

# TROOP 845



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA  
CARRBORO, N.C.

TROOP INFORMATION  
*September, 2008*



## **What Every Scout Should Know**

### **Scout Oath**

On my honor I will do my best  
To do my duty to God and my country  
and to obey the Scout Law;  
To help other people at all times;  
To keep myself physically strong,  
mentally awake, and morally straight.

### **Scout Law**

As Scout is ...  
Trustworthy,  
Loyal,  
Helpful,  
Friendly,  
Courteous,  
Kind,  
Obedient,  
Cheerful,  
Thrifty,  
Brave,  
Clean,  
Reverent.

### **Scout Motto**

Be Prepared

### **Scout Slogan**

Do a good turn daily

### **Outdoor Code**

As an American, I will do my best to --  
Be clean in my outdoor manners,  
Be careful with fire,  
Be considerate in the outdoors, and  
Be conservation-minded.

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **Welcome To Troop 845**

Welcome to BSA Troop 845. You are a member of a Troop that has been chartered continuously since 1958. That's 50 years! The Troop offers a traditional BSA program providing the opportunity for a rewarding scouting experience with an emphasis on developing skills, character, and leadership. Good companionship, fun, and outdoor activities round out the Troop 845 program.

### **What Is Boy Scouting?**

The Boy Scouts of America was incorporated to provide a program for community organizations that offers effective character, citizenship, and personal fitness training for youth. Specifically, the BSA endeavors to develop 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 values based on religious concepts; have the desire and skills to help others; understand the principles of the American social, economic, and governmental systems; are knowledgeable about and take pride in their American heritage and understand our nation's role in the world; have a keen respect for the basic rights of all people; and are prepared to participate in and give leadership to American society.

### **Aims and Methods of the Boy Scout Program**

#### **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, his outlook.

A second aim is *participating citizenship*. Used broadly, citizenship means the boy's relationship to others. He comes to learn of his obligations to other people, to the society he lives, 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 emotions (self control, courage and self-respect).

## **Methods**

**Advancement-** Scouting provides a series of surmountable obstacles and steps to overcome them through the advancement process. The Scout plans his advancement and progresses at his own pace as he overcomes each challenge.

**Adult Association-** Boys learn from the examples set by their adult leaders. Troop leadership may be male or female and association with adults of high character is encouraged at this stage in a young man's development.

**Personal Growth-** As Scouts plan their activities, and progress toward 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.

**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 the person he becomes.

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

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

**Leadership Development-** Boy Scouting encourages boys to learn and practice leadership skills. Every Scout has the opportunity to participate in leadership positions. 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 of 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 youth who believe in the same ideals.

## **TROOP 845 ORGANIZATION**

### **Charter Organization**

Every Troop belongs to an organization that sponsors or “charters” the BSA unit. The Chartered Organization for Troop 845 is the Carrboro Methodist Men’s Club. The Chartered Organization shares our objectives for the boys and ensures that there is adequate, trained leadership. A Chartered Organization Representative acts a liaison between the Troop and the Charter Organization.

### **Troop Committee**

The Troop Committee provides administration and support for the Troop. The Troop Committee takes care of the business and logistical support of Troop operations. The Committee Chairman leads and organizes the Committee. Troop 845 has four subcommittees: Membership and Advancement, Outdoor Programs, Finance, and Fundraising. Several adult volunteers staff each subcommittee and lead certain activities or tasks. The executive committee is made up of Committee Chairman and subcommittee chairpersons. The Committee meets monthly. The meetings are open and attendance is encouraged by all parents and other interested adults. All Scout parents are encouraged to volunteer as part of the Troop committee.

### **Adult Leadership** **Scoutmaster**

The Scoutmaster is the adult leader responsible for the image and program of the troop. The Scoutmaster and his or her assistant Scoutmasters work directly with the Scouts. The Scoutmaster is responsible for the operation of Troop program activities including troop meetings and outings. The Scoutmaster is recruited by and reports to the Troop Committee.

### **Assistant Scoutmasters**

Assistant Scoutmasters are recruited by the Scoutmaster and approved by the troop committee to assist the Scoutmaster in the operation of the troop. Assistant Scoutmasters are assigned program tasks by the Scoutmaster and provide guidance to the boy leadership. Successful Troops have two or more active Assistant Scoutmasters.

### **Youth Leadership**

The Troop is run by its youth leaders. Youth leaders plan the program, conduct Troop meetings, and provide leadership among their peers.

### ***Senior Patrol Leader***

The senior patrol leader (SPL) is the top youth leader in the troop. The SPL is elected by the members of the Troop. He leads the patrol leaders' council and, in consultation with the Scoutmaster, appoints other junior leaders and assigns specific responsibilities as needed. The SPL or his designee leads the weekly Troop meetings and is the leader at other Troop activities and functions. The SPL is responsible for general behavior and compliance with policies and procedures by the boys in the Troop.

### ***Assistant Senior Patrol Leader***

The assistant senior patrol leaders (ASPL) are appointed by the SPL. They fill in for the SPL in his absence. The ASPLs are also responsible for training and giving direction to the quartermaster, scribe, historian, librarian and instructors.

### ***Patrol Leaders***

The patrol leaders (PL) are responsible for giving leadership to the members of their patrols. The PLs are elected by the members of their patrols. They represent their patrols on the patrol leaders' council. The PL is also responsible for holding monthly patrol meetings outside of the regular troop meetings.

### ***Assistant Patrol Leaders***

Assistant patrol leaders are appointed by the PL and help the PL run the patrol and fill in for him in his absence.

### ***Patrol Leaders Council***

The Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC), not the adult leaders, is responsible for planning and conducting the Troop's activities. The PLC is composed of the following voting members: senior patrol leader, assistant senior patrol leader, patrol leaders, troop guides, and Venture crew chief.

The Troop's activities are defined by the Scouts at the annual program planning conference. The Troop's yearly plan is then submitted to the Troop committee for approval. The Troop committee either approves the plan or makes alternative suggestions for the PLC to consider. At its monthly meetings the PLC organizes and assigns activity responsibilities for the weekly Troop meetings. The Troop committee interacts with the PLC through the Scoutmaster.

## Troop Leadership Positions

### **Troop Historian:**

Collects and maintains troop memorabilia and information on former troop members.

### **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**

A Scout 16 or older who supervises and supports other boy leaders as assigned.

### **Venture crew chief**

Leader of a troop's Venture crew.

### **Troop guide**

Advisor and guide to new Scouts.

### **Den chief**

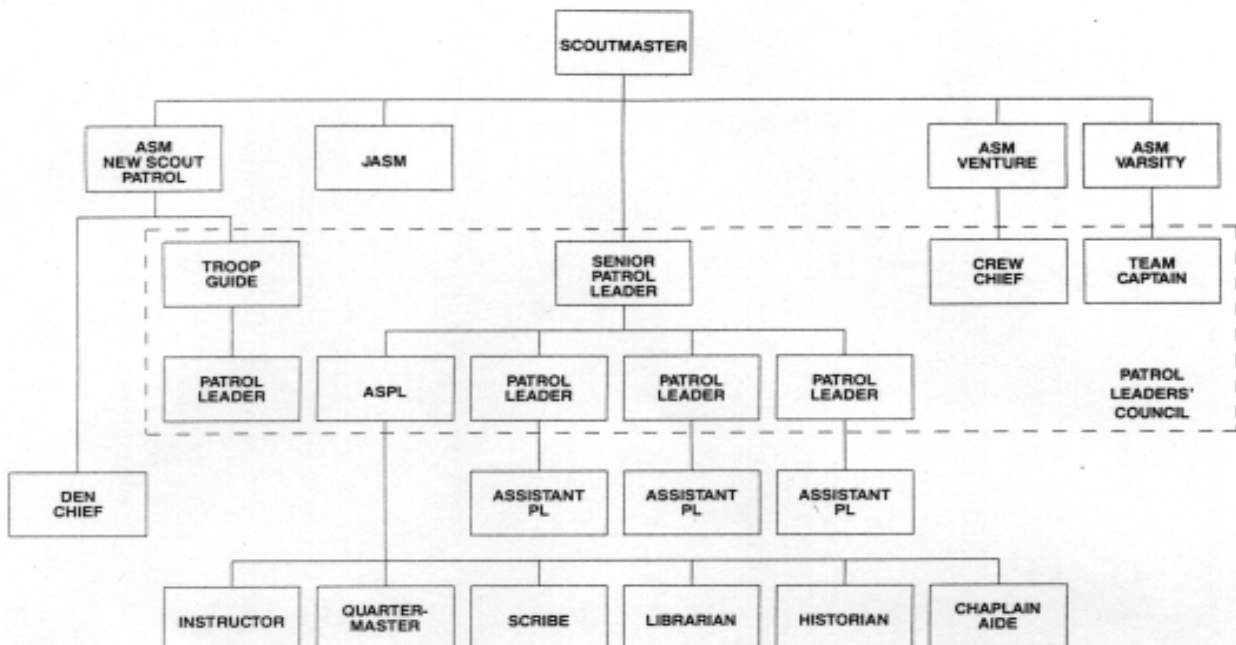
Works with a Cub Scout den as a guide.

### **Quartermaster**

Responsible for troop supplies and equipment.

### **Scribe**

The troop secretary, responsible for recording and transmitting information.



**Example Organization for Leadership in a BSA Unit**

## **TROOP COMMITTEE COMPOSITION AND DUTIES**

The Troop Committee may be composed of parents and/or other interested adults. The traditional BSA Troop Committee model calls for the membership of the Committee to come from the sponsoring organization. In cases where the members of the sponsoring organization are very involved, this may work. In most cases today however, parents are the best source for candidates to serve on the Troop Committee. The following shows the structure and individual positions used by Troop 845's Troop Committee. Some positions can be combined with another and fulfilled by one person. Troop 845 divides its Committee into four sub-committees that function as work groups that support each other and fill in temporarily when one member of the group is absent or unable to perform their duties. Each sub-committee has a chairman. The chairmen of the four sub-committees, along with the Troop Committee Chairman and the Troop Secretary form the Executive Committee. This group deals with matters that require attention prior to the next scheduled Troop Committee Meeting.

### **Troop Committee Chairman**

1. Act as the liaison to the sponsoring organization
2. Set the agenda for Troop Committee Meetings
3. Chair the Troop Committee Meetings
4. Chair the Executive Committee as needed
5. Appoint nominating sub-committee for Troop Committee
6. Recruit members of the Troop Committee
7. Advise the Chairmen of the standing and temporary sub-committees
8. Recruit Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters

### **Troop Secretary**

1. Record and publish minutes of Troop Committee Meetings
2. Maintain a roster of parents and adult leaders with contact information
3. Communicate significant information to parents via: newsletter or e-mail

### **Membership and Advancement Sub-Committee**

Monitors the structure, composition, and advancement of the Troop membership and advises the Scoutmaster and Troop Committee on related issues

***Membership Coordinator*** (this job can be combined with the Advancement Coordinator since the duties are inter-twined)

1. Maintain youth membership records
2. Maintain supply of youth and adult membership applications
3. Assist with enrollment and transfers of new youth and/or adult members
4. Fill membership applications with the Council Office

***Advancement Coordinator*** (this job can be combined with the Membership Coordinator since the duties are inter-twined)

1. Act as a mentor to the Troop Scribe
2. Maintain advancement records
3. Fill out and files advancement reports with the Council Office

***Board of Review Coordinator***

1. Recruit and trains registered adults for Boards of Review
2. Schedule Boards of Review
3. Maintain guidelines for conduct of boards of review

***Health and Safety Coordinator***

1. Inspect the meeting place for Troop Meetings for safety hazards and reports to the Troop Committee
2. Collect BSA medical forms from Scouts and maintains a master file from which copies are created for the Scoutmaster and the Summer Camp Coordinator

***New Parent Orientation Coordinator***

1. Develop and administer orientation programs for new families
2. Serve as the liaison between the Troop Committee and the new families

***Merit Badge Program Coordinator*** (may also be fulfilled by an Assistant Scoutmaster)

1. With the assistance of the Advancement Coordinator, develop "needs assessment" based on the merit badges completed by the membership. The needs assessment can be based on the merit badges required for the Eagle rank along with non-required merit badges with available councilors
2. Recruit merit badge councilors
3. Match Scouts with merit badge councilors
4. Schedule group merit badge classes

***Outdoor Program Sub-Committee***

Monitors the Outdoor Activity Program and advises the Scoutmaster and the Troop Committee on related issues

***Troop Equipment Coordinator***

1. Act as a mentor to the Troop Quartermaster
2. Maintain an inventory of Troop equipment
3. Facilitate maintenance of Troop equipment

***Reservations and Permits Coordinator***

1. Make reservations for camping sites as needed
2. Fill out and files Tour Permits with the Council Office

### ***Transportation Coordinator***

1. Maintain a database of drivers with their vehicle and insurance information
2. Recruit drivers for outdoor activities
3. May also serve as the recruiter for parents to participate in outdoor activities

### ***Summer Camp Coordinator***

1. Solicit information on a variety of summer camps for consideration of the PLC
2. Make a reservation with the selected summer camp
3. Promote summer camp attendance by youth and adults
4. Register Scouts for summer camp
5. Register Scouts for summer camp activities
6. Provide listings of attendees for the Scoutmaster and Advancement Coordinator
7. Advise parents of the availability of camperships
8. File campership applications with the Council Office or the Treasurer (if campership money comes from the Troop budget)
9. Assist Collections Coordinator with collection of fees for summer camp

### ***Finance Sub-Committee***

Coordination of the financial activities of the Troop

### ***Treasurer***

1. Reconciles bank statements
2. Manages disbursements
3. Maintains financial records
4. Produces periodic financial reports for the Troop Committee.

### ***Scoutbucks Program Coordinator***

1. Maintains records of Scoutbuck accounts
2. Maintains guidelines for purchases with Scoutbucks
3. Solicits and trains adult leaders to council Scouts on purchases with Scoutbucks

### ***Collections Coordinator***

1. Coordinates collection of fees from Scouts and parents for:
  - a. Summer camp
  - b. Camporees
  - c. Special program activities (ski trips, whitewater rafting trips, etc.)
2. Produces records of collections for the Treasurer

### ***Auditor***

1. Advises the Treasurer on bookkeeping practices and procedures
2. Conducts an annual audit of financial records and reports to the Troop Committee

### **Fundraising Activities Sub-Committee**

Coordinates planning and execution of fundraising activities

#### ***Project Logistics Coordinator***

1. Council the PLC on fundraising events
2. Manage purchasing of merchandise and supplies from vendors as needed for projects
3. Coordinate scheduling of venues as needed for projects
4. Coordinate procurement of equipment for projects

#### ***Adult Participation Coordinator***

1. Obtain an adult contact list from the Troop Secretary
2. Recruit adult participants for fundraising projects

#### ***Youth Participation Coordinator***

1. Obtain a contact list of Scouts
2. Recruit youth members to participate in fundraising events
3. Track participation of youth members in fundraising events
4. Report youth participation in fundraising events to the Advancement Coordinator

### **Executive Committee**

Composed of the Troop Committee Chairman, Troop Secretary, and each of the Chairmen of the Program, Membership/Advancement, Fundraising, and Finance Sub-Committees. This Committee is established to deal with matters that require attention prior to the next scheduled Troop Committee Meeting.

### **Nominating Sub-Committee**

Develops a list of potential adult leaders and makes recommendations to the Troop Committee Chairman of adults to fill positions on the Troop Committee and the Program Staff (Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters). May also contact potential candidates as requested by the Troop Committee Chairman. The Troop Committee Chairman appoints the members of this Committee for a period of one year.

## **UNIFORM**

Scouts in uniform are conscious of their rank and make a greater effort to advance. Only the uniform provides a place for display of badges - important symbols of achievement. Scouts in uniform have more fun, stay longer, and feel greater pride in advancement.

### **CLASS "A" Uniform**

The Class A uniform is required for Scouts at all Troop meetings, Courts of Honor, and other official functions and outings as designated by the Senior Patrol Leader. The Class A uniform is required at certain meals and assemblies at BSA summer camps.

The following is the official Class A uniform of Troop 845:

#### Shirt

(Official BSA khaki shirt with red shoulder tabs, Occoneechee Council patch, Troop 845 numeral patch, rank badge, badge of office. A short-sleeved shirt is recommended)

#### Troop 845 Bolo

Belt (official BSA khaki web belt)

Pants/Shorts (official BSA khaki)

Socks (official BSA green with red tops)

### **CLASS "B" Uniform**

The Troop 845 Class B uniform is a T-shirt or sweatshirt with the Troop 845 insignia. The Troop 845 Class B uniform is required for Troop 845 travel, BSA summer camps, and at specific Troop functions or outings as designated by the Senior Patrol Leader. Any Scouting-related T-shirt may also be considered an acceptable Class B uniform at summer camp and other Scouting activities. Neat pants or shorts and socks complete the Class B uniform.

## **RANK ADVANCEMENT**

There are many definitions of advancement, but the Scouting definition might well be, simply, "the art of meeting a challenge." For that is exactly what the Boy Scout advancement program asks the boys to do. The Boy Scout advancement program provides a ladder of skills that a Scout climbs at his own pace. As he acquires these skills he moves up through a series of ranks, for which he is awarded badges: Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life, and Eagle. The higher he climbs the more challenging his tasks -- and the more rewarding.

Achievements include:

- Learning skills that qualify for Scouting's more rugged and exciting outdoor challenges.
- Developing body and mind, growing self-confidence, and helping younger Scouts climb the advancement ladder.
- Discovering how it feels to go further -- in so many ways -- than he ever thought he could.

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.

### **Scout Handbook**

All Scouts should purchase a new Scout Handbook as soon as they join Troop 845. The books can be purchased from the Troop advancement committee member or the BSA Scout Shop. The Handbook provides the rank advancement requirements and information that helps the Scouts complete the requirements. Scouts working on Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class rank requirements should have their books at ALL meetings, outings, and summer camps. Many rank requirements can be signed off at Troop 845 activities. Be sure to write the Scout's name and Troop number on the book.

### **Advancement Testing**

A Scout may be tested on rank requirements by his Scoutmaster, assistant Scoutmaster, a troop committee member, the SPL or the ASPL. Each Scout should ask an appropriate person to test and sign-off on rank requirements as soon as possible after completion. The Scout must show initiative in completing requirements and having them approved.

### **Scoutmaster Conference**

After the Scout completes all of the requirements for a rank, the Scout is responsible for scheduling a Scoutmaster conference with the Scoutmaster or an Assistant Scoutmaster. The Scout's achievements, knowledge, and skills are reviewed at the Scoutmaster Conference. The Scoutmaster recommends approval for conducting a Board of Review or identifies additional work needed to complete the rank requirements.

### **Boards of Review**

When a Scout has completed all the requirements for a rank and the Scoutmaster conference, the Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster schedules a board of review.

Scouts earning the rank of Life must meet with the Advancement Committee Member prior to having their board of review to ensure that their records are accurate. Reviews conducted prior to 1<sup>st</sup> Class and Star rank boards of review are recommended.

The Scout appears, at the scheduled time, before a Board of Review composed of at least three members of the Troop committee. The purpose of the review is not an examination. Rather it is to determine the Scout's attitude and acceptance of Scouting's ideals; to ensure that the requirements have been met for advancement; to discuss the Scout's experiences in the Troop and the Troop's program; and to encourage him to keep working towards advancement. A Board of Review may also be held to counsel a boy about his lack of progress toward advancement.

### **Recognition**

Troop 845 will attempt to award rank badges and merit badges as soon as possible after being earned by the Scout. The Scout will also be recognized in a Court of Honor. Troop 845 conducts Courts of Honor three to four times a year.

## **TROOP 845 ADVANCEMENT PLAN FOR NEW SCOUTS**

All Scouts need a Boy Scout handbook. The handbook contains the requirements for all of the ranks and a place where they can be signed as boys complete them. Scouts should bring their handbook to all meetings and campouts.

**Scout:** The Scout rank introduces the Scout to some of the principles of Scouting including the Scout Oath, Law, Motto, Slogan, Outdoor Code, and Pledge of Allegiance. The Scout must tie a square knot (a joining knot). The requirements for Scout are very similar to the Cub Scout Arrow of Light requirements. A parent must complete the "*How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide*" from the beginning of the Scout book with their Scout and send in a signed note with the Scout. The Scout can complete the rest of the requirements in under one-half hour at a troop meeting. We expect new Scouts to complete the Scout badge during their first month as a Boy Scout, ideally during their first week.

**Tenderfoot:** The Tenderfoot rank introduces a boy to camping, cooking, safe hiking, his patrol, the flag, first aid, and poisonous plants. The Scout can complete most of the Tenderfoot badge at his first troop campout and at troop meetings. However, there is a thirty-day exercise requirement that must be completed at home. Parents need to take the Scout to a school track where they time him on the ¼ mile walk run, count push ups, pull ups, and sit ups, and measure the long jump. The Scout must show improvement thirty days later after exercise and practice. Parents send in a signed note with the Scout when he completes these requirements. We expect new Scouts to complete the Tenderfoot badge before attending summer camp, ideally much sooner (within the first two months of membership).

**Second Class:** The Second Class rank teaches a Scout about his patrol, first aid, swimming, maps, compass, community service, and the proper use of knife, saw, and axe. Second Class also stresses cooking, camping, and hiking skills, building on what he learned in Tenderfoot. Each Scout must participate in a troop or school program on the dangers of drugs, alcohol, and smoking and discuss it with his family. Parents send in a signed note with the Scout when he completes this requirement. We expect new Scouts to make significant progress on Second Class at weekend campouts, troop meetings, and summer camp, and finish it in the summer or very early fall.

**First Class:** The First Class rank teaches boys about their Constitutional rights, more first aid, knots, lashing, swimming, and lifesaving. First Class also stresses cooking, camping, and hiking skills, building on what he learned in Tenderfoot and Second Class. When a boy finishes First Class, he has demonstrated that he has mastered the fundamentals of camping and Scouting and is ready to become a junior leader and fully participate in Scouting's activities and adventures. Baden Powell, the founder of Scouting, said "A boy does not really get the full value of Scout training until he is a First Class Scout. The tests for First Class Scouts were laid down with the idea that a boy who has proved himself equipped to that extent might reasonably be considered grounded in the qualities which go to make a good citizen." We expect a new Scout to make significant progress on First Class at weekend campouts, troop meetings, at summer camp, and throughout the fall, and finish First Class in the winter of his first year in Boy Scouts.

Boys can work on requirements for later ranks before they have completed all of the requirements for earlier ranks. This is fine. For example, a Tenderfoot can reasonably work on the First Class knot and lashing requirements. However, some requirements build on the previous rank's requirements, so boys should do Tenderfoot cooking, before Second Class cooking, before First Class cooking, before cooking merit badge. The Second Class flag requirement builds on the Tenderfoot requirement. First aid gets progressively more advanced with each rank. In contrast, a boy who already knows how to swim can easily pass Second Class and First Class swimming requirements in a single session. In order to become a First Class Scout, the boy must participate in ten separate troop or patrol activities, outside meetings, including three overnight campouts. This can include campouts, day hikes, Scout Sunday, skating, bowling, miniature golf, and fund raising. New scouts can work on merit badges, particularly at summer camp, however we would prefer them to concentrate on reaching First Class before spending too much time on merit badges.

**Star, Life, and Eagle Scouts:** After a Scout reaches First Class, he advances in rank by earning merit badges, serving as a junior leader, and by performing community service. Eagle Scout is the highest rank in scouting and is a difficult and proud accomplishment that requires several years work beyond First Class.

## **MERIT BADGES**

The goal of the merit badge program is to expand a Scout's areas of interest and to encourage the Scout to meet and work with adults in a chosen subject. There are over 100 different merit badges. Merit badges are earned by a Scout working with a registered merit badge counselor. The Scout is required to contact the counselor to arrange for times and places to meet with the counselor. When the Scout completes the work on the merit badge the counselor will inform the Scoutmaster that the Scout has completed the requirements for that badge.

Merit badges required for Eagle rank are specified in the Scout Handbook.

All Troop 845 Scouts are encouraged to attend summer camp where the Troop emphasis for younger Scouts is on earning merit badges. Merit badge colleges are held by the Troop and District on an occasional basis.

All parents of Troop 845 Scouts are encouraged to become Merit Badge Counselors. Parents may be a counselor for their own son provided that at least one other boy participates with their son. The counselor must follow all BSA youth protection guidelines.

## **MEETINGS**

### **Troop Meetings**

Troop meetings are held each Tuesday night from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. Most meetings are held in the Fellowship Hall of the Carrboro Methodist Church. Scouts are expected to arrive in time for the opening flag ceremony. Occasionally, meetings will be held at other locations as selected by the PLC. Troop meetings are not held on specified weeks from late June to early August. Scouts are expected to attend at least 75% of the weekly scout meetings to be considered active.

### **PLC Meetings**

PLC meetings are on the last Monday of each month at 7:00 pm to plan the next month's Troop activities. A yearly planning meeting will also be scheduled by the Senior Patrol Leader.

### **Committee Meetings**

The Troop committee meets the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Carrboro Methodist Church. All parents are invited to attend.

### **Parent Meetings**

Informational meetings are provided for Scout parents on the Tuesday after the first Thursday of each month. The parent meetings are held at the same time as the Troop meeting. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend for an update on Troop activities and to provide feedback to the Troop committee.

## **CAMPING**

Troop 845 has a strong outdoor program that includes many camping trips each year. Monthly outings are planned by the PLC. Scouts that take part in the Troop's activities will learn skills, self-confidence, teamwork, and leadership. They will also be more successful in rank advancement and will have more fun in Scouting. As such, Scouts are expected to participate in at least 75% of the Troop outings. Troop 845 camping rules are provided below for the Scout's reference.

### **BASIC CAMP RULES**

1. Treat all others in camp with respect. Treat them as you want to be treated.
2. Respect other Patrol campsites. Do not use them as a walkway. Ask permission to enter.
3. The Boy Scout Motto is: Be Prepared. Live up to it.
4. Boots, shoes, or sandals etc. should be worn at all times when we are camping, unless you are swimming or you are in your tent.
5. Keep tent doors closed whenever possible. Help keep bugs and creatures out of your tent. Keep your bedding rolled up when not in use. If bugs or creatures do get into your tent, then you will keep them out of your bedding.
6. Fires or devices which produce sparks or flames are not allowed in tents. This includes stoves, candles and gas lanterns.
7. All fireplaces should have a clear space 10 feet in diameter from the center of the fireplace. Kitchens, dining canopies, and wood fuel supplies should be located beyond that 10 foot diameter. Tents should be located as far as possible from any fire.
8. Ground fires should be built in a controlled fireplace. Fires should not extend outside the fireplace.
9. A fire bucket containing water or dirt and a shovel should be in place at all ground fires for safety.
10. Liquid fuels (i.e. Coleman fuel) can only be used by Scouts when under the direct supervision of adult leaders.
11. With the exception of fireplaces established by the landowner, you should bury all fires before departure from camp.
12. Do not play in the fire with sticks etc. Do not dangle anything over a fire. Do not place any material in a fire that might explode (ie: quartz rocks or bamboo with the chamber walls intact)
13. A hand wash station should be set up in each kitchen area. Anyone working in the kitchen should wash their hands before handling food or washing dishes. This is a common courtesy to your fellow campers.
14. Waste water should be disposed of in an identified area outside of the kitchen and/or tent area and 100 feet away from streams, rivers, and lakes.
15. Locations for latrines should be identified 100 feet both from the campsite and the water supply.
16. All injuries should be reported to the Scoutmaster immediately.
17. Observe and respect "lights out" and "all quiet" times. When the "lights out" time arrives, everyone should be in their tent, and all lights should be out. When the all quiet time arrives, all conversation should cease. No one should get back up and ignite a fire between "lights out" and 6:00 am except in a dire emergency, and then not without the

permission of the Scoutmaster.

18. Each patrol will have a saw to cut firewood. Axes are rarely used and are only used with constant adult supervision.

### **BASIC TRAIL RULES**

1. Be courteous to others in front of you or approaching you on the trail. Stop and make room for others to pass. Ask before you pass someone in front of you. Do not crowd anyone in front of you. Leave at least a distance equal to your height between you and the person in front of you.
2. Always stop and make room for others on the trail on horseback or with pack animals.
3. Do not cross through fenced in land without permission.
4. When you pass through a gate, always leave the gate in the condition you found it (open or closed).
5. Stay together. Do not leave your party while hiking.
6. Do not pick or cut live trees or plants on the trail.
7. Do not waste food or water.

### **DO NOT BRING THE FOLLOWING ON CAMPING TRIPS**

1. Electronic entertainment devices (on Troop 845 camping trips, when there is a UNC Football or Basketball game, each patrol will be allowed to play one radio in their campsite for the duration of the game only - this does not apply to Camporees, etc.).
2. Firearms or fireworks of any description.
3. Hatchets or axes unless authorized by the Scoutmaster.
4. Fixed blade knives.
5. Alcohol or illegal drugs.

### **EQUIPMENT**

Troop 845 provides Patrol unit camping equipment including cooking gear, stoves, lanterns, saws, shovels, tools, and tents. Scouts provide personal camping gear. A camping pack checklist is provided on the following page. New Scouts and their parents should discuss required and optional equipment with experienced Scouts and adult leaders.