

Webelos to Scout Transition Initiative III



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Webelos to Scout Transition Initiative Goals

- Solicit Cub and Boy Scouters from each district to serve on council-wide initiative
- Research national, regional, and local best practices on Webelos to Scout Transition (WTST)
- Formulate a Parent/Guardian Orientation PowerPoint and script tied to the guidebook
- Obtain critical feedback from the field
- Widely distribute and market the guide and materials



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WTST Initiative Members

- **Black River** – George Johnson & Paul Minenna
- **Fishawack** – Michelle Blanchfield, James Danus, & Leona Hobson
- **Munsee** – Bob Petraitis**
- **Raritan Valley** – Bill Cox, Greg Puluka, & Joe Savini
- **Sussex** – Joe Fucito & Don Fowler
- **Watchung** – Jim McGovern, Robert Meicke, Jim Robertson, & Kurt Weber**
- **Council** – Geoff Zoeller, Paul Ortenzio, Steve Smith, & Art Lobdell
- *Meetings on: Oct 14th, Nov 11th, Dec 16th, & Dec 30th*



Research on WTST & Parent Orientation

Patriots' Path Webelos to Scout Transition Plan

Why an emphasis on Webelos to Scout Transition?

The passage from Cub Scout pack to Boy Scout troop should be smooth, with no time lost in between. By the time Arrow of Light den Scouts are ready to cross over, they and their families should be familiar and comfortable with the youth and adult leaders of the troop, their role in the troop and troop activities, and feel excited about beginning this new adventure. The 5th grade Scout's graduation ceremony should clearly signify his transition to a new level of Scouting, and could include the presentation of his Arrow of Light Award, a Boy Scout Handbook, and a troop neckerchief and/or shoulder tabs.

The key factor to improved Webelos transition is the ongoing working relationship of the leader and the Scout pack(s) and a Boy Scout troop(s). Ideally a community organization would have both a pack and a troop with leaders who work together to help move Arrow of Light den Scouts into a Boy Scout troop the same way schools move students from elementary school to middle school. To help assure a smooth and maximized transition requires cooperation between a variety of stakeholders. These responsibilities are laid out below:



ADVENTURES OF BOY SCOUTING

Parent/Guardian Orientation



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Parents' and New Leaders Guide to a Boy-Led Troop

Introduction

Welcome! Whether you have just crossed over with your son from Cub Scouts or just joined Boy Scouts, we appreciate your enthusiasm and encourage your participation in the troop. The three aims of Boy Scouting are character development, citizenship training, and mental and physical fitness. To accomplish these aims, Scouting employs eight methods: the ideals, the patrol method, the outdoors, advancement, association with adults, personal growth, leadership development, and the uniform. We encourage you to take the Boy Scout training offered on-line and by the District to find out what we are trying to accomplish and how you can help.

One of the major differences between Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts is the very important method, leadership development. In order to teach leadership, you have to let the boys lead. In fact, one of the more vigorous debates you can have in Scouting is over the feasibility of a boy-led troop. Some adult leaders will argue that while a boy-led troop is the BSA ideal, it's not possible in their particular troop for any or all of the following reasons: the boys are too young, too lazy, too irresponsible, or just not interested. A boy-led troop is more work for the adult leadership, and therein is the problem, and our need for your cooperation and help. It is so much easier for the adults to just take charge themselves than to teach the necessary leadership skills to the boys.

All Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters are taught the basics of a boy-led troop and patrol in Scoutmaster Specifics. However putting that training into practice is

Webelos to Scout Transition Plan

Discover ways to make the move
for new Boy Scouts natural and fun

Join today.
scouting.org



Orientation for New Boy Scout Parents

Timing Summary

A world of Boy Scouting can seem strange and confusing to new parents involved in Cub Scouting or who were Boy Scouts themselves. This brief orientation, presented in bite-sized pieces over a period of weeks or months, is designed to draw experience and give them the information they need to enjoy the program.

Time Required

Approximately 45 minutes (not including time for questions). Although presented all at once in a single session, it is designed to be used (and repeated) in bite-sized pieces over a period of weeks or months. Troop opportunities to interact with parents of Webelos Scouts (or non-Scouts) by troop, such as a joint troop/pack activity or a Scoutmaster appearance at a presentation to Boy Scouting should start early and be part of "selling" parents. If boys are part of the troop, it may be desirable to bring the new parents up to speed on a lot of information on them in one session. This orientation is divided into the extended time period over which parents and the troop get acquainted, crossover and first troop meetings, and setting in.

Learning Objectives

- At the end of this lesson, participants will be able to:
 - Introduce parents to the Boy Scouting program and how it differs from Cub Scouting.
 - Show parents how Boy Scouting gives boys what they want and need from a program for their children.
 - Introduce parents to how the troop works.
 - Show parents how their participation in the troop can help the program be personally rewarding for them as well.
 - Introduce parents to some of the troop leaders they and their sons will be working with.

Timing Format

Discussion: This orientation is best presented to small groups in an informal setting around a table in a school cafeteria, or around the campfire at a troop meeting. This format allows the presenters to begin developing a personal relationship with parents and allows them to begin developing a personal relationship with the troop leaders. Ideally, multiple presenters (Scoutmaster, senior patrol leader, troop committee chair, and a parent with just one or two years' experience, a "mom" committee member, or a Scoutmaster) should be present, each doing one or two topics to give parents different perspectives on the program. Presenters should know their material well and use just a few notes in order to maintain informality. A flip chart or poster board may be used occasionally as background to keep a few important points in front of the group.



BOY SCOUTING IN BERKELEY HEIGHTS

Presented by The
ROTARY CLUB OF BERKELEY HEIGHTS



Post Office Box 2
Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922

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Improved Webelos Transition

Tiger Cubs To Venturing

Few boys join Tiger Cubs BSA with the intent of remaining in Scouting until their 21st birthday as a Venturer. However, Scouting offers a continuous program that becomes progressively more challenging.



Cub Scouting takes place largely in the family. Beginning Tiger Cubs must be under the age of 8, have completed kindergarten or be in the first grade or be age 7. Cub Scouts must have completed the first grade but not completed third grade or be age 8 or 9. And Webelos Scouts must have completed third grade but not completed fifth grade or age 10 but not yet 11 1/2.

Boy Scouting is designed for boys ages 11 through 17, who are old enough to be on their own in the out-of-doors. While adults serve as key leaders, Boy Scouts hold leadership positions and plan the troop's program.

The passage from Cub Scout pack to Boy Scout troop should be smooth, with no time lost in between. By the time Webelos Scouts are ready to cross over, they and their families should be familiar and comfortable with the youth and adult leaders of the troop, their role in the troop and troop activities, and feel excited about beginning this new adventure. The Webelos Scout's graduation ceremony should clearly signify his transition to a new level of Scouting, and could include the presentation of his Arrow of Light Award, a Boy Scout Handbook, and a troop neckerchief.

A Webelos Scout who has earned the Arrow of Light Award has now completed all the requirements for the Scout badge and



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How can we encourage crossovers?

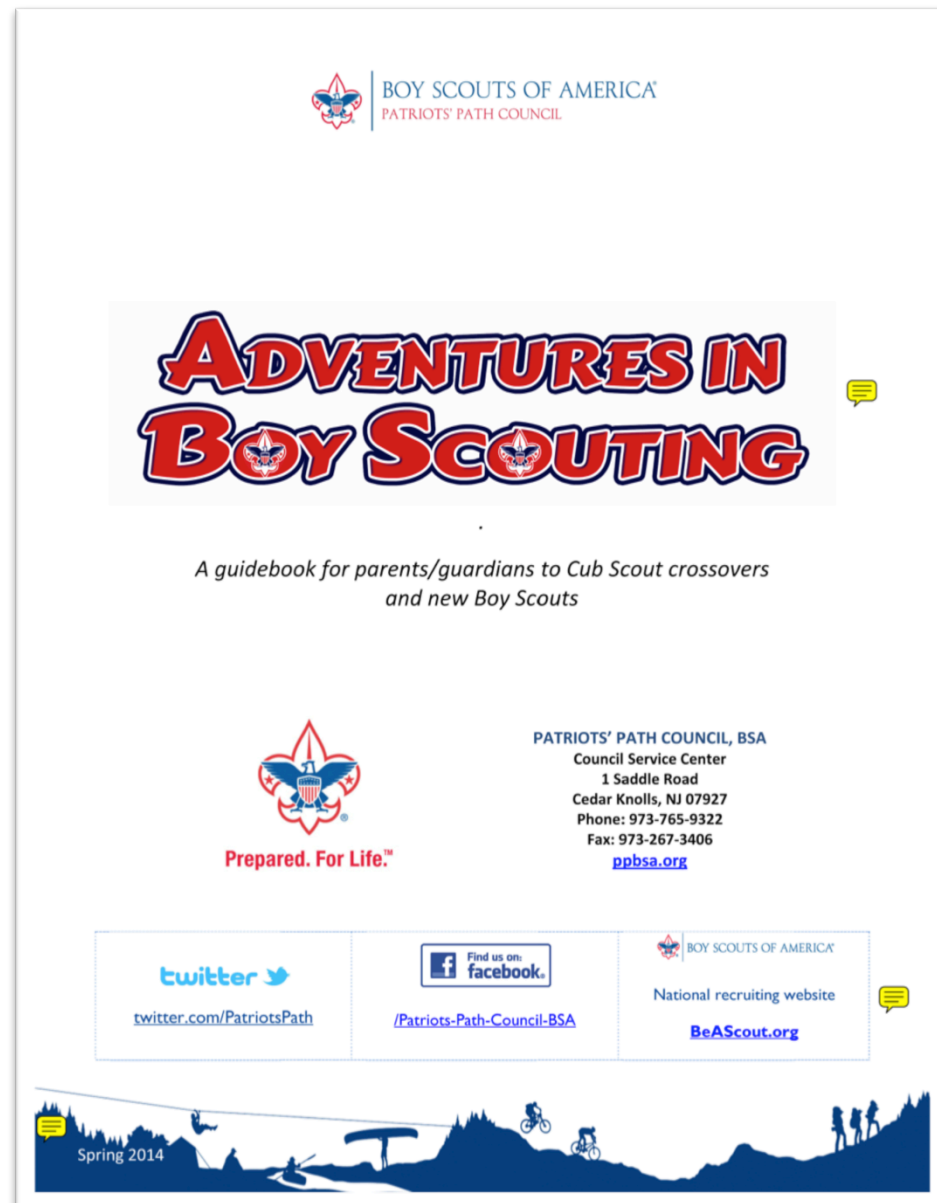
We often take for granted that Webelos, new scouts, and parents need to undergo an solid orientation about Boy Scouting as they enter a troop. How do we do this?



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Adventures in Boy Scouting

Last year we developed a brand new guidebook, but never created the companion PowerPoint and script to orient parents and guardians as well as cub crossovers and new Scouts about the Boy Scouting program. So



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ADVENTURES IN BOY SCOUTING

*For parents/guardians of Cub Scout crossovers
and new Boy Scouts*



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Tonight's Overview



We will be discussing:

- Why join Boy Scouting?
- Boy Scouts is a youth-led program
- Your role
- Organization & Program
- Activities & Advancement
- Costs & Safety



**THIS IS WHERE THE ADVENTURES BEGIN...
YOUR INTRODUCTION TO SCOUTING**

THE SCOUT'S BASIC PRECEPTS ARE ENCOMPASSED

IN THE:

Scout Oath

Scout Law

Scout Motto

Scout Slogan

Outdoor Code



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IS THIS WHAT YOU WANT FOR YOUR SON? QUESTIONS YOU COULD ASK HIM...



"Are you eager to make the most of yourself and succeed in the best ways possible?"

"Are you ready to become an expert in a large range of skills?"



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IS THIS WHAT YOU WANT FOR YOUR SON? QUESTIONS YOU COULD ASK HIM...

"Would you like to develop lifelong friendships?"



"Do you want to strengthen your religious beliefs and your concern for the environment?"



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BOY SCOUTS IS A "YOUTH-LED" PROGRAM

What is important for us is:

**Not who would make the best patrol leader,
but that the Scouts elect one.**

Not the food on the campout, but that the Scouts cooked it.

Not a sharp-looking flag ceremony, but that the Scouts put it together.

Not that Johnny learns first aid, but that Billy teaches him.

**Not that we cover everything on the meeting agenda, but that the
Senior Patrol Leader is in charge.**



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PARENTS'/GUARDIANS' ROLE



Your Role

- Help your son succeed
- Be supportive
- Provide encouragement

Volunteer Leadership

- Consider serving as Scoutmaster, assistant Scoutmaster(s), committee chairperson, troop committee members, and chartered organization representative
- To become a Scouting volunteer is one of the finest decisions you'll ever make.



Training is Available

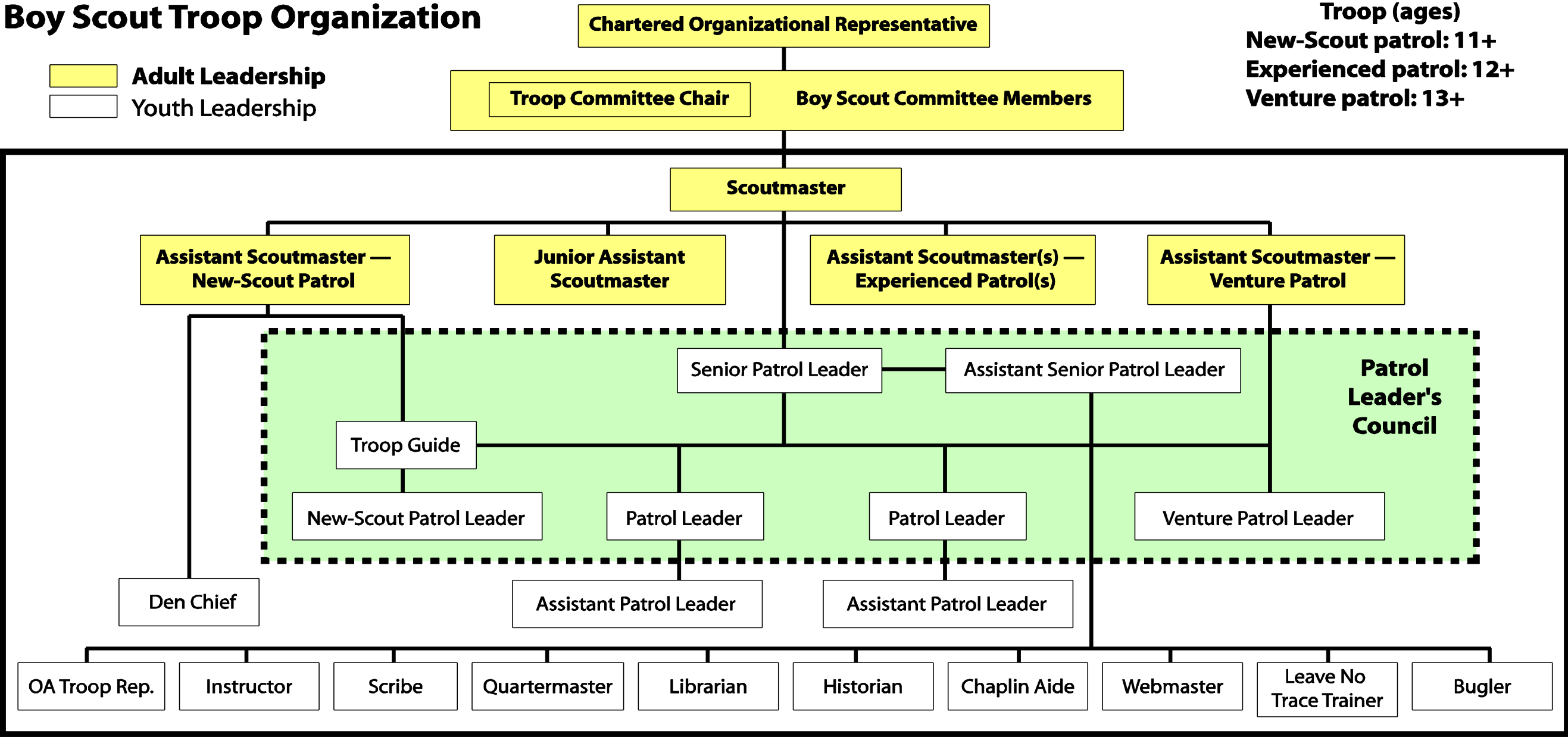
- Tools are available to help you succeed
- Training is both online and "live"
- Learn all about cooperation and teamwork



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ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

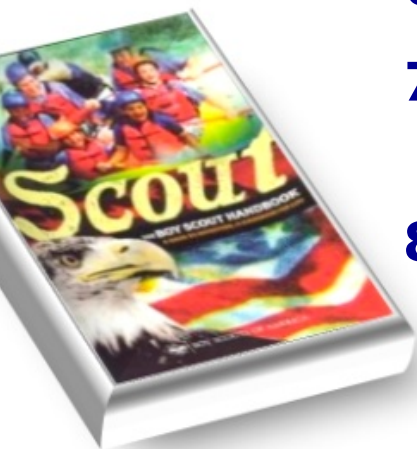
Boy Scout Troop Organization



THE BOY SCOUTING PROGRAM

The Scouting program has three aims: character development, citizenship training, and physical and mental fitness. What makes Boy Scouting unique is that it has **eight methods** it uses to achieve those aims.

- 1. IDEALS** - *The ideals of Boy Scouting are spelled out in the Scout Oath, Law, Motto, and Slogan.*
- 2. PATROL METHOD** - *Patrols are small groups of Scouts who camp, play, and learn together.*
- 3. OUTDOOR PROGRAMS** - *Boy Scouting is designed to take place outdoors.*
- 4. ADVANCEMENT** - *Scouts learn progressively more difficult skills and take on greater responsibilities.*
- 5. ASSOCIATIONS WITH ADULTS** - *Boys learn a great deal by watching how adults conduct themselves.*
- 6. PERSONAL GROWTH** - *Boys develop and mature as they work toward and achieve their goals.*
- 7. LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT** - *Scouting encourages boys to learn and practice leadership skills.*
- 8. UNIFORM** - *It is a symbol of who we are and what we do.*



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WHAT ARE TYPICAL BOY SCOUT OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES?

Day hikes
Service projects
Patrol activities
Weekend overnights
Camporees
Summer camp
Jamborees
Council high adventure
National high adventure
Unit high adventure



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THE SCOUT'S ADVANCEMENT TRAIL TO EAGLE



Scout

Joining requirement



Tenderfoot

Safety, fitness, & preparedness



Second Class

Camping



First Class

Independence & self-sufficiency



Star

Service



Life

Leadership & Eagle preparedness



Eagle

The Summit



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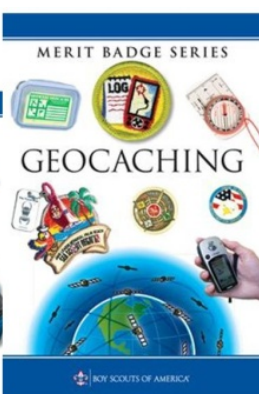
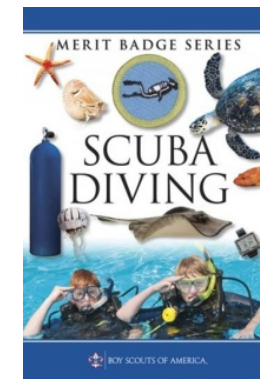
THE BOY SCOUT MERIT BADGE PROGRAM

Choose from among 130 merit badges.



How do Scouts go about earning a merit badge?

- 1. Pick a Subject.***
- 2. Use the Scout Buddy System.***
- 3. Call the Merit Badge Counselor.***
- 4. Unless specified, work for a requirement can be started at any time.***
- 5. Show Your Stuff.***
- 6. Get the Badge.***
- 7. Requirements.***



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THE FINANCIAL INVESTMENT IN YOUR SON

So what does Boy Scouting cost?



BSA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

All registered youth pay annual registration and insurance fees, which go directly to the BSA national office.

TROOP DUES

Each troop has its own annual budget, based on its needs and anticipated program.

THE BOY SCOUT HANDBOOK - Your son will need the Boy Scout Handbook.

BOY SCOUT UNIFORM - The uniform represents Scouting's spirit of equality and democracy.

BOYS' LIFE MAGAZINE - This multifaceted magazine is written for boys your son's age.

"GEAR" - One of the most notable facets of Scouting is the outdoor programs; different activities require different gear. Your troop leadership will guide you as to what your Scout will need.



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PATRIOTS' PATH COUNCIL, BSA

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Fax: 973-267-3406

Patriots' Path's WEBSITE contains general information about all aspects of Scouting in our Council, as well as forms, online registration for events, and pages devoted to our individual Districts:

www.ppbsa.org

Patriots' Path is on FACEBOOK. Follow this link:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Patriots-Path-Council-BSA/118439656462>

Patriots' Path TWEETS. Follow this link:

<http://twitter.com/patriotspath>

BSA's national website is:

www.Scouting.org



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YOUTH PROTECTION



Now, a specific word about **Youth Protection**. We require ALL of our leaders to be trained in Youth Protection, and to refresh that training at regular intervals.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Our Scouting leaders are WELL TRAINED! To be a trained Scoutmaster or assistant Scoutmaster also requires Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills and Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster Specific Training.



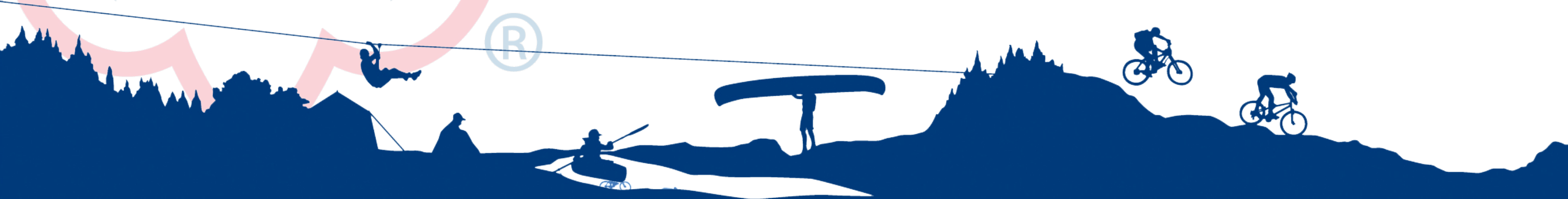
And there is much more training available to help you be a better leader. See the Patriots' Path Council website for details on many local training opportunities.



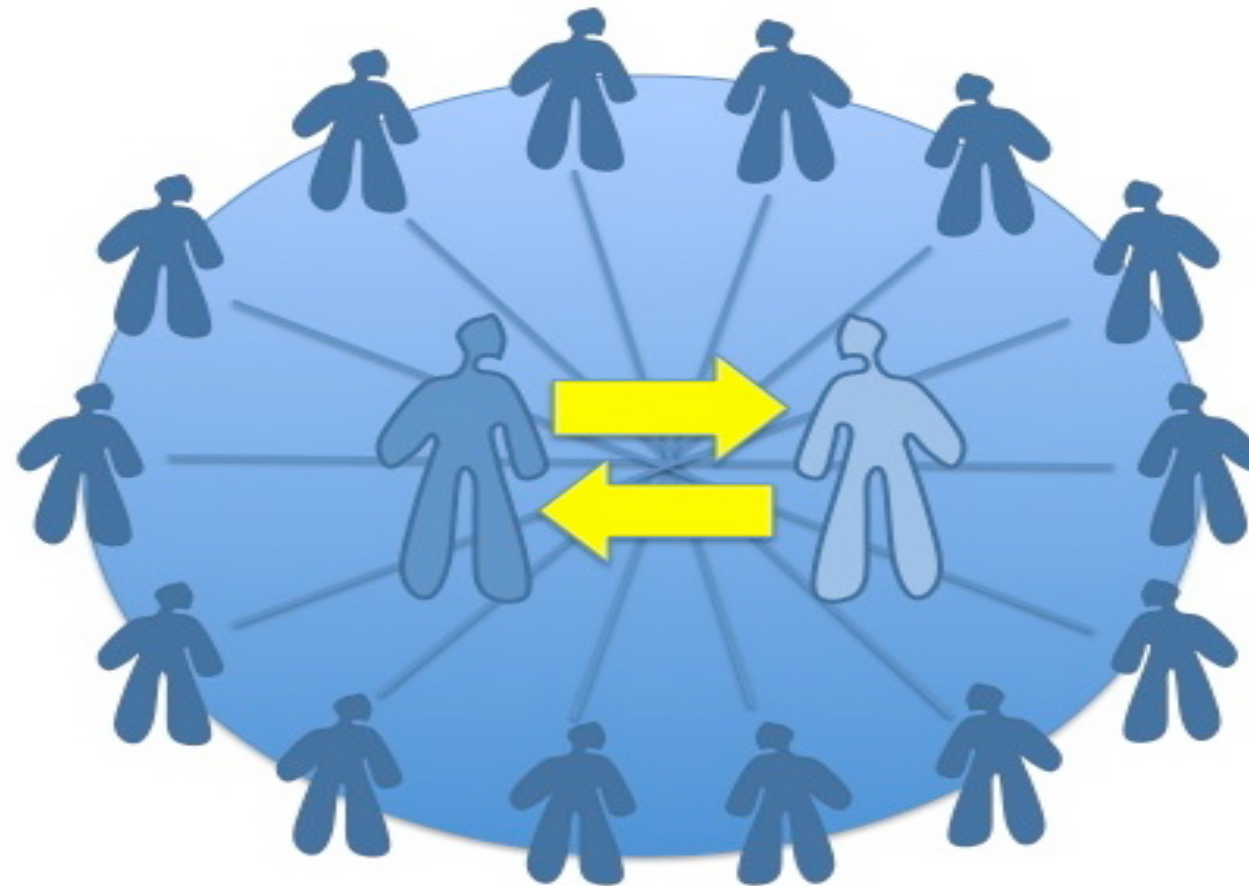
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Welcome to Troop XXX!

*Feel free to ask any
questions you have!*



Feedback on the draft *Adventures in Boy Scouting* PowerPoint and Script



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