

Choosing the right Scoutmaster for your troop is no trivial pursuit

Many organizations that want scouting, have trouble securing the right person to be the leader. How an organization's values are reflected in a troop largely depends on the Scoutmaster. With the support of the organization, the Scouting Committee and other volunteers, the Scoutmaster carries out the troop program through direct contact with the Scouts.



Scouting In Forsyth County

by **Carlton Crump**
District Executive



Committee should list and appraise all prospects for Scoutmaster, keep in mind that the Scoutmasters can be from the outside. Prospects should be rated by the committee in first through fourth order. It is important that the committee has at least four prospects.

At this point, three people on the Scouting Committee should set up an appointment with the number one prospect, and call upon him, as a committee. Ask the prospect to have his family present so they can also help him make his decision.

It is extremely important that the committee, not an individual, ask the prospect to serve as Scoutmaster. The existence of a committee, assures the Scoutmaster that he will not be taking on this huge task alone. Remember, Honesty is always the best policy, so explain in detail, the time the

task will take the responsibility of the task, and the support that he will receive from the committee. If the prospect cannot give an immediate reply, a follow-up contact should be made in 24 hours. If the prospect declines, the process should be repeated with the next candidate on the list.

Once a candidate accepts the position, he should be publicly welcomed by the organization, the troop committee and the boys.

The final step of the process is to contact a BSA representative, who will follow-up and make an appointment to give the new Scoutmaster "Fast Start Training".

It's easy to secure a Scoutmaster, if all these steps are carried out correctly. If you need a scoutmaster in your organization, go ahead and give it a try, it really works!

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There are many qualified prospects for the position of Scoutmaster. The Boy Scout of America has a selection process that will assure that the most qualified person is selected. The vital role of shaping the lives of youth demands nothing less!

Since the Scoutmaster will be such a vital factor in the success of the troop, the organization, working through the Scouting Committee, should play a prominent role in the selection.

There are six sure steps in Securing A Scoutmaster for your organization. The first and probably most important step, is for the organization head to appoint a task force or Scouting Committee and schedule a meeting with them.

At this meeting the Scouting

Close-Up

From Page A6

with all black images," Clark says.

"They just didn't want it to look like blacks owned it," he says.

While Safe Bus, Inc. made history as the only privately owned African-American bus company in the United States, Clark appeared on the front cover of a 1968 edition of *Jet* magazine for the charter service he was doing.

After the mass transit shift, time schedules changed for bus drivers, but Clark, 65, and Theodore, 63, have basically always maintained the same route.

"Safe didn't care how you ran the buses as long as their buses were in operations," Theodore says.

"I could work all day one day and Clark could work all day one day but now they got certain times that you have to work," he said.

Bus drivers must now sign up for their bus routes according to a bed sheet which list vacant bus rounds.

"If you don't have enough seniority to hold your rounds then someone will bump you," Clark says.

"I'm one and he's two, the oldest employees here," he says.

While driving the same route daily, Clark and Theodore say that they have shared similar experiences.

"I've seen kids born, raised and the whole bit," Clark says.

He says that being a bus driver is fun but kind of hectic at the first of the month.

"Everybody's got a little money and some of us can't stand to have a penny in our pocket," he says.

Theodore agrees.

"It's a funny like thing," he says. "You have all rich people from the first of the month to the eighth and then you start handling normal people."

The brothers say that they often advise passengers with problems but learn from the problems as well.

"Sometimes when a person brings you problems that problem

solves your problem," Theodore says.

Theodore says that bus driving is a unique occupation.

"Driving a bus is an experience you won't get in any college or book," Clark says. "You go to college for four years and get a degree and you go four more years and get another degree. I've been at this for some 40 years," he says.

The brothers say that they have encountered humorous situations as a bus driver.

"Old people tell it just like it is," Clark says.

"You get a lot of questions asked like, 'Are you going to the hospital?' I say I ain't going to no hospital, I ain't sick, and then they ask, 'Is the bus going?' I then say the bus ain't sick, jokingly," Clark says.

Theodore says he remembers an incident when an intoxicated man got on the bus and offered his seat to a woman who was standing and said, "Women want jobs like men but when they stand up I usually don't give them my seat, I let them stand up like men," he says.

While Clark says that a good bus driver needs to have good judgment, common sense and patience, they both agree that patience is a strong necessity.

"You have to have patience and do unto others as you'd have them to do unto you," Clark says.

"Some God in your heart helps too," he says.

Theodore says, "Yes you have to have patience if you have any nerves. The only way they can't get on them is if you don't have any," he says.

If they have any pet peeves as a bus driver they both say that they are few.

"A bus breaking down with a load of people would be my peeve," Theodore says.

Clark says, "Having a bus with no air conditioner out there in 95 degree heat is when I wish they'd make the manager drive."

While they both run the same

route, Theodore's route starts at Carver at Oakridge and Butterfield and ends in Hanes Mall. His route begins at 6:30 a.m. and ends at 2:15 p.m.

Clark begins his route at 10:45 a.m. and ends at 6:25 p.m.

Both natives of Wilcox, Ala. Clark is married to Christine Caldwell Campbell and they have four sons while Theodore is married to Emma Beatrice Campbell and they have one son.



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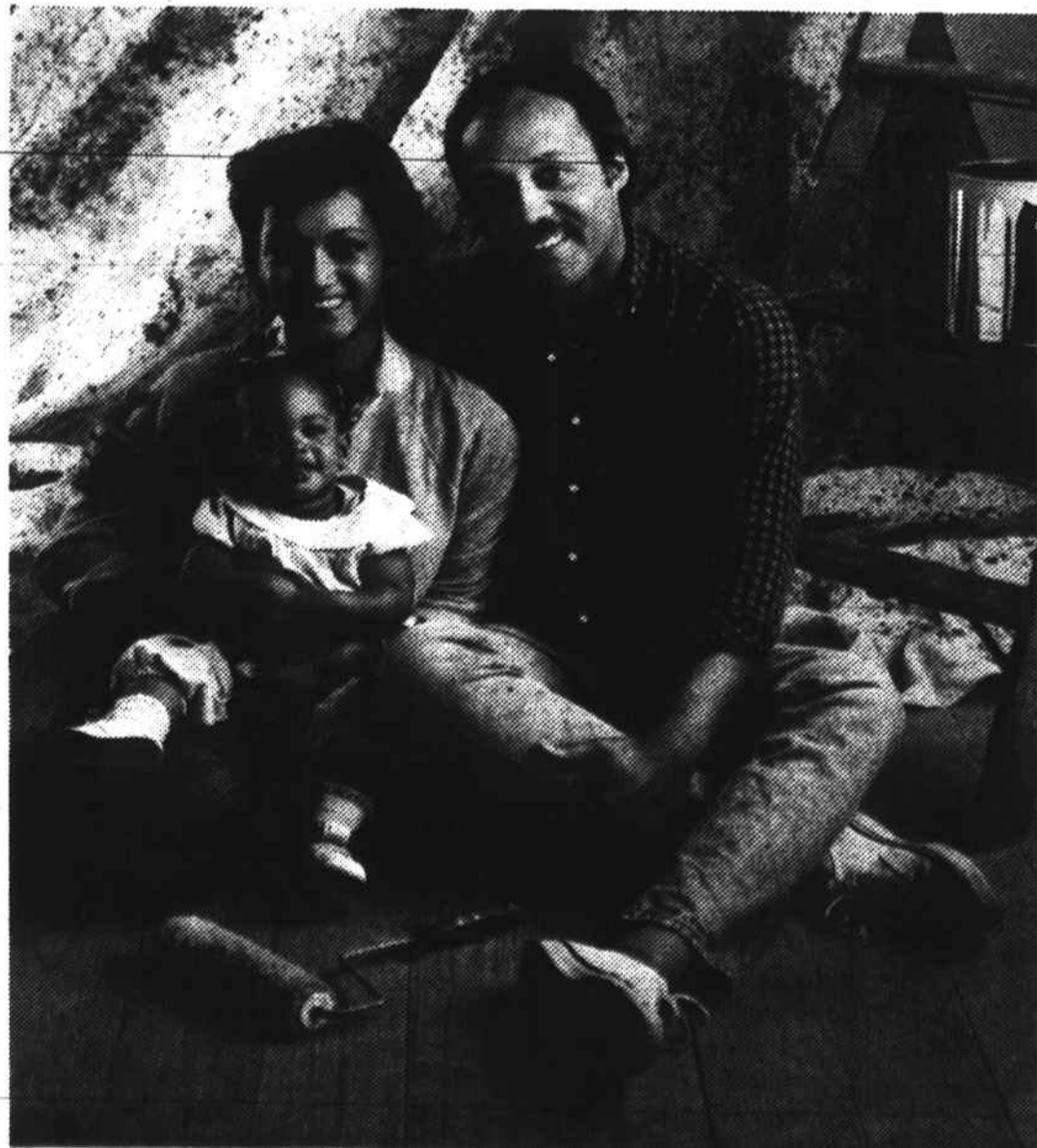
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