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Merit Badges

There are several ways to earn merit badges.

- A troop sponsored merit badge class. These are usually held on a Saturday and take from 2 to 6 hours.

- Merit badge days – Usually held on a Saturday, merit badge days are sponsored by different troops for any scouts who wish to attend. Several merit badges are offered.

- Sea Base – The Boy Scout Sea Base has programs in the fall, spring and summer. They offer several different merit badges. The summer merit badge programs last one week.

- Working directly with a merit badge counselor - This method of earning merit badges is done by the scout on his own. It requires the scout to schedule time to meet with the merit badge counselor and to do the work required to complete the merit badge. However, this method also gives the scout the most thorough understanding of the subject of the merit badge.

Troop 243 Merit Badge Procedure

1. Request a blue card from the Advancement Chairman.

2. Tell your Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster which merit badge you are interested in doing and have him/her sign your card.

3. Once the AC has given a scout a signed blue card, the scout has until his 18th birthday to complete the merit badge.

4. Either by recommendation or by looking at the Canyons district merit badge counselor list, pick a counselor.

5. Contact your merit badge counselor by phone and arrange an initial meeting. All contact with the counselor must be done by the scout, NOT THE PARENTS. The counselor will request to speak to the scout's parents if he/she feels directions need to be clarified.

6. When the scout meets with the counselor, he needs to either have a buddy (another scout), a parent or a Youth Protection trained adult with him.

7. The counselor will discuss with the scout the procedure he uses to help the scout finish his merit badge.

8. When the merit badge is finished, the Merit Badge Counselor will sign the card and keep 1/3 of it for

his/her records. The MBC is required to keep his copy for a year.

9. The scout takes the remaining 2 portions of the signed blue card to the Advancement Chairman who checks both copies to make sure they are complete. He/she will give the scout his portion of the blue card to keep for his own records. The third portion kept by the Advancement Chairman is turned in at the scout shop when the merit badge patch is purchased.

10. Merit badges are awarded at the Courts of Honor.