

The Things They Don't Teach You At Scouts.

When given the definition of a scout, one thinks of a person who has high moral character and does good deeds beyond normal expectations. One thinks of a boy dressed in a uniform that goes to meetings to learn about knots, camping and wilderness skills. While this is true, a scout goes to meetings once a week to learn more than just that. They attend their meetings because those meetings offer so much more. They offer the knowledge of friendship, spirit and smile. The knowledge of these things can change a person's life drastically, I know it changed mine.



I never wanted to be dragged away from my beloved Saturday morning cartoons but my mother insisted. And when mother insists, it's the law. I would quickly consume my breakfast and head out to the park. There I had few to no friends but we shared a common ground. We were all dragged by our parents to attend scouts. We would spend 3 hours listening to the leaders talk and talk and talk and talk. Then maybe we would eat a snack, or play a game.

As time went on I began to learn things. I learned how to make friends. These friends were amazing people and I enjoyed my time with them. Friendship is a blessing because it offers one comfort, laughs and memories; memories that I can take and write for this article. These friends that I made are people I know that will last for the rest of my life because being a scout makes them a special person.

Another side effect of scouts is spirit. Being a scout teaches you have to have spirit in everything you do. By forcing a scout to sing songs and clap for others it teaches good sportsmanship. While partaking in all these things, something grows inside of a scout. Something only a true scout is aware of. And that is spirit. As day goes on and I do all these "scout" things more often, I begin to grow a spirit that reflects the essence of scout hood. This spirit reflects the impact that scouts has on me as a person and how it isn't something that can be taught.

Scouting offers much more than tying knots and going camping. It offers valuable experiences that



one will cherish for the rest of their life. Nothing I can do will replace the smiles I shared, the friendship I have and the spirit that is embedded within me. Physical objects and knowledge are always a plus but the things scouts have taught me has changed my life.

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