

Anitra T. Steele
Chair, ALSC O & B

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JUL 05 1988

ALSC

June 29, 1988

Dear Anitra,

In response to your telephone call regarding the functions of the Boy Scouts of America Advisory Committee, I will use the function statement (ALA Handbook of Organization) in describing how committee assignments relate to each of the functions.

. . . To advise the Boy Scouts of America in revising publications
(excluding Boys' Life)

One of the most important Committee functions is the updating of the bibliographies for the Merit Badge Handbooks. At each Committee meeting, a liaison from BSA provides the Committee with a list of Merit Badge Handbooks that require revision and requests the Committee's advice on the bibliography section. Committee members review and revise the bibliography section in each of the Handbooks. The revised bibliographies are returned at the next meeting. An average of twelve to sixteen bibliographies are revised annually.

There are also special projects as well as the ongoing Merit Badge Handbooks. During the past two years, a Learning Disability pamphlet as well as an Australian bibliography for International Jamboree attendees have been completed. This year the Boy Scouts of America is asking the Committee's advice regarding a change of cover for the Reading Merit Badge Handbook. The Committee hopes to complete the task by 1989.

... "to advise the Boy Scout of America in selecting media for BSA bibliographies in accord with established criteria" ..

Committee members include any media on the subject they feel is appropriate when they are revising bibliographies.

...to explore and carry out other kinds of cooperation with the Boy Scouts of America in areas of concern to ALSC...

One of the projects for the 1988 and 1989 year is planning the Jamboree.



APPLETON PUBLIC LIBRARY

225 N. Oneida Street
Appleton, WI 54911
Phone: 414-735-6170

Every four years, the committee plans and sponsors a reading booth for the Jamboree where scouts can earn the merit badge in reading. I personally believe it is one of the best outreach projects ALA has. During the 1985 Jamboree, staff at the booth had an opportunity to promote books and libraries to an audience of more than 30,000 scouts and their families as well as visitors who view or participate in the activities. There were 110 scouts working on the Reading Badge while 63 did partial completions. It was also an opportunity to cement a liason between publishing and libraries. Harper, Random, and Grossett provided hardbound books for those boys who completed one of the library quizzes offered at the booth. The committee sees no reason why the 1989 Jamboree would not be as successful as 1985.

The committee is also exploring the idea of a storytelling merit badge handbook with BSA. We are preparing the requirements for it and requesting letters of support from agencies involved in storytelling.

I hope this information will be helpful to you and your committee in understanding the tasks BSAC carries out during a year and how it relates to the committee's functions.

Sincerely



Carole DeJardin
Chair, BSA Advisory Committee

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