



BSA Troop 69
Information, Facts, Myths, and
Other Stuff You May Want to Know



The information on these pages is intended to help new and “old” Scouts and parents learn about Our Troop and the Boy Scout program in general. If you have a question and do not find the answer here, please let us know by contacting our scoutmaster, leaders &/or committee members. The most basic information is in our Troop Handbook. This is intended for both Scouts and parents and should answer many questions. A puzzling thing to new members is always the Scouting lingo or acronyms. You will have to forgive us it becomes second nature after a while and we forget we are even using it. Attached is a general glossary of Scouting terms to help you figure out what we mean. Also people always are anxious about purchasing equipment. Our troop gear guide will help you to figure out what you need, and when. To learn more about Scouting in our area please also refer to Longs Peak Council Website at: longspeakbsa.org, then go to the Arapahoe District or call the Lafayette office at 303-447-8511.

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Welcome To Boy Scout Troop 69

About our Troop & Troop Philosophy

Boy Scout Troop 69 has a standard of excellence and commitment to community service. Currently, a troop of 50 plus active Scouts (Depends on the Sports Seasons). Chartered by the Tri-City Elks in Louisville, Colorado. Active in the Boulder County since the 1940's (Chartered in 1942), many of Louisville Citizens have been members at one time or another. We have won numerous awards & contests at District Scouting events, Other State camps, & Nationally Troop 69 the first in Colorado to get the William P. Hornaday Conservation Award . We have earned several grants. Have donated to the Tsunami victims & Katrina Victims, boys raising funds with companies matching efforts. We have boys at every stage in Ranks from Scout Badge to those working on Eagle Projects. We have a group of committed parents, over half are trained leaders & others are Merit Badge Counselors. We have two men that are our High adventure gurus, that don't even have boys in the troop, but they love to teach the older scouts to do Backpacking, technical climbing & Ice climbing.

We plan a camping trip almost every month, except December & offer a Spring Break trip to Families. Some of our trips are Scouts only others are family planned. We try to do a Ski/Snow Shoeing &/or Boarding Day in the winter, Family Trips in the past have also included camping in Canyon lands, Rafting Rivers all over Colorado, Sand Dunes, and Pawnee Buttes.

Our schedule & plans are made by the Boys leading the troop, with parental/leader input & advice. Every other year this Troop has gone out of state for summer camps. Two years ago the boys went to the Lewis & Clark Aquatic Camp in South Dakota, canoeing on the Missouri River. Last summer it was Peaceful Valley, Colorado, Prior to that camps in Nebraska, Utah, and Kansas & for older scouts we have had trips in the past few years to Philmont in New Mexico. This past July a few older (14 & older) scouts went as part of a crew to Sea Base in Florida, other opportunities will be trips to the Boundary waters next summer, Philmont & local high adventure places. For the younger scouts we try to get them through to their First Class rank via summer camps & local trips to learn all the skills, discipline & experience they will need to do the back-packing & harder high adventure trips when they hit 13 or 14, depending on the adventure. We offer many Merit Badge opportunities' within the Troop: recently working on the Canoeing Merit Badge at the Boulder Reservoir.

Scouting is in the news a lot with safety concerns, we are a very well-trained troop & keep safety in mind at all times. We have several medical personal as leaders, many have first aid training, disaster training, etc to guide the boys. We follow the Guide to Safe scouting & especially the buddy system.

Troop Philosophy

We strive to inspire & challenge the boys to grow into leaders; at times this may look chaotic, but to have them learn from their mistakes in a safe setting with adult leaders to advise them along the way, sets the example and expectation for them to improve & grow as young men that are responsible to others, themselves & the community as a whole. The expectation is chaotic maturation at first till they learn & build self confidence to be the leaders we know they can become! We challenge them to do their best, in turn as adults we become inspired to be better leaders, parents & better citizens

What are the Boy Scouts?

The Boy Scouts is a youth program founded in Great Britain by Lord Robert Baden-Powell. Baden-Powell was a military officer who gained fame in the Boer Wars of the early 1900s. He was appalled by the senseless waste of life caused by the soldiers' lack of survival skills, and decided to prevent similar tragedies in the future. He also was looking for a way to make boys into better men.

In 1907, Baden-Powell invited a group of boys to the first Boy Scout camp on Brownsea Island. He soon wrote Scouting for Boys, a book intended to pass on his ideas. It

became an instant bestseller, and boys joined by the thousands. In 1909, William Boyce, an American visitor was lost in the London fog. A young boy helped him to find his destination. When Boyce offered the boy a tip, the boy said, "No thank you, sir. I am a Scout I won't take anything for helping." Intrigued, Boyce asked the boy what a scout was. The boy told him about himself and his brother scouts, and took Boyce to the British scouting office. There, Boyce met Baden-Powell, and decided to bring scouting to the United States. On February 8, 1910, Boyce and others founded the Boy Scouts of America. Since then, millions of boys have enjoyed and benefited from scouting. Despite its founding by a military officer, Boy scouts is not a military organization. It is a youth program with the objectives of developing character, citizenship, and fitness.

Troop Organization

The Boy Scouts of America does not operate units directly. Instead, it grants charters to organizations authorizing them to organize scout troops as part of their youth service program. Our chartered organization is Tri City Elks Club in Louisville, Colorado. The Elks Commander is the Institution Head, responsible for the troop. He appoints a Chartered Organization Representative (COR) to act as a liaison between the troop and the Elks Club. The troop committee acts for the institution head in making policies and providing support for the troop.

Major positions on the Boy Scout committee are the Committee Chair (CC), the Advancement Chair, the Secretary/Treasurer, and the Program Chair. These people are responsible for major areas of the troop operation. Committee meetings are usually held the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm at the "Hut". Please feel free to join the committee at any of their meetings.

The Committee selects a Scoutmaster (SM) and one or more Assistant Scoutmasters (ASM) to oversee the Troop and to advise the Troop leaders. Training, scoutmaster fundamentals, first aid, and youth protection is offered for all adult leaders.

The troop is run by the Senior Patrol Leader (SPL), elected by the entire troop membership (i.e., the scouts). The Troop also elects a staff to help him in his job, consisting of an Assistant Senior Patrol Leader (ASPL), a Scribe (SCR), a Quartermaster (QM), a Librarian (LIB), a Chaplain's Aide (CA) & at times a Historian. Other positions are elected & appointed as needed. <http://longspeakbsa.org/forms/smaward.pdf> Elections are held twice a year. Junior Leader Training is offered to help Scouts who hold office or wish to hold office. It is another opportunity for leadership development. The scouts are divided into patrols on average of 6-10 members. Each patrol elects a Patrol Leader (PL) to run the patrol. They elect an Assistant Patrol Leader (APL), and other positions as he sees fit.

The Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC) consists of the Senior Patrol Leader, the Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, the Scribe, and the Patrol Leaders. They meet annually to plan the yearly calendar and monthly to make detailed plans for the following month's meetings. The monthly PLC is usually held the third Tuesday of each month at the Scout Hut and starts at 7:00 pm. Parents are welcome to attend the PLC to watch as the boys plan.

Parent Involvement

Parents are always needed to help with the scouts and the troop. Parents are more behind the scenes in boy scouts than in cub scouts as boy scouts is encouraging the program to be boy run. Have no fear though, you are needed more than ever now, parents! There are positions available at the committee level, or as an assistant scoutmaster, or as a merit badge counselor or on a camping trip or even as a driver to an adventure. This program doesn't work without you! You can work directly with your child's patrol, with another group of scouts or behind the scenes.

Boys enjoy seeing their parents at Scouts and time and time again; boys whose parents are active in scouting stay in scouting longer. Volunteering in the beginning can feel overwhelming but it's truly not. Training is provided for committee members, Scoutmasters, Assistant scoutmasters or anyone who's interested.

Help is always needed for planning activities or camping trips. You DON'T have to go if you don't want to. You could just do the planning. See Appendix D for a step by step to planning an event.

Or, you can become a merit badge counselor just by thinking of your interests...

With over 120 merit badges, we're positive you can find a badge to help the Scouts with. Once you've identified a merit badge that you'd like to help with, let the scoutmaster, ASM's or Committee Chair know and he'll add you to the list. You should be knowledgeable about the Merit Badge that you have chosen so that you can instruct the scouts properly. Merit Badge Counselors do have to fill out an application and take the Youth Protection training. When a scout is interested in doing your badge, he will call you to set up a time or you can announce to the troop that you would like to work with a group on a badge.

Please do volunteer. We realize your time is precious but nothing is more precious than your child. It's a fabulous reward to watch our children evolve into young men and leaders.

Troop Meetings

Troop meetings are generally held from 7:00-8:00 pm each Monday night at St Ambrose Episcopal Church, 7620 South Boulder Road, Boulder, CO. This is the first left turn after the light for 76th street as you go west on South Boulder Road. The Scouts should enter through the parish hall door at the NE corner/end of the building. As you enter the building, please remember that other groups (such as Bible Study classes) are meeting and you should be quiet as you proceed to our meeting room. Scouts are encouraged to attend all meetings, and to arrive before the starting time. Each Scout should bring his Boy Scout Handbook, a notebook and pen/pencil to every meeting. He should also wear his uniform (called a "class A"). Adults are welcome to and should attend any meeting or activity they wish. There are no closed or secret meetings.

Meetings the Monday before a campout are generally held at the "Scout Hut" which is where all the troop equipment is stored. The Hut is located on South Street off Hwy 42 (95th street) in Louisville. South St is between Miner's Field and the old Alpine Lumber (currently a used book store). The hut is last building on the right hand side of South Street as you head West. **Court of Honor (COH)** Meetings are held at the Tri City Elks Lodge, 525 Main St., Louisville every quarter. Parents are encouraged to bring their cameras and families to help us celebrate the achievements of our sons. Each patrol will be assigned something to bring to the Court of Honors - usually drinks, desserts, or paper goods donated by our scout families. You would normally bring enough for 8-10 people. Fun nights are generally held once per month and are activities chosen by the scouts at PLC meeting (swimming, Ice skating, climbing wall, etc).

Troop Communication

Troop 69 tries very hard to offer a variety of communication methods.

Websites

The troop has a Public website which has the Troop handbook, general information on the troop, its leadership, contact info, calendars, pictures and more. It can be accessed anytime by going to <http://www.bsatroop69.com>.

Websites Continued:

There is also a Yahoo group site that hosts our group email list as well as troop forms, more pictures, scout roosters and advancement info. This site is restricted to active troop scouts and parents and membership is by request or invitation at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ScoutHut69>.

There is also a Yahoo group site for the Registered leaders of the troop. This site has its own leader email list as well as forms and templates used by the leaders along with minutes of the leader's meetings. Membership to this site is invitation to leaders only. It is located at: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ScoutHut69_Leaders

Announcements

Announcements are made at end of every troop meeting. Come a few minutes early to pick up your Scout and hear them. Patrol leaders may also call with reminders. Hand out/Programs are given out at each COH (Court of Honor) Quarterly that summarizes the Advancements & Upcoming events.

Email

Email is a big communication tool for the troop. Please provide your email to the scoutmaster or Troop secretary if you have not done so yet. Many families give mom's, dad's and the scout's email so all can be informed of the troop activities. The troop has a group email list hosted by Yahoo Groups. To subscribe to the group email list, send an email to: ScoutHut69-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. You will then be sent an invitation and instructions to join the group email list. Once you've joined, you can then email all members by simply sending an email to: ScoutHut69@yahoogroups.com

It is very important that you check your email the day of troop activities, as there may be last minute updates. We try not to have many last minute changes but please remember that troop 69 is a boy run activity. The Scouts are learning about leadership, deadlines and communication with other Scouts and their families - they may not be as efficient as we would like initially.

Uniform

Boys Scout uniforms are classified into two groups: Class A (scout shirt) and Class B (Scout T-shirt). Uniform for activities will be specified for each activity. Travel to and from activities will always be in uniform, either the scout shirt, or troop T-shirt. During activities, other shirts are acceptable. Any designs or slogans on the shirts must be in good taste. Drug- and alcohol-related messages are inappropriate. The minimum acceptable Class A uniform for meetings is the troop neckerchief and slide, with an official scout shirt, which must be clean, buttoned and tucked in. The shirt must have the following patches, as specified in the Boy Scout Handbook: Below are locations of various patches & emblems to be sewed on his shirt:

- Left Sleeve - Longs Peak Council Strip, the number 69, current position patch (if Applicable, Like Patrol Leader)
- Right Sleeve - American flag, patrol emblem, one Quality Unit emblem (if applicable)
- Left Pocket - Rank badge (May have Arrow of Light Under pocket)
- Above left pocket - World Scouting Emblem

Additional patches may be worn on the uniform if the scout has earned them: Arrow of Light, Recruiter strip, Interpreter strip, Trained strip, Religious Award knot with devices, Order of the Arrow Lodge flap, and temporary patch. If worn, these must be in the correct location. The Boy Scout Handbook has uniform information on the inside covers. Additional uniform items are encouraged, and are appropriate for any meeting: pants, belt, socks, and hat. If a hat is worn with the uniform, it must be an official scout hat. As these additional items can be expensive and easily lost or damaged, you may want to avoid sending them on outdoor activities. Full-dress items are encouraged at Courts of Honor and other ceremonial occasions: Merit Badge sash and medals. A sash may be worn with one Merit Badge & other awards earned from Camp-outs & District events.

Uniform Continued:

Merit Badge Sash are worn over the Right Shoulder with Merit Badges sewn on the front starting at the Shoulder & moving down the sash, other awards may be on the back or bottom of the sash. Class B uniforms are a scout T-shirt which has the fleur-de-lis somewhere on it, tucked into any pants or shorts.

Troop 69 Rules (Code of Conduct)

Our troop operates by the Scout Oath and Law. The scout must at all times be Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and Reverent. It is expected that every scout, boy and adult, will be respectful to each other, guests and property at all times.

Specific rules adopted by the troop are:

- There will be no profanity at any troop meetings or activities.
- We do not throw things at one another: rocks, pine cones, snowballs, anything.
- We will not tolerate destruction of any property.
- Decisions in the troop and patrol are made by majority vote.
- We discourage roughhousing between scouts &/or family members.
- There will be no hazing or initiations of new scouts.
- There will be no use of knives, Ax or saw until the scout has earned their Totin Chit.
- There will be no use of tobacco, alcohol, or illegal drugs on any scout activity.

Rule violations will be handled by the PLC. In extreme cases, or when the PLC is not able to resolve the issue, adult leaders will become involved.

Activities

Our troop schedules a number of activities each year, including hikes, camp outs, ski trips...whatever the scouts plan. Times, meeting places and uniforms will be announced in advance of each activity. Please remember to check your email on the day of the activity for any updates.

Troop Calendar

There is an online version with the latest changes at the troop web site once you register as a member into Yahoo groups. Regular activities are a Meeting every Monday night, unless cancelled due to Holidays, Court of Honor on or about the last Monday of each quarter, a PLC meeting on the third Tuesday of the month at the HUT at 7 PM & a parent/committee meeting on the second Wednesday of each month at the HUT at 7 PM.

Sample of Yearly Plans

January	Xmas Tree Recycling, Pre Klondike Winter Camping, COH
February	District Klondike Camp at Golden Gate Park
March	Snowshoeing, Skiing, Ice Climbing, Transitioning new Webelos
April	Scout Show - Boulder County Fairgrounds, Longmont, Camping, COH
May	Family Campout
June	OA Ordeal, Summer Camp &/or Backpacking
July	Summer Camp &/or High Adventure, OA Ordeal, COH
August	Camping, backpacking, rafting, OA Ordeal
Aug -Sept	Gold C Sales & Popcorn Fundraising
September	Labor Day Parade Recruiting Camp-out
October	District Rendezvous Camping, COH
November	MBU/Camping
December	Xmas Flyers

Exceptions may be dictated by holidays and other conflicts. These will be noted on the Troop calendar.

Troop Finances

Scout Accounts: Each Scout will have their own account for tracking their expenses and fund raising credits. Statements are prepared quarterly and distributed at the Troop's Court of Honor meetings. Balances owed to the Troop should be paid at the quarterly meetings if possible. Summer Camp is generally an exception to the quarterly payment schedule. Due to the significant cost for summer camp, the Troop will establish a separate payment schedule. This allows the Troop to fund the installment payments that are necessary to hold our spot at the camp.

Dues: Dues are \$60/year. \$30 is billed to the Scout's Account April 1st, and the remaining \$30 is billed October 1st. Dues will show as a line item on the Scout's account statement, and are collected as part of the quarterly payment process.

Fundraising credits – It is the policy of the Troop to let Scouts use the credit they earn selling popcorn to support their Scouting activities such as camping fees or purchases of equipment needed for their Scouting experience (i.e. sleeping bags, etc.). The credit has no "cash" value, and cannot be distributed other than for the above mentioned purpose.

Expense Reimbursements – Receipts from activities need to be submitted within 30 days of the activity to allow accurate billing to the Scout/Adult accounts.

Expense Allocations – Adult Expenses Adult food receipts will be charged out proportionally to those adults signed up for an event. Adult camping fees will be absorbed by the Troop, as adult attendance is needed in order to make events available for the Scouts. Adults signed up for an event, but unable to attend, will be charged for their share of the food costs.

Expense Allocations – Scout Expenses Scouts will be charged for their proportional share of their patrol's food expenses, and camping fees (excludes District events i.e. Rendezvous, Klondike, etc.) Scouts signed up for an event, but unable to attend, will be charged for their share of the food costs.

Equipment Purchases – All Troop Equipment purchases (not personal Scout equipment) must come from the budget allocated to the Quartermaster and approved in advance by the Scoutmaster and Quartermaster. Purchases made without prior approval will not be reimbursed.

Mileage Reimbursement – Reimbursement for gas expenses incurred on Scout trips will be reimbursed given the following conditions: 1) The Troop Committee has approved the reimbursement prior to the event, and 2) Reimbursement will be limited to those drivers listed on the Tour Permit. Parents transporting only their own Scout(s) will not be eligible for reimbursement.

Scholarships – The outdoor experience is an integral part of Scouting, and no Scout should feel that they cannot participate in an activity due to financial constraints. Scholarships are available to assist with activity costs. Please contact the Scout Master or Troop Committee Chair if you would like to discuss a scholarship for your Scout.

Troop Fundraising

The Major Troop Fundraiser is the Gold C in the fall. Approximately 50% of the Gold C book price and 20% of the Entertainment book price goes directly to the troop. This is our mandatory fundraiser and all Scouts MUST attend the sales event, which is generally the weekend of Labor Day. Another fundraiser is Boy Scout Popcorn Sale later in the fall. This is typically designated as a fundraiser for the scouts. That is, profits go into an account for the scout and can be used for any scout activity (gear, summer camp, etc). Scouts are encouraged to sell as much popcorn as they are able. The profit, which is approximately 33%, goes into an individual scout account that can be used for paying scout-related expenses: uniform costs, equipment, activity fees or dues. This is a great way to help pay for the big-ticket trips: summer camp, jamboree, Philmont, etc. This account can be accessed by contacting the treasurer.

Troop Fundraising Continued:

Generally we do a Popcorn Blitz where 4 scouts work a designated neighborhood for one afternoon followed by a car filled with popcorn. As scouts sell the popcorn they can immediately fill the orders and get payment. We also encourage scouts to sell in the own neighborhoods either by taking popcorn around with them or taking orders for future delivery.

Finally, in early Jan, we normally do a Christmas tree recycling fundraiser. In order to raise awareness the boys normally distribute flyers for this event in mid-December so we have plenty of trees to pickup for donations.

The troop may have other fundraisers during the year, as approved by the troop committee. Scouts are encouraged to participate.

"I can't afford it" is not a reason to avoid scouting. If you have problems with costs of the program, talk to the Scoutmaster or a troop committee member.

Troop Camping

Camping is a great opportunity for scouts and Troop 69 offers weekend camping trips approximately 10 months a year in addition to summer camp and high adventure trips. For summer camp, we go to a week long camp that offers a variety of Merit Badges & programs for newer scouts to get to First Class. Scouts are given a choice of camps within a five hundred-mile radius. In the past, they have chosen camps in Colorado, Utah, Kansas, Wyoming, South Dakota and Nebraska. Summer camp is a weeklong trip that costs approximately \$200 per scout plus any spending money, which can be earned by selling Popcorn. Physicals are required for Scouts (and parents if they stay 72 hours or more) attending summer camps and a special form is needed. We also try & offer a High Adventure camp for the older Scouts, such as: Philmont, Sea Base & Boundary Waters.

High Adventure

Once 13 and attained First Class rank, a Scout may participate in high adventure scouting activities such as outdoor rock climbing, snow caving, and backpacking trips. We realize younger Scouts would like to try some high adventure activities; we try to offer similar activities that appropriate for younger Scouts such as indoor rock climbing, shorter hikes, Junior Cope and winter camping.

Troop & Scout Equipment

The Troop owns a lot of equipment and has a Trailer & the Hut to store it. This equipment consists of canoes, tents, first-aid kits, tarps, cook kits, stoves, axes, etc. The Scout does not need his own tent, as long as troop tents are available. A Scout who does have a tent may use it if he wishes. HOWEVER, we discourage the use of large tents that sleep over three scouts. Each scout should have his own personal equipment. The lists here are to you a guideline when packing. We encourage the scouts to pack their own gear but ask that parents double check that all the gear is there. Please remember that we live in Colorado and weather changes at the drop of the hat. The Boy Scout motto is "Be Prepared"; we expect that our Scouts are prepared for every activity. No matter what your Scout says, please do not allow him to camp in the mountains without a warm coat, gloves, and mittens. It has snowed on us in April, May, June, etc. The adult leaders cannot bring enough extra gear for all Scouts, so please parents check those packs.

For every outdoor activity, in a daypack or waist pack: The Scout needs the "TEN" Outdoor essentials. These are:

- Water bottle or canteen
- Pocketknife once they've earned their Totin' Chip
- Personal first aid kit (See hand book for items)
- Extra clothing, coat
- Rain Gear
- Flashlight (please check batteries at home)
- Trail Food
- Matches and Fire Starters
- Sunscreen and chapstick
- Compass and map

Camping Equipment

These need to be carried in a pack or bag. Please no suitcases. Much of our camping is car camping, where a good backpack is not essential. We recommend packing in Ziploc style bags—2 gallon work well—as these bags keep your clothes dry in case of rain and also keep items from leaking onto other gear.

For camp outs, the Scout needs in addition to the above list:

- Warm sleeping bag (no slumber bags) (around +20-30 degrees for summer camping and -20 for winter camping)
- Small Pillow if desired. Roll it into your sleeping bag if possible. You can also use your coat as a pillow.
- Air mattress or sleeping pad
- Ground cloth
- Two sets of clothes in a Ziploc bag: socks, pants, shirt (send 1 short sleeve and 1 long sleeve), underwear
- Sweatshirt
- Warm coat
- One pair gloves or mittens
- Boy Scout book
- Warm pajamas, long underwear or sweats to sleep in
- Extra pair of shoes or hiking boots (no open toe shoes)
- Extra pair of socks and underwear
- Warm Hat
- Toiletries in Ziploc bag: hairbrush, toothbrush and paste, washcloth, towel and soap in soap dish and other personal items needed by your son.
- Mess kit with metal or plastic plate, cup, bowl, fork, knife and spoon
- Insect repellent
- Usually on campouts leaving Friday night, you also need to bring a sack dinner

A GOOD IDEA IS TO LABEL EVERYTHING WITH YOUR NAME

Backpacking

On a backpacking trip, a good, well-fitting backpack is essential. The scout should be able to carry his personal gear, as well as his share of the patrol equipment. A good sleeping bag is important, too, as blankets are too bulky.

Cold-weather Camping

The Troop camps year-round. For cold-weather camping, additional equipment is necessary. The list here is the best for the job, but cheaper substitutes are available. See the Scoutmaster for more information. With proper equipment, cold-weather camping does not mean being cold. The sleeping bag should be rated for about -20 degrees. A liner or cover for the regular bag can work. Warm footgear is essential. Tennis shoes with snow boots do not work. Good insulated boots (Sorel's or equivalent) are best. Socks should have no cotton content. Wool or synthetic pile are the socks of choice. Polypropylene or silk sock liners help a lot. Bring plenty of extra socks. Clothing should consist of three layers. None of the layers should be cotton if possible. The inner layer should wick moisture away from the skin (polypropylene underwear works well). The second layer should trap an air layer (pile and fleece work well). The outer layer should stop the wind (Nylon is good). A good hat and gloves finish the outfit. Wind-resistance is a good feature. Bring extra hats and gloves, since with scouts, these tend to be wet and/or lost.

The Troop has some back packs & equipment, it is not necessary to go out & buy tents or Camping supplies until you have checked with the Quartermaster or Scoutmaster, we may have an item to loan.

Advancement

There are many definitions of advancement, but the Scouting definition might well be, simply, "the art of meeting a challenge." This 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 the 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.

Details for advancement are contained in the Boy Scout Handbook, which every Scout should start looking at as soon as possible after joining the Troop. Look at Chapter 1. This short chapter has an advancement summary through First Class.

Advancement through First Class:

From the time the Scout enters the Troop through the time he earns advancement to First Class, he learns basic scouting skills to enable him to camp, hike, swim, cook, tie knots, administer first aid, and perform other tasks in the outdoors and work as a member of a team. With those first steps, the scout begins to build himself 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 that 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 two years in the Troop. This is a sign that the scout has mastered the First Class Rank Badge fundamentals of scouting and can begin to start the long process of learning to lead others, refining the learned skills and learning additional skills. Requirements for Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class may be signed off by the SPL, ASPL, or PL, as long as the person signing is at least First Class. Any adult leader may also sign these off.

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. Longs Peak Council offers a class on achieving Eagle and project ideas that is highly recommended for all Star and Life Scouts and their parents. All requirements for Star and above must be signed off by an adult leader. Community service hours are part of every rank badge especially First Class to Eagle. Hours can be earned individually or with the troop.

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. New Scouts will be encouraged to focus on their requirements for achieving First Class rather than totally concentrating on merit badges. Scouts may however earn merit badges anytime after joining the troop. Merit badges are earned by a Scout working with a registered merit badge counselor. When a scout feels he is ready to work on a merit badge, he will ask the scoutmaster or Advancement Chair for a blue card. This authorizes the scout to work on the requirements with a merit badge counselor approved by the scoutmaster and the troop advancement chair. The Scout is required to contact the counselor to arrange for times and places to meet with the counselor. Additionally, the counselors or troop will offer merit badges during troop time. These are normally badges that are required: physical fitness, communications, etc. When the Scout completes the work on the merit badge, the counselor will inform the Scoutmaster and the troop Advancement Chairman that the Scout has completed the requirements for that badge. Merit badges may also be earned at Summer camp, Jamboree, and Merit Badge University. Merit Badges earned will be presented to the Scout during the Troop's quarterly Court of Honor. All parents of Troop 69 Scouts are encouraged to become Merit Badge Counselors.

Scoutmaster Conference

When a Scout feels he has satisfied all requirements for a rank, he must schedule a Scoutmaster Conference with the Scoutmaster. This must be done before Board of Review night. The Scoutmaster will go over the requirements for the rank and briefly test the scout or have the Troop Guides test the scout prior to the Conference. The Scoutmaster may use a form to go over the accomplishments & mark down any items that the Scout is lacking, and then the Scout may work with a RAL (Registered Adult Leader) to accomplish the goals to pass the Scoutmaster Conference next time.

Board of Review

When the Scoutmaster is satisfied the Scout has passed all requirements for a rank, the Scout will schedule a Board of Review (BOR). The Scoutmaster can guide the Scout in this process. This is a review board consisting of 3-5 members of the Troop Committee, it should not contain one of his parents. They interview the Scout to ensure he has passed all requirements. This is not a retest on requirements. It is a discussion of what the Scout has learned, how he feels about the Troop, and what the Troop can do better. The board's duty is to see where the Scout is, scouting wise, and to derive a general consensus about whether the Scout has achieved competency. It is recommended that a Scout review the requirements for the requested rank badge before the board of review so that he has refamiliarized himself with the material.

Presentation of badges

Rank badges will be presented to the scout at the first meeting following completion of the badge. Formal recognition will be presented at the next Court of Honor (COH). Merit badges may be saved for presentation at the next Court of Honor.

Revision History:	Date	Author	Description
	September 2001	Dave Metge	Initial compilation.
	October 2001	Various Edits	to initial compilation.
	March 2002	Shelley Gordon	Corrections to edits
	March 2002	Dave Metge	Addressing of comments/revisions, changes
	Feb 2003	Dave Metge	Revised mission statement (appendix I), calendar
	Oct 2003	Dave Metge	Prep for 2004
	Jan 2004	Dave Metge	Final 2004 version
	Nov 2006	Bob Ariniello, Margie Haas, Jeanette Lee	Revised, updated sections
	Jan 2007	Committee members	revised & finished 2007 version.

Glossary

Local Scouting Terms

Here are the definitions of some local Scouting terms we use you won't find in the general Glossary at: macscouter.com (See below).

APO	Alpha Phi Omega. This is a coeducational college fraternity based on the principles of Scouting. It accepts both men and women. They sponsor MBU twice per year and provide staff for Klondike.
Arapahoe District	The subdivision of LPC that operates the Scouting program in the Boulder area. They run the local Scout Office and Scout Shop
BDSR	Ben Delatour Scout Ranch. This is LPC's main council camp located near Red Feathers Lake, CO, and where we usually go for summer camp. It also is the home of Elkhorn High Adventure Base
Elkhorn	A High Adventure Base operated by LPC, located at BDSR.
FOS	Friends of Scouting. This is the major fundraiser for LPC. We ask families for donations once per year, usually at the January COH. There are two target goals established for the troop. If we meet the first, every camper at BDSR and Elkhorn gets a \$20.00 discount. If we meet the second, the troop gets all rank patches and Merit badges at no cost for the following year.
Klondike	This is a winter Scout skills competition held yearly by the Arapahoe District. We camp in the winter in the mountains and it gets cold. The Scouts have a lot of fun.
Kola Lodge	The local chapter of the OA.
LPC	Longs Peak Council. This is the organization that operates the Scouting program in Northeast Colorado, Wyoming and Northwest Nebraska.
MBU	Merit Badge University. This is a program put on by the local chapter of APO. It is a one-day event held twice per year at the University of Colorado. They arrange for counselors for several merit badges, some of which we do not cover with our list of troop counselors. There is always a list of prereqs. If a Scout completes these before MBU, he will complete the badge at MBU.
OA	Order of the Arrow. This is an honor camping society, based on American Indian folklore. Members are elected by the troop once per year. After election, candidates must undergo an ordeal to become members.
Pre-req	A requirement for a badge which must be completed before an event like MBU or BDSR if the badge is to be completed at the event.
Scout Office	The local branch office of the Arapahoe District. They handle paperwork, answer questions, and run a Scout Shop where we can buy supplies, publications, and equipment. Scout Office telephone number is 303-447-8511.

A Scout Glossary may be found at
<http://www.macscouter.com/General/ScoutAbrevs.html>

Jr. Leader Office Descriptions: Scout Leadership

Introduction: When you accept the position of junior leaders, you agree to provide service and leadership in your troop. This responsibility should be fun and rewarding. This job descriptions provides some of the things you are expected to do while serving as a junior leader. The troop members elect the Jr. Leaders for a period of 6 months. All of these positions require Troop spirit, setting good examples, wearing the uniform correctly, living by the Scout Oath and Law and demonstrate Rank and/or merit badge advancement in prior twelve months. Some require Junior Leadership Training, see below for more details. All positions are responsible to: Scoutmaster/Assistant Scoutmasters.

SPL (Senior Patrol Leader): Leads the Scouts, must successfully complete Junior Leadership Training course and have been the ASPL the previous six months.

Specific Duties:

- Plan and lead troop meetings and activities.
- Keep troop members informed.
- Assign each troop members jobs and help them succeed.
- Represent the troop at patrol leaders' council meetings
- Prepare the troop to take part in all troop activities.
- Work with other troop leaders to make the troop run well.
- Know what patrol members and other leaders can do.

ASPL (Assistant Senior Patrol Leader): Responsible to assist SPL & the expectation is that you become the SPL for an additional 6 months.

Specific Duties:

- Assist the SPL in: planning and leading troop meetings and activities
- Take charge of the troop in the absence of the SPL.
- Represent the troop at all patrol leaders' council meetings in the absence of the SPL.
- Work with other troop leaders to make the troop run well.
- Know what patrol members and other leaders can do.

PL (Patrol Leader): Have served one term as Assistant Patrol Leader & are First Class or above in Rank. Junior leadership training encouraged for this position.

Specific Duties:

- Plan and lead patrol meetings and activities.
- Keep patrol members informed.
- Assign each patrol member a job and help them succeed.
- Represent the patrol at all patrol leaders' council meetings
- Prepare the patrol to take part in all troop activities.
- Develop patrol spirit.
- Work with other troop leaders to make the troop run well.
- Know what patrol members and other leaders can do.

APL (Assistant Patrol Leader): Encouraged to have obtained Second Class or above. Responsible to: Patrol Leader.

Specific Duties:

- Assist the patrol leader in: planning and leading patrol meetings and activities
- Take charge of the patrol in the absence of the patrol leader.
- Represent the patrol at all patrol leaders' council meetings in the absence of the PL.

Troop Scribe: Specific Duties:

- Attend and keep a log of patrol leaders' council meetings, Update the Web site Calendar & communicate this to the Troop. Keep the Troop informed with the SPL & ASPL.

Jr. Leader Office Descriptions: Scout Leadership Continued:

Chaplains Aide: Specific Duties:

- Lead the Flag Ceremonies before and after Meetings, COH, and camp-outs
- Assist with Spirituality of the Troop & any prayers

Troop Quartermaster: Responsible to Troop Quartermaster or Equipment Coordinator

Specific Duties:

- Keep records of patrol and troop equipment. Do inventory if necessary.
- Keep equipment in good repair.
- Issue equipment and see that it is returned in good order.
- Suggest new and replacement items
- Work with troop committee member responsible for equipment.

Troop Librarian: Specific Duties:

- Establish and maintain a troop library.
- Keep records on literature owned by the troop & Merit Badges.
- Add new or replacement items needed.
- Keep a system to check Merit Badges in and out.
- Follow up on late returns.

Troop Historian: Specific Duties:

- Gather pictures and facts about past activities of the troop and keep them in scrapbooks, wall displays, Slide show or information files.
- Take care of troop trophies and keepsakes.

Den Chief: Responsible to the Cub Scout Pack & Troop Scoutmaster/Assistant Scoutmasters & Advancement Chair. Den Chief Training Encouraged.

Specific Duties: Must give proof to the Troop from the Pack leaders that these duties are accomplished.

- Serve as activities assistant at den meetings.
- Meet regularly with the den leader to review the den and pack meeting plans.
- If serving as a Webelos den chief, prepare the boys to join Boy Scouting.
- Project a positive image of Boy Scouting.

Troop Guide: Must be Life Scout or above, assigned by Scoutmaster & Assistant Scoutmasters.

Specific Duties:

- Assist the SPL, ASPL & patrol leaders in: planning and leading patrol meetings and activities
- Assist Scoutmaster by testing Scout Skills prior to Scoutmaster Conferences
- Assist Advancement Chair by giving BOR (Boards of Reviews) to SPL, ASPL & the patrol leaders to help in their leadership position

Junior Leaders Resources: There are many resources available to you to help you do The position. These include people such as your Scoutmaster, assistant Scoutmaster, and troop committee members. Other resources include your fellow troop junior leaders, guides, teachers, religious advisers and community leaders. Some literatures that can help you follow: Boy Scout Handbook, Junior Leader Handbook, Boys' Life, Den Chief Merit Badge Books, Copy of troop rules and policies, Troop and patrol rosters, Activity calendars (troop, district, school) Duty rosters, Troop equipment inventory book & Patrol supplies inventory sheets Troop meeting planning sheets & the Internet.