



## 2024 National Order of the Arrow Conference

### Session: Why Scouting?

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**Contact Phone:** (405) 596-6710

**Session Length:** 45 minutes

## Session Description

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[Brief description of what your session will cover. Why should someone take this training? Your ACVC may have provided a brief starting point, feel free to edit and add to it.]

Why is Scouting worthwhile to come back to?

## Learning Outcomes

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[What should participants take away from your training? Your ACVC may have provided a brief starting point, feel free to build upon those as necessary or add additional outcomes]

**Outcome 1:** Identify why Scouting is worthwhile in our world today.

**Outcome 2:** Realize the personal benefits of the Scouting program and become motivated to continue in Scouting as a youth.

**Outcome 3:** Establish a foundation for a commitment to Scouting into adulthood.

## Theme Connection: Seek New Heights

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[The theme of the 2024 NOAC is Seek New Heights, emphasizing the drive for excellence that characterizes the OA and our daily lives. How will your session incorporate this theme?]

This session will give the participants a deeper understanding of why Scouting is important

## Facility and Material Needs

[Please put all material and facility needs in this section. We recommend completing this portion last after the rest of the lesson plan is completed. **The more specific you are with your material and facility requests, the better we can accommodate!**]

### Facility Needs

*Is this session remote delegate-compatible?* Yes  
(ie. can the material be engagingly taught via live stream)

*Does this session need audio/video (AV) capabilities?* (ie. projector) Yes - projector and ability to connect a laptop for the presenter

*Are there any other specific facility needs for this session?* (ie. movable chairs, panel-style seating, etc.) Classroom with desks/chairs

### Material Needs

[Please put “NOAC Training Committee” under “Source” if you need a material and cannot source it yourself - we will try to source it for you. Please note that we would strongly prefer training materials to be in a digital format and would advise against flipcharts and other physical materials. If you need microphones, extension cords, etc., please also specify those needs here.]

Material	Quantity	Source
Projector or TV monitor	1	NOAC Training Committee
HDMI cable from podium to projector/TV	1	NOAC Training Committee

## Session Preparation Steps

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[Please list all steps you or another trainer would need to take to be prepared to teach this session. For example, if the trainer needs to add personal experiences, print handouts, or prepare items for a game, those should be listed here. **The goal is for someone to be able to read this syllabus and understand how to teach your session in the future!**]

**Step 1:** Read the resources

**Step 2:** Study the syllabus

**Step 3:** Practice the presentation with PowerPoint

## Additional Staff Members

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[If you are having additional trainers assist you with your session, please fill out their contact information below. Please note that due to the conference sell-out, we are limited in our ability to register additional staff members on the training committee. We recommend that your additional trainers come from contingents or other staff members that can break from their duties to facilitate the session.]

Trainer Name	Email	Phone #
Mindy Richins	mindy@richins.net	(480) 734-0359

# Lesson Plan

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[The main body of your presentation should be here. Remember to adjust the timing for each session as you add/edit topics. **Remember, be as specific as possible - the goal is for someone to be able to read this syllabus and understand how to facilitate your session in the future!**]

## Helpful Templates:

### Activity

Copy and paste this box wherever you have an activity in this session!

**Materials Needed:** [materials]

**Length of Activity:** # [min]

**Activity Description:** [description]

### Trainer Action

If at any point the trainer needs to complete an action (play a video clip, prompt questions, etc.) copy paste this box and edit this text to specify what!

## Introduction

2 minutes

*Slides [1]-[5]*

- Why are we in Scouting?
- What does it mean to be a Scout?
- Have you ever thought about quitting? Why? What made you stay?
- This session will give insight to the question: “Why Scouting?”

## Vision, Mission, Values, and the Aims & Methods

5 minutes

*Slides [6]-[7]*

- Vision: Scouting America will prepare every eligible youth in America to become a responsible, participating citizen and leader who is guided by the Scout Oath and Law.
- Mission: The mission of Scouting America is 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.

- Values:: The mission of Scouting America is 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.
- Aims and Methods: The Scouting program has specific objectives, commonly referred to as the “Aims of Scouting.” They are character development, leadership development, citizenship training, and personal fitness. Leadership development is also one of Scouting's eight methods contributing to both good character and good citizenship.

## Why Scouting?

15 minutes

Slides [8]-[11]

- By being in Scouting, what opportunities have you been given that you feel you may not have experienced doing something else?
  - Discussion
- How do you think your Scoutmaster, Adviser, Skipper, etc would answer the question of “Why Scouting?”
  - Were they a Scout themselves? Some yes, some no.
  - They know the myth of investing “one hour per week.”
  - Why do they do it? Or.....why did they come back to Scouting? Why Scouting and not something else?
- Let's see what Baden Powell has to say
  - “Teach Scouts not how to get a living, but how to live.” - BP
  - “There's no teaching to compare with example.” - BP
  - Discussion
- Cole from scoutsmlarts.com has some good reasons why Scouts BSA is important and relevant today
  - Scouting provides experiences you cannot get anywhere else.
  - Scouting gets you out into nature.
  - Scouting prepares you for a bright future.
  - Scouting encourages youth to give back.
  - Scouting helps you make friends.
  - Scouting teaches practical life skills.
  - Scouting helps youth become leaders.
  - Scouting makes you a better person.
  -

**Share this poem:**

**The Scoutmaster**

BY EDGAR ALBERT GUEST

There isn't any pay for you, you serve without reward,  
The boys who tramp the fields with you but little could afford.  
And yet your pay is richer far than those who toil for gold,  
For in a dozen different ways your service shall be told.

You'll read it in the faces of a Troop of growing boys,  
You'll read it in the pleasure of a dozen manly joys,  
And down the distant future you will surely read it then,  
Emblazoned thru the service of a band of loyal men.

Five years of willing labor and of brothering a Troop,  
Five years of trudging highways, with the Indian cry and whoop,  
Five years of campfires burning, not alone for pleasure's sake,  
But the future generation which the boys are soon to make.

They have no gold to give you, but when age comes on to you  
They'll give you back the splendid things you taught them how to do  
They'll give you rich contentment and a thrill of honest pride  
And you'll see the nation prosper, and you'll all be satisfied.

**Discussion with member of the National Committee**

**15 minutes**

*Slides [12]*

- Introduce National Committee Member and allow them to share their thoughts on why Scouting is important to stick with as a youth and why it is a worthwhile organization to give back to as an adult.

**Conclusion & Takeaway Challenge**

**8 minutes**

*Slides [13]-[14]*

- Present “The Bridge Builder”
  - This poem was on the western wall of the Wood Badge museum at Zastrow located on Philmont Scout Ranch

**Share this poem**

**The Bridge Builder**

BY WILL ALLEN DROMGOOLE

An old man going a lone highway,  
Came, at the evening cold and gray,  
To a chasm vast and deep and wide.  
Through which was flowing a sullen tide  
The old man crossed in the twilight dim,  
The sullen stream had no fear for him;  
But he turned when safe on the other side  
And built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim near,  
"You are wasting your strength with building here;  
Your journey will end with the ending day,  
You never again will pass this way;  
You've crossed the chasm, deep and wide,  
Why build this bridge at evening tide?"

The builder lifted his old gray head;  
"Good friend, in the path I have come," he said,  
"There followed after me to-day  
A youth whose feet must pass this way.  
This chasm that has been as naught to me  
To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be;  
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim;  
Good friend, I am building this bridge for him!"

- As you get older, think back on how this program shaped you. Was the BSA program successful in its vision for YOUR life? How are you going to give back to the program that has given you so much? When are you going to start building your bridge across that deep chasm? Are you building it now?

Please take out your notebook and pen. For the final three minutes, think about your current and future roles in the OA, in Scouting, and in life. Write down three key takeaways from this session that will enable you to Seek New Heights in those current and/or future roles. For example, [something relevant to your session]. Later today, feel free to share these key ideas with others in your chapter or lodge.

## Appendix: Resources and Source Material

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[Please add all referenced sources or handouts that would be useful to share with session attendees.]

Resource	Link
Order of the Arrow, Mission & Purpose	Available online at: <a href="https://oa-bsa.org/about/mission-purpose">https://oa-bsa.org/about/mission-purpose</a>
scoutsmarts.com	<a href="https://scoutsmarts.com/importance-of-scouting-scouts-bsa/">https://scoutsmarts.com/importance-of-scouting-scouts-bsa/</a>