



# The SCOUTING ROTARIAN

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### In This Issue:

*Boys' Life* Has  
a Birthday

The 1910 Society

Girl Scouts Help  
Refugees



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North American Section  
of the International  
Fellowship of Scouting  
Rotarians

Harold C. Friend, Chairman  
Mark A. Ray, Editor



## Ratcliffe Joins IFSR

Jere Ratcliffe, Chief Scout Executive of the Boy Scouts of America, has become an honorary member of the International Fellowship of Scouting Rotarians.

Mr. Ratcliffe has been active in Scouting his whole life, beginning as a Cub Scout at age eight. He is a Distinguished Eagle Scout and a recipient of the Explorer Silver Award, the Scouter's Award, and the God and Life Award.

As a professional Scouter, he served in South Carolina, Florida, Mississippi, Alabama, and Missouri before

joining the National Council. There he has served as Director of Financial Support Service, Regional Director, and now Chief

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## Texas Scouts Set a "Thirty-one-derful" Record

The 31 members of Boy Scout Troop 309 in San Antonio, Texas, have a lot in common: They're all high-school sophomores, they all have active, involved parents—and they all became Eagle Scouts on the same day.

According to the Boy Scouts of America, it was the largest group from a single troop to be promoted to Eagle at the same time.



The event received notice in such publications as the *San Antonio Express News* and the BSA publication *Southern Scouting*.

Scoutmaster Doug Beach attributes much of the troop's success to the involvement of the Scouts' fathers. He should know, since two of the Eagles are his twin sons, Graham and Tyler.



## Boys' Life Magazine Celebrates Its 85th Birthday

As we reported in the last issue of *The Scouting Rotarian*, *Boys' Life* Magazine is celebrating a birthday this year. The magazine was founded 85 years ago, just a year after the Boy Scouts of America itself was founded.

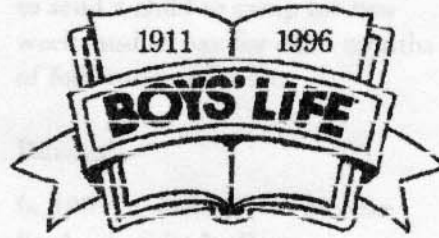
### The Early Years

The magazine was not started by the BSA, however. It was actually started by a member of a rival Scout organization, the New England Boy Scouts.

George S. Barton and two other members of the New England Boy Scouts published the first issue of *Boys' Life* in January 1911. It was eight pages long and cost a nickel. Five thousand copies were printed.

By March, the magazine had been reformatted and had grown to 48 pages. Even though the March issue was the second, Barton labeled it "Vol. 1, No. 1." It is this issue that the BSA has often reprinted.

Circulation grew to 65,000 by January 1912. Contributors included National Scout Commissioner Daniel Carter Beard and Arthur R. Eldred, the first Eagle Scout.



In June, the Boy Scouts of America, now the premier Scout organization in the U.S., bought *Boys' Life* from Barton for \$6,000.

### Phenomenal Growth

Of course, the magazine has since grown to be one of the country's premier youth magazines. More than 1.3 million people now subscribe to *Boys' Life*. Most are Scouts and Scout leaders, but the magazine appeals to most children, with its articles on sports, science, and outdoor adventure.

As part of the 85th anniversary celebration, the BSA recently released some interesting facts about *Boys' Life*. By the end of 1995, *Boys' Life* had:

- 83,153,922 paid circulation
- 1,017,855,054 copies printed
- 1,008 issues
- 68,544 pages

### Famous Contributors

Another reason for the magazine's success has been the long list of important people who have contributed to the magazine.

First among these, of course, is illustrator Norman Rockwell, who began his career at *Boys' Life*.

Other famous artists and photographers who have appeared in *Boys' Life* include Ansel Adams, Salvador Dali, and Philippe Halzmann. Famous writers include Alex Haley, Arthur C. Clarke, Ray Bradbury, Ernest Thompson Seton, and Isaac Asimov.

*Boys' Life* is called the magazine for all boys. Clearly, it's also a magazine for all seasons.

### Ratcliffe, continued

Scout Executive.

Mr. Ratcliffe was an active Rotarian for 25 years, until his current assignment made active membership impossible.

He said he wishes IFSR the best of success in its efforts to bring together two great organizations: Scouting and Rotary.

### Mission of the International Fellowship of Scouting Rotarians

*It is the mission of the International Fellowship of Scouting Rotarians to develop a particular association internationally between Rotarians who are, or have been, active members of the Scout movement. We strive to: 1) encourage and foster the ideal of service by Rotarians between Rotary International and the World Scout Movement, 2) provide opportunities of social interaction between members, and 3) give active encouragement to the Scout movement at local, national, and international levels.*



## British Rotarians Help East European Scouts

### Britain + Ireland Section

The ~~British branch~~ of the International Fellowship of Scouting Rotarians is raising money to help pay for two special Scouting programs in eastern Europe.

### Croatia and Bosnia

When we read in the newspaper about "the former Yugoslavia" and "war-torn Bosnia," we probably don't think about children. But the civil war in that region has killed 20,000 children and left thousands more homeless.

To help the survivors, the Croatian Scout Association operates special camps each summer. These "Sunrise City" camps bring Scouts and traumatized children together, helping the latter find hope and a new life.

Last summer, more than 700 children participated. A third were victims of war, and two-thirds were Scouts who ran the program.

It costs about £120 (\$185)

to send a child to camp for two weeks and to pay for eight months of follow-up activities.

### Rumania

In 1995, a nurse from Leicester, England, visited a Rumanian orphanage as part of the Rumanian Orphans' Eye Appeal. While there, she thought it would be a good idea to start a Scout troop there.

The troop now has 14 members and has been invited to an international camp in Leicestershire. Half the money for the trip has been raised, but about £2,100 (\$3,200) is still needed.

Donations for either of these projects may be sent to the R.I.B.I. Scout Fellowship, c/o Keith Edwards, 19 Chestnut Dr., Erdington, Birmingham B24 0DN, England.

We plan to report further on these projects in a future issue of *The Scouting Rotarian*

## Fast Facts

(from *Prospect*)

At the end of 1994, the Boy Scouts of America had more than 92 million alumni. If they were all alive today, they would comprise the eleventh largest country in the world.

All the Scouts who have participated in the BSA through 1994 could fill Joe Robbie Stadium, site of the 1995 Super Bowl, more than 1,200 times.

If the 1.3 million-plus Eagle Scouts spent an average of 20 hours conducting their community service projects, this would equal more than 26 million hours of service. When multiplied by the total number of other Scouts and leaders assisting each candidate for Eagle Scout rank with his project, the hours of service escalate into the hundreds of millions.

Of the 214 U.S. astronauts, 130 were involved in Scouting and 33 became Eagle Scouts.

All four U.S. military academies send cadets to Philmont Scout Ranch to serve as rangers to acquire additional leadership experience.

Of the 302 members of the 104th Congress who have been involved in Scouting, 23 are Eagle Scouts, six received the Silver Beaver Award, and two received the Silver Antelope Award. A total of 241 participated as Scouts, 12 as leaders, and 49 as both Scouts and leaders.

## Top 10 Merit Badges

Which of the 100-plus Boy Scout merit badges are the most popular? According to the BSA, these badges were tops in 1995:



1. Swimming
2. First Aid
3. Camping
4. Environmental Science
5. Leadership
6. Citizenship in the Nation
7. Canoeing
8. Citizenship in the Community
9. Citizenship in the World
10. Safety



## Membership Application

To start or renew your membership, complete the application below. (Renewing members need only enter name and any changes.)

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Rotary Club \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Classification \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number \_\_\_\_\_

Check one:  New  Renewal Mail application with payment to:

Annual Fees:	\$25.00	New Member	Harold C. Friend, M.D.
	\$10.00	Renewal in U.S.	Chairman, North American Section
	\$12.00	Renewal in Canada	International Fellowship of Scouting Rotarians
	\$25.00	Renewal Elsewhere	1500 NW 10th Ave. #105
	\$15.00	IFSR Tie (Limited Supply)	Boca Raton, FL 33486

All fees are payable in U.S. currency. Make checks payable to International Fellowship of Scouting Rotarians.



International Fellowship of Scouting Rotarians

North American Section

Harold C. Friend, M.D., Chairman

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If renewal year is 1994 or 1995, you must pay your \$10 renewal fee to continue receiving *The Scouting Rotarian*.