

Troop Overview and Parent Information
February 2012



BSA Troop 380
St. Patrick Church
Louisville, Kentucky

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February, 2012

Dear Parents and Scouts:

Troop 380 was chartered in May 1996, and since then we have strived to provide an environment that allows boys to become well-rounded individuals, exceptional citizens and men of honor and character. By following the aims of Scouting that consist of Character Development, Citizenship Training, and Mental and Physical Fitness we feel that our Scouts will be better prepared to meet the challenges they will face in today's world. By living by the Scout Oath and Scout Law, we embrace a set of ideals and standards that are outwardly displayed in the form of Scout Spirit.

As you watch our young men and boys guide themselves through various scout meetings and functions, it is important to understand we strongly embrace the idea of a "scout led troop". What this means is the boys make the decisions, run the meetings, organize the events, make the occasional mistake, and hopefully develop skills that make them better sons, students, Scouts, and most importantly, responsible leaders.

One of the most important items your son will need is the twelfth edition of BOY SCOUT HANDBOOK. I cannot stress enough, the importance of this handbook for your son's success in scouting. As a parent, please take time to read through it. It is also available online at <http://www.bsahandbook.org/>

The scout uniform (*Full Field Dress*) is also a requirement that should be worn to each meeting, as well as National, Council, District, and many troop activities. During the summer months, Scouts decide to wear Troop T-shirts (*Activity Dress*) to meetings.

Outings are planned regardless of weather. Some of our scouts' fondest memories are of unusual conditions and experiences encountered in challenging weather. Scouts are expected to "Be Prepared" on outings so your son should have proper camping gear including, warm sleeping bag, boots, and rain coat... That being said, adults on an outing are there to make sure the scouts aren't exposed to unreasonable hardship, especially our newer scouts. Safety is always our primary concern.

Troop 380 also has its own website, www.bsa380.com, which has many features that are very helpful to the scouts and parents of the troop. Please take some time to visit the site to see what it has to offer, especially the Troop 380 calendar. Most of the troop updates and event information are sent via e-mail, so it is to everyone's advantage that you have an email address for you or your son that gets checked a few times each week.

Troop 380 understands boys are involved in activities other than scouting. If your son is unable to make a troop meeting or an event he has previously indicated he will attend, we ask your son to advise his Patrol Leader. Please help to remind him of this responsibility.

TROOP 380 WOULD LIKE TO SEE ALL PARENTS TO BE ACTIVE IN THE TROOP.

There are many opportunities for parents to define their active roles such as outdoor programs, advancement, merit badge instruction, social events, fundraising, or service activities. While we strongly embrace the concept of a scout led troop, we also realize that parental support and participation in defined roles is an absolute necessity in our formula for success. For instance, in past years we found ourselves playing balloon volleyball with a group of seniors in September, rappelling down a 120 foot cliff in the Red River Gorge in November, camping out inside a cave, serving the homeless at the Salvation Army or St Vincent DePaul, and removing invasive plants from the Blackacre Nature Preserve.

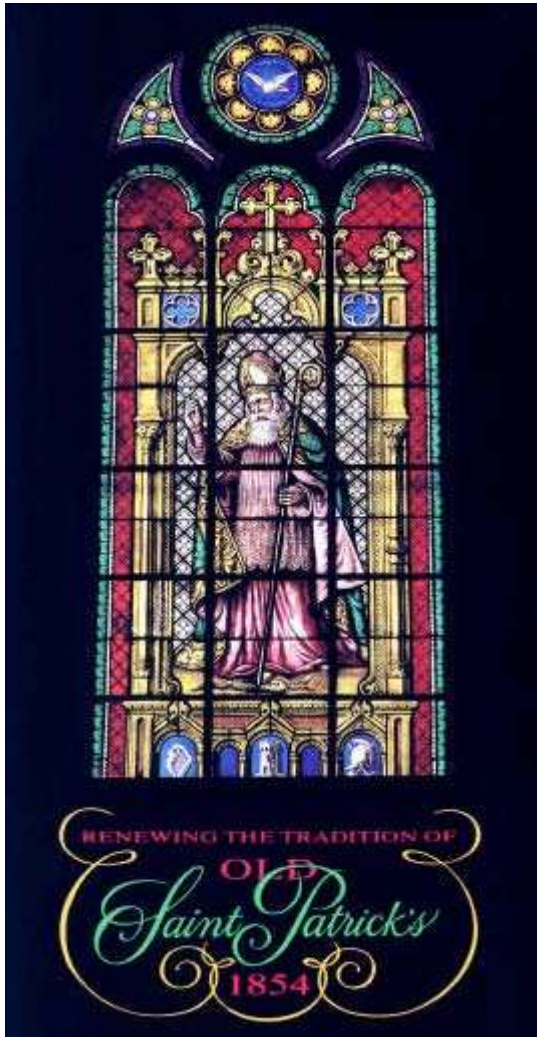
Again, welcome to Troop 380. The privilege of helping shape young minds into productive adults that will carry on the over one hundred years of scouting tradition is something I look forward to at each scouting event I attend. I hope you catch that spirit and we look forward to a long and prosperous relationship with your family.

Sincerely

Bob Hughes, Scoutmaster

Troop Background

Troop Background and History



St. Patrick Church was founded in June 1988 with Father Jack Schindler assigned as our first pastor. Masses were celebrated at Eastwood Community Center and at United Faith Church on Saturday evenings. The following year we moved into a warehouse on Aiken Road. Then in August 1993 the church moved to its current location. The parish school also opened that same year. During the following years the parish, the facilities, and the school have grown. Our permanent church was dedicated in the fall of 2002.

Cub Scout Pack 380 formed shortly after the school opened. In 1996 after our second year Webelos earned their Arrow of Light Award the parish was asked to charter Boy Scout Troop 380. Frank Ruley was the Troop's first Scoutmaster, followed by Rick Ryan a few years later. Today Bob Hughes serves as our Scoutmaster.

While Troop 380 is chartered by St. Patrick Church, it is comprised of boys and adult leaders from the surrounding area, regardless of faith. Our troop has grown and so have our scouts. We are proud to have more than 30 of our young men earn the highest rank in Scouting, that of Eagle Scout.

Program Overview and Highlights

Trained leadership, active parish involvement, community service, and use of Scouting methods are all essential elements to a quality-Scouting program. It is the goal of Troop 380 to continually focus on these elements to provide a FUN program for the Scouts.

Trained Leadership

Trained leadership for both the adults and the youth is an essential aspect of a quality-Scouting program. Several of the adult leaders have completed the BSA sponsored New Leader Essentials, Leader Specific Training, Outdoor Skills, and the Wood Badge program. They continue to pursue opportunities to enhance their skills in an effort to provide a wider range of experiences for the scouts. Interested parents are encouraged to attend these training programs as well. Many of them are available online.

The training foundation of Troop 380 doesn't end with its adult leaders. Many of our older Scouts have completed the Council National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) program. Allowing the scouts to grow in their leadership roles and responsibilities is a critical part of our program. The leadership skills and Scouting values established in our youth are keys elements of Troop 380's mission.

Active Parish Involvement

St. Patrick Church, as our Chartered Organization, is critical to the success of Troop 380. Members of the church staff play a key role with the troop whether it be by holding a position on the Troop Committee or serving in a training and development role helping the Scouts earn the Ad Altare Dei religious emblems.

Many of our adult leaders are also active members of the parish. They are involved in the religious formation activities and service organizations within the parish. This parish involvement together with our Chartered Organization Representative keeps us informed of activities within our charter organization. Whenever possible, Troop 380 participates in parish activities such as the annual picnic and seasonal landscaping cleanups.

Community Service

Scouting reaches beyond the charter organization. As both a troop and as individuals, the Scouts of Troop 380 have been involved in a variety of activities that serve the community at large. These activities are selected by the Scouts and vary from year to year. They've helped clean up Bear Grass creek, have played games at St Vincent DePaul

Ozanam Center, and clean up and repaint the play grounds at St Patrick. As senior Scouts organize their Eagle projects, which are by definition service projects to the greater community, other Troop members are recruited to execute them.

Scouts also participate in programs to help BSA. Many volunteer hours on Engineering Days at Camp Crooked Creek and Tunnel Mill, our two local Boy Scout camps. Others are active members of the Order of the Arrow and provide similar efforts to support council events. As a fundraiser activity, Troop 380 serves the BSA by participating in the annual popcorn sales, which helps fund the local council, as well as our troop.

Use of Scouting Methods

The basic tenets of Scouting – the patrol method with a scout led troop, a strong outdoors program, and use of BSA leadership skills all contribute to the success of Troop 380's Scouting program. New Scouts are assigned Troop Guides and each patrol has an adult patrol coach. Troop Guides and patrol coaches work closely with the scouts to monitor progress toward skill development and rank advancement. Our key emphasis, though, is development of values, character, and commitment to the 12 points of the Scout Law.

Troop 380 maintains a year round program. In early fall, the Scouts plan events for the upcoming year with each month having one outdoor overnight activity. Often the purpose of the events is to develop Scouting skills needed for rank advancement or merit badge requirements. Patrol activities are also encouraged. Some of our older Scouts also participate in high adventure activities. These Scouts have attended a 12 day backpacking trip at Philmont in New Mexico, and the high adventure camp at Sea Base in the Florida Keys. The troop attends a weeklong summer camp locally the last week in July each year and has supplemented this experience with an out-of-council summer camp in the past.

The activity level of Troop 380 is maintained as a result of its active adult leadership. Scout leaders and parents engage themselves in administration of the Troop and also facilitate Scout skill training and in the teaching of merit badges.

Duty to God

Duty to God is a fundamental component of Troop 380's activities. We believe the Scouting program should strengthen each young man's relationship with God through his every day actions, whether within or outside of the Scouting program.

Several of our adults are trained and registered as religious counselors responsible for the facilitation of Catholic Scout religious award training. Many of our Scouts have earned the Ad Altare Dei emblem. Similar religious emblems can be earned for a wide variety of other religions and faiths. While sponsored by St. Patrick's Church, the Troop maintains a diversity of religions and faiths.

Duty to God manifests itself not only through individual and Troop service efforts, but also in smaller ways such as grace before meals and prayers before each outing. Sunday morning campouts include a prayer service. While at summer camp many of our Scouts participate in morning vespers and the Tuesday evening service.

Membership and Program Growth

BSA Troop 380 is still relatively new and growing. We currently have over 55 young men registered, ranging in age from 11 to 17, with several of our former Scouts now participating as Assistant Scoutmasters. The continued success of the program is due to many factors including:

1. Active involvement of parents in the program.
2. Dedicated and trained Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters
3. Use of BSA sponsored adult training opportunities to deepen adult understanding of the Scouting program and its ideals.

Growth of the Troop comes mainly from the transitioning of Webelos from the Parish Cub Scout Pack 380, however any potential Boy Scout is welcome to visit a Troop meeting and decide if it is a good fit for him and his family.

Parent Information

Introduction

All who have meditated on the art of governing mankind are convinced that the fate of empires depends on the education of youth.

• *Aristotle*

Welcome to the Boy Scouts of America! By becoming the parent of a Boy Scout, you are setting your son out on the grand adventure of Scouting. This is a tremendously important and rewarding endeavor that you will be able to share with him.

What is it all about? What will you be expected to do? What does it cost? We have prepared this section to answer these questions.

The following pages describe the organization of a Troop and the advancement pattern that each scout will follow. Reading this will help you understand how your son can progress through the ranks with your help. It will help you understand how you can help and what the various adult volunteers are doing to help the Troop.

What is it all about?

There are three aims to Scouting:

- Aim I – To build character
- Aim II – To foster citizenship
- Aim III – To develop fitness

These three ideals are the bedrock of the American Scouting movement that represents the long-term outcomes we want for every scout.

It is the mission of the Boy Scouts of America to serve others by helping to instill values in young people, and in other ways to prepare them to make ethical choices over their lifetime in achieving their full potential.

The values we strive to instill are based on those found in the Boy Scout Oath and Law.
Scout Law Scout Oath

Scout Law

A Scout is:
Trustworthy
Loyal
Helpful
Friendly
Courteous
Kind
Obedient
Cheerful
Thrifty
Brave
Clean
Reverent

Scout Oath

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.

Since 1910, these principles have been taught in an atmosphere of recreation and fun that allow young people to develop self-confidence, leadership, and moral character. More and more men, trained as Scouts, are taking their places in today's world as responsible adult leaders. Men who earned badges as Scouts sit on the Supreme Court and in both chambers of Congress. Others hold important offices in government, business, and industry. In fact most of the members of Congress were Scouts, as well as most of the astronauts who have walked on the moon. The long list of famous Scouts includes:

- President John F. Kennedy
- President Gerald Ford (Eagle Scout)
- J. William Marriott, Jr. (Eagle Scout) – President, Marriott Corp.
- Sam M. Walton (Eagle Scout) – Former Chairman and CEO, Walmart
- Steven Spielberg (Eagle Scout)
- Neil Armstrong (Eagle Scout) – First man on the moon
- William C. DeVries (Eagle Scout) – Transplanted first artificial heart
- Barber B. Conable (Eagle Scout) – President, World Bank

The Boys Scouts of America is the largest youth oriented organization in the United States. More than 4 million scouts and leaders are currently registered in the Boys Scouts of America.

Unlike Cub Scouting which many of you are familiar with, Boy Scouting is a youth-lead organization. The scouts learn how to organize and lead the Troop. After training, and with supervision from the adult leaders, the scouts run the show.

The scouts in the Troop will be working towards their First Class and ultimately their Eagle ranks. As they travel on their trail to Eagle they will not only learn how to lead a team to a goal, but they will actually lead teams of Scouts in a number of situations. Many Eagle Scouts put their accomplishments on their resumes and find they are often considered in obtaining acceptance into college or the work force.

Boy Scouting also provides for growth of moral strength and character, teaches citizenship, and enhances the development of physical, mental, and emotional fitness. This is all done in the spirit of fun and adventure.

Please take a few minutes to turn to Page 1 of your son's Boy Scout Handbook and read:

“Adventure, learning, challenge, responsibility – the promises of Scouting are all this and more. Are you ready for the adventure to begin? Then turn the page and let's get started.”

The Basics

At first the size and active nature of the Troop may be a bit overwhelming to new Scouts and Scout Parents. However, it's our intent to acclimate you quickly to the Troop program, immediately immerse new Scouts in Scouting activities, and do everything possible to assist in becoming part of the Troop 380 Scouting family.

To get both Scouts and Scout Parents off on the "right foot", the following summarizes the basic information you need to get started:

Troop Meetings

Troop 380 meets year-round most Sunday nights in the cafeteria of St. Patrick School. Meetings begin promptly at 7:00 PM and last typically until 8:30 PM. At times, merit badge "sessions" are conducted prior to the Troop meeting, usually beginning at 6:00 PM. The Troop meets every Sunday, unless otherwise indicated.

Participation

The Adult Leadership and Patrol Leaders Council recognize that many Scouts and their families pursue various activities and have other obligations throughout the year. Troop 380 supports the interests of the Scouts and Adult Leadership and recognizes that conflicts will occur, but also embraces the concept that diverse interests strengthen the Troop overall. Open communication and decisions between Scouting activities, school activities, sports, music, church/spiritual activities, family time, etc. are part of life and help to develop each Scout's ability to maintain a healthy life balance.

Each Scout is encouraged to recognize and decide on the priorities between various activities and individual responsibilities with regard to Scout meetings, events and outings, and advancement and Merit Badge requirements pursuit. While this is sometimes a difficult undertaking, and often requires a bit of parental assistance, it is the hope of Troop 380 that it will better prepare each of our Scouts for similar decisions later in life.

It is our hope that every young man joining Troop 380 finds the program interesting and fun, and looks forward to becoming an active member of the Scouting program. We encourage each scout to meet the following recommended guidelines to maintain their position as an active Scout in Troop 380:

1. Attend 75% of Troop meetings. Troop meeting participation is essential to help the Scout build Scouting skills, plan upcoming activities, learn to work as a Patrol, and provide an opportunity for leadership. (If for some reason a Scout cannot meet these guidelines he should communicate with the Senior Patrol Leader and Scoutmaster).

2. Attend 50% of Troop 380 overnight campouts. (This does not include summer camps. All scouts are encouraged to attend summer camp, but this is not mandatory.) Boy Scouting is designed to take place outdoors. It is in the outdoors that Scouts share responsibilities and learn to live with each other. It is here that the skills and activities learned and practiced at Troop meetings come alive with a purpose. Activities and outings are planned to provide an opportunity to develop Scouting skills and to meet the many requirements for rank advancement. (Again, if for some reason a Scout cannot meet these guidelines he should communicate with the Senior Patrol Leader and Scoutmaster).

As in life, we expect our youth leadership to lead by example, and meet or exceed these guidelines.

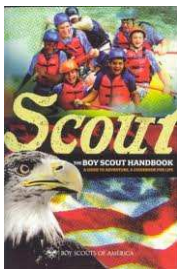
Uniform

Troop 380 requires all Scouts to wear Field Dress or “Class A” uniform to all Troop meetings, campouts, and when the Troop is traveling to, or from, any event. “Class A” uniform for our Troop consists of the official Scout shirt, Scout pants, Scout socks, and Scout belt. Troop 380 does not routinely wear neckerchiefs, although they are appropriate for the more official occasions such as Courts of Honor, and are **required** for a Board of Review.

The Scout uniform helps to achieve the objectives of Scouting. The uniform by itself cannot make a good Scout or a good Troop, but its use has been proven to improve both the Scout and the Troop because it is a visible symbol of Scouting and unity.

At times, you’ll hear reference to a “Class B” uniform. Instead of the tan Scout shirt the Troop 380 tee shirt or other approved Scout tee shirt is worn. The Scout may wear the tee shirt to meetings when approved by the Patrol Leaders Council.

Handbook



The 12th edition of the Boy Scout Handbook serves as each scout’s guide to rank advancement requirements and the primary reference tool to both the Scouting and life skills embodied in the Scouting program. Scouts are required to have a personal copy of the handbook and should bring it to every Scout meeting and outdoor activity. Each scout’s rank advancement will be recorded in his handbook.

Medical Background

Upon joining, we ask each Scout Parent to provide some basic medical background about the Scout. Information such as allergies and regularly ingested medications are important issues for Troop leaders, especially when camping with new Scouts. The BSA Annual Health and Medical Record form is used to compile this information, and a copy of the form is included with your introductory materials.

Along with the BSA Medical Form, the Troop uses a Routine Drug Administration Record to ensure that Scouts who regularly take medications will do so while on outings with the Troop. Along with the Medical Form, these documents provide crucial information to first responders in the unlikely event of a medical emergency, and help the Troop accommodate Scouts who have special needs

Scouting is Outing!

Take the outing out of Scouting and you have nothing. Troop 380 maintains a year-round program that involves a weekend outing each month of the year. Parents should check the calendar of upcoming events on the Troop web page (www.bsa380.com). Scouts are reminded about the outings at the meetings and should sign up 2 to 3 weeks prior to the event so appropriate arrangements can be made.

Troop Organization

Troop 380 is a scout-run troop. Leadership is one of the key characteristics Scouting strives to develop in every young man, and every scout is provided an opportunity to participate in both shared and total leadership. Meetings are planned and conducted by the Patrol Leaders' Council and the Patrol Leader assigns patrol activities.

The Troop is divided into several patrols. The patrols generally consist of Scouts of similar age. For the most part, Scouts may stay in the same patrol throughout their Scouting career.

Understanding the concepts of leadership helps the scout accept the leadership of others and helps him to grow into a more responsible adult. The troop organization chart on the following page outlines the complete organization of the troop. The following is an outline of the duties of the key leaders within the troop:

The Chartered Organization

Your troop is "owned" by the chartered organization which receives a national charter yearly to use the Scouting program as a part of its youth work. These chartered organizations, which have goals compatible with those of the Boy Scouts of America,

include religious, educational, civic, fraternal, business, labor, governmental bodies, and professional associations.

Each chartered organization using the Scouting program provides a meeting place, selects a Scoutmaster, appoints a troop committee of at least three adults, and chooses a chartered organization representative.

The Troop Committee

The Troop Committee is the Troop's "Board of Directors" supporting the Troop Program and handling troop administration. The structure of our Troop Committee includes the positions of Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Outdoor Activity Coordinator, Advancement, Chaplin, Training, Equipment Coordinator, Public Relations and Hospitality. A full description of the Troop Committee, its roles and responsibilities can be found in the Troop Committee Guidebook.

Scoutmaster

The Scoutmaster is the adult leader responsible for the image and program of the Troop. The Scoutmaster and his Assistant Scoutmaster work directly with the Scouts. The general responsibilities of the Scoutmaster include:

- Train and guide scout leaders
- Work with other adult leaders to bring Scouting to boys
- Use the methods of Scouting to achieve the aims of Scouting.

Assistant Scoutmaster

Assistant Scoutmasters assist the Scoutmaster in the operation of the Troop. Assistant Scoutmasters are assigned program tasks by the Scoutmaster and provide guidance to the boy leadership. They also provide the required two deep leadership (two adult leaders present at every Boy Scout activity).

Senior Patrol Leader

The Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) is the boy 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.

Patrol Leader

The Patrol Leaders (PL) are responsible for giving leadership to the members of their patrols. They provide representation on the Patrol Leaders' Council. The PL is also responsible for working with their patrol and troop to coordinate the arrangements for any Troop events assigned to their patrol.

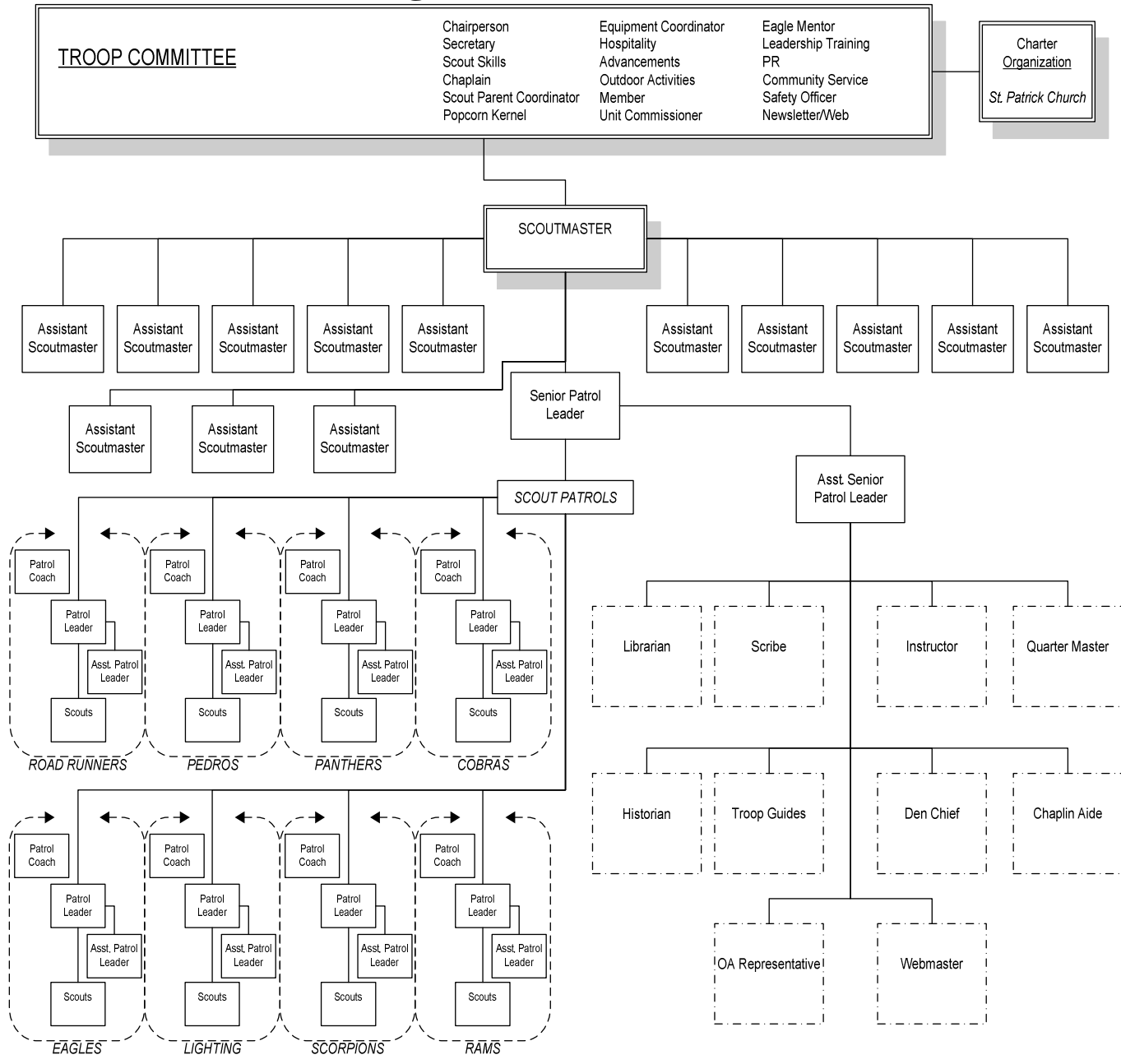
Assistant Patrol Leaders

Assistant Patrol Leaders help the PL run the patrol and fill in for him in his absence.

Patrol Coach

Patrol Coaches are adults assigned to each patrol to help direct and train patrol leaders in their leadership roles. They oversee the continual progress of Scouts in that patrol toward their rank advancements.

Troop Organization



Advancement

There are many definitions of advancement, but the Scouting definition might well be “the art of meeting a challenge.” For that is exactly what the Boy Scout advancement program asks the scouts to do. The Boy Scout advancement program provides a ladder of skills that a Scout climbs at his own pace. As he acquires these skills he moves up through a series of ranks, for which he is awarded badges: Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life, and Eagle. The higher he climbs the more challenging his tasks – and the more rewarding.

Achievements include:

- Learning skills that qualify for Scouting’s more rugged and exciting outdoor challenges.
- Developing body and mind, growing self-confidence, and helping younger Scouts climb the advancement ladder.
- Discovering how it feels to go further – in so many ways – than he ever thought he could.

We don’t look at advancement as a goal, but as a natural outcome of a planned, quality Troop program.

There are four steps of advancement:

- The Scout learns.
- The Scout is tested.
- The Scout is reviewed.
- The Scout is recognized.

Advancement through First Class

From the time the Scout enters the Troop through the time he earns advancement to First Class, he is learning basic Scouting skills to enable him to camp, swim, hike, cook, tie knots, administer first aid, and perform other tasks in the outdoors and to work as a member of a team. With those first steps the Scouts begin to build themselves physically, mentally, and morally. He will start to live the Scout Oath and Law. Soon he will learn the symbolism inherent in the Scout badge; he will learn that there are three points of the trefoil, which stand for the three parts of the Scout Oath: Duty to God and country, duty to others, and duty to himself. Our goal is for every Scout to achieve the rank of First Class within his first year in the Troop. This is a sign that the Scout has mastered the fundamentals of Scouting and can begin to start the long process of learning to lead others, refining the learned skills, and learning additional skills.

Advancement from First Class to Eagle

From the achievement of First Class through Eagle, the Scout will be demonstrating leadership, performing service projects, earning merit badges, and using the skills learned while achieving the rank of First Class. The next ranks he will earn are Star and Life. These ranks are harder to obtain than the earlier ranks, but are also more interesting for the older Scouts. Upon completion of all the requirements for Star and Life, the Scout will be eligible to work for Eagle. The original principals, the Scout Oath and Law now have fuller meaning for the Scout and their understanding of them is much greater. The final steps towards Eagle are filled with leadership experiences.

Ranks of Star, Life, and Eagle require the Scout to be active in the Troop for periods of four or six months depending on the rank being pursued. Please refer to pages 14-15 to understand the Troop Committee's expectation and thus "active" in this context. Details for the advancement requirements associated with each rank are contained in the Boy Scout Handbook. Each Scout is required to maintain a written record of achievement for each of the requirements to obtain completion of the rank. These requirements are listed in the rank requirements section of the Handbook. The Scout may maintain the same records in another written form if desired. When the Scout has demonstrated completion of the required skills list, a senior Scout (Star, Life or Eagle) or an adult leadership member will sign the record to officially recognize completion. A complete written history of achievement is a requirement for the awarding of the Eagle rank.

Merit Badges

The goal of the merit badge program is to expand a Scout's areas of interest and to encourage the Scout to meet and work with adults in a chosen subject. A Scout working with a registered merit badge counselor earns merit badges. The Scout is required to contact the counselor to arrange for times and places to meet with the counselor. The Scout is required to request a blue card from the Scoutmaster for the badge work. The merit badge counselor will sign the card as individual requirements for the badge are completed. After the badge is completed the card is given to the Troop Committee member responsible for rank advancement.

Boards of Review

When a Scout has completed all the requirements for a rank, he appears before a Board of Review composed of members of the Troop Committee. The purpose of the review is not an examination. Rather it is to determine the Scout's attitude and acceptance of Scouting's ideals; to ensure that the requirements have been met for advancement, to discuss the Scout's experiences in the Troop and the Troop's program, and to encourage him to keep working towards advancement. A Board of Review may also be held to counsel a scout about his lack of progress toward advancement.

Advancement Presentation and Courts of Honor

Immediate recognition best characterizes the manner in which Troop 380 presents merit badges and rank advancement to its Scouts. Typically, every Scout will be presented advancements on the Sunday evening after he either successfully passes a Board of Review or has completed the appropriate merit badge requirements. Troop 380 conducts a formal Court of Honor each quarter to formally recognize the achievements of all the Scouts during the previous three months. The Court of Honor is a public ceremony for the parents and all other interested individuals to attend.

Troop Advancement Procedures

We encourage all scouts to proceed in Scouting at their own pace with guidance from our leaders and patrol coaches. Each new boy is also assigned a mentor (older Scout) to assist in the process. Each scout must demonstrate his skill and knowledge of each new rank requirement prior to seeking approver's initials. Each scout should seek a qualified leader or senior Scout to which he can demonstrate his new skills and obtain approval for satisfactory completion of the requirement.

After all requirements for a given rank are completed and properly signed, the Scout should seek out one of the BSA trained Troop leaders for a Scoutmaster Conference. The Scoutmaster Conference is a meeting each scout has with a Troop Leader where the Scout's progress and future goals are discussed to ensure he is ready for a Board of Review. Once having received the approval of this leader, the Scout needs to request a Board of Review. This is done via the Troop web page (www.bsa380.com) or by phone. He will then be contacted for the time and date of the review.

Boards of Review are typically held once a month during the weekly Troop meeting. On the evening of the review, the Scout must be dressed in full Class A uniform or field dress including neckerchief and have his handbook with him. The Scout's Field Dress uniform should be in proper order with current rank badge and troop/council insignias in place. During the Board of Review, the Scout will be reviewed by three adult members of the Troop who will ask questions about his learning since joining the Scouting program. If skills and knowledge are successfully demonstrated during the BOR, the three-member panel will recommend that the scout receive his rank advancement. If additional work effort or preparation is required by the Scout, the panel will discuss their findings with the scout and ask him to reschedule another Board of Review at a later date.

Parents are encouraged to monitor merit badge progress and are asked to counsel their son to pursue Eagle Scout required merit badges over time, rather than putting them off and slowing their Scouting progress.

Administration

Scouting, like many other activities pursued by young men lately, does have some fees associated with participation. Troop 380 strives to keep Scouting as affordable as possible. Troop dues are collected in January. This and the money raised from the popcorn sales pay for our troop equipment. Total dues are \$22 per year for Scout dues and \$5 per month for outing fess – or a total annual amount of \$82.

The Troop Treasurer should be contacted regarding reimbursement and Troop practices for purchases that may be expensed.

Popcorn sales in November are our only fundraiser. The Troop gets to keep 33% of its gross sales and significantly helps in our acquisition of troop equipment.

Outdoor Program

Scouting is effective whenever we take advantage of its truth: The place where Scouting works best is also the place that the scouts want most – the outdoors. There are a number of good reasons why the outdoor program is so special; here are the four that are especially good:

1. The outdoors is the best place to learn outdoor skills (cooking on a campfire, swimming, etc.)
2. The outdoors is a great place for learning about living with others. When Scouts walk on the same trail, eat together, and share triumphs and troubles together, they learn some important things about patience, respect for other's viewpoints, and sharing. This is a learning process for all scouts. Skills like these are among the "personal growth" skills we want for every Scout.
3. On the trail or in camp, the scout's leaders will be challenged by the real thing – getting their patrols fed and sheltered, keeping them warm and safe, solving the problems they can, and knowing when to seek help. It's a time when leadership skills can deepen, patrols grow closer, and the troop grows together.
4. The outdoors is also a place where a Scout can get closer to nature. He will learn the "outdoor code" – the understanding and respect for the environment we all share, and develop an active concern for its health and a willingness to keep it healthy. We practice the skills of "Leave No Trace" at all times on all outdoor events.

Parents are encouraged to attend the outdoor events. The Troop generally offers a mix of events each year including rappelling, canoeing, hiking, biking, and 4 season camping.

High Adventure Activities

In recent years, the Troop has organized some special Scouting opportunities for older, more experienced members of the Troop. These outings, often called high adventure, are provided so older Scouts can continue to be challenged in their Scouting skills. White water rafting in West Virginia and backpacking in New Mexico at Philmont are two such experiences. Individuals within the Troop have also attended high adventure outings via Lincoln Heritage Council. Some have attended the National Jamboree and Sea Base in Key West.

Forms and Handouts

What to bring on a Campout

Sleeping bag rated for the season

Raingear

Clothes (items depending on the length of stay, season, and environment)

Canteen

Mess kit, cup, and cutlery

Towel and washcloth

Soap

Toothpaste and toothbrush

Comb

First Aid Kit

Flashlight

Scout knife

Watch

Paper/pencil

Insect Repellent

Boy Scout Handbook

If you missed the last one.....ALWAYS bring the Boy Scout Handbook.

Note: A complete list of personal as well as group overnight camping gear can be found on Pages 292-293 of the Boy Scout Handbook.

Summary of Troop 380 Expectations for Scouts, Parents and Adult Leadership

SCOUTS:

- Scouts are expected to attend a minimum of 75% of all Troop meetings.
- Scouts are expected to attend at least 50% of Troop 380 overnight campouts.
- Troop 380 requires all Scouts to wear Field or “Class A” uniform to all Troop meetings, campouts, and when the Troop is traveling to, or from, any event.
- Understanding and demonstrating conduct that reflects the Scout Oath, Law, Motto, Slogan and the Outdoor Code.
- Advancement in rank.

PARENTS:

- Understanding the goals and methods of achievement for Scouting
- Encouraging full participation in the program by your Scout
- Assisting the Troop by your participation in Scouting activities

ADULT LEADERSHIP:

- Adult leadership will maintain BSA training requirements.
- Two Deep leadership will always be practiced at all official Troop activities.
- Adult leadership will adhere to the Safe Scouting requirements at all times.
- Adult leadership will strive to encourage all Scouts to learn and practice the skills fostered by the Scouting program.