## **Troop 2008 Cedar Park Unit Profile**

#### HISTORY

Troop 2008 has been in existence since around 2008 and is chartered by Christ Episcopal Church located at 3520 W. Whitestone Blvd (1431 just north of New Hope Intersection, on the left). The Troop has been selected as a District Troop of the Year on multiple occasions.

### TROOP CONFIGURATION

Troop 2008 presently has 20-30 scouts from the Cedar Park and Leander areas. Meetings, activities, and events are boy-led, in the tradition of scouting, and consist of (3)-(4) patrols depending on annual scout membership numbers. The Program Adult leadership is directed by the Scout Master, who is assisted by (6) Assistant Scout Masters. Each ASM serves as a resource for a patrol of scouts. The Troop Committee, led by our Committee Chair, provides administration for the troop, and all parents are encouraged to serve/participate. Activities are led by the Sr Patrol Leader and his youth leadership team (Asst. Sr. Patrol Leader, Patrol Leaders, etc).

## **TROOP MEETINGS**

Troop meetings occur each Monday from 7:00-8:30pm at Christ Episcopal Church in the main education building or outside on the property. During the pandemic, these meetings have been conducted virtually via ZOOM videoconference. As the pandemic subsides, meetings will transition from virtual, to mixed (virtual and outdoor in-person), to in-person depending on local meeting restrictions and the rules set forth by the charter for their property. The Troop has met continuously during the pandemic.

#### **REGULAR TROOOP ACTIVITIES**

The following are some of the Troops annual activities:

- Monthly Camp Outs (12)
- Local Camps and STEM Events (2-4)
- Merit Badge University (1)
- Webelos Woods (1)
- Camporee (1)

- Summer Camps (Texas, Colorado, New Mexico, etc.) (1)
- High Adventure Camps (Philmont, Northern Tier, Sea Base- FL)
- Scout Sunday / Pack Crossover Ceremonies

### **NEW SCOUT INDOCTRINATION METHODS**

New scouts are indoctrinated into the troop and the Boy Scouts by being placed in an existing patrol of troop scouts. Their patrol will have boys ranging in both age and experience in the troop. This provides the new scout with exposure to peers their own age, as well as older peers with varying levels of leadership and skill. They will work together with our Troop Guides and during their new scout camp out to help them learn to navigate through their first few scouting ranks.

# **SUMMER CAMPS**

Summer camp attendance is highly recommended for new scouts in their first year with the Troop. These camps provide strong bonding and learning experiences for the new scout, and the ability to quickly achieve their first scouting ranks and merit badges. It also helps with building a sense of personal independence in achieving tasks on their own volition. The troop alternates between in-state

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and out-of-state camps, but typically does not choose a local camp for the summer experience. Local camps like Lost Pines are generally attended for winter camp and/or other conservation or STEM events.

### **HIGH ADVENTURE CAMPS**

Troop 2008 has a history of sending crews to high adventure camps every 1-2 years. High Adventure crews are typically scouts 14 yrs and older (due to age restrictions for these camps) and destinations vary based on troop and adult leader interest and participation. The troop has sent crews to Philmont, Northern Tier, and Sea Base Florida.

### PACK CROSS OVERS AND THE T2008 CEREMONIES TEAM

Troop 2008 has a Cross Over ceremonies team that provides a custom cross-over ceremony (complete with Native American regalia, fire, and drums) for any scout coming to our troop. If you have one or more scouts crossing to our troop, we will perform this ceremony for our incoming scout, as well as coordinating with other troops you may be sending scouts to for them to receive those scouts in the same ceremony.

## **TROOP COSTS**

<u>Annual Troop Dues</u>- are \$100. This fee covers troop expenses for awards, as well as your scouts national scout dues. Families with multiple scouts get a 10% discount per scout. Adult national leadership dues are covered by the Troop as thanks for their time and effort.

Monthly Camp Out Fees- Each campout attended has a small fee of \$20-25 per scout to cover food/park fees.

<u>Summer Camp Fees-</u> Each camp has its own costs depending on the locale, but generally range from \$250-\$350 per scout. There are additional travel costs that vary depending on where the camp is located.

Local/STEM Camps- Costs vary depending on camp provider program costs.

### **FUNDRAISING**

The Troop primarily conducts a single annual fundraiser (Mulch sales) to give scouts the opportunity to earn funds towards the costs above. It also participates in Council popcorn sales for the same purpose (online only- no in person sales). Earned funds are allocated by the troop to their Scout Accounts for use in covering camp out or camping event costs.

# **QUESTIONS and CONTACT INFORMATION**

We would love to talk to you about Troop 2008 and answer any questions you might have. Feel free to reach out to us via the contact information below. We can correspond via email or arrange a phone call.

<u>Committee Chair:</u> Danielle Szabo, <u>danielle@kreativdesign.com</u>

<u>Scout Master</u>: Brad Powell, <u>brad powell@alumni.baylor.edu</u>