



Troop 274 – Avon, CT

Mark Twain District
Connecticut Rivers Council - Boy Scouts of America

Why you should want your son to stay in scouting?

As parents, we share a goal that our boys mature as men of character and capability, so that they might enjoy happiness and success. We invest a considerable amount of our time and money in their education and experiences to that end.



Scouting delivers a proven program for our sons to achieve the goals we have for them, by integrating: Leadership Training, Community Service, and Adventure.

This is why our *U.S. Congress* chartered BSA...the only organization of its kind. It is no coincidence that colleges and employers recognize and appreciate the same values and skills learned by Scouts.

Adventure – Hiking, camping, climbing, biking, canoeing, sailing, skiing...the list goes on. Scouting teaches boys the skills they need to safely enjoy and love the outdoors.

High Adventure: In addition to weekend adventures, most Scouts typically enjoy several longer "High Adventure" experiences, each comparable to (*expensive*) "once-in-a-lifetime," "transformational" outdoor programs such as NOLS and Outward Bound. In fact, those programs routinely recruit Scouts to be guides in their programs!

Leadership – From day-one, Scouts learn to be leaders of people and projects. Scouting teaches leadership in graduated steps using a purposeful, time-proven pedagogy.

Practice Makes Perfect: No matter how respected (*or expensive*) a leadership training program might be, lessons cannot be "learned" without context and practice. Scouting is among very few leadership training programs that provides both a long-term developmental context in which to learn leadership skills, and graduated roles through which to practice them, get feedback from mistakes, and incrementally take on more responsibility.

Service – Scouts are known for community service. Scouting teaches an appreciation for, as well as how to have fun with, organize and lead community service.

Most Scouts will have contributed many hours of community service, even if they do not complete an Eagle Scout service project. Colleges and employers understand that Scouting involves many hours and events over many years. They distinguish Scouts from applicants who might list on their resume even the most impressive or creative one-time service project.

To help your son stick with it...and get the most from the program...get involved.

Most boys are in Scouting for the fun of it. Still, their interest will naturally wax and wane over the years. Coaching your son will help him succeed and maintain his interest. We've observed that sons of involved parents are those most likely to succeed and stay with the program. We believe that this is because involved parents are demonstrating that the program is valued, and in the process learn more about how to coach their sons.

To volunteer; contact:

John Bourget – Troop Committee Chair – (675-6475) or email: witan@aol.com

Bill Roell – Scoutmaster – (673-5540) or email: bill.roell@comcast.net



Troop 274 – Avon, CT

Mark Twain District
Connecticut Rivers Council - Boy Scouts of America

HOW CAN I HELP?

Following is an overview of the many roles and responsibilities of adult volunteers in Troop 274.

Blanks indicate that a volunteer is needed. By the way...if you don't see a role that seems to "fit" your interests, talents or schedule, just ask and we can probably customize something just for you!

Notes:

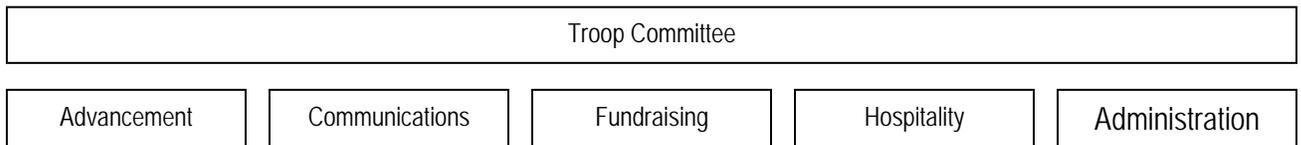
First Come. First Served: Positions will be delegated on a first-come-first-serve basis... and if I don't hear from you, I'll be calling! So grab something you'd love while it's still available!

Succession-Planning: In many cases, we'd like our roles to be filled two-deep. The Chair or Coordinator will be primarily responsible for one year, with the help of the Assistant. The Assistant will cover when needed, and generally learning the role in order to take over primary responsibility the following year. Thus, a person effectively signs on to a role for at most a two-year hitch.

Ultimately, the boys benefit from an orderly transition of knowledge and experience, and fresh ideas and energy. The volunteer benefits from the opportunity to move on to other work (and not getting stuck in one job)...and the chance to get to know another set of volunteers. Of course, if you're doing something you love, you're not required to switch out!

WHAT ROLES ARE AVAILABLE?

Following is an organizational chart:



Following is a summary of each Committee along with its Sub Committees and the volunteers currently in place.

Empty boxes in the grids represent a need. Those highlighted in yellow are more urgent.

(It's likely that I've overlooked an obvious role that needs filling... and/or crediting someone with a contribution they're making. Please let me know of errors and omissions so I can update the structure).

A name in red text confirms assignment of a new volunteer in the role.



Troop 274 – Avon, CT

Mark Twain District
Connecticut Rivers Council - Boy Scouts of America

Administration	John Bourget	
Secretary		
Treasurer	Mary Suter	
Registrar		Peggy Roell
Order of Arrow	Marshall Berger	Rob Galbraith
WACC	Rev. Brian Hardee	(TBA by WACC)
Council Executive Board	Charlie Bell	
District Vice Chair	Nick Greci	
Unit Commissioner	Tom Transue	

These positions are administrative in nature.

Particular needs: 4 volunteers needed

Secretary

Attend monthly Troop Committee Meeting. Record, compose and broadcast the minutes.

Registrar

Responsibilities include managing the Troop's "Scoutmaster" Software.

- New and Renewal Scout Registrations (Sept., and spring crossover).
- Adult volunteer and Merit Badge Counselor registrations
- Scouts' Advancement Records
 - Recording boys' advancement as signed off in their Handbooks.
 - Recording their merit badge progress
 - Activity Records; e.g. Attendance, Service hours, Camping

Become familiar with software, divide up responsibilities with Assistant and back each other up.

Once familiar with the software, records maintenance and updates are not that time-consuming. The role is straightforward for someone naturally comfortable with the needs for accuracy, attention-to-detail and timeliness. Most work can be done at home at your own schedule. Attendance at some meetings to collect records is helpful but not necessary...



Troop 274 – Avon, CT

Mark Twain District
Connecticut Rivers Council - Boy Scouts of America

Advancement		
Boards of Review	Diane Oberhausen	Greg Lancaster
	<i>Plus...all adults welcome to be on BORS</i>	
Merit Badges	Chris Carroll	
	<i>Plus...all adults welcome to teach a Badge</i>	
Eagle Advisors	Peggy Roell	Doug Sutter

These positions are responsible for developing and managing programs to support our Scouts' advancement.

Particular Needs: 5 Volunteers needed

Boards of Review

Responsibilities include working with Diane to recruit and train adult volunteers, and coordinate Boards of Review which occur on the 3rd week of each month as needed.

Merit Badges

Responsibilities include working with Diane to plan the schedule of and counselors for the few Eagle-required badges to be offered during the year, and work with the Scoutmaster and Senior Patrol to plan the schedule of and counselors for the Eagle-elective badges to be offered on a regular basis across the year.

General Needs:

Boards of Review members

Responsibilities are minimal. Read the BOR guide and sit-in a BOR or two to become familiar with the BOR process. Respond to e-mail requests to join a BOR on particular evenings, usually no more than one a month, usually first-come-first-served. A BOR usually will review several scouts on an evening, so an hour or two can be expected.

Merit Badge Teachers

Any adult can become certified to teach a Merit Badge in his/her area of interest or expertise...or to facilitate outside experts (*e.g. police dept. for fingerprinting badge*). Each Badge has BSA requirements that must be met. Check out on line resources for list of all badges...scroll down a bit for the list of 126 badges grouped in development categories... here's the link: <http://usscouts.org/mb/mbindex.asp>



Troop 274 – Avon, CT
 Mark Twain District
 Connecticut Rivers Council - Boy Scouts of America

Communications		
Community PR / Historian		
Webmaster / IntraTroop Comm.	Karen Bortoff	
Alumni & Eagles Liaison		

These positions are to help the Troop do a better job communicating with our constituents. Currently, the Committee is a blank slate as far as how it will develop.

Particular Need: 4 volunteers needed

Communications Chair

Oversee Troop Communications programs

PR Coordinator

Responsibilities include developing and overseeing a comprehensive, integrated communications plan to the Troop and the Community

Website Assistant Coordinator

Responsibilities include continuing to build program where SCOUTS manage content of the website.

Working with the Scoutmaster keep the Troop informed in with print, e-mail and/or website content. *Think of this in terms of being a High School Newspaper advisor. Stories, events, info, photography... even videography (on-line!) are media that the boys might enjoy.*



Troop 274 – Avon, CT
 Mark Twain District
 Connecticut Rivers Council - Boy Scouts of America

Fundraising	Nancy Kostal
Flags on 44 / Avon Business fundraiser	
Retail Cards (Stop&Shop/BigY)	Kellie Olmstead
Citrus	
Popcorn "Kernel"	
Concessions Coordinator	
Friends of Scouting	

These positions are to help the Troop be more productive (effective and efficient) at developing funds to run the program.

Particular Needs: 5 volunteers needed

Citrus Coordinator and Popcorn Coordinator "Kernel"

These two coordinators work together and with selected leader scouts to manage our major fundraising activity for a few months in the fall. Goal is to set up plans about how to engage all the scouts in the effort of individual sales and group "show and sell" events...not for the coordinators to do the sales themselves! Note; the two roles work together because we want the scouts to offer each prospective customer a choice of citrus and/or popcorn. The Scoutmaster will identify individual leader scouts who would benefit from the entrepreneurial planning and leadership experience.

Assistants help out...and learn the ropes for the following year's campaign.

Flags on 44 Fundraiser *(audience is business and residential community)*

Once a year outreach to the business and residential community through mail and publicity to inform of our program, and encourage support.

Concession Coordinator

Set up logistics and sign ups to cover concessions at soccer tournaments, etc.

Friends of Scouting Coordinator

Once a year outreach to the local scouting community...current primarily but also alumni...for donations to BSA's FOS program.



Troop 274 – Avon, CT

Mark Twain District
Connecticut Rivers Council - Boy Scouts of America

Hospitality	Lona Kirk
Celebrations	
New Families	

These positions are to help the Troop celebrate special occasions and to welcome and orient new scouts and their parents.

Particular Needs: Hospitality Coordinators



Troop 274 – Avon, CT

Mark Twain District
Connecticut Rivers Council - Boy Scouts of America

Service	Melissa Farley-Tyler	
Flags on 44 / VFW Liaison	Ken Oberhausen	
SOS (Service outside of Scouting)		
Community and SOO <i>(Service to Our Own)</i>		

These positions are to help the Scoutmaster provide Service opportunities of value to our Community and which engage and develop our boys' sense of responsibility for Service.

Particular Needs:

Assistant Coordinator for Flags on 44/Liaison

Our signature service program is in need of an Assistant leader to learn the ropes of coordinating events, maintenance and relationship with Carmon Funeral Home (where flags are housed) and VFW (for flag retirement services).

Coordinator for SOS (*Service Outside of Scouting*)

We want to encourage and reward Community Service in any form, whether or not it's offered through our Troop. Our Scouts contribute significant hours through school, church and with families that our Troop does not record.

Community and SOO Liaison

We will be participating in Avon Day in September. In addition, we need to stay in touch with and serve Avon Town (usually Park & Rec), Avon Public Schools / VFW, APD, AFD Avon Chamber, and 1st Company National Guard Horse Guard.

SOO – Service to Our Own – Proactive support of families in our Troop Community that might find themselves in need the kind of support our scouts (and families) can give...yard work, errands, meals...even just stopping in for a chat.