

Parent's Guide

Bothell Troop 622

Contents

WELCOME.....	4
OVERVIEW.....	4
MEETINGS	5
LEADERSHIP	6
THE PATROL METHOD.....	7
<i>Senior Patrol Leader</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Assistant Senior Patrol Leader</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Troop Historian</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Librarian.....</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Instructor</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Chaplain Aide</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Junior Assistant Scoutmaster</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Patrol Leader.....</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Assistant Patrol Leader.....</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Order of the Arrow Troop Representative.....</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Troop Guide</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Den Chief.....</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Quartermaster</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Scribe.....</i>	<i>9</i>

FUND POLICIES.....	26
ACTIVITIES.....	27
SUMMER CAMP.....	27
KLONDIKE.....	27
CELL PHONES	28
EQUIPMENT	29
UNIFORM	28
NECKERCHIEF	31
THE TEN ESSENTIALS.....	31
HALL USE AND CLEANUP	32
REFERENCE	33
SCOUTING VALUES.....	33
BOY SCOUT OATH	33
BOY SCOUT LAW.....	34
BOY SCOUT MOTTO	34
SCOUT SLOGAN.....	34
THE OUTDOOR CODE.....	34
WEBSITES	35
CONCLUSION	35

Troop 622 - Who are we?

The Troop goes back at least to the 1970s and probably earlier than that. Our most famous Alum is none other than Rick Steves, the PBS Travel Guru – at least that is the legend.

We draw most of our Scouts from Cub Packs in the Bothell and Thrashers Corner area.

Our philosophy of Scouting? Each Scout chooses their own journey through the world of Scouting. Some will reach Eagle, some will not, some will get every Merit Badge and some will acquire only a few. But we hope that each Scout finds their own way, guided by the Scout Law and Oath, and helped along the way by their peers, Senior Scouts and the Troop Leadership. We, as Troop Leadership, which is all the adults, parents and guardians, want to make Scouting available for the Scouts to “choose your own Scouting Adventure” and grow to be young adults with great memories, friendships and life skills with which to go forward into the world.

Meetings

Our troop meetings most often are at the Knights of Columbus in Bothell. Occasionally, meetings will be at other locations but everyone will be notified of these changes as they occur. Some meetings will be “fun nights” which in the past have included bowling, movie nights and group video games.

Leadership

The Patrol Method

The boys are divided into patrols of 6-8 scouts and each patrol comes up with their own patrol name, patrol yell and patrol flag. Each patrol will pick out their own patch worn on their right shoulder to represent the patrol. The patrol will also elect a patrol leader who will help organize them and represent them to the patrol leader council (PLC) meeting.

Working well with others is perhaps the most important life skill that youth can learn. Boys gain confidence by being entrusted with power and in leading their peers.

The Patrol Leader Council (PLC) meeting is a monthly meeting which consists of the Patrol Leaders from each patrol as well as the Senior Patrol Leader, the Assistant Patrol Leader and all other scout leaders in the troop. It is at the Patrol Leader Conferences (PLCs) that the boys decide on and plan the activities for the upcoming troop meetings as well as other events.

The PLC is elected by the Scouts every six months and following the election the new PLC undergoes a day of training, led by senior scouts and the Adult Leaders: the ILST – Introduction to Leadership and Skills Training. This gives the Scouts a chance to learn what is expected in their new roles and teaches some skills to try out.

Librarian

Keeps the troop's books, pamphlets, magazines, audiovisuals, and merit badge counselor list available for use by troop members. This is an elected position voted on by the troop.

Instructor

Teaches one or more advancement skills to troop members.

Chaplain Aide

Assists in troop religious services and promotes religious emblems programs.

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. This is an elected position voted on by the individual patrol members.

Assistant Patrol Leader

Fills in for the patrol leader in his absence.

Order of the Arrow Troop Representative

Keeps the troop informed on all Order of the Arrow activities.

Troop Guide

Advisor and guide to the new-Scout patrol.

Den Chief

Works with a Cub Scout den as a guide.

Quartermaster

Responsible for troop supplies and equipment.

a process get done poorly, but if a boy-led troop meeting does not go as planned, there is no great loss. If a meal on a camp-out does not work out, it becomes a learning experience, a teachable moment to show how one responds to mistakes and still shows respect for others.

Often an adult will get asked a question from a boy in a patrol because the adult is viewed as the authority. It is best if the adult does not give the answer. One of the most important things an adult can say is "Did you ask your patrol leader?" By respecting the chain of command, you build the authority of your boy leaders. Some relevant quotes from Robert Baden-Powell in the Scoutmaster Handbook are, "Train Scouts to do a job, then let them do it." and "Never do anything a boy can do."

Within the bounds of a safe scouting experience, the adult leadership should allow the boy leadership to make, and learn from their mistakes.

attend who has completed to Boy Scouts Lifeguard Training Course which is typically available during summer camps.

All parents should understand the structure of the troop. There is a “chain of command” within the youth leadership and also within the adult leadership. The Scoutmaster has to have a final say as the ultimate leader of the troop. He needs to work together with the parents and the other leaders toward the boy-led goal. The boys should understand that they have only as much authority as allowed by the adults, especially the Scoutmaster, and need to show the appropriate respect for the adults in their lives.

In the spirit of the Troop being "scout run", rank requirements should be signed off by the senior scouts preferably (at least one rank senior to the advancement requirement they're signing off – First Class can sign off Tenderfoot & Second Class, ...), and by the adult troop leaders only when no scout is available or convenient. This will help reinforce the senior scout's knowledge while also helping to bolster their leadership positions in the Troop. There are however, a few requirements (*How to Protect Children From Child Abuse: a Parent's Guide* requirements,...) that are clearly meant for parents to sign after reviewing with their son. Just ask if you're not sure. The Troop will track a Scout's progress

Advancement

When your scout has completed all of his requirements for a certain rank and had all items signed off he needs to contact the advancement chairperson who will then set up the final 2 steps in advancement which are the Scoutmaster Conference and the Board of Review. To make the scheduling more predictable for the scouts, Scoutmaster, OR members, the Scoutmaster Conferences will normally be scheduled on the 2nd meeting of the month and the Board of Reviews will be scheduled on the 3rd meeting of the month.

Scoutmaster Conference

Your scout will have the opportunity to meet one on one with the scoutmaster or the assistant scoutmaster to review his completed requirements and reflect upon his progress along the scouting journey. In addition, they can discuss how they feel about the troop and his role within the troop. At every Scoutmaster Conference, from Tenderfoot through Eagle, they will discuss the points of the scout law and how he is living up to those ideals.

Court of Honor

The Court of Honor is an event held three times a year (January, May and September) at which time family and friends are invited to join in celebrating the accomplishment of the scouts. Rank advancement occurs immediately after the Board of Review however it is at the Court of Honor that the badges are presented and the scouts get their well deserved recognition of their hard work in a time honored ceremony. There is also a slide show, to remember all the fun and activities of the previous four months .

Merit Badges

The process for earning merit badges begins with your son indicating his interest in pursuing a certain merit badge by getting a signed merit badge application or “blue card” from the scoutmaster and then working with the Troop Advancement Chairperson in locating and contacting a merit badge counselor for the badge that he is interested in. Troop 622 maintains a list of merit badge counselors within the troop on our website and we encourage boys to try and find a merit badge counselor within the Troop first to help strengthen our own resources and also make it easier for follow-up and follow through. The Northlakes District also maintains a spreadsheet for all of the merit badge counselors in our area, so if a Troop merit badge counselor isn’t available, the Advancement

Our experience in Troop 622 is that 2 years is achievable and balances the demands of Rank advancement with adventure through the Merit Badge program and just having fun with your Scout friends!

We have evolved, over the last few years, a program we call 'Journey to First Class' where we make sure that we offer and plan opportunities for the Scouts to tick off those tough to get boxes in their Scout books. These Requirements include:

1. Personal Fitness (2x per year)
2. Swimming (2x year)
3. Navigation/Map and Compass (3x year)
4. Plant and Animal Hikes (2x year)
5. Camping and Cooking (8+ not including Summer Camp)
6. Service Opportunities (4+)

Of course, this is Scouts and so it remains up to the Scouts to sign up for these events and to get their books signed by an already First Class Scout or higher to make their Rank.

We use the Advancement records for each Scout to get an idea of who is falling behind and use Troop Guides to focus on those Scouts and help them along.

When the Scout makes First Class, at the Court of Honor they are awarded a special, gold piped neckerchief.

administration and the medications are kept in a lock box.

Medical emergencies

As far as emergencies and first aid on scouting trips, we make every effort to make sure that every outing has at least one adult leader who is trained in wilderness first aid to take care of emergencies. For every outing we submit forms to the council outlining the trip and denoting leaders including the leader with this training.

Personal First Aid Kit

"Carrying a few first aid items on hikes and campouts will allow the scouts to treat scratches, blisters, and other minor injuries, and to provide initial care for more serious emergencies. Everything will fit in a self-sealing plastic bag. They should get in the habit of taking along their personal first aid kit whenever they set out on a Scout adventure." -from the Boy Scout Handbook

Item	Qty	Use
Adhesive bandages	6	Keep wound clean

are not their sons cannot sleep in the same tent/room. This is a Boy Scouts of America policy that is reflected in the design of many of their campgrounds and cabins. For our recent Klondike winter event, the cabins we stayed in had a large sleeping area for the boys and a separate room for the adults to sleep in apart from the scouts. Typically for our campouts, there are tents for the boys and separate tents for the adults and in some instances a tent with a parent and a son and no one else.

Volunteer hours

Currently there is not a required number of hours of volunteer time for parents but we ask then everyone contribute whatever they are able to.

Dues and Payments

Annual dues help to finance equipment and supplies for the troop and have been set at \$50 per year.

For troop outings, we expect that any camp fees can be taken from the Scout's Scout Account *before* the outing, else the Scout will not be able to attend. In the event that a Scout Account balance falls below a minimum to attend an event, usually \$15, it will be requested that the funds get replenished. Patrols work together to buy food and plan meals, and the Patrols need to reimburse the 'grubmaster' before or at the outing.

For summer camp and other larger outings there are additional fees that vary depending on the camp.

In the event that you are unable to afford any of the dues or fees there are scholarships available just ask the Scoutmaster.

Though out the year there are several fundraisers, the largest of which are Christmas Wreath sales and Christmas Tree Pickup and disposal. The money for these goes to the troop but is available to the scouts for use for summer camp fees and other troop fees divided proportional to the hours put in for each fundraiser.

Scout Accounts

Any funds not allocated to Troop Expenses or General Funds can be allocated to Scouts and used to help reduce or eliminate individual Scout expenses including dues, camping fees, summer camp fees and other expenses deemed appropriate by the Troop Committee. We will call these allocations Scout Accounts.

A fair process will be used to divide funds that the Troop Committee has deemed to be set aside for active Scouts within the Troop. This process will be implemented and monitored by the Troop Committee and managed by the Troop Treasurer. Regular updates will be sent to the Troop Patrol Leader Council on the state of these allocations.

Fund Policies

The following policies for Troop Funds are as follows:

- No individual Scout or person will own any funds within the Troop account including allocated monies within Scout Accounts.
- No individual Scout or person can dictate what can be done with any funds within the Troop account. * Any direct donations to the Troop by any person will go into the General Fund. The person can suggest what to use those funds for but once the donation is in Troop funds, the

Activities

Below we describe a few of our major activities in the year:

High Adventure

For the older Scouts, we encourage them to plan for and execute a High Adventure camp. These can be 50 mile hikes, long bike tours and our Troop has been successful launching two batches of Scouts on their SCUBA qualifications and sending them to Seabase in Florida for a week of SCUBA. What the Scouts come up with, we will try to make happen – remember, it's their journey.

Summer Camp

Every year the scouts select a Boy Scout Camp to spend a week of the summer together camping out as a troop. In years past we have been to such places as Camp Pigott and Camp Meriwether in Oregon. This is a great time for the scouts to sign up for and work on different merit badges, often times merit badges that can only be obtained in a camp setting such as archery, riflery and rock climbing. Often you will find a Journey to First Class program to help the younger Scouts get on with Rank advancement. The troop shares a camping area together and it is a great place for the bonds of friendship to strengthen.

some adults can occasionally get to shoot too. The Troop always camps one night on these events.

Camporee

The Spring version of Klondike is Camporee. This takes place in early June and is a chance for the Scouts to show their skills in a variety of non-snowy events.

Cell Phones

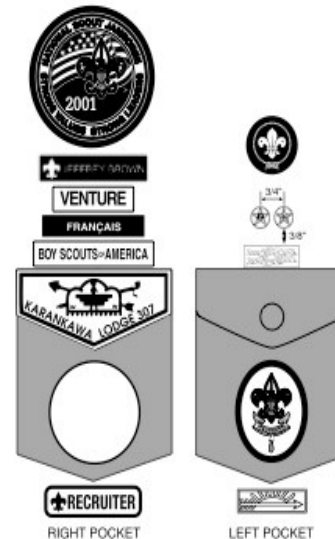
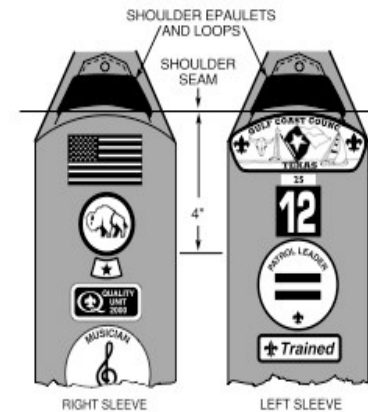
Cell Phones distract from the activities and meetings the scouts are participating in not only for the boy with the cell phone but also the scouts around him. We ask that the scouts leave their cell phones and other electronics at home and if they must bring them that they keep them stowed away.

Equipment

Uniform

Troop 622 has 2 uniforms. Class A uniforms are the standard scout shirts with badges and neckerchief. Class B Uniforms are the Official Troop 622 T-shirts with our logo. Class A uniforms should be worn for all troop meetings and outings unless designated otherwise. Class B uniforms are appropriate for campouts, and hikes. At summer camps, Class B uniforms are worn most of the time except during meals and larger group meetings. Merit Badge

OFFICIAL PLACEMENT OF INSIGNIA BOY SCOUT UNIFORM



Merit Badge Sash: If worn, merit badges are attached to front (and back, if needed) of sash. Venture/Varsity letter is attached at bottom front corner. Temporary insignia may be worn on back.

Shoulder Epaulets: Red shoulder loops identify Boy Scouting (all members of a troop). Blaze (orange) loops identify Varsity Scouting.

Right Sleeve: U. S. flag. Only the most recently earned Quality Unit Award may be worn below patrol emblem or below National Honor Patrol star. Musician badge, if in band or drum corps, is worn 1/2 inch below patrol emblem. Up to six merit badges may be worn on the long-sleeve shirt in two columns of three starting 3 inches above the bottom edge of the cuff.

Left Sleeve: Council patches, unit numeral, and badge of office are worn as shown snug up, and touching each other. Badge of office is centered below and touches unit numeral. The veteran unit bar (25, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, or 80 years) is positioned above and touching troop numeral and in turn touching council patch. Den chief cord is worn over the left shoulder and under epaulet.

Right Pocket: Jamboree insignia (only one) worn above BSA or interpreter strip. Order of the Arrow lodge insignia worn on pocket flap. Temporary insignia worn centered on the pocket. Flap buttoned. The Varsity or Venture strip is worn above the BSA strip or above the interpreter strip. Nameplate, if worn, is centered above the BSA strip, interpreter strip, and Venture or Varsity strip.

Left Pocket: Service stars above the pocket. If a medal or embroidered knot for youth members is worn, service stars are raised. Embroidered square knots are worn centered above the pocket in rows of three. Not more than five medals may be worn, pinned centered immediately above the pocket (extending over knots if both are worn). The wearing sequence for knots or medals is at the wearer's discretion and lead color is to the wearer's right. Badges of rank are worn centered on the pocket above the Arrow of Light Award. Flap buttoned. The World Crest is worn centered horizontally over the left pocket and vertically between the left shoulder seam and the top of the pocket.



Hall Use and Cleanup

The Knights of Columbus and JCM Corp are generous for the use of the Bothell Rental Hall. With our use of the Hall, it is also our responsibility to ensure it is cleaned up just as good (or better) than how it was when we arrive.

- Nobody leaves until you get the OK from the Senior Patrol Leader. Clean-up is the responsibility of everyone unless the PLC comes up with a different way for divvying up clean-up.
- Clean-up includes sweeping the floors or mopping them if we spill anything sticky or wet.
- Clean-up includes inspecting the bathrooms and urinals. We have access to the bathrooms and they have been left in a messy state in the past where the Hall manager has had to clean up "messes" left by us. Let's not have that happen ever again. If you use the bathroom and somehow miss, clean it up. Nobody leaves until the Bathrooms are inspected and cleaned as well.
- It is the responsibility of the SPL, ASPL or other appropriate leader in their absence to make sure the above happens.

Thanks for your understanding and help to keep our hall clean so we can keep using it!

Boy Scout Law

A Scout is:

Trustworthy	Obedient
Loyal	Cheerful
Helpful	Thrifty
Friendly	Brave
Courteous	Clean
Kind	Reverent

Boy Scout Motto

Be Prepared!

Scout Slogan

Do a good turn daily.

The 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.

Websites

