

Troop 410

Handbook



EAST MILL CREEK DISTRICT,
GREAT SALT LAKE COUNCIL
of the
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

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1. TROOP 410 HISTORY

Boy Scout Troop 410 was chartered by the Methodist Church in Salt Lake City more than 50 years ago. The Troop originally met at the Centenary Methodist Church that still exists near 1700 South and 5th East. Along with the Church's congregations, the Troop moved to its current location at Christ United Methodist Church (CUMC).

Troop 410 has a long and distinguished heritage of providing guidance, learning and enjoyment for its boys through a nondenominational Scouting program. It is well known for its active outdoor program and is highly respected within the community and by the Great Salt Lake Council of the Boy Scouts of America. It is one of the largest Troops in the Council and as such, relies heavily on the participation and cooperation of parents.

2. THE AIMS AND METHODS OF SCOUTING

A goal of the Boy Scouts of America is to help boys develop into honorable men. In keeping with this goal the objectives of Troop 410's program are the same. In carrying out our program we aim to foster the following ideals in each Scout:

Development of Character

This can be defined as personal qualities, values, and outlook. We help a boy grow in self-reliance, self-discipline, self-confidence, and self-respect. We instill in them ethical practices as expressed in the Scout Oath and Law.

Participatory Citizenship

This is accomplished by expecting the boy to cooperate with others by living and working in a troop which has rules based on the common good. On a broader scale, he is encouraged to learn and take pride in his national heritage, develop an understanding of the social, economic, and governmental systems of which he belongs. We value the ever-changing diversity of the Troop and we promote an awareness of the Scout's obligation people of differing backgrounds. Cultural and environmental awareness is also emphasized through a variety of outings, training sessions, and service projects.

Development of Mental, Physical and Emotional Fitness

In our active Troop, the Scout will be encouraged to work toward the goals of improved physical condition and good health habits. Adult Troop leaders will promote mentally and

emotionally well-balanced behavior. The Scout will be trained to use good judgment and be resourceful in solving problems.

To accomplish these aims Boy Scouting uses the following eight methods to meet boys' hope for fun and adventure.

Method 1 – THE IDEALS of Scouting are spelled out in the Scout Oath, Law, Slogan and Motto. The Troop measures the Scout against these ideals and continually encourages him to improve.

Method 2 – THE PATROL method gives the Scout an experience in group living and participatory citizenship. It places a certain amount of responsibility on young shoulders and shows boys how to accept it.

Method 3 – THE OUTDOORS is where Boy Scouting takes place! It is in the outdoors that Scouts share responsibilities and learn to live with each other. It is here that the skills and activities practiced at Troop meetings come alive with purpose.

Method 4 - ADVANCEMENT provides a series of surmountable obstacles and steps to overcome them. The Scout plans his advancement and progresses at his own pace as he overcomes each challenge. The Scout is rewarded for each achievement, which helps him gain self-confidence. The steps in the advancement system help a boy grow in self-reliance and in the ability to help others.

Method 5 - ADULT ASSOCIATION is how boys learn from the example set by their adult leaders. We encourage both men and women to become Scout leaders. Associating with adults of high character is encouraged at this stage of a young man's development. The Troop takes very seriously the need for quality adult role models and enforces all BSA policies regarding "Youth Protection".

Method 6 - PERSONAL GROWTH occurs as Scouts plan their activities and progress towards their goals. The Good Turn concept is a major part of the personal growth method of Scouting. Boys grow as they participate in community service projects and do Good Turns for others. The religious emblems program (e.g., God and Country Award) can also be a large part of a Scouts personal growth by connecting the Scouting Program with his religious training.

Method 7 - LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT encourages boys to learn and practice leadership skills. Every Scout has the opportunity to participate in both shared and total leadership situations. Understanding the concept of leadership helps a boy accept the leadership roles of others and guides him toward the citizenship aim of Scouting. Troop 410

encourages parents and adult leaders to stand back and let the Scouts run the Troop as much as possible.

Method 8 – THE UNIFORM makes the Scout Troop visible as a force for good and creates a positive youth image for the boy in the community. Wearing the uniform is an action that shows each Scout's commitment to the aims and purposes of Scouting. The uniform gives the Scout identity in a world brotherhood of youth that believe in the same ideals. The common uniform identifies the Troop as a team.

3. TROOP ORGANIZATION

Empowering boys to be leaders is the core of Scouting. Scouts learn by doing, and what they do is lead their patrols and their troop. The boys themselves develop the troop's program and then take responsibility for figuring out how they will achieve their goals. This is a big change if you are coming from Cub Scouts. Some adults struggle with the idea of allowing boys to lead the troop. In the short term it is easier for the adults to make the decisions and direct the action. However, with the Scoutmaster's direction, the boys form into patrols, plan the troop's program, and make it come to life.

A **patrol** is a small group of boys who are more or less similar in age, interests, and possibly in development. The boys take turns serving in positions of patrol leadership. New leaders are elected every 6 months so each member of a patrol will have an opportunity to serve in a leadership position. The patrol leader then may select a Scout for each of the following jobs as needed by the patrol: Assistant Patrol Leader, Scribe, Quartermaster, Grubmaster, and Cheerleader. Each patrol selects a name for itself, decides on a yell, and designs a flag

The Troop is structured into three kinds of patrols, **new-Scout patrols**, **Regular patrols**, and **Venture patrols**. **New Scout patrols** are dedicated to the needs and advancement requirements of the new or younger Scout. These patrols consist of new Scouts up through the 2nd Class Rank and basically are comprised of boys 11 and 12 years old. These Scouts may earn merit badges and attend all outings except those designated as "High Adventure".

Regular patrols are for boys that have completed the First Class requirements or who are in at least in the seventh grade. Focus is on rank advancement, exciting outdoor activities, and community service. A **Venture Patrol** is an *optional* older-boy patrol (ages 13 through 17) within a troop. These boys have the maturity and experience to plan and take part in more challenging high-adventure outings. A Scout in the Venture Patrol is encouraged to earn at least one merit badge or advancement at each Court of Honor. Members of the Venture Patrol are

expected to provide guidance to younger Scouts by demonstrating Scouting's values. In addition, members are expected to pursue senior leadership positions within the Troop.

Closely affiliated with the Troop is a separate program of the BSA called **Venturing**. This program is for young men and women who are 14 to 21 years of age. CUMC sponsors Venturing Crew 9410, which holds meetings twice a month and participates in more challenging outings and service work. A Scout who has advanced to the rank of Life and is looking for a more challenging Scouting experience can consider moving into the Venturing program.

4. JOINING THE TROOP

Any and all boys are welcomed to join Troop 410 and every effort will be made by the Troop Leadership to make his joining as positive and effortless as possible. Whether a boy arrives out of the Cub Scouts or has had no Scouting experience whatsoever, it is important that parents communicate with the Scoutmaster any information about the boy that will help his incorporation into the Troop. Each new Scout who joins Troop 410 will be placed in a Patrol with Scouts of similar age. This assures that the new Scout will be with boys of like interests and maturity level. With the help of his Patrol and adult Scout Leaders, a new Scout will advance to an appropriate level of Rank for his age and level of participation.

As a parent of a new Scout in Troop 410, you will have an opportunity to meet the Scoutmaster, Troop Committee Chairman, and many other parents who are active in the Troop organization. We want you to feel as comfortable as possible with your new Scouting family. As will be mentioned many times in this handbook, parent participation is a very important component of the Troop program.

5. MEETINGS

Troop meetings for the 410 Scouts are held every Monday night from 7:00 PM to approximately 8:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall of Christ United Methodist Church located at 2375 East 3300 South. Enter the building on the Southwest corner. Scouts are expected to attend regularly! Arriving on time is important to your Scout and the Troop. Scouts should be in the building with their Patrols for the opening flag ceremony that starts at 7:00 PM.

Besides training activities and Parents are requested to assist at Troop meetings providing adult supervision, participating on Boards of Review, helping with merit badges, or teaching New Scout skills for rank advancement. **In Troop 410, individual patrol meetings and activities may be held anytime and place as long as it does not interfere with any troop**

function and has the Scoutmasters' approval. Approximately once a month, there is a Patrol Leaders Council meeting.

Troop Committee Meetings are scheduled periodically. **All Parents** are welcome to attend committee meetings. Consult the calendar of events for an exact schedule of committee meetings.

Troop Parent Meetings are held at least four times a year. (1) In January, parents meet to begin preparations for the Annual Buffalo BBQ. (2) In March or early April, another parent meeting is held to finalize preparations for the BBQ. (3) In June, there is a parent meeting to furnish information about Summer Camp and, (4) another in the fall for calendar planning and assignments for the upcoming year.

An updated calendar of meetings and events is available on the Troop website. Although every effort is made to stick to the published schedule, there are times when dates may change. Information is provided every week in the Troop meeting about upcoming events. This is your best and most accurate source of information.

6. DUES, FUND RAISERS AND RE-CHARTERING

In 1916, the U.S. Congress, recognizing Scoutings' potential as an educational resource for groups interested in a positive program for youth, granted a charter to the Boy Scouts of America that allows them to make the program available through community organizations. Under the authority of this congressional mandate, BSA issues a charter to the troop to use the Scouting program under its own leadership to serve the youth and families for which it has concern and which will help it accomplish its own objectives.

After the troop has planned its annual program, via the calendar, costs to accomplish the troop's objectives are estimated, a budget is prepared and sources of income must be identified. Income to cover troop expenses is raised mainly through our annual fundraiser, the Buffalo Barbecue.

Annual registration fees are set by the troop committee based on expenses, and then collected from all Scouts in November of each year. This date corresponds with the annual re-chartering of the Troop that must be completed by December 31st. The dues for Troop 410 are currently \$60 per Scout and used in the follow way:

<i>BSA Registration</i>	\$ 10.00
<i>Boys Life Subscription</i>	10.80
<i>Friends of Scouting</i>	<u>35.00</u>

<i>Troop 410 Admin Costs</i>	<u>4.20</u>
<i>Total</i>	\$60.00

The Troop also buys accident insurance for each Scout and adult leader and contributes towards the cost of summer camp. It costs Troop 410 approximately \$200 in neckerchiefs, merit badges, patches and rank advancements for each boy to go from Scout to Eagle.

Adult registration is \$10.00 and includes a subscription to “Scouting” Magazine. None of the adult registration fee goes to the Troop. All parents are encouraged to register and registration is required to hold the positions of Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, and serve on the Troop Committee. There is no registration fee to serve as a merit badge counselor.

A Scout transferring into the Troop from a Cub Scout Pack or another Troop will be assessed a \$1.00 transfer fee.

The Friends of Scouting is the primary source of operating income for our local council, The Great Salt Lake Council. The council provides us with services such as training, support materials, activities, and camping facilities to make the Scouting program a better program for our troop. The Troop Committee has designated \$35.00 per boy to go to Friends of Scouting.

Troop 410’s annual Buffalo Barbecue dinner is usually held on the last Saturday in April. The Buffalo Barbecue is a tradition for Troop 410 and has been held every year since 1960’s. Proceeds from the Buffalo BBQ are used to subsidize costs not covered by registration fees. This is why our only fundraiser, the Buffalo BBQ, is so important. Since this fundraiser is so vital to Troop 410, Scouts and parents are **expected** to help prepare, serve and clean up for the dinner each year. At least one parent should plan to help prepare food on Friday night, and both parents are needed on Saturday.

The troop also has two other fundraisers – 1) the recycling of aluminum cans. A bin is located just inside the lobby of CUMC, so you may drop off your cans each Monday night, and 2) the sale of donuts during Sunday coffee hour at CUMC. These provide the troop with a little extra money for enhancements to the program.

7. UNIFORM

If you are new to Boy Scouts, one of the first things you will need is a uniform. Unless you are told otherwise, you are expected to wear your uniform (class A or B) to every meeting. You must be in full Class A uniform for Boards of Review, Courts of Honor, and other special occasions.

In Troop 410, the minimum that is recognized as a "full uniform" consists of a regulation shirt, either short or long sleeves, with proper insignia and epaulets, a Troop neckerchief with slide, pants, socks, and a Scout belt. Either the official BSA long pants or the official kaki green shorts with Boy Scout knee socks may be worn as a part of the Class A uniform.

For summer camp and other selected long-term activities where boys are expected to be in uniform each day, a second uniform is recommended. The second uniform (Class B) may consist of Scout shorts and an official BSA T-shirt (available at the Council stores or at summer camp trading posts). These are available in many different designs, but all have the Scout logo. The Troop also has its own "Troop 410" maroon T-shirts, which you may purchase.

The following uniform items should be purchased as soon as possible:

1. Regulation shirt (short or long sleeves)
2. Great Salt Lake Council patch
3. Red epaulets
4. Scout belt
5. Scout pants
6. Scout socks
7. Neckerchief slide (a homemade one is acceptable)

The Troop will furnish the red and white Troop neckerchief, numerals 410 and 50-year bar patch. There is no need to buy a BSA neckerchief since Troop 410 has their own. The Troop will also issue you badges of rank, and (as you are elected or appointed to office) badges of office; these need to be sewn onto your uniform as soon as you receive them!

We have a box of used uniform items that have been donated to the Troop by Scouts who have outgrown them. This box is downstairs in the Scout room, please feel free to take what you can use free-of charge, or donate outgrown items to our box.

All uniform and accessory items, except the Troop hat and neckerchief, can be purchased at Boy Scout Headquarters at 525 Foothill Blvd., the Sandy Scout Store, or the West Valley Scout Store. In addition, each year that Troop 410 qualifies for the "Quality Unit" award (check with the Scoutmaster), all Troop members and parents are entitled to a 10% discount on specified items. All patches should be sewn on as soon as possible. The proper locations are shown on the

inside covers of the Boy Scout Handbook. Don't forget the "Arrow of Light" patch if it was earned as a Webelo.

8. BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

Boy Scout Handbook — Each Scout is required to have his own copy. The handbook will serve as a basic reference throughout your Scouting career. Boys should get in the habit of bringing their handbook to each meeting.

In the handbook are checklists for advancement for each rank beginning with the rank of Boy Scout and continuing through the rank of Eagle. As you satisfy each requirement, put the date in the blank beside the requirement and have one of the adult leaders initial it. You must have this record with you when you appear before a Board of Review for rank advancement.

Experience shows that these handbooks are prone to loss and abuse. The Troop recommends that the Scouts name be written on the side (white page edges) in black marker so that it can be readily identified lying flat on the floor or in a stack. For a small fee, most copy shops will spiral bind the handbook so it can lay flat and place a protective plastic cover sheet on it. This is highly recommended.

Boy Scout Requirements Book — This book is not required but is very helpful. It lists all requirements for each rank and merit badge. Be sure to refer to the current edition. This is available at the Council Stores. Normally the Scoutmaster and Advancement Chairman will carry one of these.

Merit Badge Pamphlets — There is a separate pamphlet for each merit badge. The pamphlet contains a list of requirements, instructions, guidance, and examples. The Troop maintains a set of merit badge pamphlets that can be checked out by contacting the Troop librarian. Copies are also available at your local library or they can be purchased at the local Scout Center. Make sure you are using a current copy.

Boy's Life — When you enroll in the Troop a subscription to Boy's Life is included in your dues. Boy's Life is published monthly and will be mailed directly to your home. Do not renew it yourself. The Troop will renew it at each re-charter time.

Scouting — Scouting magazine is for parents and adult leaders. The cost of Scouting is included in the adult registration fee. It is published six times a year and is mailed directly to your home.

Other Publications — The Boy Scouts of America have a variety of other publications available to help Scouts and Scouters. We encourage parents and Scouts to visit Scout Headquarters and browse through the wide selection available in the BSA store.

PLEASE BE SURE YOUR NAME IS ON EACH BOOK YOU OWN AND BRING TO SCOUT MEETINGS!!

9. EQUIPMENT

Troop 410 is well equipped for food preparation and general "housekeeping" on most of our outings. The Troop has propane stoves, lanterns, ice chests, water containers, water purifiers, folding tables, patrol boxes with all of the necessary pots, pans, griddles, Dutch ovens, and utensils. The Troop also owns several Spring-bar tents, which are used on car campouts. All equipment owned by the Troop is stored in the Scout Room in the Basement of CUMC.

A Personal Overnight Camping Gear checklist is provided in the Boy Scout Handbook. Equipment needs vary depending on the nature of the outing.

Troop 410 does not allow radios, CD players, boom boxes, Game Boys, laser pens or any similar electronic equipment on outings or in Troop meetings.

There are times when strict compliance with the equipment list is essential. For example, proper clothing is mandatory for the winter outings. Gear weight limitations are very important on long backpacking trips. In those cases, an equipment check will be held the meeting before the outing.

ALL PERSONAL EQUIPMENT SHOULD BE CLEARLY MARKED WITH YOUR NAME!! Indelible ink should be used for soft items such as clothing and sleeping bags. Equipment such as mess kits should be marked with a scribing tool, scratched with a knife, or marked with fingernail polish.

Below are some suggestions for the more common items of personal equipment:

Mess Kit – On each outing, a Scout will need to bring a mug, water bottle, bowl/plate, and a spoon and fork.

Packs – For backpacking trips, we recommend a water repellent nylon pack with a lightweight aluminum or nylon frame. Many of these packs come with frames that are expandable and can

grow with you. For many shorter hikes, less than overnight, a fanny or daypack is handy though not required. The troop also has a few packs that can be borrowed. Packs can be rented from local sporting goods store. These are good ways to try out different types and brands of packs before buying.

Sleeping Bags – The sleeping bag is probably the most important piece of equipment you will need as a Scout. You will use it often in all seasons and you will be sorry if you do not purchase a good bag right from the start. A mummy bag with a treated nylon or other type of water resistant shell with a lightweight synthetic filling such as Hillofil or Polarguard is probably the most practical. Down filled bags are not recommended because they lose their insulating properties when they get wet. For winter outings, a bag rated for at least +15⁰ F is mandatory. This weight bag is fine for summer, too. Remember that you can always unzip a bag if it is too warm, but there is little you can do if your bag is not warm enough. A stuff sack is also essential for your sleeping bag.

Pad – A proper pad will insulate and form a moisture barrier between you and the ground, which is especially important in winter. A closed cell polyurethane pad, three quarter length, is probably the most versatile pad. Another excellent pad, though considerably more expensive, is the self-inflating type.

Boots – For most hikes, a pair of lightweight hiking boots with canvas uppers and rubber soles is satisfactory. Ordinary tennis shoes can also be worn for day hikes. For backcountry overnight hikes in rugged terrain or when a heavy pack is worn good ankle support is important. We recommend a quality high top hiking boot. Properly waterproofed and insulated winter boots are a must for outings in the snow. We recommend “Pac Boots”, boots with nylon uppers, rubber bottoms and removable insulated liners, such as a Kamik or Sorel brand.

10. OUTINGS AND ACTIVITIES

Troop 410 has a very active schedule of outings and activities year around. One major outing or activity is usually planned for each month with two or more during some summer months. It is important that boys attend as many of these outings as possible.

Some outings have become more–or–less traditional for Troop 410 because of their popularity over the years. These include the district Spring and Fall Camporees, a weekend at Crystal Hot Springs, the Klondike Derby, the Brighton Overnighter and ski outing, the Snowshoe/Snow cave outing, a week of summer camp, a backpacking outing, and a summer family campout.

There will normally be a nominal fee associated with each outing. The outing fee covers the cost of food that will be purchased by the Troop, and the cost of renting any special equipment for the outing such as the rafts for the Colorado River run. The cost will vary depending on the outing and will range from \$5.00 for a simple overnigher to as much as \$180 for a week of summer camp. All efforts are made to keep the outing fees to a minimum. Scouts can earn credit toward summer camp from selling Buffalo BBQ tickets.

For each outing, an Outing Permission Slip will be sent home a few weeks in advance. **THE PERMISSION SLIP MUST BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED NO LATER THAN THE DAY OF THE OUTING OR THE SCOUT WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO GO. NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE TO THIS POLICY.**

11. MEDICAL EXAMS

Boy Scouts of America have three classifications of Personal Health and Medical Record forms:

Class I - Scout Form #34414 - must be updated annually for all participants, which is used for a camping experience not longer than 72 hours.

Class II – Scout Form #34414 - or a copy of the results of a physical examination - must be updated once every 36 months for all participants less than 40 years of age.

Class III - Scout Form #34412A - is used for all youth members and adults in high adventure activities. It is valid for 12 months from the date signed by a licensed health-care practitioner. All adults 40 and older must also use this form for any outing greater than 72 hours.

Blank copies of these forms are located in the Scout room.

For most Troop 410 sponsored activities and outings the Class II medical exam is the only health form necessary. Occasionally, in the case of more strenuous outings such as a five-day backpacking trip, the Troop will require that you have a Class III form completed by your physician.

If you are new to Troop 410, we suggest that each Scout have a Class II medical form completed by early June. The Troop will provide this form that must be filled out by your parents and your family doctor. You should **make a copy** of the form for yourself and return the original to the Troop. **YOU MUST HAVE A CURRENT MEDICAL EXAM FOR SUMMER CAMP. THIS IS A BSA REQUIREMENT. THERE CAN BE NO EXCEPTIONS!**

12. RANK ADVANCEMENT

The Scouting program encourages boys to meet significant challenges that lead to personal growth. As a boy works his way through the ranks towards Eagle, the requirements he must successfully complete will help him develop physically, emotionally, and morally into manhood.

Four basic steps lead the Boy Scout through the ranks of Tenderfoot to Eagle: 1) A Scout learns, 2) A Scout is tested, 3) A Scout is reviewed, and 4) A Scout is recognized.

To advance, a Scout will need to complete the requirements for each rank and actively participate in Troop activities (regular Monday meetings, campouts, outings, service projects, planning, etc.). A Scout involved in his troop's program is also making friends, exploring new subjects, trying out fresh ideas, and gaining invaluable experience as a leader.

To begin the process of advancement, turn to the Boy Scout Handbook to find the joining requirements. When these requirements are completed, a Scout can proudly wear the Scout Badge and uniform that shows you are a member of the Boy Scouts of America. The rank patch will be presented to the Scout as soon as possible after completing the requirements and he will be formally recognized at the next Court of Honor.

As soon as the Scout has earned his Scout Badge, he will begin working toward the rank of Tenderfoot. The Boy Scout Handbook lists the requirement for this and each of the following rank advancements. The requirements for Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class may be completed concurrently. A boy who advances to First Class within his first year in Scouting has a better-than-average chance of eventually becoming an Eagle Scout.

When a Scout successfully demonstrates that he has completed a requirement the Scoutmaster or an Assistant Scoutmaster will acknowledge the fact and record the achievement with the Troop Scribe. With the help of the Advancement Chairperson, the Scribe keeps track of every Scout's advancement progress with the troop's computer software program. An adult leader must sign the Handbook, which is your official record that the requirement has been completed.

Parents cannot sign-off rank advancements or merit badge requirements for their own boys!

After all the requirements for a rank have been completed, the Scout will participate in a Scoutmaster Conference. When the Scout believes he has completed all the requirements of a rank he should approach the Scoutmaster and schedule a time to meet. After you have completing the conference and the Scoutmaster has signed the Handbook, the Advancement

Chairman will schedule your Board of Review. The date of your Board of Review is the official date of your rank advancement.

a. What is a Scoutmaster Conference?

A Scoutmaster conference is a one-on-one discussion with the Scoutmaster or an Assistant Scoutmaster. This conference is held each time a boy completes the requirements for a rank advancement. The conference is an opportunity for a Scoutmaster to discuss the Scout's activity in the troop and his understanding and practice of the ideals of Scouting. Together they can set goals for future advancements. Occasionally, a Scout may be called into a Scoutmaster conference in order to evaluate the Scout's participation or as a counseling tool for a variety of other reasons.

b. What is a Board of Review?

A Board of Review is held to evaluate the Scout's acceptability into the next higher rank once all other requirements have been met. The Board is composed of the Advancement Chairman and at least two other registered adults. The purpose of the board of review is **not to retest** a Scout, but rather to ensure that he has completed all of the requirements, to determine the quality of his troop experience, and to encourage him to advance toward the next rank. The Scout will be asked to repeat the Scout Oath, the Scout Law, the Scout Slogan, the Scout Motto, and the Outdoor Code. The review will include a discussion of the ways in which the Scout sees himself living up to the Scout Ideals in everyday life. The Board will address the Scouts leadership performance and merit badge completion and knowledge, and Scout spirit (attitude toward Scouting). If the Scout demonstrates that he has completed all the requirements, the Board members will sign and date the advancement record in his Boy Scout Handbook. This date is very important because it is the beginning of the time period for advancing to the next rank. **A BOARD OF REVIEW IS REQUIRED FOR EACH RANK ADVANCEMENT AND THE SCOUT MUST APPEAR BEFORE THE BOARD IN FULL CLASS A UNIFORM.**

c. What is a Court of Honor?

A Court of Honor is a formal ceremony the Troop holds every three months. At this ceremony the Scout receives formal recognition for merit badges earned, rank advancements and other special patches and awards. This is a special event and "best dress" is in order. Scouts wear the full Class A uniform. Families, friends, and the public are encouraged to attend this very meaningful experience for Scouts. **You are encouraged to support other Scouts by attending even if your Scout is not**

receiving an award. Courts of Honor are held in place of a regular Monday night meeting. Troop 410 has a Court of Honor in March, June, September, and December.

d. What is an Eagle Court of Honor?

The highest rank in Scouting is the Eagle, attained by only three percent of boys who enter Scouting nationwide. This award represents the culmination of years of dedicated work by the Scout, and accordingly is awarded in a special ceremony. This Eagle Court of Honor is separate from the regular Court of Honor, although it may be held the same evening. All Scouts and parents of Troop 410 are encouraged to attend to help recognize these Scouts who have worked so very hard. The Scout and his parents plan and coordinate the ceremony. As a gift to the Scout who reaches the rank of Eagle, the troop will reimburse the parents for up to \$100 of Ceremony costs of the Eagle Court of Honor.

13. MERIT BADGES

Through the Boy Scout merit badge program, many Scouts have been introduced to a life-long hobby or even a rewarding career. They have discovered new abilities, increased their self-confidence, and become experts in subjects that have enriched their lives and their ability to serve their community.

The requirements for each badge appear in the Current BSA merit badge pamphlet for that award and in the Boy Scout Requirements Handbook. Scouts may work on any merit badge at any time, assuming they have the approval of the Scoutmaster, who is the first person to sign the merit badge paperwork. While achieving merit badges is not required for the ranks of Tenderfoot, Second Class, or First Class, Scouts moving toward those ranks also may work on merit badges. We recommend that the new Scout concentrate on rank advancement until he reaches the rank of First Class.

When it comes time to begin working on merit badges read the Chapter on Merit Badges in the Boy Scout Handbook. Scouts wishing to earn a merit badge do so with the guidance and approval of a merit badge counselor. Troop 410 will provide its own merit badge counselors. The Advancement Chairman maintains a current list of Troop 410 merit badge counselors.

It is important that you get a merit badge “blue card” from the Advancement Chairman, get the approval signature of the Scoutmaster, and contact a counselor BEFORE beginning to work on any merit badge as they may have information on changes in requirements which are not contained in the Boy Scout Requirements book or merit badge pamphlet.

An approved Troop 410 Merit Badge Counselor must sign off all merit badge cards. Merit badge counselor sessions must meet the same "two-deep leadership" requirements expected in all Scouting activities. Parents are encouraged to help their Scout meet badge requirements, but are not permitted to sign off on their own son's merit badge paperwork. A single Merit Badge Counselor cannot sign off more than **three** merit badges for one Scout within one re-charter year.

Introductory classes to the "Eagle required" merit badges are offered at various times throughout the year at the regular Troop meetings. Scouts will not be able to complete the merit badge requirements in these sessions, but will be given information and assistance by the merit badge counselor to enable them to finish the requirements on your own.

When all requirements have been satisfied for a merit badge, the Counselor and the Scoutmaster must sign the blue card. Then the blue card should be handed to the Advancement Chairman. There are three parts to the card. Two of these will be returned to the Scout when he receives the actual merit badge. The stamped copy should be **kept** by the Scout in a safe place. The Counselor will keep the other portion. **It is the Scout's responsibility to see that these cards are turned in to avoid delay in receiving your merit badge.**

We must reemphasize the importance of KEEPING YOUR COPY OF EACH BLUE CARD. These are very helpful when it comes time to turn in your Eagle application. We suggest the use of plastic baseball cardholder sheets to store the cards.

Merit badges will be presented at the next Court of Honor after they are earned. Merit badges are round cloth patches, which are sewn onto the sash and worn as part of the official Scout uniform.

14. SERVICE PROJECTS

Service often occurs in small, unassuming ways - Good turns and acts of kindness by individual Scouts throughout their daily lives. Yet, Scouting also promotes larger, group service projects. Troop service projects encourage boys to discover that even though they are young they have the ability to make positive changes in their communities. Scout service projects benefit others while building character and good citizenship in boys. Beginning with the rank of Second Class, Scouts are required to take part in service projects. If a Scout wishes to work on a service project that is not Troop sponsored, he must get prior approval from the Scoutmaster to receive service credit. Scouts cannot receive service credit for a project that benefits Scouting or for

which they are paid. All candidates for the rank of Eagle are required to organize their own project and direct the work of others in its performance.

When a Scout takes part in a service project, the adult leader will provide you with a note that shows the date you worked and the number of hours. This will be required when you go before the Board of Review. We suggest you keep it in a secure place.

15. NEWSLETTER & WEB SITE

A Troop 410 Newsletter is published periodically to help keep Scouts and parents informed of upcoming events. When you receive one of these newsletters, please read it and keep it for reference.

Troop 410 has its own web site at www.troop410.com. It contains a troop calendar, pictures and about past activities. You will also find useful links to other websites and forms used by the Troop. As more Scout families acquire access to the Internet, the Troop's website and e-mail communication becomes more valuable for keeping everyone linked and informed.

16. RECORDS

Both the Great Salt Lake Council and the Troop maintain records of each Scout's rank advancement and awards. The Troop has begun to track each Scout's history with the Troop on a computer software program that is maintained by the Advancement Chairperson. However, each Scout is responsible for ensuring that his information is correct. You are encouraged to keep for your records each signed advancement card, merit badge card, service hour records and any other documents or memorabilia relating to troop activities. If you move or transfer to another troop, you may need these records as proof that you have earned the rank or award in question.

17. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

It has always been the policy of Troop 410 that no boy shall be denied the opportunity to participate because of an inability to pay. If you are in need of financial assistance for any of the Troop's activities, please do not hesitate to contact the Scoutmaster, Committee Chairperson, or Troop Treasurer to make arrangements. Any such contact will be kept in the strictest confidence.

18. PARENT PARTICIPATION

One of the joys of Scouting is that it involves the whole family in valuable activities together. Family outings and Courts of Honor give siblings as well as parents a chance to feel a part of the experience. Parental support is essential for the success of your individual Scout and also for the continued success of Troop 410. Here are some specific ways that parents are asked to help:

- a. Please complete the Troop Resource Survey Form #34437 and turn it in to the Committee Secretary so that the Troop Leadership will know what skills and interests you can contribute to the Troop program. On the back of that form please indicate the Merit Badges for which you could be a counselor. You must have an understanding of the requirements of the merit badge and of the needs and abilities of Scout age boys. Merit Badge Counselors must fill out an Adult Leader application but are not required to pay the \$10 adult registration fee. Adults already registered with the Troop may teach merit badges with no additional application paperwork
- b. You may help transport Scouts to and from outings. Outing drivers are asked to complete a Transportation Information Form. This form is kept on file so that future coordinators have a source of accurate and current information on each outing drivers.
- c. Consider attending a District training session to become a better-informed Scout Leader. Basic Leader Training is generally held in the fall and spring, and the dates listed on the Troop calendar. They consist of two Thursday evening classes, and a Friday evening/Saturday morning overnight. Talk to the Troop Training Coordinator about this class and other training opportunities.
- d. Volunteer to help with a meeting or to sponsor a scheduled activity. Parents are essential to help organize, implement, and supervise our many ambitious plans and outings.
- e. Attend all parent meetings! Be knowledgeable about the Troop.**
- f. Encourage and support your son in completing Rank Advancement requirements. Make yourself available to help all Scouts and not just your own child.
- g. A patrol leader should call your son by Sunday afternoon to remind him of the scheduled activities for the Monday meeting. If your Scout does not receive this call, encourage him to call the Senior Patrol Leader.

- h. Each family is expected to take a leading role in coordinating at least one activity each year. After you and your Scout have been in the Troop a few months, you will be asked to volunteer to coordinate an activity. If asked to plan an outing, these are key items to think about before the outing:
- i. Prepare and distribute any information to Scouts and have a sign-up sheet at least two to three weeks before the planned activity.
 - ii. Include an Outing Permission Slip; all Scouts who wish to participate **MUST** return this slip with parental approval before they can be permitted to depart on the trip.
 - iii. Checks with Outdoor Coordinator to determine if you need a tour permit application for the outing. BSA requires the troop to file a Tour Permit Form #34426A each time for each overnight outing. The outing leader must submit a Tour Permit to Council Headquarters describing the outing, providing numbers of participant, and listing vehicle and driver information. This permit requires information or signatures from several individuals. So, start them early!
 - iv. Copy of Personal Health and Medical Record. The Troop maintains the most current Health Forms on file for each Scout and active Adult Leader. Medical concerns can be discussed with the Troop Health and Safety Advisor.
 - v. Coordinate outing finances with the Treasurer.
 - vi. Write the outing report form.
 - vii. Meet with Treasurer the Monday night following the outing so that expenses can be paid and checks can be deposited in a timely manner.
- i. Whether in or out of a BSA uniform, adults participating in Troop 410 activities as asked to conduct themselves with the highest degree of maturity and integrity. A teaching method inherent in the Scouting program is Adult Association. If you are present, you are a role model!

Other important avenues of parent participation include assisting at Monday night meetings, particularly when there are a number of Boards of Review to perform.

All registered adult leaders must be certified in the BSA Youth Protection Training program. This short course can be taken online through the Great Salt Lake Council website. There is a link to this site on the Troop 410 website.

19. SCOUT SUNDAY

This is the event where the Scouts, Leaders and Scout families of Troop 410 express our gratitude to our sponsoring organization. It is a special Sunday morning service held annually in the month of February at CUMC. All Scouts and parents are encouraged to attend. Troop members participate in this service by serving as ushers, greeters, liturgists, and by conducting a flag ceremony. A report of the past years activities is presented to the congregation by a Scout. Typically, a Scout will perform a special musical piece. The theme of the worship service on this Sunday is scouting and is directed to the Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Venturers.

20. DISCIPLINE AND BEHAVIOR

Trying to keep 30 to 50 teenage boys orderly and out of harm's way is a challenge. We want Scouting to be fun and we want meetings to be a comfortable place to spend time. We ask that parents and adult mentors assist us in conveying a few simple concepts. Please take a moment to review the following points with your Scout:

- a. We maintain a ZERO tolerance on physical abuse. No hitting, shoving, pushing, kicking, or other aggressive physical contact is allowed.
- b. Teasing, belittling, harassing, or taunting another Scout, older or younger, is not in keeping with Scout spirit and is not allowed.
- c. Disrespect of any kind is not in keeping with Scout spirit, and disrespect to an adult leader or to Scouts in leadership positions is especially discomfoting. Disrespect or irreverence during flag ceremonies is completely unacceptable.

Each and every person involved in the Troop deserves to have a positive experience. At times a formal "Code of Conduct", or a signed "contract" between Scout and Troop may become necessary, but we hope that a reinforcement of the rules by parents -- a united front and a consistent message -- will cause Scouts to take heed.

Should we continue to observe a Scout violating these standards at meetings or other gatherings, the Troop leadership will contact the Scout's parents at the time of the infraction so that the situation can be discussed at a more convenient time.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and support.

21. THE TROOP COMMITTEE

The Scoutmaster provides the most visible adult leadership to the Troop, but the Troop Committee furnishes the resources and assistance that ensure a smooth functioning program. All parents are welcome to attend committee meetings and meetings are listed on the Troop calendar.

Members of the Troop Committee include: 1) Committee Chairman, 2) Secretary, 3) Institutional Representative (liaison with CUMC), 4) Treasurer, 5) Equipment Coordinator, 6) Advancement Chairman, 7) Outdoor Coordinator, 8) Health and Safety Advisor, 9) Training Coordinator, 10) Webmaster, and 11) Awards Coordinator. These individuals hold unique positions so that they can focus on understanding a particular area of scouting life in the Troop. Please address any questions to the appropriate Committee Member.

22. YOUTH PROTECTION

The first job of every adult leader in Troop 410 is to assure the safety and well being of our boys. The National Council of the Boy Scouts of America and the Great Salt Lake Council are very clear on the requirements for safeguarding youth participants from physical, emotional, and sexual abuse. Troop 410 supports this initiative by requiring every adult leader to complete BSA Youth Protection Training. If you are a registered leader and need assistance with this, please contact the Troop Training coordinator, Committee Chairman, or Scoutmaster. In addition, the Troop incorporates the following practices in every activity: 1) two-deep adult leadership, 2) respect for a boy's privacy, 3) proper preparation and training in anticipation of any event, 4) constructive discipline, 5) no tolerance for hazing, and 6) reporting of incidence to proper authorities.

23. QUESTIONS

Contact the Scoutmaster or any member of the Troop Committee if you have a question. These leaders would be pleased to help you and your Scout understand the rules of Troop 410 and the policies of the National Boy Scouts of America. Do not hesitate to ask a question and continue to ask until you receive a satisfactory answer.

