

Alumni Board of Directors

Tim Ross	President
Jim Potjunas	Scoutmaster
Dr. Terry Puet	Committee Chair
Bob Staab	Director at Large
Alan Copp	Director at Large

Alumni Committee

Ed Byers	Newsletter
Matt McCracken	Webmaster
Alex Savakis	Pack 6
Janet Thompson	Recruiting



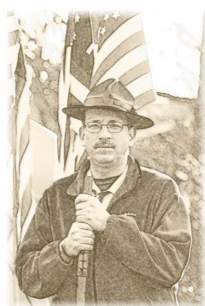
IN THIS ISSUE:

Rob "B.J." Godiciu	p. 2
Spaghetti Dinner	p. 4
Generations: The Nortons	p. 5
From The President	p. 6
Manatoc Pool Project	p. 7
Consolidating the Oath and Law	p. 8

AND MORE!!!

From the Scoutmaster

A New Year - New Troop



Jim Potjunas Scoutmaster

As we begin 2013, Troop 101 finds itself in the middle of a transition. It brings nine new Eagle Scouts and five of those have already aged-out of the Troop. In 2013, with the first being New Year's Day, another 12 Scouts will age-out. Ten of those will be in the first six months. We will probably become a little smaller since it is unlikely that we will recruit and keep 20 new boys this spring.

Our chartered partner, the Elks Club, sold their building last month. There are plans and promises of a nice new meeting place at the other end of the parking lot this next year. But if you have been down to a meeting lately, you will notice that our meeting space, which was never fancy, more and more resembles a storage area.

So 2013 brings us several challenges: at some point we will likely move our meeting place. There is an ongoing transition of experienced youth leadership to eager, young, but inexperienced group of youth ready to try their hand. There is also a new group of young adults struggling to find their role in the Troop. Somewhere among all of this will be a dozen Eagle Courts of Honor.

It doesn't stop there, because every Scout is attached to a Scouting family. Some of these families have younger siblings and will see little change. Others have been key parts of our Troop leadership, committee, Eagle's Wings, or

just there to help when asked. So we have some pretty big openings to fill in the coming year. Some already have transition plans in place. Others are still looking. And there is this need for folks to just step up and be an extra set of hands to help out those key folks.

Many of you alumni may remember when your generation or a previous one graduated and moved on. A bubble pops and the Troop becomes something new. The most common comment I hear from visiting alumni is how they don't recognize hardly anyone. Well, very soon, you may not even recognize the meeting place. Yet we will continue to do what we have always done. There's plenty of camping and other adventures in store for 2013. And if you are so inclined, join us for the activity of your choice. Meet today's Scouts and share a little bit of what it was like 'back in the day!'

-Jim



Scouts raise climbing tower at Beaumont - November, 2012



Feature profile: Rob "B.J." Godiciu

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Troop 101 Eagle Scout #73 - February 19, 1998

AQ: BJ, Lets catch up. Some of us had the opportunity to spend time with you on last summer's Troop Bike Trip, but for the rest of us, what you have been up to?

BJ: There is so much to tell. I am serving as an officer in the United States Air Force. My current assignment is at the Nuclear Weapons Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico where I am Deputy Director of Infrastructure and responsible for managing sustainment programs for the Air Forces' nuclear storage facilities all over the world. Much of what I do is classified, but I can tell you this job has given me the opportunity to travel and see a lot of places I never dreamed of visiting.

AQ: Sounds like a very successful journey.

BJ: After I graduated high school, I attended the University of Toledo College of Engineering with a major in Mechanical Engineering Technology. Within the first year, I pulled the necessary grades to transfer into the traditional Mechanical Engineering program. While in school I was required to co-op with two different companies over three rotations.

First, I worked for Therma-Tru Doors, in Butler, Indiana where I was a process engineer on their main assembly line.

My second rotation was again at Therma-Tru. However, this time, I worked in their design department and on another team that focused on material and parts production.

My third and final rotation was working for Invacare in Elyria, near Cleveland. There I worked on a team known as the Custom Power team, in which we developed the flagship-powered wheel chair. These chairs are a six-wheel design made for extremely handicapped people like Christopher Reeves. I loved this job as it truly allowed me to enjoy my passion as an engineer.

When I graduated from the University of Toledo in 2003, I had attended some informational briefs from the Navy and the Air Force about their officer programs. The Navy wanted to recruit engineers for Nuclear Power School while the Air Force was looking for engineers in several different career fields, but specifically Developmental Engineering and Civil Engineering. My first choice was

Developmental Engineering and my second choice was Civil Engineering. Eventually, I was selected for Civil Engineering and in August of 2004 I was sworn in and attended Officers Training School (OTS) in Montgomery, Alabama.

OTS was a 12- week program that was one of three main commissioning programs for Air Force Officers. It is both basic training and officer training combined. They teach the core military skills such as how to wear the uniform and marching, but also teach you to be a leader capable of commanding troops. At this point, I began to go by "Rob" rather than "BJ" as I needed to maintain a more professional image as an officer.

After graduating OTC and commissioning as a Second Lieutenant, I was stationed at Nellis AFB in Las Vegas, Nevada. During my four-year tour, I was a team chief for a small element known as SABER. SABER was comprised of about six or seven senior-enlisted and civilians who were all experts in the fields of structural, HVAC, plumbing and electrical and managed over \$22 million in construction contracts over two bases. Through two prime contractors, my team was responsible for building the first Predator Operations Center at Creech AFB, Nevada, which led to some of the first operational flights of UAV's in Iraq and Afghanistan flown by pilots sitting in Nevada.

While at Nellis, I had the pleasure of deploying to Manas Air Base, Kyrgyzstan where I was the Engineering Flight Commander in charge of all of the base's contracted construction. Manas is the front door to Afghanistan and is where all US troops going in and out of Afghanistan fly through. They pick up special gear and equipment and transition from chartered aircraft to military transportation. I spent just over six months there and gained a tremendous amount of leadership experience in an environment where no one was shooting at me. While at Nellis I earned my First Lieutenant and Captain rank.



Rob, center with his patrol - Tuscazoar, 1995

From there, my next assignment was in Grand Forks, North Dakota where I was a Readiness and Emergency Management Flight Commander. This team was comprised of a special group of young airmen who are highly trained in chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive (CBRNE) as well as Emergency Management (EM). Fortunately, the only time anything "chemical" came into play was through multiple training exercises where we would prepare to survive in the most extreme wartime scenarios. But in North Dakota, the emergency management element was used for real in 2009 and 2010 when the Red River flooded from Fargo all the way up to the Canadian border. During this flood, the river was over seven miles wide and millions of sandbags were built. My team was responsible for managing people and resources to support flood protection and rescue efforts.

While at Grand Forks I deployed twice. My first deployment (2nd in my career) was to Afghanistan where I worked for a small team of engineers that managed construction contractors all over the country. I was responsible for multi-million dollar construction contracts in the east, north and western parts of Afghanistan. Most of these contracts were to build Kandaks for the Afghan National Army (ANA) which is a base camp for a brigade-sized unit complete with barracks, dining facility, vehicle maintenance, gym, laundry and a clinic. But my favorite project was being able to build a 9000-foot runway for C-17 operations in Shindand, (western) Afghanistan. I spent nearly seven months on that deployment between combat skills training and my time in country.

My next deployment was a four-month deployment to Suriname, a small country along the northern coast of South America. There, I was a liaison to the US Embassy for a task force comprised of specialized construction engineers called RED HORSE (Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineers). This task force, along with several National Guard and Reserve units, built schools, clinics and playgrounds for the people of Suriname as well as medical care and veterinarian services. All this was done as a training opportunity for the Guard and Reserve members.

AQ: Joining the military following college opened up a lot of opportunities for you, didn't it?

BJ: The military was a much deeper choice for me than anything I had ever dreamed of



*Rob Cooking with Chris Whitehead and Geoge Burin
- Beaver Creek, 1994*

experiencing. I needed to prove myself wrong about my perceived lack of ability.

Ever since seeing movies like "Full Metal Jacket" as a kid I had convinced myself that there was no way I was strong enough or brave enough to be in the military. I couldn't run more than a few hundred feet let alone pass a PT test. I couldn't put up with the yelling and screaming, and I couldn't see myself going to war. But that all changed as I got older and realized I was capable of far more than I initially thought and my Eagle was the first step in getting there.

You must first understand my background. My Grandfather, Bob Godiciu, was a Cub Master as well as an Arrowhead District Commissioner, my father was in Scouts at a young age and my Grandma was a Den Mother. I remember my father explaining to me how much an Eagle has to do in order to earn his rank. I could tell he was impressed and respected any boy who was an Eagle. But he said it in such a way that you could tell he wished he had made the effort, that he wished he had what it took to do what those Eagles did. I wanted to make him proud, so I did.

The same held true for engineering. I recall listening to my father look up to those engineers who applied themselves and were designing the cars he was working on. Granted he would be frustrated with some stupid designs, but that made me want to become an engineer. I wanted to make my father proud. I wanted to become the best engineer I could and vowed to never make a stupid design that someone like my father would have to live with. So I did.

And I recall many times going to air shows with my father and listening to him explain all the acts of strength and bravery that Air Force pilots and airmen displayed. The level of integrity they upheld and the respect they were owed. I knew he looked up to them, I knew he respected them and much like the Eagles, he wished he had the opportunity. Again I wanted to make him proud, so I did.

My father passed away from stage-four lymph

node cancer when I was 16 years old. He never had a chance to see any of this, but I never let him down.

AQ: Let's talk a little more about your grandfather, Bob, who as you mentioned, was a great Scouter and highly regarded throughout the Arrowhead District and the Greater Western Reserve Council. How much of an impact did he have on your scouting career?

BJ: He was someone that I looked up to, but I never fully understood his role in the Council. He never pushed me. That wasn't his style. He just smiled and I would follow him anywhere. My Grandfather was a humble man. He never did anything that wasn't for other people. His service and dedication is something that I can only imagine but now I am starting to understand more.

AQ: Do you plan to follow in those footsteps?

BJ: I am now the charter org rep for the local Troop 85 in Albuquerque and just recently came back to do the bike trip with Troop 101. My Grandfather was also a Navy veteran during WWII. Joining the military was, in a way, wanting to make the same commitment that he did – a life of service to something, far greater than myself or even my family.

AQ: Let's talk a little about the Troop and the role Scouting may have played in preparing you for your life in the armed forces.

BJ: Scouting taught me about who I was and my true capabilities. It taught me about leadership, commitment, time management, and comrade. Sure there were times when my knot tying skills came in handy, navigating through the woods with a crappy map and a compass, or caring for a first aid emergency, but for me, the most important thing was it gave me the confidence I needed to get where I am today. Had I failed back then, it's hard to say where I would be now.



McKinley, 1993

AQ: Just how huge is the Eagle rank upon entering the military? We hear all these stories.

BJ: Hard to say for certain, but for me, it may have been the reason I was selected for OTS over another person's package. I will say that it makes a bigger difference if you are applying for one of the academies or trying for a competitive ROTC scholarship.

AQ: Share some of your favorite Troop memories with us - the good, the bad and the ugly.



Bike Trip - August, 2000

BJ: Some of the more favorable memories I have had would be ones where I had a chance to develop friendships and relationships with fellow Scouts and the mentorships the adults were able to provide.

Some of the things come to mind are singing campfire songs and watching the older Scouts perform epic episodes of "Making Beans," and the small victories at Winter Event. I also vividly remember hiking, biking and canoeing with Mr. Stevens, Tom Stack, Adam "AJ" John, Adam Ramos, Dan Drummond and Dr. Ken LaPolla.

AQ: Is there one classic episode that tops them all?

BJ: Yeah, the story that always comes to mind was after canoeing for more than five hours across several lakes and portages in Algonquin Park, we finally made camp for the night. For recreation, the boys thought it would be fun to catch bullfrogs in the lake and hold them in the canoe. One escapee made a jump for it, and "The Warden", aka Tom Stack, jumped after it. In mid lunge, the canoe went one way, Tom the other and in the chaos, Toms knee caught on the gunnel of the canoe slicing it wide open. We dragged him up on the sunning rock by the lake and called for Dr. Ken LaPolla. He runs over, sees the gaping gash in Tom's knee. He looks at me and tells me to get his backpack and said, "I knew I packed those sutures for a reason!"

For the next few minutes we watched a dentist perform surgery without an ounce of anesthetic or alcohol while sitting on a rock in the most remote location of Canada.

continued on page 4

AQ: Was there ever a moment you thought about walking away from Scouting and how did you overcome it?

BJ: I walked away once. It was my first winter event at Camp Chickagami and I was cold to the bone and my shoes were wet and frozen solid. I didn't feel like I was well liked in the patrol and my fun-o-meter was pegged. I didn't want to be there and I convinced Mr. Potjunas to let me go home. I regretted that day and haven't given up on anything since.



Rob crossing the finish line - Bike Trip August, 2012

AQ: You currently live in New Mexico?

BJ: Yes, I own a small house in Albuquerque and enjoy much of the same things I did when I was in Ohio. I still like to hike, mountain bike and ski as well as fly model planes and helicopters but I really enjoy driving my

Subaru STI in local Auto-X events. Auto-X is an amateur motor sport competition where you drive your streetcar through a series of orange cones set up in a closed parking lot. I do most of my own work on my car and hope to someday begin restoring an old classic muscle car.

AQ: What are your goals?

BJ: My goal is to be happy. As for my career, I plan to give military retirement a shot and then go off and do something purely for fun. I would like to work as an engineer designing something fun. Maybe start my own business; maybe invent something. As for my personal life, I plan to get married someday, have a few children and have a family of my own. But most importantly I plan to enjoy life.

Shortly before moving to Albuquerque, I was introduced to young lady named Amanda who is a Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) student at the University of North Dakota. She and I have been dating for the past year and have been doing extremely well through the long distance. She has one-



Rob and Amanda

helped show me the way, and it will help you too.



Paddle Saddle - August, 1998



Tuscazoar - February, 1995



Bike Trip - August, 2000

Troop Annual Spaghetti Dinner

Troop 101's 34th Annual Spaghetti Dinner will be Palm Sunday, March 24, at Blessed Sacrament Church.

12:00 PM to 6:00 PM

take out is available on adult tickets

Costs:

Adult: \$7.00

Youth (12-12): \$4.50





Sean, Jack, Lynne and Erin - Bike Trip, 2008

If you have been involved with Troop 101, chances are better than average that you know one or more members of the Norton Family, Jack and Lynne and their children, Chris, Erin, and Sean. Then there's Lynne's brother, Jeff Koncki, and Jeff's parents, Jan and Ray who were also very active in the Troop.

Back in 1979, Jack was the youngest member of our crew that went to Philmont. Then in 1984, Jeff joined troop 101. He went on to earn his Eagle in 1991. Jack joined us as an



Chris - February, 2005

Generations: The Norton Family

Assistant Scoutmaster in 1992 and by 1995 Chris was joining. Chris earned his Eagle in 2001 and come 2005, Sean had joined. In the month of October Sean turned 18 and became an Eagle Scout. His Court of Honor is set for Saturday, January 12 at Howland United Methodist Church.

During all those years, both Jack and Lynne have been Merit Badge Counselors. Lynne has worked with Eagle's Wings and done spaghetti dinner tickets numerous times. They have handled the Nut Sale, provided transportation after many a band activity, worked on our Christmas Service projects, and bunches of other projects. Both served on camp staff at Badger Meadows. Erin was almost born there! Lynne also worked on staff at Camp Manatoc. All of them have been to Algonquin and all of them have done the Bike Trip.

Jack, Lynne, Erin, and Sean were recognized at the Troop's Christmas Party last month for all of their years of service.

Jack's latest passion is going back through the photo archives and tagging as many people as he can remember. As of this writing he has tagged over 17,000 people in over 6,000 pictures! That should get him a special historic chairmanship on the Alumni Committee!

While we take time to recognize this family for all they have done, we never want to give the impression



Chris, Eagle #86



Sean, Eagle #124

that this has to be the end. We realize that the intensity of involvement will be somewhat less, but we hope that both through the Troop and hopefully also with the Troop Alumni Association that we will continue to enjoy our relationship with this family that has given so much of itself to others through the years.



A NEW RECORD!!!

2012 Yields Nine Troop 101 Eagle Scouts

In 1912 the Scouting organization gave out the first Eagle Scout medal to Arthur Rose Eldred, age 17. Since then, over 83 million young men have attempted the climb to Eagle Scout. Of this large membership pool, only a small percentage of young men have attained the rank of Eagle Scout.

In Troop 101 we have had 127 Eagles since 1977. Before 2012 the highest number of Eagles in a year was eight in 2004, but we've just achieved a new record in 2012 with nine. Seems like a National trend as the BSA just announced almost 58,000 youth earned their Eagle this year. (More than any year prior) Congratulations to our 2012 Eagle Scouts: Andrew Baker, Matt Thompson, Daniel Young, Zac Szewczyk, Lucas Downing, Sean Norton, Bryce Kuszmaul, Josh McFall, and Thomas Downing.



Trivia

1. What singer will open the stadium show at the Summit Jamboree?
2. How many Eagle Scouts does Troop 101 currently have?
3. Since restarting the Alumni Newsletter, how many issues have been released?
4. What splice is used to make a loop?
5. Which hand do you use for the Scout handshake and why?

Fun Facts

Since 1920, World Scout Jamborees have been held almost every four years, except during the Second World War, and hosted all over the world.

2012 had more Eagle Scouts than any other year to date.

Answers

1. Carly Rae Jepsen
2. 127
3. 14 issues if you count this one.
4. Eye Splice
5. Left hand, because it is closest to your heart.



Tim Ross
President

As a businessman and Troop Alumni President, I have heard and used the old saying, "many hands make light work," a zillion times and I often wondered where it originated. At first I thought it was biblical, but in doing some research I was mistaken.

According to what I found, it came from John Heywood (1497-1580) an English writer known for his plays, poems, and collection of proverbs. Heywood's famous "many hands make light work" epigram dates back to 1546 and it simply means that, when everyone gets involved in something, the work gets done quickly and efficiently. I can vouch for that. So can anyone associated with the Troop and Alumni Association Leadership!

As we head into 2013, we are very fortunate to have a lot of hardworking, dedicated people contributing to our Alumni Association mission and our vision, which officially reads:

The Alumni Association's purpose is to maintain ties with Troop 101 Alumni and continue being the Troop's Historian preserving the rich tradition of being a top quality Scouting program for the youth of our community through education and financial support.

When it comes to running a successful organization, many people are involved in various capacities. The Troop 101 Alumni Association is no exception. We

From the President "Many Hands Make Light Work"

have Jim and Sandy Potjunas, Terry Puet, Bob Staab, Janet Thompson, Al Copp and family, in addition to Alex Savakis serving the Alumni Association. Matt McCracken and Ed Byers Sr. make this newsletter possible four times a year. There is so much more to this Association than meets the eye.

So, looking over our new org chart, we find our Association in capable hands, but what concerns me most are some of the gaps that we need to fill. A lot of activities and service projects are spread among all of these people and often times, we feel we are spread a little too thin.

Here are seven areas where certainly could use your help: Secretary, Family Camp, Reunions, Scout Resources, Donations, Accounting/Finances/Taxes, and Special Events.

Let me assure you, there isn't a whole lot of heavy lifting involved in most of these areas, but we need to add to our depth chart. I would ask you, our Alumni, to join a great group of people who volunteer their time to make the Alumni Association run smoothly.

Think about it and please let me know if there are any of these areas where you would like to help make our work, our mission and our vision "a little lighter" – and better – for the boys and everyone involved in the Troop and the Alumni Association. Just drop me a line: tross4@neo.rr.com. We can discuss further.

Here's to yet another year of successful Scouting.

Happy New Year!

-Tim



Keeping up with Camp Manatoc Swimming Pool Project

Troop 101's Scouts will have yet another reason to look forward to Summer Camp 2013 at Camp Manatoc. Ground was officially broken on August 18, 2012 for the new Camp Manatoc Swimming Pool.

The new Manatoc Aquatic Center will feature a new 7,000 square foot bath house. The new pool will have over 7,000 square feet of area with a non-swimmer teaching area, Swimming and Life Saving Merit Badge area, lap lanes, a diving well with two one meter boards, and an area for Snorkel and Scuba Merit Badges. This all replaces the Camp's 37-year old pool and shower house.

Here are a few shots of the new pool under construction including an architect's rendering of what the finished Aquatic Center will look like.

You can keep up to date on the project by checking out the Camp's Pool Construction Page.
http://www.manatoc.org/year_around_camp/facilities/manatoc/pool/index.html



Cooking it up with Troop 101 **Featured Recipe: BBQ Pork Steaks**

A 101 campout just isn't complete unless it's with good friends and good food. In November, Ben Hoover, Liberty Patrol leader prepared a BBQ Dutch Oven meal that we've decided to feature in this issue. Take a look at the menu below:

BBQ Pork Steaks: serves 12 (prepare at lunch)

- 1 pork butt (cut into 1/2 inch slices)
- 2 bottles BBQ sauce
- 1 handful or your favorite dry BBQ rub

Right after lunch, give your steaks a good rub down with a liberal amount of your favorite rub (Ben used "Gates- Hot & Spicy" from his fathers collection.) Once seasoned to perfection, throw the steaks on to the griddle to brown. Leave them on just long enough to get some nice marks on both sides to add a little character to your pork.

Once reasonably attractive, layer the steaks into two Dutch Ovens, and pour a bottle of BBQ sauce into each, Ben used "Open Pit- Original", and equal parts water for each as well. Once the meat is settled in, put the Dutch Ovens into the key holes (dug out of the fire pit) with the equivalent of a charcoal briquette/campfire coal ratio of ten on the top and five on the bottom. Keep the meat at a low simmer for as long as possible (at least two hours, or until supper time.) Rotating the coals all the while. Then, remove your beauties and serve tastefully with wonderful sides. Enjoy!



Cooking, Sustainability merit badges to become Eagle-required

New Eagle-required merit badges:



By Bryan Wendell
Eagle Scout and Senior Editor of Scouting magazine.



Beginning Jan. 1, 2014, badge on the right will get a silver border. Moms and dads, prepare the needle and thread!

Sustainability and Cooking merit badges will join the list of Eagle-required merit badges over the next 14 months, the Boy Scouts of America's National Executive Board announced today.

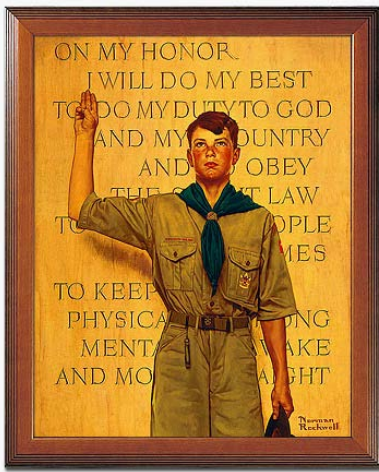
Sustainability, a new merit badge, will join Environmental Science as an Eagle Scout option after its debut at the 2013 jamboree.

Cooking, meanwhile, will become Eagle-required as of Jan. 1, 2014.

The Sustainability merit badge, in essence, takes conservation and environmental science to another level. The protection, preservation, and management of wildlife and natural resources involved in conservation provide a foundation for what we call environmental science. The latter integrates physical and biological sciences such as ecology, biology, soil science, atmospheric science, and others in order to generate solutions to environmental issues. Sustainability takes off from there by taking responsibility for balancing long-term environmental, social, health, and economic needs with progress and development. It further suggests that development, while meeting the needs of the present, cannot compromise the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

Why the change? The goal is to "reflect a better balance of the needs of youth and our nation today and in the future," according to the BSA's resolution. Personally, I like it. Keeping up with the ever-changing world means questioning the way things have always been done.

The total number of merit badges required for the Eagle Scout Award will remain at 21. In other words, instead of 12 Eagle required badges and 9 elective badges, a Scout must earn 13 Eagle required and 8 elective badges.



It's official: The resolution to move to one Oath and Law for Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Varsity, Sea Scouts, and Venturing has been approved by the Boy Scouts of America's executive board.

Essentially, this means every Scout of any age will use the Scout Oath and Law instead of reciting separate, program-specific sayings. Cub Scouts will recite the Scout Oath and Law instead of the Cub Scout Promise and Law of the Pack. Similarly, Venturers will no longer use the Venturing Oath and Venturing Code.

Because it will take time to transition into this new approach, the changes are not immediate.

The Venturing change will not happen until late 2013 or early 2014; the Cub Scout change will take effect in mid-2015. Stay tuned to my blog for exact dates as I get them.

Additionally, the newly adopted resolution replaces the full-hand Venturing sign and salute with the three-finger Boy Scout sign and salute.

Frequently asked questions

Here are the BSA's answers to some questions already received...

Q: What, specifically, is being changing?

A: Cub Scouts:

- Adopt the Scout Oath and Law for use in the Cub Scout program, retiring the Cub Scout Promise.
- Revise the Core Values of Cub Scouts to align exactly with the 12 points of the Scout Law.

BSA to Use Scout Oath and Scout Law for All Programs

- Retire the Law of the Pack, while maintaining the concept of "Akela" as leader.

- Maintain the current Cub Scout motto, sign, salute, and handshake.

Q: Why are these changes happening?

A: Each program is designed to help instill the goals of the BSA mission in its members' daily lives. As the BSA strives to operate as one organization, build continuity of membership over a person's life, and deliver its mission, considering one Oath and Law as a tool to unify our membership is appropriate. Additionally, the earlier and longer a member is exposed to the values of the Scout Oath and Law, the better the opportunity is that they will be able to live those values in their lives.

Q: How did these recommendations come to be?

A: Two separate task forces have worked on the deliberations leading to the recommendations – the Strategic Plan Goal 411 Task Force and the Venturing Task Force. Each of these is volunteered and staffed (approximately 50 and 25 volunteers, respectively).

These task forces made the initial deliberations and recommendations beginning in 2011 and early 2012 respectively.

In the case of the Cub Scout, the 411 task force consulted with cognitive and child development specialists and educational practitioners involved in Scouting. Specifically, these professional and scouters were asked to consider age & developmental appropriateness of the current Cub Scout Promise and Law of the Pack versus the Scout Oath and Law. The outcome of this study suggested that comprehension difficulty is high for both but not materially higher for the Scout Oath. Further the study group concluded that Cub Scouts could understand the Scout Law just as well as the Cub Scout Promise with appropriate support and guidance. Additionally, research among parents (62% favorable) and Cub Scout leaders (59% favorable) was also supportive. Cub Scouts would not be asked to memorize or recite the Scout Law at early ages.

Q: Isn't the Scout Oath and Law much more difficult for Cub Scout age boys

to memorize and understand?

A: This was an initial concern of the task force. To address this concern, the task force recruited a group of individuals with experience in child development and linguistics and a group of educational practitioners. All of these individuals are Scouters.

After study, the group's conclusions were:

- Both sets of value statements contain complex concepts requiring support and guidance for the user to fully understand and learn to live by.

- Both sets of values statements are written at a relatively high reading level, but the Scout Oath is not significantly more difficult to read and comprehend than the Cub Scout Promise.

- The Law of the Pack is significantly more difficult for Cub Scout age boys to understand than either the Cub Scout Promise or the Scout Oath and contains concepts for which younger Cub Scouts are not developmentally prepared.

- Cub Scout age boys will be able to learn and comprehend the Scout Oath with support and guidance similar to that currently provided when learning the Cub Scout Promise (cards as prompts, guided discussion on meaning, etc.).

- Cub Scouts in early ranks should not be expected to memorize the Scout Law but are developmentally ready to begin exposure to the words of the Law and are ready to begin building understanding of the concepts with help.

Q: Cub Scouts is not Boy Scouts. If Cub Scouts use the Scout Oath and Law, what will separate the programs, what will the boys look forward to?

A: Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts are separate programs. Cub Scouts preparing to move to Boy Scouts will continue to anticipate the new uniform, the increase in independence and leadership growth of the patrol method, the enhanced opportunities for fun and adventure thru age appropriate troop activities they could not do as Cub Scouts and the Boy Scout advancement program and other opportunities. Use of the same Oath and Law will unify them with their older "brothers" but will not make them Boy Scouts.

<http://Troopphoto.Troop101.net>

The Troop 101 photo gallery now contains over **54,000** photos from 1975 to the present.



February 1978



August 2000



January 2006



July 2008



November 2009



October 2012

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

- **January**

January 18-20, 2013 - Winter Event.

- **February**

February 8-10, 2013 - Camping at Beaumont.

- **March**

March 8, 2013 - Camping at Bucoco.

March 24, 2013 - Troop's Annual Spaghetti Dinner.

- **June**

June 16 - 21, 2013 - Allegheny Canoe Trip.

FOR MORE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES BE SURE TO CHECK OUT THE TROOP CALENDAR AT
<http://Troop101.net/calendar.asp>

We get email...



To the Alumni Newsletter Staff,

I just finished reading the alumni newsletter and I have to say it was another masterpiece. I can't wait for the next one especially since it will have the new section "generations" in it. That was a great idea!

Sincerely,
Christopher Ross
Eagle Scout #97

This Year's Big Trip

Our weeklong adventure this year will be in June rather than August. This will be our second time canoeing 52 miles down the Allegheny River. We start out with a little time on the reservoir and then we head down to the base of the dam to launch. We will spend the next several days paddling and camping with a support crew, much like what we do for the bike trips.

We have most of our logistics and campsites down from the last time we did this trip in 2009. Just like the bike trip we will continue to refine and improve it. The dates are June 16-21 – just in case any of you are interested!

More details to come in the next issue of the Troop 101 Alumni Quarterly.

