

Greetings,

One day in 1909 in London, England, an American visitor, William D. Boyce, lost his way in a dense fog. He stopped under a street lamp and tried to figure out where he was. A boy approached him and asked if he could be of help.

He told the boy that he wanted to find a certain business office in the center of the city. *"I'll take you there,"* said the boy.

When they got to the destination, Mr. Boyce reached into his pocket for a tip. But the boy stopped him. *"No thank you, sir. I am a Scout. I won't take anything for helping."*

"A Scout? And what might that be?" asked Boyce. The boy told the American about himself and about his brother Scouts. Boyce became very interested. After finishing his errand, he had the boy take him to the British Scouting office.

At the office, Boyce met Lord Robert Baden-Powell, the famous British general who had founded the Scouting movement in Great Britain. Boyce was so impressed with what he learned that he decided to bring Scouting home with him.

On February 8, 1910, Boyce and a group of outstanding leaders founded the Boy Scouts of America. What happened to the boy who helped Mr. Boyce find his way in the fog? No one knows.

One Good Turn to one man became a Good Turn to millions of American Boys. Such is the power of a Good Turn.

Today, this true story is known as the Legend of the Unknown Scout. It illustrates how powerful a simple good turn can be.

Northern Star Council has a goal that each youth member registered in our Scouting program perform 5 hours of community service during 2013. We wish to total all these hours so that we can tell the world how much service we are providing to our community.

For us to be able to know whether or not we have met our goal, we need unit leaders to enter their community service hour information in to the national web site. Please see the attachments we have included. The first provides information on where to log your hours, and the second is a copy of the announcement of our Community Service Recognition plan which was rolled out this past May in our council.

Please go to www.scouting.org/awards/journeytoexcellence today to enter the community service hours for your unit.

If you have any questions or difficulties, help is only an e-mail away! You can contact Joyce Zeman at Northern Star Council via jzeman@northernstarbsa.org.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Rick Lancaster
Chair, Northern Star Council Activities Committee

NORTHERN STAR COUNCIL, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

The purpose of the Council Community Service Award is twofold:

- to promote character-building and citizenship in Scouts and Scouters, who realize their responsibility to serve their city, state and nation, both individually and through group effort; and
- to recognize Scouts and Scouters who provide certain levels of community service measured by hours performed in such service.

This award can help units get more Scouts to attend unit service projects, which in turn should help units fulfill their community service project requirement for Journey to Excellence (JTE). In that light, service projects in support of unit charter partners are specifically encouraged as part of the service hours that qualify for the award.

This Award is for all Scouts and Scouters at all levels, and honors cumulative service. It is not expected to be a “one and done” award.

The service should be performed in such a way as to be identified as Scouting service through the wearing of the official Scout uniform.

Requirements and ordering procedures are attached.



NORTHERN STAR COUNCIL
COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD
*An Individual Award for Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Varsity Scouts,
Venturers, Sea Scouts, Explorers, and Adult Scouters*

Requirements:

1. Service should be performed in the official Scouting uniform, whenever practical. The nature of some service may justify the wearing of a unit tee shirt instead of the official Scout uniform. This will be a project-by-project determination by the unit leaders, with the goal of ensuring that the public realizes the service is being performed by Scouts as Scouts.

NOTE: BSA rules describe situations in which a Scout uniform must not be worn, and they must be obeyed; these award requirements do NOT replace official BSA rules on the wearing of the uniform.

2. Twenty (20) hours of community service must be completed for the initial award (the patch). Subsequent awards (represented by a “20” numeral pin for wear on the patch) can be earned when a Scout or Scouter performs an additional 20 hours of community service. There is no limit on the number of times a Scout or Scouter can earn a pin award or the number of “20” pins that can be worn on the award patch. It is hoped that each Scout and Scouter will earn (and proudly wear) the initial award patch and many service pins representing subsequent awards.

NOTE: At the option of each individual Scout or Scouter, a “40” pin may be substituted for two “20” pins, and a “60” pin can be substituted for three “20” pins. The “40” pin is NOT appropriate for wear until a total of 60 hours of service have been performed, and the “60” pin is not appropriate for wear until a total of 80 hours of service have been performed.

3. All 20 hours for either the initial award or a subsequent award need NOT be performed in the same calendar year, although it is hoped that each Webelos, Boy Scout and Venturers and all Scouters will perform at least 20 hours of community service each calendar year.

NOTE: driving time to and from the site of a service project does NOT count.

4. Service performed during 2012 may be considered part of the hours for the initial award at the option of unit leaders. Unit leaders must be able to corroborate hours claimed for 2012, and must track hours for 2013 and beyond. There is no specific form for tracking service hours, so units can use any existing method they currently use for that purpose. A suggested form is attached for units that don't have any current service hours tracking form.

5. Service must benefit the community. The service must be for the public or a non-profit group or organization (including a unit's charter organization). Service to Council camps can be counted EXCEPT the hours that a Scout or Scouter performs as part of the Order of the Arrow Ordeal do NOT count. Hours performed by that Scout or Scouter at subsequent Order of the Arrow events (spring work weekends and subsequent fall Conclaves) can count.

6. Service hours for rank advancement can be counted toward the 20 hour increments for the initial and subsequent awards. Service hours that a Scout performs while earning the 50 Miler Award also count. Service hours that a Scout performs while assisting another Scout's Eagle

service project also count. The Eagle candidate can count his personal hours performing (but not planning) his Eagle project. The same rules apply to hours performed in connection with an individual or unit Hornaday award, keeping in mind that the Service Award is an individual award, not a unit award.

7. Service provided to a unit's charter partner or other groups which the unit claims for Journey to Excellence DOES count, keeping in mind that the Service Award is an individual award, not a unit award.

8. Hours that a Scouter or youth leader spends performing his or her position of leadership for the unit or District do NOT count (planning and attending unit meetings, attending District or Council meetings, driving Scouts to and from events, etc.). Only community service hours count.

9. Service performed in a person's non-Scouting roles in life do NOT count. Examples include: ushering at church as part of the "regular" ushering crew**; service at a church sponsored event as a member of a church youth group; service performed out of uniform as a member of the general public at large public events; service performed as a member of service groups like Lions Clubs or Rotary Clubs; or service performed as a volunteer staffer of another organization that hosts the event. **Ushering in uniform at a Scout Sunday or Scout Sabbath service counts.

10. Service must be such that no monetary remuneration, directly or indirectly, is paid for the benefit of the Scout, Unit, or District. Unit fund raisers of any kind do not count, even when a charity pays the Scouts for their service. Cash donations given to Scouts while performing Scouting for Food will not disqualify the service if the cash is donated to the food shelf.

NOTE: BSA rules about fundraising for other groups must be obeyed.

11. Units may choose to award their Scouts and Scouters with Scouting for Food, Arbor Day, Earth Day and other event patches sold by the Scout Shops for attending those and similar events. The hours performed for those events still count for the Service Award even if the unit awards the special patches for these other events.

PROCEDURE:

1. Each person keeps their individual record of service performed. When each increment of hours has been completed, the service record is given to the Unit Leader.

2. Unit Leaders will give order forms to the Council Offices to purchase the patch. Pins are available from the Scout Shops. Unit leaders must purchase the awards for all Scouts and Scouters who are registered with a unit. Scouts (or their parents) and Scouters will not purchase the awards for themselves.

NOTE: District and/or Council volunteers who are not registered with a unit may purchase the awards for themselves but should be prepared to show the Council office and Scout Shop a record of service.

3. The Award can be presented by the Unit Leaders at a Court of Honor or other unit function.

4. The patch can (and should) be worn suspended from the button on the right pocket of the Scout uniform. Pins are to be attached to the patch, in any location that the person chooses.

COST OF THE PATCH & PINS ARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE UNIT

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD INDIVIDUAL ORDER FORM

(one form per individual, please)

Check one: Initial Award (patch) _____ Additional Award _____ (pin)**

****Additional awards are recognized by wearing a service star pin on the patch. Order them separately from the Scout Shops.**

Name of Scout or Scouter: _____

Adult _____ Youth _____

Unit Type and Number: _____ District: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Total Number of Service Hours _____

Award Approval

Unit Leader's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Patches may be purchased at the Customer Service areas in each office – bring in this form and the award fee to:

Northern Star Council
393 Marshall Avenue
Saint Paul MN 55102

OR Northern Star Council
5300 Glenwood Avenue
Golden Valley MN 55422

Make check payable to the Northern Star Council. Indicate "Service Award" in the memo space.

The patch is \$1.00 each and includes tax and appropriate shipping and handling.

Additional awards, designated by a "20" "40" or "60" service star pin, are available from the Scout Shop (*prices subject to change by National Supply*). Please call the Scout Shop for the current price of the pin plus tax, shipping and handling. See Council web page for Scout Shop addresses and phone numbers: <http://www.northernstarbsa.org/Contacts/ScoutShops>

Remember to enter all your Service Hours on the JTE site,
www.scouting.org/awards/jurneytoexcellence.

Our goal in 2013 is for every youth member to perform 5 hours of Community Service during the year of 2013.

Enter Your JTE Service Hours Online



Our goal in 2013 is for every youth member to perform 5 hours of Community Service during the year of 2013.

You can enter your service hours online at the [Journey to Excellence site](#). Under the “Service Projects” area of the screen, you can find the link to log your hours, information for first-time users, ideas and tips for a successful service project, and sample reports that can be pulled by your council administrator. To enter your service hours click on “Service hours website.” Choose “New User Click Here,” or enter your existing username and password.

Please remember to tell your districts, troops, packs, and crews about the new site.

Volunteers with a MyScouting account also can reach the Journey to Excellence service hours website by clicking on the Journey to Excellence Information link on the left side of the screen in the “Council Tools” section. Once they click the link they will be directed to www.scouting.org/awards/journeytoexcellence and can follow the same procedures as listed above.

If your unit needs a unit ID number to log on to the JTE site, please contact your District Executive or Joyce at 763-231-7265 or jzeman@nsbsa.org, or Bob Thielen at 763-231-7220 or bthielen@nsbsa.org.