

**TROOP 539**  
**BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA**  
**FRANKLIN, WISCONSIN**



***TROOP INFORMATION GUIDE***

*Updated 3/27/07*



---

## INTRODUCTION

*Welcome to Troop 539!*

We are excited about the activities and events we have planned for the coming year. Over the years, we have found that our Scouts derive their greatest pleasure from the outdoors – camping, hiking, and biking are particular favorites. So, our troop program takes advantage of all that the wonderful Wisconsin outdoors has to offer.

We strongly encourage parental involvement, whenever possible, with all of our events and outings . . . whether you're a leader or not. We find that positive adult role models only help to encourage our boys to reach even greater heights. Often, our parents have special talents or skills they can share with our Scouts . . . as a troop leader, committee member, or maybe even as a merit badge counselor.

Please take a few minutes to read through this Information Guide. Your understanding of our program will help insure the maximum enjoyment and success of your Boy Scout in Troop 539.

If you have any questions or suggestions on how to improve our program, please feel free to contact one of our leaders on the attached roster or to attend one of our monthly Troop Committee Meetings.

Once again, welcome!



---

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>INTRODUCTION</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>THE BOY SCOUT ORGANIZATION</b> .....	<b>4</b>
SCOUT OATH, LAW, MOTTO, SLOGAN, OUTDOOR CODE .....	4
<b>TROOP 539</b> .....	<b>5</b>
MEETINGS.....	5
UNIFORM .....	6
CLASS A VERSUS CLASS B UNIFORM .....	6
<b>CAMPING</b> .....	<b>7</b>
LEFEBER NORTHWOODS CAMP .....	7
DEVILS LAKE .....	7
FALL CAMPOREE.....	8
FUN WEEKEND.....	8
KLONDIKE DERBY.....	8
GLACIAL TRAIL .....	8
PREPARATION FOR CAMPING.....	8
<b>SERVICE PROJECTS</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>FUNDRAISERS &amp; DUES</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>FRIENDS OF SCOUTING</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>RANK ADVANCEMENT</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>BOARD OF REVIEW</b> .....	<b>11</b>
<b>COURT OF HONOR</b> .....	<b>11</b>
<b>EAGLE SCOUTS</b> .....	<b>12</b>
<b>MERIT BADGES</b> .....	<b>13</b>
<b>THE OVERALL BOY SCOUT PROGRAM</b> .....	<b>14</b>
<b>ADULT LEADERSHIP</b> .....	<b>14</b>
<b>ADULT TRAINING</b> .....	<b>15</b>
<b>TROOP COMMUNICATIONS</b> .....	<b>15</b>
<b>CLOSING COMMENTS</b> .....	<b>16</b>



---

## THE BOY SCOUT ORGANIZATION

The Boy Scouts of America were incorporated on February 8, 1910 and later chartered by Congress in 1961. The main purposes of this organization are to:

- ◆ provide an educational program for boys and young adults
- ◆ build character
- ◆ train scouts to be good citizens
- ◆ develop personal fitness

### **Scout Oath**

On my honor, I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country, and 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.

### **Outdoor Code**

As an American, I will do my best to be clean in my outdoor manners, be careful with fire, be considerate in the outdoors, and be conservation-minded.



---

## TROOP 539

Troop 539 has been in existence since 1972 (35 years). Our chartering organization is the Franklin Professional Firefighters Association. In 2006, we proudly advanced our 39<sup>th</sup> scout to the rank of Eagle. Our Troop is part of the Root River District of the Milwaukee County Council and we are active participants in Council-sponsored activities, events, and monthly Roundtable training.

### **Meetings**

Our weekly meetings are the cornerstone of activities for Troop 539. Meetings are held each Wednesday evening from 7:00 pm to 8:15 p.m. in the cafeteria of Forest Park Middle School in Franklin. We ask that our Scouts arrive by 6:45 PM to insure that we begin the meeting promptly. The 1st Wednesday of each month is reserved for the Patrol Leader's Council (PLC) which is made up of our Youth Leaders and is used to plan Troop activities. These meetings start at 7:00 PM and last approximately 1 hour. Any scout or parent is welcome to attend PLC meetings.

Our meetings are typically run by our senior Scouts to develop their leadership skills. Regular meetings encompass a variety of activities, including planning camping trips and outings, conducting merit badge clinics, teaching scout skills, along with a physical activity or initiative game. Uniforms are required for all meetings and Scouts are expected to bring their Boy Scout handbook to each meeting.

We encourage our Scouts to attend as many meetings as possible because we believe it is difficult to obtain the full Scouting experience with limited participation in the Troop. If a Scout is participating in a sport or after-school activity, we understand that he may not be able to attend meetings while that sport is in season. However, we ask that the Scout communicate regularly with his patrol, and notify his patrol leader and/or the Scoutmaster to advise them of the meetings that he will miss. The effort the scout makes to stay involved is one way of demonstrating Scout Spirit.

We invite parents to attend our meetings, whenever possible. Parental involvement has been proven to be a component of successful scouting.

We realize that your personal calendars are likely very busy, so we regularly publish troop calendars. As soon as we are aware of key dates, we put these dates on our troop calendar. Some events are held at the same time every year, making it easier for future planning. Information is published in hard copy and by email.



---

## **Uniform**

The accepted uniform for Troop 539 is as follows:

Left Sleeve:	Milwaukee County Council patch ( <i>purchased</i> ), 35-year patch ( <i>purchased</i> ), 539 ( <i>purchased</i> )
Right Sleeve:	Patrol patch ( <i>from leader</i> ), quality unit patch ( <i>from leader</i> )
Bottom of Left Pocket:	Arrow of Light patch ( <i>if earned in Cub Scouts</i> )
Top of Left Pocket:	Religious Knot ( <i>if earned in Cub Scouts or Boy Scouts</i> )
Scarf:	Green BSA Scarf ( <i>from leader</i> )
Slide:	Boy Scout Slide ( <i>purchased</i> )
Shoulders:	Red Epaulets ( <i>purchased</i> )
Sash:	Boy Scout Sash ( <i>purchased</i> )
Pants:	Khaki Pants ( <i>purchased</i> )

A Boy Scout handbook is also required. Purchases can either be made at Sherper's on Highway 100 in Hales Corners or at the Boy Scout Service Center at 3309 84th Street (North of I-94 on 84th Street).

## **"Class A" Versus "Class B" Uniform**

You may hear Boy Scout Uniforms defined as either Class A or Class B:

**Class A:** Troop 539 has agreed that khaki pants will be the designated "Class A" pants for our Troop. Additionally, "Class A" uniforms include a Scout sash and all appropriate ranks and badges. "Class A" uniforms should be worn to all Boards of Review, Court of Honors and other important Scouting events. Although uniforms are required for all Troop 539 meetings, blue jeans are acceptable for meetings and sashes are not required.

**Class B:** A "Class B" uniform includes a Boy Scout T-shirt. This may be a Boy Scout T-shirt or a shirt purchased or earned at camp or a special activity. Often, "Class B" uniforms are acceptable attire at summer camp.



---

## CAMPING

The absolute favorite activity for most Boy Scouts is camping. Thus, a strong camping program is central to Troop 539's Boy Scout Program. Through our camping program, our boys learn skills and lessons that help them grow into responsible and confident young adults and have fun at the same time.

We participate in a number of camping events during the year – some as a Troop and some as a part of larger Scout groups. The nature of our outings evolves with the interests and skill level of the boys. Higher adventure trips (e.g. outdoor winter camping or extended backpacking) may require minimum age and/or rank, usually 1<sup>st</sup> Class to demonstrate the necessary skill & experience.

We often look towards our parents for help in driving to camp-outs. We also enjoy having our parents attend the camping trips with our Troop.

The last word in SCOUTING is OUTING! And that's where the fun and the learning really take place. Some recurring favorite outings are described below. There are many others as well!

### **LeFeber Northwoods Camp**

This is the highlight of our annual program. Troop 539 attends its week long camp at LeFeber Northwoods Camp, which is located just outside of Crandon, approximately 5 hours North of Milwaukee. We go to LeFeber at the same time each year. Depending on the camp schedule our week falls during the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week of July, departing from Franklin on a Sunday and arriving home the following Saturday.

This Boy Scout wilderness camp gives our boys the opportunity to learn how to camp outside, handle a boat, improve swimming skills, and just plain have fun. They will each have the opportunity to earn several merit badges, get involved in special activities, and work towards rank advancement. Troop 539 often combines resources with other local troops at camp to conduct Boards of Review for rank advancement while we are at camp.

The cost of going to LeFeber Northwoods Camp can be reduced by participating in fundraisers offered during the year. Camperships are also available from the Milwaukee County Council for those families that can use a helping hand financially.

### **Devils Lake**

The first weekend in October, Troop 539 often joins a number of Scout troops from around the state at Devils Lake in Wisconsin. We enjoy camping, hiking the bluffs, and viewing the spectacular scenery that Devils Lake has to offer. This event is sponsored by Badger Trails.



---

## **CAMPING**

*(Continued)*

### **Fall Camporee**

The Root River District sponsors this weekend event. The Camporee is often held at familiar places like Camp Erin or Camp Lazynski (IMR) or at special locations. This outing typically takes place near the beginning of October and centers around a unique theme which corresponds with the outing or special event. Often, one or more merit badges can be earned at this campout.

### **Fun Weekend**

Each December, our Troop heads out to Indian Mound Reservation in Oconomowoc for a weekend of fun and games. This is also our recruitment weekend, so we often have a number of Webelos IIs join our troop for the weekend. We typically plan this trip for the weekend before Christmas, but dates are based on availability of the cabins at IMR. It's the ONLY outing where electronic devices are permitted.

### **Klondike Derby**

The Klondike Derby is a Root River District event that takes place at Indian Mound Reservation (IMR) in January or February. Troops demonstrate skills along the trails, competing with other local troops. The boys frolic in the snow during the day, but enjoy the warmth and comfort of the IMR cabins in the evening.

### **Glacial Trail**

Our Troop often participates in the Glacial Trail camping and hiking trip put on by Badger Trails during the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend in May in the North Kettle Moraine. Our entire troop participates in the Saturday hike, which takes approximately 7 hours to complete! The stronger legged Scouts finish the 20 mile hike on Sunday. This is a favorite.

### **Preparation for Camping**

Troop 539 leaves for most of our weekend camping trips at 5:30 p.m. on Friday evening. We meet in the Franklin Library Parking Lot. Here are a few important details you should know about our camping trips:

- Signed permission slips are required for each event.
- A completed physical form (with insurance information) is required.
- Scouts should wear their uniform on the drive to and from the campground.
- Parents are always welcome to join the Troop for the weekend.
- Volunteer drivers are always appreciated.
- No electronic devices (CD's, games, etc.) are allowed (except during Fun Weekend).



---

## SERVICE PROJECTS

Troop 539 believes that, as Boy Scouts, we should give back to the community we live in. We have two service projects that we regularly participate in each year, in addition to other special projects that may come up from time to time.

**St. Martin's Fair:** Each year, our troop directs car parking at Country Dale School for the St. Martin's Fair in Franklin, during Labor Day weekend. The proceeds for this event go to the Franklin Historical Society.

**Scouting For Food:** On two Saturdays in March, our troop participates in the council-sponsored Scouting for Food. This is a door-to-door food drive, which gathers food for the Second Harvest food bank.

**Other Service Activities:** In the past, we have fixed bicycles for the Franklin Fire Department auction and helped on staff for the Cub Scout Safe Halloween at Indian Mound Reservation. Eagle projects are another great way for our Troop to provide service to the community.

## FUNDRAISERS & DUES

Like most units, Troop 539 charges an annual Dues Fee to cover its expenses. The current Dues are: \$75.00 for the first scout and \$65.00 for each additional scout in a family. Dues notices are sent out at the beginning of the Program Year (in September) and are to be paid by September 30<sup>th</sup>..

Our troop participates in at least 3 fundraisers per year: Christmas Wreaths in the Fall and Boy Scout Popcorn in the Fall & Spring. Much of the money earned from these fundraisers (on average approx. 35% of the sales) comes back to our Troop, directly to the individual boys.

The proceeds a boy earns from these fundraisers are credited to a Troop Escrow Account established and maintained for him by the Troop. These funds are to be used for scout-related activities and expenses, such as dues, troop outings, summer camp, merit badge clinics, Powderhorn JLT, National Jamboree, and high adventure trips. Scouts receive regular updates regarding their account balance from the Troop Treasurer. If a scout transfers to another unit, his account balance transfers with him. Any unused funds may be transferred to a sibling, if desired. Otherwise, unused funds revert to the Troops general fund once the scout is no longer registered with BSA. New scouts who join after the troop files its charter in January/February will not be assessed Dues until the Fall. The Troop pays their partial year registration or transfer fees during this introductory period.



---

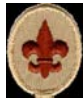
## FRIENDS OF SCOUTING

Each fall, our Troop is asked to support the Milwaukee County Council with an annual pledge from our parents. At the Council level, the average cost to support a boy in scouting for one year is close to \$160. We ask that you give generously to this wonderfully worthwhile cause. I think you'll agree that it's hard to put a price tag on all that your son is experiencing and learning while in Boy Scouts.

## RANK ADVANCEMENT

Recognition and advancement play a critical role in a boy's tenure in Boy Scouts. We all believe in the principles of reward and motivation as each boy learns new skills and takes on new personal challenges.

The path to Eagle Scout, and beyond, is well charted. The ranks that a Scout progresses through are: Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life and Eagle Scout. Adult leaders, older Scouts and other volunteers provide the training and experiences for the advancement requirements.



When a Webelos II crosses over from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts, he begins his experiences in Boy Scouts as soon as he earns the SCOUT rank.



After going on his first Troop outing, the TENDERFOOT now knows how to tie knots, safely hike, demonstrate elementary First Aid, and recite the Scout Oath, Law, Motto, and Slogan.



A Scout achieves a rank of 2<sup>nd</sup> CLASS when he has shown he knows how to use a compass, has worked on a Service project, has a higher level of First Aid expertise, and has participated in at least 5 Troop activities.



1<sup>st</sup> CLASS scouts have participated in 10 or more Troop activities, have mastered more difficult knots and First Aid techniques, and can swim 100 yards.



STAR Scouts have been 1<sup>st</sup> class Scouts for at least 4 months, have earned 4 Eagle required merit badges and 2 more merit badges (for a total of 6), have done 6 service hours, and have held a leadership position.



To achieve the rank of LIFE, a Scout must have been a Star Scout for 6 months, earned at least 5 more badges (of which 3 are Eagle-required), done 6 additional service hours, and have been a leader.



An EAGLE has earned at least 21 merit badges, of which 12 are required. He also must have completed a pre-approved Eagle Scout project. Becoming Eagle is a special day in the life of a young man. Many Eagles plan formal ceremonies to celebrate their accomplishments.



Eagle Scouts can earn EAGLE PALMS for completing additional merit badges and remaining active in the troop after attaining the rank of Eagle



---

## **BOARD OF REVIEW**

Each boy's Scout Handbook serves as a record of his demonstrated skills. As he completes each skill, a qualified leader signs the achievement off in the Handbook. When the Scout completes all requirements for advancement, he sits down with the Scoutmaster for a Scoutmaster Conference. This serves as a time to review the Scout's progress and to discuss future goals.

The Scout will then go before a Board of Review. This Board is typically made up of 3 parents and/or committee members. In our Troop, a volunteer from outside the troop (typically a scouter from another unit) is often asked to participate in Boards for Star & Life ranks. The Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters are not permitted to sit on Boards within our troop, nor are the parents of the Scout being reviewed. Members of the Board interview the Scout, confirming that he is ready for advancement and that Scouting is an integral part of his life. A short, private conference will then be held by the adults to determine if the Scout should be advanced to the next rank. The Scout is notified of the results of his Board of Review within a few minutes.

Each Scout must present himself for these conferences and reviews in his Class "A" Boy Scout uniform. His book should be properly signed prior to advancing to a Board of Review.

Scouts in Troop 539 are individually responsible for their own advancement in the program. As parents or guardians, we have the responsibility to understand, support, guide and motivate our sons toward this achievement. While each Scout progresses at his own pace, an active scout can achieve First Class within 1 to 2 years.

A Board of Review will take place whenever a Scout is adequately prepared for advancement. He will typically receive the new rank patch for his uniform as soon as possible after the paperwork is received at Council. Formal recognition for his accomplishment takes place at a Court of Honor within the Troop.

## **COURT OF HONOR**

Approximately 2-3 times per year, Troop 539 will host a formal Court of Honor in which the boys will be recognized for their accomplishments. At this time, the Scouts will be recognized for all the new ranks, awards, and merit badges that he has earned since the last Court of Honor.

A Class "A" uniform is required and parents and other family members are strongly encouraged to attend the Court of Honor, to celebrate their son's accomplishments. For the leadership ranks of Star and Life the Scout's mother takes part in the ceremony by being "pinned" with a miniature version of her son's badge of rank. This is a Troop 539 tradition.



---

As the Scouts progress in their Scouting career, they will be called on to help lead the Troop, first in a limited position, and later as one of the overall leaders of the Troop program. This leadership role is one of the most valuable and lasting experiences of Scouting.

## EAGLE SCOUTS

Upon completion of Life rank, the scout receives his Eagle Packet, which contains instructions and forms necessary for him to proceed toward attaining his Eagle Badge. In addition to earning the required merit badges and demonstrating leadership within the troop, the scout must plan and complete a significant service project. These plans must be reviewed and approved by the District Advancement Chair before he can begin. The scout then keeps a record of his project, including photos, work diaries, plans and correspondence to be presented to his Review Board.

Once the scout has successfully completed all required work and has demonstrated the maturity and spirit fitting an Eagle Scout, the Scoutmaster and Troop Committee Chair then sign-off on the Advancement Form that the scout is “ready” to go before his Eagle Review Board. All these requirements must be completed before the Scout’s 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The Eagle candidate’s completed packet and project book are then submitted to Council to verify that the required documentation is present. The scout is then notified that he can schedule a board of review with the Root River District. The District, NOT the troop, provides the Review Board.

After the Scout has passed his Review and the paperwork is verified by the National Scout Office, the Troop, the Scout and his parents celebrate by holding an **Eagle Scout Court of Honor** to formally recognize this magnificent achievement. The location, timing and tone of the Court of Honor are up to the scout and his family. A variety of ceremony ideas are available from the Scoutmaster and from other sources. Whether elaborate or simple, this celebration is for the new Eagle Scout alone. It is not held in conjunction with a regular troop court of honor.

Traditionally the Troop provides the scout with a 5-Year membership in the National Eagle Scout Association (NESA) along with a white NESA neckerchief. Food and hall rental (if any) for the celebration are up to the Scout and his parents. The troop generally provides paper plates and napkins for the event (along with a wealth of helping hands!)

Sample invitations and programs from each Eagle Scout are maintained for posterity in the troop archives. The scout’s name and the year he achieved the Eagle rank are added to the troop’s Eagle banner(s) and unveiled at his Court of Honor.



---

## MERIT BADGES

Merit badges are designed to encourage a Scout to increase their skills in things they already like to do and to challenge them to try out new activities that might result in new interests or hobbies.

Scouts have over 120 merit badges to choose from. However, 12 badges are required for the rank of Eagle. Listed below are the currently required badges as of 2007:

- |                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. Camping                      | 7. Family Life                           |
| 2. Citizenship in the Community | 8. First Aid                             |
| 3. Citizenship in the Nation    | 9. Personal Fitness                      |
| 4. Citizenship in the World     | 10. Personnel Management                 |
| 5. Communications               | 11. Cycling or Hiking or Swimming        |
| 6. Environmental Science        | 12. Emergency Preparedness or Lifesaving |

Boy Scouts can earn these merit badges individually or as part of a group. The boys work with trained merit badge counselors to obtain approval on the completion of a badge. Each Scout should consult with the Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster to obtain the name and phone number of an approved counselor for the merit badge he wishes to work on.

Alternatively, merit badge clinics are offered throughout the year and a variety of merit badges can be obtained at LeFeber during summer camp. Some of the badge clinics commonly offered throughout the year include First Aid, Coin Collecting, and Electricity. Often a number of Scouts from Troop 539 will attend these clinics together.

The Scout receives a blue (or yellow LNC) merit badge card from the Scoutmaster. The Scoutmaster signs the merit badge card to authorize the Scout to begin working on the badge, and again upon completion.

The Troop Librarian maintains copies of all merit badge books available for scouts in our troop. A list of requirements is also available on-line at [meritbadge.com](http://meritbadge.com).

---

## THE OVERALL BOY SCOUT PROGRAM



---

Troop 539 is part of a large well-organized Boy Scout Program. We follow the policies and programs of the National Organization of the Boy Scouts of America. Our real involvement is with the Milwaukee County Council, which provides professional support and the facilities for most of our camping.

Troop 539 is part of the Root River District. This district is made up of Cub Scout Packs, Boy Scout Troops, and Explorer Posts from the cities of Franklin, Greendale, Greenfield, and Hales Corners, Oak Creek as well as a small section of Milwaukee.

## **ADULT LEADERSHIP**

The Boy Scouts of America require two-deep leadership for all meetings, activities and events. This practice insures protection for both the Boy Scouts and the leaders.

Troop 539's program is designed so that the **Scouts** run the program, under the *guidance* of leaders and parents. Some of the key leadership positions held within our Troop include:

### **Scoutmaster**

Our Scoutmaster plays a central role in the life of our Troop. He is the adult leader responsible for the image and programs of the troop. His primary responsibility is to work with the boys.

Each Scout will meet one-on-one with the Scoutmaster, for a Scoutmaster's conference, as the boy prepares to advance to the next rank. The Scoutmaster also works closely with our boy leaders to plan the activities of the Troop.

### **Assistant Scoutmasters**

All Assistant Scoutmasters help to operate the troop with the guidance of the Scoutmaster.

### **Troop Committee**

The Troop Committee handles the administrative details of the Troop. The Committee Chair, who coordinates the monthly meetings, runs the Committee. In Troop 539, positions within the Committee include: Treasurer, Secretary, Advancement, Chartered Organization Representative, Merit Badge Coordinator, Transportation, and Cub Scout Liaison. The Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster also attend Committee meetings, in addition to other interested parents.

Committee meetings are typically held monthly on a Tuesday evening at the Committee Chair's home. The meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. and usually last 1-1/2 hours.

### **Parents**



---

It has been shown that Scouts whose parents are involved in Scouting tend to be more successful over the long term. We encourage our parents to bring their skills and experience to our Troop or to just join us for a weekend camping trip or two.

## **ADULT TRAINING**

BSA encourages adult leaders to go through training. Although it is not mandatory, formalized training assists adults in understanding how to most effectively work with the boys.

The Milwaukee County Council of the Boy Scouts of America offers Basic Training for adults each Spring and Fall. This training can also be taken at LeFeber Summer Camp. During this training program, adults will be provided with the background needed to feel comfortable with how the various Scout programs work. Scoutmasters and Assistants are encouraged to attend advanced training courses such as Wood Badge to hone their leadership skills. Troop 539 is working to have 100% of their adult leaders/committee members fully trained.

The Root River District holds monthly Roundtable meetings the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at St. Alphonsus on Loomis Road in Greendale. A pre-determined topic is discussed each month. There are break-out sessions where committee members can learn more about their positions from other scouters and pass along helpful tips of their own. Ideas for troop and District level scout activities and projects are also discussed. All leaders and parents are welcome to attend.

To learn more about training opportunities, contact the Scoutmaster or Committee Chair.

## **TROOP COMMUNICATIONS**

The Troop 539 roster is updated on a regular basis, to remain current on all rank advancements for our Scouts. Additionally, our Troop Calendar is published frequently. The Troop Committee makes every attempt to publish key dates for activities and camping trips as soon as possible.

Fliers are often used to communicate the details of upcoming camping trips or events. Further, Patrol Leaders will often make personal phone calls to each member of their patrol reminding them of important details.

In this electronic age, Troop 539 relies heavily on E-MAIL as a primary communications tool. Scouts and parents should frequently check their email to keep up to date and to address any questions that come up.

Each scout, leader and parent is issued a troop email address, typically their first initial and last name (example: [jdoe@t539.org](mailto:jdoe@t539.org)) [which makes it easy to remember the email addresses of other troop members. Your troop email will be forwarded to your regular email address to make it even easier to stay abreast of Troop activities.](#)

---



---

Parents are encouraged to call any of the adult leaders to discuss important issues or concerns you may have. We always welcome suggestions on how to improve our program.

## **CLOSING COMMENTS**

One of the best ways to obtain a “real” understanding of how our Troop operates is to join us for a Troop meeting or to accompany us on an outing. You might be surprised how relaxing these weekends can be. The boys are empowered to be responsible for themselves on these trips, so you are not required to play the role of “mom” or “dad”. Rather, you are just another adult enjoying the great outdoors! Try it sometime . . . you might surprise yourself!