

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Aaron Bradford 574-289-0337 aaron.bradford@scouting.org
Patrick Bridges 574-289-0337

**LASALLE COUNCIL BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA PREPARED
FOR SECOND CENTURY OF SERVICE**
Local Scouts and Leaders Celebrate Centennial Milestone

SOUTH BEND, IN — (2/5/10) — When the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) was officially incorporated on February 8, 1910, Americans were driving Stanley steam automobiles, earning an average of \$750 a year, and paying little more than 30 cents for a gallon of milk. The national debt was a mere billion dollars. While all of these things seem out of place today, the BSA remains a vital organization with a mission and purpose that is more relevant today than ever before.

Throughout 2010, the Boy Scouts of America will celebrate its centennial anniversary milestone with a rallying call that will be heard across the nation as Scouts gather in their communities to pay tribute to the rich history and tradition of Scouting. This is especially true this month as the traditional Cub Scout family “Blue & Gold” banquet birthday celebrations are being held throughout the United States in local elementary schools, churches, and other neighborhood locations.

Nationally there will be a number of celebrations happening with the highlight being the National Jamboree at Ft. A.P. Hill, Virginia with over 40,000 scouts attending this 10 day jamboree, starting on July 26th.

Having served more than 100 million members since its founding, the BSA has made a lasting and positive imprint on the fabric of the nation. Its mission—“to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law”—enables Scouting to address many issues that are important to young people and families, including health, civility, education, leadership, diversity, and service to others.

“This country needs strong leaders and healthy young people more than ever before, and that is what Scouting is all about,” said Bob Mazzuca, Chief Scout Executive of the BSA. “This is our time in history to remind the nation that Scouting is more vibrant, more vital, and more relevant than ever before. Every day, millions of Scouts and adult leaders make a huge difference in our society. We look forward to continuing that commitment in the next century.”

LaSalle Council serves over 9,000 youth and 2,500 adult volunteers in St. Joseph, Elkhart, Marshall, LaPorte, Porter and Stark counties in Indiana and Cass and southern Berrien counties in Michigan.

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA ★ 100 YEARS OF SCOUTING



CELEBRATING THE ADVENTURE ★ CONTINUING THE JOURNEY

LaSalle Council Boy Scouts of America, 1340 South Bend Ave., South Bend, IN 46617
574-289-0337 or www.lasallecouncilbsa.org

Numerous 100th Anniversary events are planned here for our local Scouts, Leaders, Scouting Alumni, and the public. Come be a part of Scouting history!

- **100th Birthday Celebration on February 8, 2010 from 12:00 noon to 6:30 pm at the Morris – 1st Source Scout Center**, 1340 South Bend Avenue, South Bend, IN 46617. Join in the big birthday cake cutting at noon or stop by anytime during the day and visit the Scout Shop featuring special 100th Anniversary items! Plus, take a tour of the new Scout Center if you have not yet had a chance to do so.
- **Eagle Scout Reunion and 100th Anniversary Dinner on March 4, 2010** at the University of Notre Dame. *Guest speaker will be Notre Dame great Chris Zorich.* The Eagle Scout gathering will begin at 6:30pm followed by the 100th Anniversary Dinner Program. This event is open to all Scouting volunteers and alumni (seating limited). Remember, “Once an Eagle – Always an Eagle.”
- **100th Anniversary Council Jamboree on May 15, 2010** at St. Joseph County Fairgrounds in South Bend, IN. There will be scout skill shows, bands, fireworks, alumni reception plus much more. This event is open to the public. This is the Council’s highlight event for the 100th Anniversary. Over 4,000 youth and adults are expected to attend this weekend event.
- **100th Anniversary Campfire Re-dedication on July 3, 2010** at Camp Tamarack, Wood Lake Scout Reservation in Jones, MI. Join us for flags and a steak dinner at 6:00 pm (\$15 ticket price). Open to all current and past Scouts or adult volunteers who attended Camp Tamarack during its rich 58 year history.
- **Scout Night at the Cove on July 9, 2010** at a South Bend Silver Hawks baseball game. Scouts will attend the game, perform the opening flag ceremony, and camp overnight in the outfield.
- Please visit the LaSalle Council website at www.lasallecouncilbsa.org for more information on these and other special events.

“During this year, we recognize the achievements of our past, but our focus is on the future of millions of young Scouts, their communities, and the nation as a whole,” Mazzuca said. “Scouting is ready for the next 100 years!”

“We have a rich tradition and a commitment to our area families to continue the journey of helping to produce better citizens, leaders, neighbors and friends you can count on. The great thing is – we do this while our children are having fun and internalizing the values of Scouting that they will take with them for the rest of their lives,” said Patrick Bridges, Scout Executive of the LaSalle Council.

About the Boy Scouts of America

The Boy Scouts of America is the nation’s foremost youth program of character development and values-based leadership training. The Scouting organization is composed of 2.7 million youth members between the ages of 7 and 20, 1.1 million volunteers, and nearly 300 local councils throughout the United States and its territories. For more information on the Boy Scouts of America, please visit www.scouting.org.

More information about 100 Years of Scouting can be found at www.scouting.org/100years. Scouting Alumni can reconnect by visiting www.BSAalumni.org.

###

