Key Dates

Boy Scouts of America incorporated 1910

First Boy Scout Handbook published 1911

Boys’ Life premiered 1911

First Eagle Scout, Arthur R. Eldred 1912

Scouting magazine premiered 1913

Registration of Scouts began, 25¢ annual fee 1913

Order of the Arrow began 1915

Federal charter granted by Congress 1916

First season at what would become Northern Tier High Adventure Base 1923

Boy Scout membership tops 1 million 1925

Cub Scout program began 1930

Philmont donated to the BSA 1938

First BSA Wood Badge course taught 1948

First Pinewood Derby® held 1953

Webelos program added to Cub Scouting 1954

Exploring program began 1959

Florida National High Adventure Sea Base officially opened 1980

Tiger Cubs program added to Cub Scouting 1982

1 millionth Eagle Scout, Alexander M. Holsinger 1982

Learning for Life program began 1991

Venturing program began 1998

100 millionth member registered 2000

2 millionth Eagle Scout, Anthony Thomas 2009
Membership*
Total Cub Scouts 62,226,396
Total Boy Scouts/Venturers 52,077,933
Total Youth Served 114,304,329
Total Adult Volunteers 33,364,261

Awards
Total number of merit badges awarded 117,649,303
Top 5 merit badges awarded**
- First Aid 6,537,232
- Swimming 5,929,179
- Camping 4,364,027
- Cooking 4,122,629
- Citizenship in the Community 3,178,473
Eagle Scout Awards 2,043,375
William T. Hornaday Award (since 1914) 3,799
Honor Medal (since 1923) 2,234
Honor Medal With Crossed Palms (since 1924) 231
Silver Buffalo Award (since 1926) 686
Medal of Merit (since 1945) 5,927
Distinguished Eagle Scout Award (since 1969) 1,840
Heroism Award (since 1977) 3,081
National Certificate of Merit (since 1989) 1,501

*Local Council Index, including multiple registration
**Estimated

Interesting Facts and Figures
Chief Scout Executives 11
BSA National Presidents 33
Scouts and Scouters who have attended Northern Tier 348,642
Scouts who have attended Philmont 908,047
Scouts who have attended Florida Sea Base 200,000
National Jamboree Attendance (as of 2005) 642,489
Scouts who have become astronauts 181
Norman Rockwell works with Scouting themes 51
Joseph Csatari works with Scouting themes 36