Scoutmaster's Moment
Spring Court of Honor – May 16, 2022
Written and delivered by Troop 150 Scoutmaster Todd G. Bolick

Seeking World Peace

Setting: 4 Scouts will be prepared with a goal they hope to achieve at summer camp this year. They will be invited up at the end of my Scoutmaster's Moment to share their goal.

The founder of the Boy Scouts of America, Sir Robert Baden Powell, is quoted as saying, "In all of this, it is the spirit that matters. Our Scout law and promise, when we really put them in to practice, take away all occasion for wars and strife among nations." Over the past few months, my Scoutmaster's moments have been dedicated to the ideal of world-wide peace. This is a fundamental tenet observed across the planet, by the 57,239,000 youth engaged in Scouting, all proudly wearing the World Organization of Scouting World Crest badge on our chest. I also demonstrated this through reciting prayers of peace from the Islamic, Christian, and Jewish faiths.

I firmly believe that if the world were run according to the precepts of the Scout Oath and Law, the same precepts that you, our Troop 150 Scouts display to such great effect, we would see the hostility and global problems that we now hear about every day, disappear. To illustrate that, I found that since January 2020, our troop has taken part in 30 service projects for a total of 1,169.5 hours! That number does not even include our many Eagle Scout projects, which would multiply that number probably at 4-5 fold!

Each week as I talk about world-wide peace, I want our Scouts to know that they are already achieving it and making a difference. Every time they serve the

community in one of our projects, every time they warmly greet someone new to their school, every time they thoughtfully observe the Scout Oath and Law, you make a difference that changes the world for the better.

Another prescient quote that Sir Robert Baden Powell delivered was, "A week of camp life is worth six months of theoretical teaching in the meeting room." We are once again preparing to embark on our summer camp week to Camp Bowman and this quote will once again prove itself by seeing our Scouts grow sixfold in terms of confidence, Scout skills, Scout spirit, and so much more after their week in the beautiful wilderness of Goshen.

Last year at the Spring Court of Honor, I issued the charge: "Carpe Opportunitas" to our Scouts. Asking them to sieve the opportunity of Scouting and take advantage of all offered to them. Our Scouts rose to the task and truly seized glory last summer when we earned troop of the week, each of our Scouts earned a Merit Badge, and we completed great service. I once again ask you, Scouts of Troop 150, to consider how you can Carpe Opportunitas and make Robert Baden Powell's dream of peace possible through Scout Spirit as practiced in the outdoors!

Now I'd like to ask some of our Scouts what their goals are for our summer camp this year. [pre-pick 4 Scouts of varying ages to be prepared with answers].

Thank you and go Troop 150!