

*ESPERANZA LUTHERAN CHURCH*  
*Phoenix, AZ*

# TROOP 14



## Parent Guide

Salt River District  
Grand Canyon Council

Revised 11/21/08

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

## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Boy Scouts of America and Troop 14! By becoming a parent of a Boy Scout, you are setting your son out on the grand adventure of Scouting. This is a tremendously important and rewarding endeavor that you will be able to share with him.

The following pages describe what the program is all about, how much it will cost, and the organization of our Troop. Reading this guide will help you understand how, with your help, your boy can progress through the Scout ranks. This guide is also designed to help you understand how you can be of help to your son and the Troop, and what the various adult volunteers are doing to help the Troop. There is a form for you to fill out at the end of this guide, please return it to a troop leader.

## WHAT IS BOY SCOUTING ALL ABOUT?

You might be surprised to find out that our purpose is not to teach camping skills. There are three aims to Boy Scouting:

- **To build character**  
To build self-reliance, self-discipline, self-confidence and self-respect
- **To foster citizenship**  
To foster love of community, country and world, along with a commitment of service to others and an understanding of democratic principles.
- **To develop fitness**  
To develop physical, mental, emotional, and moral fitness that will stay with a Scout for the rest of his life.

These three aims are the bedrock of the American Scouting movement. They represent the long-term outcomes desired for every boy.

|             | <b>Scout Law</b> | <b>Scout Oath</b>                                 |
|-------------|------------------|---|
| A Scout is: |                  | On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to    |
| Trustworthy | Obedient         | God and my country and to obey the Scout Law;     |
| Loyal       | Cheerful         | To help other people at all times; to keep myself |
| Helpful     | Thrifty          | physically strong, mentally awake, and morally    |
| Friendly    | Brave            | straight.   |
| Courteous   | Clean            |   |
| Kind        | Reverent         |   |

It is the mission of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) to serve others by helping to instill values in young people, and in other ways to prepare them to make ethical choices over their lifetime in achieving their full potential. The values we strive to instill are found in the Boy Scout Oath and Law.

Since 1910, these principles have been taught in an atmosphere of recreation and fun, which allows young people to develop self-confidence, leadership and moral character. More and more men, trained as Scouts, are taking their places in today's world as responsible adult leaders. Men, who earned badges as Scouts, sit on the Supreme Court of the United States. Others hold important offices in our government, business and industry. Most of the members of the present U.S. Congress were Scouts. Of the 214 pilots and scientists selected as astronauts since 1959, more than 125 were Scouts or have been active in Scouting, as well as most of the astronauts who have walked on the moon. The long list of famous Scouts includes:

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| President John F. Kennedy, Boy Scout                                   | Neil A. Armstrong, First person on the moon: Eagle Scout           | President Gerald Ford: Eagle Scout                                       |
| Steven Spielberg, Director/Producer, Eagle Scout                       | J. Willard Marriott, Jr.; President of Marriott Corp.: Eagle Scout | William C. Devries, MD; transplanted first artificial heart, Eagle Scout |
| Sam M. Walton, Chairman/CEO Wal-Mart: Eagle Scout                      | Sec. Robert Gates; Secretary of Defense: Eagle Scout               | Bill Bradley, United States Senator: Eagle Scout                         |
| Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr. - Admiral, Chief of Naval Operations, Eagle Scout | William Sessions - FBI director, Eagle Scout                       | Harrison Salisbury - Pulitzer Prize winning author, Eagle Scout          |

The Boy Scouts of America is one of the largest youth oriented organizations in the United States. More than 4 million young people and leaders are currently registered in the Boy Scouts of America.

Unlike Cub Scouting, which many of you are familiar with, Boy Scouting is a youth-led organization. The boys learn responsibility and how to organize and lead the Troop. Sometimes these lessons are hard however we try to make sure that all challenges we place before the Scouts are challenges they can, with a little effort, overcome. After training, and with adult supervision, the boys run the show.

**We use the following methods to accomplish our aims:**

- **Ideals** - Each Scout commits himself to the personal behavior guides and standards in the Scout motto, the slogan, the Oath and the Law
- **Patrols** - Patrols give Scouts experience in teamwork, democracy and leadership.
- **Outdoors** - Scouting emphasizes outdoors activities, which foster an appreciation of nature and our ecology. Along the way, Scouts practice and learn new skills and develop confidence in their own abilities to cope with obstacles. Scouting is outing! Your son will advance and enjoy Scouting if they go on the outings, otherwise there is a very good chance they will loose interest in the program.
- **Advancement** - The advancement program provides Scouts with a ladder of skills to climb at his own pace. On the way up, he has many opportunities to learn and to be recognized for his achievements.
- **Personal growth** - All of the other methods contribute to the personal growth of a Scout through experience. The quest for growth is a method, too.
- **Adult association** - Adult leaders, male and female, provide an example to Scouts of the high character they should strive for in their personal growth.
- **Leadership development** - Making boys get leadership experiences is one of the most valuable things Scouting does.

- **Uniform** - The uniform reminds a Scout of who he is and what is expected of him. It identifies him as part of a patrol, troop, council and worldwide youth movement. He can take pride in being a Scout, and in the achievements shown on his uniform and sash.

The boys in the Troop will be working towards their 1st class and then Eagle ranks. As they travel on their trail to Eagle and beyond, they will not only learn *how* to lead a team to a goal, they will actually lead teams of Scouts in a number of challenging situations. This is all done in the spirit of fun and adventure!

Please take a few minutes to read Chapter One and Two of your son's *Boy Scout Handbook*.

For families to achieve the full benefit from the program, parents should realize that Scouting is as educational as sitting in a classroom.

## ORGANIZATION

Troop 14 is a participating member of the Salt River (formally Tempe) District of the Grand Canyon Council, Boy Scouts of America. The Troop's organization consists of a Chartered Organization, a Troop Committee, the Troop, and the Troop's Parents.

### **Chartered Organization (Sponsor)**

Every Troop belongs to an organization called a Chartered Organization or Sponsor. The Chartered Organization for Troop 14 is Esperanza Lutheran Church. The church shares our objectives for the boys, provides service opportunities and insures that there is adequate, trained leadership. A Chartered Organization Representative acts as liaison between us and the church. He is active in the Troop Committee.

### **Troop Committee**

The Troop Committee functions as an administration and support organization for the Troop. The Troop Committee takes care of the non-program issues surrounding the Troop. For example: newsletters, Troop funds, fund raising, membership drives, coordination with local Packs, tour permits, advancement records, procurement and maintenance of Troop equipment.

The Committee meets monthly. The meetings are open and all parents and other interested adults. All are encouraged to attend. Call the Troop Committee Chairperson for more information.

### **Patrols and Patrol Leaders**

The Troop is a team made up of several patrols. Each Patrol usually consists of a Patrol Leader and no less than four Scouts and no more than eight to ten Scouts. The boys in a patrol elect their Patrol Leader who in turn appoints the Assistant Patrol Leader. The patrol system is essential to Scouting. Baden Powell, the founder of Scouting wrote in 1920:

*The Patrol System is the one essential feature in which Scout training differs from that of all other organizations, and where the System is properly applied, it is absolutely bound to bring success. It cannot help itself!*

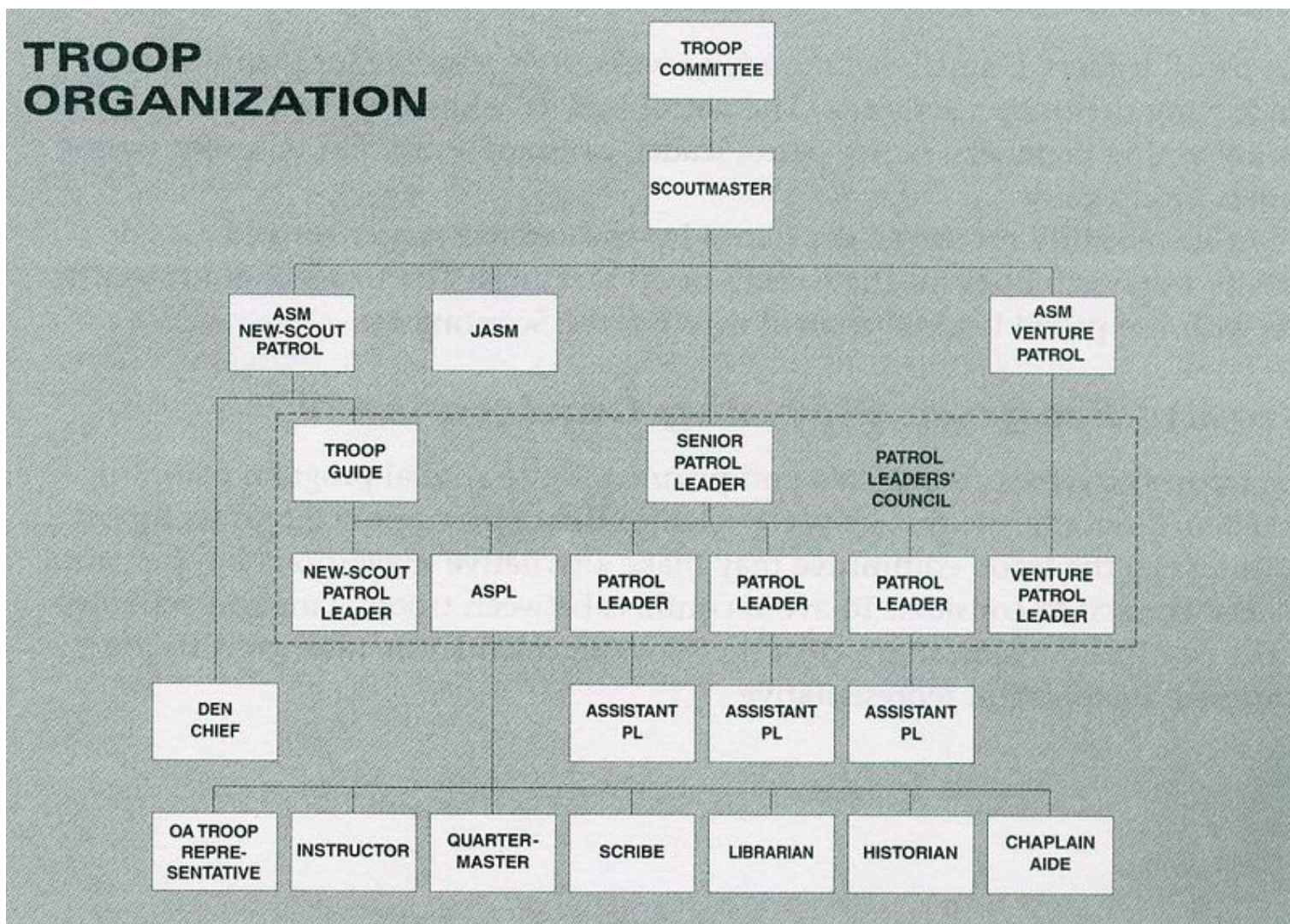
*The formation of the boys into Patrols of from six to eight and training them as separate units each under its own responsible leader is the key to a good Troop.*

*The Patrol is the unit of Scouting always, whether for work or for play, for discipline or for duty. An invaluable step in character training is to put responsibility on to the individual. This is immediately gained in appointing a Patrol Leader to responsible command of his Patrol. It is up to him to take hold of and to develop the qualities of each boy in his Patrol. It sounds a big order, but in practice it works. Then, through emulation and competition between Patrols, you produce a Patrol spirit which is eminently satisfactory, since it raises the tone among the boys and develops a higher standard of efficiency all round. Each boy in the Patrol realises that he is in himself a responsible unit and that the honour of his group depends in some degree on his own ability in playing the game. – Baden Powell, [Aids to Scoutmastership](#).*

The Senior Patrol Leader (SPL), Patrol Leaders and other youth officers, run the troop. Troop 14 holds elections for Senior Patrol Leader and Patrol Leaders every six months. The Senior Patrol Leader with approval of the Scoutmaster appoints the other troop officers who run the troop.

The Patrol Leaders, Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders, and Scribe, with the Senior Patrol Leader as their head, form the Patrol Leaders' Council, which plans the activities and runs the Troop meetings.

Elections for Senior Patrol Leader and Patrol Leaders are held twice each year.



## **Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters**

Troop 14 has one Scoutmaster and a number of Assistant Scoutmasters. The Scoutmasters' job is to teach the Senior Patrol Leader and other youth leaders how to run the troop, watch overall safety and the advancement of the Scouts. The Scoutmasters should not run the troop.

## **The Three Divisions of Troop 14**

We have three programs going on in Troop 14. We have formalized the three programs into three divisions. These divisions have no affect on the current patrol structure.

- **Pioneers** -- The Pioneers are Scouts who are working their way up to their 1st Class Rank.
- **Rangers** -- All Scouts who have made 1st Class Rank or above are automatically placed in the Ranger division.
- **Venture** -- All Scouts who are at least 1st Class, 13 years old, and want to participate in high adventure activities are eligible to join the Venture division. (This is not the same as the separate Venturing program that the BSA has).

## **Troop Meetings**

Troop 14 will hold meetings weekly. Meetings currently are held every Wednesday, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Changes to the meeting schedule will be announced as early as possible to allow for proper planning. It is expected that the Scouts will communicate changes through each Patrol. Parents should be told of changes by their Scouts.

## **Troop Parents**

The role of parents within Troop 14 is to be supportive of the Troop's efforts and to provide the atmosphere Scouts need to learn and excel. Parents should try to:

1. Read their son's handbook, especially chapters 1 and 2, and understand the purpose and methods of Scouting. Parents should attend an informal Boy Scout Fast Start conducted by the Troop Committee.
2. Read and go through the activities in the parent pullout at the beginning of the Boy Scout Handbook.
3. Actively follow their Scout's progress (or lack thereof) and offer encouragement and a push when needed.
4. Show support to both the individual Scout and the Troop by attending all Troop Courts of Honor.
5. Assist, as requested, in all Troop fund-raisers and other such activities. All such assistance lowers the cost of the program we offer to the Scouts and, therefore, lowers each family's cash outlay for their Scout(s).
6. Be aware of the Troop program and annual calendar.
7. Parents are encouraged to attend one or more Troop meetings or activities a quarter. (Why let the boys have all the fun?)
8. Special Needs Scouts – mentally, physically challenged or Scouts with learning disabilities can require special attention. Adult leaders in the troop are trained but extra time for individual Scouts will require the assistance of parents.

## Troop Communications

Our primary form of communication to parents and Scouts is through our email list - <mailto:bsatrop14@yahoogroups.com>. We need current email addresses for both the Scout and the parents. If you want to know the latest information and any changes to schedules, camping event information, documentation, etc., you will receive it if you are on the email list. With 30-40 Scouts in this Troop phone messaging is not efficient. Text messaging is the most common among the Scouts but it is not a permanent message channel - text messages typically are not saved. With email there is a tangible record of the message that can be saved, forwarded and printed. AND email is a one-to-many communication channel. Through a distribution list, like our mailing list, one person can send a message out to the whole Troop with one action. Text messaging is most effective one-to-one - like phone calls this is not efficient. If you would like to subscribe to the email list, send an email to: [bsatrop14-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:bsatrop14-subscribe@yahoogroups.com).

## ADVANCEMENT AND RECOGNITION

There are many definitions of advancement, but the Scouting definition might well be, simply, "the art of meeting a challenge." For that is exactly what the Boy Scout advancement program asks the boys to do. The Boy Scout advancement program provides a ladder of skills that a Scout climbs at his own pace. As he acquires these skills, he moves up through a series of ranks called: Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life, and Eagle. . The higher he climbs the more challenging his tasks -- and the more rewarding. Unlike in Cub Scouts, a Boy Scout must accomplish the requirement exactly as written, simply 'doing your best' will not satisfy a requirement. All Boy Scout requirements are designed to be challenging to a Scout, and age is taken under consideration when the requirement was written. The program is written to take 12 months to advance from Tenderfoot to 1st Class.

Achievement Goals include:

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

We don't look at advancement as a goal, but as a natural outcome of a planned, quality Troop program and it is integrated with our outdoor activities. Advancement happens on campouts.

### Pioneer Program: Advancement through First Class

Until a Scout reaches First Class, he should bring the Scout Handbook to every meeting and campout.

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

others, refining the learned skills and learning more advance skills. It is important that parents realize that this is a goal, not a requirement. There is a lot to Scouting besides earning rank, and some Scouts take longer to earn First Class, than others. That does not mean they are not benefiting from the program. The leaders understand this and will work with each boy accordingly.

### **Advancement from First Class to Eagle – Ranger Program**

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

The fact that a boy is an Eagle Scout has always carried with it a special significance, not only in Scouting, but also as he enters higher education, business or industry, and community service. The award is a performance-based achievement whose standards have been well maintained over the years. Not every boy who joins a Boy Scout troop earns the Eagle Scout rank; only about 2.5 percent of all Boy Scouts do so. This represents more than one million Boy Scouts who have earned the rank since 1911. Nevertheless, the goals of Scouting-citizenship: training, character development, and personal fitness-remain important for all Scouts, whether or not they attain the Eagle Scout rank. After obtaining Eagle, the Scouts go on to take senior leadership responsibilities in the Troop, eventually to become Junior Assistant Scoutmasters.

Details for advancement are contained in the Boy Scout Handbook, which every Scout should obtain as soon as possible after joining the Troop. Look at Chapter 1. This short chapter has an advancement summary through First Class.

Advancement will require mandatory attendance throughout the year to certain events and a percentage of troop meetings.

As of this writing, Troop 14 has matriculated 50 Eagle Scouts since our founding in 1995. The Eagle Roster and information for Life Scouts ready for Eagle advancement, is on our troop web page.

### **Merit Badges**

A Scout is responsible for earning his own merit badges. The goal of the merit badge program is to expand a Scout's areas of interest and to encourage the Scout to meet and work with adults in a chosen subject. A Scout working with a registered merit badge counselor earns merit badges. It is not the role of the troop or the parents to get a Scout through a merit badge. A Scout wishing to start a merit badge must go to the Scoutmaster (or Assistant Scoutmaster for New Scouts) and request to begin the badge. The Scoutmaster will determine if the Scout has initiated too many merit badges, and really should complete one before starting an additional one. If the Scoutmaster agrees that the Scout should begin the new badge, he will direct the Scout to contact the Advancement Chairman to obtain a 'blue card' and a recommendation for a merit badge councilor. Normally, the merit badge councilor will not be the Scout's parent. The Scout is required to contact the counselor to arrange for times and places to meet with the counselor. All work on the merit badge is supposed to start after the Scout meets with the merit badge councilor. When the Scout completes the work on the merit badge the counselor signs the 'blue card' indicating that the badge requirements have been completed. It is the Scouts responsibility to deliver the completed and signed 'blue card' to the

Advancement Chairman. The Advancement Chairman will update the troop records and obtain Merit Badges earned for presentation to the Scout at the next Troop meeting. The Scout will also be recognized during the Troop's quarterly Court of Honor.

There are over 100 different merit badges. All parents of Troop 14 Scouts are encouraged to become Merit Badge Counselors. Please fill in the attached Troop Resource Survey and return to a Troop Leader.

### **Boards of Review**

When a Scout has completed all the requirements for a rank, he will contact the Advancement Chairman to validate troop records are updated and schedule a Scout Master Conference and Board of Review. The Scout will appear before a board of review composed of members of the Troop committee. The purpose of the review is not an examination. The purpose of the Board of Review is to determine the Scout's attitude and acceptance of Scouting's ideals; to ensure that the requirements have been met for advancement (but he will not be retested), to discuss the Scout's experiences in the Troop and the Troop's program, and to encourage him to keep working towards advancement. A Board of Review may also be held to counsel a boy about his lack of progress toward advancement.

### **Courts of Honor**

Troop 14 will conduct a Court of Honor once a quarter. The Court of Honor recognizes all Scout appointments, elections, awards, and advancements since the last Court of Honor. Adult recognition may be presented before the opening of the Troop Court of Honor. It is the responsibility of the Troop's Patrol Leaders' Council to plan and conduct the Troop Courts of Honor. The Troop Committee will support the Courts of Honor as requested.

***The Court of Honor is a public ceremony, and is a chance for the Scouts to be publicly recognized for their achievements. Parents and all other interested individuals are encouraged to attend.***

### **Summer Camp – Mandatory for Advancement**

We have found that it is very important for new Scouts to attend summer camp the first year or two that they are in the program. Not only does summer camp provide a number of advancement opportunities for your son, it also provides a weeklong team building activity for your son's patrol. We have found that patrols are much stronger after summer camp than they were before the experience.

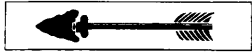
The summer camp the first year Scouts will be a local council camp. We have some of the best council camp programs in the nation and we know your son will enjoy the experience! There are camperships available for Scouts who cannot afford to attend summer camp on their own. Contact the Scoutmaster for more information.

It should be stressed that attendance at summer camp is vital for building troop spirit, team work and the ability to advance through the Scouting ranks. The camp for the first two years is Geronimo, a local Scout Camp run by our Council. Camp Geronimo is located beneath the majestic Mogollon Rim near Pine, Arizona. Camp Geronimo is an excellent accredited summer camp where the Scouts will learn their basic Scouting skills in a safe and supervised environment. Camp Geronimo offers an exciting advancement program to compliment our troop's year-round advancement program. The camp staff is available to assist Scouts in working towards earning a variety of fun and exciting merit

badges in a relaxed setting. After the Scout attends two years at Camp Geronimo, the troop offers the opportunity for an out of council or high adventure summer camp.

Attending a long term camp once a year is a mandatory requirement for advancement in Troop 14.

### **Order of the Arrow: The Honor Society of Scouting**



A member of the Order of the Arrow is a recognized by their distinctive red-arrow-on-white sash and right pocket-flap patch. The purpose of the Order of the Arrow is fourfold:

1. To recognize those Scout campers who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives
2. To develop and maintain camping traditions and spirit
3. To promote Scout camping
4. To crystallize the Scout habit of helpfulness into a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others

The Order of the Arrow is open to both Scouts and adults, and has strict entrance requirements. To become a member, a youth must be a registered member of a Boy Scout troop or Varsity Scout team and hold First Class rank. The youth must have experienced fifteen days and nights of camping during the two-year period before his election. The fifteen days and nights must include six consecutive days (including five nights) of resident camping, approved and under the auspices and standards of the Boy Scouts of America. The balance of the camping must be overnight, weekend, or other short-term camps. Their fellow unit members, following approval of the Scoutmaster, elect scouts to the Order. Their fellow Troop or Crewmembers elect Scouts to the Order. Scouts and adults must have at least 15 nights Scout camping, and they must have one long-term (six nights or more) camp. The other nine nights must consist of overnight and short-term outdoor camping. The Scouts must be at least of First Class rank. The unit committee elects adults.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

### **Rechartering and Fees**

The process of rechartering is the annual collection of registration fees for the Scouts and Leaders. The Troop also makes a formal visit to the chartering organization to renew their commitment for the coming year. The process of rechartering the Troop must be completed by the end of December of each calendar year. New or transferring Scouts and adults may join a troop on any given day of the year.

Troop dues are paid annually to the troop account along with the annual registration fee. This amount is set each year by the committee and used to support the cost of merit badges and running the troop. Boys Life magazine subscriptions are also paid at this time and are very strongly recommended for Scouts.

### **Fees for Outings and Activities – A Scout Pays His Own Way**

Individual activities may have fees associated with them. Summer camp expenses will be announced.

### **Fundraising**

The boys through various fundraising activities raise additional funds. The Troop plans to do two to

three major fundraising projects a year. All funds raised are applied to the Scouts' accounts to defray Scouting costs. The amount credited depends on the effort and time applied by the Scout. Details on this year's fund-raisers will be available at future Troop meetings.

### **Friends of Scouting**

Each year, the Council operates its Friends of Scouting (F.O.S.) campaign to raise money for the Council operations. The Council is responsible for maintaining the Council Camps<sup>1</sup>, the Council Scout-O-Rama, the Council Camporees, as well as other Council activities, Local BSA administration, Leader materials and local advertising. Contributions are voluntary, however Troop 14 has a good record of support for this important source of funding. As years go by, F.O.S. is becoming a critical source of BSA funding.

## **SAFETY - ADULT AND SCOUT**

### **Two-Deep Leadership**

Two registered adult leaders or one registered leader and a parent, one of whom must be at least 21 years of age or older, are required for all trips or outings. There are a few instances, such as patrol activities, when no adult leadership is required. Coed overnight activities require male and female adult leaders, both of whom must be 21 years of age or older.<sup>2</sup>

### **An Adult is Never Alone With a Scout**

An adult is never out of eyesight with a Scout who is not their son. There are no exceptions, and this includes when in motor vehicles.

### **Safety Rule of Four**

No fewer than four individuals (always with the minimum of two adults) go on any backcountry expedition or campout. If an accident occurs, one person stays with the injured, and two go for help. Additional adult leadership requirements must reflect an awareness of such factors as size and skill level of the group, anticipated environmental conditions, and overall degree of challenge.<sup>3</sup>

### **Transportation - Automobiles**

It is essential that adequate, safe, and responsible transportation be used for all Scouting activities. Because most accidents occur within a short distance from home, safety precautions are necessary, even on short trips. BSA regulations are as follows<sup>4</sup>:

1. Seat belts are required for all occupants.
2. All drivers must have a valid driver's license that has not been suspended or revoked for any reason. If the vehicle to be used is designed to carry more than 15 persons, including the driver (more than 10 persons, including the driver, in California), the driver must have a commercial driver's license (CDL).
3. An adult leader (at least 21 years of age) must be in charge and accompany the group.
4. The driver must be currently licensed and at least 18 years of age. Youth member exception: When traveling to an area, regional, or national Boy Scout activity or Venturing event under the leadership of an adult (at least 21 years of age) tour leader, a youth member at least 16 years of age may be a driver, subject to the following conditions:

<sup>1</sup> Camp Raymond, R bar C Scout Ranch, Camp Geronimo, and the Heard Scout Pueblo

<sup>2</sup> See the *Guide to Safe Scouting*, which is available online at: <http://www.scouting.org/pubs/gss/toc.html>

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

- a. Six months' driving experience as a licensed driver (time on a learner's permit or equivalent is not to be counted)
  - b. No record of accidents or moving violations
  - c. Parental permission granted to the leader, driver, and riders
5. Passenger cars or station wagons may be used for transporting passengers, but passengers should not ride on the rear deck of station wagons.
  6. Trucks may not be used for transporting passengers except in the cab.
  7. All driving, except short trips, should be done in daylight.
  8. All vehicles must be covered by automobile liability insurance with limits that meet or exceed requirements of the state in which the vehicle is licensed. It is recommended that coverage limits are at least \$50,000/\$100,000/\$50,000. Any vehicle designed to carry 10 or more passengers is required to have limits of \$100,000/\$500,000/\$100,000.
  9. Do not exceed the speed limit.
  10. Do not travel in convoy.
  11. Driving time is limited to a maximum of 10 hours and must be interrupted by frequent rest, food, and recreation stops. If there is only one driver, the driving time should be reduced and stops should be made more frequently.
  12. Drive with lights on for safety.

### **Sleeping Accommodations**

- Male and female leaders require separate sleeping facilities. Married couples may share the same quarters if appropriate facilities are available.
- Male and female youth participants will not share the same sleeping facility.
- When staying in tents, no youth will stay in the tent of an adult other than his or her parent or guardian.
- If separate shower and latrine facilities are not available, separate times for male and female use should be scheduled and posted for showers. The buddy system should be used for latrines by having one person wait outside the entrance, or provide Occupied and Unoccupied signs and/or inside door latches.<sup>5</sup>

### **Knives**

A sharp pocketknife with a can opener on it is an invaluable backcountry tool. After earning the Totin' Chip a Scout should keep one with them on all outings. Keep it clean, sharp, and handy. Avoid large sheath knives. They are heavy and awkward to carry, and unnecessary for most camp chores except for cleaning fish. Youth members will not be allowed to carry large sheath knives. Since its inception, Boy Scouting has relied heavily on an outdoor program to achieve its objectives. This program meets more of the purposes of Scouting than any other single feature. We believe we have a duty to instill in our members, youth and adult, the knowledge of how to use, handle, and store legally owned knives with the highest concern for safety and responsibility. Butterfly knives are not allowed in the troop.

### **Axes**

1. There is limited use for hatchets and axes. Scouts are discouraged from buying one for personal use. It is the responsibility of the Troop to provide hatchets or axes as necessary.
2. Scouts without a Totin' Chip card may use a hatchet only under instruction.
3. Scouts with a Totin' Chip card may use a hatchet without supervision.

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<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

4. Scouts with a Totin' Chip card and Paul Bunyan Axeman Award may use a 3/4 axe without supervision.
5. Otherwise Scouts with a Totin' Chip card may use a 3/4 axe under instruction for the Paul Bunyan Axeman Award.
6. Full Axes and double bladed axes are prohibited.

### Guns and Firearms

Except for law enforcement officers required to carry firearms within their jurisdiction, firearms shall not be brought on camping, hiking, backpacking, or other Scouting activities except if specifically announced by the troop and planned for target shooting under the supervision of a certified BSA or National Rifle Association firearms instructor. If the troop does not officially notify you that you can bring your own firearms, keep them at home.<sup>6</sup>

### Restricted Activities

A number of activities are restricted, for safety reasons, to Scouts of a certain age. There will be no exceptions made please do not ask.

### Unauthorized Activities

There are a number of activities that are not authorized in Scouting. They include, but are not limited to the following. Before planning any activity, please consult with the Scoutmaster.<sup>7</sup>

|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| All-terrain vehicles (ATV's)  | Boxing, karate, and related martial arts - except judo, Aikido, and Tai Chi         | Exploration of abandoned mines  | Flying in hang gliders, ultra lights, experimental class aircraft, or hot-air balloons; parachuting |
| All motorized speed events, including motorcycles, boats, drag racing, demolition derbies, and related events, are not authorized activities for any program level. | Participation in amateur or professional rodeo events                               | Pointing any type of firearm (including paintball, dye, or lasers) at any individual is unacceptable. | Motorized personal watercraft, such as jet-skis   |
| Parasailing, or any activity in which a person is carried aloft by a parachute, parasail, kite, or other device towed by a motorboat or by any other means          | All activities related to bungee cord jumping (sometimes called shock cord jumping) |   |   |

## BEHAVIOR - ADULT AND SCOUT

A Scout lives by a strict moral code. It is outlined in the Scout Oath and Law. Every Scout and adult participant is expected to live by this code at all times. Failure to do so may result in being asked to

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

leave the activity (no matter how late at night), having a parent pick up the Scout, and a restriction on future activities until the behavior changes.

### **Swearing and Jokes**

At every meeting, Boy Scouts promise to keep themselves "morally straight" and "clean." The Boy Scout Handbook advises boys that being "clean" goes beyond washing off dirt; it means getting in with a "clean crowd," having a "clean outlook on life" and staying away from "swearing and telling dirty stories." Adults and Scouts are asked not to participate in swearing, lewd behavior or telling dirty stories. No alcohol or tobacco products are permitted at any Scout activity.

Part of the Scout Law is that a "Scout is Reverent". This is defined as also defending another person's right to their beliefs. No jokes or skits related to a person's faith, handicap, orientation, race or creed will be tolerated in the troop.

### **Scout Spirit**

To advance a rank in Scouting the Scoutmaster has to sign off on a Scout Spirit requirement. This requirement is signed off at the time of the Scoutmaster Conference for every rank except Eagle where it is signed off by the district Eagle board.

The requirement states: "Demonstrate Scout spirit by living the Scout Oath (Promise) and Law in your everyday life."

This requirement is closely tied to the three aims of the program: 1) growth in moral strength and character; 2) participating citizenship; 3) development of physical, mental, and emotional fitness.

In determining Scout Spirit I look at the attitude of the Scout and how he behaves inside and outside of troop activities. I receive reports from the junior leaders, assistant scoutmasters and parents. Total behavior, troop activity participation, age and interest in being a Scout and trying to live the Oath and Law are all taken into account.

Language. Part of the Scout Law that we all follow is that a Scout is courteous and a Scout should be clean in thought, word and deed. That means, among other things, that Scouts do not use foul language. The ability to speak and instruct effectively without profanity, hazing or degradation of human dignity is an attribute of a Scout.

Scouts who have a problem with foul language, bad behavior or a negative attitude towards the troop or Scouting, will not advance until there is a change. We realize that the boys are growing and maturing and I take that into account. Note that we are stricter as they grow older and progress into the upper ranks.

### **Hazing, Initiations, Snipe Hunts, Harassment**

All forms of hazing, initiations, ridicule, or inappropriate teasing are prohibited and will not be allowed. Snipe hunts are a form of hazing and are not allowed in the troop.<sup>8</sup> Hazing is defined as any activity that causes the discomfort or harm of another for the enjoyment of the perpetrator.

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<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

## Steps in Troop Discipline

In the event that the troop has to discipline a Scout, the following guidelines will be followed. Depending on the situation, steps may be skipped.

1. The Scout will be warned by the Patrol Leader
2. The Scout will be warned by the Senior Patrol Leader
3. The Scout will be required to write and sign a note acceptably explaining his inappropriate behavior and give it to the Senior Patrol Leader and the Scoutmaster.
4. The Scout and the Scoutmaster will meet.
5. The Scout, his parent(s), the SPL, the Committee Chairman and the Scoutmaster will meet. This will normally result in the parent being required to be with the Scout at the activities.
6. The Scout will be suspended from a number of troop activities and meetings.
7. The Scout will be expelled from the troop

# UNIFORMS AND SCOUT SHOPS

## Uniforms

The Scout uniform is one of the eight methods used to achieve the three aims of Scouting. The uniform by itself cannot make a good Scout or a good Troop, but its use has been proven to improve both the Scout and the Troop because it is a visible symbol of Scouting and unity. Each Scout is required to have and wear, within a reasonable amount of time after joining the Troop, the following uniform items:

**Field or "Class A" Uniform** (must be worn to Courts of Honor, Troop meetings and to other Troop activities unless instructed otherwise by Troop leadership). It includes:

- Tan Scout shirts with appropriate insignia and patches (Grand Canyon Council strip, red shoulder loops, and patrol emblem.)
- Troop number (purchased from Troop)
- Troop 14 neckerchief (obtained from Troop)
- Neckerchief slide (can be purchased or made by Scout).
- Olive Scout pants or shorts.
- Boy Scout socks, for wearing with shorts.
- Boy Scout Hat (Optional).
- Scout web belt and buckle, or leather Scout belt.
- Tennis shoes or hiking boots. Socks are required.

**Activity or "Class B" Uniform** may be worn as instructed by Troop leadership. It includes:

- Troop 14 T-shirt (obtain from Troop 14), tucked in.
- Tennis shoes or hiking boots. Socks are required.
- Solid color pants or shorts.

Uniforms and insignia are worn a certain way. The Troop Leaders and Scout Shop staff will be able to answer any questions you might have on where to put what badge. Inside the cover of the Boy Scout Handbook, there are guides for badge placement.

**Uniform wear in Scouting is similar to uniform wear in sports activities. Unless specified otherwise, Scouts must arrive in class A uniform for ALL Troop activities, including campouts. Parents and Scouts should not be surprised if a Scout is sent home to change into the proper uniform. Shirts must be tucked in at all times.**

### **Camouflage**

National BSA policy, and it's Congressional Charter forbids the imitation of US Army, Navy, or Marine uniforms by members of the organization while participating in a BSA activity. Camouflage pants are acceptable at appropriate times, when the class A or B uniform is not required. The wearing of other camouflage gear, fatigues, or jump suites is discouraged.

### **Scout Shops**

There are two Scout Shops in the Phoenix Metropolitan area where you can purchase Scout uniforms and supplies:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Phoenix Scout Shop<br>2969 North Greenfield Road<br>Phoenix, AZ 85016<br>(602) 224-0778<br>M-F: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm<br>Sat: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm<br>Near Thomas & Squaw Peak Pkwy. | Mesa Scout Shop<br>Mesa Riverview Shopping Center<br>1061 N. Dobson Rd., Suite 109<br>Mesa, AZ 85201<br>(480) 926-0345<br>M-Sat: 10:00 am - 9:00 pm<br>Closed Sundays |
|---|---|

You can also shop online at: <http://www.scoutstuff.org>

## **AND FINALLY**

You are joining a great organization that includes tens of thousands of adult leaders, interested parents, and the BSA professional staff. Scouting is much more than enjoying the outdoors. Troop 14 has been very active and earned a good reputation for teaching leadership skills and community skills. Scouting also shows the boys how they can keep themselves strong and healthy and make the most of school. With hard work and dedication, your son will be able to serve as a leader in the Troop and advance in rank along the trail to Eagle, and beyond! Beyond anything else said in this package, the boys and us "big kids" are also in Scouting to have fun!

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>The troop web page is at:</b><br><a href="http://www.bsatroop14.com">http://www.bsatroop14.com</a> | <b>To join the Troop mailing list, send a blank email message to:</b><br><a href="mailto:bsatroop14-subscribe@yahoogroups.com">bsatroop14-subscribe@yahoogroups.com</a> |
|---|---|

## **PARENT FORM**

### **PARENTS PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO A TROOP LEADER**

- I have read and understand the Troop 14 Parent Guide
- I would like to volunteer for the Troop Committee

Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

A number of notices can be sent by electronic mail, if you have e-mail, please let us know what it is:

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_