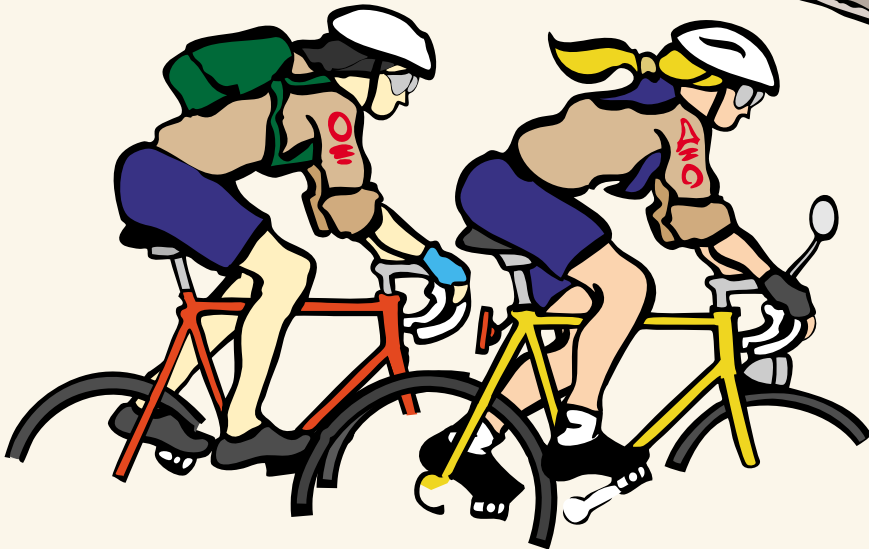


the leader

JUNE/JULY 1996

VOLUME 26, NO. 10



**CANADA'S
OUTDOORS
EXPERIENCE IT!**

SPACE CADETS • BEAVEREE IDEAS • MAKE A TENT

Many Thanks

by Garth Johnson

Wrapping up the June/July issue and seeing it off to press signals the end of another Scouting year. Working together we've provided 10 issues of the very best program available.

The usually pleasant task of planning ahead and thanking countless contributors (as well as encouraging those who have yet to send us ideas) brings a flood of emotions to me.

This year — this issue — marks my departure from **the Leader**. It's the end of a most fulfilling personal adventure and challenge that began 12 years and 126 issues ago.

Mixed Feelings

I leave with mixed feelings: sad to be ending a very enriching experience and affiliation, but eager to turn the page to new challenges within my Scouting career. I'm returning to Manitoba Council and my roots on the prairies. It was an honour and privilege to have been part of your weekly meetings, training courses, Scouter's Clubs, conferences and planning sessions via **the Leader** — an enduring Scouting resource that will be 73 years old this November. Travelling the country on behalf of the magazine was particularly gratifying and an experience I will never forget. Your support, kind words and constructive offerings were a source of positive energy in both my life and work.

My personal thanks to countless Scouters over the years who have proudly made our pages sing each

month with great ideas and thoughtful passion about Scouting and the young people we all serve. You are the life and spirit of **the Leader**.



It's been a great 12 years!

Photo: John Rietveld

My thanks also to a wonderful and dedicated staff who share this passion. Together, we're all making a difference for Canada's kids. I know **the Leader** will continue to grow and change — a constant goal — to serve its readers better. I trust it will continue to help and inform, to provide ideas and resources for 73 more years.

Scouting Matters

In these times of economic uncertainty, cutbacks and unease, respecting and caring for others and contributing to one's family and community are critically important. We need these things. I believe that Scouting shows Canadian young people their true value better than any other youth organization. Scouting matters.

Keep up the great work and continue to support this wonderful resource. Again, it's been an honour and a privilege. Thank you all.

"A Job Splendidly Done"

by Mike Townsend

Garth's leaving **the Leader** after twelve years is almost like losing a favourite son — he will be sorely missed.

Under his direction the magazine has undergone significant changes; it has become a more vibrant and colourful publication serving all Scouters. Garth's sensitivity to your needs and comments is reflected in today's magazine.

He leaves to his successor a well-managed and highly efficient operation which turns out a product that is well received and appreciated by Canadian Scouters.

On behalf of the Canyouth Board, thank you Garth for a job splendidly done. — *Mike Townsend is President of Canyouth Publications and a former President of Ontario Council.*

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John Rietveld,
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Klingon visitors.



“Calling All

by Nancy MacKinnon

Space and all its mysteries hold a magnetic attraction for everyone. These program ideas will help you build an out-of-this-world theme evening, camp or sleepover for your Cubs, Beavers or Scouts.

Sackville Colony “A” Beavers, NB, blasted off with an evening centred around a series of activity stations. To start their imaginative combustion chambers glowing, each Beaver made a space helmet using brown grocery bags. They began by cutting face openings, then folding the bag bottoms so the stiff paper rested comfortably on their little shoulders.

Now the creative juices flowed freely. Beaver space cadets glued on straws (radio antennas), while foil-covered egg carton sections, black discs and bottle tops became exotic knobs and dials. Flat pieces of foil gave an overall space effect; popsicle sticks became air pressure gauges. Older children might want to make their helmets from large plastic jugs or paper maché sprayed silver.

Rocket Demonstration

Rusty gave a demonstration using a plastic rocket from his own childhood. Fuelled by vinegar and baking soda, the rocket repeatedly flew up into the air. A great success! Rusty explained that real rockets work using the same principle: a gas shoots out the back with great force causing the rocket to move forward. Each Beaver then made his own rocket by following instructions in *The Colony Resource Book* (page 3-10).

Mini Planetarium

At the next station children learned a bit about space, then made an overhead transparency of space objects (e.g. the moon, stars, a space ship, the



Photo: Patricia McManus

Wearing cardboard space helmets, Western Lachine Beavers prepare to take off in their huge space shuttle.

Milky Way). Beavers drew their space scenes with permanent markers directly on clear plastic transparency sheets. Just before our closing ceremony we had a “show and tell” in the dark by projecting each child’s slide on the wall. Artists had an opportunity to explain their ‘vision’ of space. The dark room illuminated by the projecting pictures combined to give a mini planetarium effect.



It takes months of practice to learn how to live comfortably in space.

Photo: Paul Ritchie

Flying Space Capsule

A way to burn off some excess energy: that’s the reason we introduced flying space capsules. Leaders made one for each child before the meeting (see *The Colony Resource Book*, page 3-11 for details). Beavers decorated their capsules then, after leaders demonstrated how to fly the rockets, ran around the room launching them into the air and shedding excess wiggles. We encouraged each child to build one on their own at home.

Enrichment Centre

Our final station was an enrichment centre for those who finished their activities before others. Room dividers were set up to create a quiet corner, and we hung posters of the universe on the dividers. Books, magazines and puzzles from the local library were placed within the centre. You could also have a VCR with a short, space-related video running here. This centre proved popular with both the leaders and Beavers.

Space themes hold endless program opportunities. Games are easily adapted to fit various age groups. Why not spread this program over two or more evenings? See the Beaver JUMPSTART package for additional activities.

— Nancy MacKinnon (Malak) is a space commander from the Sackville “A” Colony, NB.

Jedi Knights!"



More Great Ideas

Lynn Johnson's 1st Highland Creek Pack, ON, boldly went where few had gone before during an evening filled with space-age games, crafts, even Klingon visitors.

With several leaders dressed up as Star Fleet commanders, the Cubs started their program with *Space Medic*. Two teams (Star Fleet crew and Cardassians) face each other on a deserted planet marked off with boundary lines. Both teams must toss stun rays (newspaper balls) at each other. If touched by a ray, the casualty must lie on the floor until Dr. Bashir (Star Fleet's medic) or the Cardassian medic runs a medical miracle gizmo down their arms which cures the victim instantly. The winning team is the side with more team members standing when the whistle blows.

Pin the Laser

This game bears a striking resemblance to pin the tail on the donkey except Cubs must pin a laser on a picture of a Klingon star ship. The winning Cub gets to take the Klingon star ship poster home.

Klingon Honour Medals

Though very simple, these proved a real hit. Leaders provided cardboard circles with pins fastened on the back. Cubs designed their own medals using glue, scissors, and odd shapes of coloured paper and aluminum foil. The creations were fascinating.

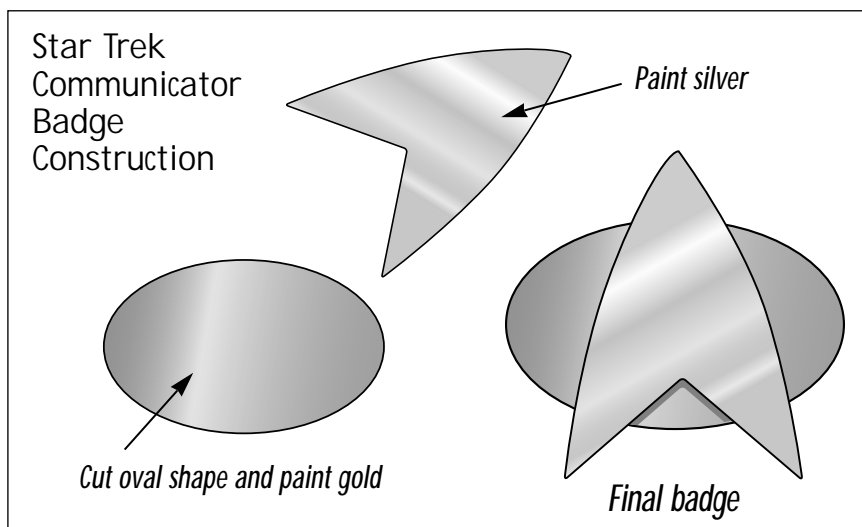
Star Trek Communicator Badges

Make yours out of stiff cardboard or thin particle board. A leader could cut the shapes before the meeting to avoid disasters. (See diagram) Cubs painted the oval gold and the arrowhead shape silver, then glued the arrowhead onto the oval. A brooch-style pin glued on the back finishes the badge.



Find out if a museum in your area has any astronaut training facilities.

Photo: Paul Ritchie



Videos

National Geographic has a fascinating, 60-minute video on the solar system that would interest any child aged 6-14. Use this to help Cubs start working on a space scrap book.

Alberta Space Camp

A large part of the space program enjoyed by 5th Grande Prairie Scouts involved preparing wholesome meals with added food colouring to give it an other-worldly appearance. "The Scouts loved the food," said Scouter Richard Ashby. Regular poached eggs with green food colouring became Ratton Parrot Eggs. Trifle with gummy worm layers was named Red Faipax Berry Cake. Space academy cadets dug into the Distilled Marden Rock Juice and Grilled Hibnetillion Creature with hungry enthusiasm.

Other program activities included tobogganing (with specially-designed spacecraft toboggans), a masquerade skating party, floor hockey and space-related computer games.

Space Sleepover

Beavers from the Western Lachine Colony, PQ, experienced a space travel theme during a weekend sleepover. According to Scouter Patricia McManus, the program included relay games, snacks and a cartoon space movie.

The crowning centre-piece of the sleepover came when Beavers helped build a huge Space Shuttle replica out of giant cardboard boxes, masking tape, clear cellophane (for the windows). Make your own Shuttle by cutting and connecting several refrigerator boxes together. Leaving the back end open, close off the front end, forming it into a rough point. Cut windows in the nose section (covering with cellophane), place chairs inside and you've got an attraction that will ignite the imagination of any child.

Beavers made helmets and power backpacks from small boxes. The kids decorated their helmets with streamers, markers, stickers and sparkles. At night everyone took a hike to stargaze and look for the Big and Little Dippers, Orion and Venus. After returning to their space station and having a snack, everyone slept well in their warm anti-gravity bags. ^

Program Links

Cubs: Red Star, Troubadour Badge, Tawny Star, Blue Star.

With some sticky plaster and dark costumes, almost anyone can look like a Klingon commander.



Photo: Darrell Nunn

SPACE ACADEMY by Michael Corpe

Cubs from the 18th Red Deer Pack, AB, had to fight their way through alien invaders to get to their Jedi Fortress, but still had a terrific early winter weekend camp.

After unpacking their gear everyone realized that if we were going to survive we would have to make Jedi light sabres. Using small flashlights, the Cubs each stuck the bright end into a golf club protector. Jedi Academy instructors (leaders) helped Cubs hot glue them into place, then explained the very strict rules of combat.

After dressing warmly for the unearthly cold outside temperature, each Academy student had to run the gauntlet of aliens by getting to the outside kitchen for a campfire. Two aliens were lurking outside the Jedi Fortress wanting to tag the Academy students who raced through the night at one minute intervals. (Younger Cubs went in groups of two.) If an alien tagged a Cub, the Academy student joined their team. Last to run the gauntlet to the campfire were the leaders. We didn't have a chance against the throng of aliens!

Prepared for Almost Anything

After carefully checking to make sure no more aliens were lurking about, next morning second and third year Cubs built a space obstacle course. Using ropes, boards, old tubing, tires, picnic tables and even an old bike stand, the structure made a perfect place to physically challenge future Star Fleet commanders.

You never know when you're going to crash-land on an icy planet with only one match. While older youth built the obstacle course, first year Cubs learned how to light a one-match fire. A simple, flame-broiled meal made the sometimes-frustrating lesson well worthwhile.

Jedi knight astronauts who crash on an icy, wilderness planet also must know all about cold weather survival techniques. We started by learning about hypothermia and soon moved on to layering clothing. A relay game and skits drove the layering message home.

— Michael Corpe is Akela with the 18th Red Deer Pack, AB.

Did You Know...?

- Plants grow better in moon soil than earth soil! When astronauts brought soil back from the moon, scientists found it contained a perfect range of minerals and irons necessary to keep plants growing well.
- You can see only 3,000 stars with the naked eye. Flying above our dusty atmosphere, the Hubble space telescope can "see" many thousands more. 'Cities' of stars cluster into galaxies.
- Galileo was right. In space a feather falls as fast as a hammer. Astronauts tried this experiment on the moon.
- A compass would never work in space. Compasses work by pointing toward the Earth's magnetic axis.
- Most plants produce better leaves and seeds in space. Because there is no gravity, plants grow toward the brightest light source, even if it means growing upside down!

1994 AMORY ADVENTURE AWARD

Paria Canyon Hike

from 83rd Calgary "B" Venturers

Venturers from the 83rd Calgary "B" Company won second place in the Amory Adventure Awards for a wilderness backpacking trip through the Paria Canyon in Arizona, USA. Two other Venturer companies also won top honours for their treks; one was reported in our November 1995 issue and the other will be reported next month.

Seven members participated in the Paria Canyon adventure: Jeff Martin, Cameron Proudfoot, Jeremy Armstrong, Paul Martin, Jason Pilling, Matthew Cheryba and Chris O'Neil.

Our company has a strong hiking/backpacking history. Previous wilderness trips that got members in shape included hiking Alaska's Chilcoot Pass, biking from Banff to Jasper, paddling 800 km of the Yukon River and going to the Arctic Winter Games.

Preparing for the Paria Canyon hike involved extensive research on desert survival, water requirements and poisonous snakes. During the months leading up to the trip we updated our first aid knowledge, honed our packing practices, and improved camping techniques. We also brainstormed together so no emergency would catch us unprepared. Water was going to be a big problem; each of us planned to carry 4 litres.

We're Off!

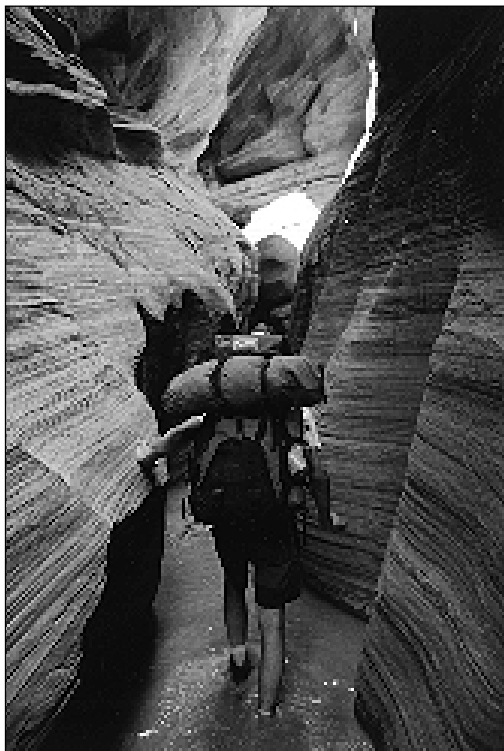
The thirteen day adventure began on August 17, 1994 when we packed our gear into trucks and headed south to Arizona. Two days later when we arrived at the Paria Canyon the news wasn't good.

"There was a flash flood two days ago in the canyon," the Park Ranger told us. "The trail will be muddy, but safe." We set off.

The first part of the trail was open desert, but within an hour we had entered the gorge. Its walls (two metres apart) closed around us and towered 50 metres overhead. If a flash flood hit now.... We forced this thought from our minds.

Half an hour passed. Approaching a cave, we heard an eerie screeching sound from within. As a group we peered inside and surprised a large bat sitting in the mud. We hurriedly retreated, thoroughly spooked from the strange encounter. Over the next hours we saw other wildlife including a rattlesnake, black widow spiders and a mouse (carrier of the dreaded Hantavirus).

Throughout the trek the scenery was spectacular. The canyon walls of rough stone, varied from 2-15 metres wide. Thick mud with a gooey skin covered the floor. Each evening we climbed out of the cool canyon and camped in the desert above.



This is no place to be when a flash flood strikes!

Navigating was often difficult. If you've seen one giant crack leading out of the canyon, you've seen them all, but after several days, we gained a sixth sense to find the right trail.

Star-gazing is terrific in the desert. The sky is so clear, you can see constellations leaping out of the darkness and satellites sprinting overhead.

Water proved a problem throughout the trip. We expected to be able to filter it from the bottom of the canyon, but usually it was so brown and soupy (not to mention the ever-present — in our minds anyway — Hantavirus) that we had to rely on finding local springs.

"Quicksand. Help!"

One day as we walked along, Jeff took a normal step but instead of the familiar squish of mud, his legs suddenly disappeared into sand up to his thigh. We pulled him out, however, for the rest of the trip we all had to stay alert. Quicksand could swallow a struggling person pretty fast.

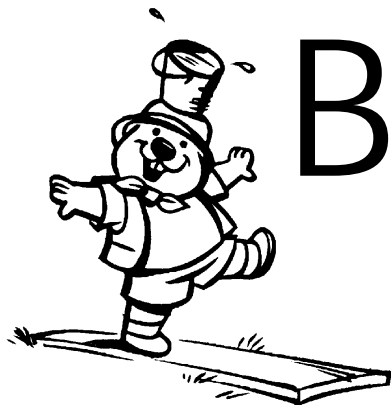
Thirst. The thought started to dominate all our thinking at one point of the trip. Then we reached "Wall Spring" where cool water ran down the rock. We filled both our canteens and our stomachs with the most refreshing drink imaginable. Bliss. Who needed Disneyland?

After many challenging days on the trail we reached our trailhead tired, but very satisfied.

What Did We Learn?

A wilderness hike is no place to find out that your research is lacking. Our past experience taught us to plan for a slower pace and pack extra food. Unfortunately, not having hiked in hot desert conditions before, we underestimated the quantity of water our bodies would need.

The best lesson we learned as Venturers was that we could work together through highs and lows and still enjoy the teamwork. X



Beaveree Ideas



If you've been wondering what to do at your next Beaveree, here are some field-tested ideas from Scouters across Canada. Pick and choose the ones that best suit your program theme.

Include energetic and quiet program activities. A successful program usually encompasses all the elements of a great Scouting evening (e.g. crafts, songs, games, stories and a spiritual dimension).

Over 200 Beavers from Lunenburg, NS, gathered at Camp Mush-a-Mush to take part in a Beaveree called, "Help take care of the world." After the opening, everyone hiked around the camp, then headed off to various stations. These included,

- *Maze.* Leaders built a large maze by driving tall, cedar stakes into the ground then attaching sheets of tarpaulin and large, plastic garbage bags to them.
- *Splash 'n Dash.* Beavers had to cross a narrow board holding a small pail of warm water above their heads.
- *Catapult.* Children had to jump onto one end of a board and send a small bean bag flying toward an open bucket target. Everyone got several attempts to find the mark.
- *Obstacle Course.* One of the most popular activities of the day, leaders worked with Scouts and Venturers to complete this course that involved balancing, climbing and swinging.
- *Slam Dunk your Junk.* Standing inside a potato bag, Beavers had to pick up a piece of garbage (crumpled newspaper) and jump towards a very low-hanging basketball net with a trash can sitting under it. They completed the race by dunking the garbage through the net into the can.
- *Building Blocks.* This activity was perfect for those needing a chance to unwind. We made the blocks from cutting the tops off milk cartons and nestling one inside another. You could use various sized cardboard boxes too. Children could make any structure they wished.
- *Race Against Time.* Teams in relays had to try to get their puzzles made before others. Beavers started by running to a puzzle piece, then turning and racing a short distance to a table where they tried to assemble their puzzle.
- *Duck Crossing.* Each child had to carry a little duck (an orange) across a road (several boards raised off the ground) while hugging the little passenger close to his heart.

After a full day of climbing, running and laughing, everyone enjoyed a campfire with songs and skits. Before heading home, each Beaver received a grab bag of treats.

— *Connie Holdershaw (Tic Tac) helps make program activities fun for 1st New Germany Beavers, NS.*



Photo: Jane Curran



Photo: Connie Holdershaw

With a little time and forethought, Scouts and Venturers can help you build a pretty impressive obstacle course.

Manitoba's Olympic Beaverree



by Jane Curran

Six colonies with 75 Beavers from Pembina District staged an Olympic Beaverree last year. With inspiring music playing in the background and colony flags waving proudly in the breeze, the Beavers marched under five large rings (hula hoops) made to look like the Olympic emblem. This was suspended from a tree. Each child carried a red, yellow or orange piece of cellophane with a stickpin on one end. Beavers pinned their cellophane strips (flames) to a piece of styrofoam filling the inside of a garbage lid fastened atop a stake in the ground (Olympic flame). See diagram below.



Our athletes circulated through seven Olympic stations which challenged minds and muscles. They raced on tricycles around a short track, including

one difficult uphill section. Next, they played obstacle hockey by stick-handling a whiffle ball around a series of plastic pails.

At station three Beavers had to knock down water-filled plastic pop bottles by catapulting tennis balls from giant slingshots.

Tin Can Stilts

Olympic-level balance was required for those walking on tin can stilts. Beavers held on to strings attached to the cans as they manoeuvred around objects. A combination event involved racing tricycles, walking with tin can stilts and jumping in a grocery bag toward a finish line. Great fun!

A tossing and pulling station let children throw a lightweight shot put. Then they practised throwing a plastic garbage can lid — it's a lot more difficult than a frisbee. A tug-of-war pitted the leaders against scores of Beavers. The adults lost most challenges.

A group of exercise bicycles gave everyone a chance to see how fast they could pedal. While waiting for a free bicycle, children limbered up by skipping and leaping over a jump-rope 'snake.'

The final station tested balance, coordination and teamwork. Here, Beavers stepped quickly through a line of tires, tried walking with others on ski-like boards while chanting "Right, left, right!", and walked a zigzag course while balancing a plastic lid on their heads.

Our Olympic Beaverree ended with a demonstration of somersaults, flips and cartwheels performed by the Winnipeg Gymnastic Centre. Very impressive! \^

— Jane Curran is a Scouter from Winnipeg, MB.

BEAVEREE SONGS



When Leslie Forward's colony leaders from Carbonear, NF, plan a Beaverree, they always include clowns and special guests (e.g. a magician) as well as songs. Here are two songs you might adapt for your Beaverree. (For more ideas see the new **Beaver Song Book** — available at Scout Shops.)

World Sharing

(Tune: "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands")

We are Beavers proud and free,
At the World Sharing Beaverree.
Caring, sharing fun, you see,
World Sharing Beaverree.
We've got the whole world
in our hands,
Making friends from other lands.
Singing loud for you and me,
World Sharing Beaverree.

Out of this World

(Tune: "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star")

Out of this world Beaverree,
Outer space fun for you and me,
Beavers exploring the
universe today;
Caring, sharing in the Beaver way.
Fly our spaceships in the sky,
Watch the planets pass us by.

Slam dunk your junk!



Photo: Connie Holderstraw



Photo: Hazel Hallgren

Children love to toss darts at balloons. This station is sure to attract a crowd of young people.

Celebrate Canada!

Quizzes and Activities for All Seasons

from Colin Wallace

For three years now the United Nations has identified Canada as the best country in the world to live in. It's time we started to really celebrate our good luck as Canadians!

Use these questions and activities all year round to learn more about our country. Though aimed mostly at Scout and Venturer-aged youth, they're readily adaptable for younger children. The activities make excellent resources for regular evening programs, as well as summer and fall camps.

Multiple Choices

Who was the first Canadian recording artist to sell 1,000,000 or more copies of an album in Canada? (a) Corey Hart (b) Raffi (c) **Bryan Adams** (d) Gordon Lightfoot

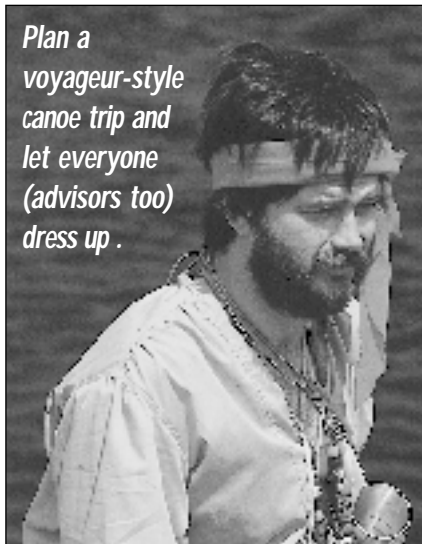
Who won a Grammy Award in 1993 for singing the theme song of "Beauty and the Beast"? (a) Ann Murray (b) Daniel Lavoie (c) **Céline Dion** (d) Roch Voisine

In what decade was slavery abolished in Canada? (a) 1690s (b) 1770s (c) **1830s** (d) 1860s

In which province or territory are eight mountain peaks named after Santa's reindeer? (a) **New Brunswick** (b) Yukon (c) British Columbia (d) Newfoundland

Which of these activities is the oldest organized sport in Canada? (a) hockey (b) **lacrosse** (c) football (d) shinny?

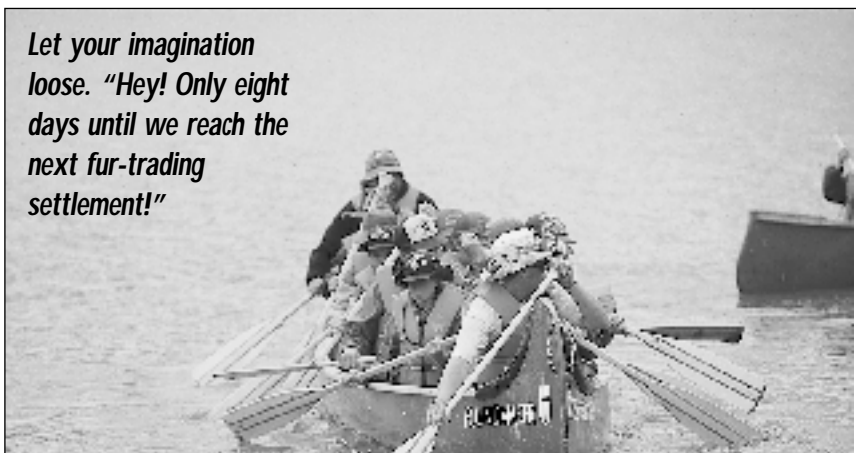
Plan a voyageur-style canoe trip and let everyone (advisors too) dress up.



Who represents the Queen as Head of State in Canada? (a) **Governor General** (b) Prime Minister (c) House Speaker (d) Bank of Canada President

What is the longest river in Canada? (a) St. Lawrence (b) Fraser (c) Athabasca (d) **Mackenzie**

Let your imagination loose. "Hey! Only eight days until we reach the next fur-trading settlement!"



Quicky Questions

What nationality did people in Canada hold before the first Canadian Citizenship Act came into force? (They were British subjects.)

What percentage of Canada's population is immigrant? (About 16%)

What is the name of the new northern territory and when will it become a part of Canada? (Nunavut, 1999)

Which region is one of the most productive agricultural areas in the world? (Prairies)

Where were the first hockey games played in Canada? (Kingston and Halifax in 1815)

What is the name of the most northerly permanent settlement on Earth? (Alert on Ellesmere Island is only 800 km from the North Pole. Alert is a Canadian Forces Station.)

How many oceans border on Canada? (Three: Atlantic, Arctic, Pacific)

What was the last province to join Confederation? When? (Newfoundland, 1949)

What famous Canadian book has been translated into more languages than any other novel in history? (Anne of Green Gables)

What form of transportation did Aboriginal people and fur traders use to create trading networks in North America? (Canoes)

What city in British Columbia has the same name as gooey chocolate and custard squares? (Nanaimo — Nanaimo bars)

Name one of the three largest ethnic groups in Canada other than British or French. (German — 911,560, Italian — 750,055, Chinese — 586,645)

Canadiana Activities

Here are some thought-provoking activities and ideas you can tie into your theme program.

One Million Flags

Canada has one of the most respected flags on Earth. It stands for peace, freedom, respect and opportunity. Let's join the rest of Canada by helping to fly 1,000,000 more flags by 1997. Heritage Canada will send you a *free flag* if you call this toll-free number: 1-888-FLY-FLAG. (Call between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday to Friday.)

Why not make a giant Canadian flag using nylon or cloth? Display it at all your weekly meetings and fly it during local parades. Organize a kite flying day; build your kites with our flag proudly displayed in brilliant colour. Beavers and young Cubs could make laminated flag placemats.

Word Scramble

How long does it take your Cubs and Scouts to unscramble these words?

EEFDROM _____
 NDAAAC _____
 NEZTHC _____
 AQULEYT _____
 INGLIBAU _____
 ONGELBING _____
 ANTIMMGIR _____

(Answers: freedom, Canada, citizen, equality, bilingual, belonging, immigrant)

Play Basketball or Lacrosse

Canadians invented both basketball and lacrosse. Why not enjoy a friendly, competitive game? Visit a local library to learn the finer points of the rules and learn a bit of history surrounding both games.

An enjoyable game of hockey is always a great way to spend time — summer or winter.



Photo: Wayne Barrett

Canadiana Board Game

Trivial Pursuit, the world-famous board game, was invented by three Montreal journalists. Use the questions found on these pages to spark interest among your Scouts and Venturers to develop their own board game of Canadian trivia.

Canadian Heritage offers an outstanding *free* board game for youth. It's great for weekend camps, theme evenings and Woodbadge brainstorming sessions. Get yours by writing to the address found in the resources section.

Personal Coats of Arms

Coats of arms are symbols used to identify and represent royalty, countries, cities, even families. Knights in the Middle Ages first used them on their shields and banners.

Study the coat of arms from each province (see your library) then decide on a personal (or Scouting group) coat of arms. Follow the basic rules of heraldry; the most important concern colour. Stick to five: red, blue, green, purple and black. Two metals are acceptable: silver (represented by white) and gold (represented by yellow).

Voyageur Canoe Trip

Several hundred years ago, free-spirited voyageurs opened this land up by paddling their large canoes from Montreal to Thunder Bay in search of furs and adventure.

Study the life of these flamboyant explorers, then plan a summer or fall

canoe trip dressed like a voyageur. Use camping techniques they depended on — a neat way to hone your canoeing and outdoor skills.

Canada is a great country. Let's find new ways to celebrate our heritage. ^

Program Links

Scouts: Citizenship Badge,
 Heritage Badge
 Venturers: Social and Cultural
 Activity Award

Resources

- Department of Canadian Heritage, Ottawa, ON, K1A 0M5.

— Colin Wallace is a Scouting trainer living in Scarborough, ON.

DID YOU KNOW...?

- Aboriginal people speak more than 53 distinct languages in Canada.
- In the early 1500s, Jacques Cartier used a First Nations word for village, "kanata", to refer to the entire country. European map makers soon started using the word "Canada" to identify all land north of the St. Lawrence River.
- The largest three cities in Canada in size (respectively) are Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver.
- The coldest temperature ever recorded in Canada was -63°C in the Yukon.
- Superman, the comic character, was invented by Canadian Joe Shuster.
- In the late 1890s, thousands of Chinese immigrants came to Canada to help build our trans-continental railway.

ABORIGINAL QUIZ

Use this quiz to raise the awareness of the contribution from Aboriginal peoples.

1. We no longer use the word "Indian" to describe a specific Native group. What do we call them now? (First Nations)
2. What Aboriginal game is one of Canada's national sports? (Lacrosse)
3. What are the three main groups of Aboriginal peoples? (First Nations, Inuit and Métis)
4. In 1535 Jacques Cartier arrived at a thriving Iroquois village called Hochelaga. What is the name of that city today? (Montreal)



CJ'97 Program Activities

*Be
There!
Soyez-y!*

by Doug Cunningham

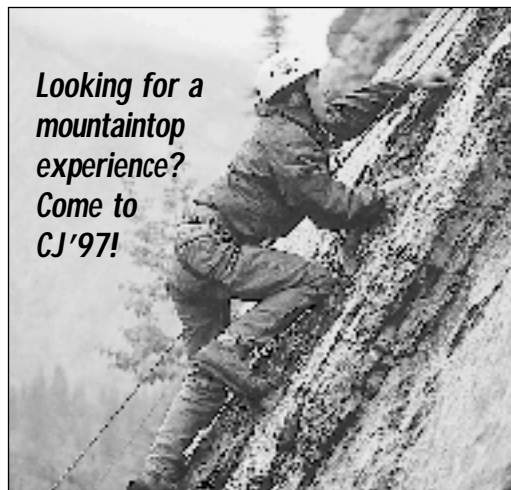
Get ready for the time of your Scouting life!

Next summer (from July 12-20, 1997) thousands of Scouts, Venturers and leaders will converge on Thunder Bay, ON, for the 9th Canadian Jamboree. They'll experience an amazing array of exciting activities both on- and off-site.

Your CJ97 Youth Program Committee has worked for many months putting together an amazing program designed around eight themes which reflect our top jamboree attractions. These themes are:

- geology
- water
- heritage
- fur trade
- transportation
- communication
- forestry
- fishing

Activities (more than 125 in all!) representing most of these themes will be offered at each program site. This will let Scouts and Venturers follow an interesting theme throughout the jamboree (as one component of the Jamboree Challenge Award) and still be able to take part in a wide variety of challenges and experiences without being limited to one or two activity sites.



Looking for a mountaintop experience? Come to CJ'97!

On-Site Boulevard Lake

Naturally the jamboree site itself at Boulevard Lake will become a

major program focal point. Within an easy walking distance of their tents, numerous games drawn from many cultures will challenge youth. Scouts and Venturers will learn to rock climb, and craft any number of items from amethyst jewellery to First Nations' paddles and moccasins. Would you like to play a round of golf with your own handmade club and ball? Many participants will want to try archery.

If "wet and dirty" appeals to your Scouts, they can try a totally awesome, muddy, slimy obstacle course! They'll also have the opportunity to walk on water and play golf at the same time, or challenge another unit in a "battle of the barges" on their own unit-designed and built raft. Those wanting a more relaxed pace will be able to learn canoeing, sailing, and swimming.

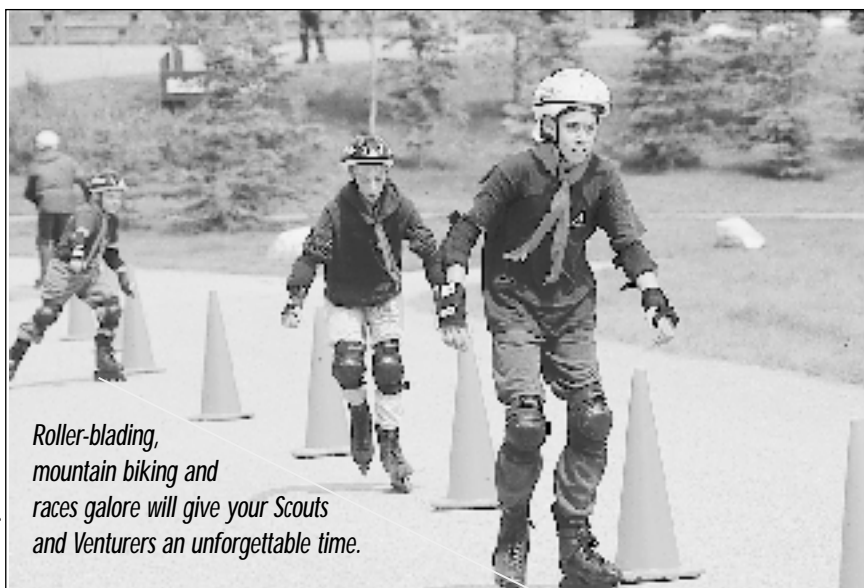
First Nations

The First Nations community will make a significant contribution to CJ'97 program activities. A First Nations encampment will be within easy walking distance. Here jamboree participants will make typical Native crafts including eagle staffs, head dresses, drums, miniature birch bark items and dreamcatchers. Scouts and Venturers will meet and talk with Native elders, and perhaps spend a night in a teepee. A special evening program (including First Nations' songs and dances) will entertain those lucky enough to sleep in a teepee. At Lakehead University (a short distance from the site), a typical pow-wow and feast will attract many during the afternoons and evenings.

Scoutship Enterprise

What's this activity?

At the southern end of the jamboree site a program centre called "Scoutship Enterprise" will draw those with an interest in high-tech subjects. Youth will choose from a number of technical activities, (29 different ones in all) including:



Roller-blading, mountain biking and races galore will give your Scouts and Venturers an unforgettable time.

Photos: Wayne Barrett

- television show production
- numerous art activities
- computer interests
- ham radio
- photography
- building electronic gadgets
- model railroading
- classic auto restoration
- robotics

Off-Site

Kingfisher Lake

All "off-site" areas are within a one hour bus ride of our main camp. One of these, Kingfisher Lake Outdoor Conservation Centre, is a remote wilderness area of typical Northern Ontario bush country. Here, Scouts and Venturers will learn (or improve) orienteering skills, increase canoeing proficiency, practise wilderness survival skills, and 'camp' overnight in shoreline log cabins with youth from all over Canada.

A unique opportunity also awaits you at this site — an interpretive trail that focuses on historic and modern logging practices.

Hazelwood Lake

Hazelwood Lake Conservation Area, with its nearly 600 hectares of lake and forest to explore, is only a few minutes by bus from the main jamboree site. It offers good fishing, hiking trails, swimming and water sports. You may also earn a special challenge award while participating in this program area.

Sleeping Giant Provincial Park

Sleeping Giant Provincial Park is spectacular. Here your troop or company will hike on beginner to advanced trails: paths ranging from challenging climbs to leisurely walks. Most trails have breathtaking views from cliffs perched 300 metres above Lake Superior. The Park abounds with wildlife — an ideal spot for the camera buff. It's a super spot for mountain biking and canoeing or swimming on inland lakes. You can schedule single day or overnight activities here. More adventurous youth will have the special opportunity to travel by fishing boat to a bird observatory and hike back.

Big Thunder

Big Thunder, home of Olympic ski jumps and cross-country ski trails, is a fantastic spot for mountain biking. Some very unique summer activities (including Nordic luge, triathlon and downhill slalom on a bike) await you at the normally winter-use facility just

west of Thunder Bay. Scouts and Venturers might want to build a bicycle that will transport their entire unit, or participate in a variety of "rendezvous" games.

Harbour Front

At the harbour (only a short distance from the jamboree site) a number of activities will challenge youth, including everything from sea kayak-



Youth and Scouters will enjoy the biking experiences offered at CJ'97.

ing to signalling, to learning to drive a transport rig. One of the jamboree's major attractions will be the opportunity to sail in one of several tall ships. Lucky participants will experience the thrill of travel in these very elegant watercraft.

Site North

A short walk north of the site will bring Scouts to "Site North." Here, they'll try their hand at logging (using 19th century tools), pan for gold, take a night hike without their leader, ex-

perience rappelling, and try some downhill canoeing and skateboarding!

Old Fort William

No trip to Thunder Bay would be complete without visiting Old Fort William. Every participant will have the opportunity to visit this historic re-creation of the 1815 fort by bike, canoe, voyageur canoe, bus, or by floating downstream from Kakabeka Falls on an inner tube! Those choosing the overnight option will also take part in some typical voyageur games and activities during the evening.

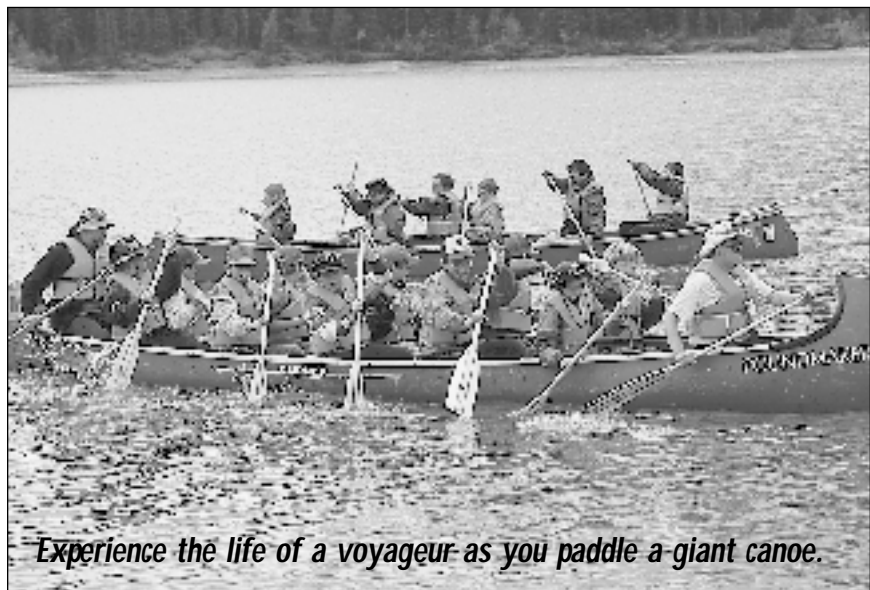
Tours

Youth will have the opportunity to visit a number of interesting local attractions, including a working amethyst mine where they will actually dig for their own gems. Other tours include visiting a commercial fishing boat, hiking around the harbour area and looking through a grain elevator and Great Lakes freighter, and climbing scenic Mount McKay while led by a First Nations guide. Bus orienteering awaits the creative participant.

These incredible program activities await your troop or company at CJ'97! Learn more about them. Get a copy of the *CJ'97 Jamboree Program Book* from your local Scout council.

Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Be part of the most exciting and challenging Scouting event of the year! ^

— *Doug Cunningham is the Director of the CJ'97 Youth Program Committee.*



Experience the life of a voyageur as you paddle a giant canoe.

the leader

It's Your Magazine!

Many readers ask how **the Leader** is produced each month. In response to your requests we thought the June-July issue (the last one in the volume year) might be a good opportunity to tell about the magazine and introduce some of the people who contribute regular columns and articles.

Almost every article begins with a very happy section Scouter experiencing a successful evening program. Ruth Dubeau, from the 1st Ferris Colony, North Bay, ON, is a good example. Last April she told us several of the ingredients that made her spring sugaring off program a hit. Recognizing a great story, we asked her to tell us *everything* about her visit to the maple sugar bush. Did her colony play any games, crafts or songs? Did she remember any special comments from the children?

Ruth responded by sending us her *entire* program plan, complete with colouring crafts, environmental relays, word games, photos and more. From this mass of information we picked out enough activities to describe her program so others across the country could duplicate her success. The resulting two page article was published in the March '96 issue.

Working Together

Sometimes a number of Scouters send us programs covering similar themes, but for different sections. The space theme article in this issue is a

good example. We combined several articles into one large piece so as many children as possible could benefit. Of course, each writer received credit.

When a Scouter sends us a very brief write-up that sounds interesting, we'll either expand the idea into an article or put it in the *Swap Shop* section. Sometimes it fits well into the cut-out pages (pages 35-36). We look for *every* opportunity to publish your submissions, though it might take a year or more to find the perfect place.

Publish Your Photos Here

After editing an article and possibly adding extra program material (e.g. games, crafts or skits) the next big task involves finding photos to accompany the piece. Sometimes this proves most challenging. Because **the Leader** doesn't have staff photographers, we depend on Scouters like you to mail us pictures.

in several feature articles, as well as the Cross-Country Photo section.

Each year we publish hundreds of photos taken by Scouters like you. Close-up shots of youth taking part in safe activities are always in demand.

Regular Contributors

Over the past year you've probably noticed a group of Scouter's names appearing frequently in bylines. These section leaders send us a steady stream of their best ideas.

"I joined Scouting in 1964 to impress my boyfriend," says Lynn Johnson. Starting in Beavers she has been a Cub pack Akela, a Rover advisor, a trainer and a Deputy Regional Commissioner in Greater Toronto Region (GTR). Red Deer Alberta Scouter, Hazel Hallgren, has been an active Beaver leader since the program started in the 1970s. Her articles have covered a wide range of topics, from pet theme nights to Inuit winter

programs. Dave Jenkinson writes the bimonthly *Book Talk*. A former Provincial Commissioner, Dave teaches at the University of Manitoba in the Faculty of Education and works with the 163rd Winnipeg Pack. Paul Ritchie is Akela with the 7th Thornhill Pack, ON. Paul's dynamic photographs have illustrated many covers and countless articles. GTR's Colin Wallace became a Cub in Scotland. Later he joined Scouts and Rovers. His creative imagination and fun-loving approach to life make him an outstanding

trainer. Michael Lee Zwiers, an Alberta teacher with over twenty years Scouting experience, has published scores of thoughtful **Leader** articles. Presently Michael is studying in Richmond, BC.



The Leader gang.

(Left to right: Pam, Allen, Garth, Rick, Lauren)

Mark McDermid (Toronto, ON) sent us a large package of Scouting photos this spring. "Can you use any of these?" he asked. We picked out ten. Since March his photos have appeared

Photo: John Ritzeveld

Regular Columnists

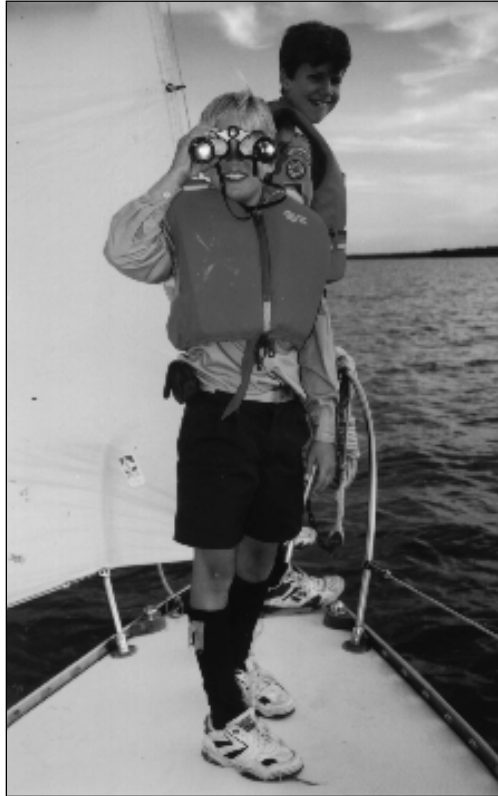
Many readers asked about our columnists. Who are they and where do they come from? All work out of the National Office.

Ben Kruser is responsible for the *Sharing*, *Outdoors* and *Paksak* columns, as well as (recently) *Supply News*. Ben joined staff in Calgary, AB, then became Director of Programs (Beavers, Cubs and Outdoors) in the late 1980s. Bryon Milliere was the Executive Director for Windsor Council, ON, before he became Director of Volunteer Services in 1994. His *Network* articles make interesting reading. Ian Mitchell, from Nova Scotia, served in Prince George, BC, before becoming the Director of Programs (Scouts, Venturers, Rovers) in August 1994. He's responsible for *Patrol Corner*, *Venturer Log* and *Rover* columns. John Rietveld is the Executive Director of the Communications and Revenue Development Service. His PR columns give ideas to group committee members concerned with increasing Scouting's profile. Rob Stewart became a Field Executive in Nova Scotia in 1982. Since 1988 he has been the Executive Director of Program and Volunteer Services, responsible for the *For Volunteers* column. Lena Wong was a Cub and Beaver leader in the early 1980s. She has been responsible for *Fun at the Pond* columns since August 1988.

Our columnists are always looking for excellent field-tested ideas. If you have a good idea that fits their column theme, send it in. If they run it, your name will replace theirs in the byline.

Your Leader Staff

A small staff of people at the National Office try to make **the Leader** as prac-



We're looking to you for great ideas!

Photo: Paul Ritchi

tical as possible for section Scouters. They include the Executive Editor, Editor, Art Director, as well as Circulation and Advertising personnel.

Before becoming **the Leader's** Executive Editor twelve years ago, Garth Johnson was a Field Executive in Manitoba. He has just returned to Manitoba as its Provincial Executive Director. Allen Macartney, the editor since 1993, has an extensive writing, photography and camping background. Art Director Rick Petsche has considerable illustration and design experience. As well as

preparing **the Leader's** creative layout, his artwork illustrates most Scouting ads and publications. If you have an advertising question, Laureen Duquette is the person to speak with. She has handled our advertising concerns for almost six years. Pam Phaneuf has been with Scouts Canada for over six years and has managed the magazine's circulation for the past three.



We Want You!

Though our columnists and regular contributors are important, the heart and soul of the magazine's great success is YOU!

If you're excited about Scouting, send us your best ideas. We want to publish them. Don't be shy. You don't have to be Shakespeare to write for **the Leader** magazine. Send your program ideas to **the Leader**, P.O. Box 5112, Stn LCD-Merivale, Ottawa, ON, K2C 3H4. Fax: (613) 224-3571; e-mail: leader@scouts.ca. ^

Canyouth Publications Ltd.

Canyouth Publications is made up of a group of volunteers from the publishing industry who provide advice and counsel. Its members meet to review **the Leader's** budgets, to provide long range strategic planning and to discuss magazine concerns (e.g. paper price increases). These volunteers help to ensure that section Scouters receive the best product possible for the lowest cost.

Its members include Mike Townsend (President) a retired Bank of Montreal Vice-President and former President of Ontario Provincial Council, Evan Salter (Treasurer) a C.M.A. with Loeb Canada, and **the Leader's** Executive Editor (Secretary). Our five directors include Terry Gray (the Circulation Director of **Outdoor Canada**), Eric Harris (the Managing Editor of **Canadian Geographic**), Ramon Joyes (a Project Officer of Publications at CMHC), Donald Keyes (the President of Donald Keyes Advertising), and Bill Watson (Vice-President of **The Brockville-Recorder & Times**).

DID YOU KNOW...?

- **The Leader** started almost 75 years ago in November 1923. Consisting of eight black and white pages, its purpose was to get as many creative program ideas into the hands of section Scouters as possible — still our primary goal.
- Over the years circulation has grown from a modest 5,000 in 1923 to almost 45,000 copies in 1996. About 100,000 people read it monthly.
- Youth leaders from all over the world (including Australia, Britain, Switzerland, Cuba, Zimbabwe, Egypt and Russia) use program material found in your magazine.
- **The Leader** is printed on paper containing 50% recycled fibre with environmentally-friendly, vegetable-based inks.

Environmental Stewardship Made Easy

Is your Scouting group looking for some interesting environmental project for the fall? Here are some ideas that others have enjoyed recently.

Environmental projects can involve anything from a simple Saturday morning park cleanup to a multi-year adopt-a-road theme. Design your own project. There's no easier (or more fun) way to learn about our place in nature.

Who're You Going to Call?

Litter busters!

That's what Scouts from the 2nd Welland Troop, ON, specialize in when they clean up a 3.2 km stretch of road near their meeting place. Three times a year they scour both sides working in teams of two. High on their 'hit list' are recyclable cans, coffee cups and newspapers. Much to their surprise (and delight) a large number of refundable bottles provide a welcome addition to their "refreshment fund."

The program started when the troop found out about a local adopt-a-road project supported by their municipality. Officials agreed to provide training, trash bags, safety equipment and bright vests to the group if they would adopt a short stretch of road.

The troop didn't just march out one Saturday morning and start cleaning. It began with a comprehensive training seminar that touched on everything from road safety and poison plants to the proper way to handle trash. The troop flagged large objects or hazardous waste for pickup by municipal staff.

Surprised to find so much garbage in their own neighbourhood, the youth soon started asking themselves, "Why do people litter?" and "How can we control this problem?" This led to a wider discussion on their stewardship responsibilities towards wildlife.

Five hours later, with 17 large, full trash bags and one pile of assorted debris along the road, eight tired Scouts and their leaders enjoyed a barbecue feast in a nearby park.

Three times a year for several years in a row the troop has cleaned up their

roadway. To sustain enthusiasm they tie it into the requirements for the Troop Specialty Badge. The hard work and community service guarantees that this is one challenge badge everyone takes pride wearing.

Osprey Platforms

Scouts and Venturers from the 1st Knowlton Group, Brome Lake, PQ, have always felt strong ties to their nearby lake. When looking for an environmental project, conversation immediately centred on the waterway, which would also let them improve canoeing skills.

One of the leaders suggested the group should build osprey nesting platforms to encourage these giant birds to take up residence in the community. The idea sparked immediate interest and excitement.

According to Scouter Helen McCubbin, "There were no nesting osprey pairs at Brome Lake." Was it the right habitat?

The Scouts started researching the subject; soon they knew enough to make an outstanding presentation. Speaking to a biologist, the Scouts learned that a wetland bordering the lake would be excellent habitat for either ospreys or brown ducks. Now planning began in earnest.

To publicize their project the youth built a model nesting platform and entered it in their town's Christmas parade. Called "A Christmas present to the osprey" the float won first prize and attracted considerable attention.

Working closely with the biologist, and after obtaining municipal approval, the group built three nesting platforms during the winter along the creek. When spring arrived the Scouts and Venturers inspected the platforms from the comfort of their canoes. They plan to visit the platforms every spring and summer to record hatching of young and watch behaviour patterns. If their project proves a success (i.e. attracts nesting ospreys) they intend to build more platforms.

Scouts and Venturers stand beside one of their partly completed osprey nesting platforms near Brome Lake.

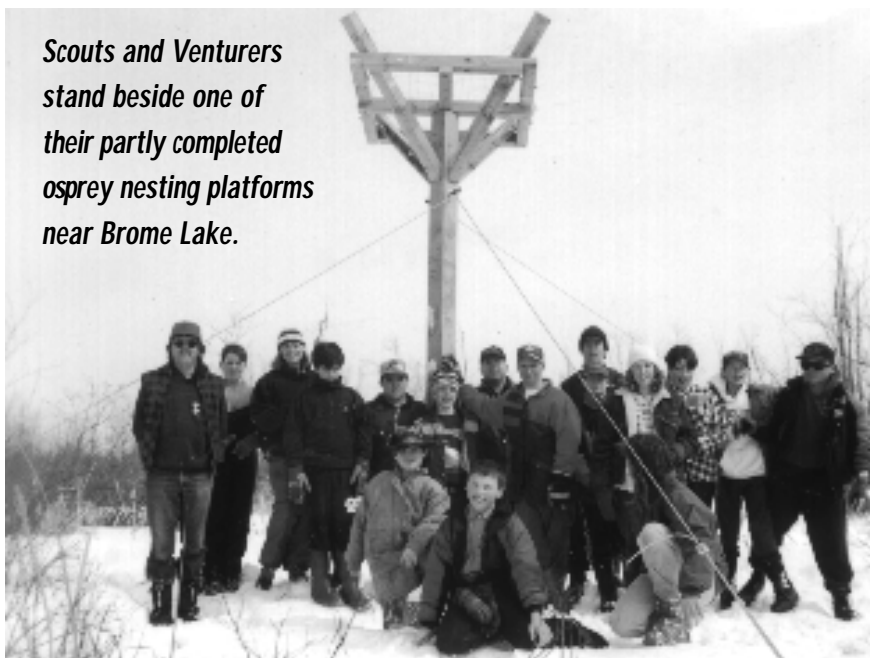


Photo: Helen McCubbin

It takes time to introduce birds into a new area. A project like this one might involve several years of work before attracting the attention of a pair of osprey.

Feed Those Birds and Bats

Scouts, Beavers and Cubs from Pierrefonds, PQ, took part in a multi-year project aimed at feeding winter birds. The City of Pierrefonds supplied ten tall poles to mount the feeders. Before setting them up, youth helped scout out the best location. To raise funds for the project and publicize the activity, the group distributed flyers around the neighbourhood.

Two major cleanups of the park yielded a huge load of garbage one month before erecting the feeders. When set-up day arrived, leaders had arranged for television and press coverage. (It helped to have the city's mayor present.)

During the first season, hungry birds and squirrels ate their way through an amazing 40 kg of feed each week! Sections took turns filling the feeders on a rotational basis.

Next spring the Scouting sections cleaned the park again, fixed up the feeders and organized a group picnic in the area. As well, Beavers erected bat houses which they built during the winter to give the park more summer life.

What affect has this project had on the youth? According to Scouter Bjorn Algotsson, they now have a greater sense of community service and environmental stewardship, as well as a heightened sense of their role in nature. Each section continues to fill feeders and clean the park.

Adopt-a-Pond

Beaver leaders from the 4th Bowmanville Colony, Ontario, wanted to increase their children's spiritual and personal growth through nature. The project had to tie in with the Beaver Promise ("I promise to love God and help take care of the world") while also underlining the Law ("A Beaver has fun, works hard and helps his family and friends").

With support from the Bowmanville Zoo, they designed a three year program where the children met at Soper Creek (on Zoo property) for two hours each month to enjoy fascinating nature studies, clean the wetland, observe wildlife and hike, all within a familiar Scouting context. What a success! The Beavers loved it.

How did they set it up?

The colony meets at the zoo twelve

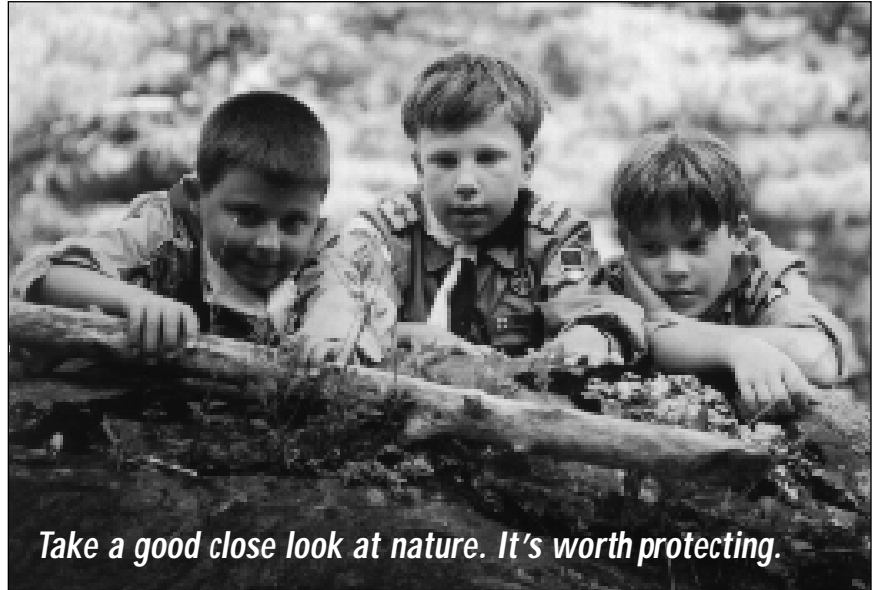


Photo: Paul Ritchie

times each year for a regular Beaver program, but the gathering activities, songs, skits, games and stories all revolve around Soper Creek and how the children can improve their local wildlife habitat. (For ideas, see *Games... From A to Z*.) Each meeting ends with a short treasure (litter) hunt.

The second year program builds on the first by highlighting specific nature

themes, special events and days. The third year concentrates on seasonal changes in nature.

The colony announces these monthly meetings by issuing regular press releases. It's a great way to invite others to experience Scouting's fun and tell the community how your group is improving the neighbourhood. \wedge

LOOKING FOR FINANCIAL HELP?

Has a tight budget prevented your Scouting group from launching its terrific environmental project?

Let the *Boy Scout Environmental Fund* jumpstart your fall program. *We want to give you money!* For an application, write to The Environmental Fund, c/o The Boy Scouts of Canada Trust, P.O. Box 5151, Stn LCD-Merivale, Ottawa, ON, K2C 3G7.

Environment Canada's *Action 21* program is another source of financial assistance for your environmental project. It provides fifty percent matching money for activities that enhance the natural environment. These might involve rehabilitating wetlands, protecting wildlife habitat, improving air quality in your area, or new ways to dispose of harmful household wastes.

Call 1-800-668-6767 to get an Action 21 applicant's guide and more information.

ENVIRONMENTAL WEB SITES

If you'd like to learn more about environmental habitat, why not visit one of the following web sites? You'll be pleasantly surprised at the range of interesting program ideas as close to you as a computer keyboard.

The Canadian Wildlife Federation's web site is found at:
<http://www.toucan.net/cwf-fcs/cwfhome.html>.

Tune into Wildlife at Risk at:
<http://www.nais.ccm.emr.ca:8000/schoolnet/issues/risk/ewldlfrsk.html>.

Environment Canada's web site is at:
<http://www.cciw.ca/glimr/data/wild-watcher-intro.html>.

IT KEEPS ON POPPING

by John Rietveld

Last year's August-September issue introduced you to Trail's End Popcorn with reports of activities in Manitoba and Calgary. Scouts Canada members first started selling popcorn in 1990; since then popcorn has become one of our most successful fundraising programs.

Several months ago 75 popcorn coordinators from BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Nova Scotia attended a special seminar in Calgary. There, Trail's End staff reported on past year activities.

In 1995, 34 councils participated in the program selling 323,748 containers of product ranging from microwave and caramel corn to the new chocolate caramel crunch. This represents an increase of 17% of containers sold, and a 20% increase in gross sales over 1994. Pretty good!

Those councils conducting spring sales averaged \$12.26 per youth and 1.65 containers sold. Fall sales averaged \$33.64 per youth and 3.47 containers sold. The really great news about Trail's End Popcorn is that 67% of funds raised remain within Scouting. This supports our many youth programs.

Great Expectations

What can you expect next year?

Trail's End and Scouts Canada have set goals to increase the profits so local groups and councils will get 68% of all monies next year. We also intend to simplify the program by reducing the administrative time it takes to conduct the sale. To achieve these goals, and at the same time to increase the number of councils and youth involved, we will enhance several related activities.

The *Summer Sizzler Program* is a fund established by Trail's End to help councils promote next year's sale.

Trail's End will increase its contribution to the fund to 6.5%. Again next year, the national Reebok shoe program will be available to all youth who sell \$1,000 in popcorn. Last year, 83 Canadian youth earned a pair of special Reebok shoes.

By August 1996 Trail's End will provide councils with administrative computer software. Operating in a Windows environment, the program will help track sales, and produce order forms and invoices. Over the next year the program will be expanded to allow councils to order popcorn electronically. Trail's End is also considering a group software computer program.

Focus Groups

Recently Trail's End conducted focus group research in several American cities, as well as in Calgary and Toronto. The purpose of these focus groups was twofold:

- find out what the public thinks about fundraising and
- ask about the appropriateness of popcorn as a fundraiser for Scouting.

The research revealed that, of those interviewed, less than 1% were aware of popcorn as a fundraiser. This suggests that great potential for growth exists if councils begin to enhance local PR efforts.

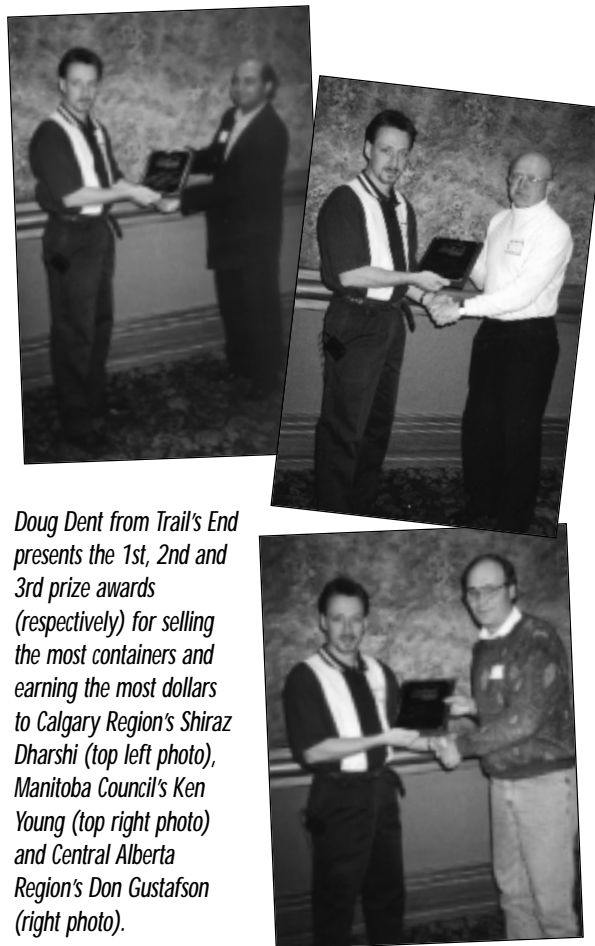
The interviews also found that those who buy fundraising products are very concerned about the percentage of profits remaining with local Scouting groups. The fact that 67% of the money raised remains with Scouting is a considerable benefit in the minds of consumers; this fact will be promoted on the order form used by our youth when they sell popcorn door-to-door.

At the Calgary seminar participating councils shared some of their individual success strategies to increase popcorn sales. Ideas ranged from specially-created, backlit bus shelter ads in Calgary, to a direct mail flyer for group committees developed by Island BC Region.

No Membership Fee Increases

Popcorn sales are helping many councils cope with the impact of recent United Way cutbacks. In South Saskatchewan Region a proposed membership fee increase was withdrawn due to the phenomenal success of their popcorn campaign.

If your group is not selling Trail's End popcorn, talk to your district today. Ask them to call Trail's End for a council popcorn sales guide. It's not too late to get involved in the fall 1996 sale. ^



Doug Dent from Trail's End presents the 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize awards (respectively) for selling the most containers and earning the most dollars to Calgary Region's Shiraz Dharshi (top left photo), Manitoba Council's Ken Young (top right photo) and Central Alberta Region's Don Gustafson (right photo).

Information about popcorn can now be found on both Scouts Canada's home page (www.scouts.ca) and the Trail's End home page (www.trails-end.com). Why not learn more about popcorn sales by visiting these sites today?

Clip Art Images Galore

Have you noticed some outstanding clip art images in **the Leader** over the past year or two?

We've gathered a group of the best here to reproduce. Feel free to copy them onto your Scouting newsletter, promotional brochure or camp notice.

If you have an artist in your midst, let her alter the images to meet your very specific needs.

Keep a file of fun clip art that you can choose from when your publications need more focus or 'colour.' A good graphic can help spread your Scouting message. X



Fun at the Pond

by Lena Wong

Once again it's time to wind up a Beaver year. This month is a good time for both looking back and forward. Plan a leader barbecue to discuss your successes and failures; write these down using it to start planning for next year's activities.

This month we'll visit a beach or, if you prefer, host a beach party. The Beaver JUMPSTART beach party theme package is an excellent resource. With many great ideas, it includes an entire month's schedule.

A VISIT TO THE BEACH

Pick a quiet beach; this will make it easier to supervise your Beavers and organize group activities and games. If you don't live near a beach, your Beavers can enjoy most of these activities in a park or playground. Plan ahead for the visit and bring binoculars. Make sure the Beavers have a bucket and a small shovel, as well as a bag each to carry home their collections of shells, pebbles and other goodies.

Use the binoculars to let your Beavers scan the water and horizon. What's happening on the other side of the lake or along the water's edge? In a park you can scan the tree tops to try and identify birds or moving objects. Teach your Beavers "binoculars etiquette" (e.g. don't use them to spy on other people).

Take a walk along the beach bringing buckets and shovels for collecting. Stop and study tracks left in the sand by birds, animals, crabs and other shell creatures. Dig into the sand. Can you find any natural treasures? These might include shells, pebbles, stones and even creatures living in the sand. Re-bury any creatures you uncover.

Walk along the water edge and do some beachcombing. You can often find interesting pieces of driftwood to take home for craft projects. Look for stones that have been smoothed by the water.

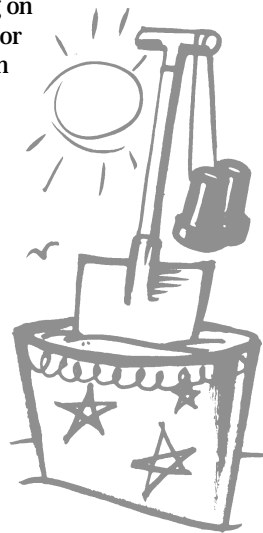
Often you can find some with holes worn through them or changed into interesting shapes. Take a good look at the sand. Notice the many colours represented in the grains contained in a shovel full of sand. Talk about how sand is formed. Find a rock and use it as the background for a neat teaching story like this:

Once upon a time a great rock sat on the bank of a river. For thousands of years the rock was blasted by the strong winds, heated by the hot sun, pelted by rain and frozen by bitterly cold frost. In time the rock began to weaken from nature's assaults. Eventually it started to break down into smaller pieces. Over many years the rock was finally reduced to a heap of small stones. When it rained, the stones were washed into the river where the water pushed and pulled them along until they reached the mighty sea. The water played with the stones as they lay in the water, rolling them back and forth grinding against each other. Eventually the stones were worn down to grains of sand which were carried on long journeys by the sea. As they travelled, the grains were made even smaller by the busy water until finally they were just tiny bits of minerals.

The sea still makes sand all the time. Sometimes it leaves sand deposits along the shoreline to make beaches.

Other times it will take sand from the shore and carry it out to build an area of shallow water called a sand-bank. Look for these close to a beach. The little grains of sand have many colours from the different kinds of rocks they're formed from.

Talk about how people use sand. Take your Beavers to a large area with damp sand; let them build sand castles with their shovels and buckets. Suggest ways they can decorate their structures with pebbles, shells and seaweed. Build moats around the castles and construct a canal system with bridges and dams. Use the buckets to carry water to the building projects. Make sure you supervise the Beavers closely during these activities to ensure no one gets lost or goes too far into the water. Set geographical limits to your play area and place adults in pairs around the area, including the water front.

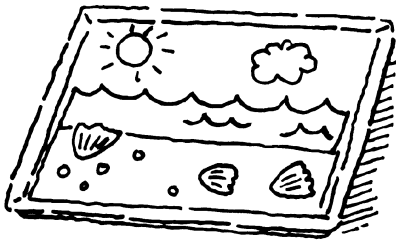


CRAFTS

Beach Scene: Each Beaver needs a foam meat tray, glue, light blue construction paper, yellow construction paper, dark blue construction paper, white construction paper and a collection of shells and pebbles. Make a shore scene by gluing on a sandy beach from yellow construction paper, a dark blue sea and a light blue sky dotted with white clouds. Glue on the shells and pebbles in a pleasing design. You could also cut out little sailboats to glue onto the sea.

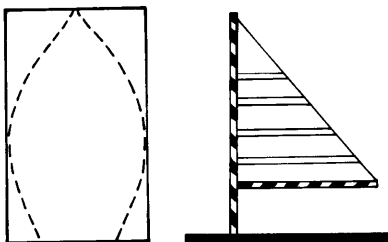
For something different, try spreading white glue over part of the tray; cover it with sand, shaking any excess off after the glue has dried. (This will replace the yellow construction paper used for sand.)

Beach Scene



Sailboat: Each Beaver needs three small meat trays, two plastic drinking straws (one 19 cm and one 10 cm), and colourful construction paper. Draw three leaf shapes (see diagram) from the foam trays and glue together, one on top of the other to form the hull. Use the straws for the mast and boom, cut the sail from the construction paper and glue the three pieces together to form the mast assembly. Make a small hole in the two top layers of the hull, fill with glue and insert the mast.

Sailboat construction



Necklace: If your Beavers all managed to find a small pebble with a hole through it, make this necklace (equally suitable for girls and boys). Simply thread a piece of leather shoe lace through the hole in the pebble and tie a knot at the end. Beavers can decorate the pebbles with googly eyes or sticky stars.

BEACH GAMES

Wave Tag: This game is great if you live near the ocean or a Great Lake. Play it if the waves are just lazy rollers. Line your Beavers up at the edge of the water. As a wave recedes, follow it down into the water. When the next wave starts rolling in, turn quickly and run back. The object is not to get "caught" by the water.

Beaver Waves: If the waves are a little stronger than lazy rollers, seat the children in a circle in water no deeper than 25-30 cm. Encourage your Beavers to let their arms and legs float in the water. As waves come in and recede around them, the water will gently move the children back and forth. Ask your Beavers how it feels to be "rocked" by the



sea. Remember: All games played in, or near, water need close supervision.

Finish your day at the beach with a picnic and a campfire made from driftwood. X

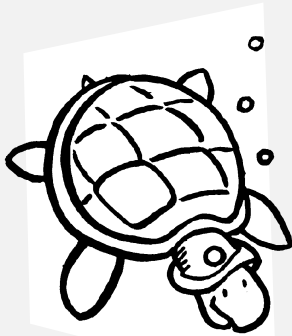
ENERGY BURNERS



SHARKS

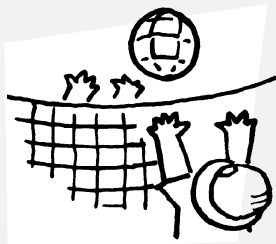


Name one player "shark." Split the remaining players into teams naming each team after a salt water fish. Draw a line at each end of a large play area to mark off "safe havens." Place the fish teams in a circle around the shark. A leader should walk around in the circle, calling out the name of a fish team. Members of the team must follow the leader who continues to call out teams until they are all moving around the shark. When the leader calls, "The shark is coming!" the shark springs into action and chases the fish who try to make it to a safe haven. Fish who are caught become sharks and help the original shark catch others.



SEA TURTLES

You need a blanket for each team of 7-8 Beavers. Teams get down on their hands and knees and are covered by a large 'shell' (blanket). Designate someone in the front line to be the turtle's head. The teams move along a designated route to an end line guided by the "head" who shouts out instructions to fellow team members. Let your Beavers take turns being the head.



BEACH BALL VOLLEYBALL

Mark off a play area and draw a line across the centre. Split Beavers into two teams of eight players using beach balls to play a very simple game of volleyball. The object of the game is to keep the ball in the air as long as possible.

The Challenge: *To Do or Not to Do*

by Leslie Forward

How much should we be doing for Beaver-aged youth, and how much should they be doing for themselves? That seems to be the eternal question facing all leaders. Frequently, five, six and seven year olds can do much more than we feel they can. Let's look at ways to make our colonies challenging, and yet non-competitive, in an atmosphere of fun and sharing.

Songs

Ask Beavers for their favourite songs, and let them teach the words and actions to the rest of the colony. Don't restrict them to traditional Beaver/Scouting songs. We need to stay 'tuned into' the latest children's songs and yet hold onto the old ones too. We can learn from those of children, while we, the leaders, share ours. Encourage your Beavers to create new verses for some songs they know.

Games

Become creative. How can we put a challenge into a simple game? Try dividing the colony into tail groups with added challenges for Blue and White Tails. We don't need to discourage the Brown Tails, but six and seven year olds shouldn't feel they are playing 'sissy' games. Fun *with challenge* should be our theme for games.

Have you ever noticed that when two or more children are together they devise their own games using simple tools? A colony could develop its own special game. This isn't such a far-fetched idea; someone had to develop hockey, basketball and bowling in our history.

Stories

Stories that interest a Brown Tail may bore Blue or White Tail Beavers. Once more, make use of tail groups. Interest levels vary so much at this stage of Scouting. While five year olds enjoy *Little Critter Books*, don't expect a seven year old to share that interest. A White Tail Beaver is captivated by more developed plots and shows great interest in "chapter" books.

Stories could take the form of drama, with Beavers acting out their favourite theme; other times, the children could invent or develop a new one.

The revised edition of *Friends of the Forest* is another outlet to let Beavers "do for themselves." Many White Tail Beavers can read *Friends of the Forest* on their own. Why not ask one to read a chapter to members of his/her lodge or to the whole colony? You could apply this technique to any book. Give the Beaver time to practice the material at home.

Crafts

Ask yourself this question. What's more important: the fun of working with creative minds and hands or getting the finished product? We've all seen beautifully completed crafts that leaders had cut out and/or partially assembled before the meeting. The crafts look great, but what did the Beavers do? Did they have fun? Did they have an opportunity to develop skills? Who's supposed to look good, the leader or the child?

Beavers need to explore different materials, to be challenged and not frustrated, to get totally involved with the

activity and to feel proud of their accomplishments. That's one reason we have a craft time.

It's challenging to plan crafts that Beavers can complete independently, but still show creativity and industry. Paper, glue and scissors have their place, but many other materials are available. We could bring hammers, nails, wood, cardboard, needles, thread, beads and cloth to our meetings. The list is endless. We could bake, plant flowers, carve talc/soap stone, hook mats, or make traditional and Native crafts. The important point to remember is to let your Beavers do the creating.

Tail groups provide an excellent means for Beavers to work independently. Let them sew on their own tails. It may not look neat or tidy, but can't you just see their beaming faces when they arrive home and show the family what "I did all by myself"?

Variety

Programs with great variety have extra energy. As leaders we must look for both challenge and creativity. You don't have to complete a craft during a single meeting; you don't even have to plan a craft for every night. Go outside sometimes. If you can't, why not do some simple science experiments where Beavers can learn by doing? With hands-on activities, you can keep children occupied and interested while they learn through fun. If you feel uncomfortable with this idea, invite visitors into your meeting to explain and assist.

Beavers need more programs where they can learn on their own. As leaders, we're guides along the path of learning. Everyone benefits when we offer do-able challenges that children in our care can learn, do for themselves, and share and develop creativity. Scouters aren't baby-sitters. We sit somewhere in the middle of our group and offer a program that helps children grow at their own rate, while working and playing in a shared program. Certainly it's a challenge, but let's allow Beavers to do more for themselves. ^

— Leslie Forward is a member of the National Program Committee (Beavers). She lives in Carbonear, NF

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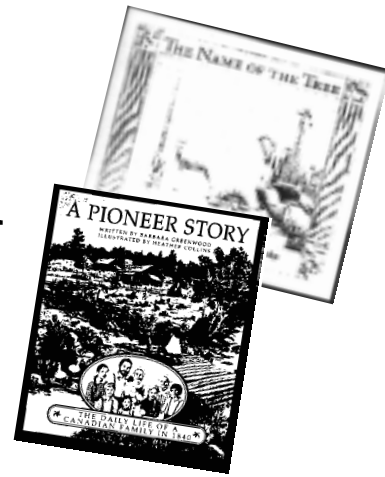
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Book Talk

by Dave Jenkinson



The same trio who brought you *The Kids Cottage Book* are back with another excellent offering called *The Kids Campfire Book*. Aimed at children and their families, the book has many Cub program tie-ins. Authors Jane Drake and Ann Love approach campfires in a chronological fashion, beginning with its construction and lighting, and concluding with a sing-song and dousing the fire. The authors describe how to build lots of child-focused activities like firestarters, campfire furniture, gadgets, smudge pots and reflector ovens. Sections on cooking provide recipes for simple dishes like "Orange Rind Muffins", "Campfire Pizzas" and "Bannock Dogs."

As well as two dozen campfire songs complete with music and guitar chords, the book provides directions for building four simple rhythm instruments. To round out the evening, the authors suggest a number of other activities, including star-gazing, games, skits and ghost stories. Parents should definitely purchase *The Kids Campfire Book* for their Cubs; its contents will reinforce most children's natural interest and excitement in the outdoors. New Cub leaders especially will want this title in their library. **(Cubs: Green Star 7; Tawny Star 6; Cooking Badge; Astronomer Badge; Entertainer Badge 4; Observer Badge 7)**

Because of the remoteness of their homes, some Cubs working on their Canadian Heritage Badge may have difficulty with requirement #5 which calls for them to "visit a local museum." If the purpose behind this requirement is to provide Cubs with a sense of the past, a reasonable alternative to the visit might be to have Cubs read Barbara Greenwood's *A Pioneer Story: The Daily Life of a Canadian Family in 1840*. Greenwood describes the fictional

Robertson family, consisting of Pa, Ma and Granny, plus the Robertson's six children. As the subtitle suggests, the book exposes readers to daily life for a typical family living on a farm in mid-nineteenth century Upper Canada.

Beginning with spring, Greenwood takes the Robertsons through one annual cycle of seasonal activities in which the family members must be involved if they are to meet their basic food, clothing and shelter needs. Between the lively story portions, Greenwood inserts interesting factual sections plus activities today's children can do to get a taste for pioneer life. Making butter and cheese, drying apples and dyeing clothes with natural dyes are several activities which will let Cubs experience elements of pioneer life. Heather Collins' pencil illustrations add further information and help to recreate the period. **(Cubs: Naturalist Badge 2; Aboriginal Awareness Badge 1, 4 & 6)**

Experienced Cub leaders know that sometimes one "happening" can have numerous "payoffs" in terms of Cubs meeting star, badge and award requirements. For example, requirement 3 of the Canadian Heritage Badge says Cubs are to "learn a Canadian legend or folktale. Tell it to your six or pack." Tawny Star B6 requires Cubs to "...perform a skit from a story you have read..." while the Entertainer Badge calls for a Cub to "Direct a group in a skit." Celia Lotteridge's *The Name of the Tree* will help Cubs meet all of these requirements. While some people might argue that this Bantu folktale is not "strictly" Canadian, it is both published by a Canadian publisher and retold by a Canadian storyteller.

Folktales are excellent resources for playacting as characters are usually sharply drawn and the brief plot is often highly repetitive — a characteristic which makes recall much easier for

young actors. In *The Name of the Tree*, a severe drought forces jungle animals to seek the secret name of a tree from the lion (the jungle's king) if the tree is to let down its fruit to the starving animals. While many attempt the task, they all forget the tree's name while on their return journey. Finally the least likely is successful. When we "performed" this book in our pack, we discovered another advantage of folktales: they're flexible. We had more actors than the story had characters, but one Cub cleverly suggested that we simply have two more animals visit the king; so they became (what else) a pair of playful monkeys!

Remembrance Day services often involve someone reading John McCrae's poem entitled, "In Flanders Fields." How many Cubs or Scouts know the story behind the most popular poem of the First World War and its Canadian connection? *In Flanders Fields: The Story of the Poem* by John McCrae is a picture book of paintings which movingly illustrate the poem's 15 lines. Linda Granfield's text, interspersed between portions of the poem and supplemented by period photographs, provides biographical details about the poem's creator as well as information about the war itself. **(Cubs: Purple Star 4; Canadian Heritage Badge 2)**

BOOK DETAILS

J. Drake and A. Love, *The Kids Campfire Book*, Illust. by H. Collins, Kids Can, 1996: \$14.95.

L. Granfield, *In Flanders Fields*, Illust. by J. Wilson, Lester, 1995: \$16.95.

B. Greenwood, *A Pioneer Story*, Illust. by H. Collins, Kids Can Press, 1994: \$16.95.

C.B. Lotteridge, *The Name of the Tree*, Illust. by I. Wallace, Greenwood, 1989: \$14.95. X

Scouting Rebuilds in Eastern Europe

by Allen Macartney

Since the fall of communism in Europe, Scouting has been expanding throughout the region with remarkable speed. Over 40 countries are now opening up to Scouting as a result of the collapse of communist or pro-communist regimes.

This article up-dates our earlier coverage from February and March 1994, and March 1995. Because our March '95 issue dealt extensively with Russian Scouting, we will focus on Ukrainian and several other European groups here.

Most Scouting organizations struggling to re-establish themselves face common problems or needs:

- leadership training
- financial assistance
- camping equipment
- political/social instability.

These factors slow the rate of Scouting's growth considerably.

Finances plague all national associations. Effective outdoor programs require tents and proper equipment, yet in Russia a tent costs 1,000,000 roubles — a fortune for most people.

WOSM Membership

Before a Scouting organization can seek membership in the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) it must represent either a single national Scout organization or be a national Scout organization made up of a *federation* of several Scouting associations.

Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Macedonia and Slovakia have national Scout organizations and are working towards qualifying in the near future for WOSM membership. Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine and Tajikistan are working towards future membership.

Scouting has recently started in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Kirghizia, but has not yet taken root in Azerbaijan or Turkmenistan.

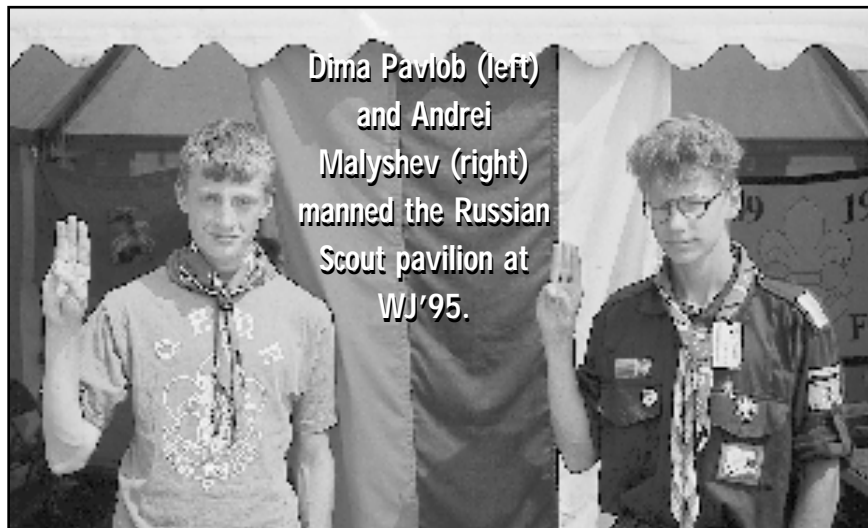


Photo: Allen Macartney

Ukraine

Ukrainian Scouting is co-ed and organized into four age groups: Cub-Scouts (6-12), Scouts (12-18), Rover Scouts (18-30) and Senior Scouts (leaders over 30). Some councils have organized groups for children under six years of age.

"We are trying to promote brotherhood," said Alexandr Kriskiv, President of Ukrainian Scouting's Executive Board.

"Scouting in Ukraine was dead for so long but Canadians and Americans have worked hard to help us reorganize." This has taken the form of providing books and training material to strengthen the leadership. Many Canadian Scout leaders have even gone to Ukraine on their own to teach Woodbadge courses and show how to run Scouting groups.

Democracy is a cornerstone of the Movement in Ukraine; positions at all levels are filled by democratically-elected members. Significant periods are spent teaching the youth how to elect their leaders and what their responsibilities involve.

Sea Scouting is strong in Ukraine. A large camp was held last July which stressed water safety; activities included white-water rafting, sailing and a training camp for leaders.

Training for Life

Ukrainian Scouts take their duties and promises seriously. Youth may only join the organization after a one year pro-

bationary period when they learn all about the Movement and its goals. If the child decides to become a Scouting member, he or she takes the oath that consists (in part) of the three main duties. These duties include,

- be faithful to God and the country
- help others
- be disciplined and obey the Scout Laws.

Each youth taking the oath agrees that it will bind him or her *for life*.

Ukrainian Scouts are very active tree-planters. Over the past several years they have planted a huge forest in the Carpathian Mountains with a tall, long-lasting species similar to the American sequoias tree.

Estonia

The Estonian Scout Association became the 140th member of WOSM in 1996.

Scouting first started in Estonia in 1912 and continued until 1940 when Soviet troops invaded the country and stamped the Movement out. It didn't re-emerge until 1989. Today Estonian Scouting is open to all youth regardless of race or gender. Present membership includes about 1,016 boys and girls. Canadians have helped a great deal to build up Estonian Scouting through direct financial help and training courses. Estonians now produce their own publications, including a regular newsletter.

Forty-two Estonian Scouts attended the World Jamboree in Holland last year.

Hungary

The first Hungarian Scout troop organized in 1910; the national Scout association began two years later. As early as 1913, 105 youth organized a 200 km rafting trip on the Vag River which helped to publicize their programs.

Today leadership training absorbs considerable time as the country seeks to recover from the communist period which suppressed the Movement.

"Presently 2% of Hungarian young people are Scouts," said János Lukács, Executive President of the Hungarian Scout Association. "Our goal is to increase this soon to 5% by speaking to teachers, principals and parents."

"Kids like the community and fellowship that Scouting offers. It gives them real stability. They also like canoeing, survival training, face painting, archery, and woggle making."

Scouting lets Hungarian youth learn more about their heritage, culture, language and history in a healthy environment of fun. Presently about 12,000 youth take part in Hungarian co-ed Scouting programs.

Poland

The Polish Scout Association became the 138th official member of the WOSM this year.

Polish Scouting involves 210,000 males and 240,000 females in an active outdoor program that includes parachuting, ballooning, scuba diving and Sea Scouting. Poles combine traditional activities, like wilderness camping, with modern educational objectives.

In 1993 President Lech Walesa revived a pre-war tradition by agreeing to become Honourary President and Protector of the Association.

Russia

Russian Scouting was born in the town of Pavlovsk outside St. Petersburg in 1909. After the Bolshevik Revolution many leaders fled the country, while thousands of others were killed off. In 1990, "Camp Rebirth" was held close to the site where Russian Scouting began. The Movement has grown rapidly since then and includes a number of Scouting associations which must work harder toward forming a federated national organization before being eligible for WOSM recognition.

Yugoslavia

Yugoslavian Scouts (from the Serbian and Montenegro Republics) include 12,000 members. Because of the very difficult political situation in their country, they have been active in social and relief operations with the International Red Cross Society.

Yugoslavian Scout programs stress peace and reconciliation between different national groups. They also emphasize cleaning up the environment. Last year Yugoslavia became the 137th member of the WOSM.

Asian Scouts

Over 1,000 Mongolian Scouts and Guides enjoyed their first national jamboree in 1995. The theme: "Live together, learn together, help together, develop together." Program activities included camel riding, hiking and orienteering.

Two other Asian countries where Scouting has recently emerged from communism include Cambodia and Vietnam. X

SCOUTING RETURNS TO THE CZECH REPUBLIC

by Nancy MacLachlan

During the 1920s and '30s, Scouting was very popular in Czechoslovakia; its programs drew members from all levels of society. In 1948 when the Communists seized power, Scouting was eliminated and replaced by an organization much like the Nazi's Hitler Youth.

Scouting programs are again flourishing. Young people feel a true sense of vibrancy and freshness about their new, non-political youth groups.

Czech people have always been very keen on nature and exploring its beauty; not surprisingly, many of their programs focus on fresh air activities. On any Saturday morning, you can see groups of young people with their leaders boarding a train heading into the countryside for an all-day hike.

Summer camps, or *tabor*, are very popular. Often located in a farmer's field, the Scouts build knee-high, walled huts and stretch canvas tents over them. Scouts do their own cooking, go on 60 km hikes, swim in local ponds, pick cherries, help clear brush out of the farmer's forest, and work towards merit buttons.

Last year a contingent of Czech Scouts attended the World Jamboree in Holland. Dressed in khaki shirts, brown neckerchiefs, olive shorts, knee socks, and B.P. style stetsons, they enthusiastically took part in all activities.



A pair of Czech Scouting members prepare lunch in front of their tent.

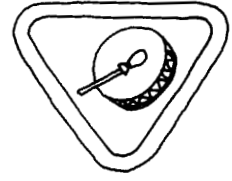
— Nancy MacLachlan is living in Prague and leads a Czech Scout troop.

FIND OUT MORE

Find out more about East European Scouting by 'talking' directly to those involved. The e-mail address for Russian Scouts is Scout@ask.dereza.komi.su. The Ukrainian Scout address is wytr53a@prodigy.com.

The Aboriginal Awareness Badge Makes a Great Program Evening

by Brian Derick



The Aboriginal Awareness Badge is a new program element which piqued our pack's attention. During a carefully-planned, action-packed 90 minutes, we ran a meeting last January with this theme. The Cubs had a blast!

Fun, highly educational and interesting, any pack can plan a similar evening. Ample resources are available through the library — perhaps even in your own group or area. If you don't know any Aboriginal people with the knowledge, skills and time to help you out, ask at your district or regional Scouting office. You might even find a band/tribe council or Native Friendship Centre nearby.

How We Planned It

A friend introduced me to Tim Nadjivan, an Ojibway Native. Tim is a professional artist, art representative and exhibition consultant. He's also a former Wolf Cub from Fort Saskatchewan, AB, living in Ottawa who spends each summer at a cottage on his tribe's Cape Croker reserve on Georgian Bay. After explaining the new badge to Tim we prepared a detailed written plan.

Before our meeting began leaders met with Tim to set up several displays of Native crafts and artifacts, including,

- Canadian maps of historical Aboriginal lands and treaties (claims too)
- an antique Dené-embroidered and furred moose hide coat. (My great uncle brought it back from the Great Slave Lake area many decades ago.)
- a 60 cm Inuit kayak model from the 1920's
- a 4,000 B.C. (circa) Iroquoian gouge from Quebec's Richelieu Valley
- arrowheads and scrapers
- a lacrosse stick, snowshoes, moccasins
- handmade bows and arrows
- an Ojibway "dreamcatcher"
- a variety of Tim's beautiful woodcarvings of Canadian birds and animals.

Gathering and Opening

As the youth arrived, Bagheera, Kaa and Tim conducted an archery contest for our sixes. Using 50 cm bows which

Tim had carved from ash and strung with gut and feathers, the Cubs fired arrows (with pencil eraser tips) at bull's eye targets. To emphasize safety, we used standard firing range commands: "Fire when ready", "Cease fire", "Down bows" and "Retrieve arrows."



A fire with their own campfire blankets closes the evening on a high note.

Akela led opening ceremonies, then Baloo introduced the meeting theme and our honoured guest. In Parade Circle, Tim and I explained that the pack would be working on the Aboriginal Awareness Badge by learning about Canada's Aboriginal tribes and groups, costumes, games, traditions, languages, ceremonies, spirituality, and lifestyles, both past and present.

Ptarmigans and Ducks Game

We played an Inuit tug-of-war game by dividing the pack into two equal teams. Cubs representing ptarmigans should be born during winter months, while the ducks should have birthdays during the summer. According to Inuit mythology, if the ducks win, the winter will have few storms; if the ptarmigans win, get ready for a snowy winter.

"Come on!! Put your beaks into it!" Chil led everyone in rousing cries. A mighty struggle ensued.

Badge and Star Work

A quick Aboriginal overview followed where we answered as many who? what? when? where? how? and why? questions as possible. Hundreds of different Indian and Inuit tribes and bands lived in North America for thousands of years. (The first groups probably crossed the Bering Strait from Asia.) Today we call them Aboriginals or First Nations because they were the first people living here.

Our discussion moved to describing the main Aboriginal groupings: Inuit, Dené, Eastern Woodlands (both Migratory and Agricultural), Plains, Cordillera-Plateau, and Pacific Coastal), as well as groups found in the United States. Tim explained how they moved and changed as Europeans came to the New World.

Tim and I spoke about the alliance between United Empire Loyalists and Mohawks from New York during American Revolutionary times, as well as past/present tensions. Leaders wanted Cubs to understand that Canada's pioneers and Natives shared a long affiliation and partnership which is alive and growing in Canada even today. Native heritage is fascinating and a vital part of our broader Canadian culture.

We discussed on- and off-reserve lifestyles. Today's Aboriginals not only hunt, trap and fish, but also run businesses, teach, and are employed in the full range of positions in industry, business, and government.

Good Stewards

Nature is very important to Native people. We spoke about important animals and birds and their roles: the eagle oversees all, wolves live in families and maintain nature's balance (man's peer among animals), the raven (jokester), as well as the owl, orca, and bear. Aboriginal people recognize that animals give their lives to provide food, clothing and material for mankind to live.

We spoke of the great Creator, the Manitou (which our pack often notes in closing thoughts), and saw the compatibility with other religions and values (e.g. environmentalism, the Golden Rule, honesty, fair dealing and respect,

helping others). We spoke of love of our land and its people.

"What Aboriginal inventions do we enjoy today?" someone asked. The list includes toboggans, maple syrup, corn, potatoes, dog sleds, canoes, snow huts, tents, medicines, bows and arrows, drums and snowshoes.

Dancing and Crafts

Whenever Natives gather, drumming, dancing and singing form important elements in their celebration. For our dance, Baloo pounded on a drum while Tim taught the pack a "Friendship Dance" which included the ruffed grouse walk. The youth loved it.

For a craft, Tim helped our Cubs make real deer hide Indian medicine pouches costing only \$1.50 each. The pouches were pre-sewn, but the Cubs were asked to retie the neck or belt thong with a reef knot and add beads or other decorations.

Campfire/Sweetgrass Ceremony

The pack donned campfire blankets and Akela led the parade to our campfire for a sweetgrass ceremony.

Tim explained the importance of the grown-in-the-wild, braided sweetgrass, and of the Indian sacred tobacco and sage. He pointed out that the tobacco is NOT for smoking. Asking for the strength and help of the pack, he fired the sweetgrass with a match (smells beautiful with very little smoke), blessed Baloo as his helper, blessed the tobacco and sage, and then our flags and totem. All Cubs and leaders were individually blessed, carefully smoothing the healing, comforting and protecting sweetgrass over ourselves and our new pouches.

A pinch of the tobacco and sage (relieves stress and promotes harmony) were then added to everyone's pouch. Tim said that other things from Mother Earth could also be added (e.g. a drop

"Hey! This is a real moose hide coat made by Natives."



Photos: Bryon Milliere

of water from a favoured river or lake, a few grains of sand or earth from a special place, an unusual pebble or feather). The Cubs were impressed and honoured. No one felt it conflicted with, or offended, their individual spirituality; rather, the ceremony complemented it.

At campfire, Tim told us that Aboriginal people revere turtles because the animal lives closest to the ground — the shell symbolizes the earth while its plates stand for each of the many tribes. Our Cubs found this interesting partly because at our spring camp an old snapping turtle (about 50 cm long) actually blocked our way out of the park. Tim also explained the Ojibway "dreamcatcher" which filters out bad dreams and lets good dreams slip through to sleeping Cubs.

Award Ceremony

At closing, Baloo asked Tim if he thought the pack was "Aboriginally aware." They sure are, he said. Everyone agreed that Tim should present the badges. With an Indian handshake, he did so, and then, with the Cubs' agreement that he was "aware", and deserving, Baloo awarded Tim the same badge. Blue Sixer Craig Holvey presented Tim with Scouts Canada's "Thank you" crest, then asked him if he would become an honorary pack member.

"For every meeting?" he asked.

"No, how about once a year at camp?"

"Right on!" he agreed.

A meeting like this takes careful and creative planning, but isn't hard to complete. Your Cubs will learn something fascinating and useful, and treasure the memory for a lifetime. X

— Brian Derick (Baloo) is with the 27th Nepean "A" Pack, Nepean, ON.

Correction

The May Paksak column contained several errors. The Black Sixer's name is spelled "Inderpreet Gida". Eric Stewart is a Red Seconder. At the end of the evening, World Religions Badges were presented to the Cubs.

Remember to give your guest a hearty "thank you" at the evening's end.



We Don't Forget

Just because it's spring or summer doesn't stop Cubs from the 7th St. George's Oshawa Pack, ON, from collecting non-perishables for local food banks. "We collect all the time," says Akela Harry Hester. "It shows the Cubs that less unfortunate people need our help throughout the year, not just at Christmas."

Photo: Harry Hester



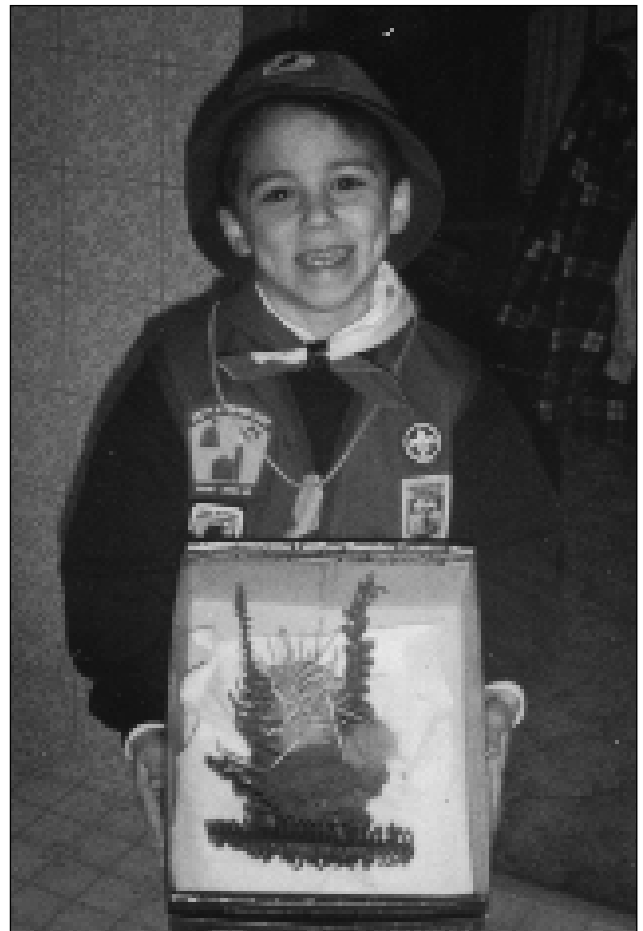
Grinning Success

Venturers and Rovers from the 6th Centre Lake District, Surrey, BC, helped make Camp Tailslap a stunning success for these happy Beavers. Not only did the Venturers and Rovers lend a hand during the day, but they also built a fun obstacle course for Beavers wanting to burn off excess energy.

Photo: Sally Baird



Looking to Someone to Help After making crowns, shields and other appropriate wear for thoughtful knights, Cubs from the 1st Enniskillen Pack, ON, went on a hike looking for people to help. A Medieval Camp makes a great place to learn about "doing for others." We really *are* our brother's (and sister's) keeper. Photo: Pat Goode



Nature's Beaver Artist Scott Smith of the 25th Assumption Colony in Saint John, NB, took his Beaver dam project seriously. Starting with a cardboard box, he formed brown play dough covered with tooth picks into a dam while blue play dough became water. Scott placed several borrowed fern branches from his mother's plant in the picture as trees. Brushed hair from the family cat gave realism to the wild beavers in the picture. Thanks to Catherine Walsh and Janette Jarvis.

Icebreakers Make Good Beginnings

by Bob Kane

Everything has a beginning: a starting place or point. Beginnings that are taken for granted, or given little attention, can rapidly become endings.

An effective beginning is like a magician's opening trick. It grabs your interest, mystifies you, challenges you, gives you a taste of what lies ahead, all without making you feel threatened.

First impressions are lasting impressions. We've all heard this old saying. First impressions directly affect the interest, participation and learning levels of a training session. Positive beginnings almost invariably lead to a positive learning experience.

A Good Launch

The ingredients of a positive beginning include:

- a friendly welcome from session trainers or convenors
- clean, airy, bright and comfortable facilities
- clear statements regarding goals, objectives, methods, schedules and responsibilities
- opening activities that (a) help participants become familiar with each other, (b) establish beginning levels of comfort and trust, (c) engage in some appropriate humour, and (d) involve them in collective challenges.

Activities like these are sometimes called "icebreakers." The name relates to the process of removing feelings of distance and awkwardness we experience when first becoming part of a new group of people.

Icebreakers take many forms. They range from simple introduction exercises to complex activities designed to raise the comfort level of people so they will share very personal views. If you don't want to design your own icebreaker, here are several examples.

Celebrity Interview

In *Celebrity Interview*, divide the group in half: the interviewers and the

celebrities. Celebrities are interviewed privately for 10 minutes by an interviewer chosen by the celebrity. The interviewer, taking notes if needed, tries to learn as much as possible. At the end of 10 minutes everyone reverses roles, finds a new partner, and repeats the process. When the second interview is complete, participants have five minutes to prepare a verbal introduction of the celebrity they spoke to.

Axioms

Axioms is a somewhat more involved icebreaker game than *Celebrity*; it requires additional time and lets participants get beyond the superficial. It's a good lead-in to sessions focusing on interpersonal skills (e.g. communications, problem-solving, conflict resolution/management, decision-making, etc.).

During *Axioms*, participants must choose one of a half dozen or so 'value'

An effective beginning is like a magician's opening trick. It grabs your interest.

Standing beside each other on centre stage, the interviewer introduces the celebrity to everyone else taking no longer than two minutes. Each introduction is concluded by the whole crowd saying or singing a welcoming phrase to the celebrity. Make this activity light, rather than sombre, but not so light that the people or the purpose is belittled.

Sherlock

This fun activity — a game of bluff using questioning and observation skills — is designed to foster a friendly exchange.

As participants enter the room they are given sealed envelopes with instructions not to open them until told to do so by a trainer. Each envelope (except one) contains the information that one of the participants is not who she says she is, but is in fact, the infamous arch-criminal, Dr. Moriarity. The fiend must be exposed by a thorough examination of each person. The participants begin to interview one another to uncover the Doctor. One of the participants has an envelope identifying her as the infamous criminal; she must not let anyone find out. Subterfuge and bluff are to be their companions. The game goes on until the truth is discovered, i.e. Moriarity is unmasked. Set a deadline if you have only limited time.

statements that have been posted on the wall in separate locations in a large room. The 'value' statements may reflect the pro or con sides of values held by members of the group, or of the social/community milieu in which they live. When all participants have chosen a value statement, they are each requested to explain why they believe in that particular value.

Rule 1: The explanation is just that — an explanation. It cannot be used to "sell" the point of view, only explain it.

Rule 2: Explanations may be neither criticized nor questioned, only listened to.

Play as many rounds as you wish, but everyone must take another value statement. *Axioms* is designed to get people communicating at a very intimate level, i.e. values. It's not intended for humour.

If you design your own icebreakers, know what you want to accomplish and try to predict possible problems. Good beginnings, good endings, good Scouting! \

— Bob Kane is a Scouter living in Saint John, NB.

Make Your Own Tent

from Ian Mitchell and Susan Albrecht

Lightweight camping remains an important part of the Scout/Venturer program. However, the price of lightweight equipment continues to soar leading groups to spend more time fundraising than they wish.

To help keep the cost down while at the same time allowing for some real team-building, we're going to show you how to design a multi-use tent from a length of nylon. A good piece of reinforced plastic would also work well. Making this tent will present very few problems, even to the inexperienced.

Materials Required

- 7.25 m waterproofed nylon cloth (135 cm wide).
- 3.6 m of 50 mm nylon or terylene tape from any sailmaker or blind and canvas merchant. Use it for tabs and reinforcing.
- 14 sailmaker's eyelets, plus eyelet punch and dye size 28. This eyelet is large enough so you won't have to carry pegs when travelling light. Eyelets and punches are available from canvas suppliers or leather workers.

Method

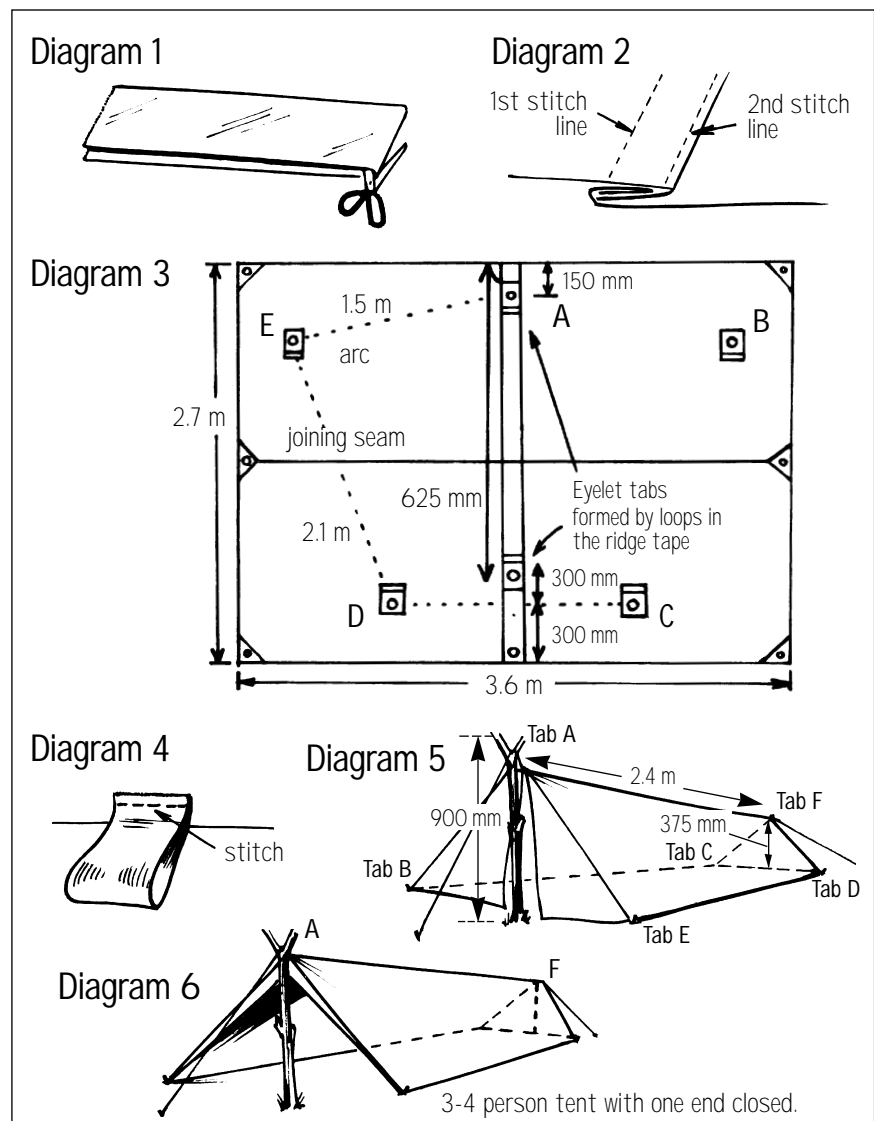
1. Fold fabric in half, unfinished end to end. Cut across the fold. (See diagram 1)
2. Stitch the two pieces together along one long edge, 1.5 cm from edge. Reinforce seam by folding under the seam allowance and stitch through all layers close to edge. This gives a flat seam. (See diagram 2)
3. Hem the raw, unfinished edges by turning twice and stitching. The selvaige edges need not be hemmed.
4. Stitch ridge tape down the centre line, leaving 75 mm tab loops at points A and F. Point A measures 150 mm from the edge and Point F measures 625 mm from the edge on the centre line. (See diagram 3)
5. Use tape to reinforce corners and mid points of short sides. (See diagram 3)
6. Using the remaining tape, cut four 75 mm tabs. Fold each tab in half and fasten by stitching the raw edges to the tent with the free ends of the tabs towards the outside edge. (See diagram 4)

Points E, B, D, C are located as follows: C and D are found by measuring 750 mm to either side of the centre line from Tab F. (See diagram 3)

Points E and B are located by striking a 1.5 m radius arc from A and intersecting with a 2.1 m radius arc drawn from C and D respectively.

7. Now attach the eyelets into tabs, corners and midpoints by following this procedure.

- a) Fold material across the centre of the eyelet position.
- b) With scissors, carefully cut out a half circle of less than 12 mm dia-



meter. Opening out the cloth, you should have a somewhat elliptically-shaped hole.

- c) Push the cone portion of the eyelet through the hole from the face side or outside of the material. Ensure that the material fits tightly so the cloth comes up the side of the cone.
- d) Lay the cone eyelet and cloth in the eyelet-shaped recess of the die.
- e) Place the washer-shaped portion of the eyelet over the cone so the cloth is caught between cone and washer. Insert a punch in eyelet cone.
- f) With a hammer, hit the punch once or twice firmly until the cone is riveted over the washer. Beware of flattening or distorting the eyelet! It pays to practice with an extra eyelet and cloth remnant before working on your finished tent material.

8. Waterproof all outside tent seams.

Finishing Touches

Attach a length of cord at ridge ends, then make some aluminum tent pegs. You'll be the envy of all during camping expeditions.

Note: Looking for optional refinements? Try sewing velcro along the underside edge nearest Tab A. (Put teeth on one side and fabric on the other.) You can then close the end of the tent or use it for attaching another tent.

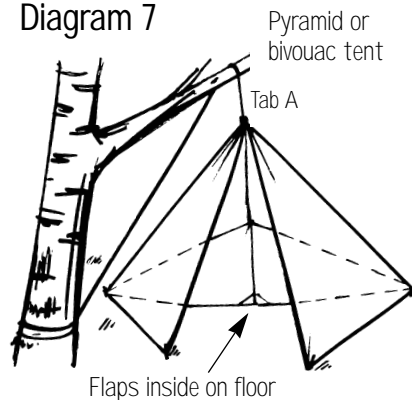
Tent Pitching Methods

Now that you have a tent, here are some ways to use it.

One Person Tent

When used as a one person hike tent (or in a squeeze a two person tent) make full use of all the tabs. First support the back of the tent at Tab F with a 375 mm stick and fasten a tent guy between Tab F and the tent peg. Peg down Tabs C and D. Likewise, at the tent front, support Tab A with a 900 mm pole and fasten guy to Tab A, then tighten. (See diagram 5)

Diagram 7



Peg down Tabs E and B. Fold surplus under the tent sides to make the tent floor. This leaves uncovered a small "V" shaped section of the floor near the doorway. The front flaps can either be joined together with the velcro, or used to extend the sides of the tent frontwards as a weather break.

Variations of these basic methods have almost endless possibilities. You might want to join two or more together. In an emergency the tent can be folded and worn as a cape in rainy weather or even pressed into service as a makeshift sleeping bag.

Three Person Tent

For a three or four person tent, use Tabs A and F. (See diagram 6) This time, peg down the four corners plus intermediate points along the sides.

Support Tab F about 375 mm from the ground and attach it to the guy rope. Tab A is then supported about 900 mm off the ground and guyed also. This leaves a small apron around the front opening of the doorway. Optional refinements might include a nylon cloth or mosquito netting which could be attached with velcro. In hot weather you can rig your creation as a simple tent with open ends or with one side supported by two poles and guyed.

When erected as a dining fly, the favourable weight enables a much lighter and larger fly than the traditional canvas fly. You won't have to worry about drying it out before packing — an extra bonus.

Pyramid

Another interesting way to set up the tent is as a pyramid or bivouac (diagram 7). Simply throw a line over a convenient branch of a tree and suspend Tab A from this line. Attach the free end of the line to the tree trunk.

Spread out the base of the tent and peg at front corners around the entrance. Then peg down the two mid points and Tabs C and D. Fold the surplus material under the tent, providing enough ground sheet for two persons. λ

Material from this article was adapted from September 1992's "Interchange" — Australia's Venturer and Rover magazine.

Connecting our Mission to the Outdoors

from Rob Stewart

“**N**ature study will show you how full of beautiful and wonderful things God has made the world for you to enjoy.... Try to leave this world a little better than you found it.” — *Baden-Powell's last message to the world's Scouts.*

Scouting has been involved in outdoor activities and public environmental dialogue long before the subject became fashionable in the 1980s and '90s. B.-P.'s quote shows us where our century-old roots lie.

We're Revolutionaries!

“A revolution in education” — that's what our methods have represented in the field of non-formal or out-of-school education. This holds true for our pioneering role in environmental education. By instilling love and respect for nature in millions of children and young people, Scouting has made an extremely significant contribution, raising public concern of the environment throughout the world.

What *is* the nature of Scouting's contribution? For many decades we've stressed no trace camping, taking garbage out of the wilderness with you, and not cutting down living trees. Our Movement has also been active cleaning up local neighbourhoods so wildlife can survive easier. We've linked this environmental emphasis to the four areas of personal development mentioned in our Mission.

Mission Focus

An active outdoor life helps youth burn off energy in beautiful surroundings. It provides a vital link and relationship to the natural world, particularly for populations living in metropolitan or urban areas which offer few opportunities for climbing a tree, swimming in a river or a lake, or practising survival skills in the backwoods.

An outdoor focus helps intellectual development. Nature lets youth enlarge their horizons and discover profound meanings. Animals and plants in particular challenge every child's natural inclination to observe, to discover and to explore.

The habit of observation leads young people to question and investigate their surroundings. Using all five senses heightens the mind's sensibility and flexibility; it makes it easier to perceive the non-evident, and leads to greater creativity and initiative.

Living, camping and hiking lead to social development. In an urban setting youth can avoid group problems by simply leaving and going home. Because nature is an unknown world for many (perhaps perceived as full of dangers) young people learn to resolve problems by working together as a team in their six or patrol. Facing a real or imaginary danger together, struggling to satisfy vital needs, creates a real feeling of group cohesion. It builds a powerful sense of “togetherness” and brotherhood.

Nature provides ideal ground for spiritual growth. In *Rovering to Success* B.-P. wrote: “The atheists... maintain that a religion that has to be learnt from books written by men cannot be a true one. But they don't seem to see that besides printed books... God has given us as one step the great Book of Nature to read; and they cannot say that there is untruth there — the facts stand before them.... I do not suggest Nature Study as a form of worship or as a substitute for religion, but I advocate the understanding of Nature as a step, in certain cases, towards gaining religion.”

B.-P. sums up his beliefs by saying, “Nature knowledge is a step to realizing God. Humility and Reverence... can be gained by communing with Nature: on the Seas, in the Forest, among the Mountains.” Elsewhere, B.-P. also noted that “the wonder to me of all wonders is how some teachers have neglected this (i.e. nature study) easy and unfailing means of **education** and have struggled to impose Biblical instruction as the first step towards getting a restless, full-spirited boy to think of higher things.”

Nature and the outdoors have always played a key role in Scouting's methodology and Mission. But let's keep updating our methods to ensure they're responsive to today's youth needs and expectations. Let's think up new, more exciting ways to make use of nature and the environment. X

Product Safety

by Ben Kruser

Two separate issues have appeared regarding safety and product usage. The first involves Kub Kar weights, while the second entails wearing the uniform during outdoor activities.

Kub Kar Metal Weights

Scouts Canada sells two kinds of Kub Kar weights. These are accelerator weights (catalogue #71-180) and tubular weights (#71-181). Both products are made from **zinc**, NOT lead.

Accelerator weights are a flat sectional piece of metal with screw holes. They come with instructions that read, "To help adjust your car's weight, simply break off the desired amount of weight and attach weight to your Kub Kar with a screwdriver. For better ground clearance, recess you weights into the bottom of you car."

Tubular weights look like small tootsie rolls. Their instructions read, "Carefully score the cutting mark with a metal file, then break off required length with pliers. Drill a 7/16" diameter hole in the rear of your car. A) Fill the frill hole with white glue. B) Insert weights."

Both instructions state clearly that the weights should be either screwed or glued in place. Unfortunately, some parents and leaders have been trying to melt the weights down, then pour the hot liquid into Kub Kar drill holes.

Do not melt these weights. Fumes from zinc are not healthy to breathe and handling molten metal at home around children is definitely not safe. Follow the instructions that come with the weights to ensure you meet correct safety standards.

Outdoor Wear

When should you use the uniform outside?

Our badge sash is for ceremonial use only. Opening and closing ceremonies, parent and child banquets, and public ceremonies are some events when youth should wear the sash. Wearing the sash can become hazardous when camping, on hikes, doing woodworking projects or while playing games; it could slip down or encumber arms. When engaged in outdoor activities, the sash should be stored safely away, or even folded and hung over the pants belt.

We need to break the perception that youth have to wear the sash regardless of activity, and start viewing the uniform as filling both a ceremonial and activity wear need, as appropriate to the particular activity. The same holds true for the beret. Some leaders have insisted that children wear their beret under a blistering sun. Of course, this can result

in sunstroke. Children should wear headwear appropriate to the weather conditions. We recommend a broad brimmed hat for sunny weather.

Please use common sense when using any product around children. Don't let blind adherence to tradition blur your vision. \

The Year in Review for Partners

by Bryon Milliere

On the front cover of our Strategic Directions Summary we affixed a logo with the words, "Be Prepared... We're Changing".

Scouting has experienced several "changes" regarding how we support both the sponsor partnership and the program. Active and informed partners continue to provide necessary backing to many of the strongest, growing Scouting groups. Every adult involved in Scouting has a role to play in delivering or strengthening the program. Let's discuss some of the trends and the new resources available.

Youth Leadership

Scouting is giving youth more leadership opportunities through the National Youth Committee, with its corresponding provincial networks. Leadership training programs are being developed by, and for, youth. Councils and sections should look for more ways to involve young people in decisions that affect their programs.

In Partnerships

In Partnerships for Youth is a new publication that replaces the *Sponsoring and Administering Scouting* pamphlet. It details the relationship between Scouting partners and Scouts Canada, including directions for administrative practices at the group level.

Every partner representative and group committee chair should have a copy of this booklet, available at no charge through Scout Offices.

Volunteer Screening

Finding the right person for the job has always been the first principle of our Volunteer Recruitment and Development program. Presently Scouting is considering the various steps necessary for a national screening procedure. This will help protect children in our programs. The Solicitor General asked the Canadian Association of Volunteer Bureaux to conduct training for volunteer organizations on this topic. Contact your local Volunteer Centre for more information. If you have copies of screening processes developed by other organizations, please forward them to Scouts Canada's Volunteer Services for consideration.

Scouting's association with partners has helped us in many ways. It expands our network in the community, helps us identify suitable leadership and makes it easier to screen out undesirable candidates.

Video Training

Training thousands of new leaders each year has always been a challenge. Nationally we have produced two videos for novice leaders; a third is in

production. *JUMPSTART for Beavers* and *JUMPSTART for Cubs* are 30 minute training videos to use with a series of theme-based program guides. The videos explain the basics of the program and describe how to use the print materials to deliver fun, challenging, safe and educational programs. *JUMPSTART* packages have been well received by leaders. For more information, see our Scouting catalogue.

This fall Scout troops will have their own *JUMPSTART* packages to enjoy and enrich their programs.

Recognition

Volunteers often receive great *satisfaction* from the work they do, but everyone appreciates *recognition* of that effort. The *Honours and Awards Guide* explains Scouts Canada's national, formal recognition program; it also provides tips on alternative recognition. Every group should make use of this valuable resource produced in 1995. Pick one up at your Scout Shop for only \$2.95 each.

Many partner organizations recognize Scouting volunteers through their own awards program. Volunteers also find this very meaningful. Find ways to recognize your volunteers at every level.

This year was great, but next year will be better! \

SCOUTER'S 5

A Prayer to the Great Spirit

- O Great Spirit of the north
Who, with the Pole Star, guides our way.
May we, as we pursue life's course
Never from the straight path stray.
- O Great Spirit of the east
Direction of the rising sun.
May our talents rise like yeast
Until our earthly day is done.
- O Great Spirit of the south
The warming strength of solar ray.
May we provide the food to mouths
Of others faltering on the way.
- O Great Spirit of the west
Direction of the setting sun.
Would that we have but done our best
When our appointed hour has come.
- O Great Spirit of the earth
Who to us resources gives
Conservers make us, give rebirth
So that plains and forest live.
- O Great Spirit of the sky
Be close as only our upwards gaze.
Be with us as the night draws nigh
Through all our earthly days.
— *John E. Udd, Nepean, ON.*
(Inspired by a First Nations prayer)
-

Scouter's 5 Minutes, p.763

June-July '96

HINTS

Summer camping and hiking season has arrived. These timely hints and tips will make your outings more enjoyable.

- Did you get your sleeping bag dry-cleaned last fall before packing it away? Before using it again, air it out for one week. The dry-cleaning solution is toxic and can damage the bag.
- Plan to carry no more than 1/2 your own body weight in a pack on long hiking trips.
- Carry the heaviest gear at the top of your pack.
- Never store a sleeping bag for a long period in a tight storage bag. This will only flatten it and reduce its warmth.
- An old shower curtain makes a good ground sheet for under a sleeping bag; you might also use it as a ground cover when preparing lunch.
- If you can't take a bath or shower on your trip, try baby wipes. Not only are they easy to pack, but they're inexpensive, lightweight and easy to use in the privacy of your tent.
- Take along an old mouse pad from your computer. Place it on a rock to cushion your bottom, or position it between your back and trail pack.
- Do you have any old polyester pants? Make a stuff sack from them by cutting off a leg and sewing one end closed. Sew a hem into the other end and feed a drawstring through it. Either tie the end shut or buy an inexpensive cord lock from the local Scout Shop.

— *Michael Lee Zwiers, Richmond, BC.*

Hints, p.663

June-July '96

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Indispensable Film Canisters

- Try packing baking soda in a film canister during camping trips. What would you do with it? Mixed with water to form a paste, the baking soda makes a great toothpaste. If you gently rub the paste onto a mosquito, bee or wasp sting, it will ease the pain. Sprinkle baking soda into your boots to get rid of any trail odours.
- A film canister filled with medicated talc will treat tired feet. If you comb the talc through your hair it makes a good dry shampoo.
- Before camping with safety matches, glue the match striking surface to the inside of a film canister lid. Now you'll always be able to light a match when you want.

No More Wet Hikes

If your carefully planned outdoor hikes are sometimes ruined by poor weather, try this idea. During a recent Woodbadge 2 course we brought along a huge tarpaulin. As we started off down a trail in the pouring rain, we all held one corner of the tarp over our heads. (It works best if the tallest people are in the front so run-off moves toward the rear.) The tarp can conform to all terrain and youth ages.

Don't be surprised if the rain cover sparks enthusiasm, even excitement; children will feel that they're cheating the weather. What games can they think up to use with the tarp? If you bring several smaller tarps, you could have a team race.

Whether your group members are walking, running or standing still, they'll always have this cheerful blue 'sky' above their heads.

— *Bill Yurkiw, Kitchener, ON.*

Hints, p.664

Thoughts to Ponder

These ideas were taken from **Scouting Magazine** (UK) over many years.

The reason a child comes to Cubs or Scouts week after week should be simply this — she can't bear to stay away!

That which is called firmness in a commissioner is called obstinacy in a donkey.

Scouting's motto is like clothing. It should be made to fit the people it's meant to serve.

You are not judged in Scouting by the position you hold, but rather by the way you fill it.

The smallest deed is better than the grandest intention.

To lead is not to shove.

Scouters who blow their own trumpets are usually soloists.

The secret of a happy Scouting district is to cut out the secret.

You only see well with the heart — what is important is invisible to the eye.

Scouter's 5 Minutes, p.764

Cubs Moving to Scouts

We experienced a neat Cub-Scout linking event last year during JOTA. Youth from a local troop asked four of my senior Cubs to join them for a JOTA camping weekend. We agreed to bring our own supplies to the camp. Though it poured rain the whole weekend (over 5 cm!) the teamwork and enthusiasm developed between the Scouts and Cubs was really encouraging.

In addition to radio work, we went on joint hikes where we honed compass and orienteering skills. Later, we built a catapult for a water bombing competition.

At the end of this great weekend the leaders decided that part of the

reason it was so successful was because the two groups regularly got together for joint activities. As well, our Cubs do their own cooking on hikes and camping trips, so they're more self-sufficient than some. Linking events like this make it easy for Cubs to move up to Scouts.

— *Wayne Seddon, Whitby, ON.*

Take a Woodbadge Course

Everyone should experience the good times found during a Woodbadge course. I've just taken my Part 2 and the benefits will be with me for many years. If you ever wonder what to do for a regular evening program, a Wood-

badge course will pleasantly load you down with great theme ideas, skits, crafts, songs, outing ideas and much more. You'll also make some excellent friends.

Go ahead. Treat yourself to a Woodbadge course. You'll never regret it.

— *Bill Yurkiw, Kitchener, ON.* ^

Editor's Note

Please send us your comments and ideas, as well as your best program material. We publish only signed letters and will edit for length and readability.

Take a Bow!

Over the past year we have received many letters from readers who enjoy the articles, crafts and games that *you* submit for publication.

"The Leader is such a great resource for Scouters," wrote Carol Andrews of Tell, BC. "Obviously there are a lot of talented, resourceful, creative and experienced people involved." She's right. *You* are the creative talent that makes this magazine so important for Canadian Scouting.

Congratulations to everyone who shares great program ideas so others can benefit. Below we list some comments from other **Leader** readers.

The troop leadership team enjoys every issue of **the Leader** and finds a great wealth of new ideas in it that helps our program stay fresh and up-to-date. Keep up the great work! Looking forward to lots of stuff on CJ'97. We'll be there!

— *Ken Dunsmore, 1st Strathroy Troop, Strathroy, ON.*

I enjoy receiving **the Leader** magazine and find it very informative. I just wish we could receive more than 10 issues a year.

One excellent idea that we got from **the Leader** years ago was a parent-child cake decorating contest. Each family team has to make the cake and decorate it with some Scouting theme. The designs they think up are fantastic; the judging gets harder each year. Thanks a lot.

— *Darryl A. Dacombe, 1st Rivercrest Pack, West St. Paul, MB.*

The magazine continues to be a gem... It has never lost sight of the purpose of Scouting and how the purpose is achieved.

— *General (Retired) Bill Carr, Stittsville, ON. (National Commissioner from 1972-1977)*

The Leader is a good source of information, ideas and inspiration. I look forward to its delivery each month.

— *Lois Huband, 1st Armstrong Cubs, BC.*

Thanks very much for the excellent job you are doing on **the Leader** magazine. I really like the ideas for crafts, activities, etc. and for "communing" with the rest of Scouting in Canada.

— *Stan Williams, Calgary, AB.*

I find that the changes you've made in the past few issues have made **the Leader** much more

valuable to our section during planning meetings. Thanks.

— *Ruth Dubeau, 1st Ferris Colony, North Bay, ON.*

I love **the Leader**. It has many ideas to help a Scouter ensure the colony has a productive and enjoyable year.

— *Susan Carey, 1st Hantsport Beavers, NS.*

I really enjoy **the Leader** magazine. It's one of the few resources that we read and find really useful.

— *Loretta Scott, Boissevain, MB.*

I've been in Scouting for fifteen years and there has never been even one issue of this publication that I didn't find of great value. Please keep up the great work.

— *Ann Enzi, Group Service Chairperson, Oshawa, ON.*

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Southshore District	
Kaniatario District	
Lake of Two Mountains District	
Quebec District	
Riverview District	
Bruce North District, ON.....	298.67
West Durham District, ON	702.98
1st Chapleau Group, ON	59.85
Kent District, ON (additional)	93.67
Manitoba Provincial Council.....	5,517.00
Hamilton/Wentworth Region, ON	1,853.87
Talbot Trail District, ON.....	111.33
St. Catharines District, ON	1,352.46
St. Joseph Printing, ON	5,365.11
1st Massey Scouts, ON	37.50
Newfoundland and Labrador Provincial Council.....	6,771.22

Memorial.....Total \$868.00

- In memory of Dr. Don Sutton
20th Canadian B.P. Guild (London), ON
- In memory of Harry R. Stirling
8th St. Thomas Beaver Colony, ON
8th St. Thomas Cub Pack, ON
8th St. Thomas Group Committee, ON
Edythe Bishop, ON
- In memory of William Lee
Elgin District Council, ON
- In memory of Keith Gearey
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Group Committee, PQ
Chateauguay District Council, PQ
- In memory of Charles Mah
Black Gold District, AB
1st Leduc Group, AB
- In memory of Judy White
Louise Stewart and Sheila McNeice, ON
- In memory of Douglas Hancock
Kevin and Charlene Karl, ON
- In memory of Pieter Verlinden
Sherbrooke District Council, PQ
- In memory of Janice Stewart
Helen Knowles, Sandra Pentland and Maurice Blaquiére, NB
- In memory of Dorothy Skan
1st Newcastle Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Group Committee, ON
- In memory of Eileen Dunlop
Elgin District Council, ON
- In memory of Ted Williams and Alex Bowie
22nd Canadian B.P. Guild, BC.....150.00

Korean Project (Project Shi-Won)

New Brunswick Provincial Council	400.00
AJ'95 (Arrivals and Departures, Public Relations, Staff Canteen)	297.55
Herbert C. Pitts, ON	40.00
St. Andrew's Beaver Colony, PQ.....	40.00

This list includes donations processed between September 26, 1995 and March 27, 1996. Donations recorded after March 27 will be acknowledged in a late fall issue. Scoutrees for Canada donations represent the 15% of Scoutrees for Canada proceeds designated for the Canadian Scout Brotherhood Fund. X