



# 100 YEARS OF SCOUTING

*Celebrating the Adventure ★ Continuing the Journey*

April 28, 2010

Dear Leaders, Parents and Scouts:

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month, a time to raise awareness about child abuse and neglect and encourage individuals and communities to support children and families. Our goal is ensure that every youth member, leader and parent is fully aware of this issue and resources available to them.

The Boy Scouts of America places the greatest importance on creating the most secure environment possible for our youth members. To maintain such an environment, the BSA developed numerous procedural and leadership selection policies and provides parents and leaders with resources for the Cub Scout, Boy Scout, and Venturing programs.

These resources can be found online at [Scouting.org](http://Scouting.org). The Youth Protection link is [scouting.org/Training/YouthProtection.aspx](http://scouting.org/Training/YouthProtection.aspx) .

A common question is “Where do I begin?” The following should help get you started:

**Youth Member:** Review “*How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide*” with a parent or guardian. The booklet is included in all printed handbooks.

Be sure to follow the “Buddy System” and never go anywhere alone with an adult other than your parent or guardian.

Watch the appropriate Youth Protection Video for your age group. Cub Scouts: “*It Happened to Me*”, Boy Scouts: “*A Time to Tell*”, Venturing: “*Personal Safety Awareness*.”

**Parent/Guardian:** Review “*How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide*” with your child. The booklet is included in all printed handbooks.

Be involved with your child and know who their leaders are. Do not allow your child to go anywhere alone with another adult.

Preview the appropriate Youth Protection Video with your child’s leader. Cub Scouts: “*It Happened to Me*”, Boy Scouts: “*A Time to Tell*”, Venturing: “*Personal Safety Awareness*.”



**Golden Spread Council, Boy Scouts of America**

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Adult Leader: Complete the online Youth Protection Training program. You will need your BSA ID # to complete this training.

You will learn the Boy Scouts of America's Youth Protection Guidelines, signs of abuse, and how to report suspected abuse. This training needs to be completed within 90 days of your registration as a leader and repeated every 24 months.

Be aware of and follow BSA youth protection policies including:

Two-deep leadership. Two registered adult leaders or one registered leader and a parent of a participant, or other adult, one of whom must be 21 years of age or older, are required on all trips and outings. The chartered organization is responsible for ensuring that sufficient leadership is provided for all activities.

No one-on-one contact. One-on-one contact between adults and youth members is not permitted. In situations that require personal conferences, such as a Scoutmaster's conference, the meeting is to be conducted in view of other adults and youths.

Show the appropriate Youth Protection Video to parents first. Then show the video to the youth with parents' approval. Cub Scouts: "*It Happened to Me*", Boy Scouts: "*A Time to Tell*", Venturing: "*Personal Safety Awareness*."

We encourage you to take the appropriate steps and training as soon as possible. Awareness and education are critical in helping provide safe environments for our youth. Please contact the Scout Office at 806-358-6500 for more information.

Sincerely,



Rob Law  
Vice President of Program



Brick Huffman  
Scout Executive