



Boy Scout Troop 243 Fact Sheet

Troop 243 meets on Wednesdays from 7:00 until 8:30 PM in the school cafeteria of St. John Paul II Church. Take the drive that leads behind the priest house at 3521 Goldsmith Lane. The cafeteria is the last door on the right.

We are a "High Adventure Troop" and we keep the "Outing", in "Scouting" - Our annual program consists of weekly troop meetings, quarterly courts of honor, at least 9 weekend campouts, day hikes, and a one-week or longer summer camp. Every year the troop also takes a high adventure trip to one of the Boy Scouts of America's High Adventure bases (Philmont, Northern Tier, Seabase and The Summit).

Summer Camp alternates between a local camp and an out of state camp. Here are some of the out of state camps we've attended: Haliburton Scout Camp -140 miles North of Toronto, Canada, Ben Delatour Scout Ranch – Colorado, Camp Buckskin - West Va, Skymont Scout Reservation - Chattanooga, Tennessee, Camp Daniel Boone - Ashville, NC, Camp Woodruff - Northern Georgia, Camp Davy Crockett - Whitesburg, TN, Camp Friedlander - Cincinnati, Ohio, Camp Bert Adams - Outside of Atlanta, Camp Wolverine – Michigan, and Camp Crooked Creek – Kentucky

High Adventure, every year the older scouts (usually age 14 and up) go on a "High Adventure" trip to one of the Boy Scouts of America High Adventure Bases, which include: Backpacking at Philmont Scout Reservation – Cimarron, New Mexico, Canoeing at Northern Tier Canoe Base - Atikokan Canada, Florida Sea Base, Sailing, snorkeling & fishing in the Florida Keys, and "The Summit" Bechtel Reserve, in West Virginia.

Advancement - Troop 243 is very proud of the accomplishments of its scouts. The goal of most every scout is to become an Eagle Scout, scouting's highest rank. More than 120 scouts in Troop 243 have reached this pinnacle. The troop's activities center on learning and doing the things that scouts need to advance. A scout who has completed requirements for a rank participates in a conference with the Scoutmaster and a review by the troop Committee. We present awards at a quarterly "Court of Honor" attended by parents and other family members.

Parent Participation is not mandatory, but is always needed and welcome. Areas where we need parent help:

Be an adult leader within the troop
Attend camping trips
Help with the Troop's fundraising activities
Serve as a merit badge counselor

Serve on the troop committee, supporting the troop's program
Participate in Advancement "Board of Reviews"
And more....

Fundraising – We have several fundraisers throughout the year. Each benefits the troop as a whole, by reducing all scouts' dues and reducing the cost of summer camp, and high adventure trips. During the past 12 months we parked cars at a University of Louisville game, held a pancake breakfast, a Mardi Gras Dinner, and sold camp cards. The allocation of proceeds is: 43% of funds raised reduce dues for all scouts, 25% of funds go towards summer camp, and 32% go towards that year's high adventure trip.

We receive funds from Kroger, via their community rewards program. These funds defray the cost of our bus maintenance, fuel and insurance. To register:

- Go to <http://Kroger.com/communityrewards>
- Click *See More Details and Enroll Today* under *Are You a Customer Looking to Enroll?*
- Our organization is: Boy Scout Troop #243 - St John II CC, Organization Number: UF833
- Call 1-800-KROGERS, Option #3, with questions. NOTE: This does not affect your own points towards fuel discounts.

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Each Scout in Troop 243 needs:

Scout Uniform - We stress the importance of PROPER UNIFORMING. Scouts should wear scout pants (or shorts), scout socks when wearing shorts, scout belt and a scout shirt with proper patches. This uniform should be worn to all meetings, and all camp outs. You can buy uniforms at the Scout Shop off Blankenbaker Lane. "Experienced" uniforms can be found in our troop "uniform bank" or at yard sales, Goodwill or other thrift stores. A scout cannot participate in Boards of Review or Scoutmaster conferences without a Class A uniform.

Required

- **The Official Boy Scout Handbook** - Bring to every troop meeting and campout.
- **Sleeping Bag** - Warm to at least 20 degrees with an extra blanket in the winter.
- **Drinking Cup** - A canteen or bottle might also be required depending on the camp out.

Optional

- **Eating kit** (Plate, bowl, knife, fork, spoon).
- **Optional - pocketknife** - Before carrying a pocketknife, a scout must prove he can use a knife, axe, and saw wisely and safely. When proven, he will be awarded a "Totin' Chip" - a card that states that he has the right to carry and use such tools.)

Troop Equipment - The troop owns a 66 passenger 2004 International diesel school bus, a large equipment trailer and sufficient camping equipment; tents, dining flies, cooking equipment, axes, saws, shovels, lanterns.

A Scout is Thrifty - Troop 243 provides opportunities for scouts to **"pay their own way"**. We provide several fundraising activities where scouts can help reduce the cost of troop dues, summer camp and high adventure.



Troop Dues

There is a one-time fee to join troop 243 of \$60. After that, the Troop is funded through dues paid by each Scout. As of January of 2021 the dues are \$240 per year, payable in \$120 installments on January 1 and July 1. Dues are reduced by the proceeds of our Troop Fundraising. For the last 2 years, after fundraising, the dues were only \$20 in January, and \$20 last December. These funds pay for all Troop camping equipment, awards presented to Scouts in recognition of their advancement, training programs provided to youth and adults, troop administration expenses, registration fees paid to the National Scout office, insurance, etc. Each new scout will

receive a copy of the current edition of the Boy Scout Handbook when their dues are paid. They will receive a troop "Class B" t-shirt when they have earned the Scout rank. Note: Confidential **Financial Assistance is available**.... just ask our treasurer, or Committee Chair.

Scout Account - An account is maintained in every scout's name. Parents or other supporters who want to support their scout make deposits. Withdrawals can be used to pay for any scout related expenses (dues, uniforms, fees). A scout with a negative scout account balance cannot camp with the troop or advance in Troop 243. Parents will be able to view their son's Scout Account, online.

You can make deposits into your son's scout account, or payments towards outings several ways:

1. Write a check, payable to "Troop 243" and give it to our treasurer, or our Committee Chair.
2. Pay using a credit card, at: <https://troop243.com/donate> (Note: there is a 2.4% fee for this service, the fee will be deducted from the amount deposited.)
3. Pay using Venmo. There are no fees associated with Venmo. Pay to: @Troop243, pin: 5290.

Troop Website: www.troop243.com

We keep our troop website up to date. On it you always find the latest information about Troop 243.

<https://troop243.com/calendar> Troop Calendar

<https://troop243.com/events> Sponsor our next fundraising event

<https://troop243.com/donate> Donate to Troop 243, or make payments towards outings.

visit our website for much more.....

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact one of our troop leaders.

Eric Berendsen
Gerald Shively

Scoutmaster (502) 386-2532 email: scoutmaster@troop243.com
Committee Chair (502) 693-2969 email: committeechair@troop243.com

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