



Boy Scout Troop 423
Plainview/Old Bethpage NY
www.troop423pob.org

Welcome!

Thank you for visiting Troop 423 Plainview/Old Bethpage. Included in this one-page sheet are the basics you need to know about our troop. If you have any questions not answered by this sheet, please feel free to ask any of our Assistant Scoutmasters (ASMs) or our Scoutmaster (SM).

About Us

Troop 423 was chartered in 1955, and has continued to serve the Plainview area for over 60 years.

We are a non-denominational troop whose members represent the wide diversity of our community. We are chartered through Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

The Troop Committee is made up of adults in the Troop, and sets the policies for operation of the Troop.

Our Scoutmaster is the principal adult leader of the Troop. Assistant Scoutmasters, Committee members, and parent volunteers assist him. Positions such as treasurer, fundraising, advancement, health & safety & merit badges, are filled through the Committee.

We follow the leadership methods established by the Boy Scouts of America.

Joining

Boys need to be 11 years old, or 10 and have earned Arrow of Light as a cub scout to join Boy Scouts.

You will need to fill out a registration form and we collect a Troop registration fee of \$115.00. This fee includes dues for the remainder of the year (from February). Boys are provided a Troop neckerchief, Troop t-shirt, Troop hat, troop 423 numbers (for his scout shirt), shoulder loops, and Boy Scout Handbook.

Based on the makeup of patrols (smaller groupings of boys) your son is placed in an existing or new group.

Communication

Communication is critical to the success of any organization. Boys are responsible for maintaining contact with their patrols and the Troop for upcoming activities and last minute changes. Parents are notified on a broader basis about upcoming opportunities, but the boys are the primary contact. We maintain a calendar on the Troop Web site at troop423pob.org.

Where We Meet

Troop 423 meets at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church every Thursday during the school year from 7:30pm to 9pm. We generally do not hold meetings when the Plainview schools are not in session.

Good Shepherd is located at 99 Central Park Road, Plainview, NY 11803.

We ask that you come in to the church to pick up your son at the end of each meeting. The last 10 minutes of each meeting are reserved for announcements, updates and Scoutmaster minute.

The Meetings

Our Troop meets every Thursday night at the church (with some exceptions) and boys need to attend every week if possible. Boys are to attend in Class A uniform (the tan shirt).

Our Troop is boy-led. This means that as much as possible boys are put into the decision-making roles of the Troop. Adult leaders function as advisors and ensure the safety of activities planned for the Troop.

Meetings begin with our Service Patrol opening the meeting with a flag ceremony. This is followed by attendance. After attendance is taken, the Program Patrol engages the other patrols with the night's activities. This is usually followed by a game.

The evening is capped off with announcements, the Scoutmaster Minute, and closing by the Service Patrol.

With the exception of the announcements and Scoutmaster Minute the boys run the program. Each patrol gets the opportunity to be Program and Service Patrol during the year.

The Uniform

You'll need to purchase a "Class A" Boy Scout uniform. The official BSA uniform consists of the tan shirt, pants, belt, and a neckerchief slide. We also strongly encourage Scout shorts and Scout socks for formal events. (Some District or Council events may require Scout pants or shorts.)

In addition you'll need the following patches: Theodore Roosevelt Council shoulder patch, & World Scouting patch. These and the 423 numerals are sewn on the Class A uniform.

All can be purchased at the Scout Shop. Their address is 544 Broadway, Massapequa, 11758; 516-797-0574.

The Class B uniform is the green activity shirt the troop provides when you join. Additional Class B shirts can be purchased from the troop.

The Cost

Dues are a fixed monthly \$10 fee per month (Sept-June). If dues are paid in a lump sum at the start of the school year there is a bonus (usually some type of apparel).

Camping trips are usually \$10 per trip (per person) to cover the cost of food. Depending on how far we go, there may be an additional \$10-\$20 for transportation. Other fees are usually covered by dues and fundraising.

The Troop has one major fundraiser each year, held in October for popcorn (the Boy Scout National Fundraiser) to help purchase equipment that the Troop provides.

We ask all scouts to sell \$150 worth of popcorn product or pay an alternate fee of \$75 per year. Boys receive a percentage of sales in a troop bucks account over \$150 that can be used to pay for camping trips or dues.

The Camping Trips

We plan a twelve-month camping schedule, camping once per month. Scouts are encouraged to attend as many outings as possible. Tents & all cooking equipment are provided by the Troop and we count on our leaders and parents to get us from point A to point B.

On campouts, boys are arranged 2 per tent with other boys. Boys never tent with adults, and parents do not tent with their sons; establishing independence is one of the skills that will help your son become a leader.

Campouts are open to parents to attend. This is provisional on mom or dad being able to let their son do for themselves. Parents attending eat with the leaders. Parents need to take Youth Protection training online before attending trips. Training can be found at myscouting.org.

The boys (and adults) plan their own menu, and duty rosters. Patrols purchase their own food. Menus are reviewed in advance (no all cookie weekends).

We travel in Class A uniform. **Health forms are required for scouts and adults to attend trips.**

Supplies You Will Need

The Scout will need a good sleeping bag (three-season), small flashlight, a mess kit - including utensils, plate/bowl, mug (for hot stuff), rain poncho, proper clothing, and backpack for personal gear.

A Tupperware type container is a cheap way to have a plate and bowl with a place to store your utensils!

Also needed is a space blanket to protect tent bottoms: rei.com/product/407106/space-all-weather-blanket

Other personal items include a toothbrush, toothpaste, comb, small towel, soap, deodorant & some cash. Backpacking trips may require more advanced equipment but we discuss this in advance.

No knife is carried by a Scout until Totin' Chip is earned.

Summer Camp

Troop 423 usually attends Boy Scout summer camp for one week in July and one week in August as a troop.

It is recommended for scouts to attend as it assists scouts in earning merit badges and learning skills helpful in advancing in rank.

Expectations From Your Son

We expect a Scout to conduct himself according to the Scout Motto, Slogan, Oath, and Law, and the Outdoor Code, while in Scout events and out.

Being a Scout puts a boy in a certain light and entails expectations. The term "On my honor..." says that the boy puts his honor on the line as people evaluate his behavior, dependability, and responsibility.

We hope it never happens, but you will be asked to come get your son if he is unable to conduct himself, as a Scout should.

Expectations From Parents

There are many roles that must be filled by parent volunteers such as fundraising, outing arrangements and transportation, food, & lots more. Please be willing to get involved and make the Scouting program a family program. This makes for a stronger scout program.

Rank Advancement

Boys begin immediately working on advancement. Boys join as a Scout. The first rank is Tenderfoot, followed by Second Class, First Class, Star, Life, and Eagle.

More advanced scouts sign off on requirements for younger scouts.

Achieving each rank entails completing various requirements, which will include Scout skills, service hours, camping, merit badge completion, and others.

Scouts are encouraged but not forced to advance. There will be times that the Scout's own initiative will be needed to meet the requirements for advancement.

Important Contacts

David Lumerman, Scoutmaster
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BJ Casal, Committee Chairman
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Ed Gellender; Assistant Scoutmaster
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