

the **leader**

JUNE/JULY 1991

VOLUME 21 NO. 1

Kenya 90

Camping Fun

Summer Projects

Shadow Training



Update on Eastern Europe

by Garth Johnson

Since we last reported to you, Scouting in Eastern Europe has been a going and growing concern. The re-emergence has excited members of Scouting around the world.

In our October '90 editorial, we reported on the return of Hungary and Czechoslovakia to membership of the World Organization, Poland's struggle to keep Scouting alive, and the difficulty all East Bloc countries face rebuilding their programs. One of our readers responded to this editorial with a donation of \$10,000 for the Canadian Scout Brotherhood Fund "to assist in the redevelopment of Scouting in east bloc countries".

The anonymous donor said that seeing reports of the dire circumstances of many people in Eastern Europe made him feel there would be no better way to offer assistance than through Scouting, a youth-based, grassroots organization. He asked only that the funds be used as much as possible at the youth level. It is likely the donation will be managed through a central fund established by the European office of the World Scout Bureau to support Scouts from eastern and central Europe who wish to participate in events organized by the region.

To date, many readers have made personal or group contact with Scouters in eastern and central Europe through our pen pal listings. It has led to interesting exchanges of information and ideas as well as resources. For example, through an ex-patriate Czech and current leader, the Interior Region in B.C. donated a collection of handbooks to the central Scout Library in Prague.

Scouts Canada's International Relations Committee has also been contacted by many re-emerging associations who seek information. Committee chairman Herb Pitts says the committee has not yet clarified what specific action to take beyond answering correspondence and supporting activities. If you have some ideas or proposals that involve improving relations or offering direct support to Scouting in eastern Europe, the committee would like to hear about them. Write to Herb Pitts, c/o Scouts Canada, International Relations and Special Events, PO Box 5151, Station F, Ottawa, Ontario K2C 3G7.

Since October, national associations in Europe have proposed a number of initiatives to assist re-emerging organizations. To support these proposals, the



Scouting in Hungary is rapidly expanding. Scouter Gábor Susánszky sent us a photo of new members taking the Scout promise.

European Region has undertaken a series of fact-finding missions to determine the specific needs of young people in each country, gather facts on the institutions able to lend support, and assess the credibility of those who want to promote the Scout movement.

To date, representatives of the World Bureau have visited Poland, Czechoslovakia, Romania, the Soviet Union, including the Baltic Republics, Bulgaria, and Hungary to monitor and assess Scouting in those countries. As well, Scouts Canada vice-president John de Chastelain has personally visited Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and Poland as a gesture of goodwill and moral support.

Once it confirms the credibility of leader intentions in non-member nations, the World Bureau can provide assistance by conducting a multi-purpose seminar to:

- devise a development strategy
- create or improve youth programs
- establish or improve adult recruitment and training systems
- strengthen overall means of support

At the same time, it will supply financial assistance and basic equipment through funds from the European Region. If all goes well, recognition by the World Organization of the Scout Movement will be the final step. This happens at the world conference.

What's Happening

Scouting in the Baltic Republics of Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania is very active. The Estonian Scouting Organization, "ESKOL", has over 2,000 members. Latvia has 1,000 members working to establish a central organization, while Lithuania boasts a similar number.

The European Region office has conducted information sessions in all three republics. Many at the meetings pointed out that Estonia and Latvia were founding members of World Scouting in 1920; Lithuania joined in 1923. All three ceased as members in 1940.

The World Bureau has made an important first step towards Scouting in the USSR by appointing a representative to the bureau in Moscow. This may lead to the establishment of a Scouting federation within the Soviet Union, enabling the recognition of the movement in these Baltic States.

Bulgarian Scouting has created a national council and executive committee. Several groups are active in Sofia and a number of other cities.

The largest organization in Poland (known as ZHP) has over a million registered members. Not a part of the World Organization since 1946, the association has recently changed its constitution in hopes of membership.

YEAR END

The last issue of a volume year gives us a chance to look back at another great Scouting season and begin planning for a busy fall. The major highlights for us this past year included some exciting firsts — the introduction of Scouts Canada's Environment Fund, the launch of our new uniform, and the printing of the **Leader** on recycled paper. Our readership survey provided us plenty of encouraging feedback and scores of useful ideas for the future. Check out page 12 for complete results.

This issue also provides an opportunity to thank all of our readers who took the time to send us photos or material and share their experiences on our pages these past 10 issues. We couldn't do it without you. Keep the photos, letters, stories, and ideas coming. And remember to support our advertisers when you are looking for camping gear, fundraising ideas, or crests and pins. They support us and help keep our costs to a minimum.

Have a great summer!^

the leader

The Canadian Leader Magazine

June/July 1991

Volume 21, No. 10

FEATURES

- KENYA 90**
Quebec Venturers experience community development first hand **4**
- THE GREAT GREY GHOST ELEPHANT**
Campfire fun that combines story, song, and dance **7**
- MOUNTAIN HIKING**
Summer treks in Alberta and Nova Scotia **8**
- MAKE YOUR OWN PUZZLES** **10**
- THE FUTURE LOOKS GOOD**
Results from a successful readership survey **12**
- REMEMBERING THE 3RD WORLD JAMBOREE**
Scouting history for a world jamboree summer **14**
- WONDERFUL WIENER WIRES**
A great camp craft from Manitoba Cubs **15**
- THE 16.5 RUMOURS OF SCOUTING** **16**
- BE PREPARED WITH PR IDEAS**
Useful ideas and new materials to help sell Scouting **18**
- KEEPING VOLUNTEERS**
Ways for Scouting to hold its own in a changing world **22**



Page 8

REGULARS

- FUN AT THE POND** *Looking Ahead Ideas* **20**
- OUTDOORS** *Energy Conservation Service Projects* **23**
- SHARING/ PAKSAK** *Is Scouting Safe?* **24**
- PATROL CORNER/VENTURER LOG** *Youth Suicide* **26**
- SWAP SHOP** *Special Summer Camp* **32**
- FOR VOLUNTEERS** *Shadow Training* **34**
- NETWORK** *Meeting Place Solutions* **37**

ALSO

- Editorial Page* **2**
- Cross-Country Photos* **28**
- Something Special* **30**
- Supply News* **31**
- Scouter's 5 & Songs* **35**
- Letters/Pen Pals Wanted* **38**

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Kenya 90

by Venturers Doug Campbell & Michael Canavan

"I'm going back. I don't know when or how, but I'm going back."

The Kenya '90 project started with a dream of Maggie Shaddick, a prominent member of Quebec Provincial Council. Having seen what several European countries had done by working in developing nations, she decided it was time Canadian Scouting, for many years very generous in funding projects, took a hands-on approach and gave some of us the benefit of working with our fellow Scouts in their communities.

Quebec Venturers first heard of the project in a letter informing those who were interested in taking part in community development in Kenya that a selection camp would be held at Tamaracouta Scout Reserve. The camp was held in August 1989. There the Venturers were challenged with different exercises, everything from first aid to hanging picnic tables from trees and various projects to maintain the facilities. Each Venturer then had to write a short letter saying why his or her application should be accepted. Within two weeks, the Venturers had been selected and the challenge began.

There were a series of work days and camps teaching us the necessary skills to tackle the project before us. These included building a shed for Amcal, a Montreal group home, and many group development projects. The exercises helped everyone get to know each other before departure and gave us some basic skills in woodworking, plumbing, and brick-laying.

We left Mirabel June 24 at 11:00 p.m. and landed in Amsterdam eight hours later. Since our flight to Nairobi wasn't until late that night, we spent the day touring Amsterdam half asleep. In Amsterdam, we were also joined by two Venturers from the Maple Leaf Region in West Germany, bringing our numbers to 16 Venturers and four leaders.



"What will I remember?" says one of the Canadian Venturers on the Kenya 90 team. "The little kid we saw... Where he got that Canadiens sweater, I'll never know. He probably doesn't know what ice hockey is. Shows you that it's a small world, though."

Finally, on June 26, we arrived in Kenya. We were to be met by a GM bus at 8:00 a.m. GM has a plant in Nairobi. They were nice enough to offer us a bus but then forgot about us. When they finally arrived, they took us to Kenya's Rowallen Scout Camp, where we, at last, got some sleep.

We spent a week in Rowallen, adapting to the weather and culture of Kenya by visiting numerous sites in Nairobi. Then we left for Shiru to begin the construction of the Shiru Public Medical Clinic, which will serve the local

community free of charge. We were met by hundreds of appreciative Scouts and villagers.

After we set up our camp, the work began. The jobs to be done included renovating the already started clinic, building living quarters for the medical staff, constructing a stairway to the stream and a barbed wire fence around the clinic, landscaping, and building four latrines.

During these three weeks, we learned different lifestyles and cultures and established new friendships. We were joined by nine Kenyan Scouts and Rovers who





Poor quality local hand tools sometimes made the work more difficult, but the Venturers completed 95% of the task.

worked with us throughout. Our project caused such excitement that over 350 Scouts visited us from as far away as 200 kms, a great distance in rural Kenya. Many of them helped us work on the project for a day or two.

Our project caused such excitement that over 350 Scouts visited us from as far away as 200 kms.

One of our leaders was a doctor who had to treat almost all of us for a stomach problem when a local milkman in Nairobi offered to bring us fresh milk every morning at low cost. What he failed to mention was that he was selling part of our milk en route and replacing it with unboiled water. Luckily, the Kenyan Scouts with us discovered this and stopped the delivery. There were no other medical problems — no repairing of bones or dressing of wounds, except when the doctor had to stitch himself.

The work was hard and challenging, and we were each given a day off occasionally to visit Kisumu, the nearest main town, where we were able to swim in the pool of a local hotel and see the local sights, such as the teeming outdoor market.

Food was good and plentiful, although most of us did not enjoy kitchen duty. Cooking for and cleaning up after over 20 people was not one of the highlights.

By the end of our stay in Shiru, we had finished most of the project except for a few minor details. These included

What They Did

from the Kenya 90 project report to CIDA, by Scouter Jim Sweeney, expedition leader

Kenya 90 became possible because of massive fundraising efforts by the Venturers involved and matching funds from the Canadian International Development Agency. One of the aims of this hands-on community development project in East Africa was to give Canadian young people opportunities to gain greater understanding of the people, culture, and country of Kenya. The material objective was to build a clinic and staff quarters at Shiru.

"The project was 95% complete by the time the group left... The staff quarters building was up ... with roof, internal walls, windows, door frames, doors, a 500 gallon water reservoir tank and collecting system. Wiring, plumbing and plastering were almost finished and we left behind material to finish these.

"The dispensary building was renovated (and) the water collection system as well as internal tank and running water to sinks in each room installed. The ceiling was finished, and electric wiring, lights, and plug sockets installed... The building was painted inside and out. Drains and pits were dug and covered to handle the waste water. The clinic compound was fenced and two gates installed. On one is the Scout symbol, on the other a maple leaf in honour of our Canadian contribution.

"Two double Ventilated Improved Pit Latrines were built, one for each building. Improvements were also made to a latrine already on site so that it could be used by those visiting the clinic.

"The spring used by the village as a water source was improved by the building of a cement retaining wall and spout... A set of stairs was built to reach the spring, replacing a very steep and slippery path.

"The internal wiring was done, but arrangements had yet to be completed with the power company to have it hooked up to the main system.... We hope to cover the costs for this (about \$3,000)."

The joint Scouting team accomplished the job despite predictions they'd be lucky to meet 25% of their objectives and frustration with poor quality hand tools. Aside from buildings, the Canadians left behind their tents, which had served as "home" on the construction site. They gave the small ones to local Scout troops and the large ones to the Kenya Scouts Association to use as housing during adult training courses. And they donated their unused medical supplies to the clinic.

The minor difficulties that arose as Kenyan and Canadians fit themselves into an integrated work schedule were quickly worked out. "All the Kenyans were male and there was some reluctance to working in the kitchen and on dish washing, as we had women with us whom they felt should be doing that work," Scouter Sweeney explains. Very quickly, though, "they took their turns with the rest of us. They were very pleased to show us local meals and learned that their help in the kitchen was both needed and wanted."

"One of the things which surprised me was just how well we got along with everyone," agrees a Canadian Venturer. "The Kenyan Rovers were a real part of our project team, just like any of the Canadians. We worked and played together and learned so much from them. I think we taught them some things, too."

"This type of project is perfect for Scouting," sums up Scouter Sweeney. "It teaches youth about living in a global society, and the skills that Scouts learn in their patrols and troops help them enjoy and adapt to living and working as a community. It gives them the opportunity to understand first hand the relationships between rich and poor, justice and peace, and helps them grow in sensitivity towards others in our world. It is a chance to learn by doing (that) stimulates recognition and respect for other people, cultures, and communities."



A hot time on a tin roof.

bringing in electricity and water and putting windows and doors in the buildings.

On the last day, the community served us a huge dinner, including mutton which had walked onto our site a few hours before. We started on our journey back to Nairobi, stopping in Nyeri to visit Paxtu, Lord Robert Baden-Powell's last home, and his and Lady Olive's graves.

After a cold night in Rowallen Scout Camp, we left on a safari to Amboseli and Masai Mara Game Parks. We saw everything from elephants to gnus, vultures to reptiles. We even saw a child wearing an old Montreal Canadiens hockey jersey!

The safaris were followed by a three day stay in total luxury by the coast. We stayed in a hotel with plumbing, air conditioning, swimming pool, giant dining

room, and much more. During these three days, we went snorkelling and swimming in the ocean and relaxed.

After our five week stay in Kenya, we returned to London for four days of being tourists and a visit with a group of Scouts from Buckinghamshire who entertained us for three days.

Although we were very happy to arrive home, we would not trade this experience for anything. All those injections to protect us from all kinds of strange diseases worked, and the anti-malarial pills we took long after we arrived home seemed to be a big deal at the time. But the experience we had, working with our fellow Scouts whose whole Scouting life revolves around community service, putting into practice all the skills we learned before we left and then learning even more, makes us realize just how strong our movement is.



The stylized maple leaf on the clinic gate acknowledges the Canadians' contribution.

We have learned about a very different way of life and seen a very different culture from close at hand. We all have the sincere hope that there will be more projects of this nature so that others may also be challenged to experience what we experienced. After all, the Shiru Clinic does need a maternity wing!

"(Kenyan Scouts) have community service for their Scouting program ... because the need is there. I am glad we don't have the same need, but it has made me more aware of my own community, and I know there is work I can do here." λ

Beaurepaire Venturer Doug Campbell and 2nd Ile Perrot Venturer Michael Canavan, Seneca District, Que., were members of the Kenya '90 team. The comments quoted at top and bottom of their article came from other youth members of the team.

Kenya Scouts Association

Founded in 1910, Scouting in Kenya has 101,461 members in four section programs: Cubs (8-11), Scouts (11-14), Seniors (15-18), and Rovers (18-25). Programs are closely related to community development needs, and community service is an integral part of badge work, which also reflects a major emphasis on nature conservation.

Scouts are involved in hospital visits, blood donations, helping elderly people, planting trees, literacy campaigns, road and bridge construction, anti-litter campaigns, first aid training, rural water projects, and building schools, homes, and health centres.

Kenya Scouts pioneered low-cost mortar mesh housing as part of International Year of Shelter for the Homeless. To cope with some of the social problems caused by lack of shelter, Scouts have opened a recreation centre in Mombasa, where they hold literacy classes.

Our Venturers' expedition last summer to join Kenyan Scouts in a community project is not unusual in this country. Scouts from the United Kingdom, Italy, Australia, and Sweden have often made trips to work on such projects with local Scouts.

Kenyan Scouting has two Sea Scout groups and an Air Scout group, as well as special programs for children with sight and other disabilities. Scouts and Guides cooperate closely. In general, Rovers is the only co-educational Scouting section, but others may run co-ed programs with permission from Guide and Scout headquarters.

Kenya's two official languages are English and Swahili. The motto of Kenyan Scouts is *Be Prepared*.

Information from the 1990 edition Scouting 'Round the World, produced by the World Scout Bureau.

The Great Grey Ghost Elephant

by Dorothy Unterschultz

Looking for some summertime campfire fare? Here's a delightful combination of action story, Scouting song, and jungle dancing you'll want to try. Scouter Dorothy Unterschultz, Edmonton, Alta., wanting a ghost story that wouldn't frighten Beavers before bed, wrote the tale for a Beaver sleepover last year. Later, she tried it at a campfire at Cub camp. It was a smash hit. Try it out on your gang at camp this summer.

In deepest, darkest Africa, they tell a story. Every year after the rains, a great grey ghost elephant rose out of the mists coming off the Zambeze River at dawn to wander the land. If he came across a village, he would go around it or through it on his silent grey feet.

If he went around, the village would have good crops and its children would grow straight and healthy. But if he went through a village, its crops would die from drought. Its people would go hungry and the children would not grow.

The village of Wat-cha had been visited by the grey ghost elephant three years in a row, and its king, Ging-ganga, was very worried. His rival, the witch doctor Hey-la-shay, was also very concerned. Together, they decided to do something about the situation.

Now Ging-ganga was a very brave warrior, more than two metres tall with the mane of a lion around his neck and a huge shield and spear that he shook at his enemies as he yelled to make them afraid before battle.

Hey-la-shay believed in his magic powers, and he and his followers carried little bags of bones and magic powders, which they would shake at their enemies. The bags made a sound like this — shallawally, shallawally, shallawally (*say it softly and shake an imaginary bag in the right hand*).

One morning very early, when dawn was breaking, Ging-Ganga and his warriors hid in one half of the village, while Hey-la-shay and his followers hid in the other half (*indicate the two sides of the campfire circle*). While they waited for the great grey ghost elephant, Ging-ganga's men sang softly about their leader (*motion for half of the group to sing with you the second time*):

*Ging Gang Gooli, Gooli, Gooli, Gooli
Watcha
Ging Gang Goo, Ging Gang Goo
(repeat)*



From the other part of the village came an answer from the medicine men — a little louder than the warriors' call. (*Lead the other half of the circle to sing the repeat here.*)

*Heyla, Heyla Shayla, Heyla Shayla,
Heyla, Ho-o-o! (repeat)*

Together, the warriors and the medicine men shook their spears and medicine bags towards the river (*motion the whole group to chant softly and shake bags and spears with the right hand*).

*Shallawally, Shallawally, Shallawally,
Shallawally!*

And, from the river, mighty and powerful, came the grey ghost elephant's reply (*say it softly, waving the arm in front like an elephant's trunk*).

Oompah, Oompah, Oompah, Oompah!

The elephant was coming closer and closer! Then, the warriors rose and sang louder to the beat of their drums (*signal warriors to stand, beat thighs, sing along, accenting the beat on "Gooli"*).

Ging Gang Gooli (etc. — two times)

And the medicine men rose and sang louder (*get the medicine men up*).

Heyla, (etc. — two times)

Then, both groups yelled even louder:

Shallawally, Shallawally (etc.)

And the great grey ghost elephant turned aside and went around the village saying:

Oompah, Oompah, Oompah, Oompah!

Joyfully, the villagers, warriors, and medicine men joined together to celebrate their victory. Now they would have good crops and their children would grow strong and healthy. In the village square, they did the dance of Ging Gang Gooli!

Organize the group in two: have one group do the "Oompahs". The other forms a circle: everyone turns to face the same way and places hands on the shoulders of the person in front. Starting the first beat on the left foot, they sing the song as they march around the circle.

After the first run through of "Ging Gang Gooli", all turn, place hands on shoulders of the person who was behind, and march in that direction while singing it the second time.

On the "Heyla" line, everyone turns, joins hands, moves into the centre of the circle and back out again, repeating the second time.

On the "Shallawally" line, dancers wave hands over head and turn around.

On the "Oompah" line, dancers swing right arm in front of them like an elephant's trunk.

At the end of the dance, switch groups and sing again so that the dancers get to do the Oompahs and the Oompahs have a chance to dance. X

Dorothy Unterschultz is a Scouter and trainer in Edmonton Region, Alta.

Mountain Hiking

by Brian Johnson

In fall 1989, the 169th Glen Allan Sherwood Park Scout leaders asked the Scouts what kinds of activities they wanted to do during the Scout year. Their participation in CJ89 and a winter challenge camp had made them keen for outdoor pursuits, and many suggested the Rocky Mountains as a hiking or camping destination.

We asked all interested Scouts, parents, and leaders to commit themselves to the project by getting proper footwear and packs early in the year. We knew that breaking in equipment and conditioning were very important.

We started physical training for the mountain trip in April 1990 on walks of 2 to 4 km in our hiking boots with packs lightly loaded, and worked up to tackling 6 to 12 km hikes on rough terrain with fully loaded packs. Because the Scouts didn't want to load their packs with all the gear they'd take into the mountains, they used rocks to get the required weight. A fish scale kept everyone honest.

Ten Scouts and three leaders juggled vacations and other commitments to hike the mountains on the Canada Day long weekend. With guidance on foot care, rain gear, and packing from their leaders, the Scouts planned their own pack loads and personal supplies. Each Scout bought dried and other food that didn't need refrigeration, and the troop supplied a tent and a one-burner stove for every two hikers. Two days before we left, we checked all gear, food, and supplies, and loaded them into the vehicles. When we arrived at the mountains, we could just shoulder our packs and hit the trail.

An uneventful drive brought us to the Columbia Ice Fields in Jasper National Park at 7:30 p.m. on Friday. We gathered our belongings and headed up a gentle slope for what seemed like 6 km but was really only 2 km, then set up camp overlooking the Athabasca Glacier.

Five mountain sheep visited our camp to check out the new arrivals. After putting our food high in trees out of the reach of bears, we retired for the night and were lulled to sleep by the sounds of distant avalanches on the steep glacier faces.

Given such an easy day Friday, we were surprised at how late some of the Scouts slept. Most missed the sun rising over the mountain peak. It was spectacular to see the light creeping down the glacier as if a big window shade were being lifted.



It may not be everyone's idea of fun, but the 1st McCulloch Scouts are eager to hit the trail for their 29 km hike through the East Folly Mountain River Gorge, N.S.

Mountain Hiking, East Coast Style

by Sunny Tait

Summer fun. Many would suggest that carrying a 23 kg pack through 29 km of the rugged East Folly Mountain Gorge would not be their idea of summer fun, but for the seven Scouts and three leaders of the 1st McCulloch Scouts who did it, it was great.

All the boys are first or second year Scouts aged 12 and 13, and each was responsible for carrying his own three day food supply, cooking utensils, change of clothing, first aid kit, survival kit, and the shared weight of a two-person tent or the pegs and poles of that tent.

Everything was wrapped in plastic and, as Scout Kenny Faulkner tells it, the precaution certainly proved worthwhile.

"At several points, we used ropes as a safety guide in climbing the rock face of the gorge or to slide the backpacks across the river," he said. "During one of the river crossings, a sleeping bag and propane cooking canister belonging to one of the leaders dropped from the rope and into the water.

"Our leader told us to save the canister first because he thought it was more important for us to have it to prepare our meal than to have a dry sleeping bag," he continued. "As it was, both the canister and the sleeping bag were saved and, because of the plastic wrapping, neither of them were even damp."

Kenny talked with enthusiasm about the challenge of the waterfalls. "Some were too dangerous to climb through and so we would have to climb to the top of the gorge and go around them," he said. "Others were exciting to climb down and, at one waterfall, the rocks were worn into a smooth natural waterslide that flowed into a deep pool. We had fun sliding and swimming there, and saw some large trout in these pools."

A wilderness hike would not be complete without an encounter with the natural inhabitants of our Nova Scotian woods. The 1st McCulloch were not disappointed. They discovered evidence of bears, met a moose in the depths of the gorge, and had a quick and quiet night-time visit from a coyote.

"We didn't worry about the animals going after our food during the night, because we had safely hung it all up in a tree," Kenny said.

Scout leaders Tom Beaton and Larry Faulkner were equally enthusiastic about the adventure. "We were amazed and thrilled to find the gorge free of litter," they said. "It was great. We didn't even see a gum wrapper, and any garbage that went in with us, came out with us."

"The hike taught the boys a lot about being in the woods and about being self-sufficient," said Troop Scouter Beaton. "We led them through the woods, but they really looked after themselves. They were very proud of themselves when they finished the hike. It was a real accomplishment and they certainly gained our respect. That 29 km is a beautiful hike, but it is a very demanding hike."

We thank Tom Beaton, Troop Scouter of the 1st McCulloch (Camden United Church) Scouts, N.S., and his neighbour Sunny Tait, a freelancer for the local "Daily News".



A view to wake up to: the Scouts' first campsite overlooking the Athabasca Glacier, Jasper National Park.

After breakfast, we broke camp, stored the packs, and hiked to the top of Willcox Pass. Some Scouts held snowball fights and went sliding on the steep snow patches we crossed. Some tested the hardness and depth of the snow and sank waist deep — very cold for those wearing shorts!

The hike to our next campsite was wet but relatively uneventful and, after setting up, we went for a climb on the Athabasca Glacier. After a good meal Saturday evening, most of the Scouts tried out their boots and legs on a steep landslide area .5 km behind our camp.

The Laws of Hiking

1. The integral of the gravitational potential taken around any loop trail you choose to hike always comes out positive. (*I think it means that, even though what goes up must come down, most of your hike will be uphill.*)
2. Any stone in your boot always migrates against the pressure gradient to the exact point of most pressure.
3. The weight of your pack increases in direct proportion to the amount of food you consume from it. If you run out of food, the pack weight goes on increasing anyway.
4. The number of stones in your boot is always directly proportional to the number of hours you have been on the trail.
5. The difficulty of finding a checkpoint is directly proportional to its importance.
6. The size of each of the stones in your boot is directly proportional to the number of hours you have been on the trail.
7. The remaining distance to your chosen campsite remains constant as twilight approaches.
8. The net weight of your boots is proportional to the cube of the number of hours you have been on the trail.
9. When you arrive at your campsite, it is full!
10. If you take off your boots, you'll never get them on again.

With thanks to *Scouting* magazine, U.K.



It was worth it! Scouts reach the Pinto Lake Lookout after a long, very steep climb.

THE BIG HIKE

Sunday was our big hike to Sunset Pass and, if we had time, to the lookout over Pinto Lake. The mountain guide book describes the climb as "excruciating" and the Parks Canada flier calls it "a grunt". Both were trying to make it sound easy!

We left the trailhead at 10 a.m. with stoves, water, one meal, trail food, rain gear, and warm coats. The grey skies and rain forecast didn't bother us. The climb was very steep, but we arrived at the top of the ridge at 1:15, prepared a hot meal, and had a rest. Then, we left for the summit of Sunset Pass, about 4 km away.

The trail crossed a high alpine meadow with several fast-flowing creeks. Getting across them took agility, but the water was clean and pure. Near the pass, we got directions to the Pinto Lake Lookout and, since it was "only a short hike over a few ridges", we carried on. The final crossing of a steep snow slope took us the last 200 m to the lookout. The view is one that very few people get to see. It was definitely worthwhile.

We left the lookout shortly after five, just after the rain began coming down in earnest. The 4 km crossing of the meadow back to the ridge took a very wet one hour and 10 minutes. After a short rest stop, we crossed the final creek and started down the ridge to the trailhead. It was during our descent that we realized just how steep our climb up had been!

Back at camp, we built a fire to warm ourselves and try to dry our wet gear before turning in. As we broke camp and prepared to leave the area Monday after breakfast, some of the Scouts were still asking if we could climb Nigel Pass. I guess it shows they hadn't worked too hard!

The Scouts felt the trip made all the year's work and preparations worthwhile. During that big climb, there were times when some wanted to quit because of sore feet and the ache of over-worked muscles, but they can be proud that they all kept going and proved to themselves that they could do it. ^

Brian Johnson is Troop Scouter with the 169th Glen Allan Scouts, Sherwood Park, in Edmonton Region, Alta.

Make Your Own Puzzles

by Michael Nellis

What do you do for something different on a rainy day or when a program falls through? Word games have long been popular ways to fight boredom, but what kind should you use for your section's age group? How about letting them make their own puzzles?

You might enjoy making some for them, too. If you publish a newsletter, adding a puzzle page has some benefits. You can use a puzzle to teach as well as confound, to encourage literacy and closer family relations. I make my puzzles difficult enough that my Cubs should need help from their parents. Some help, but not too much.

Letting your young members make Find-a-Word puzzles will ensure that they are appropriate to the age level for your section. Even some Beavers will be able to make these simple puzzles.

I like working with graph paper, but the size of the squares needs to suit the age of your youngsters; 7 mm x 7 mm is too small, even for Cubs. I recommend providing lined foolscap and making the squares 14 mm x 14 mm, the height of two lines. The number of squares in your grid determines the length of the words you can use.

For Beavers, keep the grid 6 x 6 squares to 8 x 8 squares (36 to 64 squares) and words three to five letters each. Avoid overlapping words and don't give them leftover letters to unscramble to complete the puzzle.

FIND-A-WORD

Pick a theme for your puzzle and choose a word that applies to that theme to be the solution (the word made when leftover letters are unscrambled). For example, let's look at a space flight theme and "Canadarm" as the solution. List a whole lot of other words that fit the theme.

Place the letters from the solution word randomly in the grid (Fig. 1) and mark those squares so that other words do not overrun them. Next, start placing the longest words from your list in the grid, usually around the edges or diagonally. Then fill in the rest.

It is important to list a word as soon as you put it in the puzzle (Fig. 2). Place the words randomly in the grid, even crossing other words. You'll notice the two empty single squares to be filled in later in ranks one and three. As you progress, try to avoid having too many of these.

Jungle Book Crossword

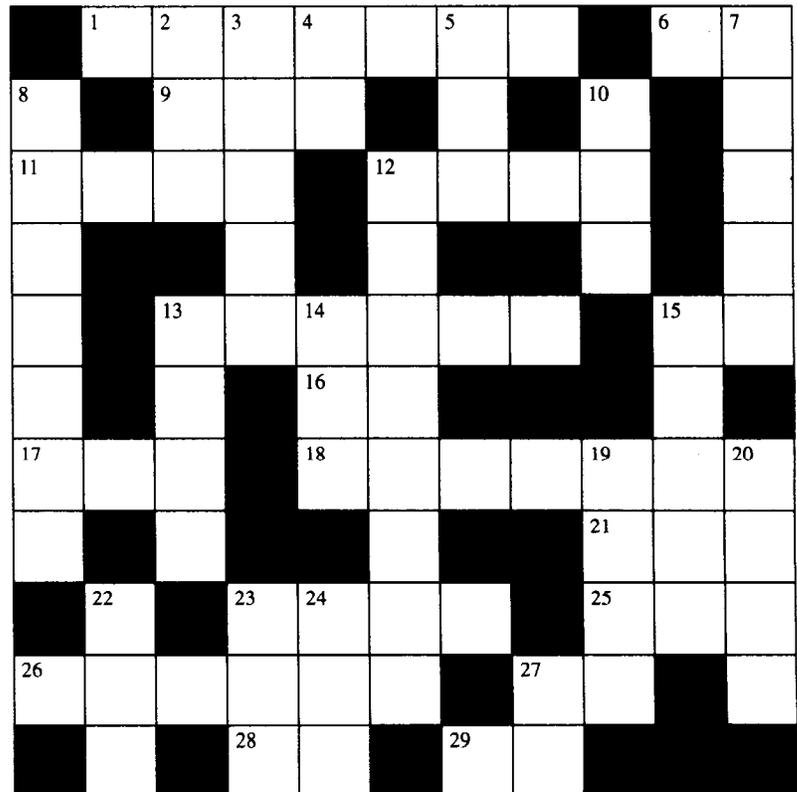
by Graham Forsyth

Across

1. The jackal in the Jungle Book
6. Both of _____
9. An adult male
11. The kite in the Jungle Book
12. Who is Baloo?
13. The boy who joined the wolf pack
15. I am _____ as good as you
16. A sigh of relief
17. A wolf's house
18. The name of the wolf pack in the Jungle Book
21. The opposite of new
23. On what did Shere Khan hurt his paw?
25. The name of the male cobra in the story of Rikki-Tikki-Tavi
26. A continent with a lot of jungles
27. A compass point (abb.)
28. A compass point (abb.)
29. The opposite of stop

Down

2. A French friend
3. The Jungle Book bear
4. _____ apple a day keeps the doctor away
5. May I _____ your pencil?
7. Cub packs are organized in _____
8. Our national anthem
10. What your hand is connected to
12. The panther in the Jungle Book
13. The bat in the Jungle Book
14. The past tense of is
15. Leader of the wolf pack
19. Not any
20. A knife has a sharp one
22. Opposite of on
23. A fish arm
24. Frozen water
27. I am honest and _____ is he.



When the grid is full and the list complete, reorganize the word list in alphabetical order, then reproduce the puzzle without marking the solution letters and accompany it with the alphabetized list (Fig.3). If you like, demonstrate how to tackle the puzzle by doing one word ("abort").

CROSSWORDS

Crossword puzzles are much more difficult to create because all words must interlock or stand beside a second word to form a part of a third. First, define your grid. I prefer one 10 x 10 squares because I'm no whiz at crosswords. A puzzle that size needs 40 or so clues.

The hardest parts for me are start and finish; doing the middle goes fairly easily. Here are a few rules to follow.

1. Always make crosswords square.
2. Black out the space between every word that is not part of the same solution.
3. Allocate a number to each starting space.
4. Remember that all adjoining words must form another word.
5. Do one word at a time. Start with number 1 across and then do number 1 down. Fill in the block.
6. Keep another grid handy. Don't hesitate to start over.

After you've filled in your crossword, draw an empty grid, black out the appropriate areas, and number each square in which a word starts. Finally, write the clues in the classic *Across/Down* style. Make them as tough as you like. I sometimes make two sets of clues, one easier and one more difficult. The clue in the easy set might be "Jungle python" and, in the more difficult challenge, "Nine metre ape eater". Both descriptions apply to Mowgli's friend, Kaa.

CHANGELINGS & WORDS FROM WORDS

At first glance, changelings are easy. Just change one word into another, right? The trouble is, you have to change it one letter at a time. All the changelings I've seen have been four letter words. The only rule is that you must be able to produce the second word from the first in four or five moves. Here's an example.

Change *Cane* to *Fish* (5 moves)

- Case (1)
- Cash (2)
- Wash (3)
- Wish (4)
- Fish (5)

Now see if your Cubs can take "rope" to "camp" in four moves.

Fig. 1

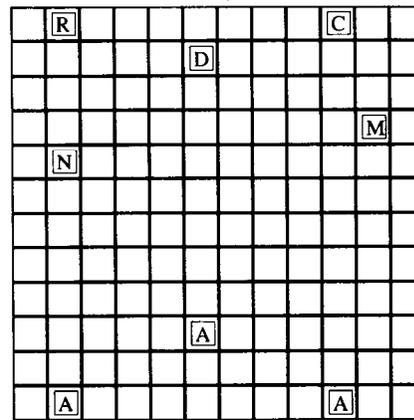
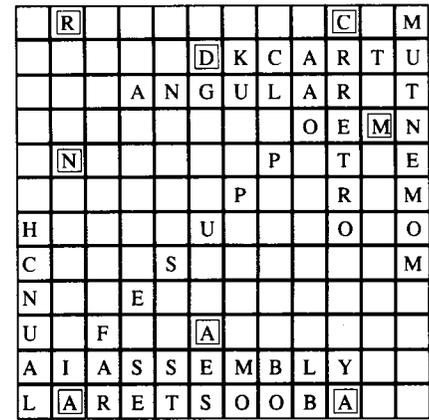


Fig. 2



Launch Retro Angular Booster Life Support Momentum Assembly Track

Fig. 3

C	R	V	A	C	U	U	M	S	C	A	M
T	O	O	L	S	D	K	C	A	R	T	U
E	O	M	A	N	G	U	L	A	R	E	T
M	C	I	M	E	B	O	E	O	E	M	N
L	N	T	R	A	N	D	P	D	T	R	E
E	S	I	O	E	N	P	I	E	R	A	M
H	T	N	R	T	U	D	Y	Z	O	C	O
C	A	G	R	S	R	O	C	A	Z	E	M
N	R	O	E	E	D	I	O	R	D	Y	A
U	B	F	G	A	A	F	A	C	E	O	E
A	I	A	S	S	E	M	B	L	Y	W	T
L	A	R	E	T	S	O	O	B	A	E	S

Abort	Command Crews	Error	Racey	Tools
Age	Coo	Face	Retro	Track
Alone	Cozy	Helmet	Scuba	Trial
Angular	Crazed	Launch	Star	Vacuum
Assembly	Dear	Life Support	Steam	Vomiting
Ate	Dizzy	Momentum	Tire	Yoda
Booster	Droid	Owe	Today	

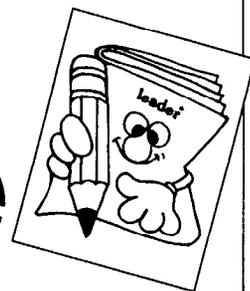
Another popular kind of puzzle involves seeing how many words you can make from a larger word. When you choose a word as the base word, pick one with as many different vowels as possible. "Scouting" is a good one if you include three letter words. If you really want to keep them busy for awhile, try "reforestation", for example. With this one, you might want to make a rule that the found words must be four letters or longer and plurals are not allowed.

Once your young members get the hang of making simple puzzles, they can include them in home-made greeting cards, take them along on special visits, or simply exchange them between themselves. Try a little puzzle-making at your next rainy day in camp or for a quiet time during a meeting. Good luck and have fun. λ

Michael Nellis is Akela with the General Wolf Cubs, Sillery, P.Q.

Readership Survey Results

The Future Looks Good



by Linda Florence

Leader readers are a special and wonderful breed. Not only did 876 of you (actually, 880: four of you were too late) complete our readership survey to give us a statistically healthy 2% return, but nearly every one of you took time to add comments. They ranged from a few encouraging words to long letters. In fact, our compilation of these comments is enough to fill 34 pages of **the Leader**. Add a few headlines and graphics, and we would have a complete issue of the magazine!

We aren't going to do this, but we thank you very much for your ideas and suggestions. Some help us see where we could be stronger; others push us to look at the feasibility of trying new things. The end result is bound to be a publication that serves you better.

What we are going to do is share a few of the survey's findings, address some of your concerns, and answer some of your questions.

THE RESULTS

"Overall, an excellent resource." That was the happy news you gave us. In fact, you said you like **the Leader** for a number of reasons: it gives you practical ideas and information, different viewpoints, encouragement, morale boosts when you need them, a feeling of connection to a wider movement, inspiration, news on what's happening at the national level, and a chance to contribute. (We have to confess that two of you told us the magazine is a waste of time and money with no redeeming qualities. Now, that's bad news, but we don't know how to make it better.)

Editorial: Even in the areas you consider weakest, more than 70% of you rated coverage good or excellent: spiritual development (73%); Scouting traditions/

history (77%); and World Scouting (77%). Your major criticism of these topics was that we don't provide enough material.

The sections you rated tops in **the Leader** were the cut-out pages (59% excellent; 92% good or excellent); *Fun at the Pond* (92% good or excellent); and *Outdoors* (92% good or excellent). Others with an over 90% good/excellent rating were *Sharing*, *Paksak*, *Patrol Corner*, and seasonal and theme ideas, even though many said the seasonal stuff often comes too late. We've tried to deal with that criticism in the past by bumping back ideas that need more planning and sprinkling just quick ideas in the issue of the month. We will look at it again, but really — "Christmas in July"?

Your overall vote of approval probably explains why 96% of you (and 100% of Beaver leaders) said you save your copies of **the Leader**. Many asked if we could produce a binder to store their magazines. These people will be pleased to know that a special **Leader** binder will soon be available through Scout Shops and dealers.

Appearance: In the three areas asking about the magazine's look, good to excellent ratings were very high: cover (97%); readability (98%); and design and layout (96%).

Several people said more colour and, particularly, colour photos, would improve appeal, especially on *Cross-Country Photos*. We agree and, if colour printing were not so expensive, **the Leader** would be a full-colour magazine. As it is, using more colour simply is not cost effective.

Cost & Frequency: Over 73% of you said you want at least 10 issues of **the Leader** a year, although 40% told us to decrease the number of issues if absolutely necessary to cope with rising costs. You definitely do not want us to decrease the number of pages per issue; a

resounding 88% said "no". And, 75% expressed willingness to pay more per issue if necessary.

Your responses will help us make decisions as the postal rate story unfolds in the next couple of years. As we happily announced in the May '91 issue, we were able to move to recycled paper and friendlier ink without higher production costs. We are not as optimistic about mailing costs.

THE SAMPLE

When we first looked at the numbers, we were concerned about the validity of the results. Although we are always told Scouting has a very high annual turnover of adults, 65% of you said you have been adults in Scouting for longer than five years. So, we compared the ratings given by the "under fives" and the "over fives". There was virtually no difference, which seems to tell us we are meeting the needs of both new and well seasoned Scouters.

Statistics: Overall, 76% of you are aged 30-50 (the "under fives" at the younger end); 65% are male and 35% female (the ratio is reversed among Beaver leaders); and 86% are married.

Your educational backgrounds are pretty evenly distributed: highschool (29%), technical/community college (34%), and university (37%). And 75% of you have a family income over \$30,000 a year.

Although the survey was anonymous, some of you were upset with the question on household income and either did not complete this part of the survey or protested by not completing the survey at all. "What does this have to do with Scouting?" one wrote.

It has absolutely nothing to do with Scouting. It is simply a standard part of the "demographic information" that, as

we said in our survey introduction, "will help us ... respond to inquiries from prospective advertisers".

For instance, say an outdoor equipment supplier is attracted to advertise in **the Leader** because our survey found that 78% of readers intend to buy camping equipment and supplies this year. One of the things that supplier might also want to know is whether it will be best for the company to advertise their \$100 tent or their \$800 tent.

The returns fairly represented all Scouting's sections and both program and administrative Scouters, and provided excellent representation of adult membership across the country. The percentage breakdowns by province and territory are almost identical to those shown in Scouts Canada's 1990 census of adult membership.

For example, 42% of the survey respondents are from Ontario, home to 44% of Scouts Canada's total adult membership; 1% of the responses came from P.E.I., which has .9% of the total adult membership.

Those of you who questioned the number of **Leader** contributions from Ontario, B.C., and Alberta will be interested to know that these three provinces have Scouts Canada's largest adult membership: Ontario 44%, B.C. 15% (16% of our survey), and Alberta 12% (11% of our survey). Of course, that doesn't prevent you from making sure your part of the country turns up more often in the magazine's pages. Start the ball rolling by sending us your contribution today!

QUESTIONS & CONCERNS

"The magazine should be printed on recycled paper."

With the May '91 issue, **the Leader** made the switch to recycled paper and vegetable-oil based inks.

"Please be more careful to make sure photographs show correct uniform."

The new Scouts Canada uniform should make the job easier for us because badge and insignia placement will be common across the country. On the old uniform, *B.P. & P.* allowed a considerable amount of discretion.

Please be aware, however, that during the three year uniform phase-in period, **Leader** photos will show a mix of old and new because that is what members will be wearing. Remember, also, that the magazine does not have staff photographers. We depend on readers for photos. In other words, you can ensure correct uniform appears on our pages by making sure your bunch are wearing correct uniform and sending us photos of them in action.

"Can you do something about speeding up new subscriptions?"

Our mailing list is maintained at the direction of local councils. That means they must tell us to add names, delete names, or change addresses. **The Leader** is mailed around the 20th of the month before the cover date (this one will be mailed about the 20th of May, for example). We assure all councils that all information we receive by the first of the month (e.g. May 1) will be processed in time for that month's mailing.

The best way to speed things along is to make sure your section sends new names (or changes) to the group committee immediately, your group committee speeds these names to the local council, and the local office processes and sends them to provincial council as soon as possible.

"How about three-hole punching?"

It's a lot cheaper to let Scouters who want to save magazines in a three-ring binder punch their own holes than to have the printer do it.

"Surely you get more letters!"

Along with many of you, we'd love to receive more letters expressing readers' views, opinions, reactions, and ideas. In truth, what you see is what we get. The only way to see more is to write us!

"Why not some French articles?"

At present, **the Leader** is an English-only resource. We have occasionally included material in Canada's other official language and will continue to do so whenever possible.

"How about an article on how to contribute to the Leader?"

For the past five years, usually on the editorial page, **the Leader** has included such an article at least once every issue year, most recently in the April '91 issue (p.2). That issue also included a list of topics readers want to hear about (p.38).

"What happened to the pen pals section?"

It continues to appear on a space-available basis as always. Check April '91 and this issue.

"What about a photo caption contest?"

We tried one in the May '90 **Leader** and received two entries.

"Has there been any thought of providing a youth magazine?"

Yes, there has been thought. A youth magazine is not economically feasible.

"Would it be possible to provide a yearly reference index alphabetically by topic?"

We are working on providing an annual index by topic rather than title as we do now each Aug/Sept issue.

"Do we really need Fun at the Pond every issue?"

I dare you to ask a Beaver leader.

"Will a Venturer ever make a cover?"

Calling all advisors and Venturers: we will be delighted to feature Venturers on a **Leader** cover. Send us interesting high quality colour prints or slides of your company. Correct uniform or appropriate activity dress required.

"Why don't you show news from?"

If your district or section hasn't appeared in **the Leader**, it is because nobody in your district or from your section has sent us material.

On our survey, many Rovers complained about lack of coverage, and some Scout leaders and Venturer advisors said we devoted too much space to the younger sections. We heard both that there's too much and not enough stuff from central and western Canada. Over the course of an issue year, we try to achieve a balance of subject matter, geographic representation, and section coverage. Because we work with what we receive, you are the key. If you don't send it, we can't print it.

The Leader truly is your magazine. It depends on you to share your ideas, activities, experiences, photos. To make it easy, we stress that the ideas are more important than your writing style. We are happy to receive a game, craft, activity or program idea in point form if that is how you feel most comfortable describing it.

You won't go wrong if you follow advice in our survey comments: "Keep ideas practical — how to's and things to make and build. Include details of program planning in articles — checklists, schedules, etc." Think of a Scouter who wants to try your idea. What does he or she need to know to make it work? What questions might the person ask?

Photos may be black and white, colour prints, or colour slides. The important thing is good focus and contrast. People in action are more effective than a group standing in front of the camera saying "Cheese", and action shots help readers see program ideas at work. Close-ups are better than distant overviews.

Send all contributions to **the Leader**, (the editor or "Letters", "Cross-Country Photos", etc.), *PO Box 5112, Stn F, Ottawa, Ontario K2C 3H4*. Every issue, the address appears in the box at the bottom of page 3 (the contents page).

We need your input and eagerly await your contributions. Thank you for making our survey a success, and give yourselves a pat on the back for all the work you have done so far to make **the Leader** such a valued resource. \

Remembering the 3rd World Jamboree, 1929

by Tom Furlong and Jack Angel

*A World Jamboree summer when over 300 Canadian members will have the experience of a lifetime in Korea seems a good time to remember another World Jamboree. The account comes from Tom Furlong's regular Scouting column in **The Evening Telegram**, St. John's, Newfoundland. We thank Tom, Jack Angel, and the newspaper for permission to reprint this material.*

The "Coming of Age" World Jamboree in England in 1929 held at Arrowe Park near Birkenhead began, for our Scouts, on July 19, the day they sailed on the RMS (Royal Mail Ship) Newfoundland. The story comes to us from Jack Angel, who was a patrol leader with the Newfoundland contingent.

There were 45 Scouts in the troop, mostly from the Avalon Peninsula, 23 of them from the 6th St. John's. An interesting note that has not had too much publicity in the past is the fact the Scouts held a two-week pre-jamboree camp at Pleasantville. That's where the Royal

Newfoundland Regiment camped and was trained for the Great War, alias World War I.

These two weeks allowed all members of the jamboree troop to get to know one another as though they had been in the same troop for years. This made for better camaraderie once they set sail and stood them in good stead once they got there.

The ocean voyage took six days during which they enjoyed themselves folk dancing with a legendary "Miss Leeds", and some of them enjoyed a new experience — seasickness. When they reached Liverpool, they had another new experience — a tunnel; they went to Arrowe Park by bus beneath the Mersey River.

It was a huge camp. When all the Scouts had arrived from all over the world, there were 50,000 of them on the premises. The 25 square yards allotted to the Newfoundlanders did not seem enough, so they commandeered another 25 and had what was more like the amount of space needed to do a proper job of representing their country. They had for

neighbours the contingents from Germany, Hampshire, and Malta. Each patrol had its own bell tent and there was a marquee for gatherings of the whole troop.

The hard, hard ground (before the rains came, that is) was not conducive to a good night's sleep and, when B.-P. arrived on his tour of inspection, he asked whether there was anything anybody would like to say.

All were speechless, as who wouldn't be in the presence of the Founder. All, that is, except Alf Connors, who spoke up and said how hard it was to get a good night's sleep on the hard ground. The Chief asked him to lead him to his tent. Alf dutifully did as he was bid and, when asked, showed B.-P. where his sleeping spot was. He was told to lie down and, when he got up, the Chief took out his knife and gouged a hole of appropriate size for Alf's shoulder and another for his hip. There was no further conversation.

Our Scouts were accorded the honour of lighting the first campfire of the jamboree. The official opening took place on July 30 with the Duke of Connaught doing the honours. He barely had time to get the job done when it started to rain. It lasted seven days. The place became a sea of mud. Some genius designed a rake to scrape the mud off the walkways so people could get around for visits. There were 42,000 visitors on Bank Holiday.

At the church service on the first Sunday, "ours" were the envy of the populace, attired as they were in yellow slickers and long rubber boots. It was so bad, the Chief went on his rounds on horseback. He had another encounter with the Newfoundlanders when he presented the troop with a Scout flag.

They visited all the sights in and around the camp; Liverpool, Manchester, Chester, and attended service at Liverpool Cathedral on the second Sunday. They were visited by such distinguished personages as King George V and the Prince of Wales. They took part, naturally, in the march past. It took two hours for the Scouts from the 42 nations present to pass the reviewing stand marching 15 abreast.

When they struck camp on August 13, they travelled to London and were billeted at the Empress Hall. They saw their first talkie and had their first ride in a subway. For \$1.25 (five shillings), they had their first ride in an airplane, open cockpit style. Having seen all the sights there were to see, they visited the *Daily Mail*, guests of Lord Northcliffe, where they saw newsprint from his Grand Falls mill being turned into the day's paper.

They left England on the RMS Nova Scotia on Aug. 20 and, by the time they arrived home, they had been away a whole month. λ

The 1st World Jamboree, 1920

by B.-P.

It was to me like watching a flower bursting into bloom from the bud; a miracle of nature but none the less a miracle. A seed had been dropped but 12 years, short years back — war-broken years some of them. It had taken root and had grown into a sturdy, wide-spreading plant. In that unique cosmopolitan gathering at Olympia in August 1920, it blossomed forth and gave promise of fruits yet to follow.

The secret of its growth lies in that indeterminate force which we only know as the "Scout Spirit".... But the jamboree ... had not foreshadowed the development of international brotherhood on a basis already so strong and so advanced as it proved, nor had it reckoned on so varied an expression of that wonderful Scout spirit, an exhibition that took onlookers by the throat as they had never been taken before.... There cannot have been one among us under that great dome that didn't think that here, in these times of anxiety and doubt, was unfolded a prospect full of promise and hope, where men and future men of all nations were gathered as brothers in mutual happy comradeship under a common ideal for the weal of the world....

This undoubted observance by all of the laws of the Scouts, culminating in this evident bond of brotherhood, has given one to hope that the final promise, made on the night of our parting, may have a dominant effect in the future, when every boy of the 10,000 present asserted his determination by the help of God to endeavour to take his share in developing peace and happiness and good-will among men.

We thank Beaver leader Sylvia MacBean, Carnduff, Sask., who shared this material after finding it on the inside cover of a 1922 notebook.

Wonderful Wiener Wires

by Kaye Wolstenholme

Try these plans for the wiener roaster the 1st Rivers Cubs made this spring. They had fun and we think a few uncut willow bushes will be extremely grateful.

To build a Wonderful Wiener Wire, you need:

1. One piece heavy upholstery vinyl 25 mm x 125 mm for the belt loop. Use a leather punch to make small holes 6 mm in from sides and ends and 12.5 mm apart as shown.

2. One piece of vinyl 87.5 mm x 225 mm for the sheath. Use a leather punch to make small holes 6 mm from top and sides and 12.5 mm apart down the sides and across the bottom. We made cardboard templates of both loop and sheath for Cubs to trace around and mark hole locations.

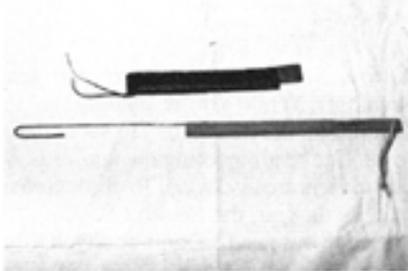
3. 80 cm plastic lacing. To lace, first fold over the belt loop and line up holes A, B, C, D with holes so labelled on the sheath.

Before folding the sheath, thread one end of the lacing down through A and the other end through B, keeping both ends equal in length. Now, fold over the sheath lengthwise and take the lace from B across and up through holes at C marked on sheath. Take lace A up through holes D.

Take the lace from C down through D, so that you have two laces through hole D, one facing up and the other down. Take the top one down through E and the bottom one up, and continue lacing in this manner through F and on down the side and across the bottom of the sheath, keeping the lacing snug as you go. Tie together the ends at the bottom.

4. 9.5 mm (3/8") x 19 mm (3/4") x 325 mm (13") piece of pine for the handle. Sand all rough edges, file or cut a notch in the end about as deep as the diameter of coat hanger wire, and drill a 2 mm (1/8") hole about 31 mm (1 1/4") from the end as shown. Drill a 6 mm hole through the other end for a short rope or piece of twine.

5. One coat hanger or other heavy wire about 375 mm long. File all cut ends smooth. Bend down 19 mm at one end at an angle slightly over 90 degrees. Bend



Wonderful Wiener Wire and sheath.

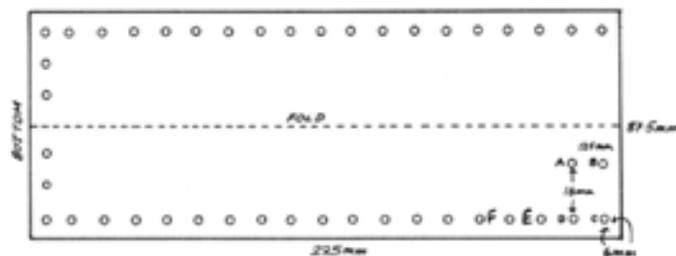


The 1st Rivers Cubs tackle the craft.

Belt Loop



Sheath



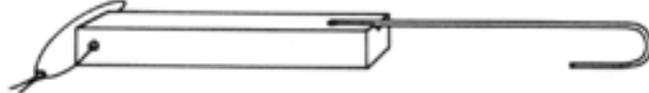
Handle



Wire



Assembly



the other end around a 12.5 mm dowel to make a hook about 75 mm long.

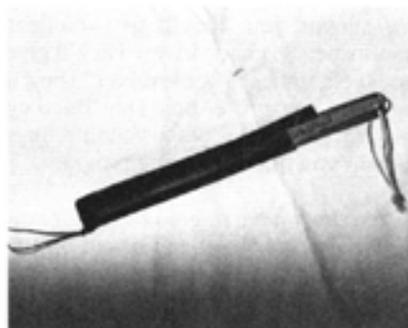
6. Insert the wire into the 2 mm hole in the handle. With the wire at right angles to the handle, hold down with thumb over sharp bend, then swing around to

engage in the notch. If the wire comes loose from the handle too easily, increase the angle of the sharp bend until the wire locks securely in the notch.

To store the Wonderful Wiener Wire, lift the wire out of the notch and swing it around until it lays beside the handle. Insert into sheath.

I hope you can use this idea. Try having your Cubs make a Wonderful Wiener Wire at camp this summer. Δ

Scouter Kaye Wolstenholme works with the 1st Rivers Cubs, Rivers, Man.



Wiener wire snugly stored.

Badge/Star Links

Green Star 4 (relate to Green 7 & 9);
Woodsmen 2b; Tawny Star 1;
Handicraft 5

The 16.5 Rumours of Scouting

by Colin Wallace

Psst! Did you hear about...?

And so continues another rumour. Rumours are strange creatures. They inhabit only the periphery of reality, but everyone acknowledges their existence.

Nobody knows where rumours come from and, although they're shared only with a few close personal friends sworn to absolute secrecy, nobody knows where they end up. No one likes to be thought of as a gossip monger, but everyone loves to listen to the latest rumour.

Scouting is not immune to rumours. In fact, we have more rumours than you can shake a thumbstick at. The trick is to recognize that they have only a slim basis in fact and to treat them with the disdain they richly deserve (before you pass them along).

To help you recognize Scouting scuttlebutt, I've compiled a starter set of the 16.5 most common rumours in Scouting. Of course, you won't always hear them quoted in exactly these terms: variations abound, but you'll certainly find they cover the same ideas.

1. *It'll take you only a couple of hours a week.* Its authorship has been lost in the mists of time, but this gem probably surfaced as far back as 1908 when the first Scouters were being recruited. Being a committed, dedicated Scouter (is there any other kind?) takes an average of at least seven hours, 52 minutes, and 36 seconds a week.

2. *The parents will help you.* Sure, some parents will help you, but they will be the same few people every time. Remember, however, that the amount of parental help you receive is directly proportional to the amount of parental involvement you encourage. If you don't ask, you won't get.

3. *You have to wear uniform only from the waist up.* Originally, this may have been an attempt to soften the paramilitary label often hung on Scouting. Certainly, no one can accuse a bunch of half-dressed slobbers of resembling anything military. If the members of your group look like the rear guard of a peasant revolt (to quote the late John Sweet), who's setting that example? Surely not you?

4. *Your Service Scouter will visit you regularly.* While you're waiting, try to accept that service visits are secondary to service team meetings where important matters are discussed. To death. Some onus is on you, the Section Scouter, to identify your needs. Don't be shy. If you need help, yell for help!

5. *You don't have to take training if you don't want to.* Everyone knows that any adult Scouter can fool a bunch of kids, right? Who needs special training, right? What could you possibly learn? Well, with an attitude like that, probably not too much. But, would you want your kids coming to your meetings with the same attitude?



Psst! You'll love every minute of it! Photo: Barrett & Mackay

6. *The community will support you.* They will support you. They'll give you their newspapers in paper drives. They'll give you their bottles in bottle drives. They'll buy your apples on Apple Day. But they won't actually come out to your meetings to help you run an exciting program.

7. *You don't have to go outdoors if you don't want to.* A fallacy based on the premise that, if God had wanted us to go outdoors during Canadian winters, He would have given us a few more strategically placed fat cells to insulate us. Our

biggest problem here is that we start indoors and look for reasons to go outdoors. Try starting all your section's activities and events outdoors. Then, examine why you have to go indoors. Go on, try it — at least for a month.

8. *You'll love every minute of it.* Let's face it, you'll have moments of deep, dark, desolate despair when you think your program will never work. Luckily, these moments will be vastly outweighed by exhilarating flashes of sheer delight when your program does work.

9. *The kids are all keen as mustard.* Youthful enthusiasm tends to ebb and flow but, at any given moment, at least

one kid's enthusiasm for Scouting reaches its zenith. Identify that one kid and run your program for him or her. Reward and encourage the enthusiasm. (Easier said than done because, every week, a different kid peaks.)

10. *Floor hockey will keep them amused until you get a real program going.* This rumour, like every rumour, has a grain of truth in it. Any game will keep them amused, but we're not in the amusement business. We're trying to develop the future citizens of Canada, mentally,

socially, spiritually, and physically. That's a lot to expect from floor hockey.

11. *It won't cost you a dime.* It will, however, cost you several dollars — for uniform, transportation to and from events, training literature, annual registration, and badges. Yes, your section will have a budget for program items. Yes, your group committee might pay for some of the items mentioned. You will still have to fork over some cash, usually when you can least afford it. Think of it as an investment in Canadian futures.

12. *Your family will be thrilled by your involvement.* Your family will initially be very proud of your altruism. Their pride will be replaced shortly by a sense of loss as you become more and more immersed in an organization they don't understand. Examine your priorities. If Scouting is Numero Uno, review your list one more time.

13. *The youth you serve will thank you.* They will thank you, but not in your lifetime.

14. *Their parents will thank you.* Only mentally, for giving them a brief respite on Tuesday nights from their onerous task of raising young Johnny (or Amir or Nick...).

15. *Canada will thank you.* Not really. The Governor General may one day shake your hand in grateful acknowledgement of your contribution to the development of Canadian youth, but don't hold your breath.

16. *Scouts are action-oriented.* There's almost no paperwork. If we subtracted, from the number of trees planted in the Trees for Canada program, the number of trees needed to provide the paper used in administering Canada's Scouting programs, the net gain would be about three trees. Three small trees.

16.5. *Going back to basics would solve all our problems.* Retrospective rubbish that rates only .5 on the scuttlebutt scale. We're trying to develop leaders, not nostalgists. The past was a blast, but that was then. This is now. Current problems need modern solutions. By all means, let's learn from our mistakes, but let's keep this movement moving in the best direction — forward.

Of course, you'll encounter local rumours peculiar to your own section, group, area, or region. Sorry, I can't help you there. You're on your own with them, but don't worry. They pale to insignificance beside the basic set I've listed here (unless it's the one about that Scouter in

The Wonderful World of Scouting

In mid-February, Scouter Colin Wallace wrote **the Leader** to share a response he received to his article *Wonderful Woggles — An Endangered Species* (Feb. '91). He tells us that, two years ago, the Greater Toronto Region training team ran a Wood Badge I for Vietnamese Scouters. "An interesting course," he says. "Candidates came from California, Belgium, Edmonton, and Montreal."

Scouter Ke Thuat's letter, which reached Colin through regional headquarters, needs no explanation.

Dear Scouter Colin,

I'm one of the Scouters who was trained by you and Scouter Le Phuc Hing for Wood Badge Part I two years ago at Woodland Trails.

*My name is Ke Thuat Vu, group 123rd Troop, Windsor District. This morning while reading **the Leader**, I suddenly remember you through your article about "Wonderful Woggles".*

I decided to write this letter to you to share with you one of the true stories about the woggle I've been wearing for over two years.

MY GUARDIAN

It took me three days to finish the Wood Badge course part I.... "Great!" the trainer continued, "I would like to present to you this (I forget what it's called! I call it a neckerchief holder) in the spirit of Scouts."

While he was giving me a "neckerchief holder", with a warm voice, "I hope the spirit of Scouting is in you for the rest of your life. And, especially every time you're wearing this, you will carry out the spirit of Scouts," said the trainer.

After two years, I've been wearing it and carrying the spirit of Scouts. What the trainer said reminds me every time I take the "neckerchief holder" out. This little thing has no value at all for a lot of people, but for me it has a great power and sweet memories for each event that has happened in the last two years.

The secret is that I don't call this "neckerchief holder" any more, but "my Guardian". I always carry "my Guardian" with me wherever I go. I will be carrying it for the rest of my life — not a little thing to hold my neckerchief, but the greatest spirit to hold my life.

This was written by me two months ago for my English class.

*Yours in Scouting,
Ke Thuat Vu*

Winnipeg who.... Well, you know what I mean. 'Nough said.)

And while you're tilting at the rumour mills, draw comfort from the great truths of Scouting — proof against any rumours to the contrary.

1. *Scouting makes a difference to Canada.* Scouting has made and continues to make a significant contribution to the spiritual, mental, physical, and social development of thousands, even millions, of Canadian young people. Its very existence as an organization demonstrates a national commitment to certain democratic principles that are an integral part of a free society. Compare

Canada with countries where Scouting is prohibited.

2. *Scouting helps the world.* With more than 80 years experience in over 150 countries and more than 16 million current members, Scouting is an influence to be reckoned with — not in terms of political clout, but in terms of the positive direction it has given to so many lives over the years.

3. *Scouting will change you.* But only if you actively subscribe to its aim and principles. And only if you want it to. \wedge

Scouter Colin Wallace is ARC Training, Greater Toronto Region, Ont.

Be Prepared with PR Ideas

by John Rietveld

As I write this in early April, the furthest thing from my mind is September. It's been a long winter here in Ottawa, and I'm looking forward to the warm lazy days of summer. But one of the most important aspects of a PR person's job is to look ahead and "Be Prepared" with promotional activities to help groups in your district recruit adult and youth members once Labour Day arrives. Here are some ideas that might be helpful and some information you should have.

Radio PSA's

In mid-August, the national office will mail a 30 second Public Service Announcement to 170 radio stations across the country. The PSA, called "video", was created to help recruit new leaders and is available in both official languages.

We distribute radio PSAs three times each year in support of fall registration, Guide/Scout Week, and Trees for Canada. So far in 1990-91, radio stations have donated over \$200,000 in air time to Scouting. If your station has not received a copy of "video", check with your regional office and have that station added to our distribution list.

The New Uniforms

In May, we did extensive external promotion to introduce the new Scouts Canada uniforms. Activities included distribution of a Video News Release (VNR) to major TV stations and a media kit with photos to major daily newspapers. We hope coverage will spark considerable interest to join among both adult and youth.

The new catalogue, the uniform promotional poster, and the 1992 Scouts Canada calendar provide excellent visuals to dress up meeting halls and school bulletin boards. Groups who take part in Apple Day in the fall can use the occasion to publicly display our new uniforms.

Word of Mouth

In July, more than 4,000 Scouts will take part in provincial jamborees held in British Columbia, Alberta, New Brunswick, and Newfoundland. As well, nearly 400 Venturers will participate in the 17th World Jamboree in Korea. As

a result, Scouting will have thousands of public speakers available for schools, service clubs, church services, and parent and Scout dinners.

These Scouts and Venturers give an audience first hand testimony to the good times they have in Scouting. Word of mouth is often our best promotional method. Few adults can resist the enthusiasm of a Scout or Venturer who asks their help as a leader with the troop or company.

Free TV Production

Here is a great idea that comes as a result of a Scout/Guide Week effort in Calgary. Lee Richardson (MP Calgary Southeast) produced a half hour video newsletter about Scouting which aired twice during Scout/Guide Week.

Lee tells us that every federal Member of Parliament has access to the Rogers Ottawa Bureau facilities to produce such programs for their local cable television outlet. Why not contact your MP's constituency office and talk about taking part in a future program? Some MPs produce monthly programs, so you are not limited to Scout/Guide Week.

MPs can produce the program in Ottawa or in their home riding. If the program is produced in Ottawa, Communications Service at the national office can provide speakers or locations. We have provided the Rogers Ottawa Bureau with both our *Scouting Grows* (Elzinga) and *Trees for Canada* television PSAs.

New Print Advertisements

In the spring, every newspaper in the country received a set of new promotional ads about Scouting. *Plant a Seed* — *Be a Leader* ads are directed at adults with the aim of recruiting them as leaders. If you haven't noticed them in your local paper, check with your editor. Perhaps the paper has misplaced these ads. Let us know and we will gladly send out another set.

One of the ads includes a coupon interested parents or potential leaders can fill out and mail to the national office. When we receive a coupon, we will FAX it to the nearest council office for follow up. Newfoundland Council has agreed to

call anyone from that province who sends in a coupon within 48 hours.

Guide/Scout Week 1992

Mark your calendar now and start thinking about PR activities to help celebrate **Guide/Scout Week, February 16-23, 1992**. If you plan a shopping mall display, it's not too early to contact the mall management and reserve space now. Make early contact with the local Girl Guide unit, too. In early January, the national office will distribute a radio PSA promoting Guide/Scout Week to stations across the country.

1992 Scouts Canada Calendar

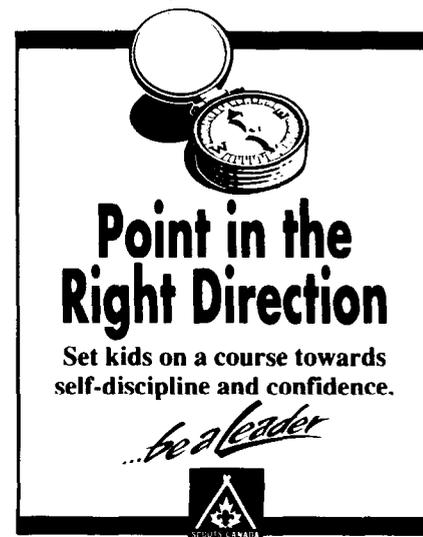
The 1992 Scouts Canada calendar will soon be off the press and on its way to you for sale this fall. The calendar features the new uniform and has undergone major design changes to make it more useable. And, it is printed on recycled paper.

The calendar not only raises needed funds, it provides 12 months of PR value. We hope every adult member proudly displays our calendar at home or in the office.

Remember to bring your camera to Scouting events and send us your best shots for possible use in the 1993 calendar.

New Promotional Pamphlets

Our new promotional pamphlets have arrived! *Scouting — TRY IT!*, available in both English and French, is designed to reach both new youth and adult members.



Point in the Right Direction

Set kids on a course towards self-discipline and confidence.

...be a leader

SCOUTS CANADA

The pamphlet, printed on recycled paper, proudly displays our new Scouts Canada uniforms and uses quotes from actual members of each section to tell the Scouting story. When opened, it also serves as a poster for Scout halls or shop window promotions. You can obtain quantities through your local Scout council.

Your Library

When the new Scout section handbooks arrive in the fall, make sure your local library has the latest copies for loan. As you drop off the new books, check into the possibility of displaying a poster or leaving some pamphlets in the lobby.

Many libraries offer Saturday morning activities for pre-school and elementary school children. Talk to your librarian about inviting Scouting members to lead a craft or show one of the recent jamboree videos.

75th Anniversary of Cubbing

Before 1991 closes, take advantage of the 75th Anniversary of Wolf Cubs in Canada to find new leaders. How about a letter to the editor of your local newspaper or a banner stretched across main street calling all present and former Wolf Cubs to join in a special "Grand Howl" on the busiest corner in town. It will

certainly attract the media. Be sure to have your recruiters there to talk to those former Wolf Cubs about coming back into Scouting to help out.

Angus Reid Poll

From time to time, Scouting participates in polls and surveys that measure the attitude of the public toward our programs. In November 1990, we took part in an Angus Reid poll that asked 1,500 Canadian adults about their attitude toward Scouting today.

We are pleased with the results. Over 90% of those interviewed said their overall opinion of Scouting is positive, while 86% agreed that Scouts Canada is a relevant organization for youth in the 1990s.

When asked why they had a positive attitude toward Scouting, 27% said Scouting teaches discipline; 18% said we teach social interaction skills; and 15% reported we teach children about the environment. As well as making all of us feel good about our role in Scouting, the poll results will help us develop promotional material designed to attract more adult leaders to the movement.

Share your PR Ideas

Often when Scouters visit the national office during the summer, they tell us about unique and interesting PR activities

happening across the country. Please don't wait until you come to Ottawa. If you have tried something new or perhaps resurrected a scheme from years gone by, please drop a note to *Scouts Canada, Communications Service, PO Box 5151, Stn F, Ottawa, Ontario K2C 3G7*. Describe the event and include a photo. We will do the rest and share your ideas on a regular basis with other PR volunteers. λ

John Rietveld is executive director, Communications Service, Scouts Canada.



Travailler en équipe... Ça rapporte!

Aidez les jeunes à atteindre de nouveaux sommets de réalisation personnelle et d'équipe

Soyez un chef!



SCOUT CALENDAR

THE HERO OF PROFIT AND PRIDE FOR 1992!

92

Set your sights on the future! The 1992 Scout calendar is your true champion when it comes to raising money for adventure-filled projects, outings and equipment. Practical and easy to write on, it sells in a flash. The Scout calendar is the money maker that never lets you down.

Contact your local Scout Council Office for ordering details.



Fun at the Pond

by Lena Wong

We've reached the end of yet another Beaver year. We hope it has been an enjoyable one for all leaders and their colonies.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of the leaders who answered the *Fun at the Pond* questions on the Readership Survey. Your replies are my resource to try to make the column a significant help to Beaver leaders.

June is the last month of the Scouting year. Some groups may already have finished, while others find numbers at meetings are shrinking because of summer sports and other warm weather activities. Have fun with the Beavers who are at your meetings. Try to get outdoors as much as possible.

Invite all your Beavers and their families to an end of year party or picnic. Ask parents to bring some cool refreshments to share. Play some of your most successful games and say good-bye to the Beavers you know will not be coming back in September. Remember your Keeo and make sure you tell him how helpful he has been as a member of your leadership team.

During this month, get the team together and plan ahead for September when Beavers start again. Think about who you might be able to recruit as replacements for leaders who are not coming back. Approach these possible leaders and invite them to a leader meeting for a question and answer session. Let them sit in on your planning meeting

so that they know what being a Beaver leader means.

If you can establish who most members of your team are going to be, it will make the planning process a little easier. If you think you might be short of leaders, let your group committee know so that they can plan effectively for leader requirements in the fall.

Here are some ideas to get you started on planning your September meeting calendar.

FIRST MEETING

The outline and some of the suggested activities for this meeting come from Manitoba Council's *Beaver Tales*. Thanks for sharing.

It needn't be elaborate, but the first meeting is important because it lets your Beavers know that they are going to have fun and learn some nice things at Beaver meetings. Some of the new youngsters may not feel too secure at the beginning. Some parents will want to stay for the meeting. Make them welcome and include them in activities wherever possible.

If you sense a Beaver is feeling upset about being left, ask the parent to stay to see what happens at Beavers. The child will feel more secure having a trusted adult around, but he will not feel he has been embarrassed in front of the others. As experienced Beaver leaders know, Beavers soon settle down and will likely not want their parents to stay for more than one or two meetings.

As you meet the Beavers at the door, ask their names and hand them a name tag. Make the name tags from different coloured pieces of construction paper cut in the shapes of animals, birds, trees, leaves or other nature oriented objects. Use a one hole punch to make a hole at the top and tie on a short loop of yarn. Put the loop through a safety pin so you can pin the tag to the Beaver's vest or shirt. Ask the Beavers to wear their name tags for the next two or three meetings.

The Beaver Promise

The Beaver Promise, Law and Motto are at the centre of the Beaver program, and new members need to learn all three before their investiture. Here are some ideas for teaching them the promise: "I promise to love God and to help take care of the world".

Try to demonstrate the promise in the most tangible ways possible during the meeting. Before the opening ceremony, keep your Beavers busy on a mural. Tape several large pieces of paper on the wall. As the Beavers arrive, ask them to draw "something to show what God has made". Make sure you provide lots of crayons and markers for this activity.



World Mobile

After the opening ceremony, have Beavers make a "World Mobile" to take home. This craft requires some preparatory work.

Each Beaver needs an inflated blue balloon about 25 cm in diameter, tied off with a 40 cm length of yarn (perhaps waiting parents can help blow and tie); multi-coloured felt pieces cut in the shapes of the continents (remember to make Antarctica white); glue stick; and the Beaver Promise written on a card.

With a globe as a model and help from leaders, Keeo, and parents, the Beavers glue continents on the balloon. Then they glue the promise card to the yarn.

The Beavers can hang this mobile in their rooms where it will remind them of their promise.

Box Shoes: For a warm-up game that can double as an ice-breaker, try this "Box Shoes" relay from *Big Brown Beaver*, Central Alberta Region. You need four shoe boxes about the same size for each lodge (shoe stores often have boxes on hand or might be persuaded to save some for you). Pair older Beavers with the new Beavers to help them get acquainted, and line up the pairs in lodges at one end of the hall. The first pair step into a box for each foot, make their way to the other end of the hall and back, then step out of their "shoes" so that the next pair can step in. How fast can they travel without losing their shoes?

Sing a Song: Use some music to demonstrate the promise. Many children's performers sing songs about the world and animals. Check out records by Sharon, Lois & Bram. Pick a tape or record with a short easy-to-learn song. Play and sing the song two or three times, using actions and gestures to help the Beavers remember the words and enjoy themselves. Have the Beavers sing with you.

You don't need to use a record or tape. Instead, just find a good song book like Sharon, Lois & Bram's *All New Elephant Jam*, and try a fun and very easy action song like *One Elephant*.

Balloon Popper: Have fun with this noisy game. Line up the Beavers (and their parents, too) in equal size teams at one end of the hall and hand each an inflated balloon. The first player runs across the room, sits on his balloon to make it pop and, when successful, runs back to let the next player have a go. Continue until everyone has popped a balloon. To keep things under control, encourage those who have completed their run to sit in their places in line and cheer on their parents and friends.

Storytime: Now that it's time to turn to a quiet activity, read the first chapter of

Friends of the Forest. Talk with the Beavers about why you are reading the book and about the different characters. This may be a good time to ask them to pick names for the leaders, or at least to think about leader names before the next meeting. Write the names on tags similar to those the Beavers are wearing and wear the name tags for the next two or three meetings.



Beaver Magnet: Wrap up storytime by giving each Beaver a small beaver shape cut from white card and a small magnet strip. In their lodges, the Beavers colour their beavers and glue the magnet to the back. It's something they can take home and put on the fridge to hold Beaver reminders and notes.

Outdoors: If you have time to start an ongoing activity to demonstrate the Beaver promise and have asked parents to send along gloves with the Beavers to protect their hands, go outside to pick up litter around your meeting hall. Sort the waste in piles of recyclable and non-recyclable materials. Talk a bit about recycling and why it is important. Dispose of the waste in garbage bags and blue boxes if your area has a blue box program.

If it's a nice evening and you think it appropriate, conduct your closing ceremony outdoors. Give the Beavers any messages you have for their parents and let them know if they need to bring anything to the next meeting. Follow up messages and instructions with phone calls to parents. Beavers don't always remember exactly what they have been told.

Next month we'll have some suggestions for the next couple of meetings and the investiture.



Keeping Volunteers

by Michael Lee Zwiars

The definitive volunteer, like Mother Theresa, needs no thanks and will run many miles without support. The rest of us will go the distance on the memory of a handshake of recognition or vote of confidence from an adult and a hug or thank you from a child. But, when the going gets tough and we haven't been given a boost recently, our thoughts may turn to getting out or taking a break.

With meetings and fundraisers, group committee members can easily log from 150 to 250 hours of volunteer time in a year. A typical youth leader will put in 14 to 25 hours a month just for meetings and planning. Add 54 hours for a weekend camp, multiply this by a season that runs for eight or 10 months, and you're looking at 200 to 500 volunteer hours a year. And that's a typical volunteer year. Many dedicated Scouters will log more than 1,000 hours annually.

Volunteers have always been a valuable commodity, and Scouting has always been able to attract them. But changes in the structure of our society are putting increasing pressures on individuals and making it more difficult for them to be regular volunteers. Society is increasingly mobile, and we lose volunteers as families relocate. Many Canadian workers are forced to go on the road, leaving fewer volunteers at home. Our demand for services at all hours of day and night have placed increasing numbers of people on rotating shifts, and again, there are fewer available bodies to volunteer.

Scouting is also in intense competition with other organizations, many of

them going to great lengths to entice and keep volunteers. Volunteer coordinators orchestrate the work of large teams of people. Volunteers are wined and dined, presented awards, and generally treated with a great deal of respect.

How can Scouting deal with all of these factors to keep our volunteers?

1. Accept whatever time or services volunteers have to offer. Most parents are willing to provide transportation to a special event, help with a fundraiser, or attend an outing as an adult supervisor. But they may not want to commit themselves to any more because they are concerned that work might take them away at the last minute (or they are afraid they'll be saddled with the whole job!). Gratefully accept their tentative and short term commitments, and thank them for what they can do.

Changes in the structure of our society are putting increasing pressures on individuals and making it more difficult for them to be regular volunteers.

2. Encourage volunteers to come up with creative solutions to the problems caused by changing work schedules. In our troop, the leaders could no longer afford an extra night a month for the Court of Honour, so we held it on the first troop meeting night of each month. In exchange, patrol leaders and assistants met with their members on another night.

We also shortened every second camp by leaving on Saturday morning rather than Friday night. Because one Scouter I know worked every Saturday afternoon, he held early morning hikes (starting at 6 a.m.) instead of camps. Another Scouting friend often has to cancel meetings at a moment's notice, but his Scouts know how to hold their own patrol meetings at a member's home.

3. Keep track of volunteers. When Scouters move to other parts of the country, we need to take the time to send a

letter of introduction to the Scout council in their new locale. This way, we will be less likely to lose them in the transfer.

4. Spread out the work. Many hands make light work. Volunteers abound; all we have to do is ask them. Overworked Scouters who, in addition to holding exciting weekly programs, are expected to coordinate field trips and camps, service projects, and fundraisers may soon tire and quit. By involving a variety of people, you can free section leaders to do their important work with their young members. We had three leaders in our troop last year. No one was able to attend all our meetings but, between us, we usually fielded two adults for every troop night.

5. Recognize the contribution of our volunteers. So often, it takes little more than a card, note, phone call, or handshake to keep a volunteer going. Recognition is the key word. Leaders can have youth members make a thank you card or poster for members of the group committee. An awards night or leader appreciation evening is a nice way to end the year.

You don't need to organize elaborate events or spend large sums of money to be effective. Annual service pins and long service awards are available through your regional office. The Scout Shop sells an amazing array of awards, rewards, and memorabilia. Use them to recognize the contributions of your volunteers.

6. Finally, recognize the special contribution Scouting makes to its members. No matter what your abilities or status in life, Scouting offers you the opportunity to grow as an individual. At all levels — section, group, district, region, province, and national — there is room for an amazing variety of contributions and growth experiences.

Scouting has a lot to offer. Believe it and then convince others of it. Your enthusiasm for the movement will bring in more volunteers than any elaborate sales campaign or awards scheme. Scouting is an important school of citizenship for young people and adults alike. Invite a friend to be a part of it. A

Michael Lee Zwiars works as a Service Scouter and trainer in Edmonton Region, Alta.



The Kidney Foundation of Canada

Give the greatest gift of all... the gift of life

Please sign an organ donor card... today.

Energy Conserving Service Projects

by Ben Kruser



With instability in Middle East oil stocks, rising gas prices at the pump, and a steady climb in the costs of Canadian non-renewable energy supplies, energy conservation will become increasingly important for all of us. Many people would like to conserve energy and save valuable dollars, but do not know how or do not have the time or skill for simple conservation projects. Scouting has a golden opportunity to move into the 90s with what I predict will become an intense public need: energy conservation community service projects.

Here are some service project ideas for your section to consider.

PUBLIC AWARENESS

Now is a good time to raise public awareness. People are out and about on summer holidays, and the weather is perfect for outdoor energy conserving projects.

1. With a gas station sponsor, have Scouts check the tire pressure of cars that pull in for a fill-up. Properly inflated tires mean better mileage and, therefore, save gas. Scouts will also be performing a valuable safety check, because low pressure tires can become a serious driving hazard. Scouts inform drivers of their findings and hand them a brochure explaining the energy and safety benefits of properly inflated tires.

2. With the public utility company, help create a mall energy conservation fair that actively demonstrates simple ways to reduce energy demands and save money. The fair could include brochures on good driving habits and car maintenance (gas savings and lower greenhouse gas emissions), home winterizing tips and displays (fuel savings), samples and comparisons of types of insulation, retrofitting, energy conserving lights, and such. Give people who stop by stickers that say, "I conserve for Canada". Make energy conservation a behaviour to be proud of.

Members who staff the fair might also hand out water restrictor washers for shower heads to help people reduce hot

water usage and cut heating costs. With a little work, perhaps you can arrange sponsorship to hand out electrical outlet gaskets or child-proof electric outlet plugs as well. Both stop drafts, and the plug also raises home safety awareness for families with small children.

HANDS ON

Good habits learned as a child are generally carried into adulthood. Teaching children through the Scout method of "learning by doing" provides not only the proper attitude and awareness, but also the personal know-how to do it and teach others by good example.

1. *Caulking for conservation.* Home heating losses from air leakage can amount to 30% of total heat lost and cost literally hundreds of dollars in fuel bills. If you took all the gaps around the windows in an average home, you would find yourself with a hole 30.5 cm square. What homeowner would go through the winter with that in the house?

Teach Scouts the importance of caulking and how to do it by starting on local camp buildings, Scout houses, and other Scout-owned buildings. After all, we pay for fuel too. Once they perfect the skill and can do it with minimal mess, offer your services to your sponsor, Scout families, or community agencies.

Perhaps the most important people to contact are elderly citizens on fixed incomes. By helping them save heat, you will help them save needed money and make winter living more comfortable. Post notices with senior citizen support groups or the community newspaper. Ask recipients to provide the materials and offer your services to do the work. Leave behind public utility brochures on how other energy conservation projects such as weatherstripping, insulating, and furnace maintenance can further reduce home fuel costs and increase comfort.

2. *Conduct a home energy conservation audit.* Obtain information books on energy conservation measures from your public utility company. Help Scouts

devise a checklist of tasks they can do with parents or adult friends. These might include:

- test for drafts around windows to see if caulking is required;
- install electrical outlet gaskets and plugs;
- check the furnace filter. A dirty furnace filter can cause your furnace to use 25% more fuel;
- determine the R value of attic insulation and any need to upgrade;
- install plastic sheeting over old style windows to reduce air leakage and improve E value (R value for glass);
- talk with parents about switching from hot to cold water laundry washes;
- turn down the hot water tank thermostat to help reduce fuel costs as well as the potential for hot water scalding in the bath or kitchen;
- measure the number of lights and electrical appliances used in the home. Do Scouts turn off lights and the TV when they are not in use? Meet with an electric company representative or a private dealer to discuss innovations in energy efficient lighting and appliances.

3. Take Scouts on a field trip to a department store to learn how to check appliance stickers for their energy rating. What features do the more energy efficient appliances have? Which could be put in all appliances at minimal cost?

Scouting's role in the community is to teach children to become better environmental citizens of tomorrow. Their example will make communities sit up, watch, and learn how to help Canada face its growing energy crunch. ^

Ben Kruser is program director (Outdoors), Program Services, Scouts Canada.

Program Links

Scouts: Citizen Badge (community service hours, any level); revised World Conservation Badge (link with requirement #2)

Venturers: Service Activity Area
Rovers: Service to Community

Is Scouting... Safe?

by Ben Kruser

Over the past year, leaders have been showing a growing commitment to provide each member a safe and enjoyable Scouting experience. In support of efforts in the field, we conducted a study to establish baseline data on Scouting accident and injury trends so that we can make informed decisions about activity precautions or the need for higher safety standards. This combined *Sharing* and *Paksak* column highlights the findings.

The first question we asked ourselves was, "Is Scouting a safe program for members?"

Statistics Canada, Health Division, told us that 11 out of every 1,000 males aged 5-19 are hospitalized for at least one night a year. When we compared similar information taken from Scouting accident forms, we found our members are hospitalized at a rate of only one per thousand a year. Given that we run active programs and heavily use the outdoors, Scouting falls far below the average rate for daily living risk to males in this age group.

Having established this, let's look at the main kinds of accidents and injuries that do happen to Scouting members.

Our study identified the types of injuries that happened during the course of a normal Scouting year, excluding summer camps (Chart A). It also recorded the types of activities associated with the injuries (Chart B).

When we examine the two sets of information, we begin to see some relationships.

1. Members broke legs and arms most frequently in sports activities organized as part of the program.

2. Members most frequently burned hands and body front while cooking and around fires.

3. Members sustained the most cuts and abrasions on hands, fingers and legs primarily in knife and axe programs.



Leaders suffer a significant number of bumps, bruises, muscle pulls, and sprains, primarily to the back. It's a nice idea to share a piece of yourself with each of your young members, but it's not necessary to be literal about it! Photo: Marianne Derrick, Terrace, B.C.

4. Teeth damage, most often sustained when a member slipped, accounted for 40% of all head injuries. The majority of other head injuries involved bumps and bruises suffered during an organized sports activity.

5. Members suffered muscle pulls and sprains in all parts of the body during sports activities.

6. The two most frequent activities related to Scouting accidents were slipping and organized sports. Combined with roughhousing, these activities account for almost 70% of all injury-related activities.

In indoor sports, 61% of activities involving injury were general games (anyone for "murder ball"?). In outdoor sports,

60% of injuries happened while members were tobogganing.

The study also identified if the injury happened indoors or outdoors (Chart C). With the slight exception of the head injury category, it appears that members are 33% more likely to be injured while engaged in an outdoor activity.

Individual accident and injury reports show that many broken bones and teeth injuries happen when children collide with walls and floors while playing games. The high number of head injuries sustained in games is particularly worrisome, because these injuries can become physically or mentally disabling.

On the other hand, core Scouting activities caused relatively few injuries, perhaps because of a slower pace, more

Chart A — Injury Type (Percentage)

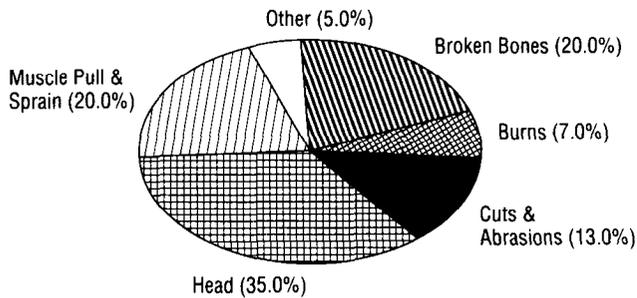


Chart B — Activities Related to Injury (Percentage)

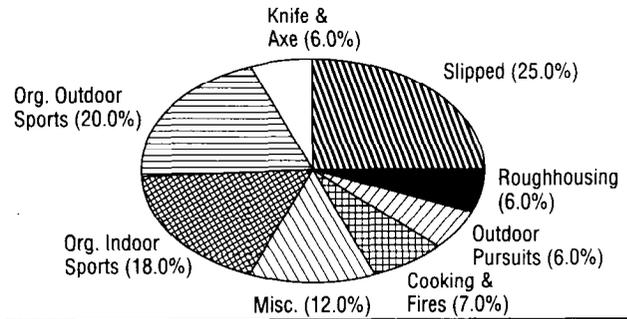


Chart C — Injury Locations (Indoor/Outdoor)

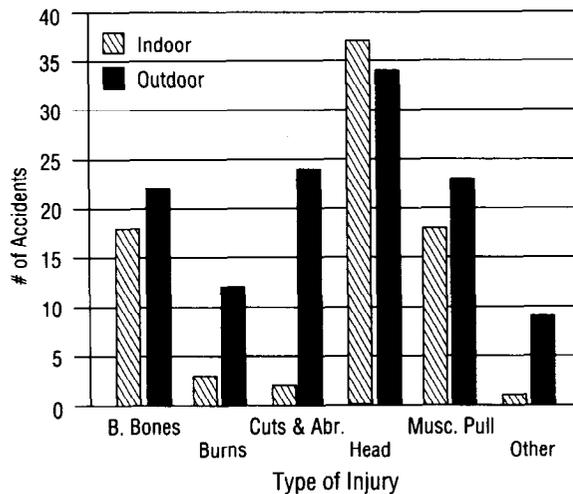
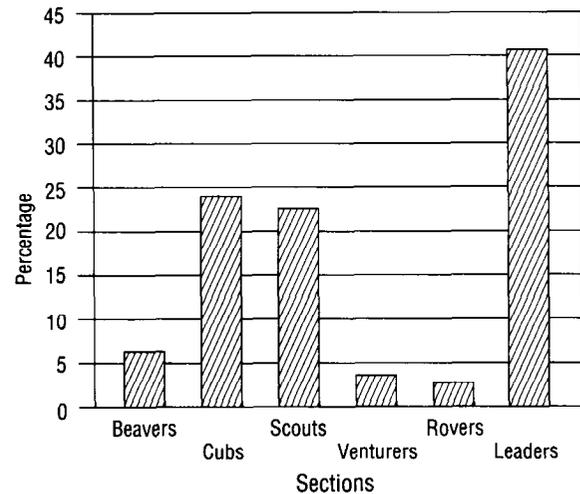


Chart D — Injury by Section (Percentage)



peer or adult guidance, or the activity structure.

Our study also looked at the percentage of injuries to members in each section (Chart D).

1. Beavers sustained few injuries: most of those few involved teeth.
2. Cubs were the most likely to injure their teeth.
3. Scouts received more cuts, abrasions, and burns than members in other sections.
4. Venturers and Rovers sustained few injuries.
5. Leaders received a significant number of injuries. The main ones were head injuries. Bumps and bruises and muscle pulls and sprains, primarily to the back, were dominant.

SAFETY TIPS

When we look at this study, we can quickly come up with some ideas for running more safety conscious programs. Consider them priorities as you plan your year's activities.

1. Take a first aid course. The study showed that you are just as likely to have to deal with a serious injury indoors as

out. The first step to safety awareness is knowing how to deal with injuries when they happen.

2. Continue to plan safety into your program. After your leadership team has decided on a program, ask what hazards or precautions you might have to take into account and build in safety steps to deal with them.

3. Take extra special precautions when running games. It's not a good idea to use games as unsupervised "free time" activities. Make sure rules and boundaries are clearly explained. Above all, monitor your games to ensure your kids don't get so worked up that they run out of control.

4. When you go tobogganing, avoid hills that look like Mt. Everest.

5. Closely monitor and stress care around fires, sharp axes, and knives.

6. Take training in outdoor skill areas when courses are offered. Ask your council to consider offering courses to meet your specific outdoor program needs.

7. Finally, for leaders who can't resist getting right in there with the kids: remember, it's nice that you want to share a piece of yourself with every child, but please avoid doing it literally. X

the **leader**

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Youth Suicide: A National Tragedy

by Robb Baker

I'll bet you're wondering why we're talking about youth suicide in the summer issue of **the Leader**. Why not give ideas for summer activities or, perhaps, getting ready for a new program year? The simple truth is that some topics just shouldn't wait for exposure, particularly when they are as serious as this one.

Did you know that youth suicide has increased more than 300% since the mid-sixties? During the last three years, there were an average of 700 successful cases per year. Every community across this country is subject to the tragedy. Indeed, suicide is the second leading cause of death for young people aged 15 to 24. Only accidents take more young lives.

For every successful suicide, there are 100 attempts that fail. The Canadian Task Force on Suicide fears that the actual number of deaths could be as much as 50% higher, because some suicides are reported as accidental deaths.

Have I caught your attention yet? This issue could impact on a member of your family or your section. No one is immune.

Suicide is not something that only happens in certain groups. People of all religions, races, and economic groups, whether city or country dwellers, can and do kill themselves.

Contrary to popular belief, discussing suicide does not "put the idea into people's heads". In fact, surveys show that most young people believe suicide can best be prevented through suicide awareness programs for themselves, their parents, and other concerned community members. Through these programs, adolescents contemplating suicide may be brought to discuss their problems before it is too late.

WHY DO THEY DO IT?

There aren't any simple answers. Many young people who try to kill themselves have been overwhelmed by a terrible sense of hopelessness and helplessness. Their problems seem huge and without solution, and they see no end in sight. Since the future appears even blacker and bleaker than the present, they see no point in going on.

Low self-esteem is common among those who attempt suicide. They have

come to place little value on themselves or their lives. They feel worthless, failures, misfits, often because either they or their parents have unrealistic expectations. They believe they should be doing better at school, at work, and socially, or just that they ought to be better people, somehow more "worthy".

Often, young people feel like aliens in their own families, forever out of step, unable to fit in. Sometimes the feeling becomes so acute that they begin to believe their families would be better off without them. Frequently, they have a feeling, whether imagined or real, that their birth was an "accident" undesired by their parents and that, as a consequence, they are a burden, unwanted and unloved.

Most young people who have committed suicide have given enough clues about their intentions to alert a listener. All too often, nobody has been listening.

A broken romance, a family loss by death or divorce, or even a family move to a different house can make a young person feel cast adrift without an anchor. It may make life seem meaningless.

Everybody needs attachments and a sense of support. The need is particularly strong for young people, and losing them can lead to thoughts of suicide. Suicide attempts are highest in families where there is a history of rejection, abandonment, or an absence of open dialogue between parents and children. These are the most common situations that heighten the risk.

Dr. Bryan Tannery, Director of Psychiatric Services at Calgary General Hospital, has identified yet another situation: a young person who hasn't had any difficulties is suddenly confronted with a dramatic event and simply says, "I can't handle this." Instead of seeking ways to deal with the position in which

they find themselves, such young people choose death.

Here's something of interest. In Calgary, studies have found evidence suggesting that mothers who work outside the home are mentally and physically healthier and seem to transmit better health to their children with a resulting decrease in the risk of youth suicide.

MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT SUICIDE

1. *You have to be mentally ill to kill yourself.* Most people who attempt suicide are not mentally ill. They are depressed, confused, frightened, or feeling very alone and unloved. Mental illness considerably increases the risk of suicide, however.

2. *It's just talk: the ones who talk about it never do it.* But they do. Most young people who have attempted or committed suicide have talked about it or, at least, have given enough clues about their intentions to alert a listener. All too often, nobody has been listening.

3. *Suicide runs in the family, so you can't do much to prevent these kids from taking their lives.* There is nothing hereditary about suicide. Because young people tend to model themselves after those around them, however, if there has been a previous suicide in the family, it could establish a destructive mode. In a situation of stress, the danger is that they may copy the model.

4. *If they've made up their mind to do it, there's not much you can do to prevent it.* Most adolescents who contemplate suicide are torn between a desire to live and a desire to die. They want their suffering to end but, at the same time, they want to find an alternative solution to their pain. Too often their cry for help goes unheard by families, friends, and even professionals.

5. *Once a person is suicidal, he or she is always suicidal.* Most young people who contemplate or attempt suicide do recover and lead normal, healthy lives. A limited number will manage this on their own, but many need help. You can

help by being aware of the warning signals and learning how to respond to troubled, potentially suicidal young people.

WARNING SIGNALS

Almost all people who think about suicide give clues to their intentions. Here are some of the warning signals.

1. *A previous suicide attempt:* No suicide attempt, however half-hearted it may appear, should be dismissed. Most people who succeed in killing themselves have made a previous attempt. It is the surest signal that the person may try again.

2. *The big hint:* Very few adolescents who contemplate suicide keep their thoughts to themselves. Almost always, they will say something to friends or family.

Sometimes the message is clear: "I can't take it; I'm going to kill myself."

More often the statements are indirect: "I wish I could just go to sleep and never wake up."

Sometimes the hints are disguised because these young people believe their thoughts are unacceptable to others and must be concealed:

"You don't have to worry about me. I won't be a problem for much longer" or "They'll be sorry when I'm gone" or "Nothing matters. It's no use."

Of course, most adolescents say things like this at one time or another. But we need to be aware of how frequently they say them and the manner in which they say them. Certainly, we must never simply ignore such statements.

3. *Emotional disturbances, personality changes:* Any major change in a young person's normal behaviour pattern may be a danger signal.

- An extreme change in eating habits or sleeping patterns — too much or too little
- Withdrawal from friends or family
- Major behaviour change: the shy person becomes a thrill seeker, the extrovert becomes withdrawn, unfriendly or uninterested
- Increasing apathy about appearance and health
- Excessive use of alcohol or drugs. (One study showed that 80% of people who committed suicide had been drinking at the time.)
- Talk indicating helplessness, unhappiness, pessimism
- The recent suicide of a friend or relative.

4. *Detachment:* The person gives away prized possessions such as a record collection, terminates things that were important in his or her life, makes a will or other final arrangements. There likely will be changes in school performance; lower marks, quitting activities, dropping out.

HOW TO HELP

First and foremost, keep open the lines of communication between yourself and your children and young section members. If someone opens up to you and admits to considering suicide, talk with that young person in a calm, non-judgmental manner. Platitudes such as, "You should appreciate how lucky you are" will end the conversation and make the youngster feel even more guilty about his or her thoughts. Such an approach may do a lot of harm.

Be prepared to ask questions and willing to listen attentively. Your personal attention may be exactly what the young person needs to make way for a sense of renewed hope and direction.

Try to determine how long the person has been thinking about suicide. Let young people know help is available — they are not alone. Ask if they know why they feel as they do. Try to discover if they have put a suicide plan in place.

The young person's response to your questions will help you determine how serious he or she is about suicide. If the danger is imminent stay put; don't leave the person alone. If you determine the person does not have a concrete plan, the immediate risk is probably far lower. In either case, make certain the individual gets help, even if he or she refuses to entertain the thought.

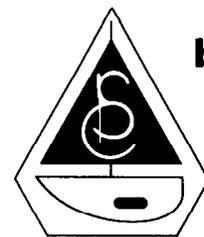
The most obvious source of immediate help is the youth's parents or guardian. Strongly encourage them to link up with their family doctor or clergy. The local distress centre, crisis centre, or suicide prevention centre is a good place to go. Consider also the emergency department of your hospital or the Public Health Department. The Canadian Mental Health Association can also provide direction.

In all circumstances, the evaluation of the potential for the person to harm him or herself must be undertaken by a trained professional. Your job is to ensure that it happens.

Up to now, suicide has been a taboo subject. Keep in mind that young people considering it give warning signals; it's not true that talking about it will somehow cause it to happen; there is help available; and, most important, it is preventable.

We can't afford to stick our heads in the sand. The lives of our young people are far too important. X

Sources: The Ottawa Carleton Suicide Prevention Co-ordinator, Department of Health; Interchange Magazine; and the Suicide Information and Education Centre, Calgary.



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CROSS-COUNTRY PHOTOS



THE RIGHT ATMOSPHERE: Seven 1st Vermilion (Alta.) Scouts and two Girl Guides stop at Grey Owl's cabin for Scouts' Own during their eight day summer canoe camp to Prince Albert, Sask. It was one of two extra special memories from a wonderful trip, says Scouter Rodney Hughes, who tells us the other was "birthday cake baked on the fire for Canada Day celebrations on Ajnwaan Lake".

THANKS FOR 25: At a special service during the 25th anniversary homecoming weekend last October, 2nd Paris (Ont.) Scout Kent Graham, Cubs Brian Hunt and James Macdonald, and Beavers Stephen Dayman and Brandon Wagenaar, thank their sponsor, Paris Presbyterian Church, for 25 years of Scouting. We thank Eva Wilson, Home Coming Committee, for sharing. ▼



THANK YOU: With special presentations to Market Manager Grant Richards and Field Manager Bob Panser, Scouters Mike Stewart, ADC (Cubs) Carleton District, and Lorriane Kirstiuk thank Southland Canada Incorporated (7-11 Food Stores) for outstanding contributions to Scouting in the district and Vancouver Coast Region. Over the past five years, Southland has donated prizes, supplies, and refreshments for Scouting activities, as well as space in their stores for Scouting signs and promotions, says Scouter Stewart. "Their help has made it easier for us to carry out our program and aims."

THIS IS THE SPOT: On a beach hike during the Queen Charlotte Islands District Cuboree last June, the Cubs stop for lunch at the remains of the *Pesuta*, shipwrecked near Tlell, B.C. in 1928. Cubs from Sandspit, Queen Charlotte, Port Clements, and Masset enjoyed the Cuboree, says District Commissioner Carol Andrews. Photo: Mike McLuskie, Akela, 1st Masset. ▼



◀ **KOREAN CONNECTION:** Wanting a special activity for the meeting when their neighbours, the 6th Campbellton pack, came to visit, the 3rd Campbellton Cubs, N.B., invited along members of the local Tae Kwon Do club. "They put on an exciting demonstration," says Nancy Arseneault, 3rd Campbellton Parent Group, and the Cubs obviously had a great time. The 3rd is sponsored by St. Thomas Aquinas Parish.

TANK FULL: 2nd Oxford Cubs Robert Lowther and Darren Dickie finish servicing a van during a very special pack meeting in early December. "What great fun the Cubs had running the Oxford Irving station," says Akela Donna Cooper. The Nova Scotia pack washed windows, pumped gas, cleaned floors, and enjoyed a hot chocolate reward. "The station had their best Wednesday night of business ever!" Scouter Cooper says. ▼



SCOUT WEEK SPECIAL: The 1st Preeceville (Sask.) Cubs and Scouts enjoyed a new experience in February, thanks to some binder twine and the help of the grandfather of one of the Cubs. "Grampa Kosheluk dug out his antique rope-maker and put it to work," says Scouter Don Pillipow. The group had fun rope-making, and the Cubs put their rope to use at their next camp. ▼



GILWELLIANS GET TOGETHER: The 11th B.-P. Guild organized a highly successful Manitoba Gilwell Reunion at Spruce Woods Provincial Park early in September. "Over 100 Scouters came from all over Manitoba — even from Flin Flon — and from the United States," reports Jim MacTavish. "One Scouter took his Wood Badge in 1933." ▶



SHARING, SHARING, SHARING: 10th Thornhill (Ont.) Beavers Robert Barth and Dan Kapelus sort food at the North York Harvest Food Bank. "In line with our law, promise, and motto, we visited the food bank to donate 32.5 kg of food and help pack 200 kg," says Scouter Fred Berktin. "The food bank coordinator took time to explain the importance of what the Beavers had done and thanked them with chocolate lollipops." ▼



A NEW SKILL: For the past two years, first year 59th Regina Scouts, Sask., have met an interesting challenge — making their own troop neckerchiefs. Here, new Scouts Dan Cochran, Doug Filry, and Paul Hamill tackle the task under the supervision of parent Karen Cochran and VA Alice Gaveronski. New 59th Regina Venturers also take their turns at the sewing machines, says Scouter Gaveronski. ▼



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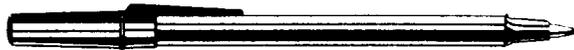
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Something Special

by Brenda Robinson

I recently had the thrill of attending a local Scout group's 70th anniversary celebration. Seventy years! Can you imagine? It's difficult for someone like me, who has roots in a group that received its charter only 15 years ago.

As I sat amidst the group at the anniversary party that evening, I was awed by my surroundings — plaques, photographs, all sorts of memorabilia relating 70 years of history. And the people! They ranged in age from an infant to a 90 year old lady. There were the Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Rovers, and a large contingent of leaders active in the program. There were the recent "graduates" with their young families. There were the older men and women (the largest group by far), many of whom are no longer active as leaders or group committee members, but for whom the memories and friendships create a strong sense of belonging. This is still home to them — a place where they have shared much over the years.

Later that night, as I sat reading the special publication describing the group's history and a series of amusing anecdotes from its past, I was reminded of my childhood when I heard my father, a Scouter, mention several of the names I had just read and tell of incidents in his experience that paralleled those of this group. I recognized the elements of fun, challenges, friendships, and caring that were an integral part of all those experiences, and I was aware of the strong influence Scouting had on those lives.

Although I may not have been a member as a child, I grew up believing that Scouting was something very special — knowledge, skills, values, a closeness with nature, lasting friendships. It was a way of living, and something you never left behind you.

I thought about what Scouting means now, in a society that has seen so much change in the realms of technology, health and social concerns, life styles, and mobility. Scouting has become only one of many organizations that ask for our support and give us and our children opportunities to participate. It, too, has undergone change — additional sections, new badges, a different emphasis in terms of the environment, updated language — all to keep it relevant in today's world.

What has not changed about Scouting are its aims and principles: the commitment to provide members opportunity and guidance for their physical, mental, spiritual, and social development and help us become resourceful, responsible members of our community. Underlying these aims and principles is the spirit of Scouting. It's a spirit of caring about ourselves, our God, and other people.

When I sit with a group of long-time Scouters, as I did at the anniversary celebration, or attend a Chief Scout's or Queen's Venturer award ceremony, or participate in a regional Beaver event surrounded by 1,000 happy little faces, I am reminded that our aims and principles are still valid, and the spirit of caring has endured through the years.

That is what really makes Scouting relevant in today's world. And that is why it is still special to me. X

Scouter Brenda Robinson is Beaver program representative on the National Program Committee.

New Publications for Scouts

by Jim Mackie

A new set of Scout section publications will be available for fall sale. *The Scout Leader's Handbook* (#20-469, \$11.95) includes not only all the program information you need, but also material previously covered in the "Sea Scout Leaders' Handbook" and the "Guide For New Scout Leaders".

The exciting all-new 208 page *Canadian Scout Handbook*, available in English (#20-467, \$6.25) and French (#20-468, \$6.25), incorporates material currently in the "Personal Record Book".

The redesigned *Patrol Leader's Handbook & Record*, in English (#20-471, \$5.75) and French (#20-472, \$5.75), includes the "Patrol Leader's Record Book", now discontinued.

The new *Troop Annual Record Book* (#25-531, \$5.75) contains Scout Personal Record Sheets, and extra sheets are available separately in pads of 25 (#25-414, \$3.15). The newly designed Scout Achievement Chart (#25-529, \$3.25) is bilingual.

NEW UNIFORM EPAULETS: We understand that section epaulets will be used as an investiture item for new members and those moving from one section to another. In most councils, this will mean that epaulets will be "controlled" items and not for sale to the general public. Watch for more information in future issues of **the Leader**. If you have further questions, contact your local Scout office or Scout Shop.

UNIFORM SIZING: We've had many questions about the sizing of new uniform items. Your local Scout Shop or dealer now has a comprehensive chart on the sizing of all the garments. The 1991/92 Supply Services catalogue will also contain an updated *Fitting Room* page to help you.

SCOUT COUNTRY WALKING STICK: As a result of requests from Scout Shops, we have been investigating sources of reasonably priced quality canes and walking sticks. We are pleased to report the availability of the *Safe Step Walking Stick*. The 100 cm laminated wood stick with our official Scout Country logo has a hand grip with indents for fingers as well as a hand loop. It's ideal for hiking, and you can use it for measuring because two feet of one side is marked in inches and 60 cm of the other in centimetres. Ask about it at your local Scout Shop (#50-104, \$21.50).

CAMP AND CASUAL WEAR: To complement the new uniform, Supply Services has developed all-new camp and casual wear. The navy blue and tan baseball type cap features the flag maple leaf and arrowhead design used on the new belt buckle. It is available in youth and adult sizes (Cub/Scout, #40-253/#40-254, \$9.95; Adult, #40-255, \$9.95).

The blue and tan T-shirt, also available in youth (\$9.95) and adult sizes (\$12.50), features a wolf on Cub sizes and the maple leaf/arrowhead design on Scout and adult sizes. All the T-shirts have double roll sleeves. You'll find them in Scout Shops and some dealers.

NAME TAGS: In the near future, all Scout Shops and some dealers will stock blank name tags featuring the various section logos. Scouters will be able to have names inscribed locally and avoid the delay involved in shipping from Ottawa. X



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An Extra Special Summer Camp

from François Hétu

When the 1st Brossard Cubs, Que., planned their summer camp for August 1990, they chose quite an adventure. It involved a seven hour bus ride and an hour by plane (a first for many of the 15 Cubs) on a one-way trip of 880 km for a photo safari on Anticosti Island in the mouth of the St. Lawrence River.

Most of the Cubs slept for five of the bus hours and were pretty excited when they landed on "the island of dreams". Their camp was two fully equipped cabins with the forest on one side and the ocean on the other. Twenty metres away, waves crashed and we could see a wreck still intact and waiting for visitors. In the field behind our cabins, six deer threw us inquisitive glances.

Anticosti Island is a paradise with many sights to discover. There are old homes, canyons winding out of sight, deep gorges, large hollows, rivers leading to roaring rapids, lakes, and even an airplane wreck in the middle of the forest. It is also a kite-flier's dream with winds that could have kept kites high for the three days and nights we were there.

The Cubs caught trout in a nearby creek, turning what would have been very ordinary suppers into very special ones. Some took dips in the cold ocean. They found many treasures on the ground — deer skulls and tufts of hair, fox skulls, bones and fossils of different kinds — a gold-mine for young collectors.

Unfortunately, this camp, like all others, came to an end, but the unforgettable experience lives on in memories and through the photos Cubs displayed to show their families.

We would like to hold our 1992 summer camp in Alberta and are looking for an exchange group so that we can benefit from federal government grants or sources of information to help us plan all details for a week near Lake Louise. If you can help, please contact: *François Hétu, 322 De Normandie, Sainte-Julie, Que. J3E 1A7, or call (514) 922-1811.*

François Hétu is Baloo with the 1st Brossard Cubs, Que.

FOOTLIGHT SWIM-UP

from Keith & Cora Bertram

We got this idea for a swimming up ceremony from a Wood Badge I (colony) and would like to share it with other colonies. These "footlights" symbolizing

the swimming up story are great for atmosphere if you need to hold the ceremony inside (and clustered together, make a nice campfire, too). Or they can make a dramatic pathway for an early night-time ceremony outdoors if your White Tails swim up while at a link camp with Cubs.



Young collectors found a gold mine of animal bones and other specimens to take home.



Anticosti's treasures include a plane wreck to explore.

You make the footlights from large juice cans painted white. On one set of two, paint a large beaver shape, on the second set paint a beaver and lightning bolt, and on the third paint a howling wolf. Use a nail to punch holes around the outline of each shape, and set candles inside the tins (we put them in candle holders to ensure they'd stay standing).

Place the footlights (they're easy to light with fireplace matches) on the path the White Tails will walk between the River Banks and the pack in parade circle — first the beavers representing the White Tails ready to become good hunters; next the lightning bolts from *Friends of the Forest* which changed busy beavers into wolf cubs; and finally the wolves.

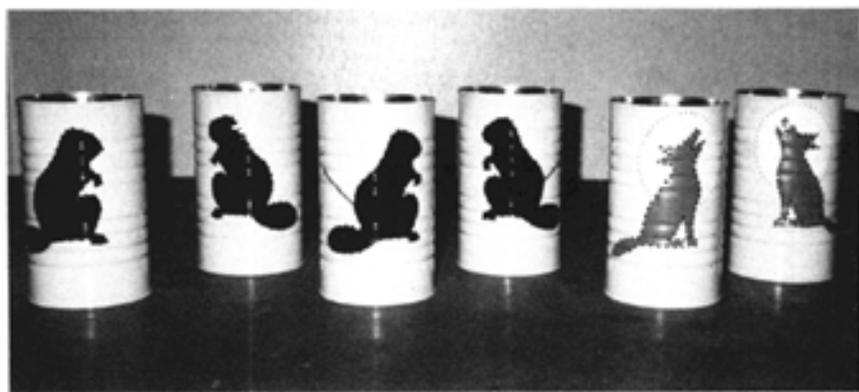
At our swim up, the 3rd Essex Beavers and Cubs enjoyed the display. If you use this idea, we hope your members will, too.

Keith and Cora Bertram are leaders with the 3rd Essex Beavers and the 3rd Essex Cubs, Ont.

FAMILY KUB KARS from Dave Brierley

Two years ago, the leaders in our pack decided to try an experiment. Concerned about the amount of work parents were doing on their Cubs' kub kars, we decided to hold a parent race. We gave the Cubs their kars at Christmas so that they would have about six weeks to work on them. And we sold kar kits to parents interested in building their own kars for a special race. Two weeks before the pack rally, we held a kub kar workshop for Cubs and parents.

On pack rally night, after the Cubs raced their kars, we held an "Over 21" race for parents. Cubs and parents enjoyed the races so much that other members of



With candlelight shining through the perforations, these simple tin can footlights line the path from colony to pack with a bit of magic at swim up time.

the Cubs' families asked if they could compete the following year. And, when the leadership team evaluated the experiment, they agreed it had worked. By allowing parents to build kars of their own, we'd enabled Cubs to do much more of the work on their kars.

The following year, we opened the "Over 21" race to all family members, except the Cubs themselves. The Cubs not only had the joy of working on and racing their own kars, but the fun of watching their fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, and grandparents in healthy kub kar competition.

As pack leaders, we feel that letting parents and families join us this way has given everyone a better insight into the pack's operations. It took some of the "mystery" out of Cubbing for family members and drew some families closer together. We in the great white north are looking forward to another year of healthy kub kar races and hope this idea of family racing snowballs.

Scouter Dave Brierley works with Cubs in South Peace District, Dawson Creek, B.C.

HOT WEATHER GAMES

We found the first game in Central Alberta Region's *Big Brown Beaver*, sent us by Hazel Hallgren, Red Deer. Organize players in two teams and ask them to line up facing each other a few metres apart. Have team members number off.

In the centre between the two teams, place a pail of water in which there is a nice big soft thirsty sponge. When a leader calls out a number, players with that number race to the centre. The first to grab the sponge may throw it once at his opposite number.

Or try a frantic energy-using tag game with one or two big soft thirsty sponges and a couple of pails of water on the sidelines of the play area. Name one or two players (or more, depending on the size of the crowd) IT and give them water-laden sponges to toss at others.

Once a sponge has been thrown, it's free for the grabbing by any other player. Successful catchers race to a pail of water to fill up the sponge again before racing off to "splush" someone else.

Have a great summer. ^

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Shadow Training

by G.B. Sands

Scouter G.B. Sands, service team leader, wrote us about a system of servicing sections that appears to work well for #2 Heritage Area in Calgary, Alberta. We are pleased to pass along the idea.

About two years ago, I volunteered to be a team leader and Service Scouter for our area. The task was bigger than I thought because I inherited a large area with nine community groups and about 1,200 members.

I had no help the first year and, since then, have recruited four great people. Along with the help has come growth. We've started a new group and added three sections to existing groups to increase our membership to about 1,500. In the next two years, we expect to have two new groups and more than 1,700 members.

Now, you're probably wondering what any of this has to do with shadows or training. As we experienced this growth, we found that getting leaders into essential training courses was extremely difficult because they were booked solid. The region added two more courses: they filled up, too. Our team looked for ways we could give new leaders the basics of the program so that they could feel comfortable until formal training became available to them.

We hit upon the idea of shadow training, a kind of coaching. When a new group is starting and leaders can't get formal training immediately, you might try it, too. Of course, you can use members of your service team to do a similar job, but our method has some hidden benefits.

GETTING STARTED

First, identify a parallel section in your area that is running a good program. See if one of the section leaders is willing to help you and the new section. Look for Scouters with their Wood Badge II training and good organizational, communication, and leadership skills.

When you've enlisted leaders willing to help, introduce them and explain their role both to your new groups and the service team. They will be important parts of the team for the next few weeks.

Shadow trainers begin by inviting their new leaders to one of their section meetings to see experienced leaders at

work. They also invite them to a section planning meeting to learn how experienced Scouters organize activities, badgework, games, and projects. After the two meetings, the shadow trainer and the new leader plan a one month program for the new section.

We used a four-week plan. We feel four weeks is the minimum length of time you need for shadow training to work. You can make the period longer if you feel it necessary.

Weeks 1 and 2: The shadow trainer runs the program with the new section's leader as helper. He or she encourages new leaders to run the parts of the program with which they feel comfortable.

Week 3: The new section leader runs the meeting with the shadow trainer helping as needed.

Week 4: The new section leader runs the meeting with the shadow trainer and Service Scouter as observers.

After each meeting, experienced and new leaders get together to talk about how things went and how they could be better. At the end of the four week period, they sit down and discuss all the meetings. From there, new leaders can venture out on their own, realizing they have resources to draw on if they need help.

The most important part of this process now is to sign up all your new leaders for the next available training course. And remember to give a big thanks to the experienced leaders who helped you. Get your shadow trainers' reactions to the experience and sound them out on their willingness to service or train in future.

BENEFITS OF SHADOW TRAINING

When our service team sat down to evaluate the program, we began to realize that shadow training makes a number of things happen.

1. Because the experienced leader who becomes a shadow trainer has a good

program running, he or she can be absent from some section meetings. These absences give assistants a chance to gain valuable leadership experience.

2. The experienced leader knows of coming events and can help the new leader slot them into the planning calendar. Down the road, the two groups might even get together for joint activities.

3. Shadow training shows new leaders that Scouting has a support system that works. It helps them get quality programs off the ground immediately: youth members enjoy meetings, leaders gain confidence, and the shadow trainer feels he or she has played an important part in helping others.

4. The service team benefits by seeing a group and program start on the right footing. That makes their job easier down the road by cutting back on the number of concerns and problems they have to deal with.

5. Shadow training is a great service team recruiting tool and a good way to spread the word about just what it is Service Scouters do.

6. Shadow training gives new leaders an understanding of program basics and helps them survive until they can get the training they need. In no way does it replace formal training.

As a service team, we realize that each new section or group has different dynamics and needs, but there are basics for building good programs, confidence, and experience. We've worked the system successfully with a Beaver colony and a Wolf Cub pack. Six weeks after they started, both ventured into the outdoors. The Beavers held a day activity about which they felt very good. The Cubs held a weekend camp and invited their Service Scouter to attend. He was impressed and, after a quick look, left them to enjoy their program.

Our service team believes shadow training is flexible enough to be a superb servicing tool. And it lets us do our job through wise use of our resources. X

Around the Campfire

Openings

Kneel always when you light a fire;
Kneel reverently and thankful be,
For God's unfailing charity.

*Tall trees that reach the sky,
Mountains and lakes nearby;
Draw near my friends,
Come sing, my friends,
Our campfire time is nigh.*

The fire is lit, come lift your voice;
Let song and skit beguile the hours;
The fire is lit, so let's rejoice,
Our hearts are full, the night is ours.

Yells

Train Yell: A chant for the whole group, this is a good one to use at the final campfire to thank the camp cook.

Coffee, coffee (*4 times slowly*)
Cheese and biscuits (*4 times a bit faster*)
Fruit and custard (*4 times getting faster*)
Beef and carrots (*6 times faster still*)
Fish and chips (*8 times very fast*)
Soo-oo-oo-oo-oup! (*one lonely whistle*)

Grrr!

The leader begins at the left of the circle and moves around it from person to person building a "Grrr". When everyone is growling, the leader raises both arms and the crowd yells: "Ate ... Grrr-ate!"

Scouter's 5 Minutes, p.669 J/J'91

Hiking Song

by Michael Nellis

Acid rain leaves a stain,
It's a blight and it's a pain,
As our group goes hiking along;
Over there, it's not fair,
Smog is fouling up the air,
As our group goes hiking along.
For it's Hi Hi Ho
We will tramp through rain or snow
As we call out our watchword loud and strong
CONSERVATION!
Over hill, over dale
We have hit the woodland trail,
As our group goes hiking along.

See the trout, see the moose,
See the wild Canadian Goose,
As our group goes hiking along;
See the lake, see the brook,
Water everywhere you look,
As our group goes hiking along.
For it's Hi Hi Ho
We will help our rivers flow
As we call out our watchword loud and strong
CONSERVATION!
Over hill, over dale,
We have hit the woodland trail,
As our group goes hiking along.

Michael Nellis is Akela with the General Wolfe Cubs, Sillery, Que.

Songs, p.89 J/J'91

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The Mowgli Mash (*Tune: Monster Mash*)
words by Scott Painter

I was walking in the jungle late one night,
When my eyes beheld an eerie sight,
For Mowgli from his rock began to rise,
And suddenly to my surprise

Chorus

He did the mash
He did the Mowgli Mash
The Mowgli Mash
It was a jungle smash
He did the mash
It caught on in a flash
He did the mash
He did the Mowgli Mash.

From the council rock in the jungle deep,
To the bandarlog city where the pythons feast
The pack all came from their humble dives
To catch Mowgli's dance on Shere Khan's hide.
(Chorus)

He told a story that began long ago
About Shere Khan who wanted him so
The tale began when Mowgli was a babe
And Raksha welcomed him into her cave.
(Chorus)

The scene was rocking, all were digging the
sounds

Baloo joined in, backed by his baying hounds,
Bagheera and Akela and Gray Brother saw
They were in a trance like the Dance of Kaa.
(Chorus)

Out from his rock, Mowgli's voice did ring,
Seems he was troubled by just one thing;
Look well, O Wolves, have I kept my word?
To which they replied — Yes, for sure!

(Chorus)

Now everything's cool, Mowgli's part of the pack,
And his Mowgli Mash is the hit of the land;
O hear the call, good hunting all,
That keep the Jungle Law. *(Chorus)*

*Scott Painter is Akela with the 14th Burlington
Cubs, Ont.*

Songs, p.90

Prayer

For the warmth of the fire,
For the joy of singing,
For the laughter of games
For the fun of yells,
For the happiness of campfires shared,
We thank you, God.

Closings

Once you have been a camper,
Something has come to stay;
Something has come that nothing
Will ever take away.
We came as strangers, we became friends, we part
as brothers.

*The day was long; we've worked and played,
And round this fire, we've good friends made;
We've shared a friendship fine and deep,
And now this circle leaves to sleep.*

Sparkling Thoughts

You need enough sugar to give everyone in the
circle a small handful. After the closing, ask the
group to gather around the dying embers. Pass
around the jar of sugar and quietly ask people to
take some and hold onto it. When everyone is
ready, together toss the sugar on the fire. You can
compare the flashing sparks and quick flames to
happy thoughts or simply enjoy these happy
thoughts in silence.

Blessing

May you sleep deep and wake refreshed,
With the sun shining down on you and a happy
heart.

Scouter's 5 Minutes, p.670

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Space Yourself

from Warren McMeekin

It will not surprise many of you that a lack of meeting space is one reason given for not starting new groups in an area. More often than not, it seems it is an excuse used to avoid digging a little further. Well, here is an answer for some of the excuses. It was sent us by John Piera, regional field executive, Calgary Region, Alberta.

Creative Solutions to Space Problems

Members of the Scout program are probably some of the most resourceful, creative people you'll ever meet. But what can groups do for meeting spaces in new communities with no schools, churches or community centres?

Funding cutbacks have forced school districts to look at alternatives to building new schools and many have turned to bussing. Developers recognize there is more revenue in residential zoning and have not allocated land for churches. Governments have increased restrictions that apply before they will provide matching funds for community centres. All of this leads to new communities without facilities for community based groups like Scouts and Guides.

Here's how some groups in Calgary have overcome the problems.

1. Douglasdale started September 1990 with a Beaver colony and a Cub pack. With no school, church or community centre available to meet in, they turned to businesses. The Douglasdale Golf and Country Club provided their club house during their off season and, for the remaining months, the group met in one of the leader's homes.
2. Midnapore is a long established community that, within the last five years, has mushroomed into a large family community. With three Beaver colonies, three Cub packs, and a Scout troop, they also face a lack of meeting space. Their solution is to use a rotating schedule of colony meetings. Because they only have two separate spaces in

a school, every third week one of the three Beaver colonies goes on an outing away from the school.

As the cost of constructing and operating facilities continues to increase, more service clubs, church congregations, and school districts will look to alternatives, especially in urban areas where land cost is higher. It needn't affect your group adversely. With a little creativity, solutions can be found!

John is right! Scouting members are among the most resourceful and creative people around. We can't let a lack of meeting space stop us from forming new groups. Who out there has a different way of starting or reforming an old group where space is lacking? What has been the biggest challenge for you? Let me know!

A SUCCESSFUL BANQUET

In the Feb.'91 issue, Network asked readers if they had any successful banquet ideas to share. Scouter Don Downey, 1st Paris Scout Group, Ont., sent in an outline from the group's recent Parent and Scout banquet.

I've just read your article about banquets and have to agree that the hardest task for any group committee is a successful banquet.

After seven years of trying, we finally pulled one off. Everyone said they had a great time.

Because it was our 60th anniversary, we decided to invite as many retired leaders from our group as possible. We invited 60, and 43 of them accepted. These people sat with the parents and children and, because we are a small community, most were known to all. Rather than a speech after supper, I introduced each guest and gave a few brief words about their service to our group.

Our program was great. We organized a campfire. The Scouters explained the "rules" to parents, all of the sections

contributed a song, skit, and cheer, and our Scout leader added a small Scouter's Five. We made the setting as realistic as possible, gathering around logs and a small light in the centre of the room with the hall lights turned down for an outdoors effect.

After the campfire, we used the Cubs' Grand Howl closing to send everyone home.

Many of our parents and guests told us how much they enjoyed the banquet and said they hoped we'd do the same thing next year. We probably will. \X

Don Downey is group chairperson of the 1st Paris Scout group, Ont.

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Scouting Opens Opportunities

Pen Pals Wanted

AFRICA: Members of the 25th Accra group seek links to learn more about Scouting in Canada and the rest of the world. The addresses in Accra, Ghana, West Africa are: Charles Nartey, PO Box 5266 (age 24); Ben Akii, PO Box 2257 (age 22); Azizu Alhassan, PO Box 12906, Accra-North (age 18).

Leader in the Ghana Scout Association seeks pen pals among Canadian Rovers, Venturers, and Scouters. Please write Eric Marvin, PO Box 147, Accra-Nima, Ghana, West Africa.

District Scout leader and member of the Ogun State Scout Council training team, 26, wishes to correspond with a Canadian Scouter. Please write: Prophet Adetola O. Adenekan, Medical Records Department, State Hospital, PM. 8. 3030, Idi-Aba, Abeokuta, Ogun State, Nigeria.

ASIA: Scout in Macau seeks Canadian pen friends interested in exchanging badges, stamps, and knowledge. Please write: Henriette Miliere, Rua Da Alfândega, 1 Andar A #5-B, EDF. Lap Kuan, Macau.

CANADA: Scouter-in-Training (Beavers, Cubs) seeks pen friends who share her Scouting interest and wish to exchange ideas and experiences. Please write: Karen MacRae, 2036 Welleseley Cres., Victoria, B.C. V9C 1J4.

EASTERN EUROPE: Many emerging Scout groups in Czechoslovakia want links with Canadians. Often they seek literature and materials as well as Scouting ideas and friendship. Letters to any of these addresses in Czechoslovakia will be welcome: Lubos Pavlan, Vanov 178, 40001 Usti nad Labem; Veprek Zdenek, Sopotnice 149, 561 15 (*seeks Toronto link*); Ivan Vesely, Partyzanu 1523, 41502 Teplice; Scout Michael Thyllar, Drobneho 62, 60200 Brno; Scout Jan Blaha, Okruzni 702, Gruc Nad Gazavou 285 22; Rover-aged Eva Cernocka, Hrubinky 9, 614 00 Brno (*en français, svp*); Scout Milan Stukavec, Lhotka 110, Hradovice 689 33; Scouter Jiri Janacek, Voldan 990, Bystrice nad Pern. 593 01 (*en français, svp*); Leader (18) Elizabeth Meel, Vrchlicky Street 517, Hradec Kralove 2, 500 02; Scout (11) Paul Hroch, Havlickova 1112, 54701 Nachod.

ENGLAND: Beaver leader seeks a link with a Canadian colony. Please write: Mrs. D. Liggins, 3 Stewart Close, Spondon, Derby DE2 7EG.

Cub Scout, 1st Claygate Lion Pack, and his Scouter dad wish to swap district badges with Canadian groups. Please write: Oliver White, 42 Foxwarren, Claygate, Esher, Surrey KT10 OJZ, England.

GERMANY: Scouts seek Canadian pen friends. Please write: Norbert Schwarz (17), Am Martinspfad 6d, D-6710, Frankenthal 4, Germany; or Alexander Grebe (13), Berberitzenweg 15a, D-6430 Bad Hersfeld, Germany.

SOUTH AMERICA: Scout, 13, Troop No.2, seeks a Canadian Scout pen friend. Please write: Fernando Hidalgo, Calle Paysandie 1561 BIs, Codigo Postal 11200, Montevideo, Uruguay.

Scout, 17, wants to exchange Scout ideas, books, pins, badges, and knowledge with Canadian Scouts and Scouters. Please write: Paulo Roberto Cunha, Rua Ouvidor Portugal, No. 835, CEP 01551, Vila Monumento, Sao Paulo, Brasil.

U.S.A.: Cub leader wants to link with a Canadian pack. Please write: Mrs. Mike Pozenel, 6084 Leetonia Road, Leetonia, Ohio 44431.

Cub leader seeks Canadian Cubs as pen pals for the eight Cub Scouts in her den. Please write: Margie Trostle, 775 W. 4250 S., Riverdale, Utah 84405.

Pack 283, Lake Bonneville Council, Lake View District seeks links with a Canadian pack from a community about their size (pop. 25,000). Please write: Stanley O. Hoellein, 4307 So. 2675 W., Roy, Utah 84067.

Pack 110, East Valley Area Council, Tecumsha District, seeks a Canadian pack link. Please write: Linda Stremple, 313 Chateau Court, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15239.

I am the Chief Venturer in the Dalhousie Police Venturer Company, N.B., and I want to share with your readers an experience I had because of my work with the Police Venturer program.

In Oct. 1990, I was selected as one of several young people to attend a crime prevention seminar in Toronto. We spent four days discussing crime prevention topics with other young people from across Canada — topics such as students against drinking and driving, community based policing, and issues concerning minorities and the police.

I made many new friends and found this forum helped me understand how other teens feel about their police force and the work they do. (It also enabled me to) compare their experiences to the force I help with in the area of crime prevention through the Venturer program. I have a better understanding now of the role of the police and their work.

I never thought when I joined the Dalhousie Police Venturer program that I would get this kind of an opportunity. I am really becoming better at seeing that, through Scouting, there are no limits, no boundaries. I would like to urge your many readers to take in as many new experiences as they can in Scouting and make the most out of their programs.

— Police Venturer Marc Roy,
Dalhousie, N.B.

LEADER & POLICY

Is every article printed in the **Leader** stating the policy of Scouts Canada? My comments are prompted by the Feb.'91 article *5 Star Cub Awards: Who Really Benefits?*

A number of new adult volunteers are not yet able to discern the difference between policy, editorializing, comment, and instructional materials and, as a result, use this material in questionable ways. I await your printed response in the **Leader**.

— Malcolm Smith, AAC General,
Bendale Area, Scarborough, Ont.

Ed's Reply: All articles in the **Leader** comply with Scouts Canada policies and

program intent. Based on **B.P. & P.**, the Cub star/badge scheme does not support a 5 Star Cub award. On page 15-2, **The Wolf Cub Leader's Handbook** clearly states Scouts Canada policy on badges and stars in the Cub program: "There is no Five Star Award in Cubbing because such an award leaves out Cubs who have a successful Cub experience without earning all the stars." We urge leaders to refer to their handbook to increase their understanding of the place and purpose of badges and stars in the Wolf Cub program.

SAVE THE LEADER

Please do not recycle **the Leader**. You can send it surface mail to Zimbabwe where we have a desperate shortage of Scouting material.

Do not print **the Leader** on newsprint. Newsprint soon becomes brittle and pages start to break up.

As a leader, I use your excellent magazine throughout the year. When I pass on a copy, it may go through 50 to 100 pairs of hands because of the excellent quality of paper, contents, and colours. The gloss paper can be wiped with a damp cloth and so always looks nice.

By the time **the Leader** is ready to be thrown out (our copy is not because we

file it away for future reference), our recycling plant in Zimbabwe will willingly have it. Thank you for many hours of enjoyable reading.

— Meg Wells, 6th Harare (Avondale) Cub Scout Pack, Zimbabwe.

SAVE PAPER

How can we save paper? Simple. Save all the issues of **the Leader**. I received my first issue in March 1986 and have all of them since then. Our leadership team uses the craft ideas, games, stories, or whole program ideas from all of them. Our 1991 Beavers are just as excited about doing 1986 ideas as the Beavers were back then. Don't throw away back issues because of the date on them. Look inside. **The Leader** is a valuable resource. Use it to its full potential every month.

— Earl Smith, Brantford, Ontario

TREES FOR CANADA CRESTS

Do other leaders across the country find something missing with the new Trees for Canada crests we have had the past couple of years? I really miss the old one. You could make a number of unique designs with the triangular crest.

Why were they changed? Was anyone asked about the new design? Does

anyone else miss the former crest? Our district took our concern to national through our provincial executive and were surprised to find that no one else had expressed any concerns about this at all.

With so many changes going on, I would like to think that some of the old ideas are good ones and that we should keep them going. If you feel the same way, please voice your opinions.

— Aileen Fineo, ADC (Pack), Annapolis District, Kingston, N.S.

Reply from John Rietveld, ED Communications Service: *The round Trees for Canada crest isn't new: 1991 is the fourth year we've used it. All Trees for Canada material was redesigned in 1988 as a result of a survey of councils in 1987.*

CAN YOU HELP?

I am working on a book about Manitoba district and group badges. What I need is information about and pictures of as many of these badges as possible. If you can help, please write: *John Zabarylo, 1318-E Molson Rd, Winnipeg, Manitoba R2K 3Y4.*

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