



Boy Scout Troop 884



Dear Parents:

Welcome to Boy Scout Troop 884, sponsored by the Battle Grove Democratic Club. Please take a few moments to familiarize yourself with the contents of this packet. There is some information that we would like to pass along to you to help you son get the most out of his scouting experience.

UNIFORMS: The Boy Scouts are a uniformed organization. We require a uniform for most activities that the troop participates in. The usual or Class “A” uniform consists of: Scout hat; Scout shirt with proper insignia; Scout pants or shorts; Scout belt; Bolo; Scout socks (plain white socks are acceptable); and shoes. During the summer we go to a more relaxed Class “B” uniform consisting of: Scout hat; Scout T-shirt (plain white t-shirt is acceptable); Scout pants or shorts; Scout belt; Scout socks (plain white socks are acceptable); and shoes. Exceptions to the uniform policy will be announced when appropriate. Uniforms are **NOT** required on the Monday following a camping trip. Now we realize that a uniform is a significant investment, so we do not expect a full uniform all at once. They make wonderful Christmas and Birthday presents. We do expect your son to have all his uniform parts in 4 to 6 weeks. If there are circumstances that prevent this, please let us know.

HANDBOOK: The Boy Scout Handbook is essential to your son’s growth and advancement in the Boy Scouts. It should be the first thing purchased. Please read the parent pull out section in the front of the booklet. Your son should bring his book to all troop meetings and activities.

TROOP MEETINGS: The troop meets regularly on Monday nights at Baldwin Hall at the Battle Grove Democratic Club from 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM, year round. The exceptions to this are: President’s Day; Memorial Day; The Mondays during and immediately following summer camp; Labor Day; and the Monday between Christmas and New Years. We will also not meet if Baltimore County has a snow emergency plan in effect at 6:00 PM on any given Monday. You are always invited to come to our meetings and see what your son is accomplishing.

DUES/FUND RAISERS: As with any organization, we need funds to allow us to function and purchase materials needed for our program. This is done through fund raisers and the collection of weekly dues.



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Each scout is assessed one dollar (\$1.00) a week in dues. This money is used to pay for continuing registration fees, cost of advancement (badges of rank, badges of office, merit badges, etc.) and other miscellaneous materials. The troop also has two other main sources of income. The first is aluminum cans. Our sponsor, the Battle Grove Democratic Club, has been kind enough to donate to the troop all the used aluminum cans from the club. Our job then becomes to “bag up” these cans on a periodic basis, and take them to the re-cycling center, where we cash them in. The other source of income is our annual Spaghetti Dinner and Dance in January. This is our major fund raising event for the year, and its success allows us to help keep camping fees down to a reasonable level.

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES: The troop schedules outdoor activities every month throughout the year. These are either weekend camping trips or one day hikes. We usually camp 7 or 8 months out of the year, with the troop attending a week long summer camp at the end of June. The cost of our weekend camping trips is approximately \$10.00, with summer camp costing about \$210.00. Regular attendance at camping trips is essential to the growth and advancement of your son. There are many rank requirements that can only be achieved in a camp setting, so your son’s attendance is beneficial to him. Parents are always welcome and encouraged to attend camping trips with the troop. Unfortunately, BSA regulations do not allow us to extend this invitation to younger brothers and sisters, or other siblings not registered with BSA.

ADVANCEMENT/ATTENDANCE: We expect your son to advance on a regular basis. Our Junior and Adult leaders will help him as he travels along the scouting trail. One thing that is essential to advancement is regular attendance at scout meetings and events. The troop program focuses on some type of scout skill every week. His mastering of these skills will depend partly on his attendance at meetings and activities. As your son advances, he will be recognized for his achievements. This usually takes place at a troop meeting, but approximately 3 or 4 times a year we have a Court of Honor to bring all the parents and relatives together so we may publicly recognize the achievements of all our scouts. You will be notified about these events so you may plan to attend.

NEWSLETTER: We send home a monthly newsletter at the beginning of every month. This usually contains the activity calendar for the upcoming month; any permission slips needed for those activities



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and information and reminders of things you need to know. Look for this as it is your best source of information about troop activities.

TROOP WEBSITE: Our troop website is located at www.myedgemere.com/boy_scout_troop_8841.htm. It contains updated information on troop events, the monthly calendar and the monthly newsletter. It also has links to scouting organizations, allows you to contact troop leadership and has other useful tools.

In conclusion, we would like to welcome you and your son once again to our scouting family. If you ever have a question, concern or a comment about anything, please do not hesitate to speak with either Mr. Karl Monnett, Troop Committee Chair, or myself. If you would like to help us out as a member of our troop committee, or as an assistant, please let us know, we are always looking for interested parents to help us with our program. Thank you.

Yours in Scouting,

Joseph F. Greenbeck, Jr.
Scoutmaster