



## BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA - TROOP 97 CHATHAM, ILLINOIS

### Uniform and Equipment Exchange Program

Troop 97 would like to ensure a great scouting experience for all its scouts. Buying and maintaining proper Scout uniforms and camping equipment can be expensive. Often, there are scouts who have uniforms and camping equipment that they no longer need or want. About four times per year, to roughly coincide with our Courts of Honor, the troop will host a Uniform and Equipment Exchange. Scout families who have gently used items that are no longer needed will have the opportunity to donate those to the troop. These items will be priced at a VERY reasonable cost and then offered for sale to other scouts in a "rummage sale" format. This is a great opportunity to pick up needed items at a low cost. Here's how it works:

- About a month before each sale, a communication will be sent out to the troop families requesting donations of gently used Scout uniforms and/or camping gear.
- Those who have items to donate should bring them to a regular troop meeting and provide them to the Troop Quartermaster or the Scoutmaster. Camping equipment examples are tents backpacks, lanterns, cooking equipment, sleeping bags, cots, ground pads, etc. Also, gently worn scout uniforms are VERY welcome. Scouts should provide the following when donating:
  - Item description
  - Description of item's working condition
  - Any known defects in the item
  - Suggested cost or approximate original purchase price
- Quartermaster will record the information about the item in an inventory log. He will also put a price tag on the item and store it in the Troop's equipment storage area.

The Scoutmaster will provide communication to the Troop through the weekly announcements and through special communication about the date of the equipment sale. As part of the event setup, the Troop quartermaster and other designated scouts will bring the equipment out of the storage area and set it up on tables for viewing by those who are seeking to purchase items.

During the event, items can be purchase by scout families. Any money raised at the event will be placed in the Troop 97 general account and will be used to purchase needed troop equipment and to offset the costs of troop operation. The Troop quartermaster will:

- Record the item sold, family who purchased the item, original sale price and actual sale price.
- Collect the money and provide it to the Troop Treasurer for deposit
- Check the item off the troop inventory

Each year, before the Blue and Gold Banquet, an adult member of the troop will contact one or more local Cub Scout Packs and request to attend one or more of their Webelos den meeting or Pack meeting. Used scout uniforms will be taken from the troop inventory and presented to the Cub Scout Pack families for purchase. This is intended for the Webelos who will be crossing over to a Boy Scout Troop. They will have the opportunity to purchase a pre-owned uniform, helping defray the cost of a new one. Contact information will be left with Pack leaders so that those who were not able to attend the meeting will still have the opportunity to contact the Troop to arrange a purchase if they desire.

*We encourage our families to participate in this great program. It will help provide a great Scouting experience for our Boy Scouts and the Webelos who might be joining us!*