



Early History of Scouting in Washington: Chief Seattle Council, Troop No. 4 (Seattle) and Camp Parsons PTC class 624

**Fred Poyner IV, Webelos Den 5 Leader, Pack 682,
Alpine District (Issaquah)**

Prepared. For Life.®



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

Early Scouting in King County & Formation of the Chief Seattle Council

April 18, 1911; December 8, 1916; October 28, 1919



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William D. Boyce (1858-1929)
founder of Boy Scouts of America in 1910



Reginald Parsons (1873-1955).
Courtesy Chief Seattle Council, Boy Scouts of America



Marion Street from Second Avenue, Seattle, King County, WA, Sept. 1917. The Boy Scout Headquarters is visible in the lower right corner. The first BSA HQ was at 2nd and Columbia in May 1911.



Boy Scouts practicing artificial respiration on a sandy beach, Seattle, King County, WA area, ca. 1916.



World War I poster and BSA scout, 1918.
WSHS Collection.



Boy Scout handbook, 1959. WSHS Collection.

Seattle Troop No. 4

June 15, 1916

Scoutmaster Floyd Oles



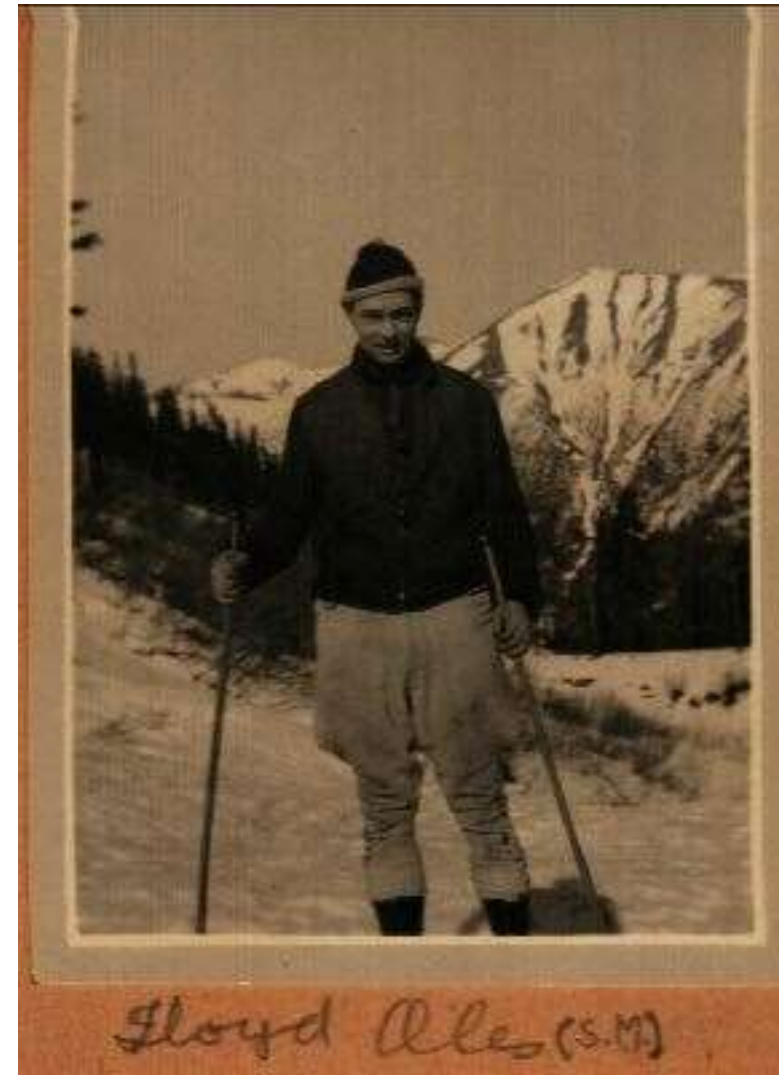
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BSA Troop 4 Seattle charter, June 15, 1916.
WSHS Collection.



Floyd Oles, Scoutmaster, Troop 4, ca. 1936.
WSHS Collection.

Application for Membership in the Boy Scouts of America

SEATTLE AREA COUNCIL—King, Kitsap, Clallam and Jefferson Counties, and Alaska
Headquarters, 5118 Arcade Square—Phone SEneca 1450, Seattle, Wash.
(To become a Scout a boy must have passed his twelfth birthday.)

To be signed by candidate, approved by Parent or Guardian, and forwarded with proper fee by Scoutmaster to Council Headquarters.

1. I HEREBY APPLY for membership in Troop No. four of the Boy Scouts of America. I agree to be guided by its rules and leaders, and help make it a creditable troop.



Name Doe, John Address 0000-00th Ave. SSW
School R-E-M-E-M-B-E-R- HIGH School grade 8ops
Church Catholic Phone QQ0000
Were You a Cub? Yes What Pack? 00

2. PARENT'S OR GUARDIAN'S APPROVAL:
WE HEREBY CERTIFY THAT OUR SON John Doe
was born on Jan 9 1900 We have read the Scout Oath and Law and are
Month Day willing that he be a Scout. We shall try to assist him to become a First Class Scout and to attend the summer camp.
Mary Doe Ralph Doe
Signatures of Parents (or Guardians)

3. SCOUTMASTER'S ACCEPTANCE:
This application is forwarded with registration fee of [50 cents if troop charter has 11 to 12 months to run; 45c for 10 months; 40c for 9 months; 35c for 8 months; 30c for 7 months; 25c for 5-6 months; 20c for 4 months; 15c for 3 months; 10c for 2 months; 5c for 1 month] thirty-five cents
for remainder of this troop's chartered year.
Scoutmaster Floyd Oles

NOTE

A Membership Card, issued from Headquarters on receipt of application, is required when a scout or his parents purchase a uniform.


Joining the Scouts

Information for Boys Past Twelve

THERE ARE SCOUTS in almost every neighborhood and every country in the world. If you are thinking of going into this great organization for adventure and training you should first find out from your friends or from Scout Headquarters the location of the best troop for you to join.

Before you become a scout, you must prove your ability to pass the following "lenderfoot" tests, all of which are explained in the Scout Handbook:

- Know the Scout Law, Sign, Salute, Motto, and meaning of the Badge; know the history of the Flag and the forms of respect due it; tie nine required knots correctly.
- An application form is on the back of this folder, and further information is inside.
- Every boy who becomes a scout takes the following 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 and to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, morally straight."



SEATTLE AREA COUNCIL BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

(L) BSA Troop 4 Seattle membership application for John Doe; (R) Joining the Scouts pamphlet.

WSHS Collection.



BSA Troop 4, ca. 1924.

WSHS Collection.

**GIVE
RIL 3, 4**

annual Boy
held April 2
William G.
annual year
of scouts and
Area Council
University of
Pavilion, so
now, the cat-
a event.
most of the
circus annu-
this year.
ll be general
Story Hilt-
manager.
presided
nd outlines for
been received
is program is
are planning
as the main
Green Lake
direction of
the other dis-
participants in
taking devel-

veteran leader
it will direct the
new ideas pro-
posed.

Archie
diversity caused
to handle all the
program, and man-
aged to lead the
Chinese dragon.
master of Park
W. Williams.
the working with
develop a "master"
man, which over 1,000
men.
observed that the
up as an all-around
boys having roles.
the annual han-
dill scout leaders
a companion to
at the Mammoth
e arranged for the
all Scout Head-
quart Building.
will include talks
and New York
director of scout
to give the an-
and Stuart P.
entative, who will
er Jubilee Year for
a Council.
the Silver Beaver
masters' lives will
tending about lead-
to John Kennedy.

again, chairman of
committee, will
of his committee,
one and executive
be held.

Presenting The
14th Annual

BOY SCOUT CIRCUS

at the
University of Washington Athletic Pavilion
APRIL 3rd and 4th -- 8:00 p. m.

Where You Will See
5,000 SCOUTS IN ACTION


*A Swift Moving Portrayal of the Activities of Scouts, Cubs and
Sea Scouts of Seattle and Vicinity*

18 BIG ACTS—Including

Grand Entry Parade—3,000 Participants
March of the Wooden Soldiers
Clowns, Clowns, and More Clowns
Paul Bunyan and His Famous Blue Ox
Giant Pyramids, Tumbling
Chariot Races . . . Thrills . . . Spills . . . Laughs
Camping, Pioneering, and Unbelievable Engineering Feats
Wilderness Scene Conjured Before Your Eyes
And Many Other Major Acts.

*It's Stupendous—
It's Colorful—
It's Incomparable—
And It's Worth the Price of Admission*

**Adults 40c
Children 20c
Reserved \$1.00**




14th Annual Boy Scout Circus, ca. 1930.
WSHS Collection.

TROOP FOUR

SEATTLE, WASH

December 1, 1939

Scribble



Troop Committee:
C. B. Finnegan, Chairman
A. W. Goldstein
Harold Maddock, Jr.
Benny Marcus
Ellis Vachon, Sr.

Senior Staff:
PL's Floyd Oles
SM Joseph Marcus
JASM's Keith Oles
Jimmy Rusebaum
SPL William Maddock

Junior Staff:
PL's
Chas. Helfner TB
Benny Marcus SC
Joe Finnegan BA
Stuart Oles PE

Scribe Robert Miller
W.M. Lawrence Rieder
Historian Jimmy Rusebaum

APL's
Robert Silver PE
Bill Webster BA
Carl Rockwood TB
Jimmy Rier SC

Editorial Staff: PL Finnegan and
the BA Patrol.
Reporters: Jimmy Rusebaum
Stuart Oles
Clair Silver

Printing courtesy of Miss Henseth,
Secretary to the SM.
Staff Artist: Harry Russellman.

PL Conference, November 24-25, at
U. of W., was a big event and
afforded unusual chance for leader-
ship preparation. Troop 4 delegates
were Benny Marcus and Bill Webster.

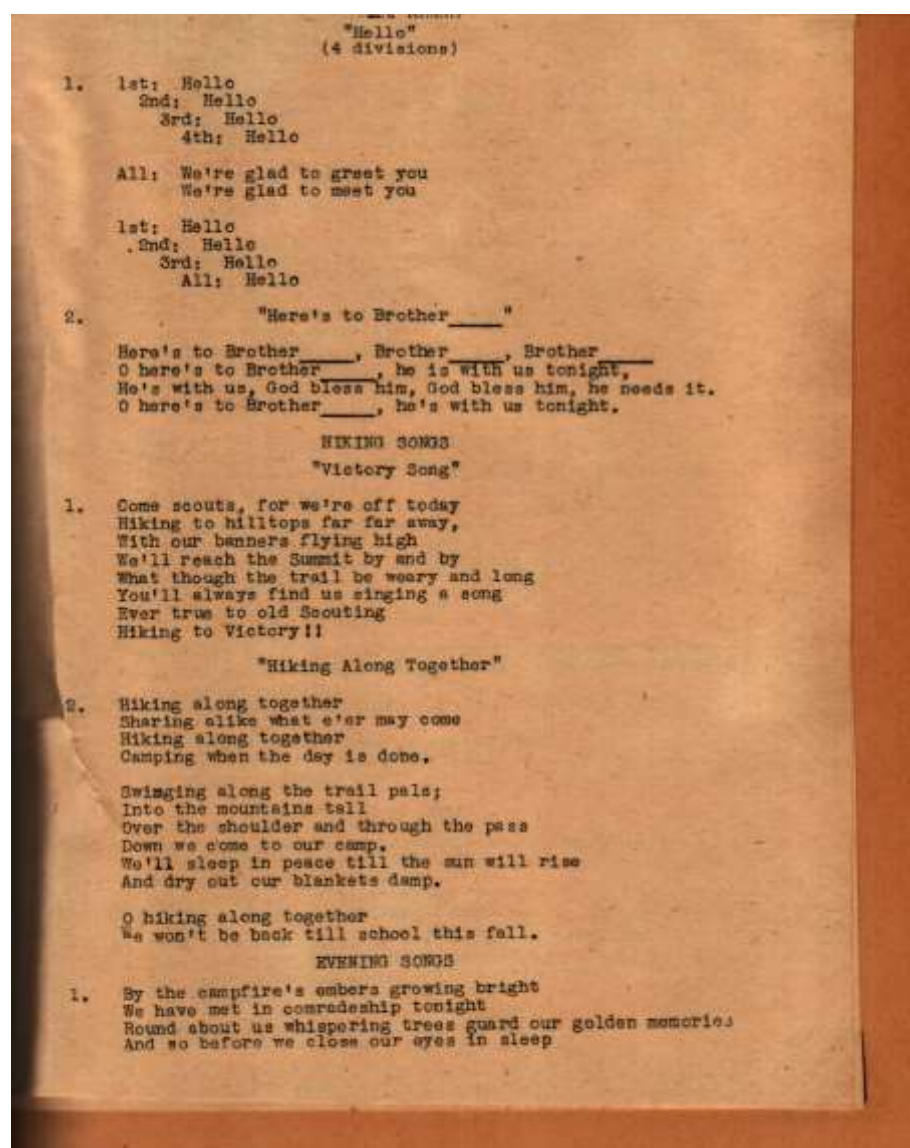
These Scouts were sent at
Troop expense (\$1.00 registra-
tion), in line with Troop
custom. We hope they brought
back some ideas for the Troop.

Civic Service. At request of
Scout Headquarters, Troop 4
furnished a group of Scouts
to usher at a performance of
"Pinocchio" at the Moore
Theatre, on Friday, November
24, starting duty at 9:00 A.M.
Our Scouts were headed by PL
Charlie Helfner, and included
beside him, Carl Rockwood,
Clair D. Silver and Bill Web-
ster. Mike points (5) in IF
Contest are being given for
this civic service.

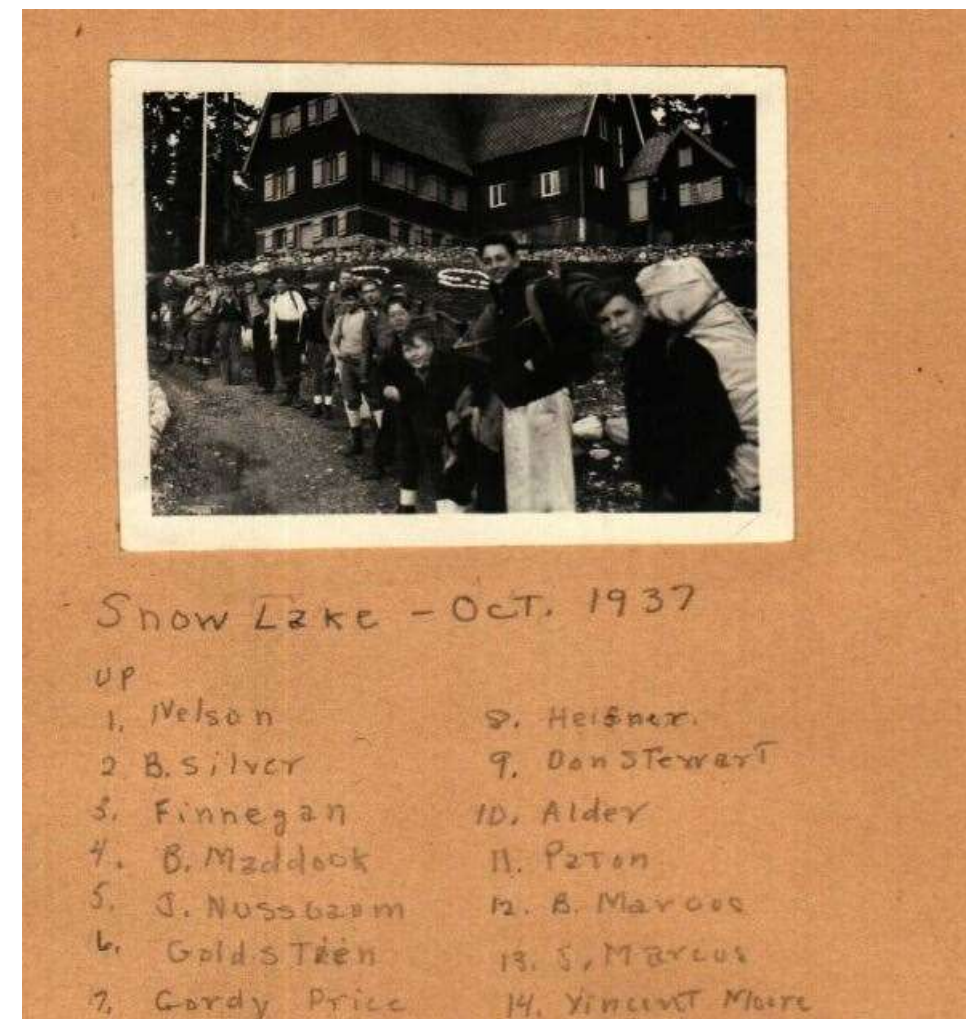
Scribble Editors for this
edition are the entire Blazing
Arrow Patrol led by PL Finne-
gan, plus some help they
dragged in. That they are good
at getting others to assist is
proven by the fact that the
SM is penning this remark,
also by various articles and
even poetry written by various
Scouts.

**Ratings for September & October
1939, as determined by the
Senior Staff, follow.** Note
that there are no ratings for
Scouts of Life or higher rank,
and none for Candidates. "S"
means satisfactory and indi-
cates that a Scout is doing
good Scouting. "B" indicates
some added work or merit above
usual and satisfactory Scouting.

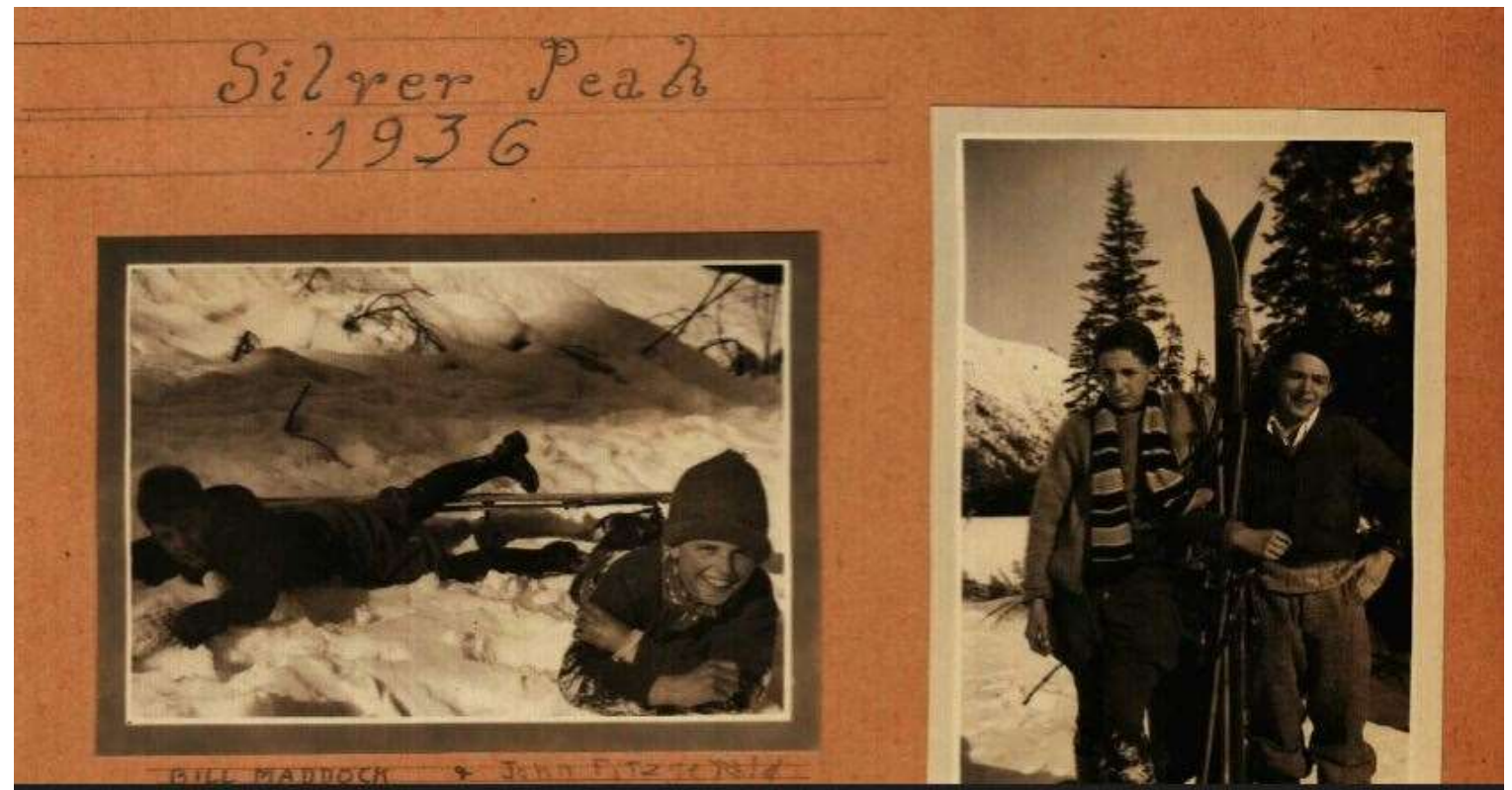
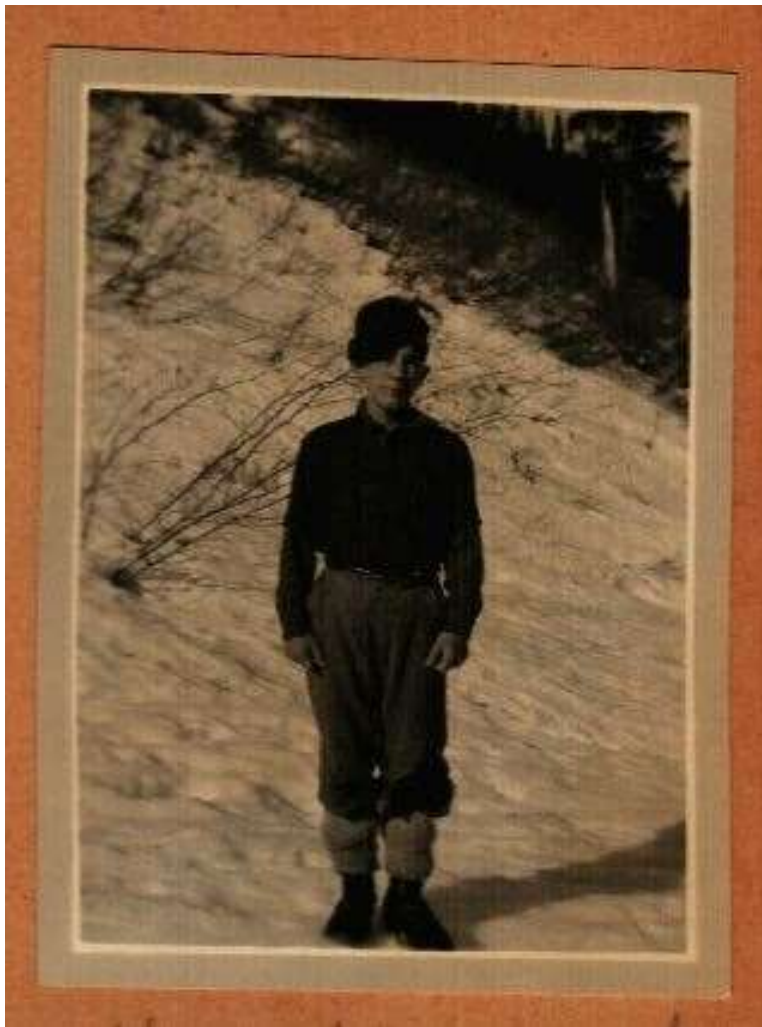
"Scribble" newsletter for Troop 4, December 1, 1939.
WSHS Collection.



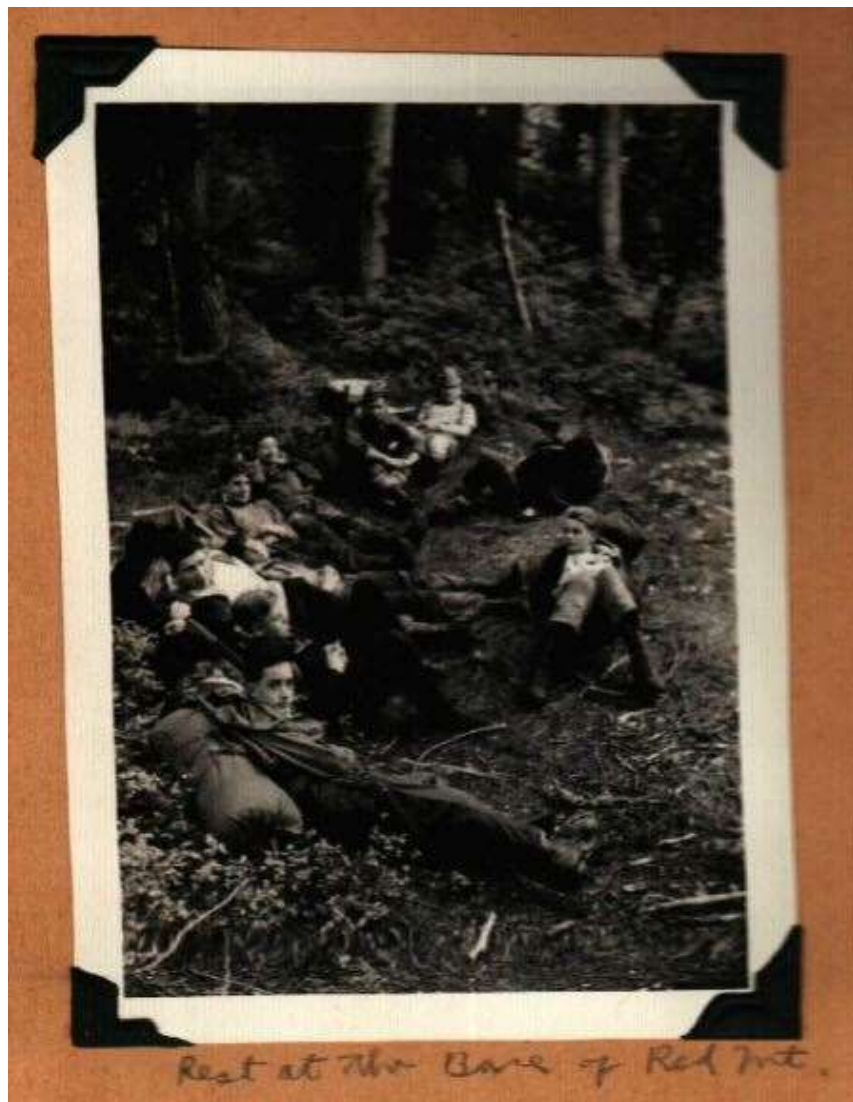
"Welcome" song and "Hiking" songs, Troop 4.
WSHS Collection.



Snow Lake hike, October 1937, Troop 4 – List of 14 Scouts
WSHS Collection.

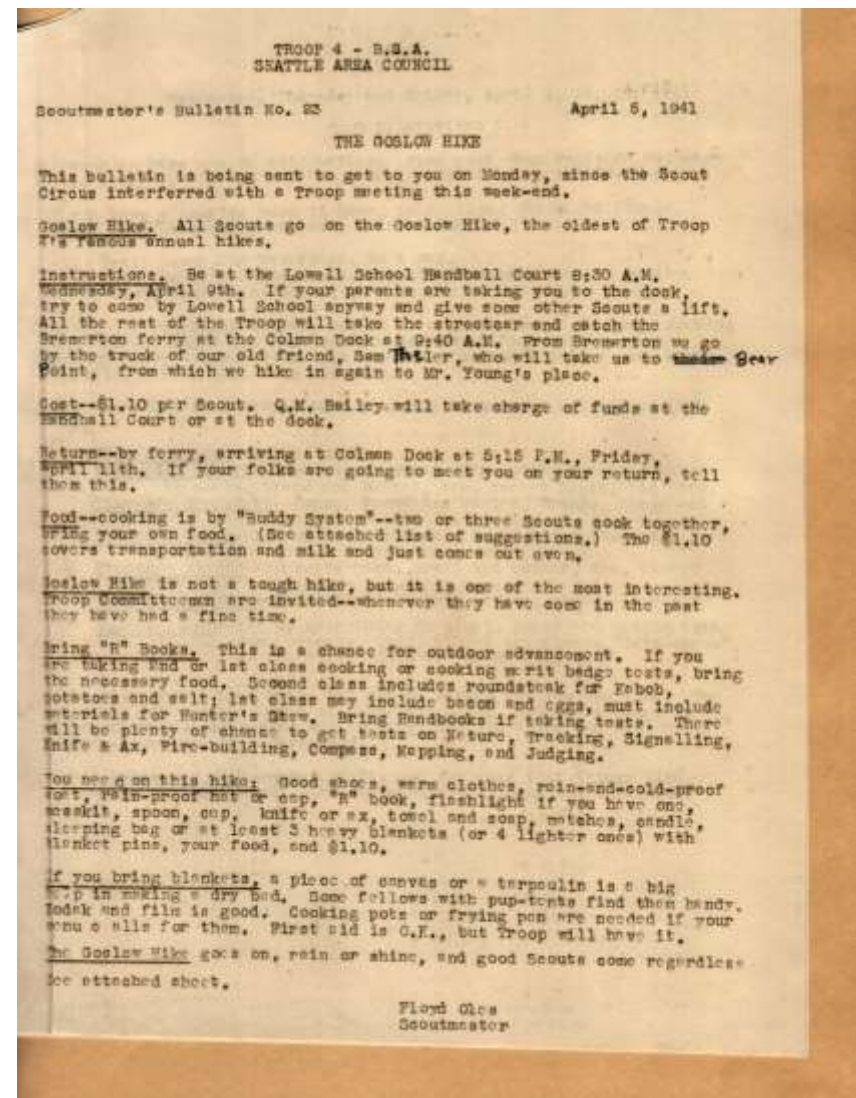


Boy Scouts at Silver Peak winter outing, 1936, BSA Troop 4.
WSHS Collection.



Boy Scouts resting at the base of Red Mountain (undated photo), BSA Troop 4.

WSHS Collection.



Goslow Hike details, Troop 4, April 5, 1941.

TROOP 4 - B.S.A.
Meeting of Friday, Feb. 28, 1941

1. Call to order.
2. Roll call.
3. Prepare for Inspection.
4. Inspection.
5. Colors.
6. Announcement of new SPL--
S. Oles.
Ceremony of change of
command.
7. Further announcements--by SM
 - a. Q.V. Patrol--insignia to
S. Oles--password.
 - b. Senior Patrol--purpose
and assignments--K. Oles
Legatus--Finnegan,
Heifner, Robt. Silver--
insignia later.
 - c. Roll call of Senior
Patrol. Q.V. 1st--then
others.
 - d. Bill Webster--PL of B.A.
 - e. Bill Silver--PL of F.E.
 - f. Guy Boswell--APL of F.E.
 - g. Holland Smith--APL of TB

-2-

- h. assignments:
Jack Smith to TB
Gordon Woodward to FE
Garrison Murphy to SC
1. Roll call by Patrols.

Game--led by new SPL.

Initiation: Halpern, Murphy,
Jack Smith.

Advancement--Separate Patrol
meets & instruction.
Special meet of Senior Patrol

Campfire.

Songs
Need for Lowell School
candidates.
Story by SM if needed.
Closing ceremonies.

Meeting notes, Troop 4, February 28,
1941. WSHS Collection.

Final "BLACKOUT" Bulletin

Attention Scoutmasters:-

You will be contacted during this or next week by a Captain of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Air Raid Warden Organization. He will bring with him a duplicate of this bulletin which will serve as his identification. Please give him your cooperation.

The final plans call for several changes as listed below:

1. Scouts to act as runners or aides to adult Air Raid Wardens only.
2. They are not to be used as fire alarm box guards or in a house to house check up. This work is going to be done by men.
3. All Troops to mobilize at their meeting place by 9:30 p.m. unless otherwise instructed by the Air Raid Warden Captain.

While we urge all Troops to participate this is as always, in calls of this kind, strictly up to each unit. However if you are not going to assist we would appreciate a telephone call as soon as possible.

Remember! Date-March 7th. Time-9:30 P.M.
Location--Your Troop meeting place.

K. J. Dunsire
Scout Headquarters

Call Se. 1450

"CALLING ALL SCOUT TROOPS"

All Seattle Scout Troops have been asked to assist in the "Blackout" which is being sponsored by the City of Seattle. The Executive Board of the Seattle Area Council has approved this help on the following basis:

1. Parents should consent to their son participating.
2. Scouts are to gather at their regular troop meeting place. From there they will be assigned to nearby locations which will correspond to regular city precincts. Their locations to be given later.

3. They will report to Air Wardens who will be adult members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars or American Legion. Their only duties will be act as messengers or to leave printed cards with the occupants of any houses that are lighted.

The proper procedure will be for each troop to determine the exact number of Scouts who will be available, to perfect plans for the troop mobilization and to inform headquarters by means of the enclosed card that your plans have been completed and the number of Scouts who can serve.

The date is March 7th. The mobilization time is 10 P.M.
May we count on your help?

Ken Dunsire
Scout Headquarters

Bulletin #1

February 20, 1941

"Blackout" bulletin for Air Warden Duty, February 20, 1941. WSHS Collection.

Camp Parsons Jefferson County Oldest continuing BSA Camp in the United States

April 15, 1919



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

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Reginald H. Parsons, Seattle Chamber of Commerce president (1873-1955).



Major Edward Sturgis Ingraham, first superintendent of the Seattle Public Schools (1852-1926)



An early advertisement for the
Boy Scouts of America and its
camping program.

Camp Parsons Museum.



BSA uniform, 1919.

Camp Parsons Museum.



Early Scoutmaster staff at Camp Parsons, 1920. The mules "Jack" and "Jim" also pictured.

Camp Parsons Museum.



Approximately 100 Scouts attended the first summer at Camp Parsons, June-August 1919.

Camp Parsons Museum.



Ferries were the main transportation to and from Camp Parsons between 1919 and 1950. This photo shows the steamer KINGSTON unloading Scouts at a pier, 1930.

Camp Parsons Museum.



Two Scouts from Troop 326 on board ship en route to Camp Parsons, 1941.

Camp Parsons Museum.



Post card from Scout Charlie Harris to his parents in Seattle, d. August 5, 1919.

Camp Parsons Museum.



The Trading Post at Camp
Parsons, aka "Fort Duckabush"
ca. 1926.

Camp Parsons Museum.



"Whale Boat" crew races, 1922.
Camp Parsons Museum.



Beach swimming on visitors' day,
1939. Note handwritten sign
"Please no ladies."
Camp Parsons Museum.



Cub Scouts eating in Dining Hall, ca. 1938. Part of Camp Parsons was designated for Cub Scouts beginning in 1930.

Camp Parsons Museum.





An Archery range was added in the early 1930s for Scouts at Camp Parsons. In 1955, a rifle range was added, allowing Scouts to earn their marksmanship badges and awards. The Marksmanship merit badge was one of the [original 57 merit badges](#) issued by the Boy Scouts of America in 1911. Marksmanship replaced the 1910 [Marksman "Badge of Merit"](#). The Marksmanship badge was discontinued in 1966 and replaced with the Rifle and Shotgun Shooting badge in 1988. Camp Parsons Museum.



1920s Daily Schedule

This carving was made in the 1920s by Victor Kaartinen of Troop 2A. It reads from top to bottom:

BUGLE: *Wake-up Call*
ARM: *Morning Exercises*
BOWL: *Eat Breakfast*
WHEELBARROW: *Work Project*
SIGNAL FLAGS: *Learn Scout Craft*
FISH: *Morning Swim*
CABIN: *Return to Camp*
CUP & SAUCER: *Eat Lunch*
PEN IN INK BOTTLE: *Write Home*
CROSSED PADDLES: *Rowing*
FISH: *Afternoon Swim*
HAMMER: *Do Work Project*
KNIFE & FORK: *Eat Dinner*
CANNON: *Retreat (Lower Flag)*
FIRE: *Go to Campfire*

Scout Daily Schedule at Camp Parsons, 1920.
Camp Parsons Museum.



Hand-carved wood Troop schedule for Camp Parsons.
Camp Parsons Museum.



Boat House with Coast Salish designs, Camp Parsons, 2017.



Pier at Werner Beach, Camp Parsons, 2017.



Scout projects, Camp Parsons.

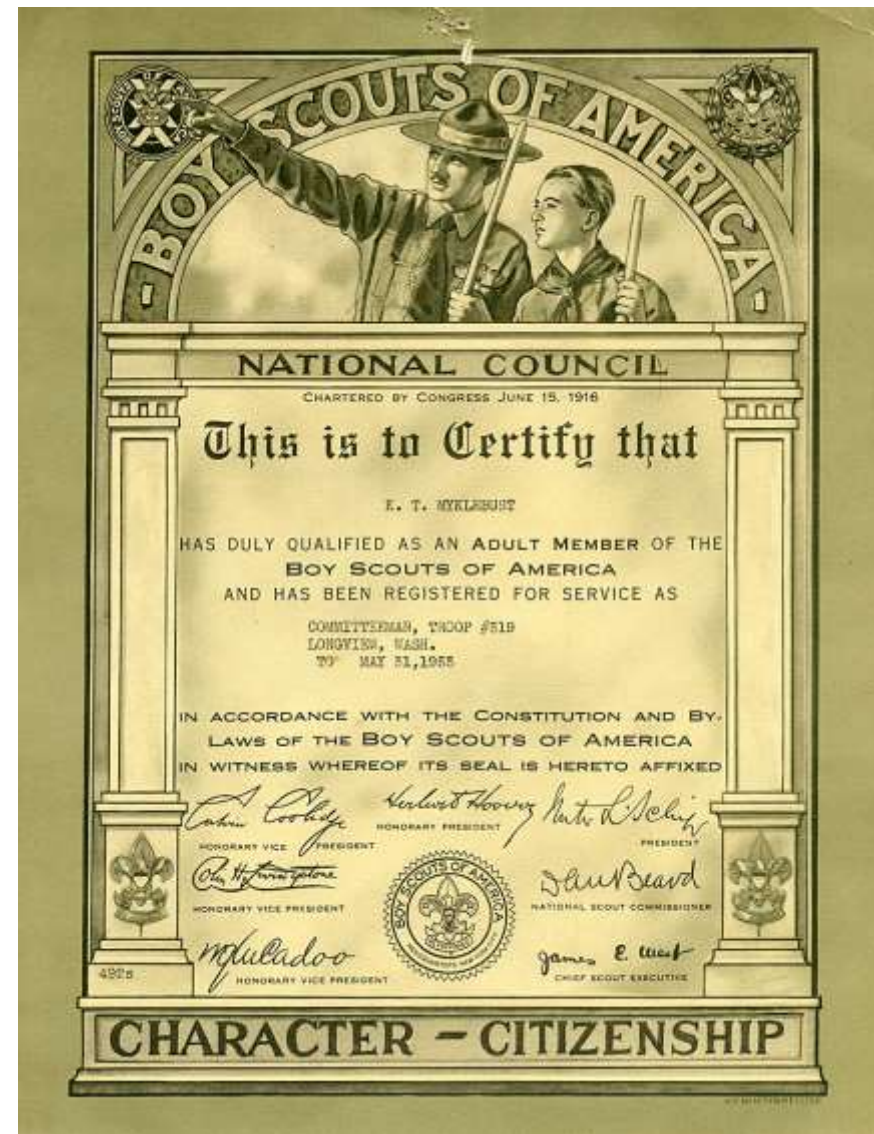


Scout summer hikes often were held in the second week following Camp Parsons. This photo shows a groups of Scouts at a Scout cabin in the Olympic Mountains, ca. 1930.

Camp Parsons Museum.



Boy Scout Handbook, 1959.
WSHS Collection.



BSA Adult Registration Certificate for Mykelbust, Troop 319,
Longview, May 31, 1933.
WSHS Collection.



BSA Scout statue by Alice
Robertson Carr, 1925.
Camp Parsons Museum.



Evaluations

- To record your evaluation and attendance from a mobile device, go to <https://seaptc.org> and click "Class Evaluation."
- **The evaluation code for this session is 4981.**
- Show the instructor the confirmation page on your mobile device to receive an event patch.

