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The first group of Boy Scouts was organized in Durham in 1910, the same year that the National Organization was organized. Principal McIntosh of the Durham High School got together a group of high school boys who participated in outdoor activities. This group functioned for two years and ceased to operate when Mr. McIntosh was moved from Durham.

In 1914 a young man by the name of "Track" Smathers from Western North Carolina, came to Trinity College. He interested Dr. Bodie and others at Duke Memorial Church in organizing a Scout Troop. Prof. R. N. Wilson was the Scoutmaster and "Track" Samthers was the assistant. This group operated until its activities were interrupted by the war in 1917.

In 1918 Mr. Sidney Turner and his brother, Frank Turner, and Mr. A. V. Satterwhite, organized a group of Boy Scouts and secured the first charter from the National Organization. Mr. Julian S. Carr, Mr. Frank Fuller, and Mr. R. A. Bishop signed the Charter. A Capt. Waggoner who was stationed here with the Army was the Scoutmaster.

In 1920 Capt. Waggoner was transferred and Prof. R. N. Wilson again took over the job of Scoutmaster. This group was known as Troop #1 and held its meetings at the YMCA Building. Troop #2 of Trinity Methodist Church and Troop #3 of the First Presbyterian Church were organized. These three groups operated until 1925 without any great events.

That year the first Durham Council was organized. Col. C. E. Boesch was the Chairman, George Harper was the local assistant, Prof. R. N. Wilson was the Counselor and was Scoutmaster of Troop #1. Col. M. B. Fowler was the committeeman and Mr. Tom Wynder was the treasurer. At that time the Boy Scouts were a participating member of the Community Chest. Approximately 60 boys were involved in the program and the Durham Council operated on a budget of approximately \$5,000.00

In 1926 the Durham District grew rapidly and about 400 boys participated in the regular program of camping and activities.

In 1927 the Occoneechee Council was established. The following counties were included in the council: Wake, Durham, Vance, Granville and Person.

Since that time the Boy Scout program through its appeal to all boys, has grown by leaps and bounds. Perhaps no other program for boys has the background and solid foundation and of the boy appeal that this program has.

The intangible things that Scouting offers to all boys, rich or poor, are innumerable. The most valuable benefits are the associations with adults of the right caliber and the character building involved that this association gives.

There are a total of 106 Merit Badges in the Boy Scout Program. Some are easy and some are very difficult. These individual Merit achievements are not too important, but the earning of them is important in that it teaches boys how to stick with a job until it is completed, how to keep one's head when all around him others are losing theirs, how to take care of oneself and others, how to cook for oneself and be self-sufficient in the open, how to administer first aid to oneself and others how to make sterile bandages when there are no sterile bandages, and how to live and work with others.

All these achievements serve as building stones that develop young boys into responsible boys and later men of character.