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SAFE SCOUTING • WINTER MAGIC • HOLIDAY CRAFTS

SCOUTING HYBRIDIZATION: *Fantastic Ideas From Other Groups*

By Lynn Johnson

As any gardener knows, hybrid plants are strong, resistant to many pests and diseases, larger, and more colourful than non-hybrids. Cross-breeding produces a superior plant.

In the same way, any Scouting section, group, or region benefits from "cross-breeding" with fresh ideas and new methods.

Rearranging all the old techniques is easier, but eventually, your program wilts.

Where do you find fresh new ideas?

Read **the Leader** magazine. Arriving in your mailbox every month, it provides a rich source of program activities.

Brand new Scouters also have great ideas — **especially** if they have no Scouting background. Why? They bring a different outlook, as well as an unexplored set of ideas. What a major advantage!

In an emergency, almost any Scouter can walk into an unfamiliar group meeting and produce an acceptable program. But most on-lookers would recognize the ingredients. New Scouters lack the expertise to run a meeting without help and proper planning, but they more than make up for this in excitement for the program, fresh approaches, and new energy.

The most delightful ideas in my own colony come from new leaders. New leaders provide the innovations; the experienced leaders provide the know-how and trouble-shooting ability.

Your area or district Scouters' Club, or the group next door, can give fresh ideas, though it might take some work digging it out. Every leadership team has a different approach and different flashes of brilliance. For example, I remember a Sharing Session where leaders heard about very successful, innovative program ideas:

- a father and son card game night with root beer,
- a summer fishing expedition,
- an elaborate month-long theme on things that fly (birds, bats, insects, airplanes).

At a joint meeting shared with another pack, a different version of the jungle opening entranced my Cubs. A variation on a favourite game also impressed them.

Does your region hold conferences?

These offer a smorgasbord of ideas, gimmicks, and philosophies. Take a complete day and choose what your group needs. Better yet, go to a conference in another region.

My first Scouting experiences were in Toronto. Then I moved to the Ottawa Valley, then to Ottawa, and back to Toronto. In each place, Scouting has a different viewpoint, a different flavour, and different ideas. Take some of your training outside your own region. Don't fall into the trap of thinking the local way is the only way.

But why stop there? Great Britain and the United States both have Scouting programs. Joint camps, home hospitality, return visits, reciprocal gifts of Scouting magazines, and pen pal relationships between sections or Scouters can provide a wealth of ideas. (One of my all-time favourite programs was a "Bug Night" borrowed from the British Scouting magazine.)

Some Scouters come from very exotic locations. Recently, I met a lady who helped start the Grasshopper Scouts (like Beavers) in Hong Kong. Can we learn anything from her? You bet!

One of our Troop Scouters earned his Queen's/President's Badge in Uganda. As part of the requirements, he climbed a mountain. What a great speaker to invite in for aspiring Queen's Venturers. A Muslim group sent me some really excellent orientation training ideas for new leaders. These may spark some needed changes in area training.

Baden-Powell didn't leave us just a program; he provided us with a world-wide network linking us with people we would not otherwise meet. This network can also provide new, challenging ideas, not only from our community, but far afield. Let's use as many of the possibilities as we can to produce hybrid strength in our Scouting.

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The Canadian Leader Magazine

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FEATURES

- Auyuittuq National Park Expedition
"Be Prepared" — Or Else**
The 17th Ottawa Venturers take
Amory Award honours4
- Robocub: Hollywood
Program Ideas!**.....6
- Down By The Station**.....7
- Safety and Scouting**
Camping tips to avoid trouble.....8
- Video Conference
Across the Waves**
Cub packs link up electronically over the Atlantic 10
- The PR Portfolio**..... 11
- Holiday Crafts**
For Creative Beavers and Cubs 12
- Where Are We Going?**
Thoughts for the Scouting Management Task Group 15
- Basic Map Reading for Cubs**
Don't ignore the A-B-C's 16
- Cub Winter Magic**.....22
- Computer Program Library**
Try it!33

REGULARS

- Paksak** Organizing a camping event 17
- Swap Shop** Scouting in Action 18
- Fun at the Pond**
Outdoor walks and indoor fun20
- Outdoors** Life under the snowpack.....24
- Network** Power to the partnership25
- For Volunteers** Flexible training28
- Sharing** Kicking mediocrity30
- Patrol Corner** A friend to all32
- Venturer Log**
Scouting and Canada's new firearms control law34

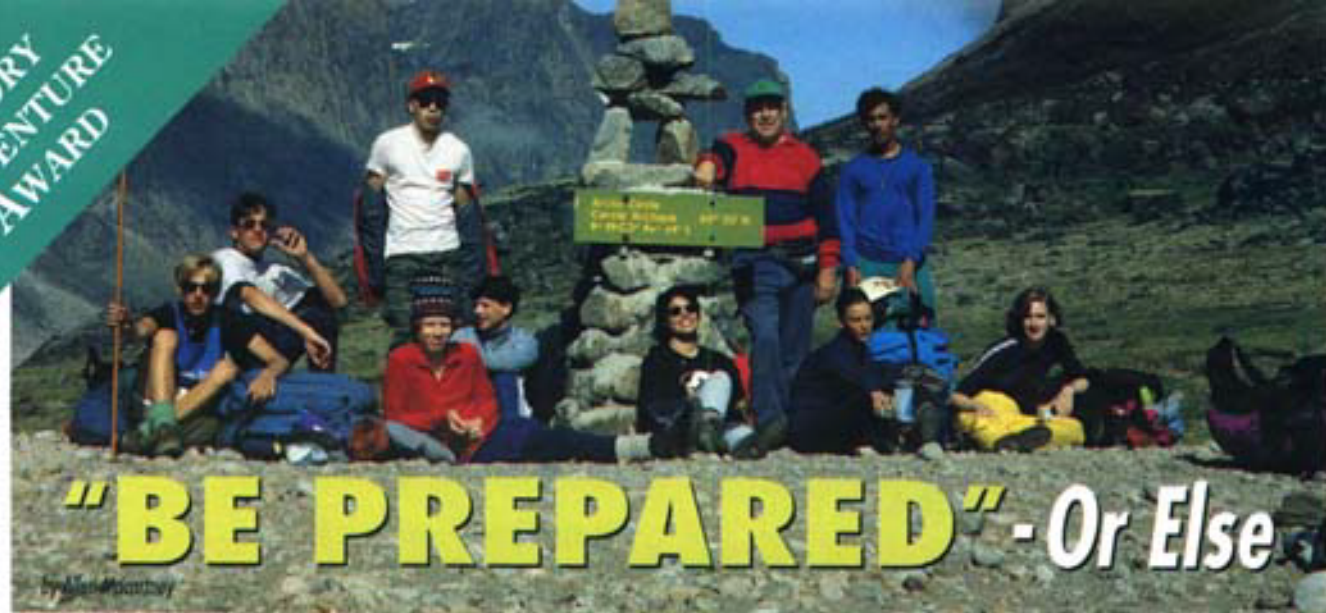
ALSO

- Editorial Page2
- 1992/93
Program Updates14
- Cross-Country
Photos26
- Supply News29
- For Service
To Scouting31
- Scouter's 5
& Songs35
- Letters38



A Salute Across the Waves

page 10



"BE PREPARED" - Or Else

"A fantastic adventure!"

That's how wilderness hikers from the 17th Ottawa Venturer Company described their two week trek through Auyuittuq National Park, on Baffin Island, last summer. The expedition earned them top honours in the 1992 Amory Adventure Award competition.

In late July 1992 the Venturers landed on Baffin Island and set off on their long-anticipated expedition into Canada's first national park north of the arctic circle.

"Auyuittuq overwhelmed all of us by its incredible, stark beauty," bubbled the hikers.

Towering high above their tents and the valley floor, snowy peaks stood sentinel over the eleven wilderness hikers, now so far from home. A glacier-fed stream tumbled down the mountain nearby. The hikers filled their cups with the fresh-tasting, icy water. After ten months of hard work and planning, they had finally arrived....

The Dream

The 17th Ottawa Venturer Company formed in September 1991 with a dream burning in their hearts. The dream was called Auyuittuq (pronounced "I-YOU-WEE-TUCK"): "the land that never melts". The name sounded as much a threatening curse as a call to high, arctic adventure.

Auyuittuq was created to protect the last remnants of the ice age, the Penny Ice Cap. The park is a harsh landscape of jagged mountain peaks, hanging valleys, plunging fjords, and ice. All contributed to its magnetic attraction and mystique.

At their first meeting, the Venturers started planning their next summer's expedition. Organizing the trip proved as challenging as the hike.

The Challenge

The Penny Highlands dominate the park with granite peaks soaring 2,100 metres. The 300 metre thick Penny Ice Cap covers most of the highlands. Two huge glaciers flow away from the ice cap, like coiling tentacles, sending a river of ice from the high plateau to the valley floor below.

Hiking Auyuittuq was no easy "stroll through the park." The harsh environment, unpredictable weather, and extreme isolation brought new meaning (and urgency) to the Scouting motto "Be prepared."

Rapid weather patterns change from hour to hour. A gentle breeze can switch suddenly to high winds blasting up from the fjords and through the valleys. With only minutes warning, rain and/or snow can sweep over the mountains threatening hikers with frost-bite and deadly hypothermia.

Packing clothes presented its own challenge. One hour the temperature could be sunny enough for T-shirts, shorts and sunglasses; the next hour could bring a blizzard demanding mitts, toques, and long underwear. The Venturers had to plan for all possibilities. Packs also needed room for arctic emergency necessities - extra food and fuel.

The Venturers carefully chose their tents: no cheap 'garden variety' here. Eureka provided expedition type tents at half price, suitable for snow and very high winds.

Strenuous hiking over rough terrain while carrying heavy packs demanded a daily intake of 4,000 calories - twice a normal person's needs. The idea of living on tasteless (and expensive) dehydrated food inspired no one. After careful study and experimentation, they prepared their own.

"Each member of the expedition carried approximately one kilogram (kg) of food per person - eight kg for the total expedition," said the Venturers.

The eight Venturers from the 17th Ottawa Company were Adriana Beemans, Matthew Bowick, Andrea Byrne, Mike Diak, Jason Kirby, Kris Liljefors, Eric Walton, and Shannon Whittle. They calculated the two week trip would cost almost \$11,600, including a 10 per cent emergency buffer. Kristina Liljefors (company advisor), Bill Thistle (advisor of the 23rd Venturers, Nepean), and his son, Dave, paid their own way.

"Raising such a large amount of money seemed overwhelming - almost ridiculous," said Adriana Beemans, the Company president. However, once they put together a fundraising plan (a bottle and fertilizer drive, stuffing multiculturalism kits, and labelling pamphlets), the task eased. They also applied for a "Knowing Canada Better" government grant. By the time they were ready to go, they had reached their full fundraising goal, which included a \$3,000 government grant.

Before tackling Auyuittuq, the Venturers wisely tested their food, equipment, and personal fitness during two strenuous, weekend hikes through local parks. After some fine-tuning, anticipation for Baffin Island soared.

The Arctic Venture

The first day began with a long flight from Ottawa to Iqaluit on Baffin Island. A light bush plane flew the group further north to Pangnirtung, a small Inuit hamlet tucked into a spectacular mountainous setting, near the park entrance. En route, the plane passed over a pod of blowing whales.

Under a clear sky and moderate breeze tugging at their packs, the group

set off next day for Windy Lake following a trail winding along the icy Weasel River. Inukshuks (little figures made from rocks) periodically marked the rocky path.

"It was not a very demanding hike," said the group, "but carrying heavy thirty-five kilogram packs, we moved slower than anticipated." Huge boulders dotted the rocky terrain. Frequent little streams, fed by melting glaciers high above, crossed the trail.

Despite warnings, several Venturers decided to try a 'short' cut. They got lost. At the end of the day, only six kilometres from the park entrance, the re-united hikers set up camp and cooked dinner near the foot of a glacier.

The next day's hike went better. "We forged ahead over sand dunes, rocks and debris left thousands of years before by retreating glaciers until we reached the Arctic Circle," said Beemans. A large Inukshuk marked its location. A riot of colour from yellow arctic poppy, cotton grasses, arctic heather, and lichens painted the ground.

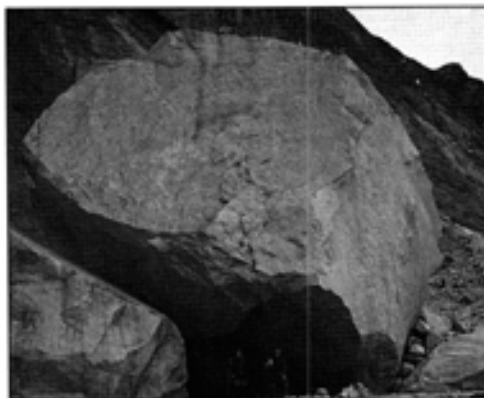
In the distance, sounding like an approaching freight train, water plunged over the 660 metre precipice of Swartzenbach Falls, near Windy Lake.

At Windy Lake the hikers pitched their tents, remembering warnings that only weeks before a fierce 90 kilometre-per-hour wind had blasted through the valley, sweeping away a group of tents from another hiking party.

Over the next days, the Venturers explored Auyuittuq further: passing towering peaks (Thor and Asgard), before finally reaching Summit Lake, and the Caribou Glacier.

Thor boasts the longest uninterrupted cliff face in the world (about 1,000 metres). Hollywood made Asgard famous. During the filming of the movie,

"The Spy Who Loved Me", British secret agent James Bond, skied off one of its sheer granite faces - with a parachute strapped to his back, of course!



Unbelievably huge rocks lie scattered around the park — convincing evidence for the power of glaciers.

A series of fast-running rivers - knee deep - blocked their path to Summit Lake. The icy melt water foamed around and over legs, making footing unsteady, even with firmly planted walking sticks. Bulky packs threatened to unbalance them, and throw them into the rushing water. Cautious team work overcame all challenges. Then they faced their biggest watery hurdle.

Only three kilometres from Summit Lake, a swift current had ripped out a foot bridge resting on a glacial moraine. In sobering silence the Venturers stood huddled together, listening, as the rushing water swept huge boulders down stream, "booming as they bounced from rock to rock."

A cold shiver crept up their spines. After a hasty discussion, all agreed to set up camp and wait until morning, when they would be more rested. They retreated to their tents to escape swarms of hungry mosquitoes and a biting wind.

Carrying only light day packs, the next morning they planned their attack on the "killer river."

"Dave crossed first with a safety line around him," the group explained. "Then the rest of us walked across in pairs: a strong one matched to a weaker one." Summit Lake lay a mere two hour hike beyond.

Until reaching Caribou Glacier, the Venturers had avoided all serious mishaps. Here their luck changed. The group climbed the glacier, reaching the top, which offered a spectacular panoramic view of Auyuittuq. Then they started down. A thin layer of loose rock lay over the wet, slippery, icy surface. Serious rock slides started rumbling down upon the hikers. A rock split open a finger of Scouter Bill, one of the advisors. The rest of the group escaped with only minor scrapes and cuts.

A two day hike brought the Venturers back to the park entrance with aching muscles and sore feet. Huddled in tents against a freezing drizzle (snow in the mountains), they sipped hot tea and roasted bannock, while waiting for a ride back to Pangnirtung. Here they toured the town, enjoyed luxurious showers where they shed "pounds of dirt", fished for arctic char, and went to a local dance. A flight returned them home, via Iqaluit.

"The park facilities impressed all of us," they enthusiastically agreed. "Park officials maintain paths and facilities in excellent condition."

Wild animals were never a real concern for the Venturers in Auyuittuq. Polar bears and wolves sometimes cross the park, but officials watch closely for them and provide warning. Park wardens have built emergency polar bear shelters for hikers. These large cages chained to the ground, are "intimidating even to look at," says Beemans.

"An awesome experience," Mike said excitedly. Most of the arctic hikers hope to return. ^



The breathtaking beauty of Auyuittuq draws hikers from all over the world.



Venturers crossed many ice-cold streams and rivers in Auyuittuq. Bridges, built by Parks Canada, spanned the widest, most treacherous water obstacles.

ROBOCUB: Hollywood Program Ideas!

by Colin Wallace

Sometimes you need an interesting story line on which to base your program theme or to add a new twist to a familiar topic. All kids enjoy movies. Why not adapt some stories from the movies?

Think of some popular movies. Do their titles

prompt any program ideas? (Don't consider any gory movies. British Bulldog can satisfy any rough needs of your pack or troop).

Start by changing the titles of a few popular movies. That will inspire you to think of new program angles. For example:

MOVIE TITLE	SCOUTING EQUIVALENT	ACTIVITY
Robocop	Robocub	Disguises
Terminator 1 and 2	Venturer 1 and 2	Stalking
Friday the 13th	February the 22nd	Special dates
Fried Green Tomatoes	Green Fried Tomatoes	Cooking
Dracula	Drakela	Surprise
A River Runs Through It	A River Runs Through It	Camping in the rain
Those Magnificent Men In Their Flying Machines	Those Magnificent Men In Their Flying Machines	Paper planes/kites/balloons
Around The World In 80 Days	Around The World In 80 Days	Wide game/ community survey
Dances With Wolves	Dances With Wolves	Jungle dances
The Magnificent Seven	The Magnificent Six	Honour six contest

You get the idea? Here are a few more titles to start the creative juices flowing. What program activities do they inspire?

- Patriot Games
- Gone With The Wind
- Saturday Night Fever
- The Night Of The Living Dead
- I Was A Teenage Werewolf
- A Farewell To Arms

List all of the elements that help make a movie successful. This will give you a ready-made list of ingredients to include in your equivalent program feature.

For example, Robocop might suggest the Scouting equivalent of Robocub, with movie elements and Scouting equivalents like:

Good guy.....	Cub
Armour plated.....	Wearing a large cardboard box
Armed with a gun.....	Armed with a water-filled detergent bottle
Crime fighter	Grime fighter
Battling forces of evil	Washing chalked slogan off a wall
Part machine/part human.....	Giving reports over tin-can phone

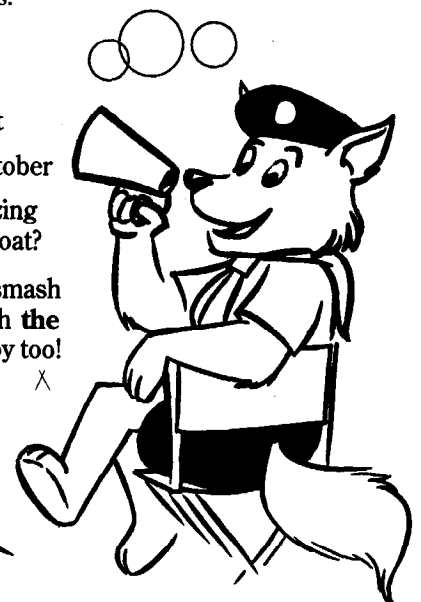
You can also use the titles of books, songs, and shows. For example, **LES MISERABLES** might suggest a skit about your group committee's monthly meetings. **THE KING AND I** could prompt an equivalent skit of **Me And The Commissioner**.

Let your local library or video store provide you with hundreds of titles and ideas — literally years of program games, skits, songs and activities.

What can you do with:

- Home Alone
- Beauty And The Beast
- The Hunt For Red October
- Joseph And The Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat?

When you develop a smash evening hit, share it with the **Leader** for others to enjoy too!



Scouter Colin Wallace is a trainer in Greater Toronto Region, Ontario.

Down by the Station

by Colin Stafford

Variety is the spice of programming for a colony, pack, even a troop. Add a dash of total leader (and parent) involvement and the sweetener of working with our young members on a more personal basis, and all the ingredients for an entertaining and successful meeting based on activity stations are present.

Most Beaverrees, Cuborees, and other similar large events are organized around the concept of stations. It's a logical way to divide the kids into smaller, more manageable groups and offer that all-important "something new and interesting" just around the corner.

Why not extend the activity station technique to a special weekly meeting? Why not apply it to your group's camps? Here are a few tested ideas based on experiences in our colony and pack. Adapt them to fit your requirements.

Beavers

An ideal example is Beaver "Tail Night". Try it just before investiture. Depending on the size of the colony, organize the Beavers into three, four, or five lodges. Assign a leader to run each station with assistance from parent helpers. The lodges visit each station for 10-15 minutes each.

Station 1: Give the Beavers their new tails. It's a great opportunity to explain the meaning of tails, get to know the Beavers, and update the Colony Log. Parents can help attach the tail to the Beaver hat in whatever manner your colony chooses.

Station 2: Select lodge name and design lodge patch. This introduces Beavers to the concept of democracy and working together as a small group.

Station 3: Read selected chapters from *Friends of the Forest*, using whatever audio-visual story-telling techniques your imagination can muster.

Station 4: Play an interactive game or two that helps the Beavers get to know each other. For example, ask each in



turn to pick something they like that begins with the first letter of their first name.

Station 5: Sing a couple of active Beaver songs from your large repertoire of Scouting's campfire music. Explain to new Beavers and parents something about etiquette around a real campfire.

Wolf Cubs

Black Star and Observer Badge requirements form the basis of a Cub meeting night with four activity stations.

Station 1: Explain the water cycle using appropriate pictures and diagrams — perhaps even a kettle and a jar to catch the "rain". Have the Cubs sketch their own renditions of the process.

Station 2: Build a simple rain gauge similar to the example shown in *The Cub Book*. Describe its proper use.

Station 3: Learn to identify six trees from pictures, using examples of leaves, bark, or seeds.

Station 4: Plant some beans in a suitable container that the Cubs take home to care for as the seeds grow.

Other badges are ideally suited to activity stations at meetings. With careful preparation, for example, you can run Cubs through many of the requirements for the Athlete Badge in an indoor school gym.

At Camp

At camp, you might select an hour and a half period after dinner and hold a mini-Beaverree or Cuboree. Organize four (or more) 15-minute activity stations and assign a leader or keen parent to run each event.

Station 1: Make a craft that fits your theme. To create a spooky atmosphere for Halloween, make spiders from orange foam balls and black pipe cleaners. Attach them to the ceiling with a web of string. At a Robin Hood camp, construct swords by tightly rolling up a few sheets of newspaper

and bending the top around to make a handle.

Station 2: Play a peanut roll game, using nose-power to push the peanuts along the floor. Before you devour the spoils, make sure parents and leaders show their skills too. For outdoor activity, try some parachute fun or any other suitably active game that lasts for the 15 minute period.

Station 3: Sing some songs appropriate to the theme of the camp or perhaps as practice for the evening campfire.

Station 4: Tell an interactive story, giving the youngsters special parts to play each time they hear their character's name in the tale. Older kids can use the time to practise their acting skills in a mini-play or prepare their skit for the campfire.

A minor downside to using activity stations is that the organizing leaders can't circulate with the participants. But the positives — particularly the fact that stations help sustain kids' interest and enthusiasm — certainly make the planning effort worthwhile. Give it a try. Watch the time zoom and enjoy the smiling faces. ^

Program Links: Black Star, Athlete Badge, Observer Badge.

Scouter Colin Stafford is a member of the regional service team, Greater Victoria Region, B.C.

SAFETY & Scouting

by Michael Lee Zwiers

A few years ago, a Venturer told me about his company's trip to the Yukon. They were driving merrily down the highway when their car suddenly sped up. A quick glance in the rear-view mirror explained the acceleration: two backpacks were hurtling across the road into the ditch. Bungee cords had secured them to the car's roof rack.

"We were very lucky," the Venturer said. "No damage and no injuries."

The situation may seem harmless enough at a first glance, but not at a second. Any experienced driver knows that bungee cords are unsafe to secure gear to roof racks. But that's just the beginning. What else don't these leaders know about safety? What other mistakes will they make?

We must prepare ourselves and our Scouts when going on outings. Although all excursions offer the potential for problems, water activities and winter outings are two of the most dangerous.

I cringe when I hear about leaders who simply load their Scouts into canoes and head off on river, adventure trips. Consider the group who, after planning their journey, arrived at the river to discover they had charted a course upstream! Imagine what else they did not know about that river, or about canoe and water safety in general.

I am a St. John Ambulance first aid instructor. We teach people safety-oriented first aid. That means we want people to avoid accidents. Sure, we want them to know what to do when an accident happens, but accident prevention and avoidance is better yet.

A dynamic Scouting program includes winter and water activities. We should make them safe. Before you launch your Scouts on a water or winter outing, find out what training is available through your local Scout council. Get some good books. Consider some of the following ideas.

Winter

Be Prepared

Plan to have indoor shelter available as a back-up in case of difficulties at camp, if possible. Scouts Canada also requires an emergency vehicle be available should a need arise. If you are on the trail, make sure that others know where you are travelling and when you expect to reach specific checkpoints.

It's not a good idea to take first year Scouts on overnight, outdoor winter camps. Generally, they have too much to learn about camp routines and using camping gear, let alone dealing with being away from home. If they also have to cope with winter conditions, the experience can make unhappy Scouts who dislike camping.

Check all personal gear before heading out. Layered clothing is important both for insulation and to keep dry. In the winter, temperature may be your biggest enemy, but moisture is a close second. You'll need regular changes of undershirts and socks to keep dry. Make sure you have wool or insulated socks. Wet boots will freeze, and frozen boots offer no insulating value.

Scouts should wear running shoes and light shirts in a vehicle on the trip to camp. Sitting in a hot car in full winter gear is sure to cause overheating, sweating, and cold campers later on.

Teach your Scouts about hypothermia and frostbite so they can spot in each other the warning signs you might miss.

Plan to be comfortable at camp. Take lots of gear, including extra clothing and food. Don't try to turn your winter camps into macho survival outings until your Scouts have become highly competent and confident winter campers. Your goal is to have fun, isn't it?

Daytime Outdoors

Eat lots of high energy foods, including sugars, carbohydrates, proteins, and fats. Keep snacks like trail mix, fruit-cake, chocolate, and crackers available throughout the day.

Dehydration is a real problem in winter. Your body can lose water quickly

in cold weather because you breathe in very dry air, but breathe out moist air. Plan to have warm drinks available throughout the day — about two litres per person.

Make sure the Scouts keep on their hats. Remind them that their body is like a house. If things get too hot, they should open a door, not take off the roof. If they remove headgear when their exertions warm them up, they will lose too much heat too quickly through their head and neck.

Have the Scouts add more insulation when they slow down or stop. This applies also when they sit down and when they cook meals. Remind them to remove layers when they are working and begin to heat up.

Make sure your Scouts change into dry clothing after the day's work is done and before the temperature starts to drop for the night. That way, they'll be warm and dry when it gets cold and dark.

Nighttime in Camp

Never operate camp stoves or lanterns in tents or huts for two reasons: the fire hazard and the danger of carbon monoxide poisoning. Carbon monoxide is colourless and odourless. It weighs just about the same as air and is about 200 times more attractive to your red blood cells than oxygen. It leads to oxygen starvation and death.

Are your Scouts' sleeping bags less than ideal? Try these tips to keep them warm.

1. Double up two bags, putting the zippers on opposite sides.
2. Sew a drawstring into the neck of the sleeping bag so you can close the top and keep the heat inside.
3. Add a thick flannel sheet as a liner. It can add as much as 10 degrees to the insulation value of the bag.
4. No matter how good the insulation in your sleeping bag, you lose some of its value when you compress it by lying on it. You'll lose less heat to the

ground if you have good insulation **under** your body. Bring in straw or hay to put under your tent or shelter. Remember that thick sponge foam makes a better insulator than closed-cell foam or an air mattress. Keep everything dry.

Stay up at night until all the Scouts fall asleep. If they are cold, they won't be able to sleep. In the morning, look to see who is first awake and out of bed. Warm Scouts will want to stay in their bags. Cold Scouts will get up and dress.

Ask your early risers how they slept and if they were cold. If they didn't sleep well, watch them closely during the day. Tired Scouts get cold faster than well-rested youngsters.

If you run into real problems, move the Scouts into a heated shelter. For smaller problems, bunch the Scouts together in their own sleeping bags, and add another bag on top like a blanket. Carry along extra blankets or light sleeping bags just in case.

Keep morale high. Fear is your biggest enemy in the winter, besides the cold and dampness. Scouts who have never camped in the cold have no past experience to draw upon when frightened. They will be uncertain about their capability to survive an outdoor winter camp. Make it clear that you want them to talk to you or their patrol leader if they are cold or scared. There's nothing wrong with asking for help. Monitor all your Scouts' behaviour. If anyone becomes overly quiet or excitable, find out why.

Water

Scouts Canada members who take part in watercraft activities must be able to swim at least 50m wearing a shirt, shorts and socks. When it is necessary for those who cannot meet this swimming requirement to take part in watercraft activities, they may participate, at the discretion of the person in charge, providing they wear lifejackets at all times while on the water. Members must also understand hypothermia, recognize its symptoms, and know treatment techniques.

Everyone should wear approved PFDs while in watercraft.

Cold temperatures make Canadian lakes and waterways dangerous all year-round. Many "drowning" victims are actually victims of hypothermia or exposure.

By-law, Policies, and Procedures contains some very clear guidelines for operating water programs. Leaders must

be competent and qualified. Read that section of the manual, if you haven't already. Here are some other tips for running safe and successful water activities.

Hypothermia

If your craft tips, or you end up in the water for other reasons, there are a few things you should know about surviving hypothermia.

1. The smaller your body size, the less time it takes to become hypothermic. Young members will get cold faster than adults.
2. Stay as still as possible and keep your head out of the water. By **keeping still** (rather than treading water, drown-proofing, or swimming), you will increase your survival time. Treading water and swimming increase heat output by three times; they also increase circulation and heat loss by 35%. Drown-proofing puts your head and neck in the water and increases heat loss by 80%.
3. The **HELP** or **HUDDLE** positions reduce heat loss from critical areas of the body, including the sides of the chest and the groin. If you have smaller children, sandwich them between larger adults in a huddle. These positions increase predicted survival time by 50%.
4. The average adult will probably not survive a swim in 10° C water unless he or she is closer than 1.6 km to the shoreline.

Training

Take time to train all of your members before water outings. Let them navigate watercraft alone, in pairs, and with three to a craft. Practise with empty and with loaded boats. Some of the training should be on moving water, if planning river travel. Train mostly on open bodies of water for lake practise. All members should practise what to do in common accident situations.

Inspect, and become familiar with, the watercraft you plan to use. If the craft you are using is damaged, or different from what you and the Scouts are accustomed to, your chance of an accident increases.

On the Water

Place all clothing and equipment in sealed plastic bags or containers where possible.

Stay close to shore. If a craft tips or loses power far from shore, the trip to safety will be more hazardous. There isn't much to see in the middle of a lake,

except lots of cold water. Near shore, you find all kinds of flora and fauna. On moving water, unexpected hazards such as rapids, sweepers, or falls will force you to move to safe ground quickly.

Remember! Fatigue increases the risk of accidents, and decreases the chance of survival. Aim for short work periods, many rest breaks, and finish days early.

Demand safe practices throughout the journey. No one can afford lax standards.

Wear sunscreen and cover up. Five per cent of sunlight reflects off grass; about 95% reflects off snow and water. Sunburn, heat exhaustion, and heat-stroke are real concerns during water activities. If your Scouts wear sunglasses, encourage them to wear glasses that block damaging ultra violet light. Drink lots of fluids.

Safety involves common sense and preparation. Don't depend on luck.



Resources

Fieldbook for Canadian Scouting,
Scouts Canada

Concise Book of Survival and Rescue,
by Terry Brown and Rob Hunter

Enjoy Winter Safely:
Learn to Keep Warm,
Alberta Recreation & Parks

*How to Select and Use Outdoor
Equipment*, by Barclay Kruse

*Malo's Complete Guide to Canoeing
and Canoe-camping*, by John Malo

Outdoor Living,
Mountain Rescue Association

Outdoor Safety and Survival,
Government of B.C.

Scout Leader's Handbook,
Scouts Canada

Winter Camping and Hiking,
by John Danielsen ^

*Michael Lee Zwierns works with the 34th
St. George's Scouts in Dunbar Point Grey,
Vancouver, B.C., and serves as a regional
trainer.*

Program Links
Watercraft, Camping Badges,
Winter Camping Badges.

Video Conference Across the Waves

by Barb Black

What a technological extravaganza — Cub packs connecting across the waves.

In early April 1993, the 1st Stittsville Falcon Pack took part in a video conference across the Atlantic Ocean. Twenty-eight Cubs and eight leaders from Falcon Pack linked with a contingent of Cubs from 14 different packs in Harlow, England. The video link was made between Bell Northern Research Labs in Nepean, Ont., and Harlow.

Activities followed an intense timetable. The planning, organizing and engineering of the conference call was a learning experience for Cubs, leaders, and technicians. The Cubs were amazed at the camera movement, the time zone difference, the back-and-forth nature of the meeting, and the transmission of photos and images of real objects such as badges, woggles, and money. On both sides of the ocean, Cubs' eyes stayed riveted to the screens. Reception was great, and our only difficulty was trying to get some Cubs to speak up loud enough to be "heard across the pond".

The Harlow Cubs showed us their Grand Howl, talked about the flags of the United Kingdom, demonstrated the world map flag game, described a typical British Cub uniform and badges, sent some morse code messages (somewhat ironic), and sang two rousing campfire songs. The Canadian and British packs shared a lot of laughs, especially

when UK leaders interactively instructed two Canadian leaders in a game called "Sumo Warrior".

Question and answer periods punctuated the activities. The Harlow Cubs asked Canadian Cubs how they get to Cub meetings when it snows. They wanted to know about our Cubs' favour-



The Falcon Pack salutes Harlow Cubs during the opening Grand Howl, conducted the British way.

ite sports, ice skating, and camping in the snow. The Falcon Cubs asked the British Cubs if they lived in castles, what side of the road they rode their bikes on, and about Sherwood Forest and Windsor Castle. They wanted to know whether Harlow had McDonalds, Wolf Head totems, meeting inspections, pollution, rain or snow, or mosquitoes and other nasty bugs. The questions and answer periods could have gone on forever.

On different maps, the Falcon Cubs showed the Harlow Cubs the location of Stittsville, Ottawa, Ontario, and Canada. The Cubs also described the National Capital Region, our Scouting area. They showed them new and old Cub uni-

forms with area badges, stars, and proficiency badges. They provided a vivid description of Kub Kar construction and our Falcon Pack challenge race, took them on an armchair excursion to our winter camp and spring camporee, and finally sang a campfire song and performed a skit. The Falcon Cub pack officially closed the video conference with an enthusiastic Grand Howl, Canadian style.

Bell Northern Research (BNR) deserves a BIG bouquet for supporting this event and for their great hospitality. After the video conference, Falcon Cubs enjoyed a BNR treat of pizza and drinks in the Lab 5 cafeteria, a visit to the British phone booth, and a hike to the top of the tower to see the view. Special thanks to the technicians and Judi (our hostess), who gave up a Saturday morning for us.

Cubs are Cubs, wherever they are. The video conference gave our pack a chance to meet kids from another country who share many common Scouting roots. The link between Falcon Pack and Harlow will continue. Soon we hope to exchange Scouting mementos (badges, pictures, Cub Books) with our new international friends. The 1st Stittsville Falcon Cubs plan to keep, even expand, the liaison through pen pal links and future high tech exchanges. Thank you, BNR, for a grand opportunity. ^

Scouter Barb Black works with the 1st Stittsville Falcon Cub Pack, Ont.

Amazing!

On the Canadian side, the centre screen shows 1st Stittsville Cub Kevin Arthur answering a question from a Harlow Cub.

The side screen on the left shows the Harlow Cubs looking on, while the one on the right shows the Falcon Pack.



The PR Portfolio

by John Rietveld

Congratulations! Across the country, hundreds of people like you have just been recruited to the position of district PR chair or group publicity person. Unless your background is in media, advertising, or public relations, you accepted the assignment either because no one else wanted the job or you think it might be interesting. Let's hope it's the latter.

The first thing to do is to ask your council president or group chairperson for a job description. A review of this document will quickly tell you what the council or group expects you to do. The task can range from coordinating Scouting's submissions to the media, to publishing the group or district newsletter.

Now that you know the expectations, you can determine whether it is a one-person job or will require helpers. If you are working at the group level, you can probably do the job alone as you will be able to rely on the district PR chair to handle activities outside of the group.

If you are working at the district level, you will need help. Start with the group publicity people; they might form your PR committee. Retired Scouters, perhaps members of the local B.-P. Guild, are another source of PR volunteers. If your town has a Community College, you might find some media or PR students glad to help.

Now that you have a clear understanding of expectations and an adequate number of helpers, develop a PR plan—your next step. Take on only what you feel you can properly manage. Most PR people at the group and district level are expected to publish a newsletter, help with fundraising, and arrange publicity for special events. If you present your group committee or district a PR plan that covers these three areas with budgets and deadlines, you will have their full support.

The district newsletter alone can be a full-time project. Assign someone to be the editor and have groups channel information to that person. Help the editor

decide how often to publish, what format to use, and how to distribute the newsletter efficiently and cost-effectively. Share your newsletter plan with the groups and district staff.

Publicity for fundraising events is the next area likely to need your attention. Groups and districts need money to support training, camping, and special events. Now that CJ'93 is behind us, perhaps you need to replenish the fund to help youth members attend the 18th World Jamboree in Holland, or CJ'97 in Thunder Bay. Calendar sales, Apple Day, popcorn sales, and Trees for Canada are the most common methods of Scout fundraising. Offer to produce posters or flyers and drum up media support, but be careful not to get yourself into the position of organizing the entire event.



John Rietveld (left) and Andy McLaughlin (right) presented Reader's Digest Editor-in-Chief Alexander Farrell (centre), with a Scouts Canada plaque of appreciation for running Scouting's "Be a Leader" PSAs over the past year. An important part of your PR plan is to thank the people who help you look good.

The third area of PR support is to get publicity for special events. Use a simple questionnaire to find out what group and district events are planned in the coming year. The list should include Scout-Guide Week, February 20-27; Trees for Canada in May or June; training courses for leaders throughout the

year; and group and district Beaverees and camps in June and through the summer.

Look for the unusual. A reunion of former Scouts, an environmental project, or a special award given a youth member or Scouter are the kinds of events that will interest media. Concentrate on occasions with good visual appeal. The media, especially newspapers and television stations, are more likely to come out if there is something to see.

Whether you are supporting group and district fundraising or seeking publicity for a special event, remember two key elements. First, write a simple one-page release stating the facts. Answer the questions Who, What, When, Where, and Why. Second, visit the media in your community to learn the names of the people you should direct your release to. Follow up with phone calls to encourage them to cover the event.

Next, put your plan to paper. Describe the newsletter plan, the efforts to support fundraising, and a list of the special event releases you intend to write. Give your PR plan to the groups and the district. When an activity is over, write a brief report and attach clippings or a record of radio or TV coverage. Do a quick evaluation and note what you would repeat and what you would do differently next time.

One of the most important aspects of your PR plan is to thank the people who help you look good. You can do it with something as simple as a telephone call to the reporter who covered your event or as elaborate as a formal presentation of an appreciation certificate to the editor or station manager. Immediate recognition helps you maintain good relations with media.

The role of group publicity person or district PR chair can be challenging and rewarding. If you follow these simple suggestions and stick to your plan, you will not only be successful but also have fun doing it. ^

HOLIDAY WARMTH AND SPARKLE CRAFTS

For Creative Beavers and Cubs

by Denise Allen

Impatience grows as antsy Beavers and Cubs smell new snow in the air. Warm up the darkening days of November and early December with crafts for winter festivities.

Whether you plan celebrations for Christmas, Hanukkah, New Year's or just old-fashioned holiday fun, these crafts start winter with flair. Kids' eyes sparkle at their own creations, so check out this colourful collection of ideas. Decorate with crafts for a joyful atmosphere, give away gifts made with love and fun, or keep them as a reminder of great times at the colony or pack.

Lively parties crave balloons. Start the merriment a week before your celebration with this balloon craft.



STRING BALLOONS

You will need: about 20 pieces of colourful wool or cotton string (approximately 60cm long); thick, sturdy balloons; extra strong liquid starch.

Buy the starch or follow this recipe: Dissolve one tablespoon granulated starch in a small amount of water. While constantly stirring the mixture, add one cup of hot water, and bring to a boil for one minute. When it cools, store starch in an airtight container in your refrigerator, ready for the balloons. (The solution lasts a long time.)

1. Blow up your balloon and tie a double knot in end of it.
2. Dip a string in starch mixture, until it is completely covered with starch but not too heavy to hang on your balloon.
3. Wrap starched strings around your balloon one by one, making sure both ends of string are securely plastered down. The balloon should be fairly well covered with string, but not so completely that string slips off.
4. Let balloon and string dry over night.
5. When thoroughly dry, pop balloon and remove it through the string lace.

Try fashioning delicate, lacy balloons with fine cotton string over a small balloon. Tissue paper added on top of the starched wool or cotton lends a different effect. (From: **Children's Art and Crafts**, by Nancy Bartlett — the Australian Women's Weekly Home Library.)

HOLIDAY CENTREPIECES

Festal tables laden with goodies are certain to seize the imaginations of your Cubs and Beavers. Let them contribute the crowning touch. I tried these centrepieces last year — a wide-eyed success! Choose the model best suited to your kids and your own preparation time restraints.

Birch Round Centrepiece

This takes advance preparation by someone with a little woodworking skill, but many "oohs" and "aahs" will reward your effort.

Materials needed: birch logs cut approximately 5" - 7" (12 - 17cm) in diameter (irregularly shaped logs are more attractive); florist's foam; hot glue gun or other craft glue; assortment of dried flowers, wheat, greenery, etc.; small "mushroom birds" or other decorations. (Plasticine makes a good substitute for florist's foam.)

In advance, saw the log into "slices", each about 2.5" - 3" (6 - 8cm) thick. Lie the slices flat. In the centre (or slightly off centre) of each slice drill out a round section, about 2" (5cm) wide by about 1.5" - 2" (4 - 6cm) deep. In the hole, glue a snugly-fitting piece of florist's foam.

Offer your Cubs an assortment of dried flowers to adorn their centerpiece. Encourage them **not** to make too many "extra" puncture holes in their foam.

Glue a small "mushroom bird" or other decoration onto the base of the birch slice, beside the hole. A hot glue gun works best here. Your Beavers or Cubs will be delighted with the results!

Simplified Centrepiece

This project is well suited to Beavers — even those with very short attention spans. It doesn't take long, (although they will need some adult help), and the results are always fantastic.

You will need: a baby-food jar (small or large); pieces of florist's foam; rice or fine gravel to act as a weight; plastic wrap; colourful wrapping paper; ribbon; small jingle bells; assorted dried flowers, wheat, etc.; tape; scissors.

1. Line your jar with plastic wrap so it sticks out the top of the jar. Fill it 1/3 full with rice or gravel for weight. Prevent spills by securing your plastic wrap over the rice with tape.
2. Inside the jar, place the foam chunk on the rice so it just meets the jar's rim.
3. Wrap your jar with coloured paper, wide enough to completely cover the jar to just above its rim.
4. Decorate with ribbon and jingle bells.
5. Fill with assorted dried flowers. Voilà!

CONE CREATIONS

With these simple cardboard cones, Beavers or Cubs create glamorous decorations. You'll discover dozens of possibilities for adapting the basic model from this pattern. (Quarter, halve, or double the given dimensions to make smaller or larger cones.) Make heads from just about anything: foam balls,

ping pong balls, old tennis balls, papier mâché or plasticine balls. Remember to match the pattern size to the head size you choose!

Here are four suggestions, but you could also try clowns, birds, sheep, etc..

Judah Maccabee or Three Wise Men Cut their crowns from gold foil paper. Either paint or appliqué their faces. Wool makes a great beard, but paper, curled with a narrow pencil or toothpick, is convincing too. Make cloaks from brightly coloured cloth or sparkly paper and simply wrap them around the cones. Bejewel with Star of David, sparkles or beads.

Santa Claus This jolly elf needs ruddy coloured paint for his face, and bright red everywhere else. Cut out a paper beard, and use paper or cotton wool trim for his cap. His twinkling eyes might be bead-headed pins, googly eyes or buttons. For that magical touch, sprinkle him with stardust or Christmas glitters.

Cone Christmas Tree Make a cone of metallic green card topped with glittering star and various glitzy baubles. Or, try another tree. Insert a centre "pole" in a circular cardboard base. Cover the base appropriately, and line colourful strings from the circumference to the top of the tree trunk. You might add miniature toys and other appropriate trinkets on the base and among the strings.

Christmas Belfry Use white foam board suitably adorned with a glittering gold or silver bell hung inside, as shown.

(From: *Scouting Digest*, Boy Scouts of South Africa)

SLEEPY ANGEL

Leila Albala's great little craft books contain innovative ideas, and this simple decoration charms any festivities.

You will need: heavy foil and construction paper; glue stick; tracing paper and pencil; scissors; light coloured construction paper for face; black pen or fine point marker; 10" (25cm) string.

1. Glue a piece of construction paper between two sheets of aluminum foil.
2. Trace this pattern onto tracing paper but do not cut it out. Put it over your foil and redraw the lines, pressing them onto the foil.
3. Cut your angel out of the foil.
4. Cut a small circle from light coloured construction paper (your angel's face).
5. Draw eyes and mouth with black pen or marker.
6. Glue its face in place.
7. Cut your angel's skirt and wings into fringes, then curl them slightly around a pencil.
8. Cut its hair into tiny strips. Curve them frontward and then down over its forehead to make bangs.
9. Knot together your string ends. Punch a tiny hole on top of forehead (with pencil tip), and push through the string's loop end from front to pack. Hair will hide the knot.

(From: *Christmas Gifts Kids Can Make*, by Leila Albala, Tikka Books, P.O. Box 242, Chambly, Que., J3L 4B3)



NEW YEAR'S CALENDAR

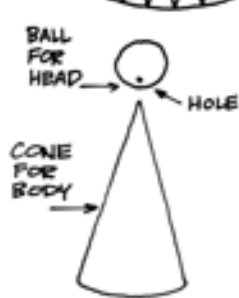
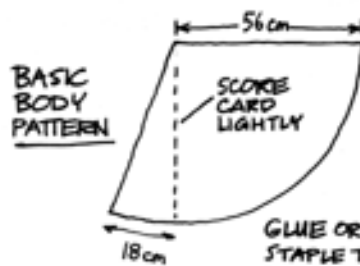
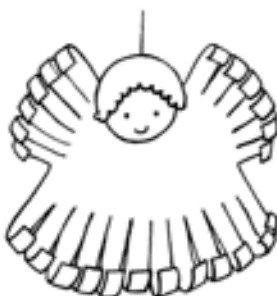
Dirty fingers and hands, beautiful creations... Beavers and Cubs will love this! Give it as a gift. Make it for your room. It's sure to be popular.

You will need: card; scissors; glue; punch (holes in the top can be done beforehand); ribbon; small calendars; craft paper; stamp pads with ink for finger print designs, or paint, etc..

Create a picture to accompany the calendar: Make it fun and messy! Make fingerprint pictures with a stamp pad and ink. Cubs or Beavers can turn the fingerprints into mice, birds, raccoons, etc., and illustrate the background. Another idea — make a hand print design for Beavers. Or, paint a lighted menorah on the calendar.

You may want to decorate the background card with sparkles and stars. Assemble as shown. (Adapted from one by Hazel Hallgren, 13th Red Deer Beavers)

Jump-start your holiday spirit! Crafts help transform kids' in-between-weather-energy into exuberance. Beaver and Cub contributions make festivities all the merrier, and that delights them even more. Happy holiday preparations! ^





What's New? – Program Updates 1992/93

A summary of program changes, new and updated books and resources, and the activities of the National Program Committee for the past and upcoming years.

	PROGRAM	HANDBOOKS	RESOURCES	PROGRAM COMMITTEE
BEAVERS	Program Support <ul style="list-style-type: none">addressed specific concerns, themes, outdoors & resources through Leader articles	Friends of the Forest <ul style="list-style-type: none">under review	Best of the Fun at the Pond <ul style="list-style-type: none">new publication - Fall '93	Maintain/Update 92/93 <ul style="list-style-type: none">continue to monitor & update
WOLF CUBS	Review: Implementation <ul style="list-style-type: none">on HOLD pending outcome of the Management Review Task Group			Maintain/Update 92/93 <ul style="list-style-type: none">fieldtesting "A Grownup's Guide to the Cub Program"monitoring the program & responding to concerns from the field
SCOUTS	Water Activity Badges <ul style="list-style-type: none">changes approved by Nat. Council, Nov. '92badge changes come into effect. One year transition period begins Sept. '93 Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none">conducted Scout program survey at CJ'93		Scouts Canada & World Scouting <ul style="list-style-type: none">limited copies of CJ'93 Scout Program Booklet available. Water Activity Badge requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none">changes featured in Leader articles - Jan. - July '93Water Activity Badges available - Sept. '93	Maintain/Update 92/93 <ul style="list-style-type: none">responded to concerns & questions.3-M Science Contestreviewed water activities section of fieldbook Maintain/Update 93/94 <ul style="list-style-type: none">conduct review of badge names for gender neutralityupdate Handbook to include new water activity badge requirements Review: Assess Needs 93/94 <ul style="list-style-type: none">gather feedback on current issues related to the program
VENTURERS	Vocational Venturing <ul style="list-style-type: none">developed program guidelines for 6 new vocationsestablished test groups in Ontario Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none">conducted Venturer program survey at CJ'93	Vocational Venturing <ul style="list-style-type: none">career start up kits available	Vocational Venturing <ul style="list-style-type: none">video available	Maintain/Update 92/93 <ul style="list-style-type: none">developed new policy for Scouting & firearms Maintain/Update 93/94 <ul style="list-style-type: none">develop guidelines for new vocational areasstart Venturer companies in additional vocational areas
ROVERS	Program Development <ul style="list-style-type: none">continue development of contemporary Rover program			Review/Implement 93/94
OUTDOORS	Outdoor Focus <ul style="list-style-type: none">increased outdoor & environmental content in section programs	Fieldbook For Canadian Scouting <ul style="list-style-type: none">interim "health & safety" revisions incorporated in reprint for Sept. '93	Boatwise <ul style="list-style-type: none">distributed to Provincial Councils Jan. '93 Fishways <ul style="list-style-type: none">Scouting/Fishways cross-reference guide, May '93 Scouts Canada Songbook <ul style="list-style-type: none">in production for distribution in Fall '93 The Campfire Book <ul style="list-style-type: none">in production for distribution in Fall '93	Maintain/Update 93/94 <ul style="list-style-type: none">task committee to assess outdoor resource youth & adult needs for all section programs

Where Are We Going?

THOUGHTS FOR THE SCOUTING MANAGEMENT TASK GROUP

By Michael Lee Zwiers

The world is changing. Evolution is going on all around us... (B)y looking around and looking wide and looking ahead we must see in what line we can progress and be ahead rather than behind the times. (B.-P., while on a tour of Canada)

As I look over the recent work of the Scouting Management Task Group, B.-P.'s words seem as current today as if he just wrote them. We all agree for the need to progress and be ahead of the time. But how?

Few journeys involve a straight path to the destination. Thorn bushes, marshes and steep hills often block the route. When charting a course for the future of Scouting, we need to be thoughtful, planful and wise.

Look Ahead

Where are we headed? Good question to ask.

Herb Pitts, National Commissioner, says "The goal is to lead our members to become responsible individuals in their own and larger communities".

Look Wide

To begin, we need a plan. A good way to know where we are headed is to turn around and take a backbearing on where we just came from. Let's take a look at our history. What makes Scouting different from other youth clubs and organizations?

First, we're a movement, not an organization. An organization is a front wheel drive vehicle propelled by its administrators. A movement is a rear wheel drive vehicle pushed from behind by its members.

Secondly, our members take a promise when they become invested. The promise places direct responsibility on every member to do his or her best to improved self and render service to God, Queen, country and fellowman.

Look Around

What makes the program unique? The out-of-doors, right? But exactly what part of the outdoors can we lay claim to? We use the outdoors to:

- appeal to our members: their sense of wonder (Beavers), their sense of adventure (Cubs/Scouts), their sense of challenge (Venturers/Rovers), and their sense of harmony (Scouters).
- teach about God. Through the marvel of nature, we learn to recognize and appreciate the hand of God.
- help members become self-sufficient. At camp, members have to make their homes and supply all of the necessary ingredients. Food, shelter, hygiene, exercise and rest.

What else makes our program significantly different?

It's great, we know where we're coming from and where we're headed. So what's causing problems?

Do you remember the obstacles?

The Thorn Bushes

Who needs red tape and bureaucratic thorn bushes? B.-P. said "Red tape and failure to look at things from the subjects point of view have killed many an enterprise before now. But it is not going to kill our Movement, as we are having none of it". He also said:

"Our principle of decentralization is the accepted method for the administration of the...Scout Movement." Scout leaders "are not bothered with committee or office work, as is so often the drawback in other societies, but are free to devote the whole of their spare time and energy to the main work, namely, the training of the [youth]."

The Marshes

The program should provide enough challenge to make the process rewarding for Scouters and youth members alike. We want to learn, improve our skills and have some fun. A complex or cumbersome program bogs us down.

B.-P. talked about his fear of what should be "an open-air game into a science for the Scouter and a school curriculum for the [youth]". Regarding badges, he added:

"Our aim is merely to help the [youth], especially the least scholarly ones, to become personally enthused in subjects that appeal to them individually, and that will be

helpful to them.... Scoutmasters are volunteer play leaders in the game of Scouting, and not qualified school teachers... (T)o give them a hard-and-fast syllabus is to check their ardour and their originality in dealing with their [members] according to local conditions."

The Steep Hills

We face some steep hills but we have faced many before.

Shakespeare once said "Fools rush in where angels fear to tread." Let's remember the most important Scout law: "A Scout is not a fool." Canadians recently went through a constitutional convulsion created by anxious people setting arbitrary time lines. Let's not draw line in the sand of time and convince ourselves that important decisions will have to be made by such deadlines. Let's avoid the single-solution approach. We've made many decisions already. We have many more to make and, compass in hand, we can be ready to make them sagely.

All of us will make these decisions. We need to try new ideas and create original solutions. We need to share those problems and solutions with each other, and with our commissioners. Many decisions are best made locally.

LET'S GO!

B.-P. suggested that our goal should act as our guiding light. A star to take our aim from, not a target to head directly towards. The outcome, he said, is:

"CHARACTER - character with a purpose. And that purpose, that the next generation be sane in an insane world, and develop the higher realization of Service, the active service of Love and Duty to God and neighbour." (B.-P. March, 1939, age 82)

Ed's Note: Provincial representatives to National Council have a draft of the Task Group Strategic Plan. They are reviewing and commenting on it in preparation for its approval beginning in November. ^

Michael Lee Zwiers works with the 34th St. George's Scouts in Dunbar Point Grey, Vancouver, B.C..

Basic Map-Reading for Cubs

by Chris Seymour

Learning to read a map and use it correctly is fun and challenging for Cubs, Scouts, and Venturers. But are we teaching basic map-using skills? Often we over-emphasize the compass and virtually ignore maps. Yet, anyone who has done any off-road backpacking or hiking will tell you that you must know your start point, how far you are going to travel, and how long it should take to get there.

To do these things, you need to be able to pinpoint your starting position and destination, and recognize contours and objects on a map. Along with a good compass, you must have a good, current 1:50,000 topographical (often shortened to "topo") map of the area you want to travel through.

If you lack training to feel comfortable and confident teaching map reading, draw on community resources. Start with geography teachers, local orienteering clubs, and your provincial government ministries dealing with forestry or land management. Probably any of them would be pleased to explain the basics to young people. Just ask. A number of good books also cover the subject. Check your local library.

Scouts and Venturers need to know how to plot a bearing on a map with the compass. Cubs are keen, enthusiastic, and just as eager to learn. Start by teaching them how to care for a map: keep it

covered when outdoors, mark only with pencil, and fold accordion style for convenient use in the field.

For class-room work, you need a comfortable setting with good lighting and five or six large tables, lots of sharp pencils, and, of course, six or seven copies of a 1:50,000 topo map. You also need compasses — ideally one for each Cub.

I've found that Cubs can only grasp four figure grid references, not six. Show them how to do it by explaining that topo maps have grid lines running north, south, east, and west. Help them find the two figures at the top of the map first, then the two on the left side. Show them how to find the grid square by following the lines to where they intersect. Each grid square represents 1,000 m or one kilometre. Once they understand the principle, they will find the rest easy.

Next, show Cubs how to orient the map by placing a compass on it and slowly rotating the map until it faces north. Talk briefly about magnetic variation, but keep it simple. With Cubs, just cover the basics.

After this, focus their attention on standard signs and symbols used in the map legend found on the reverse side of topo maps. Organize Cubs into groups of four or five. Challenge them to find several common symbols by giving them a set of grid references. What do the symbols mean?

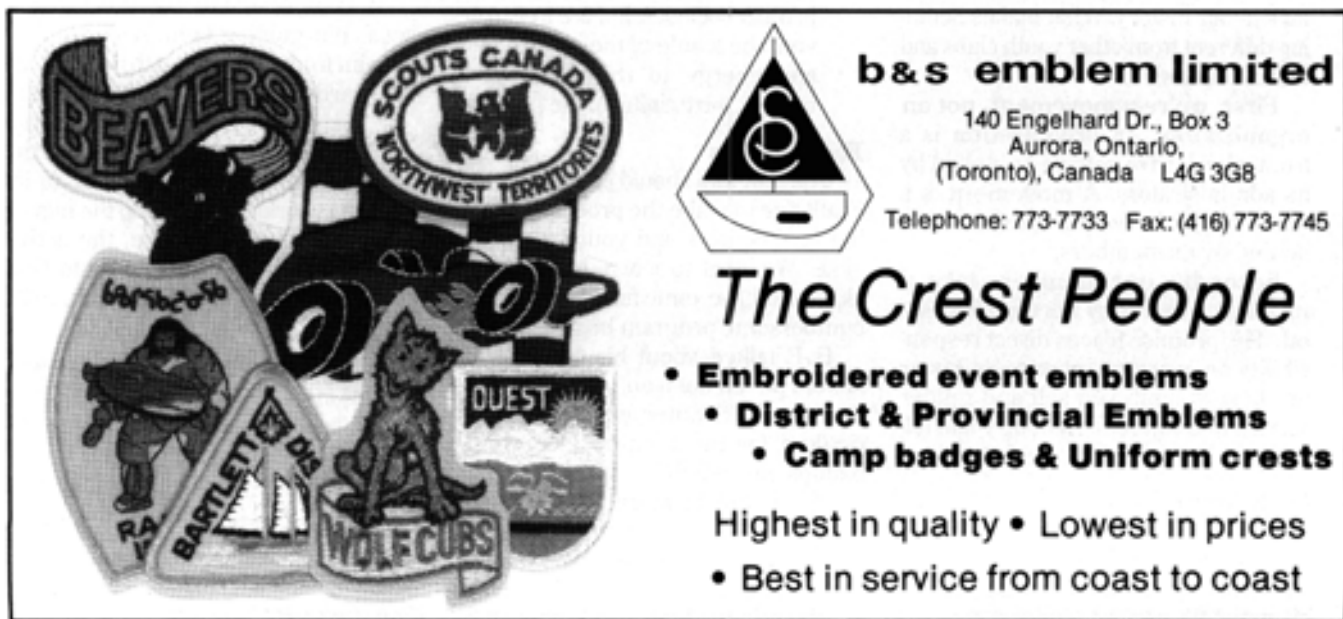
Finally, help Cubs learn to measure distance. Explain the two methods of travel and measurement: a straight line ("as the crow flies"), and by road. Show them how to mark off the scale in metric with a small piece of paper, then give them a start point grid reference, and a destination grid reference. Ask them to measure the distance between. If following a road, remind them to turn the paper as they measure to allow for turns and bends in the route.

In later sessions, combine compass and map in greater detail. At pack level, this might be enough.

After indoor sessions comes the great outdoor map-reading field test! During a Saturday morning map hike, have each six do a leg of the journey. Remember, map-reading is a practical skill. The more often you practise it, the better you become. If you don't use it, you can easily forget some of the basics.

One dictionary definition for the word "scout" is "going on ahead to obtain information". But how can we "go on ahead" if we don't know where we're going? B.-P. believed young people should know survival and outdoor skills. Map-reading is one of these basic skills.

Scouter Chris Seymour is a leader with the 1st New Minas B Beavers, N.S., and served 25 years with the Canadian Armed Forces.



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Organizing a Camping Event

A summary planning guide: Part 1

by Ben Kruser

Organizing a camping event, whether for your pack or a large multi-group Cuboree, requires a thoughtful plan. Camping events (large and small) share common objectives and tasks that leaders must perform if they want a successful, smoothly-run camp.

First things first

Before starting to use this guide, remember rule #1 — **be flexible in your planning**. Unforeseen tasks or loose ends will invariably pop up regardless how well you plan an event. Using the guide, record these concerns so they do not become disruptive later on. While some approaches set out specific times when a task needs to be started, this has been left open for you to decide based on local factors that influence your planning.

After you read both Part's 1 and 2 of this article, take a moment to review the work required. Think of other camping events you have read about in previous **Leader** magazines, or experienced personally at various camps. This will help you understand the steps involved, the planning process, and some of the details associated with specific tasks.

How to use this Guide

To use the guide, separate each objective onto a single page with a divider, and put them into a three ring binder. This becomes your personal planning binder. As you accumulate information related to completing certain tasks, put the original material (or copies) into the binder under the appropriate objective.

For each task, record who will do it, the date the task needs to be started, and when the task is completed. This will eliminate job overlap and misunderstandings. It will also show what work remains unfinished. As planning progresses, you will be able to build a record of your progress and locate supporting documents if questions arise about whether a particular job has been completed.

Does the event require more tasks than listed in this guide? Simply add these jobs to the related objective page and continue with your camp planning.

At the end of the event, if all goes well, the planning binder will record (1) when people did certain work, (2) correspondence and contacts made, (3) actual cost of material, and (4) other pertinent details.

The next organizing group can then use this binder (along with the post event evaluation), when planning a similar event to save time and, perhaps, prevent costly mistakes.

Organizing a camping event, whether for your pack or a large multi-group Cuboree, requires a thoughtful plan.

Give yourself enough time for proper planning. This guide will give you, and other leaders on your event committee, an excellent place to begin organizing a super experience for your youth members.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE EVENT?

Why have the event? Agree on this — the **purpose**. Do the reasons for conducting this camp complement other priorities? Ask this question now. It may avoid conflict later on.

WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS?

Goals are the long range effects you hope your camp will achieve. Write them out. These can include:

This guide provides a summary checklist of the most common planning steps required to organize and carry out a camping event. Part 1 gives an overview of all steps. Part 2 (Paksak next month) will delve into specific tasks related to each objective.

- promoting continuity in the Scouting Movement
- teaching youth to live the values of the Scout Law, Promise and Motto
- providing an uplifting and fun experience in a camp setting
- promoting respect for the environment and other event-related values.

SET EVENT OBJECTIVES

Objectives are the hands-on, measurable activities that must be done to accomplish the goals and ensure the camp happens. Most camp events include eight basic objectives:

1. Recruit a Camp Committee and develop the framework for operational plans, procedures and schedules.
2. Develop a camp program outline.
3. Develop a promotional package for the camp.
4. Develop a registration process for camp participants.
5. Develop pre-camp logistics plans.
6. Conduct the camp.
7. Conduct a post-camp evaluation.
8. Develop and operate the camp within budget.

SET TASKS

Tasks are specific jobs within an objective. By breaking an objective into manageable tasks, the workload can be distributed more efficiently. You can also add new tasks as they appear and monitor overall progress so critical steps are not left uncompleted.

Next month we'll take an in-depth look at specific tasks associated with each objective. ^

SCOUTING IN ACTION

from Mike Wilkinson

On the mountain behind the Chateau Lake Louise, Alta., two Saskatoon Scouters, Ron Gedir and Wayne Striemer, from the 24th St. Martin's troop, demonstrated the true spirit of Scouting. On Saturday July 17, 1993, while attending C.J.'93, the two were hiking with their troop on a day trip to Lake Louise. They had hiked up the

four kilometre trail to the tea house and were returning to the base when they encountered a woman in distress. The lady had severely twisted her ankle, had fallen on the steep trail, and felt faint.

Immediately, Scouters Gedir and Striemer sent other hikers for help. Then they used their first aid kit to bind the woman's ankle, and gave her water

and tylenol to ease her pain. Others in their troop returned to the Chateau, reporting the need for a stretcher. After an hour on the trail with no help, the two Scouters formed a chair with their arms locked together and carried the woman to the safety of the Chateau.

What a practical demonstration of Scouting principles. Well done!
— Scouter Mike Wilkinson works with the 24th St. Martin's, Saskatoon, Sask.

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from Don Hagle

A February visit to a local printing shop (Blue Star 11) gave the 4th Goderich Cubs, Ont., a creative challenge and an unique souvenir, says Akela Don Hagle.

First, each Cub drew a picture of something to do with Cubbing or camping, he explained. Organized into two groups, the Cubs visited the plant on separate nights to see the steps involved in producing a publication. To give the process real meaning, the shop



assembled all of their pictures into a colouring book and printed and bound a copy for each Cub.

"The Cubs had a lot of fun with this and will have something to remember," Akela says.



BACK FROM SPACE



Photo credit: Jim Morrison

Knowing that he would be unable to attend CJ'93, Canadian astronaut (and former Scout) Steve MacLean wanted to be sure that he personally presented to the organization the Scouting memorabilia that accompanied him aboard his space shuttle mission in October, 1992. He had his opportunity on May 29th at the Carleton Area, National Capital Region, All Section Camporee. Appropriately, the weekend theme was "Space". Steve eagerly met the over 1,000 participants, sampled a "galaxy" of delectable space fare prepared by campers, signed autographs, and visited displays and program activities.

In the photo, Steve and Gerry Umbach (Kanata, Ont. Venturer) hold the display-mounted, Scouts Canada crest. Gerry is also wearing the neckerchief and slide that Steve took with him into space. The mounted crest, neckerchief and slide are all displayed in the Scouts Canada museum. Steve's backup, Bjarni Tryggvason attended CJ on his behalf to formally present these items to the organization. ^



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Fun at the Pond

by Lena Wong



Once again it's time to think of cold weather, long, warm, indoor winter nights, and of course, Christmas. Plan your November and December activities so your colony can enjoy everything the season offers. Plan some indoor activities which reflect the season, but most important, get them outside for some vigorous fun.

OUTDOORS

Make sure you alert your Beaver parents before going out for an excursion during a meeting. Ask them to ensure that their Beaver is equipped with proper clothing: mittens, boots, toque and warm jacket. If you plan an outing during the day, ask parents to join you to increase the number of adults available to help supervise your eager Beavers.

Visit one of your colony's favourite outdoor spring locations to see how nature has changed it into a winter landscape. Ask the Beavers, "How has it changed?" If you visited the area in early spring before the leaves were out, point out to the Beavers how leafless winter trees are different from spring trees. Notice the difference between spring and winter undergrowth.

Make a note of the animals and birds you see. When you next gather in your meeting room, talk about the animals and birds you saw. Which ones did you expect to see, but didn't? Discuss where the missing animals and birds have gone. Have they gone south for the winter? Are they hibernating?

If you are near a beach, a pond or a river, and still have no snow, take a walk along the water and see what birds haven't left yet. Is the water frozen? Talk about how fish, frogs and other water creatures survive the winter.

Look for treasures to bring back to use as raw materials in craft projects and gift making, wherever you go for your outing. Pieces of drift wood, dried seed pods, stones, snail shells, small twigs, dry grasses and many other natural objects are perfect for a large variety of projects. Allow your Beavers to make up their own small collections. Use these at your next regular meeting.

GAMES

You need some indoor games and other physical activities to keep things interesting during meeting nights. Here are a few to get you started.

This game is borrowed from Central Alberta Region's "Big Brown Beaver". Thank you Hazel Halgren for sharing.



The Popcorn Game: Tell the Beavers how popcorn is made and why corn pops when heated. (This will make it easier for them to understand how the game works.) Divide the Beavers into two groups — one as 'popcorn', the other as 'poppers'. The 'popcorn' group stands in the middle of a circle formed by the 'poppers'. All Beavers crouch down, the 'poppers' gradually rise up as tall as they can stretching out their arms to indicate high heat. The 'popcorn' in the centre start popping as the heat increases. When the 'heat' is at its highest all 'popcorn' Beavers should be jumping up and down. (Don't be surprised by shrieks of glee!) Switch the groups and play the game again.

As a treat, serve some popcorn to your Beavers after the game.

Bee Sting Tag: Appoint two to five Beavers as bees. Designate all other players as bears. Play the game inside a marked area representing the forest boundaries. When the bears are stung (tagged) they leave the forest and roam about outside the game area until all bears have been stung. The last bears stung are bees for the next game.

Fish Hook: Appoint two leaders 'anglers'. Give them baseball caps to wear so they are easily distinguished from other leaders. Designate a 'fishpond' area in the meeting hall. Assemble the Beavers in the 'pond'. The 'anglers' move around the 'pond', trying to hook the fish by catching the Beavers by a hand or a shirt sleeve. (Sneaking up behind the 'fish' is allowed. Caught Beavers join anglers at the edge of the 'pond', but they may call out warnings to other 'fish'. Play for as long as the game is fun.



CHRISTMAS CRAFTS

November is a good month to start making Christmas gifts. But how do you persuade Beavers not to give them out before Christmas?(!) Why not try this. Make Christmas gifts over a period of several weeks and keep the work at your meeting hall until it is completed and ready to go home. Here are a few suggestions.

Place-settings for the family Christmas table would delight any parent. These items are quite easy to make and look very decorative when finished. Beavers could give them individually as gifts, i.e. each member of the family could receive a personalized place mat and serviette ring.

Table Runner: Each Beaver needs a green or red piece of cloth approximately 24" (60 cm) long. Cut the edges with pinking shears to make hemming unnecessary. Use white glue to stick on Christmas-time decorations (trees, apples, Santas, snowmen, etc.) cut from appropriately coloured cloth.

Place-mats: Make place mats to match the runner. Cut a piece of cloth about 16" x 11" (40 x 27 cm). Put decorations around the edges of the place mats. Spell out the name of a family member in the middle of the mat. What a colourful gift for everyone.

Serviette Rings: Cut a piece of red felt about 4½" x 1" (11 x 2 cm). Cut a suitably sized Christmas tree from a piece of green felt. Glue the red felt onto the tree so the two ends meet at the centre. Let dry. You can decorate the tree with tiny scraps of different coloured felt or use a small piece of multi-coloured cloth to fill in the centre.

Christmas Stocking: These will make a nice Christmas surprise for Beavers if your colony funds can afford the cost. Cut two stocking-shaped pieces of red felt and sew or glue together at the edges. Let dry. Decorate as you did for the table runner, and put the name of a Beaver on each one. At the last meeting before Christmas, fill the stockings with Christmas goodies. Use yummy treats which do not contain too much sugar such as banana chips, dried apple pieces, raisins, a mandarin or orange, and perhaps a few home made cookies.

Pot Pourri Pots: Each Beaver needs a small yogurt container with a lid and a handful of pot pourri. Punch holes in the sides and lid of the yogurt container. Paint and decorate with stickers. Fill the container with pot pourri. MMMmmmm... what a lovely scent!

Christmas Calendar: Cut a Christmas stocking shape (or some other shape appropriate to the season) from a piece of coloured bristol board. Draw 24 squares in random order. Number them. Give each Beaver 24 small stickers. Explain that starting from December 1, they should put one on their calendar each day starting with the square marked "1". When they have put all their stickers in the squares, it will be Christmas — a nice way for Beavers to mark time themselves during the Christmas month.



Have fun with music some time during the winter months. Beavers usually enjoy singing and playing music on homemade instruments. Hazel Halgren wrote this song for Big Brown Beaver. Ask the leaders to act out the action suggested for their colony names. Sing it to the tune of "The Quartermaster's Stores":

There was Hawkeye, Hawkeye,
eating all the pork pie
In the stores, in the stores.
There was Hawkeye, Hawkeye,
eating all the pork pie
In the Quartermaster's Stores.

Chorus:
My eyes are dim, I cannot see,
I have not brought my specs with me,
I have not brought my specs with me.

There was Rainbow, Rainbow,
eating all the Play-doh,
In the stores, in the stores,
There was Rainbow, Rainbow
eating all the Play-doh
In the Quartermaster's Stores.

There was Rusty, Rusty,
getting very dusty,
In the stores, in the stores,
There was Rusty, Rusty,
getting very dusty,
In the Quartermaster's Stores.

There was Bubbles, Bubbles,
running through the puddles,
In the stores, in the stores,
There was Bubbles, Bubbles,
running through the puddles,
In the Quartermaster's Stores.

There was Tic-Tac, Tic-Tac,
swinging on a rack,
In the stores, in the stores,
There was Tic-Tac, Tic-Tac
swinging on a rack,
In the Quartermaster's Stores.

There was Malak, Malak,
sitting on a tack,
In the stores, in the stores,
There was Malak, Malak,
sitting on a tack,
In the Quartermaster's Stores.

There was Keoo, Keoo,
playing the piano,
In the stores, in the stores,
There was Keoo, Keoo,
playing the piano,
In the Quartermaster's Stores.

Enjoy your winter activities and Christmas preparations. Next month we will make decorations, and share some easy recipes and games. ^

Cub Winter Magic

by Richard Austen

Planning a successful winter camp can be one of the most daunting undertakings a Cub leader has to face. In this country of extremes, the weather can cover a wide range of possibilities: from too cold to take Cubs outside, to so mild the snow melts leaving mud puddles everywhere.

How can you plan a worry-free winter camping program?

Last winter we wanted to be prepared for any weekend weather possibility. We chose *The Magic of Winter* as our theme, and interpreted it in its broadest sense. Our goal: Help our Cubs discover some of the things that make winter special (magical). To involve them in the program, we challenged them to come to camp prepared to do a magic trick or two around our campfire.

Adding an extra measure of uncertainty to the program, we decided to take the pack to a new camping location. The site had been advertised in the local Scouting newsletter and promised a cabin with indoor heating, plumbing, a full kitchen, and beds for up to 25 people. Great! The rate was well within our budget. We took the plunge and booked the first weekend of February.

Since none of the leaders had been to the camp, Bagheera and I visited it several weeks before our winter weekend. Situated on the edge of the Laurentians in Quebec, about a two-hour drive from Ottawa, it was indeed breathtaking. The log cabin nestled along the shore of a lake, surrounded in all directions with snow-covered hills. Snowshoeing was a definite possibility, as was cross-country



Definitely from the north! Cubs Charles Melnyk, Doug Gemmill, Gregory Austen, and Ian Roden check wind direction.

skiing, since the camp backed onto the Canadian ski marathon trail. The cabin lived up to its promise. Although a bit ramshackle, we knew the Cubs would love it. Anticipation ran high.

Our plan — to develop a sufficient mix of outdoor and indoor activities, giving us maximum flexibility whatever the weather. If the weather was great, we'd spend more time outdoors; if not, we'd be prepared with lots of indoor activities.

Outdoors

Winter weather, and how to predict changes to it: this was one subject we wanted the Cubs to study. We organized them in four groups. Each group made a different weather instrument: barometer, anemometer (also used to determine wind chill), psychrometer (to measure relative humidity), and weather vane.

After making and setting up their instruments, the Cubs took readings and recorded them in their Cub journals. Later in the day, they took a second set of readings. Next they tried to predict the weather for the next day. Since we were in the middle of an Arctic high with little wind and low humidity, we determined a storm unlikely.

As well as weather measurements, the Cubs tried several quick experiments to help them understand the properties of snow and ice.



Cub Adam Giles helps parent volunteer Harvey Dorman get the hang of a spiral gimp as he works on his zipper pull.



Cubs brought jugs from home, filled them with water, froze them during the night and (presto!) built an ice castle the next day.

- To measure the insulating properties of snow, they buried a thermometer at ground level. After a half-hour, they dug it up and compared the reading from a thermometer hanging in the open air.
- To measure moisture in snow, the Cubs filled a jar with 25 cm of snow, let it melt, then measured how much water lay in the jar.
- To determine the properties of frozen water, they put an ice cube in a glass and filled the glass to the brim with water. Of course, the glass would overflow when the ice melted, they all agreed. Surprise. They discovered the water level actually went down slightly. But why? Water expands when it freezes.
- In the morning, leaders gave the Cubs a piece of paper and asked them to draw a stick figure pointing to the sun at lunch time. Most drew the sun directly overhead. At noon we ran outside and compared its position to that of the stick figures in their drawings.

Although the weather was cold (-30° C), we spent quite a lot of time outdoors. While one group went snowshoeing, Cubs with skis went off on cross-country trails to have fun working on their Skier Badge.

Before camp, the Cubs saved plastic containers and brought them on the weekend. At camp, they filled the jugs with water, then set them outside to freeze. The next day, all joined in building an ice castle with the frozen blocks.

The Cubs also built two quinzhees on the lake. Although nobody slept in them, they had fun playing inside the snow survival houses.

Indoors

When we had to escape from the cold, we had plenty of things to do. We'd brought along plastic lacing and hooks so that the Cubs could make zipper pulls for their sleeping bags (old-timers would call them lanyards). The older Cubs used six pieces of lace, while the younger fellows made square ones with four pieces. This craft even intrigued leaders. After the Cubs had gone to bed, three leaders worked away on their own zipper pulls around the fire.

For quiet times, we brought a box of puzzles. These included theme word search puzzles (one featuring winter words), and a winter star and constellations puzzle.

Around the campfire Saturday night, the Cubs entertained with their magic tricks. Those who didn't have a trick amused everyone with jokes and stories.

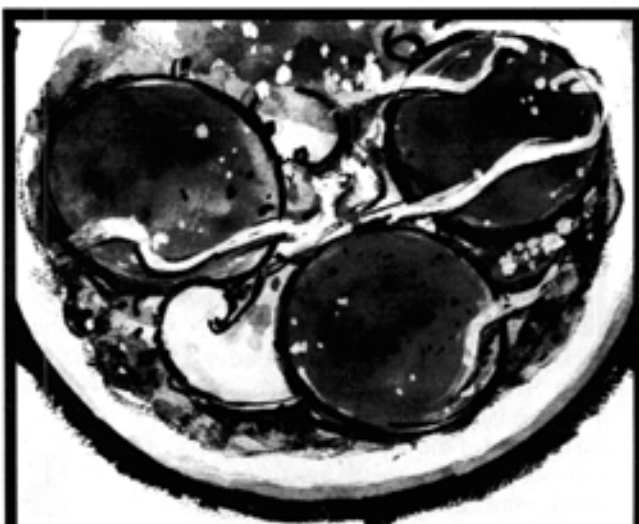
Although the temperature plummeted to -44° C overnight, we stayed snug and cosy in our cabin. Discover the magic of winter for yourself.

Postscript: Winter also worked its magic on our cars. By Sunday, when we were getting ready to leave, only one would start! We left camp two hours late and learned a last valuable lesson: someone back home should always hold a list of campers names and their phone numbers so leaders can alert parents if delayed. ^

Scouter Richard Austen is former Akela of the 137th Ottawa Cubs, Ont.

Program Links

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Life Under the Snowpack

by Ben Kruser

If you have never slept in a traditional quinzhee, or snow shelter, try it this winter, even if only in your own back yard. (See next month's **Leader** for a "How-To" article on igloo and quinzhee building.) The sound-absorbing qualities of snow give the interior an eerie silence. As you settle into this new and foreign environment it seems that all life under the snowpack comes to a complete and restful standstill.

New research, however, shows that life not only goes on, but is actually quite busy. For plants, much depends on the amount of light penetrating the snow.

Studies done in mountain habitats found that the composition of snow changes as it collects on the ground. As sharp, pointed snow crystals fall on the ground surface, they begin to change into rounded ice grains. The deeper the snow, the less light is able to penetrate to where plants lie. Because individual ice crystals refract and absorb light as it passes through snow, for the first few months, very little light reaches through deep snowpack. This leaves the ground in almost total darkness.

But as the snow reaches a high density over time, light transmission actually begins to increase. Individual ice grains compress together under overlying snow weight. When the ice crystals merge, they create an "ice window" to the ground, giving light a more direct route to pass through. The onset of spring speeds up this process as surface meltwater drips through the snow and refreezes the snow grains into ice. Hardy mountain plants can begin growing, and even blooming, before the snowpack has disappeared.

Snow buttercups and pasque-flowers are among the first spring bloomers. Their dark-colored petals absorb light and transfer it into heat, which further melts the surrounding snow. In other cases, the cup-shaped flower acts as a parabolic dish and directs light onto the pistils and stamens. This gives the plant a head start in growth, which compensates for a short growing season.

Snow provides terrific insulating value, which is another reason these plants can survive the coldest winters. Tests done on temperature differences at various levels and densities of snow

showed researchers just how warm snow can be. Under 8 cm of fresh snow, one test showed the temperature hovered around 0° C, while the air temperature reached minus 25° C.

SNOW HAS REMARKABLE INSULATING QUALITIES



As snow becomes denser with age and air spaces disappear, however, it must be deeper to maintain good insulating values. In places with thin snow cover and low air temperatures, the ground temperatures will also be equally low.

Snow's ability to insulate helps to hold in residual heat from the earth. Snow lying on the ground begins to melt into ice granules called depth hoar. Over time, these granules evaporate like ice cubes left too long in the freezer, leaving open cavities under the snowpack.

The presence of depth hoar on mountain slope snowpack creates an unstable situation. As the weight of the snow increases, the ball bearing-like depth hoar granules allow the snowpack to shift. This can eventually trigger an avalanche.

A combination of insulating snow and open cavities creates a perfect environment for small winter mammals. Meadow voles and field mice can travel in relative safety under the snow without fear of discovery or freezing. In one study, researchers set live traps for these mammals under a deep layer of spring mountain snow. They were amazed when one trap yielded a two week old vole. Obviously, these animals had no need to wait for the snow to disappear before beginning to renew the cycle of life.

When winter seems as if it will last forever, it's nice to know that optimistic nature is busy preparing for spring, even before the snow starts to go. ^



Build a quinzhee and get your pack or troop outdoors. Quinzhees are excellent survival shelters. They also make fun hiding places.

POWER to the Partnership

by Pat Martin & Carolyn Lloyd

For the past few years, the Greater Victoria Region has worked very hard developing relationships between group committees and their partners or sponsors. Just as a service team exists for each section, in our region we also have a team for group committees and partners. It has proved a valuable service.

Our service team offers support through phone contacts, by attending group meetings, and by running group committee training courses twice a year. Early in May, we offer a three-day Group Retreat — a fun weekend at Camp Barnard with a fantastic menu. At the retreat, we provide training that benefits administrative Scouters. Some topics include: problem solving, new programs, recruiting, and how to keep Scouting "cool".

We try to reinforce the roles and responsibilities of the group and the partner. Because of constant turnover among group committee executive members, many groups are not aware of their relationship with their partner. In fact, they may not even know their partner exists. The partners often share this confusion and are unaware of their responsibilities to the group. Sound familiar?

To help solve the problem, we planned a "Partner Breakfast" — an idea borrowed from the National Capital Region. We held our first breakfast in January 1993 at Scout House (to keep costs down). A fellow Scouter, who ran a catering company, helped generously. We invited a representative of each

We decided the best way was to plan the event early in the morning, keep it short, and offer great food. Our breakfast ran from 8:30-10:30 a.m. on Saturday morning. The menu: fruit cup, bacon and sausage, and waffles and strawberries. Regional President Bob Short-

house and Regional Commissioner Dave Tyre both spoke briefly. Jack Humble and Philip Fawcett of the 8th Fort Victoria explained the partner-group relationship, then we introduced our new executive director, Ron Lambert. Also, we used the occasion to present charter stickers to represented groups.

What did people think?

Comments were very encouraging. Everyone wants us to repeat the event. Some groups and partners met each other for the very first time at our breakfast. A prospective new partner who attended left very impressed.

As a group services team, we know the value of supporting group committees. Can your region benefit from these ideas?



Finding the best spot to cook a foil lunch: Scouters Bev Ball and Pat Martin at Retreat'92, a popular training weekend that strengthens group committees.

group committee, their partner, and the regional team. Beavers made the table centrepieces. Scouts and Venturers set up, served, and helped in the kitchen.

But how do you attract people?

Scouter Pat Martin is a Group Services Scouter, while Scouter Carolyn Lloyd is regional vice-president, group services, in Greater Victoria Region, B.C.

Scouts serve guests at Greater Victoria Region's first Partner Breakfast.



CROSS-COUNTRY PHOTO

Cultural- Sharing — CJ Style:

13th Burnaby SW Ismaili Scouts from B.C. gather with 2nd Burnaby SW Scouts inside a teepee at CJ'93. A First Nations interpreter fascinated his listeners with stories of native life, art, and prairie hunting. Thanks to Iqbal Lalany.



BEAVER WINS TOP SALES AWARD: Popcorn super-salesman Michael Peters of the 53rd Windsor Beavers, Ont., picks up his trophy from Cy Bulcke after outselling all others in his colony. Beaver leader Josie Bulgarelli looks on. Well done!



WINNER'S CIRCLE: Sore feet weren't the only thing the 1st Plymouth Troop, N.S., brought home from the 36th Annual Camporee, held at Camp Smith. They won the first place overall camp trophy. More than 164 campers from 28 patrols competed.



"BUT HOW DOES IT WORK?!" Puzzling over the question, Scouts James Harper, Christopher Frei and William Harper from the 5th Georgetown Troop, Ont., are held fascinated by a miniature steam engine. Builder Jack Layman solved the mystery, then started up several other steam models. Photo: Jean Layman.

BRONCO-BUSTIN' BEAVERS:

Cardiff Beavers from Morinville, Alta., recently staged a rip-snortingly successful western rodeo. Events included barrel racing (on bikes), cow pie throwing (with frisbees!), target practice (super soakers and cups), as well as cowboy crafts. Cory Pietryzkowski (pictured) demonstrates correct bronco riding technique. Thanks to Pat Coxen.





When Scouts from the 1st Grand Falls, Nfld., seek challenge, they aim high. A six hour hike brought them to the top of Hodges's Hill, the highest peak in central

Newfoundland. "It was cold at the top," said Scouter Doris Cormier, "but the hike was fun and the 'mug-up' was delicious." Yum!



PIRATE NITE — AVAST MATES! Devin Phalen and Matthew Nelson proudly display the flags they made at the Shaunavon 1st Beavers, Sask., first-ever pirate night. Each Beaver brought materials for one flag: cloth (65cm x 65cm), 2 pieces of colourful felt, and one pole. The successful evening ended with a reading from Treasure Island.



NEWS FLASH!! CUBS BUILD CITY IN EVENING: Tackling their Handicraft Badge #3 requirements, 2nd Oxford Cubs, N.S., built an entire city one evening during a lego night. Working in groups, Cubs assembled several towns, then put it all together into a city. Who needs urban planners?!



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Flexible Training To Meet Leaders' Needs

The Volunteer Recruitment and Development Strategy has been a high priority of the National Council for several years. Reviewing our training system is one of the key elements of this strategy of selective recruitment, servicing, training, and recognition. This strategy concerns and involves the Scouting Movement world-wide, though other National Councils title it differently.

Scouter Frank Smith, from the United Kingdom, wrote the following article. Though edited for space, the message is both applicable and thought provoking for our Canadian training teams.

Adult Leader Scout Training tries to prepare leaders for their specific roles. In general, each Association defines training objectives, rather than the leaders themselves.

Generic descriptions of a role can no longer apply to all leaders. A Scout Leader in a rural village has very different needs from a leader working in a densely populated city. The physical, social and cultural environments are different, leaders will have different problems, need different skills and require different training.

Linear training (i.e. a leader starts and ends a defined pattern of training experiences before "qualifying") may no longer be relevant for all leaders, particularly if they have

already acquired many of the skills through: education, previous Scout training, experience, and professional work.

Because much of our training ignores skills leaders already possess, we expect them to spend valuable time re-learning lessons they have long mastered. This practice wastes resources and can de-motivate volunteers.

"Adults in Scouting" requires that training is relevant to the leaders undergoing training (and perceived as relevant by them), available when and where required at reasonable cost, and should not be required in those areas that they have demonstrated competence.

Before appointing leaders to a new position someone should interview them to ascertain:

- the knowledge, skills and attitudes the job requires,
- the knowledge, skills and attitudes they already possess,
- what they still need to learn.

Training should focus on this last point: what they still need to learn. Every new leader will, therefore, have a personal training plan which may differ from that of other leaders doing a similar job.

We do not always provide training opportunities in a sensitive way. A week-long, residential course has advantages, but it is not convenient for people with only several weeks holiday a year. Courses run on successive weekends are not convenient for families.

We need more flexibility, not only in the content and the format of our training, but also in its timing. Single day or evening courses would increase participation.

If we stay flexible in the formats and styles of training we permit, leaders will build up their own "training portfolio" by a mixture of different experiences, courses, visits, discussions, both inside and outside the Movement. If leaders demonstrate knowledge or competence in an area, they should receive credit for these units. In this way, they will build up the required "credits" to qualify for relevant training awards.

Such a flexible system demands a very good recording and communication system. Leaders need to know when and where training opportunities exist. Also a system of accreditation is necessary, whereby training received outside the Movement can be assessed for its relevance and standard. Leaders also should keep a detailed personal record of their training experiences and achievements in a training "log book".

A flexible training system is not easy to administer. It means more work, from more people, and requires ongoing commitment. Training cannot be a once-and-for-all experience.

A flexible system meets the needs of the leaders: it fits in with their availability and acts as a stronger motivator than long courses with dubious relevance. A flexible training system, because it is ongoing, can meet new needs as they arise. Leaders will recognize more readily how the system supports them in the job, rather than a system requiring them to "qualify".

Anything that helps leaders apply what they have learned and meet the needs arising from real situations, will make them more effective. Δ

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TWO LIVES OF A HERO

by Bob Boreham

For many years, critics have proclaimed the late William "Green Bar Bill" Hillcourt's book, **Baden-Powell — The Two Lives Of A Hero**, as the definitive biography of the Scouting Movement's founder. The author has written many books for the Boy Scouts of America, including the Official Boy Scout Handbook, the Patrol Leaders' Handbook and countless articles for Patrol Leaders in Boy's Life magazine under the persona "Green Bar Bill".

No one can fully appreciate the genius of Scouting without knowing the man, Baden-Powell, who conceived the worldwide Movement.

This new edition covers Lord Baden-Powell's two careers: the first as soldier and national hero; the second, as founder and guiding genius of Scouting. This exciting story belongs in the library of every Scout, Scouter and Council member. It contains a treasure trove of inspiration and relevant anecdotes, scores of campfire stories and "Scouter's Minutes".

What a great holiday gift for that avid Scout or Scouter in your family. What a splendid presentation gift to any volunteer — from section leader to executive board member.

Richly illustrated, the new edition includes dozens of rare photographs and sketches by B.-P.. This 450 page, hard cover, special edition book is available through your local Scout Shop (#20-305) for \$29.95.

PATONS PATTERNS: Patons' **The Great Outdoors** is a new book of patterns for knit sweaters and jackets for Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers and leaders. Produced by Coats-Patons, with cooperation and support from Scouts Canada, this is the first time we have ever had to triple our original order quantity, before the book had even been advertised.

Designs include: a "Juggling Beaver" pullover sweater, a "Beavers Canada" jacket, a "Wolf Cub" crest sweater, "Howling Wolves" jacket, a "Scouts Canada" logo sweater and jacket, a "Be Prepared" fleur-de-lis design, the official "Venturer" logo for sweater and jacket, and many more designs.

Beautiful, full-colour photographs reflect the quality of the finished product.

"The Great Outdoors" is available at all Scout Shops and Patons regular outlets, at the same price - \$5.95 each. (Scouts catalogue #20-903, Patons Catalogue #564 FF)

C.J.'93 TRADING POST: The trading Post set a Jamboree sales record at C.J.'93, thanks to the efforts and incredible support from all participants. All profits stay within the Scouting organization and help support Scouting activities coast-to-coast.

SCOUTING MEETS HERE: Don't forget to pick up several, inexpensive "Scouting Meets Here" signs for use in and around your group's meeting location. Made of coroplast, with the official Scouts Canada logo silkscreened on a bright white background, the sign has enough room on the bottom for your own message. Available at Scout Shops for \$5.50 (#71-624). ^

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Kicking Mediocrity

by Ben Kruser

The top business books on popular reading lists all have one common message: in order to survive, corporations must be creative.

Whether it's Tom Peter's *Search for Excellence*, written for today's concrete jungle, or Sun Tzu's *The Art of War*, composed 2,500 years ago, these books focus on the importance of developing creativity and imagination in future leaders.

Next meeting, look at your Beavers. They are Canada's future leaders. They need the opportunity to develop their imaginations and creativity now, to be successful in life later. Newspaper business sections do not so much say that Canada is not competitive, but that it is simply not creating new products as fast as other foreign corporations. While the corporate world values creativity and imagination, teenagers rank these attributes strikingly low.

In Bibby and Posterski's new book, *Teen Trends*, they write:

"Most children enter elementary school with a creative flair and freedom of expression. But too often it's downhill from there. The correlation is depressingly predictable: the longer children go to school and the higher they climb academically, they will usually be met by a corresponding decline in the creativity teachers and professors use to communicate the content of their programs.... Our modern world discourages creativity.... Should we be surprised that today's teenagers place appallingly low-value levels on creativity and imagination? Only four in ten give a thumbs-up rating to their importance."

Competing for prizes tended to undermine children's creativity.

What can counteract this unfortunate decline?

Play environments that not only support creativity, but actually promote its use in activities and daily life, can benefit young children tremendously. Here, the Beaver program is a step ahead of everyone else.

A noncompetitive program, like Beavers, promotes motivation because of personal interest rather than reward.

Teresa Amabile, associate professor of psychology at Brandeis University, Massachusetts, found that when children were asked to make a collage in return for a reward, the results were less original than when asked to make a collage for their own enjoyment. Competing for prizes also tended to undermine children's creativity. They responded with more predictable, more conservative, and more restricted art, than when prizes were not offered.

Although leaders don't offer Beavers "prizes", it doesn't mean they shouldn't praise and recognize children for doing their best. Beaver-age children often require acknowledgement to maintain their interest in doing a particular activity. Beavers work for themselves and friends, not for a first-prize ribbon: an important point to remember.

Interestingly, successful programs in older sections get youth working on badges without knowing it. Leaders let kids choose activities that interest them, then plan the activities and build relevant badge requirements into the program. The children's interest is focused on doing the activities to the best of their ability and creativity. Receiving a badge is only the icing on the cake.

So how do you spark creativity in a Beaver? Here are some tips you might wish to try during your meetings.

- Encourage questioning. Curiosity is a critical part of creativity. When children learn to question and search for answers, they use creative thinking to draw inferences and conclusions. Ask children questions about their work. "Tell me about your drawing," can lead to a flood of inventiveness rivalling that of Edison and Einstein.
- Provide materials that encourage creativity. Keep on looking for new ideas and new supplies the Beavers have not experienced. Are they colouring too often? Why not try papier mâché or paper-making as a means of creative expression?
- Provide encouragement. Give Beavers a sense of pride in their creations and in the effort for its own sake rather than for winning prizes. Motivational stickers that say "Wow" and "Super" are more appropriate recognition at this age than elite awards.
- Encourage Beaver self-confidence. Help children express their creativity, even if the result is not the prettiest object in the world. As children become more confident in pursuing ideas, they also develop independence. They need this as they grow older.

The next time your leadership team begins to wonder how you and your activities are contributing to the development of the children in your care, remember that everyone has to begin somewhere. For Beavers, learning how to be creative now will enable them to take on adult problems that need creative approaches later. ^

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For Service to Scouting

compiled by Cheryl Dinelle

In this issue, we are pleased to announce the names of people in Scouting who have been recognized for gallantry and service between February 1, 1993 and August 31, 1993. Awards made after August 31, 1993 will be announced in a spring issue of **the Leader**.

CERTIFICATE FOR MERITORIOUS CONDUCT

(for meritorious conduct worthy of recorded commendation)

James Blue, Allenford, Ont.
Jamie Burt, Pasadena, Nfld.
Richard Butt, Pasadena, Nfld.
Darren Foreman, Salisbury, N.B.
Garth Holder, Moncton, N.B.
James Holman, Oakville, Ont.
Wayne Knee, Hinton, Alta.
Jeremy Lucyk, Etobicoke, Ont.
Roger Merkl, Winnipeg, Man.
Donald Middleton, Salmo, B.C.
Ian Morris, Dunnville, Ont.
Jarrod Peckford, Change Islands, Nfld.
Jackson Percy, Fort Saskatchewan, Alta.
Jerad Percy, Fort Saskatchewan, Alta.
Jim Pretchuk, Thunder Bay, Ont.
Lewis Pugh, Penticton, B.C.
Chris Rose, Pasadena, Nfld.
Russ Thom, Naughton, Ont.
Curtis Van Woerkom, Calgary, Alta.

BAR TO SILVER ACORN

(for further especially distinguished service to Scouting)

William (Posthumous) Evans,
Kitchener, Ont.

SILVER ACORN

(for especially distinguished service to Scouting)

Jeanette Aylea, Thamesford, Ont.
Walter Busenius, Hay Lakes, Alta.
Thomas Byrne, Liverpool, N.S.
Donald Calfas, Moose Jaw, Sask.
John Chilvers, Manotick, Ont.
Robert Clow, Cornwall, P.E.I.
Barbara Louise Cotterill, Calgary, Alta.
George Croy, Duncan, B.C.
Albert Hill, Delta, B.C.
Frank Jackson, Ferintosh, Alta.
Trevor Lewis, Sardis, B.C.
Clark Middleton-Hope,
Hudson Heights, P.Q.
Andrew O'Keefe, Victoria, B.C.
Donald Read, Swift Current, Sask.
Michael Robertson, Sherwood
Park, Alta.
Robert Saggars, Beaconsfield, P.Q.
Jackson Strapp, Timmins, Ont.

Ric Symmes, Terra Cotta, Ont.
John Waddell, Ottawa, Ont.
William Wright, Stittsville, Ont.

BAR TO MEDAL OF MERIT

(for further especially good service to Scouting)

Ken Burden, Lacombe, Alta.
Gary Harker, Lethbridge, Alta.
Heather Houston, Winnipeg, Man.
Guy Mandeville, Belleville, Ont.
William Vasiliou, Agincourt, Ont.
Patricia Withenshaw, St. Thomas, Ont.

MEDAL OF MERIT

(for especially good service to Scouting)

Edward Allen, Red Deer, Alta.
Terry Ames, Red Deer, Alta.
Harvey Armstrong, Dauphin, Man.
Mike Beacock, Coquitlam, B.C.
Alice Beebe, Veteran, Alta.
Victor Bonaguro, Gibsons, B.C.
Marshall Bond, Red Deer, Alta.
Terry Brown, Fort McMurray, Alta.
Jean Buchanan-Culler, Valleyview, Alta.
Bruce Burge, Vancouver, B.C.
Fred Burgess, Guelph, Ont.
Andy Buruma, Red Deer, Alta.
Gordon Bush, Nanaimo, B.C.
George Calvert, Rocky Mountain
House, Alta.
James Charpentier, Peterborough, Ont.
Stanley Chubak, St. Catharines, Ont.
David Clarke, Coronation, Alta.
Hal Coulson, Victoria, B.C.
Niall Coulson, Charlottetown, P.E.I.
Mary Ann Couse, Regina, Sask.
Beatrice Cove, Dorchester, Ont.
Mike D'orsay, Cavan, Ont.
Richard Davies, Chalk River, Ont.
Alain Dubeau, Alouette, P.Q.
Luis Duran, New Westminster, B.C.
Fred Duriaux, Maple Ridge, B.C.
Richard Elop, Hamilton, Ont.
Gordon Ennis, North Vancouver, B.C.
Lloyd Evans, Coquitlam, B.C.
Larry Fandrey, Red Deer, Alta.
Rob Farmer, Delta, B.C.
Stephen Fennell, Sarnia, Ont.
David Fitchie, Camrose, Alta.
Joyce Fitzgerald, Lacombe, Alta.
Lori Forsen, Stittsville, Ont.
Raymond Frost, Oakville, Ont.
Angus Gillon, Burnaby, B.C.
Jerome Gover, Labrador City, Nfld.
Victor Gray, Dartmouth, N.S.
Archie Green, Swift Current, Sask.
Ewart Greene, Labrador City, Nfld.
Marilyn Grigg, Mount Brydges, Ont.
Fritz Grob, Brownfield, Alta.
Dennis Guenther, Red Deer, Alta.
Donald Gustafson, Lacombe, Alta.
John Hamilton, Seeleys Bay, Ont.
George Harris, Brantford, Ont.
Sterling Heath, Fort McMurray, Alta.

Gerald Heaton, Oshawa, Ont.
Hazel Henderson, Vancouver, B.C.
Dave Heslop, Brampton, Ont.
Allan Hoard, Peterborough, Ont.
Stephen Hopper, Caledonia,
Queens Co, N.S.
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Robert Jackson, Peterborough, Ont.
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Andrew Johnson, Lennoxville, P.Q.
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John Lockner, Peterborough, Ont.
Weston MacAleer, Charlottetown, P.E.I.
Mary MacLaurin, Cornwall, Ont.
Gilles Mallet, Belleville, Ont.
Glenn Margison, Lucan, Ont.
Clyde Matchim (Posthumous),
Pasadena, Nfld.
Alvin McCaig, Moose Jaw, Sask.
Douglas McCloy, Mississauga, Ont.
Keith McCrimmon, Oshawa, Ont.
Rena Merrett, Langley, B.C.
Lorne Minchin, Acme, Alta.
Howard Morine, Bear River, N.S.
John Morrison, Moose Jaw, Sask.
Connie Mozsar, Burnaby, B.C.
Ronald Murphy, Lethbridge, Alta.
Sean Noble, Red Deer, Alta.
Ross Norton, Oakville, Ont.
June Norvilla, Bentley, Alta.
David O'Neill, Trochu, Alta.
Brian Parker, London, Ont.
David Paton, Dunnville, Ont.
Murray Payne, Oakville, Ont.
Brian Robinson, Collingwood, Ont.
Stanley Rogers, Montreal, P.Q.
Rick Ross, Lethbridge, Alta.
Joyce Ross, Lethbridge, Alta.
Paul Rumph, Pembroke, Ont.
Rene Sabourin, Pembroke, Ont.
Raymond Schlosser, Calgary, Alta.
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Alec Termehr, Abbotsford, B.C.
Edward Thompson, Acton, Ont.
Helen Tkash, Veteran, Alta.
John Turner, Dartmouth, N.S.
William Uttley, Peterborough, Ont.
Roger Westmore, Kanata, Ont.
Dave Whynot, Dartmouth, N.S.
Kenneth Wigmore, Bentley, Alta.
Dave Wood, Burlington, Ont.

A Friend to All

by Dave Tyre

“A Scout is a friend to all and a brother to every other Scout.”

These powerful words (which once formed part four of the Scout Law), are indelibly stamped into my memory from youth.

Why do I remember them so vividly? My Troop Scouter lived up to that law so well — an excellent model.

A Scouter should not be a substitute form of parent. Scouters are not now, and never were intended, to provide parenting services to other people's children. The Scouter's role is to be “master of the game”: someone Scouts can turn to for advice about how to achieve the goals they've set for themselves, both as a group and as individuals.

One of the most skilled Scouters I ever met dealt with his young members in

an interesting way. He never said “no” to anything. He never said “yes”, either. In fact, he rarely (if ever) gave any sort of direct answer to a question asked him by a Scout. Instead, he responded with a question. This made his Scouts think for themselves and decide the correct or ethical answer to their question, and then act on their own initiative.

Sometimes the Scouts made mistakes. None were serious enough to cause long-term damage, however, and the Scout learned something from almost every experience.

A troop camp provided an interesting example of this Scouter's technique. One summer forestry officials posted fire hazard signs. Everybody had seen their signs along the road into camp. After establishing the campsite, a Scout wandered over to the Scouter's site.

“Can we have a campfire?” the Scout asked.

“I don't know,” Scouter replied. “Can you?”

“I mean MAY we have a campfire,” the Scout persisted.

“I'm not the Forest Service,” Scouter replied gently. “What do you think?”

“Well, the hazard is pretty high,” the Scout said.

“Is it?” asked the Scouter, feigning surprise. “How do you know that?”

“All the markers on the way in said so,” the Scout answered.

“Oh,” said the Scouter. “I guess I wasn't watching. Well, you let me know what you decide.”

The Scout thought for a few seconds. “Maybe we'd better not,” he said.

“OK,” replied the Scouter, “just make sure the rest of the troop knows.”

What simple, but effective, guidance! The Scouter steered the Scout to the appropriate answer, but the Scout went back to the troop site convinced it was his own decision. The Troop Scouter had not said “no”. The troop would do the right thing because they had now decided and knew what was right.

Youth members held this Troop Scouter, and others like him, in great reverence. Interesting.

He always had time to talk. If he was working on troop records and a Scout came over and asked what he was doing, he would show him and then explain

how everything worked. He didn't chase him back to patrol corner where the rest of the patrol was working on a badge. If the Scout wanted to be there, he would eventually go back. If the patrol was concerned about his absence, they would call for him.

When there was a need for disciplinary action, the Scouter sat back and let the Court of Honour look after it, often while he worked on a Turk's Head woggle. When the chairman of the Court of Honour asked if they were doing it right, he would simply say, “Do you think you're doing it right?” If the answer was “yes”, he would nod his head and smile. If the answer was “no”, he would say, “Then maybe you should do things so you feel like you're doing them the right way.”

This Scouter did not influence others as a parent might. Instead, he provided an adult presence among developing young people — a sounding board for questions to which the kids already knew the answers.

He was the best adult friend they had. His smile was infectious and his attitude positive. His faith in the ingenuity of his Scouts was unwavering and, although he never attempted to defend his methods, he fervently defended those of his Scouts. He liked them and they liked him. He made the Scout Law easy to follow because a Scout simply had to look at him to see it being observed.

He never developed an ulcer worrying about whether his Scouts achieved top honours before moving on, either. He said he didn't concern himself about such things.

“Once they know for themselves why they're here — and they learn that from the others — they'll go for the goals they choose,” he said. “They would stop trusting me if I forced my own program on them.”

“My job is to be here when they need me,” he said. “If a Scouter did nothing else right, as long as he was a friend to every Scout he met, he could never be called wrong.” X

Scouter Dave Tyre is regional commissioner, Greater Victoria Region, B.C.

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COMPUTER PROGRAM LIBRARY **TRY IT!**

by Gerry Kroll

What is it?

The Computer Library is a free service providing computer programs on Scouting to registered Scouters throughout Canada. Scouters in Germany, England, Greece, Turkey, South Africa, Australia, and the USA have also used the library.

How and when did it begin?

Pete Torunski organized the library in 1984 after amassing a sizable collection of Scouting programs. The library grew quickly as others contributed new programs or translated older ones to different computer formats, including Apple II, Atari, C64, TRS Co-Co, and IBM. In 1990 Gerry Kroll took over as librarian. Because almost 99 per cent of library requests are now for IBM programs, we no longer supply other formats (i.e. C64, Apple II, etc.).

What programs does it have?

The library includes a wide range of programs: everything from bingo cards and Scout quizzes, to a song book and a Kub Kar registration data base. Another

program helps you plot the exact position of the sun, moon, planets, and constellations. The library also contains a large number of graphics files.

Most items in the library are "freeware". Several more recent additions are "shareware". Programmers supply shareware on a "try before you buy" basis. They expect you to pay a reasonable registration fee **only** if you continue to use the program.

Altogether, library programs fill over 10 megabytes of disk space. We use PKZIP to compress the programs so they all fit on a relatively small number of disks and supply PKUNZIP to decompress the files.

Can I help?

We welcome any new Scouts-oriented computer program you would like to contribute. The library uses money donations to buy supplies. Scouts Canada pays all postage and also covers any minor, related expenses such as supplies and disks. During 1992, the library received several large donations of

money. We used this to purchase licences for some urgently needed software, including PKZIP.

How do I order?

If you wish to receive a copy of the Computer Library (IBM format only), please send us the appropriate number of disks (see below). If you wish to receive the shareware as well, include disks for these programs too. Don't send pre-formatted disks unless that's all you have. The librarian reformats all disks to guard against virus infection.

3.5" HD (1.44 Mb): 2 disks, plus 1 for the shareware
3.5" DD (720 Kb): 4 disks, plus 2 for the shareware
5.25" HD (1.2 Mb): 3 disks, plus 1 for the shareware
5.25" DS (360 Kb): 9 disks, plus 4 for the shareware

Please send your requests to

Gerry Kroll
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Ed's note: Next month the **Leader** will list all the computer programs available in the Computer Library. What a selection. Stay tuned! ^

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Scouting and Canada's New Firearms Control Law

by Robb Baker

The May 1993 National Council meeting amended Scouts Canada policy for shooting and ranges. The policy now states: *Scouters may allow members to practice rifle shooting only in accordance with the laws of Canada providing the members are twelve or more years of age and the Scouter is designated as an authorized supervisor on the permit issued pursuant to the provisions of the Criminal Code of Canada and is endorsed by the parent or guardian.*

The amended policy results from changes to federal legislation governing firearms enacted January 1, 1993. The legal definition for firearms includes rifles, shotguns, semi-automatic and automatic weapons, and handguns. Sporting rifles, semi-automatic rifles, and shotguns are normally considered non-restricted firearms, depending upon the length of the barrel. Assault semi-automatic rifles, automatic weapons and handguns are restricted firearms.

The law now requires a person to have a Firearms Acquisition Certificate (FAC) before they can acquire a rifle or shotgun, i.e. non-restricted firearms. Not many of our youth in Scouting will require an FAC.

Scouting youth, over the age of 12 but under the age of 18, must have a Minors Permit to possess

and use a firearm. A parent or guardian must give consent before police will issue a Minors Permit.

Note the difference in wording. Anyone needs an FAC to **acquire** a non-restricted firearm. A Minors Permit is required simply to be in **possession** of a non-restricted firearm. **If a person has a firearm in their hands, it is in their possession.** The Minors Permit allows this age group to use non-restricted firearms under supervised conditions such as target practice or instruction.

Note two other important points. A Minors Permit does not allow:

- a person **under** the age of 12 to be in possession of a firearm.
- anyone under the age of 18 to be in possession of a restricted firearm, e.g. a handgun.

The changes to Canada's laws affect Scouting and the use of firearms by our youth members. They also affect the people supervising the shooting. The law forbids Scouts and Venturers to be in possession of restricted firearms such as handguns, while requiring Scouts from the age of 12, and Venturers, to have a Minors Permit if they are in possession of non-restricted firearms.

This is not Scouts Canada policy, but the law. Every leader must ensure that Scouting's youth are protected and not placed in jeopardy due to our actions or inaction.

Contact your provincial or territorial Firearms Officer before you make arrangements for your troop or company to use firearms. Some provincial/territorial legal differences exist.

You are responsible to understand all legal obligations. Contact your local police directly for information on how to acquire a firearm. ^

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SCOUTER'S 5

What Scouting is to Me

by Terry J.W. Graves

Scouting is fellowship:

Sharing a laugh with a child over something other adults might find silly or foolish, or a story with another leader about your last camp in the rain.

Scouting is memory:

Remembering good times and friendships with others around a campfire, or late at night in the campsite sipping a cup of tea brewed under an unforgettable, starlit sky.

Scouting is time:

Taking time to spend with others in the name of community service, knowing full well the pay-back is at least as much as we put in.

Scouting is nature:

The view as we round the bend on an unknown trail for the first time and stare in awe at the vista before us; or simply wonder at the complexity of creation.

Scouting is young people:

Smiling faces beaming with pride as you invest them before God as Scouts, promising on their honour to take the right path and live by the Scout Law.

Scouting is a warm blanket:

A comforting way of life, reassuring me that even in a harsh world, people can still be good and trusting and loving to each other.

If you don't believe me, just look into the eyes of a Scout as you present this boy or girl a well-earned badge.

Terry Graves is Troop Scouter with the 2nd Beaverbank C Troop, N. S.

Scouter's 5 Minutes, p.709

Nov.'93

SONGS

It's A Cub's World After All

(It's A Small World)

(Some Beavers and Cubs visited CJ'93 on day trips. A visit inspired this song.)

It's a world of friendship, a world of fun
CJ'93 has just begun

Here we are, let us share

Let us show that we care

One in Cubbing, standing tall.

It's a Cub's world after all (4 X)

Packs from east and west and in between

Cubbing pride is always to be seen

With our hands, hearts and minds

We show love and be kind

Here at CJ one and all.

It's a Cub's world after all (4 X)

When we leave our new friends

we made right here

Memories of them will never fade

As we move up to Scouts

There will be not a doubt

At CJ we had a ball.

It's a Cub's world after all (4 X)

— Sheila Scharmann, Raksha, 1st Morinville Cubs, Alta.

Thank You Lord

(Silent Night)

Thank you Lord, for this day,

Our memories will always stay

Of friends and fun and fellowship

The Wonderful time we've had on this trip,

Thank you Lord we will praise you

Counting our blessings a new.

— Sheila Scharmann, Raksha, 1st Morinville Cubs, Alta.

Songs, p.97

Nov.'93

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the **leader***

God We Thank You

(Jesus Loves Me)

God, we thank you every day,
For our work and for our play,
You show us, in all you do,
Love and goodness flow from you,
Thanks, God, we love you,
Thanks, God, we love you,
Thanks, God, we love you,
We'll do our best for you.

Anniversary Rap

We're the (pack name or number) Cubs and
we're here to say,
We're into Cubs in a major way.
Cubs have been going for 75 years
So we're all here to give a cheer.
Cubs is fun to do stuff in,
We do good deeds and we all win.
We take care with nature, we plant trees,
We study flowers and get stung by bees.
Come out and join us as we camp;
Sing and play and do our rap
We're moving on to more years now
Get on our Cub train, right *Now!*
Cubs, C,C,C,C,C,C, Cubs, CUBS.
— by the 68th Hamilton Cub Pack, Ont.

Songs, p.98

Thoughts on the Outdoors

"For those who have eyes to see and ears to hear,
the forest is at once a laboratory, a club and a
temple." (B.-P., *Rovering to Success*)

"Now I see the secret of making the best person:
It is to grow in the open air and to eat and sleep
with the earth." (Walt Whitman)

"You will find something far greater in the woods
than you will find in books. Stones and trees will
teach you what you will never learn from mas-
ters." (St. Francis)

A Thought for Leaders

"Our job isn't to control the next generation. It's
to encourage them to be all they can become —
not all we want them to become." (Barbara Col-
oroso, *"Discipline: Children are Worth It"*)

Scout Prayer

Oh God, we join with Scouts throughout the
world to pray for peace. Grant that, through
Scouting, we may come to understand each other
better, and learn to live in harmony. (*Scouting
UK magazine*)

Scouter's 5 Minutes, p.710

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Greetings from Cuba!

Thank you for sending us the March 1993 copy of **the Leader**. The boys are enjoying it very much. The magazine is really good. We want to congratulate all of you for the quality, the variety and all the interesting things that we find in it.

We especially enjoyed Fun at the Pond, Theme Ideas for Beavers, Planning Tools Camp Cards, Humour in the Troop, Cross-Country Photos, Spiritual Advisors, Collecting Scout/Guide Seals, and the Editorial Page.

Thanks again.
— Antonio Espino, Cienfuegos, Cuba.

Scouting Auxiliary

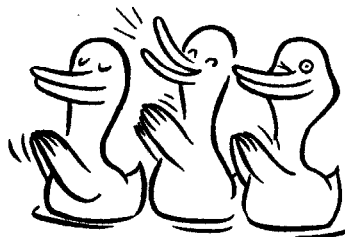
Scouting has always attracted a special type of volunteer. The valuable and resourceful Scouting Auxiliary is one group of volunteers often overlooked.

Become acquainted with auxiliaries. They can ease pressures on other sections of Scouting. Parents, grandparents, and other interested persons can not always become part of the Scouting family. They may not be able to commit themselves to being a uniformed leader, but can give occasional help as arranged through auxiliary membership.

As secretary and treasurer, respectively, of the Provincial Advisory Committee for Scouting Auxiliaries in Ontario, we look forward to every issue of **the Leader**. The interesting, informative articles are an excellent resource.

We urge group auxiliaries to maintain their subscriptions.

— Mary Lemyre and Verna Rhodes, Greater Toronto Region, Ont.



Rovers Applauded for their Hard Work

The Brant Chapter of the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario recently wrapped up its 6th Annual Rubber Duck Race, raising \$18,000 for heart and stroke research and education. The best event yet!

Much of this year's success and excitement can be attributed to Mr. Todd Waters, the Brantford (2nd Trinity) Rovers and the 11th Cambridge Rovers. What a wonderful group of individuals! You should be very proud that there are such committed and community-minded individuals within your organization.

Mr. Waters and his "team" proudly wore their uniform at our press events (that they helped organize), at our pre-event day (where they proudly demonstrated what Rovers was all about), and along the riverside (where they ensured

water-safety and managed some technicalities in our race).

Keep up the good work.
— Gillian Gemmell, Area Coordinator (Brant/Haldimand/Norfolk), Ont.

Hey! That's Me On The Cover!

Glancing at the front cover of the June/July issue of **the Leader**, I immediately recognized the group of Scouts in front of the Dakota aircraft. I am standing second from the right. We were preparing to leave from Royal Canadian Air Force 3 Wing, Zwiebrucken, Germany, to attend the World Jamboree held at Sutton Coldfield, England.

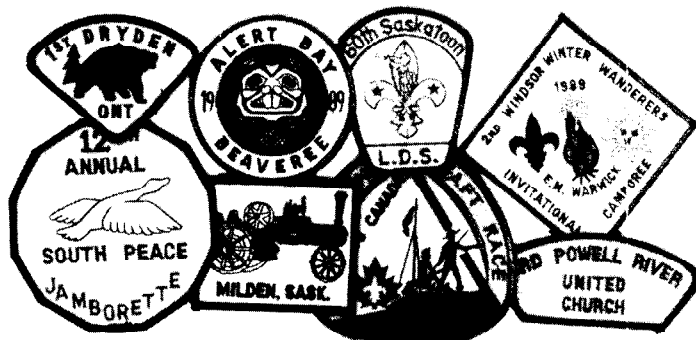
I was stationed at 3 Wing from 1956 to 1959 and was the Troop Scouter. During that time I attended two Scottish Jamborettes at Blair Atholl (1956 and 1958), the World Jamboree, several combined camps with an American Troop from a U.S. base near ours, a German Troop, and a troop camp in Luxembourg. I also attended a Troop Scouters' Gilwell at Gilwell Park in England in 1957.

Recently I made contact again with Scottish Scouting, and last summer attended the Jamborette at Blair Atholl as the very first non-Scottish leader accepted in a staff position. In 1994 I plan to take a patrol to Blair Atholl. ^

— David Anderson, Duncan, B.C.

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