

What are the costs?

Dues are \$14 per month (\$168 annually). This covers the costs of local and national dues, a *Boys' Life* magazine subscription, weekly meetings, uniform rank and merit badges, the extensive equipment used on campouts, supplies, and mailing costs. Boys are also charged a nominal fee for each campout or outing to cover food costs and fees for special events, like lift tickets for skiing or museum admission. There is a separate fee of \$235 for summer camp, which covers all costs including transportation.

Boys can earn money toward their scout fees by participating in the annual Council Popcorn Sale. All monies earned from this sale go directly into each Scout's troop account.

Scholarship funds are also available for annual dues and summer camp.

How do we join?

Parents of Scouts interested in joining Troop 420 should contact:

Steve Quintana, *Assistant Scoutmaster*
First Year Program Coordinator
Home: 238-4211; Office: 262-6987
E-mail: carolsteveq@aol.com

For further information about Troop 420 or about Boy Scouts in general, contact:

Darryl Fargo, *Scoutmaster*
Home phone: 437-6905
E-mail: darrylfargo@charter.net

You can also visit the Troop 420 website:

<http://www.troop420.org>

Join the Adventure!



**Information about
Boy Scout
Troop 420
Madison, Wisconsin**

We're glad you're interested in Boy Scouts. Because troops can vary in their organization and focus, we thought you would appreciate some specific information about Troop 420.

How many Scouts are in your troop and who charters the troop?

On January 1, 2006, Troop 420's charter included 36 active boys and we are chartered by the Madison Evening Lions Club.

How is the troop organized?

In our boy-led troop, Scouts organize themselves into patrols of 7 to 10 boys. Each patrol elects a patrol leader to lead them for one year. Scouts also annually elect two older boys to serve as Senior Patrol Leaders who will be the leaders for the entire troop. As First Year Scouts join Troop 420, they are placed in an existing patrol.

How often are scout meetings?

Troop meetings are held on Mondays during the school year, except on Mondays that follow the monthly campout or outing. On those Mondays the Patrol Leaders Council meets and Scouts with leadership positions prepare for the next month's meetings and outing. All meetings are from 7:15 to 8:30 PM in the cafeteria of Velma Hamilton Middle School, 4801 Waukesha Street.

During our meetings we have a special program for First Year Scouts that runs from February through December to provide the skill instruction needed to complete requirements for Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class ranks.

How often are campouts and outings?

Troop 420 organizes a campout or outing each month except for July, when we attend summer camp. From April through November we camp outdoors in tents that are owned by the Troop and boys do their own cooking in their patrols. We sleep and cook indoors during the other months or organize day trips to explore new destinations.

Do your Scouts ever achieve Eagle rank?

Approximately 15% of the boys who join Troop 420 achieve the rank of Eagle. This is almost 4 times the national average for Boy Scout Troops. Although boys are allowed to proceed through the ranks at their own pace, there is an emphasis on advancement and Troop 420 provides Scouts a number of opportunities to gain leadership skills. The extensive adult involvement in the Troop and excellent summer camp facility help us to offer almost every merit badge that is currently available. Additional high adventure trips offered by the Troop help maintain boys' interest as they rise in rank.

Is there a summer program?

Each year the Troop spends a week in July at Camp Phillips Scout Reservation north of Rice Lake, WI. This superb, 1,400-acre facility features wooden cabins, a full-service dining hall, five lakes with areas for aquatics, fishing, canoeing, sailing, and water skiing. The Camp also features rifle, shotgun, and archery ranges, a climbing tower, nature studies, handicrafts, hiking, orienteering, wilderness survival, an outpost for high adventure trips and many other activities. First Year Scouts are urged to attend summer camp because of the extensive work they can complete to advancement toward the Second Class and First Class rank. Older scouts typically return to camp several summers to work on a wide variety of merit badges. There is plenty of time for fun as well as for skill development.

Troop 420 also sponsors at least one high adventure trip each year, usually during the spring or summer. These special trips, about a week in length, take Scouts age 13 and older, on back packing, canoeing, sailing, biking, scuba diving, or rock climbing trips. At least two adult leaders must accompany each group, so parents have opportunities to join in the fun! In the recent past, Troop 420 has traveled to the Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico, the Florida Sea Base, and has also organized and run their own high adventure trip to the Grand Canyon.

Do your scouts wear uniforms?

Troop 420 is a "full uniform" troop. That means that we require scouts to wear official Scout pants or shorts with a Scout belt, a Scout shirt and neckerchief, and either green Scout socks or plain white socks. These items constitute the "Class A" uniform, which is worn to all Troop meetings and campouts. A "Class B" uniform, which substitutes a Boy Scout activity shirt or the red Troop 420 shirt for the Boy Scout shirt and neckerchief, can also be worn for specific outdoor activities.

Troop 420 provides a red and gold Boy Scout neckerchief and red shoulder loops for each Scout who joins the troop. The other uniform items are sold at the Council Scout Shop, 34 Schroeder Court in Madison. To ensure all Scouts have access to a complete uniform, Troop 420 maintains a uniform exchange. Scouts who have outgrown their uniform donate them to the exchange for other Scouts to use at no cost.

How are parents involved?

Troop 420 encourages all parents to be involved and there are many opportunities for parent participation. Some parents complete the training to become Assistant Scoutmasters or Troop Committee members. Other parents regularly serve on Boards of Review, as merit badge counselors, or as fund-raising organizers. Still others drive scouts to and from campouts and outings, attend Camp Phillips, or accompany scouts on camping and high adventure trips. Not only are these vital roles for the Troop, but they also provide superb opportunities to join your son in exciting activities. We count on parents to help us maintain an excellent scouting program for the boys. Qualified training is provided to help adults perform various functions in the Troop.

What schools do scouts in your troop attend?

Most Troop 420 Scouts attend school in the Madison West or Madison Memorial districts, but some Scouts attend school at Edgewood, in Middleton, or in a neighboring community.