

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



**TROOP 101
SACRED SPRINGS DISTRICT**

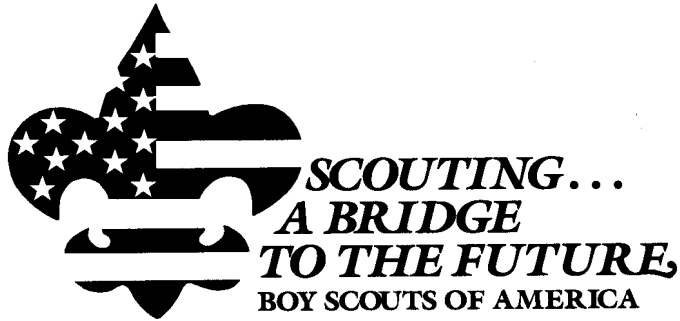


**CAPITOL AREA COUNCIL
DRIPPING SPRINGS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
MEMBER GUIDE HANDBOOK
2014 - 2015**

T101.ORG

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"In every country the purpose of the Scouts' training is identical, namely, efficiency for Service towards others; and with such an object in common, we can, as an International Brotherhood in Service, go forward and do a far-reaching work."

LORD BADEN-POWELL OF GILWELL

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Boy Scouts of America Troop 101. Troop 101 meets on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 – 8:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall at the Dripping Springs United Methodist Church, located on Ranch Road 12 in Dripping Springs. The address is 28900 Ranch Road 12, Dripping Springs, Texas 78620.

By becoming a parent of a Boy Scout, you are setting your son out on the grand adventure of Scouting. This is a tremendously important and rewarding endeavor that you will be able to share with him. Your commitment to the program is appreciated. It is a terrific opportunity to make a significant impact on the next generation of America's leaders! By becoming active with the Troop you can enrich the lives of boys and make a difference in the kind of men they become.

The following pages describe the organization of Troop 101 and the advancement pattern that each boy will follow. Reading this will help you understand how your boy can progress through the ranks with our help and yours. It will help you understand how you can help and what other adult volunteers are doing to help the Troop.

Working as a team in support of the Troop and the Scoutmaster, you can help Scouts develop the confidence, skills, character and mental fitness that will allow them to give quality leadership to their patrols within the Troop and to others outside the Troop in a changing society.

WHAT IS IT ALL ABOUT

What is it all about? What will you be expected to do? What does it cost? We have prepared this booklet to answer most of these questions.

There are several aims to Scouting:

- Aim I -- To Build Character
- Aim II -- To Foster Citizenship
- Aim III -- To Develop Fitness
- Aim IV – To Develop Lifelong Leadership Skills
- Aim V – Allow Scouts to have Fun in Safe Environments

These aims are the bedrock of the American Scouting movement. They represent the long term outcomes we want for every boy.

It is the mission of the Boy Scouts of America to serve others by helping to instill values in young people, and in other ways to prepare them to make ethical choices over their lifetime in achieving their full potential.

The values we strive to instill are based on those found in the Boy Scout Oath and Law.

SCOUT LAW	SCOUT OATH
<i>A Scout is:</i> Trustworthy Loyal Helpful Friendly Courteous Kind Obedient Cheerful Thrifty Brave Clean Reverent	On my honor I will do my best To do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; To help other people at all times; To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

BSA PRINCIPLES

Since 1910, these principles have been taught in an atmosphere of recreation and fun which allows young people to develop self confidence, leadership and moral character. More and more men, trained as Scouts, are taking their places in today's world as responsible adult leaders. Men who earned badges as Scouts, sit on the Supreme Court and in the chambers of Congress. Others hold important offices in our government, business and industry. Most of the members of Congress were Scouts, as well as all of the astronauts who have walked on the moon.

Among the long list of famous Scouts:

President John F. Kennedy	Boy Scout	Neil A. Armstrong, First person to set foot on the moon	Eagle Scout
President Gerald Ford	Eagle Scout	Steven Spielberg	Eagle Scout
J. Willard Marriott, Jr. President of Marriott Corp.	Eagle Scout	William C. Devries, M.D.; Transplanted First Artificial Heart	Eagle Scout
Sam M. Walton Chairman/CEO, Wal-Mart	Eagle Scout	Barber B. Conable, Jr. President, World Bank	Eagle Scout

The Boy Scouts of America is the largest youth oriented organization in the United States. More than 4 million boys and leaders are currently registered in the Boy Scouts of America.

Unlike Cub Scouting, which many of you are familiar with, Boy Scouting is a youth-lead organization. The boys learn how to organize and lead the Troop. After training, and with supervision from the adult leaders, the boys run the program.

The boys in the Troop will be working towards their 1st Class and then Eagle ranks. As they travel on their trail to Eagle they will not only learn how to lead a team to a goal, but they will actually lead teams of Scouts in a number of situations. Many Eagle Scouts put their accomplishments on their résumés and find they are often considered in obtaining acceptance into college or the work force.



WHAT SCOUTING OFFERS THAT

OTHER YOUTH PROGRAMS MAY NOT

There are many youth organizations, including sports, service clubs, fitness and educational programs. We salute them all for the work they do to help young people. But Scouting goes above and beyond, providing programs and activities that:

- Allow boys to try new things
- Provide service to others
- Build self-confidence
- Reinforce ethical standards
- Learn and apply leadership techniques

Scouting is filled with fun, adventure and values that last a lifetime. Men who were Scouts five or more years as boys are more likely than men with no Scouting experience to:

- Graduate from high school (91% versus 87%)
- Graduate from college (35% versus 19%)
- Earn higher annual household incomes (\$80,000 versus \$61,000)
- Have lifelong friendships (89% versus 74%)
- Attend religious services (87% versus 77%)
- Believe helping others should come before one's own self-interest (92% versus 83%)

Source: Harris Interactive Study

Boy Scouting also provides for growth of moral strength and character, teaches citizenship, and enhances the development of physical, mental and emotional fitness. This is all done in the spirit of fun and adventure.

Educators and counselors agree that the best way to build confidence is through measurement. Self-confidence is developed by measuring up to a challenge or a standard. Peer confidence develops when the same measuring system is used for everyone – when all must meet the same challenge to receive equal recognition. Confidence in leaders comes about when there is consistency in measuring – when leaders use a single standard of fairness.

A Boy Scout badge recognizes what a Scout is able to do; it is not a reward for what he has done.

Please take a few minutes to read Chapter 1 of your son's Boy Scout Handbook as there is a valuable amount of information for Parents as well as Scouts and as it states: Adventure, Learning, Challenge, Responsibility – the promise of Scouting is all this and more.

ORGANIZATION

Troop 101 is a participating member of the Sacred Springs District of the Capitol Area Council, Boy Scouts of America. The Troop's organization consists of a Chartered Organization, a Troop Committee, the Troop, and Scout Parents.

Chartered Organization (Sponsor)

Every Troop belongs to an organization. The Chartered Organization for Troop 101 is the Dripping Springs United Methodist Church (DSUMC). The Chartered Organization shares our objectives for the boys and ensures that there is adequate, trained leadership. A Chartered Organization Representative acts a liaison between Troop 101 and the DSUMC.

Troop Committee

The Troop Committee functions as an administration organization and their primary responsibilities are supporting the Scoutmaster and PLC in delivering a quality Troop program. The Troop Committee takes care of the non-program issues surrounding the Troop. For example: Newsletters, Troop Funds, Fundraising Activities, Membership Drives and Pack Coordination, Activity Permits and Coordination, Maintaining Advancement Records, Procurement and Maintenance of approved Troop equipment.

The Committee meets on the first Wednesday of each even month (Feb, April, June, Aug, Oct, Dec) following the PLC meeting. The meetings are held at DSUMC in the ANNEX 1 building. The meetings are open and attendance is encouraged for all parents and other interested adults. Please feel free to come and be a part of the "Behind the Scenes" committee that works on behalf of the Chartered Organization and Troop 101 to make sure it is operated within the organization's policies.

TROOP 101

Troop Meetings

Troop 101 holds meetings weekly with the first Tuesday of each month reserved for the Patrol Leaders Council (PLC) meeting. Meetings currently are held every Tuesday, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Changes to the meeting schedule will be announced as early as possible to allow for proper planning.

Adult Leadership

All registered adult leaders are required to complete and keep current the Youth Protection Training that is available online at www.myscouting.org. Two registered adult leaders, or one adult leader and a Scout parent, both of whom must be at least 21 years of age, are required for all Troop 101 meetings, events, trips and outings.

Scoutmaster

The Scoutmaster is the adult leader responsible for providing direct leadership to the Scouts and providing the image and program of Troop 101. The Scoutmaster works directly with the Scouts and the importance of the Scoutmaster's job is reflected in that the quality of his guidance will directly affect each youth and adult in the Troop. He is supported by the Troop Committee and Trained Assistant Scoutmasters. The Scoutmaster's duties include but are not limited to:

- Train and guide boy leaders.
- Appoint and work with other Assistant Scoutmasters to bring scouting to boys.
- Meet regularly with the Patrol Leaders' Council for training and coordination in planning troop meetings and activities.
- Conduct all Troop activities under qualified leadership, safe conditions, and follow the policies of the Chartered Organization and the Boy Scouts of America.

TROOP YOUTH LEADERSHIP

Senior Patrol Leader

The Senior Patrol Leader is an elected top junior leader position by the Scouts in the Troop. The Senior Patrol Leader selects his Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders and other appointed Troop positions such as Librarian, Historian, Quartermaster, etc. The Patrol Leaders, with the Senior Patrol Leader as their head, form the Patrol Leaders Council (PLC), which plans the activities by meeting on the first Tuesday of each month and runs the Troop meetings every remaining Tuesday in the month. Elections for Senior Patrol Leader and Patrol Leaders are held in January and July of each year. The Troop Committee interacts with the PLC through the Scoutmaster.

Patrols and Patrol Leaders

The Troop is a group made up of several patrols. Each Patrol usually consists of a Patrol Leader and no less than four Scouts and usually no more than eight Scouts who work together. The boys in a patrol elect their patrol leader who in turn appoints the assistant patrol leader.

The Patrol Method

Within the larger community of the Troop, the Patrol is a Scout's family circle. The patrol, often made up of similar ages and experience levels, helps its members develop a sense of pride and identity. The Scouts in each patrol share in the satisfaction of accepting and fulfilling group responsibilities.

SCOUT PARENTS

Scout Parents [See T101.org: Forms – “Scout Parent Form”](http://T101.org: Forms – “Scout Parent Form”)

The role of parents within Troop 101 is to be supportive of the Troop's efforts and to provide the atmosphere Scouts need to learn and excel. Parents should try to:

1. Read their Scout's handbook and understand the purpose and methods of Scouting. Parents should take the Online Training Courses offered on the Capitol Area Council's website or the following website: www.myscouting.org.
2. Actively follow their Scout's progress (or lack thereof) and offer encouragement and a push when needed.
3. Show support to both the individual Scout and the Troop by attending all Troop Courts of Honor, (*discussed in more detail on page 13*).
4. Assist, as requested, in all Troop fundraisers and other such activities. All such assistance lowers the cost of the program we offer to the Scouts and, therefore, lowers each family's cash outlay for their Scout(s).
5. Be aware of the Troop program and annual calendar which is posted and updated on the Troop website: www.T101.org.
6. Support the Troop Program by volunteering to serve on the Troop Committee or as a Scout Parent.
7. The Campout Coordinator will assist the Scoutmaster with each campout plan and will recruit adult leaders to accompany the Scouts on campouts and trips. [See T101.org: Forms – “CAMPING GUIDELINES” as defined by the SM/ASM Corps and supported by the Troop Committee](http://T101.org: Forms – “CAMPING GUIDELINES” as defined by the SM/ASM Corps and supported by the Troop Committee).
8. Adults are needed to transport Scouts to and from campout destinations and other trips. Drivers will be provided pick-up and drop-off instructions, driving directions, maps and other information that might be helpful to each trip. For most campouts, Scouts will depart from DSUMC parking lot area or the Troop Shed “Hut” area and are returned to the DSUMC parking lot or Troop Storage area upon return from the trip.
9. Safety is the number one concern when arranging transportation for Troop outings. For trips that require private vehicles, ALL drivers must have a valid driver's license, be at least 21 years of age if carrying passengers under the age of 18, have insurance on the vehicle with liability limits that meet or exceed the minimum requirements of the state, do not exceed the speed limit and require seat belts for all occupants of the vehicle. **All participants MUST wear a Class “A” uniform shirt when traveling to and from events and while in public on an event. NO EXCEPTIONS.**
10. All parents are encouraged to take advantage of all the available training opportunities. This is Scouting & Youth Protection training are available online and offer adults answers to many questions asked at Troop functions. BSA promotes the call to arms that **“Every Scout deserves a trained leader”**.

ADVANCEMENT

There are many definitions of advancement, but the Scouting definition might well be, simply, "the art of meeting a challenge." For that is exactly what the Boy Scout advancement program asks the boys to do. The Boy Scout advancement program provides a ladder of skills that a Scout climbs at his own pace. As he acquires these skills he moves up through a series of ranks, for which he is awarded the badges of Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life, and Eagle. The higher he climbs the more challenging his tasks -- and the more rewarding.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Achievements include:

- Learning skills that qualify for Scouting's more rugged and exciting outdoor challenges.
- Developing body and mind, growing self-confidence, and helping younger Scouts climb the advancement ladder.
- Discovering how it feels to go further -- in so many ways -- than he ever thought he could.

We don't look at advancement as a goal, but as a natural outcome of a planned, quality Troop program.

There are four steps of advancement:

- The Boy Scout Learns.
- The Boy Scout is Tested.
- The Boy Scout is Reviewed.
- The Boy Scout is Recognized.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Below are some answers to frequently asked questions on Requirements:

- Who can sign off on achievements?
Requirements for Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class can be signed off by the Scoutmaster, an Assistant Scoutmaster or any Scout First Class or higher rank. Requirements for Star, Life and Eagle ranks must be signed off by the Scoutmaster, an Assistant Scoutmaster and then the Advancement Committee prior to the Scout requesting a Scoutmaster's conference.
- What is the Scoutmaster's conference?
A Scoutmaster's conference is a time during which the Scoutmaster reviews a Scout's accomplishments toward achievement. This must happen prior to each Board of Review.

- What is a Board of Review?
A Board of Review is a group of three Adult Committee members whose role is to question Scouts who present themselves for advancement after completing all achievements and requirements of their current rank. Scouts need to be in full Class A uniform and have their Scout Handbook at the Board of Review and the Board of Review is covered in more detail on page 13 of this Handbook.
- When are achievements awarded?
Following the successful completion of All requirements including a Scoutmaster's conference and Board of Review for any achievement prior to Eagle, Scouts receive their new rank and patches for that rank during a regular Troop meeting. Pins and Advancement Cards are awarded at the following Troop Court of Honor.
- What is a Troop Court of Honor?
A Troop Court of Honor is a ceremony by the Scouts at which time advancements, merit badges earned, training completed and other awards are presented and is covered in more detail on page 13 of this Handbook.
- What is an Eagle Court of Honor?
An Eagle Court of Honor is a special ceremony to honor a Scout who has reached the rank of Eagle, the highest Scout rank. Upon earning Eagle rank, each Eagle Scout and his family will plan a ceremony and/or reception honoring the Scout's achievement. The ceremony may be individualized or combined with other Eagle Scouts. Help in planning is available from families of Scouts that have previously attained Eagle, Adult Committee Members and many other sources.

Advancement Through First Class

From the time the Scout enters the Troop through the time he earns advancement to First Class, he is learning basic scouting skills to enable him to camp, hike, swim, cook, tie knots, administer first aid, and perform other tasks in the outdoors and to work as a member of a team. With those first steps, each Scout begins to build themselves physically, mentally, and morally. He will start to live with the Scout Oath and Law. Soon he will learn the symbolism inherent in the Scout badge; he will learn that there are three points of the trefoil which stand for the three parts of the Scout Oath: Duty to God and country, duty to other people, and duty to yourself. The goal of this Troop is for the Scout to achieve the rank of First Class within his first year in the Troop. This is a sign that the Scout has mastered the fundamentals of scouting and can begin to start the long process of learning to lead others, refining the learned skills and learning additional skills.



Advancement from First Class to Eagle

From the achievement of First Class through Eagle, the Scout will be demonstrating leadership, performing service projects, earning merit badges and using the skills learned while advancing and achieving the rank of First Class. The next ranks he will earn are Star and Life. These ranks are harder to obtain than the earlier ranks, but are also more interesting for the older scouts. Upon completion of all the requirements for Star and Life the Scout will be eligible to work toward Eagle. The original principals, the Scout Oath and Law now have fuller meaning for the Scout and their understanding of them is much greater. The final steps towards Eagle are filled with leadership experiences.

Details for advancement are contained in the Boy Scout Handbook, which every Scout should have upon joining the Troop. Take a look at Chapter 1 in this handbook. This short chapter has an advancement summary through First Class.

Merit Badges

The goal of the merit badge program is to expand a Scout's area(s) of interest and to encourage the Scout to meet and work with adults in a chosen subject. Merit badges are earned by a Scout working with a registered merit badge counselor and are needed to advance in rank to Star, Life and Eagle. After selecting a merit badge, the Scout is required to contact an approved counselor. Before any of the tasks and/or requirements are started, the Scout must receive approval from that counselor and complete a merit badge application for tracking the work. When the Scout completes the work on the merit badge the counselor will sign the application as completed and inform the Scoutmaster and Advancement Committee that the Scout has completed the requirements for that badge. Merit Badges earned will be presented to the Scout during the Troop's regular meetings and recognized again at the Troop Courts of Honor.

Parents of Troop 101 Scouts are encouraged to become Merit Badge Counselors once they have received the proper training. Please fill out the Troop 101 Adult Resource Survey Form and return it to Linda Chenault or Janell Kendzora.

See T101.org: Forms – “Troop 101 Adult Resource Survey”.

Community Service Hours

Service hours used for advancement **must** be pre-approved by the Scoutmaster, an Assistant Scoutmaster or the Advancement Committee. Service projects should be meaningful and not normally expected or performed as part of school, religious or community activities and cannot directly benefit Troop 101 or Boy Scouts of America.

Boards of Review

When a Scout has completed all the requirements for a rank, he appears before a board of review composed of members of the Troop committee. The purpose of the review is not an examination. Rather it is to determine the Scout's attitude and acceptance of Scouting's ideals; to ensure that the requirements have been met for advancement, to discuss the Scout's experiences in the Troop and the Troop's program, and to encourage him to keep working towards advancement. As a Scout progresses in rank, the reviewers will also be asking for feedback from the Scout on the Troop's activities and also how they will provide the leadership in the Troop to improve its program. A Board of Encouragement may also be held to counsel a boy about his lack of progress toward advancement.

Courts of Honor

Troop 101 conducts a Court of Honor approximately two (2) or three (3) times each year. The Court of Honor recognizes all Scout appointments, elections, awards, and advancements since the last Court of Honor. Adult recognition may also be presented at the Troop Court of Honor. It is the responsibility of the Troop's Patrol Leaders' Council to plan and conduct the Troop Courts of Honor. The Troop Committee will support the Courts of Honor as requested.

The Court of Honor is a public ceremony, and is a chance for the Scouts to be publicly recognized for their achievements. Parents and all other interested individuals are encouraged to attend.

A great source of information for Courts of Honor and other information is the web site listed below. Please spend some time with your Scout exploring some of the valuable tools this website has to offer.



to

EagleScout.Org

*Providing tools and information for Scouts on the journey toward Eagle rank
and the faithful Scouters supporting them!*



ADMINISTRATIVE

Rechartering and Fees

The process of rechartering is the annual collection of registration fees for the Scouts and Leaders. The Troop also makes a formal visit to the chartering organization to renew their commitment for the coming year. The process of rechartering the Troop must begin in November of each year and be completed by the end of December of each calendar year.

Annual Registration Fees

How much does Boy Scouting cost? As little as possible, but nothing worthwhile is free. The annual fee for each Scout in Troop 101 is:

\$100.00 (Boy Scout)
\$45.00 (1ST Adult, \$30.00 2nd Adult)

- Some expenses include: National BSA Registration, Accident Insurance, *Boys Life Magazine* (Really enjoyable, and gives the Scouts ideas for activities and outings.) Advancement Materials, Troop Camping Equipment, Training Materials, and Troop Operating Expenses.
- Fees can be offset by Scout Fundraising programs.
- *Note: Parents who may have questions or have need of special assistance with these fees/dues should contact the Scoutmaster or the Troop Committee Chairman.*

Fees for Outings / Activities

Individual activities may have additional fees associated with them. If so, the Scouts and Parents will be notified during Troop Meetings and the Campout Plan.

See T101.org: Forms – “Dues, Fees and Fundraising”.

Fundraising

Additional funds are raised by the boys through various fundraising activities. The Troop tries to plan two to three major fundraising projects a year. Our fund-raisers will be designed so that once the Troops budget is met, additional funds raised by your Scout will be put into his individual account to defray scouting costs for Summer Camps and High Adventures. Details on this year's fund-raisers will be available at future Troop meetings as they arise. *See T101.org: Forms – “Dues, Fees and Fundraising”.*

Friends of Scouting

Each year, the Council operates its Friends of Scouting (F.O.S.) campaign to raise money for the Council operations. The Council is responsible for maintaining the Council Camps, the Council Scouting Programs, as well as other Council activities, local BSA administration and local advertising. Contributions are voluntary, but the Troop has a good record of support for this activity. As years go by, F.O.S. is becoming a critical source of BSA funding.

UNIFORMS

The Scout Uniform helps to achieve the objectives of Scouting. The uniform by itself can not make a good Scout or a good Troop, but its use has been proven to improve both the Scout and the Troop because it is a visible symbol of Scouting and unity. Each Scout is required to have and wear, within a reasonable amount of time after joining the Troop, the following uniform items:

Field or "Class A" Uniform

- Tan scout shirt with appropriate insignia and patches (Capitol Area Council strip (CSP), green shoulder loops, and patrol emblem.)
- Troop number (obtained from Troop)
- Troop 101 neckerchief (obtained from Troop)
- Neckerchief slide (can be purchased or made by Scout).
- Olive Scout pants or shorts, khakis or jeans. Cut-offs, plaid and gym shorts are strictly prohibited.
- Boy Scout Hat (Optional). At no time are hats allowed to be worn backwards.
- Tennis shoes or hiking boots. Sandals are strictly prohibited.
- Troop 101 T-Shirt (obtain from Troop) Activity or "Class B" Uniform (worn, as instructed by Troop leadership, when activities may cause damage to the field uniform).

Uniforms and insignia are worn a certain way. The Troop Leaders and/or staff at the Scout Shop will be able to answer any questions you might have on where to put what badge. Inside the cover of the Boy Scout Handbook there are guides for badge placement. *See T101.org: Forms – "Uniform Inspection Guide".*

BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES

The program for Troop 101 is run by the Scouts with the assistance of the adult leadership for the benefit of all who wish to participate. Participation makes it fun and makes it successful. Certain behavior is expected and a Scout should always conform to the Scout Oath and Scout Law. A Scout who is consistently uncooperative and/or disruptive cannot function in a Patrol or the Troop and certain behavior is expected.

See T101.org: Forms – "Behavior Guidelines".

SCOUT SHOP

The Scout Shop is located in the Austin area where you can purchase Scout uniforms and supplies: *See T101.org: Forms – "MAP".*

CAPITOL AREA COUNCIL
12500 NORTH IH 35
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78753
512-926-6363
www.bsacac.org

TROOP & COUNCIL WEBSITE

Troop 101 has a registered website that maintains current information about the Troops activities, events, calanders, online training opportunities and much much more. Please visit the website at T101.org. Capitol Area Council also provides resources for everyone involved in all levels of Scouting. Please visit their website at bsacac.org.

AND FINALLY

You are joining a great organization that includes tens of thousands of adult leaders, interested parents, and the BSA professional staff. Scouting is much more than enjoying the outdoors. The Troop teaches leadership skills and community skills. Scouting also shows the boys how they can keep themselves strong and healthy and make the most of school. With hard work and dedication, your son will be able to serve as a leader in the Troop and advance in rank along the trail to Eagle.

Above and beyond anything else said in this package, the youth and adults are in Scouts to have fun! A great quote used in scouting for many years reads:

All who have meditated on the art of governing mankind are convinced that the fate of empires depends on the education of youth.

-Aristotle

For more information, please contact:

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APPENDIX: FORMS

New Scout Checklist

Adult Leader Checklist

Scout Parent Form

Adult Resource Survey

Dues, Fees and Fundraising

Personal Equipment List

Behavior Guidelines

Camping Guidelines

Uniform Inspection Guide

BSA Uniform Price List

Capitol Area Council Frank Fickett Center and Scout Shop

Website Resources