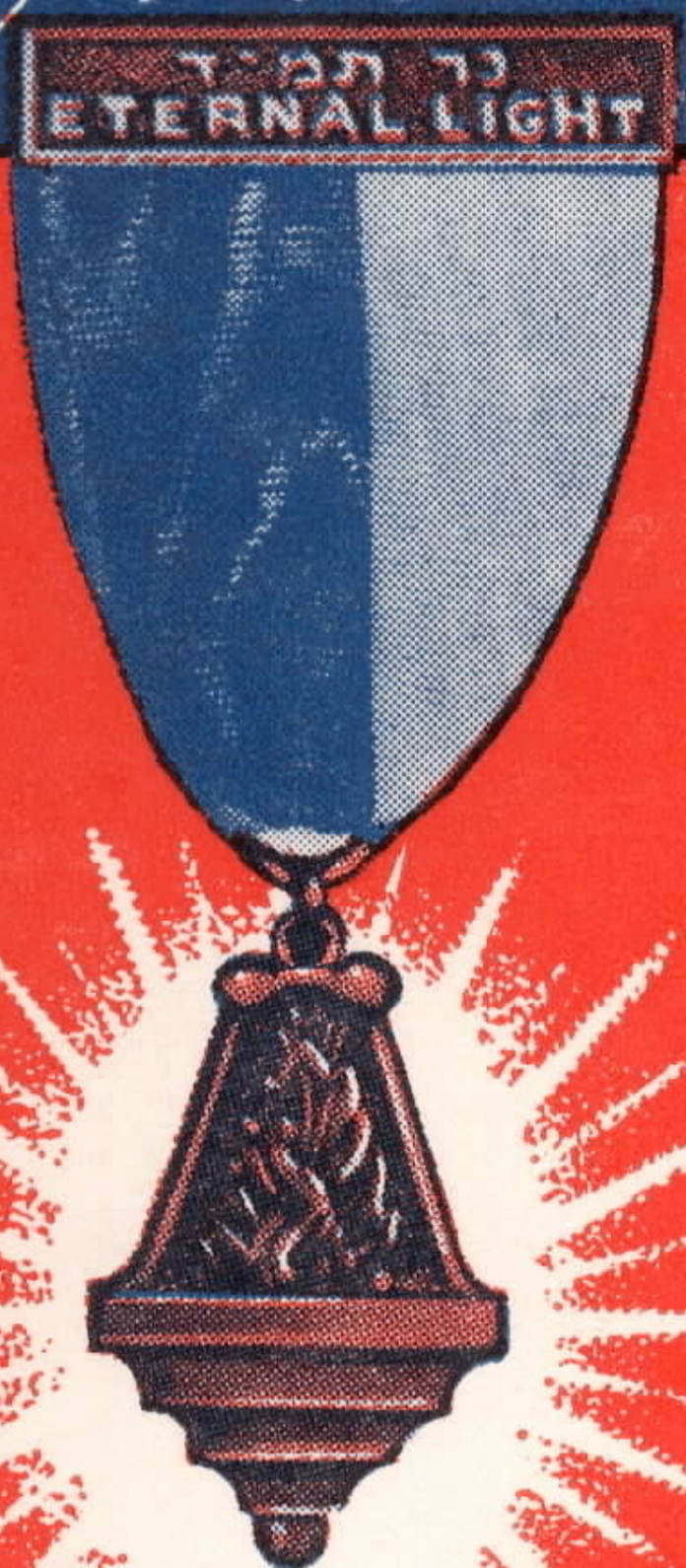
Ner Tamid Award



RECORD BOOK

NER TAMID AWARD RECORD BOOK



1962 PRINTING

ISSUED BY

JEWISH COMMITTEE ON SCOUTING

NEW BRUNSWICK, NEW JERSEY

APPLICATION

(Please Print Clearly)

Scout.....

Rank.....Age.....

Address.....

.....

Troop No.....

Sponsored by.....

.....

Address.....

.....

Rabbi or counselor .....

.....

Address.....

.....

A SCOUT IS REVERENT

As a Scout you know that *learning* by *doing* is a basic principle of Scouting. Just as you keep yourself physically strong by camping, hiking, and other outdoor healthful activities, so also you build yourself spiritually and morally by practicing your religion. The Ner Tamid (Eternal Light) Award will help you grow spiritually. It will aid you to practice *duty to God, to* be *reverent* and to be *faithful in your religious duties.*

To help you in this phase of your Scouting experience, the Jewish Committee on Scouting has developed the requirements for the Ner Tamid Award found in this record book. These requirements have been approved by the Synagogue Council of America. Similar awards have been developed by the Protestant and Catholic committees on Scouting. All Scouts are eligible to work for the distinctive religious award of their faith, and every Scout will be proud to achieve this high honor.

As a Boy Scout or Explorer you may work for the Ner Tamid Award whether

your unit is connected with your own synagogue, community center, school, or with some other institution. You carry on your Scouting program in your troop or Explorer unit while you fulfill the Ner Tamid requirements under the guidance of your rabbi or Ner Tamid counselor.

Now read the description of the Ner Tamid medal on the next page and then follow the steps in earning the Ner Tamid Award beginning on page 4. Good luck!

NER TAMID AWARD COMMITTEE

In most cities there is a Ner Tamid Award committee of rabbis and leading Jewish laymen which serves as a Ner Tamid Award board of review. Your rabbi will check with the local council office of the Boy Scouts of America to determine if there is a Ner Tamid Award committee in your community. When you have completed the requirements, your rabbi will arrange for you to meet with this committee for a review.

If there is no Ner Tamid Award committee in your community, you will be interviewed by your rabbi and two synagogue officials.

DESCRIPTION OF THE NER TAMID AWARD

The Ner Tamid Award is a pendant representing the Eternal Light that hangs in front of the Holy Ark in the synagogue. It is attached to a blue and white ribbon and a bronze bar pin that carries the inscription in Hebrew letters "Ner Tamid," and in English, "Eternal Light."

The Ner Tamid in the synagogue of our own day goes back to the seven branched Menorah described in the Bible (Exodus 27:20 and Numbers 8:2). The center light, from which the other six were kindled, is the Ner Tamid. The lamp burned continually, symbolizing the Jewish people's eternal devotion to God and His teachings.

The Boy Scouts of America have authorized the Ner Tamid Award to be worn over the left breast pocket at the left of the Eagle Scout badge, or when the Eagle badge is not worn, centered above the flap of the left breast pocket.

STEPS IN EARNING THE NER TAMID AWARD

1. First, you fill out the application found in the front of this *Ner Tamid Award Record Book*. Then you glance through the requirements which you find in this book. If you are a Scout who has studied for bar mizvah or confirmation, you will probably find that you can already meet some of these requirements. Be sure you read carefully the instructions heading each section of the Ner Tamid requirements.

2. You get in touch with your rabbi (or religious schoolteacher) and talk over the requirements with him. He will be glad to serve as your Ner Tamid counselor. Then start doing these requirements which will make you eligible for the Aleph Award certificate. These are found starting on page 6 and are preliminary to the Ner Tamid Award. You will find it helpful to keep a neat record of all your work in a notebook that you can review with your counselor.

3. When you finish the Aleph Award requirements, your counselor will sign the certificate and present it to you at a troop meeting or at some other

occasion. Congratulations! Now you are ready to go ahead with the more advanced requirements on pages 7-14 that lead to the Ner Tamid medal. You may wish to get a copy of the *Ner Tamid Guide for Boy Scouts and Explorers.* It contains basic information on all the requirements for the award and is quite similar in purpose to a merit badge pamphlet. You can get a copy at your local Boy Scout office or from your counselor.

4. As you fulfill the requirements, put a circle around the number of each requirement you complete. From time to time, ask your counselor to check your knowledge of the requirements. He will initial on page 17 each group of requirements as you complete them. When all requirements have been completed, your counselor will arrange for a check-up (not an examination) by the local Ner Tamid Award committee. If the committee finds that everything is in order and that high standards have been maintained, your record book will be certified on pages 18-20. Then your counselor will mail it to the national Jewish Committee on Scouting, New Brunswick, N. J., as directed in the note on page 20. Your Ner

Tamid medal will be presented to you by your rabbi at some impressive occasion, such as Boy Scout Sabbath in February, Hanukkah, bar mizvah, confirmation, etc.

Just one more word. You are going to find real satisfaction and fun in achieving the Ner Tamid Award. So try to do a real Scout job and pick up the *spirit* of the award. *Now let's get started!*

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ALEPH AWARD CERTIFICATE

(Preliminary to the Ner Tamid Award)

1. Recite in Hebrew or English the Ten Commandments and explain their meaning.

2. Maintain regular attendance at synagogue services on the Sabbath (Friday evening or Saturday morning) for at least one month.

3. Describe the work of at least one charitable organization to which you have made a contribution.

4. Explain the meaning of the twelfth point of the Scout Law.

5. Name six Jewish holidays observed during the year and describe briefly how each is celebrated.
6. Read a book of Jewish biography or history and tell about its contents.
7. Make a drawing of, or describe, the Ner Tamid (Eternal Light) in your synagogue and tell what it means.
8. Present a notebook containing the materials for the Aleph Award standards and decorate the cover page.

REQUIREMENTS FOR NER TAMID AWARD

A. Home Observance

Do the *first* and choose any *one* of the other three.

1. Give the dates of the Jewish holidays and festivals and tell briefly why they are celebrated.

   Tell how you observe the Sabbath and the Jewish holidays at home and the meaning of this observance.

   Make or draw at least *two* ceremonial objects used in the observance of the Sabbath and holidays. Be able to explain the meaning and use of *each* object.

2. Give the titles of ten or more Jewish books that every Jewish home should have. Include books for study, prayer, and reading. Tell briefly the contents of at least five of these books and write a book review of one of the books.

   Sing or play at least *five* Jewish melodies.

3. Recite the names of the Hebrew months. Explain the main differences and similarities between the civil and Hebrew calendars.

   Make a wall calendar of the Jewish holidays for the current year. Show the dates and symbols of each holiday.

4. Observe the laws of kashruth.

   Explain the meaning of the observance of kashruth.

   Tell some rules for observing kashruth while camping.

B. Synagogue

Do the *first* and choose any *one* of the other three.

1. Participate regularly in Sabbath and holiday services during the current year. Present a plan or description of your

synagogue, showing the location of various sacred objects, and explain how they are used.

Tell when your synagogue was established and how it is governed and maintained.

2. Describe the prayer books used in your synagogue and tell when each is used. Show that you can follow the Sabbath service of your own synagogue.

Give the important ideas contained in the kiddush, Shema, Adon Olam, En Kelohenu, and two other prayers.

3. Show evidence of having been bar mizvah and tell what bar mizvah means to the Jewish boy.

Chant the Haftorah for your bar mizvah. Tell the contents of the Haftorah.

Explain the meaning and contents of the tephillin. Attend morning services at which the tephillin are worn.

Explain when the tallith is worn and why.

4. Write a summary of the course of study required for confirmation.

Describe the confirmation ceremony.

C. Jewish Study

Do the *first* and choose any *one* of the other three.

1. Be a regular pupil at a Hebrew school, or a student of Hebrew at a public high school for one year, or of a Sunday religious school for two years since becoming a Boy Scout.

   Have a statement from the teacher that your work has been satisfactory.

   (Scouts who find it impossible to attend formal classes may substitute an equivalent course of private study under the supervision of a teacher or rabbi.)

2. Show in your own Bible, the books that make up the Torah, the Prophets, and the Writings.

   Explain the meaning of Sedra and of Haftorah.

   What is the Talmud? What does it contain? Describe a book of the Talmud that you have seen, or explain five sayings from the "Ethics of the Fathers."

3. Translate one chapter of the Book of Genesis.

Compose a Hebrew letter or story of at least 100 words.

4. Select *three* names from *each* group, tell what made *each* of them famous.

I	II
Abraham	Yochanan Ben Zakkai
Moses	Akiba
Samuel	Judah Hanasi
David	Saadyah Gaon
Solomon	Rashi
Elijah	Judah Halevi
Isaiah	Maimonides
Juda Maccabee	Isaac Abarbanel
Hillel	Joseph Karo

III

Bal Shem Tov	Chayim Nachman Bialik
Gaon of Wilna	Albert Einstein
Moses Mendelsohn	Henrietta Szold
Theodore Herzl	

D. The American Jewish Community

Do the *first* and choose any *one* of the other three.

1. Select from the list of acceptable service projects on pages 15-16 at least

three projects of service to the synagogue, Scout unit, and community to be carried on for a period of one year. (A Scout may receive credit for service projects fulfilled before he enrolled for the Ner Tamid Award from the time he became a Tenderfoot Scout or an Explorer.)

2. Tell the story of how your ancestors came to America and established themselves here.

   Tell what Jewish traditions have been cherished by your family.

   Give the Hebrew names of five members of your family, including your own, and be able to explain the meaning of each name.

3. List (or preferably show on a map) at least ten major Jewish agencies and institutions in your home city. (If the community does not have as many as ten agencies, locate all the Jewish institutions and agencies in the town.) List the *ten* largest cities in the United States, showing the total population and the Jewish population in each.

4. Give a brief account of how the Jews came to America. Select *ten* of the following great American Jews and describe their contribution to the build-

ing of America and to American Judaism.

Luis De Torres	Emma Lazarus
Judah Tuoro	Solomon Schechter
Hyam Solomon	Bernard Revel
Uriah Phillips Levy	Louis Marshall
Rebecca Gratz	Louis D. Brandeis
Isaac M. Wise	Frank L. Weil

E. World Jewry

Do the *first*, and choose either number two or three.

1. Tell what religious festivals, customs, books, ideas, needs, etc., the Jews of America have in common with Jews in other countries of the world.

   Name at least *three* funds or agencies for Jews overseas to which you have contributed recently. Describe the purposes and work of each.

2. On a map of Israel show—

The regions of the country
Five bodies of water
Five important cities
Five farm settlements

Tell what each of the following did for the rebirth of the State of Israel: Theodore Herzl, Stephen S. Wise, Chaim Weizmann.

Tell briefly what three of the following are doing in the rebuilding of Israel: Jewish National Fund, United Jewish Appeal, Hadassah, Hebrew University, Histadrut, Mizrachi, Z.O.A., Jewish Agency.

3. Make a scrapbook of Jewish current events, containing news items, pictures, cartoons, stories, articles, etc.

List (or preferably show on a map) the Jewish population in ten important countries.

ACCEPTABLE SERVICE PROJECTS

(Put a circle around the number of the *three* projects you select in fulfillment of requirements D-1 on page 11)

1. Serving as usher in synagogue — at religious services, forums, celebrations, etc.
2. Serving as patrol leader, den chief, or assistant in any Scouting activity.
3. Acting as monitor or as leader of club in religious school.
4. Helping in office of synagogue, center, school, social service agency, or Jewish organization.
5. Serving as cantor, choir member, reader, or in some other active capacity in junior congregation.
6. Helping with the enrollment of pupils in religious school — distributing letters and leaflets, bringing friends to the school, etc.
7. Decorating the synagogue, school, center, or home for the holidays and other special events.

8. Participating in the collection of clothing, food, books, etc., for charity.

9. Planting and care of shrubs, trees, and flowers around the synagogue, school, or center.

10. Assisting in library of synagogue, school, or center.

11. Making and distributing posters and announcements for synagogue, school, etc.

12. Helping with construction and painting of scenery for plays presented in the synagogue, religious school, or center.

13. Doing errands for the synagogue, school, social service agency.

14. Building and decorating a Sukkah for the home, synagogue, center, or school.

15. Writing for or helping to get out paper for religious school or Jewish center.

16. Repairing property or equipment of synagogue, school, or center.

Other services of similar standard may be submitted for service credit if approved by the rabbi or counselor.

RECORD OF REQUIREMENTS COMPLETED

Scout .....

Date	Requirement	Counselor's Initials
	Aleph Award Certificate	
	A. Home Observance	
	B. Synagogue	
	C. Jewish Study	
	D. American Jewish Community	
	E. World Jewry	

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that

..... has

fulfilled the requirements for the Ner Tamid Award. He is also a First Class Scout or Scout of higher rank and is worthy of the award. If an Explorer without previous experience in Scouting, he should have at least one year in Exploring.

Dated .....

Unit No..... Rank.....

.....

Unit Leader

.....

Unit Committee Chairman

.....

Rabbi or Counselor

.....

Parent or Guardian

★

CERTIFICATION BY LOCAL SCOUT COUNCIL

This will certify that the candidate is properly registered and in good standing as a member of the Boy Scouts of America. We support the recommendation that he receive the Ner Tamid Award.

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Scout Executive

.....

Council

★

APPROVAL BY LOCAL NER TAMID AWARD COMMITTEE

(*See page 2*)

.....

Name of Chairman of Committee
(PLEASE PRINT)

.....

Address

.....

City and State

We have reviewed this record book, have interviewed the Scout, and have checked any points in question with the rabbi or counselor and Scoutmaster. We find everything in order and recommend that he be awarded the Ner Tamid medal.

SIGNED .....

Chmn., Ner Tamid Award Comm.

Note: The rabbi or counselor mails the complete record book to the national Jewish Committee on Scouting, New Brunswick, New Jersey, enclosing a check or money order for $2.00. Ordinarily the local synagogue, center, or school pays for the award.

THE SCOUT OATH

On my honor I will do my best

To do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law;

To help other people at all times;

To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

THE TWELFTH POINT OF THE SCOUT LAW

A Scout Is Reverent

He is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties and respects the convictions of others in matters of custom and religion.

No. 3182 10M1162