

Cooperation

There have been many “Good News” stories on television. One was about two brothers, one about 15 years old and the other about 8 years old. The 8-year-old had a severe disability but his brother loved him and wanted him to participate in some of his activities, so he carried him on his back on a 40-mile hike. The older boy said it was very difficult, but his brother loved it. It was worth the effort!

As Administrative Commissioners, we are not in direct contact with our Scouts. For those of us who have served or still serve in Units, there is the opportunity for direct service and the resultant good feelings we have watching Scouts learning our “game with a purpose”.

We are like the older brother in that we serve our Scouts cheerfully because we want them to become good citizens, prepared to take on life’s challenges by learning and experiencing many things.

If we look upon Scout Units as our younger brother, are we insuring that, before we carry them somewhere, they want to go? Do we encourage their participation by stating all the benefits and potential fun that they will experience?

Or do we tell them “There are some new rules and we will be monitoring your compliance?” We may have good intentions in doing what we do, but the result of our actions may not always be perceived as something “good”.

We all realize that change is a constant in almost everything we do. Because we become comfortable with a thing or idea, any change causes apprehension and resistance. Do we encourage their participation? Are we “selling” changes in a manner that takes away the fear of the new unknown?

Something to ponder; in the story of the two brothers, could the older brother carry the younger brother for the distance if he did not want to go?