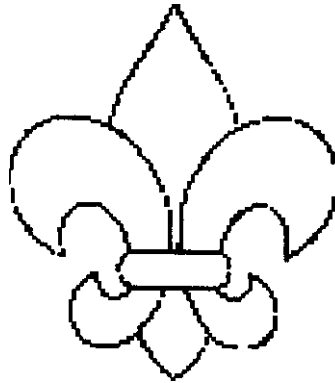


College of Commissioner Science
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Religious Emblems:
A Discussion of the Religious Values of
Scouting and the Promotion and Best
Practices of the Boy Scouts' Religious
Emblems Program



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Religious Emblems: A Discussion of the Religious Values of Scouting and the Promotion and Best Practices of the Boy Scouts' Religious Emblems Program

The purpose of this paper will be to present a brief history of the religious values which Scouting seeks to promote among its members and the use and promotion of the religious emblems program in the Boy Scouting movement today. Emphasis, of necessity, will be upon the Scouting movement in America and the collected historical and research data of those programs which help to promote these programs. A closing section will include recommendations for use of this program in ways which seem to most effectively contribute to the religious emblems program in our Council.

Before beginning, I should note that as a minister in a main-line Protestant denomination I have had more than 34 years association with Boy Scouting serving in nearly every capacity from Cub Scout den leader, committee member and Cubmaster, through most Boy Scouting and Venture Scouting positions, to the top volunteer positions at District level. The importance of religion and promotion of religious values has been of utmost importance to me and through my participation over the years on the Protestant Committee On Scouting for the Viking Council, Scouters Religious Association of the Northern Lights Council and Camp Chaplain at numerous Scout camps, I have seen the positive effects of Scouting's influence and ideals upon boys. This paper represents a catharsis of years of association and promotion of these values and reflects what I believe is a true and accurate statement of Scouting's history and foundational beliefs about the importance of duty to God and religion in life.

Religion in Scouting

It appears evident that religion in Scouting was an aspect of the Scout method which has been practiced from its earliest beginnings, however, as we shall note practiced differently and given broader interpretations over the years. Beginning in the early 20th century, Sir Robert Baden-Powell founded the Scout movement as a youth organization which was independent of any single faith or religion (unlike the Christian-only Boys' Brigade which was started two decades earlier in England), yet held that spirituality and a belief in a higher power were the keys to the development of young people.

When creating the Scouting method, Baden-Powell was adamant that there was a place for God within it. In his book, *Scouting for Boys*, he wrote specifically about Christianity, since he was writing for groups in the United Kingdom.

We aim/or the practice of Christianity in their everyday life and dealings, and not merely the profession of theology on Sundays....¹

Indeed, the Scout Promise requires an incoming member to fulfill their "duty to God". However, the founder's position broadened shortly after the Scout movement began to grow rapidly around the world, and his writings and speeches allowed for all religions. He did continue to emphasize that God was a part of the Scout's life:

When asked where religion came into Scouting and Guiding, (which was the girl's program) Baden-Powell replied, It does not come in at all. It is already there. It is a fundamental factor underlying Scouting and Guiding.²

¹Scouting for Boys, Baden-Powell, Oxford University Press.

²Baden-Powell's position on God and Religion. FAQs.org.

Though we hold no brief for any one form of belief over another, we see a way to helping all by carrying the same principle into practice as is now being employed in other branches of education.....³

As if to emphasize this point, it is interesting to note that Baden-Powell's gravestone bears no cross or religious symbol. Rather, in addition to the Boy Scout and Girl Guide Badges, it bears a circle with a dot in the center, the trail sign for "Going Home"/ "I have gone home".⁴

Religion and spirituality is still a key part of the Scouting method. The World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) states the following in Fundamental Principles:

Under the title "Duty to God", the first of the above mentioned principles of the Scout Movement is defined as "adherence to spiritual principles, loyalty to the religion that expresses them and acceptance of the duties resulting therefrom". It should be noted that, by contrast to the title, the body of the text does not use the word "God", in order to make it clear that the clause also covers religions which are non-monotheistic, such as Hinduism, or those which do not recognize a personal God, such as Buddhism.

"Duty to God" is a principle of worldwide Scouting and the WOSM requires its member National Scout organizations to reference "duty to God" in their Scout Promise (see WOSM Scout Promise requirements.) Scouting associations apply this principle to their membership policies in different ways. There are Scouting associations in some countries, such as France and Denmark, that are segregated on the basis of religious belief.

For the purposes of this paper, we will present a discussion of religious policies in the United States of America. The Boy Scouts of America (BSA) in the United States takes a firm

³Baden-Powell on Religion, Inquiry.net

⁴B-P's Grave in Kenya

position, excluding atheists and agnostics from joining Scouting units.⁵ This appears to be a direct interpretation from The BSA Declaration of Religious Principle which states:

The Boy Scouts of America maintains that no member can grow into the best kind of citizen without recognizing an obligation to God. In the first part of the Scout Oath or Promise the member declares, 'On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law.' The recognition of God as the ruling and leading power in the universe and the grateful acknowledgment of his favors and blessings are necessary to the best type of citizenship and are wholesome precepts in the education of the growing members."⁶

In the United States the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) celebrates Scout Sunday and Scout Sabbath in February,⁷ while the Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA) celebrates similar holidays, knows a Girl Scout Sabbath, Girl Scout Shabbat, and Girl Scout Sunday, in March.⁸

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (LOS Church/Mormons) includes Scouting as an official part of its religious program for boys and young men. The LDS Church was the first institutional sponsor of the BSA in the United States, and currently sponsors more BSA units than any other organization.⁹

⁵"Duty to God". *BSA Legal Issues*. Boy Scouts of America
<http://www.bsalegal.org/dutytogo-155.htm>.

⁶Ibid.

⁷"A Scout Is Reverent". BSA
<http://www.scouting.org/nav/enter.jsp?s==xx&c-dsSterms=sabbath&x=J2&y=I3>

"Girl Scout Days". GSUSA. http://www.girlscouts.org/programs/igs_days/

"History of Scouting in the Church". The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.
<http://www.lds.org/pa/display/O,17884,5169-1,00.html>.

As to emphasize the close relationship that the religious values of scouting have had to the church it is significant to note that the most recent figures for institutional sponsorship of Boy Scouting units indicates that religious institutions and churches sponsor the vast majority of scouting units. This comprises 65.50% of all units which total 79,279 units and 1,662,042 youth. Educational organizations and related institutions sponsor 13.51% or 11,081 units and 385,678 youth and all other military, business and civic organizations sponsor 25.34% of all chartered units or 30,674 units and 807,450 youth.¹⁰ (*See the attachments to this paper which include full breakouts.*)

The Boy Scouts of America requires all scouts to believe in a God or a comparable higher power, but interestingly also currently admits Scouts who are non-theistic Buddhists, Jains, and Hindus from non-theistic sectarian groups. The religious award of all three of these faiths is recognized by The Boy Scouts of America. In contradiction to the other major scouting movement in the United States — The Girl Scouts of America (GSUSA) it does not have any requirement of faith or belief, and admits girls of any or no religious belief or doctrine, regardless of the presence or absence of belief in a God or a comparable higher power.

Both organizations do require their members to recite a pledge that includes a reference to God; the BSA pledge, however, requires a commitment for each scout to do their "duty to God", while the GSUSA pledge asks girls "to serve God". Also, in contradiction to Boy Scouting, the GSUSA allows the elimination or substitution of "God" with an alternate word that represents a scout's beliefs, the BSA, of course, does not.

¹⁰Programs of Religious Activities of Youth, <http://www.praypub.org> retrieved March 6th, 2010.

In Cub Scouting, Cub Scouts working on their Bear rank must complete a requirement about their faith. All other members of the BSA's Scouting programs are eligible and encouraged to work on their faith's religious emblem award which is most often age-graduated with usually up to four medals or awards given during their years of advancement in Scouting - Tiger Cub through Eagle Scout.

It is perhaps noteworthy to mention that the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) has been the only religious emblems program, Religion in Life, to lose its BSA recognition. In 1992, the UUA stated its opposition to the BSA's policies on homosexuals, atheists, and agnostics; and in 1993, the UUA updated the Religion in Life program to include criticism of the BSA policies.¹¹ In 1998, the BSA withdrew recognition of the Religion in Life program, stating that such information was incompatible with BSA programs. The UUA removed the material from their curriculum and the BSA renewed their recognition of the program. However, when the BSA found that the UUA was issuing supplemental material with the Religion in Life workbook that included statements critical of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or personal religious viewpoints, the BSA's recognition was again withdrawn.¹² In May, 2005 the Universalist Unitarian Scouter's Organization (UUSO), which is not an officially recognized affiliate organization of the Unitarian Universalist Association, created a Living Your Religion program as a parallel award for the Boy Scouts of the Unitarian faith.¹³

¹¹Gustov Niebuhr (1999-05-22). "The Boy Scouts, a Battle and the Meaning of Faith". New York Times. [Http://archive.uua.org/news/scouts/faith/html](http://archive.uua.org/news/scouts/faith/html).

¹²Isaacson, Eric Alan (200&). "Traditional Values, or a New Tradition of Prejudice? The Boy Scouts of America vs. the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations." *George Mason University Civil Rights Law Journal* 17 (1). <Http://law.bepress.com/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=6200&context=expresso>.

¹³"Unitarian Universalist Scouters Organization". March 5, 2006. <http://www.uuscouters.org/>.

Presently, the BSA and the UUSO now have a memorandum of support and UUSO Living Your Religion and Living Your Family program are listed through P.R.A.Y. and the Duty to God brochure.^{14, 15}

THE RELIGIOUS EMBLEMS PROGRAMS OF THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

The religious emblems program used by the Boy Scouts of America is officially sponsored by 37 denominations or religious groups¹⁶. It has been used by the Boy Scouts to encourage youth to learn about their faith and to recognize adults for significant service to youth through their church, scouting or other youth serving organizations. These religious programs are created, administered and awarded by the various religious groups, not the BSA, but as of 1993 each program must be recognized by the national organization of Boys Scouting in America.

The award given by the religious organization consists of a unique medal for each program (or age-level) and is usually only worn on the uniform on formal occasions. The award is also recognized by wearing an embroidered square knot above the left shirt pocket—silver on purple for youth and purple on silver for adults. The knot emblem is universal in that it does not represent any specific religion or religious award program. Each medal is designed and produced by the religious institution, while the knot emblems are produced by the BSA to

¹⁴“Memorandum of Mutual Support” (PDF). Boy Scouts of America.
http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/37_Unitarian.pdf

¹⁵(PDF) *Duty to God* Boy Scouts of America. 2008.
http://praypub.org/pdf_doc/DutytoGod2008.pdf

¹⁶Duty To God brochure, BSA, #05-879E, Second 2007 Printing.

conform to their uniform requirements. Most Protestant churches use The P.R.A.Y. Program (Program of Religious Awards for Youth), formerly known as the God and Country program, a series consisting of Cub Scout 1st through 3rd grade – God and Me; Webelos Scout – 4th and 5th grade -God and Family; Boy Scout – 6th through 8th grade – God and Church; and Venture Scout – 9th through 12th grade – God and Life. To identify the level of award for each medal the recipient may wear a miniature pin (or device) with the respective logo identifying the level of the award received.¹⁷

Since its inception a Scout learns the Boy Scout Oath and Law is a basic requirement of joining Scouting. The 12th point of the Scout Law is “*a Scout is Reverent*”. An explanation of this Scout Law states in part: “A Scout is reverent. He is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties and respects the convictions of others in matters of custom and religion.”¹⁸ It is interesting to note that in the United States since 1911, we have had 12 points to the Scout Law while most other countries have adopted only the original 10 which B-P enumerated in his *Scouting for Boys*, 1908 fortnight series (see addendum #2).¹⁹ It appears that the addition of two new points (#10 – A Scout is Brave, and #12 – A Scout is reverent) go back to Ernest Thompson Seton (August 14, 1860 – October 23, 1946), who along with Dan Beard became the Chief Scout and founder of Scouting in America. Seton originated his Woodcraft Indians in 1902 as a model of scouting based upon Indian culture and ideals and his Woodcraft Indians Law numbers 6 and 7 included “Be brave” and “Be

¹⁹Boy Scouts of America. (2007). *Insignia Guide 2007*. Boy Scouts of America #33066

¹⁸Boy Scouts of America, ed. (1911). *Handbook For Boys* (First ed.) Garden City, New York: Doubleday, Pace and Company.

¹⁹Retrieved from http://www.inquiry.net/ideals/scout_law/chart.htm (March 06, 2010)

reverent.” His strong ideals and North American cultural experience convinced Dan Beard to graft these points onto Baden-Powell's original Scout Law of 1908.

The first religious recognition program for Scouts began in 1926 when the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles began the Ad Altare Dei for altar boys who were Boy Scouts.²⁰ The program was expanded nationally in 1939 and the BSA approved the medal for uniform wear.

The first Protestant religious emblem program was established in 1943 by the Lutheran church as Pro Deo Et Patria.²¹ The Jewish Ner Tamid program began in 1944 and the God and Country program used by a large number of Protestant denominations following in 1954. Currently there are 37 religious groups represented by over 114 recognized emblems. The knot for the youth religious emblems was introduced in 1971 and for the adult religious awards in 1973.²²

²⁰David L. Peavy. “A Brief History of the Catholic Religious Emblems Program.” *History of US Catholic Scouting*. http://www.catholicscouting.org/NCCS_History/Religious_Emblems.html.

²¹“Michael F. Bowman and James Bryan (1998). “A Scout's Duty to God and Country”. *U.S. Scouting Service Project*. <http://usscoutorg/scoutduty/sdgc04.html>.

²²“Illustrated History of BSA Square Knot Evolution and Private Issues.” *Insane Scouter*. http://www.insanescouter.com/t276/files/Adult_Knots/.

²³“Policy of the Boy Scouts of America Pertaining to Recognitions Granted by Churches, Synagogues, Temples, Mosques and Other Religious Organizations”. *BSA Discrimination.org*. <http://www.bsa-discrimination.org/html/bsa-re-policy.html>.

Prior to 1993, the BSA simply reviewed the programs developed by each faith. After requests for new awards in 1993 by The Covenant of the Goddess (one of the oldest and largest cross-traditional groups among Wiccans and neopagans), the BSA established a policy statement outlining requirements for recognition.²³ To gain recognition, a proposed program must be approved by the BSA Religious Relationships Committee, the religious organization must charter at least 25 units, and the program must have a national scope. The medal or badge design must also be approved and must be different from the emblems of other programs. As an aside, P.R.A.Y currently does not list any of the Covenant of Goddess religious award programs.

The approved religious programs and awards are listed in the addendum to this paper. While optional, the programs may be used to fulfill certain requirements of the Cub Scout Bear²⁴ and Webelos rank²⁵, the Venturing Religious Life Bronze Award and the Venturing TRUST Award.²⁶ It must be emphasized as a policy of the BSA that instruction for these programs is only provided by the religious organization; unit leaders are involved only if they are also part of the religious organization. Many of these religious programs also involved the youth's parents.

²⁴“Bear Badge Requirements”. U.S. Scouting Service Project. 2003.

²⁵“Webelos Badge Requirements”. U.S. Scouting Service Project. 2003.

²⁶“Religious Life Bronze Award”. U.S. Scouting Service Project. 2003.

²⁷“Are There Awards for Parent Participation With a Scout in a Religious Emblem Program?” *U.S. Scouting Service Project*. <http://usscouts.org/scoutduty/sd2gc17.html>.

Most of the religious organizations also have awards for adult BSA members; however, these awards are almost always in recognition for service to the religion within Scouting or while a registered Scouter. The adults are nominated for the award and they do not have to go through a prescribed course of study.

The Program of Religious Activities for Youth (P.R.A.Y.) has also developed several other awards that are not specifically recognized by the BSA. A youth mentor may be recognized by a pin or pendant that may be worn on non-scouting apparel.²⁷ There is also a four-star recognition pin and patch for youth that have earned all four levels of their program. Other groups may have similar awards for individuals and units (like the National Catholic Scouting Association) that are not listed through P.R.A.Y. If approved by the local council, they may be worn as temporary insignia on the right pocket of the Scout uniform.

The other significant new program of P.R.A.Y. is its own “Duty to God” four-segment patch program for Scouts of all ages and adult advisors of all faiths. This was designed to promote the religious awards programs. To earn the patch while in the local scouting unit youth and adults must attend or make an interfaith presentation about religious awards, then complete a personal commitment of their choice which fulfills their “duty to God” as promised in the Boy Scout Oath. Such activities might include promoting, earning, or helping another person earn the religious award for their faith. The patch has four segments and a foundational patch is the first one earned. After that you can earn any of the other three in any order.

USE AND PROMOTION OF THE RELIGIOUS EMBLEMS PROGRAM

Currently the only organization which tracks the use of the religious emblems (aside from some individual denominations and the Relationships Department of the BSA) is P.R.A.Y. (the national clearing house for award recognition and distribution). Of the five groups which broadly use the religious awards emblems of their church or denomination – the Boy Scouts of America, the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., Camp Fire USA, American Heritage Girls, and all others (i.e. Sunday Schools) the largest usage is by Boy Scouting. Of the 23,976 awards distributed in 2009, 96.67% were awarded through Boy Scouting.²⁸ Even among Sunday Schools and church-based religious organizations only slightly more than 6% of the awards were made. This is striking evidence of the impact that Scouting has on the religious influence of our youth. Yet, when we count nationally all available youth into these numbers we realize that this program is extremely under-utilized. Using another set of statistics of all religious organizations as reported in 2006 to the Relationships Division of the Boy Scouts of America there were approximately 80,760 religious awards were given out.²⁹ This was approximately 3.5% of all eligible Scouts and Scouters.

To take an even more close-up snapshot let us look at our own Northern Lights Council. The Northern Lights Council recorded at the end of March, 2010, 8,192 youth enrolled in traditional scouting units (packs, troops, crews or posts) and approximately

²⁸**P.R.A.Y. Program Usage by Agency.** http://www.praypub.org/majn_frameset.htm

²⁹P.R.A.Y. Religious Emblems Report - 2007.

2,300 adult volunteers. This was down 718 youth from the previous year.³⁰ Yet, at the end of 2009 P.R.A.Y. recorded that our Council had only 52 religious awards presented to all ages. This is barely recognizing five scouts or scouters in every thousand (0.0049561%).

Thankfully, however, this is not the full measure of the “Duty to God” emphasis in scouting upon the youth in this council. We must also take into consideration that the our council camping program has added a significant element to the promotion of a scout's religious duty and support in the practice of the 12th point of the Scout Law. Since the adoption of the “Duty to God” patch segment program from P.R.A.Y. we have shown a significant up-tick in the involvement by our Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts.

The four segment “Duty to God” patch program began in our Council with the promotion of the Scouters Religious Association in conjunction with support by the Camp Director and staff camp chaplains at Camp Wilderness in the summer of 2006. The requirements for earning this patch are somewhat different than those of Scouts or Scouters in the local units as they simply need to participate in an explanation of the Duty To God program brochure and make some form of commitment to doing an activity demonstrating that they have kept their Oath or Promise to do their “Duty to God.” At camp, in addition, to these requirements, the Duty to God camp patch can only be earned

³⁰March Balance Growth Report. Northern Lights Council, BSA.

by also attending the Scout's Own Worship Service during his week at camp, participating in morning or evening flag or meal devotions, and assisting or participating in three evening or morning devotionals with their Scout unit. In the summer of 2009, through seven weeks of summer camp, we had 1,396 patches segments awarded and an additional 81 sold at the Council offices. This then brings the percentage of all scouts and scouters who have participated in fulfilling their Duty to God obligation to 141 per 1000 (or 14.1%).

Statistical counts show for the four years of our use of this program that we have awarded more than 4,203 segments and presumably impacted more than 16-18% of all eligible Scouts and Scouters in our Council during these past four years.³¹ Clearly one of the most significant enhancements to our promotion of duty to God has been this program each week of summer camp.

In addition to this active promotion, the Scouters Religious Association, in the absence of all other organized denomination scouting groups, has kept a passive promotion of the religious awards emblems through a static display and display case of religious emblems for youth and adults at the Annual Meeting in February, Scout Pow Wow and Council Day of

³¹Statistical reports of the Scouters Religious Association as taken from their minutes include these figures of "'Duty to God" patch segments sold or given to Chaplain's Aides: 2009 – 1477 (four segments sold); 2008 – 1090 (three segments sold); 2007 – 1111 (two segments sold); and 2006 – 525 (one segment sold).

Training. Occasionally, there have been requests for District Round Table promotions of the religious emblems program or in local scouting units. This is surely not enough and among the recommendations to make this program more visible have come the following ideas:

- Have more religious award display cases circulating in our districts.
- Designate someone in each district to be the representative of the Scouters Religious Association charged with the responsibility to make an annual presentation to the district round table and as invited in the packs and troops.
- Better use the promotion of the program through a portal on our Council website nlc-bsa.org.
- Promote and sponsor a Ten Commandments Walk or Religious Emblems Retreat in one or more locations across of Council.
- Encourage the area Roman Catholic Dioceses, Lutheran synods or United Methodist Conferences to sponsor a religious emblems retreat for their own youth.
- Have a regular column in The Northern Lights council paper about religious emblems and the Scouters Religious Association activities
- Designate interested Scouters to inventory the adults on the District Committee or in local units that have not received their adult religious award and assist their church or religious institution to submit an application on their behalf

Each of these ideas have been suggested at various times to help promote the religious emblems program in our council. Unfortunately their success is not known because so far they have only been suggestions. Is it possible that if we could set some priorities and had some clear objectives in terms of numbers of awards given that we might then be better motivated to expand this program? Only time will tell but clearly the Northern Lights Council has made some good progress over the past few years and now is the time for us to continue building and setting new and more challenging goals.

BOY SCOUTS OF

AMERICA

NATIONAL CHARTERED ORGANIZATIONS USING THE TRADITIONAL SCOUTING PROGRAM

Name of Organization	December 2007							December 2006		December 2005		
	Packs	Cub Youth	Troops	Scout Youth	Crews	Ventr Youth	Total Units	Total Youth	Total Units	Total Youth	Total Units	Total Youth
YWCA, YMCA	293	7,941	99	1,626	49	836	441	10,403	398	8,491	381	8,464
Civic Organization Total	13,954	489,736	10,582	217,918	6,128	99,796	30,674	807,450	30,972	802,702	30,409	785,1194
Percent to Total	27.48%	29.02%	21.04%	23.86%	30.78%	39.25%	25.34%	28.28%	25.49%	27.99%	24.81%	26.74%
African Methodist Episcopal	102	1,987	90	930	10	114	202	3,031	204	2,943	213	2,924
African Methodist Episcopal Zion	37	601	35	461	5	101	77	1,163	93	1,343	93	1,413
Armenian Church of America	26	369	32	499	30	512	88	1,380	81	1,441	81	1,248
Assemblies of God	33	1,109	34	749	12	298	79	2,156	81	1,819	83	1,516
Baptist Churches	2,114	69,296	1,969	33,813	350	3,467	4,433	106,576	4,569	106,721	4,650	106,486
Buddhist Churches of America	23	633	27	774	3	40	53	1,447	53	1,392	57	1,399
Catholic Church	4,617	189,985	3,878	97,185	905	10,141	9,400	297,311	9,546	303,731	9,641	311,584
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)	571	21,648	584	12,038	131	1,027	1,286	34,713	1,296	35,402	1,324	38,099
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church	39	1,002	26	351	8	81	73	1,434	72	1,232	103	1,659
Church of Christ	241	8,688	240	5,082	81	633	562	14,403	560	14,501	566	14,676
Church of God	118	3,675	111	1,692	28	201	257	5,568	255	5,576	269	5,666
Church of the Brethren	57	2,232	61	1,132	11	60	129	3,424	125	3,504	123	3,441
Church of the Nazarene	77	2,74	72	1,468	15	119	164	4,331	171	4,584	172	4,409
Community Churches	475	17,098	437	10,051	138	1,799	1,050	28,948	993	27,219	984	26,628
Community of Christ	28	936	28	586	8	98	64	1,620	68	1,524	71	1,541
Episcopal Church	551	24,167	608	17,261	161	1,666	1,320	43,094	1,311	42,978	1,317	42,875
Evangelical/Independent Churches	138	3,992	114	2,826	48	774	298	7,592	290	6,979	306	6,659
Friends, Society of (Quakers)	16	700	18	357	6	39	40	1,098	39	1,118	34	1,087
Islam, Muslim, Masjid	52	1,004	42	650	4	79	98	1,733	98	1,580	107	1,727
Jewish Synagogues and Centers	90	2,323	96	1,928	28	211	214	4,462	228	4,710	216	4,391
LD.S. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-D	9,959	135,115	18,726	199,141	8,028	66,473	36,713	400,729	36,158	397,923	35,523	396,263
Lutheran Church	1,875	71,680	1,888	46,834	436	3,710	4,199	122,224	4,254	125,716	4,311	128,172
Moravian Church in America	13	433	18	377	5	103	36	913	32	775	33	717
Orthodox Churches, (Greek, Russian, etc)	23	505	24	406	6	122	53	1,033	55	1,072	58	1,284
Other Churches	455	14,319	440	9,298	128	1,729	1,021	25,346	1,028	25,912	1,074	27,022
Pentecostal Churches	59	1,174	57	613	19	175	135	1,962	136	1,893	138	1,695
Presbyterian Church	1,531	68,556	1,893	53,031	408	3,514	3,832	125,101	3,846	126,940	3,843	128,774
Reformed Church in America	51	2,075	66	1,759	16	104	133	3,938	138	4,032	142	4,291
Salvation Army	106	2,677	93	2,210	39	778	238	5,665	255	5,516	274	5,350
United Church of Christ, Congregational Chur	585	24,039	653	16,224	119	966	1,337	41,229	1,377	42,525	1,424	43,800
United Methodist Church	5,307	232,758	5,201	125,989	1,187	9,673	11,695	368,420	11,847	374,330	11,908	377,972
Religious Organization Total	29,347	907,520	37,561	645,715	12,371	108,807	79,279	1,662,042	79,259	1,676,931	79,138	1,692,768
Percent to Total	57.79%	53.77%	74.62%	70.71%	62.10%	42.79%	65.50%	58.21%	65.22%	58.48%	84.56%	57.62%
Business-to-school Support Agencies	34	734	10	199	7	253	51	1,186	49	925	32	891
Correctional Institutions	30	687	69	1,491	109	3,044	208	5,222	247	4,786	277	5,181
Foreign Schools and Agencies	58	3,690	69	2,821	3	299	130	6,810	123	6,382	118	6,265
Handicapped Resources	90	2,657	125	1,928	116	1,958	331	6,543	349	7,191	422	9,154
Parent • Teacher Groups other than PTA	3,911	162,534	874	21,527	340	8,671	5,125	192,732	5,236	197,815	4,919	191,803
Parent Teacher Associations	1,779	73,075	330	6,336	41	971	2,150	80,382	2,244	83,028	2,226	86,682
Private Schools	1,568	46,883	698	15,171	604	30,458	3,070	92,512	2,997	86,985	2,916	83,544
Public Schools	9	190	6	99	1	2	16	291	54	1,605	2,125	76,262
Education III Organization Total	7,479	290,450	2,181	49,572	1,421	45,656	11,081	385,678	11,299	388,695	13,035	459,582
Percent to Total	14.73%	17.21%	4.33%	5.43%	7.13%	17.96%	9.16%	13.51%	9.30%	13.55%	10.83%	15.64%
Grand Total:	50,780	1,687,708	50,334	913,205	19,920	254,259	121,034	2,855,170	121,530	2,868,328	122,582	2,938,044

Lone Cub Scouts and Lone Boy Scouts are not included in the total youth figures.

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

ADDENDUM #1

NATIONAL CHARTERED ORGANIZATIONS USING THE TRADITIONAL SCOUTING PROGRAM

Name of Organization	December 2007								December 2006		December 2005	
	Packs	Cub Youth	Troops	Scout Youth	Crews	Ventr Youth	Total Units	Total Youth	Total Units	Total Youth	Total Units	Total Youth
Air Force (Bases, Reserves)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	411
American Legion and Auxiliary	1,248	45,762	1,220	23,023	311	4,130	2,779	72,915	2,798	73,994	2,722	72,194
Amvets	21	780	25	491	12	162	58	1,433	57	1,461	56	1,488
Army (Bases, Reserves)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	9	11	385
Athletic Booster Clubs	258	7,645	108	3,132	169	2,856	535	13,633	362	9,525	127	2,541
Boys' and Girls' Clubs	427	16,968	239	7,814	111	3,125	777	27,907	734	23,350	668	20,211
Business industry	1,432	42,328	931	17,298	1,096	13,712	3,459	73,338	3,428	70,785	3,000	59,804
Chambers of Commerce, Business Assn.	227	7,884	170	3,377	92	2,179	489	13,440	499	12,842	530	14,648
Civil Air Patrol	1	82	7	41	57	802	65	925	56	879	57	853
Civitan International	19	911	29	584	5	94	53	1,589	58	1,580	67	1,881
Coast Guard	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	18
Community Center, Settlement Houses	725	17,521	509	9,268	211	4,444	1,445	31,233	1,471	32,265	1,593	36,137
Conservation Clubs/Izzak Walton League	88	3,165	142	2,653	146	1,494	378	7,312	403	7,877	433	8,289
Councils/Districts of BSA	37	1,212	27	605	237	3,307	301	5,124	323	5,207	347	5,542
DAV (Disabled American Veterans)	7	282	10	174	2	34	19	490	22	464	20	479
Economic Opportunity Organizations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	36	29	478
Elks Lodge (BPOE)	344	14,217	390	8,285	105	873	839	23,375	859	24,298	878	25,293
Exchange Club, National	22	975	25	538	3	18	50	1,531	50	1,625	52	1,923
Farm Bureau, Farm Cooperatives	9	230	9	171	13	247	31	648	34	794	43	993
Fire Departments	607	21,636	583	11,499	217	1,889	1,407	35,024	1,455	35,984	1,560	38,398
Fraternal Order of Eagles (FOE)	34	1,389	19	342	4	34	57	1,785	62	1,788	61	1,864
Governmental Bodies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	182	110	2,588
Grange, National	66	2,142	67	1,369	12	118	145	3,629	154	3,920	157	4,138
Groups of Citizens	2,454	85,060	1,249	24,297	1,035	20,159	4,738	129,516	4,827	128,082	4,360	113,041
Homeowner's Associations	211	7,679	167	4,540	43	528	421	12,747	454	13,029	467	13,611
Hospitals	54	1,552	39	636	61	1,559	154	3,747	167	3,993	193	4,445
Housing Authority (H.U.D.)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	178	231	4,076
Indian Tribal Council	36	1,229	22	523	9	285	67	2,037	65	1,942	85	1,590
Jaycees-Junior Chamber of Commerce	32	1,398	15	351	6	57	53	1,806	58	2,023	64	2,205
Kiwanis International	539	22,312	446	10,526	130	1,977	1,115	34,815	1,144	35,302	1,162	37,214
Knights of Pythias	8	260	7	105	4	126	19	491	22	474	26	563
Labor Organizations	98	4,184	30	743	9	103	137	5,030	142	4,668	128	4,353
Law Enforcement Agencies	40	1,905	35	719	23	303	98	2,927	120	3,010	204	4,913
Lions International	1,288	48,539	1,224	24,174	190	1,996	2,702	74,709	2,766	77,337	2,816	79,946
Loyal Order of Moose	154	5,950	146	2,810	41	528	341	9,288	366	9,837	365	9,662
Marines	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	174
Masons-Eastern Star	171	5,880	132	2,354	65	692	368	8,926	360	8,548	322	7,971
Men's Clubs	37	1,490	39	849	22	137	98	2,476	104	2,678	109	2,635
Military Order of World Wars		12	5	37	2	21	8	70	6	55	7	58
National Guard	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	278
Navy, Naval Reserve	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	189
Non-profit Agencies	301	8,289	156	2,451	116	2,916	573	13,656	494	12,050	354	8,425
Odd Fellows (IOOF) Lodge	17	530	15	307	3	16	35	853	39	848	39	1,028
Optimist International	148	6,959	109	2,655	20	225	277	9,839	278	9,865	289	10,287
Other Community Organizations	922	30,192	680	14,671	814	16,421	2,416	61,284	2,492	61,404	2,344	56,068
Playgrounds, Recreation Centers	231	8,240	161	3,465	247	4,172	639	15,877	668	16,607	794	20,008
Professional and Scientific Societies	41	1,636	28	545	46	733	115	2,914	109	2,784	97	2,648
Rotary International	625	27,061	618	15,570	179	3,225	1,422	45,856	1,445	46,215	1,469	46,805
Ruritan Club	125	4,613	127	2,271	23	148	275	7,032	285	7,362	299	7,584
Sertoma International	19	599	7	230	1	6	27	835	25	832	20	791
United States Power Squadrons	0	0	2	29	12	317	14	346	13	280	8	90
VFW, Auxiliary, Cootie	510	20,242	507	10,470	188	2,734	1,185	33,446	1,227	34,675	1,184	34,586
Women's Clubs	27	855	17	300	7	58	51	1,213	51	1,288	50	1,432

History of Scout Law, Original Scout Law Origin Explanations Commentary

10) Rather die honest than live shamelessly.	7. Be brave. Courage is the noblest of all attainments. Fear is in the foundation of all ill; unflinchingness is strength			10. A SCOUT is BRAVE. He has the courage to face danger in spite of fear, and to stand up for the right against the coaxing of friends or the jeers or threats of enemies; and defeat does no down him.	10. BRAVE. A scout can face danger even if he is afraid. He has the courage to stand for what he thinks is right even if others laugh at him or threaten him.	10. A scout is BRAVE. A scout can face danger even if he is afraid. He has the courage to stand for what he thinks is right even if others laugh at him or threaten him.	10. A Scout is brave. A scout can face danger although he is afraid. He has the courage to stand for what he thinks is right even if others laugh at him or threaten him.		
	1. Be clean, - both yourself and the place you live in. For there is no perfect beauty without cleanliness or body, soul and estate. The body is the sacred temple of the spirit, therefore reverence your body. Cleanliness helps first yourself, then those around, and those who keep this law are truly in their country's loving service.		(Added in 1912) 10. A SCOUT IS CLEAN IN THOUGHT, WORD, AND DEED that is he looks down upon a silly youth who talks dirt and does not let himself give way to temptation either to talk it or to think, or do anything dirty. A Scout is Pure and clean-minded and manly.	11. A SCOUT IS CLEAN. He keeps clean in body and thought, stands for clean speech, clean sport, clean habits and travels with a clean crowd.	11. CLEAN. A scout keeps his body and mind fit and lean. He goes around with those who believe in living by these same ideals. He helps keep his home and community clean.	11. A Scout is CLEAN. A Scout keeps his body and mind fit and clean. He goes around with those who believe in living by these same ideals. He helps keep his home and community clean.	11. A Scout is clean. A Scout keeps his body and mind fit. He chooses the company of those who live by high standards. He helps keep his home and community clean.	10. A scout is clean in thought, word, and deed.	10. A Scout is clean in thought, word, and deed. <i>Scouts strive to maintain clean and healthy bodies, clean minds, and to practice clean speech and moral behavior.</i>
	6. Be reverent. Worship the Great Spirit, and respect all worship of Him by others, for none have all the truth and all who reverently worship have claims on our respect.			12. A SCOUTS is REVERENT. He is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties, and respects the convictions of others in matters of custom and religion	12. REVERENT. A Scout is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties. He respects the beliefs of others.	12. A Scout is REVERENT. A Scout is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties. He respects the beliefs of others.	12. A Scout is REVERENT. A Scout is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties. He respects the beliefs of others.		
The Knight's Code (in BSA Scout Law order for comparison)	Woodcraft Indians (in BSA Scout Law order for comparison)	Scouting for Boys, 1908 fortnight series. (CAPS in original)	British Boy Scouts Association Scout Law (c. 1911)	BSA Scout Law, 1911	BSA Scout Law, 1972	BSA Scout Law, 1990	BSA Scout Law, 1999	WFIS-NA Traditional Scout Law	
Source: Scouting for Boys	Source: Ernest Seaton's Birch Bark Roll 1927	Scouter Magazine facsimile	Source: SMHB, 2 nd Ed.	Source: SMHB, 2 nd Ed.	Source: BSA Handbook, 1972	Source: BSA Handbook, 1990	Source: BSA Handbook, 1999 (11 th ed.)	Source: The Traditional Handbook, 2003.	BPSA-USA Scout and Senior Scout Program Manual

Approved programs and awards

The following awards are recognized by the BSA and the religious emblems knot may be worn upon completion of the program.

Faith Proponent Association	Cub Scout	Webelos Scout	Boy Scout Varsity Scout	Venturer Senior Boy Scout Senior Varsity Scout	Adult Recognition
African Methodist Episcopal Church P.R.A.Y.	God and Me	God and Family	God and Church	God and Life	God and Service
African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church P.R.A.Y	God and Me	God and Family	God and Church	God and Life	God and Service
Armenian Apostolic Church of America (Western Prelacy)	none		Saint Mesrob		none
Armenian Church of America (Eastern Diocese)	Saint Gregory		Ararat		none
Baha’I Baha’i Committee on Scouting ¹⁴	Unity of Mankind				Service to Humantiy
Baptist P.R.A.Y. Association of Baptists for Scouting ¹⁵	God and Me	God and Family	God and Church	God and Life	Good Shepherd
Buddhist Nation Buddhist Committee on Scouting ¹⁶	Metta		Sangha		Bodhi
Catholic, Eastern National Catholic Committee on Scouting ¹⁷	Light of Christ (Tigers and Wolves)	Parvuli Dei (Bears and Webelos)	Light is Life	Pope Pius XII	Saint George
Catholic, Roman National Catholic Committee on Scouting ¹⁷	Light of Christ (Tigers and Wolves)	Parvuli Dei (Bears and Webelos)	AD Altare Dei	Pope Pius XII	Saint George
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) P.R.A.Y	God and Me	God and Family	God and Church	God and Life	God and Service
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church P.R.A.Y	God and Me	God and Family	God and Church	God and Life	God and Service
Church of Christ, Scientist P.R.A.Y	The PRAY Program				God and Service

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Boy Scouts of America LDS Relationships ¹⁸	Faith In God		On My Honor		
Churches of Christ Members of Churches of Christ for Scouting ¹⁹	Loving Servant	Joyful Servant	Good Servant		Faithful Servant
Community of Christ World Community Program ²⁰	None	Light of the World	Path of the Disciple	Exploring Community Together	International Youth Service Award
Eastern Orthodox Eastern Orthodox Committee on Scouting ²¹	Saint George	Chi Rio	Alpha Omega		Prophet Elias
Episcopal National Episcopal Scouters Association ²²	God and Me	God and Family	God and Church	God and Life	Saint George Episcopal
General Church of the New Jerusalem (The New Church) Boy Scouts Relations Committee	Ten Commandments Award		Open Word Award		
Hindu North American Hindu Association ²³	Dharma		Dharma Karma	Karma	Dharma Saathi Karma Saathi Dharma Bhakta Karma Bhakta
Islamic National Islamic Committee on Scouting	Bismillah		In the Name of God		Allaho Akber
Jewish National Jewish Committee on Scouting ²⁴	Macabee / Aleph	Aleph	Ner Tamid	Etz Chaim	Shofar
Lutheran National Lutheran Association on Scouting ²⁵	God and Me	God and Family	God and Church	God and Life	Lamb
Meher Baba Committee for Meher Baba and Scouting	Love for God		Compassionate Father		The Ancient One
Moravian Church	none		The PRAY Program		The Order of David Zeisberger
Polish National Catholic Church	Love of God (Milosc Bogz)		The PRAY Program (Bog I Ojczyzna)		Bishop Thaddeus F. Zeilinski
Presbyterian Church in America P.R.A.Y	God and Me	God and Family	God and Church	God and Life	God and Service

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) National Association of Presbyterian Scouters ²⁶	God and Me	God and Family	God and Church	God and Life	God and Service
Protestant and Independent Christian Churches* P.R.A.Y.	God and Me	God and Family	God and Church	God and Life	God and Service
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) Friends Committee on Scouting ²⁷	That of God		Spirit of Truth		Friends
The Salvation Army	God and Me	God and Family Silver Crest	God and Church	God and Life	Scouter's Award
Unitarian Universalist Scouters Organization ²⁸ See Unitarian Universalist Association	Religion and Me	Religion and Family	Living Your Religion		Unitarian Universalist Association
United Church of Christ P.R.A.Y.	God and Me	God and Family	God and Church	God and Life	God and Service
United Methodist National Association of United Methodist Scouters ²⁹	God and Me	God and Family	God and Church	God and Life	God and Service
United Pentecostal Church International	God and Me	God and Family	God and Church	God and Life	God and Service
Unity Churches	none	God in Me	Light of God	none	Distinguish Youth Service
Zoroastrian	none		Good Life		none