

BOY SCOUTS  OF AMERICA®

BOY SCOUT TROOP 125

NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA COUNCIL
BLACK HILL DISTRICT



GUIDEBOOK
For Parents and Scouts

Boy Scout Troop 125

formerly Boy Scout Troop 464

Boy Scout Troop 125 is a part of the Black Hill District, and regionally belongs to the National Capital Area Council, Boy Scouts of America

Charter Organization: Churchill Community Foundation

Troop Web Site: <http://troops.scouter.com/md/bsa-troop125/>

On-Line Calendar: <http://www.localendar.com/public/bsa-troop125>

Troop Meeting Place: "Modular B" of the Greenridge Baptist Church at 21925 Frederick Road (Rt. 355), 1 mile north of Milestone Shopping Center

Meeting Time: Mondays, 7:30- 9:00 pm

Patrol Leader Council: Held just prior to the last scheduled Monday Troop Meeting of each month, from 7:00 – 7:30 pm

Scoutmaster:

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Yahoo! Group (Email): <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bsa-troop125/>

Every member (both parent and scout) of Troop 125 is encouraged to join our email group. To sign up, send an email to: bsa-troop125-subscribe@yahoo.com from the email address that you want added to the Troop's YAHOO! Group

Forward

This guidebook has been prepared for both our new and experienced scouts, and their parents. It represents our most recent updates and revisions, and replaces our 1999 guidebook. Please review it carefully.

If you are new to our Troop, this guidebook will help you become well-oriented and active members of the Troop. Not everyone comes to the Troop with a background in Scouting. And even if you do, while all troops share some similarities, each troop is also somewhat unique -- with its own customs and ways of doing things. In this guidebook, you will learn about this Troop's history and philosophy, and be given answers to some of the most often asked questions regarding the operation and life of this Troop.

We encourage Scouts and their parents to read this guidebook together. Discuss the various topics, and be assured that your questions are not only welcomed by the Troop leadership, but are also encouraged and needed.

Troop 125 believes that it can be successful by being flexible and adapting to the changing times and interests of its members. Everyone's thoughts and suggestions on how to make our scouting program better are welcome.

Should a question or a problem arise, please contact the Scoutmaster or Troop Committee Chairman. If necessary, it will be brought before the Patrol Leader Council and/or the Troop Committee, as appropriate, to weigh the facts and determine what, if anything, is to be done. If there is no feedback from our Scouts or their parents, the Patrol Leader Council and/or the Troop Committee must assume that all is well within the Troop.

The more you learn about the Scouting program, the more impressed you will be with the rich history of the organization you have joined and its commitment to the ideals of scouting. While this guidebook will give you many of these details, we invite you to become involved not only in our program, but in learning about the wonderful heritage of Scouting. At Boy Scout Troop 125, we are very proud to carry on this valuable tradition.

So welcome not only to Boy Scout Troop 125, but also to the world of adventure Scouting has to offer.

Have fun!

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Boy Scouts of America Mission Statement

The purpose of the Boy Scouts of America - incorporated on February 8, 1910, and chartered by Congress in 1916 - is to provide an educational program for boys and young adults to build character, to train in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and to develop personal fitness.

Specifically, the BSA endeavors to develop American citizens who are physically, mentally, and emotionally fit; have a high degree of self-reliance as evidenced in such qualities as initiative, courage, and resourcefulness; have personal values based on religious concepts; have the desire and skills to help others; understand the principles of the American social, economic, and governmental systems; are knowledgeable about and take pride in their American heritage and understand our nation's role in the world; have a keen respect for the basic rights of all people; and are prepared to participate in and give leadership to American society.



The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is typified by **THE SCOUT LAW**, which describes a scout as **TRUSTWORTHY** (A Scout tells the truth. He keeps his promises. Honesty is part of his code of conduct. People can depend on him.); **LOYAL** (A Scout is true to his family, Scout leaders, friends, and nation.); **HELPFUL** (A Scout is concerned about other people. He does things willingly for others without pay or reward.); **FRIENDLY** (A Scout is a friend to all. He is a brother to other Scouts. He seeks to understand others. He respects those with ideas and customs other than his own.); **COURTEOUS** (A Scout is polite to everyone regardless of age or position. He knows good manners make it easier for people to get along together.); **KIND** (A Scout understands there is strength in being gentle. He treats others as he wants to be treated. He does not hurt or kill harmless things without reason.); **OBEDIENT** (A Scout follows the rules of his family, school, and troop. He obeys the laws of his community and country. If he thinks these rules and laws are unfair, he tries to have them changed in an orderly manner rather than disobey them.); **CHEERFUL** (A Scout looks for the bright side of things. He cheerfully does tasks that come his way. He tries to make others happy.); **THRIFTY** (A Scout works to pay his way and to help others. He saves for unforeseen needs. He protects & conserves natural resources. He carefully uses time & property.); **BRAVE** (A Scout can face danger even if he is afraid. He has the courage to stand for what he thinks is right even if others laugh at or threaten him.); **CLEAN** (A Scout keeps his body and mind fit and clean. He goes around with those who believe in living by these same ideals. He helps keep his home & community clean.); and **REVERENT** (A Scout is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties. He respects the beliefs of others.).

The Three Aims or Goals of Scouting

As a general principle, it is the mission of the Boy Scouts of America to serve others by helping to instill values in young people and to prepare them to make ethical choices during their lifetime in achieving their full potential. The values we strive to instill are based on those found in the Scout Oath, Law, Slogan, and Motto. Each Scout is encouraged to strive for these ideals, and must understand them to begin his advancement.

Scouting works toward three basic aims or goals and it does it in a fun way to keep boys interested in Scouting. The aims or goals of scouting are:

1. To build character.

Character can be defined as what the boy is himself: his personal qualities, his values, his outlook, self-confidence and self-respect. Scouting builds a boy's character by emphasizing the basic values defined by the Ten Commandments, respect for fellow man and a love of nature. The troop strives to build self-confidence and self-reliance through participation in the Scouting program.

2. To foster citizenship.

Citizenship should be considered more than knowledge of the history of our country and the working of our government. It also includes a person's relationship with his fellows. A Scout learns the full meaning of citizenship from the emphasis of helping others, for the shared efforts within the troop and patrol, from the knowledge gained in the advancement program and from the service projects required for rank advancement. Scouting fosters the love of community, country and world, along with a commitment of service to others and an understanding of democratic principles.

3. To develop fitness.

In addition to physical fitness, personal fitness is also mental and emotional fitness. The troop strives to improve a scout's overall personal fitness through the outdoor and advancement programs, through his relationship with fellow Scouts and adult leaders and through the satisfaction of overcoming the challenges that the Scouting program presents.

The Eight Methods of Scouting

The “Methods of Scouting” is how Scouting in general, and Boy Scout Troop 125 in particular, pursues the three Aims or Goals of Scouting.

1. Ideals

Each Scout commits himself to the personal behavior guides and standards that are exemplified in the Scout Motto (“Be Prepared”), the Scout Slogan (“Do a Good Turn [or Deed] Daily”), the Scout Oath, and the Scout Law.

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

2. Patrols

The patrol is the basic unit of Scouting. Patrols are comprised of from five to eight boys. Much of the Scouting program is designed to be presented to and employed by a patrol size group. Troop 125 employs this organization, called “the patrol method” and uses it in its program. Some objectives of the patrol method are to emphasize the importance of teamwork, create a sense of camaraderie and a community environment, assign specific responsibilities and require performance and provide a format for practicing leadership skills and an understanding of democracy.

3. Outdoors

Scouting emphasizes outdoor activities which foster an appreciation of nature and our ecology. Along the way, Scouts practice and learn new skills and develop confidence in their own abilities to cope with obstacles. The outdoor experience is ideal for the Troop's program because it develops physical fitness; allows a Scout to develop new skills; allows a series of new and unique challenges to be presented to each Scout that are demanding yet fun; provides a laboratory for the study of conservation and ecology and it demonstrates the magnitude of God's handiwork and improves the Scout's appreciation of it. Scouting is outing!

4. Advancement

The Advancement program is designed to present a series of increasingly difficult challenges for the Scout to master. Advancement rewards individual effort and accomplishment at the same time the patrol method is teaching group skills and rewarding successful group effort. Benefits of the advancement program include (1) an increased self-confidence and self reliance, & (2) improved goal setting skills and better planning techniques.

Rank advancement criteria are set forth by the national Boy Scout organization. The Boy Scout Handbook is the best source to learn about advancement. As a general rule, for each rank advancement and merit badge, a Scout must appear before a trained adult and present his work. This insures every Scout an equal opportunity to work with an interested adult other than his parent. See *infra*, for more on advancement.

5. Personal Growth

All of the other methods contribute to the personal growth of a Scout through experience. The quest for growth is a method, too.

6. Adult association

Adult leaders, male and female, provide an example to Scouts of the high character they should strive for in their personal growth.

7. Leadership Development

The Scouting program provides an ideal setting for a boy to learn and practice leadership skills. Scouting is a boy run program and probably is a boy's first experience in dealing with peer supervision and leadership. Many of today's leaders in business and in the public sector gained the basic concepts and self-confidence of leadership from Scouting.

8. Uniform

The uniform reminds a Scout what is expected of him. He can take pride in being a Scout, and in the achievements shown on his uniform and sash. The uniform in Troop 125 consists of a tan shirt (short-sleeved recommended), BSA or green khaki pants and shorts, Scout socks, baseball-style cap, neckerchief (provided by Troop), slide and Scout belt.

Unit History and Background

Troop 125 was originally chartered by the PTA of S. Christa McAuliffe Elementary School in 1988. We are now proud to be chartered by the Churchill Community Foundation. The Churchill Community Foundation owns and maintains Lake Churchill, an 18-acre lake in Germantown, Maryland, for the benefit of area residents. Lake Churchill provides us with additional opportunities to appreciate the great outdoors and nature.

Troop 125 has a diverse group of scouts and scouters from Germantown and all surrounding areas, including, but not limited to, Boyds, Clarksburg, Damacus, Gaithersburg, Montgomery Village and Potomac. Membership is open to all boys regardless of residency, race or religious affiliation.

Troop 125 recognizes the importance of giving to others and community service. Over the years, we have repeatedly acted as the "Service Troop" for many District events. Among other things: we participate yearly in the local "Scouting for Food" program; and host a Scouting Jamboree On the Air (in October) and invite cub scouts, and boy and girl scouts to attend. We are also committed to helping Cub Scouts grow in any way that we can.

We have experienced adult leaders, and focus our efforts on outdoor activities and community service. We encourage our scouts to advance through the ranks, but allow them to set their own pace. Under adult supervision, the Scouts run the program and assume as much responsibility for the Troop's program as possible. The older Scouts provide positive role models and new Scouts quickly learn that working as a team, showing respect to leaders, and doing their "good turns," is a rewarding and fulfilling form of behavior. By participating in community service projects, our Scouts gain an appreciation for the environment and for the needs of others that may be less fortunate. Our scouts are introduced to various outdoor activities through overnight campouts and summer camp. Participation in sports and physical activities is more for pleasure and enjoyment rather than winning or being number one. To obtain the later ranks of Star, Life and Eagle, each Scout must serve in a role of leadership and responsibility. Many positions are available within the Troop and each Scout is given the opportunity to serve in a leadership role. Scouts are grouped into patrols. Within each Patrol, each Scout will have specific duties. Using the patrol method, Scouts learn the importance of teamwork and that others depend on them performing their duties.

Troop Philosophy

We at Troop 125 would like to pass along the combined knowledge and experience of approximately 150 years (adults) that the troop has collectively amassed over the years. To help entering Webelos II Scouts, we have an Assistant Scoutmaster assigned to new scouts, who will help orientate them to the scouting program and our troop, and help them complete requirements and advance at their own pace and ability.

Although we have a strong core of adult leadership, Troop 125 is committed to boy leadership. While Scouting emphasizes the development of skills and knowledge necessary for the enjoyment of the great outdoors and nature, one of the main purposes is to develop leadership in the boys. Adults are there to assist in instruction, provide guidance, and maintain an infrastructure in which leadership on the part of the scouts can flourish.

Over the years, Troop 125 has developed a reputation for excellence in maintaining the high ideals of Scouting in all ways. This has not been easily gained. We strive to impress new Scouts with the past and present quality of the unit as a whole and with the importance of each boy doing his part in maintaining the troop's reputation. This aspect may require some further elaboration (for younger Scouts) on the part of parents. Each Scout must do his part in keeping our troop well-disciplined. It may seem strict at first, but most Scouts eventually realize this pays dividends in individual and troop accomplishments, such as in inter-troop competitions and completion of badges and ranks.

The Scoutmaster and Troop Committee pledge to you to assist each Scout in the development of his duties to God and Country, to others and to himself. Our goals are to develop an awareness of self-reliance, to improve individual and group skills, and to increase his abilities and knowledge, particularly those of the outdoors and nature.

Scouting involves more than the basic activities usually associated with the program, such as tying knots, cooking, and camping. While this is an integral part of Scouting, Troop 125's program goals include both adventure and work, with emphasis on growth and advancement in all phases of character building, citizenship, acceptance of responsibility, planning, execution, and evaluation.

Joining the Troop and Getting Started

We welcome boys of Scout age who are vitally interested in the Scouting program. Eligibility rules are occasionally modified by the BSA, but generally boys can participate in Boy Scouting from between age ten and a half or eleven -- until their eighteenth birthday. Currently, in order to join Boy Scouts, a boy must have completed the fifth grade OR be eleven years old OR have earned the Arrow of Light Award in Cub Scouting.

A parent or guardian should accompany his/her son to a troop meeting at the time the decision is made to join Troop 125. A membership packet will be given to the parent for review and for completion of the necessary forms. The parent, with son, will meet with a designated leader to discuss the Troop's Program, Policy and Procedures. The boy will not be permitted to participate in any Scouting function until he is properly registered and all his fees are paid. He may visit up to three troop meetings before joining.

The Membership Packet includes:

- Official BSA Application
- Medical Form (Class 1 required, but Class 2 recommended)
- This Guidebook
- Troop Resource Survey
- Latest Newsletter

The first item a new Scout gets from the Troop after he decides to join is his own copy of the official Boy Scout Handbook. Attached in the front of the handbook is the pamphlet, How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse and Drug Abuse: A Parent's Guide, which you and your son are required to read and discuss. This exercise is one of the joining requirements for your son. A new Scout should also obtain a copy of Boy Scout Requirements, a booklet which lists requirements for all merit badges. He will use these two handbooks throughout his Scouting career. The Scout's advancement record will be recorded in his Boy Scout Handbook. While individual Scout's advancement records are maintained by our troop, each Scout is expected to retain all rank and merit badge cards and emblems. The Handbook and Scout Requirements books can be purchased at the Boy Scout Shop at the Marriott Scout Service Center. Be sure the Scout's name is well-displayed on the books. It is each Scout's responsibility to maintain all of his advancement records from Tenderfoot to Eagle. Scouts must NOT rely on someone else to do it for them.

While the troop is boy-led, adult involvement is essential to the success of a troop. The Scoutmaster and the Assistant Scoutmasters serve at the pleasure of the Troop Committee, which is a group of adult volunteers who set policy and serve to advise the troop in a number of areas of responsibility. Troop 125 has a strong cadre of adult leaders. This means that the adult leadership does not fall only on a few, and consequently, even those with only limited time can (and are encouraged to) be involved.

Meetings. The entire Troop meets on every Monday of each month 7:30 to 9:00 PM in the all-purpose room at S. Christa McAuliffe Elementary School while school is in session. Exceptions due to outings, holidays, etc., will be announced at the Troop meetings. The Patrol Leader Council usually meets on the final Monday of each month from 7:00 PM to 7:30 PM.

Medical Information and Contact Telephone Numbers

It is the parents' responsibility to provide important medical information on their sons' application and to keep it current should it change. At the same time key contact or emergency telephone numbers must be kept current.

Medical forms for troop and scouting-related activities

All scouts must have a Class 1 medical form on file with the troop before they can participate in any troop activities. The Class 1 form must be renewed annually and requires a parent's signature, no Doctor visit.

All scouts must have a Class 2 Medical form on file before they can attend summer camp or other activities lasting longer than 72 hours. The Class 2 form is good for 3 years and requires a Doctor visit.

Registration and Dues

All boy members of the troop must be registered with the Boy Scouts of America and pay our annual Troop fee of \$60. Our fee includes the \$10.00 BSA registration fee, insurance, and a subscription to Boy's Life magazine (one per household). The rest of the fee covers the Troop's operating expenses (i.e. badges, merit books, camping equipment, and expenses for meeting space). The troop re-charters each December. Webelos II Scouts registering with our Troop after May pay half of the annual Troop fees.

In addition to the regular registration of our Scouts and Scouters, those adults who are less involved in the Scouting program, such as merit badge counselors, are now required to re-register with the BSA. The policy is designed to protect both adults and boys and is a part of the "two-deep leadership" policy of the BSA. Insurance coverage for volunteers is provided to a degree by the Council. Details are available upon request.

Payment by check made out to **B.S.A. Troop 125** is requested. Receipts are provided to the Scout, who is responsible for taking it to his parents.

Additional fees, to cover costs, are required for Troop activities and outings. If financial hardship exists, contact the Scoutmaster or the Committee Chair.

Troop Communications

As boys develop into adults, it is felt essential that they assume certain responsibilities of listening to announcements and taking necessary notes to insure that the Scouts are aware of upcoming activities and other pertinent information. At each Troop meeting various announcements are made pertaining to updated information. If a Scout is unable to attend a regular Troop meeting, he is responsible for contacting his patrol leader or another patrol member to obtain any information from that meeting. It should not be the parent's, nor the Patrol Leader's, responsibility to keep absent members informed of upcoming activities. Periodically, information will be sent to the home via email or through our monthly newsletter.

Sometimes communications outside of a regular meeting will be passed by telephone through the Senior Patrol Leader to each Patrol leader and subsequently to each member. If they should still need more information they should call their Patrol Leader. If you find you are not receiving required information, first discuss it with your Scout and then contact the Scoutmaster or the Committee Chair so any problem can be corrected.

Cost of Scouting

The Troop Committee and the Scoutmaster recognize that Scouting has become expensive and can be a strain on a household budget. It is our hope that no boy will be prevented from being a Scout for financial reasons. In furtherance of this, various fund raising projects are a part of the Troop's activities, and 20 percent of the Troop's proceeds are credited to the "scout

accounts” of participating Scouts. The scout then may use the money he earns for monthly camp-outs, the winter ski trip, summer camp or any other activity he chooses. Also, scouts who are part of the Troop’s Arrow of Light Ceremony Team (which in the past has been our largest fundraiser), earn 50 percent of the total proceeds for each ceremony they participate in.

All Scouts should participate in various fund raisers in order to insure that they are earning their own way. The Troop Financial Records are available for review by interested parents. Please ask our Treasurer for details.

At least three times a year the Troop participates in events run by our District. These events usually have a cost associated with them above and beyond the cost for food. This cost covers supplies, patches and insurance for these events and generally must be submitted before the event.

The early knowledge of which Scouts will be participating in any activity greatly helps in the planning stages. All of the food is bought and all transportation arrangements are made based on participants.

Scouts who sign up for an event and later are unable to attend must notify the Committee Member responsible for collecting money and permission slips, PRIOR to the event. In order to get a refund for the fees paid for the event the scout should submit a note to the Treasurer. The request should include the date and the reason for not attending. The Troop Committee reserves the right to determine the refund to be returned since various registration fees must be paid and supplies must be obtained in advance.

The fee for our usual monthly camp-out is \$15.00-\$20.00 per Scout. This money is to cover the purchase of food and supplies for the weekend.

Normally, the ASM (Food Manager) and a scout plan the menu for an outing and the Food Manager, the Scout, **and** the Parent of that Scout purchases the food. (Two-deep Leadership, here the ASM and the Parent, is always required.) The money is collected ahead of time by the Troop Treasurer, when the permission slip is turned in. For those scouts that cancel out of an outing after the food has already been purchased -- unfortunately that scout is still obligated to pay his share of the food.

If it is financially feasible, the Scout responsible for buying the food should do so first, keeping in mind that he has, usually, \$15.00 per Troop member, times the number of persons attending the camp out, to spend. He then

turns his receipt(s) into the Treasurer for payment. If this is not feasible, provisions can be made to get the money from the Treasurer first. The Scout is still responsible for turning in his receipts, and any left over funds.

When the Troop collects money we ask that all moneys be turned in via an envelope. Place your name, purpose, amount paid, and method of payment (i.e. cash, check or from the Scout's account) on the outside of the envelope. We ask that payments greater than \$20 be made in the form of a check to avoid having large amounts of cash on hand on the payment dates. Checks should be made out to "**B.S.A. Troop 125.**"

Our Scouts have reached the age where they should have enough responsibility to fill out a money envelope. Our Scouts know what outings and events they want to attend, and should sign up for them. This eliminates any confusion as to whether or not they have signed up for an outing, and it should be the scout's responsibility to sign up for an event.

Many times a Scout will think that their parents have signed up, so they don't. They end up signing up late (this causes problems for the Scout buying food) or missing the event because they don't sign up at all. Most of the time the Scouts are reminded at Troop meetings, the parents are not. Parents, please encourage the Scouts to take this responsibility to do this themselves. Scouts, please let your parents know that you have taken care of it and let them just fill out the permission slip.

The Troop Organization

The Patrol

Troop 125 operates on "the patrol system." Each patrol is comprised of approximately six (6) to eight (8) Scouts. Each Scout is assigned to a given patrol, with a patrol emblem to be worn on the uniform. Patrols are encouraged to operate as independent units for many of their activities, such as camping trips, summer camp, etc. Patrol meetings, in addition to regular meetings, are encouraged and recommended. Each patrol will periodically elect their Patrol leader. Scouts desiring to change from one Patrol to another may do so with the approval of the Patrol Leaders Council.

When a Webelos Scout joins the Troop, he is usually assigned to a "New Scout" patrol for his first year in Boy Scouts. The purpose of this patrol is

to introduce new and/or younger boys to the ways of Boy Scouting and to help them master the skills leading to First Class rank. After this first year they will join one of the older Scout patrols. The New Scout patrol(s) are under the supervision of the Assistant Scoutmaster of New Scouts and possibly also to a more experienced Scout called a Troop Guide (the latter is appointed by the Scoutmaster in consultation with the Assistant Scoutmaster responsible for new Scouts). The role of the Troop Guide is to work closely with the Patrol Leader of the New Scout patrol and to teach the members of the patrol the skills required for the rank of First Class.

The Patrol Leader represents his Patrol at the Patrol Leaders Council (PLC). The PLC (made up of Boy Scouts) consists of an elected Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader(s), the Patrol Leaders and other Troop Leaders, (including Troop Guides, Quartermaster(s), Scribe, Historian, Librarian, etc.). The PLC develops and implements the Troop Program with the guidance of the Committee Chair, Scoutmaster and the Assistant Scoutmasters. This program is supported by the Committee.

The Troop Committee

The troop is administered by the Troop Committee in accordance with the policies of the Boy Scouts of America, our local council and as effected by the needs of the immediate community. The Committee manages the business of the Troop, sees that the program is properly conveyed to the boys and is properly funded and provides adult leaders for the various activities. The Committee consists of parents, men and women who are interested in the Scouting program conveyed to the boy members by the troop and have completed adult volunteer applications. All parents or guardians are invited to join the committee. Previous experience in scouting is not required to join the Committee. Should constraints of time not permit regular attendance at Committee meetings, you may attend at any time. Meetings are always open. All that is needed is an interest in the well being and future of the boy members of the troop. Parents are invited to attend and to voice their interests or concerns. This troop exists for your boys and your contributions are specifically solicited. Our committee is active with our boys, which is the reason that our troop is successful.

The purpose of the committee is to assist the uniformed adult leaders in conveying the scouting program to the boys. The committee also administers the affairs of the troop and manages its fundraising & finances.

The responsibilities of the Troop Committee include:

- Providing and supporting competent adult leadership for the troop.
- Helping in the acquisition and maintenance of troop equipment.
- Assisting with financing and record keeping.
- Supporting the advancement program of the troop.
- Supporting the outdoor program.
- Communicating between the troop and the charter organization.

It is the primary function of the Troop Committee to support the troop program. This is done by providing support to the Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters, who are primarily responsible for guiding the boy leaders and executing the troop program effectively. The boy leadership is ultimately responsible for the troop program and its effective execution.

Parent Involvement

Each Scout's parent or guardian is asked to contribute to the Troop and its activities in some way. Many resources and talents are required to operate a Troop and to have a quality program. The Troop is in need of your help. Each parent is asked to complete an Adult Resource Survey outlining the parent's interests and talents. If you feel that the survey does not fully address your abilities, discuss with the Committee Chair or the Scoutmaster ways you can assist the Troop. Our needs in the Troop can be flexible. We will find a need to fit your talent and the time you have to give!

Outfitting and Equipment

Since this troop holds a campout almost every month of the year in all types of weather conditions, a Scout will need proper equipment, including: a backpack, sleeping bag, rain gear, hiking boots or shoes, etc. This equipment can be very expensive, and may come as a shock to those new to this activity, especially if they try to accumulate the needed items all at once. We strongly encourage parents not to immediately try to outfit a new Scout with every item he will eventually need. Boys grow, and gear that is purchased one year can be quickly outgrown. Also, there is a wide range of options to consumers today, and this can be very confusing.

We attempt to educate Scouts in making appropriate equipment selections. However, each boy is different, and as boys become more experienced, they become more knowledgeable about equipment that fits their particular tastes, needs, and interests. If you do not feel familiar with this, we

suggest talking to parents of more experienced Scouts, borrowing or renting equipment to try it out, or encouraging the new Scout to talk to other Scouts about the necessary gear before making any major investment in equipment. Some find that boys who work to earn money to purchase their own clothing, gear, and equipment appreciate it more and treat it more responsibly. Also, there are many sources for these items. Used equipment is often available from Scouts who have outgrown or updated various items. The troop owns some equipment which can be checked out, and most outfitters in the area can be a great help in making appropriate and prudent selections. Currently, the trend is "less is more," and on most campouts that involve much hiking, each boy's gear is weighed to avoid overloads. If a boy's pack is too heavy, or his gear is so expensive that he is concerned about using it, some of the enjoyment is lost on these camping excursions. This troop emphasizes comfort and safety through training and smart thinking--not the latest gadgetry or what is fashionable in the marketplace. The troop has available several resources for helping select to equipment. Please ask our leaders for advice when needed.

Required Clothing / Equipment

Uniforms are a part of Scouting. When a boy wears the Scout uniform, he indicates his allegiance and dedication to the ideals of Scouting -- duty to God, self, others, and country. Uniforms should be in good repair and worn appropriately with pride. Scouts should wear the uniform of the season, completely and correctly, to all regular and special Scout functions. Our Troop participates in several District Events each year and a full week at Scout Camp which require full 'Class A' Boy Scout uniforms, therefore;

A. Each Scout in the Troop will be required to have a complete 'Class A' uniform. This uniform will consist of the baseball style cap, red neckerchief with black trim (which will be provided initially by the Troop), neckerchief slide, web or leather belt, scout trousers or equivalent type green khakis, short or long sleeve scout shirt with appropriate patches worn in the appropriate places, socks, and tie shoes. During warm weather, the scout shorts or equivalent green shorts with scout socks may be worn in place of the trousers. This uniform may be worn at all Scout meetings & activities.

B. Scouts may wear the 'Class B' uniform instead of the uniform above at all meetings and activities except for Courts of Honor and activities where 'Class A' uniforms are required (These will be noted on specific permission slips.) The 'Class B' uniform is similar to the 'Class A' except

that the “official” red knit shirt in the scout catalog may be substituted for the normal uniform shirt. The neckerchief is not worn with the knit shirt. The Class B uniform is an optional uniform and therefore is not required.

C. Scouts may also wear the ‘Class C’ uniform at most outdoor activities such as hikes and camps, except for Courts of Honor and activities where ‘Class A’ uniforms are required. The ‘Class C’ uniform has the Troop T-shirt or a Scouting related T-shirt substituted for the uniform or knit shirt above. The rest of the uniform is the same.

MISCELLANEOUS UNIFORM ITEMS: The following items are considered a part of the ‘Class A’ uniform for inspections.

- Official Scout Handbook
- Notebook and pencil or pen
- Knot rope (ask the Quartermaster for some used rope)

Uniform Exchange. A really great resource for new Scouts is the “uniform exchange,” which helps families defray the cost of scouting by recycling uniforms. You are encouraged to take advantage of this by asking what is available. Of course, you are also encourage to help keep the uniform exchange stocked by donating your son’s uniforms as he outgrows them. The uniform exchange is always looking for good, clean, serviceable uniform parts, labeled with the correct size. Simply deliver your contribution to the committee person in charge of the exchange.

Useful Suggestion: During his time in Scouting, a Scout receives many patches, badges, and insignia. Not all of these are to be worn on the uniform, and most are to be worn only on specified places on the uniform, or only worn for specific periods of time or while the boy is at a particular rank. It can get confusing, so you will want a copy of the "Official Placement of Insignia," which is available from the Scout Shop. It is a good idea to get a special box or container for all the many different patches, ribbons, medals, etc., that the Scout earns, but cannot wear on the uniform.

Equipment and Packing

Read and Look First. If you have a new Scout, don't rush out and spend lots of money on camping equipment yet. Start by reading Chapter 9 in your Scout's Boy Scout Handbook (Where, by the way, you will find a picture of four of Troop 125's Scouts on Page 220). Ask some of his fellow

Scouts or his leaders what type of pack and sleeping bag they have and what they like and don't like about it and why.

Have your Scout go on a camping trip using an old sleeping bag (or borrow one) and have him look around at the various types to see what may work best for him. Of course, you should look at the types of equipment and prices in several stores before making a decision.

About Sleeping bags

Synthetic filled bags should have 3 lb. of fill, minimum, and a 4 lb. bag will usually be more than adequate. However, additional warmth can be provided by a wool or wool-blend "blanket-sheet" inner liner, and a blanket or two on top. There is no current need to invest in a "sub-zero" bag for your son for Scouting purposes. Regardless of your decision to purchase, make sure that your Scout can stuff the sleeping bag by himself before you leave the store. Otherwise, he may have very difficult times on camp outs trying to pack a sleeping bag that he can't handle and turn what might otherwise be a fun trip into one of frustration.

Please..... Do not bring anything that has a high monetary or sentimental value. We have discovered that things have ways of being misplaced or broken on camp outs! All personal equipment should be marked with the Scouts' name and Troop number.

Food

All food and drink that your camper will need for the weekend will be provided for a nominal fee decided upon by the troop. However, he should consider bringing snacks to replenish his energy between meals. These snacks should be kept in the Troop's Kitchen area, **not** in his tent.

When gathering for a campout after 5:00 PM on Friday evenings, the Troop will **not** prepare a dinner. Please see that your son is well fed before arrival.

Identification

ALL items, including clothing, that your son takes should be permanently marked with his name. Engravers work very well on metal gear. Colored

nail polish also works very well identifying utensils which tend to become intermixed.

Cooking

The troop provides the cooking gear and eating utensils; however, a Scout is free to bring his own “mess kit” (plate, bowl, cup, knife, spoon, fork) if he desires. These do not have to be Boy Scout issue and can be more inexpensively purchased at K-Mart, Wal-Mart or some other discount store.

Uniform

All Scouts are required to wear the basic Scout uniform to all District scouting activities. The uniform includes the official BSA shirt, green trousers, belt and proper insignia on the shirt. While they are not required, we also recommend the uniform shorts. In the heart of summertime, the boys prefer them and will be more comfortable than in long pants.

Pocketknife

A Scout may carry a pocketknife on camp-outs once he has earned the Totin Chip badge. This is explained in the Scout Handbook on page 85.

The knife is the one piece of camping equipment that your son will keep and use as he grows older. A cheap knife will dull easily and be difficult to sharpen. While an official BSA knife is not necessary, it will gain a great deal of sentimental value. Otherwise, purchase a good brand like Victronix. Sheath knives are not allowed at Boy Scout functions. No other knives or potentially dangerous articles are permitted.

Hiking

Hiking is an essential part of Scouting. Good boots and heavy (wool) socks with a liner of either poly-propylene or silk, are essential for a good hike. Most tennis shoes do not have enough support. Boots should be broken in first. Wool socks with liners should be worn as they do not retain moisture like cotton socks do. Although the uniform socks are a wool blend, they are not recommended wear on a hike. Finally, many canteens that are available at a cheaper price do not hold up. Water bottles, such as those made by Nalgene are very hardy and fit better in a backpack than the

larger metal canteens. The water bottle is also nice for a midnight drink of water when you do not want to leave your cozy sleeping bag.

Damage to Troop Equipment / Property

Since the Troop has invested a great deal of money in equipment for the use of many Scouts, each Scout is expected to use and care for it better than if it were his own. Deliberate or negligent damage by any Scout will be cause for such Scout to be responsible for the repair, replacement or reimbursement to the Troop for the cost of such repairs/replacements.

What is Expected of Scouts in Troop 125

Appropriate Behavior. Because our Scouts are constantly reminded of the high ideals of Scouting set forth in the Scout Oath and Law, we operate with a minimum of stated regulations. However a few bear restating:

- Any intentional or maliciously destructive, dangerous, dishonest, or other behavior that violates the spirit of the Scout Law is not tolerated.
- Scouting should provide a safe haven from harmful or destructive influences, and we make every attempt to provide such an environment for all Scouts.
- The use of drugs in any form, alcohol, or tobacco are not permitted. Prescription medicines needed by a Scout are to be given to an adult leader with precise, written instructions for dispensing to the Scout.
- Lewd, salacious, vulgar, or inappropriate behavior, language, printed materials, or photographs are not tolerated.
- Parents are expected to provide their sons with correct information regarding human sexuality and physical development, as well as corresponding mental and moral attitudes during this period of maturation in the lives of the boys.
- No sheath (fixed-blade) knives are permitted. Only folding, lock-blade knives are permitted. Scouts earn their Totin-Chip Award in order to carry and safely use woods tools.

- Radios, tape/CD players, TVs, electronic games, and the like, are not permitted at scouting functions. These are typically expensive items which can easily be lost or damaged, are often disruptive, and are seldom appropriate at Scouting functions. However, they can be used while in transit during long trips, but then must be left in the car.

During all events and activities the scouts and adults are expected to live up to the rules established by the Boy Scouts of America, the Troop, and the leaders. In the event any scout (or adult) does not follow these rules or threatens the health or safety of any of its members, the leader in charge may take immediate remedial action, including but not limited to immediate suspension from that activity. The parents will be called and expected to pick their son up. The individual may be reinstated either by the leader in charge of the event or by requesting reinstatement by the Patrol Leader Counsel and Troop Committee. Should such actions reoccur by the same scout or adult, that person may be subject to dismissal from the Troop.

Behavior, generally, which is NOT allowed: anything that may be unsafe, may demand a disproportionate and unacceptable supervisory burden by the adult leaders, or is unfair to other Scouts who are trying to get the most benefit from Scout activities. In addition, the following will NOT be tolerated: disrespect toward other scouts, parents, or adult leaders; fighting, hitting, pushing, or throwing objects at other scouts; disrupting meetings or any other scouting activity; or treating the property of others with disrespect.

Attendance at Troop Meetings. Regular troop meetings are held each Monday Evening from 7:30-9:00 PM. While no boy can attend every meeting, we do expect active Scouts to attend a high percentage of meetings. It is at these troop meetings that information is given about troop activities, advancement classes are taught, Boards of Review are held, and advancement is recognized. A boy who is frequently absent from the meetings will soon feel lost and not a part of the troop. Any Scout who misses 25% or more of the scheduled Troop meetings or outings (on a cumulative basis) cannot and will not be allowed to hold a Troop position.

Participation in Troop Activities. Troop 125 places a lot of emphasis on outdoor activities, especially camping. As a general rule, there will be some sort of outdoor experience every month. No scout is expected to attend all activities, however, we have found that the more activities a

Scout participates in the more opportunities he has to learn and advance. We realize that the demands of family, church, school, and sports can be heavy. But Scouting is also a commitment, and there has never been an Eagle Scout from this troop who has not also had many other outside interests. Experience indicates that boys who have good parental guidance can learn to budget their time, and can find time to be active, to attend campout and meetings, and to advance within the Scouting program.

Involvement in Service Projects. In addition to recreational activities, there are also a number of service projects each year. All scouts must accumulate a certain number of service hours for advancement, but beyond that, service exemplifies the essence of Scouting. Boys in Troop 125 are expected to render service to their fellow Scouts, the troop, and their community, and are asked to participate in as many as possible.

Troop Outings

In addition to regular meetings, the Troop attempts to have some type of activity at least monthly to enable each Scout to enhance his learning experience and to utilize and enjoy the rewards of the previous skill he has learned. Troop 125 will have an activity, usually a camp out, every month.

Troop Health and Safety

All members of Troop 125 consider the safety of each and every member to be very important. At times the Troop will participate in activities of slightly higher risk than the average activity. Before you sign any activity permission slip, make sure that you fully understand the scope of the activity. If you do not, please contact the Scoutmaster, Committee Chair, or designated leaders for the particular event for more information.

For the health and safety of each member of the troop we will use (but not be limited to) the rules described in this booklet as a guide. The action taken to enforce these rules will depend on the infraction that occurred.

The health of the scouts is very important to us as well. In order to attend activities and outings as a troop we require a completed Class II medical form be filled out for every scout every three years with a Class 1 form updated every year (the same forms required by Boy Scouts of America for

camping at council camps.) These forms will be distributed via the troop and the update date will be the first Monday of June.

All outings require at least two adult leaders to be present, with at least one registered with the BSA. The BSA "two deep leadership" policy will pertain to all troop functions. Troop 125 is fortunate to have many dedicated leaders, most of which have experience camping and/or have successfully completed the B.S.A. Scoutmaster Fundamental and outdoor training.

Permission Slips

Permission slips will either be sent home in a Newsletter, emailed electronically or handed out to the Scouts at a Troop Meeting. In order to allow for proper planning, the permission slip must be turned in two weeks prior to participation in each outing, whether one day or longer. These slips must be signed by a parent or guardian and will be collected two meetings prior to leaving. The permission slips are used to indicate your approval of your scout's attendance at a particular event and authorize the adult leader in charge to seek medical assistance should a Scout incur an accident or become ill. Depending on the seriousness of the problem, parents may or may not be notified at the time of treatment. Any permission slip that is signed by anyone other than the parent or guardian will not be accepted.

Any boy not furnishing his **signed** slip will have to be left behind, and any consequences from this will be the responsibility of the boy and/or parents.

Camp-Out Guidelines

In the interest of the safety of all Scouts, as well as the enjoyment and successful learning experience of the Scouting program, common sense and good conduct is required at **all** times.

When gathering for a camp out after 5:00 PM on Friday evenings, the Troop will not prepare a dinner. Please see that your son is well fed before arrival or that he has a bag dinner with him for that evening. A small snack for later that evening is also encouraged, although it should be something that will be eaten in its entirety before lights-out as we do not allow food in the tents.

Scouts are expected to arrive and wait in Patrols with their camping equipment until transportation is ready for loading.

The following special rules should be noted:

- Tree or fence climbing will not be allowed without specific leader permission.
- Participation in waterfront activities will only be allowed with proper supervision
- Throwing of any objects (rocks, branches) is not allowed
- The use and carrying of cutting tools (knife, axe, etc.) without successful completion of Totin Chip Training is not allowed. Saws and axes will only be used in a defined axe yard and under adult or Scout Instructor supervision.
- Food should not be left in tents. Most of the time we will be in areas where small animals, like racoons, can be around and may try to enter tents where they can smell food.
- No combustible material (Liquid fuel, propane, etc.) or open flames (lanterns, candles, matches) allowed in or within 10 feet of tents.
- Sheath or hunting knives or folding LOCK BLADE KNIVES with a blade over 4" (inches) long are forbidden by B.S.A. regulations. The only exception being kitchen knives kept in the cooking area and retained in the patrol box.
- Shoes should be worn at all times outside of the Scouts tent. Bare feet are not allowed except in water-front areas, or for swimming. Sandal type shoes will be allowed for aquatic activities. At no time are open toe shoes to be worn in the axe yard or during meal preparation.
- Radios, tape players, cards and video games are not allowed with the exception of a very few outings that require long car trips, and then only when in the car and when connected to earphones. If the Scoutmaster feels that this privilege is being abused, the item will be taken and returned to the Scout's parent at the end of the camp out.

- Matches, when necessary, will be provided by the Adult Leaders. Scouts are **not** to carry butane lighters or matches on their person.
- Riding on the OUTSIDE of any motor vehicle is not allowed. This restriction includes hanging or riding on bumpers, in trailers, in the beds of pickups, etc.
- Scouts should respect the campsite of neighboring campers and are not to walk in or through another campsite without permission of the other campers.
- Receptacles for trash are provided at each Patrol Site and any trash found on the ground should be placed in a proper container. The campsite WILL be left as clean, or cleaner, than it was found. After all equipment is loaded at the end of a camp out or activity, a walk-through of the campsite to pick up any and all trash is conducted by all Troop members.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE ABOVE CAMPING GUIDELINES MAY RESULT IN THE SCOUT NOT BEING PERMITTED TO GO ON THE NEXT CAMPING TRIP.

Purchasing Food for a Camp-out

Each Scout will be periodically asked to purchase the food and be the head cook for his Patrol for a camp-out. This is a Tenderfoot Rank requirement. The Scout will have an assistant cook for the weekend. We encourage Scouts to plan healthy meals and snacks. The food is most often cooked on propane stoves with equipment provided by the Troop, so a wide variety of food may be prepared. We also have several Dutch Ovens which are great for stews, casseroles and even cakes.

Chapter 10 of the Boy Scout Handbook (Eleventh Edition) has guidelines for amounts of food to purchase as well as ideas for menu planning. The Scoutmaster has other books available for planning Camp menus. The Troop Guide and/or an Assistant Scoutmaster (Food Manager) give guidance to the Scouts in the planning for a camp-out.

Parents, please give your son guidance in the collecting and use of coupons and sales items so that the money may be well spent and there is plenty of food for each Scout in the patrol. We encourage the Scouts to

shop with a calculator and to be aware that they have a budget (as determined by the ASM) per Scout to prepare two breakfasts, two lunches, one dinner and snacks as appropriate. This money also includes items like aluminum foil, dish soap, paper towels, and steel wool pads. Some of these items will not need to be purchased for every camp out, because the Troop has a box with non-perishable items and a Scout may ask the ASM (Quartermaster) what is in that box to determine whether it is time to buy replacements. Generally, paper towels (3 - 4 rolls) should be bought for each camp out, but dish soap and steel wool pads may not be necessary.

Scouts are encouraged to cook meals from scratch, not just open cans and heat. Foods prepared from scratch have higher vitamin quantities than canned food and it gives the Scouts an opportunity to learn how to plan and cook healthy meals. Each meal should include the four (4) food groups.

It is recommended that food be **prepared as much as possible** before a camp-out. Food purchase for a Friday night camp out departure should be done on Wednesday or Thursday evening, depending on the amount of home pre-preparation that is necessary. For instance, if the menu calls for beef stew, the raw ingredients may be purchased on Wednesday and cooked and put together on Thursday. Any meat requiring cooking should be cooked at home and placed in a zipper-lock type bag. This cuts down on the amount of time it takes to prepare a meal at camp. Food that must be kept cold needs to be packed in coolers with ice for the weekend use. The Leaders monitor the coolers and purchase additional ice when needed.

Zip-lock bags work great for holding foods in the cooler as well as cutting down on the amount of trash that we generate. All most all foods that come in cardboard boxes also have plastic containers inside of them. Food should be removed from the cardboard box at home and if necessary, the cooking directions cut from the cardboard and the rest discarded at home. Most of the places we camp require that we haul out all trash that we generate and it is always helpful when we can minimize that amount.

Summer Camp

You can't take the "outing" out of Scouting. Our Troop attends a week of summer camp each year at Goshen Scout Camps, a nationally accredited Scout Camp. Summer camp provides advancement opportunities that simply can not be beat. Certain skills and merit badges may not be

available anywhere else. Every Scout (regardless of level of experience) is encouraged to participate in summer camp, if at all possible.

Summer Camp is an important experience where Scouts can learn much, advance greatly, and catch the *esprit de corps* of Boy Scout Troop 125. Every boy who comes back from a week at summer camp invariably feels more connected to the troop and proud of his affiliation with it.

This week of Summer Camp generally costs \$250.00 - \$300.00, depending upon when you reserve your space (includes meals and bus transportation).

High adventure trips. At this same Scout reservation is a High Adventure camp for Scouts 13 and over (and who have the rank of First Class) for a more challenging week. For even bigger challenges, eligible Scouts have the opportunity to attend National High Adventure Camps such as Florida Sea Base in Islamorada, FL, and Philmont Scout Ranch, in Cimmaron, NM.

Special Troop Programs

Arrow of Light Ceremonial Team

For many years, Troop 125 has had an Arrow-of-Light Ceremonial Team which performs an Indian Ritual Ceremony for neighboring Cub Scout packs. The ceremony is usually performed at the Pack's yearly Blue & Gold Banquet or other special event honoring the Webelos-To-Scout transition. The Ceremonial Team puts on an impressive presentation in full costume, honoring those Cub Scouts who have earned the "Arrow of Light" Award and who intend to move on into Boy Scouting. Troop 125 operates the Ceremonial Team as a fundraiser, and charges a fee to the Packs.

Scouting Jamboree On-The-Air (or "JOTA")

On the third full weekend in October of each year, Troop 125 hosts a Scouting Jamboree On-The-Air for Black Hill District Cub Scouts, and Boy and Girl Scouts. The Jamboree gives Scouts the opportunity to make friends around the United States and in other countries. Since its inception in 1957, the Jamboree and Amateur Radio have connected millions of Scouts and Guides across the globe. This is an international event which helps to interest scouts in technology and two-way radio communications.

Jamboree participants also learn about different regions and cultures around the world by contacting other scouts via voice and Morse code.

Advancement

Scouting is designed to be fun, but to get the full benefit of the program, boys are encouraged to advance in rank at their own pace. Much of Scouting is skill and experience based, and there are numerous ranks or levels of accomplishment, referred to as the "Trail to Eagle." They are designed to broaden a boy's outdoor skills and his awareness of his duties as an American citizen and as a leader. In addition, he will be exposed to a wide variety of potential career ideas and mentors and role models who will help him achieve more of his potential.

The program provided by Troop 125 provides each boy with the opportunity to learn skills and receive recognition in the form of rank advancement and merit badges. Advancement in the Scouting program rewards achievement and allows a Scout to be recognized for his work. The requirements for each of the seven ranks and the required merit badges are contained in the Boy Scout Handbook provided by the troop. The program provides opportunities for every boy to advance if he chooses to. Program plans can be and are often adjusted to accommodate those boys who require certain types of activities to permit them an opportunity to advance. Many requirements may be earned by participating in troop meetings, camp outs, and other activities. And the remainder can be earned at summer camp.

As you probably know, Eagle is the highest rank a boy can achieve in Scouting. The first level is that of Scout, followed by Tenderfoot, then Second Class, First Class, Star rank, Life rank, and finally Eagle. Each level is cumulative and progressive, in that boys are expected to accomplish even more at subsequent levels. In addition to skills and knowledge, most ranks require a certain period of active involvement in the troop to advance, or a minimum number of service hours, or a certain number of merit badges earned at the previous level. Each rank also involves a "Board of Review" and a Scoutmaster Conference. An overview of the progression thru the various ranks is provided in the next section.

Core parts of the advancement program are:

1. Actively participate in the troop. This involves attending meetings and outings. It also means that a Scout may have a specific job within the troop

and will perform that job to the best of his ability. An integral part of a Scout's growth is the ability to accept tasks of increasing responsibility and perform those tasks competently.

2. Show Scout Spirit. Each scout should live by the Scout Oath and Law and his words and actions should be consistent with these ideals.

3. Attain a specified skill level by meeting the specific requirements for rank or merit badges. Requirements for rank are often earned during patrol and troop activities and some requirements are covered during each camp out. Also, summer camp is an excellent time to demonstrate many of the basic Scouting skills needed on the road to First Class. Senior boys (rank of Star or above), other instructors and registered adult leaders are qualified to approve a scout's skill mastery. Details of the requirements for all rank advancement are listed in the Scout Handbook, which should be brought to every meeting and scout function.

4. Perform service hours or complete a service project. These include the troop's service to the community and sponsoring organization and Eagle service projects. The troop requires that the service requirement become incrementally more challenging as a Scout addresses Star and Life rank requirements so as to prepare the Scout to be a successful Eagle candidate.

5. Serve in a leadership position. One of the most important parts of the Scouting program is developing a Scout's leadership skills and confidence in managing others to complete a task or to meet a goal. A Scout's success in growing in leadership is a result of his desire to learn and grow, of his dedication to doing the best job that can be done and in his respect of and from the other scouts in the troop.

6. Arrange for and participate in a personal growth conference with the Scoutmaster or Asst. Scoutmaster. This is an opportunity to review accomplishments, set goals and deal with concerns and problems that the Scout may have. It is the Scout's responsibility to arrange the Scoutmaster conference.

7. Appear before a Board of Review. The Board of Review is not a test of rank requirements but a review of the Scout's experience in the troop, a discussion of his concerns and a check on the troop's program. It is the

Scout's responsibility to arrange a board of review through his Scoutmaster.

The Scout should appear in full Class A uniform and have his handbook with all advancement requirements properly approved.

SCOUT RANK

The first rank earned is Scout. The joining requirements require the boy to learn the basics of Boy Scouts, like the oath, law, slogan, etc. One requirement is to work with his parents through an abuse exercise contained in the front of the Boy Scout Handbook. Once the boy completes these requirements, he participates in a Scoutmaster Conference. The Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster reviews the boy's progress, makes sure the boy knows the basics, and discusses what the boy would like to do in Scouting.

TENDERFOOT, SECOND CLASS, FIRST CLASS

These, the next three ranks concentrate on outdoor, first aid, citizenship, swimming, and patrol skills. The requirements for these three ranks can be earned in any order, i.e., a boy could complete the cooking requirements for First Class rank before he earns the Tenderfoot or Second Class ranks. However, the ranks must be earned in order. The troop activities are oriented to giving the boys opportunities to complete these requirements. The summer camp that the troop attends also offers a full program for these ranks. There are some requirements that the parent can assist the boy in: physical fitness (Tenderfoot); swimming (2nd & 1st Class); visit with civic leader (1st Class); and drug awareness program (2nd Class). After completing each rank's requirements, the boy will then participate in a Scoutmaster's Conference and a Board of Review. The Board of Review consists of 2 to 4 Troop Committee members or parents who meet with the boy to determine how the boy is doing and to encourage further advancement.

MERIT BADGES (Needed to earn the higher ranks of Star, Life and Eagle)

Merit badges provide the boy an opportunity to learn skills or to be introduced to many subjects. There are specific requirements to earn each merit badge. The troop maintains a library of some merit badge pamphlets which a boy may borrow when working on a merit badge. There are two ways for boys to earn merit badges. Many merit badges are earned at

summer camp. A boy signs up for badges and attends classes taught by camp counselors. The second way to earn merit badges is through a troop or district merit badge counselor. Parents are encouraged to become counselors. Some counselors will have the boys work on their merit badge at troop meetings or camp outs. Others will schedule time for the boys to work on the badge away from troop activities. Counselors will not conduct meetings one-on-one, but rather will utilize a “buddy” system.

Steps for pursuing a Merit Badge:

- 1) Scouts planning to pursue merit badges are required to request a Merit Badge card from the Advancement Chairperson or Scoutmaster. They should also ask their fellow Scouts if anyone wishes to work on the same Merit Badge with them. It is B.S.A. Policy that No Scout should ever be alone with an adult, so we encourage Scouts to work together to complete Merit Badges whenever possible. The Troop Librarian maintains a list of Merit Badge Books that are owned by the Adult Leaders that may be borrowed by Troop members, they may also be borrowed from the Germantown Library, or be purchased at the Scout Shop in Bethesda.
- 2) The Advancement Chair or Scoutmaster will fill out the Merit Badge card with the name of a Merit Badge Counselor for that badge and return it to the Scout(s). Merit Badge counselors are adults that have a knowledge of the area they have signed up for (example Safety Merit badge counselor may be a Police Officer, a Fireman, etc.). The Troop maintains a list of counselors that are available, both within our Troop and in our District.
- 3) The **SCOUT** should then contact the Merit Badge counselor and make arrangements to meet with them. Sometimes, depending on the Merit Badge, a counselor may wish to meet with the Scout in the beginning to go over what He/She expects and again when the Scout feels that the requirements are complete to sign off on the Merit Badge Card. Each Merit Badge Counselor has agreed to abide by the stated requirements for a Merit Badge and may not add to or subtract from those requirements.

Note to Parents: We would like to keep our Merit Badge Counselors List within the troop up to date. If your hobbies or employment fall under one of the merit badge titles, please let our advancement chair or merit badge coordinator know and they will give you the necessary information needed to become a merit badge counselor. For your son's benefit, we suggest that you not serve as a merit badge counselor for your own Scout.

STAR and LIFE

The next two ranks require the boy to participate in troop activities, be in a leadership position, perform service to the community and earn merit badges. The troop requires that the service requirement become increasingly more challenging as a Scout addresses the Star and Life rank requirements. This prepares the Scout to be a successful Eagle candidate.

EAGLE

The highest rank in Boy Scouts is Eagle. The requirements are the most demanding and specific. The Scoutmaster and/or our "Trail to Eagle" Leader works directly with each Life Scout to help them understand these requirements. After being in a leadership position, earning 21 merit badges, participating in troop activities, and completing an Eagle Service Project, the boy will complete an Eagle Application and have a Scoutmaster's Conference. The application is then sent to the Council Office and an Eagle Board of Review will then be conducted. Unlike the Board of Review for other ranks, the Eagle Board of Review is conducted by our District.

Courts of Honor. Boys want to see the results of their advancements almost immediately, and recognition of achievement is a very important part of Scouting. That is why there are so many patches, awards, and opportunities for recognition. Awards are presented near the end of each weekly meeting when boys who have achieved advancement are recognized--typically at the meeting succeeding their completion. We also hold three formal Courts of Honor each year, February, June and October. **All Scouts and their families are asked to attend these special affairs.** This also provides an opportunity for each parent to learn more about the upcoming Troop events, as well as hear details of the past three months activities. All Scouts and Scouters are expected to be in full uniform.

The Eagle rank is always presented at a formal Eagle Scout Court of Honor, in a ceremony befitting the honor bestowed. The Eagle Scout recipient usually invites special family members and friends, teachers, youth pastors, and others who have influenced him to witness this auspicious event.

Again, the Troop Committee wishes to make the point that full parental support and attendance is very vital at each Court of Honor. The Troop Committee also reserves the right to withhold any advancement if the Scout is not in full uniform (Class A) or if his dues are not current.

Getting Involved as an Adult

Parent Participation

It is recognized that parent interest in scouting varies, for many reasons. However, we have found that the benefits that the Scout receives are directly proportionate to both the QUALITY and QUANTITY of parental support he receives. Please keep this in mind when your help is requested. In addition, encourage and assist your son in obtaining the most out of scouting. He needs your support! Any suggestions or questions that parents may have are more than welcome. Present them to any committee member or send a note with your son to any meeting. All parents are welcome to become a committee member or attend committee meetings.

In order to insure a successful program, parents will be required to occasionally participate in an outing and/or provide transportation. A minimum of two adult leaders and a minimum ratio of 1 adult per 8 Scouts is required on every outing. Consequently, parents are asked to help with transportation at least a couple times each year. If adequate transportation cannot be arranged for an event some Scouts may not be able to attend.

Periodically, Troop parent's meetings are held to solicit suggestions, comments and ideas on how to enhance the program. Troop financial information, as well as future Troop plans, is normally available at these meetings. **PLEASE BE THERE** -- The Troop needs your support.

Additionally, we encourage you to read the parent's guide "How to Protect your Children from Child Abuse and Drug Abuse" a supplement which can be found in the front of your son's Scout Handbook. This booklet tells you what you can do with your child to help prevent drug and/or child abuse.

Breaking the Ice

As with most organizations, it can sometimes be intimidating to come into a group with established relationships and routines. In most cases, the first

introduction to Troop 125 is through a visit to a regular Monday night troop meeting. You will notice first of all that it is a very busy time and place. It may look a bit chaotic, but much is going on. Approach an adult, introduce yourself, and most likely that is all you will need to do. Identify yourself as a parent of a new Scout, and we will gladly provide with needed information.

Beyond that, the best way to get involved is to start attending the meetings and activities. Register as an Assistant Scoutmaster and participate in one of the many On-Line or in person leader training programs available at the District and Council level. More information on this is available on request.

Yearly Planning Meeting

Each summer, usually in August, the troop leadership -- adults and boy leaders -- meets for a lengthy discussion to assess our efforts and establish the broad outline of the program for the upcoming year. This is one of these most important meetings of the year and you are invited to attend.

The More Parents Get Involved, The More Their Scout Advances

Boys who get support from home tend to advance farther and faster. Support can come in many different ways. Most of the boys in Scouting are not old enough to drive, and therefore have to have ways of getting to and from meetings and activities. As mentioned earlier, equipment and uniforms can get expensive, and boys will need some way of purchasing or acquiring these. Boys may need help learning to manage their time, energy, and money. Some merit badges even require that this be done in a family setting. And at some point, almost every boy has to be prodded and even pushed to reach the pinnacle. Discuss your son's progress and urge him on. It is not a race, however, and with planning, most boys can advance while fully enjoying the "Trail to Eagle." Nonetheless, there is an age restriction. Once a boy reaches his 18th birthday, he is no longer eligible to participate in Scouting as a boy. Boys and parents should be aware of the time requirements for advancement and plan accordingly.

Adult Resource Survey

Boy Scouting is for adults as well as boys. We invite you to offer your skills and interests so the best possible program can be developed for our Troop. In order to accomplish this, the Committee asks that you complete the

Adult Resource Survey which is included as an Appendix to this Guidebook. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated in this regard. Please return this survey to the Committee Chair or the Scoutmaster as soon as possible.

Driver Responsibility and Vehicle Safety

The troop uses the resource of the parents to provide the transportation and the leadership for our outings. When accepting this responsibility, we ask that as a leader you do your best to be an example of good scouting and act accordingly to the Scout Oath and Law as well as (but not limited to) the rules of this guidebook. You are being looked as a role model for our scouts. As a driver we demand that when you show up for driving for an outing that you and your vehicle are in good driving condition. We can not take the risk of anything less than that. The troop can not tolerate an impaired driver due to alcohol or drugs and a driver may be asked by the troop leadership not to drive if there is ANY concern that this may be a problem. If any parent has a concern that one of our drivers may be impaired please bring it to the attention of the leader in charge of the activity. Your son's safety is our first concern. Our motto: SAFETY FIRST

Any Scout who drives a vehicle to a Troop event or local camp out must be at least 16 years of age; possess a valid driver's license; and have his parents' or Guardian's permission. He will do so only in accordance with the provisions of the tour permit for the event. Upon reaching the destination, the Scout will park his car and leave it parked until it is time to return. He will not transport any other Scout to or from the event. The written authorization will be turned in to the Scoutmaster prior to departure. For all trips outside of our area, all drivers must be 18 years of age.

The Troop will travel to and from outings/ camp outs as a unit except when permission for alternate travel is granted by the Scoutmaster or the designated Leader in Charge. Parent cooperation is most appreciated.

Summary of the Role of Parents in Scouting

The parents or guardians of the members of Troop 125 are strongly encouraged to participate in their son's Scouting experience. This participation may be accomplished by providing rides to or from troop events when asked by the troop committee, by being an adult leader at an event, by volunteering as a uniformed adult leader such as an assistant

scoutmaster, by being involved in supervising the troop program, by being an active committee member. There are numerous opportunities for parents to share in and make successful the Scouting experience of their sons. The Committee Chair can answer any questions you may have.

Still Have Questions?

Please do not hesitate to ask them! Adult leaders are there to help not only the boys, but they also realize that one of the keys to the boy's success is the support and investment of the parents. We want you in Troop 125!

Scoutmaster: Philip A. Baker / (301) 428-1849 / pbaker464@comcast.net

Troop Committee Chair: Sal D'Alessio

Home Telephone: (301) 916-1899 / sal_dalessio@yahoo.com

Cell Phone (for Weekend Activities): (240) 994-7910

APPENDIX 1 ---- Troop 125 Adult Leader Positions

Administrative Officers

Charter Organization Representative (COR): Daniel E.J. Talmage

The Charter Organization is represented by the Charter Organization Representative (COR) who serves as the liaison between the Troop and the Churchill Community Foundation. The COR is appointed by and serves at the satisfaction of the chief executive of the Charter Organization.

Committee Chair (CC): Sal D'Alessio (trained)

The Troop Committee Chair (CC) is selected by the Charter Organization Representative (COR) to organize the Troop Committee. Serves at the satisfaction of the COR and the Troop Committee, and reports to the COR. The Troop Committee Chairman is responsible to insure that all Troop functions are properly delegated, coordinated and completed so that the Troop program is accomplished according to the policies of the BSA.

Duties include:

- Organize the Troop Committee to see that all functions are delegated, coordinated, and completed.
- Maintain a close relationship with the Chartered Organization Representative and the Scoutmaster
- Interpret national and local policies to the troop.
- Ensure the troop adheres to the policies of the Chartered Organization and the Boy Scouts of America.
- Prepare troop committee meeting agendas.
- Call, preside over, and promote attendance at monthly troop committee meetings and any special meetings that may be called.
- Ensure troop representation at monthly district Roundtable.
- Recruit top-notch, individuals for adult leadership.
- Become trained for position to include Troop Committee Training and Scoutmaster Fundamentals.
- Encourage adult leaders to get trained.
- Arrange for charter review and ensure on-time annual re-charter.

The Troop Committee meets at least quarterly to oversee the Troop administration, finances, records, programs, activities, and advancement. The Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters are part of the Committee. All parents are encouraged to attend the Troop Committee meetings.

Committee Member (Treasurer) – Janet Daly

Manages the finances of the troop. Writes all checks. Manages scout accounts for the boys.

Committee Member (Secretary) –

Keeps minutes of Committee Meetings and provides input to newsletter editor for articles. Ensures troop members have opportunities for training.

Committee Member (Advancement) –

Works to maintain advancement and attendance records. Assists SM with the coordination of Awards and the various Courts of Honor.

Committee Member (Newsletter editors) – Betty Harris

Produce the troop newsletter monthly. Encourage boys and adults to write articles for the newsletter. Review monthly newsflash for items of interest.

Committee Member (Arrow of Light Team) – John and Kathy Crapo

Organizes and coordinates Arrow of Light ceremonial team. Stores costumes and props. Contact person for Cub Scout packs that want to schedule the AOL ceremonial team. Recruits boys to join the AOL team.

Committee Member (Troop Webelos Resource Person) – Anna Schubert

Works closely with the Webelos den leader(s) of Pack 125 to use the talents, equipment, and know-how of the troop to help prepare Pack 125's Webelos Scouts and their families for a good Boy Scouting experience.

Committee Member (Popcorn / fundraising) –

Promotes and organizes troop fundraisers. Contact person for council and outside groups on fundraisers. "Friends of Scouting" point of contact.

Committee Member Trip / Travel coordinator –

Manages the transportation needs of the troop. Ensures all trips have adequate numbers of vehicles for participants and gear. Arranges trip permits with council and reservations with camping locations.

Committee Member (Uniform Exchange) – Roderick Lucas*

Stores and recycles used uniforms. Solicits donations of used uniforms.

* Roderick Lucas is also an ASM, and works with the Troop Historian.

Program Personnel

Scoutmaster (SM): **Phil Baker** (trained)

The Scoutmaster is selected and recruited by the Troop Committee and approved by the COR. The Scoutmaster must be at least 21 years of age. Serves at the satisfaction of the Troop Committee and the COR, and reports to the Troop Committee Chair. Duties include:

- Train and guide the Troop's Junior Leaders.
- Work with other responsible adults to bring Scouting to the boys.
- Use the Methods of Scouting to achieve the Aims of Scouting.
- Meet regularly with the Patrol Leaders Council (PLC) for training and coordination in planning Troop activities.
- Attend all Troop meetings, or if necessary arrange for a substitute.
- Attend Troop Committee meetings.
- Attend all campouts or arrange for a qualified adult substitute.
- Attend monthly district Roundtable or arrange for a adult substitute.
- Attend Eagle boards of review and introduce the Troop's Eagle candidates or arrange for a qualified adult substitute.
- Conduct scoutmaster conferences for all rank advancements or delegate to a qualified Assistant Scoutmaster (ASM).
- Delegate responsibilities to other adults (assistants)
- Coordinate an annual planning meeting with the Patrol Leaders Council (PLC) to plan the next years Troop activities. Present this plan to Troop Committee for approval.
- Build a strong program by using the methods in Scouting literature.
- Attend Scoutmaster Fundamentals training.
- Conduct all activities under qualified leadership, safe conditions, and under the policies of the chartered organization and BSA.
- Maintain a close relationship with the Charter Organization Representative and the Troop Committee Chairperson.

The Scoutmaster is the adult leader responsible for the image and program of the Troop. The Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters work directly with the Scouts. The importance of the Scoutmaster's job is reflected in the fact that the quality of his/her guidance will effect every youth in the Troop.

Assistant Scoutmasters (ASM) - assist the Scoutmaster in performing his or her duties in guiding the Troop Program, and provide two-deep leadership.

Our current ASMs positions are:

New Scout Advancements – **Steve Ward, ASM** (trained)

Works directly with younger scouts on requirements for Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class. Organizes other adults and older scouts and Troop Guides to work with younger scouts.

Indoor Program - **Sal D'Alessio, ASM** (trained)

Work with the PLC and Scoutmaster on weekly meetings.

Outdoor Program - **Ricardo Vera, ASM** (trained)

Work with the PLC and Scoutmaster to arrange outings.

Camping - **Phil Baker, SM** (trained)

Work with the PLC to arrange monthly camping outings.

Summer Camp / High Adventure –

Work with PLC and Scoutmaster on summer outdoor program. Coordinate summer camp (for all) and high adventure options (for boys who are 13 years old and have earned the rank of First Class).

Webelos To Scout Transition – **Jay Spencer, ASM**

Works with Cub Scout packs to recruit boys to join the troop. Organizes troop activities that aid recruitment and transition.

Quartermaster – **Paula Sind-Prunier, ASM** (trained)

Manages troop equipment. Organizes the storage shed as needed. Buys new equipment. Keeps and refills the propane tanks.

Food manager –

Works with boys on cooking requirements. Helps boys create menus and shopping lists. Organizes the boys while cooking and cleaning. Teaches boys to cook.

Advancement / Merit Badges - **Howard Lichtman, ASM** (trained)

Works directly with scouts on Merit Badges and requirements for Star and Life. Organizes merit badge counselors. Also works directly with older scouts on eagle required merit badges. Assists boys with the Eagle project planning and board of review.

APPENDIX 2 – Adult Resource Survey

Boy Scouting is for adults as well as boys. We invite you to offer your skills and interests so the best possible program can be developed for our Troop. In making this survey, the Troop Committee wishes to find ways you can enjoy using your talents to help our Scouts. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. Please complete & return this survey to Committee Chair.

Name _____ Home Phone _____

Street Address _____ Business Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Occupation _____

1. What are your favorite hobbies ? _____

2. What sports do you play ? _____

3. Would you be willing to assist the troop leaders occasionally ? _____

4. Please check the general areas in which you would be willing to help :

<input type="checkbox"/> Camping	<input type="checkbox"/> Typing <input type="checkbox"/> Book keeping
<input type="checkbox"/> Hikes	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing / art
<input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor activities	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation of scouts
<input type="checkbox"/> Troop meetings	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation of equipment
<input type="checkbox"/> Swimming supervision	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

SPECIAL PROGRAM ASSISTANCE

- I can participate in boards of review
- I have a station wagon or _____ truck
- I have a workshop
- I have family camping gear
- I have access to camping property
- I can make contacts for special trips and activities
- I can help with troop equipment
- I have access to a personal computer

5. Please check any Scouting skills you would be willing to teach.

- Rope work (knots and lashings)
- Outdoor Cooking
- First Aid
- Star study
- Map and compass use
- Conservation
- Aquatics
- Knife and axe handling
- Citizenship
- Camping

On the next page, please check off which Merit Badges you can help with.

MERIT BADGES

American Business	Energy	Photography
American Cultures	Engineering	Pioneering
American Heritage	Entrepreneur	Plant Science
American Labor	Environmental Sc.	Plumbing
Animal Science	Family Life	Pottery
Archeology	Farm Mechanics	Public Health
Archery	Fingerprinting	Public Speaking
Architecture	Fire Safety	Pulp and Paper
Art	First Aid	Radio
Astronomy	Fish & Wildlife Man	Railroading
Athletics	Fishing	Reading
Atomic Energy	Forestry	Reptile/Amphibian St
Auto Mechanics	Gardening	Rifle Shooting
Aviation	Genealogy	Rowing
Backpacking	Geology	Safety
Basketry	Golf	Salesmanship
Bird Study	Graphics Arts	Scholarship
Bugling	Hiking	Sculpture
Camping	Home Repairs	Shotgun Shooting
Canoeing	Horsemanship	Skating
Chemistry	Indian Lore	Skiing
Cinematography	Insect Study	Small Boat Sailing
Citizen...Community	Journalism	Soil & Water Conse.
Citizenship... Nation	Landscape Architect	Space Exploration
Citizenship... World	Law	Sports
Climbing	Leatherwork	Stamp Collecting
Coin Collecting	Lifesaving	Surveying
Collections	Mammal Study	Swimming
Communications	Medicine	Textile
Computers	Metalwork	Theater
Cooking	Model Design	Traffic Safety
Crime Prevention	Motorboating	Truck Transportation
Cycling	Music	Veterinary Medicine
Dentistry	Nature	Water Skiing
Disability Awareness	Oceanography	Weather
Dog Care	Orienteering	Whitewater
Drafting	Painting	Wilderness Survival
Electricity	Personal Fitness	Wood Carving
Electronics	Personal Managemnt	Woodwork
Emerg Preparedness	Pets	

APPENDIX 3 ---- Equipping your new Scout

In order to safely and comfortably start enjoying the Scout camping experience, certain minimal personal equipment is required. While group equipment; tents, stoves, lanterns etc., are provided and maintained by the troop, each boy is required to get and maintain his own personal equipment. Such gear may be had at various levels of quality or expense. Consult the personal equipment list in the Boy Scout handbook. In addition to the personal clothing items appropriate for the season, the troop suggests the following minimal equipment for your first campout. As you learn, you can upgrade, change or add to your stuff as you see fit. You must bring what you will need to the camp out. There are no spares to lend. This page addresses some of the basic gear required. There are always alternate things which could be used until you "gear up" properly to suit your needs. The Scoutmaster can help you with your questions.

The Boy Scout Handbook: Get one and start reading. Everything you will need to know is in it. Keep it in a plastic zip lock bag to protect it. The handbook is your basic source of info and the record of your achievements. Bring it to every scout function and protect it from damage. Don't forget to write your name in it. The personal equipment list noted inside is what you'll need.

Sleeping bag: Good sleeping bags can be had at discount stores or found at flea markets / tag sales. Your first bag should have a synthetic filling and be rated for about 40 degrees F. cold. A great bag liner can be sewn up from a sheet to fit on the inside of the bag. Leave the top and 2/3 of one side of the liner open. This liner will keep your bag clean and make it more comfortable. When we go winter camping you might need to bring a few blankets and blanket pins and a wool hat for your head when sleeping. Subzero and costly down bags are really not required. A stuff sack will be required to protect your bag during transport and storage. Plastic trash bags will not do.

Sleeping pad: (This is optional.) We sleep on the ground when we go camping. It is sometimes soft and level, usually it is not. The sleeping pad is the primary layer of insulation between the ground and the sleeping Scout. Even in warm weather, the ground will rob the sleeper of warmth unless a suitable insulator is used. The sleeping pad will be found to be useful not only as this important insulation but as a comfortable surface to sleep on. A basic closed cell foam pad can be had at low cost at most discount stores that offer camping gear. It will do fine to start. Make sure to buy or make a couple straps to keep it rolled up. Make a fabric drawstring bag to put it in to keep it clean.

Back pack with frame: You will eventually want to get a back pack for tote'n your stuff around. There is no need to run out and get one immediately. Look around at tag sales for something used to start. Most troop campouts can be packed for using a military style duffel bag available from military surplus stores etc. Another solution could be a large athletic style gear bag that can be purchased economically at discount stores in the luggage section. Learn to understand how the various types of packs work and the kinds of gear you will need to pack before buying something new. Good packs are expensive; their purchase should not be rushed into until you understand what you will need and how you will pack it. Parents should be aware that a fully loaded back packs

can weigh 30 pounds or more. Back packing is not an appropriate activity for all scouts, especially young scouts. Please work with your scout and our leaders to determine whether this activity is recommended for your scout.

Rain gear: An inexpensive plastic poncho will do to start. Keep it in a zip lock bag.

Boots: A pair of boots that fit is necessary for many camping locations as the ground is usually uneven. Boots should be laced up properly to support the ankles and to protect against falling injuries. They should be treated with a waterproofing coating which should be re-applied from time to time. Some may want to purchase boots sized a bit larger than we are today so that we can grow into them. This is fine. You will need some good socks to wear in layers to fill up the boots until you do grow and you will need to use them. Buy quality blends of fabrics in socks intended for hiking and reserve them for Scouting and camping. Take care of your feet and you'll always have fun at scout camps. If we go camping at district or council events or attend any district winter events, boots are required.

Flashlight: A flashlight you can drop and will still work is best. Always bring spare batteries and bulb. Store your flashlight with one of the cells in backwards. Should it turn on in your pack or in storage the batteries won't run down. Personal first aid kit: Make up a kit and keep it in a small zip lock bag in your gear. Contents are described in the Scout handbook.

Grooming kit: Comb, tooth brush and small tube of toothpaste, half a bar of soap in its own zip lock bag, medium size towel. Get a roll of toilet tissue when it's nearly at the end, about 1/4 inch thickness left, flatten it out and put it in a small zip lock bag. This should all fit in a large zip lock bag.

Folding knife: There is no need to rush out to buy your scout a folding or pocket knife. BSA policy requires that a boy learn safe knife, saw and hand ax usage before he may be permitted to use these tools in Scouting. These skills are learned among the Second Class rank requirements and their attainment is demonstrated by the award of a "Totin' Chip" card. No Scout may use an edged tool without possession of a Totin' Chip. BSA policy requires all knives carried by Scouts (adults and boys) to be a folding type. Sheath knives are specifically not permitted. When shopping for a folding knife, avoid the temptation to purchase a knife with numerous folding accessories. Most are useless in Scouting. A useful knife will have one or two short blades and perhaps a can opener and little more. Folding knives are to be carried in a belt pouch. Not in a pocket. A short piece of bright colored ribbon or twine should be tied onto the ring. This flag will permit your Scout to find his knife when it is dropped onto the forest floor.

Appendix 2 - Continued
EQUIPPING YOUR NEW SCOUT

APPENDIX 4 ---- Weekend Camping List

Camping Equipment (labeled with the Scouts' name)

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping Bag in a stuff sack | <input type="checkbox"/> Scout Handbook | <input type="checkbox"/> Pocketknife |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight w/extra batteries | <input type="checkbox"/> Foam sleeping pad | <input type="checkbox"/> Notebook, Pen or Pencil |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Duffel Bag or Back Pack | <input type="checkbox"/> Mess kit | <input type="checkbox"/> Mosquito repellent |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fork , Knife, Spoon | <input type="checkbox"/> Reusable Cup | <input type="checkbox"/> Canteen |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personal First Aid kit | <input type="checkbox"/> Sewing kit | <input type="checkbox"/> Souvenir Money |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pillow in a stuff sack or bag | <input type="checkbox"/> Watch | <input type="checkbox"/> Poncho/Rain Suit |

Clothing (labeling is encouraged)

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform (Shirt &Pants) | <input type="checkbox"/> belt | <input type="checkbox"/> Underwear (3 pair) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hat | <input type="checkbox"/> Socks (3 pair) | <input type="checkbox"/> T-shirts (2) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swimsuit in a zip-lock bag | <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking footwear | <input type="checkbox"/> Extra Pants |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shorts | <input type="checkbox"/> Extra pair of shoes | <input type="checkbox"/> Swim Shoes/Flip-flops |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jacket | <input type="checkbox"/> Wool Socks for hiking | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sleep Clothes (T-shirt & Gym Shorts) | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extra clothes depending on the weather/season | | |

Personal Hygiene

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Toilet paper in a zip-lock bag | <input type="checkbox"/> Wash cloth in a zip-lock bag |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Towel | <input type="checkbox"/> Soap in container or zip-lock bag |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comb or brush | <input type="checkbox"/> Toothbrush/ toothpaste |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Handkerchief or Kleenex | <input type="checkbox"/> Beach Towel |

Optional

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camera & film | <input type="checkbox"/> Watch | <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer book or Bible | <input type="checkbox"/> Munchies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Binoculars | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunglasses | <input type="checkbox"/> Camp Stool | <input type="checkbox"/> Compass |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medicines | <input type="checkbox"/> Board Game, book or other item to occupy time during rest periods | | |

APPENDIX 5 ---- What to Pack for Summer Camp

This list is intended to supplement the list in the Boy Scout Handbook.

Official Uniform parts: The uniform is an important part of Scout camp. All dinners and the evening ceremonies prior to dinner will require the Class `A' uniform and troop cap.

- Short sleeve shirt with council, troop, and rank insignia.
- Scout uniform shorts (bring your long pants as a back-up)
- Boy Scout belt
- Boy Scout socks
- Troop neckerchief
- Neckerchief slide
- Troop uniform cap
- Class `B' uniform shirt(s)

Should there be a financial obstacle in obtaining a full uniform for your scout, please consult with the Committee Chairman in order to discuss potential remedies. One such remedy is the "Uniform Exchange" where a limited number of sizes of "experienced" (used) uniform parts are available. Scouts are expected to keep their uniform neat between uses. Uniforms should be hung on hangers in your tent when not being used.

Personal gear: This is a general list, but your specific needs may vary.

- Personal first aid kit.
- Toilet kit: Tooth paste & brush, soap, shampoo, hand and bath towels (2), comb.
- Folding Scout knife (and your Totin' chip card. Can be earned at camp)
- Flash light, spare batteries and spare bulb.
- Day pack (book bag)
- Bug bite anti-itch stick or cream
- Non-aerosol insect repellent
- Camp cup
- Canteen or water bottle (empty)
- Boy Scout Handbook (store it in a zip lock bag)
- Laundry bag (could use one of the garbage bags below)
- Sleeping bag or blankets
- Pillow
- Small folding camp chair (optional)
- Mattress cover (optional, but helps keep your sleeping bag clean)
- Length of small line for cloths line (1/8 inch nylon) about 12 feet. 6 to 8 cloths pins.
- Pens, pencils, paper to write on. A pad to carry around to classes (In day pack)
- Fun book to read
- Quiet time camp games: Checkers, chess, cards etc.
- Several plastic cloths hangers
- Light coat or sweat shirt
- Bathing suit (everyone takes the swim test)
- Pajamas or sleeping gear
- Rain coat or poncho

Water shoes or old sneakers to wear to the waterfront for swimming (they will get dirty)
Pair of good sneakers for every day wear while in camp site. (Open toe shoes or sandals are not permitted at camp).

Pair of stout, well fitting & comfortable, water proofed hiking boots.

Socks (more that you think you will need)

Underwear for a week (think of your tent mate)

Casual shorts and T-shirts for everyday wear. (avoid shirts with obnoxious decoration)

One pair of long blue jeans or similar in case of cooler weather.

Fishing gear if you would like to fish in your spare time.

Merit badge pamphlets. (Sometimes the "trading post" is out.)

A couple large trash bags just in case.

Don't forget your "do-aheads" for the merit badges which require them.

Carving or whittling knife if you will be wood carving. (A toten chip card is required.)

Mosquito netting to cover bunk. (optional)

Camera and film (optional)

Flip flop sandals for shower (optional)

Sun screen lotion

Sun glasses (optional)

Stamps for letter(s) home. Pre-stamped and addressed envelopes work well.

O.K.; Now, what do I pack all this stuff in?? Summer camp (scout long term camping) requires a bit of a different approach to packing. As we're not going to be hiking the gear any great distance the back pack with frame is neither required nor has enough space in it. A container that permits your scout to get at his gear with ease and keep it neat is required. Protection from moisture and all the little things that live with us at camp is especially useful. Sufficient room in this container to move things around and to put all the stuff we collect at camp is also good. Plastic "under the bed" type storage containers and other such plastic containers work well. They ought to have a snap on type lid as the gear gets moved around with great energy. They need also to fit under the bunks which requires them to be no more than 13 inches tall.

Can I bring my video game and CD player? Only for the bus trip to and from camp. Otherwise, no electronic toys, games, radios, CD players, that requires batteries.

\$pending money: There is some opportunity to spend money at camp. Scouts will find a trading post in which various snacks, candy and ice cream may be purchased. This trading post is generally open with limited hours afternoons and evenings. Those scouts requiring kits for basketry, leatherwork or wood carving merit badges and pamphlets for these and others will generally find them here. Some souvenirs such as camp t-shirts, patches and the like will be found. Parents should know that not all materials will be available at all times and that some supplies are limited. For this reason, scouts who know that they will need certain merit badge pamphlets, craft kits and the like should consider purchasing them at our local Scout Service Center prior to leaving for camp. This will assure that your scout will have the materials he needs and will limit the amount of cash he will need to have on hand and permits him to avoid the press of many boys trying to buy all their supplies at once.

APPENDIX 5 - continued