# All about Troop 360

The "Encino Park Troop"

#### Getting Started in Troop 360

What's involved in joining the Boy Scouts in Encino Park? Who do I ask for more information? What do I need to buy? When and where do you meet? Read on to find out all this and more!

#### Welcome!

If you've already decided to join us, welcome! If you're here to learn about what Boy Scouts do and if you might be interested, you're in luck! We have boys from our troop here tonight that will let you know all the fun things that Scouts do, and the character development that occurs while these things are happing, without your sons even noticing!

## What Does 'Boy-Led' Mean to T360?

Most troops are 'boy-led' to some extent. The Patrol Leader's Council (PLC) runs Troop 360. To us, it means the boys choose camping activities, find and request locations to support them, plan the campout, and then run the campout. Similarly, they plan troop meetings to work on the skills required for advancement and upcoming campouts. Twice a year, the PLC meets to pick themes and campout locations for the following year. Additionally, the youth leaders are voted on twice every year to ensure ample opportunity for new leadership amongst the boys.

#### None of this can happen without parent participation. We need your help.

The troop committee handles the "business side" of Scouting: record-keeping, money-handling, campsite-reserving, troop trailer hauling, etc. - they handle what the Scouts can't. The Scoutmaster corps coaches the youth leadership on how to plan, makes suggestions, and monitors activities for CFG (Confusion, Frustration, and Danger). But mostly we stay out of the way; the boys lead in Troop 360!

#### Come Visit Us!

Please come visit a troop meeting or campout soon. Our April campout (Apr. 22-24) would be a great one to visit. The theme will be "Wilderness Survival" and there will be hatchet throwing, survival bracelet making, knife throwing, archery, fire building, and a hike/tour of the Rangers' debris shelters. You may join us for the day or overnight. Please contact an adult leader for more information.



#### Adult Leaders

Scoutmaster

Ian Townsend 931-933-0291 ian.townsend97@gmail.com

Committee Chair

John Frazier 210-336-5949 JFrazierInc@gmail.com

Membership Chair

Chickens

Chris Kwan 210-382-3170 csckwan@gmail.com

## Youth Leaders (PLC)

Senior Patrol Leader Kollin S. Assistant SPL Gilbert M. Assistant SPL Konnor S. Senior Troop Guide Wesley F. Patrol Leader – Badgers Aidan K. PL – Flaming Doughboys Zachary F. PL – Phoenix Taylor T. PL – Foxes Nicholas S. PL – Moose Austin M. PL – Laser Shooting Markuz A.

### More Information

Maps to meeting place, full calendar, and more can be found at <a href="mailto:troop360satx.shutterfly.com">troop360satx.shutterfly.com</a>

## What comes next?

If you decide to join Troop 360, see the membership chair for paperwork and payment. Let us know when your Pack's crossover will be, and we'll be sure to have some Boy Scouts there to welcome their new brothers into the troop.

## When & Where Do You Meet & Camp?

Much of Scouting is done in the outdoors. Troop 360 meets year-round most Tuesdays at 7pm at the Encino Park Community Center (1923 Encino Rio), in and around the building that looks like a volunteer fire station. The last Tuesday of each month is for the youth leaders to plan the upcoming month's meetings/campout.

We camp all around San Antonio, the Hill Country, and even down to the coast on occasion. During the year we try to stay within about a 2-3 hour radius for weekend campouts. During the summer we sometimes go a bit further. Previous campout activities include backpacking, climbing, shooting, wilderness survival, kayaking/canoeing and fishing.



Summer Camp in June/July can be as close as Bear Creek or as far away as Colorado and Missouri! The last few years we've been to Sid Richardson Scout Ranch (Palo Pinto County, TX), Camp Alexander (Lake George, CO), and the H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation (Osceola, MO). Most of these have "medium-adventure" programs for older boys as well as an excellent first-year program.

We send crews to (at least) one of the high adventure bases almost every year – backpacking at Philmont in NM, winter survival at OKPIK in the Northern Tier (MN), sea kayaking and island living in the Florida Keys, or a bit of everything at the newest base - a Scouting wonderland at Summit Bechtel Reserve in WV.

## What Patrol Will My Son Be In?

Each **troop** is comprised of **patrols** of about 8-12 Scouts. When new Scouts join the troop, they are assigned to one of the six patrols. Each patrol has representation from every age, rank, and personality. Each patrol has their own name, flag, yell, and personality. A patrol becomes a scout's "family".

A big part of Scouting is friends – if your son has a friend already in one patrol, he may choose to join that patrol.



#### What's all this cost??

One-Time Troop Startup Fee (\$20.00) One-Time Troop Supply Fee (\$20.00) National Dues each Dec. (\$66.00) Annual Troop Dues (\$100.00) Boys Life – Optional (\$12.00)

The shirt and patches are about \$40, and the book is \$10. You can buy these at the Scout Shop.

Troop and Patrol meetings, awards and merit badge patches are included in this cost. Campouts are paid as we go, based on the cost of activities and travel.

The troop provides all camping gear except personal items, a sleeping bag, and a backpack.

Our activities are supported by our participation in various fundraisers throughout the year. You'll be hearing about these shortly!

## Scouting is a Family Affair

We've got a great group that is helping your boys to put on the program for... your boys – and we need your help to do it! We can use help in all areas – from joining us on camping trips (and hauling Boy Scouts), to setting up a single event for the committee, helping with Boards of Review every month, serving on the committee, or even getting fully trained and becoming one of our Assistant Scoutmasters!

The Merit Badge Counselors, Committee, Scoutmasters, etc. are parents just like you! There is training available for all positions. Talk to any of the adults about how you can become involved. Without involved parents, Scouting cannot happen.