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August 18, 2010

Volume XLI-No. 38

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Boy Scouts 100th Anniversary Celebration Continues

by Jack Cantwell

Local Scouting is an important part of the National Celebration. Here is an update from Hawk Mountain Council Story Editor-in-Chief Stephen M. Henning.

Scouts are celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America. The story of Scouting began in England when General Baden-Powell realized Boys were studying a military book he wrote entitled *Aids to Scouting*. Consequently, he published a book for boys, *Scouting for Boys* in 1908. It was an immediate success.

When BP's book arrived in Pottsville, Pennsylvania in 1908, Lynn G. Adams with the Pennsylvania State Police, organized and became Scoutmaster of one of the first Boy Scout troops in the United States.

According to legend, the formation of the Boy Scouts of America can be traced back to a foggy night in London in 1909, when Chicago publisher William D. Boyce lost his way on a city street and a Boy Scout came to his aid. The Scout accepted no reward, saying it was a "Good Turn." So impressed was Boyce, that he returned to Chicago and incorporated the Boy Scouts of America on February 8, 1910.

Today, with over 700 acres of forest, lake and streams, dedicated to offering Scouts the opportunity to experience outdoor life, Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation has been serving Scouts for 84 years since it originally opened as Camp Wilson in 1926. It serves as summer camp to over 4,000 Scouts each year.

Interest in Scouting remains strong in Hawk Mountain Council. Today's Scouts enjoy many of the



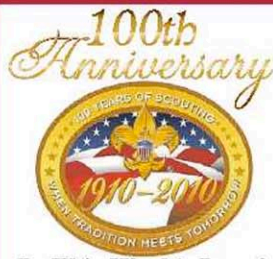
Evan Whildin, 5,000th Eagle Scout in Council, 2009.

same activities as the very first Scouts, 100 years ago. They hike, camp, and tell stories around blazing campfires. Scouting is an enduring tradition, relying on the foundation of the past as it moves into the future.

This article draws information from the book, *On My Honor*. The Hawk Mountain Council Story ... 1908-2010, which was published as part of the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America and is available at the Hawk Mountain Council Office. Also visit www.scouters.us/book.



James Marx, first Eagle Scout in Council, 1921.



In This Week's Issue!

• Contact Merchandiser Editor at 717-273-8127
or editor@themerchandiser.com



100th Anniversary



On my honor,
I will do my best
to do my duty to God
and my country;
To obey the Scout Law;
To help other people
at all times;
To keep myself physically
strong, mentally awake
and morally straight.



100 YEARS OF SCOUTING

Celebrating the Adventure ★ Continuing the Journey

Cub Scout Night....Berks County

Want to be a Cub Scout! Bring your parent or guardian to the school listed below and you can join Cub Scouting. If you are unable to attend the scheduled sign-up, please call the Hawk Mountain Council, Boy Scouts of America at (610) 926-3406 or visit the following websites: www.bscout.org or visit www.bmc-bsa.org

Antietam School District

Mt. Penn Elementary
Sept 15, 2010
6:30 - 8:00PM

Mt. Penn Primary
Sept 15, 2010 - 6:30 - 8:00PM
@ Mt. Penn Elementary

Boyertown School District
Earl Elementary
Sept 21, 2010
6:30 - 8:00PM

Washington Elementary
Sept 21, 2010
6:30 - 8:00PM

Boyertown Elementary
Sept 21, 2010
6:30 - 8:00PM

Pine Forge Elementary
September 21, 2010
6:30 - 8:00PM

Brandywine Heights Area School District
District Tipton
Sept 22, 2010
6:30 - 8:00PM

Longswamp
September 22, 2010
6:30 - 8:00PM

Conrad Weiser School District
Conrad Weiser East
Sept 22, 2010
7:00 - 9:00PM

Conrad Weiser West
Sept 20, 2010
7:00 - 9:00PM

Daniel Boone Area School District
Birdsboro Elementary
Sept 15, 2010

6:30 - 8:00PM
Monocacy Elementary
Sept 21, 2010
6:30 - 8:00PM
AIC
Sept 15, 2010
6:30 - 8:00PM
APC
Sept 15, 2010 - 6:30 - 8:00PM
@ Amity Intermediate Center
ICA

Exeter Township School District
Lorane Elementary
Sept 14, 2010
6:30 - 8:00PM

Jacksonwald Elementary
Sept 14, 2010
6:30 - 8:00PM

ML Lausch Elementary
Sept 14, 2010
6:30 - 8:00PM

Fleetwood School District
Andrew Maier Elementary
Sept 15, 2010
7:00 - 8:00PM

Richmond Elementary
Sept 13, 2010
7:00 - 8:00PM

Willow Creek Elementary
Sept 13, 2010
7:00 - 8:00PM

Governor Mifflin Cumru Elementary
Sept 13, 2010 - 7:00 - 9:00PM
@ Mifflin Park Elementary

Mifflin Park Elementary
Sept 13, 2010
7:00 - 9:00PM

Brecknock Elementary
Sept 16, 2010
7:00 - 9:00PM

Hamburg School District
Tilden Elementary School
Sept 2, 2010
7:00 - 8:00PM

Perry Elementary School
Sept 14, 2010
6:00 - 8:00PM

Kutztown School District
Albany Elementary
Sept 9, 2010
7:00 - 8:00PM

Greenwich-Lenhartsville
Sept 9, 2010
7:00 - 8:00PM

Kutztown Elementary
Sept 14, 2010
7:00 - 8:00PM

Muhlenberg School District
Muhlenberg Elementary Center
Sept 7, 2010
7:00 - 8:00PM
Holy Guardian Angels (HGA)
Sept 15, 2010
7:00 - 8:00PM

Oley Valley School District
Oley Elementary School
Sept 21, 2010
6:30 - 8:00PM

Reading School District
Riverside Elementary School
Sept 16, 2010
6:00 - 7:00PM

Glenside Elementary School
Aug 30, 2010
6:00 - 7:00PM

All other Reading School District Elementary Schools - dates to be determined; call (610) 926-3406 for sign-up information.

Schuylkill Valley School District
Schuylkill Valley Elementary School
Sept 13, 2010
7:00 - 8:00PM

Twin Valley School District
Robeson Elementary
Sept 23, 2010
6:30 - 8:00PM

Tulpehocken School District
Bernville Elementary
Sept 23, 2010
7:00 - 9:00PM

Bethel Elementary
Sept 21, 2010
7:00 - 9:00PM

Wilson School District
Cornwall Elementary
Sept 14, 2010
7:00 - 9:00PM

Green Valley Elementary
Sept 21, 2010
7:00 - 9:00PM

Lincoln Park Elementary
Sept 13, 2010 - 7:00 - 9:00PM
@ W. Wyomissing

W. Wyomissing Elementary
Sept 13, 2010
7:00 - 9:00PM

Shiloh Hills Elementary
Sept 22, 2010
7:00 - 9:00PM

Spring Ridge Elementary
Sept 14, 2010
7:00 - 9:00PM

Whitfield Elementary - Date to be determined; call Walt Schneider @ 484-248-0224

St. Ignatius
Sept 23, 2010
7:00 - 9:00PM

Wyomissing School District
Wyomissing Hills
Sept 23, 2010
7:00 - 9:00PM

Sacred Heart
Sept 22, 2010
7:00 - 9:00PM



Name _____
Address _____
Phone # _____
email _____

_____ I would like more information about Cub Scouting (grades 1-5)
_____ I would like more information about Boy Scouting (ages 11-18)
_____ I would like more information about Venturing (Coed ages 14-20)
_____ I would like more information on starting a new unit



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A Cub Scout Success Story

I remember transferring from another Pack into Pack 377 years ago. Not having any past experience with scouting and being new to Cub Scouting, I remember discussing the program objectives with the leaders. At that time, I had been asked to be a Tiger

Leader and from that point I've been heavily involved in Cub Scouts. It wasn't that long ago; but, it was long enough now that I've played witness to watching many young boys grow into good, respectable young adults and strong leaders. So, how do I pick

any one boy to talk about? So many boys have benefitted from the Cub Scouting program. My choice reflects a couple of boys that seem to have struggled early and have developed into confident and independent young men (not that there aren't a lot to choose

from). Both have succeeded tremendously in the Cub Scout program. The boys began the same year and traveled up through the ranks together each earning their "Arrow of Light"; however, each one's achievements are unique to their personalities.

The first boy, Jake, lived with his mother. He was very shy and easily intimidated. Being an introvert, he was very close to his mother and relied on her for security. When he joined Cub Scouts, he did not have a lot of self-confidence. The Cub Scout program helped him to create healthy relationships with other boys of his age. Those relationships, still a part of his life today, helped to pull him from that shell and become more outgoing. Cub Scouts has helped teach him how to make healthy choices. The structure of the Cub Scout program, along with the encouragement and support of his family, has systematically taught him the core values of being a good person, as it does for all boys going through the program. In Jake's case, he's been able to build on those principles and make them a strong foundation for who he is. Last year, he returned to the Cub Pack as a Den Chief to teach those values to new groups of Cub Scouts. He also accompanied a group of Cub Scouts to day camp every day for one week this summer and is planning on returning this fall as Den Chief for the Cub Pack.

The second boy, Andrew, was not unlike Jake in that he was somewhat reserved and unsure of his abilities. The friendships created in Cub Scouts have enabled him to become more confident, social and outgoing. He is highly intelligent thus absorbs information like a sponge. Where Andrew benefitted from Cub Scouts was learning new skills through "doing". These learned skills are the fundamental base in many of his achievements as a Boy Scout. Not being naturally strong in stature he's been able to participate in activities that helped him to grow physically. His confidence had become prevalent after each subsequent year as he learned new skills and was always proud to demonstrate them to his friends and family. Today, as a Boy Scout, he's an active leader in his troop and has been a positive influence on the younger scouts, willing to teach them new skills.

Both boys demonstrated exceptional learning through cub scouts and had visibly productive achievements within the program. There are certainly many more boys in Cub Scouts that show similar successes as well. I think the biggest key that influenced these 2 particular boys was the involvement that the parents took with the program. Both boys had their immediate families directly involved, taking active roles and supporting them throughout their entire time enrolled in Cub Scouts. I've seen enough boys through the program to know that it works for some and not for others; however as leaders, we believe in the fundamental purpose of scouting and are continually trying to uphold those values in an effort to influence these younger boys. I think keeping cub scouts focused as a "game with a purpose" has enabled us to create many similar success stories from our pack and we'll continue to strive to create more of these successes.

Carl Kerchner
Cubmaster, Pack 377

Cub Scouting Has a Positive Impact On Lives

Isaiah joined Pack 343 in the Reading School District when he was in 3rd grade. He was extremely shy and whispered if he spoke. He also was hesitant to interact with the other boys.

Every week his family brought him to the meetings and allowed him to join in the extra activities, such as miniature golfing, bowling, adventure days, hockey games and cabin camping. Every week as his den leader, I asked him if he likes scouting. I would get a little smile and him shaking his head "yes".

Each week you could see Isaiah coming "out of his shell". His mother shared with me that his teacher noticed Isaiah gaining self-confidence, improved his grades, and socially interacting with his classmates. Recently Isaiah went to day camp at Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation and had the best time of his life. Cub Scouting has made a positive influence in his life.

José joined Pack 343 when he was in 2nd grade. José had special emotional needs and could be disruptive during the meeting. Adult

leaders and parents would "work with" José when he was having difficulties.

After a year, he was able to control his emotions and interact with the rest of the Cub Scouts. José proudly wears his uniform and often volunteers to help lead the opening ceremony. His mother also shared that he has improved his behavior in school and at home. Cub Scouting has helped José learn many skills that help him with everyday life.

100 Things You Didn't Know About Scouting

- 1 Neil Armstrong, the first man to walk on the moon, is an Eagle Scout. When he said, "The Eagle has landed," he wasn't kidding. In 1969, Armstrong became the first Eagle Scout to be portrayed on a U.S. postage stamp—called "The Man on the Moon."
- 2 The Invention merit badge (1911–1918) required the candidate to obtain a patent.
- 3 Boys' Life magazine, which goes to 1.1 million Scouts each month, was started by an 18-year-old Scout, Joseph Lane, in 1911. A year later, the Boy Scouts of America bought the magazine for \$6,100—about \$1 per subscriber.
- 4 James E. West was the BSA's first Chief Scout Executive. When he took the position in 1911, he agreed to serve six months. At his retirement in 1943, he was given the title of Chief Scout.
- 5 The BSA is the second-largest Scouting organization in the world. The largest is in Indonesia.
- 6 One of Scouting's most popular traditions, patch trading, has bloomed into a full-fledged hobby. Some rare patches are worth thousands of dollars.
- 7 For all but two years from 1925 to 1976, illustrator Norman Rockwell illustrated the annual Brown & Bigelow Boy Scout calendar—for free.
- 8 Former Congressmen Alan Simpson and Norman Mineta served together from the mid-1970s to the late 1990s. They met as Boy Scouts during World War II, when Simpson's troop from Cody, Wyoming, visited the internment camp where Mineta and his Japanese immigrant parents were being held. The two became—and have remained—close friends and political allies.
- 9 The first Eagle Scout to earn all available merit badges was Leon Wallace in 1922.
- 10 In May 1964, 29 of America's 30 astronauts visited Philmont for a two-week training trip to learn geological mapping and seismographic studies in preparation for the Apollo programs.
- 11 Three important Eagle Scouts all have names beginning with

- "A." The first Eagle Scout is Arthur Eldred (1912) of Long Island, New York; the 1 millionth Eagle (1982) is Alexander Holsinger of Normal, Illinois; and the 2 millionth Eagle (2009) is Anthony Thomas of Lakeville, Minnesota.
- 12 Scouts collected more than 65 million containers of food during the first Scouting for Food drive in 1988.
- 13 The Cub Scout sign (the index and middle fingers extended in a V shape) symbolizes the ears of an alert wolf. It replaced the Indian "how" sign, which looked too much like the Nazi salute.
- 14 The BSA sells 2.3 million merit badges—one for each person in the state of Utah—every year.

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The Merchandiser

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celebrates its
100th Anniversary

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