



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



# Welcome New Scouts

## TROOP 98

## BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



So are you ready  
to bridge to  
Boy Scouts?





# Troop 98, Carol Stream

- Serving Bartlett, Carol Stream, Hanover Park, West Chicago
  - Chartered in December 1995
  - 39 Eagle Scouts in the last 10 years
  - Troop Meetings: Monday evenings 7:00 – 8:15 at Our Savior Lutheran (except the third Monday of the month)
  - Adult Leadership – Boy Scout alumni, Council trained, Decades of Scouting experience
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# Troop 98, Carol Stream

## Our Mission:

- To provide service to local young people by instilling in them the values of Boy Scouting
- To teach our scouts the true value of the Scout Oath and Scout Law
- To teach our scouts to “Be Prepared”
- To help each scout learn responsibility
- To offer each scout an opportunity to experience being a leader
- To make lifelong friendships
- To **HAVE FUN** while doing, experiencing, and learning



# Cub Scouts vs Boy Scouts

- A Boy Scout Troop is not structured like a Cub Pack
- Boys have more responsibility
  - Planning, packing, setting up camp, cooking, activities
  - Scout is responsible for initiation of advancement
  - Parents cannot sign off. SM, ASM, or Higher Ranking Scouts are the only persons in the troop that that can sign off.

*Scouts & parents MUST understand this. Do not baby the boys. Let them fail once in awhile! Failure sometimes can be the best teacher.*



# Cub Scouts vs Boy Scouts

- Cub Scouts is a family, and home-centered program that develops ethical decision-making skills .
  - Boy Scouting is designed to achieve the aims of Scouting through a vigorous outdoor program...& peer group leadership with the counsel of an adult Scoutmaster.
  - Character Development ~ Citizenship Training ~ Personal Fitness
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# Why is the Transition Important?

- Over 3/4 of all Boy Scouts were Webelos
  - Troop membership depends on a successful transition
  - Summer camp is a major reason boys stay in scouting
  - A timely transition ensures Webelos are informed, ready and signed-up for summer camp early
  - Preparation makes it easy to join this new and unfamiliar program with new leaders and boys.
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# The Goals of Scouting

## Three Defining Principals of Boy Scouting

- Character development
    - *Morality, Strength & Character*
  - Citizenship training
    - *Participation & Understanding*
  - Fitness
    - *Physical*
    - *Mental*
    - *Emotional fitness*
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# The Goals of Scouting

## Aims are Delivered by these Methods

- Ideals ~ *Scout Oath, Law, Motto & Slogan*
  - Patrols ~ *Responsibility & Decision Making*
  - Outdoor Programs ~ *Skills, Activities, Confidence*
  - Advancement ~ *Surmountable obstacles*
  - Adult Association ~ *Encouragement, Leadership, Guidance*
  - Personal Growth ~ *The Good Turn Concept*
  - Leadership Development ~ *Practice Leadership Skills*
  - Uniform ~ *Positive Youth Image*
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# The Scouting Organization

## Elements of a Boy-run troop

- Scouts choose their activities during their Annual Planning Conference
- Scouts run the Troop meeting
- Scouts organize themselves during campouts and activities

*Many activities will seem very disorganized and can PROBABLY be made more efficient if an adult were doing it*

*The adult leaders role is to provide guidance for the scouts*



# The Scouting Organization

## New Scout Patrol

- New scouts (and parents) introduced to ways of Boy Scouts
  - The Boy Scout hand book is introduced and explained
  - Each scout is shown how advancement and the merit badge system works and then allowed to practice by doing
  - Troop works hard to offer opportunities to advance New Scouts towards First Class within the first year.





# The Scouting Organization

## Patrols

- The patrol method allows Scouts to interact in small groups where members can easily relate to each other. These small groups determine troop activities through elected representatives.
  - Weekly meetings
  - Camping locations and activities
  - Monthly Patrol Leaders counsel
  - Allowing things to sometimes not go perfectly....

We give the boy's the chance to make (minor) mistakes...

And we provide the opportunity to learn from them...



# The Scouting Organization

A patrol is a team of six to eight Scouts who work together to make things happen

- Patrols plan together!
- Patrols learn together!
- Patrol members share duties for the success of their team!
- Patrols carry out exciting activities together!
- Patrols create memories and friendships!
- Patrols provide the foundation for developing leaders!



# The Scouting Organization

## Troop Youth Leaders

- Shortly after bridging, new scout patrol is formed
  - Each patrol elects its own leader, called a **patrol leader**.
  - **Patrol Leader** - gives leadership to members of his patrol and represents them on the Patrol Leaders Council (PLC).
  - **Assistant Patrol Leader** - fills in for the patrol leader in his absence.
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# The Scouting Organization

## Troop Youth Leaders

- **Senior Patrol Leader** - top junior leader in the troop. He leads the patrol leaders' council and, in consultation with the Scoutmaster, appoints other junior leaders and assigns specific responsibilities as needed.
- **Assistant Senior Patrol Leader** - fills in for senior patrol leader in his absence. He is also responsible for training and giving direction to the quartermaster, scribe, troop historian, librarian, and instructors.



# The Scouting Organization

## Troop Youth Leaders

The Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC) is the backbone of any Troop. They meet monthly to plan, develop, and execute the Troop's program. It is the Patrol Leaders job to bring the interests of the Scouts in their patrol to the discussion table. During the PLC, the Scoutmaster and his assistants provide guidance.



# The Scouting Organization

## Leadership

**Scouts elect their own major leadership**

- Senior Patrol Leader (entire troop)
- Patrol Leader (each Patrol)
- Assistant Patrol Leader (each Patrol)
- Other positions appointed by Scout and adult leaders

**Troop elections held twice a year**

- Every spring and fall
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# Boy Scout Advancements

## Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class:

- Designed to help Scout have exciting and meaningful experience
- Education and fun are key to advancement principles
- Growth the Scout achieves overcoming obtainable goals
- Scout through First Class Ranks focus on Scouting's basic skills and ability demonstrations (camping, first aid, etc)
- Goal of BSA and Troop 98: every Scout achieves First Class
- Scouts can work on Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class advancements in simultaneously (also merit badges at summer camp)



# Boy Scout Advancements

## Star, Life, Eagle:

- Merit Badge Completion (required and optional)
  - Leadership Positions (the boys run the Troop!)
  - Community & Service Projects / Eagle Project
  - Demonstrate Scout Oath in Daily Life
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# Boy Scout Advancements

Advancement is the way you grow as a scout, and become eligible for troop leadership positions and honors.



 Basic Scout



 Tenderfoot



 Second Class Scout



 First Class Scout



 Star



 Life



 Eagle



# Boy Scout Advancements

## Advancement Principles

- Learning by doing
  - Personal growth is the prime consideration in the program
  - Each youth progresses at his own rate
  - Advancement encourages Scouting Ideals
  - A badge is **recognition** of what a Scout is able to do, not just a reward for what he has done
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# Advancement - Merit Badges

## Over 100 Boy Scout Merit Badges

- Teach Scouts about sports, crafts, science, trades, business, and future careers
- Required for rank advancement beyond First Class Scout
- Must meet the requirements as stated
  - no more, no less...
- 21 Merit Badges required for Eagle Scout (12 specific badges required)





# Advancement - Merit Badges

## Merit Badge Requirements fall into Two Categories:

1: Informational Requirements: *Prepare your Worksheet before camp.*

These requirements often begin with words like “explain,” “discuss,” “tell,” “draw,” or “show that you have knowledge.” Requirements that are informational require scholarship and some book learnin’. Be prepared and know your subject matter.

*The more merit badge work you can get done at home, the more time you will have at camp to work on the demonstration skills*

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# Advancement - Merit Badges

**Merit Badge Requirements fall into Two Categories:**

**2: Demonstration Requirements:** *Performed at camp.*

These requirements often begin with the word “show” or the word “demonstrate.” These require you to practice a skill and then perform that skill well; such as tying a lashing, rowing a boat, sailing a small craft, shooting a bow & arrow, shooting a rifle, paddling a canoe, splinting a leg...well, you get the picture.

*The more merit badge work you can get done at home, the more time you will have at camp to work on the demonstration skills*



# Rank Advancements

## Scoutmaster Conferences

- Essential to individual Scout development and advancement
  - Getting to know scout
  - Setting individual goals
  - Mentoring
  - Building confidence
  - Encouragement
  - Problem Solving
- Scouts responsible for scheduling an advancement Scoutmaster Conference after requirements for rank advancement completed



# Rank Advancements

## Board of Review

Evaluation of the effectiveness of the Scouting program within the troop

- Review is not an examination
  - Make sure Scout has completed the requirements
  - Determine how good an experience Scout is having within the Troop
- Encourage Scout to advance further
- Scout is responsible for scheduling a BOR after completing the Scoutmaster Conference



# Recognition

- Each time a Scout advances in rank, he will be recognized
  - Rank advancement is effective after approval by Board of Review
  - Formal recognition occurs at the Court of Honor
- Eagle Scout rank is usually recognized by a very special Eagle Court of Honor





# First Class Emphasis

- Troop 98 focuses on new Scout development and advancement to First Class within the first year
- BSA statistics confirm the Scout is likely to stay in Scouting for a longer period of time.
- From the *Scoutmaster Handbook*:  
“A boy who advances to First Class within his first year in Scouting has a better-than-average chance of eventually becoming an Eagle Scout.”



# Troop Outings

## Camps and campouts

- Troop 98 camps an average of once each month except December and January
    - Sign up for campouts in advance
  - Patrols plan, purchase, cook their own meals and clean their kitchen gear
  - One week summer camp every year
  - High-adventure camp during summer based on demand
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# Troop Outings

- **Regular campout procedures**
  - Planning & scheduling meeting in spring
  - PLC plans details month before
  - Approximately 2 weeks before campout, turn in permission slip and pay any fees
  - Transportation arranged & coordinated by Assistant Scout Masters (ASMs)

*Parent's may need to provide transportation*



# Other Stuff

## Meetings

- Troop meetings every Monday except the third Monday of the month, 7:00 - 8:15PM
  - Patrol Leaders Conference (PLC) meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday each month, 7:00 – 8:00PM
  - Troop Committee (adults) meets on 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month, 7:00 – 8:30pm
  - Sub-committee meetings scheduled as needed
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# Supporting the Troop

- The boys have nothing to run if there is no parent support, they lack the life experience that we have. They need our help to coach them and guide them
- The troop needs help in many forms – driving to outings, summer camp planning, advancement, etc. Join the Committee if you do not have the desire and/or time to be an ASM.
- Start with adult leader training – it helps you, your son, and the troop
- Scouts are more likely to succeed and stay in the program long term if they have a parent involved!



# Parental Involvement

## Parent's Role

- The parent's role is not to carry the scout
  - Supporting & Encouraging Your Boy
  - Monitoring His Progress
  - Participation in Events
  - Participation in Troop Structure
  - The parent's role is to monitor, motivate, and support the scout
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# Parental Involvement

The troop's success depends upon your support & active involvement in scouting activities:

- Eagle Advisor
- Service Projects
- Board of Review
- Committee Member
- Leadership Assistant Scoutmaster
- Teaching one or more merit badges
- Planning Camping Trips ~ High Adventure
- Transportation or supervision for the campouts



# You need what?

Troop 98 needs from you:

## Scouts:

- BSA Boy Scout Application and Dues
- Medical Form
- Troop Waiver Form
- Permission Slips (specific for each outing)

## Adults:

- Adult Resource Survey
- BSA Adult Leader Application  
(for leaders and committee members)
- Medical Form (for camping; Class 3 if over 40)



**Boy Scouts**



**of America**



*An Unfair Advantage*