



Message from the Young Men General Presidency

What are the attributes of great leaders of boys and young men?

Have you ever thought about what makes some men great leaders of boys? A little more than a year ago while I was attending a Wood Badge course, I began to think about this question. What do boys and young men see and experience in leaders whom they respect, love, and want to be like?



With this question in mind, I set out to interview and tape young men who were nearing the end of their high school years—young men who have spent considerable time in Scout and priesthood-related activities. With my video camera rolling, I simply ask, “You have had many priesthood and Scout leaders. Think about those who really connected with you, really had an impact on your life. Tell me about them. What were they like? What did they do that made them so influential, so appealing to you?”

What follows are insightful comments derived from these interviews with young men. As you read them, think about your own leadership attributes and how you could grow.

Boys and young men are great sincerity detectors. One young man said, “You cannot fake love.” Boys know when their leaders are genuinely engaged with and interested in them. “You could tell that Bro. _____ really wanted to be with us.” “We could always feel his love.” This love is communicated in listening, reflecting boys’ feelings, and in showing sincere concern about what is happening in their lives—with peers, in school, and within their families. “He understands what I am going through.” “He knows what’s happening to me at school.” “He takes time to seek me out for one-on-one conversations.”

Young men like leaders who are young in heart and mind—even if they may be “mature.” “Even though he was older, he was fun to be around.” “He treated us as if we were part of his family—his sons.” “He hasn’t forgotten what it means to be a teenager.” “He eats and plays with us—I think I could tell him anything.” “I have genuine conversations with him.” “I totally trust him.” Unhurried listening and informal conversations on the part of adult leaders pay big dividends in building relationships, nurturing trust, and forming testimonies.

Young men like leaders who are open about their feelings regarding spiritual matters. “He is very strong in the Spirit. It makes me want to be around men like him.” “He bears his testimony.” “He shares his testimony about everything in life. He helps me understand what I can do to be successful in solving my own problems. He causes me to think about things that are true in this Church.” “He is a good example. He is honest.” “He calls me to repentance, but not in hard ways. He offers advice.”

I loved one young man’s response when he said, “My leader is a good husband.” Young men are quick to observe husband/wife relationships. They are very observant of married couples and the ways in which they show love and concern for each other. Young men talked about other powerful attributes and behaviors. “He pushes us to do our best.” “He pushes us to our limits.” Young men learn with and through these leaders to do “hard things.” “He came to school events like plays, my swim meets.” “He is interested in what I am doing.” “He is positive.” “He is always optimistic.” “He lets us make choices and teaches how to do what we want to do.” “He embodies the driving force of the priesthood. He is organized and sets goals for himself.”

Several young men spoke about reflections—the capacity of adult advisers to share their feelings and insights about outdoor and other experiences. “He helps us make sense of activities.” “He really knows how to share his feelings and insights.”

Scouting is the ideal vehicle for forming and sustaining great relationships with boys and young men. When “adult association” is well done, it is unrivaled in its strength to bless the lives of boys, young men, and their families.

Returning to the question posed earlier—“Have you ever thought about what makes some men great leaders of boys?” You now have some ideas provided by young men who have been blessed by great leaders. Please take a moment to think about the steps you could take to make your relationships, connections, and associations with young men more edifying, more lasting and influential, as well as more Christ like?

Submitted by M. Winston Egan, Young Men General Board Member

Message from Primary General Presidency



During a recent visit to a Little Philmont Scouting Leadership Conference, I was taught that asking **why** gives vision, asking

what builds successful programs, and asking **how** helps us fulfill our responsibilities in Scouting. The Faith in God program is offered to every boy age 8-11. Let's ask why Faith in God gives vision, what we can do to make Faith in God a successful program, and how Faith in God helps boys fulfill their Scouting responsibilities.

Why does Faith in God give vision? The Faith in God program helps a boy become the person Heavenly Father knows he can become—a worthy Priesthood holder who keeps his covenants by living the gospel every day. Faith in God helps boys live gospel principles, develop testimonies, and prepare to be righteous Aaronic Priesthood holders. This program also encourages boys to memorize the Articles of Faith.

What can we do to make Faith in God a successful program? To maintain a gospel focus in Scout activities, leaders use the Faith in God for Boys guidebook as one of their resources. As boys fulfill requirements in the guidebook, they also qualify for religious awards in Scouting. Parents can use these guidebooks as resources for activities with individual children and with the entire family.

How does Faith in God help boys fulfill their Scouting responsibilities? Scouting provides opportunities for boys to enjoy the outdoors, develop skills in many areas, and participate in sports and other wholesome activities. Faith in God and Scouting work hand in hand to prepare boys physically, mentally, and spiritually to receive the Priesthood of God.

By asking **why**, **what** and **how** we can be more successful in using the Faith in God program to bless the lives of our boys.

Submitted by Joy Jones, Primary General Presidency Board Member

Elder Jack H. Goaslind, Jr. Dies at Age 83

Elder Jack H. Goaslind, Jr., an emeritus General Authority and a lifelong champion of youth, died April 27 in Salt Lake City. He was 83.

Elder Goaslind is survived by his wife, Gwen Caroline Bradford Goaslind, and their six children.



A Salt Lake City native, Elder Goaslind was born April 18, 1928, to Jack H. and Anita Jack Goaslind. He graduated from the University of Utah and served as an officer in the U.S. Air Force.

He was called to preside over the Arizona Tempe Mission in 1975.

Elder Goaslind was a vice president of a metals corporation before being called to the First Quorum of the Seventy on September 30, 1978, at age 50.

He twice served as a member of the Presidency of the Seventy, from 1985 - 1987 and again from 1995 - 1998.

He would become synonymous with Scouting and for his work with the youth of the Church, serving as second counselor in the Aaronic Priesthood MIA general presidency (1972-1974) and later as the Young Men general president (1990-1998).

Elder Goaslind was granted emeritus status on October 3, 1998. Two years later he was called as president of the Manti Utah Temple.

Sister Goaslind served as the temple matron.

In 2007, Elder Goaslind was inducted into the Order of Saint Michael of the Wing at the Catholic Church's Cathedral of the Madeleine in Salt Lake City. He was honored because of his humanitarian efforts in the former Portuguese colony of Sao Tome off the coast of West Africa while serving as president of the British Isles-Africa Area from 1987-1990.

Article from Church News, week of April 28, 2011



LDS Exhibit to Share Beliefs at 2011 World Scout Jamboree in Sweden

Scouts and Scouters from around the world will gather for the 22nd World Scout Jamboree near Rinkaby, Sweden, this summer from July 27th to August 7th. In addition to a large contingency from the Great Salt Lake Council, approximately 400 LDS youth and leaders from many countries are expected to be among the 40,000 participants.

One of the jamboree highlights is a large “Faith and Beliefs” area. Here the Scouts will be invited to exhibit tents set up by various world religions. In addition to the LDS faith, Scouts can learn about other beliefs—Baha’i, Buddhist, Catholic, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim, Orthodox, Protestant, Sikh and Won Buddhist. A major goal of the Faith and Beliefs area is to increase understanding and build respect for those whose beliefs are different from our own. The overall theme of the area is “REFLECTIONS,” with a goal of helping each Scout reflect on his person ideology.

The LDS tent and exhibit is expected to attract large crowds. Led by members of the Young Men General Presidency and LDS-BSA Relationships, about 30 LDS Scout leaders will staff the area and help the youth reflect on their Past, Present and Future families. A well-trained group of Family History specialists will help them explore the roots of their Past family, providing computer access and instruction to help them begin genealogical research. Scouts will place a leaf on a family tree representing their country of residence. They will also have the opportunity to send a video postcard home to their Present family. Discussion will take place regarding the “For Strength of Youth” pamphlet, which will be available in many different languages. Scouts will be encouraged to think of their Future family and what values they want to instill in them.

Participants will also have the opportunity to earn the George Albert Smith award, which was extremely popular at the 2010 National Jamboree in Virginia. The award requirements include becoming familiar with some LDS beliefs and beginning some Family History research. They must also complete some reading, including a story about former Church President and great Scouter, George Albert Smith.

Jamborees, both National and World, are an exceptional way to bring together Scouts from different backgrounds, cultures and beliefs and to foster brotherhood, cooperation and better understanding. This jamboree is called, “Simply Scouting,” and should be an example of Scouting at its finest. Sweden—here we come!!

Submitted by Roma Bishop, International Service Team Member and co-chairs with her husband, Wayne, the LDS Tent in the Faith and Beliefs Area

Brother’s Keeper a Hero

Grant Grier, age 12, of the Wilmington First Ward, Wilmington Delaware Stake, recently received the Boy Scouts of America Heroism Award. The award is presented to youth who have demonstrated heroism in saving a life.

In June of 2010, Grant used several Heimlich thrusts on his 4-year old brother, Carson, to dislodge a small metal ball from his throat.

"Grant used skills that he learned from Boy Scouts," said Steven Grier, Grant's father, "And if you ask Carson about the metal ball, he smiles and says, 'My big brother saved me!'"

"I was watching TV when I heard my sister scream from behind me," Brother Grier reported, "I turned around and my brother was choking on a small, metal ball from a toy. So I jumped up and did the Heimlich. The ball came out after three tries. I yelled, 'It's out, it's out!' After all that, I calmed him down."



A BSA National Court of Honor was held on March 23, 2011 at the LDS meetinghouse in Wilmington to present the Heroism Award. Local Scout and Church leaders and elected officials gathered to recognize Grant's lifesaving heroism. Additional awards were presented from the office of the Governor and Mayor.

Grant is a First Class Scout in LDS Troop 430, Powder Mill District, Del-Mar-Va BSA Council.

Article by Flora McConkie, Wilmington Delaware Stake public affairs, published in Church News, week of March 31, 2011

LDS young men are among thousands of Scouts at jamboree in Texas

As David Mojica looked out on the multitude of young men, all wearing their Boy Scout uniforms and receiving the sacrament he had helped to prepare for the congregation, he caught a glimpse of how Helaman's stripling warriors might have felt.

More than 1,600 young men and their leaders from about a dozen stakes in the Houston area gathered October 8-10 to celebrate the 100-year anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America, along with more than 24,000 Scouts from other faiths and backgrounds.

For David and others, the culmination was a rare Sunday-morning sacrament meeting in which Elder Claudio R. Costa of the Seventy presided and spoke, along with Elder Gifford Nielsen, an Area Seventy.

"It felt like we were in the army of God," said David, 17, of the Houston North Stake. "It was so amazing to see that many people take the sacrament at the same time. I kept thinking about Helaman's army and when Jesus fed the multitude.... I knew I might never see something like that again."

Beginning Friday, October 8, LDS Scouts of all stripes streamed in to the old racetrack site at the Texas World Speedway near College Station, pitched their tents and went about enjoying the fruits of the Sam Houston Area Council's 100-year jamboree.

Jerry Birkinshaw was among many LDS adults who spent countless hours volunteering to make the jamboree a success. An assistant district commissioner overseeing the Scouting programs of several Houston-area LDS units, Brother Birkinshaw helped direct traffic, register staff and even organize a major exhibit about the Duty to God program and other LDS Scouting awards.

"It's extremely important that we're involved in any event like this," Brother Birkinshaw said. "As a worldwide Church, we can't hide our beliefs in God and we have to put our best foot forward and participate in the Scouting community. We want folks to know who we are and to respect the way we do things."



Adult leaders from various stakes helped man the booth and answered questions from the hundreds of Scouters who stopped, many of whom were intrigued by a near life-size photo of the Christus statue.

"It was wonderful to be able to promote the role faith plays in our lives and to find some similarities in what we're teaching to other faiths that participate in Boy Scouts," said David Ramirez, first counselor in the Young Men Presidency of the League City Texas Stake. "It shows that Scouting still has faith at its core."



Leaders and young men enjoyed a concert Friday night, spectacular fireworks Saturday and reams of opportunities for fun and learning that ranged from rock climbing to shooting clay pigeons and observing World War II-era military vehicles in action.

Grayson Russell, 13, a patrol leader with Troop 1961 in the Spring, Texas, area, said he enjoyed watching more than 3,100 model rockets shoot into the air at the same time, a feat that set a Guinness World Record.

"It's not just the fact that we got to do a whole bunch of Scout stuff, but we got to be away from everything in this really cool place, doing things we liked to do," said Grayson, who also passed the sacrament on Sunday.

Truman Davies, 16, was pleasantly surprised by the band at the concert, which played popular music songs from this generation and others.



Being able to watch the concert and roam about the grounds to participate in all the activities — using the buddy system, of course — was one of the most enjoyable aspects of the trip, Truman said.



Many were also moved by the words of Elders Costa and Nielsen.

Elder Costa, who also had the opportunity that

weekend to address a conference of more than 1,000 young women and another gathering of single adults, praised the young Scouts for their



reverence, read extensively from the new Duty to God books and urged them to write diligently in a journal.

"He (Heavenly Father) will help you as you turn to Him in prayer," Elder Costa said. "You will feel a great sense of accomplishment as you fulfill" your Duty to God.

Elder Costa urged the young men to be faithful missionaries, to study the scriptures diligently and to learn to know God, which the scriptures define as "life eternal." That would help them "qualify" to marry the young women in the Church who, he said with a smile, "are much better than us."



"This mortal life is the time the Lord gave to each of us," he said.

Elder Nielsen said, "This is going to be an absolutely incredible army of God that will fill this earth with missionary

work." He urged the young men to remain worthy so they could serve in the area the Lord is preparing for them.

Photos by Tom Kunz, Bradley Olson and Andy Ricker. Article by Bradley Olson, Church News, week of October 15, 2010

Baden Powell's Advice to Scout Leaders in 1911



IN a small camp so very much can be done by example. You are living among your boys and are watched by each of them, and imitated unconsciously by them, and probably unobserved by yourself.

If you are lazy they will be lazy; if you make cleanliness a hobby it will become theirs; if you are clever at devising camp accessories, they will become rival inventors, and so on.

But don't do too much of what should be done by the boys themselves, see that they do it — "when you want a thing done don't do it yourself" is the right motto. When it is necessary to give orders, the secret for obtaining obedience is to know exactly what you want done and to express it very simply and very clearly. If you add to the order an explanation of the reason for it, it will be carried out with greater willingness and much greater intelligence.

If you add to the order and its explanation a smile, you will get it carried out with enthusiasm -- or, remember, "a smile will carry twice as far as a snarl."

A pat on the back is a stronger stimulus than a prick with a pin.

EXPECT a great deal of your boys and you will generally get it.

Selection from Baden Powell's contributions to The Scouter, September 1911



B.-P. in Camp.

John Disney, Silver Antelope Recipient



Each year the Western Region, Boy Scouts of America, has the privilege of recognizing a very limited number of outstanding Scouters with the Silver Antelope Award. This honor is bestowed upon only those who make substantial contributions to Scouting and to the youth of their communities. Western Region's highest recognition, the Silver Antelope Award, will be presented to John Disney of the Pacific

Harbors Council, Tacoma, Washington at the May 2011 National Executive Board and Committee Meetings.

John Disney has been involved in Scouting for more than 60 years, from the time he joined as a Cub Scout in 1949 until now. In his youth, he was very active in leadership roles, first as a Cub Scout Denner, next as assistant patrol leader to Senior Patrol Leader in his troop, and then as president of his Explorer Post. He was awarded the Arrow of Light, the Eagle Scout rank, and the Explorer Scout Silver Award as he went along the Scouting advancement trail. John was active in the Order of the Arrow lodge in the Pacific Harbors Council, becoming the first Vigil honor member in the Tahoma Lodge 348. He was one of two youth from the Washington state to be selected to be part of the OA Service Troop at the 1960 National Jamboree.

As a youth member of Scouting, John was always encouraging others to follow his example in various units and district level jobs. He continues in this role today as he is now the Council Vice President over Program and the Area Venturing Training Chairman. He encourages many youth and adult leaders to do their best and has the insight to help others see that they also have the ability to do more than they thought they could. He has taken many adult leaders through this process of becoming more than they thought they could be, organized Scouting events from camporees to council events to multi-council events, and has created program in which the youth and adults all developed better Scout craft skills and had fun in bettering their team and leadership skills. Brad Allen, former Scout Executive of the Chief Seattle Council, Seattle, Washington has had the opportunity to work with John on WashJam. Brad states, "[WashJam] would not have been as successful if it wasn't for your involvement." In six weeks, John stepped in to rearrange logistics of the WashJam operation, thus going from 650 registered attendees to over 7,000!



John also believes in recognizing others for their personal growth as he also is the head of the Pacific Harbors Council Silver Beaver Committee. He is known throughout the Greater Northwest area of the United States for the outstanding Scouter that he is. Many have seen him in action often times helping others to accomplish their goals in Scouting and life situations.



John is involved in many service opportunities in the greater Tacoma area, making a great difference in the quality of life of those he works with. He does Scouting and more! When asked how he does as much as he does for others, he replies, "I don't know; I just do it!"

John has held numerous callings in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, including being Scoutmaster three separate times for a total of ten years. He has served on the LDS Relationships Committee of the Pacific Harbors Council for 20 years and has visited LDS Relationships Committees in other Scout councils in the Northwest area to support their youth programs.

John is married to Kathie Jo. He has helped his four sons achieve the Eagle Scout rank and has encouraged 200 others to do the same.

The success of Scouting is achieved by partnering with great people, like John Disney. Congratulations to John Disney on receiving the Silver Antelope Award!

Submitted by Duane Rhodes, Vice President District Operations, Pacific Harbors Council, Tacoma, Washington

Mormon Scouter, 97, Receives San Francisco Bay Area Council Award



Lorenzo "Ren" N. Hoopes, at age 97, received the 2010 Spirit of Scouting Award from the San Francisco Bay Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America on Saturday, Oct. 9. The award recognized his 84 years in Scouting.

More than 250 guests attended the award ceremony at the Claremont Country Club in Oakland including Elder L. Whitney Clayton of the Presidency of the Seventy, religious leaders of other faiths and members of the community.

Brother Hoopes began his Scouting experience in Brigham City, Utah, in 1925. Over the years, he served in various roles including troop scribe, senior patrol leader, assistant Scoutmaster, Scoutmaster and troop committee chairman and held various district and council assignments. He received the Silver Beaver Award on Jan. 28, 1995.

In accepting the Spirit of Scouting award, he said, "What I have given to Scouting pales in comparison to what Scouting has done for me."

Those attending the 2010 Spirit of Scouting Award ceremony for Lorenzo "Ren" Hoopes include, from left, Elder L. Whitney Clayton of the Presidency of the Seventy; Paul Cobb, editor of the Oakland Post; Elder Robert N. Packer, Area Seventy; Reverend Tom Paris of the Greek Orthodox Church; Lorenzo "Ren" Hoopes; Oakland California Stake President Dean Criddle; and the Rev. Dr. Ray Williams of the National Missionary Baptist Convention of America.

Brother Hoopes' Church service includes serving as president of the England Bristol Mission from 1979-1982, president of the Oakland California Temple, president of the Oakland California Stake and serving twice as a bishop.

Most of Brother Hoopes' professional career was spent with Safeway Inc., where he retired as a senior vice president and director of stores in 1979.

In 1953, during the administration of President Dwight D. Eisenhower, he was granted an 18-month leave from Safeway to serve as the executive assistant to President Ezra Taft Benson, then the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture.

Brother Hoopes also served on the Oakland Board of Education for 17 years where he was president twice. Other boards he served on include: chairman and member of the Board of the Foundation for American Agriculture; vice chairman and member of the Board of the Farm Foundation; president and member of California's Coordinating Council for Higher Education; chairman, director, and secretary of the National Dairy Council; and chairman and member of the National Advisory Council.



Delivering the award ceremony's keynote address, Elder Clayton reflected on his own Scouting experience and that of his four sons, all of them Eagle Scouts. He described how when he was a teenager he got lost and spent the night alone on a boat on Lake Powell because he failed to bring a map, follow marker buoys or ask for directions. He explained how Boy Scouts is about rescuing youth before they need a "real rescue."

Scouting provides youth with a map for life and the most important map they can have is that of example, of a Scout leader who shows what a man looks and acts like, he said. The Scout Oath and Scout Law are like marker buoys, showing which way to go, he added. Scout leaders are there to talk to and provide direction.

A recent study cited by Elder Clayton showed that youth between the ages of 8-18 spend seven hours and 38 minutes each day using entertainment media of some type. "They aren't talking to adults and we are losing contact with this upcoming generation," Elder Clayton continued, saying that Scouting is counteracting that trend. It "provides a vehicle where men who are exemplary can reach out and help young men find their way," he said.

Brother Hoopes and his wife, Stella Sorensen Hoopes, who passed away in 1996, are the parents of two children, David C. Hoopes and the late Janet H. Washburn. They have seven grandchildren and 25 great-grandchildren.

Brother Hoopes acknowledged that living up to the Scout Oath has served him well over his long and active life. He quipped that society would be a better place if all elected officials, and perhaps lawyers and doctors, were required to ascribe to and include it in their oaths of office, as well.

Richard S. Kopf, chairman of the board for the San Francisco Bay Area Council for the Boy Scouts of America, summarized nicely

who Ren Hoopes is: "He is the epitome of Scouting."

Article and photos by Candace J. Kay Andersen, Oakland-San Francisco Bay Area Public Affairs, published in Church News, week of October 18, 2010

Scouting Leaders Attend General Conference

Twice a year at General Conference of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Scout leaders are invited to participate in training that helps them understand the Church's commitment to Young Men and Scouting. This year 75 Scouting leaders from around North America, most of them not members of the Church, descended on Salt Lake City, Utah for the April 2011 General Conference. The Church sponsors over 40,000 Scouting units in the United States and Canada. Over 12,000 young men in Church-sponsored Scout units receive the Eagle Scout Award each year.



The first stop was to the Missionary Training Center (MTC) in Provo, Utah to visit with some of the missionaries that are



preparing to go into the Mission Field to serve. Many of the Scouting leaders were amazed to find that a majority of the missionaries that are in the MTC are Eagle Scouts and love to share how important Scouting was to them in preparing them to serve their mission.

Brigham Young University (BYU) hosted a luncheon and Church leaders shared with the Scout leaders how important Scouting was to many of the students that attended BYU. It is always a plus to be an Eagle Scout as part of your application to attend BYU.

Next stop was to the Humanitarian Center and Welfare Square. This was a grand education about the Church Welfare Program and how the welfare program helps provide support for thousands of people throughout the world. Jim Goodrich, the director of Welfare Square, said, "It is the best food money can't buy."



The Scout Oath and Scout Law teach Scouts to be of service to their fellow man. The conference visitors learned how important service is to the Church and why Scouting is such an important part of the activity program for young men in the Church. Besides attending the Saturday morning and Priesthood sessions of conference, the Scout leaders had a reception Saturday evening and were introduced to many of the leaders throughout the United States who had participated in the

LDS Leadership Conference at Philmont Scout Ranch.

Scouting values are more relevant today than ever before. Teaching the values of Scouting to young men help them to prepare for a future filled with promise. The Scout leaders that attended the LDS Conference in April will now be better prepared to serve the young men in Scouting.

Submitted by David C. Pack, Director, LDS-BSA Relationships



Priesthood Leadership Conference on Scouting at Philmont

We are excited to announce that the 2011 Priesthood Leadership Conference on Scouting at Philmont is full again for another year. The Philmont faculty is working hard to ensure that the Priesthood Leadership Conference is the highlight of the year for all of the participants. If you are interested in attending, we encourage you to apply as cancellations do occur and space becomes available.

Session 1: June 25 – July 1, 2011
Session 2: July 2 – 8, 2011

If you are unable to join us this summer but interested in attending the Priesthood Leadership Conference on Scouting at Philmont next year, watch for the 2012 application packet to become available in November 2011 on www.ldsbsa.org. We hope to see you at Scouting's paradise!