



# Unit History Model Guidelines

## *Atlanta Area Council Unit History Project*

One of the major projects of the Centenary Subcommittee is to provide each Cub Pack, Scout Troop, Venturing Crew, Sea Scout Ship, Varsity Team, and Explorer Post in the council with the opportunity to make a permanent record of the history of their unit. This will let the unit learn of their history and accomplishments, honor their dedicated leaders of yesterday and today, and give the youth a chance to find out about those who have gone before them.

It is planned that copies of the final histories will be deposited in the archives of the state, the nation, and the national scouting museum so that these proud histories will not be forgotten..

The following guidelines will help you to make such a history. You will find the exercise inspiring and fun. Please use this opportunity to strengthen your unit and Scouting.

### PRELIMINARY QUESTIONNAIRE

The data that you should try very hard to get follow. If you do not yet know some fact or other, leave that area temporarily blank and fill it in when you get the data. If there is something that you think is so, but do not really know. put the information between two question marks, like this:

Early unit leaders: SM John Jones [1987-1990], SM ?Bill Smith? [1991-1997]

All the archives have indicated that they need to have the histories in hard copy because of its permanence, so if you write the history on a computer have it printed out as well as in electronic form. The same for pictures. Make sure that those who provide the information are identified and dated. Standard abbreviations are:

**CM:** Cubmaster; **ACM:** Assistant Cubmaster; **DL:** Den Leader or Den Mother; **MC:** Committee Member; **SM:** Scoutmaster; **ASM:** Assistant Scoutmaster; **EA:** Explorer Advisor; **AA:** Asst Advisor; **VA:** Venturing Advisor; **CC:** Committee Chairman; **SR:** Institutional Representative/Chartered Partner Representative/Sponsor Representative.

Any other positions, simply spell out the title after the name. If someone changed positions over the years repeat the name with the appropriate information.

AND, PLEASE, HAVE THE INFORMATION IN MORE THAN ONE PLACE.  
MULTIPLE COPIES ARE THE ONLY RELIABLE WAY TO RETAIN  
INFORMATION. HEED THE SQUIRREL: SOME ACORNS ALWAYS SURVIVE.

If you are fortunate enough to have a long unit history, feel free to make copies of the parts of the form and fill them in. Remember -- after you, no-one will ever have as many sources as you had. Feel free to attach any documents to make your account more complete; just be sure that they are copies because they will go to a permanent archive.



## 2007 Unit Photo

A major project of the Atlanta Area Council is to assemble a photographic record of the units of the Centenary year and to deposit copies of the photos in national, state and Scout archives. It will be the first such project ever done on this scale in the country.

Each unit can take part in the project. The procedures are easy but must be consistent and uniform if the goal is to be reached. Here is how you can take part in this effort to have your unit and its people remembered into the future.

The Unit Photo project is separate from the unit history project but naturally, both should be done if possible.

The photo you submit can be either a film photo or an electronic photo. It should be of the entire unit as a group, in uniform if the unit has them, and of good quality. The group should be posed so that any unit numbers on uniforms are visible. The best size is 8 inches by 10 inches.

**IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE PHOTO BE TAKEN IN 2007.**

Earlier photos are welcome, but should be submitted with the unit history on the appropriate pages.

It is also imperative that everyone in the photo be named. For consistency, list the full names starting with those in the first row at the left and indicate when the next row is reached. For leaders, use the abbreviations for their positions. Do not just use initials of the people, use their real names.

Make two copies of the name-lists and attach one list to the back of the photo. Remember to give the unit number and sponsor.

Remember to date the photo and tell where it was made. Film photos can be scanned.

The photo's electronic form should be JPEG [i.e. ".jpg"]. Color photos are preferred but not required.

ATLANTA AREA COUNCIL UNIT HISTORY PROJECT

BASIC UNIT INFORMATION

*[Always include dates even if you have to estimate; it's important]*

Unit type: Pack Troop Post Ship Crew Team Number/s: \_\_\_\_\_

Date founded: \_\_\_\_\_ Information supplied by: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsors: \_\_\_\_\_

Early leaders: \_\_\_\_\_

National events attended: \_\_\_\_\_

Council events attended: \_\_\_\_\_

ATLANTA AREA COUNCIL UNIT HISTORY PROJECT

Most memorable events in the unit's history:

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Was there a particular reason why your unit has the number it has?

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What are the favorite menu items for your unit?

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Has your unit any uniforming customs or practices

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Who are your unit's most memorable alumni/alumnae?

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Notes

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Record No. \_\_\_\_\_pg \_\_\_\_\_

ATLANTA AREA COUNCIL UNIT HISTORY PROJECT

PHOTOS & PRINTED ITEMS

**Atlanta Area Council Unit History Project**  
**SAMPLE UNIT HISTORY**

***Type of Unit*** \_\_\_\_\_  
***Number/s of Unit*** \_\_\_\_\_  
***Address of Unit*** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**ORIGIN OF THE UNIT**

Sea Scout Ship 22, also known as the SSS Sargasso, first held meetings in a park in Tucker, Georgia, while waiting for a place to meet. The year was 1994. The ship was formed from Scouts from Troop 482, so the sponsor was St Mark's Lutheran Church on Brockett Rd. There was no place to meet until the Tucker First United Methodist Church provided a place. Two years later, sponsorship was transferred to the Methodist church where the unit has met ever since.

When Ship 22 was started, there were no active Sea Scout units in the Atlanta Area Council. The Skipper, David Freeman, had led Troop 482 and the Committee Chairman, Dr Robert McKeon, had been the Scoutmaster of Troop 482 as well. From 1994 through 2002 he was also the Council Commodore.

**AWARDS**

At the end of 2005, Ship 22 had graduated eight Eagle Scouts and Four Quartermasters [the Sea Scout Eagle]. Adult leaders had earned five Sea Badges awards [a national training award] and a Silver Beaver.

**CURRENT STATUS**

It is the oldest Sea Scout unit now in Georgia and had the first female Quartermaster in the state. As a Venturing program, Sea Scouting can be coed and SSS 22 has been so since the late 1990's.

The unit meets on Thursday nights at the church and does its outdoor activities mostly at Lake Lanier. In earlier years, it often sailed on Lake Allatoona where the Scout council has a base, but rule changes there made the site difficult to use.

Each summer the unit has gone on a Long Cruise, most of the time off the Atlantic coast or in the Gulf of Mexico. From 1994 through 1998, they sailed borrowed sailboats mostly from Florida ports. In 1999, the unit attended the Maritime Jamboree in New Brunswick, Canada, and travelled across five provinces and eleven states. Other Long Cruises took place in ocean kayaks and an ocean cruiser, the Serena, owned by Mr Freeman, who moved to Florida in 2002.

#### **SERVICE RECORD**

For the Southern Region of the Boy Scouts, personnel from SSS 22 arranged and coordinated two Sea Badge courses [1997 and 2000] for leaders from 17 states and served on several other course staffs. The crew also manned numerous camporee staffs and roundtable presentations.

#### **MEMORABLE YOUTH MEMBERS**

The rare Quartermaster Award was earned by Jeremy Baugh [2001], Elizabeth Morrison [2003], Joel Whit Davis [2004], and Ryan Baugh [2005]. Wesley Morris earned the only Venturing Quaker religious award in the council. An early Sea Scout in the ship, Jeff Perry, was the first Eagle and later became the US Kickboxing champion.

#### **RECENT ACTIVITIES**

When the council had annual Scout shows at the World Congress Center, SSS 22 took part and put on demonstrations of maritime skills. When the shows were cancelled, the unit exhibited at local Scout shows.

In 2005, members of the crew were elected to the posts of Venturing President [Mary Hunt] and Program Chair [John David Washburn] of the Atlanta Area Council.

In 2006, crew members began working on Scuba certifications.