

Webelos to Scout Transition:

A Parents Guide for Boy Scout Troop 72

The Boy Scout program is significantly different from Cub Scouts or Webelos Scouts. The idea of graduating from a Cub Scout pack to a Boy Scout troop may be intimidating for some Webelos Scouts and their parents. This guide is designed to help the Pack 72 Webelos Scout and his parents begin the transition into Boy Scouts and Troop 72.

My son wants to be a Boy Scout, how does the transition begin?

During the fifth grade, a typical Webelos den continues to meet until late March. During this time, the Webelos will earn additional activity badges and work to complete the Arrow of Light. A review of the requirements for the Arrow of Light will show that it is designed to prepare a Webelos Scout to join a Boy Scout troop. The requirements for the Arrow of Light include learning the basics about Boy Scouts (Scout Oath, Scout Law, Motto, Slogan, handshake, salute, and uniform differences). The requirements also call for the entire den to visit both a troop meeting and to participate in a troop outdoor activity. After all of the other requirements are complete, the last Arrow of Light requirement is for the Webelos Scout and his parents to visit a troop and meet with the Scoutmaster to complete the Boy Scout application. *Remember, the requirement is to complete the application. You don't have to join a troop at that point.*

How does a Webelos Scout select the right troop to join?

Selecting a Boy Scout troop to join is an individual decision for each Webelos Scout and his parents. Every troop is different in the kinds of activities they schedule and in their personalities. We hope your choice will be Troop 72.

A Scout does have the freedom to transfer to another troop if, for any reason, he changes his mind after joining a troop. The measure of a successful troop is how well it meets the three aims of Scouting: encouraging participatory citizenship, building strong moral character, and helping boys to grow physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually. There are many excellent troops in our area. Any one of them would be a good choice. For a complete list of troops, please visit the Minsi Trails Councils website at www.minsitrails.com. For information about Troop 72, visit our website at: www.troop72campspirit.org.

Troop Focus:

Some troops have established a focus or theme, like Indian folklore, backpacking, kayaking, etc. Each troop sets its own activity calendar and decides what to focus on. Troop 72 focuses on the broad, boy-run troop theme encompassing the three aims of Scouting, with a strong emphasis on outdoor activities.

Troop Meetings:

When and where the troop meets must fit with the overall family calendar. Some troops meet weekly, some less often. Some events may be mandatory, so it is important that your son's schedule allows him to participate. Most troops have optional meetings, which allow flexibility for homework, sports, etc. Most troops realize that your son is involved in other activities. Troop 72 meets every Monday evening from 7:00-8:30 PM during the school year and from 7:00-9:00 PM during the summer months at Camp Spirit.

Troop size:

The number of active scouts in the troop has an impact on the number of activities that can be offered, the level of "intimacy" of the troop, and the potential demands on parents to lead trips. Troop 72 has a roster of 41 Scouts.

Rank advancements:

Advancements are strongly emphasized in some troops. Other troops focus less on rank advancements, a good environment for boys less motivated by ranks and more interested in activities and doing. Troop 72 focuses on rank advancements, but at the speed and motivation of each individual Scout.

Troop Leadership:

Troops can be run by the Scouts, by the adult leaders, or some combination thereof. Troops that are run by Scouts develop strong leadership skills but can be somewhat chaotic at times while the boys are learning these skills. Areas where the leadership ownership must be determined within a troop may include running the weekly meetings, establishing the annual calendar, organizing outings, and conducting the rank advancement classes. Troop 72 is a boy-run troop.

Type and Breadth of Activities Offered:

Boy Scout troops typically offer a wide range of outings; however each troop generally develops an activity profile that reflects the level and type of activities that the Scouts in the troop prefer. Outdoor outings include such events as camping, shorter backpack trips, day hikes, tours, and specific visits. Educational activities focus on the mental and skills development rather than on physical skills. Examples include the numerous merit badges offered by Boy Scouts of America. There are service projects, such as Scouting for Food. High adventure activities can be offered, however these activities can be physically demanding and generally require substantial preparation. Examples include long (50 plus miles) backpacking trips and Class 4 white water rafting.

Parental Participation:

There are two elements to research here. Note that Scouting can provide one of the best ways that parents can stay involved with their son and his friends as the boys reach teenage years. What level of involvement is expected from each family? Troops can vary from expecting every family to be actively involved to desiring but not requiring involvement. What parent opportunities are available within the troop? Typically the opportunities are leadership/committee, activity support, or general support roles (merit badge counselor, public relations, quartermaster). Troop 72 strongly encourages parental participation.

Social Element:

Are any of your son's friends or schoolmates involved in the troop? It has been found that if your son has at least one friend in the troop he is more likely to embrace Scouting and the troop. Are there adults in the troop that you know? This may or may not be important to you. To fulfill the Arrow of Light requirements, the Webelos den leader should make arrangements for his or her den to attend an outdoor activity with one of the troops. Troop 72 provides several opportunities throughout the year for the Webelos den to participate in both outdoor activities and troop meetings. Ideally this should be with a troop that the boys in the den have a lot of interest in. However, this can be done with any troop.

What is the purpose of Boy Scouts?

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.

Boy Scouting, one of three membership divisions of the BSA (the others are Cub Scouting and Venturing), is available to boys who have earned the Arrow of Light Award or have completed the fifth grade, or who are 11 through 17 years old, and subscribe to the Scout Oath and Law. The program achieves the BSA's objectives of developing character, citizenship, and personal fitness qualities among youth by focusing on a vigorous program of outdoor activities. The Boy Scout program membership totals nearly 1.2 million Boy Scouts in over 51,000 troops nationwide.

What are the aims and methods of Boy Scouting?

The Scouting program has three specific objectives, commonly referred to as the "Aims of Scouting." They are character development, citizenship training, and personal fitness. The methods by which the aims are achieved are listed below in random order to emphasize the equal importance of each.

Ideals:

The ideals of Boy Scouting are spelled out in the Scout Oath, the Scout Law, the Scout Motto, and the Scout Slogan. The Boy 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 what and who he becomes.

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:

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

Patrols:

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

Outdoor Programs:

Boy Scouting is designed to take place outdoors. The outdoors is the "classroom" for Scouting. It is in the outdoor setting that Scouts share responsibilities and learn to live with one another. It is here that the skills and activities practiced at troop meetings come alive with purpose. Being close to nature helps Boy Scouts gain an appreciation for God's handiwork and humankind's place in it. The outdoors is the laboratory for Boy Scouts to learn ecology and practice conservation of nature's resources.

Advancement:

Boy Scouting provides a series of surmountable obstacles and the steps to overcome them through the advancement method. The Boy Scout plans his advancement and progresses at his own pace as he meets each challenge. The Boy Scout is rewarded for each achievement, which helps him gain self-confidence. The steps in the advancement system help a Boy Scout grow in self-reliance and in the ability to help others.

Personal Growth:

As Boy 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 Boy Scouting. Boys grow as they participate in community service projects and do Good Turns for others. Probably no device is so successful in developing a basis for personal growth as the daily Good Turn. The religious emblems program also is a large part of the personal growth method. Frequent personal conferences with his Scoutmaster help each Boy Scout to determine his growth toward Scouting's aims.

Leadership Development:

The Boy Scout program encourages boys to learn and practice leadership skills. Every Boy Scout has the opportunity to participate in both shared and total leadership situations. Understanding the concepts of leadership helps a boy accept the leadership role of others and guides him toward the citizenship aim of Scouting.

Adult Association:

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

Uniform:

The uniform makes the Boy Scout troop visible as a force for 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 Boy Scout's commitment to the aims and purposes of Scouting. The uniform gives the Boy Scout identity in a world brotherhood of youth who believe in the same ideals. The uniform is practical attire for Boy Scout activities and provides a way for Boy Scouts to wear the badges that show what they have accomplished.

Camping:

Summer camp represents the highlight of the year for most Scouts. Summer camp blends fun programs and advancement, competitive and noncompetitive events, and individual, patrol, and troop activities. Camp gives leaders an opportunity to reinforce what their Scouts have learned throughout the year. For 2011, Troop 72 will be attending summer camp at Camp Minsi in the Poconos from July 10-16. Troop 72 also participates in various weekend camps, hikes and bike hikes throughout the year.

Conservation:

Scouts have always taken pride in being good stewards of the outdoors. Leave No Trace guidelines allow them to camp, hike, and take part in outdoor-related activities that are environmentally sound, and teach them to be considerate of other users of the outdoors.

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.

Who sponsors Boy Scout Troop 72?

All troops are "owned" by a chartered organization, which has goals compatible with those of the Boy Scouts of America. Each chartered organization chooses a chartered organization representative and troop committee. Together, they implement the methods of Scouting to achieve the aims of Scouting. Chartered organizations can include schools, places of worship, parent groups, PTO/PTA groups and businesses. Troop 72 and Pack 72 are both sponsored by the Group of Citizens, Fogelsville, PA. The Group of Citizens consists of a Board of eleven members, most as representatives from both Pack 72 and Troop 72. The Group of Citizens is also responsible for the management of the Camp Spirit property.

How much are dues?

Dues for each Scout in Troop 72 are \$8.00 per month. Dues cover the items such as yearly registration, troop insurance, advancement patches and awards, camping equipment, special ceremonies, special awards, etc.

How do Boy Scout meetings work?

Scouting is a boy-lead activity. That is probably the biggest difference you will see between Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts. Senior Scout leadership is composed of the Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) plus at least one Assistant Senior Patrol Leader (ASPL). These Scouts are responsible for planning and running the meetings. Parents are encouraged, but not required, to stay around for meetings. A typical meeting will usually include, but is not limited to the following:

- Opening flag ceremony
- Meeting organizational announcements
- Skills, merit badge and/or general advancement activities
- Campout planning or cleanup (if necessary)
- Recognition of any advancement earned that evening
- General announcements
- Closing flag ceremony

Uniform:

Troop 72 requires the boys to wear a Class A uniform shirt, shorts/pants, socks and a belt during Troop meetings and other Scouting activities, as required. The Troop maintains a donation box of uniform items, as available. New Scouts can wear their Webelos neckerchiefs.

The Scout shirt requirements:

- Khaki Scout shirt (we recommend the short-sleeve) - comes with U.S. Flag sewn on. Buy it large enough to last at least a couple of years. If your son is a Webelos Scout, the khaki shirt he is wearing now can be used until he outgrows it.
- Troop numerals.
- Council shoulder patch.
- World Scout Crest (small purple circular patch).
- Epaulets.

Books:

The Boy Scout Handbook is required. It is a good idea to buy a cover, either plastic or cloth.

Leadership:

The Boy Scouts of America and Troop 72 take great pride in the quality of our adult leadership. Being a leader in the BSA is a privilege, not a right. The quality of the program and the safety of our youth members, calls for high-quality adult leaders. Every troop is required to have leaders who have been trained in youth protection and who also have a criminal background check. More information is available at www.scouting.org. There are 40 registered adult leaders in Troop 72.

Barriers to Abuse Within Scouting:

The BSA has adopted the following policies to provide additional security for our members. These policies are primarily for the protection of our youth members. However, they also serve to protect our adult leaders from false accusations of abuse. The policy requires:

- **Two-deep leadership.** Two registered adult leaders or one registered leader and a parent of a participant, one of whom must be 21 years of age or older, are required on all trips and outings.
- **No one-on-one contact.** One-on-one contact between adults and youth members is not permitted. In situations that require personal conferences, such as a Scoutmaster's conference, the meeting is to be conducted in view of other adults and youths.
- **Respect of privacy.** Adult leaders must respect the privacy of youth members in situations such as changing clothes and taking showers at camp, and intrude only to the extent that health and safety require. Adults must protect their own privacy in similar situations.
- **Separate accommodations.** When camping, no youth is permitted to sleep in the tent of an adult other than his own parent or guardian. Councils are strongly encouraged to have separate shower and latrine facilities for females. When separate facilities are not available, separate times for male and female use should be scheduled and posted for showers.
- **Proper preparation for high-adventure activities.** Activities with elements of risk are never undertaken without proper preparation, equipment, clothing, supervision, and safety measures.
- **No secret organizations.** The Boy Scouts of America does not recognize any secret organizations as part of its program. All aspects of the Scouting program are open to observation by parents and leaders.
- **Appropriate attire.** Proper clothing for activities is required. For example, skinny-dipping is not appropriate as part of Scouting.
- **Constructive discipline.** Discipline used in Scouting should be constructive and reflect Scouting's values. Corporal punishment is never permitted.
- **Hazing prohibited.** Physical hazing and initiations are prohibited and may not be included as part of any Scouting activity.
- **Junior leader training and supervision.** Adult leaders must monitor and guide the leadership techniques used by junior leaders and ensure that BSA policies are followed.

How can parents help protect their children?

Parents should review the booklet, *How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse and Drug Abuse: A Parent's Guide*, inserted in every Boy Scout Handbook. The information in this booklet should be the subject of discussions between Scouts and their parents prior to joining Troop 72.

How does my son advance in rank?

Rank requirements are signed off in your son's Scout Handbook. Most of the information needed to pass these rank requirements can be found in the handbook. It is important for your son to take the time to read and study a subject thoroughly. The boys are expected to be able to demonstrate what they have learned before having the requirements signed off.

The process of rank advancement is a self paced program. Troop 72 utilizes the Patrol Guide program to assist first year Scouts in transitioning into a boy-run program. A Patrol Guide is an older Scout of Star Rank or above who serves as a mentor to the new scouts. The Patrol Guide program is structured to provide the new Scouts an opportunity to work with this older Scout to learn the various scouting skills for the ranks Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class.

However, as stated above, rank advancement is a self paced program. At any time a Scout can read, practice and learn the necessary skills for rank advancement at home, during a troop activity or meeting. When the Scout feels comfortable with his knowledge and understanding of a skill or requirement he can present himself to any Leader or Scout (rank of Star or above). Once the Scout has demonstrated that he has a complete knowledge and understanding of a skill or requirement it will be signed off in the handbook by a Troop Leader or Scout.

A Scout is expected to perform service work for advancement as well. The troop provides several opportunities throughout the year – Game Lands Cleanup, Camp Spirit Workday, Miracle League, Scouting for Food, Cub Scout Day Camp, and Eagle Projects. The Scout can fulfill this requirement on his own through outside activities such as community volunteering, church activities, etc. If participating in an outside service project, have your son discuss with a leader how to get the requirement signed off.

Rank advancement is recognized at a formal ceremony called a Court of Honor. It is meant to be an important occasion focusing on each Scout's growth and achievements. All Scouts are expected to wear their full Class A uniforms, including merit badge sashes. Parents and/or guardians are expected to attend each Court of Honor and will be asked to join their son in front of the Troop when he receives his recognition for rank advancement. Troop 72 holds Courts of Honor in January, May, , and September.

How does my son earn merit badges?

Merit badges are required for rank advancement from First Class to Eagle. There are more than 100 merit badges in the Scouting program and they offer Scouts an opportunity to explore areas in which they may not have engaged otherwise. A list of merit badges can be found in the Scout Handbook. There are merit badges for many areas of interest, such as sports, hobbies, careers and scouting skills. Through merit badges a Scout learns to manage himself, his home, his health and others. Troop 72 often holds regularly scheduled meetings devoted to specific merit badges. Many Troop 72 leaders are registered as merit badge counselors.

Troop 72 Key Contacts:

Scout-Parent Unit Coordinator:

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Committee Chairperson:

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Troop 72 Website: www.troop72campspirit.org

North Valley District: www.orgsites.com/pa/northvalley

Minsi Trails Council: www.minsitrails.com

Boy Scouts of America: www.scouting.org

Glossary of some common Scout terms:

Adult Patrol: When the troop goes camping, all of the adults will often form their own patrol for meal planning, shopping, cooking, eating, and sleeping. The adults try and set a good example of how a patrol should operate.

Annual Planning Meeting: The PLC (see below) meets to plan the next year's activities with input from the Scouts in the troop and the guidance of the Scoutmaster. This plan is then presented to the Troop Committee (see below) for approval to make sure the plan meets BSA guidelines and that necessary resources can be provided. This normally occurs in the fall for the upcoming calendar year.

APL: Assistant Patrol Leader.

ASM: Assistant Scoutmaster.

ASPL: Assistant Senior Patrol Leader. Troops often have more than one ASPL.

Baden-Powell: Lord Baden-Powell was the founder of the scouting movement.

Be Prepared: The motto of Boy Scouting.

Blue Card: In order to work with a Merit Badge Counselor, the scout must first obtain a Blue Card from the Scoutmaster. Blue Cards are the record of Merit Badge progress and are turned in to receive the Merit Badge after all the requirements have been met and the counselor has signed off the card. The scout should keep his copy of the blue card until after he has reached the Rank of Eagle.

Board of Review: As a requirement for each rank advancement a Scout must appear individually before a group of two to three adults (members of Troop Committee) to ensure that the scout has met the requirements for that rank. A Board of Review takes place after a Scoutmaster Conference (see below) for Rank Advancement, or when a Scout requests it or if the Troop Committee feels the Scout needs it. Eagle Boards of Review are conducted at the district level.

Boy Scout Ranks:

In order of increasing rank:

Tenderfoot

Second Class

First Class

Star

Life

Eagle

Eagle Palms: Bronze, Gold, Silver

Bridging: A ceremony where Webelos Cub Scouts cross a ceremonial bridge to signify their transition from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts. This is normally done at a Cub Scout Pack Meeting with the Boy Scouts. This is NOT a graduation ceremony from Cub Scouts, it is rather an induction ceremony into Boy Scouts.

BSA Lifeguard: A 3-year certification awarded to Scouts or Scouters who meet prescribed requirements in aquatic skills.

Buddy System: Whenever a scout needs to go somewhere at camp, hiking, Merit Badge Class, etc., it is always done in groups of at least two. A Scout always takes a "buddy" scout with him. Also used as part of the "Safe Swim Defense" program.

Camporee: Campout attended by many of the troops within the district. Usually there are various competitions between the patrols attending.

Chaplain: Adult member of the Troop Committee who provides guidance to scouts related to observance of the 12th point of the Scout Law - A Scout is Reverent. This adult works with the Chaplain Aide, a youth leader.

Charter Organization: The organization that is officially chartered by the Boy Scouts of America to carry out the scouting program. The main liaison between the charter organization and the troop is the Chartered Organization Representative (COR). Your CO could be a church, school, PTA/PTO, civic club or a business.

Class A or B Uniform: Different types of activities require different uniforms. Class A is the complete, formal uniform, Class B is a T-shirt often worn for camp or for other activities.

Commissioner: Adult volunteers working at the district or council level. Unit commissioners are assigned to units and should be a friendly resource to the unit leaders.

Committee Chairperson: A registered adult appointed by the Chartered Organization to chair the Troop Committee. This person presides at Troop Committee meetings and works closely with the Chartered Organization Representative (COR) and Scoutmaster (SM) to ensure the scouting program meets BSA guidelines.

COPE: Challenging Outdoor Personal Experience. This is an advanced Boy Scout activity involving heights, trust and team building.

COR: Chartered Organization Representative - the person assigned by the chartering organization to be the liaison between the troop and the charter organization.

Council: A group of districts make up a Council. There are six districts within Minsi Trails Council.

Court of Honor: An awards ceremony, usually held quarterly, at which scouts are recognized for their rank advancements, merit badges earned, and other awards.

Cracker Barrel: A scout term for a social gathering with refreshments after a meeting or activity. This is often an evening activity at camp before taps.

Den Chief: A Boy Scout who helps a Den Leader direct the activities of a Cub Scout den.

District: A subdivision of a council. Minsi Trails Council has six districts – North Valley, South Mountain, Trexler, Forks of the Delaware, Anthracite, and Pocono. Troop 72 is located within North Valley District, the largest of the six districts within Minsi Trails Council.

Dutch Oven: A large cast iron covered pot used to bake and cook in over a wood or charcoal fire.

Fast Start Training: This online training is a quick orientation for new leaders. See www.scouting.org/boyscouts/faststart/

Firem'n Chit: A certification given to Scouts who know and understand fire safety rules.

Friends of Scouting (FOS): Friends of Scouting is the annual fund raiser for the council. The council does not get any share of your registration fee and is grateful for your donation through FOS.

Good Turn: "Do a Good Turn Daily" is the Scout Slogan. A good turn is something you do without being asked or expected to do it and for which you expect no reward.

Guide: Usually an older Scout who is assigned to the First-Year Scout Patrol, to help and guide them through the Scouting program during their first year in the troop.

Guide to Safe Scouting: This booklet is the "Bible" when it comes to safety related issues in scouting. Those items in **BOLD** print are rules that **MUST** be followed. Everything else in the booklet are recommendations that should be followed. Troop leaders frequently consult this to see if planned activities are being done safely and within prescribed BSA policy.

Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills: A weekend training course for Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters designed to teach them the skills to get a Scout to the First Class rank.

Jamboree: Scout meeting or camp out on a grand scale. There are district, regional, national, and international jamborees.

Junior Assistant Scoutmaster: A youth between 16 and 18 who has already held major leadership positions within the troop. Appointed by the Scoutmaster to help in guiding the troop and youth leaders.

Junior Leader Training (JLT): A training class taught by the senior youth leaders for newly elected and appointed youth leaders.

Klondike Derby: A winter/snow oriented camporee. Overnight camping experience in the snow with team building games and activities. The Klondike Derby for North Valley District is called **Snowbound** and is held every January at Camp Trexler.

Leadership: To advance in the more senior ranks a scout must hold a leadership position for a set period of time. The rank requirements in the Boy Scout Handbook lists the leadership positions that qualify.

Leave No Trace (LNT): A set of guidelines that set standards for outdoor activities that are environmentally sound and considerate to others using the same area.

Merit Badge Sash: As scouts earn Merit Badges they are sewn on a Merit Badge Sash (available at the Scout Shop). The Merit Badge Sash is normally worn only for formal occasions such as a Court-of-Honor.

NESA: National Eagle Scout Association. Open to membership to any youth or adult who attained the rank of Eagle Scout.

Northern Tier High Adventure Base: Northern Tier is a Boy Scout High Adventure Base which is focused on canoeing in the Boundary Waters area of Minnesota and Canada.

Order of the Arrow (OA): A national brotherhood of Scout honor campers of the Boy Scouts of America. Members are elected by their peers after meeting basic requirements of camping knowledge and experience. Boys and adult leaders can be elected to the OA. The OA motto of "Cheerful Service" indicates their purpose. They are often found improving scout camps, running council events, and providing service to the scouting community.

OA Ordeal: The initiation ceremony experience for new OA members generally involving personal introspection, service to improve camp or trail and ceremonies based on Indian legend or lore.

Palms, Eagle: After a scout reaches the rank of Eagle, they can earn a Palm for every 5 additional Merit Badges they complete and three months of leadership time in the troop. You may wear only the proper combination of Palms for the number of merit badges you earned beyond the 21 required for the rank of Eagle. The Bronze Palm represents five merit badges, the Gold Palm 10, and the Silver Palm 15. For example a scout with 20 additional Merit Badges would wear a Silver and a Bronze Palm.

Patrol: The Patrol is the basic unit within a troop. Made up of 6-10 scouts who camp, cook and eat together. They work as a team at various activities and events. They elect their own leader.

Patrol Equipment: The Patrol Equipment consists of tents, stoves, lanterns, and cooking equipment. The Patrol is responsible for the storage and upkeep of this equipment. This equipment is stored and transported in Patrol Boxes which need to be cleaned after each outing.

Patrol Leader (PL): The elected leader for the patrol. An Assistant Patrol Leader can be elected or appointed by the PL to help in running the patrol. The Patrol Leader is considered a leadership position for rank advancement.

Patrol Leaders Council (PLC): The PLC is made up of the youth leadership of the troop, which includes the Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders, Patrol Leaders, and Guides. They meet once a month to plan the following month's activities and annually to plan the upcoming year.

Permission Form: In order to go on any outing the Scout must have a Permission Form signed by his parent. The Permission Form also provides details about costs, departure time, food, etc. Many troops post Permission Forms on their websites. It is the Scout's responsibility to make sure they have the appropriate Permission Form signed and turned in by the due date noted on the Permission Form.

PFD: A Personal Floatation Device (PFD) is otherwise known as a life vest. Those used in scouting must be U.S. Coast Guard approved.

Philmont: A high adventure Boy Scout camp located in the northeast corner of New Mexico.

Re-charter: Annual process of re-registering the troop, Scouts and Scouters. The Committee Chairperson usually collects the information and 3 months dues and presents updated paperwork to the council in January of each year.

Roundtable: Monthly meeting for leaders to exchange ideas, fellowship, and, a few announcements that is run by the district.

Safe Swim Defense: A eight-step plan for conducting swimming activities in a safe manner.

Safety Afloat: Guidelines for safe troop activities utilizing water craft.

Safety Circle: A safety zone around someone using a pocket knife, hatchet, ax, or other sharp tool. Basically it is an arms length plus the length of the tool in all directions. No one should be in another person's Safety Circle when a sharp tool is in use. Be sure to check the Safety Circle when your knife is closed.

Scouter: Any registered adult leader.

Scoutmaster (SM): Adult leader who trains and guides the youth leaders in carrying out the Scouting program. One or more Assistant Scoutmasters (ASM) help the Scoutmaster and are often assigned specific roles and duties.

Scoutmaster Conference: A formal meeting that takes place at a troop meeting or activity between a Scout and the Scoutmaster, or a person he designates, to review a scout's progress. A Scoutmaster Conference takes place at advancement time prior to a Board of Review, when a Scout requests it or if the Scoutmaster feels the Scout needs it.

Scoutmaster-Specific Training: The basic Adult Leader Training for Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters. This is an excellent training program for any adult wanting to become more involved in the Boy Scout program, or who just wants to learn more about how the program works.

Scouting for Food: National Good Turn event. Every year, Scouts collect food for the fight against hunger. The food is turned over to local food banks for distribution to needy families. Scouting for Food is a national "Good Turn" of the Boy Scouts of America and is held every November.

Scout-O-Rama: Large scouting event. Cub Scout Packs and Boy Scout Troops display some of their favorite activities. The scouts help out their units and also get time to visit other units displays.

Scouts Own: Non-denominational religious observance of reflection usually conducted on camp outs. Allows each Scout the opportunity to obey the twelfth point of the Scout Law in his own way.

Scout Spirit: The way a scout tries to live up to the Scout Oath, Law, Slogan, and motto in his everyday life.

Seabase: A high adventure Scout camp located in the Florida Keys.

Silver Beaver: A recognition given by the National Court of Honor for distinguished service to youth within the council.

Senior Patrol Leader (SPL): The senior most elected youth leader of the troop. The SPL is in charge of the troop at all functions and activities. He appoints one or more assistants (ASPL) to help him in running the troop. The SPL is elected by the Scouts for a six-month term.

This Is Scouting: An introductory online training course which focuses on the aims of scouting and the various scouting programs.

Totin' Chip: A certification that enables the bearer to use knives, axes, and saws. It must be earned by the Scout through educational and hands-on safety sessions led by an adult leader or older scout appointed by the scoutmaster. If a Scout is observed doing something unsafe with a sharp tool, his card may be taken away, and must be re-earned.

Tour Permit: A document that must be filed with the council office before any official scouting activity can take place. Special permits are required for travel out-of-state, over 500 miles, or for flying activities.

Troop Committee: Adult committee of registered adults that provide oversight, assistance, and guidance to the Scoutmaster in carrying out the scouting program within the troop. The Troop Committee is responsible to provide the necessary resources requested by the PLC and Scoutmaster that are required to carry out the scouting program. All registered adults are part of the Troop Committee, key members include the Committee Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary, Outdoor/Activities Coordinator, Advancement Coordinator, Membership Coordinator, Equipment Coordinator, and Fund Raising Coordinator. The Troop 72 Committee Meeting is held the last Wednesday of the month, 7:30 PM at Camp Spirit.

Troop Committee Challenge: A training course for Troop Committee Chairs and Committee members.

Two Deep: Two Deep Leadership is a Boy Scout Policy. A minimum of two adults must always be present with any youth. One of these adults must be 21 years old. This is part of the BSA Youth Protection Guidelines.

Woodbadge: Advanced Training for Boy Scout adult leaders. Any adult who has taken Basic Leader Training can attend this advanced training course to expand their knowledge of the scouting program and be of more help to the troop.