

## **A BOY'S BILL OF RIGHTS**

Like everybody else, a boy has the right  
to the pursuit of happiness.

He has the right to plan so that he may  
stretch the imagination and to prove his  
prowess and skills.

He has the right to the constructive joy  
of adventure and the thrills that are part  
of the open life.

He has the right to affection and friendship.

He has the right to a sense of security  
in belonging.

He has the right to health protection that  
will make him an inch taller than Dad.

He has the right to the education and  
training that will amplify his own natural bents.

He has the right to accept the obligation of  
citizenship in a democracy--perhaps the greatest  
right a boy, or anyone else, can have.

--President Herbert Hoover

"Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile"

--Albert Einstein

A man never stood so tall as when he stooped to help a boy.

When life gives you lemons, make lemonade.

A boy is the only thing God has with which to make a man.

A smile is the shortest distance between two people.

"Man cannot discover new oceans without the courage  
to lose sight of the shore."

--André Gide

## **TROOP 45 "THE TROOP OF THE BLUE & THE GRAY"**

### **STARKVILLE, MISSISSIPPI**

Sponsored by First United Methodist Church

Rev. B. F. Lee, Pastor

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## **TROOP MEMBERS & PARENTS HANDBOOK**

August 21, 1990

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## INTRODUCTION

This handbook has been developed to give Scouts and their parents information on Troop 45, the Scouting program, and the role of Scouts and their families in the troop. Scouting was started by Sir Robert Stevenson Symthe Baden-Powell (B-P, for short) in 1908 in England. What started from the acorn of Scouting planted at the first experimental camp on Brownsea Island, Poole Harbor, 1907, has grown into the mighty oak of Scouting worldwide: Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, Explorers. Scouting was started in the US in 1910 by William Boyce, a Chicago publisher. In 1953, Boy Scout Troop 45 was chartered to the now First United Methodist Church. The Troop has been continuously registered since that time. Troop 45 has a tradition of excellence which challenges a boy to become all that he is capable of becoming. The program is year-round and features a strong outdoor program leading to the building of character, citizenship, and personal fitness. The aims of the movement are embodied in the duties given in the Scout Oath: Duty to God & Country, Duty to Others, Duty to Self. Perhaps Scouting is one of the last programs left which allows a boy to fail, learn from failure, and then succeed. So long as he keeps trying, he is on the path to success. No premium is paid for rapidity, but rather for achievement of a standard, whether it takes one month or one year. Scouting asks each boy to demonstrate leadership, and he doesn't have to

**NOTES**

*whole. We in the Boy Scouts are players in the same team with the Boys' Brigade, Church Lads, YMCA, and Education Department, and others. Co-operation is the only way if we mean to win success." B-P, May 1910*

Adults working with your sons in Troop 45 do so because they want boys to succeed. Our approach is perhaps best summed up by Forest Witcraft who wrote, "A hundred years from now it will not matter what my bank account was, the sort of house I lived in, or the kind of car I drove. But the world may be different because I was important in the life of a boy".

## TROOP ORGANIZATION

**SPONSORSHIP**--Troop 45 is sponsored by the First United Methodist Church. FUMC provides a place for meeting and some financial support. The person representing FUMC is the Chartered Organization Representative, Dr. Joe Cardwell. He is selected by FUMC to represent the interest of FUMC to the Troop and interests of the Troop to FUMC. The Troop is in the Talking Warrior District of the Pushmataha Area Council. The Council covers ten counties in East-Central Mississippi.

**TROOP COMMITTEE**--The committee is composed of parents and adults interested in Troop 45. The committee is like a board of directors and has two major responsibilities:

JANUARY

7, 14, 21, 28: Meeting Dates  
3: Roundtable  
7: Board of Review  
17?: Talking Warrior District Banquet  
18-21: Backpack Extravaganza  
31: PLC

Citizenship [Sowers]

BANKHEAD

FEBRUARY

4, 11, 18, 25: Meeting Dates  
4: Board of Review  
7: Council Banquet  
9: Troop Blue & Gray Banquet  
10: Scout Sunday  
15-17: Citizens Weekend  
28: PLC

Hiking [Brown]

FUMC  
FUMC  
JACKSON/MOBILE

MARCH

4, 11, 18, 25: Meeting Dates  
4: Board of Review  
7: Roundtable  
8-10: History Revisited  
28: PLC

Pioneering [Doc]

VICKSBURG

APRIL

1, 8, 15, 22, 29: Meeting Dates  
1: Board of Review  
4: Roundtable  
5-7: Young Pioneers  
20: Adopt a Highway Service Proj.  
25: PLC

Nature [Brown]

WILSON

The goal would be to enroll 50 families at \$100/year in the program. This would free funds from our current fundraising projects to put into equipment, a Scout house, special tours, and would allow us to reduce costs associated with our outdoor program and trips.

We encourage Troop members to pay their own way (a Scout is Thrifty). Troop fees are \$3/month and are payable in a lump sum when the Troop recharter each November. These monies cover the Scout's registration fee, Boy's Life, insurance, and dues. Scouts who join at different times of the year are charged a prorated fee. This year we will be participating in the Council-sponsored popcorn sales. Monies generated from this activity will go directly to each Scout depending on his sales. Details will be given later.

**YOUR SCOUT**

**PERSONAL EQUIPMENT**--Scout families, especially new ones, are faced with many options for equipment. The following list is meant to help families in securing the proper equipment without spending excessive funds. We have listed items in order of purchase: (1) Boy Scout Handbook; (2) Scout uniform [short sleeved shirt, short pants & knee socks (if summer), long pants (if winter), belt, billed cap, insignia]; (3) sleeping bag [get one made from synthetic fiber rated to 32 F]; (4) backpack [one with padded shoulder and hip straps]; (5) compass [Silva, about \$5 at WalMart]; (6) pocket knife [fixed blade knives are not allowed]; (7) flashlight [light weight, compact type]; (8) poncho; (9) ground cloth [a 5x7-ft piece of

6-mil Visqueen]. We have catalogs for equipment and locations where one can buy inexpensive equipment. DO NOT buy a metal canteen, personal cook kit. Plastic water bottles are fine as canteens. Cook kits are useless. A deep plastic bowl, fork, and spoon are all that are required to eat out of. Patrols have the cook gear for cooking.

**ADVANCEMENT**--Basic Scoutcraft skills are covered in the first three ranks, Tenderfoot, 2nd Class, 1st Class. The Star, Life, and Eagle ranks represent advanced skills and leadership. Rank requirements are passed off by adults, but most instruction is done in patrols or at the Troop meetings. The outdoor program provides the opportunity to try out new skills. Merit Badges are considered as advanced study in various areas. The program is designed to allow Scouts to interact with experts in the various subject matter areas. Generally, merit badges are worked on after the 1st Class rank is earned. Parents are urged to become merit badge counselors in their area of expertise. All counselors must fill out an adult application form, but no fee is required. Summer camp offers each Scout the chance to earn requirements, especially in the area of aquatics, not generally covered in monthly Troop programs. Special merit badge opportunities are scheduled as needed for older Scouts. Active participation in ALL Troop activities is required for advancement in the program. Casual attendance will result in a Scout being dropped from active membership, after which a Scout will be required to apply for membership. Membership in the Troop 45 fellowship requires a commitment

45.

**BOY LEADERSHIP**--The boy responsible for running the Troop operation is the Senior Patrol Leader (SPL). He works directly with the Scoutmaster to implement the program of the Troop. He is assisted by an Assistant Senior Patrol Leader (ASPL) of his choice. The SPL appoints the warrant officers (Scribe, Quartermaster, Librarian, Historian, Chaplain's Aide) to act as a sort of cabinet. The warrant officers have Troop level responsibility in their various areas, but are members of patrols. A warrant officer must be at least a 1st Class Scout.

The SPL is elected by majority vote of the boy membership of the Troop. He must be at least a Star Scout and must have been a patrol leader. The key leadership job in the Troop is that of Patrol Leader (PL). PLs are elected by the boy members of the Troop. PLs should have been a Den Chief and be at least 1st Class in rank. PLs are responsible for the day-to-day operation (planning through execution) of the Troop's program and for the 'care & feeding' of patrol members. They are the motivators, spirit builders, and principal teachers of scouting skills. They have Scouting's toughest job. Almost as important is the job of Den Chief (DC). DCs are responsible for assisting adults in the Cub Scout program with their dens.

Working with these younger boys provides excellent experience for a PL position at a later date. Venture Scouts are older (15+) troop members who serve as the instructor corps for Troop meetings and activities. They should be Star Scouts. They elect a Crew Chief to represent them. Ventures have responsibility for all instruction at Troop meetings and outings and are responsible

**DISCIPLINE**--The Scout Law espouses discipline in each Scout and sets forth a code of conduct. Good manners are essential for Troop 45 Scouts. The use of 'pretty words' [please, thank you, yes Sir, no Ma'am] is required as is the proper form of address for adults. Swearing is forbidden as is the use of alcohol and drugs. Proper behavior is expected at all functions and disobedience is not tolerated. A misbehaving Scout will be required to counsel with one of the adults after his first offense. After a second offense, the Scout's parent will be asked to pick him up from the activity. A third offense results in dismissal from the Troop. Reinstatement requires a meeting of the Scout and his parents with the Scoutmasters and the Troop Committee.

#### THE PROGRAM

Below is a calendar of events for the 1990-91 Scouting year. Please mark these dates on your calendar.

#### ANNUAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS 1990-1991

#### TROOP 45 "THE TROOP OF THE BLUE & THE GRAY"

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#### SEPTEMBER

#### Orienteering [Williams]

10, 17, 24: Meeting Dates [No meeting on 3rd--Labor Day]  
8, 15, 22: Fundraisers: Concession Sales MSU Football

on the part of both Scout and parent. Failure to be active is a waste of both personal time and the time of those working with the Troop.

For each rank requirement, a Scout must be certified by an adult Board of Review. Parents are frequently asked to serve on such boards. Upon approval, the Scout is immediately recognized at a Troop meeting and presented with his award as soon as received. Formal recognition is reserved for one of the quarterly Courts of Honor held by the Troop. Parents, families, and friends are expected to be present at these Courts to honor your Scout's achievement. Parents are recognized along with their son.

**SERVICE TO OTHERS**--Service is a keystone in the Scouting movement. Advancement in rank requires that each Scout do his duty to help others and do a good turn daily. Service projects are scheduled on a regular basis. The Troop has two standing service projects: Adopt-a-Highway [3 times annually] and Scouting for Food. Other service projects are planned and developed by Eagle Scout candidates and the membership provides the manpower for such projects.

**RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES**--The 12th point of the Scout Law says "A Scout is Reverent". Troop 45 promotes a non-sectarian, ecumenical religious philosophy. Devotionals and Church services are conducted any time the Troop is away on a weekend or long-term camp. Scouts are encouraged to exercise their faith, exchange ideas, and to work on the religious award sponsored by their particular religious organization. A belief in God is essential to Troop 45's program. for all inter-patrol competitions and games.

At the boy level, all decisions on program, outings, planning, etc. are made by a Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC) comprised of elected PLs and Venture Crew Chief. The SPL presides over all PLC meetings and votes in the case of a tie.

The Scoutmaster works closely with PLC members to develop the program and leadership. He approves all Scouts for leadership positions and forwards proposed plans for troop program to the Committee for final approval.

**TROOP FUNDING**--With the exception of funds provided by FUMC, the Troop generates all funds used in support of its program. Parental involvement is a requisite if we are to be successful with our two major fundraisers conducted each year: concession sales at MSU home football games and sale of Christmas trees, wreaths, and flowers. All Troop members are expected to participate in both events. Troop leaders and parents run the concession booths. Boys take care of the counter sales. We have sufficient membership so that no one need work more than one 1990 home game unless they want to. Troop members are expected to provide a prospect list for the tree sales, work the lot during sales periods, and to help with deliveries. Adults will contact prospects. Monies from these two activities are used to defray the cost of transportation, advancement, equipment, badges of office, literature, program materials, Courts of Honor, service projects, etc. Our major expense is for our bus note, maintenance, and insurance. The Committee augments our major fundraisers with yard sales, etc., as needed. The Committee is considering instituting a new giving program, designated Eagle Flight, for friends and former Scouts of Troop 45.

games

6: Roundtable

10: Board of Review

27: PLC at Doc's Lab, 5:45

29-30: Troop Camp

(Camporee Prep)

DORMAN LAKE

### OCTOBER

### Camping [Sowers]

1, 8, 15, 22, 29: Meeting Dates

4: Roundtable

8: Board of Review

12-14: Talking Warrior

District Camporee

CAMP SEMINOLE

25: PLC

27: Fundraiser: MSU Concession Sales

### NOVEMBER

### Cooking [Landers]

5, 19, 26: Meeting Dates

5: Board of Review

1: Roundtable

3 or 4, 10: Scouting for Food

3: Fundraiser: MSU Concession Sales

12: Fall Court of Honor

17-18: Backpack

17-1: Popcorn Sales

29: PLC

FUMC

BANKHEAD

### DECEMBER

### Backpacking [Doc]

3, 10, 17: Meeting Dates

3: Board of Review

1, 2, 8, 9: Tree Sales

7-9: OA Fall Fellowship & Ordeal

13: PLC

14-16: Gourmet Feast Camp

DORMAN LAKE

support of the Troop program and Troop administration. The committee is headed by a Committee Chairman, Mr. Steve Word, and has subcommittee chairmen in charge of finance, advancement, transportation, equipment & facilities, service, program, etc. Adults work on these subcommittees in order to allow the Scoutmaster and his assistants to work with the boys.

Parents have a blanket invitation to join the committee. Parents are often called upon to help in fund-raising projects, boards of review, special events, etc.

**ADULT LEADERSHIP**--The adults working most closely with your sons are the Scoutmaster (Dr. H. M. Barnes) and Assistant Scoutmasters. Each Assistant Scoutmaster oversees one or more areas of the Troop's program. Mr. Bob Landers is responsible for advancement and records and works with the Troop Scribe, Librarian, and Historian. Mr. Richard Sowers handles equipment and transportation. He works with the Troop Quartermasters. Dr. Mike Williams is in charge of service projects and religious awards. He works with the Troop Chaplain Aide. Dr. Bob Brown is team leader for the Venture Scouts and works directly with the Venture Crew Chief and Instructors. Mr. Rick Chambers has responsibility for the outdoor program and works with individual boy leaders responsible for the various phases of the outdoor program. Additionally, each adult has program responsibilities in their areas of expertise [i.e., Sowers--citizenship, camping; Landers--cooking, aquatics; Williams--orienteering, first aid, nature; Brown--hiking, nature, high adventure; Chambers--aquatics, camping; Barnes--backpacking, pioneering]. A pool of college-aged ASMs assist this core of adults when their schedules permit it. Many are former Scouts in Troop

## MAY

## Emily Post's Paragons [The Ladies]

6, 13, 20: Meeting Dates [No meeting on 27th--Memorial Day  
3-5: Nature Adventure CHOCTAW LAKE  
6: Board of Review  
9: Roundtable  
23: PLC  
25: Black Tie Court of Honor FUMC  
29-14: Option I-England Trip

## JUNE

## Safety [Sowers]

3, 9, 17, 24: Meeting Dates [dependant on option chosen]  
8-15: Option II-Summer Camp  
14-16: OA Ordeal  
20: PLC

## JULY

## Photography [Williams]

1, 8, 15, 22, 29: Meeting Dates [dependant on option chosen]  
1: Board of Review  
1-20: Option II-Two week western tour  
7-13: Option I-Summer Camp  
25: PLC  
26-28: OA Ordeal

## AUGUST

## Shooting Sports [Williams]

5, 12, 19, 26: Meeting Dates  
5: Board of Review  
15: Program Preview  
16-18: Troop Operations Workshop & Annual Planning Conference  
24: Family Feast & Court of Honor SEMINOLE

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be the fastest, smartest, best-looking, best athlete, or any of the other criterion established through a boy's peer pressure. Perhaps Scouting's aim is best summarized by its founder.

#### *Our Aim*

*"In the Army we have certain points to aim for in training our men; but in the long course of years the steps in training have become so absorbing and important that in many cases the aim has come to be lost sight of. Take, for instance, the sword exercise. Here a number of recruits are instructed in the use of the sword in order to become expert fighters with it. They are put into a squad and drilled to stand in certain positions and to deliver certain cuts, thrusts, and guards on a certain approved plan. So soon as they can do this accurately and together like one man--and it is the work of months to effect this--they are passed as efficient swordsmen, but they can no more fight an enemy than can my boot. The aim of their instruction has been overlooked in the development of the steps to it.*

*I hope the same mistake is never likely to occur with us in the Boy Scouts. We must keep the great aim ever before us and make our steps lead to it all the time. This aim is to make our race a nation of energetic, capable workers, good citizens, whether for life in Britain or overseas. The best principle to this end is to get the boys to learn for themselves by giving them a curriculum which appeals to them, rather than by hammering it into them in some form of dry-bones instruction. We have to remember that the mass of boys are already tired with hours of school or workshop, and our training should, therefore, be in the form of recreation, and this should be out of doors as much as possible. That is the object of our badges and games, our examples and standards.*

*If you would read through your Scouting for Boys once more, with the Great Aim always before you, you will see its meaning the more clearly. And the Great Aim means not only the practise of give-and-take with your own officers, but also with other organisations working to the same end. In a big movement for a big object there is no room for little personal efforts; we have to sink minor ideas and link arms in a big "combine" to deal effectively with the*