



# Strengthening Youth Through Scouting

## *What Scouting Brings to the Table*

Jim Robertson

District Commissioner

Seminole Springs

Central Florida Council





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**CHARACTER**



**FITNESS**



**CITIZENSHIP**



**LEADERSHIP**

# STRENGTHENING YOUTH THROUGH **SCOUTING**





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# Strengthening Youth Through Scouting

What is the Good that comes to our youth through Scouting?

- Acquire Skills
- Experience New Things
- Build Self Confidence
- Teach / Reinforce Values
- Do Good Deeds - Give Service to Others
- Enrich the Life of the Scout and those around him
- Achieve Goals / Recognition
- Learn Leadership by Doing
- etc





# Strengthening Youth Through Scouting

## What about Merit Badges / Striving for Eagle?

- About 6 percent of all Boy Scouts earned the Eagle Scout rank in 2013/2014.
- But Scouting has a long-term impact on more Scouts:

83 percent of men who were Scouts agree that the values they learned in Scouting continue to be very important to them today, with 63 percent who were Scouts five or more years strongly agreeing with this statement





# Strengthening Youth Through Scouting

What does Scouting “Bring to the Table” that makes it unique?

"Let us, therefore, in training our Scouts, keep the higher aims in the forefront, not let ourselves get too absorbed in the steps. Don't let the technical outweigh the moral. Field efficiency, back woodsmanship, camping, hiking, Good Turns, jamboree comradeship are all means, not the end. **The end is CHARACTER with a purpose.**"

- Lord Baden Powell





# Strengthening Youth Through Scouting

## Mission

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

## Scout Oath

On my honor I will do my best  
to do my duty to God and my country  
and to obey the Scout Law;  
to help other people at all times;  
to keep myself physically strong,  
mentally awake, and morally straight.

## Scout Law

A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful,  
friendly, courteous, kind, obedient,  
cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.





# Strengthening Youth Through Scouting

Scouting provides the **Tools** to help youth

**Build Character** and **Make Ethical & Moral Choices**

## Aims And Methods of Scouting

- Character
- Citizenship
- Fitness
- Patrol Method
- Ideals
- Association with Adults
- Personal Growth
- Leadership Development
- Outdoor Program
- Advancement
- Uniform

When you want a thing done,

'Don't do it yourself'

is a good motto for Scoutmasters.

- Lord Baden-Powell



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# Strengthening Youth Through Scouting

## Scouting Needs to appeal to a broader group of Youth than those that like Camping

Scouting is more than camping and merit badges. Scouting is spirituality, duty, growth, and leadership. Properly trained leaders can better understand Scouting and appreciate the program's potential to help young men grow.

Hard things stretch us and allow us to bless others. Scouting is one way to help prepare young men to do hard things.

Scouting's outdoor program is part of its message of self-reliance, but it's more than that. It's a relationship-building program in which young men work with each other and with their advisers, doing things that stretch them physically and emotionally. It puts them in contact with nature, freeing them from the distractions of a world that is growing increasingly noisy.

- David Beck

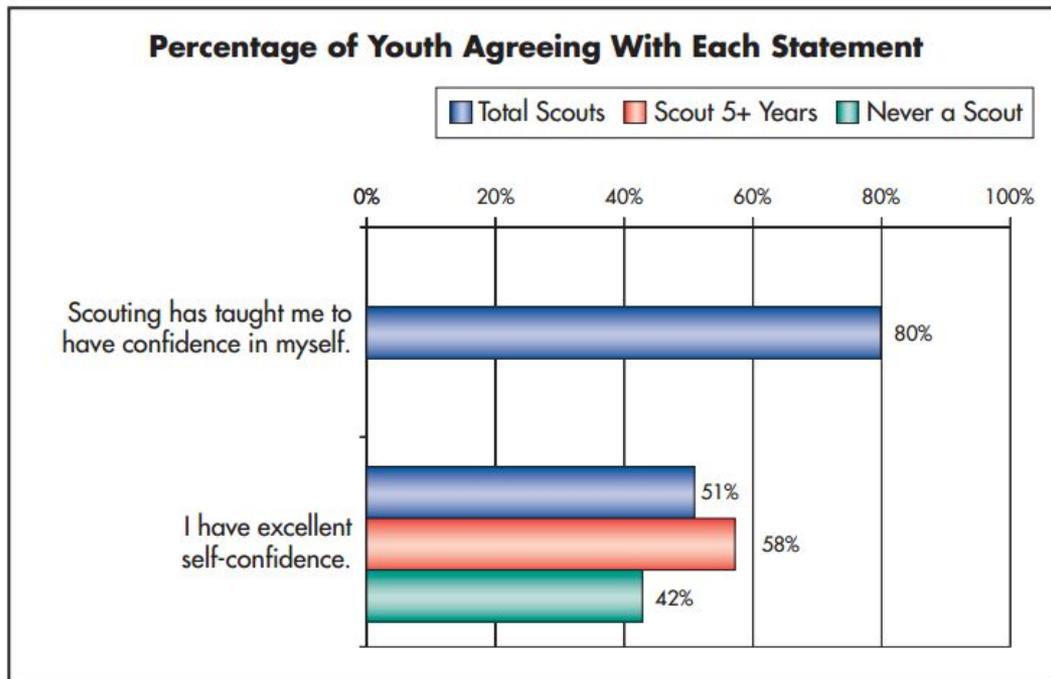




# Strengthening Youth Through Scouting

Scouting  
Builds  
Confidence

“Doing Hard Things”





# Strengthening Youth Through Scouting

Are we prepared to reach the new Youth looking to Scouting?

## Generation “Z”

- Interested in Social Causes
- More open minded
- Practical and solution-oriented
- less interested in “camping” but still like “outdoors”

Some Councils are showing Growth over 2014 - Are we ready?

"Baden-Powell was progressive Educator... Scouting is really an educational program making use of recreational means." - John Pettifer





# Strengthening Youth Through Scouting

- Boy led Troop
- Are we remembering all the **Aims and Methods** of Scouting (not just our favorites)
  - Personal Growth
  - Leadership Development (PLC run by boys, Troop Leadership Training)
  - Ideals
- Patrol Method - do Patrols have autonomy to “do their own thing”
- Are the Scouters doing the leading





# Strengthening Youth Through Scouting

Keep an Open Mind - if Scouts want to do something that isn't "standard Scouting"

Untapped Scouting Resources - Merit Badges / STEM / Venturing / Varsity

|                     |                         |                      |                          |             |
|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| Elective MB         | Backpacking             | Plants and Wildlife  | Discovering America      | Softball    |
| STEM                | Cave Exploring          | Project COPE         | Frontiersman             | Swimming    |
| - Science           | Cycling/Mountain Biking | Scuba                | Mechanics                | Tennis      |
| - Technology        | Ecology                 | Shooting Sports      | Operation On-Target      | Triathlon   |
| - Engineering       | Equestrian              | Watercraft           | Rock Climbing/Rappelling | Volleyball  |
| - Math              | Fishing                 | Winter Sports        | Roller Hockey            | Waterskiing |
|                     | Hunting                 |                      | Snow Camping             | Whitewater  |
| First Aid           | Lifesaver               | Basketball           | Soccer                   |             |
| Land Navigation     | Mountaineering          | Bowling              |                          |             |
| Wilderness Survival | Outdoor Living History  | Canoe Camping        |                          |             |
| Conservation        | Physical Fitness        | Cross-Country Skiing |                          |             |





# Strengthening Youth Through Scouting





# Strengthening Youth Through Scouting

“The end is CHARACTER with a purpose.”

Tools to help youth

Build Character and Make Ethical & Moral Choices

Scouting’s outdoor program is a relationship-building program in which young men work with each other and with their advisers, doing things that stretch them physically and emotionally.

“Doing Hard Things”





# Strengthening Youth Through Scouting

## References

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[The Millennial Generation Research Review](#)

[STEM / Venturing / Varsity](#) References

