

District Commissioners, You're So Special!

Can you recall being told how special you were when you were small children? You knew things were going to be Ok. You were on your way to doing great things. Yes, you were special in the eyes and hearts of those around you.

Do you still feel special? Have you accomplished all you have intended? Has everything gone along as you wanted?

Most of us don't think about being special. Society has told us that thinking we are special is not good. We must be modest. Being a standout is Ok for athletes and for those who are looking for big dollars in life. We can do well being just a little better than the average person around us; we have no need to be special.

Allow me to tell you that you ARE SPECIAL! The Council President approved a small group meeting of chosen leaders in your District. Their task was to look for someone to fill an important job in Scouting; to seek out a new District Commissioner. They were looking for someone with special qualities; a proven leader capable of enlisting others to serve, a morale officer who is upbeat, personable, determined and a role model for scouting ideals; someone passionate about the benefits of Scouting. They were seeking someone who knows how to counsel, coach and inspire volunteers, how to enrich the Scouting program, and be a problem solver.

Now is the time to put modesty aside – they saw all these attributes in YOU! In fact, they were so enthused about YOU, they placed your name before the Council Executive board for approval, AND they approved YOU! That is how you got to serve in your present position as a District Commissioner.

Others have seen things within you that you, yourself, may not see. You have been given great responsibility. Do you know what is expected of you?

None of us can live up to the expectations of others unless we know what the expectations are.

Some Specific responsibilities include:

The District Commissioner, working with the district executive, recruits, trains, guides, and evaluates the required commissioner personnel of the district. You are a trainer, motivator, supervisor, and administrator. You hold those who work for you accountable. You work from a plan. You devote all your energies to Unit service. You provide training for Commissioners monthly and for Units every month through Roundtables. You work with the District Chair and District Executive to coordinate District work and meet District goals. You attend meetings of the Council Commissioner Cabinet, Key 3 and other meetings

within your District. You and those team members you have selected are held responsible for the success of Units within your District.

Above all, the DC is the builder of a complete team of commissioners for the district. Without a team all the counseling, coaching, and unit service skills in the world will be lost. Like a professional football coach who does not have the ability to select and recruit a team, all the knowledge of great plays and team strategies are lost.

District commissioners measure their success by the progress of other commissioners on their staff, as they in turn make good scouting happen in their assigned units. They are “can-do” people who are interested in results rather than in procedure.

The DC understands and communicates the best skills available in unit service: how to counsel, coach, and inspire unit volunteers; how to enrich the unit program; and how to help units solve problems before problems sink the unit.

As a District Commissioner, you may not see these attributes in yourself, yet others have seen them in you. You ARE Special! Seek out those who can assist you in accomplishing the goals set for you by Scouting; sign them on as valuable team members; train them and give them important duties for which they will be held accountable.

You are an Administrator, a professional. You CAN do this!