

New Scout Exec Offers Greetings

Eugene C. Bowden, who recently assumed his duties as Scout Executive of the Piedmont Council, Boy Scouts of America, has released for publication the following letter, addressed to volunteers and friends of Scouting:

Your loss, when Gene Jones was called to another Council, was the Bowden family's gain. I would not say that we are settled but we are making progress and have found that the Piedmont Council is a most friendly and happy place to live.

Everyone has gone the second mile to make this transition in Scout Executives go as smooth as possible. I will not try to list the names of the people who have helped but I would like to express a special thanks to Tom Rankin who took over the office during this time and helped me find things upon my arrival. The ladies of the office are also to be commended.

As I have traveled around the Council attending meetings and meeting people, I have been impressed with the dedication and scouting know how and the willingness to do things on the part of the Scouters. I have met. It makes me feel proud to be a part of such a wonderful team, dedicated to serve boys.

1963 is history and can do little except to help us plan for the new day. Each of us needs to look at our place in the program, study what has been done, arm ourselves with know how, select an objective, build a plan of action, get enough help to do the job, and step out to make 1964 the best year for Scouting ever.

Our THEME for 1964 is "Strengthen America, Scouting Can Make the Difference." Working together we can make this a reality, but "we must put the cookies on the bottom shelf so the boys can reach them." To do this, we must have good Scouting in Units, in Districts and through out the Piedmont Council. At the present time we are only reaching about 15% of the boys. We can and we must do a better job.

Working together we can be "the men and women who make the difference," but the boys won't wait. We must take action now or they will have moved on.

A PROUD TRADITION — The principles of scouting are basic in the American culture. When a new scout begins his training in a troop, he first learns the proud traditions of the youth organization. Next, he is taught what scouting can do for him. A well-organized program of scouting is not limited to camping and other tests of a youngster's ability to care for himself. A good scout studies scouting, he

learns how to identify rank, he may go into any number of specialties, such as radio. Because a part of scouting is in the classroom, sessions such as this are held frequently. These are members of Troop 177, sponsored by Second Presbyterian Church. Eagle Larry Deaton, left, explains the various insignia to younger members of the unit. Scoutmaster Charles Morris is at the right of the display.

God And Country Award Available To Any Boy Of Protestant Faith

The God and Country Award. This church-centered program does not result in a merit badge, but the Scout receives instruction in its requirements from his own minister and receives his award in his own church.

The candidate must fulfill the religious requirements for the award in his own church under the guidance of his own minister. To receive a church award, a Boy Scout must be of First Class rank or higher; an Explorer must have had at least one year in Exploring.

Application for the award is made to the national Protestant Committee on Scouting and the award is then sent to the minister for presentation at a worship service in the local church. In the Church Awards Program, emphasis is placed on the relationship between the boy and his minister. Thus, the minister's position and personality influence the boy's life. Basic purpose of the program is to help a boy prepare for active church membership.

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ON THE FIRING LINE — This is the first unavoidable stop for a scout on the way to advancement. He must appear before a board of review in his troop to "pass off" his work before he can earn appearance at a district court of honor. Troop committeemen fire questions at the boys, testing their knowledge of scouting in general and the particular phase of training in which they are seeking merits. Troop 164 committeemen popping questions to the two scouts are, from left, Bill Rader, Jim Suttles and John Gravelee.

SOMETHING NEW

Scout Magazine Printed In Braille

The Boy Scouts of America recently embarked on a new venture — printing its magazine, "Boys' Life" in Braille.

The new Braille edition dovetails into the Scout program of working with the handicapped and its principle that "every boy should be recognized for what he is able to do and not penalized for what he is unable to do."

There are about 500 troops made up of physically handicapped Scouts and 150 for retarded boys, and in addition there are many handicapped boys in regular units. In several cities Radio Troops have been organized to reach bedridden and shut-in Scouts. In these units an able-bodied by acts as a "buddy" Scout to plan and carry out activities with a shut-in Scout. The mother of a retarded Scout recently wrote to Boy Scout headquarters here to relate how much Scouting had meant to her son. Wearing a uniform had given him a feeling of belonging to a group, she said, adding that he had been able to memorize only two things in his life — the Lord's Prayer and the Scout Oath. Troop 40, made up of boys from a rehabilitation center for physically handicapped children in

Sioux Falls, S. D., needed money for uniforms. They set out to earn it for themselves by washing cars. Scouts in wheel chairs specialized in washing bumpers, grills and tail lights. Boys on crutches washed the bodies. One youngster in a new-found burst of confidence, cried, "We wash cars better than anybody in the city." And in Cedar Bluffs, Nebraska, Scoutmaster Jim Schmidt takes his physically handicapped charges to summer camp where the boys live in tents, swim, ride horseback and go on hikes. Schmidt, who had polio when he was 2, leads his Scouts from a wheelchair.

STRENGTHEN AMERICA

Scouting can make the Difference

SCOUTS WEEK

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

CONGRATULATIONS and BEST WISHES to the BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA on their 54th ANNIVERSARY

BOY SCOUT WEEK—Feb. 7-13

We are proud to be part of the Scouting team!

Scouting is one of the strongest influences for good in the life of a boy. It knows no race or creed or class. It serves rich and poor alike, and its aim is to help each of these boys become the BEST CITIZEN that he can make of himself. The future of America and of the world looks brighter because of the ideals instilled in our young men through their Scouting Work.

Those who were lucky enough to enjoy Scouting in their own youth know perhaps best of all what the nation owes to the Boy Scouts of America. On their young shoulders will fall the mantle of leadership in days to come. We are thankful for the fine Scout leaders in this area who give their time in training our citizens of tomorrow.

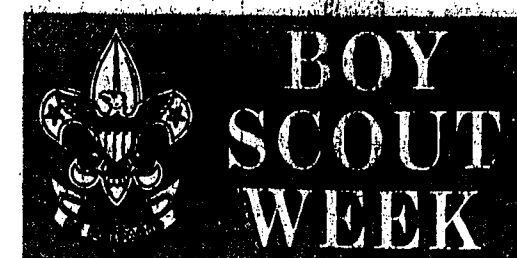
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The Boy Scouts Of America, Cub Scouts
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He is reverent toward God. He is faithful toward his religious duties, and respects the convictions of others in matters of custom and religion.



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We salute the Boy Scouts of America whose 54th birthday is being celebrated this week. We salute their honesty, courage, honor, resourcefulness, faith and responsibility... those fundamental principals of leadership taught to the leaders of today that there is a guarantee for the future.

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