



**BOY SCOUT**  
**TROOP 1000**  
**MEMBERSHIP PACKAGE**

Sponsored by  
Calvary Episcopal Church  
806 Thompson Road, Richmond, Texas 77469  
[www.troop1000.org](http://www.troop1000.org)



# BOY SCOUT TROOP 1000

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# Welcome to TROOP 1000.101 ...

## A Crash Course

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Welcome to Boy Scouts Troop 1000. The Scout and his parents/guardians are about to begin a rewarding journey of adventure, learning, leadership and personal growth.

Troop 1000's mission is to provide a high-adventure Scouting program for boys in the Richmond/Rosenberg/Sugar Land area. The troop leadership is 100% committed to the idea that providing unique opportunities in a structured environment ensures growth and development.

Scouting is a learning process. Your textbook is the Boy Scout Handbook: the Scout and parent should be familiar with its contents. As your Scout participates in Troop meetings, campouts, Flags Across the Brazos, and other events interacting with his fellow Scouts, junior leaders, and Scoutmasters, he will become increasingly aware of how the troop functions. He will learn his role and his responsibilities.

Be aware that, as BSA intended, Troop 1000 is a "boy-led" troop, which means that the Scouts do indeed run the show. Of course, this means that sometimes things don't go perfectly. But that is part of the learning process. Parents, as leaders and committee members, provide the guidance and framework upon which our sons build successful and rewarding Scouting experiences.

As an entry level Scout your son will be assigned to a New Scout Patrol. New Scout Patrols function just like regular Core Patrols except that they have special guidance from the New Scout Scoutmaster & a Troop Guide (an older Scout). As the 'new kid on the block' there is a lot of new information about Scouting & T-1000 to learn. It can be somewhat confusing at first, but your son will get the hang of it. Encourage him to ask questions of his Troop Guide, the Senior Patrol Leader, and the Scoutmasters.

The information in this packet and the Boy Scout Handbook should be used by you, the parent, as a guide to help your son, rather than as a tool to do the job for him.

## Our Core Values

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The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

As a member of the Boys Scouts of America, each Scout takes the following oath:

**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.**

The Scout Law:

**A Scout is Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and Reverent.**

## Primary Contacts

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Scoutmaster – Fred Smith, 281-565-1205 (h), 281-610-5645 (m), [fsmith@ptc.com](mailto:fsmith@ptc.com)

Assistant Scoutmaster for New Scouts – Tor Jeremiassen, 281-937-9351, [tor@ti.com](mailto:tor@ti.com)

Advancement Chair – Jackie Lamberti, 281-239-0435, [jslamberti@comcast.net](mailto:jslamberti@comcast.net)

FAB Coordinator – Lane Hall, 281-750-1417, [sheldon.hall@fluor.com](mailto:sheldon.hall@fluor.com)

Committee Chair – Bill Daw, 281-341-7192, [WBDAW@dawray.com](mailto:WBDAW@dawray.com)

Charter Organization Representative – Max Trenck, 281-342-7670, [Max.Trenck@nov.com](mailto:Max.Trenck@nov.com)

Rosters will be updated and provided as needed.

# Troop 1000 Structure

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## FOR SCOUTS

Troop 1000 is a boy-led Scout Troop. The Troop has two types of patrols: New Scout Patrols, and Core Patrols. Your son will be in a **New Scout Patrol** when he first joins, unless he is an experienced transfer from another scout troop. New Scouts participate with the entire troop for most activities, but they also spend time apart from the main body of the Troop learning basic Scout skills. New scout patrols will be assigned a troop guide, who is an experienced scout to guide and mentor the new patrol leader. After one year, new scout patrols become core patrols.

We attempt to keep core patrol members together, virtually, for the career of each scout. Even Baden-Powell, himself, advised that cohesive patrols should not be dispersed. While, there could arise circumstances where adjustments are warranted, troop leadership endeavors to maintain continuity and bonding that comes from working together for the long term.

### Leadership:

The Scouts elect a slate of troop officers every 6 months: **Senior Patrol Leader ("SPL")**, **Quartermaster of Tents**, **Quartermaster of Stoves**, **Troop Scribe**, **Troop Historian**, **Librarian**, **Chaplain's Aide**, **Cheerleader**, and **Troop Bugler**. The Senior Patrol Leader also appoints his own Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders ("ASPL's"): **ASPL of Officers**, **ASPL of Programs**, **ASPL of New Scouts**, and **ASPL of Quartermasters**. Each officer has specific duties to perform, and demonstrating leadership is required for rank advancement.

Each Patrol elects their officers: a **Patrol Leader (PL)** who in turn appoints an **Assistant Patrol Leader (APL)**, who serve for a 6 month term.

### Leadership Meetings & Program Planning:

All Leaders and their Assistants constitute the **Patrol Leaders Council (PLC)**. The PLC, *including New Scout Patrol Leaders*, meets on the **first Sunday each month from 2 to 3 p.m.** at the church. They also hold a special 6-month planning meeting at the beginning of their term. They choose the monthly program theme, merit badges to be worked on, location and activities for campouts, etc. A "Troop 1000 month" begins on Monday after a campout to the end of the next campout. Each July, an annual program planning meeting is held. The PLC constitutes the guiding body of the troop. Adult leadership provide guidance, but their role is limited. If an issue does not concern matters of safety, cost, or morality, then Scout leadership is encouraged to make the plans and decisions.

A **Program Patrol** and a **Service Patrol** are assigned to each Troop Month. The Service Patrol is responsible for preparing & cleaning up the meeting space and for providing resources needed to execute the program. The Program Patrol is responsible for planning the month's troop meetings and campouts.

## FOR ADULTS: PARENTS, GUARDIANS, & SCOUTS 18+ YRS OLD

It goes without saying that a boy-led Scout Troop does not function without the dedicated support and participation of adults. The adults supporting the Scouts of Troop 1000 consist of their parents – all of whom are members of the Troop Committee, as well as Adult Leadership. The #1 job of all adults involved in Troop 1000 is to set an example, and strive for the high ideals of Scouting in their everyday lives.

### Adult Leadership

The Scoutmaster & Assistant Scoutmasters are the BSA-trained adult leadership responsible for ensuring the quality of the troop's Scouting program. They interact directly with and guide the Scouts at meetings, campouts, and other Scouting events. They are ultimately responsible for teaching the personal, physical, leadership, and management skills offered through BSA's Scouting program. The #1 job of the Scoutmaster is training both Assistant Scoutmasters and the boy leadership.

### The Troop Committee

Every parent/guardian is a member of Troop 1000's Committee. The Troop Committee is responsible for the administrative side of running a Scout Troop. The Committee membership includes parents who have volunteered to hold special posts such as Committee Chairman, Treasurer, Event Coordinator Chairman, and others. There are ample opportunities for every parent to be involved in the Scouting experience.

### Parents

No Scout would be able to take full advantage of what the Scouting program has to offer without the support and participation of his parents/guardians. Besides serving on the Troop Committee, parents provide transportation to and from meetings, events & campouts, serve as Merit Badge Counselors, and many other functions. Parents provide the encouragement to participate when their boy may feel like quitting. Parents provide the extra help sometimes needed to get a job done. Parents provide the praise when a job is completed and well done. Every parent who interacts directly with Scouts must be certified by Safeguarding God's Children – required by the Episcopal Church, our sponsoring organization - as well as The Boy Scout Youth Protection Training (YPT) program. The former is an instructor-led class, but the latter can be taken on-line. For additional information, follow links on our web site. Once the courses are completed, please notify the Advancement Chair.

# Rank Advancement & Merit Badges

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## RANK ADVANCEMENT

Scouts advance through the ranks as follows: Boy Scout rank, Tenderfoot, 2<sup>nd</sup> Class, 1<sup>st</sup> Class, Star and Life. Exceptional work will reward the Scout with the special honor of receiving his Eagle Scout Award. Beyond the Eagle Scout award are Eagle palms, which are awarded for continued learning and leadership.

The four steps to each Advancement are:

- The Scout learns – participates in the program learning what is required for each rank
- The Scout is tested – knowledge of each requirement checked and signed off in handbook
- The Scout is reviewed through a Scoutmaster conference, and interviewed in a Board of Review
- The Scout is recognized – at a special ceremony known as a Court of Honor

Specific requirements and supporting information for all ranks are given in the Boy Scout Handbook.

### Scoutmaster Conference –

The Scoutmaster conference is a visit between the Scoutmaster or an Assistant Scoutmaster and the Scout held each time the boy completes the requirements for a rank. They discuss the Scout's activity in the Troop and his understanding and practice of the ideals of Scouting. Together they can set goals and outline steps for achieving them. The Scoutmaster Conference will determine if the scout is ready to go before the Board of Review. Please note that the Scout takes the responsibility of notifying the Scoutmaster when he is ready for each Scoutmaster Conference.

### Board of Review –

After finishing all requirements toward a rank and completing his Scoutmaster Conference, the Scout notifies the Advancement Chairman that he is ready to appear before a Board of Review, which consists of at least 3 registered members of the Troop Committee. The purpose is not to retest a Scout, but rather to ensure that he has completed all of the requirements, to determine the quality of his Troop experience, and to encourage him to advance toward the next rank.

After any requirement or review is completed, the Scout must notify the Advancement Chair so that it can be recorded in the Troop's records. Failure to do so may mean that the requirement must be repeated. A Scout's record is tracked throughout his career and becomes critical if he aspires to earn the Eagle rank. You should frequently remind your son about this until it becomes habit.

Scoutmaster conferences and Boards of Review are normally held during regular troop meeting times.

### Court of Honor –

A Court of Honor is a special ceremony planned and executed by the Scout leadership. Merit Badges and other special awards are bestowed; rank achievers are ceremoniously recognized. Courts of Honor are held 3 – 4 times per year. Please check the troop calendar. After each Court of Honor there is a reception catered by the parents (that means everyone brings some cookies or finger foods and drinks).

## MERIT BADGES

- Merit Badge work begins in earnest once the Scout has achieved First Class Rank.
- Most Merit Badge work is done either together as a troop, in patrols, or small groups of Scouts.
- A scout may also work individually on a merit badge, under the supervision of a Merit Badge Counselor.  
(Note: two-deep leadership rule applies, so that a boy may not meet alone with a counselor.)
- Before work begins on a merit badge, a blue merit badge card (available from the Advancement Chairman/ Merit Badge Coordinator) must be signed by the merit badge counselor and the Scoutmaster. Scoutmaster approval allows the Scoutmaster to monitor progress and ensure that the Scout is mature enough for the subject matter of the badge. Merit badge counselors are allowed wide discretion to ensure "age appropriate" learning, but some topics, such as law, engineering, etc., can obviously be learned better by more mature scouts.
- Requirements for each merit badge are listed in the current BSA Merit Badge Requirements book, which is available at the Scout shops, in our Troop Library, in the Merit Badge Coordinator's files, or on-line at <http://www.meritbadge.org/>.
- Keep the system honest – it is not recommended that you be your son's merit badge counselor.
- Summer and Winter Camp provide excellent opportunities for earning as many as 2 to 5 Merit Badges.
- Merit badges are presented to the Scouts at a Court of Honor.
- Merit badges are worn on a Merit Badge Sash as part of the full dress Class A uniform.

## OTHER AWARDS

Scouting offers many other opportunities to be recognized for exceptional achievement and learning. The Order of the Arrow is Scouting's "National Honor Society" and can only be earned through the respect of their peers. Religious emblems can be earned through involvement with each scout's own church. Conservation, 50-Miler, Mile Swim, and other awards can be earned through exceptional efforts.

# Parents: Stay Informed!

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## Ask Your Son - Yes, ask your son ...

- What did you do at the meeting/campout?
- How are you coming along with your rank advancement, merit badge, etc.?
- If you finished any rank or badge requirements, did you take your Scout Handbook to the Advancement Chair?
- Were any announcements, handouts, newsletters, etc. given out at the meeting?
- When are the next events and what are YOUR responsibilities? (Remember – this is a BOY LED TROOP)

## Patrol Phone Communications –

- Expect phone calls *every week* from your Patrol Leaders.
- Be sure your Scout returns all phone calls promptly.
- If your Scout isn't getting phone calls, have him call the Senior Patrol Leader to let him know.

## Read Your Son's Boy Scout Handbook –

- There's no better way to understand the Scouting Program!!

## Attend Monthly Troop Committee Meetings and Weekly Troop Meetings –

- Every parent/guardian is a member of the Troop 1000 Committee.
- Committee Meetings are held at 7 pm the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday each month at Calvary Episcopal Church in the Life Center.
- Get involved! Best way to enhance your Scout's experience is to provide support with your involvement in one of the many roles available: publicity, training, event coordination, teach a merit badge or three, much more.

## Go To [www.troop1000.org](http://www.troop1000.org) –

- Lots of info about the troop and upcoming events.
- You can use the troop website to sign up for campouts and other troop events.
- Not connected? -- it's OK, just request a copy of the calendar, sign up at meetings, etc.

## Use The Troop Calendar –

- Study it, post it, transfer events to your personal calendar!
- The Troop Calendar ([http://www.troop1000.org/troop\\_calendar.htm](http://www.troop1000.org/troop_calendar.htm)) is revised and reissued every 6 months or so, usually in Aug-Sept and again in Feb-Mar.

## E-mail –

- E-mail is an excellent way to communicate the same message to many people. It is also an easy way to maintain a record of a communication. Many of the troop leaders rely heavily on e-mail.
- However, it is no substitute for the phone. Do not use e-mail for any communication that is time-sensitive. Do not infer anything from the speed or slowness with which a message is addressed.
- E-mail may also not be the best choice, if either "voice" or "tone" are crucial to the intended message.
- Do not write anything you would not say, face-to-face.
- Keep in mind that many leaders' and parents' e-mail service is provided through their employers. Please respect their generosity by not spamming any troop e-mail list. Only include those on an e-mail who need to know, or can help you with a particular problem.
- Do not pass any information (including e-mail addresses) to anyone outside the Troop 1000 family.
- We encourage the use of spam filters and virus detectors, as many computer maladies can be passed by e-mail.
- As a courtesy, we suggest that you put "Troop 1000" first in the subject line of any e-mail, to provide easy filtering criteria. Please also provide a meaningful subject. For example, a subject of "Troop 1000 – Campout Equipment List" is far more useful than "Question".

## Be Involved -

- Many opportunities are available for you to participate in Troop activities: drive to campouts, coordinate an event, become a Merit Badge Counselor, hold a Troop Committee Office, help with Boards of Review, become an Assistant Scoutmaster ... and much more! If you're involved, you'll definitely be "in the know".
- Help combat "SOP" (Same Ol' People) Syndrome! If you feel like something isn't getting done – take the initiative – Ask and Act!
- Go Camping!! -- We encourage every parent to go on at least 2-3 campouts per year. Even if you're 'not a camper' – you can still play a vital role in your son's Scouting experience. It's the best way to see firsthand how the Troop functions.

## Ask Questions –

- If your Scout has questions, he should use the Patrol System: ask the Patrol Leaders, then the Troop Guide, then Senior Leaders, then Scoutmasters
- Everyone is ready and willing to answer questions. The squeaky wheel gets the oil!

# Calendar of Meetings, Campouts & Annual Events

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

Week	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
1	2pm PLC Meeting	7pm Troop Meeting			7:30pm Brazos District Round Table Meeting		
2		7pm Troop Meeting & Committee Meeting			7:30pm Brazos Chapter Order of the Arrow Meeting		
3		7pm Troop Meeting				Camp*	Camp*
4	Camp*	7pm Troop Meeting					

\* Monthly Campout is the 3<sup>rd</sup> FULL weekend

## ANNUAL CALENDAR

<b>JANUARY</b> Monthly Campout Monthly Committee Meeting Leadership Planning Session	<b>FEBRUARY</b> Monthly Campout Monthly Committee Meeting Court of Honor FAB - Presidents Day	<b>MARCH</b> Monthly Campout Monthly Committee Meeting
<b>APRIL</b> Monthly Campout or Scout Fair Monthly Committee Meeting	<b>MAY</b> Monthly Campout Monthly Committee Meeting Court of Honor FAB - Memorial Day	<b>JUNE</b> Summer Camp Monthly Committee Meeting FAB - Flag Day
<b>JULY</b> Voyageur Trek Special Troop Outing ie., Schlitterbahn Monthly Committee Meeting Leadership Planning Session FAB - Independence Day	<b>AUGUST</b> Monthly Campout Monthly Committee Meeting Court of Honor	<b>SEPTEMBER</b> Monthly Campout Monthly Committee Meeting FAB - Labor Day
<b>OCTOBER</b> Monthly Campout or District Camporee Monthly Committee Meeting	<b>NOVEMBER</b> Monthly Campout Monthly Committee Meeting FAB - Veterans Day	<b>DECEMBER</b> Winter Camp Monthly Committee Meeting

### Weekly Meeting Place

- Calvary Episcopal Church – 806 Thompson Road, Richmond TX in the gym.

### When

- Every Monday evening throughout the year from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
- The pre-opening begins promptly at 7:00 p.m.

### Attire

- Scouts must wear an official uniform to every meeting unless specifically told otherwise.

### What to Bring

- Boy Scout Handbook should always be available for leadership to sign off on requirements as soon as possible after completion.
- Any supplies, etc. assigned by the leadership or the patrol as part of their program responsibilities.

### Typical Agenda

- Pre-opening – a gathering activity, such as a game or skill drill
- Opening ceremony – Flag Presentation, Pledge, etc.
- Announcement Period
- Main Meeting
  - Activities related to the theme/merit badge of the month
  - Pre-campout planning, and, menu selection
  - Special activities, such as leadership elections
  - Game or skill activity
- Scoutmaster Minute
- Closing Flag Ceremony

### Patrol Leaders Council (PLC)

- Scouts in Leadership positions attend the Patrol Leaders Council (PLC)
- PLC meetings are held the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday each month from 2-3 pm in the multi-purpose room near the gym

### Parents: Committee Meetings & Troop Meetings

- Committee Meetings: every parent/guardian is automatically a Committee Meeting member and is encouraged to attend meetings which are held on 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday each month.
- Adults wishing to participate in Scouting activities with the boys must attend two certification courses:
  - Calvary Episcopal Church, our sponsor organization, requires adults to attend the Safeguarding God's Children class.
  - BSA requires completion of the Youth Protection Training class.
- Parents & Scouts: please observe the Scout Sign whenever it is given.

# Equipment Your Scout Will Need

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## THE TROOP PROVIDES:

### Directly to the Scout:

Upon registration:

- Properly labeled Boy Scout Handbook
- Troop 1000 Numeral Patch
- New Scout Patrol Patch\*  
\* Patrol Patch provided as soon as patrol assignment is made (newly formed New Scout Patrols need time to chose their patrol name)

As earned:

- Rank insignia
- Badges of Office (Patrol Leader, Quartermaster, etc.)
- Merit Badges
- Certain special recognition patches  
(Quality Unit, "Trained", Voyageur sashes, etc.)
- Core Patrol Patch

### Through the troop as part of the program:

- Tents
- Cookware
- Stoves
- Dutch Ovens
- Coolers
- Folding Tables

## THE SCOUT'S FAMILY PROVIDES:

- Class A Boy Scout Uniform (see next page "Uniforms" for details):
- Class B Shirts (2-3)
- Basic Personal Camping Equipment  
\*\* For Full List see "Personal Camping Equipment" \*\*
- An album/notebook with baseball card pocket pages – for storage of merit badge and rank advancement achievement cards, and previous rank badges.
- Additional Patrol Patches for extra uniform shirts
- Certain special achievement patches, such as religious knots, etc.

Note: We have a donation closet of used uniforms and equipment. These items have been donated by older Scouts as they graduate from the Troop, and are made available to new Scouts on an as-needed basis.

# Uniforms

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## CLASS A BOY SCOUT UNIFORM

The uniform represents one of the eight primary “methods” of the Boy Scouts of America. Its main role is to instill pride of membership. You can always tell sports teams apart by their uniform. Similarly, you can tell a Boy Scout unit by its uniform. The uniform also has very practical uses in helping a small number of adults manage a larger number of youth. The uniform stands out in a crowd and is recognizable at a distance. We also find that boys behave better when they proudly wear the uniform – particularly important when traveling.

The official Class A Boy Scout Uniform, which is appropriate for all Scouting events consists of:

- Khaki shirt with:
  - Red Epaulet Loops
  - Sam Houston Area Council patch
  - World Crest of Scouting patch
  - Troop 1000 numerals \*\*
  - Patrol patch\*\*
  - Current rank insignia patch\*\*
  - Badge of office, when appropriate\*\*
  - Any other special awards or braids, such as Arrow of Light, knots, Quality Unit
- Green Scout Shorts (for warm weather)
- Green Scout Pants (for cool weather)
- Green Scout socks
- Green Scout belt or leather Scouting-related belt such as one from a camp
- Wide Brim T-1000 hat

\*\* These items are provided by the Troop

NOTE: Neckerchiefs are not required. Scout cap is not needed (wide-brimmed hat to be worn for outdoor activities – Troop 1000 Hats are required – 1st one provided by troop.)

Placement of all insignia and patches is shown in the diagram on the next page.

### Class A Uniform is required attire for

- all Troop meetings, special events, Boards of Review, and where proper uniforming is appropriate.
- **for travel** (campouts, summer/winter camp, day trips, etc.).
- **for all Courts of Honor as part of the Full Dress Uniform.** The **Full Dress Uniform** consists of the above plus merit badge sash (once merit badges have been earned), Order of Arrow Sash, and other special regalia, such as Voyageur sash.

Your Scout may eventually find it useful to have a second Class A shirt; it need only display red epaulet loops and the basic patches (Council, Troop numerals, Patrol). This secondary Class A shirt may be worn on travel days, at camp, or for FAB activities.

## CLASS B BOY SCOUT UNIFORM: T-shirts

A Class B uniform consists of a shirt which displays any Scout related logo, such as our official Troop T-shirt, a BSA Camp shirt, etc. PLUS Scout shorts. Class B uniforms may be worn during campouts, certain service projects, etc. where a Class A uniform would be inappropriate or inadvisable. Troop T-shirts are available from the Troop Committee. Orders for new shirts are usually placed in spring before summer camp. Class A or Class B shirts are required attire everyday at Summer camp.

## TROOP 1000 MEETING UNIFORM SCHEDULE

In order to help foster an informal and fun atmosphere, but still maintain the integrity of this important aspect of Scouting, the uniform for troop meetings changes throughout the year according to the following schedule:

- From the end of summer camp until the start of the school year, Scouts may wear a Class B uniform which includes the T-shirt from the camp we have just attended. Only the camp T-shirt for that summer, or the Class A shirt, should be worn.
- From the start of school to the end of March, Scouts should wear the Class A uniform, but may substitute nice jeans for the Scout pants or shorts.
- Starting April 1, Scouts should only wear the Class A uniform, through summer camp. This helps set the proper Scouting tone in preparation for summer camp.

# Placement of Insignia and Patches

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Red Epaulet Loops

Patrol Patch

Quality Unit Patch

Council Patch

Troop Numerals

Badge of Office

'Trained' Patch

Venture or Voyageur Patch

Order of the Arrow Insignia

Arrow of Light

Rank Insignia

Temporary Patch  
(such as Summer Camp 1999)

World of Scouting Crest

Service Stars

Knots

Den Chief Cord  
worn here

# Personal Camping Equipment

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Warning: This list will sound expensive – and it is if you try to buy all the bells and whistles right away. However, this is not necessary. Most high-tech and specialty items have less expensive counterparts which will certainly serve the Scout adequately. Your Scout's personal equipment inventory can be developed and improved over a longer time frame. Birthdays and Christmas offer a great opportunity in this regard. *There are two items, however, which we recommend spending a little extra on – his backpack and his sleeping bag.*

## Equipment List (in priority order)

- WATER BOTTLES** (2) Clear or translucent with a wide-mouth, 1-qt. size. Canteens are not recommended. A belt carrier which can be also be strapped to a pack is advisable. On backpacking trips the young Scout should carry at least 2 quarts of water (older Scouts – 4 quarts). Scoutmasters want to see that Scouts are drinking lots of water.
- SLEEPING BAG** A good sleeping bag should be lightweight, compactable, and warm (rated to at least 20°F). Any of the good sporting goods stores carry such bags.
- BED ROLL** A pad to place under the sleeping bag – it provides both comfort, warmth, and insurance against creeping damp. A closed cell foam pad is good. The deflatable type with a valve is an excellent investment.
- BACKPACK** The backpack is the Scout's luggage – he will use it for all Troop trips. Backpacks are either external or internal frame construction. Generally an internal frame provides better load distribution than an external frame. A backpack **must** be properly fitted to each individual (*The staff at Whole Earth Provisions are excellent fitters; as a customer you will also receive free refits as your Scout grows*). For an external frame pack, look for a capacity around 3500 cu. in. To fit most beginning Scouts in an external frame, buy a *woman's* pack (the Kelty Trekker is a good one). The waist belt on a man's pack is almost always too big for a good fit. In an internal frame, go for about 4000 cu. in. capacity (the Lowe Alpine Australis 60 is a good one). Sternum straps and lifter straps are not luxuries – they are essential for full comfort and stability.
- CLOTHES** Class A Uniform for all meetings and events, travel days, evening meals at Summer/Winter Camp, and Change of clothes as needed for length of trip, expected weather conditions.  
- Think layering.  
Extra shirts may be Class B Scout shirt, such as Troop T-shirt.  
Thermal underwear/sleepwear – polypropylene recommended:  
- NOT COTTON – it retains sweat, and you *will* get COLD.  
Shoes – any sturdy closed-toe shoe is adequate. Do not buy expensive hiking boots – boys grow too fast. Comfort is paramount.  
Raingear – Ponchos are cheap but awkward. They may not keep your legs dry.  
Wet blue jeans are dangerous in cold weather. A rain suit is a better, though more expensive option. Choose carefully, and the jacket can double as a windbreaker, saving extra weight.
- WIDE BRIMMED HAT** Troop 1000 provides Scouts with an official Wide Brimmed Hat. Wide-brimmed with chin strap – protection against sun and rain.
- EATING UTENSILS** Spoon (sturdy plastic or metal), [knife and fork are optional]  
Stainless Sierra cup [stainless plate is optional]
- FLASHLIGHT** A small, lightweight flashlight with a strong beam; either a carrying strap or pouch is advisable. Pack only one (1) set of replacement batteries.
- TOILETRIES** Toothbrush, toothpaste, comb, plastic mirror  
Small bar soap, quick drying towel (high-tech pack-towels are lightweight, highly absorbent, and compact -- great b-day idea).  
Baby wipes with aloe, 2-3 per day, in ziploc bag.  
- can be used as alternative to soap/washcloth on short trips.  
- also highly effective for comforting heat rashes)  
Toilet paper, full or partially used roll, needed especially on hiking trips.  
Baggie of cornstarch – effective in case of rash or chaffing.

SUNSCREEN/  
REPELLENT

Sunscreen is a must.  
Insect repellent -- small container of the cream or gel type.

RAIN PROTECTION  
FOR THE PACK

Back Pack Cover or a large heavy-duty trash bag should be carried for covering the entire pack (for overnight storage and while hiking in rain).  
Water-sensitive gear (clothes, sleeping bag, etc.) need extra protection, even though they may be inside your backpack. Ziploc bags, trash bags or plastic supermarket bags, depending on the size of the item, work fine.  
Numerous watertight pouches and backpack covers are available in sporting good stores. Buy these as you feel the need for them.

Your Scout will be given instruction on what and how to pack for a campout. Use the list above as a shopping list of items you need to purchase and as a guide to help your boy. Let your boy pack his own pack. Give him pointers and reminders; ask questions. If he forgets something he needs, he will learn from the experience of living without it or having to borrow from another. Be assured that the adult leadership will not let your son suffer unduly or allow him to be put at risk due to his inexperience.

For backpacks we recommend: Whole Earth Provisions with two locations in Houston:

2934 S. Shepherd (at Alabama)      713-526-5226      6560 Woodway (at Voss)      713-467-0234

REI (7538 Westheimer at Voss – near Home Expo), Gander Mountain, Bass Pro, Sports Authority, and Academy all have good camping equipment.

For mail-order camping gear, visit [www.campmor.com](http://www.campmor.com) – Excellent gear is available at lower prices, particularly on their “Hot Deals” web page.

# Your Son's First Troop 1000 Campout

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Your son will typically be excited about going on that first campout as a Boy Scout. He has a few surprises in store, because it isn't Cub Scouts any more, but we expect him to have a good time.

Here are some unhappy events YOU can help prevent by educating your Scout and encouraging proper preventions:

1. ***"I'm Cold"*** - This happens to at least a couple of Scouts every year when their first campout is in the cool half of the year ( November to April). At that time of year, assume it will be cool at night, even if it's hot during the day. Make sure they pack for layers – T shirt, long sleeve shirt (s), sweater, rain gear. If it rains, they have to be able to stay dry to stay warm, so they always need that rain jacket. In the Winter, they may be able to use rain gear instead of a windbreaker to save weight, provided they have plenty of layers to wear underneath.
2. ***"I'm Hungry"*** - We see this one every year too. They have to eat well to stay warm. A cup of just-add-water soup or noodles isn't much after a hard day on the trail. They shouldn't take it camping unless they have eaten it before and know they like it and know how to make it. If they can't make it at home in the kitchen, they won't like the results on the trail. It's a good idea to try it out first. Don't bring it just because it's easy. With a little bit of thought, they can do a lot with camp cookery, even as beginners. DO NOT SEND SNACKS with Scouts on campouts except for when they are instructed to bring their bag-lunches.
3. ***"My Head Hurts, I Feel Sick"*** – More common in the summer, but we see it at all times of the year. The Scoutmaster's solution to this one is easy – water, water and more water. Almost always, the reason they don't feel good is dehydration. That's why those two water bottles in the equipment list are so important, and why we make them carry a water bottle all the time. BEFORE every campout, parents need to reinforce pre-hydration: ensure that your Scout is drinking enough water.
4. ***"My Pack Is Too Heavy"*** - If it's too heavy, it's because they (and it should be them, not you) put too much stuff in it. Remember, for a weekend trip they only need one change of clothes. A new Scout should not try to carry any more than 30% of their bodyweight, up to a maximum of 30 lbs. Flashlights should be small, with only one set of spare batteries; they don't need a complicated mess kit, just a sierra cup and spoon. Remember, patrol gear has to be added on top of what they pack at home. Experienced Scouts pack very light. He who carries the least, wins. Refer to the Packing List provided!
5. ***"My Pack Hurts My Shoulders"*** - This happens all the time with these skinny little guys. Packs can be adjusted, but only up to a point. The weight of the pack should rest on the hips. It can only do that if the waist belt can be properly tightened. Buying from a place that fits packs properly is the best option, but if you elect not to do that, make sure that the belt on the pack you buy can be adjusted to where they think it is uncomfortably tight. 'Uncomfortably tight' when you start is 'just right' after things loosen up on the trail. 'Loose' when you start is 'miserable' after a few hundred yards. Nothing influences your Scout's comfort on the trail more than how well their pack fits. A bad-fitting pack truly is painful to carry.
6. ***"My Feet Hurt"*** – Camping, especially backpacking, can be very physically demanding. The demands often first show up on their underappreciated feet. Foot care starts with early preventative care. Have them keep their nails always trimmed short and straight (not curved) to prevent in-grown toe nails. Also be aware of sharp corners on the nails. Proper hiking socks (liners plus "Smart Wool" or "Thorlo" brand socks) and liberal use of foot powder go a long way toward preventing blisters, skin irritations, and sock folding problems. It is important to have a good set of waterproof hiking boots. It can take as much as 50 to 100 miles of walking to break in a new set of boots. There are tricks to shortening this process, but feet and boots are at war with each other until they come to terms. So, be careful about not running out and buying a new pair of boots just before a big hike – try to anticipate at least 3 months ahead. Lastly, encourage your scouts to pay attention to their feet. Putting mole skin over an infant hot spot can save a lot of pain and potential infection.

# About Weekend Campouts

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## When

- Usually the 3<sup>rd</sup> full weekend of the month, check the troop calendar.
- Meet at church at 5:30 p.m. Friday (eat dinner first) – return Sunday early to mid-afternoon.
- Specific details will be announced at meetings before each campout.

## Where

- Mostly at State Parks or BSA camping facilities.
- Reservations are made by the Troop Reservationist after PLC makes each 6-month plan.

## Signing Up

- Notify and pay fees to the troop registrar or the Event Coordinator at any meeting prior to the event.
- Two (2) Mondays before the campout - Very important – Time is needed to obtain tour permits, coordinate drivers, inform grubmasters, finalize camping reservations, etc.
- If you are joining the Troop after the deadline and want to go on the next campout, please speak to the Event Coordinator to see if there is room (but please no later than the Monday prior to the campout). If there is a problem due to lack of seat belts, speak to one of the Scoutmasters before assuming you cannot come.

## Camping Fees

- Regular campouts cost \$25 per scout.  
(Costs are higher for special campout events, such as canoe training.)
- \$10 goes toward food (grub) and \$15 goes towards camp fees, supplies, transportation.
- Adults pay \$10 for food (additional fees may be charged for special event/training campouts).
- Make checks payable to 'BSA Troop 1000'.

## Food – also known as 'Grub'

- Each patrol plans a menu (at troop meeting prior to campout).
- Each patrol appoints a grubmaster who buys the food according to patrol menu plan.
- Grubmaster brings food to church on Friday evening.
  - For tail-gate campouts, coolers are available from the Quartermaster to hold perishables.
  - For backpacking trips, food is distributed among the patrol members to pack in.
- Grubmaster is reimbursed by the Troop – up to \$10 per boy. When it is your son's turn to be grubmaster, please teach him to stick to this budget. Please refrain from subsidizing his patrol. Instead, please provide feedback to the adult leadership if you feel this is an unreasonable request. Remember, "a scout is thrifty", and this is one of the best opportunities that the troop has to teach them such skills.

## Personal Gear

- A full list with special recommendations and tips is given under "Personal Camping Equipment".
- Remember – for backpacking packs should be only about one-half full to allow for crew food, water, tents, cookware, and other shared equipment.
- DO NOT BRING – candy or soft drinks. Snacks will be included in the grubmaster's plan. Most soft drinks are diuretics which could compound dehydration problems, and candy or snacks left in a pack is an invitation for trouble with local wildlife. Even mice have been known to ruin expensive tents, sleeping bags, and packs.
- Since we often travel several hours to desirable locations, electronic toys, such as games and MP3 players may be used enroute, subject to the driver's discretion. However, once we arrive they should be stowed (preferably in the vehicle) for the duration of the event. If, at any time, a responsible adult finds the toys to be a nuisance or distraction, they may be confiscated for the duration of the event. Under no circumstances will Troop 1000 be responsible for any loss or theft of such items, so it is strongly advised to LEAVE THEM HOME! Let's all encourage the boys to "live in the moment" and get to know the joys of the outdoors and the fellowship of traveling without the modern distractions.
- A special note about cell phones – adult leaders will provide the means to contact families in an emergency, including carrying a cell phone when appropriate. The previous bullet applies to cell phones as well. We recognize that this may appear to be a double standard, and ask all adults to refrain from their use, except in emergencies.

## Medicines

- Medicine **must** be in a ziplock bag in the original container and properly labeled: (Scout's name, doctor's name, medication's name and dosage) and **must** be accompanied by the Special Medication Form.
- A Campout 'Vet' is appointed from participating adult leaders.
- The 'Vet' administers medications according to the Special Medicine Forms filled out by the parent/guardian for each campout/function that the Scout attends.
- Troop 1000 Medicine Forms are available from the Troop Vet.

## Activities

- Determined by the monthly program patrol according to the monthly theme and target merit badge work (decided upon by the PLC at its monthly and annual planning meetings).

## Parental Participation

- Parents are needed to provide transportation and to help Scoutmasters during campouts.
- Parents become a part of the "Old Goat" Patrol during campouts. The "Old Goats" have their own grubmaster for each campout.
- Adults participating must be certified as trained in Episcopal "Saving God's Children" and BSA Youth Protection Training.

## Travel Prerequisites

- Class 1 Medical Form must be on file with the Troop.
- If needed, Special Medicine card completed and labeled; medicine turned in to Campout Vet.
- Camp fees paid.
- Adults must be trained in Episcopal "Safeguarding God's Children" and BSA Youth Protection Training.
- Drivers must maintain personal liability insurance on their vehicles. Insurance and drivers license information will be held on file by the event coordinator.

## Be Prepared to Travel

- Official Class A uniform **must** be worn during travel to and from camp. This includes Scout socks and Troop 1000 hat.
- Eat before meeting at the church.
- Arrive with backpack packed and water bottles full.
- If you are driving, arrive with a full tank of gas.

## Travel

- The Troop travels to and from camp using personal vehicles and trailers.
- Travel is coordinated by travel route maps, the buddy system, and communication by CB radio or cell phone.
- When multiple vehicles are traveling together, it is the responsibility of each driver to know the route, in case of separation. Caravanning (following in formation without interspersed non-troop vehicles) is prohibited due to safety concerns. But drivers should stick as close as possible together in case one vehicle needs assistance from another, and to allow flexibility of route/itinerary. Road conditions and schedules sometimes require "audibles" to address unforeseen challenges or opportunities, and we want to keep the group together as much as possible to simplify recovery to the plan.
- Gasoline costs are reimbursed by the Troop (present labeled receipt(s) to Troop Treasurer), but wear and tear are not.

## Cancellations

If you find you must cancel due to illness or unexpected conflicts:

- Notify the Event Coordinator, Senior Patrol Leader, and your Patrol Grubmaster immediately.
- For refund of camp fees (see the Event Coordinator and Troop Treasurer):
  - Grub Fees are refundable, if notification of cancellation is made by Wednesday night.
  - Other Fees are totally refundable or transferable to future campouts, unless special supplies were purchased which cannot be transferred, reused, or returned.
  - Any special fees paid, which the Troop cannot recoup will not be refundable.

## Special Notes for Adults

- If you smoke, do not do so in front of the Scouts, at any troop functions – please "step outside".
- No alcoholic beverages are allowed at any troop functions.
- From time-to-time, campout and program leaders may be asked to purchase equipment or materials for the troop. Receipts should be filed along with a simple expense report form to the treasurer for reimbursement. We recognize that often it may not seem worth the effort to report small purchases and there may be a tendency to make an impromptu donation to the troop. We sincerely appreciate such gestures, but too much of a good thing makes it very difficult to manage our budget and understand the costs of our programs. Therefore, we would appreciate it, if you would report all costs to the treasurer. If you want to donate the expense, just indicate so on the expense report.

## After the Campout

- We will generally plan to arrive back at Calvary in the early afternoon. Each campout could be a little different depending on the distance of the trip. Drivers will often let their passengers phone home when we get within range and can accurately predict our time of arrival.
- Once back at the shed, equipment must be stowed or divided up for routine care. We also like to debrief the campout and discuss what went well and what we learned.
- **Do not pickup your son and leave for home until the entire troop is dismissed.**
- Every tent that gets used on the campout must be taken home by a scout for routine maintenance. We often pack up to leave in the morning before tents can dry. Therefore, the tents must be taken home and spread or hung outside. Leaves and grass should be brushed out, and mud should be cleaned from the tent fabric with a damp rag or sponge. Once the tent is thoroughly dried, it should be folded and packed back into the bag.
- Take note of any damage (i.e., rips, broken zippers, bent poles, etc.) and missing parts such as poles, stakes, and ground clothes. Pin the note to the outside of the tent bag.
- Borrowed equipment should be returned to the Quartermaster during the next regular troop meeting.
- Scouts are responsible for borrowed troop equipment until it is returned to the Quartermaster. Normal wear-and-tear is expected, but we want teach our Scouts to be responsible for damage or loss. Often damage can be repaired for little or no cost, but we do not want to learn of such damage the next time that the tent gets used. Once we arrive at our next campout, a ripped tent could mean that scouts get wet. A broken stove could mean cold meals. Let's take care of our equipment, and it will take care of us!

# Summer and Winter Camps

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Week-long summer and 4- to 5-day Winter Camps provide excellent opportunities to work intensively on both rank advancement and merit badges.

## SUMMER CAMP

Each year (typically in the second half of June) the Troop will attend Summer Camp. The location is chosen very early to ensure our acceptance. Summer camps themselves usually run from Sunday afternoon until the following Saturday morning. The Troop chooses to leave on Friday allowing for adequate travel and pre-camp activities that settle the boys in for a great camp experience.

The trip is planned by the Scoutmasters. A Summer Camp Coordinator helps in getting the information out to parents, taking Scout's reservations, and collecting fees. An information packet will typically be issued in March; it will contain all pertinent information, including trip itinerary, fee and payment schedules, equipment list, merit badge lists, camp schedule, and medical information.

Cost for the trip is determined by registration fees, transportation costs, and other estimated expenses. By participating in FAB and other fundraisers Scouts can earn TK Bucks (credits) to 'buy down' their cost of camp.

A medical examination done within 12 months of the end of camp is required before a Scout or adult will be allowed to participate. A Class 3 medical form should be used and is available from our web site or the Registrar.

## WINTER CAMP

Each year the Troop participates in a Winter Camp (which runs from December 26 – 31). We try to choose a camp that is within a few hours drive.

Winter camp is an excellent opportunity to earn some merit badges which are hard to get elsewhere. Merit badge counselors who can't get away for an entire set of summer camp sessions, do so for this special week – things like dentistry, architecture, drafting, law, medicine, etc. A list of which merit badges will be offered is made available ahead of time.

A medical examination done within 12 months of the end of camp is also required before a Scout or adult will be allowed to participate in Winter Camp. Again, a Class 3 medical form should be used and is available from our web site or the Registrar.

# Voyageur Scouting

Voyageurs is a program unique to Troop 1000; it is our version of high-adventure scouting. Older scouts need a little extra challenge. Treks are exciting trips which are inspired by the travels of nineteenth century French-Canadian fur traders. Treks challenge participants physically, mentally, and emotionally. While treks are all about fun and adventure, the goals of trekking are character development and personal growth. Scouts generally get to participate in 4 treks during their career with Troop 1000.

Treks are generally taken during the second or third week of July. In the past, Voyageurs have canoed the Canadian Boundary Waters, backpacked and river-rafted in Colorado, taken to the seas at Florida Sea Base, cycled the Texas Hill Country, hiked the volcanoes of Hawaii and the back-countries of Alaska, Washington State, and Wyoming, revisited Boundary Waters, and crossed the ocean to tour the Scottish Highlands and the Isle of Skye. More recent treks have included Boundary Waters (very popular with the boys) and the Canadian Rockies. In 2008, we cycled and backpacked in Ireland.

Because of the rigorous demands, participants must satisfy the following requirements in order to trek:

Readiness Requirements	Scout	Adult
Must be at least 14 years old before departure.	X	X
Must attain at least Life Rank* before the May Court-of-Honor.	X	
Must participate in at least one long-term (5 nights) camp in the previous 12 months.	X	
Must participate in at least two training campouts in the previous 12 months. (Qualifying campouts vary from year-to-year, and are planned by the troop program committee and approved by the FAB committee, generally in September.)	X	X
Must be in good physical condition as certified by a physician on a BSA Class 3 medical form in the previous 6 months.	X	X

\*Note: Fifteen year old scouts, of any rank, may participate at Scoutmaster discretion.

In order to qualify for FAB funds to subsidize the costs of trek, participants must satisfy the following requirements beginning the previous Labor Day:

Worthiness Requirements	Scout	Adult
Must be a registered and active participant of the troop, including regular attendance to meetings, campouts, courts-of-honor, service and other activities.	X	X
Must participate in at least 4 flag days each year.	X	X
Must participate in at least 4 flag work days each year.	X	X
Must participate in at least 3 weekend campouts each year.	X	X
Must participate in a long-term (5 nights) camp. Regular summer and winter camps are acceptable options. Other camps must be approved by the FAB committee on a case-by-case basis.	X	
Must participate in other Voyageur activities as determined by the FAB committee. Examples include two Calvary monthly Sunday breakfasts, FAB subscription work days, and flag sales events.	X	X

Upon completion of their first trek, a Voyageur earns the distinctive sash of the French-Canadian traders, which can be worn to courts-of-honor and other formal troop events.

# Training Opportunities

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## SCOUTS

A big part of Scouting is leadership. Leadership comes naturally to some, but everyone can learn, and Scouting provides special opportunities for your son to develop his leadership skills.

Junior Leader Training (JLT) – Junior Leader Training comes first and is taught at the Troop level by the Scoutmasters, normally twice a year following troop elections. Newly elected troop officers and patrol leaders who have not previously taken JLT will be invited. If there is space, other Scouts (normally having at least first class rank) may be invited. Training is usually held at the church, and takes one day (either all day Saturday, or Friday evening – Saturday morning with an overnight lock-in at the church). Scouts completing JLT will receive a ‘trained’ patch for their uniform.

National Youth Leader Training (NYLT) (previously known as JLTC) – The second, and much more advanced, level is the Junior Leader Training Conference. This is a six-day course at the council level. Since the entire troop benefits from this training, families are asked to pay the registration deposit and all transportation costs, but the troop will pay the remainder of the camp fees, provided your son completes the course. Attendance is by Scoutmaster recommendation only. The troop usually sends its scouts to the winter session (Dec 26-31) at Camp Strake. Summer sessions are available, but tend to clash with our summer camp schedule. Graduating Scouts often report a very rewarding experience and feel much more prepared for troop leadership positions. Troop 1000 prefers that candidates for Senior Patrol Leader have attended NYLT.

National Junior Leader Instructor Camp (NJLIC) -- This is the big one. NJLIC is held at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico. Attendance is by invitation only on Council recommendation for those Scouts who do exceptionally well at NYLT. Troop 1000 currently has several active scouts who have attended NJLIC. If a Scout accepts the invitation, the NJLIC registration and camp fees will be reimbursed by the Troop after completion of the course; however, travel arrangements and costs are, again, the responsibility of the Scout’s family.

## ADULTS

A dynamic, growing troop like Troop 1000 needs new trained leaders every year, and our Scouts deserve well-trained leaders.

“Safeguarding God’s Children” and BSA Youth Protection Training -- All parents and other adults participating in Troop activities must complete these two courses of instruction to ensure that everyone is well-educated about spotting and preventing child abuse.

Scoutmaster Fundamentals -- This is a one evening (classroom) plus one weekend (campout) training course. You get to be the Boy Scout. The class functions as a troop. You will be organized into patrols and will learn the Scouting Method by actually living it for a weekend. Go through this course, and Scouting will make a whole lot more sense. Assistant Scoutmasters must have attended Scoutmaster Fundamentals, but we recommend it for all adults. If you complete the course and register as an Assistant Scoutmaster, the Troop will reimburse the cost.

Continuing Education – Several times per year there are adult training classes at events such as “University of Scouting”. This is a one-day weekend event where trainers in numerous fields are available to teach classes such as Safe Swim Defense, Safety Afloat, Climb on Safely, Trek Safely, storytelling, troop management, and many more. There are also training opportunities at the Brazos district level and during SHAC’s annual Scout Fair.

Woodbadge – Woodbadge is a 6 day-long (typically spread over two weekends) crash course on everything you ever wanted to know about leading a Scout troop. Imagine a typical 2-3 day management course that you (or your employer) would pay about \$1000 to send you out of town to attend. Now, stretch it, put it outside, focus on Scouting, make lasting friendships with like-minded leaders across Houston, commit to lasting improvements in the troop, and only pay a couple hundred dollars. Woodbadge is a nutshell. A significant majority of graduates enthusiastically endorse this course. If you think you may be interested in a long-term career in Scouting leadership, it is highly recommended.

# Flags Across the Brazos – “FAB”

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## What is it?

FAB is a community service and our primary fundraising program -- flag subscriptions are sold to homeowners for \$30/year. Troop 1000 provides the service of posting a 3' x 5' flag on a 10' pole in the subscriber's yard on 6 patriotic holidays throughout the year.

## When are flags put out?

July 4<sup>th</sup>, Labor Day, Veteran's Day (Nov 11<sup>th</sup>), President's Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day (June 14<sup>th</sup>)

## Where?

Flag routes are currently established in Pecan Grove, Greatwood, New Territory, and Richmond (near the church).

## Who participates?

Everyone!! Scouts sell flag subscriptions. Scouts put out and take down flags on 'flag' days. Parents provide transportation, guidance, and leadership.

## Who benefits?

Everyone!! Scouts earn "TK Buck" credits which can be used toward payment of summer and winter camp fees. Troop 1000 earns money to pay for troop equipment (tents, stoves, etc.), transportation costs to camping trips, leadership training for Scouts & adults, Voyageur Trip subsidies.

## How are flags sold?

On Troop Sales Days – a coordinated event, several Sales Days throughout the year, primarily in the spring. Scouts are supervised as they go house to house, in targeted "existing FAB Route" areas, in groups of 4-6 Scouts and adults. Flags may be sold individually (to friends/neighbors) or in small groups with permission of FAB Committee BUT only on existing FAB routes. Scouts who participate in selling subscriptions can earn the Salesmanship merit badge.

## How is putout and takedown accomplished?

Neighborhoods are divided into routes, each with approximately 50 flags. Each route is the responsibility of 1 – 3 families, assignments coordinated by a Neighborhood Coordinator. Flags are putout by 7 a.m. and taken down in the hour before sunset. A route sheet is printed for each route. Flags are stored at a church owned property on Fort Street (garage storage unit) or at home in garages.

## Who administers the program?

FAB is administered by a Steering Committee consisting of a group of at least 7 Voyageur Scouts, one other Troop Scout, and a group of adults including the Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster for Voyageurs, Treasurer, Troop Committee Chairman, FAB Program Coordinator, and a representative of Calvary Episcopal Church. This committee operates under a set of FAB Bylaws and Standing Rules. FAB monies are kept in a separate account. TK Bucks are transferred to the Troop account as earned.

## What about preparations?

- While the entire troop participates in the "heavy lifting" of put out and take down each flag day, the Voyageurs are responsible for ensuring that the program runs smoothly.
- Work days are held, generally, on the Saturday before each flag day to perform route maintenance.
- Voyageurs also install and mark new receivers, and retire worn flags and setup new ones.

## What do FAB Funds pay for?

- 45% funds the Voyageur high-adventure program and occasional summer camps (approximately every 5 years).
- 25% is allotted for distribution to the Scouts according to their participation in FAB. Scouts earn TK Buck credits for selling flag subscriptions and for installation/takedown of flags.
- 15% goes to a fund reserved for equipment purchases by the Troop.
- 8% is put into a training fund which is used to fund Scout leadership training courses.
- 7% is made available to Scouts (within and outside the Troop) for camperships.

## How much in "TK Buck" credit can be earned? (for more on TK Bucks, see Financial Matters)

- \$1 per flag per flag day is allotted for distribution as credits (1 whole credit for working both am and pm) amongst the Scouts placing flags on a flag day (1500 flags = \$1500 with 50 helping yields \$30/Scout).
- Commission on a sale is 8.5% of sales price (\$30 sale = \$2.55, \$45 sale = \$3.83)
- Scouts have earned up to \$150, or more, per year; that goes a long way to paying for summer/winter camp.

# Financial Matters

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## FAMILY'S FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

### Annual Fees and Dues –

Troop 1000 believes that each family should make the annual commitment to pay registration fees and troop dues. Only under exceptional circumstances will financial assistance be given for the following items.

Registration -- All BSA and troop registration fees must be paid in full before the Troop Registrar will submit application to the Council office. Your son will not be allowed to participate in any troop function until fees are paid in full.

Annual Recharter -- The Troop completes its recharter and re-registration of members in December each year. The Troop Treasurer issues recharter statements in October. All annual recharter fees and troop dues must be paid in full by December 1<sup>st</sup>. Failure to do so will result in the scout's *not* being registered with National after December 31<sup>st</sup>. Reinstating your son as a Boy Scout will require submitting a new application form and appropriate fees. Scouts whose families do not pay the annual fees/dues will not be permitted to participate in troop functions.

Annual Equipment Fee -- At recharter time, the Troop assesses an annual equipment maintenance fee. If you join the Troop between October and December, you will not be assessed the maintenance fee for the following (recharter) year since you will have paid it as part of your registration fees.

### Personal Equipment –

The Scout's family is responsible for equipping the Scout with a Boy Scout Handbook (either by registration or directly), a uniform, and personal camping supplies.

At times the Troop has used uniform shirts and shorts available for free. Also the Troop has a few backpacks which can be checked out from the Quartermaster (for one campout at a time) for use until you can purchase your own. The Troop cannot (due to non-profit status) make direct financial assistance available for the purchase of personal gear.

### Camping and Event Fees

Fees for monthly camping, Summer & Winter Camp, and special events are also the family's responsibility. The Troop, when it can, will subsidize these cost according to its budget constraints.

Each family should avail themselves of the opportunity to earn TK Buck credits (see below) through the incentive allocations made available through the troop's fundraising activities (e.g., FAB, Scout Fair ticket and popcorn sales). These credits are usable towards payment of Summer and/or Winter camp.

Financial assistance is available in the form of camperships to Scouts whose families find it difficult to pay monthly camp fees and the balance of payments for Summer and Winter camps. This assistance is available only by application through the Scoutmaster, Troop Committee Chairman, and Charter Organization head. Simple default of fee payment is not acceptable. All inquiries and assistance given will be kept confidential.

## TK BUCKS

Troop 1000 believes that Scouts who benefit the Troop by participating in its fundraising activities should be given credit for their efforts.

A "TK Buck" is a Troop (T) 1000 (K) Credit (Buck). Scouts earn TK Bucks by participating in the Troop's fundraising activities. The Troop Treasurer keeps an accounting of each Scout's 'TK Buck Account' and issues periodic statements, especially prior to Summer Camp when most Scouts choose to apply their credits.

### PLEASE NOTE:

- TK Bucks are non-transferable except to siblings.
- TK Bucks may only be applied towards the payment of Summer camp and Winter camp fees.
- TK Bucks are not payable in cash (BSA and the Troop are non-profit organizations.)
- If a Scout leaves the Troop his TK Bucks revert to the Troop's General Fund.

TK Bucks may be earned by:

- Sales commission on FAB subscription sales.
- Participation in FAB putout & takedown on flag days.
- Earning a percentage of the troops profit from:
  - Scout Fair Ticket Sales
  - Popcorn Sales
- Any other fundraising activity which the Troop may organize.

# Discipline Policies

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At registration you received the Troop's Discipline Policy and signed off that you understand those policies. We include here a copy of the Discipline Declaration which you signed. Please take the time to review these policies with your son. If he comes to you with a problem, remind him of the procedures the Troop has set up for such situations.

## Declaration of Troop Discipline Policy

*As a Parent of a Boy Scout in Troop 1000, I recognize*

Scouting should be (and is) fun, but its key function is to help turn boys into young men we can be proud of.

The most important part of the Scouting experience is the outdoor program. When we camp, we throw ourselves much more than usual on our own resources, and we rely on others in the Troop to make it a safe and pleasant experience. Being safe in outdoor activities with large groups of boys requires discipline. Ultimately, this must be self-discipline. Troop 1000 sets certain standards of behavior that all members (Scouts and adults) are expected to follow. In essence, these rules amount to no more (and no less) than following the Scout Law.

If a Scout is involved in inappropriate behavior, he will first be spoken to by his Patrol Leader. If the Scout in question is a patrol leader (it happens), or if he does not modify his behavior, then the Senior Patrol Leader will speak to the Scout. Only after the boy leadership has failed to solve the problem will the Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmasters get involved, unless there is an immediate safety concern, in which case the adult leadership will intervene promptly.

In this event, a conference will be held involving the Scout, the Senior Patrol Leader, and two adults, one of whom will be the Scoutmaster or a trained Assistant Scoutmaster. The parent of the Scout, if present at the activity, should not be part of this first discussion. Dealing with the situation without a parent's immediate support is part of the growth towards independence and responsibility for one's own actions which Scouting seeks to achieve. The Scout will be told what is inappropriate about his behavior, and what must be done to correct it. Results of the conference will be communicated to the parents as soon as possible. In most cases, this will be at the first Troop meeting following the campout.

If at least two adult leaders feel that there is reason to believe that a scout may possess dangerous contraband, I give my permission for my scout's personal gear and tent to be discretely searched. (Regrettably, any such search could also affect tent mates or other friends who may not be under direct suspicion.)

In an extreme case, a Scout may be sent home from an activity. If this happens, it is my responsibility as a parent to make arrangements to collect my son. Further participation of a Scout in Troop activities may be made contingent upon participation by a parent in that activity, or a Scout may be prohibited from attendance at campouts pending an appropriate period of good behavior at regular Troop meetings. My role as a parent is first, to recognize that discipline problems that surface in this way are real and that my son's behavior was in some way at fault. I should not take the role of being my son's defender against the Troop, but should work with the Troop to resolve the problem in the best and quickest way possible.

Troop 1000 can not and will not endanger the well being of the majority of Scouts in the Troop by permitting undisciplined or dangerous behavior by a few individuals.

# Medical Policies

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No Scout will be allowed to participate in troop functions unless the appropriate medical forms are on file with the Troop. It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to keep the Troop informed of all medical conditions, which might impact the Scout while participating in troop activities. It is your responsibility to make sure that all medical information on file is current.

The Troop Vet is responsible for keeping medical records and ensuring that medical forms accompany the Troop on all trips.

A Campout Vet is appointed for all campouts. It is their responsibility to keep medical information available while on the trip, to keep and distribute medication to Scouts according to instructions given by the parent/guardian on a Special Medication Form.

## **BSA Class 1 Medical Form and Troop 1000 Medicine Authorization Form**

This form given to you at registration must be on file with the Troop – one for each family member who participates or anticipates participating in troop activities. Its purpose is to provide broad medical background information, emergency contact phone numbers, and consent to treat. This form accompanies the troop on all activities, and we ask that it be submitted in January along with the annual recharter paperwork. A doctor's examination and signature are *not* required on this form. However, *it must be notarized*.

The Troop 1000 Medicine Authorization Form is designed to give the Troop and Campout Vets an understanding of what over-the-counter medications may or may not be administered to your Scout.

In order to ensure that these forms are kept up-to-date, BSA revises these forms at least every two years. When necessary, the Troop Vet will issue new forms. Please update medical information in the interim as needed.

## **BSA Class 3 Medical Form**

This form *requires a physician's examination and signature*. For participation in Summer and Winter Camps, the Troop requires this form. The physical examination must have been made within the 12 months prior to the end of the event for which the form is being used. This form is handed out annually as part of the annual Summer Camp Information Packet early in the year so that you will have ample time to make your appointment and get the examination done.

## **Other Medical Forms**

Certain out-of-state Boy Scout camps where the Troop might attend Summer camp require their own medical forms. These forms will be given to you if needed.

## **Special Medication Form**

This form **must** accompany any medication to be taken by the Scout while participating in troop functions. It specifies the medication, the dosages, and times to be taken. The medication itself must be in its original container and be properly labeled with the scout's name, the doctor's name, and the medication's name and dosage.

## **Other Considerations**

Troop 1000 does not discriminate against Scouts with special medical conditions or disabilities. We do, however, ask that parents use good judgment. If your Scout has special needs (even if these are only temporary), it may require your attendance at troop functions (especially campouts) to ensure he has a good experience. Please discuss any special requirements with the Scoutmasters.

# Scout's Troop 1000 Promise

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*As a Boy Scout in Troop 1000, I promise to live up to the Scout Law in all of my activities with the Troop.*

*I will faithfully carry out those jobs assigned by my troop or patrol - A Scout is Trustworthy*

*I will support my troop and patrol leaders, even when I disagree with them - A Scout is Loyal*

*I will offer to assist my patrol leader, troop leader or fellow Scout without being asked - A Scout is Helpful*

*I will treat my fellow Scouts as I would wish them to treat me - A Scout is Friendly*

*I will be polite towards other Scouts and adults. I will keep my temper - A Scout is Courteous*

*I will offer help and encouragement to my fellow Scouts - A Scout is Kind*

*I will do what my troop or patrol leader asks without complaint - A Scout is Obedient*

*I will stay positive and try to smile when the going gets tough - A Scout is Cheerful*

*I will take care of troop equipment - A Scout is Thrifty*

*I will accept tough jobs or challenges willingly and do my best to carry them out - A Scout is Brave*

*I will keep my tent, campsite and patrol box tidy and ready for the next person to use - A Scout is Clean*

**I will participate in and be respectful during camp or Troop services - A Scout is Reverent**

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# Sticking With It

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There's no doubt about it -- Scouting requires commitment! There may come a time when your Scout voices a desire to quit. From experience we know there are many reasons for this attitude. Very often this happens when they reach Junior High – when they suddenly decide everything is passé. Scouting is an invaluable learning experience, but it's hard work. Sometimes the desire to quit stems from a problem or conflict (either with another person or with scheduling) which can be resolved with a little effort and an application of encouragement and support. If your Scout seems to be losing interest, talk to the Scoutmasters and let's find out what's going on.

If you should decide to leave Troop 1000, please notify the Scoutmaster and the Troop Committee Chairman, who will inform those who need to know of your decision. The Troop requests the courtesy of knowing the reason for your departure. We won't be mad – but we certainly will be a little sad, that things didn't work out. Most importantly, we appreciate any opportunity to learn if there is something that we can do better to improve the troop.

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## Final Notes

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Troop 1000, as a member of BSA, follows all National, Council, and District policies, including leadership requirements, transportation policies, health and safety policies, medical and insurance policies, and program and advancement policies. All of these are available for inspection in the printed BSA policy manuals. These policies are an invaluable guide and have been developed over the 90+ years of BSA's existence.

Troop 1000 has also developed its own administrative, procedural, and management policies since its inception based upon the experiences of the past and present leadership. This booklet summarizes the Troop's current policies.

As with any organization, policies are continuously evolving in response to new situations and ideas. It is the responsibility of the Troop Committee together with the Scoutmasters to update, modify, and codify Troop policy changes (as well as keeping up with changes in national, council, and district policies). It is a cooperative process of which you are now a part. We encourage you to get involved and add your talents in making Troop 1000 the best that it can be for everyone.