

Cobra Parent's Meeting

April 5, 2005

L. Ellis

ASM for Cobra Patrol

Troop 1257 General Information

- Troop meets weekly on Tuesday 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM
- PLC meets monthly on the second Tuesday. (Only Scout leaders need to attend)
- Committee meets at the same time as the PLC. ALL adults are welcome and encouraged to attend
- Scoutmaster Corp meets monthly following the Committee and PLC meetings

Peanut-Free Troop

- In order to ensure the safety of our scouts Troop 1257 has adopted a peanut-free troop policy
- No peanut products or products made with peanut by-products, such as peanut oil, are allowed at troop events; including weekly meetings, monthly camping events and summer camp.

Commonly Used Acronyms

- PLC – Patrol Leader's Council
- SPL – Senior Patrol Leader
- COH – Court of Honor
- JLT – Junior Leader Training
- ASM – Assistant Scoutmaster
- BOR – Board of Review

Boy Run Troop

- Boys plan, implement, lead the troop activities
 - Troop Meetings, Troop Outings, PLC, Service Project, COH, etc.
- Patrol
 - 6-10 Scouts
 - Elect Patrol Leader (Cobras will rotate to give everyone a chance)
 - New Scout (Cobras)
 - Regular Scout (Hawks, Scorpions, Green Bean Warriors)
 - Venture Scout (Night Elves, Tindey)
- Patrol method
 - Duty Roster
 - Scout Leadership

Primary Youth leaders

- Senior patrol leader
- Assistant senior patrol leader
- Troop Guide
- Troop Scribe
- Librarian
- Instructor
- Chaplain aide
- Patrol leader
- Assistant patrol leader

The Patrol Leaders' Council

- Run by SPL
- Meet once per month (2nd Tuesday)
- Attendees:
 - Senior Patrol Leader
 - Assistant Senior Patrol Leader
 - Patrol Leaders
 - Troop guides
 - Troop Scribe
- Plans and conducts the troop's activities
- Submits yearly plan to troop committee for approval

Equipment List

- Uniform
 - Shirt
 - Pants
 - Neckerchief
 - Belt
 - Socks
 - Class B T-Shirt (we haven't ordered yet for summer 2005)
 - Scout Handbook – Bring to every meeting and campout!!!!

Equipment List

- Camping
 - Scout Handbook – Bring on every campout!!!
 - Sleeping Bag (20deg. Recommended)
 - Sleeping pad
 - Mess Kit, Knife, Fork, Spoon
 - Duffle Bag
 - Back Pack (Optional)
 - Rain Gear
 - Flashlight
 - Sturdy Hiking Boots

Campouts are key to advancement and having fun!

- Laurel Caverns – April 29-May 31
- Spring Camporee – May 20-22
- Beach Camping – June 24-26

- Summer Camp is important for forging new friendships and bonding with the troop. Also, get a head start on merit badges and lots of fun!
 - Mary Godofsky - Coordinator
 - Camp Rodney in July (new for us this year)
 - Treasure Island in August (I went last year – it was awesome – check the website for pictures)
 - Register with Mary ASAP if you haven't already

Rank Advancement (Tenderfoot, 2nd Class, 1st Class)

- Advancement Requirements are worked on at campouts and during meetings
- Scoutmaster signs off on advancement at the time of reviewing the requirement with the scout (not two weeks later)
- Scout always brings their handbook to meetings and campouts!
- Scout gives their book to Mrs. Miller (advancement chair) whenever new requirements have been completed

Rank Advancement (Tenderfoot, 2nd Class, 1st Class)

- When all requirements have been completed, the scout (not parent) requests a scoutmaster conference with Mr. Kiel.
- Normally the conference will be held at the next troop meeting
- Following the scoutmaster conference, a board of review will be conducted with the committee. We try to accommodate these on the same night if possible
- The rank advancement is awarded the night it is completed
- It will be recognized again and formally at the next Court of Honor.

Merit Badges

- Scout chooses a merit badge
- There are 12 eagle required and lots of others. A list is in the handbook
- Scout gets a blue card from Mrs. Ellis
- Mrs. Ellis works with the Scoutmaster to suggest a counselor
- Scout may need to call the counselor to work on the badge
- Scout will need the merit badge book (some are in the library or can be purchased)

Merit Badges

- Scout brings completed card (signed by counselor) to Mrs. Ellis who will get proper signatures and give to Mrs. Miller
- Badge is awarded during Troop Meeting and recognized at Court of Honor
- Blue card – applicant portion is returned to scout with the badge
- Keep the Blue Cards – needed for Eagle Application!
 - Suggest the trading card sleeves for organizing cards

Merit Badges

- During the first few months – scouts usually work on rank advancements BUT any scout can work on merit badges
- At summer camp, it is great if a scout can work on one or two of the eagle required badges – they are hard to do!
- Parents don't typically counsel their own scouts. There are exceptions and ways for parents to work with their scouts.

Courts of Honor

- Three times a year we have a candle ceremony where all rank advancements, merit badges and other special awards are given
- Scouts wear the finest uniform (include merit badge sash)
- Parents attend!
- Usually the last Tuesday in Jan, May and Sept.

Volunteer Opportunities

- Come Camping with us!
- Join the committee

What can you do if you don't know what is happening??

- Come 15 min. early to pick-up from the Troop Meetings and listen to the announcements
- Check email regularly
- Check the website regularly
 - www.troop1257.org

Ask your scout!