

## The Birth of the Boy Scouts of America

**Narrator/Boyce:** One day in 1909 in London, England

A Chicago businessman, Publisher William D. Boyce, lost his way in a dense fog. He stopped under a street lamp and tried to find his way.

*(Scout walks up to Boyce who looks lost)*

**Scout:** May I be of help, sir?

**Boyce:** Please. Which way is 111 Downing Street?

**Scout:** I'll take you there.

**Narrator/Boyce:** The scout starts to lead Boyce to his destination. When they got there, Boyce reaches into his pocket for a shilling to give the scout a tip, but the scout stops him.

**Scout:** No thank you, sit. I am a Scout. I won't take anything for helping.

**Boyce:** A Scout? And what might that be?

**Narrator/Boyce:** The Boy told the American business man about himself and his other scout brothers. Boyce became very interested and after he was done with his errand, Boyce had the scout take him to the British Scouting Office.

End scene and continue telling the story.

Boyce met Lord Robert Baden-Powell. Founder of the Scouting movement in Great Britian. He told Boyce all about the program and Boyce received a copy of "Scouting for Boys" that Baden-Powell had written to start scouting.

Boyce returned to the states shortly after and put into motion the process to start scouting in America.

On February 8, 1910, in Washington D.C. Boyce and a group of outstanding leaders founded the Boy Scouts of America.

As for the boy in London. No one knows who he was. He did not ask for money nor did he give his name, but is not forgotten today.

His Good turn helped bring the Scouting movement to our country.

One good Turn to One Man Became a Good Turn to millions of American Boys. This is why our scout Slogan remains:

Do A Good Turn Daily!