

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

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

The Boy Scout movement was started in 1908 for the purpose of training boys in the essentials of good citizenship. The movement started in England, but spread rapidly until today it is found in every civilized country in the world.

An American publisher, William D. Boyce from Chicago, Illinois, had trouble finding an office address in London during a dense fog in 1909. He had stopped to check a street sign, when a young boy approached him out of the fog.

The lad asked if he could help him, and when he was given the address, told him that he would take him there. When they had reached the office, Boyce wanted to tip his guide but the boy refused, telling him that he was a Scout and Scouts were not supposed to take anything for doing a good deed. When asked he told Mr. Boyce about the Baden-Powell Boy Scout movement.

At headquarters Mr. Boyce met Baden-Powell, the man who had created Scouting and established the British Boy Scouts the year before, and who later became "Chief Scout of the World."

Mr. Boyce was told all about Scouting, and he became more and more impressed with it. He decided that when he got home, he would see to it that Scouting would be brought to American youth.

In February, 1910 in Washington, D. C., Boyce and other outstanding men who were interested in boys, founded the Boy Scouts of America. Every year since then American Scouts have observed their birthday during February.

A simple good turn done to an American by an English Scout brought Scouting to the United States. One good turn to one man became a good turn to millions of American boys. No one knows what happened to the English Scout. He was never heard of again. But, seventeen years later, the highest award of the Boy Scouts of America was given to the memory of the boy who had wanted no reward.

Visitors to Gilwell Park in England, the British Scout Training Center near London, see a beautiful statue of an American buffalo. It is a large cast of the Silver Buffalo Award that is presented to men who have performed especially distinguished service to boyhood. The inscription on its base reads:

"To the Unknown Scout Whose Faithfulness in the Performance of the 'Daily Good Turn' Brought the Scout Movement to the United States of America."

Scouting's 42nd Anniversary is celebrated with a new twist in 1952. Their birthday parties honor the sponsoring institutions, expressing to them their appreciation for the support of the Cub Scout, Boy Scout, and Explorer programs.

From the Pack, Troop or Explorer unit celebration in the Transylvania District, through Council, State and National events, the highlight of the Anniversary is the public launching of the Three-Year Program and dramatic interpretation of their slogan "Forward on Liberty's Team."

Transylvania, Rhododendron and Land O' Sky were the only districts in the Daniel Boone Council that had an increase in membership in 1951. All the others decreased in membership. There was only an increase of four members in the council during the past year.

This speaks well for the three districts that had an increase, but the over-all picture is nothing to brag about. Every boy in our Community should be a Cub Scout, Boy Scout or Explorer Scout, according to his age, but there is not enough adult leaders and enough interest shown by parents to make this possible. More men are needed—and women too in Cub Scouting—who are willing to give time and leadership skill.

Hugh Monteith, President of the Daniel Boone Council, made the following statement in a recent letter to Scouters: "I believe Daniel Boone Council will have a great year in 1952. I urge you to give Scouting the best you have. Make your committee one that functions. Let's get more boys and give the best Scouting it is possible for us to give. 'ON MY HONOR I WILL DO MY BEST' . . . WILL YOU?"

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ON THE COVER

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