

To the New Scouts of Troop 28, Parents and Leaders:

Troop 28 is providing this guide to help new scouts, their parents and leaders make a smooth transition from Cub Scouting to the Boy Scout program at Troop 28 in Hebron. This guide includes brief answers for many of the questions you may have and suggests other questions you might want to ask.



Welcome to Boy Scouting!

Here are some questions that you may have about Scouting & Troop 28:

What is expected of a scout the first year?

As a new scout in Troop 28 we first want you to recognize the fact that no matter which scout you look at in the Troop, they have all started off at the same places that you are at right now. Just remember that in much the same way, the new Tigers in your Cub Scout Pack looked at you, and all of your achievements, only a few months ago. This can be a little intimidating but just relax and enjoy the challenge that is Boy Scouting.

The next area that we would like you to get comfortable with is how the troop is run. One of the biggest differences between Cub Scouts and Boy Scouting is that boys run the Troop and its programs and are assisted by the adult leaders. This also applies to your personal advancement. You control the pace of your advancement and the fun and adventure.

The first rank you earn as a Boy Scouts is the Tenderfoot rank and for much of your first year we will work with you on a number of activities both at meetings and during outings to complete the requirements necessary to achieve this rank. But don't wait for a leader to do the work for you, open your book and see what you can do.

How many registered Scouts are in the troop?

How many registered Leaders?

Troop 28 has 51 registered scouts. The cadre of leaders is 33 adult leaders although nearly 3 scouts in every 7 scouts holds a leadership position in the troop.

Who is the Charter Organization?

The Church of the Holy Family serves as the Charter Organization for Troop 28.

Where are meetings held?

Hebron Elementary School serves as the home of Troop 28 although you should always check the Troop Schedule for meeting locations, times and dates. If you miss a meeting, call a friend in scouting or your Patrol Leader.

When are Troop meetings?

As a general rule Troop 28 has meetings on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. You should always check the Troop Schedule to make sure that a meeting is scheduled. In the event that school is canceled due to snow or for other reasons the meetings are also generally canceled. Cancellations will be made using the Troop 28 Telephone Tree and emails from the Scoutmaster.

What is the Troop 28 Telephone Tree?

Each scout will be assigned to a Patrol and a list of the patrols will be published into the Telephone Tree. When you receive a call carefully record the message then call the next person in your patrol as soon as possible. If you do not speak to the scout, leave the message with a responsible person or on an answering machine and then call the next scout in your patrol. If you don't speak to a scout again leave a message and continue calling until you receive a scout. When you do speak to a scout just remind them to use the telephone tree. The last scout on the list calls the Senior Patrol Leader.

What is a Patrol?

A patrol consists of 5 to 10 scouts that are lead by a Patrol Leader (PL) with an Assistant Patrol Leader (APL). The patrol will gather in formation for meetings, will convey information both in and outside of meetings and will work together as a team at events, outings and camping trips. Each patrol has a patrol name and is issued a patrol box with camp cooking equipment. The patrol box is maintained by a scout assigned as the patrol Quartermaster.

My Patrol name is

My Patrol Leader is

My Assistant Patrol Leader is

My Quartermaster is

What is a "typical" meeting like?

Meetings are run by the scouts and will generally start right on time so be a few minutes early. Parents and scouts are asked to use special care in the parking lot as scouts may be exiting between cars. The Senior Patrol Leaders will generally start the meeting with the posting of the colors, the Pledge of Allegiance, the Boy Scout Promise or Oath and the Motto. The Scoutmaster will have a few words on the agenda for the meeting and then it is off to business or just to have some fun. Meetings will generally end around 8:15 p.m. and scouts will again gather in patrols for announcements. It is important that scouts take notes or gather permission slips on events especially if your parent has not arrived. If you don't have the appropriate information about an event, a signed permission slip or possibly funds you may not be going. *Again, Scouts and Parent are asked to use special care in the parking lot after the meeting.*

The Senior Patrol Leader is

The Assistant Senior Patrol is

Who are the Scout Leaders in the troop?

Do they need any help?

Troop 28 has a great mix of trained leaders collectively with decades of experience in the scouting program. Each leader brings a great variety of qualities, interests and backgrounds to the troop that serves to help in the many aspect of the program. Some leaders serve as Merit badge counselors for specific merit badges, some as Assistant Scoutmasters, while others serve as members on the Troop Committee, which oversees the general welfare and operation of the Troop.

The Scoutmaster for Troop 28 is:

Mr. Scott Boutin,
860-338-4646, sboutin@yahoo.com

The Troop Committee Chairman is:

Mr. Tom Atwood,
860-380-0213, tomatwoods@gmail.com

To continue to provide a diverse scouting program the troop is always seeking to add new leaders. See our Scoutmaster or Committee Chair for adult leadership opportunities.

What type of training is there for leaders?

The Boy Scout Leader Training offered in our Council includes:

- *Fast Start* (instructional videotape) The Basics of the Boy Scout Program and Patrol Method
- *Youth Protection* (90 minutes' video and discussion) (note: this training is available for all adults in the troop, and should be encouraged of all who camp with the boys)
- *Scoutmaster Fundamentals/Adult Basic Leader Training* (weekend course including overnight)
- *Woodbadge* (Highest level of Scout Leader Training: one full week or three full weekend campout/class sessions)



Is the troop “boy run”? What is their feeling about boy leadership?

Troop 28 has a Senior Patrol Leader, who with his Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, take the helm for leadership within the troop. The troop will also be organized into Patrols, units of 5 to 10 Scouts who function together, similar to a Cub den. They will have an elected Patrol Leader and Assistant Patrol Leader. In a young patrol, the boys will obviously need more adult assistance in running meetings, etc., but in an established patrol with older Scouts, you should see more evidence of “boys leading boys”, not adults running the program.

What is their activity program like?

Troop 28 publishes two schedules per year with the Spring and Fall Schedules. The outdoor program consists of 9-12 campouts, hikes or other outdoor activity per year, including Summer Camp. Scouts participate in the District/Council activities such as the Camporees and Merit Badge-o-rees. Speakers on certain topics and merit badge counselors are invited to meeting.

What are the uniform requirements?

Troop 28 wears the traditional khaki Boy Scout uniform shirt. Short sleeves are generally recommended as they are more versatile and worn for dinner at summer camp. A troop hat, neckerchief, t-shirt, and troop patch, to be worn above the right pocket are issued at no additional cost.

Scouts should wear their uniform to each meeting unless otherwise advised. Shirts should be clean, buttoned and tucked in to the pants. Official uniform pants are not required. All appropriate rank insignia should be worn. Arrow of Light badges are the only Cub Scout rank worn on the Boy Scout uniform

First Class Inspections are conducted at the 1st troop meeting of the month. Scouts are given points for wearing their uniform correctly.

Does the troop attend Summer Camp? What percentage of the troop attended last year? Where do they go?

Summer camp offers a tremendous opportunity for Scouts to experience the fun and excitement of camping while affording the chance to achieve rank advancements and merit badges. Troop 28 attends Camp Mattituck in Plymouth, CT, a 500 acre Connecticut River Council scout camp. The troop attends summer camp during the same week each year, falling from July 30 to August 5 this year. Approximately 35 scouts attend summer camp each year and the cost is approximately \$275. Scouts are encouraged to utilize the funds carried over from their Cub Scout accounts. The Troop Treasurer can advise you on your balance.

The Troop Treasurer is:

Mr. Jason Pueschel,
860-841-1183, jpueschel@comcast.net

More information on Summer Camp will be sent out from the Troop and you should receive information in the mail from council.

The Troop Summer Camp Coordinator is:

Do scouts work on Advancement & Merit Badge on their own or in groups?

Troop 28 uses campouts and meetings to help the scouts advance within the format outlined by the Boy Scouts of America with some focused meetings on merit badge work. Scouts may also plan activities independently and earn merit badges on their own.

The Merit Badge Coordinator is:

What can a parent expect in terms of fees?

Troop 28 collects annual dues, which covers membership and basic materials, including badges and awards. It does not include uniforms (other than those issued items), camping fees, meals, travel or other special activity costs. Those are reported before the event.

Annual Dues is: _____

For More Information: Look in your scout book or contact your Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader or the appropriate Adult leader.



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Boy Scouts of America