



# Troop 455

Haygood United Methodist Church

## Troop 455 on Scoutbook

Scoutbook is an online tool where Troop 455 calendar, information, and payments are made. Scouts and Parents can find all information at: <https://scoutbook.scouting.org/>

### Upcoming Trip Info...

#### Shooting Outing

Friday--Sunday Feb 19-21

This outing will be a shooting & marksmanship outing for the Troop. NRA instruction will be included along with a safety briefing and a range safety orientation prior to any Scout beginning direct action. Shooting Sports Outing 10am Saturday @ Tom Lowe Shooting Grounds (Trap, Skeet, 5 Stand & Sporting Clays) w/optional camping. Convenient to Atlanta, this will be an easy, local trip for parent drivers.

### FEBRUARY TROOP CALENDAR

Day	Activity	Location
2	Patrol Leadership Council Meeting - Scout Leadership	Virtual
9	Troop Meeting - All Scouts	Haygood Gym
16	Court of Honor	Haygood Gym
19/21	OUTING - Shooting	Tom Lowe Shooting Grounds
23	Troop Meeting - All Scouts Summer Camp Info Meeting PACK 17 WEBELOS WILL BE VISITING	Haygood Gym

### HIGH ADVENTURE SPOTS STILL AVAILABLE

Troop 455 still has two slots available for the St. Croix High Adventure Scuba trip for scouts 13 or older who are Open Water certified. For more info, contact Mr. Brady Lum, [brady@lum.net](mailto:brady@lum.net)

### SCOUTMASTER'S CORNER

#### The Scoutmaster Corp

In my role as Scoutmaster (but even prior to it when I was an ASM or adult volunteer), I've often been asked about the Troop's Scouts and their capabilities. When Scout's first join the Troop as is natural with anything new, they and their parents are filled with both excitement and questions around their upcoming participation, outing and adventures. The It's always great to see them, often separately, ask the same questions of those of us who have been Scouting for awhile -

- Will I (or Will my child) fit in?
- Am I (or Is my child) at a disadvantage because we haven't done this before?
- Can I (or Can my child) learn to become a better citizen, a better leader, a more self-reliant, self-confident, or self-advocating youth as they experience tremendous personal growth in these years between childhood and young adulthood?

Mr. Todd Sharp  
Scoutmaster

[tc\\_s1@live.com](mailto:tc_s1@live.com)  
678.612.6297



I can share with you that without question all our Scouts enter the Troop all on similar paths, asking such questions, with the vast majority finding they have far more fun, ability and growth through Scouting than they would have without it. Compared to other youth, Scouts seem far more alert, observant and capable than most of them (and we parents) understand and as Scoutmaster, it is my role along with the Assistant Scoutmasters (together, the 'Scoutmaster Corps'), to work diligently with Scout leadership and Scouts themselves to provide safe, nurturing challenges helping them to gain or support the skills necessary to lead a wonderful life through growth and service. Though Scouting our young men learn to be part of something larger than oneself, something that can continue, if they wish, for a lifetime.

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The Scoutmaster Corps, with the support of the Troop Committee, parents, our sponsor (Haygood UMC) and other adult leadership work to enable safe Scouting, working with the Scouts to set goals, plan how to achieve them and then execute upon them. We work using two-deep leadership for youth safety to support their advancement through standard and advanced scouting skills, to collaborate using the Patrol Method and to gain or teach skills using the EDGE (Explain, Demonstrate, Guide, Enable) method for learning. It was Ben Franklin who said "Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn." In Scouting, we see the benefits of working together to solve challenges, transparently communicating to overcome barriers and of sharing these tried and true techniques each and every day.

Admittedly, many of us on the Scoutmaster Corps were Scouts ourselves, but not all. We all share the uncommon bond of helping support the young members of our communities to enjoy their time growing into young adults, by giving them positive tools, techniques and role modeling to not only have fun, but gain perspective and skills that will last a lifetime.

Any adult is eligible to join the Scoutmaster Corps. All it takes is a desire to support, an enjoyment of the outdoors and a willingness to put our Scouts, their safety and growth ahead of

other concerns in the world around them; creating a safe place for them to learn, to fail, to grow and succeed together.

The Scoutmaster Corps works with the Scouts to plan and operate the weekly Troop meetings and monthly outings throughout the school year. Outings typically involve outdoor activities such as camping, hiking, fishing, canoeing, caving, visiting historic sites, learning scout skills and making plenty of time to have fun all along the way. We work with the Scout leadership to identify tasks needed to make meetings and outings successful, support them in necessary activities they themselves may not yet be able to accomplish alone, help run the annual planning session at the end of each school year (where outings for the next year are determined to set the annual calendar) and in general provide guidance for the efficient and effective operations of a Scout-led Troop. WHAT?

'Scout Led'? Yes – Troop 455 has been a 'Scout Led' troop for a number of years. The adults help establish safe boundaries and guide, but it is the Scouts themselves who, as able, lead. It is most definitely not 'our' Scouting experience, but it is theirs and we are here in service to support them, mentor them and enable them as they do so.

Any questions, input or feedback, I'm always available with a little notice.

## ADVANCEMENT

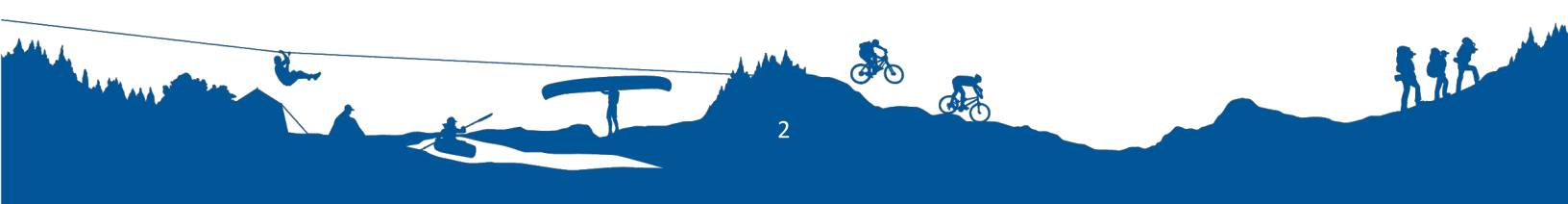
**Mr. Brady Lum, Advancement Chair**

[brady@lum.net](mailto:brady@lum.net)

The goal of our Advancement subcommittee is to assist our Scouts as they navigate through their personal rank, merit badge and award journeys. As you all know, we have transitioned all of our troop management and advancement tracking to [Scoutbook](#), BSA's official platform. There are many wonderful, and very helpful, features for Scouts, Parents, and Adult Leaders which make it much easier to communicate and track advancement requirements. To track advancement remotely, parents should:

- Connect with their child's member profile via an invitation that the unit leader sends within [Scoutbook](#). You may also connect to your youth via the Scouting app "Add a Parent connection."
- Once a connection is made, the parent should use the Scouting app, found in both the [App Store](#) and on [Google Play](#), to stay connected with their unit.
- The Scouting app provides parents the ability to report any advancement that was completed at home.

BSA recently updated its COVID requirements, including some important Advancement exceptions for certain rank and merit badge requirements. Details can be found here: [BSA COVID-19 FAQ's](#). If you have any questions about Advancement, please reach out directly to me, Brady Lum at [brady@lum.net](mailto:brady@lum.net).



## OUTINGS

**Mr. David Moore, Outings Activities Coordinator**  
[dmoorega@icloud.com](mailto:dmoorega@icloud.com)

Although 2020 kept people home, Scouts of Troop 455 were able to get out of the house and enjoy safe activities as well as camping. 2021 may begin slowly, but the intention is to have many great opportunities throughout the year to have outings and other adventurous excursions. The Troop already has many upcoming activities. Please check the calendar to see what's coming. I am hopeful over the next month to contribute to the planning, notification, and preparations to make this year exceptional.

As an Eagle Scout, I understand the pressures and enjoyment that comes with Scouting. I want to make sure all of the young men in our Troop get to enjoy themselves while learning life-long skills and values that will carry them throughout life. I will be serving as the Outdoor / Activities Coordinator for 2021. My position will be to work beside and assist the Scoutmaster to secure tour and activity plans and permission to use camping sites, serve as transportation coordinator, and ensure a monthly outdoor program. Please feel free to reach out to me at [dmoorega@icloud.com](mailto:dmoorega@icloud.com).

## TROOP COMMITTEE CORNER

What is the Troop Committee, you asked? (Or maybe you haven't asked...) The Troop Committee at 455 is responsible for the "behind the scenes" organization and administration of the troop. Think of us like the agents of SHIELD -- normal humans working behind the scenes that are supporting the Scout and Scoutmaster superheroes.

The Troop Committee meets once a month and the minutes of these meetings are posted in Scoutbook. Topics of the meetings might include recruiting, advancement, fundraising, or the Scoutbook migration. Our goal as a committee is to help make the everyday running of the troop as smooth as possible, so if you have ideas on what we can do better, please let us know!

We're currently looking for someone to take on the Fundraising role, and Shelly Hart, our long-serving Treasurer, will be stepping down in the Fall, so we will need a new Treasurer soon. If you have a question about the Troop Committee, or would be interested in joining the Troop Committee, please reach out to Dylan Miyake at [dnm@alum.mit.edu](mailto:dnm@alum.mit.edu) or 617-834-8839.



**Mr. Dylan Miyake**  
Troop Committee Chair  
[dnm@alum.mit.edu](mailto:dnm@alum.mit.edu)  
617-834-8839

### Troop 455 Committee:

Advancement: <b>Brady Lum</b> Communications: <b>Sue Anthony</b> Fundraising: <b>Open</b> Treasurer: <b>Shelly Hart</b> Outdoor Activities: <b>David Moore</b>	Merit Badges, Health Forms & Summer Camp: <b>Laurel Miyake</b> Adult Training: <b>Mickey Smith</b> New Families: <b>Pierce Pape</b> Courts of Honor: <b>Jody Brooks</b>	Chair: <b>Dylan Miyake</b> Haygood Rep: <b>Jonathan Lathbury</b> Scoutmaster: <b>Todd Sharp</b>
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