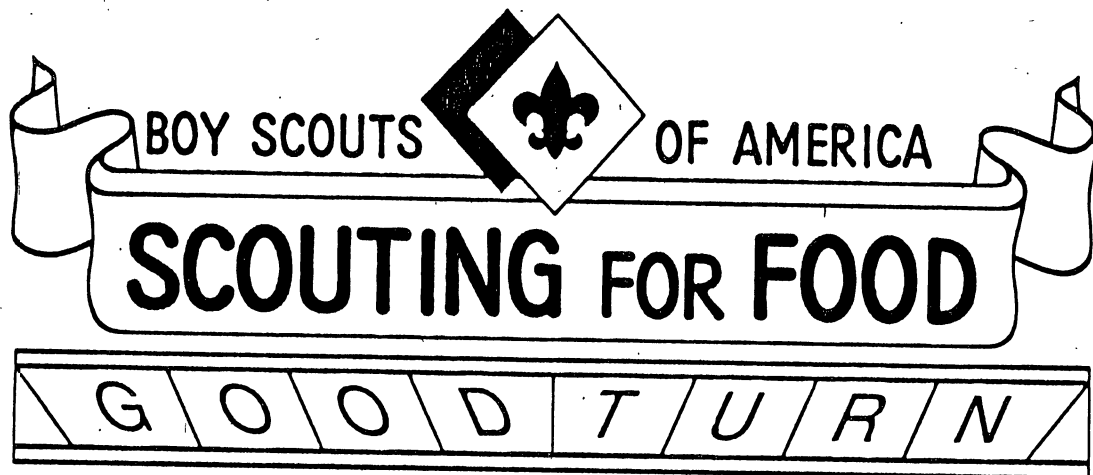
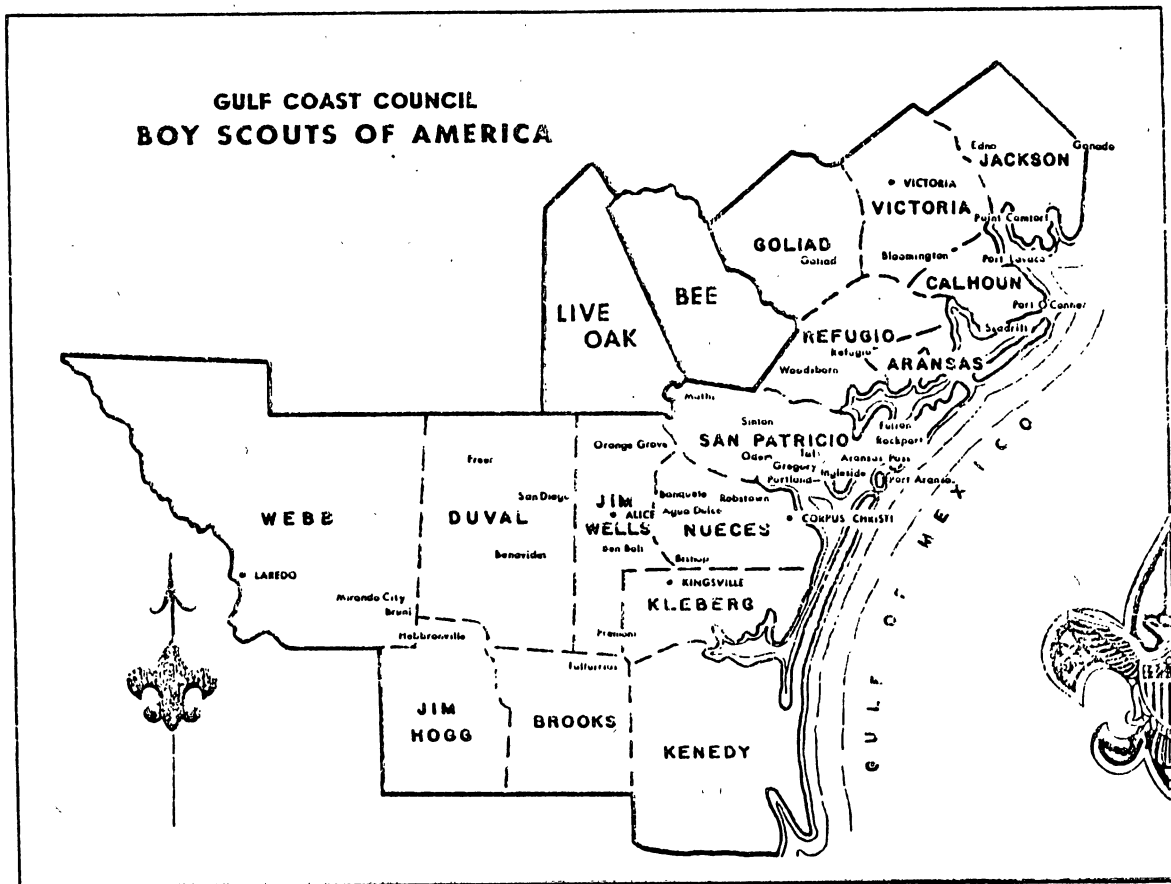




November 10-17, 1990





BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Public Relations
1325 Walnut Hill Lane
P.O. Box 152079, Irving, Texas 75015-2079
Telephone 214-580-2000

FACT SHEET

NATIONAL BSA GOOD TURNS

ORIGIN

The Boy Scouts of America's Good Turn traces back to American businessman William D. Boyce who was lost in a London fog. A boy offered to take Boyce to the address he wanted and refused a tip, saying he was a Boy Scout. Boyce's curiosity was aroused. He later had the boy take him to Scouting's British founder Lord Baden-Powell. From this chance meeting, the Boy Scouts of America was born.

Among many references to the Good Turn in BSA literature is this comment from the *Boy Scout Handbook*: "To people who know about Scouting, the daily Good Turn is one of the finest features of our movement. The record of Good Turns, small and large, that have been done by Scouts since the day Scouting was founded is truly impressive."

NATIONAL GOOD TURNS

The following list is compiled from the BSA's historical fact sheet and from Bob Peterson's book *The Boy Scouts, An American Adventure*. There is some inconsistency, and, on many of the earlier Good Turns, there is a certain degree of uncertainty as to whether the event was planned as a national program or just developed that way. In any event, here is a chronological listing.

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- **1917**—The day after war was declared on Germany, under the slogan "Every Scout to Feed a Soldier," BSA members were urged to plant vegetable gardens. In two plant-growing seasons 12,000 Scout farms were established. At the same time, the BSA pledged to aid the American Red Cross and promised cooperation with the U.S. Navy by organizing Scout coastal patrols to watch for enemy ships.
- **BSA's most significant service** during WW I was in the sale of Liberty Loan bonds to help finance the war effort. Five bond drives were held, and, in each case, Scouts were called upon to follow up the regular canvas by adult volunteer salesmen. They sold a total of 2,238,308 bonds worth either \$147,876,902 or \$355,000,000, depending on your information source. Scouts also sold war saving stamps to a value of either \$3 million or \$53 million, again depending on your source.
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- **1934**—President Roosevelt called on Boy Scouts to collect household furnishings, clothing, and other items to help the needy during the depression. More than 1.8 million articles were collected.

During WW II the BSA responded to 69 requests for help from the government. These requests included:

- **1941**—Scouts distributed 1.6 million defense bonds and stamp posters; began the collection of aluminum and waste paper; conducted defense housing survey; planted

victory gardens; distributed air-raid posters; cooperated with the American Red Cross; and, by agreement with the Office of Civil Defense Mobilization, formed an Emergency Service Corps composed of older Scouts who served in three capacities: messengers, emergency medical units assistants, and fire watchers.

- **1942**—Scout projects included: delivery of millions of war-bond pledge cards—it was estimated they were indirectly responsible for sales of \$1.8 million worth of bonds and stamps; collection of a vast amount of rubber, primarily old tires, estimated at either 5,898 tons or 30 million pounds; and continuation of scrap and paper drives—during the first drive, Scouts collected 5,000 tons of aluminum; other sources added another 17,400 tons of tin cans and 20,800 tons of scrap metals.
- **1944**—Boy Scouts were sent to collect milkweed floss as a substitute for the kapok used in life jackets—total collection was 750 tons.
- **1944**—An estimated 184,000 victory gardens were planted by Scouts.
- **1944**—An estimated 126,000 Boy Scouts helped farmers with their harvests.
- **The largest single war-effort project** conducted by the BSA was the 1945 General Dwight D. Eisenhower Waste Paper Campaign. More than 700,000 Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts gathered 318,000 tons of paper; this brought the total paper collected during WW II to over 590,000 tons.
- **Scouts collected 10 million used books** for military personnel.
- **Scouts collected 7,000 tons of used clothing** that was distributed to refugees in Europe and China.
- **1950–51**—Two million pounds of clothing for overseas relief was collected at the request of the American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Service and the United Nations.
- **1952**—More than 1 million boys went house to house and placed 30 million Liberty Bell doorknob hangers and a million posters (in businesses) to remind citizens to vote in the presidential election. Scouts also cooperated nationally in securing blood donor pledges, collected clothing for worthy causes, distributed seeds for Asia, and aided in conservation projects and civil defense.
- **1954**—A National Conservation Good Turn involved the distribution of 3.6 million copies of a conservation poster. In parks, rural areas, and wilderness areas, Scouts planted 6.2 million trees; built and placed 55,000 bird-nesting boxes; and arranged 41,000 conservation displays.
- **1956**—The second national get-out-the-vote campaign was launched with 36 million doorknob hangers and 1.4 million posters distributed.
- **1958**—A National Safety Good Turn was conducted. The BSA delivered 40 million emergency handbooks prepared by the Office of Civil Defense Mobilization. Also, 50,000 posters were placed in post offices.
- **1960**—The third national get-out-the-vote campaign was conducted.
- **1970**—Project SOAR (Save Our American Resources) was initiated as an ongoing BSA project. It's estimated that during the year 60,000 BSA units took part in SOAR-related conservation projects.
- **1980**—Scouts distributed fliers urging support of the national census.
- **1986**—An estimated 600,000 youth members distributed 14 million brochures to families informing them of the need for donated human organs and tissue and urging them to make a commitment to donate. Millions of other homes were reached through media publicity and other promotional efforts.
- **1988**—The first Scouting for Food collection was completed. One million Scouts collected an estimated 60 million cans of nonperishable food.



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SCOUTING FOR FOOD NATIONAL GOOD TURN

BACKGROUND

Studies indicate that more than 20 million Americans, including 4 million children, go hungry at some time every month; these studies reveal, also, that there are more hungry people in America now than at any time in the last 25 years.

Between 1983 and 1985, the average number of households seeking emergency food increased by almost 40 percent. Seventy percent of those seeking help were families with children.

Prolonged hunger causes more than just discomfort. Malnutrition can lead to permanent tissue damage and leaves its sufferers—particularly children and the elderly—susceptible to illness and infection.

WHAT IS THE ANSWER?

Hunger is a problem we can do something about by working together. Scouting for Food is a starting point. It is an example of our long-standing commitment to community service.

The Boy Scouts of America National Good Turn for 1990 will be the collection of non-perishable food. We anticipate that this will result in the largest donation and collection of foodstuffs ever experienced in the United States. Through this project, the BSA will help meet the needs of the hungry directly, as well as expose its members, particularly youth, to the highest ideals of the Scouting movement through a practical and dramatic experience in the principle of the daily Good Turn. The 1988 and 1989 Scouting for Food Good Turns resulted in the collection of a combined total of 132 million cans of food.

OUR ROLE

The BSA's role is to organize the food collection and make arrangements with legitimate community distribution agencies that will warehouse and distribute the food to the needy at no cost. The emphasis is on *nonperishable* food most needed for nutrition, such as peanut butter; baby formula; complete packaged meals; and such canned goods as tuna, chunky soups, stews, meats, fruits, and vegetables.

CALENDAR AND IMPLEMENTATION

Most of the 407 local BSA councils will conduct appeals using the following schedule:

November 10, 1990

Door-to-door distribution of collection bags by BSA youth members to households in assigned territories begins that day.

November 17, 1990

Collection of filled bags begins that morning at 9 a.m. Donated food will be sorted and boxed at collection centers. It will then be distributed to or picked up by legitimate distribution agencies who will make the food available to the needy in the home communities. Some councils conduct their effort on another date to meet local food bank needs.

HISTORY OF THE GOOD TURN

The Boy Scouts of America Good Turn traces back to American businessman William D. Boyce. He was lost in a London fog, and a boy offered to take Boyce to the address he wanted and then refused a tip, saying he was a Boy Scout. Boyce's curiosity was aroused. He later had the youth take him to Scouting's British founder, Lord Baden-Powell. From this chance meeting, the Boy Scouts of America was born.

As a result, the Good Turn has been a cornerstone of Scouting's citizenship and character-building efforts.

Promotion of a safe and sane Fourth of July in 1912 was the first national Scout Good Turn. Scores of others have followed. The most recent was a 1986 effort to inform persons of the need for donated human organs and tissue.

MEDIA INQUIRIES

Media inquiries should be directed to the External Communications Division, Boy Scouts of America, 1325 West Walnut Hill Lane, P.O. Box 152079, Irving, TX 75015-2079; phone 214-520-3555. Ask for Lee Sneath or Susan Teplinsky.

NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT PERSON: John Thurston
Scout Executive
W: 882-6126

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ALL'S GO AS SCOUTS

READY FOOD APPEAL

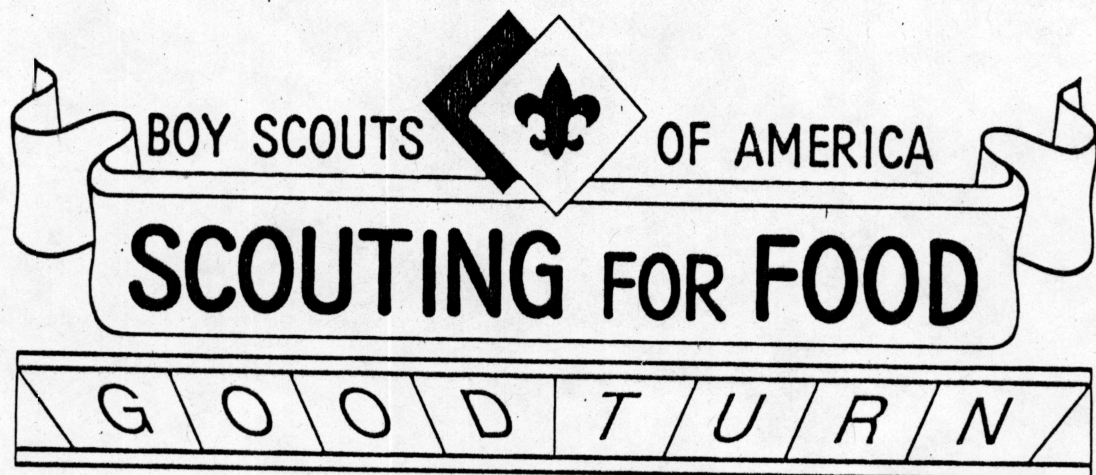
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IN 1989, THE BOYS IN CUBS AND BOY SCOUTS AND YOUNG LADIES AND GENTLEMEN IN EXPLORING IN THE SEVENTEEN COUNTY AREA OF THE GULF COAST COUNCIL COLLECTED OVER 82,000 ITEMS OF FOOD GOODS. THESE DONATIONS WERE IN TURN RE-DISTRIBUTED, BY OTHER LEGITIMATE AGENTS TO THE NEEDY IN THE COMMUNITIES WHERE THE GIFTS WERE COLLECTED. THE FOOD GOODS COLLECTED IN 1989 REPRESENTED A 49 PERCENT INCREASE OVER THE RESULTS OF 1988. WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO ANOTHER INCREASE IN 1990. TO ATTAIN OUR GOAL, WE ARE STRIVING FOR GREATER PARTICIPATION FROM THE COMMUNITY. WE PLAN TO DISTRIBUTE 120,000 BAGS ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10. ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, WE HOPE TO PICK UP AS MANY BAGS FILLED TO THE BRIM.

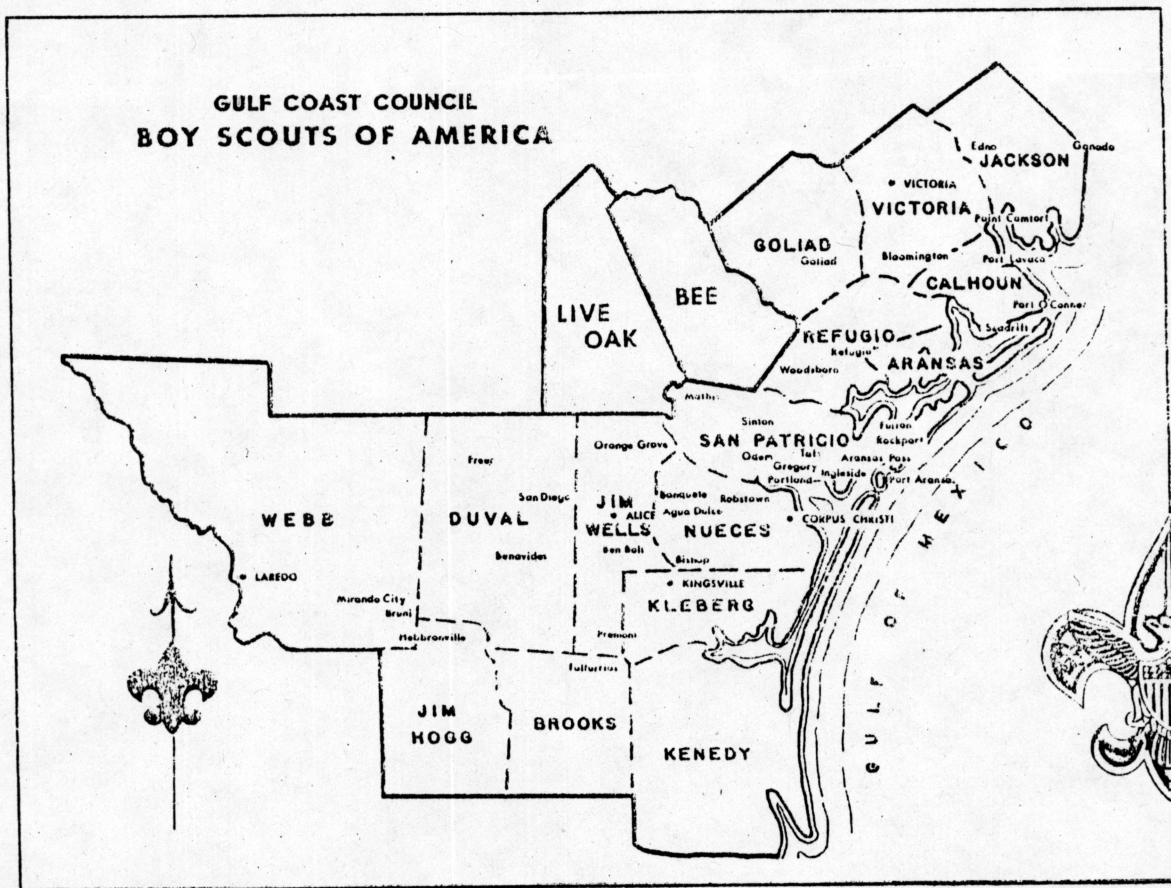
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NEWS RELEASE

CANNED GOODS
NON PERISHABLE
SOUP
Beef stew
CHILI
CANNED FISH
CANNED MEAT
CANNED VEGETABLES
CANNED FRUIT
CANNED PEAS

CONTACT PERSON: John Thurston
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W: 882-6126

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Dr HPJ = Bull Scout

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The BSA is a American
Boys In Volunteer... A Good Turn
From 1904 is A Good Turn for The BSA

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