



# **CHEHAW COUNCIL CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION MERIT BADGE**

(Edition III)



In celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Scouting in the United States, scouts around the country are joining in various activities. In order to further the knowledge of the scouts in Chehaw Council, the Council is awarding a local, unofficial merit badge to scouts who complete the requirements at the end of the pamphlet. Only scouts who complete the requirements are eligible to purchase the merit badge, and each scout may purchase only one merit badge. Adults who complete the requirements may purchase the Chehaw Council Centennial Knot.

The merit badge is unofficial and cannot be used for advancement.

The information in this pamphlet is taken from *The History of Chehaw Council* ([www.chehawcouncilbook.com](http://www.chehawcouncilbook.com)) where footnotes and proper credits are given to the sources. Due to space considerations, the footnotes are omitted in this pamphlet.

*Chehaw Council Centennial Committee*

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## **History of Scouting in America**

William D. Boyce, a Chicago publisher, incorporated the Boy Scouts of America on February 8, 1910. Boyce was inspired to meet with the British founder, Robert Baden-Powell, by an unknown Scout who led him out of a dense London fog and refused to take a tip for doing a good turn. James E. West, a lawyer and an advocate of children's rights, became the first professional Chief Scout Executive of the Boy Scouts of America; Ernest Thompson Seton became the first volunteer National Chief Scout; and Daniel Beard was the first National Scout Commissioner. On June 15, 1916, the Congress of the United States granted scouting a Federal Charter of perpetual duration, which superseded the incorporation of William D. Boyce.

By the end of 1910, James E. West, Chief Scout Executive, requested but did not require troops to record their existence with the National Office. By the end of 1911, all troops were required to register with the National Council. Additionally, scoutmasters were being advised to recruit troop committees; and three national commissioners were roaming the country to meet with local committees interested in supervising the budding program in their communities.

Many troops claim to have been the first troop in America. In 1908, Mrs. Myra Bass organized a local troop of 15 boys in Burnside, Kentucky. She used official Boy Scout materials she had acquired from England. In 1908, Troop Bala One of Bala Cynwrd, Pennsylvania was organized by insurance executive Frank Sykes. In 1911, it was officially chartered with the Boy Scouts of America as Troop 16. In May 1909, a Boy Scout troop in Pawhuska, Osage County, Oklahoma, was formed by Reverend John F. Mitchell. Reverend Mitchell was a missionary priest from England sent to St. Thomas Episcopal Church by the Church of England. Reverend Mitchell, who had been involved with scout work with Lord Baden-Powell in England, organized the troop of Boy Scouts under an English charter and equipped them with English uniforms, manuals, and badges. On January 10, 1910, Troop 20, sponsored by New Utrecht Reformed Church of Brooklyn, New York, was formed. It received its charter from the National Council in March of that year, and it had fifteen boys registered at that time.

Local councils were first chartered by the National Council beginning in 1913. However, some councils trace their beginnings back to 1910. Chicago Council of Illinois, Columbus Council of Ohio, and Burlington Council of Vermont all claim a charter year of 1910. Greater Boston Council of Massachusetts, Saint Louis Area Council of Missouri, Brooklyn Council of New York, Delaware and Montgomery County Council of Pennsylvania, and Norfolk Council of Virginia all claim 1911 charter years. Terre Haute Council of Indiana, Lowell Area Council of Massachusetts, Jackson Council of Michigan, Manchester Council of New Hampshire, Glen Ridge Council of New Jersey, Buffalo Council of New York, Austin Council of Texas, and Alamo Council of Texas all claim 1912 charter years. With the creation of local councils, troops were chartered by the local council rather than the National Council, except for those rare times when there existed no local council in an area.

## **The History of the Eagle rank**

The Boy Scouts of America's highest award was originally conceived as the Wolf Scout, as shown in the June 1911 Official Handbook for Boys. The August 1911 handbook subsequently changed this to Eagle Scout. The medal illustrated in the handbook was a profile of an eagle in flight, but was changed to the current design before any were issued. In their original conceptions, Life Scout, Star Scout (Life preceded Star until 1924), and Eagle Scout were not ranks but part of the merit badge system that recognized scouts who had

earned a certain number of merit badges. The rank of Eagle Scout was awarded to any First Class Scout who had earned twenty-one merit badges. Consequently, eight of the first nine Eagle Scouts did not earn the ranks of Life or Star. Through the years the requirements for the Eagle rank have changed.

- 1912 - 21 merit badges required, including First Aid, Athletics, Lifesaving, Personal Health, and Public Health. New Eagle Scouts: 23
- 1915 - Cooking, Camping, Civics, Bird Study, Pathfinding, Physical Development, and Pioneering added to the required list. New Eagle Scouts: 96
- 1920 - New Eagle Scouts: 629
- 1927 - New Eagle Scouts: 5,713
- 1932 - New Eagle Scouts: 9,225
- 1950 - 21 badges, including First Aid, Swimming, Lifesaving, Personal Health, Public Health, Cooking, Camping, Citizenship, Bird Study, Pathfinding, Safety, Pioneering, Athletics or Physical Development. New Eagle Scouts: 9,813
- 1963 - 21 badges, including First Aid, Swimming, Lifesaving, Personal Fitness, Cooking, Camping, Citizenship in the Community, Citizenship in the Nation, Nature, Soil and Water Conservation, Safety. New Eagle Scouts: 27,428
- 1972 - 24 badges, including First Aid, Citizenship in the Community, Citizenship in the Nation, Citizenship in the World, Communications, Safety, Emergency Preparedness or Lifesaving, Environmental Science, Personal Management, Personal Fitness or Swimming or Sports. New Eagle Scouts: 29,089
- 2000 - 21 merit badges, including First Aid, Citizenship in the Community, Citizenship in the Nation, Citizenship in the World, Communications, Personal Fitness, Emergency Preparedness or Lifesaving, Environmental Science, Personal Management, Hiking or Swimming or Cycling, Camping, Family Life. New Eagle Scouts: 40,029

First Aid is the only merit badge that has always been on the mandatory merit badge list for the Eagle rank. In 1969, the BSA began manufacturing those merit badges that are required in order to obtain the rank of Eagle Scout with a silver border versus the green border.

Since its introduction in 1912, the Eagle Scout medal has undergone several design changes. Changes to the scroll and to the eagle pendant were not always introduced at the same time, therefore types may be somewhat mixed. Scouting historians classify these medals by the five different manufacturers and then by 17 sub-types, with several minor variations. Many variations were caused by quality control issues, mainly due to wear of the dies. During the 1920s and 1930s, some military schools allowed wear of the Eagle Scout medal on the uniform. In order to conform to the medal system, the scroll was removed and the ribbon affixed to a standard ribbon bar.

T. H. Foley made the first medals from 1912 until they went out of business in 1915. The eagle pendant and scroll were of die-struck bronze washed with silver. Early versions were made with a short double knot and later ones with a long double knot. Only 338 of these medals were issued, making them the rarest version. In 2006 a Foley Eagle medal sold for over \$13,000 on EBay. Some Foleys were issued with a drop ribbon; the ribbon was extended, folded through the bar mount on the scroll, then dropped behind the eagle pendant and cut in a swallowtail. The first drop ribbon style medal was issued to the fourth Eagle Scout, Sidney Clapp, a 31-year-old scoutmaster from West Shokan, New York. Prior to 1952 adults could earn the Eagle rank.

Dieges & Clust took over production from 1916 to 1920, basing the design on the Foley. These medals also have the distinguishing extra-long double knot hanging from the scroll. There were 1,640 of this variety awarded, all made of sterling silver.

In 1920, the Robbins Company took over production. They produced six distinct variants, all in sterling silver. The first 1920 version was similar to the Dieges & Clust design, but with smaller scroll lettering and the standard single knot. The second 1920 version has more distinctive feathering on the back side of the pendant. The engraving on the 1930 version is especially fine. In 1933, BSA was removed from all of the Eagle Scout insignia, including the medal. In 1955 the obverse of the eagle pendant was made flat so it could be engraved. BSA was returned to the front and the obverse was returned to a full feathered design in 1969.

Medal manufacturer Stange was authorized to begin producing Eagle Scout medals in 1968, at the same time as Robbins. They created six distinct models. The 1968 version is very similar to the Robbins version, but the bend in the scroll is much flatter, more like a sideways V as compared to the S on the Robbins scroll. The BSA was returned to the front, and the obverse was returned to a full-feathered design in 1970. A major redesign of the eagle pendant was made in 1974 to match the new NESAs logo. In 1978, Robbins ceased manufacturing Eagle Scout medals and Stange switched to the last design used by Robbins. Minor differences are in the white-edged ribbon and the sterling silver markings. In 1980 the price of silver rose dramatically and the medal was changed to silver-plated, die-struck copper. Very early versions were silver plated and oxidized, thus the scroll and pendant are black. Later versions were oxidized, buffed and lacquered to maintain the silver shine. Sterling silver medals were produced from the same dies and from this time on were only available on special order. The year 1993 saw a number of changes. The clasp on the scroll was changed from the pin-on type to a double-clutch back. The pendant was changed to pewter and enlarged due to the lighter rigidity of the material. Custom Fine Jewelry took over the contract in 1999 and has currently created three types. The initial versions were based on the last Stange version but with the ribbon attached through the clutch pins instead of a bar (this led to damage of the ribbon). A small number of sterling silver versions were made and marked with 925. In later 1999, the dies were laser engraved, giving a much sharper look. Also, the ribbon mount was improved to eliminate wear. The knot went from wire to a molded version in 2001

In the fall of 2006, the National Supply Division of the National Eagle Scout Association began to issue replica Eagle Scout medals for specific wear on U.S. military dress uniforms. These medals are designed to be proportionate to other military medals. They contain the same pendant, but no scroll, and a ribbon that has been made thinner and more rectangular in shape.

### **The History of Merit Badges**

Merit badges exist to encourage scouts to explore areas that interest them and to teach them valuable skills in Scoutcraft. Scouts earn a merit badge by satisfying specified criteria; a Court of Honor is then held to present the badge. Scouts can earn badges at any point in their Scouting career, although this was not always the case. In the 1960s, Scouts first had to earn the rank of Second Class Scout before being allowed to work on and earn badges. The higher ranks of Star, Life Scout, and Eagle require merit badges to be earned. Certain badges are mandatory to receive these higher ranks. For a few years during the 1980s and 90s, a First Aid merit badge was a requirement for the First Class Scout rank. The number of merit badges required for each of these higher ranks has varied historically, as has the ratio of mandatory merit badges and non-mandatory badges for those ranks. As of 2005, Scouts must earn a total of 21 merit badges for the Eagle Scout rank, 12 of which must be from the mandatory list. Once scouts attain the Eagle rank, they can earn Eagle Palms, a core requirement of which is earning more merit badges.

The Boy Scouts of America changes the design, name, and availability of merit badges, depending on various factors such as their popularity, shifts in the focus of the Scouting program, and changes in society. The 1910 Boy Scouts of America Handbook (called The Book of Organization) by Chief Scout Ernest Thompson Seton had 14 "Badges of Merit." The first Handbook recognized presently by the BSA was in 1911. Only the Master-at-Arms Badge of Merit was not carried over into the 1911 handbook. The Master-at-Arms Badge involved mastering three of the following combat skills: single stick, boxing, ju jitsu, wrestling, quarter staff, and fencing. There were 57 merit badges in the 1911 handbook, and there are currently 121 merit badges. Of the current merit badges, 27 remain from the group of 57 original merit badges; and 94 have been introduced since then. Of the 180 merit badges introduced after 1911, 86 have been dropped. In all, there have been 237 different merit badges, including those that were only name changes.

### **The Current Scouting Organization**

Currently, the scouting program of the Boy Scouts of America has three parts.

- Cub Scouting, which started in 1930, is for boys in first through fifth grades. Cub Scouts are organized into dens of seven or eight boys, and local dens make up one scout pack. Each pack is headed by a Cubmaster.
- Boy scouting, which started in 1910, is for boys from sixth grade through 17 years of age. Boy Scouts are organized into patrols, and patrols are parts of troops. Each troop is headed by a Scoutmaster.
- Venturing, which started in 1935 as Senior Scouting and later became Exploring, is for boys and girls from 14 through 20. Venturing crews each pursue an interest such as an activity area. Each crew is headed by youth officers under the direction of an advisor.

The Boy Scouts of America organization is a hierarchical structure from the scout to the Chief Scout Executive. This organizational structure helps keep the program consistent across the country and makes the movement of scouts from one unit to another possible. The smallest grouping is a den for Cub Scouts or a patrol for Boy Scouts. The dens are combined into a Cub Scout Pack, while patrols are combined into a Boy Scout Troop. Packs and troops are called "units" in the scouting organizational hierarchy. Both packs and troops form a district. Districts form a council. Councils are grouped into areas. Areas are grouped into regions. All regions are managed from the BSA National Council in Irving, Texas. At the district level and above, a paid professional Scout Executive is responsible for the organization.

The current Chief Scout Executive is Robert J. Mazzuca; the current President is John Gottschalk; and the current National Commissioner is Tico A. Perez. There are over 2,800,000 youth currently registered as active scouts. The current Southern Regional Director is Alf Tuggle who got his start here in Chehaw Council in 1976.

### **Table of Important Dates in Scouting**

Scouting has had many important events and dates. The list below is through 1999 and was developed by Randy Worchester of Clarksville, Tennessee. It is used here with his express permission.

- 1850 Daniel Carter Beard is born
- 1857 Robert Baden-Powell is born
- 1860 Ernest Thompson Seton is born
- 1876 First Boy's Club established in New York City

- 1882 American Boy's Handybook written by Daniel Carter Beard
- 1899 Aids to Scouting published
- 1902 Woodcraft Indians founded by Ernest Thompson Seton
- 1905 Sons of Daniel Boone started by Daniel Carter Beard
- 1906 Boy's Clubs Founded
- 1907 Brownsea Island experiment
- 1908 Scouting for Boys published
- 1910 First BSA camp held at Silver Bay, Lake George, N.Y.
- 1910 BSA Incorporated on February 8 by W. C. Boyce
- 1910 BSA moves to first temporary office at 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, New York, New York
- 1911 On January 2, 1911, the Boy Scout's first National Scout Office officially opened at 200 Fifth Avenue in New York City
- 1911 Handbook for Boys published
- 1911 First Heroism awards presented
- 1912 Scouts enrolled from every State
- 1912 First National Good Turn: A Sane and Safe Fourth of July
- 1912 Boy's Life purchased
- 1912 Sea Scouting becomes part of BSA
- 1912 First Eagle Scout
- 1913 First local councils chartered
- 1913 Scouting Magazine created
- 1913 Handbook for Scoutmasters published
- 1914 The troop committee plan developed
- 1914 The first William T. Hornaday medal awarded
- 1915 The Lone Scouts of America organized by William Boyce
- 1915 Order of the Arrow founded in Philadelphia
- 1915 Fifty-seven merit badge books issued
- 1916 Federal Charter granted by Congress on June 15
- 1916 BSA constitution and by-laws adopted
- 1917 Veteran Scout established
- 1917 BSA begins home-front service, "Help win the war"
- 1918 BSA rendered nation-wide first-aid service in influenza epidemic
- 1918 Standards established for Boy Scout camps
- 1919 First Wood Badge course held at Gilwell Park near London, England
- 1919 First annual National Boy Scout Week conducted
- 1920 First World Jamboree in Olympia, London, England, attended by 301 American Scouts for a total of 8,000 Scouts from 34 countries.
- 1920 Baden-Powell made Chief Scout of the World
- 1920 Scout International Bureau established in London
- 1921 "New York Times" inaugurated Sunday Boy Scouts section
- 1923 International left handclasp adopted
- 1924 Lone Scouts of America merged with BSA
- 1924 International Scout constitution and by-laws adopted
- 1924 2nd World Jamboree in Copenhagen, Denmark, attended by 56 American Scouts, for a total of 4,500 Scouts from 22 countries

- 1924 "Every Scout a Swimmer" campaign started
- 1925 Boy Scouts of America membership exceeds 1 million
- 1925 Junior Assistant Scoutmaster position created
- 1926 Silver Buffalo first presented, the first to Baden-Powell and the second to the Unknown Scout
- 1927 First major revision of Handbook for Boys
- 1927 Eagle Palms introduced
- 1927 National office moved to 2 Park Avenue in New York
- 1928 Sea Scout Paul Siple accompanies Admiral Byrd to the Antarctic
- 1929 Registration of all Scouters authorized
- 1929 Third World Jamboree in Arrow Park, Birkenhead, England, attended by 1,300 American Scouts, for a total of 50,000 Scouts from 73 countries
- 1930 Cubbing started
- 1931 First Silver Beaver awards presented by local councils
- 1931 First religious award established by the Roman Catholic Church
- 1932 Mortimer L. Schiff Memorial Scout Reservation presented to BSA
- 1933 Fourth World Jamboree in Godollo, Hungary, attended by 406 American Scouts, for a total of 26,000 Scouts from 46 countries
- 1933 Schiff Scout Reservation established
- 1933 Exploring and Rovering programs authorized
- 1934 Order of the Arrow program approved
- 1934 Scouts answer FDR's request to collect food & clothing for needy
- 1935 Silver Jubilee of Scouting
- 1935 National Jamboree cancelled due to epidemic of infantile paralysis
- 1935 Membership passes 1,000,000
- 1935 Senior Scouting introduced for older boys
- 1936 First Wood Badge courses held in USA following English syllabus
- 1936 New Handbook for Scoutmasters published
- 1937 First National Jamboree, Washington, DC, attendance 27,232
- 1937 Fifth World Jamboree in Vogelenzang, Holland, attended by 814 American Scouts, for a total of 29,000 Scouts from 54 countries
- 1938 Waite Phillips gives BSA 36,000 acres in NM for Philturn Rocky Mountain Scout Camp
- 1939 Philturn Rocky Mountain Scout Camp opens
- 1939 Air Scouting added
- 1940 Royalties from Berlin's "God Bless America" finance urban Scouting
- 1941 Scouts begin campaign selling Defense Bonds and Stamps
- 1941 Webelos rank created in Cubing
- 1941 Philturn renamed Philmont Scout Ranch
- 1941 Baden-Powell passes away and is buried in Kenya (not England)
- 1941 "Uncle Dan" Beard passes away
- 1942 Scouts start recycling campaign for war effort
- 1943 James West retires
- 1943 First Silver Antelope awards presented by a region
- 1943 First Blue and Gold banquet
- 1943 Long trousers and Scout cap introduced for Boy Scouts
- 1944 World Fellowship Fund started to help Scouting in war-torn nations

- 1945 Cubbing changed to Cub Scouting
- 1947 Long trousers introduced for Cubs
- 1947 6th World Jamboree in Molsson, France, attended by 1,151 American Scouts, for a total of 24,000 Scouts from 38 countries
- 1948 1st BSA Wood Badge course held at Schiff, 2nd course held at Philmont
- 1948 James West passes away
- 1949 Explorer Scouting established from Senior Scouting program
- 1949 Scouts age limits lowered to 8 for Cub Scouts, 11 for Boy Scouts and 14 for Explorers
- 1950 2nd National Jamboree, Valley Forge, PA, attendance 47,163
- 1950 First Boy Scout stamp issued by the Post Office
- 1951 7th World Jamboree in Bad Ischel, Austria, attended by 700 American Scouts, for a total of 13,000 Scouts from 41 countries
- 1952 BSA conducts national get-out-the-vote campaign
- 1953 3rd National Jamboree, Irving Ranch, California, attendance 45,401
- 1954 National office moves to New Jersey
- 1954 National Conservation Good Turn
- 1954 Webelos Dens introduced to provide a bridge to Boy Scouts
- 1955 100,000 chartered units reached
- 1955 First Pinewood Derby
- 1955 8th World Jamboree in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Canada, attended by 1,500 American Scouts, for a total of 11,000 Scouts from 71 countries
- 1956 BSA conducts national get-out-the-vote campaign
- 1957 4th National Jamboree, Valley Forge, PA attendance 50,100
- 1957 9th World Jamboree in Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire, England, attended by 1,700 American Scouts, for a total of 32,000 Scouts from 82 countries
- 1957 50th anniversary of the world Boy Scout movement celebrated
- 1958 BSA distributes Civil Defense emergency handbooks
- 1959 Bobcat pin introduced
- 1959 Scouting magazine begins using full color
- 1959 Modern Exploring program introduced
- 1959 10th World Jamboree in Laguna, Philippine Islands, attended by 309 American Scouts, for a total of 12,000 Scouts from 44 countries
- 1960 BSA's Golden Jubilee, commemorative stamp issued by Post Office
- 1960 The Johnston Historical Museum in New Brunswick, N.J. dedicated
- 1960 5th National Jamboree, Colorado Springs, CO attendance 53,378
- 1960 BSA conducts national get-out-the-vote campaign
- 1961 BSA Inter-Racial Service begins projects in public housing
- 1962 First National Explorer Delegate Conference held in Ann Arbor, MI
- 1963 11th World Jamboree in Marathon, Greece, attended by 621 American Scouts, for a total of 14,000 Scouts from 88 countries
- 1964 6th National Jamboree, Valley Forge, PA attendance 52,000
- 1965 Inner-City Rural Program launched
- 1967 BSA Wood Badge change emphasis from Scout skills to leadership
- 1967 Commemorative tribute statue in front of White House dedicated November 7th
- 1965 The 500,000th Eagle badge presented

- 1966 Revised charter and bylaws adopted
- 1967 Ernest Thompson Seton Library and museum at Philmont dedicated
- 1967 Updated Cub Scout program introduced. Lion rank discontinued, Webelos Scout program begun
- 1967 12th World Jamboree, Farragut State Park, Idaho, attended by 4,435 American Scouts, for a total of 12,000 Scouts from 105 countries
- 1969 Girls eligible to participate as non-registered Explorer Scouts
- 1969 7th National Jamboree, Farragut State Park, Idaho, attendance 35,000
- 1970 First National Explorer Olympics held at Colorado State Univ.
- 1971 Cub Scout promise drops “to be square” and adds “to help other people”
- 1971 SOAR (Save Our American Resources) program began
- 1971 Maine National High Adventure Area opened
- 1971 Exploring magazine published
- 1971 Silver Buffalo awarded to President Richard Nixon
- 1971 Girls eligible to register as full-fledged Explorer Scouts
- 1971 First Cub Scout Wood badge course
- 1971 13th World Jamboree, Asagiri Heights near Fujinomiya City, Japan, attended by 7,947 American Scouts, for a total of 24,000 Scouts from 87 countries
- 1971 First Silver World awards presented by BSA for international service
- 1972 New Scout Handbook removes outdoor skill requirements for 1st Class
- 1972 Improved Scouting program introduced
- 1972 Operation Reach against drug abuse introduced
- 1973 8th National Jamboree, Farragut State Park, Idaho, and Moraine State Park, Pennsylvania, attendance 64,000
- 1973 Updated Cub Scout program introduced
- 1973 Washington, D.C., bureau established to represent National office
- 1973 National Eagle Scout Association formed
- 1974 BSA starts weekend Wood Badge courses
- 1974 First woman elected national Explorer president
- 1975 14th World Jamboree, Lillehammer, Norway, attended by 2,500 American Scouts, for a total of 17,000 Scouts from 91 countries
- 1976 First Cub Scout Trainer Wood Badge course held in Alabama
- 1976 BSA allows women to attend Wood Badge
- 1976 Women are allowed to become Cubmasters
- 1977 9th National Jamboree, Moraine State Park, Pennsylvania, attendance 28,600
- 1978 Local Council camps made available for family camping
- 1978 Revised God and Country program announced
- 1978 Age restrictions removed for severely handicapped Scouts
- 1978 Outdoor skill reinstated for 1st Class rank
- 1979 The Official Boy Scout Handbook reflects return of outdoor emphasis
- 1979 National Headquarters moved to Irving, Texas
- 1979 15th World Jamboree in Iran canceled
- 1979 Cub Scout Trainers Wood Badge approved
- 1980 New uniforms designed by Oscar de la Renta
- 1980 50th anniversary of Cub Scouting
- 1980 Fire destroys second floor of the National offices

- 1980 Eastern distribution center moves to North Carolina
- 1980 BSA distributes national census fliers
- 1981 10th National Jamboree, Fort A. P. Hill, Virginia, attendance 29,765
- 1981 New Scoutmaster Handbook issued
- 1981 Murray, Kentucky, picked as the site for Boy Scout Museum
- 1982 Career Awareness Exploring becomes official
- 1982 Prepare for Today program started for latchkey children
- 1982 Tiger Cubs introduced
- 1982 The Cub Scout Leader Book published to replace five different leader books
- 1982 The 1,000,000th Eagle Scout registered
- 1982 Shaping Tomorrow project introduced
- 1983 15th World Jamboree, Kananaskis Country, Canada, attended by 3,936 American Scouts, for a total of 15,600 Scouts from 102 countries
- 1984 The third edition of the Fieldbook published
- 1984 Family Camping Association started
- 1984 Varsity Scouting launched
- 1985 11th National Jamboree, Fort A. P. Hill, Virginia, attendance 32,615
- 1987 Anti-Drug Campaign
- 1987 to 1988 Sixteenth World Jamboree, Cataract Park, Sydney, Australia, attended by 3,063 American Scouts, for a total of 14,634 Scouts from 98 countries
- 1988 First Scouting for Food
- 1989 Venture Program introduced
- 1989 12th National Jamboree, Fort A. P. Hill, Virginia, attendance 32,717
- 1990 Pope John Paul presented with BSA's Distinguished Citizen of the World Commendation
- 1990 10th edition of Boy Scout handbook introduced
- 1990 Center for Professional Development opened in Westlake, Texas
- 1991 Learning for Life Introduced
- 1991 17th World Jamboree, Soraksan National Park, South Korea, attended by 1,010 American Scouts, totaling 19,083 Scouts from 135 countries
- 1991 Ethics in Action Introduced
- 1991 BSA Family program introduced
- 1991 Conservation Handbook published
- 1991 Trail Boss program developed
- 1992 Six BSA regions reduced to four
- 1992 William "Green Bar Bill" Hillcourt passes away
- 1992 Cub Scout Academics program started
- 1993 13th National Jamboree, Fort A. P. Hill, Virginia, attendance 32,000
- 1995 18th World Jamboree. Holland with total attendance of 29,066 Scouts from 166 countries
- 1997 14th National Jamboree, Fort A. P. Hill, Virginia
- 1999 19th World Jamboree, Picarquín, Chile
- 2010 Scouts receive a 10,000 acre permanent Jamboree site in West Virginia
- 2010 U.S. Centennial Jamboree, the last to be at Fort A. P. Hill, Virginia

## The History of Scouting in Chehaw Council

From 1910 until 1921 all scouting in southwest Georgia was chartered directly with the National office in New York City. It was not until 1921 that a council was formed in southwest Georgia. In 1921, Aumuckalee Council was formed in Americus and Nochaway Council was formed in Albany. Both Councils closed by 1929. From 1929 until 1939, all scout activity was again handled directly with the National office in New York City.

In 1939, southwest Georgia was the only area in the southeastern United States that was not organized into a council. Beginning in January of 1939, a group of concerned men in the Albany area began efforts to obtain a charter for a new council in the area. The first board meeting of Chehaw Council was held on May 30, 1939, at the New Albany Hotel. J. W. Bush of Albany was elected the first president. W. R. Turner of Cordele and George B. Hawthorne of Sylvester were elected vice-presidents; L. W. Smith of Albany, Treasurer; B. E. Carlisle of Camilla; Scout Commissioner; and T. O. Marshall of Americus, National Representative. The name of the new council was the subject of a long and heated debate. Eventually, the council was named Chehaw after the park between Albany and Americus. Chehaw Council officially began operations on June 15, 1939. The first districts were: Albany, Americus, Cordele, Sylvester, and Camilla-Pelham. The first Scout Executive was Welty Compton.

. In 1984, the Council changed its name to Southwest Georgia Council. However, in 2005 the name was changed back to Chehaw Council. The current Scout Executive is Ray Allen and the current Council President is Clay Chester.

Through 2007, 1,681 boys had received their Eagle rank in Chehaw Council. John Ewing Kiker, Jr. of Troop 1 in Americus received his Eagle rank in 1920, and he was the first Eagle Scout from southwest Georgia. David John Broadhurst, also of Troop 1 in Americus, received his Eagle rank on March 15, 1921, and was the second Eagle Scout from southwest Georgia and the only Eagle Scout from Aumuckalee Council. On February 8, 1922, George Johnson of Troop 3 in Albany became the first Eagle Scout in Nochaway Council and the third Eagle Scout in southwest Georgia. In 1939, Chehaw Council was formed and on August 29, 1939, J. W. Starr, Jr. of Troop 15 in Albany became the first Eagle Scout from Chehaw Council.

Summer camp for Nochaway Council began in 1921 and ended in 1928. As the Council did not own a camp, various places were used for the summer camps. Regardless of the physical location, the camp was called Camp Nochaway. Aumuckalee Council had its own camp called Camp Shehaw northwest of Americus. Summer camp for Aumuckalee Council was held from 1932 until 1940 at Camp Shehaw. For 1941 and 1942, Camp Shehaw was the official summer camp for Chehaw Council. Beginning in 1943, Camp Osborn near Sylvester opened. Camp Osborn is owned by Chehaw Council and has served as the permanent summer camp since 1943.

Each local Boy Scout Council is encouraged to have an Order of the Arrow lodge, which is a group for honored campers. Each lodge is granted a charter from the National Council. The lodge helps the local Council provide a quality scouting program through recognition of scouting spirit and performance, development of youth leadership and service, promotion of scout camping and outdoor programs, and enhancement of membership tenure. Immokalee Lodge (#353) of the Order of the Arrow was officially chartered in Chehaw Council on January 17, 1947. It remained the chartered Order of the Arrow lodge when the Council changed its name to Southwest Georgia Council and when the Council changed its name back to Chehaw Council. Active membership in Immokalee Lodge currently averages 200 scouts at any time, including both youths and adults.

While the arrow sash is the identifier of a member of the Order of the Arrow, a patch for the right shirt pocket flap (usually with the totem and lodge name) is used as an identifier for the individual lodge.

The Silver Beaver award was begun in 1931 by the National Council as a way for local councils to honor outstanding volunteers. In 1941, Chehaw Council presented its first Silver Beaver awards to Edmund Landau of Albany and Palmer Green of Cordele. Rabbi Landau had been an active supporter of Scouting in Albany since the days of Nochaway Council. Mr. Green was a long-time scoutmaster in Cordele.

## EXAMINATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Troop: \_\_\_\_\_

### National Scout History

1. When was Scouting Chartered? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Who was the first Chief Scout Executive? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Who is the current Chief Scout Executive? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Who was the first Chief Scout (now President)? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Who is the current Scout President? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What was the original name of the Eagle rank? \_\_\_\_\_
7. When was the first Eagle rank awarded? \_\_\_\_\_
8. What is the only merit badge to have always been one of the required merit badges? \_\_\_\_\_
9. How many merit badges are now required for the Eagle rank? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Where was the first National Scout office? \_\_\_\_\_
11. Where is the current National Scout office? \_\_\_\_\_
12. In what year did the first World Jamboree occur in England? \_\_\_\_\_
13. Where was the first U.S. National Jamboree in 1937? \_\_\_\_\_
14. Where will with Centennial U. S. National Jamboree be held? \_\_\_\_\_
15. What State will become the permanent home of the U. S. Jamboree beginning in 2014? \_\_\_\_\_
16. What are the three primary high-adventure areas in scouting?  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Local Council History

1. When was Chehaw Council formed? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What Councils were here before Chehaw Council?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Who was the first Chehaw Council President? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Who is the current Chehaw Council President? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Who was the first Chehaw Council Scout Executive? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Who is the current Chehaw Council Scout Executive? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Who were the first two Silver Beaver recipients from Chehaw Council?  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. What is the name of the Order of the Arrow Lodge in Chehaw Council?  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. What is the name of the permanent Chehaw Council camp near Sylvester?  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Your Troop

1. When was your troop founded? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Who sponsors your troop? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Who is your Scoutmaster? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Who is your Senior Patrol Leader? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Who is on the Troop Committee for your troop?  
\_\_\_\_\_

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Scoutmaster Signature

Date

When you take the completed form to the scout office in Albany you may purchase your merit badge (youth) or knot (adult). Only one of either per person due to limited supply. All proceeds go to the Council.