



# TREASURES WITHIN

Do you know what a Scouts Own is? Come participate in one, exchange ideas to take back to your group for your own Scouts Own.

Fall School 2007 Sept. 28-30



Wikipedia:

**Scouts Own** is an inspirational, informal ceremony held as part of Scouting activities. They traditionally happen on camp, but they can take place in many other situations as well.

A Scouts' Own service is usually short, often lasting no longer than 15 minutes. They are made up of a mixture of readings, prayers, reflections and music. Many Scouts' Owns are based on a particular theme, such as friendship, using resources wisely, or fairness. This might be connected to a certain event or occasion.

A Scouts' Own is not a substitute for an individual's own worship according to their faith, but in addition to it. Like any faith event in Scouting, a Scouts' Own should reflect the many religions represented in Scouting. But larger events might be lead by a representative of a particular religion.

<http://www.kidslist.uc.edu/kidslist/gs/neil/scown.html>

A "Scouts Own" is an inspirational ceremony, usually built around a central theme, such as friendship, world peace, save the earth, or appreciation of the world around us. Just about any topic consistent with the principles and program goals of Girl Scouting is appropriate. The important thing is that it be the work of the **girls** themselves---from start to finish.

In execution, a "Scouts Own" can range from lively to somber. The intent is generally serious, however, and usually reflective. Texts used can be spontaneously made up or taken from existing literature. If readings from sacred works (scripture) are incorporated, girls should be encouraged to choose passages that are less likely to offend (such as, not referring to the Deity by a name identified with a specific religion). [Remember *pluralism*.]

Here are suggestions that can help make a "Scouts Own" successful:

- Hold it somewhere away from normal activities. In a meeting place, go to a corner that is not otherwise used.
- Have a *gateway*. As the group files into the Scouts Own area (single or double) through this gateway, nobody speaks unless absolutely necessary (and then only in hushed tones). This makes it a serious ceremony, rather than a get-together, with a lot of chatter.  
The gateway can be two chairs, two people or a chalk line on the floor. The idea is that you are going to a special place to have a special kind of ceremony. After the ceremony is over, the group returns through this gateway silently.

<http://www.cbgsc.org/Training/docs/GSCB%20Leadership%20Fundamentals%20Independent%20Home%20Study.pdf>

**Girl Scouts' Own** is an inspirational, girl planned program to express their deepest feelings about something such as the Girl Scout Promise, friendship, nature, or any ideals or values that have meaning for them. This is usually not a religious ceremony. It can occur at any time during the year and may take any form. The girls should choose the purpose and theme, and they should plan and carry out the ceremony. This ceremony should not be a performance for an audience; rather, it is a way for girls to express their feelings on a chosen topic.

[http://www.cbgsc.org/Resources/ProgramIdeas/Ceremonies/Ceremonies%20Workshop\\_Lyn%20Gill.doc](http://www.cbgsc.org/Resources/ProgramIdeas/Ceremonies/Ceremonies%20Workshop_Lyn%20Gill.doc)

#### **PLANNING A GIRL SCOUTS' OWN**

A GIRL SCOUTS' OWN is an inspirational ceremony during which Girl Scouts have an opportunity to reaffirm their values. It is a special and important program, which gives Girl Scouts time for quiet and reverence. It is based on the ideals of Girl Scouting and makes them more meaningful to the girls in their daily lives. It gives them an opportunity to express their thoughts and feelings.

A GIRL SCOUTS' OWN, to be all that its name implies, should be planned by the girls with minimal guidance from the leader. The plans, which are made in a girl/adult partnership, should be carried out by them, each contributing a part to make the meaningful whole.

#### **HOW TO PLAN**

1. Be sure the girls understand its purpose and meaning.
2. Select the theme. A good Girl Scouts' Own has a central focus to give it unity. The theme may grow out of camp events, girl's thoughts, poems, songs, observations, international understanding, and many other possibilities.
3. Choose suitable material for reference after the theme has been selected. The ceremony can include poetry, stories, legends, history, music, pictures, etc.

4. Develop the theme. A Girl Scouts' Own may include:

Group Singing  
Pantomime  
Special Chorus  
Tableaux  
Instrumental Music  
Short Talks  
Original Poems  
Costuming  
Dramatizations  
Special Effects  
Choral Reading  
Sign Language

SETTING: Many times the group presenting a Girl Scouts' Own is hidden amongst trees so that the choir and individual readers are not seen. It can be quiet time in the woods to sit in some favorite spot using appropriate background music. It may be a reverent hour of communion around the campfire with every member permitted to participate. It can be a special time taken out of a troop meeting to reflect upon an idea of importance to the girls.

REMEMBER: A Girl Scouts' Own is a solemn occasion. The girls should enter and exit in silence. It is not a performance and should not be done before a public audience.

# To Achieve Your Dreams Remember Your ABCs

By Wanda Hope Carter

- Avoid negative sources, people, places, things and habits
- Believe in yourself
- Consider things from every angle
- Don't give up and don't give in
- Enjoy life today, yesterday is gone and tomorrow may never come
- Family and friends are hidden treasures, seek them and enjoy their riches
- Give more than you planned to
- Hang on to your dreams
- Ignore those who try to discourage you
- Just do it
- Keep on trying no matter how hard it seems, it will get easier
- Love yourself first and most
- Make it happen
- Never lie, cheat or steal, always strike a fair deal
- Open your eyes and see things as they really are
- Practice makes perfect
- Quitters never win and winners never quit
- Read study and learn about everything important in your life
- Stop procrastinating
- Take control of your own destiny
- Understand yourself in order to better understand others
- Visualize it
- Want it more than anything
- Xccelerate your efforts
- You are unique of all of God's creations nothing can replace you
- Zero in on your target and go for it!

<http://www.skiplocke.net/html/ScoutsOwn.htm>

<http://www.scouting.org.za/songs/scoutsown.html>

[http://scoutdocs.ca/Documents/Scouts\\_Own\\_Tips.php](http://scoutdocs.ca/Documents/Scouts_Own_Tips.php)

<http://macscouter.com/ScoutsOwn/>