge. **However, it is strongly suggested that Scouts below the rank of Star concentrate on skill learning for the advancement in that rank.**

For ranks of Star, Life and Eagle, the earning of Merit Badges is coupled with service and leadership as the primary method of advancement. Certain Merit Badges are required PRIOR to earning the rank. Specific numbers of badges must be earned to advance from Star through Eagle and certain badges are required for Eagle. Twelve specified merit badges are required by the time a Scout achieves Eagle. Eagles must earn an additional nine optional badges for a total of 21.

### Merit Badges Required in Scouting

- First Aid
- Camping



- Citizenship in the Community
- Citizenship in the Nation
- Citizenship in the World
- Communications
- Emergency Preparedness OR Lifesaving. (Scout chooses only one of these two merit badges)
- Swimming OR Hiking OR Cycling, (Scout chooses only one of these three merit badges)
- Environmental Science
- Personal Fitness
- Personal Management
- Family Life

For the rank of Star, a Scout may choose any four of the 15 required merit badges in the 12 categories to fulfill this requirement. For the rank of Life, a Scout may choose any seven of the 15 required merit badges in the 12 categories to fulfill this requirement. For the rank of Eagle, a Scout must earn one from each of the 12 categories.

### Steps to Earning a Merit Badge

Work on a merit badge may be done at Troop meetings, in a group outside meetings, on an individual basis, or at summer camp. All merit badges require a Merit Badge Counselor.

1. Select a Merit Badge to Work on. The Scout selects a Merit Badge that interests him or that is necessary for his next rank advancement.
2. The Advancement Chairman will assign a Merit Badge Counselor before beginning any work on the Merit Badge.
3. Get Scoutmaster approval. The Scout must obtain the Scoutmaster's permission and signature before beginning.
4. Meet with the Counselor. The Scout contacts the Merit Badge Counselor and arranges a time to meet with him/ her.
5. Work on the Merit Badge. Upon completion of each of the requirements, the counselor initials and dates each one. Merit Badge Counselors are instructed to follow the exact requirements listed for a merit badge. If it directs the Scout to “explain”, the Scout must explain; if it directs the Scout to “demonstrate”, the Scout must demonstrate. When working as an individual with a Merit Badge Counselor, another person MUST be present to ensure the two deep leadership requirement of Scouting. The additional person present must be at least 18 years of age.
6. Finish work on the badge.
7. Get final Scoutmaster approval.
8. Turn in paperwork. The Scout then returns the documentation to the Advancement Chairman for recording into the Troop records.
9. Receive Merit Badge. At the next Court of Honor, the Scout is presented his merit badge and a white merit badge card. a. The white card is the official advancement record. The Scout must keep the white card safe.

A Scout should take care to safeguard the documentation he receives of his work; if lost, a Scout may have to repeat the work to earn the badge. This is especially true in the case of merit badges earned outside the Troop.

## Troop Library

The Troop Library contains many different Merit Badge Pamphlets and other Scout Literature. The Troop Librarian maintains the Troop Library under the supervision of the Advancement Chairman who maintains the Merit Badge Counselor list. A Scout should see the Troop Librarian to check out any materials prior to buying any pamphlets. Scouts may check out books from the Librarian at Scout Meetings. The Librarian will maintain records on loaned books.

We request that Scouts who have purchased a Merit Badge Pamphlet donate their used pamphlets to the Troop Library once they have completed that merit badge. This helps to ensure pamphlet availability for future Troop needs.

## Merit Badge Counselors

Merit Badge Counselors are registered adult leaders who have knowledge about a particular badge, either by occupation, hobby, or training. Merit Badge accomplishments are approved only by adult Merit Badge Counselors. The Advancement Chairman is responsible for maintaining a current list of Merit Badge Counselors. Parents may counsel their son on a badge only if they are the approved Troop counselor for that badge and offer the Merit Badge opportunity to the entire troop.

## Scoutmaster Conference

As a Scout advances along the trail to Eagle Scout, he must complete a variety of accomplishments. When all requirements for a specific rank are completed, the final requirements are to have a Scoutmaster Conference and a Board of Review. A Scoutmaster Conference must take place after all other requirements are complete and before the Board of Review. This conference should establish a good working relationship between the Scout and the Scoutmaster of the Troop. At this required conference, the Scoutmaster will help a Scout determine whether or not he is ready to go before the Board of Review. It is also an opportunity for the Scoutmaster to meet one on one with each Scout in order to set goals, discuss interests and communicate regarding the Scout's interaction with the Patrol and Troop.

The Scout must present himself in a neat, clean, and up to date “Class A” uniform and have his Handbook and all other associated paperwork. Failure to do so will result in the conference being rescheduled.

## Board of Review

The objectives of a Board of Review are:

- To make sure the Scout has completed the requirements for the rank.
- To gauge the experience the Scout is having in the Troop.
- To get a sense of the value Scouting has on the Scout.
- To encourage the Scout to progress further.

The Board of Review consists of a minimum of three registered adults. The Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmasters and the Scout's parents CANNOT be on the Board. The Scout must present himself in a neat, clean “Class A” uniform and have his *Handbook* (failure to do this will result in the review being rescheduled). The Board will ask him questions about Scouting, the Troop, activities he has attended, and advancement requirements pertaining to the rank he is completing. Particular attention is paid to Scout Spirit and how the Scout has demonstrated this since his last rank advancement. Failure to demonstrate the proper Scout Spirit will restrict a Scout's advancement opportunities. The Board will announce the results to the Scout and Scoutmaster after conferring.

It is the responsibility of the Scout to request a Board of Review interview in advance with the Troop Advancement Chairman. It is also the Scout's responsibility to be prepared.

**TIP:** Page 49 provides a Checklist for a Board of Review

## Record Keeping

A Scout is responsible for asking the Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmasters or senior Scouts to sign his handbook as soon as he demonstrates and completes any requirement. It is the responsibility of each Scout to see the Advancement Chairman whenever he earns a Merit Badge or advances to make sure the Troop records are brought up to date. Proof of advancement is a signed-off Scout Handbook or documentation from Merit Badge classes.

Advancement records are kept in three places:

1. Council office
2. Troop Advancement Chairman and the Troopmaster program
3. Scout himself

The Council office keeps records supplied by the Troop Advancement Chairman, who also keeps copies of these records for the Troop. The Troop Advancement Chairman maintains the Troop's computerized advancement information.

The Scout will receive two kinds of documents which they need to **KEEP IN A SAFE PLACE UNTIL AFTER THEY TURN 18** (or receive the Eagle Scout Award, whichever is later). These documents are:

1. Boy Scout Handbook. A Scout's advancement is recorded in his Boy Scout Handbook (pages 438-447)

**TIP:** The Boy Scout Handbook is also an excellent place to record other advancement requirements. Write down all dates and places of campouts and service hours. The Board of Review will look for this information.

2. Wallet-sized certificate (white) cards for rank advancement and merit badge completion.

Make the above are signed or initialed by the appropriate Scout leader. They are a Scout's record of badges and dates earned. Even though rank advancements and Merit Badges are earned at each Scout's rate, they are only presented at Courts of Honor. They are considered earned on the date of the Board of Review for rank advancement or when the Counselor signs the documentation, not on the date of the Court of Honor.

**TIP:** All rank advancement and merit badge cards are the same size and can be safely kept in plastic protector pages which are designed for baseball or other collectible cards.

**IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT A SCOUT KEEPS THESE DOCUMENTS IN A SAFE PLACE AND DOES NOT LOSE THEM!** If it should happen that there is a discrepancy or missing records, a Scout's personal records are his most important ally in proving what he completed and when.

## Scout Leadership Opportunities

Leadership development is one of Scouting's eight methods. For Scouts above First Class, leadership and service are as important as earning merit badges. The Troop's boy leaders are responsible for planning and executing the Troop program. All officers must receive the Scoutmaster's approval in advance, must meet the Troop's active service standard for meetings and campouts and must have attended or agreed to attend Troop Leader Training.

## Scout Leadership Positions

**Senior Patrol Leader.** The Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) is the youth leader of the Troop. His peers, the other Scouts in the Troop, elect him. He is the leader of the Patrol Leader's Council (PLC) and leads meetings and outings. The SPL is responsible to the Scoutmaster for the operation of all activities of the Troop involving the Scouts. The SPL normally serves only one six-month term, to allow as many senior Scouts as possible to hold this leadership position. The Scoutmaster may, at his discretion, allow an SPL to run for another term. A Senior Patrol Leader should be Star rank or higher, must be attending most meetings and outings, have been a member of Troop 368 for a minimum of one year and has been a Patrol Leader or ASPL in Troop 368 for a minimum of six months.

**Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders.** The SPL appoints Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders (ASPL), subject to Scoutmaster approval. The ASPL is the second highest leadership position in the Troop. He supports the SPL and is responsible for the performance of the other positions of responsibility other than Patrol Leaders. He serves for the same term as the SPL. He should be a Star rank or higher and have been a Patrol Leader.

**Patrol Leader.** Each Patrol is led by its elected Patrol Leader (PL). He represents his patrol on the Patrol Leader Council. Patrol Leaders are elected to six-month terms. To be a Patrol Leader, he must be attending most meetings and outings and have been a member of Troop 368 for a minimum of six months.

**Assistant Patrol Leader.** Each Patrol Leader appoints his Assistant Patrol Leader (APL), subject to the approval of the SPL, to serve during the same term as the Patrol Leader.

**Troop Guide.** The SPL appoints the Troop Guide, subject to Scoutmaster approval. The Troop Guide works with the New Scout Patrol. His position is equivalent to an ASPL. The Troop Guide serves for the same term as the SPL.

**Positions of Responsibility.** The SPL holds elections for the following key leaders, also known as positions of responsibility, to serve during the same term as the SPL: Bugler, Chaplain Aide, Historian, Instructor, Librarian, Quartermaster, Scribe, and Webmaster. The SPL, with the approval of the Scoutmaster, may not fill all of these positions at his discretion. These officers have duties as described in the Junior Leader Handbook. Qualifications for these key leaders are any qualified, interested Scouts subject to Scoutmaster approval. All applicants must fill out a Leadership Position Application form found on page 58. Preference will be given to Scouts of First Class rank and higher who need a leadership position of responsibility for rank advancement.

**Junior Assistant Scoutmaster.** The Scoutmaster may appoint Junior Assistant Scoutmasters (JASMs). Each JASM has responsibilities similar to the adult Assistant Scoutmasters. The JASM serves at the pleasure of the Scoutmaster, based on performance. JASMs are 16 or 17 years old (BSA requirement), Star rank or higher.

**Den Chiefs.** Den Chiefs are requested by the Cub Scout pack, subject to Scoutmaster approval. They serve at the pleasure of the Cub Scout pack.

## Religious Obligations

The twelfth point of the Scout Law states "A Scout is Reverent". A Scout is expected to be faithful in his religious duties, to respect the convictions of others, and encouraged to express his faith in God, in his own way, according to the practices of his family and religious organization.

## Meetings and Campouts

Boy Scout adult leadership at the Troop, District, and Council level is required to provide religious services to all Scouts when they are participating in a Scout function on Sunday or the Sabbath. The Troop will conduct non-denominational church services whenever a trip includes a Sunday.

## Religious Emblems

There are religious emblem programs in which a Scout can work with his religious leader and family to explore his own faith and character. These are not Scouting awards. Upon completion, he is presented a medal to be worn on his uniform for special occasions, such as Courts of Honor. A knot is worn on the uniform to indicate he has earned the medal, when he is not actually wearing the medal. The *Boy Scout Handbook* has more details.

## Activities

Troop activities are divided into meetings and outings. Meetings include Troop meetings, Patrol Leader Council meetings, Troop Committee meetings, Courts of Honor, and the Annual Planning meeting. Outings include day trips, weekend campouts, family outings, summer camp, winter camp, and High Adventure trips.

Scouts are expected to participate in all phases of the Troop program. This means regular attendance at Troop meetings, campouts, and trips. Participation in Troop 368 activities is needed in order to show Scout Spirit, is required for advancement, and to allow time in a position of responsibility. Experience has shown that Scouts with a good attendance record experience greater satisfaction and success in Scouting. The Scout should inform his Patrol Leader or Senior Patrol Leader whether he will attend or miss a Troop event as far in advance as possible. *See Participation Policy on Page 54.*

The Troop expects all activities to start and end on time and expects Scouts and adults to arrive and to be picked up on time.

Troop 368 has a tradition of carrying on despite adverse conditions of rain, snow, hail, arctic temperatures, mechanical failure, etc. Reasonable care is taken to ensure the Scouts' safety. Scouts and parents should trust the judgment of the adult leaders when attending a scheduled Troop activity.

## Program Planning

Troop 368 plans its program from September through August, matching the school year. Prior to the beginning of each program year, the PLC meets to plan the Troop's annual program. Annual planning usually occurs in August. Planning includes monthly theme ideas, dates/places/themes for outings, and special events.

## Permission Slips

Whenever the Troop sponsors an activity that leaves the vicinity of the Farmington Presbyterian Church, a signed permission slip is required BEFORE a Scout can participate. A parent or guardian must complete a permission/release form for each outing a Scout attends. Please note the date the permission slip is due. It must be returned by that date along with any required money if the Scout wants to be assured of attending the activity. Whenever the Troop gathers for an activity, there will be a check of permission slips and other required information. Parents should check to make sure that the adult leadership has all the necessary information to care for their son in case of an emergency.

**TIP:** The Troop will not take a Scout on any activity without a completed and signed Permission Slip. Each parent should thoroughly review the waiver and health record portion of the Permission Slip to ensure that the Scout's safety and medical conditions are accurate.

## Troop Meetings

Troop 368's regular meetings are held at Farmington Presbyterian Church every Monday night. The meetings begin promptly at 7:00PM and are usually over by 8:30PM. Scouts are encouraged to arrive earlier than 7:00PM to work on any advancement they desire or socialize with some informal games.

## Attendance

All Scouts are encouraged to be in regular attendance at all Troop and patrol activities. When unable to attend any meeting, each Scout must notify his PL or the SPL in advance. *An absent Scout will be contacted by his PL or the SPL.* The Troop Committee will review continued absences. Attendance at meetings and activities is considered necessary to demonstrate "Scout Spirit". See *Participation Policy on Page 54.*

## Preparation Checklist for Troop Meetings

- ✓ Class A uniform. Everyone will be notified if there is a special activity which requires something other than the Class A uniform.
- ✓ Small notebook and a pen or pencil.
- ✓ Personal calendar.
- ✓ *Boy Scout Handbook.*
- ✓ Any requested and necessary materials for the activities that evening. These materials may include pocket knives, compasses, etc.

## Meeting Agenda

Troop meetings are conducted by the SPL of the Troop. Troop meetings are designed to strengthen each patrol, provide each Scout with a common experience, and give each Scout the chance to learn new skills that will make his Scouting experience more enjoyable and valuable. A typical meeting involves:

- Preopening – Setting the room up by Service Patrol for the meeting; game; advancement activities as available.
- Opening Ceremony – Presentation of the colors; pledge of allegiance, etc.
- Opening Announcements – Review of the evening's activities; discuss coming events.
- Main Program – Skills instruction; merit badge instruction.
- Patrol Meetings – Each patrol discusses their patrol's coming events (e.g., plan a campout menu, assign campout duties), schedule a non-Monday night patrol meeting, etc. This is the time the Scouts can use for individual advancement activities (e.g., skill proficiency demonstrations, Scoutmaster Conferences, etc.)
- Troop Game / Inter-patrol Activity
- Final Announcements
- Scoutmaster's Minute
- Closing Ceremony
- After the Meeting – Clean up by Service Patrol and quick PLC meeting

## Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC) Meetings

The PLC meets after every meeting for a quick review of the meeting's success in meeting its objectives, and monthly with the SM to review the Troop's activities and plan future events. All PLs, the ASPL, the Scribe, and other elected leaders are required to attend the PLC meetings unless excused by the SPL.

## Court of Honor

The Court of Honor is the last step in the advancement program (A Scout is Recognized). Here the Scout is honored before his fellow Scouts, family, and friends for the rank advancement he has obtained, the merit badges he has earned, the leadership he has undertaken, and the activities in which he has participated. Awards and advancements may be earned throughout the year but are only recognized and presented at Courts of Honor.

Normally, there are three Courts of Honor held every year. This event takes the place of a regular Troop meeting and is held on a Monday in the church sanctuary. All Scouts are expected to attend the Court of Honor whether receiving an award or not. All Scouts must be dressed in full Class A uniform including merit badge and Order of the Arrow sashes.

This is a FAMILY meeting and all family members are encouraged to attend. It is a very special time to a Scout. Troop Courts of Honor offer an excellent opportunity for new families to get to know the rest of the Troop family.

## Camping & Outdoor Activities

### Objectives of Troop 368 Outdoor Activities

The outdoor program of camping and hiking is the heart of Scouting, and is one of Scouting's eight methods. Troop 368 plans a variety of overnight experiences, conducted on a monthly basis year round, in all weather.

The primary objectives of a Troop 368 outdoor experience are to:

- Provide experiences and skill learning opportunities in an outdoor environment.
- Ensure the safety and health of all participants during the activity.
- Practice *Leave No Trace* camping that leaves the surroundings in a better condition than the Troop found them.
- Have fun.

### Pre-Camp Procedures

When a Scout plans to attend a campout, under the leadership of his PL, the Scout will help plan menus and responsibilities for the event and make arrangements within the patrol to share a tent with a fellow Scout. The Troop Committee plans transportation for all Troop events. Camping trips are held in all sorts of places and extra adults are always welcomed and needed on Scout outings.

### Registration

In order to participate at a camping event, a Scout must have his registration fee paid and a Permission Slip completed and signed by his parent or guardian. These are turned in to the Activities Chairman. The registration fee typically covers meals, camp fees, and an activity patch. At times, a Scout may be required to bring a bag lunch, or extra money for a stop on the way to, or back from, the event. This will be noted on the Permission Slip.

### Menu Planning for Campouts

The Troop camps by patrols, with each patrol responsible for their own food, menu planning, purchasing, and preparation. Patrols will plan balanced meals and have their plans approved by the SM or his designee.

Patrols will assume responsibility for purchasing their food for campouts. For each campout, one member of the patrol is assigned as Patrol Grubmaster to go out and buy the food listed on the planned menu, in reasonable quantities, to satisfy only patrol members attending the campout. This is a learning experience that requires planning, and the execution of that plan. Parents should provide minimal help in

the shopping, and absolutely refrain from doing it all. Cost per person for an overnight camping trip should not exceed \$15 (assumes breakfast, lunch, and dinner on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday). The Scout responsible for purchasing the food should save the receipt and give it to the Troop Treasurer for reimbursement.

Consideration must be given to food packaging and containers. At times trash must be packed out. Repackaging food into labeled plastic bags is a great way to reduce packaging waste and food waste by taking only what the patrol needs. Glass containers, prepared foods (canned, individually wrapped, or pre-packaged) and food requiring refrigeration should be minimized. Foods subject to spoilage, soft drinks, exotic or expensive items should not be included. With special permission, a Scout may bring special food to be cooked that will show camping/woods skills.

Menu planning should also address the type of cooking equipment required and the amount of cleanup needed.

When meals are prepared, keep in mind the basic food groups and make sure that the food will provide each Scout with the necessary energy they need for the challenges of camping. Menus will be posted during the campout. The *Boy Scout Handbook* offers great ideas.

**TIP:** Meal planning is an important exercise. All Scouts cook what they eat and eat what they cook. Unless a Scout has serious medical problems with food items, he will have to eat what is on the menu like all the other Scouts.

### **Assembling the Troop to Depart**

Camping events usually start out on Friday evenings by meeting in back of Farmington Presbyterian Church. Scouts are to be at the departure point thirty (30) minutes ahead of time. Check that activity's Permission Slip for the date and time of departure. This helps to ensure that all materials are stowed in the trailer, Scouts are in line and properly dressed for travel, a head count is taken, and that the drivers are ready.

Before starting out there is an equipment check. Always remember to plan ahead and pack ALL the equipment necessary for your trip. The *Boy Scout Handbook* provides a ready checklist for camping supplies. If a Scout arrives unprepared, he may be left behind, or, at best, he will delay everyone else while he goes home to pick up the forgotten item(s).

### **Rides**

Every Permission Slip requests the travel needs of each Scout. A Scout may accompany his parent or guardian if that adult is attending the campout. Adults attending campouts are expected to provide rides for other Scouts who need them. For those other Scouts needing a ride, every effort will be made to assign them to a vehicle based on their patrol membership. It is important that the ride assignments do not change to ensure no one is left behind.

### **Uniform**

The required uniform for travel to and from Troop outings will be the Class "A" uniform. If a Scout comes ready to leave without the complete uniform, he will be sent home to get the forgotten part(s). The uniform must be worn properly while traveling, and at any stops that may be made. After arrival, for campouts and most other activities, the Class "B" or "C" uniform is usually worn.

### **Tenting**

Patrols must tent together. If there are an odd number of Scouts in a patrol, the PL sleeps by himself. The SPL must approve member of different patrols tenting together. Tents are set up in a straight line and segregated by patrol. Adults will not camp with their youth Boy Scout. Adults will camp together in the same manner as patrols. When Webelos are invited to camp with the troop, they and their parents will camp together.



## Camp Procedures

Each Patrol will camp as a group in the Troop campsite and will be responsible for their area of the campsite. All BSA camping etiquette will be followed and *Leave No Trace* camping procedures will be used.

Here is a typical weekend campout:

When the Troop arrives at the campsite, all Scouts are to line up by the trailer and begin unloading the equipment. Packs are to be put in a pack line, Troop equipment (i.e. tents) are put in one area, and patrol equipment is taken to the patrol areas. Troop needs are to be completed first, such as getting water or putting up the dining fly. The patrol equipment is set up next, followed by the patrol tents. Patrol tents are set up in a straight line and segregated by patrol. Personal gear is stowed last. Camp games can be played so long as the SPL and SM believe the Troop worked well in setting up camp, and the weather and terrain permit.

Each PL will post the duty roster and menu for his patrol, for all to see. The roster is a rotating schedule of responsibilities that was pre-arranged by each patrol. This gives each Scout an equal chance to participate in patrol duties.

On Saturday all Scouts must participate fully in what has been planned for the camp out by the PLC. Class "B" or "C" uniform is typically worn at this time.

Sunday, teardown day, will vary depending on the departure time. In any case, it is a Troop effort. If a Scout has finished all his tasks he is to help another Scout finish. All Scouts are needed to help tear down camp quickly, efficiently, and safely. No Scout will be allowed to leave the event until all Troop gear is packed, the campsite has been cleaned and inspected, and the SPL has released the Troop. If a Scout has a special requirement for arriving late or leaving before the event is complete, it must be cleared with the SM in advance. Class "A" uniform is worn on the trip home. Parents should be notified that the Troop arrival time might vary depending on departure time and road conditions. Scouts will be dropped off at their home unless otherwise specified on the permission slip.

## Meals at a Campout

Meals are to be prepared and eaten by patrol, based on the menu planned before the campout. Tasks are assigned by patrol based on the duty roster. Each Scout should share in the cooking and clean-up tasks.

## Rules at a Campout

All Scouts are expected to follow the Scout Law, Motto, Slogan, Oath, and Outdoor Code. Any problems that arise will be addressed quickly and fairly. If a Scout becomes uncontrollable, it is the parent's responsibility to come to camp and take their son home.

- A Scout's work is not done until the Troop's work is done.
- It is everyone's responsibility to help others and teach others skills they do not know.
- No running in camp.
- Scouts are responsible for their personal gear.
- Each Scout must have a buddy. Permission **MUST** be requested and given before leaving camp or any group activity.
- If a Scout is on any prescribed medication, place the medication in an envelope with complete instructions and give it to the adult leader in charge of the campout. **It is the Scout's responsibility to go to the adult leader when it is time to take the medication. The adult leader is only responsible for keeping track of the medications.**

- Scouts should stay out of the trailer. Only the Quartermasters have permission to enter the trailer and remove items from the trailer.
- Do not enter someone else's tent without permission.
- Always ask permission to enter another Troop's campsite. Proper procedure is to stop at the edge of their campsite and ask permission to enter. Question: "Permission to enter camp?" Response: "Permission granted."
- No food in tents. Repeat – NO FOOD IN TENTS! Remember – NO FOOD IN ANY TENT!
- Scouts are to wear proper footwear in and around camp. No bare feet! Above-the-ankle boots are preferred footwear.
- Scouts are to use proper restroom facilities. If there are no restrooms available, use proper woods skills methods (cat holes or latrines). No peeing in or near camp, or on trees.
- Do not use insect spray in tents. It removes the waterproofing! Cream/lotion preparations are recommended.
- Never cut a rope, unless you have adult permission.
- Each Scout should maintain good personal hygiene. Parents, please check your Scout's toothbrush after a campout. The Troop does not use dehydrated water.
- It is not a general practice to allow Scouts to call home on outings. Exceptions to this rule would include a need for special medications, for medical care, or for emergencies.
- The Troop will ALWAYS leave campsites better than they were found. The campsite will be policed as a group before we leave.

## Personal Gear

Personal equipment such as a sleeping bag, flashlight, backpack, mess kit, and sleeping pad are the Scout's responsibility. Scouts will need a good quality sleeping bag, sleeping pad, and eating utensils. Tents and cooking equipment are provided by the Troop. Scouts should strive to bring the minimum gear necessary and to pack it so that the Scout can carry all his gear to his patrol's campsite in a single trip.

Since most activities take place outside, Scouts should always dress appropriately for the weather and activity at hand. BE PREPARED for changes in the weather. Good quality rain gear and personal first aid kit should be the first items packed for any outside activity. It is not a Troop 368 campout unless it rains!

The basic, required personal camping gear is listed in the *Boy Scout Handbook*. It provides a handy checklist for a Scout to use when HE PACKS for a trip. If a Scout and his parents are unfamiliar with camping needs, PLEASE ASK FOR HELP. The Troop would rather solve camping equipment problems in the warmth of the church than in the cold rain on a trail.

At least one change of dry clothing should always be packed. In cold weather, layered dressing is encouraged and a DRY set of sleeping clothes should be packed for each night. Pack clothes (and toilet paper) in waterproof bags (Ziplocs work nicely).

**TIP:** Label, label, label everything that a Scout would like to use or see again. Label all personal items where the label can be seen. This includes books, hats, socks, cups, eating utensils, etc. Nail polish is very durable and an excellent means of marking mess kits. Unlabeled items may never be recovered.

The biggest investment should be a sleeping bag. Each Scout should have a sleeping bag appropriate for freezing weather (rated to 20°F). Sleeping bags come in a variety of styles and qualities. Please ask a uniformed Scout leader if you have any questions at all about the purchase of a sleeping bag.

What Not to Bring:

- Electronics (phones, radios, MP3 players, e-readers, iPods, tablets)
- Personal food (candy, soft drinks, snacks; absolutely NO FOOD IN TENTS)
- Sandals or other open-toed shoes
- Unmarked items that are of value
- Illegal items
- Styrofoam items
- Candles, lighters
- Non-folding knives

Never go on a campout without required daily medications taken or brought. Parents will be called to bring the medication out to the campsite location.

### Troop Equipment

The Troop is blessed with excellent camping equipment. The Troop provides tents, cooking equipment, lanterns, and dining canopies. Troop gear used on the campouts is assigned to each Scout, who is responsible for thoroughly cleaning the gear and for returning it at the following Troop meeting. The Quartermaster keeps a list of who has what gear and checks it off when it is returned in satisfactory condition.

### Equipment Check-Out Procedures

- ✓ Only the Troop Quartermaster may distribute tents and supplies.
- ✓ Scouts are to line up at the trailer.
- ✓ Tents and supplies are given out on a first-come, first-served basis. Each tent and supply item is numbered and assigned to a Scout.
- ✓ Check all equipment to insure it is in good working condition. Inform the Quartermaster of all equipment problems immediately.

### Equipment Check-In Procedures

- ✓ Whoever signed the tent and supplies out is responsible for the care, cleaning, and return of those items to the Quartermaster for check in. Only the Quartermaster checks in tents and supplies.
- ✓ **Wash and clean all Troop equipment thoroughly before returning it!**
- ✓ Inform the Quartermaster of any equipment problems.
- ✓ All equipment will be returned to the Quartermaster by the Monday PLC meeting following the camp out. If the gear is not returned in a condition that is satisfactory to the Quartermaster, it will not be accepted, and may be returned only when clean.

Prior to returning any equipment, Scouts are expected to perform the following tasks:

### Cleaning Procedures for Tents

Tents are one of the Troop's biggest investments. It is essential that care is taken with the tents.

- Air the tent out. This allows any moisture to evaporate and prevents mildew from forming.
- Sweep dirt off the tent shell fly, ground cloth, bags, poles, and stakes. Get rid of all leaves, stones, and dirt.
- If the tent shell, fly, or ground cloth are dirty or muddy, clean the soiled areas with water and a sponge. Never put a tent in an electric washing machine or dryer. This will ruin a tent.
- Be sure the tent has the necessary number of poles and stakes.
- Check the tent for any broken zippers, tears, or missing pieces such as poles or stakes. If any problems are noted, tell the Quartermaster immediately so he may fix any problems.

- Repack your tent according to the packing procedures for each tent. If you don't know how, ask your PL or Troop Guide for help.

### **Cleaning Procedures for Cooking Equipment and Other Gear**

- All cooking equipment and utensils must be cleaned prior to storing or returning them to the Quartermaster.
- Be sure that the patrol box has all the necessary cooking equipment (e.g. pots, pans, utensils) and supplies (e.g. soap, paper towels, aluminum foil, trash bags). Make sure your PL is aware of any needed supplies.
- Never use soap on the cast iron cookware (Dutch ovens and skillets).
- Notify the Quartermaster of any broken or missing cooking equipment or utensils so that they may be replaced.

## **SPECIAL ACTIVITIES**

### **Camporee**

Derived from two words, *camp* and *jamboree*, this weekend event is attended by several Troops within the Eastern District at Camp Currier in Hernando, Mississippi. Held in the Spring, there are various skill and spirit competitions between the attending patrols.

### **Summer Camp**

Troop 368 has traditionally attended the Kia Kima Scout Reservation near Hardy, Arkansas. The Troop usually camps in late June with sign-up time in the early spring. The cost is about \$240 per scout.

Summer camp is an excellent opportunity for boys to earn merit badges, work on skills they would like to improve, and have a great time with other boys from the Troop. The primary objective of camp is not to come home with a fistful of merit badges, but to learn some Scouting skills and to have fun.

Scouts just entering the Troop should participate in the Trailblazers program, as some boys can progress a full rank at camp. It has the advantage of getting new Scouts quickly involved with the Troop and takes the edge off the first meetings in September.

### **Memorial Day Flag Ceremony**

Each year Troop 368 participates in the annual Memorial Day Flag Ceremony at the West Tennessee Veterans Cemetery in Memphis. Scouts place a small American flag next to each headstone in honor of Memorial Day and those who helped keep our country free.

### **Scouting for Food**

Every year Scouts collect food for the fight against hunger. Bags for canned food are distributed on one Saturday and collected the following Saturday. The food is turned over to The Food Bank for distribution to needy families. This is a national "Good Turn" of the BSA.

### **Scout Sunday**

The month of February brings Scouts together to celebrate the Birthday of Scouting around the world. Scout Sunday is the day the BSA sets aside to commemorate the founder of Boy Scouts, Lord Robert Baden-Powell. Troop 368 takes this opportunity to show its appreciation to its chartered organization, Farmington Presbyterian Church, by attending services at the church.

### **High Adventure / Philmont**

The Troop occasionally offers its older Scouts more challenging events. BSA offers four High Adventure Bases on a national level. **Florida Sea Base** in the Florida Keys offers snorkeling, SCUBA, boating, and

beach camping. **Northern Tier** is one of the most beautiful, and remote, parts of North America offering canoeing, hiking, fishing, and winter camping in and around the beautiful lakes of northern Minnesota and southern Canada. **Philmont Scout Ranch** offers backpacking, rock climbing, western lore, living history, and views from peaks over 10,000 feet up in the mountains of New Mexico. **Summit Bechtel Reserve** is the newest High Adventure Base, opening for the National Jamboree in July, 2013. The Summit is in West Virginia, adjacent to the New River Gorge National Park, and offers whitewater activities, rock climbing, mountain boarding, BMX, target sports, zip-lines, and challenge courses.

## Jamborees

Every four years, Scouts can attend the National Jamboree, where tens of thousands of Scouts from all over the USA and foreign countries join together for an adventure they will never forget. Also every four years, but staggered to occur two years apart from the National Jamboree, is the World Jamboree. National and World Jamborees have additional age and rank requirements.

## Journey to Excellence

The Journey to Excellence is a national performance recognition program designed to encourage and reward success, and measure the performance of units in all levels of scouting. For BSA Troops this includes achieving specific goals in at least 11 of 13 operational areas. Troops can earn a Bronze, Silver, or Gold *Journey to Excellence Award* based on their level of performance in the following categories:

Advancement	Scout Retention
Increased Membership	Trained Leadership
Short-Term Camping	Long-Term Camping
Patrol Method	Service Projects
Webelos-to-Scout Transition	Financial Budget
Courts of Honor	Physical Fitness
Timely Re-registration	

Troop 368 believes the Journey to Excellence program helps to ensure the ongoing health and vitality of scouting. The Troop strives to earn a *Journey to Excellence Award* annually.

## National Camping Award

The National Camping Award is granted to Boy Scout Troops for attaining, either on an annual or cumulative basis, or both, the required number of days and nights of camping. The ribbon that is awarded recognizes the significant achievement in annual campouts and/or cumulative campouts over a period of years. The ribbon is displayed with the Troop flag.

Annual awards are presented if at least 33% of our Scouts attend each campout, with summer camp and high-adventure camps credited to the Troop record. Cumulative awards are earned for fulfilling as many as 1,000 nights of camping during a unit's history. Individual Scouts and Scouters may also qualify for a National Camping Award.

## SAFE SCOUTING

### Adult Leadership

All adults involved with the Troop must attend Youth Protection Training and review these policies before attending a Troop event. Youth Protection Training is offered at most Boy Scout adult training sessions, including Scoutmaster Fundamentals. Youth Protection guidelines are for the protection of both the Scout and the adult leader. This can be done online and must be renewed every two years.

## Buddy System

The buddy system is a way for Scouts to look after one another and should be used whenever the Troop or a patrol is hiking, camping, or participating in aquatic activities. Permission **MUST** be given before leaving camp or any group activity. Each Scout must have a buddy.

## General Outdoor Rules

In addition to the *Rules at a Campout* listed on page 33, the following *Safe Scouting* rules apply. If the SM is not present on an overnight activity, the adult in charge must be approved by the SM. One adult and one boy may not tent together (unless they are father and son, although the troop strongly recommends that adults and boys always camp separately to support the patrol method). At least one adult on any overnight activity must be male.

## Insurance

Through a Scout's annual dues, the Troop carries accident insurance. This policy covers bodily injuries sustained while traveling directly to, or from, and while participating in, any Scouting activity (for example: Troop or patrol meetings, service projects, hikes, trips, and camping). It is each Scout family's responsibility to cover all other eventualities.

All vehicles transporting Scouts must be covered by automobile liability insurance with limits that meet or exceed requirements of the state in which the vehicle is licensed. It is recommended that coverage limits are at least \$50,000/\$100,000/\$50,000.

## Medical Information

Scouting offers activities that are sometimes rigorous, ranging from a one-mile swim to a 50-mile hike to a trek in the mountains at Philmont Scout Ranch. A current physical exam form is required for many of the activities, and an *Annual Health and Medical Record* must be properly completed, signed, and maintained by the Troop.

There are four parts to the *Annual Health and Medical Record* required in Scouting:

- *Parts A and B.* Required annually by all participants, including Scouts and adults. Does not require a doctor's exam. Used for Troop weekend camping and troop records. Contains a health history, parental/guardian informed consent and hold harmless release, and talent release statement.
- *Part C.* Requires a doctor's exam and is needed for long-term camping (longer than 72 hours) and high-adventure activities.
- *Part D.* Required to be reviewed by all high-adventure participants and shared with the examining health-care provider before completing Part C.

## Physical Condition

Parents or guardians are responsible for informing the adult leadership about any unusual mental, medical, or physical problems their Scout may have. Adult leaders are not responsible for medicating a child.

It is very important that parents keep the Troop advised of a Scout's medical condition, medication, allergies, dietary restrictions, and conditions such as sleepwalking, etc. If a Scout has any problems (mental, physical, emotional, learning, attention deficits, severe allergies, etc.), please tell the SM immediately. If not told up front, there could be safety implications later on for all concerned. It is also advisable to make sure any special needs are noted in the Troop records. These special needs are recorded and brought, along with the most current medical form for each Scout, to each campout. Telling one adult leader does not ensure availability of the information when it is needed.

## Emergency Telephone Numbers

During re-chartering, Scouts and parents are requested to provide certain personal information for safe Scouting. This includes current addresses, home and business telephone numbers, social security

numbers, automobile registration, and insurance information. Each permission slip will request a telephone number and where to reach a parent in an emergency. These must be filled out in order for a Scout to attend that activity.

## First Aid

First aid is the first help or immediate care given to someone who has suddenly sickened or been hurt in an accident. At least one person in each touring group is trained in the principles of first aid. A Troop First Aid Kit is always available in plain sight. Each permission slip will request a waiver to allow adult leaders to administer first aid and seek treatment in the event of an emergency.

## Knives, Axes, and Saws

**A Scout may not carry a knife, ax, and saw until he has earned his Totin' Chip.** Only folding-blade knives of reasonable size (one or two blades for cutting and special blades for opening cans, driving screws, and punching holes) are recommended.

Knives are to be used under adult supervision until the BSA Totin' Chip Card is earned. Breaking of any Totin' Chip rule can mean temporary loss of the knife and/or loss of Totin' Chip card corners or complete card. If a card is lost "for cause", it must be re-earned. Axes are ONLY to be used by Scouts with a Totin' Chip Card and only in a properly-marked ax yard. The preferred method of cutting wood is with a sharp saw.

## Fuels and Fires

**A Scout may not carry matches or light a fire until he has earned his Firem'n Chit.**

The Troop follows the Fuels and Fire Prevention guidelines in the *Guide to Safe Scouting*. Some key points:

- Open flames (e.g., candles, Sterno, kerosene, lanterns) are strictly prohibited in tents and not permitted within ten feet of any tent.
- Each tent must have a filled fire bucket nearby.
- Do not bring matches to Troop activities. The Troop will supply any needed matches.
- Do not play in any fire. Keep the sticks in the fire.
- Do not leave a lighted stove or lantern unattended.
- Always extinguish campfires and flame sources before you go to sleep. Dead out, with water.
- Camp fuels (white gas, Coleman fuel, propane, LPG, etc.) are to be handled only by adults.
- All hooking up of LPG (Liquid Propane Gas) containers is to be done by an adult.
- Gasoline and flammable substances must be stored in the approved storage area in camp.

## TRANSPORTATION

### Weekly Meetings & Local Event Transportation

Each Scout must arrange for his own transportation to and from each weekly meeting or local event. Neither the SM or Troop Committee members provide transportation to or from the various local activities. Each Scout parent provides the Scout's transportation to and from weekly meetings or makes other arrangements with another Troop parent.

The Scouts should arrive on a timely basis and leave promptly at the end of the meeting. We encourage parents to arrive at 8:15PM so they will hear the week's important announcements and observe the closing ceremony. Written permission from parents is required for any Scout between 16 and 18 who wishes to drive other Scouts to and from Troop meetings.

## Activities Transportation

For camping, transportation will be provided by Troop and family members. The Troop Activities/Transportation Chairperson always seeks parent volunteers for transporting Scouts to non-local activities. Adults attending campouts are expected to provide rides for Scouts who need them. Most trips are planned to take no more than two or three hours. Adults attending campouts are required to file current driver's license and insurance information with the Troop as it is required for Troop Tour Permits and BSA insurance.

As a general rule, no leader will leave a Scout at home after a camping activity unless a responsible adult is present. An adult leader must be informed by the parent in writing prior to the Troop activity (e.g., a note on the Permission Slip for that activity) if a Scout is to be dropped off somewhere other than his residence address or to be picked up by someone other than a family member or the parent of another Scout in the Troop.

Troop 368 asks all parents and other drivers to review these BSA-approved policies once each year.

*As a volunteer driver, I agree to do my best to abide by the following policies whenever I provide transportation for Troop 368:*

- I will carry no more passengers than my vehicle's proper seating capacity.
- I will never carry passengers in the back of a truck, in a camper shell, or in a pickup bed (covered or uncovered).
- Before placing my vehicle in motion, I will make sure that each passenger is wearing a seat belt. I will stress to my passengers the importance of wearing a seat belt at all times. (seat belts are proven life savers, especially for front-seat occupants.)
- I will maintain liability insurance coverage on my vehicle at least equal to BSA minimums (current BSA minimums are \$50,000/100,000/50,000. (You are encouraged to have more. The cost of extra liability coverage is VERY small.)
- I will not attempt to travel in a convoy with other vehicles. (It is dangerous to try to follow and keep up with other cars because normal driving should have your full attention. It is safer to follow a planned route on your own to a pre-arranged rendezvous point.)
- I will not consume alcoholic beverages while on a Scout activity nor within a reasonable time before driving.
- I will return my Scout passengers to their parent(s) or another person approved by the Scout's parent(s). Upon returning from a Scout trip, I will either take my passengers directly home or will wait at the church until they are picked up.
- All drivers must be registered with Troop 368. If I am unable to drive as planned for an outing, I will either call the transportation coordinator or arrange for a substitute driver from among the registered parents and leaders of Troop 368.
- Scouts under the age of 18 are not allowed to drive on any activity. This does not include driving to meetings, which the Troop cannot supervise and for which neither the Troop nor the BSA can assume any responsibility. The Troop recommends to parents that minors must not be allowed to drive to meetings without a parent in the car.

## Water Activities

Troop 368 tries to have one major water activity each year, typically a canoe trip. The key to having fun at these events is to make sure that all the participants are capable of performing the skills necessary for the activity, such as handling a canoe and being able to swim. The Troop strictly adheres to the BSA guidelines for water safety which include *Safe Swim Defense* and *Safety Afloat*. Before undertaking any activity on the water, the Troop will have a series of training sessions at which skills will be checked and refreshed as necessary. It is important that ALL SCOUTS participate in these training events, when scheduled, otherwise the adult leadership may determine that a Scout will not be able to participate in the event. These decisions are intended to ensure the health and safety of the Scout. Personal discipline is one of the most important factors in water safety. While horseplay and unruly behavior is never encouraged, it cannot be tolerated on the water. Any Scout who will not adhere to the safety guidelines established for the trip will not be permitted to participate.



## Homesickness

Homesickness does happen. General treatment is to get the Scout involved in an activity. It is not a general practice to let the Scout call home. Calling home usually makes matters worse. Every case is different and the leaders involved will use their best judgment.

## Troop 368 Traditions

- ✓ Troop Colors: **Green and Gold**
  
- ✓ Troop Yell:
  - We're 368!**
  - The Best in the State!**
  - We're big! We're bad! We're totally rad!**
  - We're 368!**
  
- ✓ Announcement Song (typically sung before the Troop meeting announcements)
  - Announcements, announcements, announcements!**
  - A terrible death to die, a terrible death to die**
  - A terrible death to be talked to death**
  - A terrible death to die!**
  - Announcements, announcements, announcements!**
  - We've lost our cow. We've lost our cow.**
  - We have no need for your bull now.**
  - Speak Freak!**
  
- ✓ First year Scouts get the distinct title of "**FYC**" or First Year Camper.
  
- ✓ All registered adult leaders who attend the outdoor activities of Troop 368 are members of the exclusive **Varmint Patrol**.
  
- ✓ The Troop tries to avoid "Germantown Time" and expects all activities to **start and end on time** and expects Scouts and adults to arrive and be picked up on time.

## SECRET STUFF FOR PARENTS, GUARDIANS, AND ADULTS

It is not just your son who has joined the Troop, but, we hope, much of your family as well. We welcome your assistance in helping to make Troop 368 and its Scouting program second to none.

### Things to Know When Getting Started

- **Warning:** This is not Cub Scouts. The Scouts run the troop meetings, not the adults. As a result, Scout meetings are characterized by noise, confusion, general chaos, and FUN.
- Parents can't sign off on advancement requirements.
- Troop 368 follows BSA "boy-run" leadership philosophy. The Senior Patrol Leader runs the meetings and coordinates patrol activities with the Patrol Leaders. Your son is a member of a patrol. His first point of contact should ALWAYS be with his Patrol Leader. If the PL does not know the answer, the PL or Scout should consult with the Senior Patrol Leader. Parents: Your first point of contact should be with the Troop Committee Chairman. The Scoutmaster's first priority at the meetings is the Scouts. It is highly recommended that parents wishing to speak with the Scoutmaster do so at any time *but Monday evening*.
- Scouts usually have other activities that conflict with Scouting. That's OK, just come back when you are done! Let the Scoutmaster know about the conflict and something can and will be worked out. If a Scout decides to drop out, it's not an all or nothing decision. He can return and participate as a Scout until his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. As long as he retains his advancement records as proof of completion, he can rejoin this or any other Troop right where he left off.
- When your Scout is packing his backpack, watch him, and offer suggestions. Do not pack for him. The *Boy Scout Handbook* has a checklist detailing what a Scout should bring. Make sure he uses that list.
- While initiative is required for advancement, parents can help the advancement process with support and encouragement. Please see the section below for more details.
- A lack of finances should not be a reason for a Scout to not attend Troop events. If you have a financial burden, please tell or call the Scoutmaster or Troop Committee Chairman. All assistance is kept confidential.
- It is helpful for a Scout to do some cooking and baking at home. He won't be intimidated by having to eat his own or his patrol's cooking. He can experiment and see what works and what doesn't work. NOTE: Cooking includes cleaning up. The biggest problem the Troop has is getting the Scouts to clean up their pots and pans. Anything parents can do to help encourage this would be helpful.
- Having problems deciding what to get your Scout for a birthday or Christmas? Camping gear is always a good idea. Holidays and celebrations are a perfect time to buy backpacks, sleeping bags, or new hiking boots.
- If you see something you don't like, please volunteer to help fix it!

### New Scout Parent Orientation Meeting

Once or twice a year a *New Scout Parent Orientation* meeting is held. The purpose of this meeting is to introduce the parents of new Scouts to our Troop and discuss Troop policies, issues, and parental roles. This promotes better communications between the parents and the Scoutmaster, and allows the parent to discuss any specific concerns. The meeting also explores the types of personal equipment the Scout will need and identifies the types of equipment that are unnecessary.

## How Boy Scouting Differs from Cub Scouting

You may be surprised how different Boy Scouts is from Cub Scouts. But then, boys of Scout age are very different from boys of Cub age. Here are some key contrasts:

Cub Scouts	Boy Scouts
<i>The Cub Scout program is family centered. Adults plan all activities, and most activities lend themselves to full family participation.</i>	The Boy Scout program is boy centered. Boys plan all activities with adult guidance, and most activities do NOT lend themselves to family participation because boys camp and function as patrol groups under their own elected boy leadership.
<i>Adults (usually the boys' parents) conduct all Cub Scout advancement. Webelos advancement is mostly done in groups with the Webelos leaders. Adults determine the timing and course of the boys' advancement with little input from the boys.</i>	Initiative is required for advancement. Boys and adults other than a boy's parents conduct all Boy Scout advancement. The boy has almost total control over his own advancement, which he will do mostly on an individual basis with senior Scouts and with a number of different adults.
<i>Cub Scout camping is extremely limited, even for Webelos.</i>	Camping is the very heart of the Boy Scout program.

## Adult Involvement

Boy Scouts is a volunteer organization. Nobody in the Troop is paid for his or her efforts. There are people who give a considerable amount of their time even though they do not have boys in a Troop. There is a tendency with some people to get what they can from an organization without giving anything back. We want to teach the Scouts that whether it is the environment, our community, our church, or Scouting, we each have an obligation to give back as much or more than we take. Each family has a responsibility to contribute where they can so the boys have the very best program possible.

Parents and adults have two paths in Troop 368: 1) **Support** as an active parent volunteer, or 2) **Participation** as a registered adult leader. The Troop strongly encourages all parents and guardians to register as adult leaders.

## Adult Support

YOU are the single most important factor that will determine how successful your son will be in Scouting! If you want your son to reap the benefits that Scouting offers, you need to join Scouting with your son, either as a uniformed leader or an active member of the Troop Committee. Scouts whose parents were actively involved attended more than twice the number of activities and attained more than twice the rank advancement of Scouts with less-involved parents. And 90% of our Eagle Scouts have come from the 40% of parents who have been the most active.

Being an involved parent takes time and effort, but it's also rewarding and FUN! One of the reasons our Troop is so successful is the dedication of so many of our parents. There is something to do that matches the talents of everyone, and your involvement is vital to your son as well as to the other Scouts.

Active parental support is a key part of maintaining and improving the Troop's program. Support is more than merely driving the Scout to and from meetings and activities. Good support includes:

- Making sure the Scout attends activities
- Encouraging his advancement
- Attending parent meetings
- Attending family activities like Courts of Honor and family campouts
- Providing transportation for non-local campouts and other activities
- Ensuring that the Scout is in proper uniform for all Scout activities
- Assisting your Scout in developing thrift and financial responsibility by requiring him to earn, at least in part, the money for registration, camping and transportation fees, dues, uniform, and camping equipment

- Participation in Troop fundraising activities
- Joining the Troop Committee
- Serving as a merit badge counselor

## Participation as a Registered Adult Leader

There are three kinds of opportunities to participate as a registered adult leader. All adults who have contact with the Scouts, including merit badge counselors, must register with the BSA. There is no fee required for this registration.

- **Uniformed adult leaders** are adults who meet BSA requirements, are currently registered with the BSA as Troop 368 Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmasters, Committee members, and are currently active in the Troop.
- **Troop Committee Members** are adults who meet BSA requirements, are currently registered with the BSA as Troop 368 Committee Chairman or Committee Member, and are currently active in an assigned area of Troop Committee responsibility.
- **Merit Badge Counselors** are adults who meet BSA age requirements, and are currently registered with the BSA as Troop 368 Merit Badge Counselors.

## Uniformed Adult Leaders

“Uniformed adult leaders” is a term that references the Scoutmaster and all Assistant Scoutmasters. The Scoutmaster’s duties include:

- Train and guide boy leaders to run their Troop using the patrol system.
- Work with and through responsible adults to bring Scouting to the boys.
- Help boys grow by encouraging them to learn.
- Guide boys in safety and planning of the Troop’s program needs.
- Help the Troop Committee in recruiting and managing Assistant Scoutmasters.
- Conduct all Scoutmaster conferences.

Assistant Scoutmasters play a strategic part in all Troops, for they support the Scoutmaster. The Scoutmaster will assign each Assistant Scoutmaster a list of duties and responsibilities.

## Troop Committee

The Troop Committee is made up of interested parents and other adults. The Troop Committee generally meets quarterly during a regular Monday Scout meeting. The Committee Chairman and Scoutmaster jointly plan the agenda. Attendance is open to Troop Committee members, uniformed adult leaders, and all interested Scout parents. The Scoutmaster attends to present the plans and needs of the Troop as decided at the PLC meeting.

Members of the Troop Committee are encouraged to wear the Scout uniform. This fosters a feeling of unity with the other adult leaders as well as the Scouts. Appropriate situations for registered adults to wear the Scout uniform include Troop meetings, campouts, and any other activities at which the Scouts are in uniform.

The Troop Committee does the following:

- Ensures that quality adult leadership is recruited and trained.
- Advises the Scoutmaster on policies relating to Boy Scouts and the chartered organization.
- Supports leaders in carrying out the program.
- Is responsible for finances, adequate funds, and disbursements in line with the approved budget plan.
- Obtains, maintains, and properly cares for Troop property.
- Ensures the Troop has an outdoor program (minimum 10 days and nights per year).
- Serves on Boards of Review and Courts of Honor.
- Supports the Scoutmaster in working with individual boys and problems that may affect the overall Troop program.

- Provides for the special needs and assistance some boys may require.
- Helps with the Friends of Scouting program.
- Assists the Scoutmaster with handling Scout behavioral problems.

## Merit Badge Counselors

Parents are needed to share their occupational, hobby, and other skills with the Scouts as Merit Badge Counselors. Counselors may be either male or female and must be at least 21 years old. The counselor must be registered with the BSA and be approved by both the Troop and Council before he begins to work with a Scout on a badge. The counselor should use his experience and training to teach the Scout the material as well as well as certify that the Scout has met the requirements for the badge.

## Varmint Patrol

All registered adult leaders who attend the outdoor activities of Troop 368 are members of the exclusive Varmint Patrol. This patrol works very seriously to meet the Troop objectives of an outdoor experience and tries not to act its age.



## Adult Leader Expenses

The Troop does not pay the BSA registration fee for any active uniformed adult leader or Troop Committee member. Uniformed adults are responsible for the cost of their own uniforms.

The Troop pays the cost of BSA basic training for the active uniformed adult leaders, and the Troop pays a portion of the cost of any advanced training for active uniformed adult leaders, as determined by the Troop Committee. The Troop will credit the driver of the trailer for certain expenses incurred. The Troop may pay entry and other fees and for meals for adults on outings when the budget permits (as determined by the SM and the Troop Committee Chairman).

## Adult Participation at Activities

Parents and guardians are welcome to attend all Troop events, meetings, and activities. Parents of currently active Scouts are normally permitted full access to Troop activities. The Troop Committee may restrict parent participation or remove all participation privileges in special situations (court-ordered custody restrictions, legal convictions, etc.) as necessary for the safety and well-being of the Scouts.

## Adult Participation on Campouts

- Adults who expect to participate in more than two campouts with the Troop must be Youth Protection Trained and should obtain Scout Basic Leader Training certification.
- The primary aim of adult participation in campouts is to “act like Scouts.” Accordingly, adults should review the Scout campout rules and adhere to them, including wearing the Scout uniform.
- The principal benefit of the outdoor program for the Scouts is the self-reliance and sense of accomplishment that come with individual achievement. Therefore, parents should refrain from assisting their son(s) (or son’s patrol) with camp activities. Scouts should seek guidance from their Patrol Leaders or Assistant Scoutmasters or Scoutmaster. Adults should bring problems or concerns (and compliments!) to the attention of the Troop Committee Chairman or his designee.
- If there is a conduct or discipline issue with your son, please allow the proper chain of command to work.
- Adults will camp in their own designated staff campsite. Adults do not share tents with Scouts, including their own sons, and should avoid the area of their own son’s patrol as this can be a distraction for the other boys in that patrol.
- Every adult on a campout will have an important job – assisting or instructing Scouts. Every adult attending will be assigned duties on the Duty Roster.
- Adults will eat all meals with the Varmint Patrol.
- Adults will maintain “two-deep leadership” on all activities.

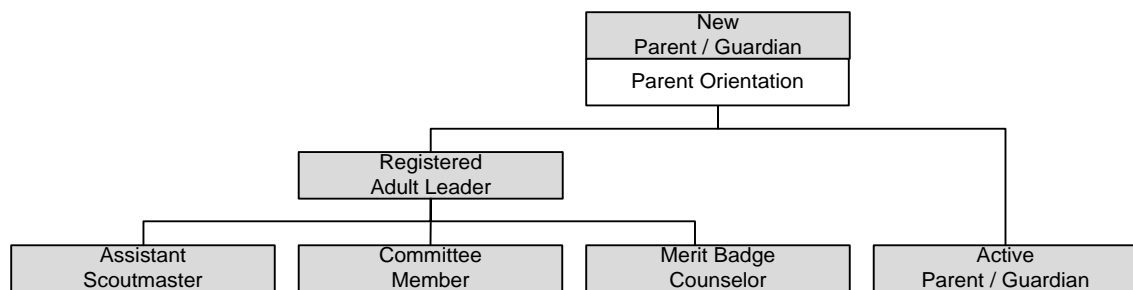
- Do not bring alcohol on campouts. BSA policy prohibits the use of alcohol at any activity involving Scouts.
- Smoking in the presence of Scouts is forbidden. BSA policy encourages adults to refrain from smoking at activities involving Scouts and does not allow smoking while wearing the Scout uniform.

## Training

The leadership training philosophy of Troop 368 is to provide adult leaders with fundamental information about the aims and purposes of Scouting, as well as specifics about their particular roles in Scouting. *A trained leader is knowledgeable and confident in the role being performed.* This knowledge and confidence is quickly sensed by the Scouts and can be a positive influence on their lives.

The purpose of adult leadership training for Troop 368 is to ensure a safe environment and a learning environment for Scouts to participate, gain knowledge, and grow in the experiences and skills brought forward in Scouting. The table on the next page summarizes the types of training required and suggested for each parent or guardian corresponding to their role in Troop 368.

### TROOP 368 ADULT LEADER TRAINING REQUIREMENTS



Required as an Adult Leader	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth Protection Training</li> <li>• Fast Start Training</li> <li>• New Leader Essentials</li> </ul>			<p>None. Why Not Become a Registered Leader?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth Protection Training</li> <li>• Fast Start Training</li> <li>• New Leader Essentials</li> <li>• Basic Leader Training</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Troop Committee Meetings</li> <li>• Roundtable</li> <li>• Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills</li> </ul>
Basic Training Required for Position	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic Leader Training (for Assistant Scoutmasters)</li> <li>• Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills</li> <li>• Safe Swim Defense</li> <li>• Safety Afloat</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic Leader Training (For Committee Members)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Merit Badge Counselor Orientation</li> </ul>	
Advanced Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wood badge</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills</li> <li>• Safe Swim Defense</li> <li>• Safety Afloat</li> <li>• Wood Badge</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic Leader Training</li> <li>• Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills</li> </ul>	
Supplemental Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• COPE Instructor Training</li> <li>• Leave No Trace</li> <li>• Roundtable</li> <li>• Venturing Basic Leader Training</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leave No Trace</li> <li>• Roundtable</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leave No Trace</li> <li>• Outdoor Leader Skills Instruction</li> <li>• Roundtable</li> <li>• Safe Swim Defense</li> <li>• Safety Afloat</li> <li>• Wood badge</li> </ul>	

## How Parents can Help Their Scout Advance

### All Ranks

- ✓ Make sure your son knows what rank he is working on.
- ✓ Encourage your son to take his handbook to every meeting or activity where he might pass something.
- ✓ Familiarize yourself with the requirements, so you know what he should be working on. All rank requirements appear in the handbook
- ✓ Help your Scout study for requirements.
- ✓ Ask him what he plans to get signed off next and when he plans to do it.
- ✓ School activities can count towards advancement. Just check with the Scoutmaster first and get a note from teachers, principals, or coaches to explain what he did to meet the requirement.

### Scout

- ✓ Purchase and label the *Boy Scout Handbook*.
- ✓ Complete the exercises in the pamphlet "How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse and Drug Abuse" located in the front of the *Boy Scout Handbook*.
- ✓ Make sure Summer Camp is on your calendar.

### Tenderfoot, Second Class, & First Class

- ✓ Focus on skill development in each rank, NOT merit badges.
- ✓ A Scout can be working on requirements for Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class all at the same time. For example, if your son hasn't completed Tenderfoot yet but there is an Orienteering class, he can still go and pass the First Class orienteering requirement.
- ✓ Make sure your son attends activities so he can pass the requirements. Some requirements, like tying a square knot, can be passed at any time; but some, like service projects, swimming, completing an orienteering course, and cooking meals, are activities best done as a Troop.
- ✓ Make sure Summer Camp is on your calendar.

### Star & Life

- ✓ To help your son complete merit badges, you can help by encouraging him to select a merit badge, call a counselor, and follow through. It's especially hard for some Scouts to telephone an adult they don't know; but it is a useful thing to learn to do. Fortunately, most of these counselors are friendly and want to help them advance. Focus on Eagle-required merit badges. Family Life is a required badge that is a great (and easy) beginning badge.
- ✓ The Star and Life ranks start the "giving back" phase of a Scout's active career. Review the service and leadership requirements and ask what he plans to do.

### Eagle

- ✓ Continue to encourage Eagle-required merit badges.
- ✓ The Eagle Scout Service Project will be the biggest challenge. Read the project workbook thoroughly to make sure your Scout does everything asked for.

## RESOURCES

### Recommended List for a Typical Weekend Campout

Use common sense along with this list. Always bring at least one complete change of EVERYTHING, and several pairs of socks. You DON'T need expensive equipment; much can be homemade or improvised. ASK the uniformed leaders for ideas.

#### ESSENTIALS

- backpack OR duffel bag
- personal first aid kit
- rain jacket OR poncho

#### CLOTHING

- small bags for ALL gear in pack (home-made nylon, cloth, plastic, etc.)
- extra pairs of socks
- hiking boots (in summer) and extra pairs of shoes (tennis shoes as extra pair are OK)
- extra t-shirts and underpants
- two pairs of pants (anything but jeans)
- sweatshirt, windbreaker, or jacket (weather appropriate)
- hat with sun visor

#### EATING

- full water bottle (1 liter, wide mouth)
- fork/spoon/utensils
- mess kit

#### OVERNIGHT GEAR

- sleeping bag (3-season (20°F) or add a couple of extra blankets)
- sleeping bag liner (for winter camping; polar fleece or flannel; home-made)
- waterproof stuff sack for sleeping bag
- sleeping/ground pad
- flashlight (good AA size or small C size)

#### PERSONAL ITEMS

- toilet paper (in waterproof bag) & "pooper scooper" plastic hiker's trowel
- soap / comb / toothbrush / toothpaste / hand towel
- Chap-stick / sunscreen
- insect repellent

#### OTHER ESSENTIALS

- pen or pencil & paper
- Scout Handbook*
- Compass
- Sunglasses
- Watch
- 2 to 3 plastic trash bags (for trash clean-up, storing wet gear, keeping the driver's floor clean on the way home)
- Any medications or special needs MUST be brought to the attention of the Scoutmaster



## Checklist for a Board of Review

*What every Scout should know and be prepared for:*

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### *Before a Board of Review:*

- ✓ Complete all rank requirements (including Scoutmaster Conference) and have them signed and dated.
- ✓ Request of Board of Review interview with the Troop Advancement Chairperson.

### *At a Board of Review:*

- ✓ Be on time.
- ✓ Present yourself in full Class A uniform.
- ✓ Bring your *Boy Scout Handbook*. Have all rank requirements (including Scoutmaster Conference) completed, signed, and dated.
- ✓ Know and be prepared to recite:
  - Scout Oath
  - Scout Law
  - Scout Motto
  - Scout Slogan
  - Outdoor Code
  - Troop Yell
  - Patrol Yell
- ✓ Be prepared to:
  - Answer questions about skills that were required for your particular rank.
  - Know the parts and emblems of your uniform.
  - Discuss your development along your trail to Eagle.
  - Demonstrate participation in Troop activities and readiness for the next rank.
  - Ask any questions you may have.
  - Give feedback about activities, the Troop, and your patrol.

## Introduction to Equipment

- There is no need to purchase everything at once.
- Label, label, label everything that a Scout would like to use again. Nail polish is very durable and an excellent means of marking mess kits.
- Don't buy expensive equipment. We want Scouts to become resourceful and learn to improvise.
- Have your Scout fitted by knowledgeable salespeople or hikers, not by places that just carry the gear.
- Good hiking or sports stores often rent equipment like packs and sleeping bags so you can try it before you buy it.

### Backpack

Currently, most of Troop 368's campouts are car camps. For these campouts, the best backpacks will be a day pack for short day hikes and activities. Full-fledged backpacks are bulky and difficult to load for transport. Scouts are encouraged to use daypacks or duffel bags for car camps. A Scout can use a duffel bag or similar until he can get a good quality pack and frame. A boy will quickly outgrow or wear out an inadequate pack. Eventually, an active Scout will need a good nylon pack on an aluminum frame of the right size and design, with a padded, wraparound (one piece) hip belt. The backpack should be adjustable to fit him as he grows. A good padded hip belt is a must – it supports most of the weight of the pack, to keep it off the Scout's shoulders. It also makes for enjoyable backpacking trips.

### Water Bottle

Get a one-liter, wide-mouth BPA-free plastic water bottle. This is lighter and costs less than a metal canteen. The plastic won't corrode inside and the wide mouth is much easier to fill, to drink from, and to clean.

### Mess Kit

Scouts will need a cup, bowl, and plate, and a full set of eating utensils (fork, spoon, knife). A carefully planned campout menu will allow Scouts to need only a cup, plastic bowl, and large spoon. The cup should be durable and have a handle insulated against hot liquids – both plastic and "Sierra" cups are quite popular.

### Sleeping Bag

An adequate sleeping bag will usually cost at least \$65. Buy a three-season, synthetic sleeping bag, not a down bag! Synthetic dries faster and insulates even when wet, keeping the Scout warmer – and it *will* get wet. Synthetic fills like Hollofil, Quallofil, or Polarguard in nylon, Dacron, or Gore-Tex shells are less expensive and will last many years with proper treatment. Mummy or cocoon bags are generally warmer than rectangular bags. A Scout can use a blanket roll until he can acquire a good bag. He can also augment his bag in winter with an extra blanket or two.

### Sleeping Bag Liner

Try making a simple sleeping bag liner out of polar fleece. This adds warmth, and the easily washed liner collects dirt and sweat instead of the bag.

### Sleeping Pad

Sleeping pads can be the difference between a fun campout and a miserable campout. The least expensive but bulkiest option is a closed cell foam pad. Closed cell foam pads at least ¼" thick are recommended; usually, the thicker the better. Air mattresses tend to be more compact but are heavier and less reliable than foam pads. A pad insulates better and costs less than an air mattress. The premier mattress pad is by Therm-a-rest. It offers the comfort and compactness of a standard blow-up air mattress with the light weight and reliability of a closed-cell pad. Closed cell or Therm-a-rest pads offer the best insulation from the ground during winter camping. Compact folding cots are never allowed in troop tents.

### Stuff Sacks

A pack should be a "bag of bags." Nylon stuff sacks keep clothing and gear dry and findable inside the pack. You can easily make stuff sacks of various sizes from scrap nylon, using Velcro or drawstring closures. Re-sealable plastic bags also make excellent waterproof containers.

### Flashlight

Make it is lightweight and water resistant. Scouts typically will not need anything more powerful than a flashlight using 2 "AA" batteries. Be sure to pack extra batteries and an extra bulb.

**Knife**

Yes, he will need a folding pocketknife (see Scout Catalog). The blade, when opened, must be no longer than the width of his hand. Before the Scout is allowed to use the knife during campouts, he must earn the Boy Scout Totin' Chip Badge.

There is no need to get an expensive Swiss Army knife. If the knife doesn't have a metal loop to tie a cord between the knife and the Scout's belt, the knife will probably get lost. Get a belt carrying case with Velcro closure. You don't want to lose the knife.

The Troop bans any non-folding knife or any personal hatchet or axe. Sheath knives are not permitted even among the adults in the Troop.

**Tent**

Don't buy a tent for your Scout. The Troop provides tents for all Scouts to use. Troop tents, when damaged in the line of duty, are repaired/replaced without a fuss over who did what and who is responsible. This also teaches the Scout responsibility for Troop equipment because the tent he gets assigned and doesn't take care of will probably be given to him to sleep in on the next camping trip.

**Footgear**

For warm-weather outings, hiking boots should be the lightest weight and least expensive pair you can find that are comfortable and have lug soles. Due to boys' rapid growth, you don't need top-quality boots; but proper fit is vital. Hiking boots should be comfortable right from the start (never buy boots that need to be "broken in"). Sneakers are acceptable only as a backup to proper hiking boots, and sneakers are never acceptable in winter.

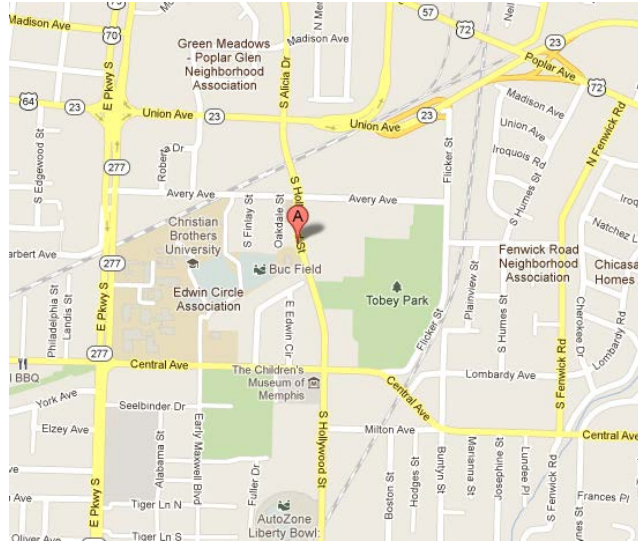
For winter camping, you need warm boots with removable felt liners. The "Sorel" brand is a good choice for adults and older Scouts whose feet are not growing fast, but younger boys can do fine with less costly snowmobile boots or moon boots, as long as they have removable felt liners.

**Stove/Cook Set**

The Troop owns patrol cook sets and stoves. Unless the Troop goes on several backpacking trips, do not invest in any personal stoves or cook sets.

## Scout Shop Information

Memphis Scout Shop  
Dunavant Scout Service Center  
171 South Hollywood  
Memphis, TN 38112  
901.323-7281  
901.327-2010 fax  
*Hours: Mon-Fri 10-5, Sat 10-2*



## Useful Publications

*The Boy Scout Handbook*  
*The Scoutmaster Handbook (no, you do not have to be a Scoutmaster to buy or read it)*  
*Junior Leader Handbook*  
*The Committee Guidebook*  
*The Guide to Safe Scouting*  
*Boy Scout Requirements*

These publications and many others are available at the Scout Shop or from our Troop library. If you would like to look them over, ask one of the uniformed adult leaders.

## Typical Duty Roster

### DUTY ROSTER

Patrol Name: \_\_\_\_\_

	Saturday Breakfast	Saturday Lunch	Saturday Dinner	Sunday Breakfast
Cook				
Assistant Cook				
Fire				
Water				
Dishwasher				
Assistant Dishwasher				

- Cook                      Prepares meals
- Assistant Cook        Assists cook as requested
- Fire                      Care for and prepare equipment used to cook, and refuel if necessary. Gather firewood, start fires, and extinguish fires.
- Water                    Get drinking water and all water needed for food preparation and dishwashing. Assist in preparing cleaning station.
- Dishwasher            Washes cooking equipment and utensils used in meal preparation. Clean up prep tables and eating tables. Put away all leftover food.
- Assistant Dishwasher   Assist dishwasher as requested.

## Troop 368 Participation Policy

A key to having a successful Scouting career in BSA Troop 368 is to be involved. In order to be involved, it is essential that each scout participate in as many troop activities and meetings as possible. Participation in these activities broadens a scout's basic skills, emotional, physical and mental growth, citizenship, religion and, most of all, leadership.

The only way to insure Troop 368 can provide these gateways to maturity, leadership and growth, is to have each scout attend each of the troop meetings, campouts, long term camps, high adventure camps and troop trips. Troop 368 feels attendance in these events is so important to the scout's career that the troop has implemented the following participation policy:

1. Each scout must attend at least 50 % of the troop's scheduled meetings between each rank advancement.
2. Each scout must attend at least 50 % of the troop's scheduled campouts between each rank advancement.
3. Each scout must attend the troop's summer camp until they reach the rank of Life Scout. At this time, the scout can substitute a high adventure camp for attendance at summer camp.
4. Each scout should attend the troop's winter camp, but attendance at winter camp is optional.

Since participation is important to a scout's overall growth, there are consequences to not meeting the 50 % minimum:

1. If either or both minimum requirements (1 and 2 above) are not achieved, then there will be no rank advancement until both meeting and camping participation reach the minimum 50 % level.
2. Once the scout has again reached the minimum participation, they will be awarded the next rank, assuming all other requirements have been achieved, including Scoutmaster Conference and Board of Review.
3. Missing summer camp without a legitimate reason (i.e. summer school, family trips, High Adventure Camp) will delay rank advancement for a minimum of 3 months.

The above policy allows each scout to participate in other activities and belong to Troop 368 of the Boy Scouts of America.

### Participation Definitions:

**Campout** – troop monthly scheduled weekend to include Friday night, all day Saturday, Saturday night and Sunday morning including camp setup and camp tear down. The troop camps each month of the year except July (High Adventure Camp) and August (Troop Leader Training).

**Campout Attendance** – Receive full credit for attendance at a campout if the scout attends: Friday night, Saturday daytime, Saturday night and Sunday morning and must participate in camp setup and tear down. If the scout stays for the entire weekend, the scout will receive full credit for campout. Scout can receive ½ credit for campout if they attend all day Saturday and either Friday night or Saturday night and must participate in either the camp setup or tear down. If a scout does not attend for one of the over nights and does not participate in either the set up or tear down, there will be no credit for campout attendance.

**Meeting** – Troop meeting consist of being at the scheduled meeting from 7:00 pm through 8:30 pm.

***Meeting Attendance*** - There are many reasons for missing a meeting, but because only 50 % attendance is required for rank advancement, there will be no excused absences from meetings. There is no partial credit for meeting attendance, the scout must be there for the entire meeting, except during finals week.

***Summer Camp*** – the troop attends summer camp each year at Kia Kima Scout reservation in Cherokee Village, AR. This event usually occurs during the third week of June. Each family can plan for this well in advance.

***Summer Camp Attendance*** - All scouts are expected to attend the troop summer camp until they reach the rank of Life Scout, and then attendance is optional, but can only be replaced by any of the High Adventure Camps – Philmont, Northern Tier, Seabase or The Summit. Once a scout reaches the rank of Life, the scout is expected to attend either summer camp with the troop, or one of the above listed High Adventure Camps.

***Winter Camp Attendance*** – the troop attends winter camp each year on December 27<sup>th</sup> and returns December 30<sup>th</sup>. Winter Camp is at Kia Kima Scout Reservation. Attendance is optional – but...highly recommended.

# Typical Menu and Food Planner

Patrol: \_\_\_\_\_

Campout: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME	ATTENDING
1. PL	
2. APL	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	

<b>Saturday Breakfast</b>
Entrée:
Grain:
Fruit:
Beverage:
<b>Saturday Lunch</b>
Entrée:
Grain:
Fruit/Vegetable:
Beverage:
<b>Saturday Dinner</b>
Entrée:
Grain:
Fruit/Vegetable:
Beverage:
Dessert:
<b>Sunday Breakfast</b>
Entrée:
Grain:
Fruit:
Beverage:

Shopping List	Quantity	Check
Aluminum foil		
Paper towels		
Garbage bags		
Salt & Pepper		

Person buying

food: \_\_\_\_\_

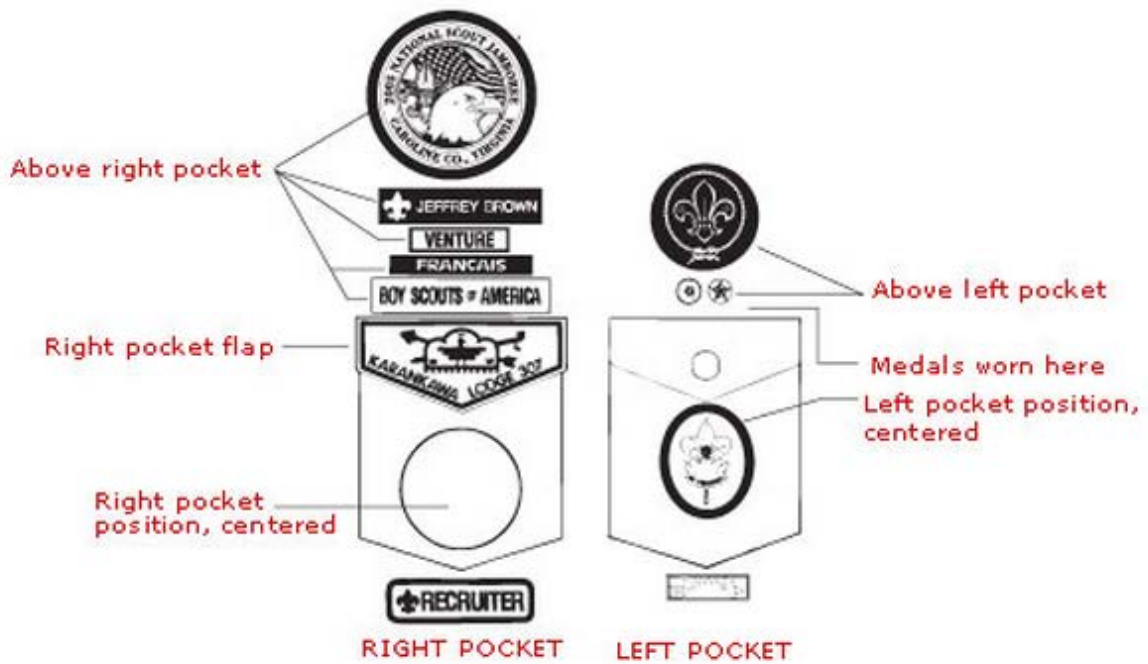
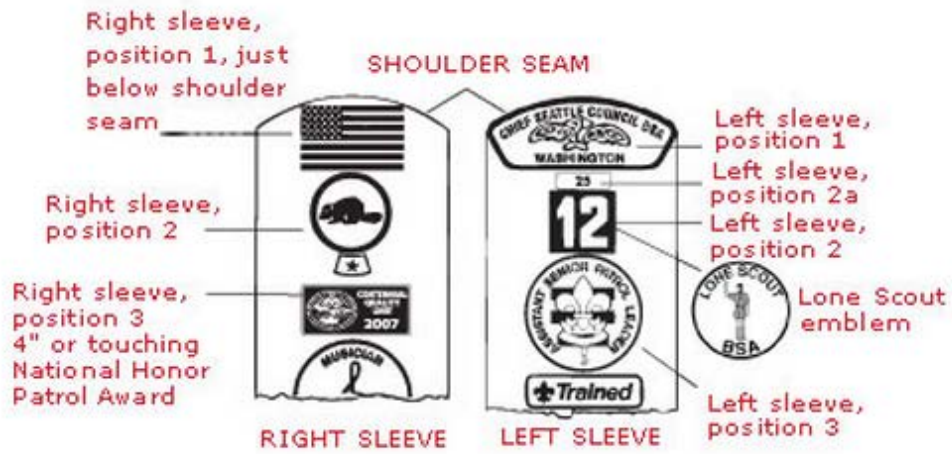
*Person buying food is responsible for the food/ice/cooler for the duration of this campout.*

Menu Sign

Off: \_\_\_\_\_



# Uniform Insignia Guide



Only five medals may be worn at a time, pinned in a single row immediately above the seam of the right pocket.

## Scout Leadership Position Application

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Rank: \_\_\_\_\_ Current Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Previous Positions: \_\_\_\_\_

Previous 6 Months Attendance: \_\_\_\_\_  
(get from Troop Scribe records)

List your first three choices of position.

1 <sup>st</sup> Choice	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice	3 <sup>rd</sup> Choice
------------------------	------------------------	------------------------

For your first choice, use this space to tell why you want this job, how you would do the job, and why you are the best choice for this position.

### Scout's Agreement

I have read the job descriptions for these positions. I understand the duties and responsibilities and if selected will carry them out to the best of my ability.

\_\_\_\_\_

(signature)

\_\_\_\_\_

(date)

### Parents Support Agreement

I agree with the commitment my son is making. I promise to support him in attending training, Troop meetings, and Troop activities as well as with encouragement at home. I realize that once selected, his presence is necessary for the smooth functioning of the Troop.

\_\_\_\_\_

(signature)

\_\_\_\_\_

(date)

## Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

**AOL Arrow of Light** *The highest Cub Scout Award, and the only Cub Scout badge that may be worn on the Boy Scout uniform.*

**APL Assistant Patrol Leader** *Youth second leader of a patrol. Appointed by the PL to help him and take his place in his absence.*

**ASM Assistant ScoutMaster** *An adult volunteer, 18 or older, appointed by the chartered organization, who helps the SM administer the Troop program. The term SA is used on applications and other literature.*

**ASPL Assistant Senior patrol Leader** *Appointed by the SPL with the SM's advice and consent, he helps to run the Troop with the SPL and the PLC.*

**BLT Basic Leadership Training**

**Blue Card** *Merit Badge card used to record completion of requirements.*

**BOR Board of Review** *As a requirement for each rank advancement, a Scout must appear individually before a group of three to six adults (members of the Troop Committee) to ensure that the Scout has met the requirements for that rank. Neither the SM, ASMs, nor the Scout's parents can sit on a BOR. A BOR takes place after a Scoutmaster Conference for Rank Advancement, or when a Scout requests it, if the Troop Committee feels the Scout needs it. Eagle Board of Reviews are conducted at the district level, not by the Troop.*

**Boy Scout Ranks** *In increasing order of rank: Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life, Eagle, Eagle Palms: Bronze, Gold, Silver.*

**Boy's Life** *BSA's monthly magazine for boys.*

**B-P Award Baden-Powell Patrol Award** *An embroidered star worn beneath the patrol medallion distinguishes a member of a patrol that won this award by meeting requirements in spirit, patrol meetings, hikes, outdoor activities, Good Turns, advancement, membership, uniform, and PLC attendance. The motto of BSA: Be Prepared, honor his initials.*

**B-P Baden-Powell** *Robert Stephenson Smythe – founder of the worldwide Scouting movement. Born in London, Feb. 22, 1857. Referred to as Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell, Chief Scout of the World*

**Bridging** *A ceremony where Webelos Cub Scouts cross a ceremonial bridge to signify their transition from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts. This is normally done at a Cub Scout Pack meeting with Boy Scouts from the Webelos' new Troop participating.*

**BSA** *Boy Scouts of America*

**BSLTA Boy Scouts Leader Training Award** *A training recognition for adults in Boy Scouting, other than Scoutmasters. Recipients wear an award knot with two green ropes.*

**C.O.P.E. Project C.O.P.E.** *Challenging Outdoor Physical Experience – A team-building and Self-esteem building physical challenge designed to broaden a Scout's abilities and self confidence.*

**Camporee** *Derived from two words: camp and jamboree. Attended by several Troops within the district. There are usually various skill and spirit competitions between the attending patrols. Generally held in the Spring and involves two nights of camping.*

**CC Committee Chair** *A registered adult appointed by the Charter Organization to chair the Troop Committee. Presides at Troop Committee meetings. Works closely with the COR and Scoutmaster to ensure the Scouting program meets BSA guidelines.*

**CD Camp Director** *The Scouter in charge of the administration of a Boy Scout camp.*

**Class A Uniform** *Full uniform required for all external Troop activities (e.g. travel to/from activities, camping, community service).*

**Class B uniform** *Troop or BSA shirt worn during specific camping activities, work details, summer camp, at Patrol Leader Council meetings or other informal Scouting occasions.*

**Class C Uniform** *Casual wear, up to the discretion of an event leader and the appropriateness of the event.*

**CO Chartered Organization** *A religions, civic, fraternal, educational, or other community-based organization which has applied for and received a charter to operate a BSA Scouting unit. Troop 368's chartered organization is Farmington Presbyterian Church.*

**COH Court of Honor** *A ceremony to honor and recognize Scouts for their achievements and rank advancements. A special COH is used when a Scout reaches Eagle.*

**Commissioner** *Adult volunteer Scouter at the district or council level. Unit commissioners are assigned to units and should be a friendly resource to the unit leaders.*

**CR/COR Charter Representative / Chartered Organization Representative** *A person assigned by the chartering organization to be the liaison between the Troop and the charter organization.*

**Crackerbarrel** *A gathering of Scouts and/or Scouters for friendship and fellowship with light snacks and refreshments. Sometimes crackers are served, but rarely with a barrel.*

**Council** *Regional collection of districts that provides support, council camps, and training.*

**CSP Council Shoulder Patch** *Patch worn on the Scout uniform to signify which council the Scout is registered in.*

**DC Den Chief** *A Boy Scout who helps direct the activities of a Cub Scout den. Appointed by the SM. Also, Webelos Den Chief, who performs the same duties for a Webelos den.*

**DE District Executive** *A professional Scouter who works under the direction of the Scout Executive and is responsible for the achievements of the district.*

**District** *A subdivision of a council. Troop 368 is in the Eastern District of the Chickasaw Council.*

**Dues** *Annual cost of maintaining an active membership in the troop. Dues help pay for equipment maintenance, new equipment, neckerchiefs and slides for new Boy Scouts joining the Troop, patches and other awards.*

**Eastern District** *Eastern District is one of the districts of the Chickasaw Council. The Eastern District roughly encompasses Germantown, Collierville, Cordova, Lakeland, Arlington, and Eads.*

**Fast Start** A preliminary training session with three-part video explaining Troop organization, Troop meetings, and The Outdoor Program. Usually 3 to 4 hours.

**Fees** Costs incurred to participate in an event.

**FOS Friends of Scouting** Annual fundraiser for the Chickasaw Council. The council does not get any share of your registration fee and is grateful for your donation.

**FYC First Year Camper**

**Gilwell / Gilwell Park** The training center of the British Scout Association and the original home site of Wood Badge training. Located in Epping Forest, England.

**Good Turn** Good Turn is a distinctive feature of Boy Scouting and its emphasis on service to others. The "Do a Good Turn Daily" habit is one that all Scouts try to acquire.

**Instructor** This youth leader helps other youth members with rank advancement; appointed by the SPL with the advice and consent of the SM. Also, any youth or adult who can teach or instruct others on parts of the Scouting program.

**Jamboree** The term chosen by B-P to describe the first international gathering of Scouts camping together in London in 1920. The term is used to indicate a national or world gathering.

**JASM Junior Assistant Scoutmaster** A youth between 16 and 18 who has already held major leadership positions within the Troop. Appointed by the SM to help in guiding the Troop and youth leaders.

**TLT Troop Leader Training** A training course for junior leaders building the leadership team and planning the Troop program.

**TLTC Troop Leader Training Conference** Week-long training course for junior leaders featuring Scoutcraft and leadership skills.

**Klondike Derby** A winter/snow-oriented camporee. Overnight camping experience in the snow with team-building games and activities. (Only people from Wisconsin can appreciate this).

**Leadership** To advance in each of the more senior ranks, a Scout must hold a leadership position for a set period of time. The rank requirements in the Boy Scout Handbook (as revised) list the leadership positions that qualify.

**LNT Leave No Trace** Leave No Trace embodies outdoor skills and ethics that minimize our impact on the environment.

**MB Merit Badge** Recognition that a Scout has had in-depth training in a skill. Certain MBs are required for advanced ranks, signified by a silver border around the badge.

**Merit Badge Counselor** A registered adult leader who has knowledge about a particular MB and is authorized to teach MB classes for Scouts.

**MC Member of the Committee** Adult volunteer who serves on the Troop Committee which carries out the Troop's program. Members are involved in operational areas of the Troop including finance, administration, transportation, fund raising, and other areas as determined by the CC and SM or CM or DC.

**NESA National Eagle Scout Association** This group provides an opportunity for all Boy Scouts to retain identification with Scouting through service to the local council in which they live.

**NOAC National Order of the Arrow Conference** A gathering of OA members to address OA issues.

**OA Ordeal** The initiation ceremony experience for new OA members generally involving personal introspection, service to improve camp or trail, and ceremonies based on Indian legend or lore.

**OA Order of the Arrow** A national brotherhood of Scout honor campers of the BSA. The OA motto of "cheerful service" indicates their purpose.

**Patrol** The Patrol is the basic unit within a Troop. A Patrol is made up of 6-8 Scouts who camp, cook, and eat together, and work as a team at various activities.

**Philmont / Philmont Scout Ranch** A 136,000 acre high adventure Scout reservation near Cimarron, New Mexico. A rugged, outback hiking experience usually lasting 11 days.

**PL Patrol Leader** The elected leader for a patrol. As a member of the PLC he helps make the decisions that run the Troop. He appoints an Assistant Patrol Leader (APL) to help in running the patrol.

**PLC Patrol Leaders Council** Made up of the youth leadership of the Troop. They meet once a month to plan the following month's activities and annually to plan the upcoming year.

**PTC Philmont Training Center** A center at Philmont Scout Ranch hosting training seminars for selected Scouts and Scouters. Attendance is by invitation after local council nomination.

**QM Quartermaster** A Troop role for a Scouter, involves managing and maintaining supplies and equipment of the Troop.

**Recharter** An annual process of re-registering the Troop, including its Scouts and adult leaders.

**Roster** Typically a list of Scouts and relevant information, such as a Duty Roster or Telephone Roster.

**RT Roundtable** Monthly meeting for leaders to exchange ideas and fellowship, run by the district..

**Safe Haven** All Troop activities free from fear of physical and/or verbal abuse.

**SA Assistant Scoutmaster** Term used on applications and other literature; in practice the term used is ASM. See also: ASM

**Scouter** Any adult registered leader.

**Scouting for Food** Good turn event: every year, Scouts collect food for the fight against hunger. The food is given to local food banks for distribution to needy families. This is a national event of the BSA.

**Scoutmaster Conference** Formal meeting that takes place between a Scout and the Scoutmaster to review a Scout's progress. A Scoutmaster Conference takes place: at advancement time before a Board of Review, when a Scout requests one, or if the Scoutmaster feels the Scout needs it.

**SE Scout Executive**

## **SIT Staff In Training**

**SM Scoutmaster** *Adult leader, head of the Troop. A commissioned volunteer, 21 or older, appointed by the chartered organization. Provides direction and training to the Scouts so they can run a Troop more effectively. Works with the Troop Committee and the chartered organization representative to provide program opportunities and direction.*

**SME Sustaining Membership Enrollment** *Similar to FOS*

**Sign Off** *Recognition that a requirement has been met by initialing and dating the Scout handbook*

**SPL Senior Patrol Leader** *The most senior youth leader of the Troop, elected by the Scouts. The SPL is in charge of the Troop at all functions and activities and is the head of the PLC. He appoints his ASPL.*

**TC Troop Committee** *Committee of registered adult leaders that provides oversight, assistance, and guidance to the Scoutmaster in carrying out the Scouting program within the Troop. Responsible for providing the necessary resources requested by the PLC and SM that are required to carry out the Scouting program.*

**TG Troop Guide** *A youth leader who works with the new Scout patrol in the Troop; appointed by the SM in consultation with the SA responsible for the new Scouts.*

**Tour Permit** *A document that must be filed with the council office before an official Scouting activity outside council boundaries can take place.*

**TRS Troop Resource Survey** *A survey of the talents, skills, and interests of adults who could provide program assistance to the Troop.*

## **TTT Train the Trainer**

**Uniformed Adult Leader** *See Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster.*

**UC Unit Commissioner** *Volunteer Scouter who works with Pocks, Troops, and teams to help them succeed. Carries information and questions to and from the unit, to and from the local council.*

**Varmint** *Registered adult leader in Troop 368 that attends campouts. Leaders at campouts are part of the Varmint Patrol.*

**White Card** *Official certificate of completing a merit badge.*

**Wood Badge** *Advanced leader training. A leather thong with two wooden beads, a special neckerchief, and a slide (woggle) are worn by those who have completed training. Teaches leadership and Troop operations skills.*

## **WOSM World Organization of the Scouting Movement**

**YIS Yours in Scouting** *A closing line when communicating with others in the Scouting program.*

**YPP Youth Protection Plan** *Guidelines and policies, in place to help fight child abuse. This BSA emphasis fights child abuse by teaching youth "the three R's": Recognize, Resist, and Report child abuse; by helping parents and Scouters learn to recognize indicators of child abuse; and by teaching them how to handle child abuse situations.*

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