

HANDBOOK



TROOP 122

Waukesha, Wisconsin





TROOP 122

Waukesha, Wisconsin

Information for Scout Families of Troop 122

This booklet has been prepared to help you; the parents of Scouts in Troop 122 understand how the Scouting program works and how you can help your son. We warmly welcome your son to one of the world's greatest youth organizations. Please save this booklet and use it to help us provide him with the best Scouting experience possible.

Mike Burbie
Assistant Scoutmaster, Troop 122

WORK IN PROGRESS
Latest Revision – July 27, 2008

Every attempt will be made to keep revised copies available.

Table of Contents

Information for Scout Families of Troop 122.....	2
Table of Contents.....	3
General Information.....	4
The Aims and Methods of Scouting.....	4
Friends of Scouting.....	5
Medical Forms.....	5
Troop Organizations (Sponsors).....	6
Troop Committee.....	6
Troop 122.....	6
Troop Meetings.....	6
Adult Leadership.....	6
Patrols and Patrol Leaders.....	6
Scout Accounts.....	7
Uniforms.....	7
How Parents Can Help.....	8
Help The Troop Committee.....	8
Be A Merit Badge Counselor.....	8
Encourage Participation.....	8
Help With Fundraising.....	8
Come on Outings.....	8
Advancement.....	9
Advancement through First Class.....	10
Advancement from First Class To Eagle.....	10
Who Signs Off Requirements.....	10
Merit Badges.....	10
Board of Review.....	10
Contact Us or Call Us With Questions.....	11

Visit Us Online at <http://pacunits.org/t122>

General Information

The Scouting Program is planned and run by the boys themselves at Troop 122 and can be best summed up in two paragraphs taken from "The Scoutmaster's Handbook" (a BSA Publication).

"The Boy Scout troop is made up of patrols, groupings of six to eight boys who work together as a team. Each patrol elects its own leader. The Patrol Leaders, with an elected Senior Patrol Leader as their head, form the Patrol Leaders Council (PLC). It is the PLC's job to plan and run the troop program.

Each Patrol Leader represents his patrol on the PLC, and interprets to his patrol the plans and decisions the PLC makes. Patrols also have their own meetings, elect their own officers, plan and carry out their own patrol activities."

The Aims and Methods of Scouting

"The Three Points of Scouting"

When some people think of scouting, they think of hot dogs, tents, and campfires. When we think of an Eagle Scout, however, we think of someone who is honest, helpful, and kind. Sure we want to have fun, but the essence of scouting is expressed by our motto, "Be Prepared," our slogan, "Do a Good Turn Daily," the Scout Oath, Law, and Outdoor Code.

The best definition of scouting is found in the three points of the Boy Scout Oath that are symbolized by the three fingers of the scout sign. Each point of this oath defines one of the fundamental duties of a scout.

DUTY TO GOD, DUTY TO OTHER PEOPLE, DUTY TO MYSELF.

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 and in the chambers of Congress. Others hold important offices in our government, business and industry. Most of the members of congress were Scouts, as well as most of the astronauts who have walked on the moon.

The Aims of the Scouting Program as laid out by BSA and the goals of the scouting program in Troop 122 are;

1. To build character,
2. To foster citizenship
3. To develop fitness.

"The Eight Methods of Scouting"

These Aims or goals are accomplished in the scouting program by what are called the " Eight Methods of Scouting". These are not the purposes of Scouting but are the tools used to meet the "Aims".

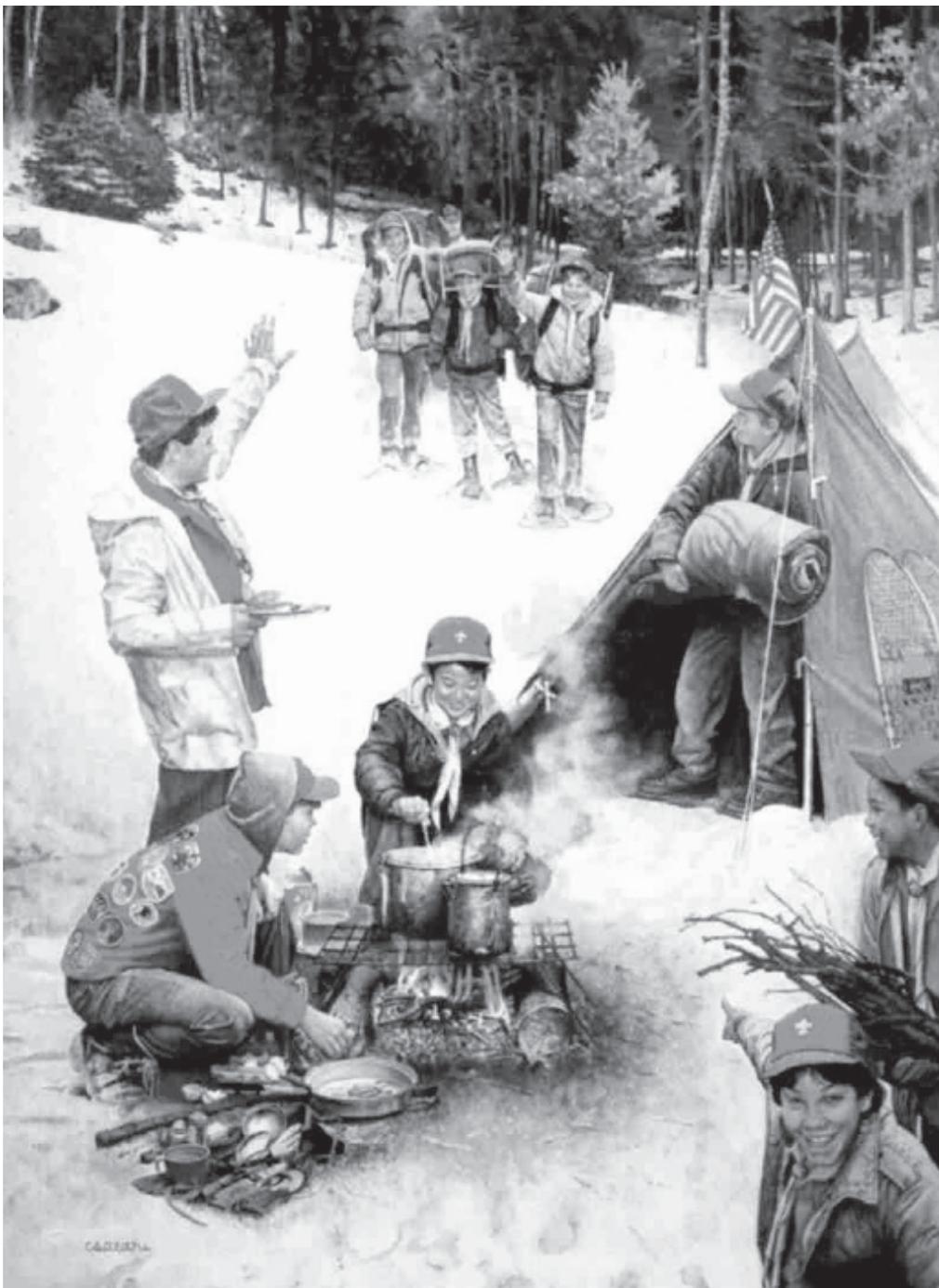
1. The Ideals; the scout oath and law, motto, slogan.
2. The Patrol method; a mini-democracy in action.
3. The Outdoor Program; the laboratory where that Patrol must function.
4. Advancement; skill training.
5. Personal Growth; a scout's collective experiences.
6. Adult Association; role models.
7. Leadership Development; A BOY-RUN PROGRAM!
8. The Uniform; sense of belonging and pride.

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', the Council Camporees, as well as other Council activities, Local BSA administration and local advertising. Contributions are voluntary, but the Troop has a good record of support for this activity. As years go by, F.O.S. is becoming a critical source of BSA funding.

Medical Forms

Each year all Scouts must turn in with registration a current updated Class 1 medical form. In addition all Scouts must have a current (within three years) Class 3 medical form (Physical) on file. Scouts 14 and older may need yearly physicals to participate in High adventure activities such as Summer Camp. The Troop Medical Officer will make every effort to inform Scouts and their parents if current physicals are expiring. It is recommended that when a physical is being performed for some other reason such as for school sports that you have your Physician fill out a new Class 3 at the same time. Medical forms are always available at the Bulletin Board table each Troop meeting.



Troop Organization

Troop 122 is a participating member of the Fox Rive District of the Potawatomi Area 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 Organizations (Sponsors)

Every Troop belongs to an organization. The Chartered Organizations for Troop 122 are The Waukesha Evening Lions Club and First United Methodist Church.

Troop Committee

There is an active group of parents on the Troop Committee. The Troop Committee functions as an administration and support organization for the Troop and Scoutmaster Staff. Also, the Committee sees that the rules and policies of the BSA and the Charter Organization are followed. The Troop Committee takes care of the non-program issues surrounding the Troop. For example, newsletters, Troop funds, fundraising activities, membership drives, activity permits and coordination, advancement records, procurement and maintenance of Troop equipment. The Committee meets monthly. The meetings are open and attendance is encouraged by all parents and other interested adults. Our current Committee Chairperson is Ms. Laura Burbie

Troop 122

Troop Meetings

Troop 122 will hold meetings weekly. Meetings currently are held every Thursday, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church. Changes to the meeting schedule will be announced as early as possible to allow for proper planning.

Adult Leadership

Adult leadership comes from the Scoutmaster and the Assistant Scoutmasters. Although Troop 122 is run by the boys, adult leadership from the Scoutmaster Staff, through guidance, training, counseling, and participation is essential to the smooth running of all Troop activities. Two registered adult leaders, or one adult leader and a Scout parent, one of whom must be 21 years of age are required for all Troop 122 meetings. Our current Scoutmaster is Mr. John Bauer. Our Assistant Scoutmasters are: Mr. Adam Bauer, Mr. Thad Blattner, Mr. Mike Burbie, Mr. Fred Hahn, Mr. Ande Macpherson, Mr. Larry Missling and Mr. Doug Taylor.

Patrols and Patrol Leaders

The Troop is a group made up of several patrols. The boys in a patrol elect their patrol leader who in turn appoints the assistant patrol leader. On camping trips, patrols set up their site, plan their menu, buy their food and cook their own meals. Older scouts in our leadership corps coordinate activities and run the troop meetings. In Troop 122 patrols are set up by grade level with an older Scout for assistance. Every effort is made to keep friends together. Patrol assignments can be changed to suit the wishes of the boys. In addition to the Patrol Leaders, several older scouts are assigned as "Troop Guides" to work with the new members and advise the Patrol Leaders. Our Junior Assistant Scoutmasters are previous Senior Patrol Leaders. Senior Patrol Leader and Patrol Leader elections are held once a year in February along with the Order of the Arrow elections.

Scout Accounts

Many of the costs of Scouting with Troop 122 can be offset by participation in Troop fundraisers. Scouts who participate in a fundraiser get a portion credited to their individual Scout account. The Troop Committee determines what percentage of a particular fundraiser will be dedicated to Scout accounts. Money in a Scout account is available to be used only toward Troop activities, or for personal Scouting-related equipment purchases (such as backpacks, sleeping bags, uniforms etc) to support their participation in the Troop. After a boy has left the troop, any funds remaining in a Scout account revert back to the general Troop treasure. If the Scout is transferring to another Boy Scout unit his Scout account funds can be transferred to the new unit upon request subject to Troop Committee approval.

Note: Funds in a Scout account do not belong to the Scout. These funds are a financial resource available from the Troop. Through his participation in fundraisers, the Scout contributes to his account and, as a result earns access to the funds.



Uniforms

Uniforms are part of Scouting and the boys are required to wear them at troop meetings, at summer camp, and during most activities. The best place to acquire uniforms and apparel is the National Scout Shop in Waukesha.

What You Need:

Scout Shirt - Either short or long sleeves are fine. A pair of red epaulets is worn on the shirt.

Patches - You need a troop numeral (122), a Council patch, and a patrol patch. Earned badges are presented by the Troop at Courts of Honor. Collectible patches are given out at special events or can be purchased at scout camps. The scout handbook shows where the patches should be placed. (Or ask one of the adult leaders if you have any questions about the uniform.)

Neckerchief - A neckerchief will be presented to your son by the troop at the time of his investiture (bridging) ceremony.

Neckerchief Slide - Official BSA slide or any other homemade slide.

Merit Badge Sash - Scouts need this sash once they have six or more merit badges.

How Parents Can Help

Help The Troop Committee

Providing support for a boy-run Troop is a lot of work, and while we have a great group of parents serving on the Troop Committee to help the boys to carry out their planned program, there's always a need for more help on the Committee. That is why all parents are invited to be members of the Troop Committee and are encouraged to attend meetings. Schedules and agendas are available at Troop meetings. Registered Adult Members are needed to serve on Boards of Review (the final step in advancement of rank for a Scout).

Be A Merit Badge Counselor

BSA offers about 130 merit badges. Each merit badge covers a specialized area of interest. Adults with an expertise or interest in covered merit badge areas are needed to guide interested boys through those requirements.

Encourage Participation

An important aspect of the scout program is to get the boys within each Patrol to work together towards accomplish objectives. Before each camping trip the Patrols plan meals, share chores, and participate in activities such as campfire skits. On the trips, the Patrols execute those plans. A boy can gain the benefits of the program only if he plays an active roll in his Patrol. An active role implies regular attendance at meetings and weekend activities. Help your son to be active. Encourage him to keep dates open for Troop activities. A Scout that is assuming a Leadership position must make an even greater commitment.

Help with Fund Raising

The troop portion of the annual dues is not sufficient to cover the yearly cost of the troop. The money paid for activities goes toward the direct cost of that activity. The Troop also need money for equipment, the badges awarded at Courts of Honor, the cost of mailings, and other incidental expenses. Each November the troop will manage a fundraiser that will require the participation of the boys and their families. The goal of this event is to raise the necessary funds debt forth in the troop budget. These required funds would need to be earned equitably as determined by the size of the troop and approved by the Troop Committee.

Come on Outings

Parents are always welcome on camping trips and activities. On most weekend outings we can use a little extra help. We always need as much help as we can get during our week at summer camp. Provide Transportation When we go camping, we need to bring the boys, their gear, and lots of troop equipment. While some of us have vans or trucks, most have cars can only carry two or three boys. We usually need one group of drivers to take us to the campsite and another to bring us back. Every family can expect to drive one way or the other for about half the trips their son attends.

Advancement

Advancement is one of the eight methods of Scouting and centers on badges, which are called progress awards, or "Badges of Rank." These progress awards include, Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life, and Eagle. The Eagle Award is the top progress award and the highest award scouting has to offer, however the journey to Eagle via equal application of all eight methods of Scouting and meeting the three Aims is the real goal.

The requirements for all progress awards follow the same basic pattern:

1. **Participation** - You are required to be active in the troop and patrol. This means regular attendance at troop meetings and troop activities. For the lower ranks, younger scouts must participate in a specific number of activities. For higher ranks, the older boys must be "active" for a specified time period.
2. **Spirit** - You must live up to the ideals of scouting as expressed in the Scout Oath, Law, Slogan, Motto, and the Outdoor Code. This is a key part of the Scoutmaster conference and expectations increase with rank.
3. **Skills** - All progress awards require you to learn skills. For the lower ranks, the things you need to learn are spelled out in the requirements for that rank. For the higher ranks you learn by earning merit badges. Don't make the mistake of thinking that merely learning these skills qualifies you for a progress award. Spirit, participation, leadership, and service are equally important.
4. **Leadership** - For the ranks of Star and above, you are required to attend Junior Leader Training (JLT) and serve actively in a leadership position within the Troop. At this stage in a Scout's career responsibility, commitment, leadership, and making tough choices are the important factors.
5. **Service** - For Star and Life you must give a certain number of hours in service to others. For Eagle, you organize a service project.
6. **Scoutmaster's Conference** - As one of the requirements for any rank advancement, you must have a one-on-one conference with the Scoutmaster. As noted above the Scout Oath and Law are key topics of discussion. For the higher ranks leadership roles relative to the Troop and the Oath and Law are also discussed.
7. **Board of Review** - With the exception of the Scout rank, after the Scoutmasters conference, the final step in advancement is to meet with several members of the Troop committee for a progress review. (See Board of Review section on next page.) We don't look at advancement as a goal, but as a natural outcome of a planned, quality Troop program.

There are four steps of advancement:

- The Boy Scout Learns.
- The Boy Scout is Tested.
- The Boy Scout is Reviewed.
- The Boy Scout is Recognized,

Advancement Through First Class



From the time the Scout enters the Troop through the time he earns advancement to First Class, he is learning basic scouting skills to enable him to camp, hike, swim, cook, tie knots, administer first aid, and perform other tasks in the outdoors and to work as a member of a team. With those first steps the scout begins to build themselves 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 there 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 additional skills.

Advancement from First Class to Eagle

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



Who Signs Off Requirements

The best way to learn and retain a skill is to teach it to another. For Scout through First Class ranks, any Scout of First Class rank or higher may sign off "Skill" requirements once he has been certified as proficient for that particular Scout skill. The Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters may also sign off requirements if a Scout of rank is not available. Unlike the Cub Scouts, parents cannot sign off requirements. For Star through Eagle ranks, only the Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmasters may sign off those requirements. Only registered "Merit Badge Counselors" that are specifically approved for a particular merit badge can sign off requirements for that merit badge.

Merit Badges

Merit badges give scouts a chance to learn about a very broad range of skills. The Star, Life, and Eagle progress awards require the scout to earn merit badges.

About 130 merit badges are offered. Some of these cover scout skills like "Camping" and "Cooking." Others cover skills that are oriented toward producing better citizens, like "Safety" and "Citizenship in the Community." Some are for selfdevelopment, like "Communication" or "Personal Management," some are for fun, like "Skiing" or "Model Building," and many are designed to help scouts learn about careers, like "Dentistry", "Electronics," or "Journalism."

Our troop leaders do not pass scouts on most merit badges. Boys must go to specific merit-badge counselors for these badges; the counselors are experts in their respective fields who donate their time and live in the area. Often, a counselor will teach a class on a merit badge before our meetings. Merit badges may also be earned at summer camp, where many counselors are on the camp staff.

Although scouts do not need merit badges until they have reached the rank of First Class, many like to get started sooner. Most boys can find a few that coincide with their own interests and accomplishments closely enough that they have already met all the requirements. In this case, why not go get the badge? Requirements for merit badges are found in an inexpensive booklet titled "Boy Scout Requirements" available in the Troop library or at the Scout Shop.

In order to begin a merit badge you must first get the permission of the Scoutmaster. He will give you a Blue Merit badge card signed by him and will recommend a registered counselor for that merit badge.

Boards of Review

A board of review is a meeting between a Scout and some of the Troop's committee members to be certain that all the requirements for a progress award were met. The Troop Committee Chair or his/her designee selects the members of the Board. Also this time is used to assess the Troop's program from the boy's perspective. After a Scoutmaster Conference it is the Scouts responsibility to schedule his Board or review. (Must be in uniform and have Scout Book for Scoutmaster Conference and Board of Review)



TROOP 122

Waukesha, Wisconsin

Contact or Call Us with Questions

Because the Boys run their own Troop, Boy Scouting is quite different from any other youth organization that you may have participated in, including Cub Scouts. The difference often leads to confusion and misunderstandings about how and why things are done. Parents and Scouts are strongly encouraged to promptly bring their concerns to the Scoutmaster Staff. While the Scoutmaster and Assistants are usually busy with the Scouts during Troop meetings, if you have questions or concerns about our program, please contact any of us before or after Troop meetings, or you can call or email any of the following:

Committee Chair:

Laura Burbie (c) 414/313-6012 litllaura@sbcglobal.net

Scoutmaster:

John Bauer (h) 262/542-4709 jcbauer4@ameritech.net
(c) 414/916-9225

Asst. Scoutmasters:

Adam Bauer (h) 262/542-4709

Thad Blattner (h) 262/446-2851 tblattner@wi.rr.com

Mike Burbie (c) 262/470-2989 mburbie@gmail.com

Tim Breen (h) 262/549-9348 breens@netzero.com

Ande Macpherson (c) 262/565-8586 maninthetophat1990@yahoo.com

Larry Missling (h) 262/548-9427 larz6235@ameritech.net

Doug Taylor (h) 262/513-8934 taylor64@wi.rr.com

Webmaster:

Mike Burbie (c) 262/470-2989 mburbie@gmail.com