



**Raise your hand if you know where America's Veterans Day started.**

*At the beginning* of our program for Boy Scouts and parents: 1 scout, 2 parents knew the answer.

*By the end:* 100% of the 50-70 attending know Veterans Day started in Birmingham, Alabama led by Raymond Weeks, supported by General Eisenhower, and affirmed by President Reagan, Governor Bentley, and Congressman Bachus.

Boy Scout Troop 21 at their "hut" in Bluff Park, Scoutmaster Dan Strunk. Former troop of Eagle Scout Brian Parker (grandson of Raymond Weeks).

They learned, participated, and took notes on the 7 character traits connected to the history:

**Patriotism – Courage – Perseverance – Loyalty – Citizenship – Peace – Leadership**

They started writing vision statements for how they can fulfill those traits.



The students and parents watched a two-minute video clip of President Reagan honoring Raymond Weeks of Birmingham at the White House 30 years ago. Reagan presented Weeks the Presidential Citizens Medal, proclaimed him the "driving force" for establishing Veterans Day, and added, "Your country is mighty grateful for what you've done."

They applauded when learning and seeing the Governor's Proclamation and the Congressional Record.

This is a great group of young men and parents, and I enjoyed working with them. I am excited about more Scouts and more students in K-12 learning this history connected to character education and planning for life. –David



America's Veterans Day Founding in Alabama  
History, Character Education & National Branding Project  
[www.PatriotismInAction.us](http://www.PatriotismInAction.us)

"This project is a worthy cause.  
If we don't do it, it won't get done."  
Col. Bob Barefield (USA Retired)

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