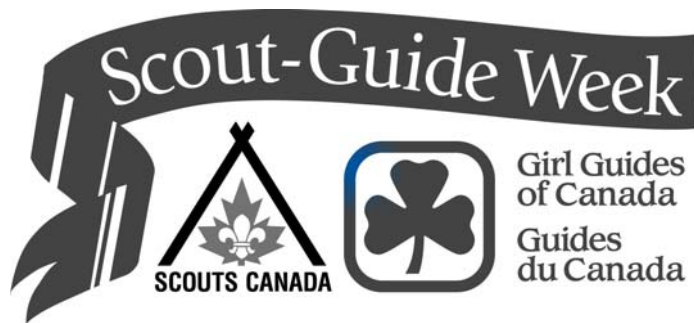




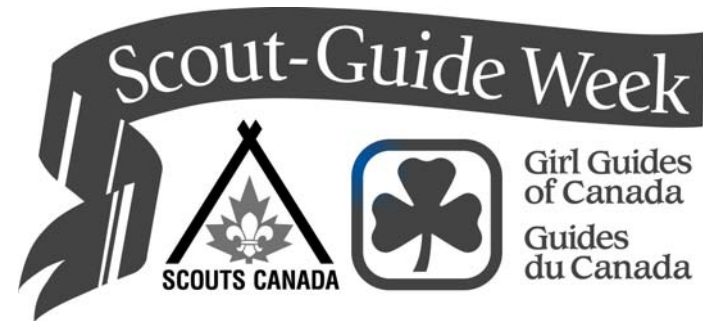
A Ministry that
Makes a Difference!



February 20-27, 2008



A Ministry that
Makes a Difference!



February 20-27, 2008

The Gift of Scouting

“If anyone should ever ask you to provide a short summary of what Baden-Powell was all about and why we should still follow his advice and methods, all you really need to remember is that he cared”

- Norman Macleod, *The Serious Side of Scouting*

Baden-Powell (BP)'s Scouting for Boys appeared in 1908. Translated into many languages it attracted thousands the world over. One could argue it was the popularity of the War hero BP that attracted boys, but I would suggest that it was because BP understood the mind of boys and responded to them by providing a systematic program that appealed to them. Here was a simple system by which boys could grow a deeper understanding of their world, fellowship and a relationship with the divine. Later leadership training would be provided to adults with an open mind who would continue to adapt the program (no computer badge in 1908). Scouting is more than camping. It is a view of life where all are welcome for who they are and the gifts they bring.

I have been involved with Scouting for some sixty years and I am still amazed by the depth of its program and the thousands of leaders, who give their time and expertise unselfishly in leadership.

Several decades ago the parish I served took an in-depth look at itself and wrestled with its mission in a downtown setting. They identified the need for programs for children, who surrounded our church, but were untouched by it. We investigated Scouting and with a small, dedicated core of leaders, invited the community to come in. Growth was slow but gradually each section of Scouting was developed and each week over 100 youth and leaders used our parish facilities. We had decided to count success not in the number of youth that came into our congregation, but rather the number, who were reached by a fellowship, fun and learning. We wanted to make certain that each child and adult realized that they were welcome and that as a Parish we were willing to take the risk.

Yes, Scouting is risk taking, It means that walls are smudged, furniture broken, a mid week service interpreted by the enthusiastic shouts from games in progress. It means careful planning and perhaps some committee may need to use another room or another night. It costs to serve, but we have been enriched. We have watched the shy Beaver grow into the confident leader. We watched the youth proudly identify with us as they flash their neckerchiefs emblazoned by the Luther Rose.

*“Scouting takes boys seriously
and that was the real secret of its enormous appeal.”*

- Russell Freedman, Scouting with Baden-Powell 1967

Written by Rev. Calvin Diegel, Faith Brantford ON, “Lamb Award” - 1978

The Gift of Scouting

“If anyone should ever ask you to provide a short summary of what Baden-Powell was all about and why we should still follow his advice and methods, all you really need to remember is that he cared”

- Norman Macleod, *The Serious Side of Scouting*

Baden-Powell (BP)'s Scouting for Boys appeared in 1908. Translated into many languages it attracted thousands the world over. One could argue it was the popularity of the War hero BP that attracted boys, but I would suggest that it was because BP understood the mind of boys and responded to them by providing a systematic program that appealed to them. Here was a simple system by which boys could grow a deeper understanding of their world, fellowship and a relationship with the divine. Later leadership training would be provided to adults with an open mind who would continue to adapt the program (no computer badge in 1908). Scouting is more than camping. It is a view of life where all are welcome for who they are and the gifts they bring.

I have been involved with Scouting for some sixty years and I am still amazed by the depth of its program and the thousands of leaders, who give their time and expertise unselfishly in leadership.

Several decades ago the parish I served took an in-depth look at itself and wrestled with its mission in a downtown setting. They identified the need for programs for children, who surrounded our church, but were untouched by it. We investigated Scouting and with a small, dedicated core of leaders, invited the community to come in. Growth was slow but gradually each section of Scouting was developed and each week over 100 youth and leaders used our parish facilities. We had decided to count success not in the number of youth that came into our congregation, but rather the number, who were reached by a fellowship, fun and learning. We wanted to make certain that each child and adult realized that they were welcome and that as a Parish we were willing to take the risk.

Yes, Scouting is risk taking, It means that walls are smudged, furniture broken, a mid week service interpreted by the enthusiastic shouts from games in progress. It means careful planning and perhaps some committee may need to use another room or another night. It costs to serve, but we have been enriched. We have watched the shy Beaver grow into the confident leader. We watched the youth proudly identify with us as they flash their neckerchiefs emblazoned by the Luther Rose.

*“Scouting takes boys seriously
and that was the real secret of its enormous appeal.”*

- Russell Freedman, Scouting with Baden-Powell 1967

Written by Rev. Calvin Diegel, Faith Brantford ON, “Lamb Award” - 1978