

BOY SCOUT TROOP 282

409 N. Liberty
Independence, Missouri 64050



A Guide for New Scouts
and Parents

***SCOUTMASTER Scott
Howell***

QUESTIONS???

CONTACT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

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SCOUT MOTTO

Be Prepared

Be prepared for what?" someone once asked Baden-Powell, the founder of Scouting.

"Why, for any old thing," he replied. The training a Scout will receive in our troop will help him to live up to the Scout motto. When someone has an accident, a Scout could be prepared because of his first aid instruction. Because of lifesaving practice, he might be able to save a nonswimmer who has fallen into deep water.

But Baden-Powell wasn't thinking just of being ready for emergencies. His idea was that all Scouts should prepare themselves to become productive citizens and to give happiness to other people. He wanted each Scout to be ready in mind and body for any struggles, and to meet with a strong heart whatever challenges that might lie ahead.

Be prepared *for life* – to live happily and without regret, knowing that he has done his best. ***That's what the Scout motto means.***

BOY SCOUT TROOP 282

Chartered to: Trinity Episcpal Church, Independence Mo

WELCOME TO BOY SCOUT TROOP 282

Troop 282 was established in 1948. We welcome you and your son and look forward to a most positive scouting experience.

Here are some things you need to know about our troop, how it functions, and the responsibilities you and your son are expected to accept.

SCOUT MEETINGS:

Meetings are held on a regular basis, all year long, on Monday evenings from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Meetings are held in the



basement of Trinity Episcpal Church,
409 N. Liberty Independence, Missouri
64050

Regular attendance is expected for all boys who join our troop.

In the event school is cancelled due to inclement weather, scout meetings are also cancelled.

Parents are expected to arrange transportation for their scouts to and from meetings. Please arrange to have your scout picked up promptly following all scouting activities.

A calendar listing monthly troop activities and local scout activities is distributed regularly and updated as changes occur. It is important that this calendar be retained as attendance at scout functions ensures a successful scouting experience.

FEES:

BSA charges yearly dues of \$25.00 for each scout to register, payable in October. A scout's dues must be paid up to date in order for him to attend a troop campout.

Dues also include a \$14.20 annual registration fee with the National Scout Office and a \$10.80 subscription fee to *Boy's Life*, the national scouting magazine.

We do ask that boys help us in our troop, District, and council fund-raising activities held during the year. The funds raised help the troop to keep yearly dues to a minimum. They also help the council and district to defray the costs of providing the support to the over all scouting program. Any fees can be paid with cash or checks made payable to Troop 282.

UNIFORMS:

Troop 282 is a full uniform troop. Uniforms make a boy feel like a scout. Therefore, *scouts in Troop 282 are expected to wear* the scout uniform to troop meetings, too and from campouts, at camporees, at designated times at summer camp and at other troop functions.

A Troop 282 uniform for new scouts consists of a scout shirt (complete with current patches), troop scarf (available from Scout Master), and a scout belt. When a scout has his 1st class Board of Review (about one year after he joins scouts), he is expected to be in full uniform to include all items listed above and scout pants or shorts. When a scout wears scout shorts, he is expected to wear red top scout socks. Scout uniforms are available through the Council Scout Shop, the BSA catalog

A scout also needs a current copy of ***THE BOY SCOUT HANDBOOK***.

ADVANCEMENT:

In the Cub Scout program the key relationship, in terms of satisfying requirements for advancement, is between the boy and his parents. In Boy Scouting this relationship is between the boy and his troop, with parental support upon request.

The troop plans and offers a wide range of activities throughout the year. These provide each scout opportunities to learn required skills and earn the rewards necessary to advance in rank. In addition, the Advancement Chairman coordinates a list of Merit Badge Counselors who serve as guides to help the scouts complete requirements for merit badges. Attendance at meetings and other activities, particularly summer camp, is necessary to take advantage of these programs.

The troop Advancement Chairman maintains a list of the merit badges each

boy has completed and ranks he has achieved. Each boy's *Boy Scout Handbook* serves as a ready reference for determining the requirements for rank advancement. It is the scout's responsibility to secure the necessary signatures in his handbook to document completion of the requirements. When a scout has met the requirements for Tenderfoot, Second Class or First Class and is read for advancement, he requests a Scoutmaster's Conference. Passing the conference, the scout turns in his handbook to the Advancement Chairman who then verifies completion of all requirements for the rank and schedules a Board of Review. When scouts have met the requirements for the ranks of Star of Life they should turn their handbook into the Advancement Chairman who then verifies completion of all requirements. These scouts must then schedule a Scoutmaster's Conference. Following successful completion of this, the boy then schedules a Board of Review with the Advancement Chairman. Members of the Troop Committee conduct boards of Review on a regular basis. If a boy wishes to be recognized at a Court of Honor, all requirements and reviews must be completed two weeks in advance of the scheduled Court of Honor.

Courts of Honor are open meetings, which is held in late Summer each year to present the scouts with achievements, which they have earned, to that date. It is recommended that parents attend these award ceremonies to become familiar with your son's progress. The meetings are also a good source of information concerning the scouting program and related troop activities. A pot luck setting is organized by our Mother club. The awards ceremony begins at 6:00 p.m.

SCOUT CAMP:

Troop 282 attends H.R. Bartle Scout Reservation, some time during the month of June, July or August. Exact dates will be given as soon as they are secured by the Council bid system. All scouts are highly encouraged to attend summer camp. It is the highlight of the scouting year. Previously acquired scouting skills are put to use and many new skills are learned in the merit badge classes and programs offered at camp. The summer camp experience can be especially beneficial to scouts new to the troop as it speeds their assimilation into the Troop 282 family. Scouts who attend summer camp return home enthused and committed to the scouting program.

THE SCOUTING PROGRAM:

The boys are an integral part of the leadership and running of the troop. The troop is divided into patrols that elect their own leadership, i.e.: Patrol Leader, Assistant Patrol Leader and Patrol Quartermaster. The scouts in these positions have definite leadership responsibilities and learn a great deal about themselves and leading others.

Annually, the scouts elect one boy in the troop to the position of Senior Patrol Leader (SPL). The SPL, after consultation with the Scoutmaster, selects the Assistant Senior Patrol Leader (ASPL). Scouts volunteer for the remaining troop leadership positions, which include: Quartermaster, Scribe, Chaplain's Aide, Librarian, Historian, Instructors, Troop Guides and Bugler. Other leadership positions may become available as the troop grows and becomes more established. Scouts who satisfactorily fulfill the responsibilities of these positions earn credit toward leadership required for rank advancement.

In keeping with Troop 282's goal of having a "Scout Run Program," the Patrol Leader Council (PLC) meets on a

monthly basis to plan the troop calendar, activities and weekly meetings. This date is set as the first Tuesday of every month. The PLC is run by the SPL and attended by the ASPL, Patrol Leaders, PLC Scribe, Troop Guides and adult Scoutmasters.

It is the responsibility of each PLC member to attend these meetings or send a substitute in order to represent their scouts.

This philosophy of active leadership of the troop by the scouts themselves is central to the operation of Troop 282, and all the boys are required to take on leadership responsibilities in order to progress to ranks beyond First Class.

Junior Leader Training is a training session for Patrol Leaders or potential Patrol Leaders. There is no age or rank requirement, but one summer camp is highly recommended. It is held after each election of new leaders.

Another type of activity that all scouts engage in is community service. Participation in various service projects each year is part of the scouting program, and is also required for advancement.

As scouts, the boys engage in a wide variety of activities through which they develop valuable skills, learn to work with and lead others, practice good citizenship and community service, and have a tremendous amount of fun.

Improper conduct by a scout at meetings or on campouts will be reviewed by the PLC and troop leaders. Parents may be asked to take their scout home. Repeated problems with conduct may result in possible suspension or dismissal from the troop.

MERIT BADGES:

Scouts earn merit badges to satisfy one of the requirements necessary to advance to ranks beyond First Class. Before a scout begins work on a particular merit badge he should:

1. Review the list of merit badge counselors and contact the appropriate counselor to secure the counselor's consent.
2. Contact the Scoutmaster to obtain a merit badge card.
3. Begin work on the requirements for the badge.
4. Check frequently with the counselor.
5. Upon completion of the requirements to the counselor's satisfaction, the counselor will sign the merit badge card and retain one segment for their records.
6. The scout retains one segment of the completed and signed merit badge card with the final segment being delivered to the Troop Advancement Chairman.
7. The Advancement Chairman updates the scout's record and arranges for the formal awarding of the merit badge at the next Court of Honor.

Parents are encouraged to share their personal expertise by signing up to be merit badge counselors for our troop. Talk with the Advancement Chairman to arrange to be a counselor. There are over 100 different merit badges that can be earned by a scout. Maybe look at your hobbies or even your profession for ideas.

MONTHLY CAMPOUTS:

Three-fourths of *scouting is outings*. Troop 282 maintains a very active outdoor camping schedule. Monthly campouts are held all year long, regardless of the weather.

The dates for these campouts are announced at the beginning of the scouting year. *Please mark these dates on your family's calendar.*

Two weeks prior to each campout, a head count is taken to determine food and transportation needs. It is important that you and your scout discuss, ahead of time, whether he will be attending the monthly campout. Your assistance in this planning is necessary so the troop's adult leadership can make the appropriate plans. This is another responsibility of being a Troop 282 parent.

Your scout will have the opportunity to shop for campout food for his patrol. Your assistance in the food buying process, be it transportation or shopping advise, is recommended. However, do not do the shopping for them since this is part of the learning process.

All Camporees are district events, for which a fee is charged to cover insurance, patch, ribbons and awards. This does not include food. Most of the hikes have a patch, which the scout can purchase if he desires.

Your scout may bring home a piece of patrol equipment used on a campout, i.e.: pots, pans, griddle, utensils, rain fly, cook box, etc. It is the scout's responsibility to clean this equipment thoroughly and return it to the troop at the following Monday night meeting. Equipment that is not clean will be returned to the scout. Each patrol is responsible for cleaning and returning its own equipment. Parents can help the troop and patrol by encouraging their scout to fulfill these responsibilities in a timely manner.

EQUIPMENT NEEDS:

In addition to a scout uniform, appropriate camping equipment can be costly so it may be a good idea to delay

purchase of some of this until your scout has settled in.

Attendance at several campouts can give you a better idea of your scout's equipment needs.

A sleeping bag that is designed to be comfortable in temperatures down to 30 degrees F, rain gear (poncho or jacket and pants), and waterproof boots are recommended for all campouts. Backpacks, day packs, canteens, etc. can be purchased later. Winter needs include a least 2 pair of long underwear and several pairs of warm socks, i.e.: wool or polypropylene blends. The troop provides the scouts with a "winter camping check list" which will provide a more complete list for your reference. Sheath knives (*fixed blade knives*) are **not** allowed on troop campouts. Please refer to the BSA "Guide to Safe Scouting" for more information.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARENTS:

Scouting is a family enterprise. When your scout joins us, Troop 282 becomes your troop. We know you want your scout and troop to be successful. This will require encouragement and participation by you, the parent. Troop 282 is a growing troop and it requires a lot of adult help. This support is organized through the Troop committee, which meets monthly targeting the 3rd Thursday of each month, 7:30 p.m., at Trinity Episcopal Church.

All parents are invited and encouraged to attend these meetings, join the committee, and lend a hand in the many support activities involved in conducting an active and successful scouting program. Troop 282 is organized to provide a wide range of experiences for its scouts, but such a program does necessitate broad parental support. Please help make your son's scouting experience a memorable one by

becoming active in the Troop Committee or as a uniformed leader.

Parents are also invited to attend the monthly District Meetings. Information is located at

<http://www.geocities.com/Yosemite/Trails/3847/be.html>

TROOP 282 ADULT LEADER POSITIONS:

- I. Uniformed Leaders
 - A. Scoutmaster
 - B. Assistant Scoutmasters
 - 1. Equipment Coordinator
 - 2. Chaplain
 - 3. Camping
 - 4. Transportation
 - 5. New Scout Program
 - 6. Assistant Scoutmasters at Large
- II. Troop Committee
 - A. Chairperson
 - B. Vice Chairperson
 - C. Secretary
 - D. Treasurer
 - F. Committee Chairs
 - 1. Advancement Coordinator
 - 2. Court of Honor Coordinator
 - 3. Scouting Coordinator
 - 4. Popcorn Sales Coordinator
 - 5. Friends of Scouting
 - 6. Fund Raising Coordinator
 - 7. Food Drive Coordinator
 - 8. Newsletter Coordinator
 - 9. Health & Safety Coord.
 - 10. Planning Coordinator
 - 11. Service Activity Coord.
 - 12. Scout Sunday Breakfast
 - 13. Training Coordinator

EARNING MONEY:

During October and November of each year the troop participates in the Council Popcorn Sales Drive. Other types of fundraisers will require your participation also. Most of these are opportunities for a scout to earn credit toward such things as summer camp tuition, dues, camporee fees or other scouting

activities. These monies are kept in a troop account for each scout. The troop also has a Pancake Breakfast in February and a Spring Bird Hunt to raise money for operating the troop. These types of fundraisers will enable the troop to replace equipment, purchase new equipment and operate the troop as a whole.

ADVANCEMENT ADVENTURES FOR SCOUTS:

There are several activities that go far and beyond the normal troop activities. "Who can I get to fill in the rest of this area?"

ADULT LEADER TRAINING:

To be an adult leader in a boy scout troop does not require any past scouting experience, but rather the desire to work with boys to help them grow through a meaningful scouting experience. The first level is Adult Basic Training (also called Scoutmaster Fundamentals). This training is highly recommended for all adult leaders and assistants. It teaches the Scouting Method, is needed by the Scoutmaster for the Quality Unit Award and is a prerequisite for Woodbadge.

Woodbadge training is for adult scouters and is a leadership training class. It is highly recommended because these skills can be used in scouting as well as in your everyday life. It is normally held over two weekends.

NOTE FROM YOUR SCOUTMASTER:

The Scoutmaster feels that meeting time is for working with scouts and he and his assistants are often unavailable for questions and discussions. He wants all parents to feel free to contact him at home anytime with any questions, comments or concerns. His address and phone number is listed in the front of this guide.

This Guide for New Parents is patterned after a similar guide from Boy Scout Troop 282 Osage Beach , Missouri & 315 of Pacatello, Idaho; Troop 4 of Columbia, Missouri and Troop 2 of Columbia, Missouri. Troop 282 wishes to thank these troops for sharing their ideas.

SCOUT OATH OR PROMISE

*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

REVERENT