

## **What is Boy Scouting? What are you looking for?**

### **Mission Statement**

The Mission of the Alamo Area Council is to prepare young people to make ethical choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

### **Scouting**

The Boy Scouts of America is one of the nation's largest and most prominent values-based youth development organizations. The BSA provides a program for young people that builds character, trains them in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and develops personal fitness.

### **Troop 444**

Troop 444 strives to be a values based organization focusing on the "outing" in Scouting with an outdoor program designed to allow Scouts to experience the outdoors while having fun camping, cooking, hiking, canoeing, and kayaking.

### **Personal Growth**

Scouts learn best from other Scouts through the Patrol Method of Scouting. This method emphasizes Scouts teaching other Scouts skills and requirements for rank advancement. Scouting provides a series of surmountable obstacles and 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 earns his rank advancement and develops confidence, self-reliance, and the ability to help others. The Scout is assisted by his Patrol Leader, other Scouts and the Senior PL.

Scouts learn leadership and how to set and achieve goals in a safe environment. Not only knowing what to do to succeed but also knowing what to do if things go wrong. Good judgment comes from experience.

Scouting builds character through a fun and rewarding program leading to lasting lifelong values.

### **Your Support**

Parent support and involvement is essential. Unlike the full parent involvement in Cub Scouts, parents are asked to become much less involved with their own child and more within the structure of the Troop as a Scout-Parent or as a committee member. The

success of the Troop depends on a lot of adult volunteers who work behind the scenes to make it all happen.

## **The Benefits of Scouting**

Scouting provides youth with an opportunity to try new things, provide service to others, build self-confidence, and reinforce ethical standards. These opportunities not only help them when they are young but also carry forward into their adult lives, improving their relationships, their work lives, their family lives, and the values by which they live.

## **What to Expect**

Youth experience dramatic physical and emotional growth. Scouting offers them opportunities to channel much of that change into productive endeavors. Through service projects and Good Turns, Scouts can discover their place in the community. Many Scouting activities allow youth to associate with others from different backgrounds. The religious emblems program offers pathways for Scouts to more deeply understand their duty to God. All of the Scouting programs are flexible and accommodate the need to balance the work and life requirements of a busy family. It is easy to plan for meetings and activities, and if something unexpected comes up, just let your leader know - it is expected in the lives we live today.

## **Helpful, Friendly, Service**

Scouting gives youth the opportunity to try new things, be of service to others, build self-confidence and reinforce ethical standards. These opportunities not only help them when they are young, but carry forward into their adult lives as well. What children learn in their formative years is instrumental in shaping their character.

Scouts can also work on merit badges, recognizing a variety of skills. There are over 120 separate badges, including graphic arts, computers, archery, and many more. The purpose of merit badges is not only exposure to new skills, but to give Scouts confidence in their ability to face new circumstances and challenges for the rest of their lives.

Scouting provides boys with the opportunity to experience outdoor activities, new skills, leadership, service, and interaction with other Scouts.