

SCOUT GUIDEBOOK

Welcome to Troop 7!

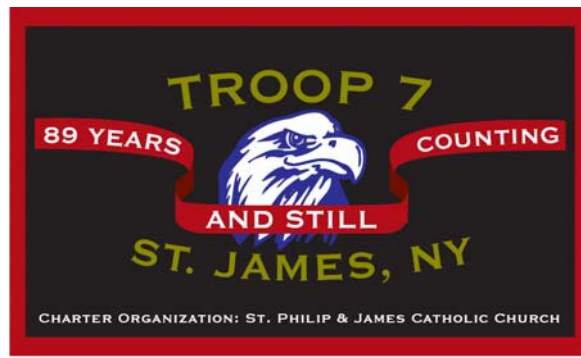
This guide will help you on you on the Scouting Trail. If you questions aren't answered here, you can always ask your Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, Advancement Chairperson or Committee Chairperson.

Summary of our Troop:

1. We meet in the auditorium of Sts. Philip & James Church each Monday evening from 7pm to 8:30pm, (Parent's Meeting 1st Monday each month) unless otherwise noted on the schedule.
2. The Troop Leadership Committee (TLC) meets every other Wednesday at 7pm in the Kitchen in the back of the Auditorium, unless otherwise noted on the schedule.
3. Troop 7 holds 4 quarterly awards ceremonies, called Courts of Honor, usually on the third Monday in March, June, September and December. Eagle Courts of Honor held separately.
4. Troop 7 has worked very hard to develop a successful "Scout Run" Troop. This means the Senior Patrol runs the Scouting program as well as each event, with the Adult Leaders acting as advisors.
5. Troop 7 utilizes the Patrol system, wherein the Scouts function in small groups called Patrols and then those groups function as a Troop.
6. All Scouts and Adult Leaders must submit a completed permission and health form. These will be kept on file and are used for all Troop 7 events.
7. DUES (Covers Jan.thru Dec.): \$100. Please Note: \$87 for first-year Scouts (\$100 less Council registration paid through Cub Unit). These dues include the National Council fee (\$10) and the annual subscription to Boy's Life magazine (\$12).
8. A Scout is Thrifty. Troop 7 strives to provide each Scout the opportunity to become self-sufficient and not have to ask a parent for money to support the Scouting activities. Each Scout has his own 'account' set up within the Troop's finances. This allows each Scout to raise funds for the Troop as well as earn money for their own expenses. Many Scouts raise enough money each year to cover expenses for Summer Camp, annual dues, trips, etc. If a Scout leaves the Troop, the funds remaining in their account are transferred to the Troop 7 general fund.
9. **ALL Scouts must participate in each Troop 7 fundraising activity.**
10. We have a Troop 7 website: <http://www.sjtroop7.org>. . It is hosted by ASM Bob Retnauer. While you can go to the website whenever you want, you will have to talk to him for

permission to access certain parts of the website. In addition, Suffolk County Council has a website: www.sccbsa.org.

11. ALL parents are encouraged to become involved in the Troop's activities. We need help at all functions, trips and fund raising events. As for specific help, the Hospitality, Flag, Fundraising and Outdoor Events Committee's always need someone to pitch in.
12. Troop 7 schedules one event (camping, indoor/outdoor event) each month, 12 months per year.
13. The Troop Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) position is voted on each December (unless the SPL turns 18) and announced at the December Court of Honor.
14. With guidance from the Adult Leaders, the SPL then selects his Assistant SPL's, Scribe, Troop Guide, Instructor and Quartermaster.
15. Troop 7 encourages each new Scout to achieve the Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class ranks within the first year.
16. Troop 7 strongly encourages each Star Scout to perform a Life Scout Project before attaining the rank of Life Scout. This acquaints the Scout with the steps needed to perform the community service project required for the rank of Eagle.
17. All Scouts are encouraged to become Den Chiefs within one of the local Cub Scout Packs.
18. Scouts are encouraged to earn merit badges as often as possible. There are many badges available to earn and each Scout is sure to find many that apply to their hobbies and specific interests. There are many merit badge Counselors available for most badges. Therefore, Troop 7's policy is to not allow Scouts to use their parents as merit badge counselors. Exceptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis and only with the prior approval of the Scoutmaster.
19. Troop 7 attends Scout camp each summer and usually attends two of the following three: Baiting Hollow Scout Camp, Yawgoog Scout Reservation in RI and Ten Mile River Scout Camp in NY.
20. Primary Camping Policies
 - Dress for the weather: A Scout may not attend outdoor events if not appropriately equipped and attired.
 - NO ELECTRONICS: Camping is a time to get away from it all. No personal music devices, TV's, DVD players, electronic games, etc. Cell phones turned off except at designated calling times or with Scoutmaster's permission.
 - No candy/junk food. Moderate desserts allowed for Patrol designated dessert time
 - All Scouts will use Troop-supplied tents. Adults may use their own tents. Troop 7 is not liable for damage incurred to any personal belongs on any event.
21. For over 25 years, Troop 7 has supplied American flags to the merchants in St. James for 8 Flag holidays. President's Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, September 11th, Columbus Day and Veteran's Day. While each Patrol is assigned a holiday to place the flags, all Scouts are encouraged to help display and then remove the flags.
22. Troop 7 marches in the Memorial Day and Veteran's Day parades down Lake Ave. ALL Scouts must attend wearing their Class-A uniform.



SCOUT VESPERS

SOFTLY FALLS THE LIGHT OF DAY,
AS THE CAMPFIRE FADES AWAY.
SILENTLY EACH SCOUT SHOULD ASK:

HAVE I DONE MY DAILY TASK?
HAVE I KEPT MY HONOR BRIGHT?
CAN I GUILTLESS SLEEP TONIGHT?
HAVE I DONE AND HAVE I DARED,
EVERYTHING TO 'BE PREPARED'?

DAY IS DONE.

GONE THE SUN.

FROM THE LAKES FROM THE HILLS FROM THE SKY.

ALL IS WELL, SAFELY REST.

GOD IS ONE.

(STRETCH BOTH ARMS OVER YOUR HEAD AND SLOWLY BRING THEM DOWN IN FRONT OF YOU AS YOU SAY...)

“AND MAY THE GREAT SCOUTMASTER OF ALL SCOUTS
BE WITH US ‘TIL WE MEET AGAIN.”