



The TRAILBLAZER



BOY SCOUT TROOP 204

MAPLE AVENUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

63 MAPLE AVENUE

MARIETTA, GEORGIA 30060

770-428-0471

MARK UR

October 2022

CALENDAR NOW

NEWSLETTER # 400

www.204bsa.com

ALL ADULTS !!

~~ Youth Protection Training ~~~ Hazardous Weather Training ~~~
MUST BE COMPLETED BY 18 OCTOBER

1 Allatoona Clean up day--- -sponsored by the Corps of Engineers--- *Listen for details*

4 TROOP MEETING 1930-2100

PRE OPENING::: Charcoal fires-- SPL

OPENING::: FIRESTICKS

IN THE HOLE :::: Knots

SCOUTCRAFT::: IRON

and GAME::: CHEF-Andrew and Al

SERVICE PATROL::: FIRESTICKS



Who will it be?

6 Roundtable for all Scouters --- 1930-- in person at Unity Church in NE Cobb or by zoom (see Donna for the link)

11 TROOP MEETING 1930-2100

PRE OPENING::: Songs---Spencer

Anyone seen the 204 RADIO lately?



OPENING::: SPL

IN THE HOLE :::: Plan campout menu---let's see something different this campout----use your resources!!!!!!!

SCOUTCRAFT::: Fish cleaning---AL and Spencer

GAME::: Oshkay---ASM's

SERVICE PATROL::: SPL

14-15 TLT==Troop Leaders' Training---1800 Friday until 1500 Saturday at the S/M's house see Ted for details!

ALL need to attend

ANNUAL DUES must be paid by October 18 ~~~ everyone !!!!!!!!!!

18 TROOP MEETING 1930-2100

PRE OPENING::: firewood and kindling---Alex

OPENING::: BEARS

IN THE HOLE :::: campout plans, menus, who's going

SCOUTCRAFT::: Firebuilding---ASM's

GAME::: Water Boil---ASM's

SERVICE PATROL::: BEARS

CLOUDLAND

Campout \$\$, menus, and
who's going list due
tonight
\$25.00

25 TROOP MEETING 1930-2100

PRE-OPENING::: Pack n

IN THE HOLE::: Load

OPENING::: FIRESTICKS

SCOUTCRAFT::: First Aid -Vedaant / SPL

GAME::: stretcher relay --ASMs

SERVICE PATROL::: FIRESTICKS



28-29-30

Cloudland Canyon Campout



LET'S GO



FALL IN AT 1700 (Q/M OPENS AT 1630)

>>SURVIVAL KIT MUST BE ON YOUR PERSON >> CANTEEN IS A MUST---full please > > // class A uniforms // TROOP T-SHIRT // HANDBOOKS are a MUST on all activities// Plan on staying Dry //cold weather gear Home Sunday about 1400 ---parents be ready for tired Scouts ---Troop Elections at Cloudland Canyon---

ANNUAL DUES must be paid by October 18 ~~~ everyone !!!!!!! also YPT and Weather training for Adults Scouts::: \$150.00 Adults::: \$75.00.

Unfortunately, National BSA has raised the annual fees once again for Youth, as well as Boys Life fees. Please see Ted or Donna if you have any questions.

~~ Youth Protection Training ~~~ Hazardous Weather Training ~

It's that time again, Adults!

Annual Dues are due in October and that means it's time to renew your YPT and Hazardous Weather training! Both are now required for your continued membership in the BSA. Please let me know when you have completed both! Please don't put it off and make me have to ask you (over, and over and over again) to get it done !



8->Andrew A. 12-> LeZonn M 18-> Busdriver Bob 19-> Trudy C



11-12-13 November -> Sloppy Floyd State Park (\$\$, who's going, menus due Nov 1)



SHARE SCOUTING...

...Bring your friends

... Give them a copy of our exciting annual plans for 2022-2023

Troop Leadership positions



With three green bars behind the Scout emblem, the senior patrol leader's shoulder patch symbolizes one of the oldest leadership positions in Scouting. The Boy Scouts of America has long recognized the senior patrol leader as the highest youth leadership position in a troop. They are the primary link between a troop's Scouts and its adult leaders. They shoulder the responsibility for leading meetings of the troop and the [patrol leaders' council](#) and provide valuable leadership in planning and carrying out the troop's program of outdoor activities, service projects, and events.

Responsibilities

- runs all troop meetings, events, activities, and the annual program planning conference
- runs the [patrol leaders' council](#) (TLC) meetings
- appoints other troop junior leaders with the advice and counsel of the [Scoutmaster](#)
- assigns duties and responsibilities to junior leaders
- assists the Scoutmaster with junior leader training
- sets a good example
- wears the Scout uniform correctly
- lives by the Scout Oath and Law
- shows Scout spirit



The patrol leader is the patrol's key leader, representing the patrol at all patrol leaders' council meetings and the annual program planning conference, and keeping patrol members informed of decisions made. Patrol leaders carry out planning, leading, and evaluating patrol meetings and activities, and assure patrols are prepared to participate in all troop activities. They keep their patrol intact so they can work together and share responsibilities to get things done. It is incumbent upon them to be a good example for the members of their patrol and the rest of the troop.

Responsibilities

- plans and leads patrol meetings and activities
- keeps patrol members informed
- assigns each patrol member a specific duty
- represents his patrol at all [patrol leaders' council](#) meetings and the [annual program planning conference](#)
- prepares the patrol to participate in all troop activities
- works with other troop leaders to make the troop run well
- knows the abilities of each patrol member
- sets a good example
- wears the Scout uniform correctly

- lives by the Scout Oath and Law
- shows and develops patrol spirit



Quartermasters serve as the troop's supply boss. They keep an inventory of [troop equipment](#) and see that the gear is in good condition. They work with patrol quartermasters as they check out equipment and return it. At meetings of the patrol leaders' council they report on the status of equipment in need of replacement or repair. In carrying out their responsibilities, they may have the guidance of a member of the troop committee.

Responsibilities

- keeps records on patrol and troop equipment
- makes sure equipment is in good working condition
- issues equipment and makes sure it is returned in good condition
- makes suggestions for new or replacement items
- works with the troop committee member responsible for equipment
- sets a good example
- wears the Scout uniform correctly
- lives by the Scout Oath and Law
- shows Scout spirit



The scribe is the troop's secretary. Though not a voting member, they attend meetings of the patrol leaders' council and keep a record of the discussions. They cooperate with the patrol scribes to record attendance at troop meetings and to maintain troop advancement records. The troop scribe may be assisted by a member of the troop committee.

Responsibilities

- attends and keeps a log of patrol leaders' council meetings
- records individual Scout attendance
- records individual Scout advancement progress
- works with the troop committee member responsible for records
- sets a good example
- wears the Scout uniform correctly
- lives by the Scout Oath and Law
- shows Scout spirit



Chaplain aides assist the troop chaplain (usually an adult from the troop committee or the chartered organization) in serving the religious needs of the troop. They lead the troop in opening or closing prayer and mealtime blessings. Chaplain aides ensure that religious holidays are considered during the troop's program planning process and promotes the BSA's religious emblems program.

Responsibilities

- assists the troop chaplain with religious services at troop activities
- encourages troop members to strengthen their own relationships with God through personal prayer and devotion and participation in religious activities appropriate to their faith
- tells Scouts about the Religious Emblems program for their faith at least once a year
- helps recognize troop members who receive their religious emblems, (such as at a [court of honor](#))
- makes sure religious holidays are considered during the troop program planning process
- helps plan for religious observance in troop activities
- encourages saying grace at meals while camping or at other activities
- helps promote annual Scout Sunday or Scout Sabbath
- sets a good example
- wears the Scout uniform correctly
- lives by the Scout Oath and Law
- shows Scout spirit



Troop webmasters are responsible for maintaining the troop's website. They make sure that information posted on the website is correct and up to date and that the privacy of youth and adult troop members is protected. A member of the troop committee may assist them with their work.

Responsibilities

- works with various unit members on needed topics
- ensures the website is as youth-run as possible
- maintains the website as needed
- sets a good example
- correctly wears the Scout uniform correctly
- shows Scout spirit



The historian collects, assembles, and preserves troop photographs, news stories, trophies, flags, scrapbooks, awards, and other memorabilia, and makes materials available for Scouting activities, courts of honor, the media, and troop history projects.

Responsibilities

- gathers photos and facts about troop activities and keeps them in a historical file or scrapbook
- takes care of troop trophies, ribbons, and souvenirs of troop activities
- keeps information about former members of the troop
- sets a good example
- wears the Scout uniform correctly
- lives by the Scout Oath and Law
- shows Scout spirit



A Scout at least 16 years of age who has shown outstanding leadership skills may be appointed by the Scoutmaster to serve as a junior assistant Scoutmaster (JASM). The junior assistant Scoutmaster functions just like an assistant Scoutmaster (except for leadership responsibilities reserved for adults 18 years of age or older). In this capacity, junior assistant Scoutmasters (a troop may have more than one) follow the guidance of the [Scoutmaster](#) in providing support and supervision to other youth leaders in the troop. Upon their 18th birthday, a junior assistant Scoutmaster will be eligible to become an assistant Scoutmaster.

Responsibilities

- performs duties as assigned by the Scoutmaster.
- sets a good example.
- wears the Scout uniform correctly
- lives by the Scout Oath and Law.
- shows Scout spirit

10 tips for being a better troop leader

1. **Keep Your Word.** Don't make promises you can't keep.
2. **Be Fair to All.** A good leader shows no favorites. Don't allow friendships to keep you from being fair to all members of your patrol. Know who likes to do what, and assign duties to patrol members by what they like to do.
3. **Be a Good Communicator.** You don't need a commanding voice to be a good leader, but you must be willing to step out front with an effective "Let's go." A good leader knows how to get and give information so that everyone understands what's going on.
4. **Be Flexible.** Everything doesn't always go as planned. Be prepared to shift to "plan B" when "plan A" doesn't work.
5. **Be Organized.** The time you spend planning will be repaid many times over. At patrol meetings, record who agrees to do each task, and fill out the duty roster before going camping.
6. **Delegate.** Some leaders assume that the job will not get done unless they do it themselves. Most people like to be challenged with a task. Empower your patrol members to do things they have never tried.
7. **Set an Example.** The most important thing you can do is lead by example. Whatever you do, your patrol members are likely to do the same. A cheerful attitude can keep everyone's spirits up.
8. **Be Consistent.** Nothing is more confusing than a leader who is one way one moment and another way a short time later. If your patrol knows what to expect from you, they will more likely respond positively to your leadership.
9. **Give Praise.** The best way to get credit is to give it away. Often a "Nice job" is all the praise necessary to make a Scout feel he is contributing to the efforts of the patrol.
10. **Ask for Help.** Don't be embarrassed to ask for help. You have many resources at your disposal. When confronted with a situation you don't know how to handle, ask someone with more experience for some advice and direction.