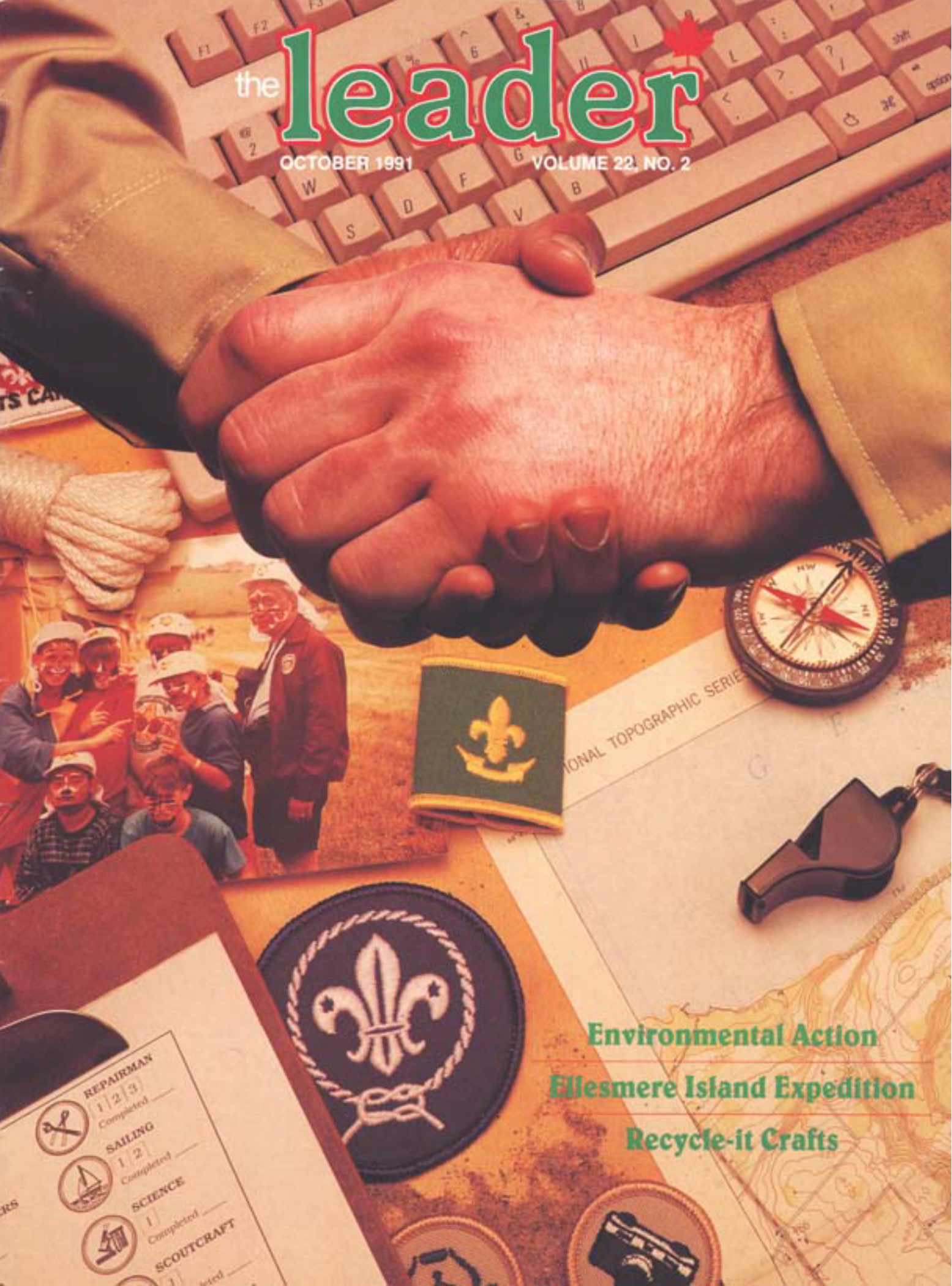


# the leader

OCTOBER 1991

VOLUME 22, NO. 2



**Environmental Action**  
**Ellesmere Island Expedition**  
**Recycle-it Crafts**

- REPAIRMAN  
1/2/3  
Completed
- SAILING  
1/2  
Completed
- SCIENCE  
1  
Completed
- SCOUTCRAFT  
1/2/3  
Completed

# Sobering Thoughts

by Linda Florence

The slight 18 year old stepped up to the podium — fresh-faced, pretty, self-assured. She could be the daughter, granddaughter, or Venturer of any of the hundred or so Scouters in the room.

"Hi," she said. "My name is Amanda. I am an alcoholic and a drug addict."

I'm sure I wasn't the only one who felt my stomach lurch and the meal I'd just enjoyed sink like a lump to the bottom.

Amanda was the after-lunch speaker at the Alberta Scouters' Conference I was privileged to attend in May. Along with two other recovering young addicts from PRIDE Canada (Parent Resources Institute for Drug Education), she'd come to the gathering at Olds College to present an afternoon session on drug awareness.

As part of their on-going recovery program, the three regularly speak to adults and young people in schools. They also help assess young people who come to PRIDE for help and are important members

in an after care support program for others recently released from treatment programs.

Amanda and Dale, a 20 year old alcoholic, drug addict, and former Scout, underwent treatment programs in the U.S. after referral by PRIDE. They call the third member of their group a "normie". He's a 19 year old known as a "co-dependent", addicted not to chemicals but to the party lifestyle he supported and shared with a drug and alcohol addicted friend.

Those who gathered to hear these bright, attractive and articulate young people talk about where they'd been and where they are today found it an eye-opener. Addiction stories are not pretty and these kids described theirs with brutal frankness — con jobs, crime, violence, guns, dirt, vomit, and fear. Amanda and Dale sought help after hitting rock bottom and confronting a choice; quit using drugs or die.

How did it happen? There are no clear answers. The two chemically addicted young people come from families with a history of alcoholism. Amanda remembers adults who thought it "cute" to see a young child get tipsy. One of the young men spoke of being molested as a child; the other of a harsh and feared father.

What all of them carried out of their childhood was an overwhelming sense of shame and self-loathing. In their recovery, day by day and sometimes minute by minute, they are chipping away at this negative core and replacing it with feelings of esteem and love for themselves — the strength that comes from knowing, as Amanda said, "I am a good person. I am important and worthy."

These young people offered themselves as tangible evidence of the high cost of alcohol and drug abuse in human terms as they told of lost childhoods filled with pain that still, at times, overwhelms their new-found joy in experiencing life sober. And they frankly tallied the economic costs: many tens of thousands of dollars paid by Canada's healthcare system for their treatment in the U.S. because we do not have adequate programs in our own country; the property they damaged and the money and goods they stole to finance their addictions (Amanda estimates her take at almost \$300,000); the expense of dealing with rapidly escalating crime rates.

"How can we tell if a kid is having a problem? What should we look for?" Scouters wanted to know. All drug awareness literature lists the signs the three young people outlined: abrupt changes in behaviour, friends, dress. You'll likely find money, jewellery and other valuables disappearing from the house, they said. But, they added, addicts are highly manipulative con artists, and adults often do not notice kids are in trouble until they are in very deep.

That left the big question: "What can we do?" We already knew that, if we included drug awareness in our programs, the most effective approach would be to invite in young people like these three to talk with our Cubs, Scouts, or Venturers. And we picked up a tip on choosing from among the huge variety of awareness programs available across the country: look for regularly updated materials.

"Kids change as quickly as fashion," Dale explained, with the result that materials go out of style very fast and lose all credibility with the young people you want to reach.

In fact, the young speakers made it clear that there is no convenient checklist Scouters can follow to help prevent young people from abusing alcohol and other drugs. Then a Beaver leader spoke up.

"We start with them as little 5 year olds," she said. "Surely there is something we can do."

Their answers came one by one, taking us to the heart of the only sure approach, whatever our Scouting section.

"Never shame them."

"Be a listener; listen to what they say."

"Make them feel good about themselves."

As Scouters and parents, these may be the most important things we ever do for our kids. X

*For information about PRIDE Canada resources and local groups, write: PRIDE Canada Inc., College of Pharmacy, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon S7N 0W0: (306) 975-3755 or 1-800-667-3747. Have you put drug awareness into your section program? The Leader would very much like to hear about your activities and resources, and how effective you found these resources for the age of your section. Please let us know.*

## Notice of Annual Meeting Boy Scouts of Canada

Saturday,  
November 16, 1991  
4:45 p.m.  
Westin Hotel,  
Ottawa, Ontario

### Purpose:

- (1) Consider the annual report
- (2) Consider the annual financial statements and auditor's report
- (3) Elect officers, members, honorary members, committee chairpersons, and others of National Council
- (4) Appoint the auditor, who shall be a chartered accountant



# the leader

The Canadian Leader Magazine

October 1991

Volume 22, No. 2

## FEATURES

ELLESMERE ISLAND EXPEDITION  
*Calgary Venturers win Amory Award with arctic adventure* **4**

ENVIRONMENTAL FUND RECOGNIZES PROJECTS **6**

THE QUARTERMASTER'S STORE  
*The troop QM is a powerful Scout on the Court of Honour* **8**

EVERYONE TALKS ABOUT THE WEATHER, BUT ...  
*How to prepare for rain at every camp* **9**

TRAINS IN THE RAIN  
*Bad weather at camp means you need to be flexible* **10**

RECYCLE-IT CRAFTS **11**

GETTING ORGANIZED  
*Tips for organizing events large and small* **13**

CANADIANS GET MOOTED IN OZ  
*A report of the 9th World Moot, Australia* **14**

RECRUITING FOR PR  
*Who you need and how to find them* **15**

THE 2ND ARMOUR WORLD-WIDE  
BIRTHDAY CHALLENGE  
*Great Scouting ideas for pack and troop* **16**

AN INTERCONTINENTAL WINTER BEAVEREE  
*Activities & crafts from Beavers in northern B.C.* **18**

## REGULARS

FUN AT THE POND *From Thanksgiving to Christmas* **20**

SHARING *Bullies & Beavers* **22**

PAKSAK *Parents in the Pack* **23**

PATROL CORNER *The Age Option Issue* **24**

VENTURER LOG *Earth Day Hike /  
Venturer Service Program* **25**

OUTDOORS *Fancy Cooking Physics* **26**

FOR VOLUNTEERS *Video Resources* **32**

NETWORK *Community Organizations* **34**



Page 16

## ALSO

Editorial Page **2**

Cross-Country Photos **28**

1992 International Events **30**

Supply News **31**

Scouter's 5 and Skits **35**

Letters **38**

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# Amory Adventure Award Ellesmere Island Expedition



They did it in 1989. In 1990, the 83rd A Calgary Venturers again earned top honours in the Amory Adventure Award competition. Their \$30,000 expedition to Ellesmere Island, NWT, was a fitting achievement for a company of 16 and 17 year olds who would begin to scatter in the fall after Scouting together since they joined the 83rd's troop in 1984.

In September 1988, Venturers Adam Forseth, Travis Smith, Ryan Yeo, Geoff Atkinson, Stephen Brown, Grady Galvin, Michael Lathrop, Clint Sello, and Martin Spedding, with advisor Tracey Stock and co-advisor Cody McLean, started "trying to figure what we'd do in 1990. It was going to be a special year because it was the last before Grady, Travis, and Michael left to attend university and, after working together in Scouting for



*Venturers take a stroll on the bay, a pastime they called "berging". They used a grappling hook and rope to pull together floes so that they could leap safely from one to another.*

six or seven years, our company would begin to close. The expedition of 1990 would be our grand finale — our very own Big Bang!"

They investigated two possibilities at opposite ends of the scale: the tropics (a Kenyan safari) and the far north. Kenya proved beyond their means, even if their planned two years of fundraising brought in maximum returns. They decided to go north instead.

After a five day sprint from Calgary to Montreal in their 20 year old bus, the company spent almost three weeks hiking and learning in the Canadian arctic, much of it in and around Grise Fiord, the most northerly community in the Northwest Territories. On the return bus trip, they took time to explore city life in

Montreal, Ottawa, and Toronto, and enjoyed three days at Haliburton Scout Reserve in Ontario.

The adventure ran from July 19 to August 28, 1990. In a couple of pages, we can't hope to do justice to the company's fascinating account, but **Venturer Ryan Yeo** provides an excellent summary in his introduction to the company's comprehensive log.

\* \* \*

"The log describes a huge achievement for us. Every skill we had developed in our earlier years, both in Scouting and elsewhere, was drawn upon and challenged. Even more significantly, the expedition made us develop a whole new range of skills — firearm safety, advanced wilderness first aid, radio communication, sleeping under the midnight sun, and living in an Inuit community — then challenged each new skill before the iron was cool, in conditions where mistakes could hurt.

"We succeeded by our own wits. Our advisors were always nearby, but what we did, we did ourselves and the boost it has given our self-esteem and confidence is tremendous....

"Our goals ... were to undertake a challenging and adventurous expedition in the High Arctic to develop an improved appreciation and understanding of the culture of Canada's northern people through direct contact with the communities of Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord,



*As service to Cpl. Rogers in thanks for the use of RCMP property to pitch their tents and store things, the company moved a few hundred oil barrels into position for re-labelling.*



Ready for the long trek, (front) Venturers Geoff Atkinson, Travis Smith, Ryan Yeo, Mike Lathrop; (back) Clint Sello, Adam Forseth, Marty Spedding, Stephen Brown, Grady Galvin, and Assistant Advisor Cody McLean. The ski poles helped them balance while crossing Ellesmere's rocky terrain and rocky rivers.

coupled with exposure to the physical environment in which these people live. The expedition would focus on exploring and observing arctic topography, flora and fauna in the Grise Fiord area and participating in the community of Grise Fiord.

"We feel we achieved each and every element of this statement and ... will always share with one another a deep sense of satisfaction and comradeship for working together as a team to make a dream become reality.

"For a brief time, we really became part of the Grise community; joining its people for games and helping with their work hauling whales, leaping into a boat on the strength of a hand-wave to join, suddenly, in a hunt when a polar bear was sighted on the edge of town. Hauling 15,750 gallons of aviation fuel in 350 barrels helped us contribute a service. Backpacking 75 kilometres across barren wilderness and climbing two mountains taught us a lot about the land and weather of our Inuit friends....

"(As Venturers) and earlier as Scouts, we've done countless weekend hikes and camps. Scouting, every moment of it, has been a fantastic adventure. Amory Adventures are just part of that, but are special because they help us focus and apply our skills and challenge us to stretch and grow. For us, the expedition to Grise Fiord was the right challenge at the right time....

"It cost a lot of money. We were lucky to have the resources and opportunity to raise such funds. However, as one of us told a group of fellow Venturers at a regional workshop in November 1990,

money is not important and you don't have to go to the arctic to have an awesome experience. We went to Grise because it was appropriate for us and we had a fantastic time planning and doing the journey. We'll have many more adventures and expeditions and a lot more fun without such a big undertaking. Just three days ago, we went cross-country skiing ... in Kananaskis Country and had a great time. We spent \$12 each on food and gas. The trail was free.

"All the money didn't buy the most important part of the trip, the fellowship of dear friends and the vitality of spirit that accompanies anything built on a foundation of love and trust. In Scouting, we've become brothers. Being together for 42 days, often stressed by extreme conditions or confinement in small tents or a small bus brought out no bitterness or discontent. We are at our best when we are together.

"After this experience, it would be tempting to believe that we can do anything. But it's not true. We have journeyed down many very challenging trails with our little bag of skills, but we've done it in the company of our greatest resource, family and one another. Now, it is time for our company to part. Each of us must walk the next trails on our own, mindful of the support of family and a special everlasting fellowship of Venturers. Our experiences this far have prepared us well. Yet, we will stumble on the way ahead. If any of us ever falls, however, it's comforting to hold faith that the fellowship will be there with helping hands. Hopefully, our trails will cross many times in good weather."<sup>7</sup>



Using a portable radio lent them by the Polar Continental Shelf Project (PCSP), the Venturers joined the regular PCSP radio schedule while on their hike. Every 12 hours, they set up and checked in with the base station in Resolute. By listening to other's reports, they also learned about weather systems that might affect their progress.



**Aug. 6:** "We decided to have a late night swim! We pulled on shorts, grabbed towels, neoprene booties and cameras, turned the workshop heater up, and strolled down to the beach. ... It was the ultimate Polar Bear Swim. Jake (an Inuit friend) came by and stared. He said we were crazy." **Aug. 7:** "At 12:30 a.m., we plunged into Jones Sound again. This time there was a small audience laughing and pointing." **Aug. 8:** "At 1 a.m., we went down to the beach for our last dip ... and found the whole population gathered to watch and Jake in a bathing suit ready to swim with us. We jumped in and yelled and screamed our hearts out. Adam and Ryan even swam around for a few minutes as if it was a warm bath. Jake swam with them. The crowd laughed, clapped and cheered."



Guard duty: For protection against polar bears, the company had three 12-gauge shotguns, bangers, screamers, and slugs, and nine flare guns with bangers, screamers, and flares. "Mr. Jeffrey Marley, a wildlife control specialist ... made it clear these devices would only enhance our security if we knew how to use them properly and were prepared to maintain a watch while we slept." On two hour shifts during sleep cycles (day and night were meaningless concepts where the sun never set), two Venturers always stood guard.

# Environmental Fund Recognizes Projects

The Scouts Canada Environmental Fund made its first awards early in May when it recognized the environmental actions of six Scout groups and a district council.

Four of the awards went for major clean-up projects. The 1st Ferris 1st Venturers, Ont., cleaned up along canoe routes on the Mattawa River (story, Mar '91); the 5th Cole Harbour, N.S., picked up trash on public pathways; the 10th All Saints Troop, Corner Brook, Nfld., cleaned up a parkway; and the Windsor District Council, Ont., held a major "Pitch-in Ditch Clean-up".

Other groups took different approaches. The 18th B Oshawa Cubs, Ont., constructed a composter from recycled materials, the 1st Juan de Fuca Cubs, Victoria, B.C., collected telephone books for recycling, and the 1st Callander Scouts, Ont., built and placed duck boxes.

We know many other groups are involved in environmental projects. What about yours? Have you applied to the Scouts Canada Environmental Fund? You could qualify for up to \$500 that can reimburse you for the material costs of the project in question or one you are planning for the future.

Contact your provincial Scouts Canada office for your simple-to-complete fund application form. There are no deadlines. Caring for, conserving, and improving our environment are on-going concerns for Scouting and the Environmental Fund's sponsors; the fund offers on-going recognition for Scouting's participants in environmental action.

## CUB COMPOSTER

The 18th B Oshawa Cubs used the Scouting principles of resourcefulness, concern, and cooperation to construct a composter for their sponsor from used skids (pallets) discarded by local industry and used hardware salvaged from a local door company, says Akela Alex Scott. The project involved three regular meetings, two Saturday mornings, a display day in a local mall during Scout Week, when Cubs installed the composter's hardware, and a church parade.

At the first meeting, Cubs learned about using tools safely and the principles of composting. One Saturday morning, they gathered the skids, knocked them apart and removed the nails, then separated the wood into like piles by length and thickness. Having become familiar with the available material, the pack was



Cub Ken Scott with the completed composter set up on the sponsor's property.

then able to plan the actual dimensions and shape of their composter.

As they dismantled skids and built the composter, the Cubs also learned and practised important safety procedures. They wore gloves and safety glasses when they worked with tools and, at some points, also needed to wear heavy boots. They received one-on-one supervision while hammering and sawing, and the observers helped hold boards, carry, lift, and clean up.

After applying a coat of stain, the pack presented the composter to their sponsor, Courtice United Church, during a church parade.

Scouter Scott says the project made both Cubs and sponsor more environmentally aware, helped Cubs learn to use tools and meet Carpenter Badge requirements, demonstrated that used materials can be recycled in practical ways, enabled the pack to thank their sponsor, and promoted teamwork and safety, from the planning to the clean-up stage.

"Above all, everyone had fun," he says. "Extra boards were cut and more nails were pounded than necessary, but everybody enjoyed participating."

He offers a few hints for others who might want to try recycling wood products to build things such as composters, picnic tables, bird feeders, or duck boxes.

1. Shop different industries to find suitable wood.
2. Carefully clean up nails and lumber at the dismantling site. Because industry must dispose of scrap such as the skids we used, they will welcome you back.
3. Use new galvanized nails for your project. Trying to re-use bent nails is very frustrating to new hammerers. The job will have more bent nails than straight ones when they are done anyway.
4. Let Cubs make their own small mistakes. A composter doesn't need to

look like fine furniture. Corners do not have to be perfectly square or boards perfectly straight. The important thing is fun and participation.

## 1ST CALLANDER SCOUTS

In spring 1990, the 1st Callander Scout program focused on the environment, says Scouter Harold Noel. As a small hands-on project, the Scouts decided to build and erect cavity-nesting duck boxes. They got plans from the local office of the ministry of natural resources and constructed the boxes at two regular meetings.

In May, the Scouts fastened three boxes to suitable trees on Callander Bay, Lake Nipissing, Ont., a nesting site for many ducks each year. In January 1991, they hiked across the ice to visit the boxes and found they had not been used. It didn't surprise them, says Scouter Noel, because ducks rarely move in right away. They need to become familiar with the boxes, first, which might take a year or two.

One of the nest trees had come down in a storm, but the Scouts rescued the box and fastened it to a sounder tree. The troop planned to check the boxes again in spring on a visit to install a few more.

## WINDSOR COUNCIL

Windsor District Council organized a day-long project to pick up litter tossed into a flood control ditch that lies between the Scout Service Centre property and a major regional shopping mall. The ditch had become a "dangerous and unsightly depository for large items such as mail boxes, newspaper boxes, and shopping carts as well as garbage of all kinds", the outline explains.

The council chose a date to coincide with the city's annual "Pitch-in" campaign and arranged permissions with the sanitation department, mall management, and other businesses located along the ditch. The city cooperated by helping pick up and dispose of large items and general garbage.

Scout groups, encouraged to spend the day on the project, received a free lunch for participating. The council intends to make it an annual affair.

### Program Links

Cubs: Tawny Star 1, Carpenter 1  
Scouts: Conservation b5.c5; Chief Scout Award



The mayor of Corner Brook, Nfld., thanks the 10th All Saints Scout Troop for cleaning up litter on the Lewin Parkway, a main entrance to the city. Eight Scouts, three leaders, and three pick-up trucks spent a day on the project, arranged into small groups that started at different areas of the parkway. They picked up three truck-loads of tires, plastics, cans, wood, and other types of garbage and separated it into recyclable and non-recyclable before taking it to the city dump. When they applied to the fund, they were also planning a spring project to restore exercise obstacles and introduce bird houses and feeders in Participark. The troop plans to use their environmental fund award "to buy materials for the next project we take on", says Scouter Roger Andrews.



How many bags? Each spring, the 5th Cole Harbour Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts spend a Saturday morning cleaning up public access pathways in their area. In four hours, the 200-strong group picks up garbage along 32 to 46 km of pathways. They generally collect 200 to 300 bags of garbage filled with everything from pop cans and candy wrappers to mattresses and car parts, says Terry Winters, group committee chairman.

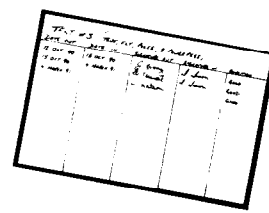
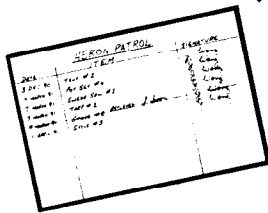


Garage-full of telephone books: From mid-January to mid-February 1991, the 1st Juan de Fuca Cubs collected a total of 6,000 old telephone books from offices and businesses and took them to the local dump for recycling. Cubs and parents felt their time had been well spent, and companies were happy to have Scouting take the books off their hands, says Scouter Pat Ford.

# Troop Government

## The Quartermaster's Stores

by Dave Tyre



I used to have an interesting basement. Anyone who stopped by to visit saw every square centimetre of space occupied by the troop colours for my Sea Scout troop (complete with carrier and staff), tents, stoves, pots, utensils, first aid kits, sails, oars, bottom boards, rudders, tillers, and almost four metres of well-maintained sailing vessel. I had enough gear to keep 10 Sea Scouts at sea and in the field for seven days. It was too much!

At a Court of Honour meeting, I raised the question of doing something else with all this gear, posing the idea to the Troop Quartermaster (QM) in hopes he would tackle the challenge and think of a way to help empty my basement.

He did. Within a few weeks, virtually all of it was gone, and the Troop QM became one of the most important Scouts in the troop. He took over the operation of the troop's supply system and equipment inventory. It was no easy job for a Scout, but it's a position of considerable responsibility and authority you can train any young person to fill.

Although every troop probably employs its quartermaster in a different way, there's a common denominator: the Troop Scouter is ultimately responsible to the group committee for the care of equipment. Many adults panic at the thought of handing over expensive gear to a Scout, but a well-trained Scout can actually do a better job than a Scouter trying to handle large amounts of equipment while keeping up with the responsibilities of running the troop.

The ideal situation is to have your own headquarters with a secure lock-up for all troop gear. All the quartermaster has to do then is carry out an inventory occasionally and report to the Court of Honour. If the troop never leaves the hall, the gear will always be there, but active troops leave the hall regularly and take their gear with them!

Most troops don't have the ideal situation. Many meet in schools or church halls with little room for all the stuff a troop accumulates over the years. One answer is to send it home with the Scouts, which means someone has to know where it is. The quartermaster's job starts to become more complicated.

### SET UP A SYSTEM

Emphasize two things in training a quartermaster: fairness and delegation. Delegating the job is very important in a large troop. If there are two or more patrols, each patrol needs its own quartermaster, traditionally the role of the assistant patrol leader (APL). When equipment is assigned to the patrol, the patrol QM disburses it fairly among patrol members and carefully records which Scout has which piece.

Equipment location and distribution can be a problem at the best of times. One solution is to develop a "loan card" system. Make a card for each piece or set of equipment, with space to describe its condition and record a name and date. The QM collects a signature from the Scout to whom the gear is issued. If the QM wants to locate a piece of equipment, he can pull the card to see where it is, when it was last used, and what shape it was in.

In a large troop, the APL uses the loan card system and the Troop Quartermaster maintains a "Patrol Issue Card". It records all the equipment issued to a particular patrol, with the APL's signature and date of issue. Again, the quartermaster can quickly survey the cards to find needed items.

For any system to work, you need to ensure that equipment is numbered and marked. It's a good idea to put the troop's identification on everything but, unless each piece is also numbered, the QM may find it frustrating to do the job. For example, tent #3 goes with fly #3. If the markings are plain to see, a mismatch or misplaced piece can quickly be restored to its designated keeper.

### QM JOBS

Encourage the Troop Quartermaster to conduct regular equipment musters. This doesn't mean random spot-checking, but rather asking a patrol to bring in the equipment assigned to them on regular occasions. Mustering is easiest at camp. Have the QM use camp break to inspect equipment as Scouts stow it for the hike out or unload it from the boat after the final landfall.

The Troop Quartermaster also helps determine what equipment is needed for each troop activity. He can do this by meeting with the APLs to draw up equipment lists for specific events.

Keeping an eye on the condition of equipment is also the QM's job. If a tent becomes unserviceable, for example, the QM brings up the subject at the Court of Honour. The Court then can determine what needs to be done to make it useable again.

Patrol QMs generally look after organizing consumables (food, dish detergent). It's important, for example, to spread food items among patrol members fairly and according to each Scout's ability to carry them. If there are non-perishable leftovers after the event, the QM needs to record what remains for the next outing. Unused resources from the previous event help save money, but only if the QM has a record enabling him to get them back when the patrol needs them.

Finally, a good quartermaster can make recommendations about new equipment. If the troop is considering a purchase, the QM, with the help of the Troop Scouter or a patrol counsellor, can gather information about options, prices, and merchants, and report back to the Court of Honour. If the troop is having difficulty because it lacks a specific piece of gear, the QM discusses it with the Scouts and suggests a remedy to the Court.

The Troop QM can quickly become the most powerful member of the Court of Honour. Since that Scout controls the use, maintenance, and care of the troop's materials, there's a danger it may go to his head. It's a good idea to make the position a fixed term affair so that different Scouts can gain experience.

Your quartermasters are the logistics experts in your troop. Given the opportunity, they may surprise you with some amazing ingenuity. All you need to provide is a simple framework, a small amount of training and, of course, all that expensive equipment. X

*Scouter Dave Tyre, former Skipper of the 2nd Juan de Fuca Sea Scouts, is Troop Service Scouter and member of the Greater Victoria Region training team, B.C.*



# Everyone Talks about the Weather, but...



by Stewart Bowman

*Q: What follows two days of rain?*

*A: Monday*

Most of us familiar with the tongue-in-cheek observation on weekend weather are also probably quite mystified over another phenomenon. Why do the same Cubs and Scouts who insist on going out to play in the rain against parents' wishes at home refuse to go out in it at camp where you encourage them to play in the rain?

Your leadership team has spent hours putting together activities for camp this weekend. You rush home from work on Friday, change into uniform, and throw a few essentials into your pack (including your trusty sun-block). Just as you start out the door, the telephone rings. John's father wants to know if you've heard the weekend weather forecast — scattered showers, gusting winds, etc., etc....

So, should we cancel the camp? Plan camps only for when fair weather is guaranteed? Camp in cabins all the time? Don't camp at all? Obviously, the answer to all of the above is no. Our only solution is to prepare ourselves accordingly and expect to have rain at every camp.

Being prepared involves a number of areas, but there are two key points.

1. *Proper rain gear.* Ponchos seem to have been designed only for those over 1.8 m tall, but they can also serve as spare groundsheets or tarps. My personal preference is rain-proof jackets and trousers because they pack away in relatively little space but offer extra warmth.

Be cautious when buying rainwear. Anything that costs less than \$10 is not likely to handle the wear and tear of camp activities. Better jackets (and ponchos) have built-in rather than detachable hoods. With detachables, rain is more likely to find its way through the seam to trickle down your back.

A peaked hat is definitely worthwhile. If you wear glasses, you'll immediately recognize the benefit of such headgear. The cap's peak keeps rain off your face and reduces the likelihood that water will flow down the front of your neck and into your clothes.

Waterproof footwear is another essential, but type depends on personal preference. Good outdoor walking or hiking

boots work best. Just be sure to refresh the waterproof coating. Pay particular attention to the seam between uppers and sole.

If you prefer sneakers at camp, you'll need rubber boots. I am not a fan of these because they don't provide enough ankle and foot support for walking and they aren't warm enough for walking in the cold.

2. *Scouters' attitude.* Young members look to you as an example. If you let wet weather get you down, you pass along the message. It doesn't matter how well you protect your body from the elements; if your mind says you want to be miserable, that's the way it will be. Rain is part of the outdoors. Glory in it. Take everyone dancing in the rain or puddle jumping.

Talk with your members before you go camping, not on the first night of camp when it's pouring. Ask them to tell you all the things they don't like about being outdoors in the rain and list the replies on a chalkboard or flip chart. You may need to prompt them a little, since they are doing this when they are warm and comfortable indoors.

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## *Rain is part of the outdoors. Glory in it.*

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After you've taken this part of the exercise as far as you can, call a break and run a short game to give everyone a stretch. Then, sit down again and ask them how they might solve each of the "problems" they listed earlier. I'm sure you'll find they have the answers you're looking for.

Although I've not taken this brainstorming approach to encourage my Scouts to think through the rain clouds, we have held small group discussions. Here are some of their concerns and solutions.

1. *The tents will get wet inside if we put them up in the rain.* Okay, then set up a large tarpaulin as an all-weather shelter (and practise knots and lashes), then pitch the tents undercover. Since all our tents have fitted groundsheets and flysheets, you shouldn't get wet at all.

2. *We can't cook in the rain.* Cook under the all-weather shelter (taking into account proper safety considerations).

3. *The clothes in my pack get wet.* Pack clothes in plastic bags, preferably the zip-lock type. We suggest Scouts bring an extra plastic garbage bag to camp; they can use it to cover the top of backpack or kitbag if it rains. We also instruct them to pack their sleeping bags in a plastic garbage bag inside the stuff-sack.

4. *You can't do anything in the rain.* Why not? How about a walk in the rain; perhaps a scavenger hunt (bring back one ray of sunshine...) or compass work to prove the benefit of map cases. How about pioneering — have everyone collect enough spars and lash them together to make a wind-break or strengthen the tarp you put up when you arrived.

5. *The whole point of this camp was to track sun-spot activity; now we have nothing else to do.* This is a toughy, but being good Scouts and Scouters, we always have contingency plans. Practise lighting fires with wet wood, go on a flashlight ramble, do an orientation game, hold a Scouts' Own, sing in the rain, learn something about meteorology, practise first aid, play a wide game.

Obviously, good sense must prevail. You probably don't want to fly kites, practise semaphore from the top of an exposed hill, or go swimming when your little rain shower is backed up by the biggest, ugliest thundercloud you've ever seen in your life.

"Well, I guess that's settled then," you say to John's dad, "the camp is off for this weekend, so that you can let John go out and play in the rain."

But, seriously, the ability to enjoy camping is a pleasure we should not deny ourselves, whatever the weather. It comes down to the two basic ingredients: proper rain-proof clothing and a rain-proof positive attitude. Just add water, stir vigorously, and enjoy. X

*Stewart Bowman is Troop Scouter with the 8th Whitby Scouts, Ont.*

# TRAINS IN THE RAIN

by Lynn Johnson

For a lot of years, I have preached the importance of having a back-up program in case of bad weather. Since I have always had phenomenally good luck with weather for camps, I had all the satisfaction of feeling smugly prepared without ever having to prove it worked.

Well, we all know what pride goeth before. In April, I had the doubtful pleasure of camping with 16 Cubs in quite the worst weather I've ever had the bad sense to go out in.

This is not a tale of how I triumphed over horrendous odds by my own cleverness. The triumphant parts came from a good-natured, hard-working, super-flexible leadership team and quite the most delightful campsite for Cubs you can imagine — Oba Junction at Oba-sa-Teeka near Toronto.

The weather ranged from bad to worse to truly awful all month. The forecast for our weekend suggested cold, high winds, and driving rain. As it had already been raining for days, we assumed there would also be lots of mud.

Still, we had a good time planning the main program. Given a campsite with three real cabooses, we chose the theme "railways". We decided to start with the early exploration of routes, looking for the flattest routes with the fewest curves, which would bring into play measurement, trail signs, and stories of explorers (Green and Blue Stars).

One of our leaders arranged to bring a tape recorder with train noises. It would provide some interesting moments on a night hike and make for a truly different Kim's Game.

In the afternoon, we'd talk about the hobos who used the railways, especially in the 30s, then make up hobo bundles on sticks to carry our afternoon snack on our hike. And, we thought making our own miniature railway in the dirt with natural objects would be a nice quiet-time activity.

## DAY ONE

The day of the camp, one leader called to say he was ill and would not be coming. He was disappointed. Like the rest of us, he had wanted to play trains. Two leaders and the chief cook went to the site early to be there to greet and count Cubs when they arrived. Even in the rain, Oba Junction was wonderful. It had three bright orange cabooses on sections of train track, two fitted with bunks for



The kitchen caboose — a haven in which to get warm and dry

eight and the third with kitchen and eating facilities.

Everything gleamed, from the new floors to the immaculate appliances in the kitchen. Each caboose had a raised section of roof in the middle with, in the sleeping cars, two bunks Cubs could fantasize about and, in the kitchen, two seats that provided the most wonderful opportunity to supervise without being obvious.

Thinking myself very clever, I assigned our two nighthawks to one set of the upper bunks on the theory that they would then only keep each other awake. Elsewhere, we allowed friends to bunk close to each other, and everyone settled in happily.

The Cubs were higher than kites with sheer excitement over the novel accommodation and discovered charms mere adults missed. Huge chains at the rear could be wound up on a big wheel, sounding much as Marley must have done in Scrooge's cellars; "neat" red and green lights shone at the end of each caboose; the poles for the steps to the upstairs bunks made wonderful monkey bars.

By sheer perversity of fate, one caboose was occupied by clean and tidy Cubs while the other housed loveable slob. Interestingly, these qualities were not predictable by behaviour, dress, or number of badges. An hour after the Cubs' arrival, Caboose 1 was ankle deep in mud where personal belongings were randomly flung. We rushed to Caboose 2 to see how bad it was: only two footprints on the floor, beds ready for the night, and everything neatly packed in the lockers.

They maintained the same appearance all weekend, in spite of our efforts. We

mopped, scolded, supervised, and demonstrated packing techniques, but half an hour was all the Caboose 1 crew needed to give their quarters that lived-in look.

**Night Hike:** We made an immediate discovery. Several parents had touching faith that "water resistant" clothing was really "water repellent". We also learned that one Cub's jacket did not do up, and several other boys claimed they had no raincoats or boots. Investigation found these items had indeed been packed, but we couldn't do much about nylon shells passing as rainwear. We bundled on extra clothing and went off for a night hike.

We first had to convince Cubs that, on the open path, they would see better without flashlights. Akela, especially, sees much better without bright lights shining into her eyes. After much grumbling while their eyes adjusted, they discovered that we did, in fact, know what we were talking about.

After a 10 minute walk, we reached the enormous field at one end of the camp and explained our game: leaders would disappear into the dark of the field, pick a suitable spot, and flash flashlights twice. Cubs were to find all three leaders, who kept constantly on the move. We had a good deal of fun, even in the rain. The Cubs did get extra clues, though, as our ponchos went "swish, swish" with every move.

On our way back over the old nature trail, a soft murmur rose from beside me. "Akela, are we lost?"

"No, Johnny, of course not."

"But, Akela, this is a swamp!"

Well, by now, so was most of Oba-sa-Teeka!

Back in the dining car, we had an enthusiastic sing song, including "Singing in the Rain", mug up, and a rush to the cabooses. I've never seen Cubs so eager to go to bed.

We were less than thrilled with our large damp tent, complete with what appeared to be a hog wallow in the doorway. Just as we finally dozed off, Night Hawk #1 bellowed out a window, "Akela! Gordon's keeping me awake, and I'm so-o-o tired!"

We tried to work up a little sympathy and asked Gordon to quiet down. Peace ensued until about 4 a.m., when Kaa discovered that the tent leaked. Akela awoke to the same conclusion about 5:30. We crept soggily into the dining car and spent the rest of the night in the two chairs upstairs. Baloo slept peacefully, puddles on all sides.

however, we realized that Bert was missing. I checked the immediate area. No Bert.

Leaving the pack with the other leaders, I raced back to Oba Junction to find Bert having a chat with the cooks. He had ducked into his caboose to grab gloves just as we set off and had not been with us at all. So much for eye-witness accounts! The cooks had a few remarks about my ability to count to 16, too.

So far, spirits had been high and the Cubs found it rather fun to be out in the rain. Now, although two-thirds of them still felt this way, rain and cold were starting to get to those less well outfitted. We'd rigged a large fly to play games under and used a nearby shelter with tables for more sedentary activities in our rainy day plans. But, several Cubs had become unwilling to participate. One of

flat wood in the kindling box (needless to say, we'd scrapped firefighting) — just enough for 16 boats.

We lured out the Cubs and let them decorate the wood pieces with natural items and surveyor's tape from Baloo's bag (reminiscent of the one carried by Mary Poppins). Then they waded happily about in their private lake, pushing their boats with sticks. Once in, they had no desire to come out. Two fell in, had to be fished out, dried, and returned to their game, but even they were happy. All we had to do was watch.

After dinner, we prepared skits and had a sing song, then early to bed. At 4 a.m., Stuart felt ill. Being a sensible child, he made sure he did not throw up on himself; he leaned over the edge and threw up on Donny below. We cleaned up, tucked Donny in my extra sleeping bag and Kaa's extra blanket, and returned to bed.



"Aww! Do we have to leave?" A Cub in one of the "upstairs" bunks packs up at camp's end.

## DAY TWO

For the first time in my experience, the Cubs slept until about eight. After breakfast, clean-up and inspection, we lined them up, counted them, and set off on the exploration part of the program. Our first stop was the painted map at the ranger's office to orient everyone, then down the hill, over the bridge, up a high hill, and into the woods. After a rush on the outhouse, we organized for a game.

"Okay, where's Bert?"

Four people assured me that Bert went into the outhouse. Upon investigation,

our leaders felt sick and retired from action for awhile.

After lunch, we gave Cubs some free time in the cabooses. While they joyously horsed around indoors, leaders took a look around outside. One feature of the site was a large puddle (actually, a small pond) produced by the incredible amounts of rain. We'd been referring to it as "the lake" and doing our best to keep the Cubs out of it.

Now, we decided it was just what we needed to provide a little inspiration for soggy Cubs. We scouted about for materials and found several pieces of nice

## LEARNINGS

Sunday was cloudy, cool, and muddy, but the rain had stopped. The Cubs sang at the top of their lungs as we explored. We held Scouts' Own, then found more puddles to paddle in and tadpoles to examine. Camp wound down. Every item of everyone's clothing was wet and filthy. We were all in surprisingly good spirits.

Our team had learned a lot. In our plans, we had not made enough allowance for morale problems caused by physical discomfort. We had not been specific enough in our clothing list. We had visualized certain problems, but hadn't allowed for several happening at the same time. I certainly didn't allow for the fact that fatigue and additional distractions might make me less alert and slower in my responses.

We were lucky. We had a place to get warm and dry, excellent food and plenty of it, and an experienced flexible leadership team prepared to re-program on the spot when necessary. Although the glamorous cabooses and the puddle enchanted the Cubs, next time, my bad weather planning will be more realistic.

But we'll give our little critics the last word.

"It was bor-ing!" said Sam.

"I'm glad it rained," said Matthew. "If it had been nice, you would have made us do stuff!"

"It was neat!" agreed most of the Cubs.

"I don't want to go home," said Jamie. It was his first camp and his very first time away from home. A

*Scouter Lynn Johnson is Akela with the 1st Highland Creek Cubs, Scarborough, Ont.*



# Recycle-It Crafts



by Laureen Duquette

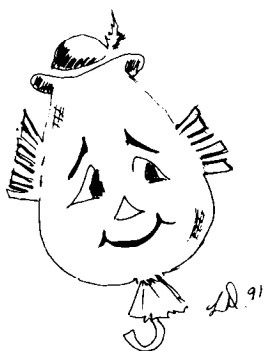
October is busy with celebrations of Thanksgiving and Hallowe'en. World Food Day on the 16th reminds us of the importance of keeping the environment healthy, and that means reducing waste.

Ask your young members to bring from home things they'd normally discard after using. These might include pantyhose, milk cartons, paper towel or toilet tissue rolls, outgrown clothes, scraps of yarn, plastic detergent bottles, newspapers, and magazines.

Put the collection in a pile and have members sit in a circle around it. Ask each child to select one item, say how it was used, and suggest at least one *different* way to use it again. Here are some ideas to help colony or pack recycle articles of waste into articles of fun.

## PUPPETS

Even shy children are more likely to interact with others if they can do it through the mouth of a puppet. Older Beavers and Cubs might enjoy writing their own play based on a Hallowe'en or Thanksgiving story or, even, the *Jungle Book*. They can perform for parents or as a service in a hospital or senior citizens' home. Then they can take home their puppets or, perhaps, sell them as fundraisers at a craft fair.

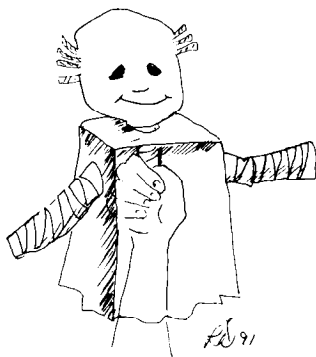


**Hanger and Hose:** Here's a fun way to recycle those old pantyhose. Ask members to bring in a few pairs from mom. It takes only one pair per puppet, but it won't hurt to have extra.

First, bend a wire coat hanger into a head shape. Stretch the stocking leg over it, gather it at the bottom of the head, and secure with a garbage bag twist. Glue on facial features made from felt or paper scraps. Yarn, shredded paper, or cotton balls make good hair.

Encourage members to try creating silly characters by bending the hanger into odd shapes before covering and decorating.

**Paper-bag Puppet:** Beavers can easily make these puppets. Stuff a used lunch bag with torn newspaper. Push a stick in the bottom and hold in place by wrapping string or masking tape around the open end of the bag. Add features with scrap material, construction paper, felt pen, or paint. Dress the puppet by tying a piece of scrap fabric around the part of the bag attached to the stick.



**Two-bag Puppet:** Each member needs two paper bags, one larger than the other. Stuff the smaller bag with newspaper and tie a string around it about three-quarters of the way down. Wrap from string to open end of the bag with masking tape to form a neck.

Make a small hole in the bottom of the larger bag and insert the neck to make a handle that enables the puppeteer, his arm masked by the bag, to move the character's head. Add arms and legs by twisting old bags or newspaper, wrapping them with masking tape, and stapling or taping them to the body of the puppet. Decorate with markers and material from the scrap box.

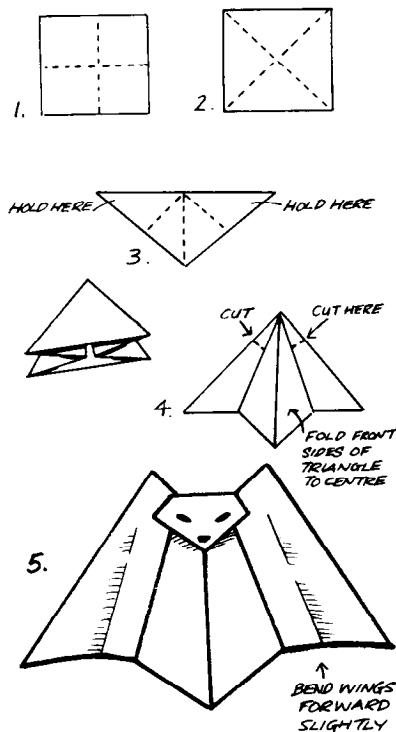
## HALLOWE'EN PARTY

This year, try a Hallowe'en party where nobody comes in costume. Instead, ask everyone to bring a copy of the daily paper. Provide scissors, glue, and stapler, and challenge members to create costumes from their newspaper. They may want to work in pairs. Hold a parade when everyone is finished.

Decorate the hall and recycle some of those mysteriously reproducing wire coat hangers in one fell swoop with batmobiles. For each mobile you need a coat hanger; three squares of paper (news-

paper or used giftwrap) 10 cm, 12.5 cm, and 15 cm; a needle, thread and marker(s) to add eyes or, if you use newspaper, to colour the bats.

1. Fold a square in half, unfold; fold again in the opposite direction and unfold. Turn over the paper.
2. Fold the paper on a diagonal, open it, fold it on the opposite diagonal. Leave folded.
3. Take hold of the two base ends of the triangle and press gently together until the paper forms a double triangle.
4. Fold each side of the front triangle toward the centre.
5. Make diagonal cuts from the edge of the back triangle to the front flaps as illustrated. Fold the top forward to make a head. Add eyes.
6. Bend the bat's wings forward slightly.



When you've made three bats of different sizes, use thread and needle to string them to the coat hanger. To add variety in the room, Cubs or Scouts might make a few big bats from 30 cm or 60 cm squares to hang from the ceiling between the mobiles.

Have a great party and a most successful Scouting year. X

*Laureen Duquette is a member of the Leader staff.*

**Program Links**  
Tawny Star 2

# Getting Organized

by Sher Leetooze

It seems like we just finish with the season to be jolly when, lo and behold, it's the season to be campers. We just get started in the fall and, suddenly, Scouters across the country are gearing up for Beaverees, Cuborees, Camporees, Ventures, Regattas, and Moots. We all wonder if we will have a successful event.

The keys to success are forged in the preparations. Anyone can prepare and organize an event, and everyone should be involved in some sort of organizing at least once in a Scouting career.

One item always rears its ugly head to intimidate Scouters who dare to think about getting involved in the organizing end of things — logistics! "I'm big! I'm going to eat you!" it growls. Everyone backs away, leaving organization to the same experienced few every event. Here are some ideas to help you gather the courage you need to experience your full potential.

Whether it's for 20, 200, or 2,000 participants, organizing an event varies little.

Every event needs some sort of **registration**. The same format suits all occasions. Some need more than one page of names, that's all.

All events require **activities**. With bigger events, you just need a few more. Nothing earth-shaking here, right?

All events need basic **rules and regulations**. Lights out at 10 holds as true for 20 as for 200 or 2,000. If cars are not allowed in the camping area when you

have 20, they are not allowed in when you have 200 or 2,000.

And all events need provision for **feeding and first aid**. With small events, it may mean simply asking participants to bring a lunch, providing drinks and snacks, and making sure at least some leaders have first aid training. With large events, you will have to consider cooks and help from St. John Ambulance.

## WISE USE OF RESOURCES

There's only one difference in organizing big rather than small. The greater the numbers, the more hands you need to lighten the organizational load. That's where using your resources comes in.

Let's look at a regional Cuboree. Say there are 12 districts in your region, and it's your district's turn to organize the annual event. The resources in your district are limited. Perhaps you are the smallest district in your region, or 75% of your Scouters are new this year and not sure they are ready to jump into such an undertaking. Remember, you don't have to do it alone.

What about those 11 other neighbouring districts? How about the person who was a Scouter five years ago but had to bow out at the time because of job commitments? Perhaps that former Scouter just hasn't had the right reason to become involved again.

Your regional field executive has a list as long as your arm of enthusiastic able Scouters who, if asked, would more than likely jump at the chance to help your committee. If your district or region has a ladies' auxiliary or a B.-P. Guild, you have an excellent source of helpers and, perhaps, some excellent staff cooks.

Beaver and Scout leaders are tremendously imaginative people to call into a Cub event. Rover crews make great traffic control wardens; your crew may even have made Red Cross or St. John Ambulance training their specialty. Venturers are great activity organizers for Cub events (Beaver and Scout events, too!).

And what about your next door neighbours? They've always said they really didn't have time to join Scouting, but I bet they'd have time to go to camp for the weekend to count heads and package up camp crests for each group in time for closing ceremonies.

Now that you have all sorts of people to help with your event, give them their jobs and let them run with them. They may not do everything the way you would have, but they get it done and ensure your event is a success.

After a particularly great Operation Alert in Quinte Region, Ont., our organizing committee sat around and commiserated over all the problems we'd had and all the things that hadn't gone as smoothly as we'd hoped. But, outside the immediate committee, who knew about those things? Nobody. Participants and staff had a great time; the weather cooperated; we all made new friends and learned new things; the event was a success.

Logistics may have reared its ugly head, but we thumbed our noses at it and went on with our plans. Twelve hundred seemed like two or three groups. It was fun — tiring, but fun.

Yes, we gained experience in how not to do some things, but we can't grow if we don't make mistakes. We all came out of it wiser and eager to tackle logistics once again.

Now, it's your turn. Take a deep breath, look logistics square in the eye, and say, "I'm not afraid of you. Compared to the national debt, world hunger, and finding a way to ask the boss for a raise, you are small potatoes — very small."

It works. X

*Sher Leetooze is Scouter-at-large, West Durham District, Quinte Region, Ont.*

## Obituary: Someone Else

We are saddened to learn of the death of one of our valuable members, Someone Else. Someone's passing created a vacancy it will be difficult to fill. For many years, Someone did far more than a normal person's work.

Whenever they needed a chairperson, people looked to this wonderful person for inspiration as well as results: "Someone Else can work on that committee." Whenever there was a job to do or a meeting to attend, one name was on everybody's list: "Let Someone Else do it."

It was common knowledge that Someone Else was among our hardest working members. Whenever there was a need, everyone just assumed that Someone Else would do it. Someone Else was a wonderful person — often appearing superhuman — but a person can only do so much.

Were the truth to be known, everybody expected too much of Someone Else. Now, Someone Else is gone. We wonder what we are going to do. Someone Else left a wonderful legacy to follow, but who is going to follow it? We can't depend on Someone Else anymore.

# Canadian Rovers Get Mooted in Oz

by Nicole van Wylick

As plans shape up for the 9th World Rover Moot in Switzerland in 1992, 51 Rovers from B.C., Alberta, Ontario, and Quebec are still sorting through pictures and souvenirs from the 8th World Moot held at Gilwell Park, Victoria, in Australia from Dec. 28, 1990 to Jan. 8, 1991.

About 1,500 Rovers from 42 countries assembled for two weeks Down Under. Although partying was high on everyone's agenda, it was not the purpose for the moot. Rovers did a service project to help neighbouring parks and nature trails. The moot also featured a *Scouting Towards 2000 Youth Forum*. Two Rovers from each attending country took time out of their schedules to gather off-site for discussions on current issues affecting Scouting and its future, among them substance abuse, youth employment and education, youth sexuality, the environment, and community involvement.

The two week moot enabled participants to choose from a wide variety of activities in camp and nearby — boomerang-making, badminton, beach days, silk-screening, sanctuary touring — the list goes on. Everyone could also

choose from a variety of three-day expeditions ranging from hang gliding to scuba diving.

The entire camp gathered to celebrate the changing of the year. At 10 p.m. Dec. 31, New Zealand became the first country to ring in 1991. Every hour and, sometimes, half hour thereafter until 10 p.m. Jan. 1, different groups of Rovers sang their national anthem and let their thoughts travel home. Rovers from Ontario and Quebec were the first Canadians to celebrate the new year. Midnight for them fell at 4 p.m. on Jan. 1.

The Canadians presented the Australians a Canadian flag that had flown atop the Peace Tower on the parliament buildings in Ottawa (donated by Prime Minister Mulroney). We made everyone laugh by telling truly Canadian jokes and pleased everyone's sweet tooth when we served pancakes with real Canadian maple syrup. When we assembled in our red contingent jackets, we were the envy of many. It was very clear that, even though Scouts Canada has only a small number of registered Rovers, their pride and love for Scouting is very much alive.



A Canadian Rover learns how to make a boomerang.

The moot gave us many different opportunities to create new friendships — some while travelling to camp, some on site, others on expeditions, service projects, or other activities, some even at the arcade and laundromat. It doesn't matter where friendships were initiated; what is important is that the moot forged such a large number of international bonds between tomorrow's leaders.

The flags were lowered on Jan. 8, and closing ceremonies brought the moot to an end. Many Rovers stayed on in Australia for home hospitality or to tour the country, while the rest made their way home.



Two Canadians and a Mexican. Guess who is who.

The 9th World Moot will be a chance for those who attended the eighth to rekindle old friendships and meet more new people, all of them age peers who, whatever their culture, share a common interest — Scouting. ♪

Nicole van Wylick is a Rover with the Camp Sheldrick Crew in Vernon, Ont.

## The Scout Association of Australia



Founded in 1908, Australian Scouting has over 150,000 members in five sections: Joey Scouts, aged 6-8, their newest section; Cub Scouts, 8-11; Scouts, 11-15; Venturers 15-18; and Rovers, 18-25. Recently, as in the United Kingdom, the program has become fully coeducational.

Scouting programs emphasize adventure activities, camping, bushcraft, fun, and community service. Water activities are a big element for all Scouts and there are many Sea Scout units. The association also owns powered aircraft and gliders for air activities and has some Air Scout units.

In this large country, there are eight geographical branches of the association, each considerably self-managed. The association produces over 100 program and information publications to inform Scouts about what is going on in Australia and overseas. It also has a Friendship Tour program that provides for small parties of Scouts to visit countries in the eastern hemisphere.

Australia was host to the 16th World Jamboree and the 31st World Scout Conference. Australia's motto: *Be Prepared*.

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



# Recruiting for PR

by John Rietveld

All too often, Scouts Canada public relations people become so wrapped up in promotional efforts to recruit young people, leaders, and council members that we neglect to recruit for our own PR committees.

In many councils and groups, the PR or communications committee consists of one lonely person who publishes the newsletter, works with the media, and helps with internal promotions for special events. PR types may seem to have a rather glamorous job, but spending your Saturday afternoon in the church basement cranking out the group or district newsletter on the old gestetner and licking hundreds of postage stamps is anything but glamorous.

Why do so many PR committees become one person handling so many different jobs? Perhaps because no one can do it better than you, right? Wrong! I believe the concept of one person/one job leads to success and satisfaction, especially in volunteer organizations. So how do you go about finding extra helping hands?

Scouts Canada has several excellent resources that provide tips on recruiting. The pamphlet, *The Care and Maintenance of Volunteers* and *The Grizzly Creek Solution* video are proven recruitment techniques. Given these excellent resources, why is the position of Group Publicity Chairman often vacant? And why does the council PR committee consist of only one person or none at all?

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## WHO DO YOU NEED?

PR has a stigma that suggests only certain types of people can do the job. To be on the PR committee, you need to be a good photographer, a good public speaker, and a good artist. You should also have writing skills, an advertising or marketing background, and at least some expertise with desktop publishing.

Although this description represents a good list of the skills a PR committee needs, they should not all be wrapped into one person. A successful committee is made up of a number of people, each with his or her specific skill and experience. Our national communications committee, for example, includes people from advertising, Public Relations, journalism, and marketing.

So where do you start? First, find out who in your council is responsible for

recruiting. Is it a council member, the nominating committee, or the service team? Contact whoever it is to discuss the PR committee's needs and make sure they are part of the targets set by your council recruiters.

Next, provide the recruiter a brief job description for the positions to be filled. At the **group level**, the publicity chairman is a key player on the group committee. This person keeps parents or guardians, sponsor, and immediate community informed about group activities and projects. He or she also maintains contact with the council PR committee.

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*Why do so many PR committees become one person handling so many different jobs?*

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The **council PR committee** needs several people. For internal communications, you need someone to publish the bulletin or help produce information flyers about fundraising or special events. Find another person to deal with external communications, work with the media, and arrange placement of provincial or national promotional material. It's a good idea to have yet another person responsible for displays during your council's fall recruitment activities or Guide/Scout Week. The number of people on your committee will depend on the council's PR plan.

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## WHERE CAN YOU FIND THEM?

Now that you have identified the number of people you need and the skills required, suggest where your recruiter might find these people. Many communities have associations of people in the communications and marketing business. Talk to your company's PR person to find the local chapter of the Canadian Public Relations Society (CPRS) or the International Association of Business Communicators (IABC). Both organizations can provide leads or even suggest possibilities from among their membership.

Your community Volunteer Bureau may have a list of professionals who might be interested in joining your PR committee. They can also help you advertise for people.

Another excellent source of help is your community college. Many offer two and three year diplomas in PR and advertising. They encourage students to volunteer while in the program, and you'll find these young people most helpful. The national office benefits from student help for Guide/Scout Week and the Trees for Canada project, times when there are many jobs to do, from writing press releases to mailing our radio PSAs.

Attitude is important. Just be sure that the people you approach understand the task and want to make a contribution to young people in your community. If they feel pressured or roped-in, they are not likely to stick around or, even, to do a very good job.

Given such background material, your council recruiters will have a good shot at finding people to support you at the group and council level. If you do take the time to develop a recruitment plan for your council, you might even try recruiting someone yourself! It really isn't that difficult.

Finally, to keep good people, you need to recognize their efforts. Scouting's system of honours and awards is open to PR people too and, like section leaders, they deserve some of the spotlight from time to time. Work with your Honours and Awards Committee to complete applications for worthy members of the PR committee.

The publicity member on your group committee and the members of your council PR committee play an important part in the overall management of Scouting in your community. If you recruit to each job the right people with the right skills and attitudes, you will be amazed at the support your PR plan will get.

When your new people are in place, ask your council office for a copy of the *Handbook for Council Public Relations Volunteers*. Produced by communications service at the national office, this book provides plenty of hints to help plan successful PR activities in your council. X

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

## Great Scouting Ideas

# The 2nd Armour World-wide Birthday Challenge

by Al Hoard

Do you want your Cubs to have fun?  
Do you want your Cubs to be challenged?  
Do you want an outdoors activity for your pack?  
Do you want an inexpensive and easy-to-make craft?  
Do you want to help us celebrate our birthday?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, I have a program for you. It's quick, simple, and inexpensive. It takes only one evening, and you can do it outdoors.

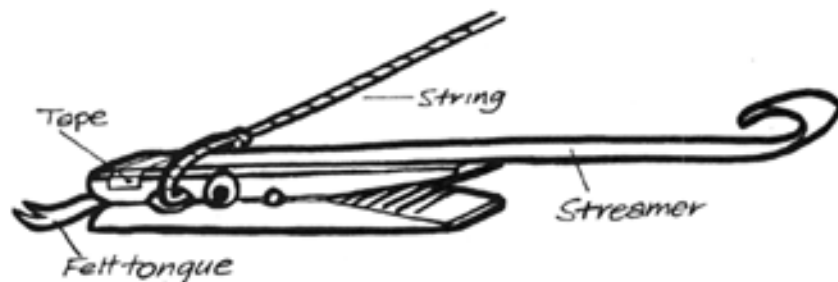
To celebrate the 80th anniversary of the 2nd Armour/St. Lukes Peterborough Group, Ont., the 2nd Armour Cubs are sending out the **Dragon Flyer Challenge**. They want to involve as many Cub packs as possible, and have put

Mail to Al Hoard, 333 Rogers Street, Peterborough, Ontario, Canada K9H 1W6. And, please include your pack's identification flash so that we can sew it to the Dragon Banner as a record of participation. We hope we will fill the banner with flashes from packs all across Canada and the U.S. and, who knows, all around the world!

### How to Build a Dragon Flyer

For each Dragon Flyer, you need: one clothes pin, glue, tape, craft eyes (optional — you can draw on eyes), felt tongue, 46 cm crêpe paper streamer, 76 cm string.

To make the dragon, tape the streamer to the open end of the clothes pin (if you roll the tape, it won't show). Decorate streamer as desired, put eyes on the dragon, and glue in a red felt tongue. Finally, tie on the string tightly as shown.



up their Dragon Banner as a prize. The pack with the longest average flight distance will keep this special emblem for one year.

All you need to do is have your Cubs construct and, on a calm night, fly their Dragons. Record each Cub's flight distance from a base line to where the Dragon first touches down and, after all Dragons have flown, figure the pack's average flight distance. Then, **before the end of April 1992**, send me the following information.

Name of Cub Pack  
Location of Cub Pack  
Number of Cubs participating  
Pack's average flight distance

To fly the dragon, find an open area outdoors, twirl the dragon by its string (it makes a great flapping sound), and let it go! Hold races to see whose dragon flies the farthest.

If you can find an appropriate sized drawing of a dragon to photocopy, your Cubs might also want to make dragon woggle-boards to wear while flying their dragons. Glue dragon picture to a piece of wood about 50 mm x 50 mm. Glue a 20 mm diameter loop of cord, rope, or leather to the back. Seal front with a coat of varnish.

Scouter Al Hoard is Akela with the 2nd Armour/St. Lukes' Cubs, Peterborough, Ont.



I'll give you one of these for...

### MAKE A PINCASE

by Wayne McKay

Too bad you didn't have one of these at your provincial jamboree last summer, but CJ'93 is coming, and we're sure you'll find camporees in between. Take seasoned Scouts to a jamboree or camporee, turn them loose, and they will trade almost anything they own. In recent years, pins have become a big item on the trading scene.

Pins come in all shapes, sizes, and colours, but owners share a common problem; how to carry traders. I've seen pins stored in pockets, on hats and coats, on bits of cloth, and on pieces of cardboard. With all of these methods, you risk losing a few pin backs and maybe even a pin.

In a joint effort, the 8th Courtenay (St. James) and 11th Courtenay (Silver Falls) troops in New Brunswick devised a practical and economical method of carrying pins. Scouts can make this pin case as a project on troop night and use it almost immediately.

### Materials

1. *Plastic video cassette case* (the type you see in video rental stores): You can buy them at your local department store for under \$1 each. We used VHS cases, but the smaller Beta cases also work.

2. *Cork sheeting*: Available at hardware stores in a variety of sizes. We used

4.8 mm  $\frac{3}{16}$ " cork. With anything thinner, the pins may damage your case. With anything thicker, the case may not close properly.

3. *Contact adhesive*: Use a resilient type of contact adhesive designed to be used with cork or rubber. Other types will not stick to the plastic case. Double-sided tape is ineffective.

4. *Sandpaper* to rough up the plastic surface for better adhesion.

5. *Straight edge and sharp knife* for cutting cork.

#### Method

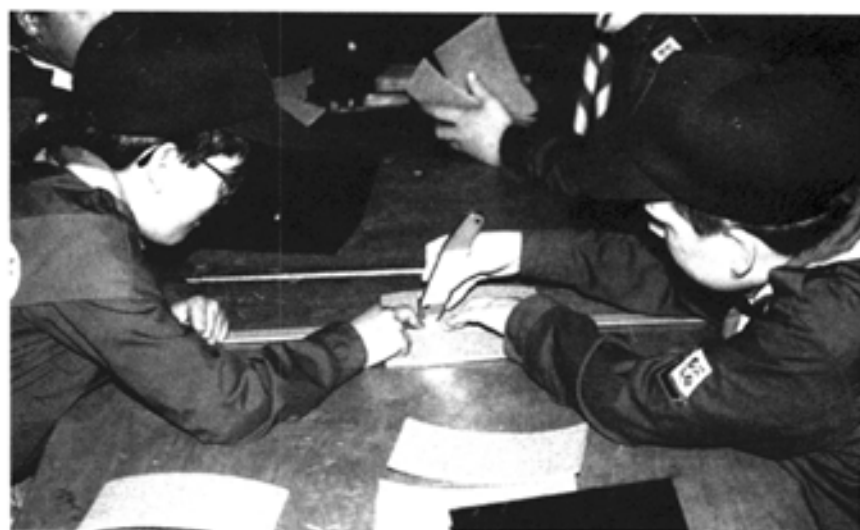
1. Cut four pieces cork, 10 cm  $\times$  19 cm.  
2. Put contact adhesive on one side of each cork piece. Let dry according to directions on the container.

3. When ready, press together each pair of cork pieces. Put a little weight on the glued pieces to let them set while you prepare the case.

4. With side cutters, remove the tape guides on the bottom of the case.

5. Sand the inside of the case where you will glue the cork.

6. Spread adhesive on one side of each cork piece and on the sanded surfaces inside the case. Let dry according to



*Careful does it: cutting cork*

directions, then place in the cork pieces. Make sure to line them up carefully so that the case will open and close smoothly.

7. Temporarily place another piece of cork inside the case to apply pressure, snap the case shut, and set aside to dry thoroughly.

The result is a very durable case that will hold between 60 and 80 pins. You can leave your pin backs at home. When you trade a pin, just give the person the

back of the pin you've traded for and stick your new pin in your case.

I hope you enjoy building and using these pin cases as much as we did. Good trading and good Scouting.  $\wedge$

*Scouter Wayne McKay works with the 11th Courtenay Scouts, Saint John, N.B.*

#### Program Links

*Cubs: Tawny Star 2; Handicraft 1,5*



## It's not a waste below the waist

Leaders are leaders from top to bottom, inside and out. You are a role model for the young people in your group and they learn through the examples you set. What you say and do is important. And the image you present is important too.

Our traditions and our new uniforms are as distinctive as our organization. So, don't waste a great opportunity to exemplify the importance of appearance and presentation - wear your complete uniform. Show our Scouting pride, from the top of your head to the tips of your toes.



**Wear the Complete Uniform**



# Intercontinental Winter Beaverree

from Marti Whyte

Thanks to Malak Sandra Patterson of the 1st Buffalo Creek Beaver Colony for organizing February's winter Beaverree in 100 Mile House, B.C. It was a great day, even if uncooperative weather meant we had to make a few program changes. We were to build ice sculptures, for example, but the sun came out and we had puddles instead. We still were able to play snow golf and do other fun winter things, though.

Malak organized everyone into different countries — Japan, Canada, Tanzania, and Australia — and each group learned where their country was and a little bit about the animals that live there.

On a nature walk, Rusty described different trees and their characteristics, then asked us all to be observant and search for things uncommon to the forest or the season. All the Beavers found the unusual items, but a few of us leaders had to retrace our steps to discover the umbrella and coat hanger. Sometimes it pays to be under 1.2 m high.

We made Japanese fish mobiles, Australian matchbox kangaroos, Japanese drums, and Tanzanian lizards. And we got glue everywhere, as happens at Beaver meetings everywhere.

The parents' group in charge of lunch did a great job with Canadian hounddogs, Mexican chili, Australian banapple fruit and, last but not least, chocolate-covered "ants" from Africa. It was delicious, even if the ants tend to stick to your teeth.

The 108 Mile House Cub pack came out for part of the day to help with many of the events and treated us to a skit about Kaa and the bandarlog. All in all, it was a great Beaverree, and we look forward to what awaits us this year.

**Matchbox Kangaroo:** For this great idea from *Ranger Rick* magazine, you need small matchboxes; brown paper; markers or paper scraps for face features; pencil, scissors, and glue.

1. Remove the box from the matchbox sleeve. Draw and colour a baby kangaroo (joey) on the bottom of the box. To save time, you can provide photocopied joey figures for Beavers to colour, cut out, and glue to the bottom of the box. Have them colour the rest of the box brown. Do

## Matchbox Kangaroo



your Beavers know that their Australian counterparts are called Joey Scouts?

2. Give Beavers patterns of the mother kangaroo's head, tail, and legs to trace on brown paper, cut out, and glue to the sleeve of the box as shown. Glue a piece of brown paper to the front of the sleeve, too. They can draw on "mom's" eyes and nose or cut them from scrap paper and glue them on.

3. Slip the joey (box) in mother's pouch (the sleeve). He will pop up to look at the world at the push of a Beaver's finger.

**Tanzanian Lizard:** Leaders adapted this critter from yet another idea they found in *Ranger Rick*. For each lizard, you need an old rubber glove, felt or paper for decorating, and wiggly eyes (or draw on eyes with a marker). You also need scissors, glue, stapler, marker pen and, if you like, a hole punch to make dots for decorating.



My Tanzanian lizard is gonna eat you!

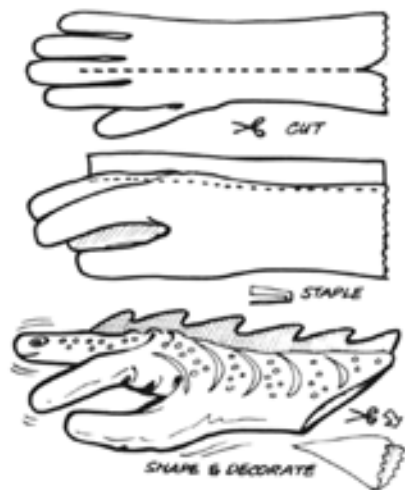
1. Cut open the back of the glove, stopping midway down the middle finger.
2. Slip a strip of felt or paper in the slit, then staple together the cut sides to hold in place. Cut points or waves in the strip.
3. Cut off the cuff of the glove as shown to make a tail.



Hawkeye helps Beavers make par in snow goit.

4. Put eyes on each side of the middle finger; draw a smile on the finger tip.
5. Glue on dots or stripes cut from felt or paper to decorate.

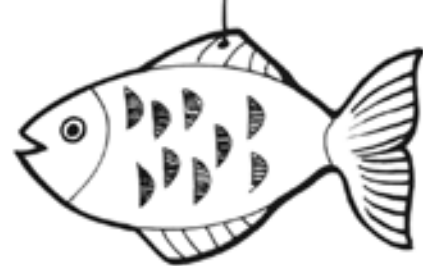
## Tanzanian Lizard



**Japanese Fish Mobile:** Scouters Linda Uchacz and Sandra Patterson invented this craft. You need a simple fish-shape template about 30 cm x 55 cm; a roll of banquet table paper; scraps of brightly coloured cloth cut into 7 cm triangular pieces; bathroom tissue; string, scissors, glue, marker.

1. Use the template to trace and cut out two fish shapes from the paper roll.

## Japanese Fish





A Blue Tail gets a little help with his Japanese fish.

2. Match and glue together edges of shapes, leaving part of the bottom of the fish open.
3. Stuff fish with a small amount of bathroom tissue — just enough to make it slightly puffy. Glue together opening.
4. On both sides of the fish, draw on eyes and lines marking off head and tail from the rest of the body. Colour both sides of head and tail.
5. Glue pieces of cloth on both sides of the body, either haphazardly or in a fish scale pattern.
6. Find the balance point, punch a hole, and tie on a string for hanging.

**Japanese Drum:** Scouter Marti Whyte designed this idea. Her Beavers, Karate Kid II fans, named the result a "Miogi Drum".

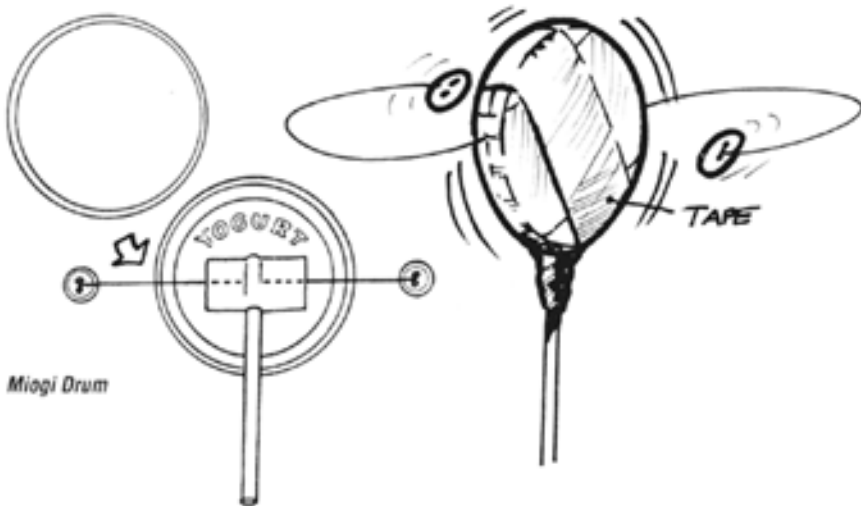
For each drum, you need two small yogurt container lids; a 12 cm length of 6 mm dowel; two small buttons; 20 cm length of string; and masking or cello tape.

1. Tie a button to each end of the string. Tie the string, in the centre, to the dowel at the top.
2. Tape the dowel to the indented side of one lid as shown.
3. Keeping string and buttons on the outside, place the other lid on the top,

leaving a hollow cavity inside. Tape together the lids, leaving buttons to dangle.

To play the instrument, Beavers twist the stick back and forth so that the buttons hit the drum on opposite sides. It makes great galloping horse sound effects, says Scouter Whyte.  $\lambda$

*Scouter Marti Whyte works with Beavers in 100 Mile House, B.C.*



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# Fun at the Pond

by Lena Wong

Now that you have investiture night under your belt and all your Beavers are truly involved, you can start planning your meetings more around themes and special holidays.

Thanksgiving is October 14, but many of you still may be able to add the game *Pilgrim and Turkeys* to your plans. Scouter Mary Brown, 4th Oshawa Beavers, Ont., created and shared it. Thank you, Mary.

## Pilgrim and Turkeys

One player (the pilgrim) stands in the centre of the hall and the rest (the turkeys) at one end. A leader calls, "Gobble, gobble" to signal the turkeys to run to the other end of the hall.

The pilgrim tries to tag as many turkeys as possible. Tagged turkeys crouch down and become rocks. They do not move or try to touch turkeys in any way. The remaining turkeys run back and forth across the hall avoiding the pilgrim and the rocks on the floor. A turkey who accidentally touches a rock becomes a rock himself.

The last turkey to remain standing receives a turkey cheer (Beavers put hands in armpits and flap "wings" calling, "Gobble, gobble, gobble!"), then becomes the pilgrim for another round.

October is a great month for getting outdoors to explore some of the parks or nature trails in your area. Set aside a Saturday or Sunday afternoon to go for a ramble. Ask Beavers to bring gloves, and take along some garbage bags so you can clean up as you go.

Use the opportunity to talk a little to the Beavers about how they can look after their environment. Can they tell you why they shouldn't leave "droppings" behind in the outdoors?

While you are out, collect some raw materials for your craft projects in the months ahead, too. Look for things on the ground such as interesting twigs, stones, feathers, shells, nuts, seed pods, and leaves. Make sure your Beavers know not to pick things off living trees or bushes or damage other plant life.

Also warn Beavers never to eat anything they pick off trees, bushes or other plants. The berries or other fruits that look so inviting are often extremely poisonous. Explain to your colony that not many people really know which fruits are safe to eat, and it is best not to eat at all rather than take chances.

## HALLOWE'EN

This is a festival where children can have fun creating and wearing their costumes to parties. Try a slightly different approach this year. Instead of asking Beavers to bring their ready-made costumes, ask them to bring anything they might use as part of a costume: old jackets, hats, shoes, dresses, pants, as well as props like walking sticks, masks, helmets, shields, and the like.

Pile it all together in one big "dress-up" pile and let the Beavers loose to create their own costumes. Make sure someone brings a camera to take pictures during the process and when the costumes have all been assembled.

Pumpkin-carving is a big part of Hallowe'en festivities. This year, see if the Beavers can use other vegetables and fruits to create strange and wonderful creatures. In Ireland, people originally carved jack-o'-lanterns from turnips, so the precedent is there. Gourds, large zucchini, squash, even big potatoes, can make good jack-o'-lanterns. Prepare some of the vegetables for delicious snacks to munch, too.

As with many old folk festivals, Hallowe'en has its own legends and customs. Tell your Beavers about a couple of old beliefs (*Let's Celebrate*, Caroline Parry) and challenge them to see if they are true.

Walk out of the door backwards on Hallowe'en day and pick up some dust or grass. Wrap it in paper and put it under your pillow. That night, you will dream what the future holds for you.

If you eat a crust of dry bread and make a wish before you go to bed on Hallowe'en, your wish will be granted. It's worth a try!



Hallowe'en Mobile



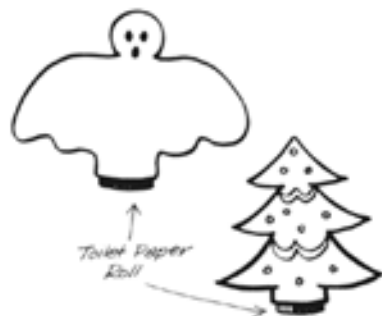
**Halloween Mobile:** Colin Stafford, 10th Juan de Fuca Beaver Colony, Victoria, B.C., sent this successful idea. For each mobile you need black, white, and orange construction paper, three cocktail straws (you can buy them from food equipment dealers for \$6 to \$7 per 1000 and use them for many crafts), and kite string. Cut out Hallowe'en shapes (ghosts, cats, pumpkins, bats, crescent moons) from the construction paper. Let each beaver personalise his choices and punch a hole at the top of each.

Attach lengths of string and tie the cut-outs to the straws as shown, one straw at the top and two suspended from it (adults help the youngest Beavers make their arrangements). Tie a piece of string in the middle of the top straw and hang the mobile from the ceiling with a tack or masking tape.

When his Beavers decorated their meeting place with these mobiles, "the end result was a spectacular sea of mobiles turning gently with the slightest air movement", Scouter Colin says.

#### LOOKING AHEAD

Ingrid Paterek of the 1st Ferris Beavers, North Bay, Ont., sent in craft ideas to give you an early start on Christmas planning. The felt and toilet paper roll suggestion is one of those great ideas you can use to make Hallowe'en ghosts or witches, Easter bunnies, or Christmas trees and angels.



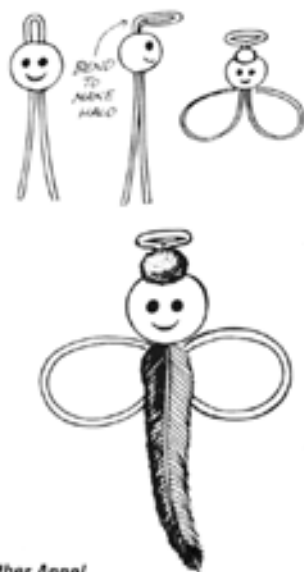
#### Felt & Paper Roll Crafts

For each creation, you need a toilet paper roll; a square of felt (the colour depends on what you're making); sequins, beads and lace for tree decorations; wobbly eyes or black felt eyes for ghosts; and markers to draw on ghost mouths.

Before the meeting, leaders cut and sew the squares of felt into the appropriate shape, leaving open the bottom to slip over the paper roll. Or you can just cut out the shapes and let Beavers glue them together before decorating and completing the craft.

A variation of the same craft would be to stuff the shape with old nylons and sew or glue the bottom closed.

**Christmas Feather Angels:** You'll need to visit the craft store to stock up for this pretty tree decoration. For each angel, you need a large bright coloured feather; a 30 cm silver or gold pipe cleaner; a 14 mm wooden bead doll's head (with hole); a 1.5 cm yellow pompom or yellow chenille for hair.



*Feather Angel*

Fold the pipe cleaner in half and push it through the bead with the fold extending about 15 mm from the top. Bend the loop and push it forward to form a halo.

Use the two ends of the pipe cleaner extending from the bottom of the bead to form the wings by shaping each into a circle; twist to hold.

Push the feather through the bottom hole of the bead to form the body. Glue the pompom or chenille on top of the head under the halo.

To make the craft more challenging for older Beavers, have them add arms made from shorter pipe cleaners. Bend them toward each other and glue on small squares of paper to resemble hymn books.

Thank you for your ideas, Ingrid.

**Remembrance Day:** Your Beavers will no doubt hear about the significance of November 11 at school and at home. As a result of the Gulf War, many families and communities will feel a special need to mark the day this year.

You may wish to invite in a member of your local Legion or the armed forces. Ask your visitor to explain why we have Remembrance Day as simply as possible so that the Beavers can understand and appreciate its importance to so many people in their community.

Until next month, when we'll have more ideas for the holiday season.





# Bullies & Beavers

by Ben Kruser

One of the magical aspects of Beavers is their interest in establishing playmates and a friendly play environment. "Sharing, Sharing, Sharing" is not just something we say at meetings, but one of the main developmental characteristics of 5-7 year olds.

It can be quite emotionally devastating to a Beaver when a new friend suddenly turns and says, "If you don't give me that, I'm not going to like you." Since these statements usually come out of the blue, they shock and hurt. How can we help Beavers deal with bullies?

Let's start with helping them know what a bully is. Bullies are people who try to hurt or scare others to make themselves feel better or more powerful. Bullies get their way when they make their victims feel at a disadvantage. They try to make you give them something or do things for them without your wanting to. It is important to let Beavers know

that bullies come in all shapes and sizes, and that grown-ups can be bullies, too.

Why do bullies act the way they do? Sometimes they are being bullied themselves. They are made to feel small and powerless and, to regain their feeling of self worth, they bully other people. Bullies may have bad feelings about themselves. They try to compensate for these feelings by putting them onto other people or making fun of someone else's real or perceived problem.

Knowing when someone is acting like a bully is in itself reassuring to children, because they now recognize this as wrong behaviour. But what can they do to stop someone bullying them?

Encourage children to tell someone when they are being bullied. Bullies rely on their victim being too scared to tell. Once they get their way, they continue to come back to intimidate their victim. But if bullies are found out, they feel ashamed of their actions and know they face certain punishment.

This puts responsibility on Beaver leaders to be alert and responsive when a child talks about being bullied. A Beaver takes a big risk in breaking silence and sees adults as keepers of fair play. Unfortunately, sometimes an adult response to a child's plea for help is, "Well, go back and tell whoever it is to stop."

This sends the child two messages: might makes right when you're too small to defend yourself; and adults can't be bothered when it comes to discussing problems, a perception that can lead to more serious complications as the child grows and meets more of life's difficulties.

Adults have a responsibility to teach children at this age how to socialize and learn to get along. Talk to the bully about his behaviour and colony expectations. Try to learn why the child is acting this way. Speak to parents. If you show you are open to discussing problems and will act to help your Beavers, they will be more likely to confide early bully experiences to you.

## ROLE PLAY

In lodges, practise ways to reply to bullies. It can be a highly effective game for young children because it lets them try out responses to scary situations in a

safe environment. This kind of practice helps Beavers develop self-confidence and a sense of security in dealing with bullying situations. If they feel confident, they look confident, a deterrent to future bullying.

Here's how to go about it. Leaders play the "bully". This is important because adults have better control over emotions and vocabulary. They are also real life authority figures. In some situations, we want Beavers to know they can stand up to adult bullies.

1. Discuss a bully situation with the lodge and talk about an appropriate response Beavers should give.
2. Pretend to be the bully and act out the situation. Together, the Beavers yell out the response and scare away the bully.
3. Become a leader again and heap praise for doing a good job and being brave. This is the most important part, because it is the reward that empowers Beavers to continue to resist bullying acts.

Try it out with these simple situations and Beaver responses:

*Bully:* Give me that crayon or you won't be my friend.

*Beavers:* Stop bothering me or I'll tell Rainbow.

*Bully:* Go over and kick that boy.

*Beavers:* No, I won't.

*Bully:* I think you're stupid.

*Beavers:* I am a good person.

*Bully:* You can't play here.

*Beavers:* You share or I'll get Hawkeye.

With the approval of the group and parents, you may wish to introduce some street-proofing scenarios as well — situations where an adult tries to bully a child. Consult a knowledgeable source, such as a social worker or your police department, for appropriate scenes and responses.

Standing up to bullies is a difficult experience for Beavers. With your help, they will know how to respond because you are behind them all the way. X

**Resource:** *Let's Talk About Bullying*, by Angela Grunsell; Gloucester Press, Toronto, 1989.

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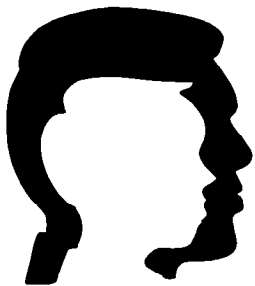
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# Parents in the Pack



by Ben Kruser

One of the common problems in Cubs is how to get more parents involved in the pack. In my travels, I've seen and heard about different approaches. Perhaps one or more can work for you.

## Approach 1: Team Player

Set the attitude and expectations of parental involvement right at the start. Successful packs I know inform parents that Scouting is a family-based program. When their child joins the pack, the parents automatically join the support team.

If you begin by indicating you expect or need very little parental help, that is what you will get, and you'll have to struggle for it every step of the way. If you start with high expectations of parental involvement, you will have the simpler (and well appreciated) task of easing off on the time commitments you ask from parents.

Ensure that everyone has a job. In one pack, a single parent was concerned that her work schedule didn't leave a lot of extra time. At the parent's suggestion, she became the "Pack Baker". When the pack went on outings, she happily whipped up a couple dozen muffins from her family recipe. She felt good because she was able to contribute her skills in the time available to her, and her Cub became the most popular boy to share a tent with.

As great as it sounds, we must face reality. Approach 1 is fine in theory. We all would like to see it work, but parents are a clever species. They've already figured out how to relieve themselves of their children for 90 minutes, so we may have to get sly by involving them without them realizing they are involved.

## Approach 2: Use Raw Meat

It is a known fact that Homo Domesticus can't resist a good barbecue, especially if it's a fun affair where you can bring the clan and have a good time meeting everyone. The objective is to build pack morale, parent team spirit, and good communications.

Keep it non-threatening. You want parents to be confident they are not being set up for an arm-twisting session or to be trapped into taking on unwanted jobs.

A few such relaxed occasions will demonstrate that Cubbing is not scary and everyone is behind the pack. This eases the way for when you do make that phone call for parents' help.

You can provide raw meat to parents any time, not just at special occasions. Experienced leaders know that if you keep Cubs dry, warm, and well fed, you have happy campers. The same applies to parents.

## Approach 3: It'll Only Take An Hour

A parent who turns out for a few hours to help with a bottle drive only to discover that it's an all-day commitment won't be easily ensnared the next time. Look at the job you need parents to do and try to break it into time slots for different tasks.

*... parents are a clever species. They've already figured out how to relieve themselves of their children*

After collecting bottles all day, there is nothing worse than finding yourself stuck as the "sorter" and then the "depot runner". Have parents work in shifts so that everyone shares the load and nobody leaves for home resenting that the whole of a precious Saturday is shot.

On such occasions, some packs I know incorporate Approach 2 and set up a couple of gas BBQs at the bottle-collection point. As we have already discussed, tired, coke-syrup-covered parents suddenly think they're at a barbecue and, once fed, usually stay around to help and to have some more meat and good times. Aren't we sly!

## Approach 4: Rewards, Rewards, Rewards

Just like their Cubs, parents love to earn rewards. In a dog-eat-dog world, they need to be able to do a job and receive immediate, tangible recognition.

One pack I know used this desire to entice parents to help at camp. When parents volunteered to go to camp, the pack "invested" them as honorary members and presented the pack scarf. Every time parents did a different job for the pack, they earned a "badge" made by the Cubs to wear on their neckerchief.

Well, they soon had a waiting list of parents wanting to go to camp to get their scarf and badges. The leadership team managed it well so that the Cubs never felt their program and hard work was overshadowed by adult "awards".

Once parents experience Cubbing fun and pack spirit and even earn a few "badges", perhaps they will become less apprehensive about taking the next big step: becoming leaders or group committee members. X

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# The Age Option Issue

by Robb Baker

Two years have passed since the introduction of the age option provision in Scouts. You do remember it! Still, we'll repeat it for those new to the Scout section.

In May 1989, the policy on age for Scouts was adjusted to accommodate young people with special needs. The standard age for the Scout section remains 11 to 14 years. The age option added an extension to 16 years to be applied under certain circumstances.

The level of queries about the use of the age option have not declined. Regrettably, some Scouters have chosen the easy route to simply allow or, in some cases, encourage Scouts to remain in the troop until their 16th year. These Scouters provide many rationalizations for the action, but all miss one principle ingredient — the one that takes into account what is in the very best interests of the Scout.

The main theme in their reasoning revolves around what is best for the troop. Now, Scout troops are a collection of two or more patrols made up of Scouts, each unique and each with individual strengths, weaknesses, and skills to offer. The troop exists at an administrative and co-ordination level, but the primary focus in the Scout section remains the patrol and the Scouts themselves. Why is it, then, that the needs of the troop seem to come first?

When I've asked this question of a number of Scouters, I've been concerned by the response. Simply put; it's easier. Adult leaders are hard to come by. Starting a Venturer company is not always possible. The troop has had a large intake of inexperienced 11 year olds, and so on. Rarely, if ever, have these Scouters mentioned the developmental needs of 14 year old Scouts.

The age option is just that — an option. The key in its use rests in the hands of four parties; the Scout, the Scout's parent(s), the Scout's Patrol Counsellor, and the Troop Scouter. In order to determine what is in the best interests of the Scout, all parties first have to determine what special need this 14 year old has that could be accommodated if the Scout stayed in the troop. Keep in mind that finishing off requirements for the Chief Scout's Award is not normally considered a special need. The entire Scout program, including Chief Scout's Award requirements, is designed for and appropriate to young people aged 11-14.

So why did Scouts Canada bring in an age option for Scouts? There are two primary reasons, both related solely to the needs of the Scouts. First, a small number of Scouts may not have matured at the typical pace of 14 year olds, and

the challenge offered by the Venturer program will simply be beyond them until they have grown another year or two. Second, a few Scouts may be physically or mentally challenged to a degree that precludes transition into Venturers.

Applying the age policy need not cause a great degree of turmoil if you keep three things in mind.

1. The basic Scout program and badge requirements are designed for 11 to 14 year olds.
2. The best interests of the Scout must rule the day.
3. Parents, Scout, and Scouters must be involved in making the decision.

If you are in need of further direction on this question, contact your local service team member responsible for Scouts or your field executive.

## Scout Program Materials

By now, you will have seen the new printed materials produced for Scouts. Keep in mind that all new Scouts must work on the requirements found in the new books. If you don't have your copies yet, pick them up today. They are filled with a wealth of information to help Scouters and Scouts pursue a well-rounded program.

We welcome your comments about the new materials. Please direct them to *Robb Baker, National Program Director (Scouts), Scouts Canada, PO Box 5151, Stn F, Ottawa, Ontario K2C 3G7.* λ



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# Earth Day Hike

by Venturer Cory Williams

As part of their community service, the 2nd Pouch Cove Venturers, Nfld., joined the local Environment Committee to help with jobs requiring lots of people and to have input into community environmental matters. When the Environmental Committee planned public displays and activities for Earth Day on April 20, the Venturers offered to lead a two hour hike to the highest point in Pouch Cove.

Venturers Randy Connors and Cory Williams prepared the hike and took along 15 children. Because the weather

was foggy, the view wasn't the best, but fog is definitely a part of Newfoundland's environment, and the youngsters were just happy to be outdoors.

During the activity, the Venturers pointed out elements of the surroundings needing protection. They added some hiking skill-teaching to the jaunt with a little map reading and orienteering work. And, along the way, the Venturers also got in some backpacking practice.

This joint project with the Environmental Committee was just one of several



At the top, Venturers Randy Connors and Cory Williams mark their climb as they and 15 children reach the summit of the highest point in Pouch Cove on an Earth Day hike.

## CJ'93 Venturer Service Program Adult Offers of Service

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- technical climbing
- river canoeing, up to and including Class II Whitewater
- cycling
- security, safety, fire prevention and control
- nature and environment; emphasis on the eastern slopes of the Canadian Rockies
- journalism and photography
- riflery
- major events staging

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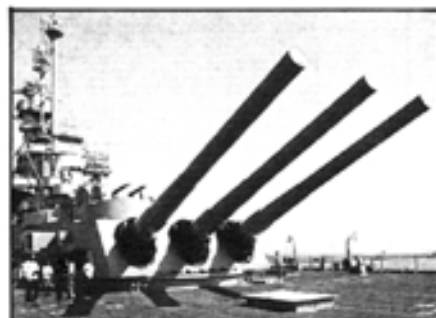
Jamboree experience is an asset but not essential. You are further invited and encouraged to submit an Offer of Service for the jamboree itself, but this is not a prerequisite for the VSP Offer of Service.

**The Reward:** The camaraderie of the team, your sense of contribution, recognition, and the satisfaction of helping develop the best possible Venturer Service Program team. Fringe benefits include your choice of dormitory, RV or tent site accommodations, meals, and hot showers.

Please indicate your interest and qualifications, in writing, to: *W.J. (Bill) Bergman, Assistant Director Administration, CJ'93 Venturer Service Program, 168 Silver Hill Way, N.W., Calgary, Alta. T3B 4K8*

efforts by members of the 2nd Pouch Cove Venturers to provide community service. And we had fun, too.  $\lambda$

*Venturer Cory Williams is secretary of the 2nd Pouch Cove Venturers, Nfld.*



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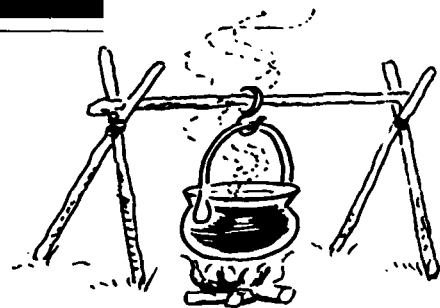
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# The Physics of Fancy Cooking

by Ben Kruser



Cooking over an open fire remains one of Scouting's more pleasant and traditional sources of enjoyment. To add to Scouter Greybeard's list of public perceptions of Scouting (we tie knots and save lives; *The Essence of Scouting*, Feb. '88), I'd include "Scouts are clever cooks".

I'm not talking about gourmet one-burner meals here, but food cooked over burning coals with Scouting flare and a special joie de vivre that verges on *chutzpah*. I call it "fancy cooking".

Fancy cooking means frying eggs in a bag or poaching them in a paper cup, cooking tin foil meals, and baking in orange skins. An understanding of the underlying thermal physics involved in success with such no-pot cooking adds to some of the ability and prestige of being an accomplished woodsman.

Let's start with the most unusual cooking methods. Fill a paper cup with water and set it on hot coals. The water will boil but the paper will not burn. Why? Water can get no hotter than its boiling point — 100°C. Paper will not burn until it reaches 205°C. The paper is so thin that the heat it receives passes to the water and is expelled through the steam.

The more coals you add, the faster the water boils, and you can poach or boil an egg in the cup. One warning; if the water

does not reach the top of the cup, the edge may burn down to the water level.

You can apply this example to a winter survival situation where you use heavy-duty aluminium foil in your survival kit to make a cup for boiling water. A hot fire can destroy foil but, if you keep the cup filled with snow water, the fire's heat will be quickly conducted through the metal to the water and dissipated.

This fact about water leads to another fancy cooking method, frying eggs in a paper bag. Crack several eggs into a lunch size paper bag and fold the top closed. Suspend over hot coals.

The bag bottom will not burn because the water in the eggs prevents the paper from reaching its ignition point. Since, however, the eggs will stick to the paper, experienced cooks first grease the bag inside as you would a normal frying pan.

The skin of an orange can also serve as a mini baking dish. Cut the fruit in half and scoop out and eat the insides. Fill one half shell with dough or egg, cover with the other half, and put in the coals to cook.

Heat conducted through the orange skin bakes the food. Since the skin is thick and moist, it does not conduct heat rapidly, so the food is protected against overheating in places where the skin touches the coals. You can try using banana or onion skins for this technique, too. A side benefit is that the food you are cooking absorbs some of the flavour of the shell it is in.

## FOIL COOKING

Tin foil dinners were a staple item in my Scouting days, so I was surprised to find Scouters who now consider them "fancy cooking". You can make up the packages at home, freeze them for Friday night packing, and cook them for lunch on Saturday while Scouts work on fire-making or cooking requirements.

There are two approaches to making a foil dinner. Some sources recommend wrapping the food in two layers of heavy aluminum foil and sandwiching several layers of wet newspaper between the foil. The air trapped in the newspaper layers slows the transfer of heat.

The other method to protect food from an over-rapid transfer of heat into the foil is to make sure part of the food is fairly moist. Here, much of the heat goes into heating and vaporizing the water. The steam produced transfers heat to the food and helps cook it.

I've found this method quite successful using a rutabaga (turnip). It's a fairly large and inexpensive vegetable you can cut into plate size slices. Package your foil dinner like a sandwich, with the main meal layered between two thick slices of rutabaga. They add moisture and keep the main meal from burning. And you can eat them, too.

Another helpful tip is to pile some dirt on the foil after you place it in the fire. Because the dirt cuts down the oxygen supply, it tamps and traps heat more effectively for cooking.

Try out some of these ideas to turn you and your Scouts into fancy cooks. And please share some of your own fancy-cooking ideas and recipes with **the Leader**.  $\lambda$

**Resource:** *Scientific American*, August 1985: The Amateur Scientist



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## CROSS-COUNTRY PHOTOS



**FOR THE BIRDS:** The 2nd Fort Victoria Beavers, B.C., built birdhouses in a wood-working session that was part of the 50th anniversary of the group's Scout Hall in April, says Scouter Alan Clark. The day drew past and present members, including Scouters and Rovers from the 30s, he adds, and the group marked the occasion by planting two flowering shrubs.



**A GREAT START:** Veterans of the 1st annual Richmond Venturer Jock River Race feel good after a May morning in kayaks and canoes on a river in spring flood. "Nearly everyone managed to work up a decent-sized blister on one or both hands and some of the entrants even admitted to being a little tired, but everyone had a fine time," says Scouter Bernie McMullen.



**WE SURVIVED:** 1st Lachute Scouts Alexandre Provost and Patrick Meilleur, Que., slept warm and dry in their snow shelter during the troop's winter camp. The Scouts also built and slept in a tipi, says Provincial Field Executive Jon Wiersma.

**THE SCOUTING TREE:** Last Christmas, the 1st Gaye River Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts, N.S., decorated their entry in the second annual Festival of Trees with crests from various Scouting events. Scouts Keith and Jason Martin pose with the special tree on display at the Musquodoboit Valley Tree Nursery. Thanks to Beverley Martin for sharing a terrific idea! ▼



**HEY! THAT'S NOT HAY!** The 129th Luther Place Cubs, Edmonton, Alta., get acquainted with the Morgan horses at the Dawnville Morgan Farm on an early December visit that also included a "terrific sleigh ride" across open fields and cow pasture. "As these boys all live in the city, it was a unique experience to be that close to a horse," says Bagheera Bob Coleman. "They enjoyed it."



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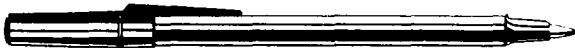
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# International Events

Are you planning an international camping experience with your Scouts or Venturers in 1992? If so, you may find some of these events of interest.

*Angia'92, July 18-29:* This gathering in Belgium is open to Guides and Scouts 14-18 years old. Home hospitality is available after the event.

*Witan'92, July 18-August 1:* A training and relaxation opportunity for young adults and leaders, this event in Denmark is open to leaders 18 years old and up.

*Madrid 92, July 25-31:* The Spanish Scout Association invites Scouts and Guides aged 15-21 to come to Madrid for a program that offers historical sightseeing, bicycle tours, hiking, sports, and workshops.

*5th International Friendship Camp, July 25-August 8:* This camp at Kibblestone Park in Staffordshire, England, offers international friendship to Scouts and Guides 10-16 years old.

*9th World Moot, July 27-August 6:* A Canadian contingent is being organized for this event in Kandersteg, Switzerland. Contact Robb Baker at the Scouts Canada national office (address below).

*Möt Mä'92, July 31-August 8:* The name means "Meet Me", and that is the theme of this Swedish National Jamboree. Located at Vägsjöfors in Värmland, the campsite is surrounded by natural wilderness. Organizers hope to welcome 1,000 overseas Scouts and Guides aged 12 and up. Home hospitality is offered before or after the camp.

*Christopher Columbus Jamboree, December 29, 1992-January 5, 1993:* This unique international event in Brazil celebrates the discovery of the New World. Jointly organized by the Interamerican and European Regions, it hopes to attract 15,000 Scouts and Scouters from around the world.

*International Camp Staff Programs:* These summer programs give young adults aged 21-30 an opportunity to work at camps owned and organized by associations in the U.S. and Europe. If you are interested, write us for details now so that we can send you information as soon as we receive it.

For further information about these and other international events, contact *International Relations and Special Events Services, Scouts Canada, PO Box 5151, Stn. F, Ottawa, Ont., K2C 3G7; Telephone: (613) 224-5131.*

If you do decide to travel overseas next year, remember also to contact your local provincial or regional office for advice with paperwork and organization. X



# Gifts Galore

by Jim Mackie

In 1989, Supply Services introduced an attractive Beaver Brooch (#60-343, \$6.15) hand-made by an Ottawa artist. It was an instant success and, since that time, we've received many requests from Scout Shops and Scouters for similar items.

We are pleased to introduce eight new gift and presentation items crafted by the same person. We have two more brooches: *Wolf in Uniform* (#60-337); and *Wolf Head* (#60-340), and three sets of earrings: *Beaver in Uniform* (#60-342); *Wolf in Uniform* (#60-336); and *Wolf Head* (#60-339). In addition, we offer magnet figures of Beaver and Cub in Uniform (#60-341 and #60-335) and Wolf Head (#60-338). All of the items sell for \$6.15 each.

**RESOURCE BOOKS:** With many new Scouters starting this fall, we'd like to point out two resource books valuable for program planning.

*Games from A to Z* (#20-504, \$2.50) is our most comprehensive games book ever. Each of its 300 games occupies a page that describes not only the game but also its purposes, category, and space and equipment requirements. For easy cross reference, the index details the category into which games fall (campfire, circle, fun, steam off, etc.). This great resource has a game for every occasion, group and location and makes an ideal gift for anyone involved with young people.

*The Best of the Leader Cut-Out Pages* (#20-510, \$5.75) is another ideal resource book, 332 pages crammed with songs, skits, games, material for Scouter's Fives, recipes, and helpful hints taken from one of the most popular features in the **Leader** magazine. No Scouter should be without a copy.

**HELP NEEDED:** Over the last few years, many Scouters in Canada reacted positively to our request for crests and badges for Scouts in Peru. We acknowledge especially the Ladies Auxiliary of the Greater Toronto Region and the Scouters of New Brunswick, through their provincial commissioner, Ruth Aiken.

A number of times each year, these badges and crests are auctioned off to collectors in Peru. The money raised is used to support Scouting in that country, where extreme economic conditions have caused high inflation and made the job of financing a very difficult one.

Brother Fred Fink, a member of an American religious teaching order and director of a private school in Lima, has been one of the leading figures in Peru Scouting for more than 25 years. Fred wrote to express sincere appreciation for Canadian support and to ask that it continue. If you can help, send your extra badges and crests to *Supply Services, Scouts Canada, Box 5151, Stn. F, Ottawa, Ontario, K2C 3G7*. We will package them in quantities and ship them to Peru.

**BLAZER BUTTONS:** In April, we noted that Supply Services had ordered custom buttons for the Business/Casual Dress Blazer. Nickel-plated on solid brass with copper shanks, they were to have been available in early spring. Delivery was delayed because of manufacturing problems, and we now expect they will be available by the time you read this column. ⤴



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# Scouts Canada Video Resources

by Rob Stewart

The August/September column identified a number of printed resources available to trainers. This month we'll talk about video resources produced and being produced by Scouts Canada.

Video training has become more and more popular over the past few years. Many companies have extensive video libraries that provide training on a variety of topics. Scouts Canada has started to develop its own library.

Video production is one way to provide resources to support the Volunteer Recruitment and Development Strategy, our current priority. We want to produce quality videos that supplement Scouting's training and servicing programs and can be resources not only for trainers, but also for recruiters, service teams, and sponsors.

As I write, two videos have been completed and introduced to the field. The objective of the first, *An Introduction to Scouting*, is to introduce Scouting's five section programs to new and potential leaders. The 13:40 minute video takes a light-hearted look at Scouting from a new leader's point of view.

The video is designed for use in a number of areas and ways. The group committee member(s) responsible for recruiting leaders can use it as a recruiting tool. Trainers will find it useful as a preview to a Wood Badge course. Councils can use it in mall displays to catch the

eye of potential Scouters and will also find it helpful to orient new council members who have limited or no recent exposure to Scouting.

The second video, *Role and Responsibilities of Sponsors and Group Committees*, orients current and potential sponsors and group committees to their jobs of managing a Scouting group. The 16 minute video comes with an instruction booklet that summarizes roles and responsibilities and provides job descriptions for group committee members.

This production will become a valuable resource during group committee training, sponsor visits, and recruiting and servicing group committee members and sponsors. Together, the two videos form a complete resource for councils who want to approach new sponsors. And the reasonable prices ensure widespread distribution: *Introduction to Scouting*, \$15; the *Group Committee/Sponsor* video, \$25.

One of the initial dreams of the video library was to produce a package we could hand to new and potential Scouters to work on at their convenience in the comfort of their homes. Now we see that the ideal situation is to have a Service Scouter there to answer questions and provide further information. Remember that these videos do not replace training courses; they simply immerse new volunteers as quickly as possible.

## THE FUTURE

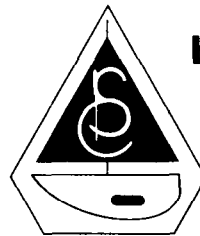
Two videos in areas important to most councils are now in production; *The Service Scouter* and *The Outdoors*.

The role of the Service Scouter is receiving greater visibility as the Volunteer Recruitment and Development Strategy unfolds. The video will focus on the Service Scouter's role, leaving room for local council interpretation. If our delivery schedule holds, it will be available as you read this column.

The outdoors is always a priority with Scouts Canada, and we hope the second new video will reflect this. Because the production is being shot to cover four seasons, look for it in February 1992. The video will provide ideas and encouragement for Scouters in every section.

After the release of these next two videos, production will begin on a video for each of the five program sections. We have not yet determined what each will cover. If you have thoughts or ideas, please send them to Warren McMeekin at the national office.

Video production enables us to develop a diversity of resources for trainers, service teams, group committees, sponsors, and councils as we continue to try to provide the right material and information to the right person at the right time. X



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# Community Organizations

by Warren McMeekin

The Scouting program has been accepted and used successfully by many community organizations other than religious and educational organizations. They exist wherever there are people and serve many purposes. Scouts Canada helps them achieve their objectives.

Many of them are national or international organizations. Since their early days in Canada, they've had a hand in the development of Scouting. All of them and many of their counterparts are "National Partners". In nearly every case, the partner uses the Scouting program to emphasize the organization's basic interests. Many assign responsibility for the supervision of Scouting to a special committee.

To help a group establish Scouting as all or part of its youth program, we need to know:

- The organization's objectives
- The organization's basic structure, titles and terminology
- Names of key people in the group
- Something of the groups's history and current mood

With this information, we can build a compelling case for use of the Scouting program by nearly every local affiliate of a national partner. And we can measure progress and potential by asking:

- How many local affiliates are in the district or area?
- How many of these are using the Scouting program?

- Does the organization have a program to commend local groups for their successful use of Scouting?

**Civic/Service Clubs:** These clubs stress participating citizenship and youth projects. They operate many Scout groups and are good sources of district and council leadership. They have money and will spend it for projects that can be identified with their clubs. Each local club has a committee responsible for projects related to youth, and Scouting is a major youth activity of almost all service clubs.

**Lions Clubs** operate more Scout groups than any other service club. Lions International is the largest of all service clubs. Its founder, Melvin Jones, was a strong Scouting supporter.

**Optimist International** has the slogan "Friend of Youth", and Scouting is one of its endorsed organizations.

**Kiwanis International** encourages local clubs to help established youth programs such as Scouting.

**Kinsmen**, an all-Canadian service club, has a broad interest in sponsoring and helping community groups. Because Kinsmen are between 21 and 45 years old, many have young families and, therefore, a particular interest in organizations serving young people.

**Fraternal Orders:** Canada's fraternal organizations share similar objectives of brotherhood, patriotism, and charity.

Most recommend that local lodges use the Scouting program. Lodges are particularly alert to bring Scouting to low-opportunity youth. They have been outstanding in contributing to financial as well as leadership needs in councils.

**The Knights of Columbus** operate more Scout groups than any other fraternal order. Their involvement dates back to 1922.

**The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks** is strongly oriented toward community involvement and, in particular, the welfare of and assistance to children under 19 years of age.

**Veterans' and Military Organizations:** The key objectives of all veterans' organizations include patriotism and rehabilitation. Many veterans were Scouts themselves and want Scouting for their children and grandchildren. **The Royal Canadian Legion**, a strong partner since 1935, sponsors over 150 groups. **The Canadian Forces** has been associated with Scouting since 1909. Sponsorship is at the local level, usually provided by the base or station.

Overall, community organizations sponsor 2,328 Scout groups. It is incredible to think of the time and resources these people put into helping young people in our communities. The next time you meet someone from one of these organizations, say, "Thanks, you're doing a great job!" They really deserve it. Λ

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**On Peace & Understanding**

Every moment, a child is born somewhere on earth. At the same time as you were born, another child was also born in another country. As a new-born child, you knew no prejudices, no hatred or envy. As you grew, you began to discover borders. You learned what is "home" and what is "far away".

You found that borders are important to us. They make us feel safe, if we are on the right side. Sometimes it could be exciting to try the borders. What is on the other side? Are the apples more tasty there?

Most borders are invented by human beings. Through the years, people have hurt one another and our planet by disagreeing, arguing, and fighting wars about borders.

In Scouting, we have friends all over the world. There are 26 million Guides and Scouts and, even if we don't know them all, we have something very important in common, in spite of borders and different backgrounds.

We have a lot to share and teach each other. Everyone can do something to make the world more peaceful; together we can do something great. — Message of peace from the Swedish Guide and Scout Association.

**Thoughts to Live By**

We believe in freedom of all people, whatever culture they are from, and that everyone has equal rights.

We believe that everyone should share in the wealth of Canada, and that we are enriched by other cultures.

Scouter's 5 Minutes, p.671

Oct '91

**I'm a Rabbit (& Other Quick Skits)**

*Scouter Frank Dembicki, Ft. Saskatchewan, Alta., sent the first two offerings. "Rabbit" has two characters, "Bears" a narrator and three characters.*

*Cub 1: Ask me if I'm a rabbit.*

*Cub 2: Okay. Are you a rabbit?*

*Cub 1: Yes. Now, ask me if I'm a beaver.*

*Cub 2: Are you a beaver?*

*Cub 1: No, stupid. I already told you I was a rabbit!*

*The Three Bears*

*Nar: Once upon a time, early in the morning, there were three bears: Papa Bear, Mama Bear, and Baby Bear. (Bears enter, sit down at table)*

*Papa Bear: Somebody's been eating my porridge!*

*Baby Bear: Somebody's been eating my porridge, too!*

*Mama Bear: Gripe, gripe, gripe! I haven't even put it on the table yet!*

**Missed**

*Colin Wallace, Scarborough, Ont., contributed the next three. He tells us, "all of the material has been field-tested by Scouts who had as much fun preparing them as doing them. I'm not sure about the audiences."*

*Scene 1: Guy juggling balls. Drops one. Snaps fingers and says, "Missed!" Exits.*

*Scene 2: Same guy juggling balls. Drops one. Snaps fingers and says, "Missed!" Exits.*

Skits, p.151

Oct '91

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Scene 3: Same guy. Says, "If I don't get it this time, I'll shoot myself!" Juggles balls. Drops one. Exits. (Sound of gunshot) Same guy re-appears, snaps fingers and says, "Missed!"

#### Pop Quiz

Teacher: What has five fingers and can be made of leather?

Johnny: Eh.... I don't know.

Teacher: One glove! Now, what has 10 fingers and can be made of leather?

Johnny: Eh.... I don't know.

Teacher: Two gloves! Now, who is the Governor General of Canada?

Johnny: Eh.... Three gloves?

#### Watt! What!

Shopper: Have you any four-volt two-watt bulbs?

Clerk: For what?

Shopper: No, four volt, two-watt.

Clerk: Two what?

Shopper: Yes!

Clerk: No.

#### What a Day!

Finally, Brenda Beckett, Owen Sound, Ont., sent this one from a campfire book published by the South Waterloo Gilwellians.

(Three tired looking hikers enter, drop packs and flop in a circle.)

Hiker 1: (groans) What a day.

Hiker 2: (after a pause, groans) What a day.

Hiker 3: (happily) Yeah, it sure was!

Hiker 2: (angrily) If you can't stick to the subject, I'm leaving! (First two hikers stalk off, leaving third looking very surprised).

Skits, p. 152

We believe that we should love each other, whatever race or nationality we are, and that God loves us the same.

We believe Canada is a great country because of our acceptance of people from many backgrounds.

We believe that we should celebrate our differences and not feel threatened by different cultures.

We believe that different languages are an important part of our world; we should not prejudge people; no two people are the same; looks do not determine who (people) are; and different cultures and languages express the variety of our world.

We believe God put us all in this world to make it beautiful, and we should welcome immigrants from all over the world.

We believe that all people should treat each other as they would want to be treated.

We believe that eventually everyone will believe these things.

— Grade 5, Prince of Peace School, Scarborough, Ont. (*Provincial Notes.*)

**My Prayer:** Thank you, God, for all the wonderful things I have. Please bring good health and happiness to all people in the world. May all people have good food and warm clothes. May everyone have nice friends. May all people learn to read and write. May the whole world be at peace. This is my prayer.

Scouter's 5 Minutes, p.672

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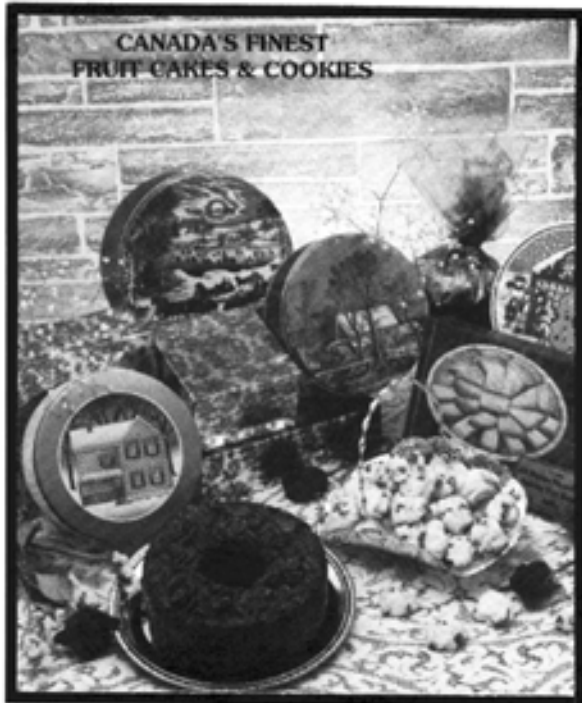
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# A Different Conclusion

Is Scouting safe? I came to a different conclusion than the author on this question (J/J'91). His comparison of hospitalization rates overlooks the fact that boys do Scouting for only a fraction of the time. A very active Scout might average an hour a day, or about 1/16th of his waking hours.

If we take this into account, the corrected rates of overnight hospitalization (per 1,000 boys) become higher for Scouts: 16 for Scouts versus 11 for all boys. This is all the more reason to pay more attention to the safety tips in the article.

— Paul McInerney, 146th Seton Troop, Toronto, Ont.

## LEADERS & SMOKING

At a composite weekend camp organized by our district, I was appalled to see how many leaders smoked in front of the Cubs. They didn't smoke indoors, but they did smoke before and after meals and while leading Cubs to events, running events, and leading hikes through the woods.

The obvious concerns are second-hand smoke, setting a bad example, and

setting the forest on fire. Perhaps less obvious: when leaders are taking smoke breaks outside the dining hall, they are not available to supervise the boys.

I would be interested in hearing about smoking guidelines in other regions. I would especially like to hear from smoking leaders: what do they feel are the benefits of displaying their addiction to the boys?

— Ontario Scouter

## A MEMORABLE SUMMER ISSUE

The June/July issue is one I will quote and refer to often. Here are some examples.

*The 16.5 Rumours of Scouting:* I was thinking over a rumour problem and wondering where all the dedicated committed adults have vanished. I figured a great deal of dedication and commitment is controlled by what a person is told in their recruiting process. Then, **the Leader** arrives and I find an article saying much the same thing. If recruited by rumour, that is exactly what many people will give back — a couple-of-hours-a-week, uniform-from-the-waist-up dedication.

A good, funny, but get-the-message-across article, Colin.

*Be Prepared with PR Ideas:* What are districts, groups, and sections doing to promote themselves and Scouting in their own communities? Thanks, John.

*Space Yourself* is a timely piece of information. This is when many sections are coming to a close for this season and should be well into their plans for the next. Why, in an out-of-doors movement, do many adults feel the first requirement for a section to be up and running is a hall to hold weekly meetings in? Why are we not doing what Colin Wallace said in *The 16.5 Rumours...*, "Try starting all your section's activities and events outdoors, then examine why you have to go indoors." Thank you, Warren. Because of the valuable information in it, *Network* is always one of the first columns to be devoured by this volunteer.

Keep up the great work, all of you, and thanks to everyone who has taken the time and effort to send ideas and information to **the Leader**.

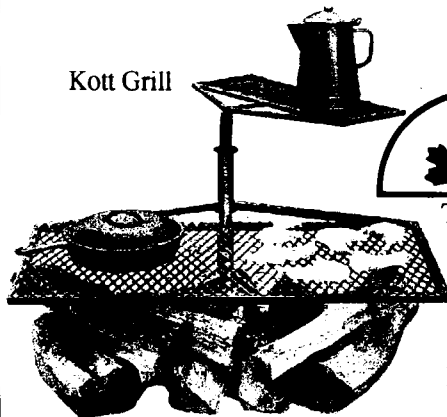
— Cathern A. Harrison Drury, APC  
Training, Quebec Council

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