Troop Outings and Meetings

Outings:

Three-fourths of the word "Scouting" is "Outing", and so outings are the focus of our troop. You can help your scout get more out of scouting by simply helping them get involved in and excited about outings. Help them imagine the fun and anticipate the adventure, and to be ready to sign up. Attend parent meetings and learn about the high points of upcoming events. Go over the troop and family calendar with them before troop meetings so they can sign up with the confidence that they can really attend and know for sure which events they'll have to miss.

Calendar:

The troop maintains an online calendar for outings and events. Families should take time to look well ahead and plan which outings a scout can attend. Scouts should signup if they can attend or register their regrets if they cannot. Scouts will have their turn planning outings and will find that planning is much more difficult when the numbers of people attending change at the last minute, whereas planning is much easier when this information is available early. See Communication section above for how to subscribe to the calendar.

Costs:

Typically, there are some costs associated with each activity. Some of these costs will need to be paid before the start of the outing, and some will be collected in weeks or months in advance by the treasurer. Some costs will be owed directly to the person who purchased food.

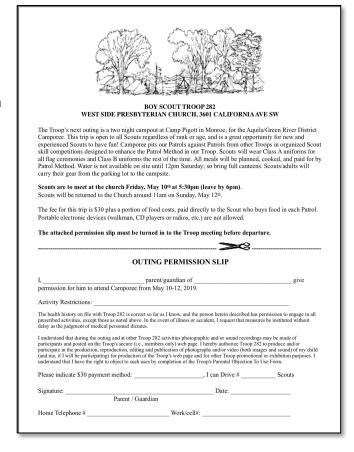
Money paid at the start of an outing will usually be used on the outing, so please bring cash, and the exact amount is best.

The treasurer is typically involved for higher cost, longer trips like summer camp and some high adventure. Each scout has a separate account in the Troop accounting system where any money they may earn from troop fundraisers like Popcorn sales is tracked. They may also deposit other money into it.

Remember, a scout is thrifty, so we do expect that a scout should be responsible for contributing to the cost of their activities.

Permission Form:

Each scout must provide a filled and signed permission form at the beginning of every trip.



A few examples of outings and events:

- **Weekend Outings** Day hikes, White Water Rafting, Over-nighters
- Summer Camp week-long residence camp in Washington, Idaho, Oregon or California
- **High Adventure** week-long 50-mile hike through the spectacular Pacific Northwest mountains, canoeing in the PNW lakes or rafting down rapids, or to Scouts of America high-adventure camps to Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico
- Fundraisers Popcorn sales
- Snow Sports day or weekend trips to Crystal Mountain, Stevens Pass, or Mission Ridge

Meetings:

The scout motto is "be prepared"; meetings are about getting ready for the fun and adventure of outings. We've listed below a number of meetings you may encounter and their purpose.

Troop Meetings for Troop 282 are each Tuesday night starting promptly at 7:30pm. This is when the scouts take care of the "business" of the troop, have fun, and hone their skills in preparation for upcoming outings and adventures. This is also a place for scouts to sign up for upcoming activities, and Rank Advancement / Boards of Review. Times and locations may change occasionally.

Scoutmaster Conferences are for a scout to have a one-on-one discussion with the Scoutmaster or their assistant to review the scouts recent scouting trail and discuss next steps. A conference is required before the scout may request a board of review for a rank advancement but may be called by either scout or Scoutmaster. The very first conference will include the scout's parents/guardians, after this just the two of them. However, when it occurs somewhere other than a group meeting place, we ask that parents plan to be within sight (but not participate) to help us maintain our youth protection policies.

Boards of Review: Commonly held to review a rank advancement, the scout meets with the board which is made up other parents from the troop. The board asks about their experiences with the troop. It is a review to ensure they are getting what they need from the troop and that the program is running smoothly, not a test.

Patrol Leader Conference (PLC) meetings: The Senior Patrol leader and their Patrol Leaders run the troop; they meet once per month with the scribe, other youth leaders, the Scoutmaster and others as needed to plan monthly meetings and for leadership development. Timing may change depending on the current leadership but is usually 6:30 PM the first Tuesday of the month.

Courts of Honor are awards, and rank presentations held quarterly. Parents and families should attend to see what the troop has been doing and show support. This is a scout's moment in the sun, make the audience a little bigger and boost their confidence that much more. Eagle Scout Courts of Honor are specifically to honor the scouts who attain the rank of Eagle Scout, they are grand celebrations in the life of the troop.

Parent Meetings occur the second Tuesday of every month. The meeting begins at the same time as the Scout Meeting. After introductions we discuss details of upcoming outings and take care of the business details for the troop. It is a chance for you to ask questions about everything from Blue Cards and how to use the web site, to 'Where do you go to buy that uniform?' It is also the place to find out details of how to volunteer for trips, who to go to regarding Merit Badges, and find out how Troop 282 works! All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend these meetings.

Committee meetings: The Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters meet once a month, usually the first Wednesday of the month. During this meeting the Troop adult leaders review Troop plans and make key decisions on the Troop events such as summer programs and activities. Parents are welcome and encouraged to attend. Scouts would typically not attend. Check the calendar for details.

Troop 282's Sample Calendar Year

Overview

Troop 282 has a lot of activities planned throughout the year. In general, you can expect to see at least 2 outdoor activities each month. Below are some of the core events that we have by month. Additional day hikes, bike rides and other activities will be added in throughout the year based on weather and adult availability. Please refer to the online calendar for up to date information.

