

The Lost Quarter

Need: 5 or more scouts.

Scene:

One person acts as a lamp post, shining a flashlight on the ground.

Another is groping around in the pool of light. (He's Scout One).

A third person enters, sees Scout One, and asks: "What are you looking for?"

Scout One: "A quarter that I lost". He joins # 1, and helps him search. A fourth and fifth enter and repeat the above scene.

Finally one of them asks Scout One: "Where did you loose the quarter ?"

Scout One: (Pointing away) "Over there"

Other Scout: "Then why are you looking here ?"

Scout One: "Because the light is better over here!"

Bear Attack Skit

Required:

4 or more scouts

Script:

2 scouts are camping out, but only have a one-man tent. They argue about who should sleep inside and finally one winds up laying down inside and the other outside. They fall asleep.

A group (2 or 3 scouts) of bears (or trolls, werewolves or what ever you want) wander by and see the sleeping scout. They rush up and shake him and yell/growl/roar at him for a few seconds and then run off stage.

The scout gets up, hobbles to his buddy, explains he was just attacked, and pleads to change places. The other scout won't switch and tells him to go back to sleep.

Once settled down, the bears come back and harass him again. Again, he pleads with buddy to trade. This time, he agrees to switch places. (Can repeat once more if its going well.)

After they settle down, the bears come back again. Just as they are going to start attacking the scout outside, one stops and says, "We've scarred this guy enough - let's get the guy in the tent!"

Clean Socks Skit

Required:

5 scouts
a pile of socks

Script:

Scout #1: (could be a leader instead) Hey, everybody! Our new socks have arrived! Come and get 'em!

[other scouts run onstage and line up to receive socks.]

Scout #1: OK, Johnny, how many socks do you need?

Scout #2: I need 2 pair.

Scout #1: Just two?

Scout #2: Yes, I wear one pair for a week while the other pair is in the dirty wash.

Scout #1: Yuck! Oh well, here you go.

Scout #3: I need 4 pair.

Scout #1: Why 4 pair?

Scout #3: I put on a fresh pair on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday.

Scout #1: Well, that's better than wearing them a whole week. Here you go.

Scout #4: I need 7 pair.

Scout #1: Great. I bet that's a fresh pair every day, right? [gives the socks]

Scout #4: Right!

Scout #1: That's what I like. A clean scout! Here you go.

Scout #5: 12 pair please!

Scout #1: 12!? Man, you must really be clean. Why 12 pair?

Scout #5: Well, there's January, February, March, ...

Dirty Socks Skit

Required:

4 scouts
1 large can full of water
4 coffee mugs

Preparation:

Place the can in the center of the stage.

Script:

Scout 1: (walks to can with his cup, dips it in and takes a drink) 'Yuch! This Camp Tea is awful!'

Scout 2: (walks to can with his cup, dips it in and takes a drink) 'Yuch! This Camp Coffee is terrible!'

Scout 3: (walks to can with his cup, dips it in and takes a drink) 'Yuch! This Camp Chocolate is disgusting!'

Scout 4: (walks to can, reaches in and pulls out pair of socks. Wrings them and says...) 'Aaah, they're finally clean!'

Emergency Alert System Skit

This Skit is meant for Cub Scouts, but it can be really funny if you can get your leaders to do it!

Required:

5 to 10 scouts

Notes:

Make sure you practice so the Beeeeps start and stop when they should and so that the punch line does not drag on too long.

Script:

All scouts but one stand in line. Lead scout is in front or to one side.

Leader: For the next ten seconds we will conduct a test of the Scouting emergency broadcast system.

(line of scouts all make Beeeeeeeeeeep sound until the leader raises his hand.)

Leader: Thank you. This concludes the test of the Scouting emergency broadcast system. Had this been an actual emergency, you would have heard...

(line of scouts scream in panic and run around)

Blind Horse Skit

Required:

3 scouts (or leaders), one is the horse

Script:

(scout #1 is walking his horse across the stage. scout #2 is going the other way and sees them.)

Scout #2: Wow! (scout and horse stop.) Sir, that horse is beautiful! It's lines are perfect. It looks wonderful! I would like to buy it from you!

Scout #1: Why you wanna buy my horse? She no looka so good.

Scout #2: Ha! That is the best looking horse I've ever seen! I'll give you \$500 for it!

Scout #1: But, meester, my horse no looka so good.

Scout #2: You are a shrewd bargainer, sir. I will give you \$1000 for that horse - right here, right now!

Scout #1: Hokay.

(scout #2 gives the money, gets on the horse, and rides off while scout #1 counts his money.)

(the horse runs into a tree, chair, podium, whatever and the rider falls off. He then walks the horse back to scout #1)

Scout #2: Hey, wait a minute! You sold me a blind horse!

Scout #2: Yes, sir. Like I told you - My horse no looka so good!

I Gotta Go Wee Skit

This Skit is meant for Cub Scouts.

Decide for yourself if it is appropriate for your younger scouts or not.

Required:

4 to 8 scouts and 1 leader

Script:

All scouts lay in a line sleeping with leader at one end and Scout #1 at the other.

Scout #1: I gotta go Wee.

(each scout passes the request down the line until it gets to the leader)

Leader: What? No, not now. Go back to sleep.

(scouts pass the reply back)

Scout #1: I really gotta go Wee.

(pass it down)

Leader: I said no, go back to sleep.

(pass it down)

Scout #1: But, I REALLY, REALLY gotta go Wee.

Leader: Fine, go ahead...

Scout #1: (Stands up, runs around yelling) WEEEEEEEEEE!

Ice Fishing Skit

Required:

3 scouts or 2 scouts and adult

Preparation:

One scout or adult offstage playing God's voice.

Script:

2 scouts are ice fishermen and they walk to center stage.

Ole: Sven, dis looks like a goot spot.

Sven: Ya, Ole, let's start here, den.

(Sven starts using a manual ice drill to cut through the ice.)

Voice from Above: There are no fish there!

(Sven and Ole jump and look around.)

Ole: Sven, let's try over der.

Sven: Ya, Ole, you drill the hole dis time.

(Ole takes the drill and they move to a new location and start to drill through the ice.)

Voice from Above: There are no fish there!

(Sven and Ole jump and look around.)

Ole: My gosh, Sven, we'd best try a different spot I'm thinkin'.

Sven: Ya, Ole, dat looks pretty good over der.

(Ole takes the drill and they move to a new location and start to drill through the ice.)

Voice from Above: Listen, you guys, I'm the ice rink manager and THERE ARE NO FISH THERE!

Invisible Bench - plus Add-Ons Skit

Required:

4 to 8 scouts works best

Notes:

This skit can be over used, but never forget, it is a great skit for shy scouts and Tiger Cubs.

With the add-ons, it can make for a good running joke during a meeting.

Script:

Scout #1 walks onstage and squats down as if he is sitting on a bench that is invisible.

Scout #2 walks up to #1.

Scout #2: Whatcha doin'?

Scout #1: Just sitting on this invisible bench.

Scout #2: Can I join you?

Scout #1: Sure.

Scout #2 sits down next to #1.

Scout #3 repeats the dialog.

Each scout comes on and repeats, making a long line of scouts sitting on the bench.

Last scout walks up to line of scouts.

last Scout : What are you guys doing?

all people: Just sitting here on this invisible bench.

last Scout : No you aren't. I moved the bench over there. (points)

All the sitting scouts fall down.

Raking Invisible Garden

Scout #1 is onstage, pretending to rake his garden.

Scout #2 walksup.

Scout #2: What are you doing?

Scout #1: Raking an invisible garden!

Scout #2: Oooohhhh, just like that last weird skit!

Bench Add-On #1:

last Scout : No you aren't. I moved the bench over there yesterday. (points)

Scout #1: But, I moved it back here this morning!

last Scout : Oh, ok! (and sits down with the rest)

Bench Add-On #2:

Last Scout : Oh, ok! (and sits down with the rest)

one more Scout : What are you guys doing?

all Scouts: Sitting on this invisible bench.

one more Scout : Oh no! I just got done painting that bench!

all Scouts: AAAAGH! (stand up and wipe paint off back sides.

Bench Add-On #3:

one more Scout : Oh no! I just got done painting that bench!

Scout #1: Oh, that's ok. We all have our invisible paint suits on. (all stand up, and unzip front of suits and step out.)

IS IT TIME YET?

Need: 5-8

Scouts standing (or laying) with left foot crossed over right and right arm crossed over left.

First Scout in line asks: "IS IT TIME YET?"

Second Scout asks third, etc down the line.

Last Scout says: "NO" Word is passed back to the first Scout, one Scout at a time. After a lonnnnnnnng pause,

First Scout asks: "IS IT TIME YET?" It goes down the line as before.

Last Scout says: "NO" Again and the word is passed back. Another long pause.....

First Scout asks again: "IS IT TIME YET?" etc and,

Last Scout says: "YES" the answer is passed back.

Just after the first Scout gets the word, they all change to right foot over left and left arm over right.

Exit groaning

The Banana-Bandana Sketch

This is a great skit for leaders to do. It can be easily done indoors with a tarp on the floor for catching any mess.

Magician: "Hello, hello, what a wonderful crowd we have today! My first trick will be the Disappearing Bandana Trick. For this trick I'll need a volunteer from the audience."

A (fake) volunteer comes up from the audience.

Magician: "Now don't watch me." *The magician and volunteer face in opposite directions. The magician takes out a bandana (or hankchief).* "First, of course, you need a bandana. Do you have a bandana?"

*The volunteer, holding up a **banana**:* "Yep."

Magician, opening his bandana and waving it a bit "First, open up the bandana."
The volunteer obediently peels the banana.

Magician: *Carefully folding the bandana,* "Now fold it."

Volunteer: "Um, fold it, you say?"

Magician: *Slightly irritated,* "Yes, fold it."

Volunteer: *Folding the banana,* "Well, OK"

Magician: *Folding the bandana smaller* "And fold it again, and again."

Volunteer fold the banana several times, making mush, and making facial expressions like he's not sure the magician is in possession of his senses.

Magician: *Holding his fist out behind him,* "OK? Now, stuff the bandana into my fist."

Volunteer, stuffing the mushed banana into the magician's fist as the magician turns around and stares in disgust "Fine, have the banana. I'm through with this silly skit!" *and the volunteer storms off stage.*

Bandana Instructor

Description

Instructor tells how they went to Mt. Rainier and went on a hike. Before they left, they had to give up their most unnecessary items and only take what was needed.

One of the items they were allowed to take was a bandana because it served so many purposes - which they will now demonstrate.

Ask for an audience volunteer - someone who has a bandana. (Choose the “plant” in the audience, who comes down acting a bit less than intelligent.)

Tell the plant that because it is a big audience, you will show one side and he should show the other.

Instructor takes out bandana and shows it to the crowd "I've got my bandana!"

Plant watches, then takes out Banana "I got my bandana!"

Instructor tells plant to do exactly as he does. Instructor goes through the following, and the plant does as he is told, each time asking, "are you sure?" or "should I do that now?"

Instructor: "First, fold it in half. Fold it again. Put it in your back pocket. Wipe your armpits with it. Now unfold it and put it on your head. Shine your shoes with it."

When done, the last instruction is "Whew, I've worked up a sweat, now wipe your forehead with it!"

Finally, the plant and instructor turn and face each other, and the Instructor is shocked "What happened to you?! Where's your bandana?"

Plant: "Bandana?? Bandana?! I though you said 'Banana'!"

Popcorn Applause: Pretend to hold kernels of un-popped popcorn in your hands. Shake the popcorn and have it grow (like Jiffy pop) as you keep yelling, “Pop, pop, pop, pop, pop.” When it gets big enough let the popcorn explode and everyone yells, “Yummmmm!”

Hiking Applause: Pretend to hike through the forest, push back tree branches, look amazed and say, “That is beautiful!”

Dance Applause: “Whoop, there it is!”

Artist Applause: Pretend to mix paint on a painters tablet and then paint in the air cheering, “Now, that is a happy cloud!”

Big Hand: Leader says, “let’s give them a big hand” everybody holds up one hand, palm out. (Leader yells, “Louder” and everybody holds up the other hand, palm out.)

Baden-Powell Applause: Hands behind back, nod and say, “Oooh, Aahhhh, Isn’t that amazing!”

Nature Applause: While reaching arms both above your head, yell, “Tree-mendous!!” “Tree-mendous!!” “Tree-mendous!!”

Liberty Bell Applause: Divide group into two parts – the Dings and the Dongs. Alternate yelling: Ding – Dong – Ding – Dong – Ding – Dong. Then all yell - Let freedom ring!

Politician Applause: Pat yourself on the back saying, “Great job, well done!”

Basketball Applause: Take a pretend jump shot and then yell, “That was a swish!”

Fighter Pilot Applause: Arms out like a plane, engine noises, do a loop, thumbs up and say, “That was A-Okay!”

Graduation Applause: Turn tassel. Throw graduation cap into the air and yell!

Arte Jonson Applause: Put your hands on your chin in contemplation and say in a unique accent, “Very Interesting!”

Mad Scientist Applause: Hold up an imaginary glass jar in one hand, pretend to grab a test tube full of some liquid and pour it in the glass jar. Pretend to grab a second test tube with liquid in it and pour it into your pretend glass jar. Swirl the liquid and cackle like a Mad Scientist, “Ah ha hha ha haaaaa!” Then say, “Its brilliant!” Then pretend the mixture explodes (make your best explosion noise). – This sounds long, but it can all be done very fast.

Cooperation Applause: You must use one hand to clap with someone on either side of you. If you are on an end, the person in front or behind.

Tyrannosaurus Rex Applause: Let out a big roar, then hold your arms close to your chest (making it look like small arms) then let out a wimpy sounding whine.

Baseball Applause: Pretend to throw a ball up, swing a bat and watch the ball go while yelling, “That is a home run!”

Squirrel Applause: Have the pack sit up like a squirrel, elbows in close to the body, arms up, hands bent over. Pretend to have two nuts, one in each hand. Hit hands together and say: “That was nuts, nuts, nuts!!”

Gravity Check

The scout runs in from the side of the stage and yells, "Gravity Check!" as he jumps as high as he can. When he lands, he says, "CHECK!" and runs off the stage.

Fortune Teller:

Fortune Teller: "That will be \$20 for two questions."

Client: "Isn't that a lot of money for two questions?"

Fortune Teller: "Yes, it is. Now what is your second question?"

House Jump

First Scout: I bet I can jump higher than a house.

Second Scout: I bet you can't.

First Scout: Yes I can. Did you ever see a house jump?

Learning

In what school do you learn to greet people?

Hi school.

Little Brother

Scout 1: Whatcha doing?

Scout 2: Writing a letter to my little brother.

Scout 1: Why are you writing so slowly?

Scout 1: Because my little brother can't read very fast!

Rain

Scout 1: When will the rain stop falling?

Scout 2: I don't know, when?

Scout 1: When it hits the ground!

Smoke Signals

Scout 1: "Hey George, look over there, smoke signals."

Scout 2: "Oh yes Mike, what do they say?"

Scout 1: (Pretending to look away through binoculars, says very slowly) "Help... My... Blankets... On... Fire."

Snake Bite

Scout 1: "I heard you had an accident on your hike today."

Scout 2: "No but I did get bitten by a rattlesnake."

Scout 1: "You don't call that an accident."

Scout 2: "Heck no, he did that on purpose!"

Wire

Scout 1: Wire for Mr. Jones.

Scout 2: I'm Mr. Jones.

Scout 1 hands him a piece of wire

'Twas the night of the Pack Meeting

'Twas the night of the Pack Meeting and all through the hall
There were Cub Scouts waiting, for new ranks to be called
It was time for advancement and the pack turned an ear,
Which boys would be called? Everyone waited to hear!
Cubmaster Bates checked the list, not once but twice!
To see which scouts had earned a new rank, ahhh how nice!
He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
Trying to get the awards ready before the boys went beserk!

First came the Bobcats, all new to our pack.
Akela is ready with guidance, since it is experience they lack.
Bobcats have learned our Promise, The Motto, the Scout Sign, and lots more
This is the beginning of new adventures that they will explore.
When you hear your name, come on up, you're our Bobcats tonight
Your final step for your rank is a good deed, and you must do it right.

(Call boys and parents forward and present awards.)

Second are the WOLVES, experienced that's true
But there is still much to learn, Akela's not through.
Come up all our Wolf Cubs, you are Wolves to be praised
Achievements and electives you've done, so with Wolf badge and
arrow points, in rank you are raised.

(Call boys and parents forward and present awards.)

Next is a BEAR, an experienced scout by far.
Akela's teachings he's heeded, he's way above par.
Working on achievements and electives in his hefty Bear Scout Book,
We can only imagine the days that it took;
Come up here our Bear Cub, your work and learning is applauded
For completing achievements and electives, tonight you're rewarded

(Call boys and their parents forward and present awards.)

Last are the Webelos, the most experienced scouts, to be sure.
Akela's lessons they've learned, now Boy Scouts is their lure.
With the Webelos rank, you rise to a new height
Walking the path, toward the Arrow of Light.
Before you bridge on, there is still more work to be done,
Camping trips to attend, and plenty of fun!
Come on up, our special Webelos, to the front of the crowd
Stand with your parents, you make us all proud!

(Call boys forward and present them with awards.)

That's the end of our tale, it was such a delight!
Happy Holidays to all! And to all, a good night!

I AM A DEN LEADER.

I own a hot glue gun, a ring toss game, an American flag, and a 12 passenger van.
I know all about tour permits, permission slips, and registration forms.
I save bits of string, scraps of lumber, old tin cans, and a whole garage full of newspaper.

I am a den leader.

I get excited over paper sack kites that really fly, boys who remember to bring their books, and first aid kits that finally sell.

I laugh at Boy's Life jokes, cheer for my den kick ball teams, sing Frankenstein songs at pack meetings, and once wept with a Cub who just found out parents are getting a divorce.

I am a den leader.

I have bribed new Cubs through the Bobcat trail, herded unruly boys along library tours, puffed my way up steep mountain tracks, and panicked when I looked down the other side. I have threatened to quit more than once.

But I am still a den leader

My patch says I'm "trained", but I know I still have a lot to learn from district and council leaders, Cubmasters, other den leaders, and especially my boys. And I still have one more lesson to teach. I will not give up, especially on any of my boys.

So I am still a den leader.

I like to think there is a special place in heaven reserved for den leaders. Surely, they would have a need for bird feeders and barometers and someone who could love a dirty faced Cub Scout. I hope when I die there is a hot glue gun plugged in and waiting.

For I am a den leader

Julie H. Erickson, Pack 64, Weber View District, Lake Bonneville Council, Ogden, UT

Help me at all times to remember to do my very best,
Open my mind to learn new things that I may become wise,
Help me to learn that helping others brings me joy,
Teach me how to be strong, and
Help me to be a better Scout.
Amen.

Please bless our Pack. Bless all boys and men who have been Cub Scouts in the past; wherever they are now. May they always remember their Cub Scout Promise and do their best to serve you, as we are trying to do. Bless all who are members of our Pack now and help us to be worthy Cub Scouts, not only of this Pack, but of the worldwide brotherhood of Scouting. Amen.

Oh Lord, we ask You, on behalf of our American States, who have fled to You from the rod of the oppressor and thrown themselves on Your gracious protection, desiring to be henceforth dependent only on You. To You have they appealed for the righteousness of their cause; to You do they now look up for that countenance and support, which You alone can give. Take them, therefore, Heavenly Father, under Your nurturing care; give them wisdom in Council and valor in the field.

Be present, Oh Lord, and direct the councils of this honorable assembly; enable them to settle things on the best and surest foundation. That the war may be speedily brought to an end; that order, harmony and peace may be restored, and truth and justice, religion and piety, prevail and flourish amongst the people.

Amen.

Reverend Jacob Duché
Rector of Christ Church of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
September 7, 1774, 9 o'clock a.m.

From the Native American Iroquois Tradition
We return thanks to the corn, and to her sisters, the beans and squashes, which give us life. We return thanks to the bushes and trees, which provide us with fruit.
We return thanks to the Great Spirit, in who is embodied all goodness, and who directs all things for the good of his children.

God of the World, I stand before you and before my neighbors - pardoning, forgiving, struggling to be open to all who have hurt and angered me. Be this hurt of body or soul, of honor or property, whether they were forced to hurt me or did so willingly, whether by accident or intent, whether by word or deed - I forgive them because we are human...I am ready to take upon myself the commandment, Love your neighbor as yourself. - Levi Yitchak of Beditschev

May the blessed sunlight shine upon you and warm your heart until it glows like a great fire, so that a stranger may come and warm himself at it, and also a friend.

The Little Green Hen

A Parent Meeting Fable (Read to encourage parents to help)

Once upon a time, there was a Little Green Hen who had a Cub Scout Pack. She had an assistant leader and a lot of parents with this Pack. One day, the Little Green Hen found she needed an Advancement Chair for her Pack. She asked Johnny's mother, but Johnny's mother said, "No, I am far too busy with the PTA." She asked Freddy's father, but Freddy's father said, "No, I'm far too busy with work." She asked Phil's parents, but Phil's parents said, "No, we just have too much going on." "All right" said the Little Green Hen, "I'll do it myself," and she did. But, she was so busy handling the awards and advancement records at several meetings that they never did finish their Holiday Service Project.

Then one day, the Little Green Hen found she needed a Popcorn Kernel for her Pack. She asked Johnny's mother, but Johnny's mother said, "No, I'm far too busy with my church group." She asked Freddy's father, but Freddy's father said, "No, I'm busy remodeling the house right now." She asked Phil's parents, and Phil's parents said, "No, we are planning a 50th wedding anniversary party and are much too busy." "All right" said the Little Green Hen, "I'll do it myself," and she did. But, she was so busy handling the Popcorn Sale that they didn't finish planning for their pack family camp and so it had to be canceled.

Then one day, the Little Green Hen found she needed a Pack Treasurer. She asked Johnny's mother, but Johnny's mother said, "No, I'm busy working on the school spring carnival." She asked Freddy's father, but Freddy's father said, "No, I work too late." She asked Phil's parents, but Phil's parents said, "No, neither of us are good with spreadsheets." "All right" said the Little Green Hen, "I'll do it myself," and she did. But, she was so busy taking care of the pack finances that she couldn't keep up with the badge records, so they had a pack meeting with no awards.

Then it came time to re-register the Pack. Johnny's mother said, "I don't think the Little Green Hen is a very good leader." And Freddy's father said, "I don't think Freddy will stay in Cub Scouts because they didn't finish their Holiday Service Project, they didn't have family camp, and Freddy didn't get all of his badges." And Phil's mother said, "I don't think Phil will stay in Cub Scouts because they didn't have family camp, and Phil didn't get his awards."

And the Little Green Hen said, "I won't take the Cub Scout Pack for another year because I can't do it all myself." And she didn't!

Note: A Girl Scout leader shared this with me and I adapted it for my Cub Scout Pack. It is pretty heavy handed, but unfortunately, sometimes very necessary. Don't ever be afraid to wield your most powerful tool, as a leader: Guilt. Use this power wisely. ☺ -- Bill

A Letter to the Pack

With great regret we announce the loss of one of the pack's most valuable families. Mr. and Mrs. Someone Else have moved away, and the vacancy they have left will be hard to fill. The Someone Else's have been with us for many years; they have done far more than their share of the work for the pack. When there was a job to do, a class to teach, or a meeting to attend, their name was on everybody's lips: "Let Someone Else do it." Whenever a committee was mentioned, this wonderful family was looked to for inspiration as well as results: "Someone Else will set up the event." And when there was a trip to take Mr. and Mrs. Someone Else were thought to be the best transportation: "Let Someone Else take them."

The Someone Else's are wonderful people, but they are only human, they could spread themselves only so thin. Many a night I have sat up and talked with Someone and heard him wish aloud for more help in the pack. He and his wife did the best they could, but people expected too much from them. We have to face the fact that there were just not enough Someone Else's to go around. And now the Someone Else's are gone and we're wondering what we are going to do without them. They have left us a great example to follow, but who will follow it? Who is going to do the things that Someone Else did?

Note: A parent shared this with me and I adapted it for my Cub Scout Pack. It is not as heavy handed as *The Little Green Hen*, but it can still be very effective. I have read this at Pack Meetings and sent it out via email. I didn't need it every year, but I liked having it in my back pocket.

Don't ever be afraid to wield your most powerful tool, as a leader: Guilt. Use this power wisely.

☺ -- Bill

THE CAMPFIRE ASHES

Legend has it that Lord Baden-Powell would always take a small amount of ashes from the campfire and spread these ashes into the next campfire.

The main purpose of these ashes is to bring to all Scouts and Scouters the international aspect of the world brotherhood of Scouting.

Ashes taken from a campfire are sprinkled into the flames of the next campfire. The next morning, when the ashes are cold, they are stirred, and each Scout takes some along to mix with his next campfire. If more than one Scout brings ashes to the same campfire, the lists are pooled, with the dates and places of all campfires recorded and passed on.

It is traditional that only those present at the ceremony carry ashes from that ceremony.

Through one pedigree alone, these ashes were first taken in Brownsea, England in 1907 and have traveled around the world to campfires in over 53 countries, 35 U.S. States, 4 Canadian Provinces, 7 World Jamborees, and the list goes on including a Canadian campfire with Lady Baden-Powell and soil from the grave of Lord Baden-Powell. They have been to 14 Wood Badge Reunions, more than 180 Wood Badge Courses, 25 OA Ceremony fires (incl. Germany & Switzerland) and more.

I received my first ashes at Camp Harrison H. Child Scout Reservation in Plymouth, MA in 1985. Since then they have been blended and stirred with BSA ashes many summer camp, at campfires with my home troop, and my 2009 Wood Badge course. They have become an important addition to my Scouting activities.

The Charge of the Ashes

“We carry our friendship with us in these ashes from other campfires with comrades in other lands. May the joining of the dead fires with the leaping flames symbolize once more the unbroken chain that binds Scouts and Guides around the world. With greetings from Scouts of all nations, everywhere.”