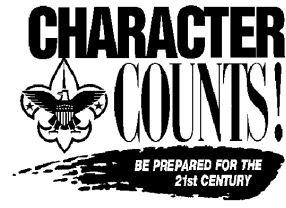




Boy Scouts of America Troop 175

Peachtree City United Methodist Church
400 Windgate Road
Peachtree City, Georgia



October 9, 2006

Dear Prospective Scout and Family,

Thank you so much for visiting Troop 175 at our Open House this evening. We hope you were able to get an adequate feeling of the nature of our troop and how we conduct the business of Scouting. You have two decisions to make regarding Scouting and I'd like to address both of these decisions briefly.

You must first decide if you are going to pursue scouting as an extracurricular activity. We are fortunate to live in a community where the opportunities for extracurricular activities are numerous and let's just face the fact – you can't do everything. We believe Scouting offers a unique value combining individual achievement, growth and team building that few, if any, other extracurricular activities can match. Our emphases on character building, citizenship training, mental and physical fitness encompass the traits we all want to see developed in our youth. This training and experience is not only valuable for their future, it is reflected in their current activities. A comparative study in a sampling of schools and colleges shows that Scouts hold most of the major positions of leadership in the student body. The survey resulted in the following statistics in regard to school officers bearing a large amount of responsibility.

- * Of senior class presidents, 89% were Scouts.
- * Of junior class presidents, 80% were Scouts.
- * Of business managers of school publications, 75% were Scouts.
- * Of student council presidents, 85% were Scouts.
- * Of school newspaper editors, 88% were Scouts.
- * Of editors of school annuals, 77% were Scouts.
- * Of basketball captains, 64% were Scouts.

It is, of course, an individual decision but the choice to be in Scouting seems clear to me. I have seen numerous reports and studies that validate the value of the Scouting experience and I know many young men in varied walks of life that regularly credit their experiences as critical to their current success. Unlike many organizations, we will not monopolize a young man's time to the point that all else must be excluded. We have matriculated Eagle Scouts that were varsity starters on football, soccer,

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baseball, basketball and other sports teams. Many of our members are active in High School Band, church youth group and almost every other extracurricular activity available. We encourage and support diversity in our Scouts and work hard to accommodate their demanding schedules. We encourage you to be in Scouts!

You must then decide which Scouting Unit offers the program best suited to your goals, your philosophies, your interests and your schedule. Scouting units in our district are very diverse and you have the opportunity to be a member of a small troop with a specific focus on backpacking or a very large troop with diverse activities and opportunities and many differently sized troops in between. All troops offer the same core values and training and you are the only one qualified to make the choice. The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to enable young men to make ethical decisions over their life times by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and the Scout Law. I can assure you that Troop 175 strives to never lose sight of this mission and every action we take is designed to move us closer to its achievement. Troop 175 is a large troop with a current enrollment of 82 scouts that meets every Monday night. We were chartered by the Peachtree City United Methodist Church in 1986 and have matriculated 90 Eagle Scouts since that beginning. We are committed to an active Outdoor program scheduling a minimum 12 outings each year and dedicated to at least 10 of these being tent camping experiences. We run strictly by a Patrol Method and the elected boy leadership is responsible for the troop's operations. I am the third Scoutmaster in the troop's history and this consistency of Adult leadership is key to our continued growth and success. I am supported by 17 registered Assistant Scoutmaster and an active Troop Committee. We are an equipment and resource rich troop that is still growing, constantly improving and always looking for new families to be a part of our experience.

As Scoutmaster, I make three promises to the parents of every scout in this unit:

- * Your son's safety will ALWAYS be our first concern.
- * You are welcome and encouraged to participate in everything we do.
- * I will respect the decisions that your son makes regarding scouting activities and hold him alone responsible for those decisions.

Thank you again for visiting us and please fill out the Visitor Record attached. You are always welcome here. Please feel free to contact me if I can answer any questions or help in any way.

Sincerely,

Danny McCranie

Scoutmaster

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