

New Parent Orientation

Troop 1424
January 26th, 2014



**Troop
Information
Meetings**

www.bsatroop1424.com

Today's Agenda

- ▶ **BSA Purpose & Organization / Troop 1424 Organization**
- ▶ **Troop Committee**
- ▶ **Troop Equipment**
- ▶ **Finances / Fees / Fundraising**
- ▶ **Court of Honor**
- ▶ **Troop Calendar & Website**

- ▶ **Scoutmaster Corps**
- ▶ **Youth Leadership**
- ▶ **Training**
- ▶ **Troop Meetings**
- ▶ **Annual Camping Program**
- ▶ **Advancement / Merit Badges**
- ▶ **Uniforms**
- ▶ **Volunteering**



What is the Purpose of Scouting?

▶ **Scouting is the Nation's largest Youth developmental organization providing a program that builds:**

- Citizenship
- Physical Fitness
- Character Development

▶ **Scouting uses an outdoor program to teach:**

- Self reliance through challenges
- Learning by doing (boy-led, boy-run)
- Working together by the patrol method
- Health & Fitness
- Service through conservation and community projects



Boy Scouts of America

National BSA
Irving, TX

Sam Houston Area Council
(SHAC)

Thunderwolf District

Troop 1424



Troop Organization



Chartering Organization
New Hope Lutheran Church
(NHLC)

Chartered Org
Representative
Susan Kronenberger

Troop Committee
Joe Alcorn

Scoutmaster Corps
Mike Schultz

Youth Leaders



Troop Committee



- ▶ **Conducts the business of the troop and supports the Scoutmaster and Scouts in the delivery of the program.**
- ▶ Ensures that quality adult leadership is recruited and trained.
- ▶ Provides adequate meeting facilities.
- ▶ Advises the Scoutmaster on policies relating to Boy Scouting and the chartered organization.
- ▶ Supports leaders in carrying out the program.
- ▶ Is responsible for finances, adequate funds, and disbursements in line with the approved budget plan.



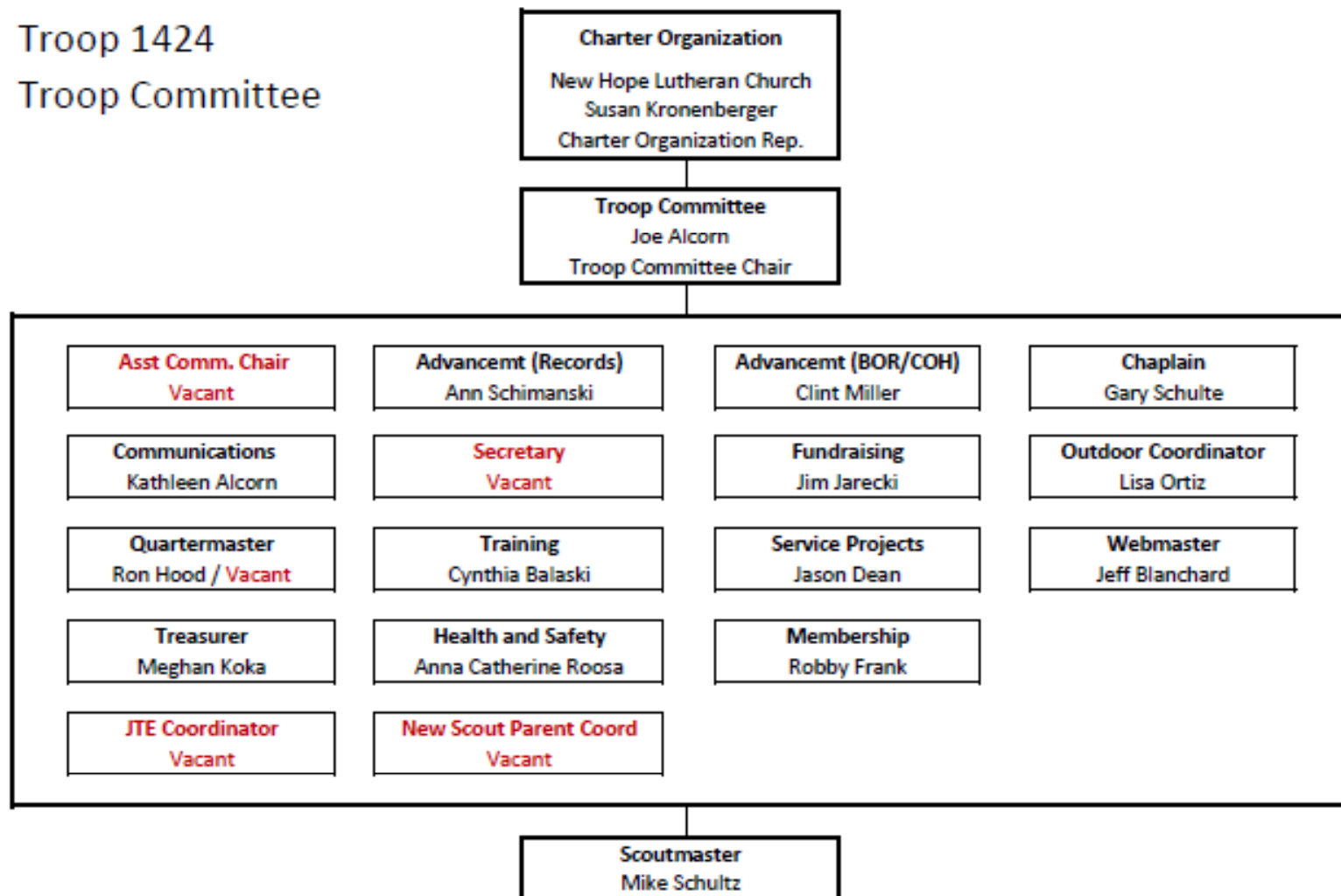
Troop Committee Functions (cont'd)

- ▶ Obtains, maintains, and properly cares for troop property.
- ▶ Ensures the troop has an outdoor program.
- ▶ Serves on Boards of Review.
- ▶ Supports the Scoutmaster in working with individual boys and problems that may affect the overall troop program.
- ▶ Provides for the special needs and assistance some boys may require.
- ▶ Helps with the Friends of Scouting campaign.
- ▶ Assists the Scoutmaster with handling boy behavioral problems.



Troop 1424

Troop Committee



Troop Committee Meetings

► **Structure**

- Led by Troop Committee Chair
- All Committee Members are invited and encouraged to attend
- Leaders who are organizing a particular event on the agenda are encouraged to attend.
- All Troop Adults are always welcome.

► **Agenda**

- Review & Approval of previous meeting minutes
- Reports from all Committee Members
- Patrol Leadership Council (PLC) Report
- Scoutmaster Report
- Fundraising & Special Events
- Campout feedback & planning



Troop Committee Meetings

▶ **Location**

- New Hope Lutheran Church (NHLC) gym

▶ **Meeting Schedule**

- Tuesday following the monthly campout at 7:30pm



Troop Equipment

- ▶ **The Troop has a storage shed at NHLC**
- ▶ **The Troop has a large utility trailer that is stored in a shed on NHLC property**
- ▶ **Significant camping inventory**
 - Scout tents / Adult tents
 - Stoves / Lanterns
 - Cooking utensils
 - Folding Tables
 - Coolers / water jugs
 - Propane for cooking



Troop Finances

▶ **Expenditures**

- National BSA Dues (including Boys Life)
- BSA Insurance
- Procure & Maintain Troop Equipment
- Camping deposits & fees
- Awards & Recognition

▶ **Income**

- Annual Troop dues
- Camping fees
- Some Fundraising (portion of garage sale, popcorn <\$50)
- Scout accounts (popcorn, portion of garage sale, Scout Fair books)



2012 TROOP OPERATING BUDGET / ACTUALS

Scoutmaster: Mike Schultz
 Committee Chairperson: Joe Alcom
 Treasurer: Ginny Farley

Date Budget Completed: 31-Aug-12
 Troop #: 1424
 District: Thunderwolf

Projected # of Scouts: 40
 Projected # of registered adults: 15

			Budget			Actuals	
Cost Code			Annual Cost Per Person	No. of Scouts/ Adults	Total Unit Cost	Month	YTD
<u>PROGRAM EXPENSES:</u>							
110	Registration Fees	Total youth + adults @ \$15 ea.	\$ 15.00	55	825		
120	Unit Charter Fee	Yearly flat fee @ \$20			20		
130	Boys' Life	Total subscriptions @ \$12 ea.	\$ 12.00	30	360		
210	Advancement	Patches, etc	\$ 12.00	40	480		
<u>Camping Trips</u>		Location					
310	Summer Camp (week long)	El Rancho Cima	\$ 250.00	20	5,000		
315	Winter Camp	TBD	\$ 200.00	20	4,000		
320	NYLT	TBD	\$ 250.00	1	250		
325	March 2012	Aransas	\$ 15.00	20	300		
330	April 2012	Trinity River	\$ 25.00	20	500		
335	July 2012	ILST / Planning	\$ 10.00	15	150		
340	August 2012	Lock-in	\$ 5.00	25	125		
345	September 2012	USS Lex	\$ 50.00	30	1,500		
350	October 2012	Village Creek	\$ 25.00	20	500		
355	November 2012	Webelos Woods (Mauritz)	\$ 20.00	20	400		
360	December 2012	Brazos Bend SP	\$ 15.00	20	300		
365	January 2013	Quintana Beach	\$ 20.00	20	400		
370	February 2013	Colorado Bend	\$ 20.00	20	400		
375	Other		\$ -				
410	<u>District / Council Events</u>	Scout Fair food	\$ 200.00	1	200		
420		First Aid meet(s)	\$ 100.00	1	100		
430		Merit Badge day	\$ 9.00	20	180		
510	<u>Training</u>	Adult leader training	\$ 400.00	1	400		
520		Youth training (handbooks, patches)	\$ 150.00	1	150		
530		Other	\$ -				
<u>General</u>							
610	Troop Equipment Purchases	Tents, Stoves, etc.	\$ 1,200.00	1	1,200		
620	Adult Summer Camp Fees	Assume 3 adults					
630	Monthly Adult Camp Fees	5 leaders per campout x 10 / yr					
640	Leader Recognition	Thank-you's, veteran awards, etc.	\$ 1,000.00	1	1,000		
650	Trailer Maintenance	Registration, maintenance	\$ 300.00	1	300		
660	T-shirts for Webelos	Assume 5 new Webelos	\$ 10.00	19	190		
670	T-shirts for Sale	Adults & Other	\$ 10.00	15	150		
680	Other			1			
TOTAL EXPENSES					19,380	-	-

Expenditures



Income

2012 TROOP OPERATING BUDGET / ACTUALS

Scoutmaster:	Mike Schultz	Date Budget Completed:	31-Aug-12
Committee Chairperson:	Joe Alcom	Troop #:	1424
Treasurer:	Ginny Farley	District:	Thunderwolf
		Projected # of Scouts:	40
		Projected # of registered adults:	15

INCOME:				
910	Annual Dues	\$ 75.00	40	3,000
915	Summer camp fees	\$ 300.00	20	6,000
920	Winter camp fees	\$ 250.00	20	5,000
925	Camping Fees Spring	\$ 60.00	20	1,200
930	Camping Fees Fall	\$ 60.00	20	1,200
935	Campout supplement (USS Lex)	\$ 35.00	30	1,050
940	Campout supplement (Village Creek)	\$ 10.00	20	200
945	Merit badge day registration	\$ 3.00	20	60
950	Merit badge day lunches	\$ 6.00	20	120
955	Randall's / Safeway good neighbor program	\$ 200.00	1	200
960	Garage Sale income	\$ 600.00	2	1,200
965	T-shirts for Sale	\$ 10.00	15	150
970	Other Income	\$ -		-
975	Other Income	\$ -		-

TOTAL INCOME	19,380	-	-
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Annual Surplus / (Loss)	-	-	-
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Scout Accounts

▶ Each Scout has a 'theoretical' Sub-account

- Credits
 - Annual Dues and camping fees paid
 - Fundraising income
- Debits
 - Campout fees
 - Summer camp and / high adventure costs
- Fundraising can be used to pay for semi-annual camping fees, summer camp, winter camp, high adventure camp
- Funds raised are not payable if a scout drops out of the Scouting program, but can be transferred to another troop



Troop Fees

▶ Annual Troop Dues

- \$85 annually due on 2nd Tuesday of November

▶ Annual Camping Fees

- \$15 / campout collected twice a year
- Fall camping fees \$75 due on 2nd Tuesday of September
- Spring camping fees \$75 due on 2nd Tuesday of January
- Balance rolls over if scout does not attend all campouts

▶ Specific Campout Surcharge

- Cost varies depending on the campout and collected in advance of the specific campout for which the surcharge is applied.



Troop Fees

▶ **Long Term Camp Fees**

- Cost varies depending on camp and location
- Typically \$250-\$500 for summer camp depending on transportation
- Typically \$200-\$300 for winter camp

▶ **High Adventure Fees**

- Cost varies depending on camp and location
- For example, Philmont fee is \$740/person + transportation
- Can be as much as \$2,000 (Sea Base)

▶ **Refunds**

- Troop fees are refundable or transferrable to another Troop on a pro-rata basis.



Fundraising 1 of 2

▶ **Popcorn**

- All sales over \$50 go to Scout account
- Sales under \$50 go to Troop account
- All parent sales go to Troop account

▶ **Garage Sale**

- 60% of proceeds go to Scout account based upon hours worked
- 40% of proceeds go to Troop account

▶ **Car Wash, Entertainment books, Bass Pro Shops, Other**

- 100% of proceeds go to Scout account



Fundraising 2 of 2

▶ Scout fair coupon books

- 100% of proceeds go to Scout account
- Usually around \$3-\$4 / coupon book in proceeds to the Scout account

▶ Randall's / Kroger

- Good neighbor / Community Rewards program proceeds go to Troop account
- Link your Randall's or Kroger card to Troop 1424

▶ Pay down camping fees

- It is possible to pay annual camping fees and summer camp fees through active participation in fundraising activities



Courts of Honor

▶ **Three Courts of Honor per year**

- October, February, and May
- Considering a fourth COH in Sep/Aug and move Oct to Nov/Dec
- 2 full length COH and 1-2 mini COH

▶ **Agenda**

- Covered dish provided by each family
- Opening ceremony
- Presentation of Awards
- Recognition of Youth and Adult leaders
- Campout / High Adventure presentation
- Special Presentations / Friends of Scouting
- Closing ceremony
- Scout is Master of Ceremony



SAVE THE DATE

- ▶ **WHAT: Court of Honor**
- ▶ **When: Tue, Feb 4, 2014**
- ▶ **Where: New Hope Lutheran Church Gym 7:30pm**

Our goal is to work with all new Scouts to earn their Scout rank so it can be presented at this COH



Troop Calendar

- ▶ Planning Sessions in Summer to set the annual Calendar
 - SM/ASM develop camping options, PLC develops the camping plan and calendar
 - Committee reviews and approves the calendar
- ▶ Reviewed at monthly committee meetings
- ▶ Subject to change at any time, i.e. any printed version of the calendar is obsolete when printed since the official calendar is located on our Troop Website
www.bsatroop1424.com



Troop Website

- ▶ Official Troop calendar
- ▶ Troop news including newsletter
- ▶ Over 5000 pictures and videos of previous Troop campouts and events.
- ▶ Resources
 - List of Eagle Scouts, Eagle projects, camping locations, campout planner, this orientation presentation, etc.
- ▶ Links to other Scouting resources

www.bsatroop1424.com



Training for Adults



▶ Committee Members

- Youth Protection Training (YPT), This is Scouting, Boy Scout Fast Start, Troop Committee Challenge

▶ Scoutmaster / Assistant Scoutmaster

- YPT, This is Scouting, Boy Scout Fast Start, Scoutmaster Position Specific Training (SMS), Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS)

▶ Other Leadership Training Opportunities

- University of Scouting
- Woodbadge for the 21st Century

Many of the courses are available online at
www.myscouting.org



SAVE THE DATE

- ▶ **WHAT: University of Scouting**
- ▶ **WHEN: February 8, 2014 at Davis Sr. High School**
- ▶ **WHERE: 12525 Ella Blvd, Houston, TX 77067**



SAVE THE DATE

- ▶ **WHAT: ScoutMaster Specific (SMS) Training**
- ▶ **WHEN: Saturday, April 5, 2014**
- ▶ **WHERE: TBD**



SAVE THE DATE

- ▶ **WHAT: Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills (IOLS)**
- ▶ **WHEN: Fri, May 2, through Sun May 4, 2014**
- ▶ **WHERE: TBD, usually Bates Allen park in Kendleton**



TRANSITION



Scoutmaster Corps

- ▶ **Works directly with the Scouts to provide the program for the troop.**
- ▶ **Trains boy leaders by providing direction, coaching and support.**
- ▶ **Can be male or female, but must be at least 21 years of age.**
- ▶ **Is appointed by the head of the chartered organization.**



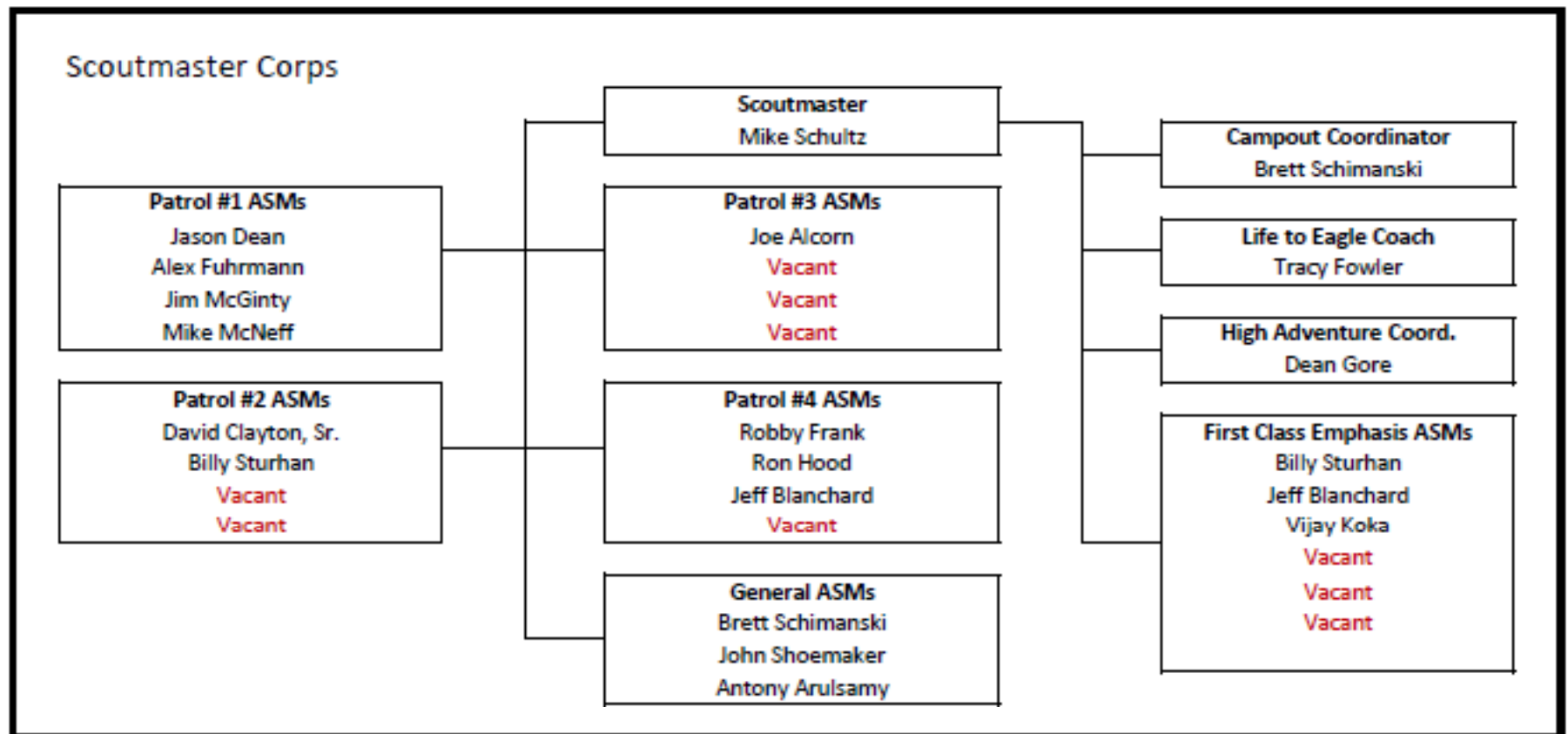
Scoutmaster / Assistant Scoutmaster Responsibilities



- ▶ **Trains and guides boy leaders.**
- ▶ **Obtains training for the Scoutmaster position.**
- ▶ **Works with other responsible adults to bring Scouting to boys.**
- ▶ **Uses the methods of Scouting to achieve the Aims of Scouting.**



Scoutmaster Corps



Youth Leadership 1 of 2



► Troop Leaders

- Senior Patrol Leader (SPL)
- Assistant Senior Patrol Leader (ASPL)
- Must have achieved First Class Rank
- At least 13 years old
- Serve 6 months in position
- ASPL assumes duties of SPL after 6 months

► Appointed Positions

- Quartermaster, Scribe, Librarian, Historian, Chaplain Aide, Instructor, OA Representative
- Appointed by SPL
- Serve 6 months in position
- Den Chief(s) appointed by the Scoutmaster



Youth Leadership 2 of 2

► Patrols

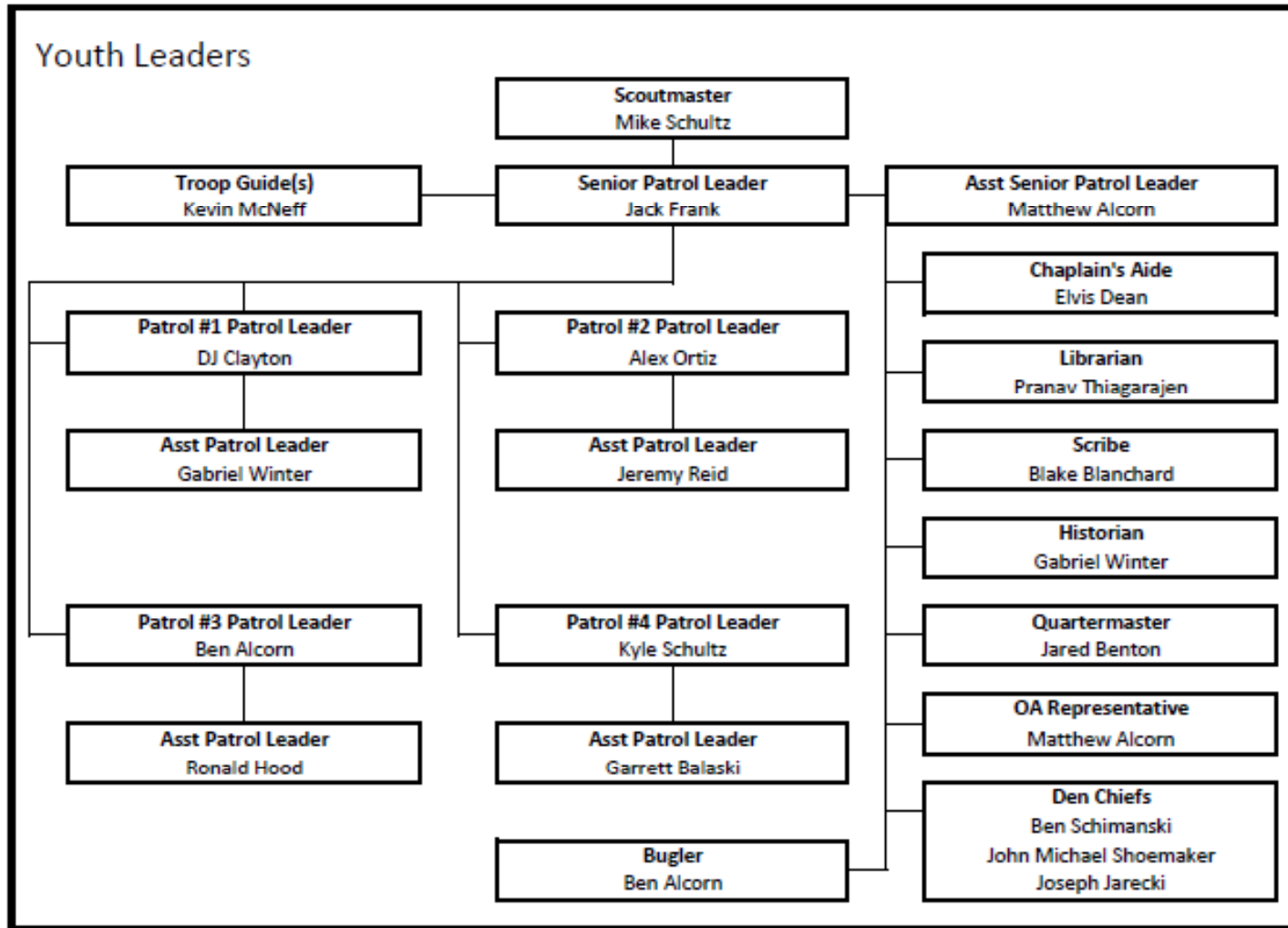
- Patrol Leader and Assistant Patrol Leader in each Patrol
- Patrol Leaders should be at least 13 years old
- Patrol Leaders should be at least First Class rank
- Elected every 6 months

► Other

- Junior Assistant Scoutmaster
- Eagle rank but not yet 18 years old



Youth Leadership



Training for Youth

▶ **Introduction to Leadership Skills – Troop (ILST)**

- Delivered twice yearly by the Troop to Youth in a Leadership position
- Ideally held right after elections for maximum effectiveness for newly elected / appointed leaders.
- Training is organized by SM, ASMs, and SPL.

▶ **National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)**

- Delivered in December and June by the Council
- Scout participation is voluntary and is by nomination of the SM

▶ **National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience (NAYLE)**

- Delivered during Summer at Philmont
- Only ILST & NYLT graduates and by nomination of SM



Meetings

- ▶ **Weekly Troop (General) Meetings**
- ▶ **Patrol Leadership Council (PLC)**
- ▶ **SM / ASM Coordination Meetings**
- ▶ **First Class Emphasis (FCE) Meetings**

Current meeting schedule can be found on the official Troop calendar which is located on the Troop website www.bsatroop1424.com



Weekly Troop Meetings

▶ **Structure**

- Led by Senior Patrol Leader (SPL)
- Attendance is not required but strongly encouraged

▶ **Agenda**

- Opening & Flag Ceremony
- Announcements
- Learn about Scout Skill(s)
- Merit badges
- Patrol Meetings (plan for activities and campouts)
- Activity
- Closing Ceremony



Weekly Troop Meetings

▶ **Location**

- NHLC Old Sanctuary Building in the large meeting room

▶ **Meeting Schedule**

- Tuesdays at 7:30pm except the Tuesday following a monthly campout



Patrol Leadership Council (PLC) Meetings

▶ Structure

- Led by SPL
- Assistant SPL in attendance
- Appointed Boy Leaders in attendance
- Patrol & Assistant Patrol Leaders in attendance

▶ Agenda

- Plan Theme for next 2 months along with tie-in to campout
- Feedback from previous campout
- Planning for next campout
- Reports from all Patrols



Patrol Leadership Council (PLC) Meetings

▶ Location

- NHLC in the Old Sanctuary Building front room(s) or gym

▶ Meeting Schedule

- Tuesday following monthly campout



SM / ASM Coordination Meetings

- ▶ **Status of Patrols**
- ▶ **FCE / Rank Advancement**
- ▶ **Merit Badges**
- ▶ **PLC**
- ▶ **Youth Leaders**
- ▶ **Training**



First Class Emphasis (FCE) Meetings

- ▶ **Led by ASMs**
- ▶ **Older Scouts encouraged to teach the Skills to the Younger Scouts**
- ▶ **Work on all requirements through First Class Rank**
- ▶ **Usually held at NHLC on First Sunday of the month from 2-4pm**



Annual Camping Program

▶ Monthly Campouts

- 8 to 10 per year
- Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May/Jun
- Lock-in before School starts in August
- Local and regional Scout camps, State parks, etc

▶ Long Term Campouts

- Winter camp is usually 4-5 days long in Dec
- Summer camp is usually one week in July

▶ Family Campouts

- Recently held family campout at Brazos Bend

▶ High Adventure Camps

- Philmont
- Florida Sea Base
- Northern Tier



Recent Monthly Campouts

- ▶ Hill Country State Natural Area
- ▶ Village Creek State Park
- ▶ Double Lake Recreational Area
- ▶ Farley Ranch (Houston County)
- ▶ USS Lexington
- ▶ Canoeing on San Marcos River
- ▶ Canoeing on Trinity River
- ▶ Webelos Woods at Camp Mauritz
- ▶ Quintana Beach
- ▶ Colorado Bend State Park
- ▶ Aransas National Wildlife Refuge
- ▶ Brazos Bend State Park



Recent High Adventure Camps

- ▶ Skymont, Tennessee (2013)
- ▶ Northern Tier, Ely, Minnesota (Dec 2011)
- ▶ Florida Sea Base, Florida Keys (June 2011)
- ▶ Philmont Scout Ranch, New Mexico (2010, 2012)
- ▶ Buffalo Trail Scout Ranch Cavalcade (2010)
- ▶ Camp Daniel Boone, NC (2009)



Requirements to attend a Campout

► Scouts

- Be a registered member of the Troop
- Invited Guest that is a registered member of another Troop
- Submit medical forms appropriate for campout duration

► Adults

- Current Youth Protection Training (YPT) is required
- Registered member of Troop is strongly encouraged
- Submit medical forms appropriate for campout duration
- Current Tetanus shot (within last 10 years)
- Familiar with *Guide to Safe Scouting*

► Webelos II

- Invited on select campouts and must be with Parent or Guardian.



Scout Conduct Requirements

- ▶ Follow the Scout Oath and Law
- ▶ Respect for all Adults and Scoutmasters
- ▶ No Bullying Pledge
- ▶ Totin chip required for knives and wood tools
Firem'n chit required for matches and firebuilding
- ▶ Swim test required for certain activities
- ▶ Parental support is requested for Scout conduct requirements



General Prohibitions

- ▶ Guide to Safe Scouting
- ▶ Prohibited activities: paint ball, four wheelers, handguns, propane equipment in tents.
- ▶ Prohibited items: fireworks, personal firearms or archery equipment, fixed-blade knives, large folding knives, sling shots, air and air-soft guns, tobacco products, alcohol, tomahawks, liquid-fueled equipment, pornography
- ▶ Electronic games and phones generally are OK while traveling, but must be left in the vehicles
- ▶ Parental support is requested to keep prohibited items from Troop activities.



Scout Conduct Consequences

- ▶ **Verbal Warning by an Adult/Scoutmaster**
- ▶ **Incidents investigated by two adults (two-deep leadership) unrelated to the scouts**
- ▶ **Serious incidents include the Scoutmaster and Committee Chair**
- ▶ **Loss of activity participation privileges (time-out)**
- ▶ **Loss of items (knives, matches, prohibited items)**
- ▶ **Call to parents**
- ▶ **Request of parents to pick-up their Scout**
- ▶ **Suspension from Troop activities**
- ▶ **Expulsion from the Troop**



Advancement 1 of 4



► Rank – Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life, Eagle

- Scout rank is largely a repeat of Webelos AOL requirements
- Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class ranks are skill-based
- Star, Life, and Eagle ranks require more advanced skills (merit badges) and leadership

► Rank requirements

- Can be found in Boy Scout Handbook
- Accomplishment of each requirement will be recorded in Handbook
- Sign-off on requirements by Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster
- **Scoutmaster Conference** after all requirements are completed
- **Board of Review (BOR)** after Scoutmaster conference
- Recorded in *Troopmaster* and BSA Internet Advancement system after BOR and awarded at next Court of Honor



Advancement 2 of 4



- ▶ **Advancement is individual, not as a group, den, or patrol**
- ▶ **Boys advance at their own pace, generally the harder they work the faster they advance**
- ▶ **Troop has structured First Class Emphasis (FCE) to help Scouts reach First Class rank within 12-18 months of joining the Troop**



Advancement 3 of 4



► Scoutmaster Conference

- Between Scout and Scoutmaster or ASM
- Requirement is to 'participate' in a Scoutmaster conference but it is also a good opportunity for the SM/ASM to discuss the rank requirements with the Scout
- Scout will need to request a Scoutmaster conference
- Class A Uniform and be prepared to discuss the rank requirements.
- Usually held at weekly Tuesday Troop meetings



Advancement 4 of 4



► Board of Review

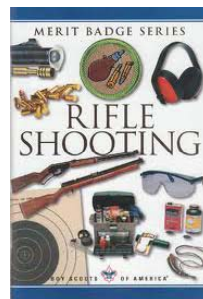
- Board comprised of 3 Adult members of the Troop
- Cannot include Parent / Guardian of Scout
- Does not include the Scoutmaster
- Class A Uniform (Shirt, pants, sash, socks, and all patches)
- Discuss achievements and discuss points of the Scout Law, Scout Oath, Scout Motto, Scout Slogan, and Outdoor Code.
- Sign-off in Scouts' handbook by all three Adult members of the BOR
- Rank achievement and dates recorded in *Troopmaster* and Internet advancement.



Merit Badges 1 of 8



- ▶ Roughly 120 Merit Badges currently offered by BSA
- ▶ Merit Badge books available at the Scout Shop
- ▶ Requirements and Workbooks available online at www.meritbadge.org
- ▶ Advancement App is available for Apple devices at App Store for \$2.99
- ▶ 13 of the Merit Badges are required to earn Eagle Scout rank or “Eagle-required” Merit Badges
- ▶ Swimming and First Aid are fundamental



Merit Badges 2 of 8



► **Eagle Required Merit Badges**

- First Aid
- Citizenship in the Community
- Citizenship in the Nation
- Citizenship in the World
- Communication
- Personal Fitness
- Emergency Preparedness or Lifesaving
- Environmental Science
- Personal Management
- Swimming or Hiking or Cycling
- Camping
- Family Life
- Cooking



Merit Badges 3 of 8



- ▶ **Merit Badges are awarded by the troop**
- ▶ **Generally Four Methods to earn Merit Badges**
 - Troop led merit badge courses.
 - Troop adults led the courses as counselors
 - Summer or Winter Camp
 - District or Council Events (TW Merit Badge Day)
 - Merit Badges taught by Others
 - Many Organizations in our area offer merit badge programs
 - Houston Museum of Natural Science, The Health Museum, Moody Gardens, Space Center Houston, Texas State Aquarium, Matagorda Bay Nature Center, Texas A&M Vet School, etc.
 - “Merit Badge Opportunities in Texas” website
www.meritbadge.info



Merit Badges 4 of 8



► Merit Badges taught by Troop

- Group - Signup for merit badge classes offered by Troop in Fall & Spring
- Individual - Contact Merit Badge Counselor
- Prepare blue card
- Attend Merit badge classes
- Complete the requirements
- Sign-Off by Merit Badge counselor
- Review with SM and obtain sign-off as Unit Leader
- Turn-in blue card to Advancement Coordinator
- Keep Scout portion of Blue card
- Receive Merit Badge at Court of Honor



Merit Badges 5 of 8



► Merit Badges at Summer / Winter Camp

- The Troop will prepare a signup roster for everyone attending Camp
- Scouts attend classes while at Camp
- Generally the Camp keeps the attendance and completion of requirements records and sends to the Troop after Camp
- If possible get a copy of the Camp records before leaving Camp
- Merit Badge list sent by the Camp is reviewed by the Troop and any missing requirements are checked with Scouts
- If necessary the Troop will contact the Camp about inaccuracies in the records
- If Scout would like the opportunity to complete the requirements the Troop may be able to provide a Counselor to complete the MB.
- Advancement Chair will enter records into *Troopmaster* and Internet Advancement.
- Receive Merit Badge at Court of Honor



Merit Badges 6 of 8

▶ **Merit Badges taught by District / Council**

- Merit Badge days offered by District or Council
- Signup for merit badge classes offered by District or Council
- Normally we will register as a Troop
- Prepare blue card
- Attend Merit badge classes
- Complete the requirements
- Sign-Off by Merit Badge counselor
- Review with SM and obtain sign-off as Unit Leader
- Turn-in blue card to Advancement Chair
- Keep Scout portion of Blue card
- Receive Merit Badge at Court of Honor



Merit Badges 7 of 8



► **Merit Badges taught outside District or Troop Event**

- Discuss the chosen MB class with SM in advance to get a "Blue Card" started for the MB signed by the SM.
- Signup for the Merit Badge class
- Prepare blue card
- Attend the MB Class
- Scout is responsible for obtaining all necessary approvals / signatures from the MB Counselor recorded on the Blue Card.
- Review the Blue Card with the SM after completing the class.
- Once the SM is satisfied that the requirements have been met then the Scout turns the Blue Card in to the Troop Advancement Chairman.



2012
scouts
@HMNS

the Houston Museum of natural science

SUMMER SCOUT ACADEMY

For more information and to register, go to www.hmns.org/summerscouts. Each class meets from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM, is one week long, and meets at the Houston Museum of Natural Science or HMNS in Sugar Land. All classes are targeted to fulfill the requirements of the badges outlined by Boy Scouts of America. Merit Badge classes are taught by counselors registered with BSA. Email questions to scouts@hmns.org.

BOY SCOUT MERIT BADGES

By Air, Sea, and Rail (*Aviation, Railroading, and Oceanography* Merit Badges)

Oceans cover most of the planet, influencing the weather, the land, and the air – learn what's in the sea and on the ocean floor. Discover how a plane flies and how to plot your course. Take a trip downtown on Houston's light rail and go on a full-day excursion to Galveston to visit the Lone Star Flight Museum, the Railroad Museum, and the research headquarters for the Flower Garden Banks Marine Sanctuary. Earn all requirements for these 3 badges in a jam-packed week on the move!

Dates: June 25-29 and August 6-10

Cost: \$195 members / \$215 non-members

Citizenship (*Citizenship in the Nation & Citizenship in the World*)

Earn two Eagle-required badges in one week! Learn how historic events, people and places have shaped our nation. Take a virtual tour of the Lincoln Memorial and a trip on the Metro Light Rail to visit historical buildings in downtown Houston. Scouts will watch five of the greatest speeches in American history, track current events, discuss the interactions of countries, and learn about the wide variety of governments around the world.

Dates: ~~sold out~~ June 4-8, ~~sold out~~ June 18-22, and July 9-13

Sugarland: June 11-15 and July 23-27

Cost: \$175 members / \$195 non-members

Computer Craft (*Graphic Arts, Computers, and Photography* Merit Badges)

Discover how computers work, what they can do for you and the history of computing as you test different home computer systems from the past 30 years. Create your own designs and see how the Museum uses graphic arts for its exhibits. Learn what makes the difference between a photograph and a snap-shot as you study lighting and picture composition.

Dates: June 18-22, July 16-20, July 30-August 3

Cost: \$175 members / \$195 non-members



Merit Badges 8 of 8



► Merit Badges taught outside District or Troop Event (cont'd)

- Review completed blue card with SM. SM may ask questions about the MB class to determine if the Scout has an understanding of the MB content.
- If the scout cannot demonstrate retention of the fundamentals of the MB, then he will be asked to review the material and come back for further discussion.
- If the Merit Badge is an Eagle-required merit badge the questions from the SM may be more involved to ensure a full understanding of course content.
- Turn-in blue card to Advancement chair



Merit Badge “Blue” Cards

• Three Sections

- Council copy
- Applicant (Scout) copy
- Counselor copy

• Keep the Records

- In case merit badge is lost
- Record copy in case of questions when applying for Eagle rank.
- Baseball card sleeves work well as storage for MB cards



Uniforms 1 of 4

▶ **Class A Uniform**

- Khaki Scout Shirt (Long or short sleeve)
- Troop patch provided
- Rank patch
- Proper placement of all patches
- Convertible Pants (long or short)
- Scout socks
- Scout belt
- Boy Scout cap optional
- Hiking boots or Shoes are recommended
- Neckerchief not required
- No gym shorts



Uniforms 2 of 4

▶ Class B Uniform

- Troop Green T-shirt
 - Any other Boy Scout T-shirt
 - Convertible pants or Jeans style pants / shorts
 - Gym style shorts may be appropriate depending on the activity
 - Hiking boots or shoes
 - Tennis shoes are usually ok
 - Crocs and open toed shoes are discouraged for safety reasons
-
- Class B T-shirt provided to Scouts upon joining Troop
 - Additional Class B T-shirts available for purchase for \$12
 - Dri-Fit synthetic T-shirts available by special purchase for \$15



Uniforms 3 of 4

▶ Troop Weekly Meetings

- Class A Uniform

▶ Board of Review

- Class A Uniform (merit badge sash suggested)
- Star, Life, and Eagle BOR merit badge sash is required

▶ Court of Honor

- Class A Uniform (merit badge sash suggested)



Uniforms 4 of 4

▶ To / from Campouts

- Class A shirt
- Convertible pants or jeans (long or short)

▶ At Campouts

- Class B shirt
- Convertible pants, jeans, or gym shorts as appropriate

▶ Fundraising / Service Projects

- Depends on activity
 - Selling popcorn, Scout fair coupon books, scouting for food Class A shirt and convertible pants or jeans
 - Work activity (e.g. Garage Sale) Class B
 - Other activities will be decided on case-by-case basis



Why Be an Adult Leader (Mike)?

- **Scoutmasters - Bill Brock, Joe Hayden, Jim Day, Ron Travis**
- **Got the opportunity to do:**
 - Hiking, camping and canoeing all over Alabama and Tennessee
 - High Adventure (Philmont x 2)
 - Merit Badges (55)
 - Eagle Scout
- My father never took me camping or canoeing
- The men listed above invested in me.
- ▶ **Being an adult leader is about investing in the sons of those around you.**



Adult Leadership

We ask that at least one Parent / Guardian for each Scout be a registered leader with the Troop. In order to volunteer you just need to fill out an application and fulfill the training requirements for the position.

- ▶ Troop committee positions**
- ▶ Assistant Scoutmasters (always need more)**
- ▶ Lead Troop Event or Campout**
- ▶ Attend Campouts**



For More Information:

www.bsatroop1424.com



bsatroop1424@gmail.com



[BSA Troop 1424](#)



[Boy Scout Troop 1424](#)

