



Scouts BSA Troops 423 and 218

Tigard, Oregon



Welcome!

Quick Facts

Troop 423 Chartered since September 1, 1997

Troop 218 Chartered since February 1, 2019

Chartered by American Legion Tigard Oregon since January 1, 2016

Meeting Location at Tigard Church of God (TCOG) since January 1, 2014

Troop 423 Scoutmaster	Josh Thomas	503-317-5007
Troop 218 Scoutmaster	Kay Riley	408-858-9929
Committee Chairperson	Jennifer Bell	503-997-5509
	423committeechair@gmail.com	

www.troop423bsa.org (includes troop calendar)

scoutsbsa218.com (also includes troop calendar)

Goals

- ◆ Operate a strong, scout-led program that reinforces the principles of Scouting (building character, citizenship, and fitness)
- ◆ Conduct a well-planned, year-round program built on the outdoors (18 nights of camping each year; National Quality Unit Award; National Camping Award; community service)
- ◆ Utilize the patrol method to facilitate leadership and involvement (every patrol working toward Honor Patrol Award; active participation)
- ◆ Actively encourage advancement as key to Scout retention (e.g. all scouts to First Class within 18 months)
- ◆ Emphasize training at all levels of the scouting program ... adult Scouters, junior leaders, and new scouts (Junior Leader Training twice per year, active Troop Guide and New Scout program)
- ◆ Have Fun!

Registration Process

Once you have decided to join a Troop, each family will need to complete an application for scouting. Upon registering in Troop 423 or 218, you should receive your Troop T-shirt, Troop numeral set, Troop cap & beanie - often at the March Court of Honor. Troop fleeces will be ordered and available before summer camp. Troop neckerchiefs are awarded after completing a scout's first campout.

Complete the following:

- ✓ Scouts BSA Application Form (please include names of all parents)
- ✓ Review & Sign Code of Conduct Agreement
- ✓ Medical History (Parts A & B)
- ✓ Family Auto Information sheet and Family Volunteer Interest form
- ✓ Joining fees

New Parent/Scout Orientation starts in March

New Family Orientation/Membership/Personal Information and Safety
 Getting Started - ASM Operations/Annual Program
 Finances
 Above and Beyond the Basics

Standards of Conduct (e.g. behavior expectations, uniforming, health & safety)

Each scout in Troop 423 and 218 is expected to behave according to the Scout Oath and Law. We also place a strong emphasis on proper uniforming, showing pride in our troop as a unit. Health and safety are paramount at all times, and Troop adult leadership will emphasize safety in all we do. Scouting policies are strictly adhered to, including rules for Youth Protection and Outdoor Safety.

Important Meetings

All meetings are at Tigard Church of God (TCOG): 15670 SW 98th Ave in Tigard.

Who	What	When	Where
All scouts and adults	Troop Meetings	Every Monday Night 7:30 PM	Zoom or Tigard Church of God (TCOG)/Patrol Sites
All scouts with leadership positions (or helping plan activities)	PLC (Patrol Leadership Council)	Third Thursday of Each Month 7 PM	Zoom or TCOG
Adult Committee Members (and other adults interested in helping with policies and paperwork)	Committee	Third Thursday of Each Month 7 PM	Zoom or TCOG
Adult ASMs -Assistant Scoutmasters (and other adults interested in helping plan activities)	ASM Meeting	Third Thursday of Each Month 7:45 PM	Zoom or TCOG

Information on Costs of Scouting

- ◆ Scouts BSA Registration Fee
(Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, this fee is subject to change) \$ 72.00/year
for transferring scouts this fee was paid through Cub Scout Packs
- ◆ Boys Life - *optional* (\$12.00 annually, pro-rated at \$1/month thru Dec. 31st) \$ 12.00
- ◆ **Troop Initial Joining Fee** **\$60.00**
(Joining fee pays for a troop Activity T-shirt, the initial items shown below as “provided by troop”, and other program expenses)
- ◆ Annual Troop Registration Fee *(for 2019, \$70 per year. Due in the fall, this fee is applied toward Scouts BSA registration fees for following year)*

◆ To Purchase at the Scout Shop:

The actual price may vary slightly. Uniforms can be purchased at the NorWest Scout Shop, 2145 SW Naito Pkwy., Portland, 503.243.5022. The troop also maintains a uniform exchange, so don't be afraid to ask.

Class-A Uniform:

__ Scouts BSA Tan Shirt (Short Sleeve cotton/nylon)		24.99 - 39.99
__ BSA Canvas or Microfiber Switchback Pants (incl.belt)		34.99-39.99
__ Belt (if purchasing canvas pants)		10.99
__ Scout Socks (crew/low cut)		5.99
__ Merit Badge Sash (can purchase after first summer camp)		6.99
__ Green Shoulder Loops	(Troop Cost \$2.49)	<i>provided by Troop</i>
__ Neckerchief	(Troop Cost \$7.50)	<i>provided by Troop</i>
__ Neckerchief Slide	(Troop Cost \$2.50)	<i>provided by Troop</i>
__ Troop personalized fleece jacket	(Troop Cost \$45.00)	<i>provided by Troop</i>
__ Troop Cap (423 only)	(Troop Cost \$10.00)	<i>provided by Troop</i>
__ Troop winter beanie	(Troop Cost \$10.00)	<i>provided by Troop</i>

Uniform Patches (estimated costs):

__ Council Shoulder Patch		\$ 2.80
__ World Brotherhood Patch (purple)		1.49
__ River's Edge District Patch		2.25
__ Troop 423 or 218 Numerals	(Troop Cost \$5.80)	<i>provided by Troop</i>
__ Patrol Medallion	<i>(Scouts in Patrol to purchase once Patrol Name is selected)</i>	

Class B Uniform: *(substitute Troop Activity T-Shirt for regular uniform shirt)*

__ Class B T-Shirt		(Troop Cost \$10.00) <i>provided by</i>
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Troop

Scouts BSA Handbook (Current Edition)		\$ 9.99-\$14.99
Book Cover (recommended if using softbound or spiral handbook)		6.99

Other Expenses

Other expenses include occasional usage fees for campouts (e.g., Butte Creek Scout Ranch, Winter Snow Lodge), and Summer Camp fees. Patrols do their own meal planning for campouts. Food costs are expected to be shared equitably amongst the patrol members participating in a campout (see “T-minus” planning process).

Scouts will need some camping gear, including a good pair of hiking boots, a sleeping bag, raingear such as a poncho, and a backpack. Families may want to consider renting or borrowing a backpack for the first outing or two. Each scout will also need a pocket knife, compass, small flashlight, water bottle (1 quart plastic), and personal first aid kit (part of the “Ten Essentials”). Every scout will eventually need access to a backpacking tent. The Troop provides cooking equipment for each outing.

Troop Fundraising

Our primary fundraising activity each year is Christmas Tree recycling in December/January. Monies raised help cover our annual operating expenses such as the purchase of new troop camping equipment, awards and recognition, and help with training costs. Every scout and family is needed to help out during this crucial fundraising event.

Families are also asked each year to participate in the “Camp4All” program, an important voluntary fundraiser which supports Scouts BSA at the council level.

Scout Advancement

Each scout will need a copy of the Scouts BSA Handbook, which provides all the information a scout needs to advance in scouting. Families should complete the “joining requirements” in the front as soon as possible after joining the troop.

In Scouting, a scout progresses along the Trail to Eagle at their own pace. Our goal in Troop 423 and 218 is that all scouts earn the first four ranks (Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class) within eighteen months of joining the Troop. A scout should take time to review the requirements for the Trail to First Class and begin working on the activities as soon as possible after completing the Scout rank.

Rank requirements can be worked on in parallel. It is up to the scout to work with any Assistant Scoutmaster to sign-off a requirement as they learn the skill or complete the task. Once a scout has completed all the requirements for a specific rank, they are responsible for scheduling time for a Scoutmaster’s Conference with a Scoutmaster or designee. Except for the Scout rank, the Scoutmaster’s Conference is followed by a Board of Review, which can be arranged by contacting the Advancement Chair for the appropriate troop. Rank advancements are recognized upon completion of a rank, as well as at the next quarterly Troop Court of Honor.

Scouts can also work on merit badges at any time. The first step after deciding to work on a particular merit badge is to fill out an Application for Merit Badge (the “Blue Card”) and present it to the Scoutmaster for approval. The scout will then be assigned a Merit

Badge Counselor who will work with the scout to complete the requirements. This process can be completed digitally through Scoutbook.

Troop 423 and 218 “T-Minus” Planning Process

Our Troop uses a formal planning process to prepare for an outing. It is known as the “T-Minus” process (similar to a countdown for launching a rocket) and defines planning activities during the four weeks leading up to an event. At “T-Minus-4”, permission slips are available. These permission slips are due back with parents’ signature at “T-Minus-3”, signifying which scouts in each patrol will be participating in an upcoming outing.

It is crucial that permission slips be turned in on time in order to facilitate proper planning for an outing. During the three weeks leading up to the campout, the patrol will be planning meals and tenting arrangements, handing out assignments for securing needed food, and making certain they have all the necessary equipment for the outing. The permission slip ensures that parents are informed of our outing plans, and provides an opportunity to update any emergency or medical information that may have changed for a scout. The permission slip also represents the scout’s commitment to participate in an outing.

Patrol members who commit to an outing are responsible for bringing assigned food (or money) and equipment to the outing. If a scout fails to do so, the patrol may be missing a critical element to a successful campout!

- T-Minus-4 Distribute Permission slip and Information sheet. Assign Patrol Grubmaster and Quartermaster.
- T-Minus-3 Return Permission slips. Grubmaster presents proposed menu ideas for approval. Quartermaster presents equipment requirements.
- T-Minus-2 Finalize and approve menus and equipment lists. Hand out food shopping lists. Submit troop equipment list to Troop Quartermaster.
- T-Minus-1 Review final plans for outing.

Staying Informed (Website, Newsletters, Information Sheets, Permission Slips, Meetings, and Announcements)

Troop 423 and Troop 218 are committed to keeping families informed concerning troop activities. We encourage our families to regularly check the Troop website - www.troop423bsa.org or scoutsbsa218.com, We maintain an annual calendar, we have monthly ASM (Assistant ScoutMaster) and PLC (Patrol Leader Council) meetings, we distribute an information sheet for upcoming outings at “T-minus-4”, and we have regular announcements at the end of weekly Troop meetings. We encourage parents to routinely ask their scouts what they learned at Troop meetings, since it is the responsibility of the scout to bring the information home to parents.

Patrol leaders play an important part in keeping scouts informed. Patrol leaders should communicate regularly with each scout in their patrol, typically once a week prior to a troop meeting. As needed, they pass on information learned from the “Patrol Leaders’ Council” meeting (a meeting of the troop junior leaders where troop meetings and other activities are planned by the scouts each month).

If a scout misses a Troop meeting, the scout should always check with the patrol leader to learn what was missed. In addition, patrol leaders need to be informed in advance if a scout is not planning on attending a meeting, so that the scout can obtain any information that might be needed in advance of the meeting.

The best way to stay informed is to get involved. There are lots of jobs within a patrol or for both troops. An ASM or adult volunteer for a patrol might take on the following tasks: email the patrol parents with updates and monitor when the patrol is in charge of meetings or has a meal plan (ideally one per patrol), stand with the patrol at meetings and make sure they get things done, pay attention to all scout advancement in the patrol, check books and encourage/provide opportunities for meeting rank requirements, attend outings or confirm there will be an adult from the patrol on all outings (monitor the meal plan), and coordinate with the patrol leader to have patrol meetings outside of troop meetings (usually to plan troop meetings, but can also be just for fun and bonding). The troops are always looking for help sitting on boards of review, helping with the tree recycling fundraiser, serving as merit badge counselors, and more! Contact the committee chairperson to find the right role for you.

Parents are welcome to contact the Scoutmasters or Committee Chairperson if they have any questions or concerns!

Other Scouting Activities

Scouts BSA offers many opportunities to help scouts build character, promote citizenship, develop personal fitness, and provide for leadership growth. It's also a lot of fun!

Some of the other programs within scouting include the New Scout Program and Order of the Arrow.

New Scout Program – this program is designed specifically for the new scout, and typically covers the first six months in scouting. An older scout, known as a Troop Guide, will be assigned to each new patrol to help teach them about scouting. New scouts learn all about how to prepare for a campout, menu planning and cooking skills, outdoor skills like knife and ax safety, and how to advance in rank.

Order of the Arrow – a recognition of Honor Campers, scouts can be elected by their fellow Troop members to join the Order of the Arrow. To be eligible for election, a scout must have attained the rank of First Class and participated in at least 15 nights of camping in the previous 24 months. Elections are in March of each year. The Order of the Arrow (OA) offers many exciting opportunities for older scouts.

Annual Calendar and Planning Process

Our Troops conduct annual planning at least once per year during which the Troop junior leadership discusses goals and objectives for the Troop's annual program. Based on these plans, we may publish a revolving annual calendar to help families plan for our events.

Please refer to the Annual Calendar on the troop websites for more information.

Advancement Tips

Attend Weekly Troop Meetings - Advancement opportunities are scheduled regularly during Troop meetings. Always bring the Scout handbook to Troop meetings until First Class rank is earned. Scouts need to have their completed requirements verified and signed off by an Assistant Scoutmaster. Parents do not sign off requirements. This differs from Cub Scouts where parents sign the book.

Participate in Troop Outings and Service Projects - A good way to meet the service project requirement is to take part in any Eagle project. These are announced during Troop meetings. The Life Scouts who are leading these projects circulate a signup sheet at the Troop meetings. Troop outings offer special advancement opportunities such as water safety, cooking skills, plant and animal identification, and map and compass use which are difficult to obtain during regular Troop meetings. Parents are always welcome to attend these outings.

Track Service Hours and Troop Outings – Keep a log of participation in service projects (number of hours), overnight camping (number of nights camping), and hiking (miles hiked). Write these in a specific place in the Scout handbook. Service projects and outings are required for advancement.

Attend Summer Camp - Summer Camp is the best opportunity for advancement. Trail to First Class opportunities are offered daily and earning merit badges is a large portion of the program.

Ask For Assistance - Often a scout is reluctant to ask a leader for help or to identify a specific rank advancement need. Monitor your Scout's progress and motivate them to ask for assistance in obtaining a requirement. Talk with your patrol's Assistant Scoutmaster if there is a concern in this area.

Advancement Timeline - Encourage your Scout to obtain the First Class rank within eighteen months of joining the Troop. The first rank of Scout can be accomplished in the first 4 weeks after joining. As parents you have a role in this rank to review the Youth Protection and Child Abuse section in the front of the scout handbook. Tenderfoot can be achieved in the first 4 months, followed by Second Class during the next 6 months, and First Class 6 months later. A Scout may work on higher rank requirements at the same time while earning the next rank. For instance, Second and First Class requirements may be earned while still at Scout or Tenderfoot rank.

Sew (or attach with velcro) the rank badges on your scout's uniform as soon as possible. This shows the importance of this accomplishment. Once a Scout is 13 and has achieved the First Class rank, the scout can take part in additional opportunities.

*Rank advancement and merit badge completion are key aspects of the Scouting program. A **scout** who is not advancing will lose interest in Scouts BSA. Help your **scout** get the most out of scouting.*

TROOP 423 AND 218 ANNUAL GOALS – 2019

Membership

- Add at least one new patrol of at least 8 scouts per troop this year
- Continue the Webelos-to-Scout transition plan (Our “New Scout” Program) with emphasis on recruitment and training

Advancement

- All members to be First Class or above within 18 months of joining
- 50% of scouts achieve First Class-to-Star or Star-to-Life within 12 months of previous rank
- Provide four structured merit badge classes during the year as part of the Program
- Develop a “Trail to Eagle” that encourages all active Life scouts to achieve Eagle within 12 months of achieving the rank of Life Scout

Program

- Plan at least 18 nights of camping, to include Summer Camp (6 nights), and at least 2 high adventure outings (virtual campouts will be planned, when necessary)
- Continue to require all patrols to be represented at PLC meetings throughout the year
- Conduct at least 6 troop-wide community service projects this year (e.g. Flag Ceremonies, American Legion landscape maintenance, etc.)
- Dedicate service hours to both the American Legion and TCOG throughout the course of the calendar year.
- Expand the OA presence by inviting OA representatives to speak at no fewer than 2 troop meetings during the year

Participation

- At least 40 percent of currently active scouts participating in each campout
- Two-thirds of scouts have an identified youth leadership position during the year

Training

- Conduct two Junior Leader Training sessions shortly after Troop Elections
- Conduct New Adult training concurrent with New Scout program
- Conduct New ASM training session shortly after New Scout Program completes and new ASMs are identified
- At least two scouts per troop attend NYLT training each year

¹Achieve BSA National Outdoor Challenge (twelve-month period)

- At least 50% of troop attends summer camp
- At least 33% of troop attends each campout
- Unit Award for 10 nights; Bronze Award for 20 nights per year

²All patrols earn Honor Patrol Award (during a three-month period)

- Spirit: Have a patrol flag; use your patrol yell; keep patrol records up-to-date
- Patrol Activities: Conduct one hike, outdoor activity, or other event as a patrol
- Service Projects: Complete two Patrol Leaders’ Council approved service projects
- Advancement: Help two patrol members advance one rank
- Membership: Have at least six active Scouts in patrol
- Uniform: Wear the uniform correctly (at least 75% of patrol)
- Patrol Leaders’ Council: represent patrol at three Patrol Leaders’ Council meetings