TROOP 52 NEWSLETTER May 26, 2025



### Emmaus Catholic Parish | Bee Cave District | Capitol Area Council

## **Troop Meeting**

May 19, 2025; 7PM

POR Training - No Meeting Memorial Day

@ Emmaus Catholic Parish

### **Monthly Campout**

June 6-8, 2025

**Guadalupe River State Park** 

SIC: TBD

@ 3350 Park Road 31, Spring Branch, TX

# **PLC Meeting**

June 09, 2025; 7PM

**Patrol Leaders Conference (PLC)** 

**Annual Meeting Planning** 

@ TBD

## Parent's Meeting

June 10, 2025; 7PM-9PM

#### **All Adults Invited**

Formerly known as the Committee Meeting

@ Emmaus Catholic Parish



**Troop 52 Newsletter: Leadership Opportunities for July-December 2025** 

Dear Troop 52 Scouts, Families, and Volunteers,

As we approach the second half of 2025, Boy Scout Troop 52 is excited to announce the opportunity for our Scouts to step into leadership roles for the term spanning **July 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025**. Leadership is at the heart of Scouting, and serving in a position of responsibility (POR) is not only a requirement for ranks like Star, Life, and Eagle but also a chance to develop critical skills, contribute to our troop's success, and make a lasting impact. Troop 52 is a Scout-led troop, and we are proud to empower our youth to take on these vital roles with the guidance of our dedicated adult leaders.

#### **Available Positions of Responsibility**

Troop 52 offers a variety of leadership positions that count toward rank advancement, as well as service roles that provide valuable experience. Below is an overview of key positions available for the upcoming term, based on the troop's structure and Scouting guidelines:

• Senior Patrol Leader (SPL): The top youth leader in the troop, elected by all Scouts. The SPL leads troop meetings, events, activities, the annual program planning conference, and the Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC). They appoint other youth leaders with Scoutmaster guidance and encourage advancement for all Scouts. Qualifications include being at least 14 years old, holding First Class rank or higher, and having completed Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops (ILST) training.

TROOP 52 NEWSLETTER May 26, 2025



## **Summer Camp Notes**

### Camp Alexander - Lake George, Colorado: June 14-22, 2025

Join us for the 2025 summer camp. Camp A is an excellent place to attend, especially to get out of the Texas heat for a week. Scouts will work on merit badges and rank advancement. There will be opportunities to go whitewater rafting, rock climbing, and many outdoor activities.

Each scout and adult has a total cost of \$725 and \$625, respectively. The first payment of \$250 is due on or before Nov. 1. Second payment of \$250 is due on or before Jan. 15, 2025, and the balance of \$225/Scout and \$125/Adult is due March 15, 2025

Whitewater Rafting is an additional \$120/attendee. The deadline to sign up and pay is April 1st, and the Scout Swimmer qualification must be passed before rafting.

SIC: Nico Sfeir



Directions to Camp A!

Watch this video about Camp Alexander!

- Assistant Senior Patrol Leader (ASPL): The second-highest youth leader, appointed by the SPL. The ASPL supports the SPL, leads in their absence, and may oversee roles like Scribe, Historian, or Quartermaster. Qualifications include being at least 14, First Class rank or higher, and ILST training.
- Patrol Leader (PL): Elected by their patrol, the PL represents the
  patrol at PLC meetings, plans and leads patrol activities, and keeps
  members informed. They ensure their patrol is prepared for troop events
  and encourage advancement.
- Troop Guide: A mentor to new Scouts, typically an older Scout with at least First Class rank. The Troop Guide helps new Scouts feel comfortable, teaches basic skills, and supports their journey to First Class within their first year.
- Quartermaster: The troop's "supply boss," responsible for maintaining and inventorying equipment, ensuring gear is in good condition, and reporting on equipment needs at PLC meetings.
- Scribe: The troop's secretary, who attends PLC meetings to record discussions (non-voting members) and tracks attendance, dues, and advancement records, often with assistance from a troop committee member.
- **Historian**: Collects and preserves troop memorabilia, such as photos, news stories, and awards, making them available for Scouting activities and troop history projects.
- Den Chief: Works with a Cub Scout den, assisting the den leader and helping younger Scouts while gaining leadership experience. Requires a letter from the Cub Scout Den Leader to the Scoutmaster acknowledging participation.
- **Bugler**: Plays appropriate bugle calls at troop activities, as requested, and is appointed by the SPL.
- Other Roles: Positions like Librarian, Chaplain Aide, Instructor, Leave No Trace Trainer, Troop Webmaster, and Junior Assistant Scoutmaster are also available, offering unique opportunities to serve the troop. Note that Assistant Patrol Leader (APL) is a valuable role but does not count toward rank advancement.

### **Selection Process for Leadership Roles**

Troop 52 follows a structured process to ensure fairness and opportunity in selecting leaders:

TROOP 52 NEWSLETTER May 26, 2025

### **Troop 52 Photo Albums:**

If you need to check for the latest info, event photos or announcements, follow us on <u>Facebook</u> or on the <u>Troop 52 Website</u>

### **Scouting Factoids**

**Tent-Pitching Origins:** Scouting's camping tradition began with Robert Baden-Powell's 1907 Brownsea Island camp, where 20 boys learned outdoor skills under canvas.

Leave No Trace Legacy: The Boy Scouts of America pioneered ecofriendly camping, adopting Leave No Trace principles in the 1990s to preserve wilderness for future campers.

Starlit Skills: Scouts earn the Camping merit badge after 20 nights outdoors, mastering skills like firebuilding, orienteering, and tent setup—core to every campout.

**Jamboree Campgrounds**: The 1937 World Scout Jamboree in the Netherlands saw 28,000 Scouts from 54 countries camp together, sharing campfire songs and stories.

Scouting America's Camps: With over 250 BSA council camps nationwide, Scouts today pitch tents, cook meals, and build memories.



• **Elected Positions**: The Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) is elected by the entire troop, while Patrol Leaders (PLs) are elected by their respective patrols. Elections occur semi-annually, and all Scouts are encouraged to participate in the voting process.

- Appointed Positions: The SPL, with Scoutmaster approval, appoints
  Scouts to other positions such as ASPL, Quartermaster, Scribe, and
  more. Scouts interested in appointed roles should complete the troop's
  Position of Responsibility Application (available through Scoutbook or
  the Troop 52 website) and submit it to the SPL.
- Qualifications: Most positions require Scouts to be active members in good standing, have completed ILST training (or plan to complete it at the next opportunity), and maintain at least 75% attendance at troop and patrol activities. Specific age and rank requirements (e.g., First Class or higher for SPL/ASPL) may apply, though these can be relaxed at the Scoutmaster's discretion.
- Expectations: Scouts in leadership roles are expected to fulfill their duties diligently, attend PLC meetings, and set a positive example. Failure to meet these expectations (e.g., three unexcused absences) may result in removal from the position.

#### How to Apply for a Leadership Role

To express interest in a leadership position for the July–December 2025 term, please complete the <u>Troop 52 Leadership Interest Survey</u> by **June 8, 2025**. This survey allows Scouts to indicate their preferred roles, in order of preference, and provide a brief statement on why they are qualified and interested. The survey is accessible here: Troop 52 Leadership Interest Survey.

For elected positions (SPL and PL), Scouts should prepare to participate in the upcoming troop election as an online poll, with results announced on meeting scheduled for June 23, 2025. Appointed position candidates will be reviewed by the SPL and Scoutmaster following the survey submission deadline.

#### Why Take on a Leadership Role?

Serving in a position of responsibility is a chance to grow as a leader, contribute to Troop 52's vibrant community, and make memories that last a lifetime. As an Eagle Scout noted, serving in roles like Scribe or SPL transforms Scouts, building confidence and preparing them for future challenges. Whether you're interested in leading as SPL, mentoring as a Troop Guide, or serving as a Quartermaster, each role offers unique opportunities to make a difference.

If you have questions about the selection process or specific roles, please get in touch with our Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmasters via Scoutbook or at our weekly meetings. Let's continue to make Troop 52 a Scout-led troop that thrives in the great outdoors! *Join our Troop in the Great Outdoors!*