



# Boy Scout Parent Orientation

Troop 474

Wagon Wheel District

Mid-America Council



# What Scouting is All About

- ◆ Aims of Scouting – three specific objectives:
  - character development, citizenship training & personal fitness.

***The principal focus is on the boys and  
in making it fun***

# Agenda

- ◆ The Goals of Scouting
- ◆ History
  - History of Scouting
  - History of Troop 474
- ◆ Organization
  - BSA Organizational Overview
  - Cub/Boy Scout Differences
  - Troop Organization
- ◆ Leadership
  - Scout's Leadership within Troop
  - Scout Leadership and Training
- ◆ Advancement
  - Boy Scout Advancements
  - First Class Emphasis Program
- ◆ Uniforms
- ◆ Recommended Equipment
- ◆ Troop Outings
- ◆ Other **Important** Stuff



# The Goals of Scouting

## ◆ The Aims of Boy Scouting

- Character development
- Citizenship training
- Physical, mental, and emotional fitness

## ◆ Aims are Delivered by these Methods

- Ideals
- Patrols
- Outdoor Programs
- Advancement
- Personal Growth
- Leadership Development
- Uniform
- Associations With Adults



# History of Scouting

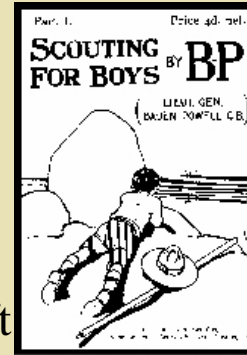
## ◆ The Beginnings of Scouting Movement

- The 20th-century scouting movement was started by Robert Baden-Powell during the Boer War as a series of games and exercises to help men learn to live in the open under difficult conditions
- Baden-Powell developed a book called “Aids to Scouting” as a way of training recruits. This book became an instant hit among boys
- He conducted his first Boy Scout camp on Brownsea Island in 1907, and his book “*Scouting for Boys*” was published in 1908
- In England, Boy Scouts formally started on Jan. 24, 1908



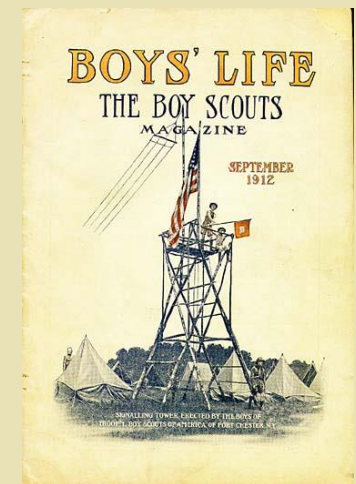
## ◆ History of Scouting in the USA

- In the United States the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) had been running camps for boys since 1884.
- In 1902 Ernest Thompson Seton founded the Tribe of Woodcraft Indians as a boy's organization. Three years later Daniel Carter Beard started a similar society called the Sons of Daniel Boone.
- February 8<sup>th</sup>, 1910 William Boyce, inspired by unknown Scout in London, incorporated BSA working with YMCA and Seton
- In 1910, Seton combined B-P “*Scouting for Boys*” and Woodcraft Manual to publish first BSA Handbook



# History of Troop 474

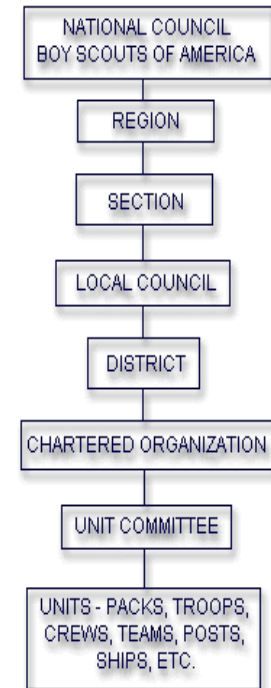
- ◆ First chartered in 1964
  - Started by Fort Crook PTO
  - Charter switched to the Offutt Chapel in 1975 then to the Offutt Club in 1976
  - Christ the Kind Lutheran, is our current charter partner
  - Has remained a medium sized Troop with a firm commitment to work with each Scout
- ◆ Eagle Scouts:
  - Troop 474 has seen over 100 Scouts complete their Eagle Rank
  - Several more are nearing completion



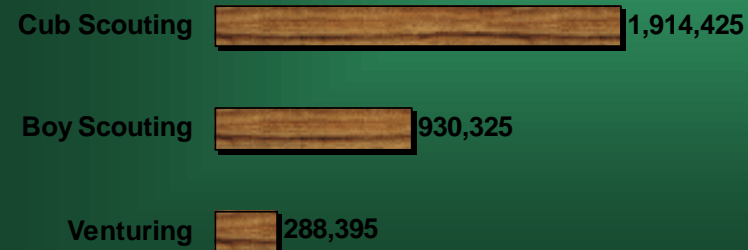
# BSA Organizational Overview

## ◆ The Scout Organization

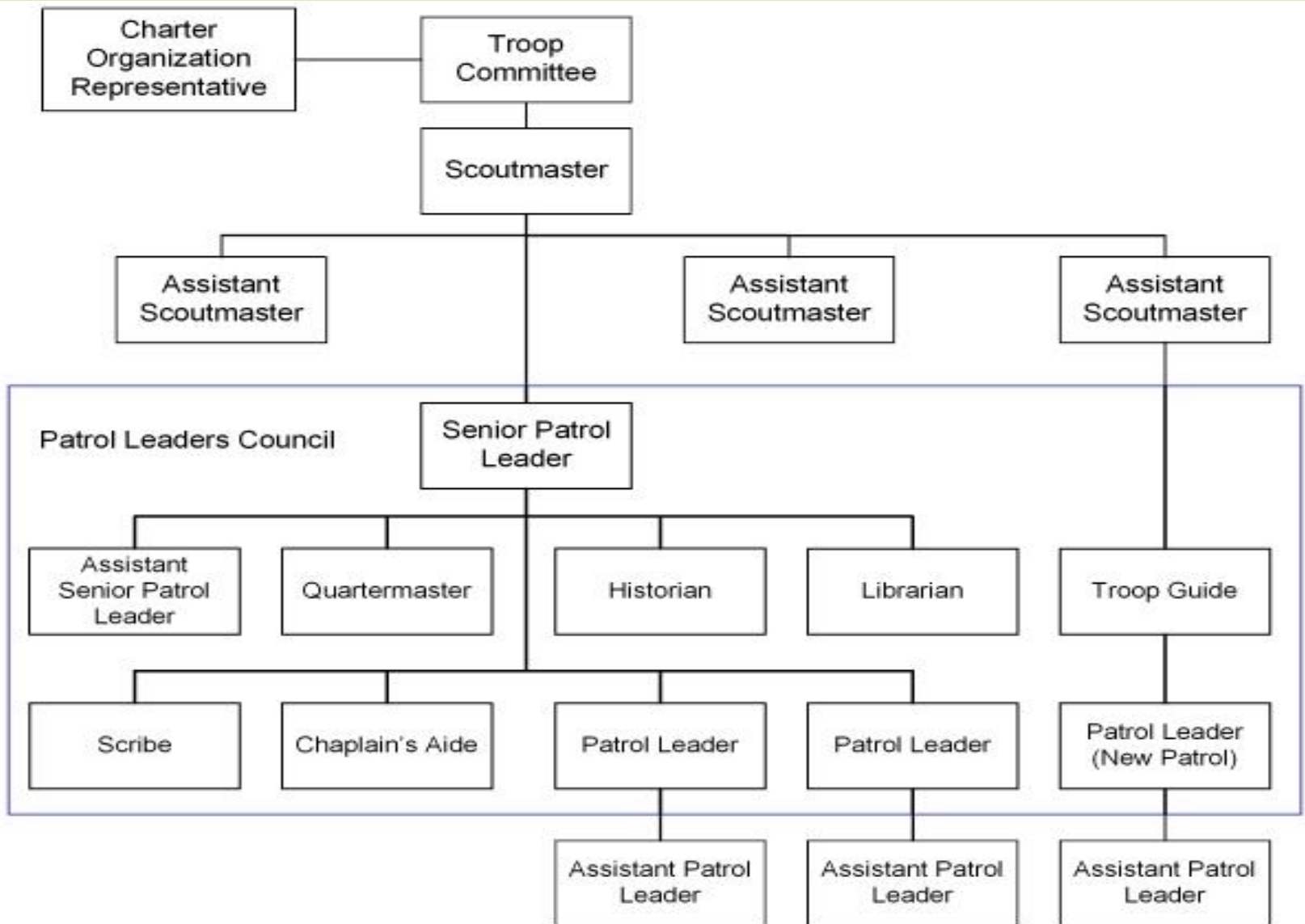
- National Council of Boy Scouts
- Region
- Local Council
  - *Mid-America Council*
- District
  - *Wagon Wheel*
- Chartered Organization
  - *Christ the King Lutheran*
  - *Institutional Head:*
    - *Brian Rice*
- Troop Committee
  - *Current Committee Chair:*
    - *Mr. Dave Wiegand*
- Troop
  - *Current Scoutmaster:*
    - *Mike Livergood*



## American Youth Served in 2003



# Troop Leadership







# Cub/Boy Scout Differences

- ◆ A Boy Scout Troop is not structured like a Cub Pack
- ◆ Boys have more responsibility
  - Planning, packing, setting up camp, cooking, activities
  - Scout is responsible for initiation of advancement
  - Parents cannot sign off. Adult Leaders (SM, ASM, CC, or CM), or Troop Leaders (SPL, ASPL, Troop Guide) are the only persons in the troop that that can sign off.

**We give the boy's the chance to try and learn things, and make mistakes in a safe environment**



# Patrol Method

## **A Troop is made up of Patrols, A Troop is not divided into Patrols**

- ◆ Each Patrol operates as a self-sufficient unit.
- ◆ Each Patrol is encouraged to develop their own identity with a Patrol flag and yell.
- ◆ Each Patrol will utilize a duty roster to distribute tasks across the team members and learn the value of teamwork
- ◆ Each Patrol will elect its own leadership (6 month term) to guide and manage the Patrol (Patrol Leader (PL) and Assistant PL)
- ◆ Patrol leaders will attend monthly planning meetings (PLC) and represent their patrol & are responsible for patrol communications.
- ◆ Adults do NOT run the patrols.
- ◆ Depending on attendance, patrols may be combined for activities.
- ◆ Patrol leaders will make mistakes. This is a learning activity. Each boy will get their opportunity to lead and to learn how to lead effectively.

# Scout's Leadership within Troop

- ◆ Patrols (A Troop is made up of Scouts in Patrols)
  - Grouping of six or more boys who work together. Each patrol elects its own boy leader, called a patrol leader.



- ◆ Troop Youth Leaders

- The troop is actually run by its boy leaders. With the guidance of the Scoutmaster and his assistants, they plan the program, conduct troop meetings, and provide leadership among their peers.
- Senior patrol leader - top junior leader in the troop. He leads the patrol leaders' council and, in consultation with the Scoutmaster, appoints other junior leaders and assigns specific responsibilities as needed.
- Assistant senior patrol leader - fills in for senior patrol leader in his absence. He is also responsible for training and giving direction to the quartermaster, scribe, troop historian, librarian, and instructors.
- Troop Historian - collects and maintains troop memorabilia and information on former troop members.

# Scout's Leadership within Troop

## ◆ Troop Youth Leaders (continued)

- **Librarian** - keeps troop books, pamphlets, magazines, audiovisuals, and merit badge counselor list available for use by troop members.
- **Instructor** - teaches one or more advancement skills to troop members.
- **Chaplain Aide** - assists in troop religious services and promotes religious emblems program.
- **Junior assistant Scoutmaster** - Scout at least sixteen (16) years old who supervises and supports other boy leaders as assigned.
- **Patrol leader** - gives leadership to members of his patrol and represents them on the Green Bar (a/k/a patrol leaders' council).
- **Assistant patrol leader** - fills in for the patrol leader in his absence.
- **Troop guide** - advisor and guide to new Scout patrols.
- **Den chief** - works with a Cub Scout den as a guide.
- **Quartermaster** - responsible for troop supplies and equipment.
- **Scribe** - the troop secretary.



# Scout Leadership and Training

## ◆ Leadership

- Scouts elect their own major leadership
  - Senior Patrol leader (entire troop)
  - Patrol leader (each Patrol)
  - Other positions appointed by Scout and adult leaders
- Troop elections held twice a year
  - Fall & Spring



## ◆ Scout Training

- Junior Leader Training following each Troop Election
- NYLT (National Youth Leader Training)
  - Scouts nominated by Scoutmaster (typically after 2<sup>nd</sup> year)
  - Annually in Mid-America Council

## ◆ NAYLE

- National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience



# Boy Scout Advancements

- ◆ Process by which Boy Scout Progresses
- ◆ Advancement is a means to an end, not an end in itself
  - Designed to help Scout have exciting and meaningful experience
  - Education and fun are key to advancement principles
  - Growth the Scout achieves overcoming obtainable goals
  - Scout through First Class Ranks focus on Scouting's basic skills
  - Goal of BSA and Troop 474: every Scout achieves First Class

## ◆ Rank Advancements

- Scout
- Tenderfoot
- Second Class
- First Class
- Star
- Life





# Advancement Principles

- ◆ Personal growth is the prime consideration in the program
- ◆ Learning by doing
- ◆ Each youth progresses at his own rate
- ◆ A badge is recognition of what a young person is able to do, not just a reward for what he has done
- ◆ Advancement encourages Scouting Ideals
- ◆ The parent's role is not to *carry* the scout
- ◆ The parent's role is to monitor, motivate, and support the scout

# Boy Scout Rank Advancement

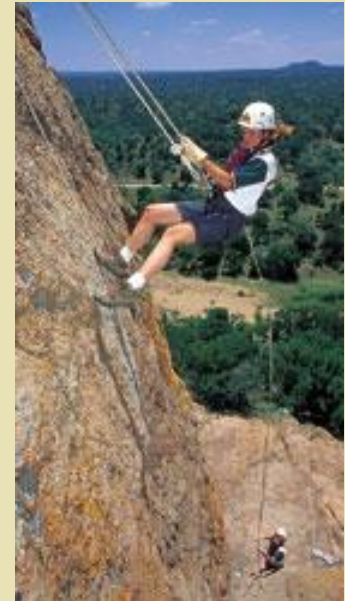
- ◆ Scoutmasters oversee Scout advancement
  - Advancement Coordinator maintains records and arranges Boards of Review and Courts of Honor
- ◆ There are four steps in the Boy Scout Advancement Process:
  - Learning
  - Testing
  - Reviewing
  - Recognition





# Advancement - Merit Badges

- ◆ Over 100 Boy Scout Merit Badges
  - Teach Scouts about sports, crafts, science, trades, business, and future careers
  - Required for rank advancement beyond First Class Scout
  - 21 Merit Badges required for Eagle Scout (13 specific badges required)
  - Must meet the requirements as stated – no more, no less...
- ◆ Merit Badge Counselors



# Merit Badges

- ◆ All Merit Badges require approval from a Scoutmaster or Advancement Chair before starting
  - Ensures approved Merit Badge counselor is identified
- ◆ Qualified Merit Badge Counselors must approve





# Scoutmaster Conferences

- ◆ Conversation that can occur whenever needed by either the Scout or Scoutmaster
- ◆ Essential to individual Scout development and advancement
  - Getting to know scout
  - Setting individual goals
  - Mentoring
  - Building confidence
  - Encouragement
  - Problem Solving and discipline
- ◆ Scouts responsible for scheduling an advancement Scoutmaster Conference after requirements for rank advancement completed



# Board of Review

- ◆ Evaluation of the effectiveness of the Scouting program within the troop
- ◆ Review is not an examination
  - Make sure Scout has completed the requirements
  - Determine how good an experience Scout is having within the Troop
  - Encourage Scout to advance further
- ◆ Scout is responsible for scheduling a BOR after completing the Scoutmaster Conference

# Recognition

- ◆ Each time a Scout advances in rank, he will be recognized
  - Rank advancement is effective after approval by Board of Review
  - Formal recognition occurs at the Court of Honor
- ◆ Court of Honor
- ◆ Eagle Scout rank is usually recognized by a very special Eagle Court of Honor





# First Class Emphasis Program

- ◆ Troop 474 focuses on new Scout development and advancement to First Class within the first year
- ◆ From the *Scoutmaster Handbook*:  
“A boy who advances to First Class within his first year in Scouting has a better-than-average chance of eventually becoming an Eagle Scout.”
- ◆ BSA statistics confirm the Scout is likely to stay in Scouting for a longer period of time.

# Uniforms

## ◆ Class A Uniform (Field Uniform)

- Tan Boy Scout shirt, Scout pants or shorts, Scout belt
- Must wear Scout socks if wearing shorts
- Required for TRAVEL, Courts of Honor, Troop meetings, meals on some campouts, and other more formal events

## ◆ Class B Uniform (Activity Uniform)

- Troop or other Scout t-shirt or sweatshirt
- Solid-color shorts or jeans can be substituted for Scout pants/shorts
- Worn during camping trips, service projects and other “activity” events
- Troop 474 T-shirts available for purchase from Troop after **Tenderfoot Rank**

## ◆ Other Information

- Scout Supplies
  - MAC Scout Shop near 124<sup>th</sup> & Maple



# Recommended Equipment

- ◆ Uniform (Required)
- ◆ Sleeping Bag
  - Appropriate for Nebraska weather
- ◆ Sleeping Pad
  - Ridge rest, z-lite pad recommended
- ◆ Tent
  - The troop provides the Scout tents
  - Adult Tents can be often shared or borrowed
- ◆ Mess Kit
- ◆ Water Bottle
- ◆ Other Equipment
- ◆ Optional
  - Backpacking, Climbing, etc.





# Troop Outings

## ◆ Camps and campouts

- Troop 474 camps an average of once each month during the school year
- Patrols usually plan, purchase, and cook their own meals
- At least one large campout every summer
- One high-adventure camp each summer

## ◆ Regular campout procedures

- Annual planning & scheduling meetings
- Monthly planning at PLC and Troop Meetings
- Approx. 2 weeks before campout, turn in permission slip, food \$\$, and other fees
- Transportation is generally pooled and arranged



# Other Important Stuff

## ◆ Record Keeping

- Troop keeps Merit Badge & Advancement records in Troopmaster
- Critical that you also keep your own records
  - Campouts attended
  - Camped days, miles hiked/backpacked/floated
  - Service hours and projects
  - Leadership positions and time



## ◆ Meetings

- Every Thursday: Troop Meeting @ 7:00 sharp
- Wagon Wheel District Roundtable first Tuesday of each month at Bellevue University, Troop Committee (adults) meets the following Thursdays



# Other Important Stuff (continued)

## ◆ Dues

- Registration and rechartering



## ◆ Major fundraisers

- Performed by entire Troop
  - Popcorn sales
  - Century Link
  - Participating Scouts receive credit to their accounts of percentage of funds raised, available to be used for Scouting-related activities
  - White House Christmas Ornaments, and others



## ◆ Merit Badge Opportunities

## ◆ Discipline

- We expect boys to be boys – but expect the boys to live and act according to the Scout Oath and Law, and the Outdoor Code in an Ethical manner

# Health and Wellness

## ◆ Medicine Handling

- All medicine (prescription and non-prescription) must be labeled and given to Scoutmaster or designated Assistant Scoutmaster with written directions on a labeled Ziploc
- Prescription medicine must be in original containers

## ◆ Physicals

- Required for Scouts and Adult Leadership
- A & B physical (best for young Scouts)
- C physical for any high adventure activity (age 12+) and summer camp
  - Good for 12 months
  - Required for all adults

## ◆ Safety

- Guide to Safe Scouting





# Troop & Scout Communications

- ◆ Troop Website

- [bellevuetroop474.org](http://bellevuetroop474.org), twitter: @troop474, Facebook Troop 474

- ◆ Other websites

- [www.scouting.org](http://www.scouting.org) (Boy Scouts of America)
- [www.mac-bsa.org](http://www.mac-bsa.org) (Mid-America Council)
- [www.mac-wwd.org](http://www.mac-wwd.org) (Wagon Wheel District)

- ◆ Scouter magazine

- ◆ Scouts receive Boys' Life Magazine

- ◆ Lots of E-mail, Troop calendar

# You need what?

## ◆ Troop 474 needs from you:

### – Scouts:

- BSA Boy Scout Application
- Medical Form
- Permission Slips (annual or specific for each outing)
  - Provided digitally when they sign up.

### – Adults:

- BSA Adult Leader Application
- Medical Forms (for camping)
- YPT





# Typical Campout - Adults

- ◆ Adults are there to observe safety issues
- ◆ Adults are there to ask questions that make the boys think
- ◆ Adults are NOT there to “do for the boys”
- ◆ Adults are NOT there to tell the boys what to do
- ◆ Adults are there to provide guidance
- ◆ Typical costs for a campout:
  - Adult: \$12 - ? Depending on activity
- ◆ Adults are welcome to come and a minimum are required for transportation, safety, and leadership needs
- ◆ Adults are asked to help organize/participate in at least 1 annual campout

# How to Help

- ◆ Volunteer for one of the Adult Roles
  - Scoutmaster / Assistant Scout Master (examples & mentorship)
  - Merit Badge Counselors
  - Committee Members
  - Instructors (not managers or supervisors...)
  - Transportation

*Put your hands in your pockets –  
we are not there to “do” for the boys*






# Parental Involvement



The troop's success depends upon your support & active involvement in scouting activities:


- Fund Raising
- Eagle Advisor
- Service Projects
- Board of Review
- Committee Member
- Leadership Assistant Scoutmaster
- Teaching one or more merit badges
- Planning Camping Trips ~ High Adventure
- Transportation or supervision for the campouts





# Leadership Training Philosophy Boy Scouts of America

- ◆ Provide Adult Leaders fundamental information about Aims & Purposes of Scouting Movement
- ◆ Specifics about their particular Roles in Scouting



# *BASIC* Training

## Leader Specific Training

### ◆ *Scoutmaster/Assistant Scoutmaster*

1. *Getting Started*: The Role of the SM in a Boy-Led Troop
2. *Lighting the Fire*: The Outdoor Program and Advancement
3. *Keeping It Going*: Program Planning & Administration
4. *Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills*

### ◆ *Committee Member*

*Boy Scout Troop Committee Challenge*

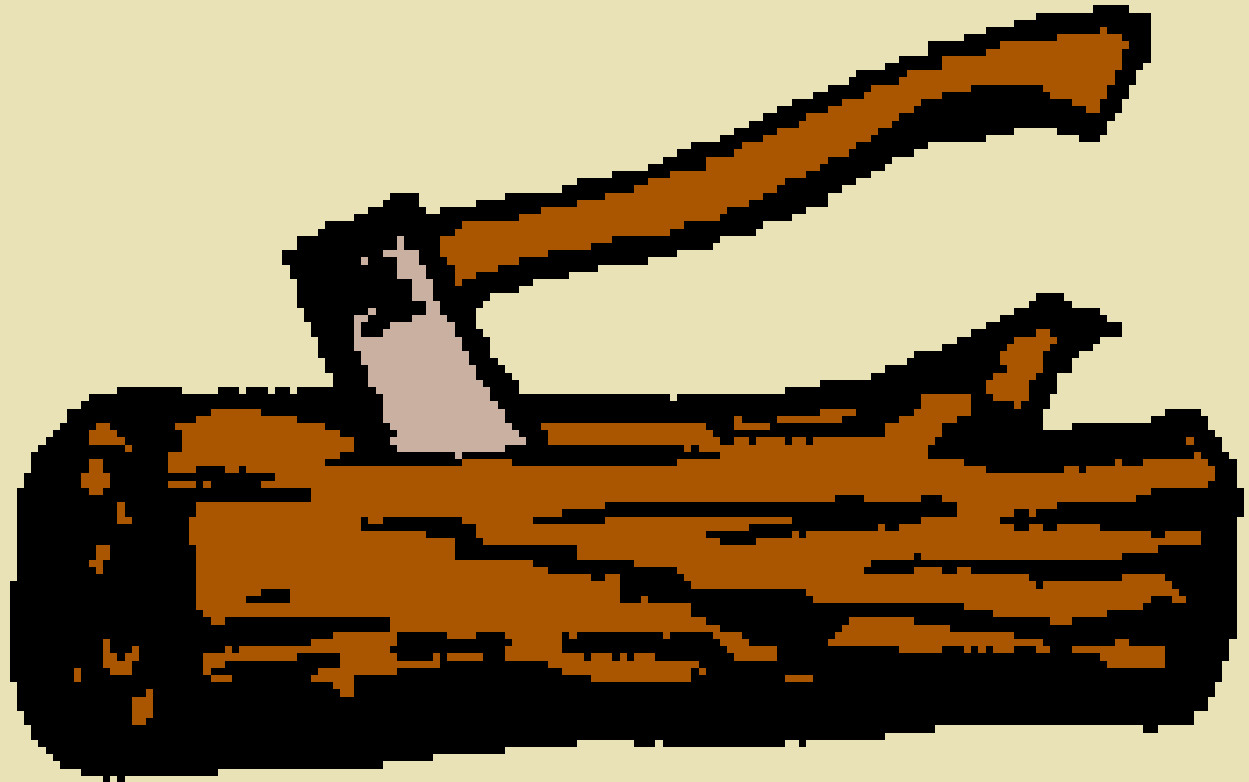


# ADVANCED Training

## ◆ *Wood Badge for the 21st Century*

- An intensive course designed to develop **leadership skills** and create a deeper, more dedicated involvement in Scouting; for all leaders in traditional programs
- Leadership in Team Development
  - Living the Values
  - Bringing the Vision to Life
  - Models for Success
  - Tools of the Trade
  - Leading to Make a Difference

# WOODBADGE





# *SUPPLEMENTAL* Training

- ◆ Designed to give additional training on specific areas of the different programs
- ◆ Examples:  
University of Scouting, Cub Scout Leader Pow Wow, Roundtables, Commissioner Conference, Webelos Leader Outdoor Training, BALOO, Youth Protection Training, Safety Begins with Leadership, Safe Swim Defense, Safety Afloat, Philmont Training Conferences, Venturing Powder Horn



# Service Projects

- ◆ Our scouts are encouraged to participate in service projects. The purpose of this activity is to build a sense of community.  
“One influences community by being involved”
- ◆ The Troop will participate in various service projects. Service projects include Eagle projects for Scouts in our Troop as well as District, Council, and community sponsored events.

# Q & A

