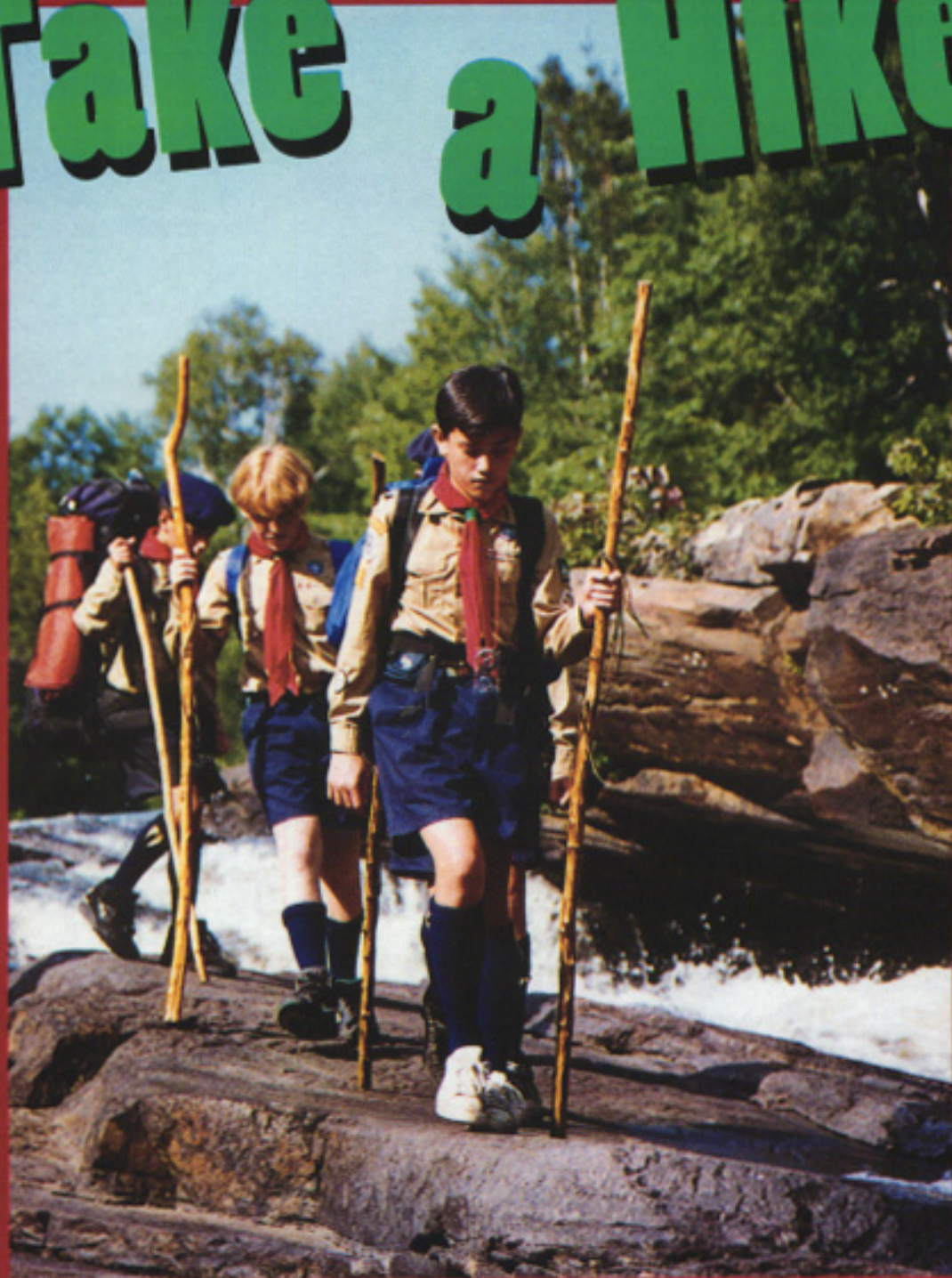


the **leader** 

MAY 1995

VOLUME 25, NO. 9

Take a Hike!



MAP & COMPASS • RAILWAY SAFETY • CAMPFIRE BLANKETS

Let's Celebrate!

by Garth Johnson



For years, Scouts Canada members have created shelter belts and wind breaks, improved wildlife habitat, fought soil erosion and raised countless funds in the process for local activities and overseas development projects. Their tree planting work has spanned more than twenty years. The fruits of our members' efforts will last well into the late 21st century — a terrific legacy.

Scouting has always practised good conservation and participated in community service projects. Members have supplemented their weekly activities each spring by planting Scoutrees for Canada. These trees have helped clean the environment and produced tons of oxygen.

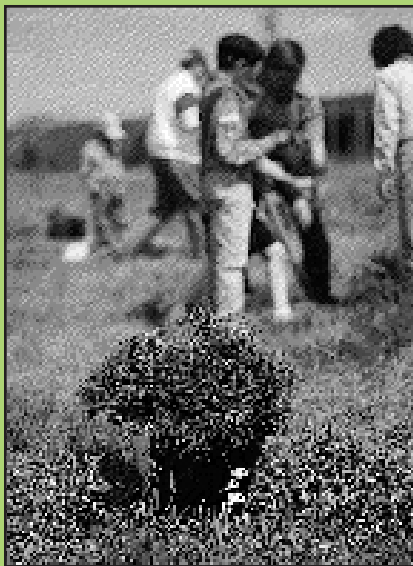
Once again, this spring thousands of members will participate in the largest tree-planting program in Canada. The significance of this activity must be recognized and celebrated.

Let's shout from the tallest (Scou)-tree, "Hey! We've planted 50 million trees and we're proud of it!"

Early signs (based on orders for Scoutrees support material) indicate that more members will participate in this year's program than ever before. A record! At a time when "the environment" seems to be taking a political backseat to other issues, Scouting, as always, doesn't mind doing the (un)fashionably right thing. This is

particularly true when it comes to conservation and citizenship.

This spring, in addition to participating in planting and fundraising activities associated with Scoutrees, why don't you consider an event aimed at *really* celebrating our achievement! Use it to gather as much recognition for Scouting as possible.



50,000,001?

Nationally, we intend to celebrate in a big way.

On May 10, Scouting youth will plant the symbolic 50 millionth tree on the front lawn of the national office. (The first tree was planted there in 1973.) The event will celebrate the contribution Canadian youth have made to society. National "spokeskids" chosen from our membership will chair the day's activities. All public aspects of promoting the event will be

handled by them as well. Across the country, regional spokeskids will act in a similar capacity. They will speak to media, give interviews and help with special celebrations as needed. Their message: they are tired of kids getting a "bad rap".

Scouting represents youth who make a significant contribution to society. The planting of 50 million trees is an outstanding example. We hope that their message will be heard, our image enhanced and the overall mission of our Movement strengthened.

How About You?

Do you intend to celebrate Dig Day in a significant way? Tell us about it.

Manitoba and Ontario Councils intend to mark the 50 millionth tree planting at special events planned in their provinces. Each will point toward the future and the next 50 million. Watch for news of similar activities in your area. Can you organize a local event using the same strategy? Perhaps some Scouts, Venturers or Rovers would work with sponsors or service clubs to plan a ceremonial planting where they live. Is there a "first tree" in your community?

Don't forget about your special 50 millionth buttonhole crest, the 50 millionth Challenge Award and the Media Challenge Award announced in our February issue. Wear and display these proudly.

In the words of national spokeskid Marc Laflamme from Aylmer, Quebec: "This spring we will plant thousands of trees, and that makes us caring citizens."

Let's help Marc care. Let's celebrate!

Photo: Jamie Steinburgh.

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"All right. Who has the compass?"

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Map And Compass

Hiking fun for everyone

Photo: Paul Ritchi.

Late spring — a perfect time to head off down hiking trails. These ideas will help your Beavers, Cubs or Scouts explore nature while honing their orienteering skills.

Cubs from London's 68th "B" Pack, ON, tested their compass and map proficiency during a wide-ranging scavenger hike. The trip helped youth earn their World Conservation Badge.

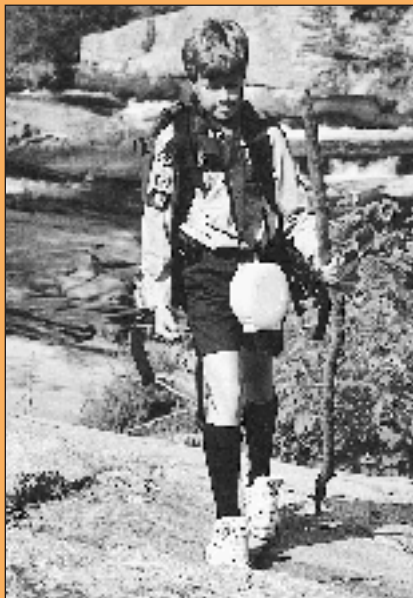
Picking their way along a trail, Cubs had to follow various compass bearings and pace off distances to find natural objects in the forest. After checking them off a list, they trotted on to find the next.

Cubs were divided into groups of three — two compasses per group. An adult accompanied each. Teams left at five minute intervals. Along the route Cubs saw muskrats, frogs, chipmunks, ducks and other wildlife.

"At the end of the day Cubs could read compass directions and knew how to find their way using a map," said Akela, Janet Bruce.

Two weeks later at camp, third year Cubs helped set the hiking trail up for younger members. Racing against time, older Cubs had to mark the map with compass bearings and carefully measure off distances.

"Cubs found that setting the trail up was a little harder than following it," said Scouter Bruce. But they did learn to read a compass and work together as a team.



You can never drink enough water on a long hike.

Photo: Paul Ritchi

High Bluff Hiking Cubs

Last fall the 1st High Bluff Pack, MB, hiked the Spirit Sands/Devil's Punch Bowl trail. The trail system is unique to Manitoba. More than one thousand years ago the Assiniboine River created an enormous sand delta covering 6,500km². Over the centuries a mixture of spruce and deciduous forest, as well as prairie grasses have invaded the area.

In the weeks leading up to the hike, Akela Tracy Maloney-Bullock and other leaders prepared the pack for the outing. Cubs learned about following compass directions, emergency procedures and first aid. Many of the lessons tied directly into badge requirements.

The day hike proved a terrific success. Hikers saw dwarf mistletoe, witches brooms and many colourful wild flowers.

Because the hike involved crossing fragile sand dunes, Cubs learned how human carelessness can destroy the delicate natural balance. Around the evening's campfire everyone received a Manitoba Scouting Trails crest for their campfire blanket.

Where to Start

Before taking your group out on the trail, teach them map and compass basics. Show them a map of a local, hiking trail. After studying it closely and identifying the symbols, let them find the four compass points.

Ask them: What direction does the trail begin? How long is it? Do any streams or rivers cross the trail? Does the map provide clues about tree coverage? Does it indicate a wetland? Talk about birds, animals and flowers that might live along the path.

After Cubs have poured over the map and are familiar with the route, send them off along a well marked path. Let their confidence build slowly. An adult should accompany each group. Give each six a paper and pencil to make a list of all bird types, flowers and trees they see. The six with the longest list wins. Mark several spots along their route where they must use their compass to find the direction of a large tree or a distant lake.

When Cubs and Scouts have mastered these basics, introduce them to more advanced maps and compass use. Ask a speaker to visit the group (a parent or member of a local orienteering club).

Study a topographical map which covers a longer hiking trail. Identify all features, including bridges, contour lines and vegetation. Let your Cubs or Scouts plan a day, then a weekend, hiking trip themselves.

Discuss physical preparation: What hiking gear would they need? How much water is necessary? Where will they get it? What about sun protection? Don't forget to talk about no trace camping.

Be sure to recruit extra parent supervision for the hike. Every six should carry a first aid kit. Cubs and Scouts should know how to look after their feet.

Reschedule your trip if the weather is too severe. A long hike on a 30°C day under a blistering sun might turn any young person against the outdoors. Cancelling the trip will teach Cubs and Scouts a valuable lesson. (See "Beat the Heat: Part 3," *Outdoors*, p.37 for more information.)

While hiking your favourite trails, some members might want a walking stick. These make crossing streams and climbing rocky paths much easier. Collect deadfall along your route (never living saplings) for the stick.

Never Too Young

Beavers are not too young to learn about hiking. Introduce them slowly. Let each lodge make up a simple floor map of your meeting hall showing the location of all tables, chairs, doors and windows. Then make up a neighbourhood map. After letting everyone study it closely, go out for a local hike using the map to find direction.



Photo: Wayne Barrett.

A well-prepared hiker goes a long way.

Talk about sun protection and correct dressing. Watch for different types of birds and flowers.

When Beavers are comfortable following this neighbourhood map, show them a compass. Explain how it works. Let them experiment with it. Give them simple compass headings to follow around the meeting room. Leaders could make up a pirate's treasure map. Working in teams, Beavers must follow various headings, pacing out the dis-

tances to reach a treasure (snack).

A Saturday morning hike through a local conservation area might make a fun outing. Encourage those Beavers who seem afraid. They might fear getting lost, wild animals or sinking into quick sand. Let them walk with an adult, if necessary.

Plan another Saturday hike halfway through summer. Why not combine it with a bring-a-buddy theme? It's never too early to start recruiting!

HIKING DO'S AND DON'TS

- Wear a wide-brimmed hat and comfortable walking shoes when hiking. Light cotton pants and a long sleeve shirt will protect against mosquitoes, poison ivy and sunburn.
- Drink and carry plenty of water.
- On hot days, walk in the early morning and late afternoon when the sun is less strong. Stay in the shade where possible.
- Don't run. Take your time. Schedule frequent rest stops.
- Don't pick wild flowers, litter or mark up the trail in any way.
- As you walk, discuss what the trail looked like hundreds of years before. Seek to give youth a sense of history. This may help them become more environmentally conscious.

Beaver Orienteering

Here's a game to teach Beavers orienteering basics. (Thanks to Linda Benz, 1st Caroline Beavers, AB.)

Pick an open area with clear boundaries. Draw a map with a legend indicating prominent objects (e.g. large rock, stream, road, fire pit, fallen down tree, swing set). Include north, south, east, west arrows on the map.

Choose 6-10 spots within the game area to place a small picture. Mark each spot with a number on the map so Beavers can find it.

Draw the simple pictures (e.g. an umbrella) and glue them onto brightly coloured posterboard. Colour each picture with a different colour of crayon. Attach the crayon to the pictures with a 60cm length of string.

Cut up pieces of cardboard into clipboard sizes (one piece for each small Beaver group). Staple photocopied maps to the cardboard along with a duplicate of each small picture — so Beavers know what to look for.

Before Beavers arrive, leaders should put a picture with its crayon at each spot where the map indicates. Tie it to some object so it doesn't blow away. Tie fluorescent tape to the pictures so Beavers can find them without much trouble.



Photo: Wayne Barrett.

Give each small group a map clipboard with pictures. Tell them that at each number on the map they will find one of the pictures with a crayon. They must follow the map and colour their

clipboard picture with the right crayon colour. Leaders should show them which direction north lies so Beavers can orient their maps.

Australian Joey Game

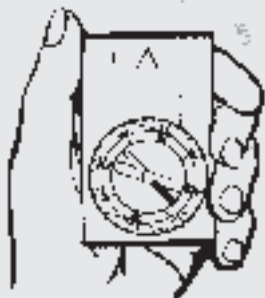
Australian Joeys (Beavers) learn map reading through this fun game. (From *Australian Scout* magazine.)

Joeys break into groups of 4-5. Each group has an adult and a simple map of the neighbourhood. Joeys must read the map and find their way to a large "X" mark on the map without adult help (unless necessary). At the "X" they find another map with yet another large "X" where they must go. When all Joeys have had a turn reading the map, the "X" leads to a treasure (a prepared snack). Each team should take a different route to the treasure.

Leaders should have a master map showing all routes. Colour-code individual maps and teams so no one takes another group's map by mistake. Enlist the aid of Scouts or Venturers to place the maps in the correct location.

Watch for an article on advanced map and compass work for experienced Scouts and Venturers in a future issue.

X



Did You Know...?

- Compass needles don't point to the north pole but a place in the Arctic called "magnetic north." Compass needles have a small magnet that aligns with the earth's magnetic field. Presently magnetic north is located about 1600km south of the north pole. It moves slightly from year to year.
- Stray magnetic influences can greatly upset a compass. These might include a magnetic rock formation under your hiking path or canoe route.
- One of the best ways to keep heading in a straight direction is to sight your compass on a tree or prominent object in your path. Walk to that object. Back-sight your compass to check for local magnetic deviations, then sight ahead on another object.
- For really accurate orienteering get a map that shows local magnetic deviations. An older map (five years old) will show inaccurate settings. A long hike might involve crossing two or three magnetic variation lines that would affect your compass bearings.

Program Links

Cubs: Observer Badge, Woodsman Badge, Tawny Star, Green Star.
Scouts: Exploring Badge, Conservation Badge, Cooking Badge, Camping Badge.



Our Carefree Weekend Bike Camp



by Howard Grant

The 11th Seymour Scouts of North Vancouver, BC, have developed a popular, late spring tradition: a weekend bike camp.

This is by far our most popular camp of the year. We hold it in May or early June on one of the Gulf Islands — a group of islands located in the Strait of Georgia just off the city of Vancouver.

Our pre-camp planning starts several weeks before at a joint Beaver, Cub and Scout camp. Although we set up tents apart from our younger friends, we schedule some activities together including a campfire night. At this camp's end, a swimming-up/going-up ceremony is held where Beavers move on to Cubs and Cubs move up to Scouts. Here we invite those Cubs who plan to join Scouts to attend our last camp of the Scouting year.

"Mount Up!"

On Friday afternoon, the troop and its new younger friends ride bikes onto the ferry. Support vehicles bring up the rear.

Upon arrival at the island, youth mount their bikes (maps tucked neatly away in backpacks for easy reference), and ride to their chosen campsite. Once there they begin pitching tents and setting up camp. Before dusk we play some active games to wear off some energy; it makes a quieter, more restful, night.

Next morning we make lunches and hurriedly put away dishes. All of us hear the bike trails calling. Few rules hinder our fun. Leaders leave youth on

their own to ride their bikes over safe paths and trails within a clearly marked boundary.

The rules we enforce are unbreakable ones: Everyone must wear helmets at all times. Riders must have a buddy, ride in groups and refrain from dangerous driving. We meet back at the campsite half way through the afternoon.



"Mount up! I hear those bike trails calling."

Photo: Paul Ritchie.

After a season of formal and informal camps where they work on badges, B.-P. Woodsman requirements, learn knots and all the other wonderful Scouting projects, our youth look forward to this non-structured camp with real anticipation. Especially the older Scouts appreciate a camp where the only thing they have to do is to ride bikes and have fun (which equates to the same thing).

The others enter into the safe, non-structured play with equal vigour.

For those wanting a little structure they can learn how to change a tire, oil a chain or safely ride through an obstacle course.

Our bike camp becomes the Scouting year highlight; after a year of trying to behave responsibly (sort of), no one has to follow rules and a clear schedule

(sort of). The younger youth, who after three years in Cubs may be muttering about not attending Scouts, are smitten by a new sense of responsibility.

After years of Cub leaders telling them not to get too close to the fire, we show them how to make one themselves. After trying for years to sneak out of camp, now leaders send them away on adventures. If they choose to, the youth can loll around all day in camp reading a book or playing games. Or, they can help older Scouts set up stoves and cook meals. Even gathering wood and water becomes fun when someone isn't telling them how, and when, to do it.

And the leaders?

We have fun too. Riding our bikes around all weekend helps us re-capture the feelings of carefree youth. Because everyone does whatever they want within the safe boundaries of wisdom and good fun, we don't have to be pushing, prodding, needling or cajoling them constantly. This adds up to a relaxing time for all. \

— Howard Grant works with the 11th Seymour Scouts in North Vancouver, British Columbia.

Program Links

Cubs: Cyclist Badge, Cooking Badge.
Scouts: Cooking Badge, Safety Badge.

Love Those Trains But... STAY OFF THE TRACKS!

by Allen Macartney

Trains fascinate children. This enthralling interest often leads to dangerous injury. A railway safety evening will help educate and protect your Beavers, Cubs and Scouts during summer months.

This spring Beavers and Cubs from the 1st New Lowell, ON, incorporated a short railway safety program into their Scout-Guide Week banquet.

"Tracks run through our area and trains pass at all times of the day," said Sherry Flannery, the Group Chair. "I've also seen children playing, walking and bicycling on, and near, the tracks." She decided to take action before a tragedy struck.

Scouter Flannery wrote to the Railway Association of Canada's *Operation Lifesaver* program. (*Operation Lifesaver* is a national project designed to make people more aware of railway danger.) Soon she received a free package of railway safety videos, program ideas and pamphlets.

After the evening's meal and a brief introduction, parents and youth watched several railway safety videos.

We wanted to raise the awareness among both parents and children, said Scouter Flannery. "I could tell Beavers and Cubs were enjoying the video when I heard them giving direction to Rover the Railway Rabbit and other cartoon characters."

"Get off the tracks," said one Cub. "The train's coming!"

A ten minute discussion followed with active youth participation.

Why don't you organize your own railway safety evening? Here are some ideas.

Model Railway

Find out if a model railway club meets in your area. Ask at a hobby shop. Visit the club as part of your safety night. This will absorb youth interest and help them understand how trains operate.



Illustration: Railway Association of Canada.

Walkmans and trains — a poor combination.

Elmer's Railway Safety Promise

Write this promise onto a paper decorated with trains. Ask Beavers and Cubs to sign it.

"I will obey all railway signs and signals.

I will cross tracks only at the proper crossing areas.

I will always stop, look and listen before crossing railway tracks.

I will walk quickly across tracks.

I will avoid tracks where possible and I will not throw objects at trains or place objects on the rail."

Name: _____

Witness: _____

Guest Speaker

CN and CP both have trained staff to speak to your group. (Contact your local railway office.) They offer an interesting evening program that involves train safety videos, question and answer sessions, and much more. Some speakers also give out colourful posters, railway pencils, railway police pads, fridge magnets and safety rulers.

CN and CP officials will bring free *Operation Lifesaver* and Elmer the Safety Elephant's *Railway Safety* booklets for all children (ages 5-10). The activity books include train chants, safety promises, dot-to-dot puzzles, mazes, board games, scrambled word puzzles, colouring pages and a story. All activities help teach railway safety. (See resources at end of article.)

A free *Operation Lifesaver Teacher's Guide* features puppet patterns, program ideas, as well as some quizzes for Scout and Venturer age youth.

Safety Cipher

Challenge older Beavers and Cubs to solve this railway cipher. Have Cubs compete as sixes.

1. What do the gnalsis tell you?
2. Tosp, kolo and neltsi at all railway crossings.
3. Opst when you ese the hinaflgs ghstli.
4. Srosc the wyaliar kracts after the rtnai spases.
5. Stay clear of yawliar switching sdray.

For Scouts, make up longer words (or groups) using *locomotive*, *passenger*, *freight*, *steam train*, *caboose*, *conductor*, *flashing lights*, *barrier*, *collision*, *engineer* and *diesel*. Let Cubs and Scouts compete to see how quickly they can decipher the message. Tie the words into a safety message. See which patrol can make a word search puzzle using all the words.

Make a Skit or Video

Cubs and Scouts might want to explore railway safety in greater depth. Let them think up skits or a safety play. Perhaps they would perform their skits for a local Beaver colony.

Others might wish to produce a railway safety video. Help them map out a plot, coordinate interviews and edit the final film. Thoughts to consider: How can you make the video particularly effective? How can you show rail safety? Can you write a theme song? Experiment with animation.

Correct Decisions: A Story

Stanley had to cross the railway tracks on his way to school. The tracks had flashing lights, ringing bells and a gate to block the road.

On Thursday morning Stanley woke up, washed, dressed and ate breakfast. He walked down the driveway with his father who was going to work. They talked about their upcoming weekend together. It was going to be a fantastic camping trip.

Suddenly Stanley remembered he was late for basketball practice.

Quickly he said goodbye to his dad and raced down the street toward the railway tracks. His school lay on the other side. In the distance he heard a train whistle. Glancing at his watch he saw he would really be late for the practice.

As he approached the tracks Stanley saw that the gates were still up but all lights were flashing, the bells were ringing and the train was drawing nearer.



Photo: Courtesy CP Police.

An interesting evening can save a life.

He thought to himself, "I could make it across easily before the train even got close." When he reached the gates he stopped, looked quickly at the train and at the other side of the tracks.

1. What should he do? Why?
2. How would you act if something like this happened to you?
3. What could happen to Stanley if he tried to race the train?
4. What safety rules should everyone follow at railway crossings?

5. Did Stanley remember any safety rules? Which ones?
(Adapted from Operation Lifesaver *Teacher's Guide*.)

Railway Crossing Practice

Help Beavers make several railway crossing signs. Let them use bright, realistic colours.

Form some children into a train and designate a railway/highway crossing in your room (masking tape on the floor). Four or five Beavers should



Did You Know...?



- The longest train in the world stretched for eight kilometres. New trains will soon be capable of speeds of 300kph!
- Trains helped make Canada a trans-continental country.
- Canada has over 24,000 railway crossings. Only a small percentage of them have flashing lights and gates.
- Last year almost 500 people were hurt or killed by a train. Some were playing on the tracks; others were listening to walkmans as they strolled down the tracks; still others were hit as they played in a railway yard.
- Trains can weigh 10,000 times more than a car. The impact of a train hitting a car is like a car backing over a pop can.

represent cars approaching the track, while others should hold the railway crossing signs.

'Cars' must demonstrate how to approach a railway track (stop, look, listen). If a car is on the track, the train must not slow down but only whistle. Explain that trains cannot stop quickly. Have the Beavers exchange roles.

Safety Poster

All youth will enjoy designing a safety poster for their room. Using bright colours, have them draw a railway scene with children doing safe activities around trains (e.g. waiting at a rail crossing, walking bikes across tracks, waving at a train while standing far away).

Laminate each poster to make it extra special. Discuss good safety practices with the children as they create their art.

More Ideas

The March **Leader** featured a Russian Trans-Siberian Railway theme night program. It included games and railway chants.

Is there an old historic train in your area? Why don't you visit it? Ask an engineer to explain how it works. Perhaps you could even ride it. This might make a good mid-summer activity. What a great activity to build anticipation for the fall.

Many Canadian youth will die under the wheels of trains this summer. Some will be Scouting members. Let's help them avoid foolish mistakes that could prove deadly.

In Sherry Flannery's words: "We can educate our youth about railway hazards through great safety programs like this one." X

Resources

- *Operation Lifesaver, Railway Association of Canada, 800 René-Lévesque Blvd. West, Suite 1105, Montreal, PQ, H3B 1X9, (514) 879-8558.*
- *Local CN or CP Railway offices. Many have special constables able to present an interesting railway safety program.*
- *Canada Safety Council, 1020 Thomas Spratt Road, Ottawa, ON, K1G 5L5, (613) 739-1535.*
- *National Geographic video, Love Those Trains.*

Program links

Revised Cub Program:
Family Safety, Photographer,
Entertainer, Blue Star.



TRUE/FALSE QUIZ



T__ F__ You should expect a train on any track at any time. True. Expect the unexpected. Most people die on tracks close to home: they get too familiar with the crossing.

T__ F__ A train can suck you into it. True. Don't stand nearby as it passes. Loose chains and rope on a train can also swing out and hurt you.

T__ F__ It's okay to put pennies and rocks on rails. False! A train that hits objects on the rails sends them violently spinning away. Rocks or coins could blind, injure or even kill children standing nearby. Rocks or branches might even de-rail a train.

T__ F__ Railway yards are fairly safe to play in because trains move slowly. False! Many children get hurt each year in railway yards. Trains may move slowly, but engineers are very busy and aren't looking for running children.

T__ F__ Trains can stop quickly if the engineer sees you on the tracks. False! A freight train with 130 cars travelling at a mere 50kph needs one and a half kilometres to stop. At 80kph it takes 2,500m to stop!

T__ F__ When crossing the tracks with your bicycle, always get off, stop, look, listen and walk across when safe. True. Don't ride across tracks. You might fall or catch a tire in the rails. Take your time.



Illustration: Railway Association of Canada.

Railway bridges are for trains.

Back To Basics: Go Whistle!

by Colin Wallace

Here's the scenario: you're happy and you know it and you *really* want to show it. What can you do?

You could clap your hands, or stomp your feet, or even shout "Hooray!" If your happiness borders on ecstasy and you're in a flamboyant mood, you could do all three actions at once.

But let's be realistic. Unless you want to be carted off by men in white coats, you'd be wise to perform these actions in the privacy of your own home with the drapes closed.

You could express your joy by displaying an appropriate slogan on your bumper sticker, a lapel button or a T-shirt: Have a nice day! Honk if you hugged your dog today!

While such breezy slogans might match your sunny disposition, readers can never be sure if you mean it right now. No, slogans are too lifeless.

What's No. 8?

When you're happy and you know it and you really want to show it, you need an activity affirming B.-P.'s premise that a Scout is active *doing* good, not passive *being* good. You need No. 8 of the original 10 Scout Laws: *A Scout smiles and whistles under all circumstances.*

Start whistling.

Have you ever noticed that the Back-to-Basics Brigade usually advocates returning to big hats and bare knees. They never ask that we bring back whistling, perhaps because smiling and whistling simultaneously is easier said than done.

We need to sharpen our old whistling skills. They've fallen into disrepair. We've taken the easy way out, observing the law by smiling only. But

smiling is too easy — almost involuntary in some situations. Whistling requires conscious choice. That's why it builds character.

It yields other benefits too. For example, whistling has no lyrics to tax your brain's recall ability. Whistling uses no offensive language. All you need is a scrap of a melody and you become the conductor of your own orchestra. No need to carry around your

teeth alignments that may be more conducive to quality whistling than your dental work, but you'll be fine without any orthodontic investment. Everyone can whistle. (Can you say that about singing?!) Just remember how proud you were the day you first whistled. Did your first song evoke the same feeling? No way!

Whistling and Good Diet

And don't overlook the slimming effects of whistling. Whistling trims your waistline, not because it burns calories, but because it's almost impossible to eat and whistle at the same time. The more you whistle, the less you eat.

Scouters can also use whistling as a warning signal in the same way that miners used caged canaries to detect poisonous gases. When the birds stopped whistling, the miners knew they were in trouble. If you teach your kids how to whistle, they'll whistle to appear innocent and, when they stop whistling, you'll know they're probably doing something wrong.

A word of caution: Sailors think it's unlucky to whistle on board ship. This probably applies equally to canoes. Constant whistling (especially the tuneless variety) in a confined space can grate on nerves. If you're a smart whistling bow paddler, you'll whistle only when your audience is not sitting directly behind your head with a large wooden paddle.

If you're happy and you know it and you really want to show it, just tune up your God-given tweeter. Think of it as audible tail wagging: an out-

ward expression of inward joy. Whistle a happy tune like Anna and the King of Siam. Others will share your happiness because it's contagious. And I'm not just whistlin' Dixie. X

— Colin Wallace is a trainer in Greater Toronto Region, ON, and a recent Silver Acorn recipient.



Anyone can whistle... even with a missing tooth or two.

Photo: Wayne Barrett.

ghetto-blaster. Just pucker up and, presto, instant music. Even without a melody, you can give the impression that your tuneless warbling is the eccentric mannerism of an absent-minded genius.

Another advantage whistling offers is that you don't need any special instrument. Certainly, some people have



50,000,000 Is A Lot Of Trees!

by John Rietveld

Will it be *you*?

One Saturday this month, in a park somewhere in Canada, a Scouts Canada member will unknowingly plant our 50 millionth tree. (Originally called *Trees for Canada*, the program's new name is *Scoutrees for Canada*.)

Over 2,450,800 members have planted 50 million trees across Canada since 1973. This averages about 20 trees per member. In fact, by the end of the 1995 Scoutrees for Canada season, our Scouting record will exceed 52 million trees planted. A very impressive total!

How Did It Begin?

Some debate continues over the program's true beginnings. Gord Douglas (then District Commissioner for North Halton District, ON) claims that in 1972 his district teamed up with Mississauga District to test the initial concept. Perhaps they were the first to conduct a Trees for Canada project.

At about the same time National Council was developing a tree planting program, Manitoba's Department of Mines and Natural Resources asked the Manitoba Council to help plant several thousand seedlings around the province. This project started in 1973. Originally calling it Trees for Tomorrow, Manitoba's Scouters quickly changed the name to Trees for Canada to take advantage of nationally-developed support materials.

Our historians will remind us that many Scout districts were deeply involved in the tree planting business long before an official national program was established. Records show Scout plantings as far back as 1907! The 1941 National Council Annual report mentions a large tree planting project in Nova Scotia. It involved Scouts and the Nova Scotia Provincial Forestry Department. How does this affect Scouting's overall total? Naturally it puts our unrecorded tally well *beyond* 50,000,000 trees.

Our Official "First" Tree

The first official Scoutree was planted in front of our national office in 1974 by Wally Denny — the national com-

missioner at the time. A spruce tree, it now towers over 9 meters above the lawn. This month a group of Scouting spokekids will plant a symbolic 50 millionth tree next to the first.

Scoutrees for Canada was designed to have the following benefits:

- reforest Canada and reclaim waste areas
- involve youth with the outdoors and impart a greater conservation awareness in them
- reinforce Scouting's outdoor programs and badge schemes
- raise funds for all Scouting levels.

Scouts Canada completed a review of the tree planting program in 1993. Part of this review involved changing the name from Trees for Canada to

Scoutrees for Canada. This will heighten public awareness of Scouting's role in the program. As well, the review decided to celebrate our 50 millionth tree planting in a big way. (See the February **Leader** for more information.)

Just Imagine

What impact do 50 million trees have?

- 50 million trees planted 2 metres apart would completely cover an area the size of Metro Toronto.
- 50 million trees planted in a row 3 metres apart would stretch across Canada (from Vancouver to Halifax) *25 times*.
- 50 million trees provide habitat to an estimated 50 million birds and mammals.



Planting our official "first" tree.

- 50 million trees produce 295,000 metric tons of oxygen a year (1 tree produces 6 kilograms per year).
- 50 million mature trees absorb 295,000 metric tons of carbon per year from atmospheric carbon dioxide.
- 50 million trees absorb the carbon released through the heating and cooling of 353,000 homes (based on an average home consumption of 2300 kilowatt hours per year).

50 million trees is an incredible record unmatched by any other volunteer group in Canada.

Where were you?

Millions of Canadians have taken part in Scouting since it began in 1907; many have planted trees. Do you recall your first Scoutrees Dig Day? Each March, April and May (depending on the climate and geography of the site), Beavers, Cubs and Scouts helped by Venturers, Rovers, leaders and parents, have taken shovels and pails in hand to plant trees. Sometimes a cold, rainy day heralded Dig Day. Other times planters suffered through stifling 30°C heat. Regardless, each spring the tree planters turned hundreds of sites into Scoutree forests.

Our members have planted Scoutrees on the side of British Columbia's mountains, at Canadian Forces Base Petawawa, along the St. Lawrence Seaway and on Prince Edward Island.

National and provincial parks, conservation areas, crown lands, Scout camps, municipal parks and private landowners have all benefited from the program.

While Scoutrees for Canada's primary purpose is reforestation, a spin-off benefit involves fundraising. Typically, of the funds raised, local groups retain 70 percent. Respective provincial councils and the national office equally share the remainder.

The national portion is designated for the Scout Brotherhood Fund. This helps support community development projects in developing nations.

Hundreds of communities in countries such as Indonesia, the Philippines, Benin and Nigeria have received funds from the Scoutrees program. Projects include tree planting, poultry and fish farms, safe drinking water ventures and the construction of community schools.

Scouts Canada is a leader in supporting the World Organization of the Scout Movement's Community Development Program. This substantial support is due in part to the generous contribution received via Scoutrees for Canada each year. Watch for a Fund update in our next issue.

Scoutrees Wins Top Marks

Each spring the National Community Tree Foundation conducts an external market survey. The reason: to find out how aware Canadians are of various tree planting programs it supports.

Canadians identify Scouting as the country's premiere tree planters!

In its 1994 survey, Scouting was the most frequently mentioned community tree planting organization. Twenty-three percent of people mentioned our program — up from 16% in 1993. Scouting even beat out municipal and provincial governments (mentioned 11% and 6% respectively). Among other volunteer organizations, schools (at 7%) received



the most frequent sponsor mention. Clearly Canadians identify Scouting as the premiere tree planters in Canada.

Sharing the Honours

Many people and organizations must share the congratulations for the incred-

ible success of Scoutrees for Canada. Let's express our appreciation.

"Thanks" to members of National Council in 1973. They had the foresight to establish a tree planting program long before most of the world began seriously thinking about protecting our environment.

"Thanks" to Forestry Canada and various provincial forestry departments. They provided us with the 50 million trees. Also they helped with technical support to ensure each tree was properly planted and cared for during the first few years.

"Thanks" to the staff of national and provincial parks and conservation areas. They prepared land for our new trees to grow. They provided trucks to transport the seedlings, and shovels and pails to help our youth carry and plant the trees.

"Thanks" to the many Scouts Canada volunteers and staff who help organize Scoutrees each spring.

"Thanks" to the parents of our members. They drive our planters to the sites and help plant every seedling with care and special handling.

"Thanks" to various town and city councils for providing planting sites and participating in ceremonies to celebrate Scoutrees for Canada.

"Thanks" to the media. They run hundreds of great stories and photographs so we can tell Canadians about our accomplishment.

"Thanks" to the millions of Canadians, parents, grandparents, relatives and neighbours who have contributed to Scoutrees for Canada financially over the years.

"Thanks" to our many sponsors: Pine-Sol, Pizza Pizza, Janes Family Foods, Footprintz Cards, Petro Canada, Computerland, Glad (First Brands Canada), and the National Community Tree Foundation (Tree Canada). Over the years these sponsors have provided more than \$600,000. We have used this to help print support materials, provide Scoutrees crests, and cover the cost of our radio, television and print publicity material.

Most of all, "thanks" to each of the 2,450,800 Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers, Rovers and leaders who planted the 50 million trees since 1973. We are proud of this immense achievement.

Now on to the next 50 million! X

CAMPFIRE A Canadian tradition BLANKETS

*C*ampfire blankets are as Canadian as loons calling through curtains of mist hung over a northern lake. French voyageurs, Klondike gold miners, even Royal North West Mounted Police used them while huddled around crackling fires.

Today most people have three reasons for making a campfire blanket. First, they want something warm to wrap around them during cool nights when the campfire only heats their tummies toasty-warm. Second, most Scouting members want a place to display their large collection of crests and badges. Third, they use the blanket to store memories. Each crest reminds them of a special winter camp, jamboree, Cuboree or Scoutree planting.

Several months ago we asked Scouters to share with us their best campfire blanket designs, stories and advice. The response overwhelmed us. Their ideas will make your campfires and blankets more interesting.

Light the Fire

Henry Martell of Sherwood Park, AB, described his first Scouting campfire. It was a magical moment that sparked his interest in blanket making. Here's what happened...

A tall, portly gentleman stepped into the fire's glow after some songs and chants. He spoke briefly, but enthusiastically, about the robe over his shoulders.

"Each badge on your blanket should have a story connected to it," he said to the youth listening. "You should be able to tell that story to others. What a great way to record your Scouting life. Decide how you want to design yours. I know Scouters who have different blankets for every major event (e.g. a blanket just for jamborees)."

"Some people sew on just Scouting badges and crests; others dis-

play all kinds of badges. Some people just pin crests on and use the blanket as a travelling display. It makes trading easier. It's up to you what you do with your blanket. That's what makes it so special; it reflects your own personality."

After a few more words the tall gentleman left the flickering light, knowing that he had kindled in the hearts of many listeners a desire to make their own campfire robes.

Designs and Fabrics

When choosing your blanket design and fabric ask yourself these questions: What do I want it for? Will I use it primarily around campfires or to display all my badges and crests? Will a simple, flat poncho design suit my purposes best or do I want a more elaborate open-front cape layout? Will a rounded blanket prevent corners from dragging on the ground?

Ponchos can be hot and restrictive at times. During an active campfire program with lots of arm-waving and jumping, many people prefer a cape-like robe.

What's the best material to use?

"It's wool or nothing," some leaders say. Wool is both water resistant and naturally warm, but also has some disadvantages. A large, woollen blanket covered in badges can weigh a great deal. Young children might also object to its itch. As well, when you wash it, wool shrinks. This might affect badges.

Many leaders choose flannel, cotton or wool/synthetic combinations. These are softer than wool. They're also non-allergenic. Beware of all-synthetic fabrics. In some cases these may be highly inflammable or susceptible to spark damage.

Whatever fabric you choose, Guider Catherine Hyde of Navan, ON, advises you buy only good quality. "A cheap fabric will disintegrate in the wash or shed its yarn."

Hooded blankets are great for cool nights during early spring or late fall. They also help keep mosquitoes away in the early summer. Neat idea.



Friends for life.

Photo: Paul Ritchi.

Before choosing your design, speak to others with their own blankets. Try several on. Which feels best? Only then decide.

High-tech Blankets

Geologist Alf Silke, 7th Yellowknife Scouts, NWT, decided to use his computer to design the great Canadian campfire blanket. Using a drafting program, he digitized a map of Canada and printed it out on paper.

"I pinned the entire map onto my blanket, then embroidered along the edges," said Scouter Silke. "As I finished coastlines and borders, I removed the paper to allow working on the next border."

Like many people, he considers his robe a family heirloom.

Badge Placement

"The most unique element about my blanket," says Jackie Taylor, a Beaver leader from Thunder Bay, ON, "is that no matter which way I wear it, all badges face me." This makes it easier when telling stories about special crests and Scouting events.

Don't sew crests and badges randomly onto your blanket without thought and planning. If you change your mind in several years, it's difficult ripping out stitches.

More Than Warm Comforters

Gordon Duffield, of Thunder Bay, ON, has used his robe to cover an accident victim. Ten gold stripes decorate his work of art as well as several hun-

dred badges, crests and cloth patterns collected from around the world. Each remind him of good Scouting times shared with others. Across the back a huge crest announces, "I serve."



Fred Berktin proudly models his wool poncho from Mexico.

Don't forget the inside of the blanket. Scouter Duffield sewed a huge, red ribbon into a St. George cross, making his robe reversible. The ribbon was used to invest a Rover — an important memory and keep-sake.

Marj Sales, ARC Beavers in BC-Yukon, made a blanket with a large, built-in pillow pocket. On hot evenings, she sits on the pillow. As the evening gets colder, she unfolds the blanket

from the pillow and wraps it around her shoulders.

Challenge your Cubs and Scouts to design the most convenient pocket. (Hint: Marj sewed her large pillow pocket into the underside of her blanket at the centre top. She folds her blanket in thirds along its width, then folds it along its length. Now it will slide easily into the pocket.)

Mexican Poncho

Fred Berktin of Thornhill, ON, used to sew his crests onto an old tartan blanket hiding in an upstairs closet. Then he attended a Gilwell Reunion. The range of designs and colours dazzled him. Soon after he visited Mexico, saw a plain wool blanket and bought it. In a single evening he transferred all his badges and crests from the tartan blanket to his poncho. "Two years later I still have callouses on my fingers from all that sewing!" says Scouter Berktin. Now when he attends a Gilwell Reunion, he's more than ready for the campfire.

Campfire Rain Poncho

Do you live in an area with lots of rain? Fred Hyde of the 1st Vars/Navan Troop, ON, thinks a robe made from rip-stop fabric might be perfect — excellent for overnight hikes. "It's light, water-repellent, resists the wind and really good for keeping away mosquitoes."

Campfire Vest

On hot evenings when a blanket is too warm, some Scouters wear camp-



Photo: Paul Ritchie.

"Remember this Cuboree? Phil helped light the giant, floating campfire."

fire vests. Beaver leaders could cut their vests out of brown material. Little Beavers might prefer this type of 'blanket' too. It's much lighter and more comfortable than a full robe. Cut vests out slightly over-sized to allow plenty of space to wave arms and dance around.

Campfire Scarf

Several years ago Scouter Colin Wallace of Scarborough, ON, suggested making campfire scarves. It might be perfect for young Beavers and Cubs with few crests to display.

Campfire scarves are inexpensive, easy to pack and can be made into a pillow. Youth can make them long or short. They also don't take hours to make. In one evening, every child can be ready for camp.

What design do you like? Whichever you choose, Walter Marcon of the 35th "B" Troop in Tecumseh, ON, says it best:

"Campfire blankets are a great way to meet other Scouters and reminisce. I have to go now... I still have a few crests from my last camp to sew on."

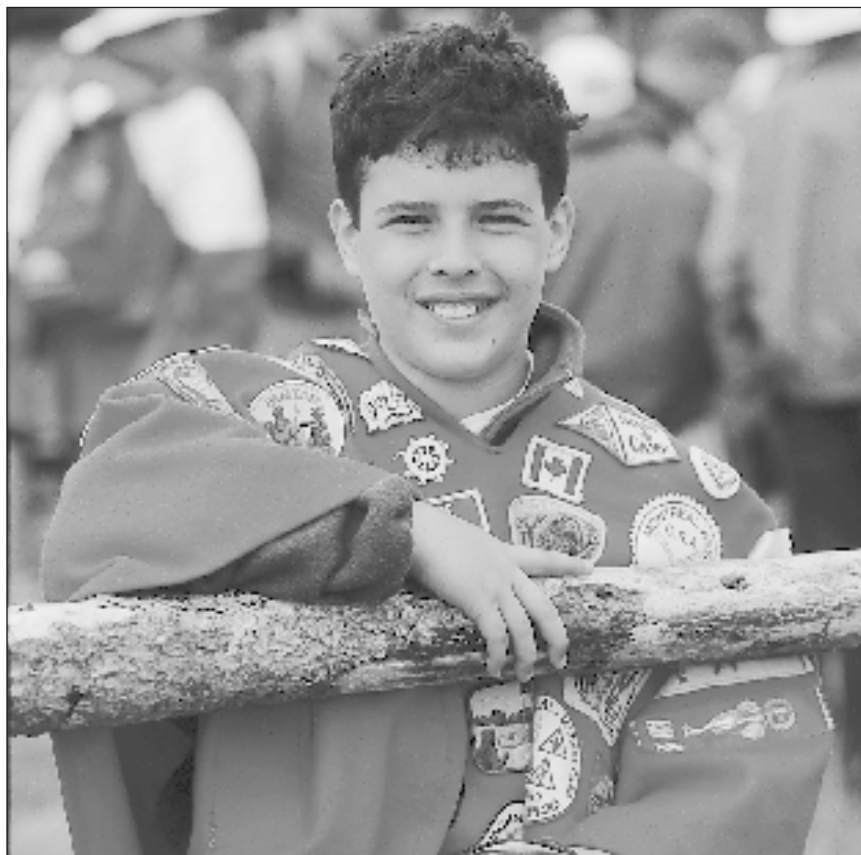
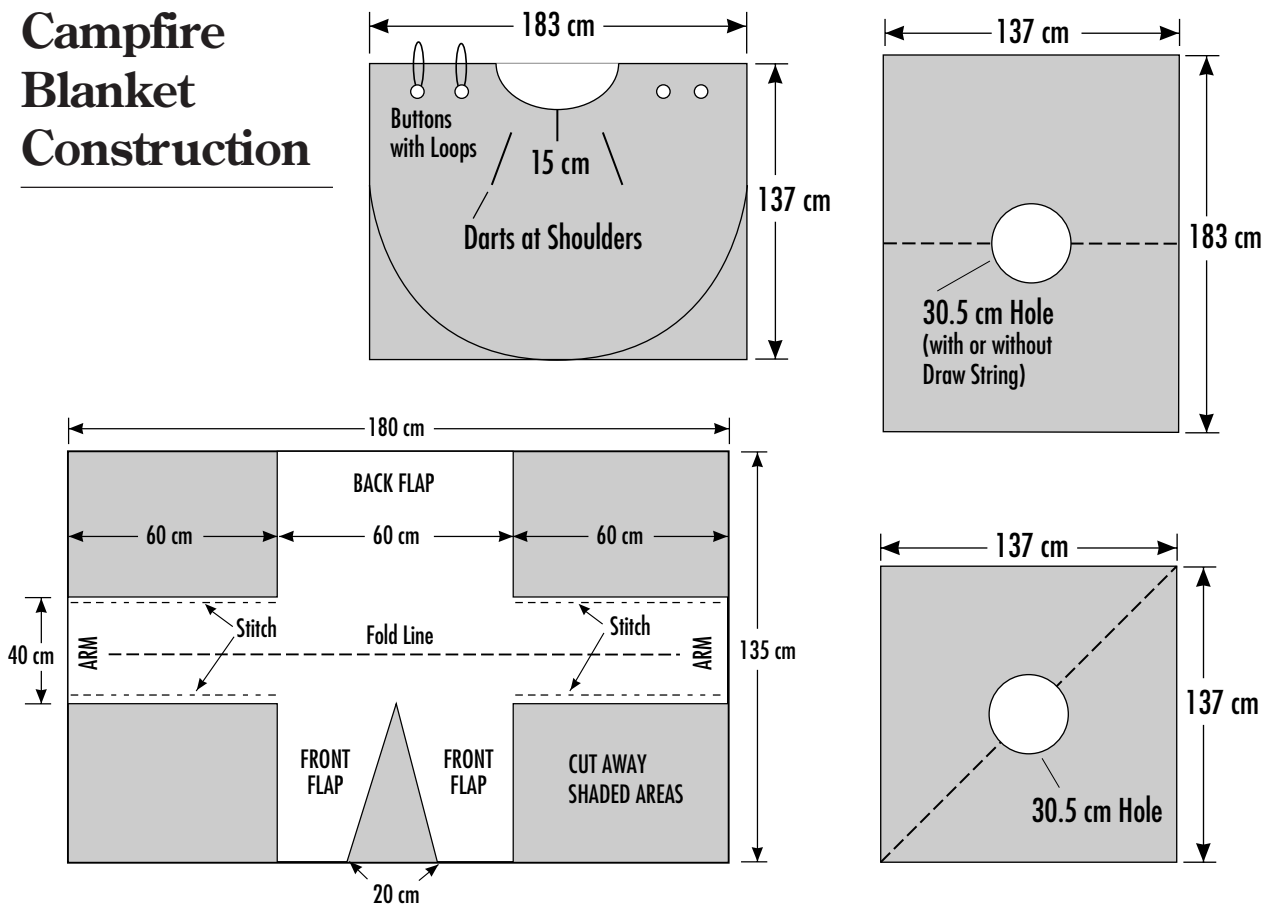


Photo: Wayne Barrett.

When I wear my campfire blanket, badge trading naturally follows.

Campfire Blanket Construction



CAMPFIRE SING ALONG RECORDING

Ottawa's Singing Cub 'Leader'

by Andy McLaughlin

Mike Leeder, Akela of the 123rd Ottawa Pack, and his guitar are familiar sights at campfires and sing alongs in the National Capital Region, ON.

Now the entire country will hear him singing favourite campfire songs on Scouts Canada's new *Campfire Sing Along* CD and cassette.

Mike spent three days in a studio at Sound Venture Productions last October recording the main voice and guitar tracks for the campfire recording. Six children from a local church choir helped form a "campfire chorus." Kim Makhoul, a local radio personality, provided the campfire chief's voice.

The recording contains two complete campfire programs: one on each side. Each program contains an opening, a number of songs, some cheers, a story and a closing thought. Using the JUMPSTART approach to campfire program planning, it makes a great companion to Scouts Canada's *Campfire Book*.

Singing Roots

Music has long formed part of Mike's life. He started singing professionally at age eight. "I played at a local hotel," he said. "I'd sing about 25 songs and get \$10." Mike went on to play in several high school bands. As an adult, he performed with several Irish bands: "The Gaels" and "Excalibur." He stopped playing professionally in 1991.

Although he enjoyed his professional musician's life, "it's singing for the kids that I really enjoy," he says. Mike started leading Scouting campfires over 20 years ago. A local Scout leader noticed him singing songs for children on his front porch and asked if he would sing at a weekend camp.

When his son, Colin, joined Cubs in 1986, Mike became a registered leader. Since then, the 123rd Ottawa Pack has become known as the "Campfire Group." They host 4 or 5 joint camp-

fires in Eastern Ontario each year. Groups come from as far away as Cornwall and Montreal to participate. The writer of NCR's official Western Area song, Mike assists other groups with their sing alongs and campfire activities.



He doesn't confine his singing to Scouting events, but performs regularly at several Ottawa daycare centres. Mike also leads informal sing alongs at parks and playgrounds. He has taught music appreciation and voice projection to local elementary school students.

Special Magic

"I've never, ever, come across a child who wouldn't participate (in a sing along)," says Mike. Music holds a special magic.

What makes a great campfire?

"Fun!" Everyone sings, play-acts and performs cheers together. Around a campfire there's an element of team spirit linking children with each other and the adults.

Campfires can be the highlight of any Scouting activity. As well, "a campfire brings together the aims and principles of Scouting," says Mike.

The preparation youth put into a campfire program can be as meaningful as the campfire itself. Watching the cooperation and comraderie of young people as they work putting together a skit or singing a song is very rewarding for all leaders.

The singing quality at a campfire is unimportant as long as voices are loud and enthusiastic.

Mike remembers his own Cub leader was no Elvis Presley. "My Akela couldn't hold a tune if his life depended on it. But he felt that singing held the keys to Scouting's fun and fellowship." His pack sang everywhere they went.

Buy It, Use It

Mike was thrilled to be part of the *Campfire Sing Along* project. "This is the next best thing to visiting every campfire in the world!" Now you can enjoy the music too.

Are you unfamiliar with campfire songs and tunes? Are you looking for an entertaining guide to teach you how to conduct effective campfire programs? This recording is for you.

If you know other people like Mike with similar skills, find a campfire program for them to lead. Take advantage of their abilities and enthusiasm. Work with them to plan fun, exciting and inspirational campfires this summer. X



Photos: Jamie Steinburgh.

Super Mario's Pin Collector Case

Many Cubs and Scouts collect lapel pins. Here's a great project for them — especially those heading to the World Jamboree this summer. Total cost: \$2.

Each pin case requires 1 piece of 19mm x 13mm pine moulding about 53.60cm long, 2 pieces of plastic craft mesh cut 10.3cm x 13.3cm, and one Nintendo game case.

You also need a staple gun, wood glue, paint, mitre boxes and saws, sandpaper and large rubber bands. Build the case over three evenings.

Assemble the wooden frame on the first night. Cut the pine moulding so the outside edges of the two side pieces are approximately 12.16cm long and the other two sides are 14.6cm long. (See diagram) A simple lap joint at each corner makes a strong frame. (Older Cubs and Scouts might want to adapt the plans so each corner has a 45° angle.) Remember to cut the pieces so the frame is 19mm in depth, not width, so it fits into the Nintendo case.

Gently sand each wooden piece to remove slivers. Next, coat the corner joints with glue at the joining points and assemble into a rectangle shape with the correct outside edge dimensions. Hold the frame pieces in position with rubber bands. Set the frames aside to dry.

At the next meeting let Cubs paint the frames. If the wood needs two coats put the first one on at the start

Collect and exhibit your World Jamboree pins here.

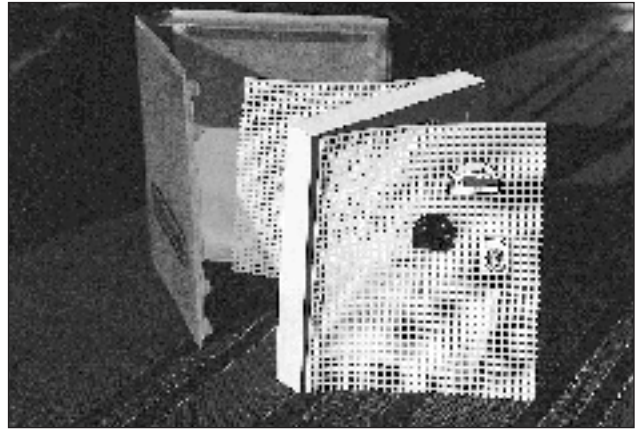
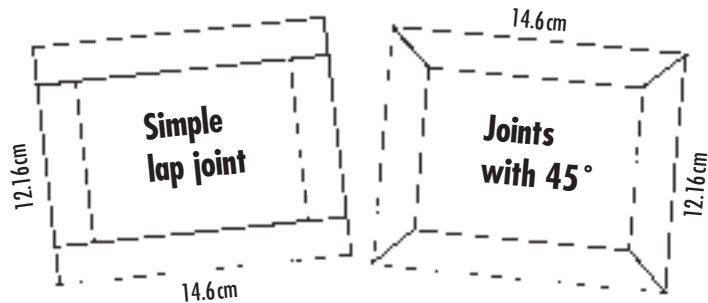


Photo: Ron Schmiedge.

Collector Case Construction



of the meeting and the last one on just before heading home.

The last meeting is devoted to finishing the cases. Before handing out the Nintendo cases to each Cub or Scout, trim off the little plastic tabs with a knife. Final assembly consists of cutting two pieces of plastic mesh and stapling them onto each side of the frame. Only staple the mesh along one edge

so you can easily lift it up like a page to add, or take off, pins. Lastly, slide the frames into the Nintendo cases.

Hint: After the first evening one leader should take the frames home to make sure they will fit into the cases. Some frames might need to be re-glued.

— Ron Schmiedge works with Cubs in Regina, SK.

A Solution To Losing Notices

Do your Beavers and Cubs lose weekly notices sent home for parents? Try this field-tested, get-it-home-to-the-parent idea. It works!

Instead of just sending home the paper message to the parent and hoping the child remembers to give it to mummy or daddy, include something for the child too. When our Beavers and Cubs leave their weekly meeting, they are really excited, partly because they know the parents' message includes one or two activity sheets for them.



The activity sheet (a dot-to-dot, maze, or word search) virtually guarantees the parents will see the mes-

sage. Often the activity relates to our weekly or monthly theme.

Because the parents now know exactly what they need to from week to week, our program usually runs smoothly.

— Sharon Fitzsimmons works with the 5th Cole Harbour "B" Colony, Dartmouth, N.S.



For Campfire Chiefs

Do you fumble with a flashlight when reading campfire schedules? Most people do. Try this fun idea.

Using a non-smear marker, print your campfire schedule onto the outside of a large, clear plastic vinegar jug. Then fill the jug with water. Just before your campfire begins, activate a "glowstick" and drop it into the jug. The light cast by the glowstick will let you read the words easily. Shut the light off during skits and songs simply by placing a blanket over top of the jug.

— A. K. Hoard, Peterborough District, Ontario.

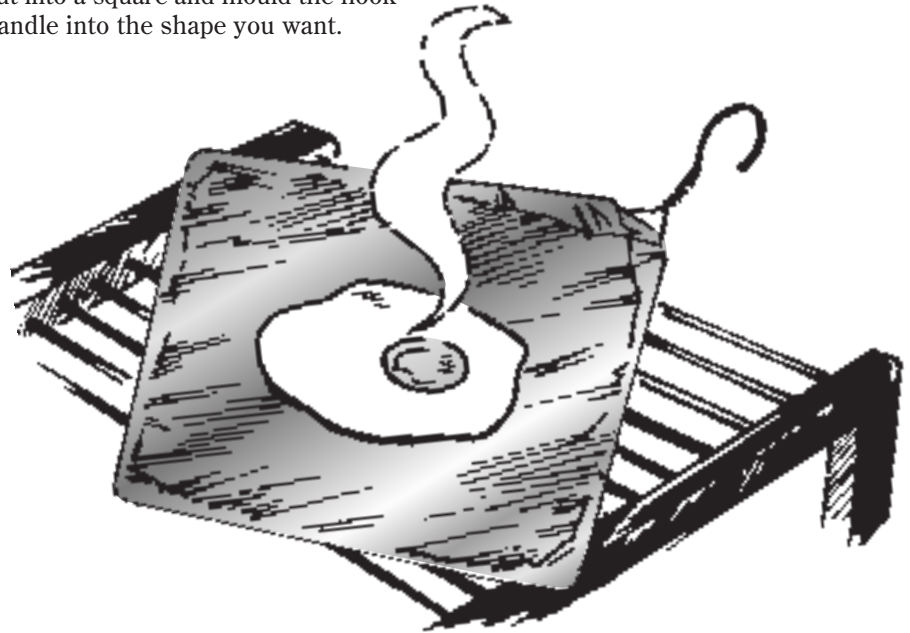
FOIL FRY PAN

Looking for an easy fry pan Cubs can make to experiment with camp cooking? Why not make an aluminum foil fry pan?

Take a metal coat hanger, stretch it out into a square and mould the hook handle into the shape you want.

Stretch foil wrap around the frame. It's excellent for frying fish, eggs, home fries, almost anything. λ

— Thanks to Scouter Michael Fliss, Madsen, ON.



**CAMPFIRE AD
NEW ART,
AD ENVELOPE, MAY'95**

Fun at the Pond

by Lena Wong

Visit your colony's special nature spot we talked about last month. Make listening a central theme for your visit. Ask Beavers to be as quiet as mice hiding from a cat. Can they identify all the sounds around them? Listen for birds (how many different calls?), insects, rustling leaves, wind, waves and running water.

This "stalking game" will sharpen everyone's listening skills. Pick a leader ("the prey"). Split Beavers into teams of two. The prey sits in the centre of a small clear area. Beaver teams must take turns sneaking up to the prey from behind as quietly as possible. Tell them to watch out for sticks, crunchy stones, dry leaves and other noisemakers. If the prey hears the stalkers he should spin around to face them. If caught, stalkers join the prey and listen for the next pair.

After your listening game, observe wildlife and plant life around you. How have the trees and plants changed since your last visit? Observe the shapes of leaves now on the trees. Draw them and use a field guide to identify the species. Look for wild flowers. Notice the shapes and colours of each bloom. Remind Beavers not to pick wild flowers or break twigs and branches from trees and bushes.

Do you see young animals? Are there babies in the birds' nests? Look for insect homes on the ground, on tree trunks and leaves. Can you see spider webs in trees and on plants around you? Where do the spiders sit in their webs? Do you see any stored 'catches' in their webs?

If near water, do you see fish jumping? Can you see frogs or turtles? What plants grow along the water's edge and in the water? Look for insects; identify those you see. If there is a sandy beach, look for animal and bird tracks. What kinds of birds are near the water?

This "tracking game" will help Beavers develop their observation skills. An adult should prepare the game area while Beavers are busy doing something else. Set courses for as many Beaver teams as you can find trails. Make sure the trails all meet at the same spot — a good place for a snack. Mark each trail with tracks and clues for Beavers to follow. Make animal paw or hoof tracks in the ground with a stick. Place bits of cloth or 'fur' on low-level branches. Drop bits of paper, pieces of old clothing or other clues on the ground for the Beavers to find.

To play the game, split your Beavers into small groups. Two adults with each group will ensure proper supervision. Follow the prepared trails making sure the clues and tracks are discovered by the Beavers. The Beavers collect all the clues they find and bring them to the central meeting spot. Finish your outing with a snack and outdoor sing-song.



The following songs come from a book compiled by Lori Forsen and Jim Goat of Kanata, ON.

Little Paddy Beaver
(Tune: John Brown's Body)

Little Paddy Beaver had a fly
upon his ear
Little Paddy Beaver had a fly
upon his ear
Little Paddy Beaver had a fly
upon his ear
And he flicked it till it flew away.

Try these actions:
Little... fingers close together
indicating small
Beaver... make Beaver sign
Fly... wiggle fingers
Ear... point to ear
Flicked... flick thumb and forefinger
Flew... flap arms

The More We Get Together
(Beaver version)

The more we get together at Beavers,
at Beavers
The more we get together,
the happier we'll be,
For Beavers make good friends,
And Beavers they share things,
The more we get together,
the happier we'll be.

MOTHER'S DAY

May 14 is Mother's Day. Here are some great gifts that any mum or grandmother would appreciate.

Bug Fridge Magnet

Cut a cup section from a cardboard egg carton. Colour with a marker or paint and decorate with 'buggy' designs. Cut legs from construction paper and glue to the bottom. Glue a small piece of bristol board to the bottom covering the messy pieces of the legs to form a base. Glue a strip magnet to the base.



Helper Cards

These helper/affection cards will be sure winners with any mum. Each card represents a helping deed or affectionate act: a hug and kiss, help with the dishes, tidy up the play room, or put away toys. Beavers should draw the outline of a hand on bristol board five times, then cut out five cards. Decorate the cards with markers or crayons. Help your Beavers write in the centre of each card a pleasant thing they want to do for their mother or grandmother.



Beaver Cards

Cut a beaver outline from bristol board. Let children personalize their cards with decorations (stickers, drawings, glitter). Cut a small heart shape from red bristol board and glue it onto the card. Help your Beavers write appropriate messages on the back.



GOOD WILL DAY

May 18 (a Thursday) is Good Will Day. What a perfect time to demonstrate the Beaver Promise, Law and Motto. Why don't you take your Beavers to a local public area to clean up scrap paper, drink cans and bottles lying around. Collect the rubbish in a box. Separate it later into two piles: things to recycle and things to throw into the garbage.

Make "helper" tokens in the shape of a Beaver hat from blue construction paper. Beavers can give these to family members, teachers and friends. Whenever they want a little job done that the token represents, they just give the token back to the Beaver. Write a short message on each token specifying that the bearer is entitled to one favour in return for the token. Each Beaver should make up to ten.

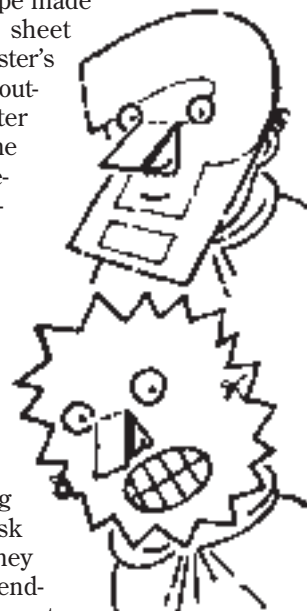
MYSTERY DAY

Did you know that May 22 is Mystery Day? Build an evening theme around this event. Find a mystery story at the library to read aloud to your Beavers — something that will ignite their imaginations.

Older Beavers might want to make up their own story. Sit in a circle and begin the story like this: "Once upon a time, in the village of Mysterious Happenings, two children disappeared for a whole day. Everyone in the village searched for them, but they couldn't be found. Then suddenly, as the sun was setting the children returned to the village and told a strange tale. This story is about the wonderful things they experienced."

Then each Beaver should take a turn adding a sentence or two to the story. Let your artistic Beavers draw pictures showing what happened during the mysterious adventure.

Organize a hunt for the Great May Mystery Monster. Get Keo or an adult to dress up with a mask (see examples). Finish the costume off by adding a large cape made from a blanket or sheet tied around the monster's neck. Play the game outside. Your monster should run around the play area hiding behind trees and bushes, dropping little clues. Pre-arrange a spot for Beavers to catch the monster and bring him back to the meeting hall to discover his true identity.



Have fun during May. Be sure to ask your Beavers what they want to do for their end-of-year party. An active, outdoor extravaganza might end the season with a bang! X

Keep Scouting Alive Over The Summer

A great August Cub program

by Doug Erickson

"Do you guys want to help test out new requirements for the revised Cub program?"

The question brought an immediate "Yes!" from Cubs in the 11th Central Surrey Pack, BC. But there wasn't enough time left in the Scouting year.

"Why don't we run a short summer program?" someone asked. After some planning we decided to run a four-evening program every Monday night during August. Anticipation among both Cubs and leaders grew rapidly. Eighty percent of the youth joined in.

Flexibility

Because we would be meeting informally in a hot room, we all agreed on casual dress (i.e. no uniforms). Game and snack breaks helped keep attention level high. We spent our first meeting reviewing the new star and badge requirements in the revised Wolf Cub program.



Cubs set out in canoes to practise rescue techniques.

Photo: Doug Erickson.

"Which badges do you want to work on?" leaders asked. After some discussion we settled on several, including the Photographer, Naturalist and Space Exploration Badges. We also planned a weekend, family day camp at Buntzen Lake where we would work on the Cooking, Hiking, Trailcraft and Watercraft Badges.

We devoted our second meeting to the Photographer's Badge. All but one Cub took part. (This Cub worked on the Naturalist Badge both at home and during our evening meeting.) As one of the requirements for the Photographer's Badge, the Cubs rehearsed and staged a skit to be photographed. We chose the one Cub who remembered to bring his camera that night as our cameraman. What a great time.

Space exploration dominated our third night — an incredibly easy, yet fulfilling, theme meeting. The Cubs brought all the research materials from local libraries, we reviewed badge requirements, then they quickly set to work. Before ending the meeting we discussed what we would need for the day camp. Since the Cubs would prepare their own lunch and supper as required for the Cooking Badge, they decided which specific requirements to concentrate on.

First Into The Lake

When our day camp arrived, we divided Cubs into two groups. During

the morning, group "A" worked on the Watercraft Badge, while group "B" focused on the Trailcraft and Hiking Badges. In the afternoon the groups switched over.

Cubs in group "B" were the lucky ones. After watching those in group "A" tip their canoes and practise rescue and survival techniques while fully dressed, group "B" Cubs wore bathing suits. ("So that's why Akela told us to bring an extra change of clothes!")

For lunch the Cubs cooked up hot dogs over portable propane barbecues. They made banana boats for dessert. Dinner included shish-kabobs and s'mores. Shortly after, we cleaned up and headed home.

One meeting remained. Here we finished off some badge requirements and reviewed the month-long program.

"Did you guys have fun?" we asked.

The Cubs were hungry for more — especially the day camp.

If you want to keep the Scouting enthusiasm alive all summer, try running a special August program. It's bound to whet their appetites for the fall! X

— Doug Erickson is a Service Scouter who works with the 11th Central Surrey Pack, BC.

MOVING?

Please let us know. Print your new address in the space provided. Tape the address label that now appears on the cover of your LEADER in the box marked "Previous Address".

New Address

Name _____

Address _____

Prov. _____ Code _____

Previous Address

(Affix label here)

Mail to: **the Leader**
PO Box 5112, Stn F
Ottawa, Ontario
K2C 3H4

Free Publicity

by John Rietveld

Have you noticed stacks of free distribution newspapers and magazines near your grocery store check out? At my neighbourhood supermarket I can pick up free copies of *Today's Seniors*, *Fifty-Five Plus*, *Parenting*, *Real Estate News*, and more.

Many free distribution newsletters also appear in my mail box. Last month we got *Newsweek*, *The Old Forge*, *The Glabar Park Review* and *What's On*. As I scan the headlines, I see stories of special interest to those who live in the newsletter's distribution area. Usually these publications cover human interest stories not normally featured by daily newspapers. Local municipal politicians use these communications vehicles to speak to constituents about road repairs, park matters or local by-law changes.

Free distribution magazines and newspapers might be willing to announce local Scouting activities or news in your area. Why don't you ask the editors? Drop in and speak to them. Often they will do more than just announce an event, but actively promote Scouting in your region.

Two of the free newspapers I picked up at my grocer this month included Scouting stories. *Fifty-Five Plus* is an attractive full colour, 38 page magazine published by Limestone City Publications. The February/March 1995 issue included a full page article titled, "Leader of the Pack." The piece featured Guider Marg Austin (with 38 years experience) and Scouter Herb Hickling (with 17 years experience) of Kingston, Ontario. Essentially the story was an advertisement for leaders.

Today's Senior is published across the country with a number of regional editions. The March issue distributed throughout the Ottawa Valley featured a salute to 71 year old Scouter Bill Wright who has devoted over 40 years to Scouting. While the story is a testimonial to Bill's devotion to Scouting, it also serves as great ad-

vertising and promotes the importance of community voluntarism. Both these magazines are distributed across the country. Would local editors be interested in a Scouting story, a weekly Scout column or space to announce special events? Why not give it a try? Better yet, ask someone who represents the publication's target audience (a senior or a stay-at-home mum) to approach the editor.

Endless Opportunities

Opportunities for free publicity are endless. Recently I visited Central Alberta Region to participate in their "Be A Leader" Advertising and Promotion Campaign (A&P). I travelled to several cities and towns in the region visiting volunteers who were staffing mall displays. Each of these dedicated Scouters told me of their surprise at the support given to their campaign by local businesses. Mall management was very receptive to Scouting displays. At the Parkland Mall in Red Deer a large electronic billboard announced the district's "Be A Leader" booth located in the mall. The mall in Lacombe gave the Scout display a prominent location; a local electronics store even donated use

of a TV-VCR for the week. Andy McLaughlin, our A&P Coordinator, organized this quite easily — he just asked!

Across the country many district events are held in shopping malls. Bayshore Shopping Centre in Nepean, Ontario has hosted many National Capital Region Kub Kar Rally run-offs. Carlingwood Mall in Ottawa hosted a Scout-Guide Week campfire and sing-song last February. Local TV weather personalities broadcast live from the mall; a throng of eager Cubs sang behind them. The mall's bakery donated a huge tray of chocolate chip cookies. The Loblaws store baker created a special cake for us! Needless to say the almost 200 people attending the event devoured the food in minutes. Free parking, food courts, public visibility and no admission fees make shopping malls great venues for Scouting events.

Street Banners

Street banners represent another successful method for publicizing your message. During our A&P campaign in Central Alberta, the communities of Red Deer, Blackfalds, Innisfail and Lacombe all displayed street banners. Inexpensive to produce, street banners are usually hung by local public works departments at no charge. Often the banners remain on display for weeks or even months. Check with your local municipality about street banners. A local sign company will make one up for fall registration or Scout-Guide Week.

A little ingenuity can stretch your small PR budget, allowing you to run effective publicity campaigns. But don't forget: Good PR doesn't end when you dismantle the mall display or when readers toss newspapers into recycling boxes. Quickly follow up the publicity with letters of thanks, appreciation certificates or plaques for mall managers, radio station DJs and newsletter writers. A few words of thanks will help keep the doors open for your next publicity request. X



Recruit your next leader at a shopping centre.

Photo: Craig Vanni.

Changing Poor Behaviour To Good

by Ben Kruser

We've all experienced an unruly child during a meeting. He is perpetually "full of beans" and lacks self-discipline. Frustration levels can quickly rise leaving ill feelings about the child and questions why we ever agreed to volunteer.

Leaders need to keep control at meetings, yet maintain a friendly, child-centred environment. Beavers also need to know why boundaries exist: to develop a sense of appropriate actions in society.

You have a right to let a child know how you feel, but no one should attack his personality. Try separating the person from his bothersome actions. Name calling, sarcasm and other forms of belittling hurt the child, and won't change behaviour. In fact, the child may develop feelings of hatred, revenge, defiance, guilt or unworthiness.

Try these ideas if a Beaver starts to really push the limits of your patience.

1. Express your feelings strongly without attacking his character.

"I'm really angry that you're throwing craft material around."

This statement does not speak to the character of the child, but clearly identifies what behaviour is creating frustration.

2. State your expectations.

"When you work on a craft, I expect you will take care of materials and not create a mess."

Adults might think a Beaver knows what constitutes acceptable behaviour, yet perhaps no one has marked out the boundaries. When an activity starts to cause problems, stop and tell the Beaver what is permissible and what is not.

3. Show the child how to make amends.

"Now what you need to do is collect all the craft material off the floor and pile it neatly on the table."

This teaches responsibility for his actions. It eliminates the frustration source and shows the child how to 'fix' the problem.

4. Give the child a choice.

"You can choose to continue working on this project, or you can choose to help me clean up."

Children need to learn that choices lead to consequences. You are not picking on them if they choose an action they understand leads to a negative consequence.

5. Take action.

Child: "Why do I have to be the one who collects all the crayons?"

Leader: "What choice did you make that led to you collecting the crayons?"

A child who realizes that you will hold him accountable for choices, will pay more attention when making decisions.

Chronic Problems

A persistent problem may be more complex. Try this approach when trying to get to the root of on-going poor behaviour.

- Talk about *the child's* feelings, needs and perception of the problem.
- Talk about *your* feelings, needs and perception of the problem.
- Brainstorm together to find alternative solutions. Write them down.
- Decide which solutions are acceptable. Cross off unacceptable solutions.
- Follow through with the solution you both like best. Keep the written list as a future reminder of the conversation.

By keeping your cool, you can resolve poor behaviour at a level appropriate for Beavers. ^

Resources

How to Talk So Kids Will Listen and Listen So Kids Will Talk, by Adele Faber and E. Mazlish, Avon Books, NY.



TIP OF THE MONTH

The Threat of Fire

Campfires are the leading cause of forest fires in Canada.

By following simple fire safety rules, you can help keep our forests green and productive for years to come.

Check and be sure your fire is dead out!

Have a safe camping experience!

Bridging The Gap With Partners

by Bryon Milliere

Business and industry forge partnerships. They do this to pool resources and to create results that would be more difficult to achieve alone. Joint ventures and partnerships are becoming both popular and necessary. Canadian Scouting was built on similar principles.

Scouting sponsors ("partners") are organizations, institutions or community groups that recognize how Scouting helps young people develop. The charter represents a commitment between the partner and Scouting.

Who are our partners?

Our largest partners are the United Church (754 groups), the Anglican Church (347 groups), Lions International (302 groups), and the Catholic Church (305 groups). Last year the number of groups sponsored by partners increased, even though overall Scouting membership decreased.

*Sharing a commitment to youth.
(Left to right)
Elder Ellis G. Stonehocker,
John Pettifer
and President Thomas S. Monson.*



Photo: Gerald W. Silver.

Nationally, Scouting recognizes the value of cementing active partnerships with organizations that share our commitment to young people. Maintaining this relationship requires open communication with partner representatives.

Our Chief Executive, John Pettifer, met recently with elders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints at Temple Square in Salt Lake City, Utah. Here, Mr. Pettifer presented a plaque commemorating the 80 year partnership between the LDS Church and Canadian Scouting. President Thomas S. Monson then presented Mr. Pettifer with a beautiful statue.

An article about the visit published by the LDS Church said: "Participants in this most recent meeting agreed that one of the most healthy outcomes of their sessions was taking more time to learn how each organization functions, how they complement each other and how they can work together towards common goals of strengthening and blessing the lives of young people."

The LDS Church has made Scouting their official youth program. About 12,500 young men take part in 249 groups in Canada. The church also actively participates in group operations, including choosing leaders.

Strengthening an active relationship between individual groups and partners locally is just as important as regular national-level contact.

How does your group maintain its lines of communications? An informed partner will provide more support to your program. (Remember why the partnership was originally formed.) Does your partner know how to com-

municate with the group? A partnership works best with two-way communication. Make sure you send partners all meeting minutes, include them in events, and have a group committee partner representative. The greatest benefits come from active involvement in the group.

Silent Partners

Many Scouting partners have fallen silent through the years. Changes in leadership can alter the relationship for better or worse. Also, if a group stops asking for help, the partner will eventually turn its attention to other priorities. Similarly, a group will give up efforts to communicate with a partner who seems pre-occupied with other matters. An inactive partnership results in both examples.

Parent associations sponsor more than 300 Scouting groups. Often this indicates virtual self-sponsorship. These groups may not enjoy many of the benefits provided by an active partner (e.g. access to facilities, specialized skills, community networking, access to a youth population or financial resources).

Groups in this situation may be able to identify a community organization that shares their vision for youth. Examples might include a school P.T.A., an active service club or a religious organization.

Consider how you can strengthen your group's relationship with its partner. Where do you begin? Visit them to say "thank you" for starting the group. Then discuss your group's activities and special events. Pictures always help.

Build a partnership that works! X

**DBC AD,
PICK UP, PG. 24,
APR '95**

Adopt A Ravine

We can make a difference!

from Steve Cooper

“How can our Cubs help the community and work toward the World Conservation Badge?”

That question puzzled Akela Bob Hickson of the 1st West Rouge Group in Scarborough, ON, last year. Then he looked around. A local ravine needing clean-up lay within sight of his pack's meeting hall. Soon a plan took shape that captured everyone's imaginations. The group would 'adopt' the East Avenue ravine.

Within weeks all section leaders were making plans to take part. They decided to begin a three year program to naturalize the East Avenue ravine and stream between its source and Lake Ontario.

The plan focused on two goals: clean up the ravine, and educate the public how chemicals pollute natural areas. A pretty ambitious project for a group totalling less than 120 members!



The first goal involved planting trees, clearing brush and enhancing wildlife habitats in the area. Beavers, Cubs and Scouts planned to coordinate their garbage clean-up with "Pitch In Canada" activity in early May.

The second goal involved educating the public on the affect of dumping chemicals down storm water sewers. Youth hoped that by painting a yellow fish beside each storm sewer it would remind people that all pollutants eventually affect wildlife.

Kickoff Ceremony

On April 30, 1994 almost one hundred members gathered at the ravine with local elected officials. Youth from each section planted a tree and formally adopted the ravine and surrounding natural areas.

During the rest of the year youth:

- helped clean garbage from the ravine. (First they learned how to safely handle hazardous materials.)
- documented the types of vegetation found in the ravine. (Then they mapped vegetation locations on a topographical map.)
- established wildlife habitats along the ravine. (This

included building and erecting bird and bat houses in the area.)

- planted a variety of trees, shrubs and saplings through the Scoutrees for Canada program.
- removed Purple Loosestrife that choked off other plants.

More Plans

Working with local environmental authorities, youth then developed a second and third year plan for the ravine. This involved continuing projects started during the first year (e.g. tree planting and garbage clean-up) and extending it to include the entire ravine. In 1995 and 1996 Beavers, Cubs and Scouts hope to develop a small wetland area along a stream running in the ravine. They also plan to study water quality and aquatic life along the stream at different times of the year.

Scouting emphasizes the outdoors. By adopting this ravine we can help our youth understand and appreciate the natural world more. X

— Steve Cooper works with the 1st West Rouge Group, Scarborough, ON.

**GRANT AD,
PICK UP, PG. 17,
APR '95**

SPRING TROLL STROLL

"How do we know there's no troll under this bridge? Did Rainbow look?!" Leaders Adele Graham and Barry Smith point out the wonders of creek life to a group of inquisitive 26th London Colony, ON, Beavers. Everyone returned safely from the walk. Photo: Maria Guest.



Did you see that?



CHINESE CANADIAN SCOUTS JAMBOREE

Last year over 200 Cubs, Scouts, Venturers and leaders attended the Chinese Canadian Scout Jamboree. Some participants came from Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta, the United States, Hong Kong and Taiwan. Youth enjoyed many events and activities including climbing over rocks by the sea looking for interesting shells. Thanks to Roger Tsui.

SANTA'S GIFT: CAMPFIRE BLANKETS

When Santa Claus visited Beavers at the 1st Palmerston Colony, ON, last Christmas his sack was filled with campfire blankets. "Because these Beavers do so much camping," said Santa, "they better be well equipped." A campfire evening program soon followed. Thanks to Vicky Lacroix ("Bubbles").



TREE PLANTER EXTRAORDINAIRE

Scout Jay Skopyk from the 1st Meadow Lake Troop, SK, started tree planting as a Beaver. Since then he has helped his colony, pack and troop plant 39,000 trees. Last year Jay set a Meadow Lake Group pledge collection record. This brings his personal pledge total to over \$2,200.00.
Photo: Jim Skopyk.



GOLD DIGGERS Matthew Coombs from the 1st Pasadena Lion's Beaver Colony, NF, digs feverishly for gold (pennies) while a buddy looks on. "In this event, a bucket was filled with sand," explains Scouter Rosalind Rose. "Pennies were mixed into the dirt, then each child had 20-30 seconds to find as many as possible. Any pennies the Beavers found they could keep." No wonder everyone enjoyed this event!



HERE'S TO CLEAN AIR AND A PURE ENVIRONMENT Cubs and Guides joined forces last year to help plant 20,000 trees in one busy day near Bramalea, ON. Here Akela Pam Ramnauth and nine year old Edward Barnes from the 2nd Bramalea Pack work with Guide Diana Singer to plant a white ash. Thanks to Roger Gyatt. ^

**B&S EMBLEM AD
PICK-UP,
PG.19, APR'95**

SURVEY SAYS...!

The Scout-Venturer Review

by Ian Mitchell

We have just begun to examine Scout and Venturer programs to make sure they meet youth needs today and into the future. Many members in the field responded to our first survey. Excitement grew as the Scout-Venturer Review Committee considered all the input.

This report summarizes the data sent to us by respondents by weighing both the statistics and comments pertaining to each question. In some cases the Review Committee's job was easy; in other cases it took much more study and discussion. Some responses were not clear; for those the Committee will seek further input during the next stage of the review process.

We welcome your comments. Continue to share them with us. Everyone's input and suggestions will help us develop recommendations.

A Request

Please make sure that all youth, especially those who filled out a survey, learn about the survey results. If leaders don't tell them, youth won't hear the feedback.

The Results

The response to the questions was terrific. We received more than 1,400 Scout section surveys and over 500 Venturer section surveys. Due to last minute arrivals, our statistical analysis is based on 989 Scout and 351 Venturer surveys. We factored in all answers when summarizing the data.

Section Breakdowns

In the Scout section, 939 males and 50 females (796 Scouts, 170 leaders and 3 "others") answered the questions. In the Venturer section, 296 males and 53 females (286 Venturers and 57 advisors) provided feedback.

Uniform

Well over half of all respondents said we need to talk about uniform issues (563 Scouts and 211 Venturers). As a priority, Scouts ranked this issue #3 while Venturers ranked it #4 (out of

the six questions). Both sections think the uniform is "okay" for ceremonies and official events. This included the beret where 623 Scout respondents and 160 Venturer respondents rated it as "okay." (Most qualified this in relation to ceremonies.) Both groups consider the uniform, including beret, impractical and costly for activity wear (751 Scouts and 290 Venturers). 701 Scout respondents and 208 Venturer respondents said they wore the uniform willingly. However, both groups qualified this as referring to ceremonial occasions or activities involving other Scouting members.

Age

Only about 1/3 of respondents in each section said that we needed to talk about age questions. Both Scouts and Venturers gave it the lowest priority. 784 Scout respondents said that 11 years of age was not too young to be a Scout; 810 said that 14 years of age was not too old. Venturers didn't think 14 years old was too young for their section (only 70 dissented). Most agreed that 18 year olds were not too old for the Venturer program (296 responses).

Badge Program

Scouts were split on whether we needed to talk about the badge program (505 Scouts and 131 Venturers). Scout respondents ranked it number #4 while Venturers ranked it #5. A large number of Scouts consider our present badges relevant (726). Venturers disagreed; 224 said they were not relevant. 376 Scouts said that not enough badges interested them. Over half the Venturers agreed (214).

Do we need more badges?

Scouts said "yes" 417 times, while Venturers said "no" 290 times. Venturers were almost evenly split on the question whether they needed *any* badges.



SCOUTING'S MISSION STATEMENT



To contribute to the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities through the application of our Principles and Practices.

Outdoors/Camping

Both Scouts and Venturers rated the outdoors and camping as the #1 priority needing further discussion. *Only about half in both sections said they had enough camping in their program.* 544 Scout and 185 Venturer respondents said they do not meet outdoors enough.

Are there enough water activities?

697 Scout and 212 Venturer respondents said "no." 607 Scouts and 203 Venturers felt that there were enough environmental activities. For Scouts, 606 respondents found outdoor activities challenging; 383 did not. This compared to 201 Venturers who did, and 150 who did not. Most comments for this question centred around youth wanting more camping and outdoors programs. Leaders were looking for more training and resources.

Special Events

Just over half of respondents said we needed to talk about special events, yet they rated it very high on the priority scale (#2 for both sections). Just over half (558 Scouts and 189 Venturers) said there were not enough provincial/national events, while it was a 50/50 split on whether enough regional/district events existed for Scouts. Cost concerned 481 Scout and 181 Venturer respondents. Generally, Scouts and Venturers like these events (714 Scout "yesses" and 258 Venturer "yesses").

Youth Involvement in Program Planning

Again about half in both sections said that we need to talk about youth involvement in program planning. However, Scouts said it wasn't as important as Venturers. 546 Scout respondents did not have a Court of Honour, while

426 said that they do not help plan the program. On the Venturer side only 188 stated that their executive helped plan. More than half of Scout respondents (654) felt that youth should pick their own patrol leaders. Interesting enough, 697 of these same Scout folk, and 246 of these same Venturer folk, indicated they *do* help plan enough.

Other Issues

Question #7 allowed respondents to make any additional comments. Both sections leaned strongly towards encouraging more female participation. Scouts wanted more games in their program, including more traditional sports like hockey, baseball, and soccer. Both sections identified training and resources as issues.

A number of comments arose which the Committee felt were not covered by its mandate; be assured the Committee will pass them on to those who can provide suitable action.

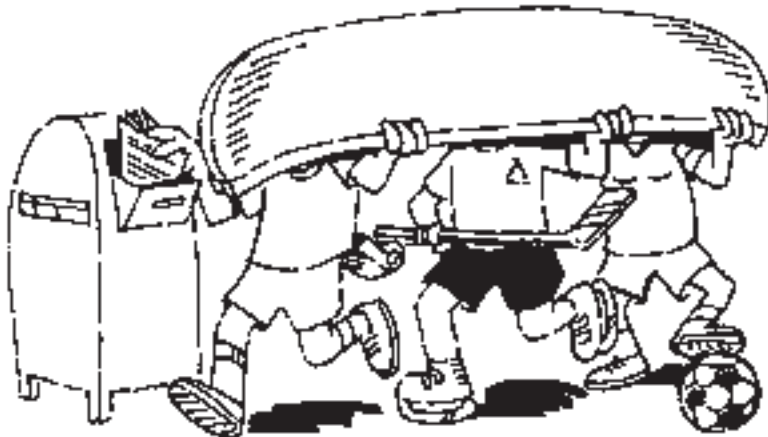
What's Next?

The Committee will continue to gather information from the field. This will most likely involve another survey in the very near future. The Committee will continue seeking information on the "outdoors" and the "recognition systems." Also under consideration will be new issues including linking opportunities, decision making processes and involvement in service-oriented activities.

Are you headed for a provincial jamboree this summer?

Be sure to speak with one of the Review Committee members attending.

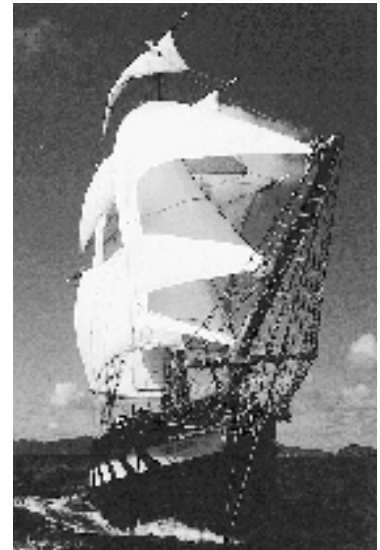
Remember to share any further thoughts or comments you have with us. Send them to: Scout-Venturer Review Committee, P.O. Box 5151, Station "F", Ottawa, ON, K2C 3H4. ↘



Sign Aboard For
ADVENTURE

TALL SHIP

Sail Training
For Youth



Programs for ages 13 to 25

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- Great Lakes •
- Maritimes •
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Bytown Brigantine is a charitable,
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CAMPFIRE SING ALONG

by Bob Bareham

Careful planning and preparation almost guarantee successful campfire programs. To make this task easier, Scouts Canada is pleased to introduce our new *Campfire Sing Along* cassette tape and compact disk.

The new *Campfire Sing Along* tape and CD provide two sample programs and twenty-eight songs. It will help get you started and put you in the campfire spirit. The words to each song are included in the package. The tape and CD highlight favourite songs and cheers; they provide a basic outline for a memorable and enjoyable campfire. (See "Singing Leeder" article on p.17 for more details about this product.)

A good rule of thumb is to plan a campfire program that follows the natural progression of the flames. Begin your program with friendly words of greeting to set the tone and make people comfortable. Then build your program to a high point of lively, active participation. Vary the content by including skits, yells, cheers and stories or yarns. Then slowly move to quieter songs and reflective messages.

The cassette sells for \$6.95 (catalogue #20-629) and the CD for \$14.95 (catalogue #20-628) — both available through Scout Shops. Jumpstart your campfire plans with the *Campfire Sing Along* tape or CD.

MORE CAMPFIRE RESOURCES

Once you get started with the *Campfire Sing Along* tape, you will find Scouts Canada's *Song Book* (catalogue #20-627: \$7.95) another excellent resource. It includes a great collection of fun songs, action tunes and rounds. Songs from around the world, as well as those that speak to Scouting's spirit are all included in this great volume. Whether it's a silly song that makes you laugh or one that touches your heart, the *Song Book* has them all.

A line in *The Campfire Book* (catalogue #20-626: \$7.95) reminds us that, "As the red log glows, so may our spirits. As the flame leaps upward, so may our aims. As the grey ash fades, so may our sins. As the good fire warms our circle, so may our ideals warm the world!"

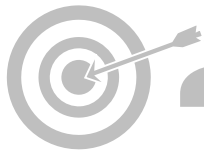
Another great resource book, it contains practical advice on creating the right atmosphere, fire lighting, etiquette, program planning, skits, yarns, and more.

RECRUIT NOW!!

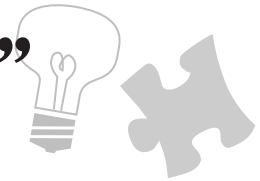
Why wait until the fall to start recruiting new leaders? Start now! *The Recruitment Kit* (catalogue #25-150: \$35.00) provides practical hints and suggestions for how you can be a successful recruiter. Each kit includes a booklet containing invitation ideas, sample scripts, an exciting four minute Scouting video, parent response cards and fifty "Be A Leader" fridge magnets. *The Recruitment Kit* has been field tested with great success. Scouters are using it coast-to-coast. Get a copy at your local Scout Shop or council office today.

PRODUCT IDEAS

Supply Services strives to bring you the products you want at the best possible price and quality. We are researching many new items, but are constantly watching for exciting product ideas and program support material. Have you got a great product idea? Share it with us. Just write or fax Supply Services at the national office, P.O. Box 5112, Stn "F", Ottawa, ON, K2C 3H4. Fax: (613) 224-3571. ^



“But Was It Effective?”



by Rob Stewart

Training teams that conduct courses stretching over several days usually seek regular feedback from participants. Each person fills out a one page form that reveals their contentment with the course content and physical arrangements. This is called a Reaction Level evaluation. Trainers then spend time in the evening reviewing the forms, trying to gain a “feel” for the course’s effectiveness. It helps them fine-tune and customize training to meet individual group needs.

Having just completed a training course as a participant, I would like to share some easy, but effective, ways the trainers gauged our reactions.

Reaction Sheet

Trainers gave each participant a reaction sheet at the end of the day. A number of symbols ran across the top of each page. One symbol was a “bull’s eye” target with an arrow in the centre; a question (?) mark represented the second symbol; a third showed a light bulb; a fourth showed a jigsaw puzzle piece.

Trainers asked participants to circle the image that best represented how they felt. Question number two asked why they circled that symbol. The

sheet contained only two other questions: “What was the most significant learning you experienced today?” and “What do you hope to see more of tomorrow?”

Participants did not sign the evaluations. Next day everyone formed groups of 4-6 and reviewed the responses. We discussed our observations and reported to the entire group on two questions: “What common factors did we observe?” and “What single need should trainers know about?”

This quick and easy method involves all participants and provides trainers valuable feedback.

Word Zoom

At the end of the next day instructors asked participants to call out one word that accurately described how they were feeling after two days of learning. If someone else called out the word you planned to say, you could give another word or “pass.” Trainers wrote each word on a flip chart and drew a box beside each.

Trainers then asked participants to take a marker and check off any words that applied to how they felt — yet another way to gain a quick, visual overview for participant reactions to the training. The instructors also sought verbal feedback.

Weather Report

On the morning of the final day, trainers drew three separate drawings on paper and placed them on the wall. One was a cloud; the weather report read “cloudy.” The second drawing showed the sun and clouds; the report read “sunny with cloudy periods”; the third showed just the sun; the report read “sunny and clear.” Instructors asked participants to stand beside the symbol that best represented how they felt about the course. Once everyone had gathered at their choice, they were asked to discuss why they chose that symbol. If they were standing under the “cloudy” or “sunny with cloudy periods” symbols, they had to identify how trainers could move them to the “sunny and clear” area.

These methods allowed trainers to immediately gauge the course’s effectiveness and to make adjustments. What an excellent way to involve the entire group. It helps everyone take responsibility for the course.

What has worked well in your training events? Send me your best ideas. I’ll share them with other Scouters.

In the future we will discuss some group “warm up” or “icebreaker” exercises. Stay tuned. λ

World Moot Minute

by Paul Mozsar and Marc Ramsay

Yes! You heard it right. The 10th World Moot Mondial is fast approaching and we want to keep you informed.

From July 15-26, 1996 more than 2,000 men and women from around the world will gather in Ransberg, Sweden for the 10th World Moot Mondial. The theme: "Spirit Into Action." Ransberg is situated in western Sweden near the River Klaralven. Rich in tradition, this site can handle more than 3,000 participants.

If you think you had fun at the last two World Moots, wait until you see what's in store for you this time!

Vital Information

Registered members between the ages of 18 and 25 years at the time of the Moot may attend. The cost is approximately \$720.00 Cdn (includes Moot Fee of \$500.00).

Registration deadline is December 31, 1995.

The Moot program is broken up into two main sections: the four-day patrol expedition, and the one day on-

and off-site activities. The four-day expeditions will include activities such as hiking, biking, canoeing, climbing, cultural excursions, and more. Each patrol will leave the Moot site to explore the countryside guided by a Swedish patrol leader. There will be many single day activities. These will include a wide range of workshops, handicrafts, community projects, sight-seeing, sports and outdoor activities.

We suggest you plan for home hospitality as well. This is offered before the Moot. It will let you see more of Sweden and take part in some typical Swedish midsummer festivities.

Unlike the 9th World Moot in Switzerland, a committee of Rovers is organizing this contingent. The responsibility for financing and organizing the contingent rests entirely with this committee. It has already sent an invitation to Girl Guides and L'Association des Scouts du Canada.

What does this mean? You get to help organize the Contingent!

We Need Help

We are looking for your help right now. Several committee positions are

available. These include: Contingent Wear, Registration and Communications, Contingent Program Coordinator, and an Eastern Coordinator. You don't have to attend the Moot just to help out.

Register now! We need to know how many Rovers plan to attend. For a registration package, send your name and address to Marc Ramsay or Paul Mozsar at 49 - 9101 Forest Grove Dr., Burnaby, BC, V5A 3Z5. (Phone: 604-420-6195 or Fax: 604-420-2262.) We are also attempting to get contact names and addresses for the various Roundtables.

Enter Our Exciting Contest!

We are looking for a Canadian Contingent Crest design. It should incorporate themes involving Canada, Sweden, Scouting and possibly the Moot. Winners will receive *five free crests* whether they attend the Moot or not. All submissions become the property of the Moot Organizing Committee. Send designs to the address shown above. ^

— Paul Mozsar and Marc Ramsay are the Moot's contingent leaders.

Scouting By Modem

Thank you for the article on electronic Scouting in the January issue. I am the systems operator of a Scouting computer board in Burlington, ON. I would like to announce that bulletin boards making up ScoutNet in Southern Ontario are working to establish a world-wide Scouting bulletin board network. We have made progress linking with the United States. We hope to link up with European computers soon.

— Don Poaps, Burlington, ON.

Scouting For Boys

Recently I visited my local Scout Shop to purchase a copy of *Scouting For Boys*. The staff said this book is no longer available. At first I thought they were joking.

I am more than just a little astounded to learn that the book that resulted in the birth of Scouting is no longer in print. Perhaps sales were low, but maybe it was just because leaders no longer recommended the book.

Not long ago I was invited to speak to a Troop Woodbadge II course. Of the fifteen or sixteen participants, only two acknowledged ever reading any part of the book. Although *Scouting For Boys* was first published nearly ninety years ago, the patrol system, training and program ideas can be every bit as challenging and exciting for today's youth.

I hope the book will once again be available in Canada.

— Harry Bruce, Scarborough, ON.

World War II Pen Pal

In 1944, when I was a 13 year old Scout, I started writing to a British pen pal (John Gregory). I sent him boxes of goodies and necessities in short supply in England during the war. One time he sent me a piece of shrapnel that landed near his home.

Over the years and decades we kept in touch by writing, but never met or spoke on the phone. (He works as a bridge building engineer.) Several years ago I met John face to face. What a good friendship. It started by two Scouts writing to each other.

— Murray Fried, Kitchener, ON.

Ed's Note:

Watch for a full page of pen pals in next month's **Leader**. ^

SCOUTER'S 5

A 'Helpful' Riddle

○ A king gathered a large crowd to a great feast. His castle tables brimmed over with delicious food, drinks and desserts.

○ Everyone expected a wonderful banquet until the king said, "Eat whatever you want, but... you must not use any utensils, fingers, toes, arms or anything else to feed yourselves."

○ At the end of the night, all the tables were still overflowing with food — except one. At it, people ate until they were filled.

○ How?

They fed each other.

○ This summer let's look for ways to 'feed' (serve) others.

○ Ask yourself: "What does God want me to do?" Look around you. Can you help brighten up someone's life in the next five minutes?

○ Watch for children who others laugh at. Help those who have fallen. Be first to introduce yourself to a new child in your neighbourhood.

○ Jesus washed the feet of his best friends — a job for only the lowliest servant. But he also washed the feet of Judas, a person he knew was soon going to kill him.

○ Is there someone you would not normally help? Why not try helping someone who makes fun of you?

○ Especially look for those who can't pay you back. Give gifts of smiles. Speak kindly to others. Share you lunch. Give away a special snack or toy if asked for it.

○ Giving a gift might involve *not* answering back to a nasty comment. That's hard, but it might make a friend.

○ When you help others, you won't always know if they appreciate it. They might not say,

Scouter's 5 Minutes, p.741

May '95

HINTS

Here are some camping and hiking tips to consider for your next trip.

○ • When preparing for camp, remind Cubs to bring an inexpensive closed-cell pad for a mattress. As well as providing better insulation than an air mattress, it is light and portable. Bubble pads are often too bulky and individual bubbles can break easily.

○ • Get your Cubs or Scouts to make a linen cutlery holder (See *Swap Shop*, October 1994 for plans). These make a great container for knife, fork and spoon. Also, it's an interesting craft project that any camper will enjoy making.

— from *Skipper Arnie Appelton, 7th Thornhill Kanata Sea Scouts, ON.*

* * *

○ • The best preparation for hiking is hiking. After school, go for long walks wearing your hiking boots or shoes. Make these hikes in good and poor weather — you might not have a choice on the trail.

○ • Backpacks are top heavy. Avoid tricky manoeuvring in steep country.

○ • A stiff breeze can cool down a wet hiker very quickly. In mountains or northern geography this could lead to hypothermia. After crossing streams make sure you completely dry off.

○ • Several small breaks long enough for everyone to rest are better than one or two long breaks.

Hints, p.659

May '95

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- A wok is an excellent camp pot. You can cook anything in it — even water.

— *John Patterson, 1st Moira River Venturers, Ontario.*

Sickening Water Myths

See how high your Cubs and Scouts score in this clean water quiz.

- *Running water purifies itself.* Wrong! Like any other water body it can be home to bacteria, parasites and harmful viruses. Draw water from the centre of lakes or slow moving rivers.
- *Water purification tablets will make anything drinkable.* Wrong! Never drink from a water source you suspect might be polluted. Water purification tablets should kill **most** bacteria, cysts and viruses you encounter, but don't tempt fate. Nothing will protect 100%.
- *Tablets last forever.* Wrong! Some water purification tablets have a shelf life lasting only months if stored in warm temperatures.

Hints, p.660

"Thank you." That's okay. Do good things not to get something back, but to help show God's love.

Jesus said, "A new commandment I give to you — to love one another."

When you serve ('feed') others in his name, you show and spread God's love.

— *Adapted from a talk by Dr. Edith Humphrey.*

A Prayer For Safety

Lord God, as our Scouting year draws to a close, protect all of us over the summer. Help us as we drive our bikes. Prompt us to remember always to wear helmets. Give us real wisdom. Protect us from foolish mistakes.

Trains kill and injure many children during summer months. Father God, as we race around looking for new adventures, we often drop our guard. Make all of us ever-mindful of the dangers found near railway tracks.

Whether we huddle under a campfire blanket surrounded by sparkling stars, or share a swimming mask with a buddy, make this vacation a time for safe growth.

— *Inspired by Scouter Jim Brown.*

Scouter's 5 Minutes, p.742

Beat The Heat: Part 3

by Ben Kruser

Let's explore how to keep cool when the temperature rises, in this third of our four-part series.

When we lose too much water from our body through sweating, dehydration occurs. This leads to less blood volume. Heat exhaustion and heat stroke may follow. Beat the heat and its dangerous effects by drinking water. Sports drinks will help those involved in heavy exercise because it replaces not only fluids, but also minerals and carbohydrates used for energy.

But how do you know when your body fluids have dropped to dangerous levels?

Urine colour provides an excellent warning sign. Pale yellow or clear urine means your body has plenty of fluid. Dark yellow urine warns of possible dehydration.

Your fluid needs depend on many factors: body size, fitness level, activity schedule and diet. Alcohol and caffeine can increase fluid loss from the body.

Drink Fluids

Before starting a strenuous activity in hot weather, drink several glasses of water. Even if it means stopping, drink frequently. Depending on the activity and temperature, you might need a glass or two of water every 20 minutes.

Studies show that people replace only two-thirds of fluids lost while exercising. Why? Our thirst sensation shuts off quickly once we begin drinking. Also, thirst sensations diminish with age. Follow this rule of thumb: Continue drinking well after your thirst disappears.

Sport drinks not only replace fluid lost during exercise, but also provide energy. Some, with four to eight percent carbohydrate concentrations plus a small amount of sodium, are absorbed quicker than plain water. Drinks with higher carbohydrate concentrations (such as pop) can slow fluid absorption.

The body stores carbohydrates in muscle tissue as glycogen. When you exercise, your body first uses glycogen before turning to stored fats. Replenishing carbohydrates during hot weather activities can help sustain energy levels.

To make your own sport drink, add 75mL of sugar and 1mL of salt to 1 litre of water. The salt will increase the sugar and water absorption, and the sugar will be used directly as muscle fuel during longer activities. Whether you have water or a flavoured sports fluid, drink plenty during hot weather.

Dress Right

Clothing is a second way to stay cool. Loose fitting cotton gives ventilation and breathability. Spun polyester fabrics, such as Coolmax, quickly moves moisture away from your body. Soon new fabrics will offer not only better cooling, but also high UV-B ray protection. Pick light colours that reflect heat.

Hot weather is hat weather. The most common skin cancers occur on the face, head and neck. A hat with a floppy brim at least 5cm wide all around can reduce the amount of UV radiation on your upper face, ears and back of neck by 85 percent. Baseball caps only shade the forehead and nose. Make baseball caps more effective by sewing a light coloured piece of fabric on the back for neck cover.

In hot weather, wetting the top of your head or hat will not only cool your head, but also affect your entire body. Make sure your hat has ventilation air holes, or keep it pushed up as high as possible to increase air flow over your head. If you don't have a hat, use a wet towel to cover your head.

Exercise Regularly

Physically fit people tolerate the heat better than those less fit. Water makes up more than 50 percent of our bodies — 60 percent in fit people. Physical activities build lean muscles and reduce body fat; lean muscles contain more water than fat tissue. (Fat has less water than any other body tissues, including bones!) The heart is better able to handle the demands of physical exertion as well.

Before heading out for hot weather activities, spend time to get your body acclimatized. One or two hours of exercise a day for several weeks will help build your tolerance. Hot weather may reduce your appetite. Make sure

you eat well, including plenty of carbohydrates. Get plenty of rest. Lack of sleep and fatigue makes you more susceptible to heat-related illnesses. Check with your doctor or pharmacist to see if heat will affect any medications you take.

Consider these final few "beat the heat" tips.

- On very hot days, restrict your activities to the early morning and late afternoon. The sun is hottest from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Slow down during this time. If camping or hiking, cook your main meal at noon during your rest period. Eat a less time consuming meal in the evening when the temperature is more suited for activities.
- Find shady places for activities. A lightweight umbrella will provide shade in open or exposed areas.

You'll beat this summer's heat when you take proper precautions. ^

the **leader**

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World Jamboree 1995

Join-In-Jamboree

by John Rietveld



Our final Join-In-Jamboree poster focuses specifically on the 18th World Jamboree. Use it to stimulate discussions and activity among those not attending the world event in Holland.

The jamboree site can accommodate 30,000 Scouting members. It will form a miniature world with participants from every corner of the planet living, eating and playing side-by-side in true Scouting fashion.

Ask your members to find B.-P.'s footprint, the World Wildlife Federation symbol (the panda) and the World Jamboree flag in the poster. When your colony, pack or troop have found these, challenge them to locate the objects below.

Find a Dutchman wearing "klompen". In Holland, farmers wear these traditional wooden shoes. Many cultures have traditional footwear. Invite your members to bring footwear worn by people sharing their cultural roots. Examples might include sandals from the Middle East, Inuit mukluks from

Canada's far north or various styles of handwoven socks worn by Nordic Laplanders. Talk about why the footwear is appropriate for its country of origin.

Find a member of the Dutch Royal family arriving at the jamboree site. Like Canada, Holland is a democracy with a monarchy. Ask members to learn if their parents or grandparents emigrated from a country with a king or queen. Review your section's promise and talk about our Queen as Canada's monarch. Discuss how her representative in Canada, the Governor General, also serves as our Chief Scout.

Find a jamboree participant performing on stage. Speaking to each other can be difficult at a world jamboree; often one must use other forms of communications. Pantomime, sign language, play-acting are just several ways to get your point across. Play a charade game at your meeting. Dedicate half an hour to speechless activities. Youth will find this both fun and challenging.

Watch for a complete report on the World Jamboree in a fall issue of **the Leader**. X

World Jamboree Info-line

Starting now and continuing until the end of the World Jamboree a special World Jamboree Info-line will operate for your convenience. Until July 27 you can obtain general information about the World Jamboree or Scouts Canada from this line. The message remains the same throughout the period. Beginning July 28 and until August 15 a new message will update callers on activities enjoyed by the Canadian contingent while in Holland.

Call 1-900-451-3755.

To access this English-only number, you must have touch-tone service and be at least 18 years old (or have an adult's consent). A 75¢/minute charge will appear on your phone bill. The number is not available to users in the Yukon or Northwest Territories.

Special thanks to Stentor, Bell Canada, the 2PM Group and your local phone company for their assistance setting up this special service.

