## **BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA**

MEMORIAL DRIVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH TROOP 599

## MERIT BADGE COUNSELOR DIRECTORY

REVISED January 2020

COMPILED BY THE TROOP COMMITTEE AND THE PARENT RESOURCES ASSISTANT OF TROOP 599 AS AN INFORMATION SOURCE FOR SCOUTS AND PARENTS

ALL SCOUTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO EARN MERIT BADGES

ALL PARENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO SERVE AS MERIT BADGE COUNSELORS IN ORDER TO GROW AND PROGRESS IN RANK

IN ORDER TO HELP OUR SCOUTS PROGRESS IN RANK

## **TROOP 599**

## MERIT BADGE PROCEDURE

This booklet includes the names, addresses and telephone numbers of adults associated with Troop 599 who are registered with Mustang District as merit badge counselors and have volunteered to assist our scouts to earn merit badges. **Only registered merit badge counselors can sign off on a merit badge card.** If an adult or parent is not listed in this directory, you should assume that he/she is not a registered merit badge counselor and that they cannot sign off on a merit badge card. The badges are listed alphabetically followed by contact information for our volunteer counselors. If there is no counselor listed for a merit badge you have chosen, you may be able to find a counselor from the Mustang District Merit Badge Counselor List available at www.mustangdistrict.org. Alternatively, you should contact the Troop Merit Badge Coordinator, Daniel Ochs, for the names of District counselors.

The following procedure should assist the scouts of Troop 599 to successfully earn their merit badges. By following the procedure outlined below you should be successful in completing merit badge requirements, preventing the possibility of disappointment, helping our troop maintain its standards and eliminating errors in merit badge records.

Each scout should complete the following steps in the order set forth to ensure the successful completion of all merit badge requirements and the awarding of the desired merit badge:

- 1. Select a merit badge that interests you or one that you need for advancement to a higher rank.
- 2. Obtain a blue merit badge application card from the Merit Badge Coordinator, Daniel Ochs, and complete the front of the card with your name, address, name of the merit badge, troop number (599), district (Mustang) and council (SHAC).
- 3. **Before starting on the merit badge**, you must obtain approval from the Scoutmaster, Richard Snell, or the Merit Badge Coordinator, Daniel Ochs. Take the merit badge application card, properly filled out, to Mr. Snell or Mr. Ochs, who will sign the front side after determining that you are qualified to begin work on the merit badge you have selected. Mr. Snell or Mr. Ochs may also discuss and recommend counselors from either the Troop or District Merit Badge Directories.
- 4. Obtain a copy of the appropriate merit badge pamphlet from the Troop library or other source and study it to become familiar with the requirements. Merit badge pamphlets may be purchased at the

Scout Shop at 2225 North Loop West, Houston, Texas 77008-1311.

- 5. **Before starting work on the merit badge**, you must contact a registered counselor by phone or in person and make an appointment for the first counseling session to discuss requirements and scheduling. For merit badges offered in classes by the troop, district or other entity, e.g., at a Merit Badge Fair, summer camp or museum, follow the sign-up procedure set out for that class.
- 6. Coaching sessions will continue between you and your counselor until the counselor is sure that you have completed all requirements for the merit badge. The counselor should record your progress on the back of the card (inside of folded cards) and fill out all appropriate information.
- 7. After all requirements have been met, the counselor will sign the merit badge application card indicating that you have completed all requirements.
- 8. You then take the fully signed and completed card to the Merit Badge Coordinator, Daniel Ochs, or the Advancement Coordinator, Daniel Ochs. We recommend that you keep a photocopy of the completed card for your records.
- 9. The Advancement Coordinator will complete an Advancement Report and send it with required signatures and attached merit badge applications to the Council Scout Service Center.
- 10. The round, cloth Merit Badge will be presented to you at the next Court of Honor or at the next advancement recognition session during a troop meeting.
- 11. The merit badge card will be officially and formally presented to you at the next Troop Court of Honor. You should keep the official merit badge card you receive at the Court of Honor. If, at the time you complete your application for Eagle, the Council records do not show that you have completed a specific merit badge, only the official Merit Badge card will be accepted as proof that you have completed the merit badge.