

Boy Scouts Observe 48th Anniversary

More than 4,700,000 Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Explorers and their adult leaders, in every part of our nation, are observing Boy Scout Week marking the 48th anniversary of the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

The 2,300 boys and leaders of the Klamath District of the Modoc Area Council have joined the parent organization in launching a yearlong safety campaign. Each year the Boy Scouts embark upon a "good turn" to be promoted by every member of the organization. The year's national service project was suggested by President Eisenhower who is honorary president of the Boy Scouts.

In a message from the White House President Eisenhower told the scouts:

"In our land each individual is of inestimable worth, yet in no other land do accidents cause a more terrible loss of human life and limb. This fact cannot be passively accepted. We must seek new ways to save the basic resources of our nation: its people.

"Encouraged by the splendid results of your Conservation Good Turn four years ago, I now urge you to adopt safety as your service project for 1958. Through the concerted action of your members, and in cooperation with other organizations, you can alert the public to the urgent need for reducing the tragic toll of accidents.

"This is an opportunity for service to your country in the highest tradition of the Boy Scouts of America."

Jim Harpole, our local council executive, has announced that during March, April and May the scout's project will involve traffic safety. Outdoor projects will keep the scouts busy in June, July and August. Home safety will be featured in September, October and November. In October, Harpole said, the local scouts will distribute to approximately 10,000 homes a civil defense booklet on family preparedness for emergencies.

HISTORY

This campaign is in keeping with traditions of the Boy Scouts which date back to the early 1900s. The idea of scouting originated with a young British army officer named Robert Baden-Powell. Because of his experience as a big game hunter and his knowledge of wilderness living he had been assigned to train the young soldiers being shipped to his South

African post on how to conduct themselves in the jungle. Baden-Powell had his work cut out for him because the recruits were, for the most part, city-bred and were next to helpless when they found themselves so far removed from civilization.

Gradually this young officer evolved a program of activities designed to condition his troops physically and, at the same time, to school them in jungle lore. The town raised men took to the training enthusiastically and in short order became skilled woodsmen.

Sometime later Baden-Powell returned to England with the rank of general and was urged to develop his idea into an organization for boys. He studied similar programs being practiced elsewhere and examined particularly those in the United States under the leadership of Dan Beard and Ernest Thompson Seton.

In 1907 he tried out his plan by taking 20 boys to camp during the summer on a small island off the English coast. The experiment was an unqualified success and the following year he published the first Boys Scout Handbook. On February 8, 1910, William D. Boyce, an American publisher, and several other interested people founded the Boy Scouts of America. The "Handbook for Boys" was published later that year and today is in the tenth printing of its fifth edition. A total of 15,500,000 copies of the handbook have been printed since the first copy was published 47 years ago.

KLAMATH BASIN

Here in the Klamath Basin we have a scouting program which is part of the Modoc Area Council. This council consists of Deschutes, Crook, Jefferson, Lake and Klamath counties in Oregon as well as Modoc and parts of Siskiyou and Lassen counties in California. Headquarters for the council is supervision of Jim Harpole. The council is divided into districts and the Klamath District is directed by Jerry Thorne. At present we have 65 units in this district: 25 Cub Scout packs, 33 Boy Scout troops and eight Explorer units.

These units are designed to serve boys from 8 to 18. Cub scouting is for boys from 8 to 10 years old; 11, 12, and 13-year-old boys are eligible to take part in the Boy Scout program and Explorer scouting is for boys from 14 to 18 years of age.

**Boy Scouts, on 48th Birthday,
Begin National Safety Good Turn**



CEREMONIES ARE USED IN SCOUTING to inspire the boys with the high purposes of scout ideals. Troop meetings are opened and closed with ceremonies. The boys of Troop 1 are shown above opening their meeting by showing their respect for the flag. This troop is sponsored by the Brotherhood of St. Andrew of St. Paul's Episcopal Church.



THERE ARE THREE PARTS to the Boy Scouts' Advancement Program. First the candidate qualifies, then he is reviewed and finally he is recognized. The boy shown above is appearing before his troop committee to be reviewed on his application for second class scout. The purpose of the committee is to review the candidate on his personal experiences encountered in seeking the rank. The scout shown above, seated with his back to the camera, is Dick Russell. The others are, from left to right, John Drake, advancement chairman of Troop 1; Norman Guyer, John Larson, William Faught and Dave Totton.

THE COVER

The cover picture for this week's Herald and News Magazine Section of Klamath Basin Living was taken by staff photographer Don Kettler and features Don Owens, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chester Owens, 2136 Cable Avenue. Owens has met all the requirements and will be promoted to the rank of Eagle Scout Thursday. The picture was taken with a 4x5 Crown Graphic camera set at f 32 and a 400th of a second using extension flashes.

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