

## **About Troop 452**

Troop 452 has one of the best Scouting programs offered anywhere. Please carefully review this revised *Parent's Handbook*. As you maybe already know, being a member of Troop 452 is an important decision requiring time and commitment from both you and your son - your commitment to participate in our decision-making committees; and your son's commitment to the Scouting program. The success of the Scouts in Troop 452 is an attribute to their hard work and dedication, and to the support of their families!

BSA Troop 452 is sponsored by **CASA (Chinese American Scouting Association)**. The Association believes in the educational values and the strong family values promoted by the Scouting program, and strongly believes the Scouting program is a natural complement to its goals for Chinese culture.

Being an ethnical Chinese is not required for membership, but belief in the BSA Scouting programs is. This belief has helped Troop 452 grow from just thirteen families into one of the leading and most active Boy Scout Troops in the San Francisco Bay Area. The philosophy and mission of our Troop is to provide Scouts with as many opportunities as possible in which they can learn to make decisions. In the working world this is called "empowerment", but with empowerment comes responsibility. We acknowledge that there is a learning curve and that Scouts will make poor decisions in the process of learning. However, in the end, the Scouts will mature, learn to assume leadership responsibilities, and make decisions based upon experience, thus the beginnings of a strong moral foundation.

Since joining Troop 452, your son has had the opportunity to participate in many new kinds of adventures, resulting in exciting and rewarding experiences for both you and your son. Our Scouts not only take part in activities, but also help to organize many local **Santa Clara County Council** activities. Our Troop participates in national and international activities in the East Coast, Canada and Asia, and our Troop also accommodates Scouts visiting from foreign countries. Boy Scouts is a brotherhood of worldwide proportions, through which our Scouts create friendships that last a lifetime. We are proud of our Scouting spirit and of Troop 452's achievements, and we encourage you to stay active in the Scouting program!

This *Parent's Handbook* is the first step in which we have tried to identify the major concerns and answer the most frequently asked questions. We will be glad to address any other questions that concern you.

## **Our Program and Goal**

### **Our Program**

Troop 452 is registered under Boy Scouts of America. Hence, the Scouting program offered by Troop 452 is under the guidance of Boy Scouts of America. The Scout in Troop 452 receives the same training of skills that other BSA Troops provide. Parents are strongly encouraged to read Boy Scout Handbook for more detailed information.

Troop 452 actively participates in all scouting events sponsored by local district, council, and national Scout offices. Troop 452 also actively participates in the events sponsored by foreign Scout organizations. We participate in as many events as we can, and attend these activities with all the other local BSA Troops.

In addition, our Scouts will go beyond the traditional program. We encourage our Scouts to attend Chinese schools if at all possible. Our Scouts also participate in events that celebrate Chinese heritage and culture in our Community. We do this because we believe that this kind of exposure is valuable. Attendance at Community events is not mandatory and is not a condition of membership.

### **Goals**

The motivating force behind the entire Program of the Boy Scout of America is contained in the words of the Scout Oath and the Scout Law. In all the activities that conducted by our troop, we emphasize the teachings expressed in these words. The mission of BSA and our troop is to teach scouts how they can make proper choice in life. They learn to assume responsibilities and to make their own decisions based upon a strong moral foundation.

Each scout memorizes the Scout Oath and Law, understands their meaning, and regularly applies them in daily life. In doing so, scouts reinforce the positive religious and moral values that are taught at home. Scouts become familiar with concepts such as honor, service to others and citizenship. Parents and adults leaders are also guided by these words so they, too, may learn and help guide our scouts.