TROOP 483 New Parents Orientation



What Scouting is All About

- Aims of Scouting three specific objectives:
 - character development,
 - citizenship training &
 - personal fitness.

The principal focus is on the boys and in making it fun





The Goals of Scouting

- The Aims of Boy Scouting
 - Character development
 - Citizenship training
 - Physical, mental, and emotional fitness

Aims are Delivered by these Methods

- Ideals
- Patrols
- Outdoor Programs
- Advancement
- Personal Growth
- Leadership Development
- Uniform
- Associations With Adults







History of Scouting

The Beginnings of Scouting Movement

- The 20th-century scouting movement was started by Robert Baden-Powell during the Boer War as a series of games and exercises to help men learn to live in the open under difficult conditions
- Baden-Powell developed a book called "Aids to Scouting" as a way of training recruits. This book became an instant hit among boys
- He conducted his first Boy Scout camp on Brownsea Island in 1907, and his book "Scouting for Boys" was published in 1908
- In England, Boy Scouts formally started on Jan. 24, 1908

History of Scouting in the USA

- In the United States the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) had been running camps for boys since 1884.
- In 1902 Ernest Thompson Seton founded the Tribe of Woodcraft Indians as a boy's organization. Three years later Daniel Carter Beard started a similar society called the Sons of Daniel Boone.
- February 8th, 1910 William Boyce, inspired by unknown Scout in London, incorporated BSA working with YMCA and Seton
- In 1910, Seton combined B-P "Scouting for Boys" and Woodcraft Manual to publish first BSA Handbook





BSA Organizational Overview

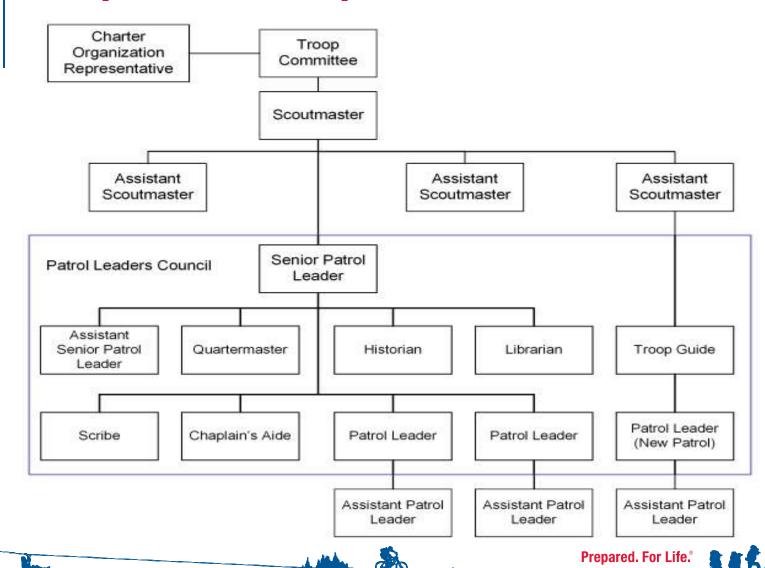
- The Scout Organization
 - National Council of Boy Scouts
 - Region
 - Local Council
 - Bay Area Council Galveston, TX
 - District
 - Thunderbird
 - Chartered Organization
 - Sacred Heart Catholic Church
 - Chartered Organization Rep.:
 - Ricky Torres
 - Troop Committee
 - Current Committee Chair:
 - Roger Hernandez
 - Troop
 - Scoutmaster:
 - John Vogel







Troop Leadership







Cub/Boy Scout Differences

- A Boy Scout <u>Troop</u> is not structured like a Cub <u>Pack</u>
- Boys have more responsibility
 - Planning, packing, setting up camp, cooking, activities
 - Scout is responsible for initiation of advancement
 - Parents <u>cannot</u> sign off. Adult Leaders (SM, ASM, CC, or CM), or Troop Leaders (SPL, ASPL, Troop Guide) are the only persons in the troop that that can sign off.

This is often the most difficult concept for both parents and leaders to grasp. Scouts will stumble and learn! Failure sometimes can be the best teacher.





Active Support

There are some things that the scout can't do by themselves without help.

Your Assignment:

- Get involved
- Help your scout to get to troop meetings and functions
- Prepare your scout for challenges ahead on the trail to Eagle





Patrol Method

A Troop is made up of Patrols, a Troop is not divided into Patrols

- Each Patrol operates as a self-sufficient unit.
- Each Patrol is encouraged to develop their own identity with a Patrol flag and yell.
- Each Patrol will utilize a duty roster to distribute tasks across the team members and learn the value of teamwork
- Each Patrol will elect its own leadership (6 month term) to guide and manage the Patrol (Patrol Leader (PL) and Assistant PL)
- Patrol leaders will attend monthly planning meetings (PLC) and represent their patrol & are responsible for patrol communications.
- Adults do NOT run the patrols.
- Depending on attendance, patrols may be combined for activities.
- Patrol leaders will make mistakes. This is a learning activity. Each boy will get their opportunity to lead and to learn how to lead effectively.





Scout's Leadership within Troop

- Patrols (A Troop is made up of Scouts in Patrols)
 - Grouping of six or more boys who work together. Each patrol elects its own boy leader, called a patrol leader.











Troop Youth Leaders

- The troop is actually run by its boy leaders. With the guidance of the Scoutmaster and his assistants, they plan the program, conduct troop meetings, and provide leadership among their peers.
- Senior patrol leader top junior leader in the troop. He leads the patrol leaders' council and, in consultation with the Scoutmaster, appoints other junior leaders and assigns specific responsibilities as needed.
- Assistant senior patrol leader fills in for senior patrol leader in his absence. He is also responsible for training and giving direction to the quartermaster, scribe, troop historian, librarian, and instructors.
- Troop Historian collects and maintains troop memorabilia and information on former troop members.





Scout's Leadership within Troop

- Troop Youth Leaders (continued)
 - <u>Librarian</u> keeps troop books, pamphlets, magazines, audiovisuals, and merit badge counselor list available for use by troop members.
 - <u>Instructor</u> teaches one or more advancement skills to troop members.
 - Chaplain Aide assists in troop religious services and promotes religious emblems program.
 - Junior assistant Scoutmaster Scout at least sixteen (16) years old who supervises and supports other boy leaders as assigned.
 - Patrol leader gives leadership to members of his patrol and represents them on the Green Bar (a/k/a patrol leaders' council).
 - Assistant patrol leader fills in for the patrol leader in his absence.
 - Troop guide advisor and guide to new Scout patrols.
 - Den chief works with a Cub Scout den as a guide.
 - Quartermaster responsible for troop supplies and equipment.
 - Scribe the troop secretary.









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Scout Leadership and Training

Leadership

- Scouts elect their own major leadership
 - Senior Patrol leader (entire troop)
 - Patrol leader (each Patrol)
 - Other positions appointed by Scout and adult leaders
- Troop elections held twice a year
 - Fall & spring

Scout Training

- Junior Leader Training following each Troop Election
- NYLT (National Youth Leader Training)
 - Scouts nominated by Scoutmaster (typically after 2nd year)
 - Once a year in Bay Area Council







Boy Scout Advancements

- Process by which Boy Scout Progresses
- Advancement is a means to an end, not an end in itself
 - Designed to help Scout have exciting and meaningful experience
 - Education and fun are key to advancement principles
 - Growth the Scout achieves overcoming obtainable goals
 - Scout through <u>First Class</u> Ranks focus on Scouting's basic skills
 - Goal of BSA and Troop 483: every Scout achieves First Class

Rank Advancements

- Scout
- Tenderfoot
- Second Class
- First Class
- Star
- Life
- Eagle







Advancement Principles

- Personal growth is the prime consideration in the program
- Learning by doing
- Each youth progresses at his own rate
- A badge is recognition of what a young person is able to do, not just a reward for what he has done
- Advancement encourages Scouting Ideals
- The parent's role is not to carry the scout
- The parent's role is to <u>monitor</u>, <u>motivate</u>, and <u>support</u> the scout





Boy Scout Rank Advancement

- Scoutmasters oversee Scout advancement
 - Advancement Coordinator maintains records and arranges
 Boards of Review and Courts of Honor
- There are four steps in the Boy Scout Advancement Process:
 - Learning
 - Testing
 - Reviewing
 - Recognition







Advancement - Merit Badges

Over 100 Boy Scout Merit Badges

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













Merit Badges

- All Merit Badges require approval from a Scoutmaster or Advancement Chair before starting
 - Ensures approved Merit Badge counselor is identified

 Qualified Merit Badge Counselors must approve













Scoutmaster Conferences

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





Board of Review

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





Recognition

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

 Eagle Scout rank is usually recognized by a very special Eagle Court of Honor





First Class Emphasis Program

- Troop 483 focuses on new Scout development and advancement to First Class within the first year
- From the <u>Scoutmaster Handbook</u>:
 - "A boy who advances to First Class within his first year in Scouting has a better-than-average chance of eventually becoming an Eagle Scout."
- BSA statistics confirm the Scout is likely to stay in Scouting for a longer period of time.





The "Ideal" First Scout Year

A noble goal is to get to First Class Scout by the end of this first year, but remember that every Scout is different

- The requirements are in the BSA Handbook.
- This will require participation in the following:
 - Troop's Meetings
 - Court of Honor
 - Camping *
 - Eagle Scout Service Projects
 - Community Service Projects
 - Troop Fund Raising
- Certain Merit Badges will help get items signed off for advancement





Uniforms

Class A Uniform (Field Uniform)

- Tan Boy Scout shirt, Scout pants or shorts (not jeans),
 Scout belt and BSA neckerchief
- Must wear Scout socks if wearing shorts
- Required for travel, Courts of Honor, Troop meetings, meals on some campouts, and other more formal events

Class B Uniform (Activity Uniform)

- Troop's t-shirt
- Khaki/olive green shorts or jeans can be substituted for Scout pants/shorts
- Worn during camping trips, service projects and other "activity" events
- Troop 483 T-shirts available for purchase from Troop (\$10 each)





Recommended Equipment

- **BSA Uniform (Required)**
- **Sleeping Bag**
 - Appropriate for Texas weather
- Sleeping Pad
 - Inflatable pad recommended
- **Tent**
 - Tents can be often shared or borrowed
 - Need to be able to pitch at night
- Mess Kit
- Water Bottle
- **Other Equipment**
- **Optional**
 - Backpacking, Hiking, Biking, Climbing, etc.

















Troop Outings

Camps and campouts

- Troop 483 camps an average of once each month during the school year
- Patrols usually plan, purchase, and cook their own meals
- At least one large campout every summer
- One high-adventure camp each summer
- Camp Karankawa (Fall/Winter Camp)

Regular campout procedures

- Annual planning & scheduling meetings
- Monthly planning at PLC and Troop Meetings
- Approx. 2 weeks before campout, turn in health forms, food \$\$, and other fees
- Transportation is generally pooled and arranged; usually \$??? per Scout (paid to drivers and helpers)









Other Important Stuff

Record Keeping

- Troop keeps Merit Badge & Advancement records in advancement system (Scoutbook.com)
- Critical that you also keep your own records
 - Campouts attended
 - Camped days, miles hiked/backpacked/floated
 - Service hours and projects
 - Leadership positions and time

Meetings

- Mondays: Scoutmaster Conferences & Board of Reviews @ 7 PM; Troop Meetings @ 7 PM Sharp
- Troop Committee (adults) meets on Mondays during the regular Troop Meetings @ 7 PM









Other Important Stuff, cont.

- Dues
 - Registration and re-chartering: \$100/yr.

Major fundraisers

- Performed by entire Troop
 - Spaghetti Dinner and Auction
 - Popcorn sales
 - Blue & Gold Banquet Catering
 - Participating Scouts receive credit to their accounts of percentage of funds raised, available to be used for Scouting-related activities

Merit Badge Fairs

Moody Gardens, Houston Museum, Sea Base Galveston, etc.

Discipline

 We expect boys to be boys – but expect the boys to live and act according to the Scout Oath and Law, and the Outdoor Code in an Ethical manner









Health and Wellness

Medicine Handling

- All medicine (prescription and non-prescription)
 must be labeled and given to Scoutmaster or
 designated Assistant Scoutmaster with written
 directions on a labeled Ziploc
- Prescription medicine must be in original containers

Physicals

- Required for Scouts and Adult Leadership
- Class 2 physical (best for young Scouts)
 - Good for 36 months
- Class 3 physical for any high adventure activity (age 12+)
 - Good for 12 months
 - Required for all adults over 40

Safety

Refer to Guide to Safe Scouting















Troop & Scout Communications

- Troop Website
 - Troop483.weebly.com
- Other websites
 - www.scouting.org (Boy Scouts of America)
 - www.bacbsa.org (Bay Area Council Galveston, TX)
 - <u>www.Scoutbook.com</u> (Troop's Record System)
- Scouts receive Boys' Life Magazine
- Lots of E-mail
- Text Messages through Scoutbook

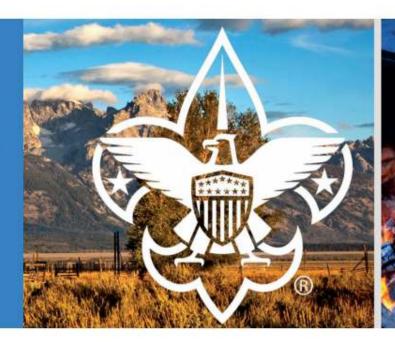


WELCOME!

Boy Scouts Troop 483 is chartered by the Sacred Heart Church in Manvel, TX. Troop 483 is part of the Thunderbird District within the Bay Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America and includes the area served by Alvin ISD, Angleton ISD and Danbury ISD. We are proud to welcome you to our Troop's website and encourage you to support scouting.

Hablamos Español!

CONTACT US!













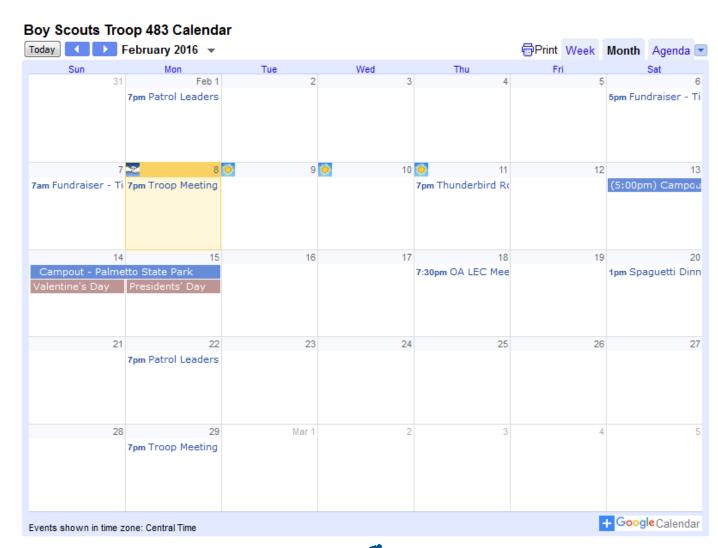




BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



Troop's Web Calendar





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You need what?

- Troop 483 needs from you:
 - Scouts:
 - BSA Boy Scout Application
 - Medical Form
 - □ Permission Slips (annual or specific for each outing)
 - Adults:
 - □ BSA Adult Leader Application
 - □ Medical Form (for camping; Class 3 if over 40)
 - □ Youth Protection Training (YPT)
 - □ Protecting God's Children (Sacred Heart Church)





Adult Training

- □ Troop Committee Challenge
- Merit Badge Counselor Orientation
- Position Specific Training





Typical Campout - Adults

- Adults are there to observe safety issues
- Adults are there to ask questions that make the boys think
- Adults are NOT there to "do for the boys"
- Adults are NOT there to tell the boys what to do
- Adults are there to provide guidance
- Typical costs for a campout:
 - Adult: \$25 ? Depending on activity
- Adults are welcome to come and a minimum are required for transportation, safety, and leadership needs
- Adults are asked to help organize/participate in at least 1 annual campout





How to Help

- Volunteer for one of the Adult Roles
 - Assistant Scoutmaster (examples & mentorship)
 - Merit Badge Counselors
 - Committee Members
 - Instructors (not managers or supervisors...)
 - Transportation

Put your hands in your pockets – we are not there to "do" for the boys





Service Projects

 Our scouts are encouraged to participate in service projects. The purpose of this activity is to build a sense of community.

"One influences community by being involved"

 The Troop will participate in various service projects. Service projects include Eagle projects for Scouts in our Troop as as well as District, Council, and community sponsored events.







