



Troop 436, Long Valley, NJ



Boy Scout Troop 436 Orientation

version 7.10.19

Troop 436



Troop 436, Long Valley, NJ

BSA Mission Statement

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

Troop 436 Vision Statement

Troop 436 will prepare our youth members to become responsible, participating citizens and leaders who are guided by the Scout Oath and Law. We will accomplish this by providing a dynamic youth led program overseen by trained Scout Leaders.

Objectives



Troop 436, Long Valley, NJ

After this presentation you'll have a better understanding...

- Why make Scouts a priority
- How to get the most from Scouting with Troop 436
- What's expected of our Scouts
- How Parents can help



The Building Blocks of Scouting



Troop 436, Long Valley, NJ

- Life Skills
- Leadership
- Citizenship
- Values

Building youth with strong character who are physically fit and prepared to be good citizens.



BSA Organizational Overview



Troop 436, Long Valley, NJ

- Boy Scouts of America National
- Region
- Local Council
 - *Patriot's Path, Cedar Knolls, NJ*
- District
 - *Black River*
- Chartered Organization
 - *Saint Luke Parish, Long Valley, NJ*
 - *Executive Officer: Father Owen Moran*
 - *Charter Organization Representative: Glen Arndt*
- Troop Committee
 - *Committee Chair: Glen Arndt*
- Troop
 - *Scoutmaster: Scott O'Neil*

History of Troop 436



Troop 436, Long Valley, NJ

First chartered in 1972

- Originally chartered by Our Lady of the Mountain Church, then moved to Saint Luke Parish in 2012.
- 100+ Eagle Scouts in Troop's history, starting with Henry Steimetz in 1975

Recent Eagle Scouts:

2018 – 2019

- Connor Ronceray – 10/30/18
- Reese Ronceray – 11/19/18
- Tyler Bishop – 1/8/19
- Joseph Bartnicki – 2/7/19
- Josh Kearstan – 3/27/19
- Owen McLoughlin – 4/16/19
- Griffin Gardner – 7/3/19



Troop 436 Expectations



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Do Your Best

Be a Player and Participate!

- Troop and Patrol Meetings
- Outdoor Activities
- Community Service Projects
- Wreath Sales



Team Work

Have Fun!

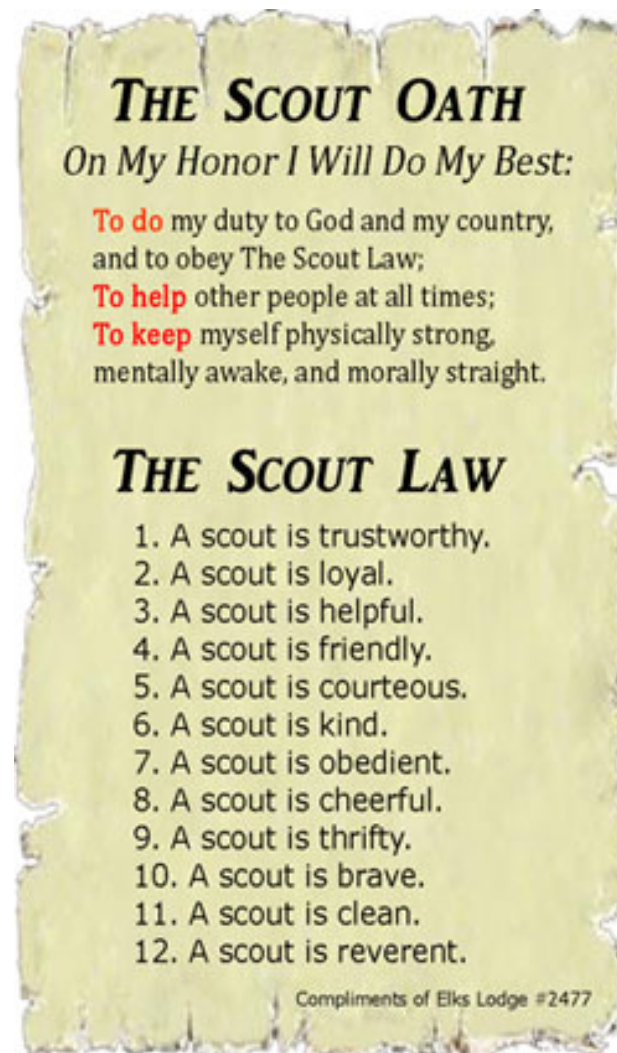
***Scouting requires Commitment to
Self, Patrol, Troop
... and Parent / Son Collaboration***

Scout Spirit



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- Living the Scout Oath and Scout Law
 - Meetings
 - Outings
 - Supporting other Scouts
 - Outside of Scouting
- Helping others, Community Service
- Enthusiasm
- Participation
- Respect
- Attitude





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Troop Participation

- 70% participation in troop meetings and 50% in activities is the minimum to be considered “active”
- Balancing competing interests; we have a policy of understanding knowing that Scouts are involved in other activities. To what extent the Scout wants to participate is his call, but the old adage “you get out what you put in” applies.
- Scouts by requirement must be active in the Troop to advance ranks.
- Youth Leaders (Scouts working on Star, Life and Eagle) must achieve participation goal to fulfill their leadership rank requirement – “You can’t lead if you are not there”
- 2 Required Activities in One Year
 - Annual Wreath Sale (Troop fundraiser)
 - Courts of Honor (3x/year)

Youth-Led Scouting



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**Empowering youth
to be leaders is the
core of Scouting
and Troop 436's
guiding principle**



Youth-Led Program



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Youth Leadership Positions of Responsibility

Patrol Leaders Council (PLC) Meetings

Trained Adults Mentoring Youth Leaders

“Safe Haven” For Failure

The Patrol System

“The patrol method is not a way to operate a Boy Scout troop, it is the only way. Unless the patrol method is in operation you don’t really have a Boy Scout Troop.”

-Robert Baden-Powell, Scouting’s Founder

Fun and Adventure



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Patrol Method

- Each Patrol operates as a self-sufficient unit.
- Each Patrol is encouraged to develop their own identity with a Patrol flag and yell.
- Each Patrol will utilize a duty roster to distribute tasks across the team members and learn the value of teamwork.
- Each Patrol will elect its own leadership to guide and manage the Patrol Patrol Leader (PL) and Assistant PL.
- Patrol leaders will attend quarterly planning meetings (PLC) and represent their patrol & are responsible for patrol communications..
- Adults do NOT run the patrols.
- Depending on attendance, patrols may be combined for activities.
- Patrol leaders will make mistakes. This is a learning activity. Each boy will get their opportunity to lead and to learn how to lead effectively.
- A Troop is made up of Patrols, A Troop is not divided into Patrols

Elements of Boy-led Troop



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Scouts choose their activities

Scouts run the Troop meeting

Scouts always organize
themselves during
campouts and activities

WARNING: Many activities
will seem very disorganized
and can possibly be made
more efficient if an adult
were doing it



THE ADULT LEADERS' ROLE IS TO PROVIDE COACHING FOR THE SCOUTS



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Troop Youth Leaders

- **The troop is actually run by its boy leaders.** With the guidance of the Scoutmaster and his assistants, they plan the program, conduct troop meetings, and provide leadership among their peers.
- **Senior Patrol Leader** – top junior leader in the troop elected annually. He leads the patrol leaders' council and, in consultation with the Scoutmaster, appoints other junior leaders and assigns specific responsibilities as needed.
- **Assistant Senior Patrol Leader** – fills in for senior patrol leader in his absence. He is also responsible for training and giving direction to other youth leaders.
- **Other Youth Positions** – Patrol Leader, Troop Guide(s), Quartermaster, Librarian, OA Rep, Den Chief(s), Scribe, Webmaster, Bugler.

Difference between Cub and Boy Scout Advancement



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- A Boy Scout Troop is NOT structured like a Cub Pack
- Boys have more responsibility
- Planning, packing, setting up camp, cooking, activities
- Scout is responsible for initiation of advancement
- Parents cannot sign off. Only Patrol Leaders, Scoutmaster, Ass't Scoutmasters, and Scouts Star rank or higher.

Scouts & parents MUST understand this:

We don't want to "baby" the boys. They are BOY SCOUTS now. Learning to deal with failure is an important maturity skill and sometimes can be the best teacher.

Guide and Motivate but don't do anything for a boy that he is capable of doing himself!

Advancement Principles



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- Personal growth is the prime consideration in the program
- Learning by doing
- Each youth progresses at his own rate
- A badge is recognition of what a young person is able to do, not just a reward for what he has done
- Advancement encourages Scouting Ideals

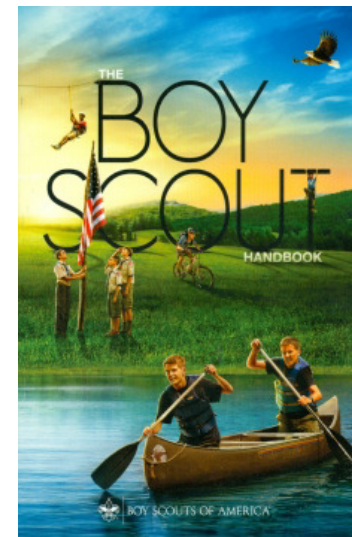


Advancement Principles



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- The parent's role is not to *carry* the scout
- The parent's role is to monitor, motivate, and support the scout
- To monitor, you have to understand what is required – be familiar with Boy Scout handbook



First Class Emphasis Program



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- Troop 436 focuses on new Scout development and advancement to First Class within the first year
- From the Scoutmaster Handbook: “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.”
- BSA statistics confirm the Scout is likely to stay in Scouting for a longer period of time.



Advancement Process & Program



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Each rank requires

- Active Participation
- Community Service
- Demonstration of Scout Service

Scout, Tenderfoot, 2nd Class, 1st Class

- Outdoor
- Physical Fitness
- Citizenship
- Patrol and Troop Participation
- Personal Development



Star, Life, Eagle

- Merit Badges
- Position of Responsibility



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Learning & Testing

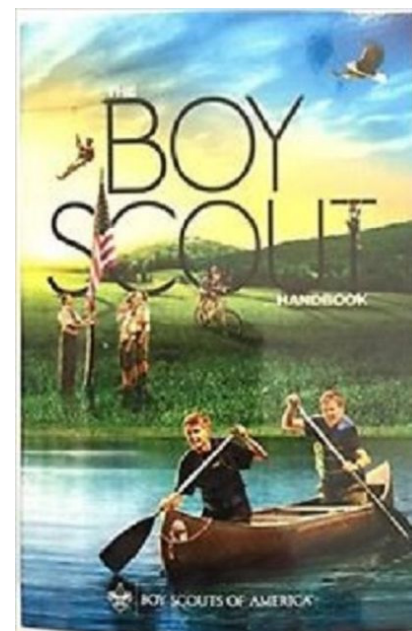


Step 1: Scout Learns

- By Active Participation in troop & patrol meetings, outdoor programs
- Patrol Leaders, Youth Leaders and Assistant Scoutmasters teach skills for 1st 3 Ranks
- Merit badges taught by merit badge counselors & outside experts

Step 2: Scout is Tested

- Scout encouraged to sign-up on troop meeting night or camp-out to be tested on requirements
- Leader sees that Scout masters skill and records achievement
- Scout Handbook Sign-off by leader (not parent)

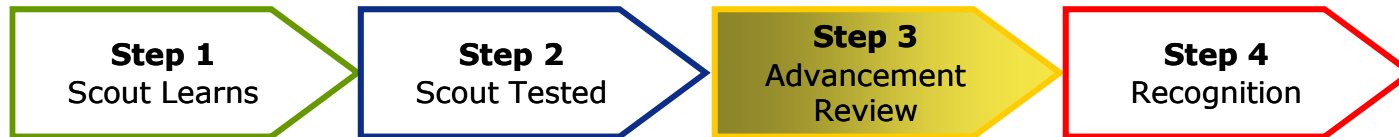


Step 1 & 2: 1 Requirement at a Time, not a Final Test

Advancement Review



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Step 3: Advancement Review

- Scoutmaster Review
 - Review Scout's progress with Advancement, Leadership, Participation, Spirit
 - Counsel
 - Plan
 - Look Forward within and outside of scouting
- Board of Review
 - Ensure Scout understands requirements his own words
 - Allows Scout to demonstrate his comfort with basic Scouting skills and concepts
 - Review Scout's experiences – good and bad
 - Troop 436 runs all Boards of Review through Life
 - Eagle review completed at District level





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Recognition



Step 4: Recognition

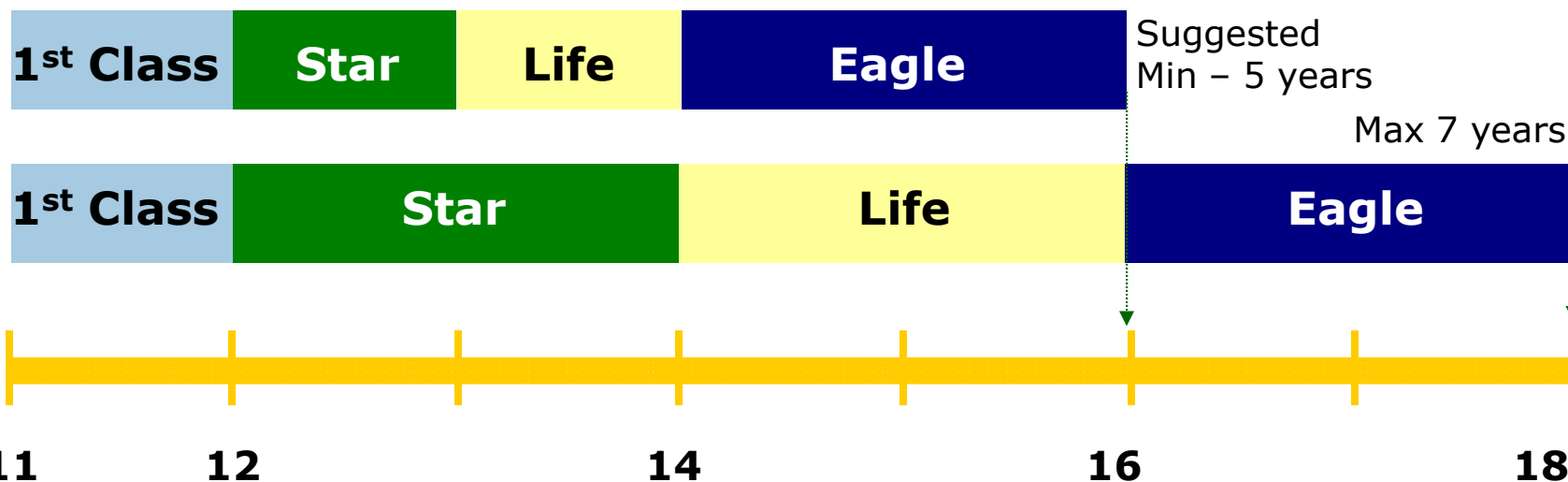
- **Court of Honor**
 - New badge and recognition at next Court of Honor, 3x per year;
 - October
 - February
 - June





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Timeline to Eagle



Scout Age

Community Service



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Required service hours for each rank:

Tenderfoot: 1 hour / Second Class: 2 hours

First Class: 3 hours / Star: 6 hours / Life: 6 hours

– Examples

- St. Luke/Religious Institutions
- Non-Profit Organizations (excluding BSA)
- Help with Eagle projects

Must fill out Community Service Hours form and submit to Troop Community Service Organizer for credit

Eagle: Major Service Project

- Project Qualification Process
 - Eagle Project pre-approved by Scoutmaster and Troop Committee prior to Eagle Project Board Review





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Merit Badges

Two Types

- Eagle Required (17)
- Elective (130+)

How to Earn Merit Badges

- Scout Initiated
- Summer Camp
- Other Special Venues
- With a Buddy!
- All Merit Badges require approval from Scoutmaster before starting



Merit Badges



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- Teach Scouts about sports, crafts, science, trades, business, and future careers
- Required for rank advancement beyond First Class Scout
- 21 Merit Badges required for Eagle Scout (13 specific badges required)
- Must meet the requirements as stated – no more, no less...

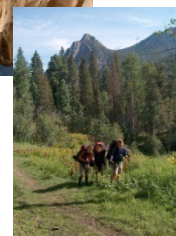
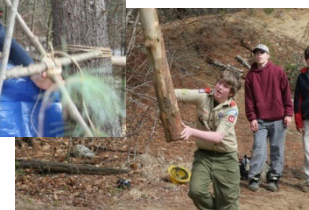
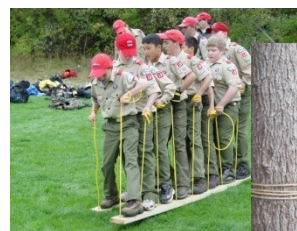


Outings



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- **Troop Weekend Outings**
 - Tetertown, Delaware Water Gap Hiking, Alpine NYC Adventure, Klondike, Winter Getaway Cabins, Whitewater Rafting and more!
Troop covers accommodations, Scout covers food and activities.
- **Summer Camp**
 - Chosen by the Scouts!
 - No-Be-Bo-SCO, Blairstown, NJ – Winnebago Scout Reservation
 - Unifies Scouts and Troop
- **Annual High Adventure Trips**
 - For First Class or Higher, 13+





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Typical Overnight

- Adults are there to observe safety issues
- Adults are there to ask questions that make the boys think
- Adults are NOT there to “do for the boys”
- Adults are there to provide guidance
- Typical costs for a campout: \$15 plus activities
- Adults are welcome to come and a minimum are required for transportation, safety, and leadership needs
- Adults are asked to help organize/participate in at least 1 annual campout



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Equipment

Troop Owned Patrol Equipment

- Patrols issued Patrol Boxes including camping equipment
 - Tents, dining tarps, cooking equipment
- All equipment must be returned fully cleaned or aired out to the quartermaster



Key Recommended Personal Equipment

- Backpack
- Boots
- 20 degree Sleeping bag
- Foam sleeping pad
- Mess Kit
- Flashlight
- Toilet Kit



Other Important Stuff



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Record Keeping

- Troop keeps Merit Badge & Advancement records in advancement database (*Al Escudero, Advancement Coordinator*)
- Critical that you also keep your own records
 - Campouts attended, nights camped, miles hiked, etc.
 - Service hours and projects
 - Leadership positions and time



Troop Meetings

- Every Wednesday 7:30-9pm when school is open, Kossmann School, Flocktown Road unless otherwise noted
- Patrol Leader's Council (PLC) meeting first Monday of each month at St. Luke unless otherwise noted
- Troop Committee (adults) meets on first Monday of each month at St. Luke unless otherwise noted



Troop Meetings



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- Be on Time
- Kossman School Wednesdays
 - 7:30-9pm when school is open
- Scout Handbook
- Uniform
 - Class A uniform worn last meeting of each month and Courts of Honor
 - Class B uniform worn at all other meetings.
- Scout Spirit



www.troop436.org

Conduct & Discipline



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- Scouts should strive to uphold principles in Scout Oath and Scout Law
- Chain of Command (Non-Safety Issues)
 - Patrol Leaders
 - Senior Patrol Leaders (SPL)
 - Patrol Leaders Council (PLC)
 - Assistant Scoutmaster (ASM)
 - Scoutmaster
- Parental Involvement
 - Direct to own Scout
 - Otherwise through Leadership Chain of Command



Annual Evergreen Sale



Troop 436, Long Valley, NJ

- The Only Fund Raising Event for Troop 436
 - Pay for troop equipment, subsidize camping fees
 - Pay for all badges and awards
 - Cover cabin or facility fees for overnights
 - Pays for Troop Christmas party and Troop Swim Night
- All scouts must participate
 - Scouts must sell a certain dollar amount of wreaths or buy-out at pre-determined amount (ex. 2015 quota was \$280 and buy-out was \$140)
 - Wreath assembly night
- Three other non-mandatory fundraisers will be made available to fund individual Scout Accounts
 - Used for Scout Camp, major trips, Scouting goods



Communication



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It takes Two to Communicate Effectively

Scouts

- Troop Meeting Announcements
- Information Binder (*given at bridge over ceremony*)
- Patrol Meetings
- Phone calls to/from Patrol Leader
- Troop Website & Facebook Page
- Monthly Newsletter
- Weekly Emails from Troop Communications



Parents

- Weekly Reminders & Email
- Monthly Newsletter
- Parents Handbook
- Monthly Committee Meetings
- Troop Website & Facebook Page
- Periodic Parents' Meetings

www.troop436.org

Adult Leadership – Scoutmaster



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The Scoutmaster is the adult leader responsible for the image and program of the troop. The Scoutmaster works directly with the Scouts. The importance of the Scoutmaster's job is reflected in the fact that the quality of guidance will affect every youth and adult involved in the troop.

The Scoutmaster is responsible for training boys to be Troop leaders, working with and through other responsible adults (Assistant Scoutmasters) to bring Scouting to the boys, helping the boys grow into good Scouts and responsible citizens, and interfacing with the Troop Committee to ensure that the necessary resources are available to ensure a quality Scout program is provided to the boys.

Adult Leadership – Assistant Scoutmaster



Troop 436, Long Valley, NJ

- Recruited by the Scoutmaster with the assistance of the Troop Committee.
- Assigned specific program duties.
- Reports to the Scoutmaster.
- Completes Combined Training for Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters at earliest opportunity to do so.
- Readily volunteers to assist at Troop activities.
- Troop 436 currently has six.

Troop Committee



Troop 436, Long Valley, NJ

The Troop Committee is a group of parents and adults interested in the general welfare and operation of the Troop. The Committee is responsible for seeing that the necessary resources are made available to support the Scouts as necessary. These resources include record keeping, adult recruiting, boards of review, transportation, and more. The Troop Committee is comprised of specific Committee positions.





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Troop Committee

- Recruit and assure training of adult leadership
- Support Scoutmaster in carrying out the program
- Responsible for finances
- Procures and maintains Troop property
- Serves on boards of review
- Solves problems of that effect overall program
- Meets monthly

Troop Committee



Troop 436, Long Valley, NJ

Committee Chair	Glen Arndt
Scoutmaster	Scott O'Neil
Treasurer	Kevin O'Shea
Secretary	Amy Weston
Advancement Coordinator	Al Escudero
Membership Coordinator	Brian Brett
Training Coordinator	Melissa Kearstan
Activities Coordinator	Kelli Forte
Equipment Coordinator	Mike Cuccaro
Member	Mike Chiddo
Member	Mary Ann Gallara
Member	Larissa Krul
Member	Helene Miragliotta
Member	Steve Santos
Member	John Trontis
Member	Robert Villanella
St. Luke Charter Rep	Glen Arndt
Charter Organization Executive	Father Owen Moran

Parents Responsibility – Be Supportive!



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There are some things that your Scout cannot do without help.

Your Assistance is Needed:

- Help select camping gear.
- Transportation; help Scout get to Troop meetings and other functions.
- Reinforce the ideals of the Scout Oath, Law, Motto, and Slogan in his everyday life.
- Prepare for Summer Camp.
- Be involved in the Troop.
- When you son accepts a position of responsibility, encourage him to fulfill his obligations.
- Answer his questions with..."Did you ask your Patrol Leader?"

Parents Responsibility – Be Supportive!



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- The boys have nothing to run if there is no parent support – they lack the life experience that we have. They need our help to coach them and guide them – NOT micro manage. If a scout is trained and capable let HIM do it. If not, train him & LET HIM do it.
- The troop needs help in many forms – driving to outings, summer camp support, advancement, etc. Take on an adult position. Scouting is a family activity and all adults should be active in supporting the troop.
- Scouts are more likely to succeed and stay in the program long term if they have a parent involved!

Finally



Troop 436, Long Valley, NJ

- **Continued Parent Support**

- Of Your Scout
- Of Our Program



- **Get Involved**

- Troop Committee
- Assistant Scoutmaster
- Boards of Review
- Teach a Merit Badge
- Drive on an Outing
- Help at an Event

