

# *On my honor, I will do my best*

*A Troop 39 Guide for Families*

[www.troop39nc.org](http://www.troop39nc.org)



*The Boy Scouts of America*

[www.scouting.org](http://www.scouting.org)

*Revised: 3/10/2011*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	2
Mission Statement of the Boy Scouts of America.....	4
The Methods of Scouting.....	4
Introduction to Troop 39.....	4
Troop 39’s Mission Statement.....	4
Troop 39’s Promise to Parents.....	5
Section 1: Troop Basics.....	6
Troop Communication.....	6
Section 2: Troop Youth Structure Patrols.....	8
Patrol Competition.....	8
Section 3: Troop Meetings.....	9
Patrol Leaders Conference.....	9
Troop Committee Meeting.....	9
Adult Leaders Meeting.....	10
Roundtable.....	10
Section 4: Troop Outings and Activities.....	11
Camping Trips, Hikes and Events.....	11
Summer Camp(s).....	11
Optional High Adventure Trips.....	11
Council-sponsored Holiday 50-miler.....	12
Domestic High Adventure.....	12
Florida High Adventure Sea Base.....	12
Northern Tier Canoe Base.....	12
Other Adventures Based on Parent/Leader Expertise.....	13
International High Adventure.....	13
Kandersteg, Switzerland.....	13
British High Adventure.....	14
Section 5: Fundraising.....	15
High Adventure Fund Raising.....	15
Courts of Honor dinners.....	16
Section 6: Advancement.....	17
Badges of Rank.....	17
Merit Badges.....	18
Progress Records.....	19
Section 7: Trail to Eagle.....	20
Commitment to the Eagle Trail.....	20
Eagle Mentors.....	20
Life Scouts.....	20
Attaining the Eagle Scout Rank.....	20
Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project.....	21
Eagle Scout Rank Requirements.....	21
Eagle Board of Review.....	22
Section 8: Troop Leadership.....	23

## Troop 39 – A Guide for Families

Youth Leadership.....	24
Definitions: .....	24
Leadership Project Safety .....	26
Section 9: Troop Rules/Expectations.....	27
National BSA Behavior Expectations.....	27
CD/MP3/iPod Players, Cell Phones, and Personal Sports/Toys Equipment.....	27
Fire Safety.....	28
Troop Equipment .....	28
Discipline Procedures .....	28
Section 10: Health Matters.....	30
Prescriptions.....	30
Religious Beliefs and Medical Care .....	30
Scouts with a disability .....	30
Section 11: Adult Leader Expectations.....	32
Training.....	32
Youth Protection Training .....	32
Fast Start Training.....	33
New Leader Essentials (NLE) .....	33
Boy Scout Leader Specific Training.....	33
Other Training Courses recommended but not required .....	33
Safe Swim Defense .....	34
Climb On Safely .....	34
Woodbadge .....	34
Philmont Training Center .....	34
Section 12: Parent Involvement.....	36
Fundraisers.....	36
Committees .....	36
Section 13: Troop 39 Uniform Standards.....	38
National BSA Uniform Expectations.....	38
When to Wear the Uniform.....	38
When Not To Wear the Uniform .....	38
Troop 39 Uniform Expectations .....	38
Class A Uniform .....	39
Class B Uniform .....	39
Directions to the Occoneechee Council Office & Scout Shop .....	40
Uniform Tailoring and Patch Attachment.....	40
Personal Camping Equipment.....	40
Patrol Food on Trips .....	41
Section 14: Troop History & Sponsors.....	42
Troop History.....	42
Section 15: Troop 39 Song .....	43

## **Mission Statement of the Boy Scouts of America**

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

### **Aims of Scouting**

There are three aims of Scouting:

1. Character development
2. Citizenship training
3. Mental and physical fitness

### ***The Methods of Scouting***

There are eight fundamental methods for achieving the “Aims of Scouting”.

**The Ideals** - the Scout Oath, Scout Law, Scout Motto and the Scout Slogan.

**The patrol method** - a smaller group within the larger troop that works together.

**The outdoors** - fun and adventure in the outdoors

**Advancement** - recognition of a boy’s achievement and a natural outcome of an active troop.

**Association with adults** - provide positive role models.

**Personal growth** - the opportunities to seek and find answers.

**Leadership development** - learning skills through learning to lead.

**The uniform** - develops a sense of belonging to their patrol and troop.

## **Introduction to Troop 39**

Troop 39 is chartered by University United Methodist Church, located at 150 East Franklin Street, Chapel Hill. Troop meetings are held on Wednesdays during the school year from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the church. A calendar of troop meetings and events is printed each fall and is available at [www.troop39nc.org](http://www.troop39nc.org).

This handbook is intended to be a guide and as always, it is impossible to include every possible situation that may arise.

Troop 39 plans its program from September to August. Annual planning takes place in August, and a calendar is distributed to each family at the parent session held during the second troop meeting. We do our best to follow the calendar as printed but at times may have to make changes. We will try to give as much notice as possible by email, our website, and phone calls when changes are made.

### ***Troop 39’s Mission Statement***

Troop 39’s mission is to assist young men as they become knowledgeable, thinking, and responsible citizens of their community, nation, and world. The Boy Scouts of America teaches basic skills and knowledge needed to prepare young men to be well rounded individuals with an awareness of leadership, discipline, service, and study.

## Troop 39 – A Guide for Families

We believe that to be effective, the Scouting process must be reinforced by personal challenges, goal setting, structure, and self-discipline. We feel that the worth, potential, and integrity of each Scout must be observed in every area of their personal life. For our Scouts to mature spiritually, socially, emotionally, physically, and intellectually, Troop 39 must strive to achieve the Scouting goals within a wholesome environment in which the Scouting Spirit and principles pervade all aspects of the troop program.

### ***Troop 39's Promise to Parents***

*We, the leaders of Troop 39, promise to educate your sons to the best of our abilities.*

*We promise to lead by example.*

*We promise to enrich our scouts with creative leadership techniques.*

*We promise to provide strong moral guidance through reverent service.*

*We promise to teach respect, responsibility, and self-reliance to each Scout.*

*We promise to stress the importance of community and environmental service.*

*We promise to see your sons as the individuals they are and to praise them for jobs well done.*

*We promise to follow all Guide To Safe Scouting requirements.*

*What distinguishes Troop 39 from other troops is our history, traditions, our conviction, our concern, and our emphasis on leadership development. While our Scouts are doing the best they can, we strive to do the best we can as well.*

## Section 1: Troop Basics

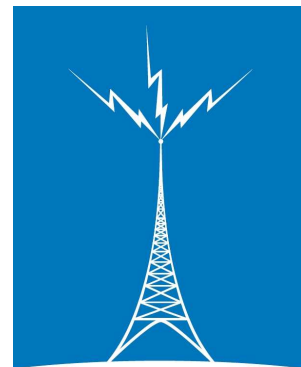
The annual dues are set by the Troop Committee each year prior to the beginning of the scout year (2010-11 dues: \$140) . These funds are used for chartering expenses, the purchase of gas for troop trips, van rentals, awards and advancement supplies, patrol equipment, Courts of Honor expenses, some leadership training, and other miscellaneous administrative expenses. Dues should be paid to the troop treasurer by the end of September of each new scouting year, or upon joining for new Scouts. The more successful our fundraising activities, the less we are charged for dues.

Troop 39 is committed to providing financial assistance to Scouts and families for which dues and other expenses represent a financial hardship. Scholarship information can be obtained from the troop committee chairperson or by contacting the troop treasurer.

### ***Troop Communication***

To be properly informed, Troop 39 has adopted three primary methods for contacting each Scout and family including website, email, and the troop list serve.

Our troop website is <http://www.troop39nc.org>. It is updated frequently and often within hours of receiving information. Scouts & parents can find copies of most troop printed resources to download, announcements or changes to troop activities, information and resources for advancement and merit badges, and notes and photos from various trips.



Patrol Leaders or their parents will notify patrol members by phone tree when important information needs to be disseminated immediately. Traditionally, this is primarily used when the troop will return more than 30 minutes after the scheduled return time from an activity or trip. The Senior Patrol Leader or designate will phone his parent. That parent will contact each patrol leader's parent or designate, who in turn calls each member of the patrol. One adult leader's spouse will contact each affected leader's spouse as needed. When in doubt about what is expected, contact your Patrol Leader first.

Please join our Google group to receive email updates on schedules, news, etc. Visit the [www.troop39nc.org](http://www.troop39nc.org) site, find the "Contact Us" tab to join the different email lists. Individual lists are available for general troop families & supporters, adult leaders, junior leaders, the troop committee, and Eagle Scout Mentors. List subscribers can send a note to one central address and reach each member of the group. This prevents each family or leader from updating an ever-changing personal address book as subscribers manage their own accounts.

For problems, suggestions, or concerns about this website, please contact Webmaster.

## Troop 39 – A Guide for Families

### ***Trip/Activity Transportation***

Troop 39 will use a variety of transportation options to insure that our Scouts are safe when being transported to and from any and all troop trips.

Parents are not covered under the BSA policy unless approved by the Committee and their personal driver information is registered with the troop. Each personal vehicle used must have seatbelts for each passenger. Parents driving other Scouts, even to and from meetings, accept liability on their personal insurance.

The Troop Committee budgets a certain amount each year to cover van rentals, if necessary. These funds are raised for the troop through fundraisers and partially through Troop Dues.

## **Section 2: Troop Youth Structure**

### **Patrols**

Scouts are assigned to a patrol on the basis that they will help build that patrol. Special situations are considered, but the final decision is made by the Scoutmaster. In cases where a Scout wishes to change patrols, his decision must be brought to Patrol Leader first, then Senior Patrol Leader will also be discussed by the Patrol Leaders Council (PLC), and then the scoutmaster and The Scout must show just cause for change. Adult leadership has the right to make patrol assignments based on the best interests of the troop. Each patrol is assigned an adult patrol advisor and is encouraged to use him or her as to help develop leadership, prevent discipline problems, and as a resource for planning meetings.

### **Patrol Competition**

The Patrol Competition will be based on the national guidelines established for National Honor Patrol Award. These guidelines can be found in certain issues of the Boy Scout Handbook and also can be obtained from the Scoutmaster.

In order for a patrol to function successfully and for Scouts in each patrol to receive maximum benefit for being in a patrol; here are some of the most basic Patrol ideals and some suggested ways of achieving them:

**Spirit.** Have a patrol flag and rally around it. Put your patrol design on all your equipment. Use your patrol yell or cheer and patrol call. Keep patrol records up to date for 3 months.

**Patrol meetings.** Hold two patrol meetings each month for three months.

**Hikes, outdoor activities, and other events.** Take part in one of these within three months.

**Good Turns or service projects.** Do two patrol leaders' council approved Good Turns or service projects within three months.

**Advancement.** Help two patrol members advance one rank during three months. Uniform. Wear the uniform correctly.

## **Section 3: Troop Meetings**

### ***Weekly Meeting***

The Troop meets each Wednesday evening from 7:30 until 9:00 throughout the school year in the Fellowship Hall at the University United Methodist Church unless announced. Ordinarily, we do not meet on the Wednesday nearest to Thanksgiving, Christmas and the New Year. However, Scouts and parents should check their calendar, the website, and email.

No one may leave any Troop function without securing advance permission from an adult leader. Individual Patrol activities are arranged as needed at other times.

All trips, hikes, field days, etc., are announced at troop meetings, by email, and on the website.

Food and drinks are not allowed during troop meetings.

Troop 39's weekly meetings flow, generally, in the following sequence:

- Opening
- Patrol Corners
- Theme activity
- Game
- Announcements
- Closing

Parents are strongly encouraged to come to the Fellowship Hall for announcements at the end of the meeting.

### ***Patrol Leaders Conference***

Patrol Leaders' Conferences (PLC) are held the 2nd Monday of each month from 7:30 - 9:00 at the University United Methodist Church. Plans for the next month are reviewed and agreed upon and details for implementation are established. Patrol Leaders, the Senior Patrol Leader, the two Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders, the Scribe and other troop officers as requested are expected to attend. Assistant Patrol Leaders may attend. If unable to be at these important meetings, the Patrol Leader must have his Assistant Patrol Leader or Patrol Scribe attend. Patrol leaders are to bring written plans for upcoming meetings.

### ***Troop Committee Meeting***

The troop committee meets from 6:30-7:30 on the first Wednesday of each month just before the main troop meeting. The committee consists of the chairman, secretary, treasurer, scoutmaster, one assistant scoutmaster, and at-large members. Other interested parents are welcome to attend.

## Troop 39 – A Guide for Families

### ***Adult Leaders Meeting***

Adult leaders working directly with the troop meet on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at UUMC from 6:30-7:25 to discuss concerns, advancement, current issues, driver status for upcoming ideas, and to communicate troop affairs with each other.

### ***Roundtable***

A monthly event conducted by a district roundtable commissioner and district roundtable staff to help unit leaders plan and carry out their unit programs. A roundtable also provides a forum for leaders to informally discuss problems and challenges they are experiencing and share advice. The district commissioner and district committee use a roundtable meeting to disseminate timely information to unit leaders that might not be available in any other form. The Eno Chapter of the Order of the Arrow also meets during this time.

## Section 4: Troop Outings and Activities

### ***Planning Conference (Brownsea 39)***

Each fall, as the Troop resumes the regular fall schedule, all Scouts and adults in leadership positions are expected to attend and all scouts First Class and above are invited to attend a two day conference to review Troop policy and to plan the troop meetings, camping trips, and establish the year's schedule.

### ***Camping Trips, Hikes and Events***



Troop 39 goes on a weekend camping trip once a month. All members are expected to participate since this is the highlight of our Scouting Program.

Also, each Scout and Scouting family should consider four events on the Troop calendar as mandatory for all Scouts. The four mandatory events are: Scout Sunday at University United Methodist Church, UNC Winter Graduation, UNC Spring Graduation and our annual "Touch a Truck" fundraiser.

### ***Summer Camp(s)***

Troop 39 attends an approved BSA Council Camp each summer for a week. Details are announced in December. Every Scout should plan to attend camp with the troop. Summer camp is the most important program experience of the entire Scouting year. Any Scout wishing to attend an additional or alternate week is encouraged to do so. Arrangements must be made directly with the camp on an individual basis.



### ***Optional High Adventure Trips***

Troop 39 emphasizes the "outing" in Scouting by offering opportunities to travel the world. We offer trips and adventures that few boys have an opportunity to experience outside of Scouting. To fund these trips, scouts and families are generally expected to pay for airfare and spending money. Participating group members sponsor fundraisers to generate funds covering registration fees, lodging, meals, and activity fees. International and most domestic trips are announced a year in advance to allow fundraising time.



## Troop 39 – A Guide for Families

Ages requirements are set by either the activity center to be visited or by the trip leaders with approval of the troop committee.

All trips must be approved by the troop committee and have proper BSA permits filed. All BSA standards must be met. Parents must be notified and provide written permission in the rare exception an activity is not mentioned in the Guide to Safe Scouting.

### **Council-sponsored Holiday 50-miler**

For scouts 14 & older, the Occoneechee Council offers a six-day backpacking trip from December 26th through December 31st. Scouts bring their own food. Interested scouts should check the council website ([www.ocscouts.org](http://www.ocscouts.org)) for more information. Scouts can earn the 50-miler award.



### **Domestic High Adventure Florida High Adventure Sea Base**



The Florida National High Adventure Sea Base offers the following adventures: Coral Reef Sailing, Sea Exploring Adventure, Scuba Adventure, Scuba Certification, Live Aboard Scuba Adventure, Out Island Adventure, Keys Adventure, Bahamas Adventure, and Bahamas Tall Ship Adventures. Scouting's most complete aquatic facility offers a complete variety of water activities from SCUBA diving to sailing "Tall Ships". All participants have the opportunity to swim, snorkel, and fish among the most beautiful coral reefs in the northern hemisphere.

Visit

<http://www.bsaseabase.org/>.

**Note: offered through Troop 39 based on interest**

### **Northern Tier Canoe Base**

Northern Tier offers Scouts and Venturers the world's best wilderness canoeing. The Northern Tier offers many adventures, each geared to the goals and desires of your group. Visit the Northern Tier for an unforgettable journey through the heart and soul of Canoe Country. Beginning in December, scouts may participate in the challenging cold-weather camping program called Okpik (OOK' pick). Visit <http://www.ntier.org/>.



**Note: offered through Troop 39 based on interest**

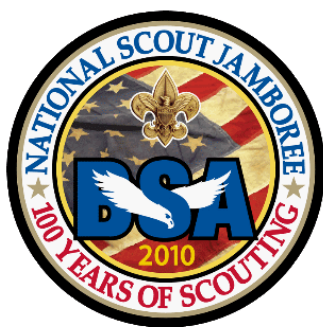
### ***Philmont Scout Ranch***



The Boy Scouts of America's premier high-adventure base challenges Scouts with more than 200 square miles of rugged New Mexico wilderness. Backpacking treks, horseback cavalcades, and training and service programs offer young people many ways to experience this legendary country. Youth and adults take advantage of the ranch's camping, training, and work programs. Most activity takes place during the summer, but Philmont also offers its Fall Adventure and Kanik winter program. Visit <http://www.scouting.org/philmont/main.shtml>

**Note: offered through Troop 39 based on interest**

### ***National Scout Jamboree (offered by the Occoneechee Council)***



Scouts from across the nation gather at Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia every four years. Each council is allowed to bring a specific number of representative scouts from their area. These participants form a council troop, which operates the same patrol method as a traditional local troop. Scouts can earn partial merit badges at the Merit Badge Midway, experience action sports, enjoy shows featuring major entertainers and generally our nation's President, and spectacular fireworks shows. Participation ranges from 60-75,000 scouts and leaders on site for ten days.

### ***Other Adventures Based on Parent/Leader Expertise***

Parents and leaders possessing a particular talent, interest, or expertise may propose a concept to the troop committee for approval and coordinate the trip. This should be done prior to soliciting youth interest. Scouts can be loosely polled for interest but should not be asked for deposits or funding prior to troop committee approval.

Such trips have included a bicycling trip from San Francisco, CA to Norfolk, VA which was featured in the April 2006 Boy's Life magazine.

### ***International High Adventure***

#### ***Kandersteg, Switzerland***

Kandersteg International Scout Centre is the only world centre of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM). The Centre began in 1923 with Lord Robert Baden-Powell, who, after the first World Scout Jamboree had a dream about a place where all Scouts from all over the world could meet.



## Troop 39 – A Guide for Families

Summer in Kandersteg is often described as a ‘Permanent Mini Jamboree’, and with good reason too! Where else can you share an early morning breakfast with your Italian neighbors before heading off on a hike to a Swiss Alpine Cheesery with some German and Spanish Scouts? Then you can finish off the evening with a huge International Campfire, joining with Scouts and Guides from all over the world. Visit <http://www.kisc.ch/>.

**Note: offered every four years through Troop 39.**

### ***British High Adventure***



Each member of Troop 39 has one opportunity to participate in the British High Adventure. Scouts who are at least 13 but not yet 15 at the time of the event visit the United Kingdom for three weeks. They traditionally attend summer camp with our partner troop, the 26th Northcote Scout group in Bristol, England, for ten days and spend a few days with families from the 26th. Each Adventure group selects activities around the UK for the remainder of the trip. Most groups spend three or four days in London visiting tourist sites and activities. Other activities have included caving in Cheddar and bicycling through Exmoor.

**Note: offered every two years through Troop 39**

## Section 5: Fundraising

### *Fundraising*



**Mulch Delivery & Spreading** – Drivers are needed to haul mulch in trucks provided by RFY Inc. from the landfill to delivery sites. This service runs year-round, but most business is in the fall and spring. Satisfy that macho urge to get behind the wheel of a big truck! Funds are “earned” by participating scouts that are kept for them –they can use these funds to cover dues or other troop activity costs.

**Trails End popcorn** –Each October, the BSA coordinates a national fundraiser with Trails End popcorn for councils, units, and scouts to raise money and earn prizes. Each scout and troop receives a portion of each product sold. Scouts receive a guide to help determine the cost of one year in scouting to use as a guide for setting their personal sales goal.



**Touch a Truck** – This event provides a unique opportunity for children and families to explore vehicles of all types, in one place! Held each spring, the event is mandatory for all scouts to attend and is a fundraiser both for the troop and the North Carolina Children’s Hospital.

### ***High Adventure Fund Raising***

Scouts and leaders participating in a high adventure trip or activity sponsored by the troop may elect to use fundraising projects to offset or pay for the activity. Projects have ranged from Courts of Honor dinners to carwashes to spreading mulch and selling doughnuts. Such projects are in addition to any troop-level fundraiser. Participation is expected if the group agrees to a project.

## Troop 39 – A Guide for Families

### ***Courts of Honor dinners***

Dinners are generally held prior to a family night Court of Honor ceremony three times each year. Groups may volunteer to coordinate the dinner at our Brownsea planning retreat in August. Tickets are purchased at the door.

Courts of Honor are generally held in October, February, and May. This is the ceremony in which scouts receive merit badges, advancement awards, recognition, and other awards. Eagle Scout award recipients have a special ceremony at the end of the troop ceremony.

## Section 6: Advancement

### *Badges of Rank*



A Boy Scout advances from Tenderfoot to Eagle by attending and participating in troop activities, learning outdoor skills, demonstrating leadership, and living the ideals of Scouting. As he acquires new skills and assumes increasing leadership responsibilities, he earns a series of Progress Awards – Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life, and Eagle– with each award more challenging (and more rewarding) than the one before.

There are four basic steps of advancement that are common to each rank:

**The Boy Scout learns.** A Scout learns by doing. As he learns, he grows in ability to do his part as a member of the patrol and the troop. As he develops knowledge and skill, he is asked to teach others, and in this way he begins to develop leadership.

**The Boy Scout is tested.** Completion of each individual requirement for Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, or First Class awards is documented in the Scout Handbook. A Patrol Leader, Troop Guide, Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, Troop Committee member, or another member of the troop who is a Star Scout or above may sign for these requirements.

**The Boy Scout is reviewed.** After a Scout has completed the requirements for a Progress Award and has been tested, he has a Scoutmaster's Conference and appears before a Board of Review.

**Scoutmaster Conference:** The Scoutmaster's Conference is an opportunity for the Scout to have a discussion with the Scoutmaster or an Assistant Scoutmaster. It gives the Scoutmaster a chance to learn more about each individual Scout, and gives the Scout a chance to discuss his views of the strengths and weaknesses of the troop's programs. The Scout's progress is reviewed and an agreement is made for his continuing growth. The Scout should personally contact the Advancement Chair when he is ready for a Scoutmaster's Conference. These are often conducted during troop advancement meetings.

## Troop 39 – A Guide for Families

**Boards of Review:** The final step for a Progress Award is to appear before a Board of Review. A Board of Review is made up of three to six members of the Troop Committee.

This meeting has three purposes:

To make sure that the work has been learned and completed.

To see what kind of experience the boy is having in his patrol and troop.

To encourage the Scout to advance to the next rank.

This review is **not** an examination -- the Scout has learned his skills and has already been tested. He may be asked where he learned his skill, who taught him, and whether the experience has been valuable. These meetings should be scheduled at least one week in advance with the Advancement Chairperson, and will generally be conducted on the second Wednesday night of each month. The Scout should wear a Class A uniform when meeting with a Board of Review.

The Boy Scout is recognized. After the Board of Review has certified a Scout's advancement, he will be recognized a troop meeting. The certificate for his new rank will be presented later at a formal Court of Honor.

### **Merit Badges**



When a Scout is seeking a particular merit badge he should:

1. Consult his Scout Handbook to familiarize himself with the requirements. Obtain and study the current issue of the Merit Badge Pamphlet, which may be borrowed from our Troop Library, purchased from Occoneechee Council Service Center in Raleigh or ordered online from the Scout catalogue at <http://www.scoutstuff.org>. Current merit badge requirements, information, resource sheets, and other documents are available at [www.meritbadge.org](http://www.meritbadge.org). This site lists current requirements, the last revisions date, and the next revision date.
2. See the Advancement Chair who keeps a current list of Approved Merit Badge Counselors. She/he will provide you with a Merit Badge Card which must be taken to your Counselor.
3. Contact your counselor for guidance, review, and help. Merit badges require a minimum of three sessions. Parents are only allowed to serve as merit badge counselors for Home Repairs and Family Life badges.

## Troop 39 – A Guide for Families

4. When the counselor thinks that you have qualified for the Merit Badge, he will sign your Merit Badge Card.
5. Deliver the signed Card to the Advancement Chair. S/he will send a record of your badge to the Scout Council Headquarters in Raleigh and have it placed on file in your permanent Scout record.
6. The Merit Badge will be awarded at the next Court of Honor.

### ***Progress Records***

Each Scout should keep a copy of his progress in his own Scout Handbook. The Handbook lists each step required for advancement and must be precisely followed to assure acceptance by the Scouting National Office. We recommend you keep careful notes of the dates you complete the requirements for each merit badge, the date the badges were awarded, and the dates of advancement. Keep the Scout's copy of the Blue Card. Many Scouts have found their personal records to be invaluable for verification when uncertainty arises in regard to their progress through Scouting ranks. Patrol Leaders who are First Class and Star Scouts and above may sign for requirements for Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class.

## **Section 7: Trail to Eagle**

### ***Commitment to the Eagle Trail***

During the Scoutmaster Conference for Star rank, the Scoutmaster discusses the Trail to Eagle process with the Scout and determines whether or not the Scout is willing to make the commitment to this achievement. Because of age limits and time in rank requirements, or because of other commitments and interests outside of Scouting, some Scouts cannot be expected to achieve the Eagle rank. We honor and respect every achievement by our Scouts.

### ***Eagle Mentors***

If the Star Scout expresses an interest in committing to the Eagle rank achievement, an Adult Mentor is assigned to counsel the Scout through the various steps along the Eagle Trail. This program is coordinated by a trained Assistant Scoutmaster, with frequent coordination meetings for all Eagle Mentors at UUMC during the year.

This requires a significant commitment on behalf of the Mentor too. Phone calls and frequent progress reviews are expected. The advantages are numerous, however:

- Fewer problems with rank approvals
- Better communication with Scouts and parents
- Peer level leadership opportunities for Scout with adult leaders
- More visibility into the Eagle process for younger Scouts

### ***Life Scouts***

At the time of the Scout's Scoutmaster Conference for Life rank, the Scoutmaster once again determines the Scout's progress toward Eagle and reaffirms his commitment to achieve the Eagle rank award. The Life Scout is now considered an Eagle Candidate and, with the guidance of his Mentor, selects and plans an Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project.

### ***Attaining the Eagle Scout Rank***

The Scout must be the driving force behind his quest to attain the rank of Eagle Scout. The Mentor will provide the Scout with the guidance and documents, including a copy of the National BSA Life-To-Eagle Packet, including the Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook and a current Eagle Scout Application form, or will direct the Eagle Candidate to obtain them at the Council Eagle Service Desk.

The Orange District provides each Eagle Candidate with a review and approval to start his Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project, advice on completing the other requirements for the Eagle Scout rank, and a prompt board of review once the Eagle Candidate's Eagle package and letters are ready.

### ***Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project***

The selection and completion of the Eagle Candidate's Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project is the sole responsibility of the Scout. The Eagle Mentor, Troop Leadership, parents, project recipient and fellow Scouts have a role in assisting the Eagle Candidate in properly carrying out his Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project, but the failure of any or all of these persons to see the project to a timely and satisfactory conclusion does not relieve the Scout of his obligation to see the project to a timely and satisfactory conclusion.

The Eagle Candidate's Project Plan must be formally approved by the Chair of the Orange District Eagle Committee, or a designate, before the Eagle Candidate begins work on the project.

Requests for a time extension to complete an Eagle project will not be considered, nor granted, if the request is based on the lack of cooperation on the part of the Troop, project recipient, parents or fellow Scouts.

### ***Eagle Scout Rank Requirements***

The Scout bears the sole responsibility for ensuring that he has fulfilled the Requirements for the rank of Eagle as established by the Boy Scouts of America. These responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Participating actively in his troop for at least six months since becoming a Life Scout.
- Demonstrating that the Scout lives by the spirit of the Scout Oath and Scout Law in his daily life.
- The Occoneechee Council requires letters from the Scout's references, and provides certain rules for obtaining them. The Scout bears the sole responsibility for ensuring that his references submit letters on his behalf. The Scout gets to choose the person(s) for each category of reference, and the Scout controls when the person is asked, how often the person is reminded, and whether or not the person is given adequate instructions, including a correct mailing address for their letter.
- Completing the minimum 21 merit badges required for Eagle, including the required merit Badges as listed on the Eagle Scout Rank Application.
- Serving as a leader in his unit for at least six months since becoming a Life Scout. The service can be spread over more than one leadership position. The leadership position must be a position shown on the Eagle Scout Rank Application for the type of unit the Scout is making application from. If the Scout's application is from Troop 39, his Leadership position must be a position listed for a Boy Scout troop, not from a Venture Crew or Varsity Team.
- The Scout must complete his Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project using the Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook, No. 18-927D or later revision to meet the Eagle Service project requirement.

## Troop 39 – A Guide for Families

- The Scout must prepare a Statement of Life purpose, and include a list of Scouting leadership positions and any external honors and awards he has received while serving as a leader.
- The Scout must also take part in an Eagle Scoutmaster conference.

All these requirements must be completed prior to the Scout's 18th birthday unless a time extension has been allowed by the National office of the BSA. Only National may grant a time extension.

### ***Eagle Board of Review***

A Troop Eagle Board of Review consists of at least three, but no more than six, members and must include at least one member of the District Eagle Committee or a Council Representative. The Orange District Eagle Committee ensures that fair and consistent standards are applied to the planning of Eagle Scout Leadership Service Projects and in Eagle Boards of Review, and that these standards are consistent with national BSA and Occoneechee Council advancement policies.

The Scoutmaster must contact the chair of the District Eagle Committee for pre-approval of any Boards of Review to be conducted more than three months after the candidate's 18th birthday.

Boards of Review conducted between three and six months after the Eagle Candidate's 18th birthday must be pre-approved by the Occoneechee Council. A statement by the Scoutmaster or another adult explaining the reason for the delay must be attached to the Eagle Scout Rank Application when it is submitted to the Eagle Scout Service.

The Board of Review determines the Scout's preparedness for the Eagle rank. It does not re-examine him on his merit badges or previous ranks. A Board may cover, but not be limited to, these topics:

**Scout Spirit** – Living the Scout Oath and Law in his daily life.

**Scout Participation** – What has the Scout accomplished in Scouting; what he expects to contribute to Scouting in the future.

**Merit Badges** – What they mean to him; his assessment of their value.

**Duty to God, Country, Home and Self** – What these ideas mean to him and how he demonstrates his commitment to them.

**Future Plans** – Discussion of the Scout's Life Purpose Statement and his personal, educational, and Scouting future, and his sense of obligation to the Scouts coming along behind him.

**Eagle Scout Service Project** – Examine and evaluate the project in detail.

## Troop 39 – A Guide for Families

If the Board unanimously approves the Scout, the Board chairman and district member ceremoniously sign the Eagle application and explain the remaining process to the Scout:

The application is approved only after the Council Scout Executive and the National Eagle Scout Service Office signs it.

Though the Board recommends the Scout, only the National Eagle Scout Service can approve the Eagle Scout award.

The average time for the National Court of Honor to send the Eagle Scout certificate to the council is four weeks.

The Eagle award is not available to the Scout until the Eagle Scout Certificate is received in the Council office, without exception.

If the vote on the recommendation is not unanimous, the Board discusses with the Scout the reasons why he was not approved. It informs him of the courses of action open to him.

### **Section 8: Troop Leadership**

The Troop Committee consists of the Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, Scoutmaster, one Assistant Scoutmaster, and other voting members as nominated. This group is responsible for ensuring Troop 39 abide by all BSA policies and guidelines, finds adequate adult leadership for the Troop, and manage funds raised by the Troop. The Scoutmaster serves at the approval of the Troop Committee Chair and UUMC.

The Scoutmaster is the adult leader responsible for the image and program of the Troop. The Scoutmaster and his Assistant Scoutmasters work directly with the Scouts. The importance of the Scoutmaster's job is reflected in the fact that the quality of his guidance will affect every youth and adult involved in the Troop. General duties include training and guiding boy leaders, working with other responsible adults to bring Scouting boys, and using the methods of Scouting to achieve the aims of Scouting.

To fulfill his obligations to the Troop, the Scoutmaster, with the assistance of the Troop Committee, recruits Assistant Scoutmasters to help operate the Troop. Each Assistant Scoutmaster is assigned specific program duties and reports to the Scoutmaster. They also provide the required two-deep leadership standards set by the Boy Scouts of America (there must be at least two adults present at any Boy Scout activity). An Assistant Scoutmaster may be 18 years old, but at least one in each troop should be 21 or older, so he or she can serve in the Scoutmaster's absence. Troop 39's Assistant Scoutmasters share responsibility for planning monthly trips, high adventure opportunities, advancement, merit badge instruction, and assisting the Scoutmaster as asked.

## **Youth Leadership**

Youth leadership is an important aspect of the Scouting program since leadership experience is required for rank advancement to Star, Life, Eagle, and Eagle Palm awards. Troop 39 has revised the leadership development part of the troop program

- to help each Scout learn the art of leadership
- to offer each Scout specific, guided opportunities
- to develop quality leadership skills as a youth
- to create a personalized approach to tracking leadership development for each leadership position.

### **Definitions:**

**Leadership Positions:** Positions not specified in the requirements for each rank will not count toward a rank advancement, as per BSA policy.

**Senior patrol leader** – top junior leader in the troop. He leads the patrol leaders' council and appoints other junior leaders and assigns specific responsibilities as needed.

**Assistant senior patrol leader** – fills in for senior patrol leader in his absence. He is also responsible for training and giving direction to the quartermaster, scribe, troop historian, librarian, and guides.

**Troop historian** – collects and maintains troop memorabilia and information on former troop members as well as documenting through photos and articles all current troop outings and activities. The troop historian also assists the troop webmaster with website information and updates.

**Librarian** – keeps troop books, pamphlets, magazines, audiovisuals, and merit badge counselor list available for use by troop members.

**Guide** – 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.

**Patrol leader** – gives leadership to members of his patrol and represents them on the patrol leaders' council.

**Assistant patrol leader** – fills in for the patrol leader in his absence.

**Den chief** – works with a Cub Scout den as a guide.

## Troop 39 – A Guide for Families

**Quartermaster** – responsible for troop supplies and equipment.

**Scribe** – the troop secretary.

**Leadership Project:** A substantial project, of equal duration to a Troop position (about 5-6 months), may be substituted as proof of leadership under certain circumstances. A boy may suggest a project with a written description to the Scoutmaster. If approved, he may continue with the project.

Leadership training may be held periodically during the Troop year. All Scouts 13 and over, with at least the rank of First Class, will be expected to attend.

When a Scout needs a leadership position for a rank advancement, he should contact the Senior Patrol Leader. The following is the process for fulfilling a leadership requirement:

A Scout must declare to the Senior Patrol Leader and the Scoutmaster his need for a leadership position.

The Scoutmaster and SPL will discuss possible positions for the Scout and reach a mutual decision.

The SPL will appoint the Scout a leadership position.

Once a leadership position has been assigned the Scout will receive training and expectations of the leadership position. This booklet contains the duties, a description, and the prerequisites for each Troop-level position.

The Scout and will have at least three (3) goals the Scout plans to complete during his term. The Scout understands the time frame for the rank requirement is a guide, not an absolute. The portfolio creates a definite starting date and ending date as agreed upon by the Scout but may be extended beyond the period listed in the rank requirement.

***Leadership Project Safety***

Troop 39 considers safety a primary concern. The Troop Committee approved the following safety rules, which Troop members are to follow:

One or more adults must be present at all times, preferably the parent(s) of the scout leading the project.

A scout shall only transport other scouts if he has secured proper written permission from a parent of the scout being transported.

A scout with a driver's license shall only operate a vehicle while under the direct supervision of an adult.

Scouts shall only operate power equipment and tools while under the direct supervision of an adult.

Scouts shall never ride in open vehicles such as truck beds, trailers, tractors, etc.

If there is an injury the project leader or an adult present at the time of the injury shall notify the Scoutmaster or an Assistant Scoutmaster as soon as possible.

## **Section 9: Troop Rules/Expectations**

### ***Troop 39 Participation Policy***

A Scout has a goal to participate in at least 80% of all Troop functions and activities for continuing membership in Troop 39. The activities include Troop meetings, camping trips, and other activities, Scout Sunday and patrol meetings. In addition, the Scout must not fall below 60% participation in any one of these categories. Should any Scout fail to meet the 80% or 60% requirements, the Scoutmasters will review the individual circumstances. If it is concluded that there is a lack of interest on the part of the Scout, he will be referred to the Board of Review for evaluation and appropriate action.

Certain trips and activities require that the participants have demonstrated a participation rate of 60% for the 12 months prior to the event.

**Exemption:** Scouts who are in their first year in Troop 39 and Scouts who have earned the rank of Eagle.

**Note:** Scouts who do not meet this requirement due to extenuating circumstances may petition the scoutmaster or his designee for an exemption.

### ***National BSA Behavior Expectations***

All members of the Boy Scouts of America are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the principles set forth in the Scout Oath and Law. Physical violence, hazing, bullying, theft, verbal insults, and drugs and alcohol have no place in the Scouting program and may result in the revocation of a Scout's or Leader's membership in the troop.

If confronted by threats of violence or other forms of bullying from other youth members, Scouts should seek help from their troop leaders.

### ***CD/MP3/iPod Players, Cell Phones, and Personal Sports/Toys Equipment***

Radios, ipods, CD players, cell phones and other electronic equipment are allowed only during transportation to and from events, provided ear/headphones are used, but they are not encouraged. The Scoutmaster and/or Asst. Scoutmasters will provide cell phones should it become necessary for a Scout to phone home during a trip and/or activity. Therefore, Troop 39 Scouts should not need a cell phone while participating in any troop activity and/or event. Scouts are discouraged from bringing electronics on trips.

Water play items, such as water guns and balloons, should not be brought or used on any Troop function unless authorized as part of the program.

BSA policy prohibits possession or use of ANY fireworks whatsoever (e.g. sparklers, bottle rockets, etc.) Any Scout found in possession of any fireworks will be sent home after investigation.

## Troop 39 – A Guide for Families

Pocket knives, saws, single blade axes are the only wood tools permitted with proper training. The misuse of any object may result in its confiscation. Sheath knives are also NOT permitted!

### ***Fire Safety***

Fire is a tool, not a toy. It is every Scout's responsibility to use fires for light, cooking, or warmth only. The size of the fire should be adequate to accomplish the task, but never in excess. Matches and lighters are the only acceptable resources for fire-starting.

Liquid flammables will not be tolerated, nor will any other fire starting devices, e.g. blowtorches, gas stove tanks, or any other high pressure fuel container.

Liquid fuel stoves may be used as cooking devices when and where appropriate. They should be used under the supervision of an adult.

### ***Troop Equipment***

Troop equipment is purchased or obtained for use by troop members. All equipment so obtained remains the property of the troop. There are several equipment inspections during the year to identify any lost or damaged equipment, which will be replaced or repaired by the Patrol.

Members of Troop 39 may borrow troop equipment for use in non-troop BSA activities (e.g. OA meetings) with the approval of the Troop Quartermaster. The individual member is financially responsible for any loss or damage to said equipment.

Each camping participant is solely responsible for any and all personal items brought on a camping or other outdoor event. Troop 39, its leaders, and chartering organization(s) are not liable, and cannot be held liable, for lost, stolen, damaged, or destroyed personal items. We sometimes camp in very public places, and a tent is not secure. Items left in the open, or even in a closed tent, are not guaranteed to be where you left them, or in the condition you left them, when you return. Troop 39 camps in any weather, and rain, snow, hail, and wind can damage or destroy, or cause to be lost, personal clothing and equipment.

If a Scout is not willing to have it lost, stolen, damaged or destroyed, the item should not be taken on a trip.

### ***Discipline Procedures***

Scouts will call home from the meeting, activity, or trip and explain the situation to a parent.

Parents are expected to pick their son up and take him home if asked. Leaders may opt to keep the scout when distance is a factor.

## Troop 39 – A Guide for Families

Any unauthorized items will be taken into custody by the Adult Staff and returned to a parent.

Parents of youth members who misbehave should be informed and asked for assistance. The BSA does not permit the use of corporal punishment by troop leaders when disciplining youth members.

The troop committee should review repetitive or serious incidents of misbehavior in consultation with the parents of the child to determine a course of corrective action including possible revocation of the youth's membership in the troop.

If problem behavior persists, the troop may revoke a Scout's membership in that troop.

The troop should inform the Scout executive about all incidents that result in a physical injury or involve allegations of sexual misconduct by a youth member with another youth member.

Scouts will not be disciplined for an addiction or health concerns unless they violate state law or troop policy by possessing an inappropriate item, selling inappropriate items to other scouts, or pressuring other scouts into participating in inappropriate behavior.

Adult leaders and committee members can provide resources and support to scouts and parents as needed.

Adult leaders are not investigators. They are required to report suspicion of addictions, health concerns, or abuse. They are required to report abuse to the proper authorities for further investigation.

## **Section 10: Health Matters**

### ***Medical Forms***

Each Scout and leader is expected to keep a current health form on file with the troop. These are taken on each activity in the event medical attention is needed.

\*Examinations conducted by licensed health-care practitioners, other than physicians, will be recognized for BSA purposes in those states where such practitioners may perform physical examinations within their legally prescribed scope of practice.

### ***Prescriptions***

The taking of prescription medication is the responsibility of the individual taking the medication and/or that individual's parent or guardian. A Scout leader, after obtaining all the necessary information, can agree to accept the responsibility of making sure a Scout takes the necessary medication at the appropriate time, but BSA policy does not mandate nor necessarily encourage the Scout leader to do so. Also, if your state laws are more limiting, they must be followed.

### ***Religious Beliefs and Medical Care***

The following is the policy of the Boy Scouts of America regarding medical requirements:

Medical examinations for camp attendance are required of all campers for the protection of the entire camp group. The immunization requirement is waived for persons with religious beliefs against immunization.

All Scouts and Scout leaders need to learn first aid, not for their own use, but for service to others who may require it. A Scout or leader may ask to be excused from first-aid instruction, but no advancement requirement will be waived except as indicated.

Requirements 1 and 5 for the Personal Fitness merit badge call for examinations by a physician and a dentist with appropriate follow-up recommendations. This may be set aside on presentation of a certificate by the Scout's parents and a proper church official that a definite violation of religious conviction is involved.

### ***Scouts with a disability***



The BSA's policy has always been to treat members with disabilities and special needs as much like other members as possible, but a local council may make some accommodations in advancement requirements if necessary. A Scout with a permanent physical or mental disability may select an alternate merit badge in lieu of a required merit badge if his disabling condition prohibits the Scout from completing the necessary requirements of a particular required merit badge. This substitute should provide a "similar learning

## Troop 39 – A Guide for Families

experience.” Full guidelines and explanations are available through the local council and on the Application for Alternate Eagle Scout Rank Merit Badges, No. 58-730. The local council advancement committee must approve the application. A Scout may also request changes in the Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class ranks. The procedures are described in Boy Scout Requirements 2005, No. 33215A.

This policy is designed to keep youth with disabilities and special needs as much in the mainstream as possible. Practical suggestions are made to leaders as to approaches and methods they can use. Thus, a youth in a wheelchair can meet the requirements for hiking by making a trip to places of interest in his community. Giving more time and permitting the use of special aids are other ways leaders can help youth with disabilities and special needs in their efforts to advance. The unit leader plays a crucial role in that effort. Additional information and lists of literature and other aids are available from the Boy Scout Division, Cub Scout Division, Venturing Division, and District and Council Resources at the Boy Scouts of America, 1325 West Walnut Hill Lane, P.O. Box 152079, Irving, TX 75015-2079.

## Section 11: Adult Leader Expectations

### ***Uniforms***

Adult leaders are expected to set the best example for scouts through uniform, words, and deeds. Those working directly with the youth on the troop level are expected to wear official BSA uniforms based on the description provided in section. Members of the troop committee and boards of review, parents participating on weekend trips or assisting with weekly meetings, and merit badge counselors do not have to follow uniform expectations.

### ***Training***



Adult volunteers must register with the Boy Scouts of America. This includes merit badge instructors, troop leaders, and committee members. This does not include parents who drive on troop outings, although they are required to file their insurance information with the troop and be listed on the official BSA Tour Permit.

Adult leaders are expected to complete the official BSA Youth Protection training and Fast Start online (see web address below). Our Orange District training staff offers New Leader Essentials and Boy Scout Leaders Specific training. Other levels of training, as listed below, are highly recommended but not required. Troop 39 will only be as good as the leaders who supervise the troop.

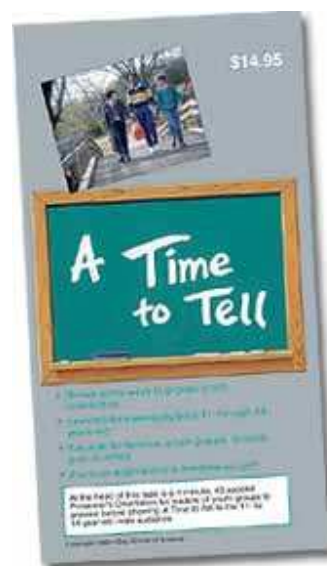
### ***Youth Protection Training***

In 1987, the Boy Scouts of America began to address five “unacceptable” in American society—drug abuse, hunger, child abuse, illiteracy, and youth unemployment. Adult leader training teaches identification and proper reporting procedures.

Adult leaders are trained to recognize signs of physical, sexual, and emotional abuse and neglect in the required BSA Youth Protection training.

Youth Protection Training accomplishes the following objectives:

- Informs leaders and parents of BSA’s Youth Protection policies and materials, including videos for each level in Scouting.
- Increases the protection of children by discussing the procedures for prompt reporting of suspected abuse.
- Enables Scouting’s leaders and parents to recognize indicators of abuse.



## Troop 39 – A Guide for Families

The goal of youth protection training is to make everyone aware of the BSA guidelines and what is considered acceptable behavior. These training programs educate participants on what constitutes physical, emotional, neglect and sexual forms of abuse, assault, harassment and hazing. On the youth level, it teaches the three “R’s”: Recognize, Resist, and Report. On the parent and Scouter levels, it teaches how to recognize indications of child abuse and how to handle such situations.

Available online at <http://www.scouting.org/Training/YouthProtection.aspx>.

Leaders will need the membership number listed on their registration card or contact the council office if the card cannot be found.

### ***Fast Start Training***

This is the first step in training. It covers the organization of a unit, defines a meeting, and how to run a meeting. It is designed primarily for someone with no previous scouting experience. This training is available online at <http://scouting.org/training/adult.aspx>.

### ***New Leader Essentials (NLE)***

The New Leader Essentials is the foundation for all leader training. This is where the leader is introduced to the basic philosophies and beliefs of the Scouting program. Adults will learn how these basic principles are woven into every level of Scouting.

### ***Boy Scout Leader Specific Training***

After the completion of NLE and Fast Start, this course is the next phase of a new Scoutmaster’s or Assistant’s introduction to the Boy Scouts of America and to the responsibilities, opportunities, and resources that will ensure a successful troop experience.

The Boy Scout Leader Specific Training program is strongly suggested for all Scoutmasters, Assistant Scoutmasters, and Troop Committee members. Troop operation and organization are covered in these sessions. This is the prerequisite for the Outdoor Skills Session.

### ***Other Training Courses recommended but not required***

The link to these and other online training courses can be found at

<http://scouting.org/training/adult.aspx>

### ***Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills***

The course familiarizes the leader with the skills that a Scout must learn from Tenderfoot through First Class, learn about health and safety procedures, and learn about nature. Upon completion of this course, Assistant Scoutmasters and Scoutmasters will be considered fully trained.

### ***Safe Swim Defense***

Before a BSA group may engage in swimming activities of any kind, a minimum of one adult leader must complete Safe Swim Defense training, have a commitment card with them and agree to use the eight defenses in this plan.

### ***Safety Afloat***

This course was developed to promote boating and boating safety and to set standards for safe unit activity afloat. Before a BSA group may engage in an excursion, expedition, or trip on the water (canoe, raft, sailboat, motorboat, rowboat, tube, or other craft), adult leaders for such activity must complete Safety Afloat Training, have a commitment card with them, and be dedicated to full compliance with all nine points of Safety Afloat.

### ***Climb On Safely***

Climb On Safely is designed to help adult leaders organize a climbing and rappelling program for their unit, similar to Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat. It is not designed to teach leaders how to instruct BSA youth in the skills of climbing and/or rappelling.

### ***Woodbadge***

Wood Badge provides advanced training in leadership teamwork for adult leaders in all Scouting programs. Its focus is on leadership, not out-of-door skills. This course covers: Contemporary leadership concepts utilized in corporate America and leading government organizations that are relevant to our values-based movement.

The skills Scouters will learn while participating as a member of a successful working team. The Wood Badge experience will help provide Scouting with the leadership it needs to accomplish its mission now and in the future. Course content is divided into five areas and includes:

- Living the Values
- Bringing the Vision to Life
- Models for success
- Tools of the Trade
- Leading to Make a Difference

### ***Philmont Training Center***

Each summer, the Philmont Training Center offers weeklong courses that cover every aspect of the BSA's program—from Tiger Cubs and Scoutmasters to Endowment and Scoutreach.

Conferences are led by a faculty of outstanding volunteer and professional Scouters selected by the divisions and committees of the National Council for their expertise in specific conference topics.

## Troop 39 – A Guide for Families

The conferences are designed to discuss specific Scouting issues, share information from all over the BSA, and train using “best methods” that will enhance the Scouting program for our youth and adults. Each conference features the latest tools and techniques, audiovisuals, discussions, idea sharing, and activities.

## **Section 12: Parent Involvement**

Scouting is a family activity. There are many ways in which parents can help their son make the most of the opportunities provided by Troop 39 – and at the same time, share in the learning and fun!

First and foremost, it is important that parents encourage their son to participate in all aspects of the troop program. Many times this means scheduling other activities so that they don't conflict with Scouting events. Secondly, parents should support their son's involvement by taking an interest in his Scouting activities. By attending Courts of Honor, helping with advancement, and participating in troop outings, parents send a message that Scouting is important. Last but not least, there are many volunteer opportunities for parents to help Troop 39 operate as a quality unit. The adults who plan and supervise the many activities of the troop are volunteers and need the help of parents to raise funds, plan programs, organize events, and help with communication.

### ***Fundraisers***

Troop 39 sponsors a number of fundraisers which help pay for charter dues, vehicle maintenance, insurance, and other expenses. All parents can help by volunteering to work on these projects:

**Touch a Truck** – Our largest fundraiser of the year, held since 2009, supports the troop and the N.C. Children's Hospital's Promise Grant program. Touch a Truck provides a unique opportunity for children to explore vehicles of all types – public service, emergency, utility, construction, landscaping, transportation, delivery and just plain cool – all in one place!

**Mulch Delivery** – Drivers are needed to haul mulch in troop trucks from the landfill to delivery sites. This service runs year-round, but most business is in the fall and spring. Satisfy that macho urge to get behind the wheel of a big truck!

**BSA Popcorn Sales** – Held in the fall, this is a continuation of the national program that your son probably participated in during Cub Scouts

### ***Committees***

Several committees assist the Scoutmasters with the operation of the troop. Parents are needed to help with the projects coordinated by these committees:

**Troop Committee** – This parent-run committee develops policies and programs, coordinates fundraising activities and allocates funds, and provides support to Scoutmasters.

**Other volunteer positions:** Groups of volunteers are needed to coordinate fundraisers, facilitate communication, and provide other important services which help the troop operate efficiently:

Eagle Scout mentors – Counsel Scouts through the various steps along the Eagle Trail.

## Troop 39 – A Guide for Families

**Mulch delivery coordinators** – Receive calls from clients and schedule delivery, schedule drivers, track payments.

**Recruitment coordinator** – Coordinate efforts to interest young boys in Troop 39.

**“Meet and Greet” parents** – Meet boys and parents who visit meetings, provide information about Troop 39.

**Webmaster** – Contribute to the development and maintenance of troop website

**Troop directory editor** – Maintain a database of troop members.

**Court of Honor coordinator** – Supervise set-up and clean-up; order refreshments.

**Publicity coordinator** – Work with local news outlets to publicize service projects and other activities of Troop 39.

**Vehicle maintenance coordinator**– Provide routine maintenance and schedule repairs for troop vehicles.

**Merit Badge Counselor** – The counselor’s job is to act as a coach and an examiner. As a coach you help the Scout over the hurdles of the requirement developing his self-confidence as you proceed. Through your expertise and experience, you also make him aware of the broader and deeper aspects of the subject, developing in him an interest which may lead to further explorations of his own. As an examiner the counselor must be satisfied that each Scout meets all requirements for the merit badge and that all boys are treated equally. This position is registered with the Boy Scouts of America, at no cost, and requires training.

## **Section 13: Troop 39 Uniform Standards**

### ***National BSA Uniform Expectations***

Uniforming is one of the eight Methods used to accomplish the Scouting Aims of Character, Citizenship, & Fitness.

The uniform makes the Scout troop visible as a force for good and creates a positive youth image in the community. Boy Scouts 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 of youth who believe in the same ideals.

The uniform is practical attire for Scout activities and provides a way for Scouts to wear the badges that show what they have accomplished.

The Boy Scout Uniform has long served as an expression of a Scout's friendliness to all other Scouts regardless of whom they are or where they're from. The uniform represents Scouting's spirit of Equality and democracy, and identifies a boy as a brother to every other Scout. Wearing the uniform promotes comradeship, loyalty to one's patrol and troop, and public recognition of membership in the Boy Scouts of America.

### ***When to Wear the Uniform***

Boy Scouts and Scout leaders proudly wear the full uniform for all ceremonial and indoor activities including troop meetings, boards of review, and courts of honor. The uniform should also be worn during special outdoor occasions, such as flag ceremonies, Scout shows, and special times during summer camp.

### ***When Not To Wear the Uniform***

Do not wear the uniform while selling a commercial product or service, even for Scout fundraising purposes, such as popcorn.

Do not wear the uniform in situations that might mistakenly imply an endorsement by the BSA of a product, service, political candidate, or philosophy. Scouts and Scouters are encouraged to take part in political matters as private individuals but not while wearing the uniform.

Do not wear the uniform while engaged in any activity that could dishonor or discredit the Boy Scouts of America, the uniform, or the person wearing it.

### ***Troop 39 Uniform Expectations***

We are a Boy Scout troop and we wear the Scout uniform with pride. All troop functions require wearing the Scout uniform unless specifically announced otherwise (e.g. mulch or yard work as work clothes are more appropriate).

## Troop 39 – A Guide for Families

Being “in uniform” means being in complete uniform. This includes wearing the official shirt, pants, socks, and belt. Any non-uniform items (including non-scouting hats or earrings) must not be worn with either Class A or B uniform. Parents can shop online for uniform parts and all BSA items online at <http://www.scoutstuff.org>

The Occoneechee Council Scout Shop in Raleigh also allows parents to shop by phone with a credit card and will mail the item(s) to your home. The Occoneechee Council scout shop in Raleigh is located at 3231 Atlantic Avenue and their phone number is (919) 472-8442. Directions are listed on the next page.

A Scout attending a Scout function must be in uniform at all times. He may be sent home if he is not in FULL uniform. The Scout uniform may not be worn at times other than during official approved Scout functions. On camping trips we take clothes appropriate to the weather, but the uniform is always worn to and from the campsite. We also wear the uniform during church services.

The uniform to be worn will be announced by the Senior Patrol Leader.

### ***Class A Uniform***

- Official Boy Scout shirt (either long or short sleeve) with olive epaulets
- Scout trousers (short or long)
- Scout belt
- Scout socks
- Appropriate shoes
- Neckerchief slide
- An official Troop 39 neckerchief and set of uniform patches are given to each new Scout.
  - Replacement neckerchiefs can be purchased for \$25.
  - Neckerchiefs are never sold or traded.
  - If a Scout leaves the Troop before earning the rank of Eagle, he must return the troop neckerchief.
  - Replacement patches for the Class A uniform can be purchased as follows: the community rocker - \$3, the troop number - \$1, and the year bar - \$1. New members receive a complete set as part of their troop fees.

### ***Class B Uniform***

- Troop 39 approved T-shirt
- Scout trousers (short or long)
- Scout belt
- Scout socks
- Appropriate shoes
- Scouting T-shirts other than official Troop 39 (e.g. camp, high adventure etc.) are not acceptable.

## Troop 39 – A Guide for Families

- If a scout wears a hat, it must be a Scout hat approved by the PLC.

### ***Patch Placement***

Parents are encouraged to use the BSA Insignia Guide for proper patch placement.

### ***Uniform Exchange***

Troop 39 maintains a uniform exchange that allows new Scouts and Scouts who outgrow their current uniform to exchange it with uniform parts that have been turned in by other Scouts.

### ***Directions to the Occoneechee Council Office & Scout Shop***

Distance from Downtown Chapel Hill: 31.7 mi (about 42 mins)

Turn right into the I-40 E entry ramp to Raleigh - go 16 mi

Continue on Raleigh-Chapel Hill Expy toward Raleigh North/Raleigh East - go 3.3 mi

Bear right into the I-440 N entry ramp to Wake Forest/Rocky Mount/Wilson - go 5.8 mi

Take the Wake Forest Rd exit 10 - go 0.2 mi

Turn right at Wake Forest Rd - go 0.4 mi

Turn left at E Six Forks Rd - go 0.5 mi

Turn left at Atlantic Ave - go 0.8 mi

### ***Uniform Tailoring and Patch Attachment***

Adult leaders have relied on Oriental Tailors at 99 South Elliot Road in Chapel Hill to have uniforms altered and add patches.

### ***Personal Camping Equipment***

Each patrol is issued a set of camping equipment and is responsible for its upkeep and proper maintenance. Patrols are issued camp stoves, basic pots and pans, cookware, a patrol box, and a lantern. Troop 39 will provide tents for new Scouts to use, but as a general rule, the troop does not provide tents for camping. While each Scout does not need to have his own tent, Patrol Leaders are expected to make sure each Scout attending a camping trip has a tent in which to sleep.

Scouts receive a 10% discount off camping equipment purchased at Townsend & Bertram camping store in Car Mill Mall in Carrboro if they have their BSA membership card.

**Scouts are encouraged to have the following personal gear for camping trips:**

#### **Clothing**

1. 4 changes of underwear
2. at least 2 changes of socks
3. extra clothing (appropriate to season)
4. jacket
5. hat
6. rain gear
7. extra shoes

## Troop 39 – A Guide for Families

### **Meals**

8. deep bowl and/or plate
9. cup, knife, fork, and spoon
10. water bottle or canteen

### **Sleeping**

11. Warm sleeping bag, or lightweight bag with extra blankets
12. sleeping pad, or extra blankets for underneath sleeping bag

### **Other**

13. flashlight
14. personal hygiene items
15. small towel
16. Band-aids / first aid kit
17. notepad and pen or pencil

New Scouts and parents are encouraged to talk with experienced troop members and parents about specific types of personal gear, brands, preferences, and suggestions before purchasing equipment. Items such as tents and sleeping bags can last many years so it is wise to make the best initial purchase.

### ***Patrol Food on Trips***

Each trip, there will be a designated patrol member responsible for purchasing food based on the menu derived by the Patrol Leader. That patrol member should be reimbursed by patrol members no later than the Wednesday meeting following the trip. Scouts who make a commitment to a trip will be held accountable for reimbursing the patrol member who is responsible for the food regardless of whether they are able to attend the trip or not.

## **Section 14: Troop History & Sponsors**

### ***Troop History***

Troop 39 has a rich heritage of nearly 100 years of service to Chapel Hill, the University of North Carolina, and our country. Founded in 1912, it is the oldest Boy Scout troop in North Carolina and one of the oldest in the nation. We will celebrate the troop's centennial in 2011 and 2012 with many different activities. Keep up with the planning of these through our website, <http://www.troop39nc.org/a-look-back/>

Conservation has been a focus of Troop 39 since its inception. Inspired by SOAR (Save Our American Resources), an environmental program started by the Boy Scouts of America, a glass recycling project was initiated in 1970. Over the subsequent decades, the Troop built and maintained a recycling center and recycled over 20,000 tons of glass, 85,000 tons of paper, 10,000 tons of aluminum, and 33 tons of pallets! Our recycling efforts continue today with delivery of mulch (recycled yard waste) from the county landfill. Troop 39 is also featured in Boys Life magazine for its contribution to the construction of the Mountain to Sea trail in North Carolina.

Troop 39 has helped mold the character of an estimated 1,500 youth since it was established nearly 100 years ago. In the past 50 years, over 200 members have been awarded the Eagle Scout award. Alumni have become leaders in their professions and in their communities. It's a heritage of which we are proud, but we are confident that the best is yet to come!

## **Section 15: Troop 39 Song**

Through long tradition, Troop 39 has sung the following lyric (to the tune of the Notre Dame Fight Song) as a manifestation of Troop spirit.

*We are the Scouts of Troop 39.  
This is our song; you'll like it just fine.  
Camping trips and learning knots,  
These are the things that we like a lots.  
Ours is the first troop in Chapel Hill.  
Since 1912 we've learned outdoor skills.  
On our honor we'll do our best  
To live up to Scouting's test.  
Rah! Rah! Rah!*

**“What is seen is temporary. What is unseen is eternal.”**