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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!

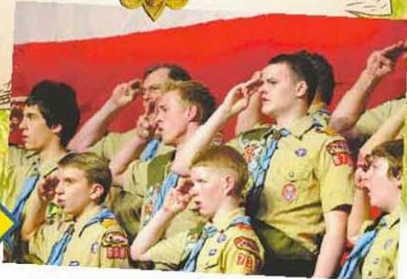
• Contact Merchandiser Editor at 717-273-8127
or editor@themerchandiser.com



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.



Norman
Rockwell



100 YEARS OF SCOUTING

Celebrating the Adventure ★ Continuing the Journey

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 benefited 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 benefited 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

continued on page 15

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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.hmc-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

Boyetown School District

Earl Elementary

Sept 21, 2010

6:30 - 8:00PM

Washington Elementary

Sept 21, 2010

6:30 - 8:00PM

Boyetown Elementary

Sept 21, 2010

6:30 - 8:00PM

Pine Forge Elementary

September 21, 2010

6:30 - 8:00PM

Brandywine Heights Area

School District

Toppton

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

LaSalle Academy

Sept 13, 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

Glenide 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

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

Words to Live By

Nobody cares if you can't dance well. Just get up and dance.

Positive Impact

continued from page 14

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 blossomed 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 par-

ents were being held. The two became—and have remained—close friends and political allies.

continued on page 27

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About Families

220 Park Rd. North, Wyomissing, PA 19610 - Ph. 610-670-2300



A Century of Scouting — 100th Anniversary Celebration

For nearly 100 years, the BSA has created a strong foundation of leadership, service, and community for millions of America's young people. The 100th Anniversary Celebration is a once-in-a-century opportunity to show America Scouting's commitment to inspire and prepare future generations.

The BSA's 100th Anniversary Celebration was designed to inspire a nation.

Generations Connection

Generations Connection celebrates the legacy and powerful impact Scouting has on American families. It teaches Scouts to understand the value of their Scouting family tree and encourages first-generation Scouts to carry this special tradition forward. Because of the shared symbol of a family tree and the shared mission for service and environmental stewardship, Generations

Connection is partnered with Arbor Day Foundation.

Arbor Day has designated official BSA Centennial Trees for anyone to enjoy. For every BSA 100th Anniversary tree purchased from Arbor Day, another will be planted in Montana at the newly created Boy Scouts of America Centennial Forest. The Centennial Forest will aid replanting of the Flathead National Forest following recent fires.

Alumni Connection

For nearly 100 years, the Boy Scouts of America has taught timeless values, strengthened leadership skills, and guided America's youth on their journey to adulthood. But no Scout ever takes that journey alone. Included with former Scouts, BSA alumni are the supportive family members, dedicated volunteers, professional Scouters, and the tens of millions of Americans that benefit

from Scouting in their communities every day.

Through the BSA Alumni Connection, visitors can find Scouting friends and mentors, add their stories to the growing BSA 100th Anniversary online scrapbook, and find out how they can re-engage with Scouting programs.

Web site: www.bsaaumni.org

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100 Things

continued from page 15

- 9 The first Eagle Scout to earn all available merit badges was Leon Wallace in 1922.
- 10 In May 1964, 29 of American'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

- 27 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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