



New Scout and Family Guide

Welcome to Troop 32!

To the New Parents of Troop 32,

Welcome to our Troop! We are very pleased that you and your son or daughter have chosen to join our Troop. In order to make your transition into our Troop and Scouting easier, we have put together this document that provides information about us, Scouting, and hints to make your first year a successful and memorable one. You will find phrases including “Patrol Method” and “Scout Led Troop” mentioned often, these concepts are not often discussed in the Cub Scouting program but are the cornerstones of Scouting. We hope that the information included in this “New Scout and Family Guide” will help introduce you to these ideas.

We should emphasize how important it is for you to participate with your son/daughter. **We need your help** to complete our Troop mission and make your son’s/daughter’s scouting experience successful. Every patrol needs a registered, trained Assistant Scoutmaster (volunteer) to give guidance to the patrol and support the leadership. You do not require any previous scouting experience for this role, only a desire for your son/daughter to succeed in Scouting!, therefore, if you would consider helping us out by joining as an Adult Leader, we would greatly appreciate and welcome it.

While Troop 32 is a Scout Led Troop, it is the duty of the adult leaders to guide our Scouts in the choices they will make and support their learning of scouting and leadership skills.

Again, we are very excited to have you as a member of our Troop. We look forward to a great and exciting year!

Sincerely and YIS (Yours In Scouting),

Juan F. Carpio, Scoutmaster (Boy Troop)

Maria R. Carpio, Scoutmaster (Girl Troop)

Claudia Cabrera, Committee Chairman

Laura M. Leon, Chartered Organization Representative

Information Summary

MISSION:

The mission of Scouts BSA Troop 32 is to provide opportunities for young men and women to have a fun, challenging, supportive and exciting Scouting experience.

ACHIEVING THE MISSION:

Active, enthusiastic scouts supported by involved and supportive parents in an outdoor based scout-led run program that holds the scouts interest. We encourage the scouts to advance in rank so they have the skills to enjoy the opportunities presented, but not at the expense of fun.

CHARTERING ORGANIZATION:

St. Barnabas Catholic Church, 3955 Orange Ave., Long Beach, CA 90807
Boy Scouts of America, Long Beach Area Council – www.longbeachbsa.org

OUTINGS:

Full year program – Camping approximately 3-6 times a year, Hiking 4-8 times a year, Multiple Scout-Choice-Outings, Community Service Projects, Flag Ceremonies, Fundraising events, and one-day outings. For Summer Camp we choose a different location every year and is usually scheduled in July or beginning of August. This year we have yet to determine our Summer Camp location, we will keep you posted.

So does this mean that your son or daughter will need to attend every event/outing? Absolutely Not! Although we would encourage them to attend most of them, keeping in mind that many requirements for your son's/daughter's advancement can only be achieved by camping and hiking.

SUMMER CAMP:

Summer Camp is arguably the most important and biggest outing of the year for any troop, therefore it's very important that families give strong consideration for their scouts to attend, **especially recommended for new scouts**, as they will get the most out of the experience. It's a weeklong campout from Sunday to Saturday, at least two adult leaders will be out there overseeing scouts, parents can help out too, although they must be registered as members of the troop and have gone through Youth Protection Training.

Scouts will experience a wide range of activities, like: Swimming, Wall Climbing, Shooting Sports, Horseback Riding (depending on the camp), Canoeing, etc.. Throughout the week scouts will work on Merit Badges (what is a Merit Badge you ask?, see Page 7), typically they will work on and attain anywhere between 4 and 7 merit badges during that week.

For many scouts this experience keeps them coming back and staying active in the troop, because of the life-long lasting memories that will be created.

ANNUAL EVENT/OUTING SCHEDULING:

For our annual events/outings planning, the Senior Patrol Leader* and Assistant Senior Patrol Leader* with feedback from every scout, and of course with guidance from Adult Leadership, come up with the yearly calendar which includes what was already mentioned above: Hikes, Campouts, Scout Choice Outings, etc. This is usually planned in October or November.

Visit our calendar on the website to view our current calendar of events: <http://www.troop32lb.org/calendar.html>

VERY IMPORTANT: When your son/daughter attends any outing with the troop, you and your scout must fill out an ACTIVITY CONSENT FORM, there are no exceptions to this rule, as not doing so can jeopardize your scout's participation in the activity/outing. To view and print an *Activity Consent Form*, go here: <https://goo.gl/Mzzasq>

* The Senior Patrol Leader and Assistant Senior Patrol Leader are typically older scouts who lead the troop scouts in everything they do.

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR SCOUTS:

Take part in our High Adventure Patrol for those scouts interested in going on additional activities and have that thirst for high adventure outings like: Backpacking, 8+ mile hikes, Zip-Lining, Kayaking, Paddle boarding, etc. Being a part of this Patrol can earn the Scout the possibility of being voted in to take part in the BSA’s National Honor Society – **Order of the Arrow**.

TROOP MEETINGS:

Thursdays, 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM at St. Barnabas Catholic Church (Parish Center or Parish Hall). Our meetings are planned as follows:

- Week 1:** Patrol Leaders Council (PLC) and Regular Troop Meeting.
- Week 2:** Regular Troop Meeting (Parent Informational/Committee Meeting).
- Week 3:** Regular Troop Meeting (Patrol based: Scouts wear Class B T-Shirt).
- Week 4:** Regular Troop Meeting.
- Week 5: If there is a week 5 in the month, no meeting will be scheduled.

TROOP SIZE:

Currently 13 Scouts and around 7 active adult leaders (including committee members).

SCOUTMASTER (BOY TROOP)	SCOUTMASTER (GIRL TROOP)	COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN	CHARTERED ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVE
Juan F. Carpio juan@carpio.org	Maria R. Carpio eva@carpio.org	Claudia Cabrera ccabrera67@gmail.com	Laura M. Leon lauramoller@aol.com

PLEASE VISIT THE WEBSITE TO SEE THE REST OF OUR COMMITTEE MEMBERS: <http://www.troop32lb.org/adults.html>

COMMITTEE:

Committee meetings are scheduled once a month (2nd Thursday of every month) and occur based on need.

COSTS:

- Annual Dues - \$120.00 per year, or \$10 per month. Preferably paid in 6 month increments.
- Summer Camp - \$500.00 (approximately). If the family so choses to send their son/daughter to it.
- Outings – Food cost shared by each patrol.
- Troop costs supported through various fundraisers held throughout the year.

REQUIRED UNIFORM “CLASS A”:

Green Shorts/Pants with Scout belt. Scout Shirt w/Patches (Long Beach Council Patch, Scouting World Crest Patch, Troop Number patches) a Troop 32 special patch can be requested for \$5 (ask the Scoutmaster). BSA Approved Green or Hiking Socks (if wearing shorts). Neckerchief is provided by the troop (Black/Gray) & Slide.

“CLASS B” SHIRTS:

Every 3rd Meeting of the month our meetings are Patrol Based, in which scouts will wear their “Class B” shirts, green pants, along with their neckerchief and slide. This means that they do not need to wear their “Class A” uniform to said Troop meetings.

For all outdoor outings like campouts and hikes, we wear our Class “A” uniform on the way to our destination (traveling to), after which we switch to our Class “B” shirts the rest of the way.

The Cost of our Class B T-Shirts is around \$15 - \$16.

MEDICAL FORMS:

These forms must be submitted to the Scoutmaster or Committee Chairman annually before Summer Camp. Parts **A** and **B1** are required annually for all adults and scouts. Part **B2** is required with Parts A and B1 for any event that exceeds 72 consecutive hours or when the nature of the activity is strenuous and demanding, this includes Summer Camp.

Link to the Medical Forms: <http://bit.ly/MedFormsABC>

PATROLS:

The patrols (group of scouts within a troop) camp and eat together as a unit. Adults also eat together. The troop provides each patrol with patrol boxes equipped with cooking kits, cooking utensils, cleaning materials, heat-resistant gloves, stove, lantern, and propane. Each Patrol plans their own meals, provide their own food and other consumables.

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

Scouting for Food (Annual Collection of canned goods for the disadvantaged, happens in November).

Participation in Eagle Service Projects.

Various Flag Ceremonies.

Various Service Projects that may come up during the year.



Scoutbook is our online Advancement & Scout Tracking application which we use to keep track of our scouts Rank Advancement, Merit Badges, awards, etc... It is a very useful tool for all involved in the troop, from adult leadership, to you the parent, and to the scouts themselves, and one which will provide you access for you to view your scout's advancement progression.

Once you have established yourselves in the troop (successful Scout registration), you will be receiving an email indicating that an account has been created for you and instructions on how to access it.

TROOP WEBSITE:

Visit the troop website, as it's a major source of information for our troop. In it you will find our Calendar of Outings, specific detailed information of upcoming events, Advancement information, PLC information, etc...

Our website is constantly evolving and being updated with new information on a regular basis.

There are many pages throughout the site that require a site password, you will find it under the website address below!

TROOP WEBSITE ADDRESS	QR CODE
<p style="text-align: center;">http://www.troop32lb.org 1117</p>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">  <p style="font-style: italic;">Scan this QR Code with your smartphone</p> </div>

How Troop 32 Operates

The scouts run the program utilizing the Patrol Method. The Patrol Leaders Council conducts a monthly planning session, at these meetings, the PLC brainstorms to plan the weekly troop meetings, which includes the different planning requirements for upcoming outings and other presentations or subjects of interest to be presented at such meetings.

The troop places emphasis on getting New Scout Patrols going. When crossing over to Scouts BSA, a Webelos Den becomes a New Scout Patrol in our Troop. We believe that Scouts feel more comfortable with the boys/girls they already know and will remain in the Scouting Program longer. Initially New Patrols are assigned a Troop Guide (a Scout who is First Class or above and interested in helping incoming boys/girls) to help the first year scouts make the transition to Scouts BSA as seamless as possible. Every patrol is assigned a trained Assistant Scoutmaster to coach, support, and empower the scouts to operate their patrol and enjoy the scouting experience. When such scouts reach the rank of Scout or Tenderfoot, they will have an opportunity to join an established Patrol.

Advancement is an important part of Scouting. The Troop program is designed to enable an incoming scout to have the opportunity to achieve First Class Rank within the first two years of scouting, **but advancement depends on the individual Scout's work (requirements) and effort, which is unlike Cub Scouts which is based on age and grade.**

Advancement activities are integrated into Troop meetings and campouts.

Adult participation is critical to the success of our Troop. Most adults find that they have a great time and enjoy the camaraderie. You don't need to have any experience to participate! Our Long Beach Area Council and Districts hold training classes several times each year, and the current Adult Leaders are very willing to pass along their experience to the new adults in the troop.

THE PATROL METHOD:

It is the heart and soul of any Troop. The patrol method gives Scouts an experience in group living and participating citizenship. It places a certain amount of responsibility on young shoulders and teaches scouts how to accept it. The patrol method allows Scouts to act in small groups where they can easily relate to each other. These small groups determine Troop activities through their elected representatives. After cub scouts cross over to Scouts BSA, the emphasis changes from an adult run program to a scout led, adult supervised program. This transition is often harder on the adult leaders and parents than for the Scouts. The adult leaders and parents are there to guide the scouts and help them develop a sense of independence and leadership skills. A good rule of thumb is to never do what a scout can do for him or herself. If the scout can't do it, then teach them so they can do it next time.

RECORD KEEPING:

It is a good idea for your Scout to start and maintain a memory book of his/her Scout experiences. Your scout will need to retain the achievement cards which are awarded as he/she progresses through advancement from Scout to Eagle. They will also receive achievement cards confirming the award of their merit badges. These cards fit nicely into 3-ringbinders in "baseball card" inserts. Adding photos, old uniform rank patches, event patches and other memorabilia makes for a nice record of his/her trail to Eagle. Your scout should bring his/her Scout Handbook to every meeting and Scout outing as this book serves as his advancement record. They record outings and service projects in the Handbook as well.

RANK ADVANCEMENT:

You may have already heard the words: Advancement, Tenderfoot, First Class, etc., already thrown around in this Guide. For parents coming from Cub Scouts, you may already have an idea of what these terms mean, and for the parents that are new to scouting who might not know, here's a quick primer on what Rank Advancement in Scouts BSA is:

Advancement is the process by which youth members of the Scouts BSA progress from rank to rank and is the method by which we promote and encourage the ongoing involvement and commitment that keeps members coming back for more.

There are seven ranks in Scouts BSA, and they are the following:

Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life & Eagle.

Each rank has its own set of requirements, the first four ranks are considered to be the ones where the scout learns all scout skills, once the scout reaches Star and beyond, those are considered leadership ranks, in which the scouts become and grow in leadership, one of their many tasks being to help other fellow scouts in becoming and achieving what they have. Achieving the last rank of **Eagle** is a great and tremendous accomplishment, just consider the following: Only around 6% of registered scouts achieve the rank of Eagle, meaning only 6 out of 100. Let us help your scout achieve this amazing goal!



MERIT BADGES:

What are Merit Badges? Merit badges are awards earned by Scouts, based on activities within the area of study by completing a list requirements. Topics/Subjects/Areas of Study include but are definitely not limited to the following:

Animation, Archery, Astronomy, Basketry, Bird Study, Coin Collecting, Cooking, Dentistry, Dog Care, Engineering, First Aid, Fishing, Genealogy, Hiking, Horsemanship, Journalism, Music, Oceanography, Pets, Photography, Rifle Shooting, Sports, Theater, Wood Carving, and many, many more! In total, there are over 130 different merit badges, to see a list of all of them, go here: <http://bit.ly/t32-MBs>

This is how merit badges look like :



Notice any difference between them, besides the obvious image each one has? If you guessed the color of the border, you got it right! The green-border badges are regular elective Merit Badges, while the silver-border ones are Require Eagle Merit Badges. To achieve and attain the Rank of Eagle Scout, you must earn 13 required Eagle Merit Badges, and eight elective Merit Badges.

To work on a Merit Badge you must look for and contact a Merit Badge Counselor. In the troop we have various Adult Leaders who are counselors for a variety of Merit Badges, if we don't offer the Merit Badge you're looking for, ask any Leader or our Advancement Coordinator **Irene Fierro**, and we can help you find one.

Many troops organize days when they offer a variety of merit badges to any scouts, usually for a modest fee.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, NEVER HESITATE TO ASK! IT'S A LOT OF INFORMATION TO TAKE IN, WE KNOW!

Gear Guide

We've put together a simple guide to help our new Scouts and parents decide what kind of camping gear to buy. The first thing to keep in mind about buying camping gear is you do not need to buy it all at once. The troop has a fair amount of gear, and your son/daughter only needs a few things to get started. The second thing to consider is price versus quality. Don't feel like you have to spend a ton of money and buy a brand-name version of everything. At the same time, we don't want you to spend money on something that won't survive even one camping trip. Feel free to ask other members of the Troop and see what gear they have and how it's holding up before buying anything.

Below is a list of the minimum gear Scouts will need, and some suggestions on what to get that will serve your Scout now and in the future.

FOR CAMPING:

Sleeping Bag, Sleeping Pad & Mess Kit (a set of a plate, bowl, cup and eating utensils).

FOR HIKING:

Hiking Boots, Hiking Socks (Scouts BSA approved), Day Pack, and the following **10 ESSENTIALS**:

TEN ESSENTIALS

'Be prepared'! Just like every Scout every camper should be equipped with these ten essentials on any camping trip:

Contingency & First Aid Kit 1

"Contingencies" (someone forgot a flashlight, wet weather makes fire building difficult, etc.) are more common than emergencies. A first-aid kit supplemented with a spare flashlight, spare whistle, trail food, matches, and fire starters is your 'air bag' – essential but you hope, (like the air bag in your car), you'll never need it.



First Aid Kit Bag
Spare Whistle
Spare Flashlight
Trail Food
Matches and Fire Starters

Whistle 6

If you become lost or separated stay put and use a whistle. Signal by blowing three blasts (a well-known emergency signal).

Spend a little more on one designed to signal over distances; cheap insurance should you need it.



Flashlight 2

A sturdy headlamp is better than a hand-held flashlight. LED lights (one with a brightness of 35 lumens is more than adequate) use less power and batteries last longer.



Rain Gear 7

Staying warm is crucial, and it's hard to stay warm if you are wet.

Rain pants and a rain jacket are essential. Ponchos restrict movement and don't trap warmth near your body.



Trail Food 3

Carry a few granola bars, protein bars, trail mix, or other compact, high-energy, high nutrition food (avoid sugar-based snacks). Carry a couple of additional nutrition bars in the Contingency & First Aid Kit.



Water 8

An adequately sized (32 ounces), wide-mouthed rugged water bottle. In dry or hot climates carry two. Include some simple way to purify water, tablets or other chemical treatments don't take up much space.



Matches & Fire Starters 4

There are any number of fire starter alternatives; many can be made at home.

If you need to get a fire going in difficult circumstances, you want a proved fire starter and matches in a waterproof container.



Map & Compass 9

A simple base-plate compass is best.

Buy a reliable brand rather than a cheap knock-off, it's worth spending a bit more for an accurate compass.



Sun Protection 5

In direct sun in hot weather sunburn and some level of heat exhaustion are common. Staying hydrated, using sunscreen and wearing a broad-brimmed hat are important.



Pocket Knife 10

A sturdy, well-made simple combination knife is ideal for camping.



TROOP 32 (trailblazers)

www.troop32lb.org

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Troop Communication

As a way for us all to communicate effectively about outings, or any other important information regarding our troop, we have established the use of an online application called GroupMe which is based on chat groups, and which can be accessed via computer desktop, laptop, tablet and smartphones, if you have a smartphone it is strongly suggested you download the app which is available for iPhones and Android phones:



To begin, you will want to join the following two groups, or ask any of the leaders to help out with adding you to such if you're not sure. The first group is for all Troop Members (including scouts), and the second one is for all Troop Parents:

Troop 32 (All)

website link: https://web.groupme.com/join_group/36455280/QmxjMr

or

scan the following QR Code with your smartphone:



Troop 32 (Parents)

website link: https://web.groupme.com/join_group/36466993/b2kbVr

or

scan the following QR Code with your smartphone:



Social Media/Email



[instagram.com/troop32lb](https://www.instagram.com/troop32lb)



[facebook.com/groups/troop32lb](https://www.facebook.com/groups/troop32lb)



troop32lb@gmail.com

One Last and Very Important Topic Regarding Outings

Outings have already been briefly discussed on Page 3, but we need to explain a bit more about the process of confirming your scout's attendance to all outings. There's an Attendance Confirmation feature that was added to the website that facilitates leadership in knowing who WILL or will NOT be attending our main outings (mainly campouts, hikes & other selected outings).

It's already been mentioned that we have a calendar of outings/events on our website, in addition to that we have a page that displays our Upcoming Outings/Events and gives you more detailed information for such. Here's how to view the page:

1. Go to the website: www.troop32lb.org
2. Hover over the "EVENTS & ACTIVITIES" menu on the top.
3. Click on "UPCOMING OUTINGS" and enter the site password. (NOTE: YOU CAN FIND THE PASSWORD ON PAGE 5)

trailblazers (TROOP 32) HOME EVENTS & ACTIVITIES SCOUTS RESOURCES ABOUT US

Upcoming Outings

[TYPE: **MAIN** | **H.A. PATROL** | OTHER | **FUNDRAISING** | ADULT LEADERSHIP]

Blue & Gold (Pack 32)
(Saturday, **Februray 22**, 2020 | 6:00pm-8pm)
At this event we'll be welcoming new members (Webelos) from Pack 32 into our troop. Usually only senior scouts attend this event.
LOCATION: St. Barnabas Parish Hall

Scoutmaster Meeting
(Friday, **February 21**, 2020 | 7pm-9pm)
Monthly scheduled meeting. As the date approaches, it will be determined whether the meeting is necessary.
LOCATION: TBD

St. Barnabas Parish 80th Anniversary
(Sunday, **March 1st**, 2020 | 4pm-6pm)
The Parish has asked us to participate in this event. More details coming soon!
Mass is at 9AM.
LOCATION: St. Barnabas Church

Archery Day 1 **POSTPONED**
(Saturday, **March 7**, 2020 | 10am-12pm)
We will be going to take an Archery Class with the possibility of earning the Archery merit badge, which will take at least a couple of classes.
Postponed due to the Archery Range canceling on us! We will keep you posted on new dates for this outing.
LOCATION: Santa Fe Trail Archers ([click here for Google Map](#))

CONFIRM ATTENDANCE

IT'S VERY IMPORTANT YOU VISIT THIS PAGE ON A REGULAR BASIS TO SEE WHAT EVENTS ARE COMING UP.

On this example (screenshot above) you can see a gray button with white lettering that says "CONFIRM ATTENDANCE". For **EVERY** outing/event where we you see this button, we are please asking you to click on it and fill out the form that will be asking very basic questions, like: *Will you be attending?* | *Name(s) of Attendee(s)* | *Email Address*, and a couple of other optional entries, there's also a **Response Deadline** Date on the form.

We ask that you submit this form for every outing, **WHETHER** or **NOT** your scout will be attending.

This will greatly help us in determining the scouts that will be attending and the ones that we should know for sure who will not.

After the submission of the attendance form, you will receive in your email an attachment which contains very detailed information about the outing/event which we have titled "**Troop Outing Information**" sheet, this sheet contains all the contact information and list of items that scouts will be requiring to take to the outing, etc.

The Attendance Confirmation form also has attached to it the "Activity Consent Form" for outings that we will require for your scout to be filled out, which you might be able to fill out online on your pc (not available on mobile or tablet), or you can also print out from either pc, mobile or tablet.

Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated!