

## UTAH NATIONAL PARKS COUNCIL



### Boy Scouts of America

250 West 500 North  
P.O. Box N-(801) 373-4185  
Provo, Utah 84603-0260

To be on top of a high mountain is a wonderful thing. It gives you a perspective that cannot be found on the valley floor. Your vision extends further and the purity of the air is crisp and clean.

Being on top of a mountain is much the same as enjoying success in life. Similar to the mountain top, we all have goals and aspirations in life we want to accomplish so that our capabilities will be expanded and the good we do will be increased.

It is very refreshing to look back on where one has been and realize that it took a strong, determined effort to stand on top. The trip has not necessarily been without danger and has certainly developed a few muscles that perhaps we normally haven't used. That also is true of life. There are hazards along the way that would lead to destruction. It is very wise to avoid the hazards and take the safe route to the top. It does not make sense to take a chance on life for a quick thrill.

Now that you are on top, perhaps you have noticed that there are other peaks to climb. Each climb will offer new and interesting challenges that can be met with planning and preparation. So it is once again with your life. You will rise to a vista and be happy for doing so. But you will also find there are further enjoyments to be had along the way. Perhaps there is some community service you wish to do. Maybe preparation for your career. An opportunity to serve God and fulfill religious convictions will have great importance. In fact, as you take a moment to think about your very being, your duty to God will become the most important. When this duty is in proper balance in your life all other aspects receive a keener perspective. You will enjoy the sense of accomplishment and at the same time understand more clearly the role you will play in serving your family, your friends, your community and your country.

It is a fine thing to stand on top of a mountain. It is a reverent feeling to let the wind touch you as it passes from one peak to another. So it is with the spirit of Scouting. Let the good that is found in the Scout Oath and Law touch your soul. Bask in the experience and let it enlarge your thoughts and life's purpose.

In this centennial year of the State of Utah, please remember that many have prepared you for this grand experience. Be thoughtful for those who have sacrificed on your behalf. Don't let your gratitude remain silent, but voice your thanksgiving to those who made possible your existence and your comforts of life.

Thank you for being the man you are! Thank you for taking the first step at the bottom of the mountain. Thank you for having your eye fixed on the top. Thank you for each positive step along the way that lifted you higher and higher until you finally reached the pinnacle of success.

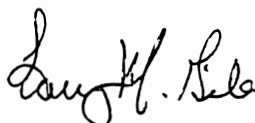
Thank you for your vision for the future and for the mountain top person that you are!

God bless you always.

Sincerely,



Alan Bird  
Council President



Larry Gibson  
Council Commissioner



Tom Powell  
Scout Executive