



BSA Troop 258

Canby, Oregon

www.troop258canby.com

Welcome to Troop 258

In the next few pages you'll learn more about Troop 258 and what it takes to get involved in our activities. If you have questions, please ask the Scoutmaster or one of the leaders.

History

Troop 258, Canby's first Boy Scout Troop, was chartered in April of 1939, with Thomas Fletcher as Scoutmaster and Canby Kiwanis as sponsor. Scoutmasters have changed every few years, with the position being held by about 23 different men. However, over the last 40 years, troop leadership has been remarkably stable with scoutmasters often serving 10 years or longer. These include Herman Bergman (1956-69), Gerald Rothi (1973-78) and Ed Holbrook (1983-93) who began as an Assistant Scoutmaster in 1972 and continues to serve in that capacity. Scoutmaster Tom Brandt began his service in 1993.

From 1952 until 1968, Zoar Lutheran Church and Canby Lions Club sponsored the Troop then Canby Kiwanis resumed its sponsorship. In 1989, when Troop 258 celebrated its 50th anniversary, it was the largest troop in Clackamas District. The Troop's first Eagle Scout was Weston Peterson who earned it in 1947. As of 2011, 87 Scouts earned their Eagle Scout rank.

After meeting in many locations through the years, including the Eccles gym, Canby City Park and a Quonset hut (torn down many years ago) on the northwest corner of Wait Park, plans were made to build a permanent home for the troop. In 1970, several community groups began planning for the A-frame building, but it was the leaders and parents of Troop 258 who turned those plans into reality. They organized scrap metal and glass drives, Christmas tree sales, and solicited money, material and labor donations. Crown Zellerbach Paper Co. provided the raw logs used in the structure while Scouts peeled and cleaned them. In June 1971, main support logs were raised and secured using boom trucks provided by Whitman Towing and Canby Telephone Association. National Guard members assisted in fitting lower crossbeams, nailing decking and shakes on the roof and framing the side walls. In 1972, under the guidance of Gerald Rothi, the side and end walls were completed and Plexiglas windows installed. Final work done in 1974 by the Naval Reserve Unit (SAMAR) included framing the sleeping deck, running electrical conduit, landscaping and clean-up, steps and the flagpole. It is said that Troop 258 is one of only three troops in the nation who have their own building. The building is made available to other Boy Scout Troops and area community groups on request.

Scoutmaster

Tom Brandt currently serves as Scoutmaster after being Assistant Scoutmaster for three years. He was previously Pack 505 Cubmaster for five years. Tom is a research scientist with FEI Co. and spent many years working at Tektronix. Tom can be reached at 503-980-5297.

Leadership

Troop 258 operates using the principles of a boy-led troop. A program led by boys teaches responsibility and is intended to produce stronger leaders. Scout leaders are elected by their fellow Scouts once a year, in order give more boys the opportunity to serve in leadership positions. The key positions are Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader and Patrol Leaders for each patrol. Quartermasters, Scribe, Librarian, Historian, Webmaster and Chaplain Aide are included in the Leadership Corps. The key leaders are required to attend Polaris, a leadership camp. Scout leaders earn credit toward rank advancement for serving in their position. In Troop 258, scouts are given many opportunities to test and refine their leadership skills. The leaders conduct a planning meeting each month on the Monday following the monthly activity.

Parental Involvement

Scouting is a family activity run by volunteers and strong parental involvement is essential to the continued success of Troop 258. Parents of scouts are expected to help however they can and to attend the parent meetings during the regular scout meeting on the first Monday of each month at 7:30 PM. This is the most effective way for parents to stay informed and have a say in troop actions and policies. Long-

term and short-term committee assignments require the work of involved parents. To enhance the understanding of the Boy Scout programs and improve leadership skills, registered Troop Committee members are required to take Fast Start: Boy Scouting Online Training, This Is Scouting, Committee Challenge Online Training, and Youth Protection Online Training. All of these classes can be completed online in a few hours.

Many parents share their professional and life skills with scouts by becoming merit badge counselors. This usually requires only a modest time commitment while scouts are working on a specific merit badge. There are over 100 merit badges offer by the Boy Scouts. Merit Badge Counselors must complete Youth Protection Training, file an Adult Application and Merit Badge Counselor Information Form, and be approved by the Cascade Pacific Council.

Good activities can't happen without parental assistance. Each scout family is required to provide an adult (18 years or older) chaperone/chauffer for at least 1 or 2 outings and fundraisers each year. Note: Scouts who have a valid driver's license can't drive other Scouts to/from scout activities. However, they may drive themselves. Before driving on outings, insurance information and driver's license number must be provided to the Troop. There may be other requirements if the activity involves water, boats or airplanes.

Parents are expected to show leadership by setting a good example. This requires active participation in and enthusiasm for the program as well as demonstration of good personal habits. Alcohol is prohibited at all times and smoking is not allowed on Scout premises or within sight of the boys.

Meetings

Meetings are held every Monday from 7:30 to 9:00 PM at the Herman Bergman Lodge (aka the A-frame) except for the Monday following a weekend camping trip. Meetings are held year-round.

Activities

Troop 258 participates in a weekend activity per month, year round. These activities may range from a half-day horse ride to an overnight snow cave adventure or a 50-mile canoe trip. The Leadership Corps plans the year's activities at its September meeting.

Summer Camp

Most scouts attend a week-long summer camp with the Troop. Camp is a great place for earning merit badges and rank advancement. The troop attends Camps Meriwether, Baldwin, Pioneer, and many others on a rotating basis so that boys have the opportunity to experience all that each has to offer during their time in scouting. One adult leader is required per 8 scouts at camp.

Court of Honor

Achievements are recognized quarterly with an awards ceremony for rank advancements, merit badges, and other honors. Families are strongly encouraged to attend and bring snacks for sharing at the reception afterwards. The Court of Honor is usually held at the A-frame in place of a meeting.

Program Costs

A quality scouting program requires the commitment of both time and money. The parent committee sets annual fees to reflect both payments required by the BSA and funds to meet the troop's budget. Annual costs are detailed below. The Troop fiscal year is November to October.

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| BSA Registration | \$15 (pro-ratable) |
| Troop 258 Dues | \$50 (pro-ratable) |
| Boy's Life magazine | \$12 (Optional) |

Costs beyond the annual fees are approximate and vary according to the needs and desires of the Scout and his parents. For example, a new uniform with accessories can cost up to \$100 new but it may be found at a garage sale or thrift store for only a few dollars. The same may be said of tents and camping gear. The following items are typically required for a new scout.

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| Full Uniform | \$100 |
| Boy Scout Handbook | \$15 |
| Camp gear and tent | \$125 |

Scouts who participate in activities usually pay a portion of those costs which may include food, fuel, and admission or park use fees.

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| Overnight campouts | ~ \$0 to \$34 |
| Other outings | ~ \$5 to \$25 |
| Summer Camp | \$250 |
| | Roughly \$4 per meal |
| Gas | Depending on distance |

Uniform

The official Boy Scout Uniform is worn to all meetings and specified outings. The uniform consists of khaki shirt, olive shorts or slacks, scout belt, yellow Troop neckerchief and Troop ball cap. Members of the Leadership Corps may wear bolo ties in place of the neckerchief. The main parts of the uniform are available at the Scout Shop at 2145 SW Front Ave, Portland. The Troop supplies the neckerchief, hat, and most badges.

Uniform inspections take place at each meeting and the patrols receive points based on the uniform as or individual members. An award is presented to the patrol that has the best score on inspections at a patrol celebration.

Books

Each scout must have a copy of the Boy Scout Handbook as this is used to track progress toward rank advancement. The Boy Scout Requirements book is also very useful as well as various internet resources for finding requirements for all 100+ merit badges. The merit badge handbooks and many other specialty books are available for loan from the troop library or may be purchased from the Scout Shop.

Scout Accounts

The treasurer keeps a running balance of each Scout's debts and payments. Proceeds from some fundraisers are divided among all people helping (Scouts and their family members) and credited to that Scout's account. Purchases from the Troop store are deducted from the account as are any unpaid fees for activities for which the Scout is registered.

Fundraisers

Troop 258 is recognized throughout Canby's business community for its holiday flag fundraiser. For an annual fee, the Troop places a flag at each participating business on 7 holidays each year. Other fundraisers occur during General Canby Days and the Christmas season. Funds are used to help keep the troop dues as low as possible.

Troop 258 earns significant discounts on camps and activity fees by participating in BSA's annual Friends of Scouting fundraiser. By helping the Council raise money, the troop helps to ensure that the camping facilities we use here in the Northwest are well maintained and available for our use. Each family is asked to donate whatever they can and to help solicit donations from businesses and individuals in the community.

Edited October 9, 2011