



Welcome to the Troop 185 Family

**St. John the Evangelist Parish
9 Glen Road**

Wellesley Hills, MA 02481

Meetings: Mondays 7:30 PM to 9 PM



Dear Parents and New Scouts,

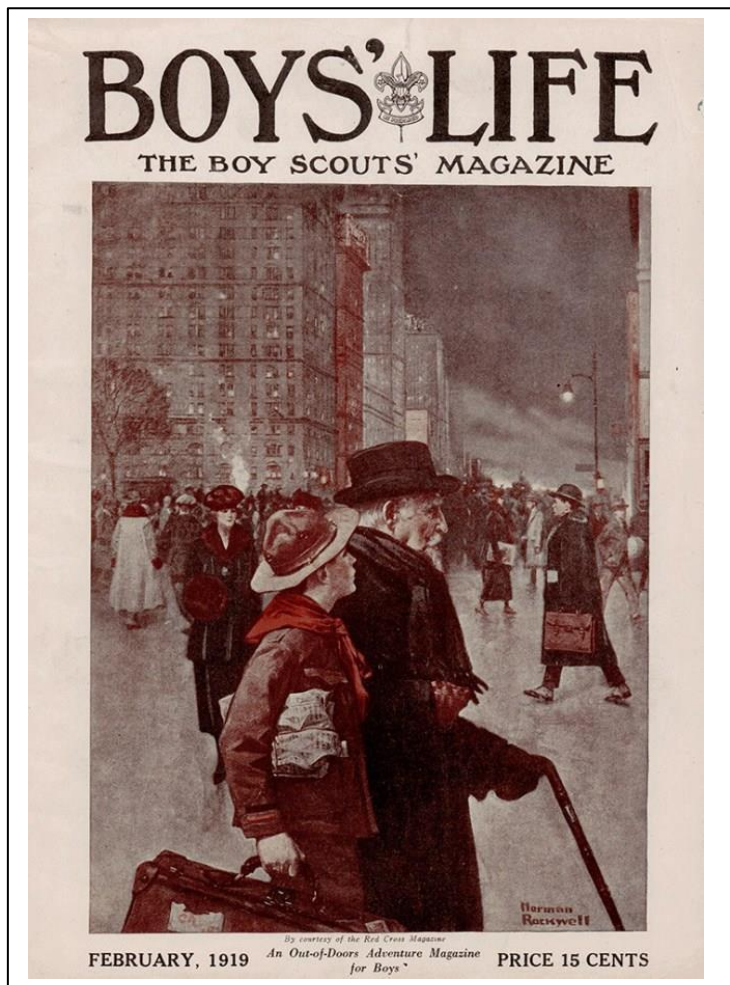
On behalf of all the Scouts and Adult Leaders of Troop 185, welcome to Boy Scouting and the Troop 185 Family. You are starting a journey that will create a lifetime of cherished memories and friendships.

We have many exciting and challenging activities for your troop meetings and outdoor activities planned – some old favorites and some new adventures as well.

Our founder, Lord Baden Powell, said “Scouting is a game .. a game with a purpose”. And, Troop 185 is

Yours in Scouting,

The Troop 185 Leadership Team



Did You Know ?

1909: William Boyce Meets The Unknown Scout

As legend has it, American businessman William Boyce was walking the streets of London when he lost his way. A boy stepped up and guided him to his destination. Boyce offered him a tip, but the boy explained he was a Scout and that Scouts do not accept payment for doing Good Turns.

Intrigued, Boyce went to the local Scouting office to learn more. He guessed that boys in the United States would like the idea. When he got home, he encouraged supporters to help him incorporate the Boy Scouts of America. On Feb. 8, 1910, the organization was born.

The founders threw themselves into figuring out emblems and uniforms, setting up councils and troops, preparing the first handbook and meeting hundreds of other challenges. Within a year, the BSA was up and running.





Troop 185 *on the Go !!*

Outings & Activities

- ❖ Weekly Troop Meetings
- ❖ Maine Saco River Canoe Trip
- ❖ Nobscot Scout Reservation
- ❖ Winter Campouts
- ❖ Squanto Campout
- ❖ Mount Monadnock & Mount Chocorua
- ❖ White Mountains AMC Hut Trips
- ❖ Nantucket Campouts
- ❖ Fishing Derby
- ❖ Summer Camp
- ❖ Family Ski Trips
- ❖ Order of the Arrow
- ❖ Wellesley Parade
- ❖ Scouting for Food
- ❖ Troop Swim Nights
- ❖ Herkimer Diamond Mine
- ❖ Year- End Barbeque
- ❖ Cooking Contests “ Golden Spork Award ”
- ❖ Courts of Honor (COH)
- ❖ BSA National Jamboree
- ❖ BSA High Adventure Bases
- ❖ Wreath & Tree Sale
- ❖ Numerous Service Projects
- ❖ And More



Boy Scouts is “ Boy-Led ”

Unlike Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts is " Boy-Led." The **Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC)**, not the adult leaders or parents, are responsible for planning and conducting the troop's activities. The Scoutmaster and assistant Scoutmasters provide direction, coaching, and training that empowers the boy with the skills he will need to lead his troop. The Troop Committee provides resources to help the **Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC)**.

The **Patrol Leaders' Council (PLC)** selects, plans, and leads Troop activities and meetings. The PLC is the key to having a Boy-Led Troop. The PLC meets once per month.



Your **Senior Patrol Leader (SPL)** is the youth head of the troop. All other youth positions report to him, directly or indirectly.

The youth leader with the most responsibility in a troop is the Senior Patrol Leader.



Troop 185
Wellesley, Massachusetts

The Patrol Method



*“The patrol system is not one method in which Scouting can be carried on..
..... It is the only method.”*

— Lord Baden-Powell, Scouting’s Founder

THE PATROL METHOD

A Scout Patrol is a small team of usually six to eight members where Scouts learn skills together, share responsibilities and take on leadership roles.

As a member of a patrol, youth are afforded opportunities that are hard to find anywhere else. Unlike a sports team, a Scout Patrol carries out a wide range of tasks that require pooling resources and working together to function successfully in all kinds of circumstances.

For most young people, being in a Scout Patrol will be the first time they have to rely upon themselves and other young people to follow an array of necessary steps to satisfy objectives that requires a wide range of life skills.

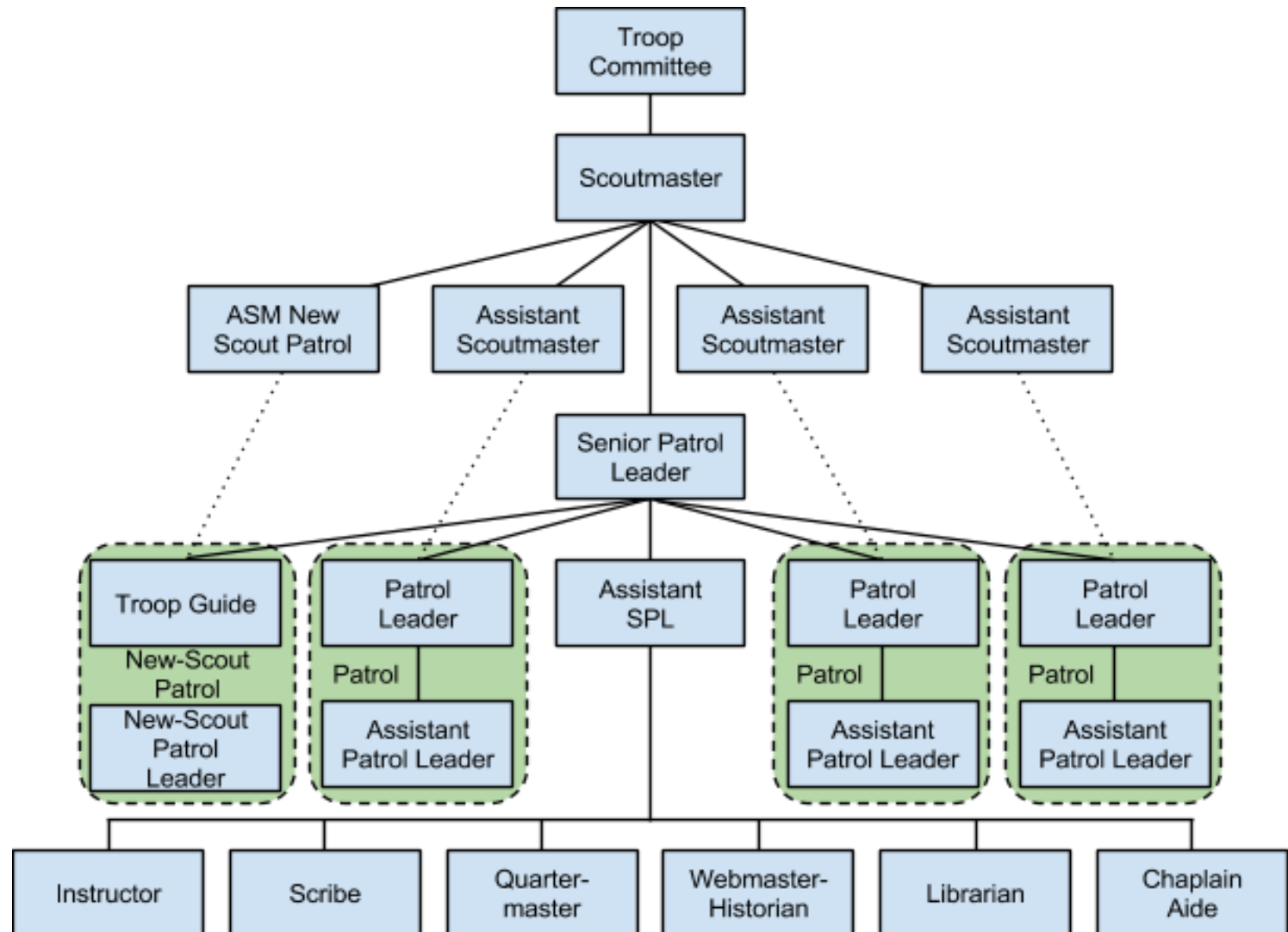
Because of its size, this gives *every member an opportunity to participate*, and this in itself results in some positive outcomes. Making a contribution to the Patrol's success provides a welcome sense of belonging, of being appreciated, and a feeling of competency resulting in self-esteem.

As an illustration, let’s take the example of preparing a full course dinner on a campout. To accomplish this undertaking effectively, under the direction of their Patrol Leader, all members of the patrol get to plan the menu. They accomplish the required shopping and according to their prepared duty roster, one or more can organize getting the water for cooking and cleaning, and prepare the fire or setup the stove(s). Others will be designated to do the actual cooking, serve the food, and oversee the cleanup. Of course, the whole Patrol gets to eat and enjoy the meal. It’s a Patrol enterprise, requiring cooperation, the sharing of responsibilities and leadership, working for the collective good, and putting skills into action. The patrol method models good citizenship and develops servant leadership.

Troop 185
Wellesley, Massachusetts



Organization Chart



Advancement & Awards



Advancement is Based on Experiential Learning

Experiential Learning is the Key: Exciting and meaningful activities are offered - and education *happens*. Learning comes from doing. For example, youth may read about first aid, hear it discussed, and watch others administer it, but they will not learn it until they practice it. Rushing a Scout through requirements to obtain a badge is not the goal.

Advancement should be individually based and a natural outcome. Parents can help their scout by not by doing it for them. Remember: “ Adults should not do what a Scout can ”. Yes, Scouts will grow, succeed and learn to advocate for themselves.

We use the metaphor “ A Scout should pack their own pack ”

Personal Growth is the Primary Goal

Scouting skills—what a young person learns to do—are important, but not as important as the primary goal of *personal growth* achieved through participating in a troop program. The concern is for total, well-rounded development. Age-appropriate surmountable hurdles are placed before members, and as they face these challenges, they learn about themselves and gain confidence.

Learning Scout skills and concepts through active participation is a vehicle for personal growth, but it is not the primary goal. For example, learning how to tie a knot, plan a menu, swim, or administer first aid may turn out to be critical in one’s life, but they are secondary to the goal of personal growth that comes with learning.

As Scouts learn skills and are tested on them, and then reviewed and recognized, they develop confidence. They come to realize they can learn and do other similar things. The retention of Scouting skills and knowledge is important, of course; but for retention to take place, it will be because Scouting skills and knowledge are used in our programs.

Advancement .. It’s a Method – Not an End in itself

Troop 185
Wellesley, Massachusetts

Scouting Ranks

- ❖ Scout
- ❖ Tenderfoot
- ❖ Second Class
- ❖ First Class
- ❖ Star
- ❖ Life
- ❖ Eagle



How do you start?

All members start by earning the rank of “Scout”. All Eagle Scouts started by earning the rank of “Scout”. You will find all the requirements for all your ranks in your Boy Scout Handbook. Make sure to put your name inside and along the edge of your book. This is your personal record.

You may have already completed many of the Scout Rank Requirements as part of the Webelos Program. If so, simply demonstrate your knowledge to the designated leader in our troop.

If you haven’t gone through Webelos, no problem, start by memorizing the Scout Oath, Scout Law, Scout motto, and Scout slogan. This will be a great start and we’ll help you with the rest during troop meetings & outings.

Scout Oath

“ On my honor, I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country, to obey the Scout Law, to help other people at all times, to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight. ”

Scout Law

“ A Scout is Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and Reverent. “

Scout Motto: BE PREPARED

Scout Slogan: Do a Good Turn Daily

Troop 185
Wellesley, Massachusetts

Merit Badges



Scouts can learn about sports, crafts, science, trades, business, and future careers as they earn merit badges. There are more than 135 merit badge opportunities and many of the Eagle Required are offered during our Troop meetings. There is no time limit for starting and completing a merit badge, but all work must be completed by the time a Scout turns 18.

Pick a Subject: The Scout should talk to the Scoutmaster about his interests. Read the requirements of the merit badges of interest and pick one to earn. The Scoutmaster will give you the name of a person from a list of counselors. These individuals have special knowledge in their merit badge subjects and are interested in helping scouts.

Scout Buddy System: *You must have another person with you at each meeting with the merit badge counselor.* This person can be a parent or legal guardian, another registered adult or another scout. Adults can be part of the Scouts Buddy System but the scout works with the counselors and troop advancement people. The Scout handles his own advancement.

Work with your Merit Badge Counselor: Get a Blue Merit Badge Card from the Scoutmaster. You should read the merit badge pamphlet on the subject. The Troop has a limited supply to borrow and copies can be purchased at the Scout Shop. Merit Badge Worksheets are available at www.meritbadge.org. The Worksheets are unofficial but can assist scouts with gathering their thoughts. Next, get in touch with the merit badge counselor. The counselor may ask to meet you to explain what is expected and to start helping you meet the requirements. At the first meeting, you and your merit badge counselor will review and may start working on the requirements. In some cases, you may share the work you have already started.

Get the Badge: When the counselor is satisfied you have met each requirement, he or she will sign your Blue Card. Give the signed Blue Card to the Scoutmaster so your merit badge is properly recorded.

Congratulations: You have earned your merit badge!! It will be presented to the Scout at the next Troop Court of Honor. Merit Badges are worn on a Merit Badge Sash.

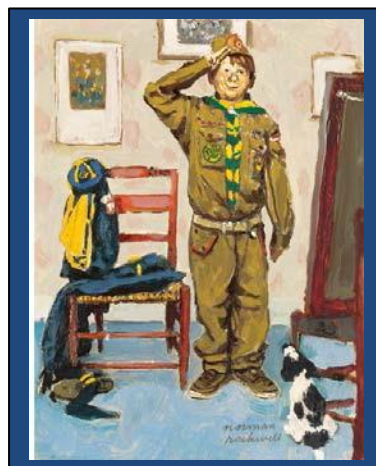


Scouts should focus on reaching the rank of First Class to learn basic scouting skills before working on merit badges.

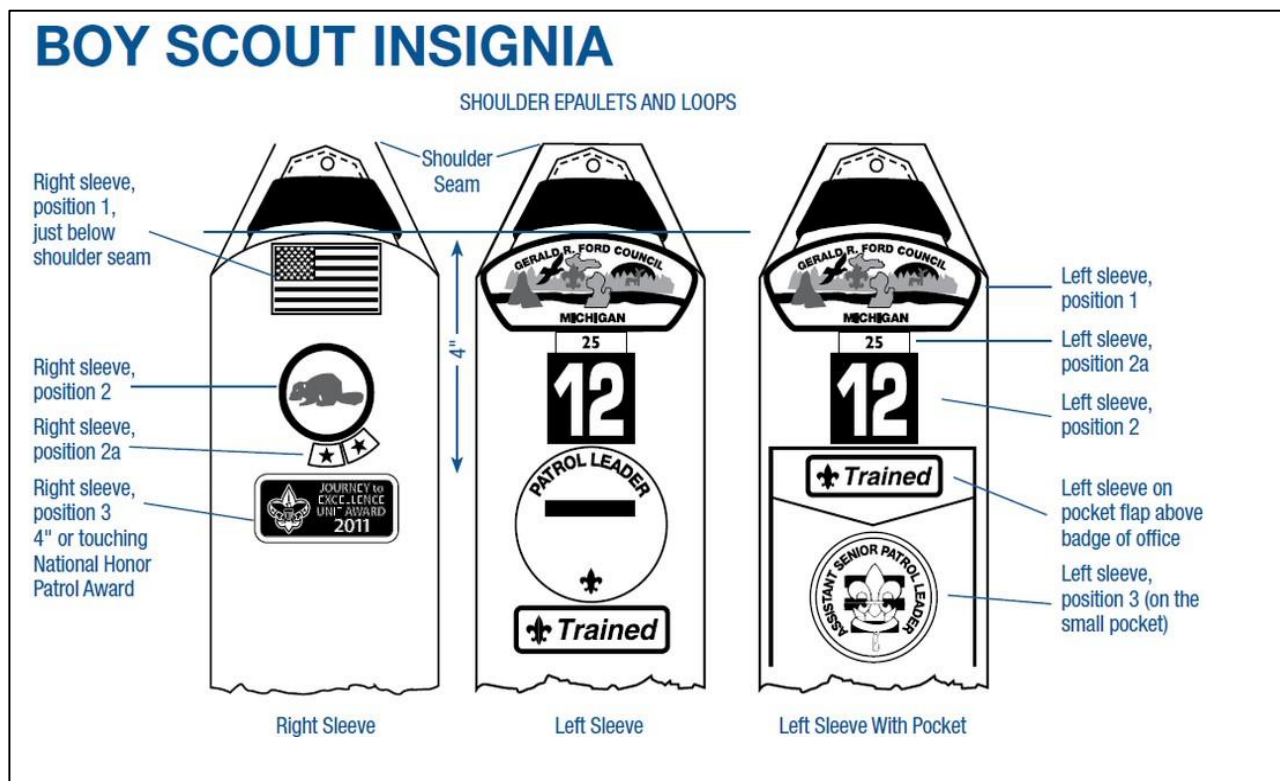
Troop 185
Wellesley, Massachusetts

Troop 185 will provide new members:

- ✓ Mayflower Council Patch
- ✓ Green Shoulder Loops
- ✓ Troop 185 numbers
- ✓ Patrol Patch
- ✓ Leadership Patch (when earned)
- ✓ Red Neckerchief & Slide
- ✓ Boy Scout Handbook



BOY SCOUT INSIGNIA



Places to Buy Your Uniform

New England Scout Shop
23 Turnpike Road
Southborough, MA 01772
(508) 229-2396

Scout Shop Woburn
Tower Office Park # 2
Woburn, MA 01801
(781) 937-4282

New England Base Camp Scout Shop
411 Unquity Road
Milton, MA 02186
(617) 361-0315

Camping Gear Resources

REI Framingham

375 Cochituate Rd
Framingham, MA 01701
P: (508) 270-6325



Natick Outdoor Store

38 North Avenue
Natick, MA 01760
P: (508) 653-9400



Cabela's

44 Highland Common
Hudson, MA 01749
P: (978) 212-6200



1 Bass Pro Drive
Foxborough, MA 02035
P: (508) 216-2000

www.Enwild.com

Online Only



Eastern Mountain Sports

753 Donald J. Lynch Boulevard
The Shops at the Pond
Marlborough, MA 01752
P: (508) 481-2107



Walmart

121 Worcester Rd,
Framingham MA 01701



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