

SCOUTS-L

**TROOP SUPPORT
POSITONS**

Date: Sun, 9 Mar 1997 00:25:26 +0000
From: "(MAJ) Mike Walton (settummanque, <blkeagle@DYNASTY.NET>
Subject: Re: Troop Support Jobs (Adults)

the blackeagle)"

Dave Livingston asked:

>Has anyone compiled a list of the support jobs that a troop needs >filled? These jobs are the ones that you have the parents fill. Things >like Transportation coordinator.....

Someone asked me that question back in October, Dave....I've kept a copy and since my team on TV (Illinois) isn't doing so great right now, here it is:

>Jules Conner asked:

>Hey Mike!! I'm wanting to get the parents in my Troop involved in >what we are doing. I have heard somewhere that if you give everyone >an important job, they will rise to the occasion and do it better than >you'd expect. Can you give me a listing of "jobs" that parents can >do in a "typical" Troop??

Don't expect, Jules, that all of your parents will want to have "a job". As a former Scoutmaster, Coach, Advisor and Skipper, I have found that there are some parents that expect Scouting or Exploring to be a convient "drop-off point" for their sons and daughters and can care less if they needed an additional driver or someone to go to the Council office. But here's a listing of what I would call "the Caddy Troop's (Caddy=Caddiac) volunteer list":

* indicates that the BSA thinks it's a good idea, too!

*Troop Committee Chair

*Advancement committeemember

*Facilities and Equipment committeemember

*Transportation committeemember

*Program committeemember

*Treasurer committeemember

*Secretary committemember

*WEBELOS-to-Scout coordinator

Vice Committee Chair

Council "runner" (the person that can get to the Council office fast)

***Chaplain**

***Physician**

***Activities committeemember**

***Membership committeemember**

SME/FOS coordinator

Community relations coordinator

Youth Sports/School coordinator

Adult Recognition coordinator

Public Relations coordinator

"Troop Engineer" (this was a Dad in one unit and a Mom in another that was "the fixer" or "the builder" of whatever the unit needed)

"Troop Videographer" (this was a Mom that was always seen at every Court of Honor with a camcorder...she made copies of the kids getting special awards so that they can send them to Granny)

"Troop Webmaster" (the actual title was "Troop Computer Person" and when I had one as Advisor, she was the person that gathered information from and to a local BBS; now, this person can be the person responsible for the Website and/or pages for the unit)

"Troop Mechanic" (very valuable person; this guy knew nothing about Boy Scouting and everything about engines and cars. We started out having him do the "Automotive" merit badge, and we ended up with a new Committeemember that took care of our cars and vans we used for various trips)

"Troop Storyteller/Singer" (I never had one; there's a Troop here in Germany that has a guy that all he does is brings his guitar and has a ready story (scary or otherwise) to tell at campouts and Courts of Honor. Really nice touch!)

Welcomewagon Person (the mom that welcomed new families into the Troop...she made sure that every Mom that "forgot" her red, white and blue ribboned "mothers' pin holder" had one to wear at each Court of Honor)

Two important points, Jules...one, it is a good idea to have more than one person to do the non-starred jobs. This prevents you from depending on one person and one person alone and "spreads the wealth" on those "easier" jobs; and two, try to get EVERYONE registered as a Troop Committeemember if all possible...this increases your "pool" of people to depend on for "emergency adult leadership" and for "additional drivers".

MAKE SURE YOU TELL THEM THAT NONE OF THESE ARE "BUSY" or "MADE-UP JOBS". Many of these jobs appear in the BSA's Troop Committee Guidebook, but they are combined with

other jobs to "make them seem super important". Divide some of the tasks that would normally be done by one person. Combine other tasks to make them make sense in your unit.

Giving adults a "sense of belonging" is important, Jules...but make sure that you are giving them jobs that they can do successfully and with a high degree of pride....and if they say "I can't do any of those things", ask them what they CAN do and let them help in that way.

Remember, not all parents or adults will volunteer or even want to do anything more than drop off kids or show up once in a while because "perhaps someone in my job will see me there". So don't be disappointed nor discouraged if you can't get all of these "Caddy Troop" jobs filled....

Let me know how things go, okay???

Settумmanque!

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---FORWARD in service to youth ----