

# Welcome to Troop 458!

**Below you will find some notes relating to some of the key financial aspects of our Troop that you might have questions on. Please reach out with any additional questions.**

**Treasurer: Faith Schaefer**

**Email: [treasurer@troop458.org](mailto:treasurer@troop458.org)**

**Phone: 612-221-3701**

## **ANNUAL DUES/FEES:**

- \$180 Council Registration Fee paid to Northern Star Council when you register your Scout each year.
  - This fee covers the costs of delivering Scouting locally, the national membership fee, and insurance. It helps to maintain the camps that we use and eliminates the Family Friends of Scouting solicitations. That fee does not directly help our Troop; however, each year it is possible that the Council may credit the troop a certain amount if Scouts are registered by a certain date. Currently, if your Scout is registered before November 1st the Troop receives a \$20 credit from their registration.
  - This expense can be reimbursed back to you by providing the Treasurer a copy of receipt for registration **if your Scout has enough funds in their Scout Account** (see below).
- \$45 Adult Registration Fee paid to Northern Star Council for those adults that are registered leaders for the Troop each year.
  - Registered adults are needed in our Troop for two-deep and leadership positions.
  - This expense can be reimbursed back to you by providing the Treasurer a copy of receipt for registration **if your Scout has enough funds in their Scout Account** (see below).
- \$65 Troop Dues paid annually in two installments: \$35 in December and \$30 in June.
  - AOLs that transition into the Troop in the spring will be charged \$30 in June
  - This is our Troop's budgeted funds to cover things such as merit badges, propane at camps, camping equipment, maintenance of trailers, cost of 2 boy leaders to attend a leadership camp, websites, and more.
  - Dues are determined each year by the Troop Committee and will be communicated to the Troop.

## **SCOUT ACCOUNTS:**

- The Troop uses ScoutBook and within that program each Scout has a payment account that the Treasurer uses to keep track of all payment and expense activity for each Scout. This includes fundraiser profits, parent payments, camp payments, activity fees, and expense reimbursements.
- Any Scout with a Scout Account balance of more than -\$100 will not be permitted to attend any further camps until the Scout Account is brought current.
  - The Troop will not take any action until after fundraising dollars have been applied and/or if any personal checks are written to cover the balance.

- If a Scout with a balance of more than -\$100 **chooses not** to attend weekend camps, high adventure or Tomahawk, then no action is needed until they either leave the Troop OR they turn 18. In either scenario, the Scout's account will be reconciled at that time.
- **We are a cash-free Troop – all checks should be made out to BSA Troop 458.** In the case of a Scout receiving cash from donations or fundraising efforts, the parents should keep the cash and write the Troop a check for the amount collected. This helps us keep traceable records of all incoming funds.
- Once a Scout is no longer registered with the Troop (leaves the Troop before turning 18 OR turns 18) any fundraised money left in the account will either be transferred to a sibling still registered with the Troop or another Scouts BSA Pack, Troop or Venturing Crew OR will be added to the Troop's Scholarship Fund. Any non-fundraised money (direct payments, reimbursements put into the Scout Account) can be requested to be returned to the family.

## FUNDRAISING:

- The Troop is committed to offering at least two fundraisers annually. Revenue from these fundraisers will be deposited into the Scout Account based on their personal sales effort and profit per item.
  - Spring Fundraiser – Gertens Flower/Plant Sale
  - Fall Fundraiser – Wreath/Greenery and Popcorn Sales
- Fundraising revenue is to be solely used for any scout expense: uniforms, activities & camps, books and materials from the Scout Shop, or Eagle Scout Project fees. Personal camping gear can also be funded as long as the Scout is registered and attends an activity where the gear is used.
- Participation in fundraisers is encouraged, but voluntary; Scouts not participating will need to maintain a positive Scout Account balance by depositing money to cover Troop dues and activities they will participate in.
- **We are a cash-free Troop – checks should be made out to BSA Troop 458.** in the case of a Scout receiving cash from fundraising efforts, the parents should keep the cash and write the Troop a check for the amount collected – this helps us keep traceable records of all incoming funds.

## CAMPS AND HIGH ADVENTURE TRIPS:

- Weekend camps:
  - The cost is \$30 per Scout. Any extra activities planned during these campouts could have extra costs associated with them and would be communicated ahead of time.
  - The Troop typically offers a weekend camp each month, with the exception of some winter and summer months.
  - The Troop covers the cost of all adults that camp and their cost is included in the Scout's charges, but does not include food for the adults. However, food reimbursement, up to \$15 per adult (max \$60 per camp), can be requested.

- Summer Camp:
  - The costs typically range between \$310-\$365 for the week. This covers the camp's cost, trailer towing, supplies for the week, etc. There can also be activities available at camp that have additional costs, such as windsurfing, etc. depending on what is being offered by the camp.
  - Our Troop typically camps the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of July at Tomahawk in Birchwood, WI.
  - There is a \$25 deposit to reserve a spot that is due by April 15<sup>th</sup> and balance will be due June 1<sup>st</sup>. (1<sup>st</sup> year Scouts exempt from the deposit deadline)
  - The Troop covers the cost of all adults coming to this camp, so the amount charged by the Troop per Scout will be adjusted to accommodate this amount.
  - Camperships (camping scholarships) may be available to families who need it. No Scout should miss camping due to lack of resources. Please reach out to the Scout Master or Committee Chair for more information.
  
- High Adventure Trips:
  - Trips are offered annually and can range in cost from \$700-\$2500 per Scout, plus gear.
  - These trips also vary in regards to location and planned activities based on the Troop's ideas and input.
  - They are planned out several months in advance and can be age-restrictive and are typically designed for older scouts.