

# Troop 81



## *The Language of Troop 81*

A Glossary of  
Scouting terms used by  
Boy Scouts of America  
and  
Troop 81

**ACTIVITY BEADS** - Colored beads, threaded on a necklace, awarded to scouts and adult leaders of Troop 81 for participation in various scouting activities or campaigns. (See ZERO BEAD)

**ACTIVITY UNIFORM** - A type of scout uniform that includes a full-over troop Tee-shirt and scout shorts. This is the troop's warm weather uniform (Sometimes called a "Class B" uniform).

**ASSISTANT SENIOR PATROL LEADER** - A youth leader with duties of the Senior Patrol Leader in his absence.

**AXE YARD** - A designated area in camp, established with a rope boundary, where firewood is cut and stored.

**BEAR BAG** - A storage sack for food and other smellable items (trash included) suspended by a rope from a tree limb out of reach of a bear or other wildlife.

**BLOWDOWN** - A term used to describe a fallen tree caused from high winds or other forces.

**BOARD OF REVIEW** - An evaluation by a panel of selected adults of a scout's qualification to advance in rank.

**BOLO** - A slang term for a pit latrine.

**BOYS' LIFE** - The official magazine of the Boy Scouts published monthly by BSA national headquarters in Irving, Texas.

**BSA** - Abbreviation for Boy Scouts of America.

**BUDDY SYSTEM** - A process of immediate accountability of scouts by pairing each boy with another and conducting "buddy checks."

**BUG JUICE** - A universal Boy Scout name for any flavored beverage.

**B-P** - Abbreviation for Baden-Powell (See ROBERT BADEN-POWELL)

**CALL-OUT** - A ceremony of the Order of the Arrow where scouts are "called out" as candidates for membership. Usually conducted at the spring district camporee. (See ORDER OF THE ARROW)

**CAMP BUCK TOMS** - A 750 acre camp, owned and operated by the Great Smoky Mountain Council, located on Watts Bar lake near Rockwood Tennessee. (See SUMMER CAMP)

**CAMP DANIEL BOONE** - A BSA camp, owned and operated by the Daniel Boone Council, located near Canton, North Carolina. (See SUMMER CAMP)

**CAMP MOR** - A discount catalog outlet for a variety of camping and outdoor equipment. Orders for items are usually taken monthly.

**CAMPOREE** - A week-end encampment of scout troops, usually from within the same district, that are held in the winter, spring and fall of each year. Camporee activities may include competitive skill events, campfires, inspections and award ribbons. (See JAMBOREE)

**CAMPSITE SWEEP** - An activity performed at a campsite to insure all litter and trash is picked up prior to departure.

**CARABINER** - An aluminum chain link used by mountaineers for rappelling. The link can be locked or have a spring-loaded lever access.

**CHAPLAIN AIDE** - A youth leader who works with the troop chaplain to ensure all members have appropriate religious observance during outings.

**CHAPLAIN** - An adult spiritual leader of the troop.

**CLASS "A"** - See DRESS UNIFORM

**CLASS "B"** - See ACTIVITY UNIFORM

**COPE** - An acronym for Challenging Outdoor Physical Encounters which is offered to older scouts at summer camp.

**COURT OF HONOR** - A formal ceremony where scouts are recognized and honored for rank advancement and earning awards or merit badges.

**CRACKER BARREL** - A meeting of scout leaders where refreshments are served. (Not the roadside restaurant!)

**CROSSOVER** - A ceremony where WEBELO scouts graduate to Boy Scouts by crossing a ceremonial bridge.

**DEET** - The active ingredient in most insect repellents. It stands for diethyl-meta-toluamide.

**DINING FLY** - A waterproof canopy that covers the kitchen area of a campsite. It can be erected with poles or suspended from rope tied to nearby trees.

**DISTRICT EXECUTIVE** - A professional scouter, employed by the council, who is responsible for the achievements of the district.

**DOWN** - The fine, soft, fluffy feathers of birds used as insulation material for some sleeping bags and parkas.

**DRESS UNIFORM** - A class of scout uniform that includes the formal accessories such as the neckerchief, merit badge sash, OA sash, activity beads, etc. This uniform is worn during formal functions such as Court of Honor, Scout Sunday, honor guards, etc.

**DUMP CAMP** - An overnight outing where the gear is transported by vehicles and then "dumped" out at the campsite. (Also see "Hike")

**EAGLE QUEST** - A series of evaluations that precedes the awarding of the Eagle rank. The culmination includes a week-end outing that serves as a "final exam" of all the scout skills learned.

**EAGLE** - The highest rank in the Boy Scout advancement program.

**EMERGENCY KIT** - A collection of miscellaneous items, stored in a compact kit, to be used only in emergencies. (See OUTDOOR ESSENTIALS)

**FIRE STARTER** - Any material that will easily sustain a flame, such as a candle, heat taps, fat wood etc., used to ignite damp firewood. One of the "outdoor essentials" items.

**FIRE RING** - A prepared area for a campfire, usually outlined with a circle of stones, that contains the fire and provides an elevated surface to place cooking pots.

**FIRST CLASS** - A rank above Second Class and below Star Scout.

**FUEL** - The third classification for firewood which refers to the size and type that will keep a mature campfire burning.

**FUEL BOTTLE** - A red aluminum container especially made to hold liquid fuel for stoves and lanterns. Often called a "Sigg" bottle.

**GIARDIA** - A waterborne protozoa, often found in backcountry streams and creeks, that can cause intestinal discomfort if swallowed.

**GOD AND COUNTRY** - A religious award in which a scout must meet specific requirements according to his personal faith.

**GORP** - A trail mix snack that usually consist of peanuts, raisins, coconut, chocolate, and dried fruit. (See TRAIL MIX)

**GRAYWATER** - A term used to describe undrinkable water, usually referring to dishwater. Graywater is normally disposed of in sumps.

**GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAIN COUNCIL (GSMC)** - A geographic area in East Tennessee that covers twenty one counties and is sub-divided into eleven districts. Councils are managed by a professional Scout executive.

**GROUND CLOTH** - A plastic sheet that is placed between a tent and the ground to provide a moisture barrier and protection to the tent.

**HIKE** - A day or overnight outing where the gear is backpacked to the campsite. (See "Dump Camp")

**HIP BELT** - That part of a backpack that supports the majority of the pack's weight. Hip belts should be padded and fit snugly.

**HIP PACK** - A small zippered pack that's attached to a waistbelt.

**HISTORIAN** - A youth leader with duties which include the keeping of historical records and scrapbook of the troop's activities.

**INSTRUCTOR** - A youth leadership position within the troop. The instructor may teach and instruct a variety of Scoutcraft skills.

**JUNIOR LEADERSHIP TRAINING (JLT)** - An annual one-day training event conducted by the District to train youths to be leaders.

**KINDLING** - The second classification for firewood which includes the intermediate size to nurture a fire to a reliable blaze.

**KP** - A duty roster term for "kitchen patrol" that stands for a clean-up detail.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE (LOA)** - A manner in which a scout can notify the troop of an extended absence from troop. This may be done by a "LOA" application available from the troop's Scribe.

**LIFE** - The rank below Eagle and after Star Scout.

**LOFT** - A term that describes the thickness and overall quality of a sleeping bag.

**LOW IMPACT** - A term used to describe a style of camping that has a minimal impact on the environment. Sometimes called no-trace camping.

**MEDICAL RELEASE FORM** - A notarized permission form signed by parents allowing medical treatment to their son.

**MERIT BADGE COUNSELOR** - A registered adult volunteer who has expertise in a merit badge field and who assist scouts in attaining the badge.

**MERIT BADGE** - A recognition given to a Scout for completing the requirements for the badge. Twenty one badges are needed for Eagle rank, eleven of which are required and ten are elective.

**MOLESKIN** - The brand name of soft-surfaced bandaging material used to prevent foot blisters. A must for personal first aid kits.

**NATIONAL JAMBOREE** - A week-long encampment of many thousands of Scout from around the nation. This event is held every four years.

**OA** - See Order of the ARROW.

**ORDER OF THE ARROW** - Scouting's national brotherhood of honor campers in which candidates for membership are elected by their fellow scouters. Often referred to a simply "OA." (See CALL-OUT)

**OUTDOOR ESSENTIALS** - A collection of items that scouts MUST carry on all outdoor outings. The list of these items can be found on page 28 of the Scout Handbook.

**OUTDOOR CODE** - A set of guidelines that prescribes the rules for outdoor behavior. This code is discussed in detail in the Scout Handbook.

**PATROL** - A group of six to ten scouts which is "boy" managed and operated. The patrol is the essence of the scouting program where a scout learns leadership, cooperation, pride, and a variety of skills.

**PATROL LEADER'S COUNCIL (PLC)** - A committee of all of the youth leaders of the troop that normally meets monthly.

**PATROL LEADER** - A youth leader of a patrol who is elected by the members of the patrol. He is supported by an Assistant Patrol Leader.

**PFD** - An abbreviation for "Personal Floatation Device" A PFD is required for all water-craft activities.

**PHILMOUNT SCOUT RANCH** - A high adventure base and BSA National Training Center located on 137,00 acres near in Cimerron, New Mexico.

**PHILMOUNT GRACE** - A prayer of grace recited before meals.

**PHOENIX** - The official logo of Troop 81. The Phoenix is an ancient mythical Egyptian bird that rose from the ashes and experienced a rebirth.

**PHYSICAL FORM** - A medical history document and personal medical data signed by a physician. **For youth members, a physical form is current for three years.**

**PONCHO** - A hooded rain garment made of nylon or vinyl.

**QUAD MAP** - A quadrangle map which shows the lay of the land by means of contour lines. Sometimes called "topo" maps. (See TOPO MAP)

**QUALITY UNIT AWARD** - A recognition given by the district to a troop that fulfills the prescribed annual requirements for the award.

**QUARTERMASTER** - A youth leader with duties which includes the management and care of the troop's equipment.

**RAIN FLY** - The outermost cover of a tent that provides protection from rain. The tent itself is "breathable" to help prevent condensation.

**REVEILLE** - A designated time in the early morning that signals the time to rise and the beginning of the day. It is often sounded by a bugle call. (See TAPS)

**ROBERT BADEN-POWELL** - The founder of the worldwide Scouting movement. He organized the first troop in England in 1907. Often abbreviated simply as B-P.

**ROUNDTABLE** - Monthly meetings of adult leaders of the district.

**SCOUT LAW** - A set of twelve attributes that serves as a guideline for personal conduct, demeanor, and behavior of all scouts.

**SCOUT HANDBOOK** - The official Boy Scout Handbook currently in its tenth edition. More than 33 million copies have been printed since 1910. Each scout is required to have this book at every troop meeting.

**SCOUTMASTER'S CONFERENCE** - A required interview with a candidate for rank advancement by the scoutmaster or assistant.

**SCOUT OATH** - A vow that states the expected personal ideals of all scouts and that scouts must know, understand and pledge to.

**SCOUT SPIRIT** - A term used to describe a scout's overall adaptiveness to the ideals of Scouting as discerned by the adult leaders of the troop.

**SCOUT SLOGAN** - A reflection of scouting's constant service to others by "Do a good turn daily."

**SCOUT NOTEBOOK** - A three-ringed binder where a boy keeps all of his scout related material. Scouts are required to bring this notebook to troop meetings and Board of Review.

**SCOUT SUNDAY** - A designated Sunday in February when scouts are recognized by and participate in a church worship service.

**SCOUT MOTTO** - The principle of scouting to always "Be Prepared."

**SCOUTMASTER'S BENEDICTION** - A recital, spoken in unison by the troop, used to close a meeting, activity or ceremony.

**SCOUTMASTERSHIP FUNDAMENTALS** - A term used to describe an annual adult training event conducted by the District (Sometimes called "SMF").

**SCRIBE** - A youth leader with duties which includes the record keeping of all the troops activities.

**SEAM SEALER** - A special glue used to waterproof the stitching on tents and rain gear. New tents require this treatment.

**SECOND CLASS** - A rank above Tenderfoot and below First Class.

**SENIOR PATROL LEADER** - A youth leader who holds the highest leadership position in the troop with duties which includes conducting troop meetings, events, and chairing the PLC.

**SERVICE PATROL** - A name given to a patrol that has accepted a rotational work assignment for the good of the troop.

**SERVICE HOURS** - A term used to describe the required service to others as needed for rank advancement.

**SHOCK-CORD** - Any elastic cord but normally refers to the method of keeping collapsible tent poles together by threading shock cord through the hollow core of the poles.

**SILVA** - The brand name of the official BSA compass.

**SMART** - An acronym for Scoutmaster Roundtable. Members of this committee are scoutmasters who meet monthly.

**STAFF** - The patrol of youth leaders that includes Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Quartermaster.

**STANDING DEAD** - A term referring to a dead tree that has not fallen and is still standing upright.

**STAR** - The rank above First Class and below Life Scout.

**STAVE** - A term used to describe a wooden pole, ideally the size and length of a personal hiking stick.

**STUFF SACK** - Traditionally, a nylon sack in which a sleeping bag is stored. The term now defines any nylon bag with drawstring closure.

**SUMMER CAMP** - A week-long dump camp usually held at a Council-managed camp. Troops attend these camps where scouts learn skills, earn merit badges, and enjoy a abundance of summer related activities.

**SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT (SME)** - An annual opportunity for interested people to be identified through their financial support and influence in the expansion of the council programs.

**SWIMMERS TEST** - An annual examination and classification of a scout's swimming ability. This test is conducted on the first day of summer camp.

**SWITCH-BACK** - A term used to describe a mountain trail or road that abruptly switches direction to gain elevation. Switch-backs are designed to reduce the effect of soil erosion.

**TLT** - An abbreviation for "Tomorrow's Leadership Today", Troop 81's youth leadership development training.

**TAPS** - A designated time of the late evening that signals lights-out and bedtime. It is often sounded by a bugle call. (See REVEILLE)

**TENDERFOOT** - The first rank in the Boy Scout advancement program.

**THERM-A-REST** - A popular self-inflating mattress that provides superior insulation and comfort.

**TINDER** - The first classification for firewood which includes small dry twigs as starter material. (See SQUAW WOOD)

**TOPO MAP** - A topographical map which shows the lay of the land by means of contour lines. Sometimes called a "quad" map. (See QUAD MAP)

**TOTIN' CHIP** - A recognition given to Scouts who subscribe to the Outdoor Code and understand and can demonstrate the proper handling, care, and use of wood tools.

**TRAIL ETIQUETTE** - A term used to describe the desired courtesy and respect to other hikers and to the trail while hiking.

**TRAIL MIX** - A high-energy snack for hikers that may contains an assortment of nuts, dried fruit, raisins, and chocolate morsels. Sometimes called "GORP".

**TROOP COMMITTEE** - An adult panel that meets every fifth Monday and serves as the policy making and governing body of the troop.

**TUCKALEECHIE DISTRICT** - A geographic area in Blount County, Tennessee which is managed by a professional executive. One of eleven such districts in the GSMC.

**TWO-DEEP LEADERSHIP** - A term used to describe the BSA National Policy that requires a minimum of two registered adult leaders when supervising any scout activity or function.

**UTILITY LINE** - A term referring to a small rope tied between two trees at a campsite used to suspend various lightweight camping items.

**VESTIBULE** - An accessory storage addition to a tent.

**WATER BOTTLE** - A plastic one-liter container used to backpack water. This item is furnished free to each scout.

**WOOD BADGE** - An adult training award granted upon completion of the advanced training program conducted by the council.

**ZERO BEAD** - A prestigious activity bead earned by camping in zero degree (or below) weather. (See ACTIVITY BEADS)