



Boy Scout Troop 706
St. Andrews Lutheran Church
Columbia, Missouri
GREAT RIVERS COUNCIL - BOONSLICK DISTRICT
www.troop706.net
2008-2009



TROOP 706 QUICKSTART GUIDELINES

(Please refer to the Troop 706 Policy Manual for explanations of Troop Expectations and Operations)

Boy Scout Troop 706 has been a successful troop in Columbia since 1966. It is led by boys for fun, service, and leadership training. The troop places a strong emphasis on the “patrol method”, which has been a very successful aspect of the BSA program. In the patrol method, boys learn not only individual scouting skills necessary for advancement in Boy Scouts, but also leadership and interpersonal skills that will help them throughout their lives.

TROOP MEETINGS-

Dates: Most Mondays from Sept. through May (Consult the most up-to-date troop calendar)

Time: 7:00 pm – 8:15 pm

Place: St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church

Dress: “Class A” Boy Scout uniform at troop meetings. “Class A” includes the official shirt with epaulets and insignia, official scout or dark color pants or shorts, Troop 706 neckerchief (provided by the troop) with slide, merit badge sash (optional for meetings), Boy Scout belt with Totin Chip (an award for safe use of knives and sharp tools) and camping beads. Scouts should be in uniform in order to get credit for attendance.

Bring to all meetings: Boy Scout Handbook, plenty of scout spirit

Activities: Flag ceremony with the Pledge of Allegiance, Scout Oath and Scout Law; announcements of upcoming troop events, adventures and service opportunities; instruction in areas such as knot-tying, camping and first aid; patrol planning; a game or competition; and a scoutmaster minute.

ADULT PARTICIPATION - All parents and guardians are expected to participate in some way, making for a better troop and better experiences for the boys and adults. There are many opportunities to get involved with the troop either involving direct interaction w/scouts or in “behind-the-scenes” troop positions. (Important note: For the safety of the boys, Boy Scouts of America (BSA) require that a boy is never to be alone with one adult scout leader unless he/she is the scout’s parent or guardian.)

TROOP COMMITTEE– All adults are invited. Meets every 1st Thurs. at St Andrew’s at 7 pm

CAMPOUTS-

Dates: One weekend each month during school year (see Troop Calendar)

Time: Leave as a group Fri nights at 6:00pm (or occasionally Sat mornings-to be announced) from St. Andrew’s Church parking lot

Return: Sunday mornings about 10:00am at Papa John’s Pizza, Forum Shopping Center

Methods: Each Patrol will normally camp and cook together, including an adult patrol. One boy (grubmaster) collects \$8 per campout from each boy going, and buys the groceries for the weekend. Everyone pairs up with tent partners in their patrol ahead of time.

Equipment: The troop has cooking equipment for each patrol, and fire-building tools for the troop. If needed, tents and backpacks are available from the troop quartermaster for \$3 rental.

Dress: While traveling as a troop, “Class B” uniform (Troop 706 T-shirt, or Boy Scout T-shirt), or “Class A” is required. In camp, usually casual, but Class A or B at times indicated by adult leaders. No shirts with vulgar, suggestive, or derogatory words or pictures are allowed, and no open-toed shoes. No running in camp is allowed, unless during games or an emergency.

SUMMER CAMP – The troop attends a one-week Boy Scout summer camp each year, usually within a four hour drive, for fun, advancement and merit badges. Complete information on transportation, merit badges/activities offered, what to bring, etc. is provided by an adult coordinator, usually months in advance. Training classes for adults are also available at camp or other locations (check with camp coordinator). Each boy's camp fees run about \$150-175, depending on his activities. Scholarships to camp are available, based on need. See Troop committee chair for guidelines.

HIGH ADVENTURE TRIPS – Each summer we try to offer a longer trip to either a National BSA camp (like Philmont, Sea Base, Northern Tier, etc) or to a place of our choice.

BEHAVIOR- Good behavior is crucial to rank advancement and is defined by the Scout Oath and Scout Law at all times. Those not exhibiting this behavior will be counseled once or twice. A third intervention will involve removal from the Scout function. Parents may be asked to help, possibly requiring parent supervision at troop events. At campouts the consequences of misbehavior will be at the discretion of the adult leaders present.

RANK ADVANCEMENT– Boys are expected to do their own work on advancing rank and merit badges, including asking for a Scoutmaster Conference or Board of Review. Attendance (in uniform) at 50% or more of troop meetings and 50% or more of campouts is required for advancement. All other advancement requirements are listed in the Boy Scout Handbook, and each one is initialed in the book by a scoutmaster when completed. A list of questions for guidance in preparing for each Board of Review is available from the coordinator. No parent (guardian) is allowed in these exams, which involve three or more adult leaders.

MERIT BADGES – A list of merit badges required for Star, Life, and Eagle ranks can be found in the Boy Scout Handbook, and all boys can work on them. Merit Badge books are available to check out from the troop or requirements can be found on www.meritbadge.com. Adults interested in teaching a particular merit badge must register as a counselor at the Great Rivers Council office (1203 Fay St., Columbia), and may organize at their discretion an interested group of boys to take the badge.

COURTS OF HONOR – Held at St. Andrew's three times per year for the recognition of Advancement and Awards

SERVICE HOURS –Many opportunities are made available to do service for others. Hours of service to the community are required for certain advancement ranks. Areas of service can be organized by the troop or by the scout. Certain rules apply as stated in the policy manual.

ORDER OF THE ARROW – Troop 706 elects outstanding boys of 1st Class or above and adults to membership in this "Brotherhood of Cheerful Service." Look for a white sash on right shoulder.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS – See Troop Committee Chairman for details.

DUES - Make checks to "Troop 706" for \$60 per year (\$70 if you want Boy's Life Magazine) or \$30 for half-year. Registration dues are waived for all participating Troop 706 Eagle Scouts.

BSA AND TROOP FORMS- Many forms are provided on the troop website: www.troop706.net and the Great Rivers Council website: www.bsa-grc.org.

Council Registration Form (Each Boy and Adult)

Scout Medical Forms (Required at all troop functions, various levels of exam vs length of trip)

Adult Medical Forms (Required at all troop functions, various levels of exam vs length of trip, age)

Adult Interest Form

Travel Information Form (Driver information for insurance purposes for official Troop 706 trips)

TROOP 706 POLICY MANUAL- Is posted on the troop website for detailed information concerning the troop.