

## ENCAMPMENTS EDITION

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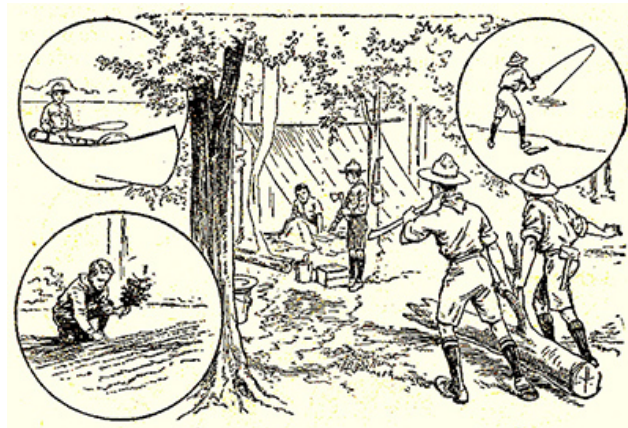
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**en·camp·ment**  
"en-kamp-muh nt"  
Noun

*"A place with temporary accommodations consisting of huts or tents, typically for troops or nomads."*

## ENCAMPMENTS

A night under the stars is a great BSA adventure. It might be on a wilderness trail with a few backpacking tents. Other times it means an encampment with dozens, or even hundreds, of tents, and tens of thousands of Scouts.



**1916 Scout Encampment**

The canvas tents, cast iron fry pans, and other items of early Scouting gear were so heavy that few boys wanted to go very far on foot. Instead, they camped close to a road, went out during the day to hike, fish, canoe, and enjoy other outdoor activities, then returned to their tents in time for dinner.

## SUMMER CAMP

The large encampment that most Scouts know is BSA summer camp. Hiking, archery, aquatics, and dozens of other activities open possibilities for each camper to enjoy Scouting at its best.



Robert Birkby photo

### Summer Camp

Many summer camp troops settle into campsites that serve as their home away from home. There they can have meetings and flag ceremonies, and lots of fun with each other.



### Encampment envisioned in the 1959 Boy Scout Handbook

For an even bigger encampment, look to Camping Headquarters at Philmont Scout Ranch. Green wall tents give shelter to hundreds of rangers and base camp staff. Scouts arriving at the Ranch spend their first night in the brown tents of Incoming Tent City, while those who have finished their treks and are getting ready to go home bed down in Outgoing Tent City.



Robert Birky photo

### Scouts descending Tooth of Time Ridge Near Philmont's Base Camp

## WALL TENTS

Generations of Scouts have pitched wall tents at the center of their troop campsites. Big tents are great for storing gear and give shelter to everyone during bad weather.



Robert Birky photos

### Wall Tents

Summer camp staffs living in wall tents could make themselves comfortable by adding sleeping cots and even pieces of bedroom furniture.



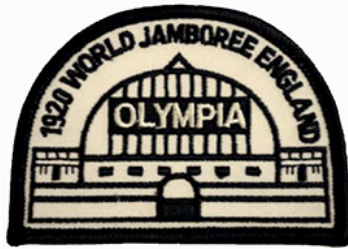
### Wall Tent

Traditional canvas wall tents are still around, but for the latest in fabric, design, and features, check out the wall tents available from [www.ScoutStuff.org](http://www.ScoutStuff.org). You'll find a size to fit just about any encampment

need.

## JAMBOREE ENCAMPMENTS

For record numbers of Scouts camping together, you can't beat jamborees. The first was a world jamboree held in London in 1920. Featuring activities in the Olympia Exhibition Hall and energized with speeches by Robert Baden-Powell, founder of the Scouting movement, the event attracted 8,000 Scouts.



**Patch celebrating the 1920 World Jamboree**

While many Scouts stayed in homes near the Jamboree site, others rolled out blankets and sleeping bags in tents of all kinds.



The Jamboree Book 1920, Boy Scout Association photo

### **A 1920 Jamboree encampment of canvas squad tents, each big enough for 4-6 Scouts**

Seventeen years later, 25,000 traveled to Washington, DC, to celebrate the first national jamboree of the Boy Scouts of America. They pitched their tents within sight of the Washington Monument and enjoyed a week of celebration.



Harris & Ewing collection, Library of Congress

### **Scout encampment at the 1937 BSA National Jamboree**



Harris & Ewing collection, Library of Congress

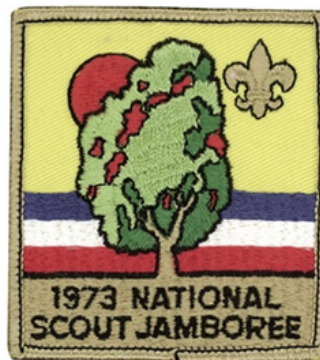
### **Scenes of U.S. history decorated some of the canvas tents at the 1937 National Jamboree.**

Jamborees continued to grow in size. The tents at the 1953 encampment near Irvine Ranch, California, sheltered more than 45,000 Scouts and leaders.



**1953 BSA National Jamboree**

The 1960 Jamboree in Colorado Springs holds the single-site record at 56,377 participants. With 73,610 Scouts in attendance, the 1973 Jamboree can also make a claim to supremacy, though campers were split between two locations - Moraine State Park (Pennsylvania) Farragut State Park (Idaho).



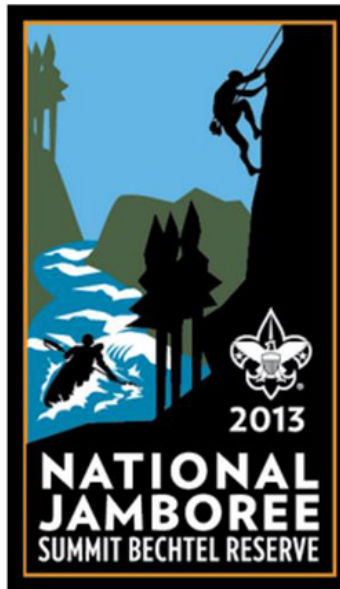
**All-Time Biggest Jamborees**

The 2010 Jamboree celebrating BSA's 100th anniversary hosted 43,434 Scouts for the last (and largest) of eight national jamborees held at Virginia's Fort A.P. Hill.



**Grand Entry at 2010 National Jamboree Arena Show**

This July, more than 25,000 Scouts will make history by attending the 2013 Jamboree at the Summit Bechtel Reserve. That's the home of all future national jamborees, and a new star in the BSA's constellation of exciting high adventure bases.



**Jamboree Patch**

Setting off for the 2013 Jamboree? You'll find gear, uniforms, and everything else you need at [www.ScoutStuff.org](http://www.ScoutStuff.org). Check out the wide selection of Jamboree gifts and souvenirs, too.



**Jamboree Swiss Army Watch**

## **EVEREST BASE CAMP**

When it comes to encampments, none are higher than those on the route to the summit of Mt. Everest, the world's tallest mountain. Climbers eager to ascend the famous peak can spend weeks in tough, high-altitude tents as they acclimate to the thin air and make their way further up the mountain.



Robert Birkby photo

## **Everest Base Camp**

Fifty years ago, Jim Whittaker became the first American to climb Everest. He and his twin brother Lou had been Scouts in Seattle, earning the rank of Life. The Whittakers fell in love with the mountains during Scout hikes and campouts in the Cascade Range.





Whittaker Family Collection

### **Jim and Lou Whittaker**

Setting goals and seeing them through is a valuable message of Scouting. Whether it's the summit of a mountain you're striving for, or the jamboree encampment at the Bechtel Family Summit, do your best to get there. That's the best route to success, and the most rewarding.



Robert Birkby photo

### **Mt. Everest, the highest point on Earth**

(This edition of the *Be Prepared Newsletter* was developed and written by Robert Birkby, author of the current editions of the *Boy Scout Handbook*, *Fieldbook* and *Eagle Scouts: A Centennial History*.)