

Troop 4 Glossary

Updated 5-17-2007

ASPL: ASPL stands for Assistant Senior Patrol Leader. The ASPL is assistant to the SPL and fills in for him when he is gone. He is appointed by the SPL.

Blue Cards: These cards are awarded to a scout upon completion of a merit badge. Each blue card has three sections. One third is sent to the council, one third stays with the merit badge counselor, and the last third is awarded to the scout. The scout should keep careful track of these cards, as they are his proof of completing a merit badge, and will be checked in his Eagle Board of Review. Some BSA summer camps are no longer using these, and have replaced them with a computer print-out, which should also be saved.

Board of Review: After a scout has completed a Scoutmaster Conference, he will sit before a Board of Review. This is a formal interview with a panel of adults consisting of Troop 4 committee members. The scout should be in full uniform, and be well prepared by reviewing what he did for his rank in the scout handbook. The scout may be asked questions related to his rank, scouting, home, school, church etc.

Class A Uniform The brown BSA shirt with proper insignia, neckerchief, slide and BSA pants or shorts define the Class A uniform for Troop 4. Tennis shoes or boots should be worn as opposed to sandals, or flip flops.

Class B Uniform Any BSA or Troop 4 t-shirt serves as a Class B uniform. The troop typically votes to let the scouts wear a class B uniform to troop meetings during the summer vacation months. Also, the leader of an excursion will sometimes require a class B uniform to be worn during the trip.

Court of Honor: The Court of Honor is the Troop 4 quarterly awards ceremony. Rank advancements and newly earned merit badges are acknowledged at this time.

Eagle Project: Every Life scout must complete a special project on the road to Eagle. The scout must organize and lead other scouts in a service project approved by the troop committee. It involves presentations, organization, and leadership.

Green Bar: This is the Patrol Leader's Council and is comprised of the junior scout leaders. This council is in charge of planning and running the troop's program and activities. This monthly meeting is called the 'green bar' because the scout leaders who are required to attend these meetings have green bars on their shirts designating their leadership positions, such as: SPL, ASPL, Patrol Leader, or Troop Guide. *This meeting is always the second Monday of the month, right before the troop meeting (6PM)*

Green Sheet: A 'green sheet' is the initial informational flier put out for a trip.
PS--It isn't always green!

Medical Forms: Both Class 1 and Class 2 medical forms are required for every scout, and are kept on file by the troop. Adult leaders on a trip should have these in hand.

Class 1: Filled out by the parent: good for one year - similar to a permission slip.

Class 2: Filled out by a physician after a physical: good for 36 months—Summer camps typically require that these be renewed annually.

Class 3: Required for any adult committee member over 40 who is going on a trip and is . Also required for the scouts going on a more high adventure trip. Filled out by a physician after a physical exam: good for one year.

Merit Badge Counselor: A scout must work with a merit badge counselor (not the parent) to complete the requirements for a specific merit badge. Any adult with a skill or interest may register with the council to become a merit badge counselor for the troop.

Order of the Arrow: (OA) This is scouting's national Honor Society. Scouts must be nominated and elected to the Order by other members of their troop. There is an emphasis on Native American culture.

Troop Committee Meetings: *The first Monday of every month* is devoted to parent committee planning. Scouts do not attend this meeting. The meeting starts at 7PM.

Patrol: A patrol is the small group within the troop that a scout is associated with. Patrols are used to organize troop activities during troop meetings, and campouts. Patrols are led by Patrol Leaders, and Assistant Patrol Leaders.

Scoutmaster Conference: A Scoutmaster Conference is the one-on-one meeting a scout has with the Scoutmaster after he has finished all requirements toward his next rank. This must be completed before signing up for a Board of Review for rank advancement.

SPL: SPL stands for Senior Patrol Leader. The SPL is the junior leader with the most responsibility in the troop. The SPL is in charge of leading the troop meetings and the green bar. A scout holds this position for 6 months.

Venture Scouts: The Venture Scouts are a sub group within the troop, comprised of boys and girls 14 and older. The Venture Scouts often go on more high adventure outings such as scuba diving and sailing.

YPG: YPG stands for Youth Protection Guidelines. YPG provides an outline of appropriate adult/scout interaction, and covers how to spot such things as child abuse. BSA requires that there are at least 2 YPG trained adults on every trip. This is called "two-deep leadership," and is put in place for the protection of the scout and the adult. Troop 4 requires all adults working with scouts to be YPG trained. The training takes about 90 minutes on line.