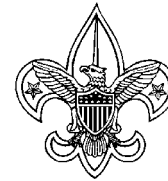




**Boy Scouts of America
Troop 691
Irvine, California**



We build character and develop leadership.

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Troop 691. My name is Howard Waters, as Scoutmaster, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you into the “Troop 691 Family”. The troop was established in 1972 and has blossomed into one of the oldest and most successful troops located in Irvine. Most of our adult leaders have taken the “Adult Leadership Training” course offered by the Orange County Council. Parent participation is the cornerstone of our program. We provide a high quality Boy Scout Program through the volunteer efforts of our supportive parents. Many of our parents take on a leadership role in the troop, while others may be active primarily on campouts or in weekly meetings. Still others are only able to volunteer on an occasional basis. No matter...all of these volunteer roles form the foundation for our continuing success.

The Boy Scout program is based on the “Patrol Method” whereby boy leaders teach other boys scouting skills. Emphasis is given to the skills of leadership, independence and good citizenship; and hopefully all of this is presented in a way so that the boys have fun learning these skills. Boys are successful especially when they have their families support. Please encourage your son’s participation. Ensure he attends all our meetings. Also, when attending campouts, be sure he is at the departure point on time and ready with all the required gear and equipment. We provide a list of necessities on our permission forms in addition to detailed discussions at meetings prior to the campouts. Take the time to discuss your son’s preparation with him. This will ensure he has a comfortable and safe experience.

Troop 691 meets on Monday nights at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church at 7pm. There is no meeting on the last Monday of each month, which is reserved for the Troop Leadership Council (Staff and Patrol Leaders). Please check the Troop Calendar for meetings, campouts and other important dates and times.

Your participation in the troop will greatly enhance your son’s advancement from Scout to Tenderfoot, to Second Class, to First Class, to Star, to Life and finally Eagle Scout. There are over 100 merit badges for your son to earn. Along the way, he will have fun, make new friends, mature and develop skills to take care of him, as well as give aid to others. He will develop self-confidence and learn to be a leader.

We are extremely proud of our Eagle’s Nest. Since our troop’s inception in 1972, we have had more than 65 boys earn the rank of Eagle. On a national basis, less than 2% of the boys who start scouting become Eagle Scouts.

Our troop has a very active camping program. We plan one outing each month from September through June and a summer camp usually in August. Also, we have a summer sports program that has been very successful. Overall we offer boys the opportunity to do a little bit of everything from camping, backpacking, hiking, cycling, canoeing, whitewater rafting, rock climbing...and much more with an atmosphere of fun and safety.

Your Scoutmaster,

Howard Waters