

The Unit Commissioner and Summer Camp Planning

**How a Unit Commissioner can better assist a Troop's
Summer Camp Planning**

By

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The Unit Commissioner and Summer Camp Planning

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Introduction

As Scouters, we know that a Troop's Summer Camp experience is fundamental to a successful annual program. Attendance at Summer Camp is considered a keystone to a balanced program of outdoor activity, leadership growth and character development. All one has to do is review the program guidance documents provided by the Boy Scouts of America to affirm this.

The Summer Camp experience is deemed so important, that in 2001 the Boy Scouts of America worked with Harris Interactive to conduct a study on the importance of Summer Camp.

May 29, 2001

Ask any American what they think of when you say "Boy Scouts" and the vast majority will mention camping and the outdoors. It is as American as baseball, hotdogs, or apple pie. While the association of Boy Scouts and the fun of outdoor adventure is a natural one, it is perhaps more important to understand that camping experiences provide more than just fun.

We have been serving the youth of America for more than 90 years. While our organization recognizes the importance of providing enjoyable experiences for youth, our program is designed to accomplish much more. Specifically, the BSA is committed to providing a program that comprehensively addresses the important elements of healthy youth development. The long-term goal is to prepare young people to achieve their full potential for happy and productive lives.

We appreciate Harris Interactive for its ability to conduct a study that provides such a clear understanding of the positive outcomes of summer camp experiences among Scouts. I think you will find the information in this report to be both insightful and compelling as to why we must continue to provide camp adventure in the lives of our youth.

Thank you for your interest in the Boy Scouts of America.

Sincerely,

Roy L. Williams
Chief Scout Executive ¹

This study highlights the analysis of survey data taken from Scouts, Adult Leaders, and Scout Parents. The bottom line is that the Summer Camp Experience is fundamental to the goals and aims of Scouting.

Scouts indicate that summer camp is more than just a place to have fun. It also offers Scouts the opportunity to participate in physically and intellectually challenging activities, introduces them to new and rewarding experiences, and provides them with supportive and caring relationships.

This study infers that positive outcomes of Scout summer camp occur because the environment and activities at camp incorporate all of the elements of healthy youth development .²

We know Summer Camp is important, but how do we ensure its success? We know that a Troop's adult leadership is key to the planning and execution of Summer Camp. We also know that the Unit Commissioner is charged with working with the Troop's adult leadership to ensure the Troop is providing a solid program for its Scouts.³

The Commissioner Helps for Packs, Troops, and Crews devotes one half of a page to Long Term Camping. It offers 8 subject areas for Commissioner action, but not all of these subject areas point to specific Summer Camp support.⁴

The implication is that the Unit Commissioner supports the Troop's Summer Camp Program, but to what extent and in how much detail? What should a Unit Commissioner focus on to help his Troops prepare for Summer Camp? It is this question that is the basis for this paper, and upon which the Thesis is built.

¹ Boy Scouts of America Summer Camp Outcomes Study: A Study Conducted by Harris Interactive. 2001, page 3

² Boy Scouts of America Summer Camp Outcomes Study: A Study Conducted by Harris Interactive. 2001, page 6

³ Commissioner Fieldbook for Unit Service, Boy Scouts of America, 2010, page 10

⁴ Commissioner Helps for Packs, Troops, and Crews, Boy Scouts of America, 2010, page 6

The Unit Commissioner and Summer Camp Planning

Thesis Statement

The Unit Commissioner has a role in helping a Scout Troop's Leadership prepare for their annual summer camp experience. This role goes beyond the basic promotion of the Boy Scouts of America Camping Program, and should focus on specific areas of interest that will better prepare a Troop to attend Summer Camp.

The Unit Commissioner and Summer Camp Planning

Background

My first Summer Camp was in 1962, at Camp Strake, Sam Houston Area Council, in Houston, Texas. Subsequent Summer Camps were at Camp Tom Wooten, Capitol Area Council, in Austin, Texas. I was fortunate enough to work as a Staff Member and Program Director at Tom Wooten for three consecutive years while in College. Through these experiences, I gained a pretty good idea of what a Troop expected from a Summer Camp Program, and how a Summer Camp worked to provide such a Program.

As a Troop Committee Member and Committee Chairman in Troop 16, Denver Area Council, I attended Summer Camp as an adult leader, serving as an Assistant Scoutmaster and, upon occasion, as Scoutmaster during the Camp experience. Camps we attended during those years included Camp Dietler, Peaceful Valley Scout Ranch (PVSF), Eagle Point at PVSF and Tahosa High Adventure Base, Spanish Peaks Scout Reservation (SPSR) and Ben Delatour Scout Ranch (BDSR). A whole new experience perspective was shown to me. I was more involved in camp planning and the logistics of getting a Troop to and from Camp. I also experienced more direct interface with the Camp Staffs of the respective Camps I learned that a Troop just doesn't show up at Camp on day one; a lot of planning is needed throughout the year to make Summer Camp as success.

I became a Unit Commissioner in 2004 upon the formation of Pioneer Trails District. Just like many of us do, I put on an additional "hat" to go along with my duties as Troop Committee Chairman. Jobs changed in my Troop, but Unit Commissioner service continued. As I worked with my assigned Troops, I found out that they all faced the same struggles when preparing for Summer Camp. I also saw that my own Troop faced some challenges and had some unfortunate experiences at Summer Camps I did not attend after my tenure as Committee Chairman. I also found that Troops under my Commissioner wing suffered similar issues.

Why did this happen, and what could we do to preclude this from happening again? I decided to attend the Camp Commissioner Certification Course offered by National Camping School. I attained my certification in 2008. I recall the question asked of me by the Instructors: "Do you have a job at a Summer Camp?" "Why are you taking this course?" My answer was no, I did not have a job at a Summer Camp. I was taking the course because I could see a relationship between what a Camp Commissioner's duties were and what my Unit Commissioner duties were. I believed that the training received could be beneficial when working with my Troops.

Camp School taught me how a Summer Camp should operate, what the Camp should expect from the Troops in attendance, and what Troops should expect to receive from the Camp. I served as a volunteer Camp Commissioner at Ben Delatour Scout Ranch in the Summers of 2010 and 2011. Each time, I had Troops, that I am Unit Commissioner for, in attendance at BDSR. This gave me the opportunity to put my Camp School training to

good use, and see just how my own Troops conducted planning for camp and actually functioned while attending Summer Camp. It also put me on the Camp's Staff, where I could see the Camp's operation from the inside.

After these experiences, I was convinced that a Unit Commissioner could do a lot more to prepare a Troop to attend Summer Camp.

The Unit Commissioner and Summer Camp Planning

Methodology

In order to prove, or disprove, my thesis, I developed a short survey focusing on topic areas of interest that affected Summer Camp planning. I relied on my experiences and training to develop an initial list and initial survey. I planned to use this as a working draft, taking it with me during my Camp Commissioner duties in the summer of 2011. I wanted to have Camp Staff and Troop Leadership in camp during that week critique the initial survey.¹

I solicited their input by having them actually responding to the survey and providing me with ideas on how the survey could be improved. During the week, I circulated the survey among Troop Leaders in Camp, the Camp Director, the Camp Program Director, and the Council's Camping Director. Their input was invaluable.

I also conducted one-on-one interviews on the survey with three experienced Scouters, who have vast experience as Unit Commissioners and Camp Commissioners. They each took the survey, and sat down with me to critique the substance of the survey. From these sessions, a second survey would be developed that would go to a wider audience.²³ Many of the questions on the survey were refined based on the valuable input from these fine Scouters.

Upon my return from Camp Commissioner Duty, I refined the survey based on input from the field, my own observations and received feedback from test respondents. This survey version became the final version that was used to gather data to prove or disprove my Thesis.⁴

The survey was put on the Internet using Survey Monkey, and a link to the survey was to be sent to my target audience of respondents.

I wanted to contact a fairly wide survey sample in order to bring in thoughts and opinions from outside my home District and Council. I contacted Scouters with whom I have worked at the Philmont Training Center and the 2010 National Jamboree. These Scouters would give me a perspective outside of my home District and Council, and would also send the survey on to fellow Scouters, unknown to me, but with similar background and experience in Scouting and Commissioner Service.

I also requested participation from the Commissioner Corps in Denver Area Council, and received specific help in doing so from each District Commissioner and the Council Commissioner

A brief e-mail request was sent to this audience requesting they complete the survey on line, and provide comments where appropriate. To complete the survey, the respondent simply clicked on the link provided in the e-mail and took the survey. The survey went

out to approximately 160 potential respondents. Responses were received from 91 Scouters, for a response rate of 57%.⁵

I was able to review input on a daily basis, and after a six week period, data was compiled and downloaded from the Survey Engine at Survey Monkey. Membership on Survey Monkey allowed me to compile and analyze data on line, and download it for my use at the expiration of the survey period.

The data was gathered and put in a usable format. Data came in two types: responses to objective questions and subjective comments. Both would be analyzed to address my Thesis.

¹ Unit Commissioner and Summer Camp Planning Survey #1. Developed by Sidney C. Hughes, Jr. June 2011, pages 1-2. Survey is included as Appendix A

² Interview with Tom and Lou Noon, June 27-July 2, 2011, Camp Commissioners, BDSR

³ Interview with Bill Humphries, June 27-July 2, 2011, Camp Staff/Scouting Commissioner, BDSR

⁴ Unit Commissioner and Summer Camp Planning Survey #2, Developed by Sidney C. Hughes, Jr, July 2011, pages 1-2. Survey is included as Appendix B

⁵ E-mailings to target audience, July 2011. List is included as Appendix D

The Unit Commissioner and Summer Camp Planning

Data Analysis

Data gathered to support my Thesis was collected from an on-line survey, consisting of eight question pool areas. The question pool consisted of simple “Yes/No” questions, descriptive comment requests, and multiple selection questions. Each of the eight question pool areas will be discussed in the analysis portion of this paper. Conclusions will be drawn in the following chapter. It is my intent to discuss my reasoning behind each question and analyze the data collected.

Question 1: What are your current and/or past position(s) in Scouting?

I asked this question to see what the experience levels of my respondents were, and how these experience levels might affect their answers to the survey questions. From the beginning, I knew that the survey was going to a fairly experienced group of Scouters. This was confirmed by their responses to this question. All 91 respondents indicated their roles in Scouting.

51 respondents (56%) indicated that they had current or previous experience in the Commissioner Corps. Duty as Commissioners ranged from Unit Commissioners to duty Assistant Council Commissioners. Many of these Scouters had served in multiple Commissioner roles, and continue to do so. Several respondents indicated that they had served as Camp Commissioners. Of interest is that many of the Commissioners have served or are now serving in both Troop and Commissioner roles.

31 respondents (34%) indicated that they had experience as a Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster and as a Commissioner. As an example, I am an active Assistant Scoutmaster in my Troop, as well as a Unit Commissioner.

56 respondents (62%) indicated that they had current or previous experience at the Troop level serving as Scoutmasters or Assistant Scoutmasters. Experience ranged from Scoutmasters serving in regular Troops, Jamboree Troops, and Provisional Youth Leadership Troops. Assistant Scoutmaster experience was similar. Many of these respondents indicated significant summer camp experience.

Only 11 respondents (12%) indicated that they had held, or currently hold, only one position in Scouting. The majority of the respondents have a wide experience base from which to answer the survey questions.

It is clear that the survey respondents are a diversely experienced group. Their responses are expected to be based on these experience levels, lending credibility to the answers provided.

Question 2: Are you involved now, or have you previously been involved, in your Troop's Summer Camp Preparation?

This question was asked to determine how much experience the respondents had in Summer Camp planning. The intent was to measure involvement in planning, and not necessarily total responsibility for Troop planning efforts. All 91 participants in the survey answered this question. 72 respondents ((79.1%) indicated they have participated in their Troop's Summer Camp planning. This is a significant, showing that camp planning experience exists across the survey sampling.

Question 3: If you answered "Yes" to question 2 above, please describe your role.

This question for comment was asked to get specific information from survey respondents on just exactly how they have participated in camp planning. This would indicate to what depth they were involved. It would also indicate the level of experience of the group of respondents. Of the 91 respondents, 73 provided comment on this question. This is 80% of the survey sample. A complete list of comment answers to this question is at Appendix C.

Experience ranged from parent involvement driving Scouts to camp to Scoutmasters who have been responsible for all phases of Summer Camp Programs for numerous years. Several responders commented that they have worked on the camp administrative planning process. This included budgeting and funds control, medical records control, transportation, equipment management, and merit badge and program sign-up, and camp program scheduling specific to the Troop's time.

A review of these comments shows that the survey respondent group has a diverse experience level, and demonstrates a fundamental understanding of what needs to happen to prepare a Troop for its camp experience.

Question 4: Does your Troop's Unit Commissioner work with your Troop's Leadership in preparation for Summer Camp?

This is key question. I asked it to determine if my Thesis Statement Question was founded in a need. I believed from the beginning that it did, but this question made it clear that Unit Commissioners can be more involved in helping a Troop with its camp planning process.

Only 14 respondents (15.9%) indicated that their Unit Commissioner works with their Troop leadership to prepare for Summer Camp. 51 respondents (58%) said their Unit Commissioners do not work with Troop leadership for camp preparation. 14 (15.9%) said they didn't know. If one combines the "No" and "Don't Know" responses, that is 73.9% that show little or no Unit Commissioner involvement. Even if one takes into account the basic role of a Unit Commissioner in Summer Camp planning, and uses that criteria as a basis for answering this question, it shows the majority of units receive little or no participation from Unit Commissioners when doing Summer Camp planning.¹

Question 5: If you answered “Yes” to Question 4 above, please describe what your Commissioner does to assist your Troop.

This question for comment is telling. Very few Unit Commissioners and Troops show active involvement with Summer Camp planning. 33 respondents provided comment. A list of their comments is included in Appendix C.

Most of the comments indicated that the Unit Commissioners would show an interest in general “big picture” Troop program issues, but did not get involved in more specific issues, unless directly asked to by the Troop. This indicates that the majority of Unit Commissioners limited involvement to what is outlined in the Commissioners Fieldbook, cited earlier in this analysis.

The results of the question reinforce the need for Unit Commissioners to become more knowledgeable in support of Troop Summer Camp planning. This is not to say they should actually do the work. They should have more specific areas defined with which they could assist the unit leadership when the need is identified.

Question 6: In which of the following areas could INEXPERIENCED troop leadership use guidance and assistance in preparing the troop for Summer Camp?

This question provided feedback and detail on just how a Unit Commissioner could help a Troop with inexperienced leadership. Comments in the previous question’s response showed that respondents felt there was a difference between Troops with experienced leadership and Troops with inexperienced leadership, and Commissioner involvement might differ based on this factor. Results for this question are provided in two forms in Appendix C. Comments provided by respondents are particularly useful.

For each area identified, the majority of the survey respondents felt that a Unit Commissioner could significantly assist their assigned Troop. Planning for Camp as a part of the annual planning process and selecting an actual camp to attend topped the areas of interest at 84.4%. Adult leader training for those going to Summer Camp was close behind at 83.3%. Following closely were two areas of Troop administration, developing a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for camp planning (77.8%) and administrative management of paperwork (74.4%). Two areas directly related to my training at National Camp School Commissioner Certification, understanding how a Camp Staff and Program function, and understanding a Camp’s Program offerings, were at 74.4% and 73.3% respectively. Budgeting for Camp and Parent/Family Briefings were deemed least important, but still significant at 66.7% each to warrant Commissioner attention.

Comments provided were general in nature, most focusing on “big picture” items. Of note is one comment on the considerations for Special Needs Scouts. This offered many good ideas and food for thought, from camp program offerings to available facilities to accommodate Special Needs Scouts. Many units face this challenge, even with one or

two Scouts, and it is worth the Troop's attention as well as the Unit Commissioner's coaching on the subject.

Question 7: In which of the following areas could EXPERIENCED troop leadership use guidance and assistance in preparing the trop for Summer Camp?

This question provided feedback and detail on just how a Unit Commissioner could help a Troop with experienced leadership. Again, comments in the previous question's response showed that respondents felt there was a difference between Troops with experienced leadership and Troops with inexperienced leadership, and Commissioner involvement might differ based on this factor. Results for this question are provided in two forms in Appendix C. Comments provided by respondents are particularly useful.

As might be expected, Unit Commissioner involvement was not deemed as important in the subject areas as indicated in Question 6. Percentages fell significantly, and in some areas the survey respondents did not see much need for a Unit Commissioner to be involved at all. Still, a need for Commissioner involvement was indicated, but just not as strong of an involvement. The one exception was that of training adult leaders for their role at Summer Camp. 62.2% of the respondents felt that this was worthy of additional Commissioner attention. Second was Understanding a Camp's Program offerings at 56.1%. Camp selection (51.2%), Troop SOP (52.4%), Understanding How a Camp Works (50.0%), and Camp Preparation Administration (47.6%) were grouped closely. Parent/Family information and briefings were shown to be marginally important for Commissioner involvement at 43.9%. Only 30.5% of the survey respondents thought that assistance for Summer Camp planning as a part of the annual planning process would require Commissioner assistance in experienced Troops. Finally, only 28.0% believed that a Commissioner's help was needed in the budgeting for camp in an experienced Troop.

I believe these results were logical, based on differentiating between experience levels in Troop leadership. The point is that a Unit Commissioner can still assist in areas where experience is there and programs are in place.

Comments on this question were more general in nature, and not as numerous. This is logical assuming the given experience level in a Troop. The exception was, again, the need to address Special Needs Scouts when appropriate.

Question 8: Do you have additional recommendations or comments?

I intended this question to be a "catch all" for anything that I may have overlooked, or for respondents to expound on issues they see as important. Most comments support the idea of a Unit Commissioner being more involved in Summer Camp planning, especially with new Troops, or those with inexperienced leadership. The comments are included in Appendix C.

¹ Commissioner Helps for Packs, Troops, and Crews; Boy Scouts of America 2010, pg 6.

The Unit Commissioner and Summer Camp Planning

Conclusions

The analysis of the data gathered in the survey, “Unit Commissioner and Summer Camp Planning” proves the Thesis Statement of this work. The Unit Commissioner has a role in helping a Scout Troop’s Leadership prepare for their annual Summer Camp experience. This role goes beyond the basic promotion of the Boy Scouts of America Camping Program, and should focus on specific areas of interest that will better prepare a Troop to attend Summer Camp.

This work identified 9 key areas where a Unit Commissioner could help a Scout Troop plan and conduct a Summer Camp program. Respondents to the survey addressing these areas of interest showed through their responses that a Unit Commissioner could more effectively assist a Troop’s leadership in Summer Camp preparation.

When inexperienced and experienced Troop leadership levels were taken into account, the Unit Commissioner’s role in experienced Troops was deemed to be not as critical as in Troops with inexperienced leadership. It did not, however, rule out that a Unit Commissioner should advise and assist even experienced, “veteran” Troops.

Training adult leaders was seen as most important in both experienced and inexperienced Troops. Preparation for Summer Camp, as a year-long endeavor, as part of the annual planning process was also deemed very important.

Camp selection based on a camp’s program and understanding how a Summer Camp operates were also key areas of interest. Many units fail to understand this, and their camp experience suffers for it.

Finally, the administration and logistics of taking a Troop of Scouts to Summer Camp cannot be overlooked. Budgets, fees, medical records, equipment, transportation, and personal items all demand attention to detail.

The Unit Commissioner is charged with assisting the leadership of a Troop to succeed. General implications of supporting the Troop’s Annual Program Plan only scratch the surface of what a Commissioner can do to contribute to a successful camp experience. Applying the tenants of this work will assist the Unit Commissioner when working with Troops in their Summer Camp planning.

The Unit Commissioner and Summer Camp Planning

Acknowledgements

This work was inspired by my service to the Boy Scouts of America as an adult leader, commonly referred to as a Scouter. I have served in a variety of positions as a Scouter, most notably as a Troop Committee Chairman for Troop 16, Parker, Colorado and as a Unit Commissioner and Assistant District Commissioner, Pioneer Trails District, Denver Area Council. I served as Troop Committee Chairman for 7 consecutive years, and have been a Unit Commissioner for just as long. There are plenty of fellow Scouters whom I need to thank for training, mentoring, coaching, and just plain “doing the job” with me. They are too numerous to mention all by name, but several Scouters stand out as having been very influential in the ideas contributing to this work.

As Committee Chairman, I worked with three outstanding Scoutmasters, each unique in personality, but each fully dedicated to Scouting’s purpose. They were always “Scouts First” and they never forgot that purpose. All three men were Scoutmasters of Troop 16, Parker, Colorado. They are Dr. David Swieckowski, Nathan Smith, and Mark Santy.

As a Unit Commissioner, I have worked with a diverse group of outstanding Scouters from throughout Denver Area Council. District Commissioners Mike Summers, Al Snook, Tod Christensen, and Don Booher have been instrumental in making me a more effective Commissioner. I count each as good personal friends. Jim Blair, Denver Area Council Commissioner, has become a good friend and inspiration for me in Scouting. What a great group of leaders and teachers.

I must mention three Scouters who helped me refine the survey and the ideas supporting my Thesis. They are Tom Noon, Lou Noon, and Bill Humphries. All three took the time to review my initial survey and Thesis Statement, and offer constructive criticism and valuable comments. They did this while I was serving as a Volunteer Camp Commissioner at Ben Delatour Scout Ranch in 2011. What a great experience it was to work with these three outstanding Scouters. I couldn’t have done this without their input.

Several Scouters with whom I served on Staff of the Philmont Leadership Challenge Course, Philmont Training Center, and National Jamboree Staff helped me distribute the survey to fellow Scouters across the Country. With their help, input was received from Scouters from Texas, Virginia, Georgia, Florida, and Montana.

Finally, thanks to the Scouts, who make Scouting such a worthwhile endeavor.

The Unit Commissioner and Summer Camp Planning

Appendices

Appendix A: Unit Commissioner and Summer Camp Planning, Survey #1

Appendix B: Unit Commissioner and Summer Camp Planning, Survey #2

Appendix C: Survey Data Results

Question 1: Current and/or Past Positions in Scouting

Question 2: Involved in Summer Camp Preparation

Question 3: Role in Summer Camp Preparation

Question 4: Commissioner Assist in Planning

Question 5: How Commissioner Assists in Planning

Question 6: Helping Inexperienced Troop Leadership

Graphed Responses and Comments Question 6

Question 7: Helping Experienced Troop Leadership

Graphed Responses and Comment Question 7

Question 8: Additional Comments

Appendix D: E-Mailings to Target Audience

Unit Commissioner and Summer Camp Planning

[Exit this survey](#)

1. What is your current position(s) in Scouting?

2. Are you involved in your Troop's Summer Camp process?

Yes
No

3. If you answered "Yes" to question 2 above, please describe your role.

4. Does your Troop's Unit Commissioner work with your Troop's leadership in preparation for Summer Camp?

Yes
No
Don't Know

5. If you answered "Yes" to Question 3 above, please describe what your Commissioner does to assist your Troop.

6. What types of assistance could your Troop use in preparation for Summer Camp. Select all that apply.

Camp selection and scheduling
Camp staff personnel roles and responsibilities
Camp program information
Develop and manage a Troop program for camp preparation
Train adult leaders for their roles and duties at camp
Brief parents/families on summer camp
Specific training at Roundtable or similar forum
Other

7. If you selected "Other" in question 6 above, please describe:

8. Do you have additional recommendations or comments?

Done

Powered by **SurveyMonkey**
Create your own [free online survey](#) now!

Unit Commissioner and Summer Camp Planning #2

[Exit this survey](#)

1. What are your current and/or past position(s) in Scouting?

2. Are you involved now, or have you previously been involved, in your Troop's Summer Camp preparation?

Yes
No

3. If you answered "Yes" to question 2 above, please describe your role.

4. Does your Troop's Unit Commissioner work with your Troop's leadership in preparation for Summer Camp?

Yes
No
Don't Know

5. If you answered "Yes" to Question 3 above, please describe what your Commissioner does to assist your Troop.

6. In which of the following areas could INEXPERIENCED troop leadership use guidance and assistance in preparing the troop for Summer Camp? (Select all that apply)

Develop a troop standard operating procedure (SOP) for Camp
Plan for Camp as part of the Annual Planning process
Budget for Camp as a part of the Annual Planning process
Manage paperwork; health forms, tour permits, insurance
Select a Camp; where and when to go
Train adult leaders for their roles and duties at Camp
Brief parents/families on Camp
Understand how a Camp Staff and Program function
Understand selected Camp's Program offerings
Other (please specify)
<input type="text"/>

7. In which of the following areas could EXPERIENCED troop leadership use guidance and assistance in preparing the troop for Summer Camp? (Select all that apply)

Develop a troop standard operating procedure (SOP) for Camp
Plan for Camp as part of the Annual Planning process
Budget for Camp as a part of the Annual Planning process
Manage paperwork; health forms, tour permits, insurance
Select a Camp; where and when to go
Train adult leaders for their roles and duties at Camp
Brief parents/families on Camp
Understand how a Camp Staff and Program function
Understand selected Camp's Program offerings
Other (please specify)
<input type="text"/>

8. Do you have additional recommendations or comments?

Done

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Unit Commissioner and Summer Camp Planning #2 SurveyMonkey

What are your current and/or past position(s) in Scouting?

	Response Count
	91
answered question	91
skipped question	0

Q1. What are your current and/or past position(s) in Scouting?

1	Assistant Council Commissioner	Aug 13, 2011 10:41 AM
2	Currently I'm a Committee Member and a former Scout as a youth.	Aug 8, 2011 2:01 PM
3	Unit Commissioner Assistant District Commissioner	Aug 8, 2011 12:05 PM
4	Den Leader, SM, ASM, Committee Member, UC, ADC	Aug 8, 2011 7:39 AM
5	ASM, Crew Advisor, OA Advisor, Dist. Committee Former SM	Aug 7, 2011 9:33 AM
6	ADC SM	Aug 4, 2011 9:48 AM
7	Asst SM, First Asst Sm, Wood Badge, District Training 10 years, District Outdoor Chair 5 years, District Training Chair 3 years, Wood Badge Staff 3 times, Area Visitation Team 8 years and currently District Advancement Chairman.	Aug 2, 2011 9:33 PM
8	Scoutmaster Unit commissioner	Aug 2, 2011 8:51 AM
9	District membership Chairman. Trainer, Big Horn Staff	Aug 1, 2011 8:27 PM
10	District Executive	Aug 1, 2011 3:42 PM
11	Unit Commission, Troop MC - Current Past: District Commissioner, SM, Dist FOS, Dist Membership...	Jul 30, 2011 7:09 PM
12	Past, Pack Trainer, Den Leader, Advancement Chair, Committee Member, Current, Advancement Chair, Unit Commissioner, Roundtable Staff, Committee	Jul 30, 2011 12:56 PM
13	ADC, Unit Commissioner, Asst SM, Committee Member	Jul 30, 2011 11:35 AM
14	ADC/Unit Commissioner (cub scout packs)	Jul 30, 2011 9:12 AM
15	camp commissioner unit commissioner 4 district staff positions in two districts ASM in 2 troops Venture crew advisor	Jul 28, 2011 2:50 PM
16	Asst SM, SM, District Commissioner (Philippines), Unit Committee Member,	Jul 28, 2011 11:44 AM

Q1. What are your current and/or past position(s) in Scouting?

	District Eagle Scout Advancement Committee Member, District Eagle Scout Advancement Committee Chairman, Unit Eagle Scout Advancement Chairman, (Currently) Merit Badge Counselor, Unit Merit Badge Counselor Coordinator, ADC, Pioneer Trails District Liaison to DAC Special Needs District, Special Needs District Advancement Chairman	
17	Charter Org Rep - currently Pack Trainer - currently District Committee Member at Large - currently Unit Commissioner - Currently Council Special Needs Committee - currently Troop Committee Chairman - past ASM - past ACM - past	Jul 28, 2011 9:36 AM
18	Baloo, Charter Org Rep (Cub and Scouts), Univt Commissioner, District Commissioner, OA volunteer	Jul 28, 2011 9:07 AM
19	District Chairman, Unit Commissioner, Troop Committee Chair, Pack Committee Chair, Pack Cubmaster	Jul 27, 2011 9:39 PM
20	Assistant District Commissioner	Jul 27, 2011 9:07 PM
21	Assistant District Commissioner Unit Commissioner Troop Committee Member, past Troop Committee Member, past Pack Committee Member	Jul 27, 2011 8:47 PM
22	Roundtable Commissioner Committee Chair Committee Member - Training Chair	Jul 27, 2011 8:17 PM
23	Pack trainer, District Chair, District Committee, Pack Committee, Troop Committee	Jul 27, 2011 3:19 PM
24	Scoutmaster District Chairmsn	Jul 27, 2011 6:02 AM
25	Unit Commissioner now Asst. Scout Master	Jul 26, 2011 9:54 PM
26	Current- Unit Commissioner, Member at Large Past - District commissioner, Roundtable Commissioner, Pack Cmte Chair, Tiger Cub Coach, Asst Web Ldr, Den Leader, Troop Cmte member	Jul 26, 2011 5:48 PM
27	District Commissioner Cub Master Troop Committee Chair Membership Chair	Jul 26, 2011 5:05 PM
28	ACC Present UC /ADC/DC/ SM/ASM/ DL/CM	Jul 26, 2011 4:43 PM
29	Scoutmaster, Unit Commissioner, Cubmaster, Den Leader	Jul 26, 2011 3:05 PM
30	Asst. Council Commission, District Commissioner, ADC, Unit Commissioner; Roundtable Commissioner --- Dean of Doctorate Program; Disctrict Chairmen, District Membership, District Advancement; District Finance; Unit Committee Chairmen, Unit Committee Advancement, Unit Asst Scoutmaster; Cubmaster	Jul 26, 2011 2:40 PM
31	Cubmaster, troop committee chair, unit commissioner, adc, district commissioner, den leader, wood badge staffer, twilight camp director	Jul 26, 2011 2:21 PM
32	Unit Commissioner, Pack Committee, Troop Committee, District Twilight Camp Director, District Twilight Camp Program Director, District Scouting for Food Chair, District Committee, Unit Popcorn Kernel, Unit Scouting for Food Chair, Unit School Night for Scouting Chair	Jul 26, 2011 2:20 PM
33	Commissioner, Schout Master, Asst Dist Commissioner, Pack Master	Jul 26, 2011 1:33 PM
34	UC, Asst R/T Comm, Former SM, former R/T Comm, former Dist Tng Committee	Jul 26, 2011 1:02 PM

Q1. What are your current and/or past position(s) in Scouting?

35	ADC, SM, DC,CC,ASM,CM,Webelos leader,	Jul 25, 2011 2:17 PM
36	CUB MASTER ASM SCOUTMASTER UNIT COMMISSIONER ASST. DISTRICT COMM. DISTRICT COMMISSIONER ASST. COUNCIL COMMISSIONER CAMP COMMISSIONER VISITATION SPECIALIST	Jul 25, 2011 11:44 AM
37	ASM, MBC, RT, OA Advisor, WB Staff	Jul 19, 2011 11:44 AM
38	Assistant Council Commissioner, District Commissioner, unit commissioner, troop committee	Jul 18, 2011 8:40 AM
39	AssociaLt Advisor - Crew 62, Erie, CO	Jul 17, 2011 9:47 AM
40	Cubmaster, Committee Chair, ASM, SM	Jul 17, 2011 7:17 AM
41	Unit Commissioner, Pack Committee Chair	Jul 15, 2011 4:53 PM
42	ASM Troop 88 , Scoutmaster Troop 88 12 years, Roundtable commissioner, Training Chair, Unit commissioner. Many cub scout positions.	Jul 14, 2011 9:55 PM
43	Assistant Scoutmaster, Scout round table commissioner, unit commissioner, district training chair, assistant district commissioner, OA assistant chapter advisor	Jul 14, 2011 9:31 PM
44	Scout Master Advancement Chairperson District Advancement Chairperson District Advancement Committee	Jul 14, 2011 3:48 PM
45	Unit Commissioner-c Council Committee member-c District Committee Member-p	Jul 14, 2011 3:24 PM
46	Asst. Scoutmaster, Scoutmaster, Institutional Representative (Scouting Coordinator), Jamboree Scoutmaster (twice), Tiger Den Leader, Pack Trainer, Cubmaster, District Commissioner, District Training Staff, Summer Camp Staff (Council), Troop Committee, plus a number of youth leadership positions as a scout.	Jul 14, 2011 8:13 AM
47	Scoutmaster, Varsity Coach, Dist.Camping Chair, Special Programs Coordinator (Mtn Man Rendezvous) Boy Scout Ski Days, etc. Eagle Scout Coordinator.	Jul 13, 2011 9:48 PM
48	Scoutmaster, Assistant District Commissioner, International Rep	Jul 12, 2011 4:38 PM
49	PAST; Cubmaster, Asst Scoutmaster, Committee mbr. PRESENT; Asst Adv Chair, Merit Badge Counselor, Unit Commissioner	Jul 12, 2011 2:04 PM
50	Scoutmaster Committee chair District Program Council H&S Chair NE Region Visitation Specialist	Jul 12, 2011 12:35 PM
51	Committee chairman Scoutmaster	Jul 12, 2011 11:19 AM
52	Troop Committee -Trainer; District Committee - Boy Scout Leader Training	Jul 11, 2011 11:13 AM
53	ASM, UC, District Camping, District Program, RT-C	Jul 11, 2011 8:36 AM
54	Webelos Den Leader-1978-80 Unit Commissioner-2001 ADC-2002-07 District Commissioner-2007-10 Scoutmaster-2008-10 Unit Commissioner-2010-11 ADC-present	Jul 11, 2011 5:58 AM

Q1. What are your current and/or past position(s) in Scouting?

55	Cubmaster, Den Leader, Den Leader Coach, Asst. Scoutmaster, Scoutmaster	Jul 11, 2011 4:19 AM
56	Retired	Jul 10, 2011 7:14 PM
57	Current: Scoutmaster Past: Unit Commissioner Assistant Scoutmaster	Jul 10, 2011 3:29 PM
58	assistant district commissioner, OA associate lodge advisor, district/council training team, district committee member past: troop committee member, troop advancement chair, troop Life-to-Eagle advisor, regional camp visitation specialist	Jul 10, 2011 11:25 AM
59	Current: District Eagle Advancement Chair, Unit Commissioner, & District/Council training team Past: ASM, District Commissioner, Regional Camp Visitation Specialist	Jul 10, 2011 10:53 AM
60	Unit Commissioner Committee Member	Jul 8, 2011 9:55 PM
61	District Training Chair; Wood Badge Course Director; Council VP for Facilities Management; Scoutmaster; Troop Committee Chair; Webelos Den Leader	Jul 8, 2011 8:28 PM
62	Unit Commissioner, Asst. Dist. Commissioner, SM, ASM.	Jul 8, 2011 6:40 PM
63	Committee Member	Jul 8, 2011 3:36 PM
64	Scoutmaster(p), Assistant Scoutmaster(c), District Commissioner(c), Council Web committee(c)	Jul 8, 2011 12:27 PM
65	Professional	Jul 8, 2011 11:47 AM
66	Scoutmaster	Jul 8, 2011 11:16 AM
67	Current: Council Properties V.P. Past: Scoutmaster, Exploring Advisor, District Membership Chairman, Jamboree ASM, World Jamboree staff, Council Program V.P., Council Marketing V.P., Wood Badge Course Director, N.A.Y.L.E. ACD	Jul 8, 2011 10:50 AM
68	Troop Committee Chair, District Committee, District Training Chair, Cubmaster, Den Leader, Troop Committee Member, Wood Badge Guide, QM staff, SPL	Jul 8, 2011 9:14 AM
69	ASM, SM for NYLT, ASM for NYLT, WB Staff-Troop Guide, WB ASM-Facilities, UC, ADC, District Training Coordinator/ Chairman, District Advancement Chairman, Unit Committee Member, Unit Committee Chairman, District Shooting Sports Coordinator, Council Shooting Sports Committee Secretary, and Council NYLT Committee Member- Supplies	Jul 7, 2011 10:09 AM
70	Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos Den leader, ASM T88, CS Roundtable commissioner, Roundtable Chair, District Popcorn Kernel, District Friends of Scouting Chair, Council Member at Large. Wood Badge Staff	Jul 6, 2011 8:30 PM
71	TNTC	Jul 6, 2011 6:25 PM
72	Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster	Jul 6, 2011 5:15 PM
73	Scoutmaster Asst Scoutmaster Troop Committee Chair Troop Committee Member Unit Commissioner Roundtable Breakout Commissioner	Jul 6, 2011 5:12 PM
74	SM - Current ASM, CM, Asst CM, Den Leader, Webelos Den Leader, Asst Den	Jul 6, 2011 4:55 PM

Q1. What are your current and/or past position(s) in Scouting?

	Leader, Tiger Leader, Committee Member, Training Coordinator	
75	Scoutmaster Big Horn Scoutmaster Jamboree Scoutmaster Troop 645 1998-2001	Jul 6, 2011 2:23 PM
76	Venturing Crew Advisor, Scoutmaster	Jul 6, 2011 8:59 AM
77	Scoutmaster	Jul 6, 2011 7:04 AM
78	Commissioner	Jul 6, 2011 6:58 AM
79	COR so officially can only be a committee member or CC. Fully trained as an ASM and have acted as campmaster on camping trips and summercamp.	Jul 6, 2011 4:55 AM
80	Cub Scout Webelos Eagle Scout Den Leader Cub Master Assistant Scoutmaster	Jul 5, 2011 4:28 PM
81	Den Leader, ACM, Cubmaster, ASM, District Committee	Jul 5, 2011 4:26 PM
82	DC, UC, & various other Explorer, BS & CS positions	Jul 5, 2011 4:23 PM
83	District Chairman, district Commissioner (Two different councils), Cub Master, Scout master, Crew Advisor, District Advancement Chair, District Training Chair, Dean for the College of Commissioner Science Atlanta 2009.	Jul 5, 2011 4:02 PM
84	Scoutmaster, comm. Chairman	Jul 5, 2011 3:10 PM
85	Current - Troop Committee Chair Past - Asst. Scoutmaster	Jul 5, 2011 3:04 PM
86	Scouter Reserve Unit Commissioner Assistant District Commissioner District Commissioner Cubmaster Scoutmaster Assistant Scoutmaster Den Leader	Jul 5, 2011 1:48 PM
87	SM, ASM, Treasurer, Comm Member	Jul 5, 2011 11:59 AM
88	Committee Chair Pack & Troop 868	Jul 5, 2011 11:49 AM
89	SM - ASM - Eagle Advisor	Jul 5, 2011 10:54 AM
90	UC, DL, ASM, SM, WL, TL, District & Council Comm Member, Council VP, Exec Board Member	Jul 4, 2011 9:10 AM
91	Scoutmaster Asst. Scoutmaster District Training Chair Council Training Chair Area Camp Visitation Team	Jul 4, 2011 8:44 AM

Are you involved now, or have you previously been involved, in your Troop's Summer Camp preparation?



Unit Commissioner and Summer Camp Planning #2 SurveyMonkey

If you answered "Yes" to question 2 above, please describe your role.

	Response Count
	73
answered question	73
skipped question	18

Q1. If you answered "Yes" to question 2 above, please describe your role.

1	Attending multiple summer camps and coordinated all merit badge sign ups.	Aug 13, 2011 10:41 AM
2	I was the lead parent, in charge picking the camp we would attend, scheduling the week to go, transportation, helping the youth select merit badges and collecting the money and medical forms.	Aug 8, 2011 2:01 PM
3	SM for week, committee member for site choice and registration	Aug 8, 2011 7:39 AM
4	As scoutmaster responsible for all facets of summer camp prep, have done just about every role as an ASM	Aug 7, 2011 9:33 AM
5	LDS encampment committee	Aug 4, 2011 9:48 AM
6	Many times as Asst SM or SM to summer camp with Troop 4. Also Scoutmaster for Philmont Trek 8 scouts and 4 adults for Troop 4 in July 1997.	Aug 2, 2011 9:33 PM
7	Scoutmaster Driver	Aug 2, 2011 8:51 AM
8	Part of sub-committee that promotes and prepares for summer camp experience.	Jul 30, 2011 7:09 PM
9	I helped with the travel arrangements, camp program planning, merit badge signup preparation and most other aspects.	Jul 30, 2011 11:35 AM
10	advising scouts on equipment, MB classes, other prep	Jul 28, 2011 2:50 PM
11	I have been a parent at six camps where my older son and youngest son were involved at separate times. I normally instructed Weather, Wilderness Survival, and other MBs. In that my youngest son has been a Special Needs Scout, throughout, I also took care of his needs so that it wasn't a burden on the leaders.	Jul 28, 2011 11:44 AM
12	I have supported summer camps both in-state and out a number of times	Jul 28, 2011 9:36 AM
13	As a mom taking a Special Needs Son/Scout, I had to work out reasonable	Jul 28, 2011 9:07 AM

Q1. If you answered "Yes" to question 2 above, please describe your role.

	accommodations.	
14	Assisted in selecting location, date, and gathering/narrowing selection information.	Jul 27, 2011 9:39 PM
15	As committee chair, selected summer camp coordinator, ensured registrations submitted and paid for, at times coordinated merit badge sign-ups	Jul 27, 2011 8:47 PM
16	Adult leader accompanying troop at camp. Helping SM with paperwork, organizing trip details, etc.	Jul 27, 2011 8:17 PM
17	Planning, on-site adult leadership, assistance on merit badge classes	Jul 27, 2011 6:02 AM
18	Assisting new scouts in understanding gear they needed to bring to camp.	Jul 26, 2011 9:54 PM
19	Helping with the financial end, transportation, reminders to parents	Jul 26, 2011 5:05 PM
20	Scoutmaster ,helping boys select merit badges,attending and keeping boys on track	Jul 26, 2011 4:43 PM
21	Prepared boys for merit badges and reviewed their accomplishments after camp; Asst Scoutmaster for Summercamp Troop activities	Jul 26, 2011 2:40 PM
22	Reservations, paper work, packing list, coordinating with parents, transportation, being at camp all week, etc	Jul 26, 2011 2:21 PM
23	When you say "your Troops" are you meaning the ones we commission for? I am guessing that is the case. I have participated on some level for the troop I am on the committee of but not the troops I commission for. However if you mean the troop I am a member of the answer is yes. However it is brand new with only 5 boys and all that was done was to sign them up and help get the payments in on time. More thought and planning will be going into where they will go next year but we have not done that yet.	Jul 26, 2011 2:20 PM
24	Scout Master/Committee Member	Jul 26, 2011 1:33 PM
25	when I was SM. As UC troops have made their own decisions	Jul 26, 2011 1:02 PM
26	Planned high adventure. Led planning on BSA sponsored camp	Jul 25, 2011 2:17 PM
27	PREP FOR IN STATE AS WELL AS OUT OF STATE TRAVEL AND EQUIPMENT.	Jul 25, 2011 11:44 AM
28	Everything you can think of- reservations, fees, medical, equipment, the whole program.	Jul 19, 2011 11:44 AM
29	For my own troop, I arranged transportation, got blue cards ready for camp, took goodies to the Scouts at camp.	Jul 18, 2011 8:40 AM
30	Primary leader	Jul 17, 2011 7:17 AM
31	I was a scoutmaster at the time and I was in charge	Jul 14, 2011 9:55 PM
32	various years, arrange transportation, collected medical records, filed paperwork, etc	Jul 14, 2011 9:31 PM

Q1. If you answered "Yes" to question 2 above, please describe your role.

33	Scoutmaster and Summer Camp Scoutmaster	Jul 14, 2011 3:48 PM
34	Scoutmaster, camp staff, camp organizer for customized camp experience in the Rock Mountains, Colorado Trail Service	Jul 14, 2011 8:13 AM
35	As a Scoutmaster or Varsity Coach, helping to plan and put together the camp, driving the scouts to camp and being there.	Jul 13, 2011 9:48 PM
36	rally up the troops, set up payment plan, utilize adult schedule, register youth for merit badges, attend past 3 summer camps, 2 as SMIC	Jul 12, 2011 4:38 PM
37	Tracking Merit Badges earned at Summer camp	Jul 12, 2011 2:04 PM
38	Scoutmaster	Jul 12, 2011 11:19 AM
39	What to pack, choosing sessions; adult leader on trip	Jul 11, 2011 11:13 AM
40	Secured information on the various summercamps that can be attended for the scouts and parents to choose whcih camp to attend.	Jul 11, 2011 5:58 AM
41	work w/scouts to select camp, help in paperwork mgt, working w/1st yr campers	Jul 11, 2011 4:19 AM
42	Several years I organized the summer camp event and/or acted as summer camp Scoutmaster.	Jul 10, 2011 7:14 PM
43	Scoutmaster	Jul 10, 2011 3:29 PM
44	As advancement chair, I was involved in record-keeping of the boys' needs for merit badges and other advancement. This was used in planning for camp, both as a group and for the individual boys. I organized the adults who attended camp so that we assisted the boys with their merit badges. One year I was in charge of all of the health forms.	Jul 10, 2011 11:25 AM
45	Worked with SPL in organizing & conducting troop annual planning conference where summer camp selection took place	Jul 10, 2011 10:53 AM
46	Camp Scoutmaster	Jul 8, 2011 9:55 PM
47	As Scoutmaster, worked with Troop Committee and Scouts to determine location of summer camp and prepare Scouts for the adventure	Jul 8, 2011 8:28 PM
48	helped prepare for summer camp	Jul 8, 2011 12:27 PM
49	Primarily communication with Scouts/parents, coordinating merit badge and program choices, drivers, paperwork and actually spending the weekd at camp.	Jul 8, 2011 11:16 AM
50	Youth MB scheduling, transportation, health care	Jul 8, 2011 10:50 AM
51	General advice on merit badge selection, gear, programs to sign up for	Jul 8, 2011 9:14 AM
52	Helped get registrations completed, funds raised, coordinated transportation, coordinated adult leadership throughout the week, scheduled myself to spend the week as an adult Leader at camp, spent several weeks helping manage the shooting sports at camp to aid several units during their attendance.	Jul 7, 2011 10:09 AM
53	Leader at large for the week in 2009 and in 2010 registered all scout for camp	Jul 6, 2011 8:30 PM

Q1. If you answered "Yes" to question 2 above, please describe your role.

	and merit badges. On return from camp I made sure they got credit for merit badges they completed, also stayed for the whole week.	
54	TNTC	Jul 6, 2011 6:25 PM
55	Helping with admin paperwork (med forms, payments, etc), helping scouts with buddy system and tent buddies, helping scouts review troop and personal equipment.	Jul 6, 2011 5:15 PM
56	Logistical Planning Activity Planning	Jul 6, 2011 5:12 PM
57	Scoutmaster - Worked with Summer Camp Coordinator to design a camp that met the needs of Trail to First Class, Trail to Life, and High Adventure programs in order to maximize attendance. Worked with boys to determine which camp and what activities were offered.	Jul 6, 2011 4:55 PM
58	Scoutmaster, most preparation was completed by an assigned ASM/ Committee member (Camp master)	Jul 6, 2011 2:23 PM
59	Lead our Troop on Summer camp excursions for 13 years.	Jul 6, 2011 8:59 AM
60	Acquired information about various camps so that the Scout Leadership could decide which camp they liked, then conducted registration and kept everyone informed on decisions/programs/merit badges that needed to be made. Made all payments, obtained Tour permit, ect.	Jul 6, 2011 7:04 AM
61	2004 attended PV Camp Dobbins for 4-5 days 2005 attended PV Camp Dobbins for the week 2006 Campmaster for the week at PV Eaglepoint 2008 coordinated Cavalcade at Philmont and attended	Jul 6, 2011 4:55 AM
62	I am the scoutmaster for our summer camp to PV	Jul 5, 2011 4:28 PM
63	Camp Scoutmaster	Jul 5, 2011 4:26 PM
64	Planner / participant leader	Jul 5, 2011 4:23 PM
65	Scoutmaster three years, Assistan Scoutmaster three different years	Jul 5, 2011 4:02 PM
66	Planning and attending	Jul 5, 2011 3:10 PM
67	The past three summers I have organized the summer camp preparation; collecting all fees, contacting the summer camp, getting merit badge selections from scouts, etc.	Jul 5, 2011 3:04 PM
68	Scoutmaster, Troop 16, Parker, Colorado 1981-1984	Jul 5, 2011 1:48 PM
69	I ran Summer Camp last year & guided another leader in planning it this year.	Jul 5, 2011 11:59 AM
70	This year, main orgaizer, past years, help, look, learn and listen as all the different people worked to get camps organized.	Jul 5, 2011 11:49 AM
71	As Scoutmaster we planned a Tahosa Eagle Point. We also planned other Summer Camps that were traditional.	Jul 5, 2011 10:54 AM
72	Dealing with Troop Comm on advantages of adding variety to Long-term camps with other councils, teaching boys basic camping skills so their experience at	Jul 4, 2011 9:10 AM

Q1. If you answered "Yes" to question 2 above, please describe your role.

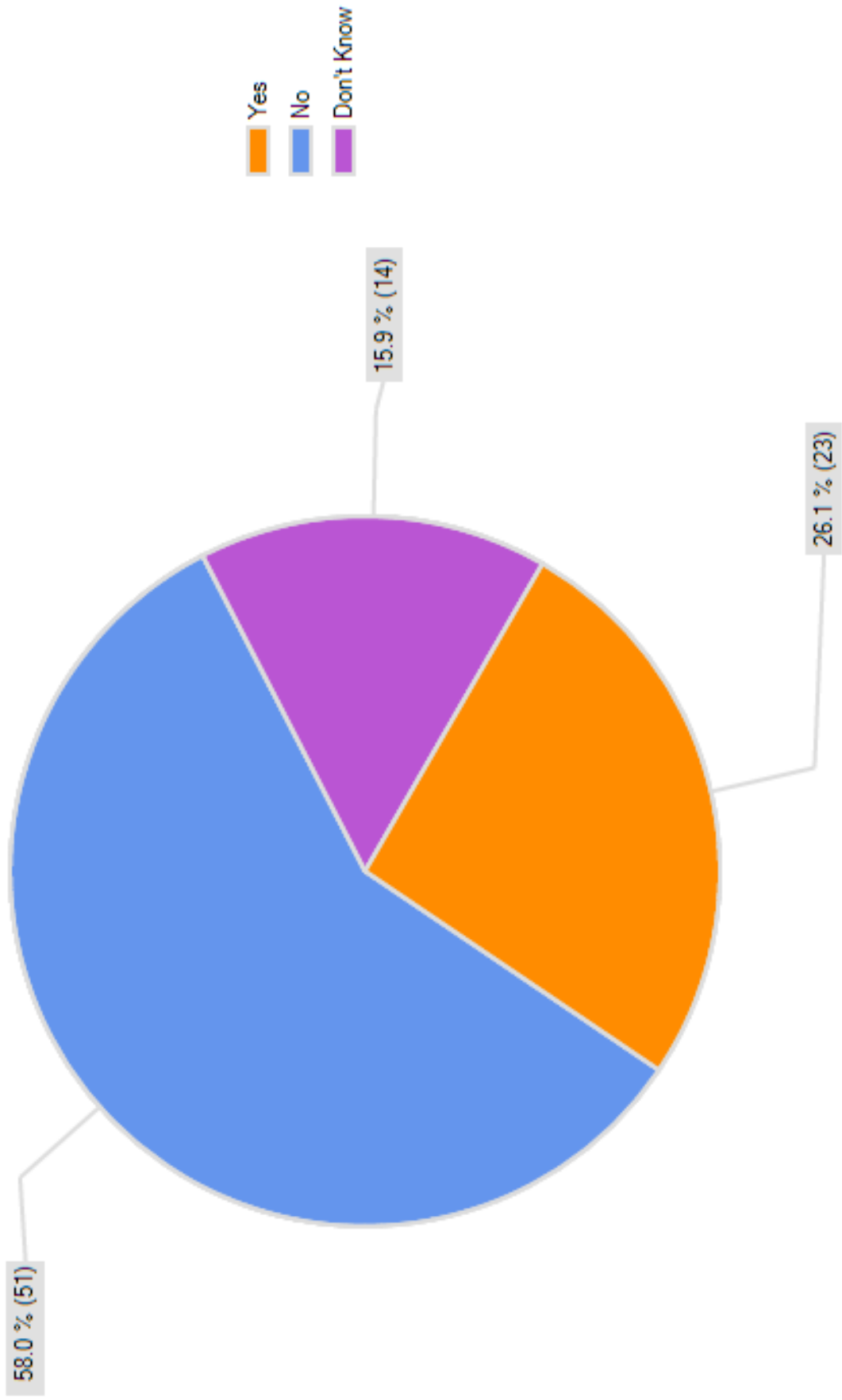
camp is a good one

73

Scoutmaster: selection, registration, equipment, transporation, camp leadership

Jul 4, 2011 8:44 AM

Does your Troop's Unit Commissioner work with your Troop's leadership in preparation for Summer Camp?



Unit Commissioner and Summer Camp Planning #2 SurveyMonkey

If you answered "Yes" to Question 3 above, please describe what your Commissioner does to assist your Troop.

	Response Count
	33
answered question	33
skipped question	58

Q1. If you answered "Yes" to Question 3 above, please describe what your Commissioner does to assist your Troop.

1	Sid recommended Camp Jeffery	Aug 8, 2011 2:01 PM
2	Attend planning meetings and help with ideas and answering questions.	Aug 8, 2011 12:05 PM
3	Always been pretty much limited to asking where we were going	Aug 7, 2011 9:33 AM
4	I am the Commissioner. I make my visits and I am involved in the Troops advancement program.	Aug 2, 2011 9:33 PM
5	For my Troop 180 in Warrenton, VA. My Commissioner was an active bystander. Mostly observant and not hands on. He made sure things didn't go drastically the wrong direction.	Aug 1, 2011 3:42 PM
6	No. But, UC is always available and ready to assist	Jul 30, 2011 7:09 PM
7	I can't be specific this year, butr know that tghey worked together to have a good turnout at Scout Camp, two wees ago. I have been in acute rehab for major injury to both knees for about 5 weeks, now. Sorry I can't give a better answer.	Jul 28, 2011 11:44 AM
8	As the Committee Chair & I are both commissioners we do not rely or tax out Unit Commissioner too often with these type activities	Jul 28, 2011 9:36 AM
9	Anything asked of me. I helped T685 by attending camp and helping with merit badges	Jul 27, 2011 9:07 PM
10	The troop I am associated with is a very long standing troop and very well organized with minimal need for unit commissioner help in this area.	Jul 27, 2011 8:47 PM
11	Make sure all boys (and adults) know wht to expect and help them prepare for activities	Jul 26, 2011 2:40 PM
12	Program helps and registration materials	Jul 25, 2011 2:17 PM

Q1. If you answered "Yes" to Question 3 above, please describe what your Commissioner does to assist your Troop.

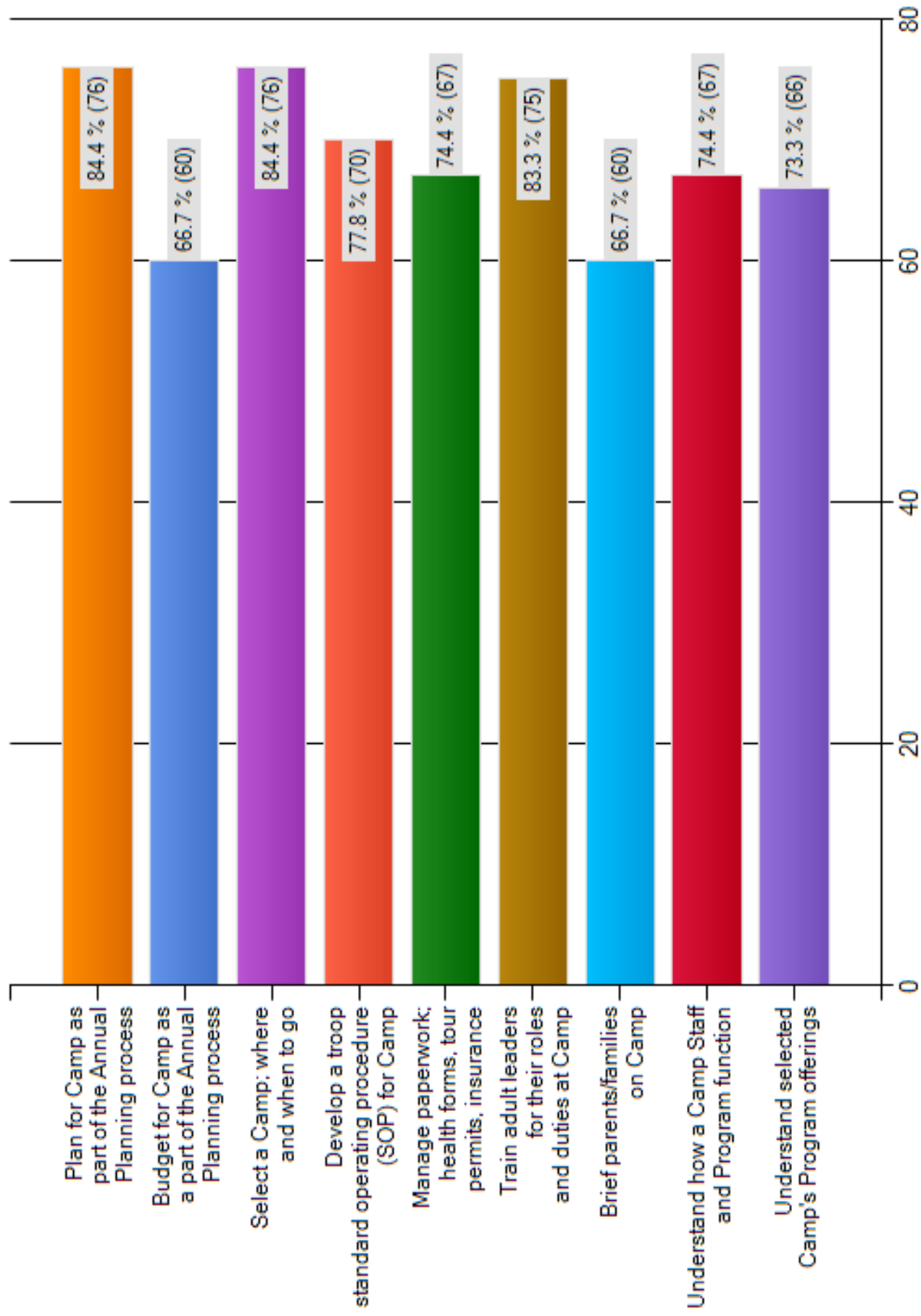
13	At the time I was the summer camp leader, we did not have an active commissioner.	Jul 17, 2011 7:17 AM
14	He ask's the right questions to make sure we are participating and offers suggestions as needed.	Jul 14, 2011 9:55 PM
15	works to help broaden selection opportunities (units tend to find a camp they like and go repeatedly) stress that adults should use camp time to update training.	Jul 14, 2011 9:31 PM
16	Actually, he visits the Troop/Pack once or twice a year and is available if I need to consult him.	Jul 14, 2011 8:13 AM
17	Helped with picking destinations	Jul 12, 2011 11:19 AM
18	Only because we had multiple unit commissioners as part of our troop adult leadership.	Jul 10, 2011 11:25 AM
19	Yes, but only because our troop had multiple UCs that were ASMs in the troop	Jul 10, 2011 10:53 AM
20	The unit I am Commissioner for has never asked for assistance because they are fully capable of multiple summer programs.	Jul 8, 2011 6:40 PM
21	Made sure that the unit was attending a long term camp.	Jul 8, 2011 11:47 AM
22	Not generally. They rely on past UC's or any active well-seasoned leaders in their unit to help prepare the current year's unit leaders. Most current UC's are fairly clueless about their roles, and commitment on time is a BIG issue for most, as they are responsible for 6 -10 units. generally, I would say no they don't work with each of their units, only some of them.	Jul 7, 2011 10:09 AM
23	Our commissioner is our scout master.	Jul 6, 2011 8:30 PM
24	Mentor Adult Leadership in Council Resources, including merit badge counselors for the partials that can be earned at Summer camp, and offer to provide insights to the PLC leadership for their Troop/Patrol preparation. Needles to say, "sell teh sizzle" of the summer camp experience..	Jul 6, 2011 6:25 PM
25	Provided information on camp Ben D. for us, which is where we went.	Jul 6, 2011 5:15 PM
26	Same as #3	Jul 6, 2011 5:12 PM
27	Arranged meeting with Camp Director,	Jul 6, 2011 4:55 PM
28	We had never attended Philmont as we aren't a backpacking troop. I heard about Philmont Cavalcade / Horseback Trek and asked our unit commissioner if he had heard about it and he had attended a Cavalcade. He came to a troop meeting and did a presentation/slide show after we got a spot and helped us get ready logistically. We attended in 2008 with 6 youth and 4 adults. 4 of 6 of those youth are now Eagle Scouts and 2 are actively working towards Eagle. For 2011 we were interested in attending a summercamp out of council which we found out our commissioner had also attended. He again provided information to our troop that helped us make an informed decision. Our troop just returned and had a great time.	Jul 6, 2011 4:55 AM
29	I know stopped by and talked to scoutmaster. We had planned since last year	Jul 5, 2011 4:28 PM

Q1. If you answered "Yes" to Question 3 above, please describe what your Commissioner does to assist your Troop.

as well as a high adventure trip for the older boys was planned well in advance.










30	I have no idea who is our troop's unit commissioner.	Jul 5, 2011 4:26 PM
31	Helps with "high-level" planning and information	Jul 5, 2011 4:23 PM
32	Shared ideas about summer camp possibilities and gave feedback to us on camps he had spent time at.	Jul 5, 2011 3:04 PM
33	Was my sounding board, helped get questions answered if I was unable, kept me on the right path.	Jul 5, 2011 11:49 AM

In which of the following areas could INEXPERIENCED troop leadership use guidance and assistance in preparing the troop for Summer Camp? (Select all that apply)



Unit Commissioner and Summer Camp Planning #2 SurveyMonkey

In which of the following areas could INEXPERIENCED troop leadership use guidance and assistance in preparing the troop for Summer Camp? (Select all that apply)

		Response Percent	Response Count
Plan for Camp as part of the Annual Planning process		84.4%	76
Budget for Camp as a part of the Annual Planning process		66.7%	60
Select a Camp; where and when to go		84.4%	76
Develop a troop standard operating procedure (SOP) for Camp		77.8%	70
Manage paperwork; health forms, tour permits, insurance		74.4%	67
Train adult leaders for their roles and duties at Camp		83.3%	75
Brief parents/families on Camp		66.7%	60
Understand how a Camp Staff and Program function		74.4%	67
Understand selected Camp's Program offerings		73.3%	66
	Other (please specify)		21
		answered question	90
		skipped question	1

Q1. In which of the following areas could INEXPERIENCED troop leadership use guidance and assistance in preparing the troop for Summer Camp? (Select all that apply)

1 expectations, gear to take

Aug 1, 2011 8:27 PM

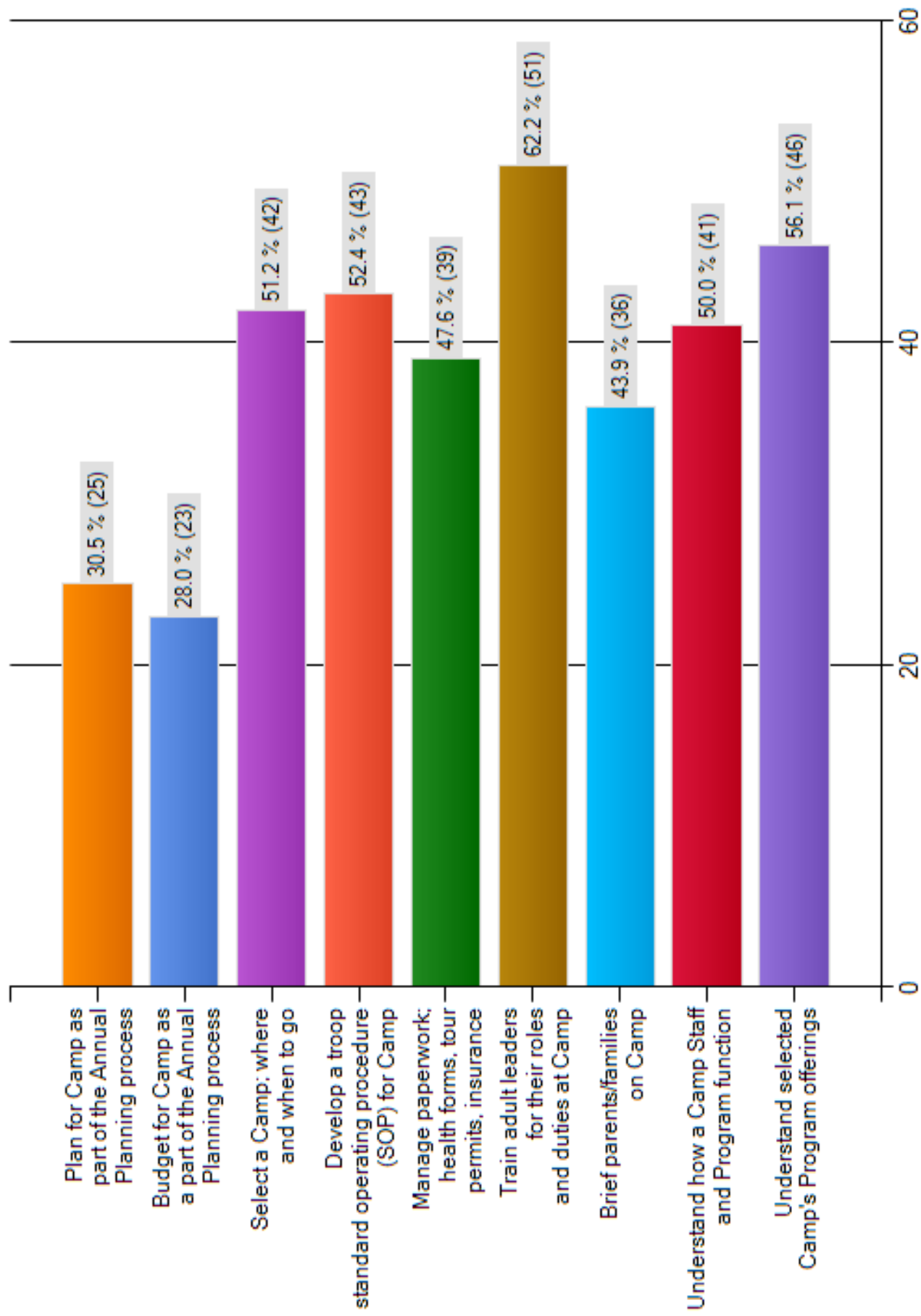
Q1. In which of the following areas could INEXPERIENCED troop leadership use guidance and assistance in preparing the troop for Summer Camp? (Select all that apply)

2	Long term planning would have been most helpful	Aug 1, 2011 3:42 PM
3	Promote Summer Camp to Scouts & Parents	Jul 30, 2011 7:09 PM
4	If Special Needs Scouts are to attend camp, look at access to tents, making it as accessible as possible, Be aware of the "accommodations" to MB and rank requirements that will be done to allow the SN Scout to advance along with his peers. Plan transportation. Will a golf cart allow him to participate broadly rather than be restricted by a wheel chair. This is assuming the SN is physical limitation.If it is a mental, developmental, or behavioral issue, then those accommodations should also be explored. I found that there will often be administrators who are not attuned to the SN Scout, and may initially place limitations that are unrealistic. The unit leaders must stand their ground to insure the boy gets a fair chance, rather than have to sit on the sidelines because of some environmental stricture or "That's the way it's always been done!" argument. Planning for access to dining facilities, campfires, and MB locations will be important. Having an MB class on a rockcliff doesn't work well for a SN Scout.	Jul 28, 2011 11:44 AM
5	will little or no experience they all apply	Jul 28, 2011 9:36 AM
6	Encourage first time campers' parents	Jul 27, 2011 9:39 PM
7	Advice on handling discipline issues, first year campers	Jul 27, 2011 8:17 PM
8	Assist with procedure to apply for Camperships from Council	Jul 26, 2011 5:48 PM
9	We were a 2 month old troop when we went to camp, it helped that we had webelos camp experience, but I wish we had some more guidance in our camp prep	Jul 26, 2011 2:21 PM
10	several of the roles regarding duties at camp are specific to camp commissioner at national camp school syllabus, not current unit commish status	Jul 12, 2011 4:38 PM
11	"Selling" or convincing parents that they need to get involved in the summer camp activity.	Jul 12, 2011 2:04 PM
12	understand lead time required to secure space at some camps especially national camps	Jul 10, 2011 10:53 AM
13	Compare the pros and cons of competing camps--don't just count the merit badge offerings	Jul 8, 2011 8:28 PM
14	Understand overview of youth advancement utilizing summer camp	Jul 8, 2011 10:50 AM
15	How merit badges are completed and how best to give them to the scouts to complete and how best to give them to the awards chair.	Jul 6, 2011 8:30 PM
16	Build Excitement in the Potentails of Participation!	Jul 6, 2011 6:25 PM
17	Things adults should plan to take to make job easier (plastic covers to keep duty rosters, maps, merit badge sessions, etc. posted and dry, bungee cords for hanging clothes to dry or other things, etc.)	Jul 6, 2011 5:15 PM
18	Help new leaders understand the role of the Summer Camp Staff.	Jul 6, 2011 8:59 AM

Q1. In which of the following areas could INEXPERIENCED troop leadership use guidance and assistance in preparing the troop for Summer Camp? (Select all that apply)










19	Develop a camp's Patrol Leader Guide for their troop, facilitate JLT for youth leaders	Jul 5, 2011 4:26 PM
20	Youth should select the camp with guidance and approval of adults - Standard troop operations and approvals should work through the unit committee - Set rules for returning scouts who may be hurt or excessive misbehavior - Make sure emergency contact information is in place - restrict with all understanding youth calling home, no cell phones PDAs etc.	Jul 5, 2011 4:02 PM
21	information on Leader Training available at camp; does the camp have any service projects they would like done requiring special skills or tools? is the staff short-handed and needing assistance in any program areas (this happened to us this year)?	Jul 4, 2011 9:10 AM

In which of the following areas could EXPERIENCED troop leadership use guidance and assistance in preparing the troop for Summer Camp? (Select all that apply)



Unit Commissioner and Summer Camp Planning #2 SurveyMonkey

In which of the following areas could EXPERIENCED troop leadership use guidance and assistance in preparing the troop for Summer Camp? (Select all that apply)

		Response Percent	Response Count
Plan for Camp as part of the Annual Planning process		30.5%	25
Budget for Camp as a part of the Annual Planning process		28.0%	23
Select a Camp; where and when to go		51.2%	42
Develop a troop standard operating procedure (SOP) for Camp		52.4%	43
Manage paperwork; health forms, tour permits, insurance		47.6%	39
Train adult leaders for their roles and duties at Camp		62.2%	51
Brief parents/families on Camp		43.9%	36
Understand how a Camp Staff and Program function		50.0%	41
Understand selected Camp's Program offerings		56.1%	46
	Other (please specify)		16
		answered question	82
		skipped question	9

Q1. In which of the following areas could EXPERIENCED troop leadership use guidance and assistance in preparing the troop for Summer Camp? (Select all that apply)

1 A well experienced leadership should be fine without help Aug 7, 2011 9:33 AM

Q1. In which of the following areas could EXPERIENCED troop leadership use guidance and assistance in preparing the troop for Summer Camp? (Select all that apply)

2	If Special Needs Scouts are to attend camp, look at access to tents, making it as accessible as possible, Be aware of the "accommodations" to MB and rank requirements that will be done to allow the SN Scout to advance along with his peers. Plan transportation. Will a golf cart allow him to participate broadly rather than be restricted by a wheel chair. This is assuming the SN is physical limitation.If it is a mental, developmental, or behavioral issue, then those accommodations should also be explored. I found that there will often be administrators who are not attuned to the SN Scout, and may initially place limitations that are unrealistic. The unit leaders must stand their ground to insure the boy gets a fair chance, rather than have to sit on the sidelines because of some environmental stricture or "That's the way it's always been done!" argument. Planning for access to dining facilities, campfires, and MB locations will be important. Having an MB class on a rockcliff doesn't work well for a SN Scout.	Jul 28, 2011 11:44 AM
3	each experience leader can have gifts in different areas	Jul 28, 2011 9:07 AM
4	Assist with procedure to apply for Camperships from Council	Jul 26, 2011 5:48 PM
5	Being there/ backing up the leader	Jul 13, 2011 9:48 PM
6	None	Jul 11, 2011 8:36 AM
7	provide info on area camps to help in selection process (even if not Council Camp)	Jul 11, 2011 4:19 AM
8	Often critical for Troops to draw the older scouts for Eagle rank completion requirements.	Jul 10, 2011 7:14 PM
9	Even experienced leaders can be helped when BSA policy and procedures change.	Jul 10, 2011 11:25 AM
10	understand lead time required to secure space at some camps especially national camps	Jul 10, 2011 10:53 AM
11	Develop lists of recommended activities for 1st-, 2nd-, and 3rd-year campers to maximize retention	Jul 8, 2011 8:28 PM
12	Encouraging all youth attend camp and securing adult leadership	Jul 8, 2011 11:47 AM
13	In most cases, an experienced troop should already be doing all of this and a comissioner would not be close enough to the troop to provide much more than general guidance.	Jul 8, 2011 11:16 AM
14	Build Excitement in the Potentails of Participation!	Jul 6, 2011 6:25 PM
15	Any area where they have questions.	Jul 5, 2011 4:23 PM
16	make sure adults know their roles, not to go off site, their job is to be helping with the boys.	Jul 5, 2011 11:49 AM

Unit Commissioner and Summer Camp Planning #2 SurveyMonkey

Do you have additional recommendations or comments?

	Response Count
	41
answered question	41
skipped question	50

Q1. Do you have additional recommendations or comments?

1	Our overall experience at Camp Jeffery was good(Pete was outstanding and the program fit our Troop), however Terry Martin did not show up (or call before hand) at my parent/Scout night, emails were not answered and return phone calls took several days to occur. Very frustrating for a parent in charge of summer camp for the first time.	Aug 8, 2011 2:01 PM
2	Troop service projects to do while at camp	Aug 1, 2011 8:27 PM
3	Sorry it took me so long to fill out this survey for you. I lost the email in an incorrect folder for several weeks.	Aug 1, 2011 3:42 PM
4	I think your hypothesis has merit IF the unit is willing to take input on camp and assuming the UC is engaged like he/she should be. The last part seems to be the challenge right now, as many commissioners aren't plugged in like they should be.	Jul 30, 2011 11:35 AM
5	Appoint a Unit SN specialist particularly if there is an SN Scout in the unit. Have them work with the SN District on any paraticular issues that arise. Electricity may be necessary at thecampsite for the SN youth ifthere is need for any electrically operated apparatus such as a CPAP,nebulizer, etc. Good luck on your dissertation, Sid. I couldn't rule out any of your selections in 6 and 7 as being inapplicable.	Jul 28, 2011 11:44 AM
6	None at this time - I wish you success! I am working on my PHD thesis this summer also and wonder if I could get some information on how you set up this survey. I could use this tool too	Jul 28, 2011 9:36 AM
7	there is a Special Needs District that can assist summer camps make 'reasonable accommadation' so every Scout has a possitive experience.	Jul 28, 2011 9:07 AM
8	Keep inexperienced leaders in the loop so they can see how things are done and partner them with experienced leaders so they gain experience.	Jul 27, 2011 9:07 PM
9	Experienced troop leadership should be familiar with all of the above however I believe experiencing different camps is valuable so a unit commissioner may	Jul 27, 2011 8:47 PM

Q1. Do you have additional recommendations or comments?

know of some camps the troop may not have experienced in the past.

10	Great topic for your Doctoral thesis/project ! I earned my Doctorate in 2009.	Jul 26, 2011 5:48 PM
11	I don't feel like this should be the responsibility of a volunteer commissioner. Summer camp is confusing and difficult to pull together due to the many schedules of the boys and the paper work requirements. I think that training should be offered at the Council level to a group of willing volunteers from the troops. Summer Camp is a profit center for the BSA and they should be accountable for making "Their" camp experience as easy as possible for their home market. A commissioner should be aware of the value of scout camp and could offer insight to how a camp should be lead by a unit.	Jul 26, 2011 3:05 PM
12	Emphasis on training unit leaders and parents on what summer camp is all about; making sure that boys are prepared to take full advantage of what summer camp has to offer --- don't forget the fun	Jul 26, 2011 2:40 PM
13	This would be most helpful to a new formed troop - could be a huge help!!!	Jul 26, 2011 2:21 PM
14	none that I can think of. I have been a commissioner for just 1 year.	Jul 26, 2011 2:20 PM
15	As District Commissioner, I ALWAYS encouraged my unit commissioners to visit their units at camp. I personally visited ALL the units myself as well.	Jul 18, 2011 8:40 AM
16	encourage roundtable participation. encourage roundtable to have a program on various summer camps, good and bad points, etc. realize that most troops will need a broad spectrum of activities to keep all of their youth involved.	Jul 14, 2011 9:31 PM
17	As a scout leader I've always felt alone. There is never enough volunteers. There are very few younger men in todays world that are willing to put the effort in to make the program great. Most good scouters have gray hair.	Jul 13, 2011 9:48 PM
18	Insure that there is sufficient food portions. that seems to be a national problem and troop may have to augment meals with loaves of bread and Penut Butter and Jelly	Jul 12, 2011 4:38 PM
19	Even though I am a Unit Commissioner for Cub Scout Units, I am interested in Camps for both Troops and Packs, a Commissioner should be prepared to assist all Boy Scout Units!	Jul 12, 2011 2:04 PM
20	I don't think that a UC should be involved in Summer Camp planning for a unit with experienced leadership.	Jul 11, 2011 8:36 AM
21	As the "Hidy Ho!" summer camp coordinator for several years, I found that all aspects of the summer camp process important. In the forefront, parents need to understand the importance of participation for leadership growth when competing for summer time (for example, soccer camp) START EARLY! January is late! I have so much to say.... you can email me if you wish.	Jul 10, 2011 7:14 PM
22	- keeping unit leader updated on changing BSA policies/procedures - encouraging units to conduct planning conferences & summer camp selection early in the scouting year	Jul 10, 2011 10:53 AM
23	In the Heart of America Council, Summer Camp is very structured and is inbred in the annual program. I believe that is the case in most Councils. I am sure the BSA has realized the success of having a council camp and program. We are	Jul 8, 2011 9:55 PM

Q1. Do you have additional recommendations or comments?

fortunate to have two camps. Camp Naish features the Order of the Arrow honor camping program, while HR Bartle Reservation features Mic-O-Say. Both are very successful. I would encourage this type of program for every council in the BSA

24	Scoutmasters should also encourage their older Scouts to continue their summer camp experience by returning as staff members.	Jul 8, 2011 8:28 PM
25	All the above I have checked are always changing from year to year.	Jul 8, 2011 6:40 PM
26	Wish we had a Unit Commissioner!	Jul 8, 2011 3:36 PM
27	Having Camp Commissioners is another VERY useful tool in the arsenal of the Commissioner Corps that many Council's seem to miss. Camp Commissioners can be invaluable to helping many weekly unit leaders understand the camp processes, and be a great POC representing the Camp, in a non-threatening and VERY helpful position.	Jul 7, 2011 10:09 AM
28	Really assess how the UC can better build excitement in the potentails of participation!	Jul 6, 2011 6:25 PM
29	Adult positions are fleeting and institutional knowledge quickly lost without mechanisms to preserve it. Some adults are better at institutionalizing and delegating than others - each year is a new learning process and some stability is always helpful.	Jul 6, 2011 5:15 PM
30	Act as Camp Commissioner while at camp, or coordinate with those that will be, to ensure timely feedback is given to camp so corrective action can be taken if needed.	Jul 6, 2011 4:55 PM
31	Commissioners are most effective once they have the confidence of the troop leadership Team (SM, Chair and Committee) Annual Camp preperation is a great way build that confidence, great project good luck.	Jul 6, 2011 2:23 PM
32	Many new Troop leaders do not understand that the interaction between the Scouts, especially first and second year Scouts, with the Summer Camp staffers is an integral part of the Summer Camp experience for those young Scouts.	Jul 6, 2011 8:59 AM
33	Have done this for years without any help from Council.	Jul 6, 2011 7:04 AM
34	I think it is easy to get stuck in a rut and repeatedly go to the same camp. Partially due to the fear of the unknown, no one wants to spend a week and have a bad time. Then partially due to it is easy to hand off a plan to the same camp years in a row.	Jul 6, 2011 4:55 AM
35	Dewey, (camp administrator?) performed many of these tasks with us, and probably with other units. Coordination with this person would avoid duplication. Summer camp should be decided by the October before for a variety of reasons. This would be the time the Commissioner could be involved. By spring, the camp will have presentations and pamphlets for all.	Jul 5, 2011 4:28 PM
36	Sid, Great topic...good work	Jul 5, 2011 4:23 PM
37	Maintain open communications with parents during trip with email or other central contact point like a web page or phone mail.	Jul 5, 2011 4:02 PM

Q1. Do you have additional recommendations or comments?

38	None	Jul 5, 2011 1:48 PM
39	I am amazed on the positive comments from all, My only negatives are from expereince parents dealing with new parents, leaving camp site and going to the lakes to fish. hmmm didn't see that one coming. The boys would have liked to see more Eagle Required courses available along with less down / free time. From attending the closing ceremony, I was simply amazed on how wonderful Camp Ben Delatour is and the process. I shuttered before camp with all the 'hard copies' vs being computerized but... they obviously have it down to a fine science. My hat goe off to all.	Jul 5, 2011 11:49 AM
40	Sid- I think the help should come to the troops that dont do a good job in planning SC. One of the biggest issues is picking and regerstering with a camp far enough in advance to allow for proper promotion within the troop. Promotion also includes what the camp has for older boys to do besides First Calss Trail and MB's - - - -Call me if you want to chat!!	Jul 5, 2011 10:54 AM
41	All of #7 would be helpful for the experienced leaders too. Camps, programs & forms seem to change continuously. It never hurts to have the latest information. Plus, hearing someone else's perspective on stuff they "already" know about" can bring fresh ideas into a stale troop long-term camping program. Also in Roundtable maybe, cover the advantatges/disadvantages of summer camping out-of-council and solicit where others have gone. Ask them to tell the group about it, pros and cons. A good troop program has variety built in to their long-term calendar.	Jul 4, 2011 9:10 AM

The Unit Commissioner and Summer Camp Planning

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