

New Parent Orientation
A Guide for Rapidly Integrating
New Boy Scout Parents into a Troop

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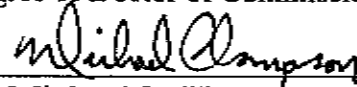
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Michael L. Thompson, Advisor

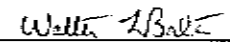
To the Doctoral Candidate Review Board:

I am herewith submitting a Dissertation written by Stephen R. Luck entitled "New Parent Orientation: A Guide for Rapidly Integrating New Boy Scout Parents into a Troop". I have examined the final copy of this report for format and content and recommend that it be accepted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Commissioner Science.



Michael L. Thompson, Advisor
And Blue Ridge Council

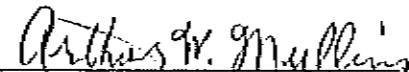
We have read this Dissertation
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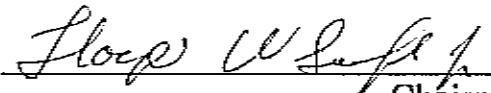


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TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGE
1. Introduction	1
2. Meeting Preparations	5
3. Page 1 of the New Parent Orientation document	10
4. Page 2 of the New Parent Orientation document	16
5. Page 3 of the New Parent Orientation document	17
6. Page 4 of the New Parent Orientation document	18
7. Page 5 of the New Parent Orientation document	20
8. Page 6 of the New Parent Orientation document	22
9. SUMMARY	25
10. REFERENCES	26
11. APPENDICES	27
11.1 NEW PARENT ORIENTATION '10, <u>A SYNOPSIS OF THE "MECHANICS" OF SCOUTING WITH TROOP XXX</u>	
11.2 <i>(Summer Camp Name & New Scout Program)</i> Equipment	
11.3 Personal First Aid Kit	
11.4 Personal Camping Gear	
11.5 Campout Food Buying List	
11.6 Campout Menu Planning	
11.7 Mealtime Duty Roster w-Tasks	
11.8 Troop XXX Permission Slip	
11.9 Knots Illustrated	

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to first thank my son, Ryan, whose simple request many years ago to go to a Scout Meeting introduced me to Scouts. Little did I know we were entering the final year of Cub Scouts ... something called Webelos. We found out quickly that all the other Scouts had a one-year jump on earning loops and badges. After a whirlwind six months where Ryan pushed himself and me, he somehow managed to earn the last item for the Arrow of Light the week of the Crossing-the-Bridge. We eagerly entered Boy Scouts. That first year wasn't so smooth. As Ryan climbed the ranks to Eagle Scout, he unselfishly shared me with each new crop of parents and Scouts as I focused on getting new Scouts and parents off to the best start I could, and making their first year a great experience. Oftentimes we were at the same meeting or Campout, but seldom saw each other due to my involvement with the new Scouts or their parents. For that sacrifice, I am deeply grateful. I dedicate this document to him.

I equally thank my wife, Carroll, the District Chair of Learning for Life, who made and continues to make sacrifices so that I may pursue multiple Scouting endeavors. This document would not have been possible without her continuing patience throughout 15 years of Scouting.

I thank Tom Moran, former Reedy Falls District Chairman who asked me to become the Roundtable Commissioner, then encouraged me to advance as a Commissioner.

I thank my Scoutmaster, Bob Clayton, who was new to Scouting leadership. He allowed me to pursue Troop organizational and training activities that included New Parent Orientation, and who continues to lead one of the finest Troops in the Blue Ridge Council.

I thank the hundreds of new Scouts and parents who allowed me to invade their lives in pursuit of a providing a great experience for them, and from whom I learned grace and patience.

I thank my Advisor, Michael Thompson, who models the best of Scouting, and the reviewers for their patience, understanding and advice as they reviewed this document.

ABSTRACT

This Dissertation presents an opportunity to enable Boy Scout Troops to provide a concise, complete and effective new parent orientation by simply tailoring the information in this document to fit the operations of the Troop.

I chose this project because its implementation enables Troop leaders to rapidly integrate new Scouts and parents into the Troop. I want all parents, and their Scout, to have an awesome Scouting experience. This document, properly presented, will quickly remove the barriers to a great experience that relate to a parent's knowledge of how things happen in a Troop and the expectations for themselves and their son, so they can focus on their son and their involvement in the Troop.

As a parent who entered Boy Scouts with his son from Webelos, I had no reason to believe what we experienced was any more or less than normal. As the first year progressed and Scouts showed little progress and began to quit, and the new parents who joined with me had little idea what was expected of either the Scouts or us, it was apparent to me that the trend needed to be reversed before the whole patrol vanished. As I went through Outdoor Leadership Skills the next fall, I had a chance to compare our first year experience with other adults and found that most of them had some type of new Scout program, but the adults were usually left to fend for themselves.

After OLS, and with the encouragement of the Scoutmaster, I began developing a plan for parent and Scout Orientation that was based on what I believed we should have been told right after joining the Troop. I wanted to present both the "big picture" as well as the details that parents new to Boy Scouts could not yet imagine. When communicated in an effective manner, perhaps I could significantly shorten the time to integrate Scouts and parents into the Troop by removing all the cobwebs of uncertainty regarding the Troop or Boy Scouts. No longer would

Boy Scouts or parents leave the Troop because they did not know the necessary information to be effective in their roles. The Scout issue was resolved when I volunteered to work in the position of “ASM for New Scouts”, and the parent issue began to be resolved by my planning a special parent orientation as soon as practical after their Scout joined the troop. Over the years this became known as **New Parent Orientation**.

The first New Parent Orientation consisted of a few handwritten notes of the things I learned during my first year that I wished I had known right away after we crossed the bridge from Webelos to Boy Scouts. The following year it became a 3-page document “**TROOP XXX PARENT ORIENTATION, A SYNOPSIS OF THE ‘MECHANICS’ OF SCOUTING WITH TROOP XXX**”. Based on feedback from that first formal orientation meeting, and with another year of Scouting under my belt, the next year it was expanded to 6-pages (3 double-sided sheets) and included quick-reference info that the parent (and Scout) could use at a moment’s notice.

I soon realized that the document itself, if simply handed to a parent with no further explanation, had limited use because it was effectively a collection of bullets and memory joggers. A parent who does not attend the meeting has no memory to jog, so it is reluctantly given to parents who do not attend the meeting with the request that they review it and come back the next week to get clarification and explanations.

Although I have been updating and using the New Parent Orientation (NPO) documents for years, this Dissertation is the first attempt to put the entire presentation package into a single document. It presents the NPO document in its updated 2010 form, except that personal identifiers are overwritten. This is explained further in the Appendix.

This Dissertation is a guide to presenting the NPO, both the meeting and the document. Many items in the NPO document are segways for the presenter to provide more in-depth

explanations of related items; these segway points are covered in the Dissertation. Also included are suggestions about preparing for the meeting.

One result of following these suggestions is that the presenter will personalize the information within Chapters 3 through 8 of the Dissertation so the presentation is specific to his Troop. He will also personalize the NPO document and the Attachments to fit the specifics of the Troop. At that point, the presenter has everything at his fingertips necessary to conduct a meaningful New Parent Orientation session that is specific to his Troop.

The result of this information-packed session will be that new parents immediately have the tools to develop an understanding of the Troop, how it functions, and the expectations for them. This knowledge effectively removes many barriers to becoming productive parent volunteers in the Troop. With this impediment removed, the parents and their Scouts can more confidently begin their Boy Scout journey.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

Parents are a necessary component of every Boy Scout Troop. Parents new to the Troop who do not get an intentional and thorough introduction to the Troop's operations and expectations may feel like outsiders compared to the active Scouters or new parents who attended a presentation or have many years of Boy Scouting experience. An explanation of why solving this problem is important to me: When my son crossed the bridge from Webelos to Boy Scouts in March of 1995, there was no adult or Scouter in the Troop who was responsible for helping the new Scouts or parents become integrated into the Troop. Adults and Scouts were not turned away from Troop activities; quite the opposite. They were welcome to participate in any of the Troop's numerous activities, but were given scant guidelines about how to do that effectively. As an unintended but direct result of both Scouts and parents being left to fend for ourselves, over half the new Scouts dropped out of Scouting that first year. Although I went to almost every Scout meeting and many of the campouts, I was not a Boy Scout in my youth and felt powerless to do anything to reverse the dropout trend until almost 8 months later, after attending Outdoor Leader Skills.

The Scoutmaster encouraged me to attend formal Scout leader training to learn Boy Scout methods. As I slowly mastered outdoor skills, I realized there was nothing in the training that provided guidelines for integrating new Scouts or parents into a Troop. It appeared to me that it was just assumed that parents were part of the adult leader landscape, without providing any concrete methods to assure that happened. In reality, I have observed that it takes two or three years for a reasonably active new parent to feel a part of the unit as they gradually experience everything and see how things are done in the Troop. Uninvolved parents, whose only interaction

is dropping-off their sons, never acquire a good understanding of the Troop, nor do they get involved in the Troop heavily enough to help assure its continuity.

The consequence is that a few adults who understand how to do everything in the Troop are saddled with all the responsibility. Troop leaders acknowledge that they want more parents to get involved, but have no idea how to do that as they struggle to keep up with their week-to-week meetings and outings with too-little true leadership. Willing but unschooled adults who would like to help and who might be the answer to the SM prayers of getting more leaders will participate when asked, but otherwise they hesitate to get involved. Thus the cycle of limited frustrated parent involvement continues!

I did not make these observations and conclusions very quickly after becoming an adult leader. I continued to struggle to see beyond the week-to-week feeling of being a disenfranchised part of the Troop. This Dissertation is a narrative, addressed to an experienced Troop leader, of a means to successfully integrate new Scouts and parents into a Troop so the learning curve becomes two to three weeks instead of two to three years. While this may seem like an impossible learning ratio, it is within the grasp of dedicated leaders and parents.

With parents' active involvement in every aspect of Troop operations, the Troop will succeed and live up to its potential; without it, the Troop may even fold. Because of annual turnover of both Scouts and parents, there appears to be a fine line between the Troop living up to its potential and folding, or just drifting along, so leaders must be ever vigilant to incorporate opportunities to tilt the balance in favor of being successful. Whether the parents are "seasoned" Webelos parents who were introduced to the Troop when their son crossed the bridge from Webelos to Boy Scouts, or parents whose son was never involved with Scouts until they visited a Troop, it is my observation they all have one thing in common: parents have a huge learning curve to overcome before they can be productive members of a Boy Scout Troop.

Boy Scout leader guides offer few pieces of practical advice or procedures for quickly integrating parents into a Troop. I compensated for this lack of Boy Scout information by developing a concise document called "New Parent Orientation" (NPO) that is intended to cover every aspect of the information new parents would spend two or more years finding out in bits and pieces in our Troop. Because I have been presenting this information myself, until now I have not attempted a written step-by-step explanation or guide to effectively present the NPO. This Dissertation is that step-by-step guide. The NPO has been modified for this Dissertation to enable other Troops to easily present this information to their new parents. By simply changing items in the NPO or this Dissertation to match those of their specific Troop and doing a modest amount of additional preparation, any leader familiar with the Troop and a word processor can prepare this information. As such, this Dissertation provides a successful technique to minimize the learning curve so that parents feel an immediate attachment to the Troop, and gain an understanding of the "mechanics" of Scouting in that Troop. They will immediately feel they understand how things work and the expectations for them as parents or new troop leaders. They will also make a connection to the person who conducts the meeting as being someone they believe understands the Troop and knows the other leaders well, thus giving them a go-to person who can answer their other questions or quickly point them in the correct direction.

One observed result is that parents are more willing to quickly accept leadership roles within the Troop, freeing trained leaders to focus on more-involved Scouting activities that are a necessary component of the big picture of Scouting.

The reader will quickly see that the NPO is crammed into 6 pages with small margins, and that the information it contains could be easily expanded to booklet size. That is intentional. The plan is that parents will attach their copy of the NPO to the side of their refrigerator or some other practical spot, so they can easily find it when they need it. Combined with its explanation by an

experienced Troop leader in an information session (as described in this Dissertation) and separately in meetings with the new Boy Scouts as part of their skills advancement, the parents and Scouts will know what the information means and how to implement it when they see it again.

The Scouter who attempts to implement the NPO via this Dissertation at a meeting of parents new to the Troop will quickly see that the presentation will probably take more than a 1-1/2 hour meeting. That is a correct observation. Prior to each presentation, the presenter should gain a little background about the parents and from that information decide what to cover more completely and what to leave out. This Dissertation covers each item of the NPO as-if it was to be presented thoroughly so the presenter will know what was intended when the NPO was written. The presenter will thus have full knowledge of what is being omitted when a decision is made to omit something.

Getting both parents to attend one meeting is difficult, and getting them to attend two meetings is almost impossible, so try to complete the NPO in a single session. Be flexible to offer a second session for a second parent who could not come to the first one. Announce the sessions to the Troop parents in advance and invite attendance by anyone in the Troop. Be sure that new parents who might not yet be a part of your Troop's message system; e.g., e-mail or phone list, are informed about the meeting.

It is my hope that the New Parent Orientation information will make its way to other Troops so the positive impact of its implementation can be felt throughout Scouting.

CHAPTER 2

Meeting Preparations

The intention of "New Parent Orientation" (NPO may refer to either the document or the meeting, which its context will clearly indicate) is to immediately provide substantive and thorough information about the underpinning of Troop operations and Boy Scout expectations by anticipating every situation normally encountered during that first year or two in your Troop.

The NPO is a concise written guideline the parent or Scout can consult when almost any routine Scouting situation presents itself. For instance, it is not enough to tell a new Scout to come prepared for a campout or that the new Scout is the Grubby or that there are opportunities for new parents within the Troop, when neither Scout nor parent have any idea what these terms mean. The NPO fills the gap in understanding by telling the Scout or parent exactly what is needed for a campout or what is expected when the Scout is the Grubby or what the adult positions and commitments are within the Troop. These are but three examples of the dozens of items contained in the NPO. This Dissertation will thoroughly cover the topics in the NPO and discuss why an item is there if it wouldn't be obvious to an experienced Scouter.

The knowledgeable reader of this Dissertation will probably say, "I know that", but I would ask you to remember your Scouting comfort level within a week or even 6 months and perhaps a year or more after joining your Troop. Understandably, such a document cannot be static because of small but meaningful changes within the Troop's or the Scouting program, so it should be reviewed and updated prior to every new parent meeting. The NPO document presented in the Appendix of this Dissertation was updated for a March 2010 meeting; Troop and individual identifiers were changed or blocked-out prior to it being included in the Appendix, and replaced with information in *italics*.

The NPO is not a stand-alone document. It requires other documents not commonly available in Scouting to expand upon many of the topics. My Troop already had some of those documents in a rough form when I joined. They were presented to each Scout in a personalized loose-leaf notebook shortly after he joined the Troop. But the missing link was an explanation in a timely manner of the forms to both the Scouts and parents. The Appendix includes all the forms that are referenced in this Dissertation or the NPO document, and they are each explained as they are presented in the NPO.

Timeliness of the presentation: The NPO is presented in a roughly chronological order relative to when the Scout or parent will encounter a situation. Boldface type, underlining, italics, boxes and other reading aids are used extensively to help the reader quickly find information.

The Troops liaison for New Parents, the New Scout ASM or a similar person should present the NPO at the first Troop meeting after new Scouts cross the bridge from Webelos. This timely presentation gives the parents an understanding of what they will be observing in the Troop so they will have an appreciation about what they are (or are not) seeing. It also helps prevent the parents from feeling like outsiders because they will have been introduced to several leaders during the NPO. Announce the meeting via the Pack leader prior to the Crossing the Bridge, and again at the conclusion of that ceremony. Tell them that it will be the most important Scout meeting they will attend for several years. Emphasize that both parents should be present for the NPO. Ask that they try to make necessary arrangements if their personal situation would require that either stay home --- it's that important! Explain that you want them to "hit the ground running", and this will allow them to accomplish that feat. However, you will find that all parents will not be able to attend the first session, so a second session may be necessary. Take roll at the NPO session and compare it to the new parent list to make that determination.

It is my experience that a shy parent who did not attend the orientation felt like an outsider for years. Plan to make the extra effort to make sure each parent is included. The extra effort may be a private session in the parent's home because of personal situations that prevent doing this at your Troop meeting, but be flexible enough to provide that service, as the rewards to that parent and to the Scout and the Troop will be great.

Also, because the presentation requires the full meeting time and preparation of ancillary materials by the presenter, the parents of new Scout walk-ins may not see the NPO for several weeks. This delay can be offset by considerable and timely one-on-one discussion if a new parent can be persuaded to stay during the Scout meeting.

Gathering your materials: Presenting the NPO for the first time requires preparations so the presenter knows all the information without hesitation. Even then, presenting the information in a typical 1-1/2 hour Troop meeting takes practice and understanding. Each time the NPO or the reference information is presented, make sure that it is still current.

The following additional meeting preparations are suggested:

1- **Troop History** Prepare a brief history of your Troop and its traditions so you can inform parents about the "roots" of your Troop. Use this opportunity to get them into a receptive mood for the intensive presentation that will follow.

2- **Troop Roster** Have copies for each family of the Troop roster and annual schedule.

3- **Up-to-date NPO** Revise the **New Parent Orientation** in the Appendix so the information presented is specific to your Troop. Add Troop-specific information that is not included in the NPO, and delete information that does not apply. The original NPO attachment shows in *italics* all items that were changed to make it a generic document for this Dissertation. Editing the NPO will take a bit of word processing prowess to maintain margins and pagination. Margin widths are printer-specific, so be inventive with wording to minimize word wraps and

prevent extra pages. As long as the page numbers stay at the bottom of the page and your printer does not chop the edges, you can be sure the printed document will be okay.

While you think about presenting this to the parents, also be thinking which Scout skill sessions you will use to review relevant parts of the NPO with the Scouts. The Scouts will be well served to spend the first two skill sessions interweaving NPO sections that apply to them, along with hands-on activities so they will develop an understanding of expectations for them. Before their first campout, go over the Outings-at-a-Glance and the Packing List and explain their importance. Similarly, gradually introduce the Scouts to each section of the NPO before they encounter that item on a campout. Let them know their parents have reviewed the NPO and will have a copy at home.

4- **Up-to-date Guide** Revise the six Chapters in this Dissertation that relate to each page of the NPO so the information conforms to your Troop's operations and expectations. This is not as daunting a task as it appears. As you do this, you will note that there are specific items recommended to have on-hand during the presentation, so determine where you will acquire these items and make sure you have them handy during the meeting.

5- **Presenter's NPO** Make a highlighted instructor's guide copy of the NPO so you can see at a glance which items to be sure to cover when the meeting-ending time gets close.

6- **Attachment Copies** Review each of the attachments and revise them so they each reflect your Troop's procedures. Post the updated items to your Troop's website. **NOTE:** Posting information to an unprotected website may put material into the public domain that should be kept private. Before posting the NPO or any other document to your website, be sure it does not contain sensitive Troop or personal information.

7- Selecting a Presentation Site Select a room that will be undisturbed during the meeting, with enough space and seating for you to arrange all your support materials and for the parents to be comfortable, yet sit close. Make sure lighting is adequate.

8- Other Troop Presenters Arrange for the SM, the Troop Committee Chairman, the Advancement Chairman, the ASM for new Scouts, and the SPL to come to the meeting room during the *last* half hour, after you have covered most of the NPO. As you introduce each one, tell the audience where each one fits into the Troop and into their son's Scouting life. Prior to the meeting, instruct the invited Scouters to take no longer than two minutes to welcome the parents and to briefly tell them about some of the Troop's current needs related to their position that new parents can fill. Tell parents about getting trained to serve on the Boards of Review or other activities, and to advise them of any current needs that you are not going to cover. It's important that these leaders be brief, while assuring the parents that they can be contacted directly for further information.

CHAPTER 3

PAGE 1 of the NEW PARENT ORIENTATION DOCUMENT

A goal of your presentation is to help the parent get an understanding of the Attachment documents and what they will mean to their son, so they will know why they need to print them and/or make copies and what to do with them. With this knowledge, they can supplement their son's training at home, or at the very least, not be stranger to the documents.

The reader will note that the pronoun "you" is used throughout. This refers to the presenter, and is typically in the context of a recommendation to follow during the presentation.

Tell the parents they do not need to memorize this evening's discussion --- just know where to find the NPO, which will effectively be their notes and memory-joggers from your presentation. You need their full attention. As you present the information, watch for the glassy-eyed signs of information overload or boredom, and move around or ask direct questions to get their renewed attention. This is a lot of information to absorb after a long day at home or work.

The first page of the New Parent Orientation presents the immediate expectations and requirements of the parent and the Scout upon joining the Troop. Specific items discussed are Troop dues, items needed for their son to become a Boy Scout and whom to contact with questions, along with their contact information. With the advent of the Internet, it is no longer necessary for the parent to wait until their son receives his loose leaf notebook that contains supplemental information; these items can (and should be) posted and printed from the Troop website. The NPO gives the web address and the specific documents for the parent to print upon returning home. This is effectively the parents' homework before the next Scout meeting.

The parents are asked to come to the next Troop meeting with each of the documents that they have questions about, at which time you will answer their questions, even if you had

previously discussed them. Encourage the parents to take the time to come into the Scout meeting room at the next meeting, even if they don't have questions, when they are then reacquainted with the presenter who in turn introduces them to more leaders. This elicits a closer tie to the Troop.

Each of the supplemental documents, except the medical form, is included in the meeting handouts and discussed briefly during the meeting, but there is insufficient time to do more than introduce most of them and tell why they are important.

Many of these documents are presented in the Boy Scout handbook in one form or another, but over the years my Troop has found that the handbook documents often are not comprehensive enough for our Troop's needs, hence we have developed our own.

Camp (*Camp name & New Scout Program*) Equipment list: This is a detailed list of each item that the Scout needs at Summer Camp, along with instructions about storage trunk requirements and what to put into an old book bag that he will take to his first class at camp. The new Scouts from our troop are annually acknowledged by camp leaders as being the most prepared of any new Scouts, and this list and the pre-packed book bag are the main reasons for that praise. The Scout or parent does not need to be concerned about any article of clothing or supplemental items at summer camp if they pack per these instructions. Bring a camp trunk to the meeting so the parents can see the size and type up-close and understand why you chose that model, and when possible, tell the parents what stores have them in stock. By getting this information in early spring, the parent can gradually accumulate summer camp clothing and other articles and still find the trunk in stores, whereas waiting until near camp time to give them this information will find that desirable trunks are out of stock and clothing or other articles are harder to find. Items needed by presenter: Camp trunk, recommendations of T-shirt color, number of Class A shirts, shirt patches expected to be on the tan Scout shirt, and an understanding of the list so the parents can be told about items the Scout probably does not already own.

Personal First Aid Kit: The first aid kit in the Scout Handbook leaves out many items that physicians in our troop believe are necessary. Depending on the date of the NPO, the parents and Scouts will be told to have it ready for the next campout or for summer camp. The goal is to have a comprehensive personal first aid kit that will meet most emergency needs yet still fit into a sandwich bag. The parents are shown a Personal First Aid Kit in a sandwich bag that contains all the items on the list, but it is acknowledged that the new Scout may need a quart bag to fit everything until we have an opportunity to show him how to make it more compact. Items needed by presenter: a completed personal first aid kit, items that can be easily reduced in size to make the kit more compact, knowledge of camp medical policies so parents are told types of special medications that can be in the kit or must be checked with the Camp medical staff, knowledge of reasons for specific kit contents so questions can be answered, knowledge of how the Troop handles special medications and medical records on campouts.

Personal Camping Gear list: This is the most useful and comprehensive one-page document the Scout is given. By simply following the checklist and being aware of any special weather or terrain needs for a particular campout, the Scout or Scouter will have everything needed for the campout. Quantities are not listed because that is campout specific. The list will be supplemented by specific cold weather camping items in a troop meeting based on upcoming winter weather expectations, so special cold weather gear is not presented at the NPO. To assure that every needed item is packed, the Scout should review the Person Camping Gear list prior to any campout or overnight trip and ask himself, "Do I need this item for this campout". Conscientious use of this list will assure every needed item is packed for every campout. This part of the presentation can be used as a segway to tell parents about gear that was not already discussed, such as gear the Troop provides, any personal gear they need to acquire, when during the Scout's tenure he will need to have specific pieces of gear so the financial burden can be

spread-out, specific types of gear recommendations when there are obvious choices in many stores, show them personal camping gear, make recommendations and alternatives, discuss backpack and no-backpack alternatives, discuss electronic gear restrictions, and anything else on the list that they need to give particular attention. Items needed by presenter: Knowledge of parent/Scout opportunities on the next campout or two, samples of recommended cook kits, utensils, flashlights, camp chair, tent, ground pad, sleeping bag, backpack or duffle bag that will be needed on those campouts as well as less seldom-used items that are recommended by the Troop.

Campout Food Buying list and Campout Menu Planning form: Introduce parents to these forms, which are printed on the opposite sides of a single sheet, so they will know what to expect when their son is the Grubby for his patrol at a campout. Give parents generic pointers about assisting their son with food buying and ask that they assist him with that task. Emphasize that they guide their son and not shop for him. Advise them to use this as a time to teach cost vs value, and ask them to let him select the food. Suggest that they not buy a brand or type of food they would not ordinarily buy for themselves. Tell them in a general manner how the food should be packed when they bring it to the departure point, advise them about ice and coolers, give meal cost guidelines so they will know how campout costs are calculated, tell them about other costs for a campout that result from fees we must pay, advise them about reimbursement and other items specific to food buying and food packing for a campout. This form will be seen again during the Grubby presentation.

Mealtime Duty Roster w/Tasks: Parents are requested to review this form so they can discuss with their son the food preparation duties and mealtime responsibilities for each cooking task before his first campout. Sometime during the weekend, he will be assigned to each task. Ask the parents to implement the different tasks in a home setting so the Scout can see and

experience them in the security of the home kitchen. It will definitely be more difficult in the great outdoors. Explain that few new Scouts have ever done any kitchen or cooking chores, and to please give him a little exposure to this part of living before he does it outdoors. The Patrol Method is explained because implementation of this form incorporates the Patrol Method for assignment of cooking duties. Use this item to explain how the Troop incorporates the Patrol Method in all of its endeavors, where their son fits into the Troop and his Patrol, how the Troop and Patrol leadership changes during the year, what the Troop does to assure a continuing supply of trained Scouts in leadership roles, where the Assistant Scoutmasters fit into a boy-led program, and other leadership opportunities for their son.

Troop XXX Permission Slip: Explain that every trip away from the Scout meeting area will require a completed Permission Slip unless the parent accompanies the Scout from departure through return, and that there are no exceptions to this rule. Use this as an opportunity to explain about Scout insurance and where it fits with their private insurance, as well as two-deep leadership and what that means when there is a need to leave a campsite to care for an injured Scout or incapacitated leader, or even have a private discussion at a Scout meeting. Discuss typical campout departure and arrival times. Ask parents to always keep blank permission slips in each vehicle.

Knots illustrated: This document supplements the knot illustrations shown in the Scout Handbook and provides alternative illustrations of the various knots. Briefly explain the importance of learning various knots, with a request that at least one parent learn the knots thru First Class so their son can be helped with the knots outside the Scout meeting time.

Medical Form: The medical form is not printed for the meeting because completing it takes valuable time and deals with issues that should best be handled one-on-one. Ask the parents to print it from the Troop website, which links to the BSA site so the form is always current. Ask

that they bring questions to the next meeting. Explain its use by the Troop and Summer Camp Staff, as well as the difference between this form and the one they complete(d) as part of the Scout joining requirement. Present BSA medication guidelines, along with special medication handling procedures on campouts and at summer camp, and how medical information is kept by the troop and taken to a campout or summer camp.

The next item on page 1 tells parents about sign-up sheets for various activities. The importance of these is emphasized, as well as the need for the parents to stay aware of the Troop schedule so they are not surprised by a Scout's last minute request to participate in an activity, such as to go on a campout that he did not already tell them about. With the calendar in hand, the parent can query their Scout about it prior to the sign-up deadline. Ask parents to come into the meeting on a weekly basis to scan the sign-up sheets to be sure they are aware of their son's sign-up of all upcoming events. Tell them about non-ASM parent involvement opportunities and expectations at various types of Troop activities. Also present the Troop's involvement in Internet and web-based sign-up and notification activities.

The bottom of page 1 shows various Scouting logos, which at first glance appear to be decorations. Change the logos so they meet your Troop needs at that time of the NPO. Cover each one individually and tell about their importance to the Troop.

CHAPTER 4

PAGE 2 of the NEW PARENT ORIENTATION DOCUMENT

Use the “How do you find out what’s happening and what’s expected in T-XXX” section as an opportunity to explain each of the items in this half-page segment and to make an appeal to the parents to become involved in their son’s Troop. Explain each of the functional groups, such as the Troop Committee or PLC in a boy-led troop, reinforcing the significance of parental involvement to their son’s progress and retention in Scouting.

The bottom of page 2 enumerates each of the adult positions within the Troop, in descending order of the time commitment. Cover each task individually and explain the reason it exists. Present the Troop, District and Special training opportunities and dates. The Scoutmaster and the Troop Committee Chair will also reinforce parental needs and make an appeal for participation.. This also “breaks the ice” for meeting other Scout leaders so the parents will be more comfortable discussing various Troop opportunities with them at future Scout meetings.

Troop Goals: Explain that Troop Goals are developed at a special Scout and Leader meeting prior to restarting at the beginning of the school year, and that it is the Scouts, with adult oversight, who make the commitment to meet the goals. The leaders are there only to help the Scouts implement their decisions and to make sure the goals are realistic. Also explain that leaders review the goals mid-year and make adjustments to the Troop program as needed to help the Troop meet the goals. Further, tell the parents that the Goals represent the three main BSA facets that are reinforced constantly --- Duty to God, Duty to Country, and Duty to Self, and what these mean as the Scouts attend weekly meetings, go on campouts or participate in service projects.

CHAPTER 5

PAGE 3 of the NEW PARENT ORIENTATION DOCUMENT

In the first section, point out the time of the Troop meeting and what usually occurs during a meeting.

Tell Parents where to buy BSA Scouting supplies, the contact information for our District Executive and where he fits into the Troop's Scouting program. Point out the websites for the Council, the District and BSA Scouting supplies.

In the next section, uniform requirements and expectations are presented. This is one of the sections also discussed with Scouts. Tell parents that BSA does not recognize a Class A or B designation, but that we use it because of its common acceptance and ease of understanding.

The final section of page 3 and the beginning of 4 present Rank Advancement. During this discussion, present the differences between Webelos signoff and Boy Scout signoff. Show a copy of the Boy Scout Handbook so they can see where signoff occurs. There is usually a lot of confusion with Scouts and parents about working on the first three ranks simultaneously, so explain this. Tell about the Scoutmaster's Conference and the Board of Review and that this is also covered with the Scouts. Tell parents about the great personal rewards of being on a Board of Review, and if the BoR training date has been set, ask them to attend this training.

CHAPTER 6

PAGE 4 of the NEW PARENT ORIENTATION DOCUMENT

Brief the parents on Summer Camp opportunities and the rank advancement program for new Scouts, but only to the extent of items they need at this time. Tell them about the importance of advancement within their first three ranks as being the focus for the new Scouts, rather than earning merit badges. Summer camp and Camp dates are given, as well as the date of a special summer camp meeting for parents and summer camp attendees. Also recommend participation at the Wednesday parent/Scout dinner and follow-on OA-sponsored program.

The **Your Scout's Progress** section asks that parents help their Scout keep his records up-to-date. Take lots of pictures for an awesome memory book when he earns his Eagle Scout rank.

Troop XXX Camping provides a concise yet comprehensive guide. Within this section, the **Outings-at-a-Glance** effectively provides a checklist of what is needed when going on a campout. It is simple, yet complete. Tell parents that circled items are those forms discussed earlier. Ask them to keep the NPO close at-hand so they can review this section with their son prior to leaving for a campout, especially during his second or third year in Scouting when their son will most likely not check this himself and leave important gear at home. Point out the need to pack a Friday night bag supper, the sign-up sheet location, and payment expectations.

The bottom of page 4 shows the campout items provided by the Troop. Tell parents that the Scout can bring his own tent or use a 2-man tent provided by the Troop. Tell parents they are always welcome on any Scout activity, and there is a place on the sign-up sheet for their commitment. In fact, encourage parents (including moms) to come on the first campout or two if overnight camping is new to the Scout. But let them know that when a Scout is on a campout also attended by a parent, the Scout will be asked to share a tent with another Scout, typically his

Buddy, and the parent will be asked to tent separately. Tell them this will begin with his first campout to avoid separation problems later, and that this also applies to cooking chores. Let them know that the separation a parent feels is often harder for the parent than the Scout at first, but later becomes more difficult for the Scout if the parent insists they tent with their son. Ask them to please give him his space but always know it is okay to keep him in their sight if that is what they need to feel comfortable that we are taking good care of him. At the same time, we are giving him an opportunity to make new decisions that affect himself and others. This independence prepares the Scout for those campouts where the parent is not in attendance, and step-by-step prepares him for leadership roles in the Troop and elsewhere.

Tell the parents we will explain the camping opportunities to the Scout in a constructive manner prior to the campout, and we will encourage them to already have a Buddy lined-up for the campout before we depart. Parents are asked to advise us privately of any homesickness, camping fears, special needs (no matter how small), or anything else that might negatively affect his campout. Explain that the Troop leaders are experienced in dealing with all of these.

With a grin, tell the parents that on the first two campouts they are waited-on and treated as royalty, but if they continue to sign-up for more campouts, we will ask that they get Scout leader training so they can understand the Boy Scout methods and constructively help the Scouts in a way that is consistent with the way we have all been trained. Give the example that a parent unfamiliar with camping with new Scouts will want the 30-minute breakfast ready in 30 minutes, and will want to intervene when cooking goes slowly. But unless we have an urgent need to reduce the time, we will first focus on the learning experience and training opportunities, so if the eggs are ice cold after a two hour prep time, the Scout will see the negative consequence of a slow breakfast while we discuss what could have been done differently. This takes lots of patience over many campouts!

CHAPTER 7

PAGE 5 of the NEW PARENT ORIENTATION DOCUMENT

This is a continuation of the previous page, beginning with a focus on the items the Scout supplies. Have examples of the whistle, flashlights and other item the Scout should carry or have in his pack. Discuss that as an alternative to a full-fledged backpack, an alternative duffle or gym bag is perfectly acceptable until the Scout goes on his first campout where a hike of more than a mile to the campsite is expected. If the parent insists on acquiring a new pack, suggest a pack rental as a good choice to select the best pack rather than buying a pack that the Scout finds uncomfortable but they cannot return to the store. Also suggest a professional outfitter for the first pack, and think of the higher cost as a fitting fee that is well worth the cost.

Discuss the policy on knives and that we will move as quickly as possible to help each Scout earn his Totin' Chip, but until he has the Totin' Chip, he will not be able to use a knife, saw or axe without direct adult supervision or an assigned older Scout. Ask the parents to later read this section carefully and bring us their questions. Tell them this will be covered with their son, also, and that we expect everyone to understand this information.

The Grubby's job was mentioned briefly earlier. This section gives the details of this task. Emphasize the need for the Scout and parent to re-read this list as soon as the parent knows their son is the Grubby for a campout. Stress the importance of following the Campout Food Buying Detail List and the money allocated for the food the Scout is buying. The parent's failure to read and understand this section and the implications when it is not followed often results in too much, too expensive, or wrong kind of food purchased. Tell the parent to look at this section of the NPO and the menu and shopping forms with the Scout before leaving home, and get clarification if anything is unclear. The first-time Grubby may be both tired and under a lot of stress, so we need

the parent to guide him in good decision-making while patiently explaining to him why one brand or type was selected over another during shopping. If this is the first shopping trip where he makes food-buying decisions, ask them to be even more patient and supportive, as he will grow-up a lot that day.

Camp XXX: Tell parents the only item in this section that was not already covered, which will be covered again at a special meeting just prior to camp, is that the Camp Leader's Guide can be accessed from the Council website, and their son will find the pages of this to be very interesting and informative. Suggest they download the PDF Leader's Guide to their computer so their son can see it and review it whenever he desires. Many new Scouts find that reviewing this Guide gives them a leg-up on their buddies by having knowledge of camp activities they didn't bother to discover, and raises his excitement about all the new camp opportunities.

CHAPTER 8

PAGE 6 of the NEW PARENT ORIENTATION DOCUMENT

This is a continuation of the previous page.

Tell parents the benefits of being a **summer camp adult assistant** to the Troop's Scoutmaster for Summer Camp. Ask them to set aside some vacation days for this, as it will be a time they will remember fondly forever. Tell them that different ASMs are often the SM for summer camp, and his assistants primarily fill the role of having 2-deep leadership within the Troop. They are usually free during the day to see all the camp activities, but will be expected to help with rank and Merit Badge reviews during Free Time if they have the training. Suggest they see you outside of this meeting to get additional information. Reinforce the need to sign-up on the adult summer camp sheet.

Tell parents that if the **summer camp dates do not work for their schedule**, there are alternatives that are more than acceptable, such as attending another week with another Troop. Tell them it is our experience that every Scout from our Troop who has ever attended camp with another Troop had a positive experience and made new friends, and that we will make personal recommendations of another troop for attending summer camp after they tell us the week their son can go.

The **Merit Badge** section includes all the information to get started on a Merit Badge. For many Scouts, it will be many months before they will use this section. Tell the parents to be sure to point this section out to their son when he talks about Merit Badges. A suggested first Merit Badge is Scholarship, which the Scout can do totally outside the meeting. It also gets him acquainted with the Merit Badge process. Discuss the single circumstance when a parent can sign-off a Merit Badge for their son (e. g., parent becomes a MB counselor for a skill they can

teach, such as piano, then announces several times to the Troop when the Piano MB will be taught at their house so Scouts can sign-up for it).

Discuss the difference between Community Service expectations for a new Scout and one working on an upper rank, such as Star. Show that there is a place in the Scout Handbook to record this information. Emphasize that Community Service hours count toward numerous Merit Badges, but that this is one of the most ignored records the Scout is responsible to keep.

Discuss that the Troop meets only when the public school is in session, but that arrangements can be made with a Scout leader for review and signoff almost any time, even during the summer. Tell them about two-deep leadership, and that leaders get training that is similar to the pamphlet in the front of the Boy Scout Handbook the parents discuss(ed) with their son as part of his Scout joining requirement. Ask them to prevent putting a leader into a situation that violates BSA policy by making sure there are at least two adults present whenever they leave their son at any Scout function. If not, we expect them to stay until the second adult is in the same room. If they drive their son to a meeting and the parking lot appears deserted, they have a responsibility to assure there are at least two adults in the meeting room before they leave.

Direct them to the section on **Wood Badge Trained Troop Leaders** and tell them it is but a sample of the leader training. Tell them that all leaders have gone through required Scout Leader training (available on-line), that most have completed Outdoor Leadership Skills training and many have completed Wood Badge, BSA's highest level of leader training, in order to provide knowledgeable instruction and oversight at Troop meetings and on campouts. Note that many serve in leadership positions at the District and Council levels. Stress that their son will be under the auspices of a trained ASM who has the patience and knowledge to work effectively with new Scouts, and who will include other leaders and Scouts as helpers. Let them know that each Scout will receive the level of instruction he needs as an individual Scout to succeed, and

that although we have produced many Eagle Scouts, the goal of each leader is to help each Scout develop to his full potential as a Scout and as a person, whatever that means for their son. Re-emphasize that a parent's active support is needed for both the Troop and their Scout to succeed.

Close the meeting by saying that *Every Boy Scout Leader started where YOU are now. Seize the opportunity to become a Boy Scout Leader!*

Tell them to see you, the SM or any leader in a tan Scout shirt whenever they have a question that involves their son, the Troop or Scouting.

Thank them for their attention. Goodnight!

CHAPTER 9

Summary

The purpose of this Dissertation was to present a New Parent Orientation (NPO) document intended specifically to enable rapid integration of new parents into a Troop by providing an explanation of the items in the NPO and suggestions for the experienced leader who is making the presentation to the parents. This Dissertation and the NPO have been structured in a manner that both the information in the NPO and the various explanations of its sections in the Dissertation can be readily modified to suit the needs of most Troops via a typical document-editing program.

The immediate goal after making this presentation is that parents will quickly identify with the Troop in all areas, thus will be more supportive of the needs of the Scouts and the Troop leaders, and will be able to quickly provide support for their son because they understand both his needs as a Boy Scout and the Troop's response to those needs as Boy Scout leaders.

A longer-term goal is that the parent will take a deeper personal interest in the programs of the Troop and will obtain the necessary training to become an effective Boy Scout Leader to help assure continuity of a high quality Boy Scout program.

CHAPTER 10

REFERENCES

1. Boy Scout Handbook, Boy Scouts of America. 1998
2. **"TROOP XXX PARENT/SCOUT ORIENTATION '98, FOCUSING ON THE "MECHANICS" OF SCOUTING WITH TROOP XXX"**, Stephen Luck. 1998
3. **"TROOP XXX PARENT/SCOUT ORIENTATION '99, FOCUSING ON THE "MECHANICS" OF SCOUTING WITH TROOP XXX"**, Stephen Luck. 1999
4. "Woods Wisdom", Boy Scouts of America. 1996
5. The Scoutmaster Handbook, Boy Scouts of America. 1998
6. Scout, The Boy Scout Handbook, Boy Scouts of America. 2009
7. "Medical Form [Annual Health and Medical Record (BSA Form 34605)]" Boy Scouts of America. 9/2009
8. **"NEW PARENT ORIENTATION '10, A SYNOPSIS OF THE "MECHANICS" OF SCOUTING WITH TROOP XXX"**, Stephen Luck. 2/10
9. **"(Summer Camp Name & New Scout Program) Equipment"**, Stephen Luck, *et al.* 5/10
10. "Personal First Aid Kit", Stephen Luck. 3/05
11. "Personal Camping Gear", Stephen Luck, *et al.* 3/07
12. "Campout Food Buying List", Stephen Luck, *et as.* 4/04
13. "Campout Menu Planning ", Stephen Luck, *et al.* 4/04
14. "Mealtime Duty Roster w-Tasks", Stephen Luck. 3/05
15. "Troop XXX Permission Slip", Stephen Luck, *et al.* 3/05
16. "Knots Illustrated", Stephen Luck. 12/06

CHAPTER 11

APPENDICES

1. **NEW PARENT ORIENTATION '10, A SYNOPSIS OF THE "MECHANICS" OF SCOUTING WITH TROOP XXX**
2. *(Summer Camp Name & New Scout Program) Equipment*
3. Personal First Aid Kit
4. Personal Camping Gear
5. Campout Food Buying List
6. Campout Menu Planning
7. Mealtime Duty Roster w-Tasks
8. Troop XXX Permission Slip
9. Knots Illustrated

(**Author Note 1:** Throughout the **NEW PARENT ORIENTATION '10** attachment, all the Troop identifiers have been replaced with *XXX* and personal identifiers replaced with a statement in parentheses describing the information that was replaced. This is to protect the privacy of those in the referenced documents. The original document is otherwise unchanged. This does not affect the document, just its personalization. Personalize this document for your Troop. Before printing, check carefully for word-wrap and page-jump issues and edit accordingly to maintain the 6-page format. This is very important, as these items will have a significant effect on readability and usability. Should this document not be readily editable, contact the author at goodluck3@hotmail.com).

(**Author Note 2:** Appendix Items 11.1 through 11.9 are attached without reference numbers in order to preserve the integrity of these documents. They can be readily identified from their titles. Attaching the Appendix numbers to them would affect the native document spacing of the electronic files, thus inhibit their use. The user of this Dissertation will thus have documents immediately available for editing or copying.)



WELCOME TO BOY SCOUT TROOP XXX

ASAP

HAND IN THE COMPLETED SCOUT APPLICATION, WITH HEALTH HISTORY

- 1) Pay fees & reimbursements, if you have not already done so. See (SM's Name) for this amount for your son. This may be different for each Scout, so be sure of \$\$\$ before you write your check.
- 2) Review this document "**Troop XXX Parent Orientation 2010**" from cover-to-cover, discussing with your son parts he will use. Write down questions! See us at a meeting, call or e-mail (SM's Name, e-mail & Phone), or (Presenter of the NPO, Name, e-mail & phone) to get clarification or discuss anything in it.

PARENTS:

Print the following from the Resources link of the Troop XXX web site (Troop's web address) if you do not have them already, which you or your Scout will need. 1- (Summer Camp Name & New Scout Program) Equipment (Version 2007), 2- Personal First Aid Kit (Word or PDF version); 3- Personal Camping Gear 4- Campout Menu Planning (Word version), 5- Campout Food Buying list (PDF version), 6- Campout Mealtime Duty Roster (PDF version), 7- Permission Slip (Word or PDF version), 8- Medical Form [Annual Health and Medical Record (BSA Form 34605)]. 9- Knots Illustrated,

Each of the above items is **bold & circled** when discussed in this document.

HELP YOUR SCOUT complete his **Personal First Aid Kit** before the next campout.

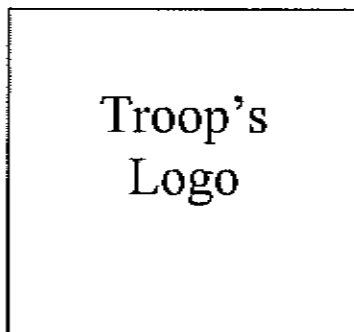
NOTE: Think about how/where you can best help our troop, then get involved right away.

BEFORE YOU LEAVE A TROOP MEETING --- PARENTS

Check the sign-up table! Familiarize yourself with how Scouts sign-up for activities. Review these sign-up sheets with your Scout and have him add his name to agreed activities. Sign-up yourself whenever you can help.

WHEN YOU GET HOME: PARENTS

- 1) Arrange for your son's physical. Be sure to complete the Annual Health and Medical Record (dated 9/09) when the physical is given. Give the original & a copy to the SM; keep a copy at home.
- 2) Keep the Troop Roster where it is handy. This personal info is NOT on the website.



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
100 YEARS OF SCOUTING



CELEBRATING THE ADVENTURE
CONTINUING THE JOURNEY

HOW DO YOU FIND OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING & WHAT'S EXPECTED IN T-XXX?

- 1) First, ask your Scout! Announcements are made at every meeting.
- 2) Check the Troop XXX website (*Troop's web address*) **NOTE:** New information **MUST** get to your son in a timely manner. Please print anything he needs to know. Make sure he reads it and takes any actions required of him. Help us avoid the "phone tree". Make sure your Scout is up-to-date.
- 3) When you drop-off or pick-up your Scout, come inside and listen to the announcements about near-term activities (at the beginning and/or end of meetings). Make notes, because the Scouts don't!
- 4) Visit the sign-up table(s) and review the various sign-up sheets. This is the time to confirm a Scout's commitment & the requirements to participate in an activity, as well as your own.
- 5) Check the "Troop XXX Program Planning Calendar" & the website calendar. (Write Scout activity dates on your family calendar; update them each time the Troop Calendar is revised.)
- 6) Call, in this order: 1) Scout's Patrol Leader [PL], 2) His Troop Guide [TG], 3) The Senior Patrol Leader [SPL], 4) The Patrol's Assistant Scoutmaster [ASM], 5) The Scoutmaster [SM], or 6) Items under the auspices of Troop Committee person/parent: Call that person before the ASM/SM.
- 7) Keep the Troop XXX phone list near your home phone.
- 8) Stay for the whole Troop meeting. Attend the Patrol Leaders Council [PLC] planning meetings.
- 9) Attend the Troop Committee meetings (usually at *location*) on PLC nights).
- 10) Attend Courts-of-Honor. This is where we present Scout awards, but we also use this as an opportunity for a general parent meeting to give you information and clarifications about significant upcoming events. Come to these even if you think your Scout is not receiving anything.

SCOUT PARENT : WHAT'S EXPECTED

IMPORTANT: With YOUR active involvement as parent volunteers, the Troop will be able to realize its potential, and our ability to meet the needs of your Scout will be apparent. Each family is expected to be involved at two levels:

- 1) As a PARENT ADVISOR to their Scout, and 2) With their Scout's patrol or the troop. Please, if you will be camping regularly, become an ASM and get trained. Some parents enjoy Scout leadership opportunities; others prefer short-term projects (special outing planning, service project planning, Troop banquets, etc.)

Parents attendance is welcomed and encouraged, at all Scout functions!

LOTS OF CHOICE JOBS TO HELP YOUR SCOUT AND HIS TROOP, LISTED IN ORDER OF TIME COMMITMENT:

- 1) **Assistant Scoutmaster:** Weekly interface with Scouts and Parents. Participate as an adult Scout leader. Attend Scout leader training opportunities. Participate in Leader meetings.
- 2) **Troop Committee (Management):** Oversee planning and implementation of the overall Troop program. Each Troop Committee leader has a specific area of responsibility. **Chair:**(*TC Chair's name*).
- 3) **Troop Committee (Special Projects):** Spearhead and handle details of a specific activity.
- 4) **Troop Board-of-Review:** Participate in reviews of Scouts for rank advancement (1st Tuesday).
- 5) **Merit Badge Counselor:** Become a registered counselor and serve as a merit badge advisor.
- 6) **Driver:** Drive Scouts to/from activities. Driver's license # and Insurance Info must be on file.

Also:

- **Troop Goals:** Become familiar with them. Your participation will enhance your Scout's experience in Scouting. These are written annually by the boy and adult leaders, and reviewed semi-annually.
- **Volunteer** to discover, coordinate and handle the details of a Scout outing or meaningful troop service project. Perhaps you are the parent who plans a sailing trip, investigates a new summer camp site, coordinates the campout to a new campsite, or gets us involved in a new service project.
Most importantly: Be your Scout's biggest fan and supporter!

WEEKLY MEETINGS: (EACH TUESDAY, 6:45-8:30 PM @ (MEETING LOCATION))

- Scout: Arrive by 6:45 for pre-meeting activities. You should call your Patrol Leader by Monday if you don't know about upcoming meeting requirements. Check the website for updates and to find the "ticket" item each week.
- Scout --- rank or merit badge review and sign-off --- Arrive by 6:30, but make prior plans for this to be sure the leader or Scout you need to meet with can also meet you before the meeting.
- Scout: Attend every meeting and campout to assure continuity and avoid missing important stuff.
- Meeting Time: Scouts should be lined up, by patrol, @ 7:00; scheduled meeting adjournment is 8:30.
- Meeting Format: Major items typically include opening announcements, a skills or Merit Badge training session, a patrol meeting, fun/game time, closing announcements and a Scoutmaster's "minute".
- Patrol Leader's Council (PLC): Scouts who are in leadership positions attend PLC planning meetings (Approx. two per quarter. PLCs are sometimes held in lieu of a Troop meeting).

SCOUT SUPPLIES, CLOTHING AND COUNCIL OFFICE

- ◆ Scout Shop 288-1560 (1 Park Plaza Greenville, South Carolina 29607 [I-385 Exit 34. Go toward Mauldin (West) on Butler Road, then Left onto Gateway Blvd at 1st traffic light] **Note:** No sales tax or shipping charge on items purchased at the Scout Shop.
- ◆ BSA catalog items come from a Charlotte warehouse + tax + shipping. (www.scoutstuff.org)
- ◆ (DE's name) (Sr. DE), (DE's phone #), is Troop XXX's (District name) District Executive who is on Staff at the Scout office. E-mail (DE's e-mail), Council website: <http://www.blueridgecouncil.org/brcic/>. District web page: (District Web page address)

UNIFORMS

Full Class "A" for "Uniform Inspection" meetings. (Name & phone number) has used uniform parts in good condition, and at a low price. Donate your outgrown uniform to another Scout.

-Full "Class A" uniform: Tan Scout collared shirt with all patches in place, and tucked into pants. Scout neckerchief & slide. (Scout hat, Scout socks, Scout belt, snap rope, and Scout pants are optional, but wear them if you have them.) Tan or khaki colors are preferred. **Blue jeans are not appropriate attire with a Class A shirt.** Show respect for Scouting and your Troop and dress appropriately at all times.

- **Minimum "Class A" uniform:** Scout tan collared shirt with proper patches & shoulder loops when leaving on any Scout trip, such as campouts and local visits, and other times when announced.

-Wear "Class A" when the uniform-of-the-day is in doubt.

"Class B" Shirt: should be worn all other times (Have a "B" tee shirt and shorts in your car if you must pick up your Scout from some other activity & bring him directly to a Scout meeting.)

-**1st choice Class "B" Shirt:** Troop XXX tee shirt

-**2nd choice Class "B" Shirt:** Any Scout T-shirt or a non-Scout shirt declared to be a Class B

-**3rd choice Class "B" Shirt:** A plain T-shirt (pack several of these for campouts. Keep one in your car for the quick run from other activities to Scouts on Tuesday).

-**Undesirable choice:** Any shirt that has a non-Scout logo. Please don't let your Scout get into the habit of wearing blue jeans or any but the above shirts to a Scout meeting. On campouts, the Scout should have at least one "Class A" and enough "Class B" shirts to make it one day longer than the campout.

NOTE: The Arrow of Light, service pins, religious awards and den chief braids are the **only Webelos** items to wear on a Scout shirt. Now is the time to put other Webelos items into your memory box.

RANK ADVANCEMENT Have a plan for your Scout's Advancement!

-After he is a "Scout" --- Scouts will work on the first three ranks simultaneously (Tenderfoot, 2nd Class, and 1st Class). There is a required time interval plus responsibility criteria before attaining each of the upper ranks (see Boy Scout Handbook).

3

- All Scouts, after finishing the skills part of each rank, must complete a **Scoutmaster's Conference** and a **Board-of-Review**. During these reviews, to show the required knowledge and skills were retained, Scouts may be asked to demonstrate continuing knowledge & understanding of any item from a lower rank, in addition to the rank under review. Parental review with the Scout prior to the SM Conference is crucial to refresh his memory about each item. **Parents are the Scout's safety net!**
- The **Scout himself must schedule the Scoutmaster's Conference with the SM. It will not be given the same day it is requested.** It will be held at a time and place agreed between the SM and Scout. After he completes the SM Conference, the Board-of-Review will be scheduled. Wear the full uniform.
- New Scouts typically enroll in the **Pathfinder** program at Camp Old Indian (plus minimal merit badges). Specific merit badges will be recommended. **SIGN-UP TIME IS NOW!** The **(New Scout Program Name)** program helps new Scouts obtain a good foundation for many of the **Tenderfoot, 2nd, and 1st** class rank requirements. **Focus on Rank Advancement and basic skills, not Merit Badges, the first year. There is plenty of time later for Merit Badges.**
- VERY IMPORTANT:** While the troop attempts to track rank advancement, the ultimate responsibility for **timely documentation** and demonstration of achievement rests with the Scout.

YOUR SCOUT'S PROGRESS

- Stay aware** of your Scout's progress by reviewing the sign-off pages in the **Boy Scout Handbook**.
- Review** your Scout's semi-annual computer printouts. These contain the Scout advancement and merit badge records, and are maintained by Troop XXX. Immediately correct errors or omissions so these can be updated. The signed **Boy Scout Handbook** is the source document for the corrections.
- Write down completed **Campouts & Troop & Patrol** activities in the **Scout Handbook** as they occur.
- Help your Scout keep an up-to-date **Community Service and Campout Record** by making sure he completes these in his **Boy Scout Handbook** in a timely manner. He will soon need these records.
- Keep pictures and memorabilia for your Scout's **Eagle Scout** notebook as he builds his memories!

TROOP XXX CAMPING

- Encourage** your Scout to go on all campouts and outings. These are an integral part of Scouting, the overall Troop XXX program, rank advancement and merit badges, and are fun adventures.
- The **Personal First aid kit** is typically the Scout's "ticket" to his first campout. Make sure your Scout takes it on all campouts and keeps it replenished.

OUTINGS-AT-A-GLANCE -**USUALLY MEET @ (LOCATION) @ 4:30 PM---BE ON TIME.**

- Scout will need: 1) **Permission slip**, completed and signed --keep copies of these handy -- complete and sign this **before bringing the Scout to the (location)**; 2) **Class "A" shirt** (preferably wearing it over his Class "B"); 3) **Enough Class "B" shirts** for the campout; 4) **Money** for patrol/troop & personal expenses, and "stuff"; 5) **Gear** properly selected and packed for the outing --see **Personal Camping Gear** form; 6) **Personal Food and fluids** if the campout is "Personal Cooking" instead of "Patrol Cooking"; 7) **Boy Scout Handbook**; 8) **Whistle**; 9) **Personal First Aid Kit**; 10) **Special medication** and instructions clearly packaged and marked [give directly to outing leader]; 11) **Bag "Supper"** for Fri evening meal; 12) **Good attitude**
- The Scout is responsible for his full outing cost commitment if he cancels after the food was bought or financial commitments made, or is a "no show". Same for parents who signed-up.
- Usually** pick up your Scout at (location) at **2 PM Sun**, but be aware of each outing's special situation. Don't leave with your Scout until all the Troop gear is properly unpacked, cleaned and stowed.
- Call **(SM's wife & Home phone)** **during a campout**. She **may** have emergency contact info.
- The Troop will supply the following for a typical **Troop or Patrol level campout**: 2-person tent, one ground cloth, troop and patrol cooking gear, pre-planned food, fluids at the campsite, large water coolers, ice chests and ice for spoilable food. Special instructions will be given for many trips (biking, backpacking, hiking, personal camping, skiing, canoeing, etc)

- The Scout supplies everything else. (Parents: help your Scout get into the habit of using the **Personal Camping Gear** checklist for each outing. Also, be sure to record **Community Service & Camping Info** in the **Boy Scout Handbook**. Do not go overboard on buying new stuff, but be sure to pack in preparation for inclement weather situations as well as the expected terrain and activities **BE PREPARED!** Check <http://www.accuweather.com> and pack accordingly.
- A whistle on a lanyard is recommended for all campouts—the whistle should be on a lanyard around the Scout's neck when departing, and be on the Scout during campouts.
- A "AA" 2-cell flashlight or headlamp should be in his pocket when departing, in addition to any other light. A suggested second light could double as a tent lantern. Always bring extra batteries.
- A good fitting inexpensive pack is better than an expensive pack that doesn't! Consider used gear.
- The Scout must have the Totin' Chip, or have it signed in his **Boy Scout Handbook**, before carrying or using a knife, saw or axe w/o adult supervision. This requires demonstrated skill and maturity in the use of a knife, saw, and axe. This is usually taught during a campout as well as Summer Camp.
- Scouts are not allowed to use any type of liquid fueled lighter or stove, without adult supervision.
- The scout should have a thin plastic ground cloth (a lightweight plastic sheet: 5' x 9') in his pack in case rainy weather indicates a ground cloth inside the tent would be prudent to keep gear dry.
- Avoid a twisted ankle! Make sure your Scout has hi-top shoes with good soles (that he can get dirty) to wear for all campouts or hikes --- use the top eyelets to help prevent a twisted ankle.
- Before you drive away after leaving your son for a campout, review the **Outings-At-A-Glance** in this handout to make sure nothing has been missed.
- Upon his return, make sure your Scout has completed **post-trip duties** before you whisk him away.
- Bi-annual District Camporees, and Council Exporees every third year, present a great opportunity for your Scout. Try to ensure he attends every one, rain or shine. Each is a different adventure!
- Attend the **FAMILY CAMPOUT (DATE AND LOCATION)**—let the Scouts spoil you!

GRUBBY'S JOB AT-A-GLANCE

- **Assist** your Scout with wise food shopping. When it's his turn to be "Grubby", don't shop for him.
- If he will be doing "Personal Cooking" make sure he gets the correct amount of food & fluids.
- The Scout, with parental assistance, buys the assigned food for the outing.
- **Stick to the Food List** and suggested cost on the **Campout Menu Planning Form**, & **Campout Food Buying Detail List** while making good value choices.
- The typical food budget, per Scout, for Patrol Cooking is: B = \$2, L = \$2, D = \$3, and Snack = \$1
- Sort the food by meal, then by "cold" and "not cold". Place each into appropriate bags and mark the Scout's name and the meal (B, L, or D) on each bag.
- Place cold food into a cooler (yours or a T-XXX cooler). Bring all food to *(location)* by 4:30PM on campout day. We will use your cooler or repack it into T-XXX's. We usually have ice at *(location)*.
- REALLY IMPORTANT !!! BRING THE SHOPPING LIST/CAMPOUT MENU!! DON'T LOSE IT OR FORGET IT!**
THE SCOUTS NEED IT TO PREPARE MEALS! We need your copy!
- Bring receipt to *(location)* or see the Troop Treasurer *(Name)* for reimbursement of food cost.

(SUMMER CAMP NAME)(2010 Summer Camp dates: ~noon Sun 6/27 - 9 AM Sat 7-3)

- Understand and support your Scout's planned Summer Camp activities.
- Obtain a sturdy Pullman-size (min 24 gal) lockable footlocker—strong enough to stand on— such as an "Action Packer" (available at Wal-mart, Lowes, etc. It's also good for year-round storage of Scout "stuff")...Wheels are nice but not required. Combination locks preferred over key locks.
- Review *(Camp Initials)* program information in the Leader's Guide. This is on the Council website.
- Attend the **pre-camp Scout/Parent meeting on *(Date)*** to get all the new *(Camp Initials)* info.
- Scouts will stay in matted bunks in 4-8 person Adirondacks.
- During Camp week, attend **Wed evening Troop supper (Arrive by 5:15, eat ~6:00 PM)**. Bring your own family their own **food**. Bring extra chairs. Plan to stay for Indian dancing ceremony by the Order of the Arrow. (Activities end ~9:30 PM).

- Volunteer to spend one or more nights at (Camp Name) as an adult assistant. Spend the day checking-out the Pathfinder, merit badge, etc. programs, and "enjoying" camp food. FREE!!!
- New Scouts:** The (Summer Camp Name & New Scout Progm) is an integral part of new Scout training for the 1st three Scout ranks for Troop XXX Scouts. **EVERY NEW SCOUT IS USUALLY EXPECTED TO ATTEND THIS PROGRAM AT (Initials), PREFERABLY WITH TROOP XXX DURING OUR WEEK.** (THERE ARE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE IF CAMP FEES ARE A PROBLEM — SEE THE SM.)
- Ask about Attending with another troop on a different week if our week poses a problem!**

MERIT BADGES: 1) Pick the MB; 2) Obtain a MB "Blue Card" and MB counselor name from the SM; 3) Read and understand the booklet for the specific MB; 4) Complete the requirements, including counselor's signature; 5) Give SM his part of signed "blue card". **Suggestion:** Working on a merit badge with a fellow Scout is encouraged, and is more successful.

- Scouts work on merit badges at camp, "merit badge colleges", during troop meetings, or on their own initiative. Individual initiative by the Scout is required for most merit badges to complete all rqmts.
- Most merit badges take special work to complete, and the Scout himself is responsible for seeing that this work is completed in a timely manner. Parental oversight is highly encouraged.
- <http://usscouts.org/advancementTOC.asp> has a synopsis of each Merit Badge. The website has links to printable forms that give lots of space to answer MB questions ... use them! The Troop also has many detailed Merit Badge books in the Troop Library. They can be bought at the Scout Store.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Community service is an integral part of scouting, and is a requirement for several ranks. The **SM must pre-approve Community service work.** Some community service work receives hour-for-hour credit; other receives partial credit. Find out the rules before your Scout does the work! Record all Community Service information in the Boy Scout Handbook, before it's forgotten.

SUMMERTIME MEETINGS -TROOP XXX DOES NOT HOLD STRUCTURED MEETINGS FROM SCHOOL-OUT UNTIL SCHOOL-START, BUT TROOP LEADERS ARE EAGER TO HELP A SCOUT ADVANCE. THEY OFTEN MEET DURING SUMMER WITH A SCOUT TO CONFIRM HE'S MET RANK OR MB RQMTS. THE SCOUT SIMPLY CALLS THE LEADER DIRECTLY TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS. THIS HAS PROVED TO BE EXCELLENT ONE-ON-ONE SCOUT/LEADER INTERACTION. **SCOUTS:** TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS.

SOME OF OUR WOOD BADGE TRAINED TROOP LEADERS

In addition to other Scouting involvements, all the leaders listed below have completed **Wood Badge Training**, Scouting's highest level of adult leader training.

- **Scoutmaster (SM) (SM's Name)** (Eagle Scout): District Camping Chair (Current), OA (Chapter name) Chapter Advisor (Current), NYLT Trainer ('09), Silver Beaver ('04), District Award of Merit, Scoutmaster-of-the-Year, Philmont Leader ('02 & '06), Nat Jamboree SM ('01), Nat Jamboree ('05) & World Jamboree ('99 & '07) Service Teams.
- **Assistant Scoutmasters (ASMs): (Name):** District Chair 2010 Centennial Committee (Current), Silver Beaver ('08), District Award of Merit ('08), Distinguished Commissioner Service Award ('09), Doctor of Commissioner Science Candidate ('10), Roundtable Commissioner ('03-'08), Commissioner-of-the-Year ('07), Wood Badge Staff ('05), District Boy Scouter-of-the-Year, National Jamboree Trap Shooting Instr ('05), World Jamboree Service Team ('99 & '07); **(Name):** District Boy Scouter of the Year (2008), District Asst. Cubmaster of the Year (2005), Asst. Cubmaster then Cubmaster PXXX (2004-2008), Scouter and Boy Scout Leader Training Knots, Webelos Den Leader (1998-2001); **(Name)** (Eagle Scout): District Chairman (Current), Council Merit Badge College Chairman ('05 -present), Silver Beaver ('07), Wood Badge SPL ('05), District Boy Scouter-of-the-Year, Philmont Leader ('02).



**Every Boy Scout Leader started where YOU are now.
Seize the opportunity to become a Boy Scout Leader!**



(Camp Name) SUMMER CAMP

--- (New Scout) PROGRAM ---

EQUIPMENT CHECKLIST (Page 1 of 2)

**IMPORTANT: (1) MARK SCOUT'S NAME ON EVERYTHING WITH A PERMANENT MARKER
(2) LET THE SCOUT PACK HIS STUFF SO HE CAN FIND IT LATER!**

RECOMMENDED GEAR (Ipods, Radios, etc are not appropriate at Boy Scout Camp)

- ___ 1 - 24 to 30 Gallon **LOCKABLE FOOTLOCKER**, wheels optional, strong enough that an older Scout can stand in the middle of it.
- ___ 1 - Set locks to fit footlocker, Combination type preferred (Write combination and keep it safely outside your locker) – Also, give combination to Scoutmaster (In case you forget or lose yours)
- ___ 1 - Smaller clear plastic box inside your footlocker for small stuff (Knife, money, batteries, etc)
- ___ 1 - **Boy Scout Handbook*
- ___ 1 - Set old twin-bed fitted and top sheets
- ___ 1 - Lightweight blanket or comforter (Note: a warm weather sleeping bag can be used for this)
- ___ 1 - Pillow with pillowcase
- ___ 1 - A/R - pajamas, boxers, sweatpants, "T" shirt or other sleeping attire for one week
- ___ 1 - *Bookbag (that can get dirty!) (for daily carrying of "stuff")
- ___ 1 - *Lightweight poncho OR raincoat and rain hat (very important)
- ___ 10 - Pair socks in Ziploc bag
- ___ 6 (Minimum) - underwear in Ziploc bag
- ___ 1 - Spare pair sneakers (Old shoes are OK, but be prepared for lots of walking!!!)
- ___ 1 - Pair water shoes, Crocs, or sandals (Wear these to shower & the 3/8 mile to the waterfront)
- ___ 1 - Scout hat
- ___ 1 - Sweatshirt with long sleeves (for the nighttime chill that happens after a rain)
- ___ 1 - Class "A" Scout shirt with patches, and all patches sewn properly
- ___ 2 - Hangers (for Class "A" and sweatshirt — Adirondacks have nails for the hangers)
- ___ 6 - Scout or plain T-shirts (confirm color w/SM)
- ___ 3 or 4 shorts (Scout shorts preferred), tan shorts are next best
- ___ 2 - Swim trunks
- ___ 1 or 2 cloth bags (or old pillowcases) for dirty clothes
- ___ 1 - Plastic drinking cup
- ___ 1 - *Personal first aid kit (See "Personal First Aid Kit Form")
- ___ 1 - Soap in plastic box, and one wrapped bar as a spare
- ___ 1 - *Toothbrush (in toothbrush case)
- ___ 1 - *Toothpaste
- ___ 3 - Bath towels (one may be a beach towel)
- ___ 1 - *Hand towel
- ___ 1 - Comb (if he uses one)
- ___ 2 or 3 Washcloths
- ___ 1 - *8 1/2" x 11" Spiral notebook
- ___ 2 or 3 *Writing pens & pencils
- ___ 2 each *10' lengths of small diameter rope (for clothesline & knot classes). Longer rope is O.K.
- ___ 2 - *Partial rolls of toilet paper, with liquid sanitizing soap stuffed inside (each in a Ziploc bag)
- ___ 1 (preferably 2) *flashlights, with spare batteries. One a "AA" size that can fit in your pocket.
- ___ 1 - *Scout (or similar) folding knife. **DO NOT** bring a dangerous-style knife.
- ___ 1 - *Bottle of Water or Sport Drink (works as a canteen, also) with screw-on cap. (Refill @ water fountain.)



(Camp Name) SUMMER CAMP

--- (New Scout) PROGRAM ---

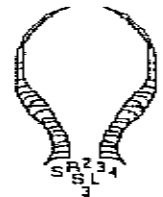
EQUIPMENT CHECKLIST (Page 2 of 2)

- 1 - Non-pressurized bug/mosquito repellent (Skin-So-Soft, Skintastic, Cutter, etc)
- 1 - *Eyeglass strap (if you wear glasses)
- 1 - *Hard shell glasses case (if you wear glasses)
- *\$15 spending money in wallet (your family may bring more Wednesday, or maybe not!)
- 1 - Set special medication for one week, arranged in clear or drug store bottles and each clearly marked with Scout's name, dosage, Troop XXX, and other conditions (i.e., with meals, at bedtime, etc). Put all of the medications and a copy of the instructions (see next item) in a single clear Ziploc bag (The Health Lodge requires original prescription containers w-labels). Make sure your Scout knows what is in the bag, as this will be reviewed with him on Sunday.
- 2 - 8 ½" x 11" copies of special medication instructions (1 for Scoutmaster; 1 for Health Lodge)

FAMILY NIGHT: On Wednesday evening your family may bring fresh clothes/ towels and take back your dirty ones, but sometimes this doesn't happen. **Be Prepared!**

OPTIONAL STUFF: (You do **NOT** need a full-size backpack --- so don't bring it)

- Other Class "A" uniform parts
- 1 - *lightweight* camp chair (Highly recommended; you may want to carry this to some classes)
- 1 - Orienteering compass & lanyard (see Scout leader for recommendations before you buy this)
- 1 - *Snap rope (Bring this only if you don't have the rope listed above)
- 1 - Fanny pack ... But the book bag will carry everything you need
- 1 - *Whistle with lanyard (Good to have this)
- 1 - Favorite book
- A/R - Musical instrument, books, bible
- 1 - Pair sunglasses (Good to have)
- 1 - Marking pen (to mark your name of new stuff you make or buy)
- 1 - *Camera and film or card --- you will want pics for your scrapbook when you make Eagle
- 1 - Set fishing gear (if you like to fish), personal bow (archery), Frisbee, football, hackey-sack
- A/R - twin-bed mosquito netting (needed only if you seem to attract flying creatures)
- 1 - Large (8' x 10') clear lightweight throwaway painter's drop cloth --- multiple uses
- A/R - snacks (but only if they can be tightly closed inside your footlocker to keep out varmints)
- Fun stuff for free time* (get recommendations from veteran Scouts) Cards, chess, board games



Sunday Afternoon Swim: Immediately upon arrival at COI (right after rollcall!), you will go on a COI orientation tour that includes the waterfront for a **swim test**, so you may want to **wear your swimsuit under your shorts when you arrive at COI**, to avoid an immediate clothes change.

***Put these items from the above list into your book bag. You will need them for Monday classes:** Boy Scout Handbook, Spiral Notebook, Pens/pencils, Poncho, Personal first aid kit, 1 snap rope or painter, Bottle of water or Sport drink, Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Toilet paper with liquid soap inside core, Flashlight, Wallet with money & ID, Whistle, Glasses Strap & Case, Hand Towel, Camera, Scout-type knife,

CONTENTS: INDIVIDUAL FIRST AID KIT THIS KIT BELONGS TO: _____

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| 3 – 3" x 3" (up to 4" x 4") GAUZE PAD | 1 – SMALL PENCIL | 2 – KNUCKLE BANDAGES |
| 1 – PAIR RUBBER GLOVES (IN BAGGIE) | 5 – MINI- OR MEDIUM BANDAGES | 4 – ALCOHOL PADS |
| 6 – BANDAGE STRIPS – ¾" x 3" | 1 – 1" WIDE ROLL OF GAUZE | 4 – SAFETY PINS (MEDIUM) |
| 1 – MOLESKIN OR 6" LONG DUCK TAPE | 2 – TRIPLE-ANTIBIOTIC OINTMENT PACKETS | 1 – TWEEZERS |
| 1 – BOOK MATCHES — IN PLASTIC WRAP | 1 – BEE STING STICK - FOR INSECT STINGS | 1 – THIS CONTENTS LIST |
- 2 EACH — QUARTERS & DIMES – FOR PHONE CALLS
2 – ASPIRIN TABLETS (FOR HEART ATTACK VICTIM)
1 – SMALL BOTTLE OF ANTISEPTIC GEL HAND CLEANER
1 – ½" WIDE ROLL OF WHITE TAPE OR SELF-ADHERENT WRAP
- OPTIONAL ITEMS (AS APPROVED BY YOUR PARENT)**
4 – ACETAMINOPHEN (TYLENOL) TABLETS (NON-ASPIRIN FOR PAIN RELIEF)
4 – IBUPROFEN (ADVL, MOTRIN) TABLETS (ANTI-INFLAMMATORY)
4 – BENEDRYL TABLETS (BEE STING REACTION)
4 – DECONGESTANT TABLETS

DATE KIT REPLENISHED

**Place All These Items in a Ziploc Sandwich Bag and
Take Them With You On All Hikes and Campouts**

SRL/REV3-05

CONTENTS: INDIVIDUAL FIRST AID KIT THIS KIT BELONGS TO: _____

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SRL/REV3-05

Personal Camping Gear

Make a check mark with a soft pencil in each square as you lay out your equipment, or as you decide the item is not needed for the outing or campout.

- Pack (or Carry Bag w/Handles)**
- Sweater OR jac-shirt
- Personal First Aid Kit**
- Poncho OR raincoat and rain hat
- Medication**
- Boy Scout Handbook*
- Ground sheet, plastic (6' x8')**
- Sleeping bag OR 2-3 blankets
- Foam pad OR air mattress**
- Foam OR air pillow
- Canteen or Bottled Water**
- Anti-septic Liquid Hand Cleaner
- Toilet paper, in Ziploc bag**
- Whistle on a string
- Purse or wallet with money and I.D.**
- Pair sneakers
- Matches**
- Dryer Lint / Fire starter
- Paper (to start fire)**

Clothing bag(s) containing:

- Bag for Dirty Clothes
- Change of underwear
- Extra handkerchiefs
- Extra socks
- Extra uniform parts
- Pajamas OR sweat suit

Eating Kit containing:

- Bowl Cup Plate
- Knife Fork Spoon

Toilet kit containing:

- Comb
- Metal mirror
- Soap in box
- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste

Cleaning Items

- Towels: Bath
- Towels: Hand
- Washcloth
- Washbasin (plastic)
- Laundry materials

Repair kit containing:

- Buttons Needles Thread
- Safety pins Shoelaces

- 2 Flashlights (One a headlight or AA pocket-size; other your choice)**
- Extra batteries
- Map**
- Orienteering Compass on a Lanyard, or GPS you know how to use
- Scout knife or similar folding knife**
- Watch
- Sunglasses**
- Ropes & Painters
- Bible, Testament or prayer book according to your faith**

Extras you may want to take

- Drinks other than water
- Extra Drinking Cup**
- Binocular
- Camera**
- Film & Batteries
- Camp Chair OR seat**
- Pen / Pencil
- Eyeglass strap
- Fanny Pack**
- Fishing Gear
- Game(s)**
- Hammock
- Mosquito dope**
- Musical instrument
- Notebook**
- Nylon line
- Pair moccasins**
- Sandals
- Water shoes**
- Snorkel
- Swim trunks**
- Songbook
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

CAMPOUT MENU PLANNING

Campout Location & Dates

PATROL NAME: _____ PATROL LEADER: _____ GRUBBY(S) _____

SHOW MENU NAMES ONLY ON THIS SIDE OF SHEET (I.E., CHERRY COBBLER). LIST INGREDIENTS ON OTHER SIDE.

Date: _____

Day of Week: _____

Breakfast

Lunch

Dinner

Date: _____

Day of Week: _____

Breakfast

Lunch

Dinner

Date: _____

Day of Week: _____

Breakfast

Lunch

Dinner

Instructions:

Rev 4-04

- Include a **SNACK** instead of Sunday lunch for most campouts.
- Be sure to confirm that drink mix is available if you are not buying it.
- Each item selected should be easy to prepare.
- Each meal for winter camping should be hot.
- Each meal should include a drink.
- Each meal should be balanced.
- Weight should be considered when backpacking.
- Each patrol box should include – salt, pepper and heavy duty aluminum foil.
- When cooking items that require mixing, check to make sure you have all ingredients.

Mealtime Duty Roster

Short-Term Campout

Patrol Name: _____ PL name: _____ Dates: _____

Campout Name/Location: _____ Names of Scouts working on Merit

Badge or Ranks requiring cooking duties: _____

Scout Leader(s) advising this patrol at mealtime: _____

REV 3-30-05

Name(s)	Friday Supper	Saturday Breakfast	Saturday Lunch	Saturday Supper	Sunday Breakfast	Sunday Lunch
	Cook	Fire	Water	Assistant Cook	Meal Cleanup	Cook
	Assistant Cook	Meal Cleanup	Cook	Fire	Water	Assistant Cook
	Fire	Water	Assistant Cook	Meal Cleanup	Cook	Fire
	Meal Cleanup	Cook	Fire	Water	Assistant Cook	Meal Cleanup
	Water	Assistant Cook	Meal Cleanup	Cook	Fire	Water

Patrol Leader – Arrange for setup of the cooking area. Before mealtime, assure the Cook knows the planned menu and how to cook it, and that all the others know their jobs. Arrange for training of Scouts needing it. Assure they are completing their tasks in a thorough and timely manner. Arrange for additional help or replacements as needed. Arrange with the Cook for prayer at each meal. Assure that large drinks (i.e., coolers of bug juice or water) stay available during the campout. Supervise patrol and cooking area breakdown, assure that these areas are OK after leaving the campsite, that gear is properly stowed for the return trip, and the gear is cleaned and properly stowed after returning to DRPC.

Cook – Make sure you understand each of the food menu, location, cooking, serving and cleanup requirements in ADVANCE of mealtime. Make sure all pans and Dutch ovens requiring foil lining for the meal have been prepared and inspected in ADVANCE of meal preparation. Make sure the cook area is clean and properly prepared for cooking prior to opening food. Assure all food and materials for cooking the meal are available at the cook site in a timely manner. Assure all people handling food or cooking equipment have clean hands. Prepare meals. Assure the serving area is clean and properly prepared for serving. Assure the Patrol Leader is informed when the meal is ready. Instruct guests on menu selections, serving and eating rules. Cooking team serves itself last. Announce "seconds" and any stipulations.

Assistant Cook – Assist the cook as requested, or as needed by the meal requirements. Prepare cooking and hot drink water. As soon as water-heating fire is available, instruct "Water" on quantity and pots to use to begin heating water for dish washing. Supervise meal cleanup. Supervise cooking area breakdown and proper stowing of gear after final meal.

Fire – Prepare and care for cooking equipment and lanterns. Refuel as needed. Gather firewood, build, light & tend the cooking fire. Prepare charcoal. Person with this task after final meal must also assure this equipment is properly stowed for the return trip, and properly stowed upon return to DRPC.

Meal cleanup – Understand what the cleaning requirements will be for the meal. Assure that cleanup water is heating as soon as practical. In a thorough and expeditious manner, clean up meal site, wash and properly rinse dishes and cleaning equipment, properly dispose of wash water, stow unneeded gear after drying, and assure that cooking area is ready for next meal. Also, prepare all pans and Dutch ovens requiring foil lining for the next meal. Person with Meal Cleanup after final meal must assure all patrol and cooking gear is clean, dry and properly stowed before leaving campsite, and is clean, dry and properly stowed upon return to DRPC.

Water – Get drinking and washing water. Assure bottom of all water heating pots are wiped clean before heating. Assure wash water is heating as soon as fire is available. Continue supplying heated water requirements until cleanup is complete. Prepare large drinks (i.e., coolers of bug juice or water). Person with this task after final meal must also properly dispose of unused liquids prior to departure, and clean and stow coolers upon return to DRPC.

TROOP XXX PERMISSION SLIP

I give my permission for my son: _____ to go on an
outing with Troop XXX on: _____

I understand they will be going to: _____

I understand they will be leaving from: _____ at _____
and returning to: _____ at _____

In case of emergency, I can be reached by phone at: _____

If I cannot be reached, please contact: _____ at _____

My son ___ WILL ___ WILL NOT be taking special medication. If he WILL,
_____ He has it in his possession and will be responsible for it entirely, or
_____ I will personally give it, in identified packaging, to the Adult in charge (On the
back of this form, list medication and dosages during the entire period. List time-of-day
for each dose, not "every 4 hrs, etc", and note if each medicine is "with" or "without"
food).

Signed _____ Date _____
Parent or Guardian

SRL/Permission Slip/2005

TROOP XXX PERMISSION SLIP

I give my permission for my son: _____ to go on an
outing with Troop XXX on: _____

I understand they will be going to: _____

I understand they will be leaving from: _____ at _____
and returning to: _____ at _____

In case of emergency, I can be reached by phone at: _____

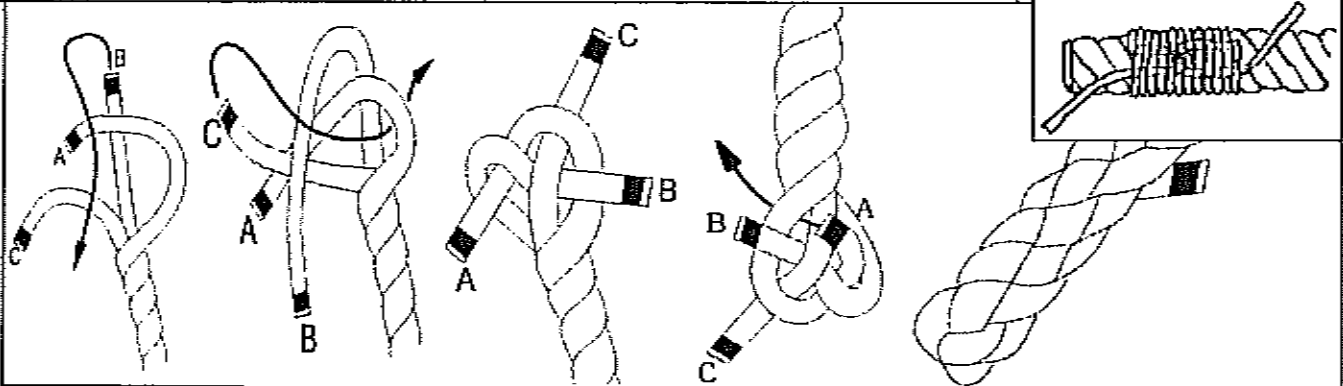
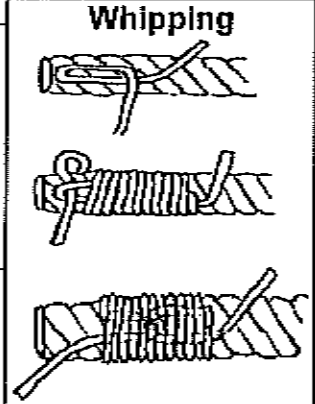
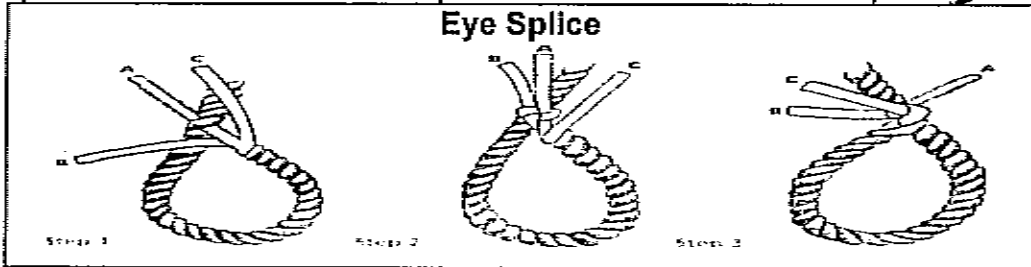
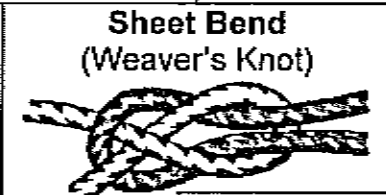
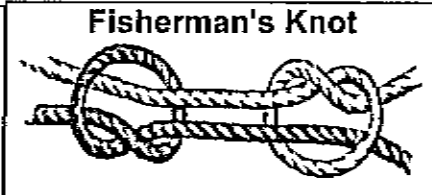
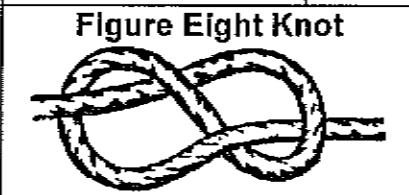
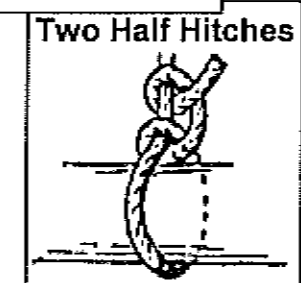
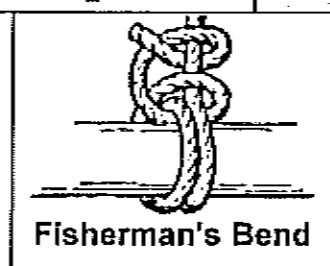
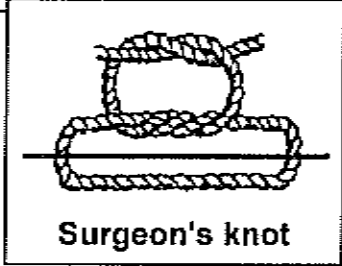
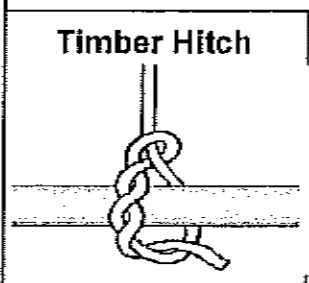
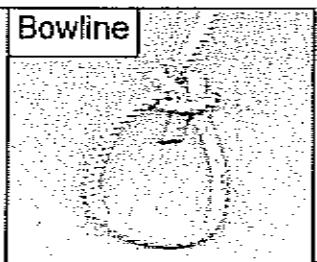
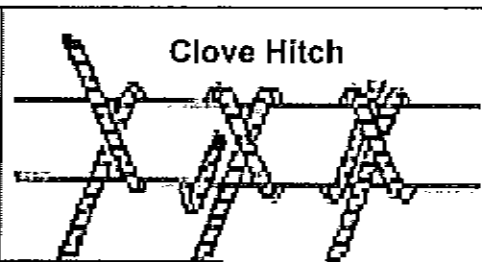
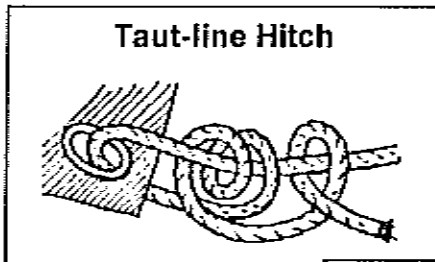
If I cannot be reached, please contact: _____ at _____

My son ___ WILL ___ WILL NOT be taking special medication. If he WILL,
_____ He has it in his possession and will be responsible for it entirely, or
_____ I will personally give it, in identified packaging, to the Adult in charge (On the
back of this form, list medication and dosages during the entire period. List time-of-day
for each dose, not "every 4 hrs, etc", and note if each medicine is "with" or "without"
food).

Signed _____ Date _____
Parent or Guardian

SRL/Permission Slip/2005

Knots Illustrated



Back Splice

Sheepshank

Use with Caution: May slip with heavy loads OR with smooth OR synthetic rope. Never use if the sudden slipping of this knot could cause an injury or damage property.

