



# Welcome to the Adventure of Boy Scouting

## Purpose of this booklet:

- ✓ Inform parents and boys about the Boy Scout program and the new experiences that await them.
- ✓ Transition from Cub Scouting into Boy Scouting.

# *Your Son, Boy Scouting, and You*

As a parent you want your son to grow up to be a person of worth, a self-reliant, dependable, and caring individual. As your son moves from Cub Scouting to Boy Scouting, Scouting has these same goals in mind for him. Since 1910, we've been weaving lifetime values into fun and educational activities designed to assist parents in strengthening character, developing good citizenship, enhancing physical fitness, and building self-esteem and ethical values of youth.

It is the purpose of the Boy Scouts of America to provide for youth an effective program designed to build desirable qualities of character, to train in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and develop in them personal fitness; thus, to help in the development of American citizens who:

- Are physically, mentally, and emotionally fit.
- Have a high degree of self-reliance as evidenced in such qualities as initiative, courage, and resourcefulness.
- Have personal and stable values firmly based on religious concepts.
- Have the desire and the skills to help others.
- Understand the principles of American social, economic, and governmental system.
- Are knowledgeable about and take pride in their American heritage and understand America's role in the world.
- Have a keen respect for the basic rights of all people.
- Are prepared to fulfill the varied responsibilities of participating in and giving leadership to American society and in the forums of the world.

The Boy Scouts of America accomplishes this purpose by making its program available in cooperation with existing groups having compatible goals, including religious, educational, civic, fraternal, business, labor, and governmental bodies.

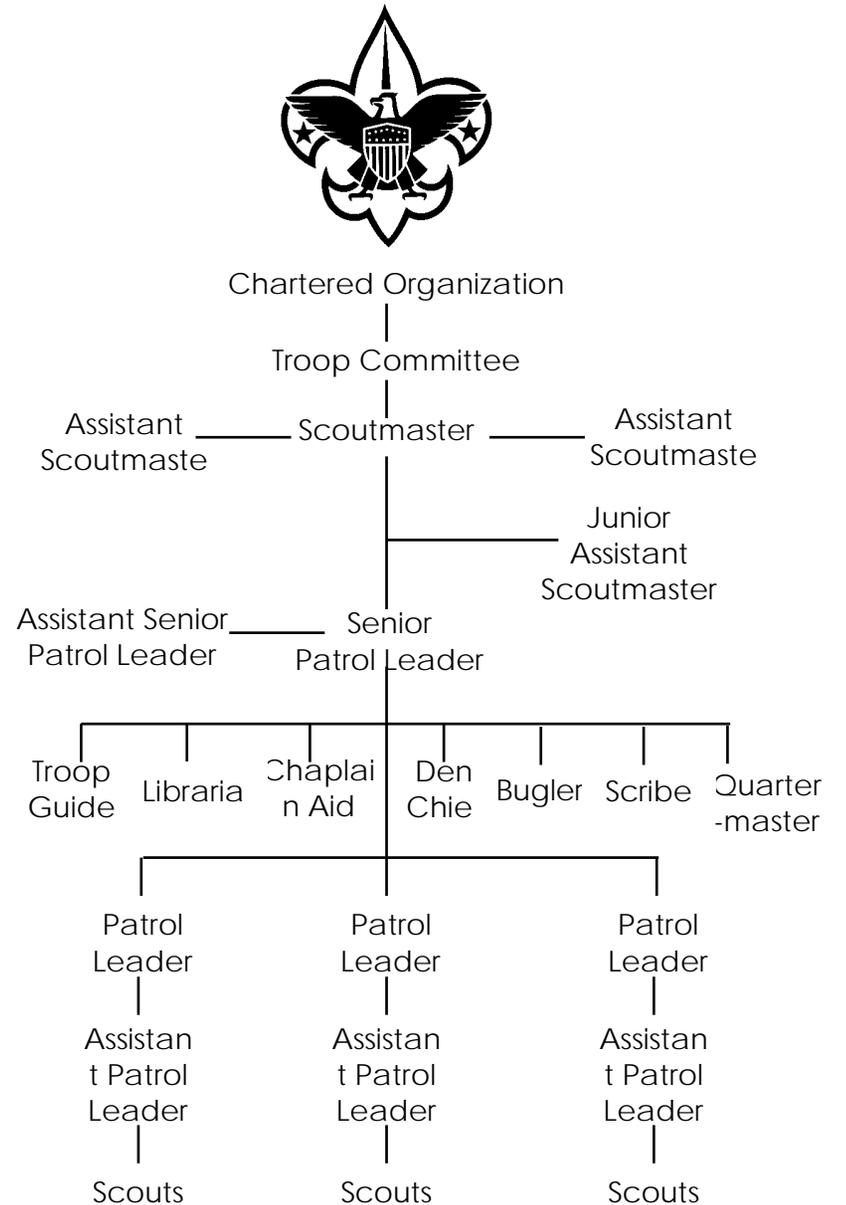
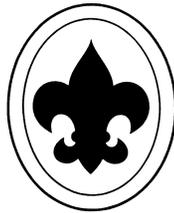
In a society where your son is often taught that winning is everything. Boy Scouting teaches him to "do his best" and be helpful to others as expressed in the Boy Scout Oath. These values help your son make good decisions throughout his life and give him confidence as he becomes an adult leader of tomorrow.



## Parents in the Scouting Program

As a parent of a Tiger cub you met with other parent groups once a month for a fun activity.

As a parent of a Cub Scout you helped your son complete den projects in his Wolf and Bear books and attended monthly pack meetings. Maybe you were a group leader at Cub Scout day camp or attended a resident camp with your son.



# THE AIMS AND METHODS OF

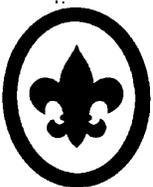
## AIMS

Boy Scouting works toward three aims. One is growth in moral strength and character. We may define this as what the boy is himself: his personal qualities, his values, and his outlook.

A second aim is participating citizenship. Used broadly, citizenship means the boy's relationship to others. He comes to learn his obligations to other people, to the society he lives in, to the government that presides over that society.

A third aim of Boy Scouting is development of physical, mental, and emotional fitness. Fitness includes the body (well tuned and healthy), the mind (able to think and solve problems), and the emotions (self-control, courage, and self-respect).

The methods are designed to accomplish these aims. Thus it is important that you know and use the methods of Boy Scouting. Other methods are good, but they may bring different results quite different from those we are seeking.



## METHODS

### Ideals

The ideals of Scouting are spelled out in the Scout Oath, Law, motto, and slogan. The Scout measures himself against these ideals and continually tries to improve. The goals are high, and as he reaches for them he has some control over what he becomes.

### Patrols

The patrol method gives Scouts an experience in-group living and participating citizenship. It places a certain amount of responsibility on young shoulders and teaches boys how to accept it. The patrol method allows Scouts to act in small groups where they easily can relate to each other. These small groups determine troop activities through their elected representatives.

### Outdoors

Boy Scouting is designed to take place outdoors. It is in the outdoors that Scouts share responsibilities and learn to live with each other. It is here that the skills and activities practiced at troop meetings come alive with purpose.

Being close to nature helps Scouts gain an appreciation for God's handiwork and mankind's place in it. The outdoors is the laboratory for Scouts to learn ecology and

# THE BOY SCOUT PROGRAM

## Advancement

Scouting provides a series of surmountable obstacles and steps to overcome them through the advancement method. The Scout plans his advancement and progresses at his own pace as he overcomes each challenge. The Scout is rewarded for each achievement, which helps him gain self-confidence. The steps in the advancement system help a boy grow in self-reliance and the ability to help others.

Active Scout participation and advancement go together. If you want to advance, take part in all the activities of your patrol and troop.

When you do, you will pick up most of the Scoutcraft skills you need for your advancement. Work with the other Scouts of your troop on service projects. When you do, your Scout spirit will grow stronger. Help other Scouts. As you do, your leadership abilities will develop.

Then when you have completed the tests for the award you are aiming for, tell your Scoutmaster. He will sit down with you for a personal growth agreement conference. After this, he will arrange for your Board of Review. When this review is over, your Scoutmaster will order the badge you have earned. It will be presented to you at a

association with adults of high character is encouraged at this stage of a young man's development.

## Personal Growth

As Scouts plan their activity, and progress towards their goals, they experience personal growth. The Good Turn concept is a major part of the personal growth method of Scouting. Boys grow as they participate in community service projects and do Good Turns for others. There probably is no device so successful in developing a basis for personal growth as the daily Good Turn.

## Leadership Development

Boy Scouting encourages boys to learn and practice leadership skills. Every Scout has the opportunity to participate in both shared and total leadership situations. Understanding the concepts of leadership helps a boy accept the leadership roles of others and guides him toward the citizenship aim of Scouting.

## Uniform

The uniform makes the Scout troop visible as a force for good and creates a positive youth image in the community. Boy Scouting is an action program, and wearing the uniform is an action that shows each Scout's commitment to the aims and purposes of Scouting. The uniform gives the Scout identity in a world brotherhood of youth that believe in the same ideals.

## *What You Should do now to Get Started in Boy Scouting...*

- Carefully review this booklet so you know what Boy Scouting is all about and how you and your son can get the most out of it.
- Purchase a Boy Scout Handbook now and begin attending the Boy Scout Troop meeting in your area.
- Mark troop meetings and campouts on your calendar.
- Fill out the troop resource survey and turn it in to the Scoutmaster or Committee Chair of the troop you son will be joining.
- Consider becoming a member of the troop committee and helping with some part of the program.



# Your Life as a Scout

**Today you are a boy.** Before long you will become a man. It is important to America and to yourself that you become a citizen of fine character, physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.



Boy Scouting will help you become that kind of citizen. But also, Scouting will give you fellowship and fun.



## **As a Boy Scout you will...**

- ⌘ Have lots of FUN with friends.
- ⌘ Be a member of a patrol that gathers weekly with other patrols at a troop meeting.
- ⌘ Learn Scoutcraft skills that will benefit you as you grow. In time, you will develop skills of leadership as well.
- ⌘ Grow into responsible manhood, learning to be of service to others.
- ⌘ Become an outdoorsman. Your life as a Scout will make you strong and self-reliant.

# How Boy Scouting Works

## Scout Patrol

A patrol is a team of 6 to 8 boys who work towards the same goal. In the patrol, you learn what fun it is to plan exciting things such as hiking and camping, with some of your best friends.

To have a good Scout patrol you have to elect a patrol leader who is responsible to:

- Plan and lead patrol meetings and activities.
- Keep patrol members informed.
- Assign each patrol member a job and supervise them.
- Represent the patrol at all patrol leader council meetings.
- Prepare the patrol to take part in all troop activities.
- Develop patrol spirit and control.
- Work with other troop leaders to make the troop run well.
- Set a good example.
- Wear the uniform correctly
- Live by the Scout Oath and Law.

## Scout Troop

The patrol does not stand alone. It is part of the troop. Most troops are made up of three or four patrols. A troop builds memories that last a lifetime; troop songs around a campfire, father and son campouts, and courts of honor

## Troop Leaders

Scoutmaster: a friend to whom the boys turn to for advice and a coach for the patrol leaders.

Assistant Scoutmaster: Helps the Scoutmaster and takes charge of the troop when needed.

Senior Patrol Leader: Helps all the patrol with their program and runs the troop meeting.

## Troop Committee

A group of people usually parents who are responsible for the troop's welfare. The committee meets once a month and helps the Scoutmaster and youth leaders carry out their program.

## Chartering Organization

The troop is owned by a chartered organization.

Chartered organizations include schools, parent associations, religious organizations, service clubs, and other groups interested in youth.

The chartered organization approves leaders, provides a meeting place, and operates troops within the guidelines and policies of the chartered organization and the Boy Scouts of America.

The chartered organization selects a chartered

# Scouting Is a Way of Life

The *Scout Oath* and the *Scout Law* are your guides to citizenship. They tell you what is expected of a Scout. They point out your duties.

## Scout Oath

On My Honor...As a Scout, you count your honor one of your most valuable possessions.

...I Will Do My Best...No person who has accomplished anything worthwhile did this by doing his second best...or his third or fourth best. He gave the very best that was in his best thoughts, his best work.

...To Do My Duty to God and My Country...The kind of man you will be depends on your ability to know your duty and to do your utmost to live up to your obligations.

...And To Obey the Scout Law...That law fits you as a boy. It will fit you just as well when you become a man—for a real man is everything the Scout Law stands for.

...To Help Other People at All Times...It is not enough to have willingness to help other people—you need to have the ability as well. You develop this ability as you advance in Scouting and learn how to act in an emergency.

...To Keep Myself Physically Strong, Mentally Awake, and Morally Straight...You owe it to yourself, your country, and your God to develop your body, to train your mind, to strive to be a boy and man of high character.

## Scout Law

<b>A Scout is:</b>	Trustworthy	Obedient
	Loyal	Cheerful
	Helpful	Thrifty
	Friendly	Brave
	Courteous	Clean