

## **Weekly Meetings**

*TUESDAYS at 7:30pm*

First United Methodist Church

Scout Room Downstairs

(Trail to First Class at 6:45pm)

- Patrol Time
- Inter-patrol Activities
- Skill Development
- Advancement
- Guest Speakers
- Scoutmaster Conferences
- Boards of Review

## **New Scout Patrol**

Each new scout enters a patrol that is comprised of scouts working toward First Class. Each new scout patrol is led by an experienced troop guide. As each new scout gains experience and confidence, they will be encouraged to begin taking an active role in troop leadership.

## **Monthly Camping**

Campouts occur usually on the third weekend of each month. The cost per scout is usually about \$25, which covers food and transportation. There is usually activity fee depending on the theme of the campout.

## **S.N.O.T.T.**

Scouts' Night On The Town. A scouting "all nighter" filled with various fun activities.

## **Summer Camp**

One week each year in mid-summer. Cost per scout is approximately \$400-\$750, depending on transportation costs. Camp is an excellent opportunity for advancement and all scouts are encouraged to attend.

## **High Adventure**

(May have age/rank restrictions)

Philmont

Rappelling/Climbing

Canoeing

Backpacking Treks

Venture Crew

## **Court of Honor**

Banquets are held twice each year to formally recognize the achievements of individuals.

## **Merit Badge College**

This week of concentrated merit badge classes, provided by the adults and parents of 57, gives scouts an extra opportunity to earn merit badges.

## **Community Service**

Troop 57 has a history of community service. We have numerous service opportunities in addition to the annual Scouting for Food drive. The community has also benefited from service projects performed by each of our 200+ Eagle Scouts.

## **Troop Summary**

Troop 57 employs the patrol method in its approach to scouting. The youth themselves plan troop activities and provide their leadership, with trained adults assisting in advisory roles.

Our scouts are supported by many active and experienced BSA registered adults who serve in roles such as Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmasters, and members of the troop committee.

Troop 57 also has many other adults who serve as merit badge counselors who teach scouts the skills they need to earn merit badges.

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***Since 1945 Troop 57 has had over 200 scouts earn the rank of Eagle.  
(and counting)***

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***Troop 57 has been a Troop continuously since 1945.***

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***Service to our community is strongly encouraged.***

## **To the Parents:**

### **TROOP PHILOSOPHY**

We believe that the purposes of scouting are to help youth learn self-sufficiency, develop leadership, build self-confidence, and learn the value of integrity all while having a great time! We seek to accomplish these goals by providing an environment rich with opportunities to learn new skills and have new and fun experiences. Central to scouting is the idea that the youth themselves, as much as possible, lead the troop by making the troop plan and then carrying it out. We believe that having a youth run troop makes each success more meaningful, and each failure more of a learning experience.

### **ADULT ADVISORS**

Troop 57 is fortunate to have a group of dedicated and talented adults to serve as resources to help the troop plan and execute its program. We believe that the adults who have worked with the troop over the years are responsible for 57's longevity. Our adults are committed to the success of Troop 57, and have demonstrated so by devoting their time not only to troop activities but also to acquire training about the scouting program. Many have completed the Adult Leader Training program, others have completed Wood Badge, scouting's advanced adult training program, and still others have received specialized training in support of various activities such as rifle and shotgun shooting, archery, climbing and rappelling, and water safety. We also have many adults who are registered to teach the various merit badges available within scouting. In addition, each adult receives Youth Protection Training annually, and voluntarily submits to annual background checks. One of our prime concerns is safety, and 57's adults do not hesitate to take action to maintain the safety of each scout at all times. We have adults who are CPR and EMT certified.

### **COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

The Troop Committee meets regularly on the first Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. All parents are encouraged and welcomed to attend and participate.

### **UNIFORMS**

Members of Troop 57 are proud of their troop. Each scout is expected to be in full uniform (Class A) at all troop functions. Class A uniform includes Scout pants or shorts, Scout shirt, Scout belt, and the official Troop 57 neckerchief. Scout socks are required with scout shorts. A rack of experienced Scout clothing is maintained in the Troop room. Feel free to use what clothing you can. We encourage donations of your Scout's uniform pieces as he outgrows them.

One Troop 57 neckerchief is issued to each Scout as they enters the troop. This neckerchief becomes an important part of their Class A uniform. They receive the neckerchief as soon as they attend a troop meeting in their full uniform. Extra neckerchiefs are available at the Troop room for \$10.00. Troop 57 t-shirts and car decals are also available.

## **FUND RAISING**

We believe in each scout paying their own way as much as possible. To that end, the troop will occasionally offer fund raising opportunities. Participation in these fund-raisers, although not required, is an excellent way for each scout to earn money to support their own activities. Money from the fund raiser is deposited into an individual account for the scout, and may be used for any scouting related activity. They simply must ask the Troop Treasurer to transfer funds from their personal account to the activity.

## **ADVANCEMENT**

One of the goals for Scouting is to provide a positive experience for youth. Fun and a sense of accomplishment are very important in meeting that goal, and a good way to get that is to work on rank advancement. Your child will learn that advancement is fun! Each month, our troop meetings are usually geared towards a particular theme or merit badge, and new scouts are encouraged to attend the Trail to First Class sessions that convene at 6:45 p.m. before each troop meeting. Summer Camp and our annual Merit Badge College are both excellent opportunities for intensive progress towards advancement. In addition, at any time a scout may request any merit badge, and a counselor will be appointed to assist him in earning it.

## **CAMPING**

Camp activities are a major part of the Scouting program. Troop 57 plans a campout each month year round, with few exceptions. Transportation to each campout is provided by the adult advisors of the troop and by parent volunteers. Please cooperate when you are called upon to help. The schedule for camp follows the same monthly routine and usually occurs on the third weekend. Most campouts are two days and two nights long. The troop meets at the church parking lot on Friday at 6:30pm to prepare to depart for the campout. It is important that your scout be on time to participate in loading some equipment before departing. Normal return time to the church parking lot is 11:00 AM the following Sunday, unless otherwise notified. The Troop owns a trailer that is used to transport our equipment to and from the campsite. Campouts are generally held on private land or at Scout owned camps. Scouts and adults who complete a total of 57 (and 114) days and nights camping join an elite group and are honored with a special neckerchief at the next Court of Honor. We at 57 are proud of our troop and its heritage as we continue to follow the ideals of scouting.

Sincerely,  
Ken Pickering Scoutmaster

If you desire further information please contact one of these people:

Ken Pickering, Scoutmaster

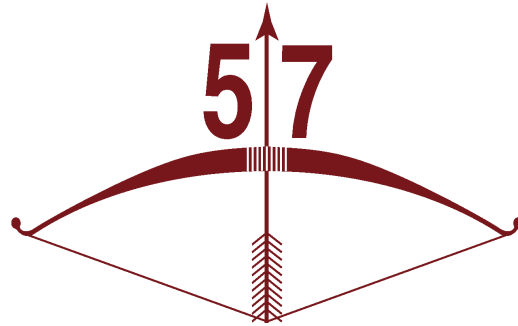
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**Chartered by  
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