



Scout BSA Parent Orientation

Troop 474

Wagon Wheel District

Mid-America Council

Agenda

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





Troop 474 Committee Members

- ◆ Committee Chair: Mike Livergood
- ◆ Chartered Org Head/Service Chair: Bryan Rice
- ◆ Chartered Org Rep: Dave Weigand
- ◆ Secretary/Membership: Bridget Musick
- ◆ Treasurer: Andrea Diaz
- ◆ Advancement Chair: Tama Cimino
- ◆ Camping Chair/Quartermaster: Steve Sizer (May)

Scoutmasters

- ◆ Chad Diaz
- ◆ Assistants: Steve Sizer, Scott Sevick, John Paul, Travis Erickson, Andrew Colburn (May)



Scout Acronyms

- ◆ BoR – Board of Review
- ◆ CoR – Court of Honor
- ◆ MAC – Mid-America Council
- ◆ MB – Merit Badge
- ◆ OA – Order of the Arrow
- ◆ PL – Patrol Leader
- ◆ PLC – Patrol Leader Council
- ◆ SB - Scoutbook
- ◆ SM – Scoutmaster
- ◆ SPL – Senior Patrol Leader

The Goals of Scouting

◆ The Aims of Scouting

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

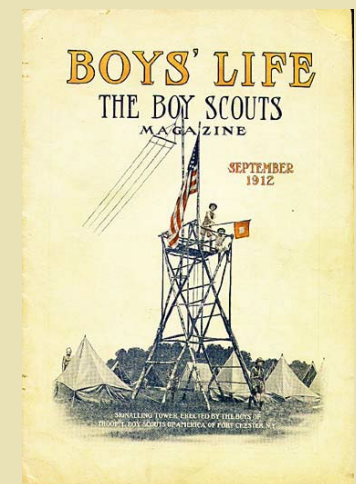
◆ Aims are Delivered by these Methods

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



History of Troop 474

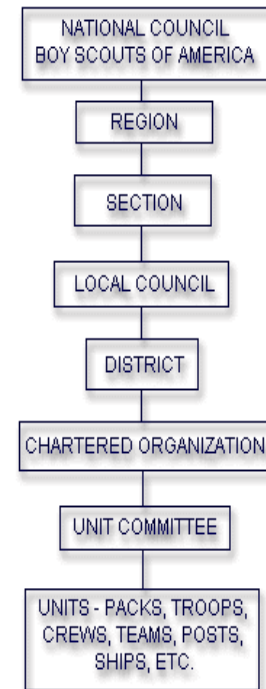
- ◆ First chartered in 1964
 - Started by Fort Crook PTO
 - Charter switched to the Offutt Chapel in 1975 then to the Offutt Club in 1976
 - Christ the King Lutheran, is our current charter partner
 - Has remained a medium sized Troop with a firm commitment to work with each Scout
- ◆ Eagle Scouts:
 - Troop 474 has seen over 100 Scouts complete their Eagle Rank
 - Several more are nearing completion
 - Average 2 a year



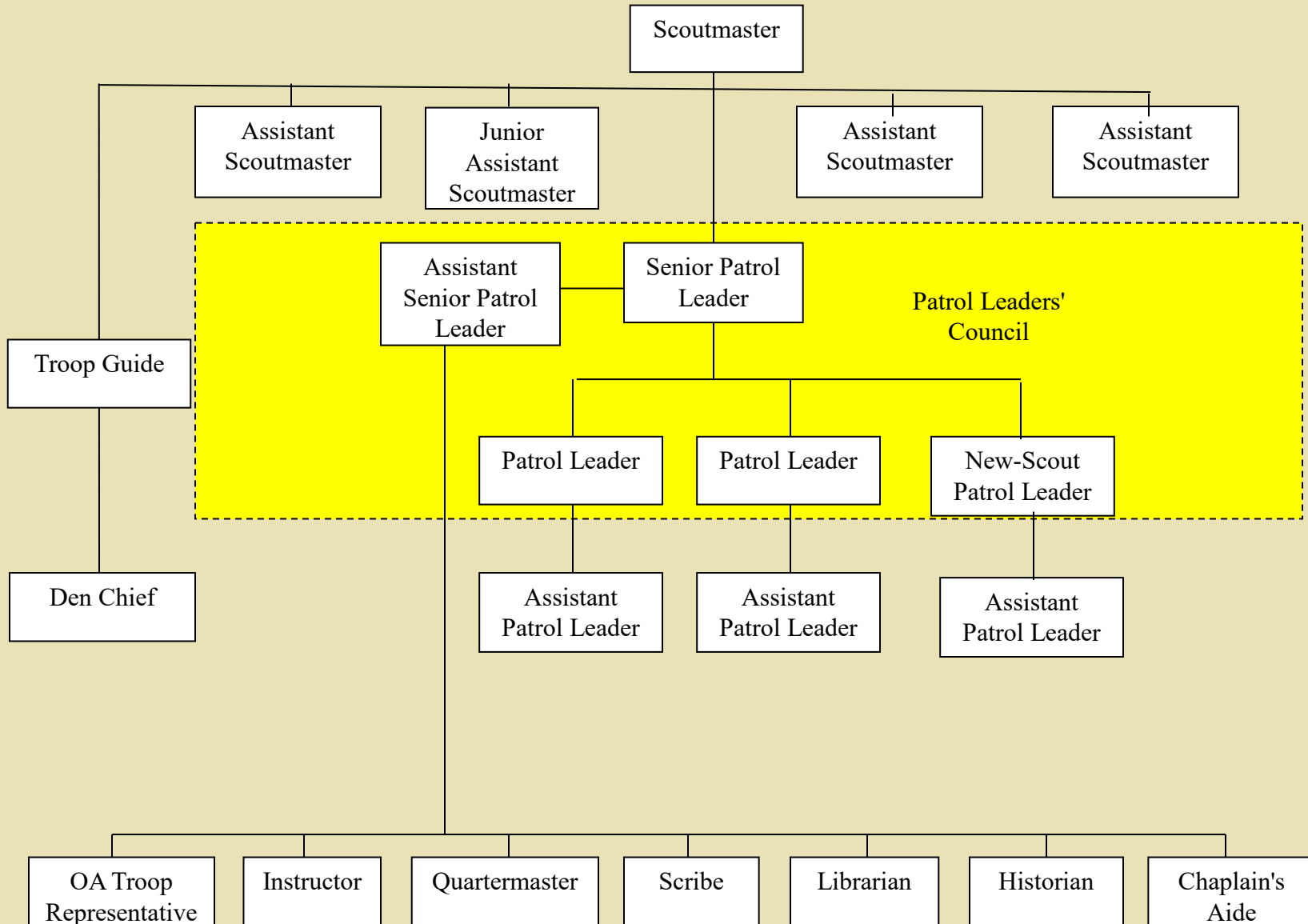
BSA Organizational Overview

◆ The Scout Organization

- National Council of BSA
- Region
- Local Council
 - *Mid-America Council*
- District
 - *Wagon Wheel*
- Chartered Organization
 - *Christ the King Lutheran*
 - *Institutional Head:*
 - *Brian Rice*
- Troop Committee
 - *Current Committee Chair:*
 - *Mike Livergood*
- Troop
 - *Current Scoutmaster:*
 - *Chad Diaz*



Troop Leadership





Cub/Scout BSA Differences

- ◆ A Scout BSA Troop is not structured like a Cub Pack
- ◆ Scouts have more responsibility
 - Planning, packing, setting up camp, cooking, activities
 - Scout is responsible for initiation of advancement
 - Parents cannot sign off.
 - Scoutmasters sign off in Scout book requirements
 - Merit badge counselors sign off blue cards

**We give the scout'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 Leadership and Training

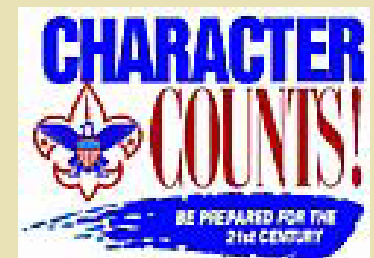
◆ Leadership

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



◆ Scout Training

- ILST (Introduction to Leadership Skills Training) following each Troop Election
- NYLT (National Youth Leader Training)
 - Scouts nominated by Scoutmaster (typically after 2nd year)
 - Annually in Mid-America Council



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 Scout basic skills
 - Goal of BSA and Troop 474: every Scout achieves First Class

- ◆ Rank Advancements

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





Scoutmaster Conferences

- ◆ Conversation that can occur whenever needed by either the Scout or Scoutmaster
- ◆ Essential to individual Scout development and advancement
- ◆ Scouts responsible for scheduling an advancement Scoutmaster Conference after requirements for rank advancement completed (request Scoutmaster Conference sheet from advancement chair)



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



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

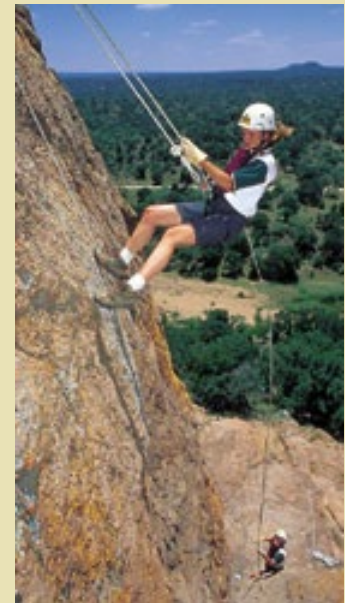
Advancement - Merit Badges

- ◆ Over 100 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 (14 specific badges required)
- Must meet the requirements as stated – no more, no less...

- ◆ Some done within troop

- ◆ Others at summer camp or other district/council opportunities



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



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
- ◆ Quarterly Court of Honor
- ◆ Eagle Scout rank is usually recognized by a very special Eagle Court of Honor



Uniforms

- ◆ **Class A Uniform (Field Uniform)**
 - Tan Scout shirt, Scout pants or shorts, Scout belt (hat optional)
 - Required for TRAVEL, Courts of Honor, Troop meetings, meals on some campouts, and other more formal events
 - Sash worn during Courts of Honor, SM conference & BoR
- ◆ **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**
- ◆ **MAC Scout Shop near 124th & Maple**
- ◆ **Troop closet – donate/take lightly used uniforms. Brought out every CoH**



Recommended Equipment

◆ Uniform (Required)

- Hiking Boots
- Seasonal layering

◆ 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 (Nalgene recommended)

◆ Other Equipment (headlamp, knife, compass, etc...)

◆ Optional

- Backpacking, Climbing, etc.



Troop Outings

◆ Camps and campouts

- Outdoor camping every month except Dec & Feb
- Summer camp in June or July
- High-adventure dependent on # of older scouts
- Parent packing oversight encouraged
- Phones/electronics not permitted

◆ Regular campout procedures

- Annual planning & scheduling meetings
- PLC plans 6 months out
- Approx. 2 weeks before campout, register on-line, turn in permission slip, food \$\$, and other fees
- Transportation is generally pooled and arranged
- Normally meet at base golf course lower level parking on Friday at 5pm (shopette alt. location)
- Return around 9-10am Sunday, Scoutmaster sends out group text on ETA





Service Projects

- ◆ Our scouts participate in service projects as part of “do a good turn” & fulfill rank requirements.
- ◆ The Troop will participate in various service projects including Eagle projects for Scouts in our Troop as well as District, Council, and community sponsored events.
 - Service project must be available to entire troop to count for Scouts.

Other Important Stuff

◆ Record Keeping

- Troop keeps Merit Badge & Advancement records in Scoutbook
- 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
- Leonard Lawrence, church, or park
- Wagon Wheel District Roundtable first Tuesday of each month at Bellevue University
- Troop Committee (adults) meets the following Thursdays @6:30



Other Important Stuff (continued)

◆ Dues

- Registration and rechartering
- Quarterly status updates
- Scout accounts



◆ Major fundraisers

- Popcorn sales
- Camp cards
- Participating Scouts receive credit to their accounts of percentage of funds raised, available to be used for Scouting-related activities

◆ 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

◆ Physicals

- Required for Scouts and Adult Leadership
- A & B physical (req. for all campouts)
- 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
 - Camp registration & other info
- ◆ Weekly E-mails
 - Direct adult leader/scout electronic communication (email/chat) starting in H.S. (parent always included)
- ◆ Troop calendar – all upcoming events posted
- ◆ Social Media
 - Facebook Troop 474
 - twitter: [@troop474](https://twitter.com/troop474)
- ◆ Other websites
 - www.scouting.org (Boy Scouts of America)
 - www.mac-bsa.org (Mid-America Council)
- ◆ Scouts receive Scouts' Life Magazine

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 scouts”
- ◆ Adults are NOT there to tell the scouts what to do
- ◆ Adults are there to provide guidance
- ◆ Typical costs for a campout:
 - Free, except splitting food costs
- ◆ Adults are welcome to come and a minimum are required for transportation, safety, and leadership needs
- ◆ Per new BSA rules, ALL adults must be registered with BSA before going camping

How to Help

- ◆ Volunteer for one of the Adult Roles
 - Scoutmaster / Assistant Scout Master (examples & mentorship)
 - Merit Badge Counselors
 - Committee Members
 - Transportation
 - Other logistical support

*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





Leader Specific Training

◆ *Scoutmaster/Assistant Scoutmaster*

1. *Youth Protection Training*
2. *On-line training*
3. *Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills*

◆ *Committee Member*

1. *Youth Protection Training*
2. *On-line training*

◆ *Merit Badge Counselor*

1. *Youth Protection Training*
2. *On-line training*

Myscouting.org



ADVANCED Training

◆ *Wood Badge*

- 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

Q & A

