

TROOP 1776 -- SCOUT NOTEBOOK

SPECIAL TROOP AWARDS FOR SCOUTS

TROOP NECKERCHIEF

The Troop 1776 neckerchief was designed by the first scoutmaster Mr. G. Gardner, when the troop was formed in 1967. The flag, which is utilized on the neckerchief, is known as the 'Grand Union' flag and was the first (unofficial) national flag of the United States. It was first raised in 1776 to celebrate the official status of the newly formed Continental Army by George Washington. The handmade neckerchief is awarded to each scout, in the Troop, who has achieved the rank of Tenderfoot.

TROOP WALKING STICK

The walking stick is a symbol of a traveling scout and is awarded to each scout who has achieved the rank of FIRST CLASS. The staves are branded with the troop identification at a special campfire each year during the annual summer camp activity. The ashes from each year's fire are saved and used to provide the bed for the next year's fire. This tradition was initiated in 1991. Mr. J. Brogan, ASM conceived the idea so as to complement the Troop Neckerchief. Mr. L. Jaskewicz, Scoutmaster, maintains possession of the first stave that was branded at Camp Yawgoog, R.I.

1992 25th ANNIVERSARY PATCH

The patch was designed by K. Brogan to commemorate the history of the troop on its anniversary. The silver 'Minuteman' is a representation of the colonial guard who stands at Concord, and defended the rights of the colonialists from British oppression.

The lower green field represents the green forests and woods that the scouts hike through. The flag is a representation of Betsy Ross flag, which was the first official flag of the United States. The flag is shown between the green of the forests and the blue sky which should always be in the hearts of all scouts.

HIKING LEATHER

The backpacking leather is awarded to each scout who completes a backpacking trip. The mileage of the trip is recorded on the leather, which was designed and fabricated by Mr. H. Schmidt, ASM. The happy hiker is singing as he explores the trail of adventure.

TOTEN-CHIP

The hand made belt leather designed and fabricated by Mr. H. Schmidt, ASM is awarded to each scout who as demonstrated that he can use the tools of the woods safely.

FIREM'N-CHIT

The hand made belt leather designed and fabricated by Mr. H. Schmidt, ASM is awarded to each scout who as demonstrated that he can use the fire bearing equipment with care and not endanger himself or others.

CAMPING NIGHTS AWARD

Each scouts is awarded a patch to signify the number of nights that he a spent (cumulatively) under the stars as part of 1776 activities. The patches are awarded with

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increments of 20 nights through 100 nights. The awards are presented at the first Courts of Awards each fall.

HARRY SCHMIDT BACKPACKING AWARD

The Harry Schmidt 200 Mile Backpacking Award is awarded to both scouts and adults who have completed 200 miles of backpacking treks with Troop 1776. The first patch was awarded to Mr. Schmidt in 1990. The first patch was designed by and was handmade by Mrs. Jaskewicz. The happy hiker is shown traveling the trail of adventure.

1776 APPALACHIAN TRAIL PATCH

The prestigious patch recognizes scouts who have hiked AT trail segments in three states. The original idea was conceived by J. Brogan when the Troop initiated a trek plan, in 1990, to hike trail segments in each of the 14 states that the AT transverses. As a scout completes his third state he is awarded the patch and a small Flure-de-le pin for each state hiked. The first scout to complete all 14 states was K. Brogan, in 1995. The artwork was completed by Mr. Greenbaum and Mr. Snow. The bright multi colors of the patch were chosen to represent the many feelings of joy that a scout will experience as he hikes the trail and reflects on his accomplishments.

THE E. ROBERT PALEY HIGH ADVENTURE AWARD

This new patch originated in 2006, and is awarded to those scouts who have initiated and lead high adventure treks. It was created to honor the work of Mr. Bob Paley, the troop's first Venture Patrol ASM. To help scouts hike all of the 14 states for the Appalachian Trail patch, Mr. Paley supported multi-day Venture treks to the farthest states of Georgia, Maine and New Hampshire. After these treks, a number of scouts asked Mr. Paley to help them plan and complete special high adventure treks that were greater in scope and required a high degree of organization, leadership, and planning. The idea for the patch came from former Scoutmaster Tony Bruno and it was designed and drawn by Eagle Scout Tyler Szwarc who participated in many trips. Starting in 1999, with a trip to St. John in the US Virgin Islands, the patch shows a silhouette of Mr. Paley superimposed over the four quadrants of a compass rose. Each quadrant depicts a scene from one of our past trips – St. John, Alaska, Canadian Rockies, and Mt. Washington, NH representing all of the Appalachian Trail including the 100 Mile Wilderness and Mt Katahdin trek in Maine. Other treks completed were canoeing the Allagash Wilderness, rafting the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon, hiking Hadrian's Wall in England, and mountain hiking in Switzerland.