

the leader

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90
Years of
Adventure!



An Exciting Past, Present and Future

by David Rattray

THIS ISSUE OF **THE LEADER** magazine honours Scouting's 90th Anniversary. Our past and present are worth celebrating, but our future is something to anticipate with greater excitement!

As your new National President, I am thrilled to help Scouting enter a fresh era, one of growth and renewed relevance to Canadian youth. Scouting will not only emerge from the 90's much healthier than we began, but will enter the millennium as a truly dynamic and vital organization.

Last June, the National Officers, Committee Chairs and Executive Staff agreed to focus attention on four main priorities: membership, program, youth involvement, and revenue development. Since then, we have given these our highest priority.

Membership

For the first time since the early 1980's membership has increased in every section. At all levels Scouters have worked extremely hard to increase membership. Some of the factors contributing to our growth include:

- better recruitment material
- great programs
- improved support to group committees
- active service teams
- better leader training
- youth involvement in decision-making.

Everyone deserves congratulations. Early indications for the current year suggest a further membership increase over last year. Keep up the terrific work!



David Rattray and two friends take a look at new program resources.

Program

Program reviews in all five sections have been underway, and substantive changes have occurred. These will make individual section programs much more relevant to today's youth. Our programs retain the critical components that instill strong values.

JUMPSTART packages, aimed at helping leaders deliver their programs more effectively, have received rave reviews. Expect to see more JUMPSTART packages in the future.

Youth Involvement

Over the past two years Scouting youth have taken a steadily greater role in decision-making. Nationally, the Youth Committee has become a vital

component providing critical insight on all matters.

Young people are offering their ideas and joining committees at local, provincial and national levels. Not only is this essential, but it also makes good sense. As an organization, Scouting is at the leading edge in terms of involving youth in proactive decision-making. But this is just the beginning. Together, let's push the boundaries even further!

Revenue Development

No organization can survive if it does not get its financial affairs in order. The Revenue Development Committee is exploring alternate funding sources, including direct mail, popcorn sales, use of corporate logos, and planned giving. We're delighted with the early successes realized so far.

This revenue development effort will give us the resources to rejuvenate our programs, recruit new members, train leaders, include more youth in decision-making, and give us the opportunities to obtain and retain the best staff possible.

The past looks good, but the future looks even better. I am delighted to serve as your National President for the next two years, and look forward to sharing with you the exciting and challenging times ahead. ^

David Rattray
National President, Scouts Canada

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Catch that Scouting spirit

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It Was A Dark And Stormy Night Theme

by Lynn Johnson

Night!

What an emotionally-charged word. It sends shivers down the backs of Beavers, Cubs and even some Scouts. Night is the time for owls and bats, for starlight and shadows, and furtive strangers going about secret affairs.

We warned Cubs in advance about our mid-winter night theme program. As they entered the meeting hall, the lights were low, allowing a dim twilight to set a mysterious mood.

Cattle Rustlers

After opening ceremonies, we dimmed the lights a trifle more and organized the first game, a version of "Cattle Rustlers." All our "cattle" were lined up on hands and knees with rear ends against the wall. A "cow tail" made from rope hung from each belt. The rustlers gathered in the room's centre. Cattle had to crawl across the room to the other wall in the dark, then back without losing their tails to a rustler. If a cow lost its tail, it continued to cross the room — to confuse the rustlers.

Our game began in total darkness, but once eyes adjusted, most could see shadowy figures crawling around the room. Occasionally a cow would make a disgusted exclamation as he lost his tail. This added to the fun.

Rustlers can use strategy to make it difficult for cattle to recognize them. Can your rustlers figure it out?

Murphy's Law Rules

Stargazing came next on our program — a perfect chance to pass the Green Star test — but heavy cloud cover obscured the sky. Instead we ran an outside Kim's game. Sixes competed by finding the largest number of objects that appeared different at night. Our Cubs noticed more changes than we ever imagined: from temperature shifts,

to the life patterns of birds and animals. Sense-training activities (e.g. smells) would add another dimension to this game.

"Listen Up!"

Our next game involved hearing and listening. Three Cubs, sneaking around a wide area outside, made sounds with their noise-makers: a horn, a drum and a whistle. Our other Cubs had to tag them and collect a marker for each tag. The first child with all three markers, won.

Catch a Dream

Back inside, we made dream catchers in the dim light of an artificial dawn. Dream catchers are made from a web formed into a circle, and attached to a ring formed from a willow branch. (See diagram opposite page) Let your Cubs decorate it with feathers and beads. According to Ojibwa tradition, if you hang one near your bed the dream catcher will let good dreams through, but snare bad ones.

For our announcements and closing, the lights came on fully (signifying dawn). Cubs and leaders blinked in the brightness. Good morning, good hunting, and go straight home!

— Lynn Johnson is an active Scouter living (by day and night) in Scarborough, ON.

A Night Hike You Might Like

by David Townsend

Have you ever planned a night hike with your Scouts? Night hikes are both fun and educational.

Several years ago, my troop (5th Taber) hiked along the Oldman River in Southern Alberta with a large group of Scouts and older Cubs from the district. Our objectives were clear: enhance patrol team-building, learn new skills, and develop personal confidence.

Leaders had set up ten activity stations along the route. These also acted as starting positions. While waiting for the hike to start, we held an impromptu campfire and devoured hot chocolate and cookies. Our troop was new with many young Scouts. We knew this hike would knit us together.

Night Vision

The actual hike started around 9:30 — late enough to teach my Scouts about night vision. Off we went! The first station was solely for fun; two Scouters were trying to find and “hit” us with their flashlight beams. Our job was to stay hidden, and remember B.-P.’s lessons in stealth. If they caught us, we would lose our lives (points).

Well... B.-P. would not have been impressed with our performance! Everyone talked, “shushed” others, and turned on and off the flashlights. Our stalkers were treated to a real sound



Flashlight ‘wars’ are fun but they ruin night vision. Before starting your hike, make sure everyone understands about night vision. It could lead to winning extra points.

and light show. Within minutes they had spotted everyone.

Post Mortem

After this debacle we sat down and discussed what had gone wrong. We agreed to let only four youth use their flashlights, and to be more silent. Our timing was perfect; the next station was similar to the first except we could “fight” back with our flashlights.

How did we do?

Much better. We “lost” only three Scouts. After another post mortem we decided to cut back further on flashlight use and rely more on each other and the moon. All right! The troop was learning real teamwork.

“Let’s Get Oriented.”

Success and rewards went together at our next challenge. Drinks and a hot snack awaited us *IF* we could com-

plete a nighttime orienteering course successfully. We started at 11:30 p.m., motivated by insistent hunger pangs. When everyone started working together, we found the hidden goals, though after losing points for taking

BEFORE YOUR NIGHT HIKE...

Night hikes require extra planning. Here are some tips to consider.

- A ten kilometre hike seems five times longer at night.
- Get your Scouts used to night hikes by starting with short ones at dusk.
- Don’t allow running. In the dark, it’s easy to crash into low branches, toppled trees or picnic tables.
- Make sure an adult leader goes with each patrol if the hike passes through unknown country.
- Each member should carry a flashlight, a water bottle, and a pack-sack containing a sweater, gloves and rain gear. One person in each group should carry a first aid kit.
- Be extra careful in winter. Check everyone for frostbite regularly and have a quick evacuation plan set up in case of emergency.

DREAM CATCHER CONSTRUCTION

too long. The food tasted good, so did the shared feelings of comraderie.

If we didn't work together as a team at the mid-point station, we'd all get wet. The challenge: build a raft and ride it across the Oldman River using a pull rope for steerage. The only construction materials consisted of inner tubes, two-by-fours, plywood and rope. With so many new Scouts in our group, I'm still not sure what kinds of knots they tied. But, the raft held together and we only got wet from the water fight.

Then we successfully "stormed a fort" after climbing up the sides of a hill — all without using flashlights. We made it without being discovered. Now we were really pulling together. Faith that our night vision was better than any flashlight was taking hold. No more lights and just in time, too!

Capture the Flag came next. Everyone thought we were cooked because ours was definitely the youngest troop on the hike. But, unlike the others, we had stopped using our flashlights; our night vision was great! We cleaned up, winning all three games in quick order.

Make Haste Slowly

The troop practised basic first aid (primarily for outdoor and camping scenarios) at the next activity station. What a great learning experience. Not only did it cover B.-P. Woodsman requirements, but it helped everyone earn their Bronze First Aid Badge. The scariest part of the evening came when the Scouts carried me on a stretcher they had just made in the dark.

The second last station involved a half kilometre run up a hill, followed

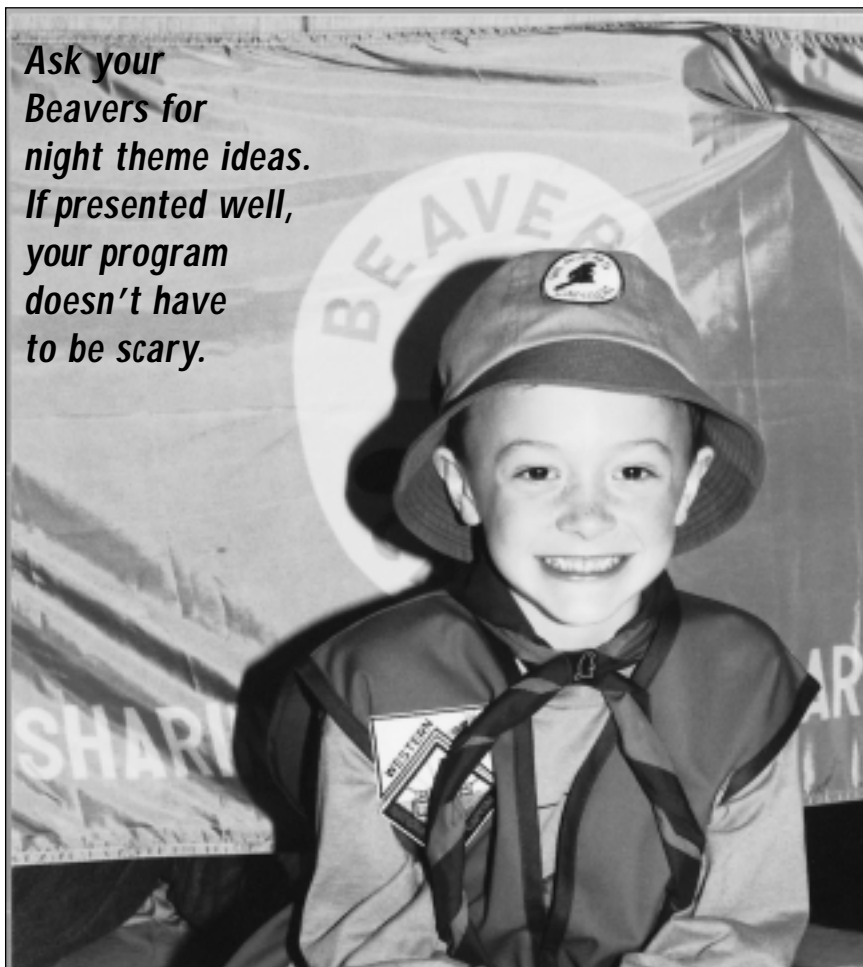


Photo: Murray Cameron

by a circuitous route down. We were too tired for this challenge, so we passed it by. Sometimes wisdom involves tough choices.

Chow Down Time

By 5:00 a.m. our troop had arrived at the last station. Here we prepared a breakfast of pancakes and sausages.

What a great way to end an adventurous night. The maple syrup must have been laced with extra sugar because we got a terrific energy boost. Just what parents wanted — tired young people all hyped up!

Though we ended at the bottom of the point standings, that night our new troop became a cohesive unit. We learned to rely on each other, practised some general leadership techniques, had fun and earned several badge requirements. No other activity could have given us so much in such a short time.

A night hike can knit your Cubs or Scouts together, too. Make it as simple, or complex, as you wish. Be sure to involve youth in the planning. X

Program links

Cubs: Aboriginal Awareness Badge, Hiking Activities #3-5.
Scouts: B.-P. Woodsman, Bronze First Aid Badge, Bronze Exploring Badge, Scoutcraft Badge.

— David Townsend is a Field Executive in the National Capital Region.

A night bike hike is perfect for spring. Make sure everyone has bike lights and wears visible clothing.



Photo: Dave Jagger

Through the Eyes of a Child

by Steve Kent and Natalie Lambert

Have you ever thought that you could improve your program if you only knew what your Beavers or Cubs were thinking? Here's a quick view of the world through the eyes of a young Wolf Cub.

My name is Stephanie. I'm eight years old, and I'm also a first-year Cub. I was a Beaver, too. It was fun, but I'm hoping I can learn more now that I'm in Cubs.

Cubs is a lot of fun and I like my leaders. Baloo is really nice and Akela is very funny. I wish Akela would listen to us more, but he makes Cubs fun, even though he's almost thirty! Last week we played the transportation game and pretended to travel anywhere we wanted to go. I went to China. (I saw a program about it on television once.) In China, people wear big hats and speak differently, and I'd like to see it someday. Maybe I'll own a private jet or be a pilot and fly there myself. I was on a plane once; we flew to Arizona. It's funny 'cause Baloo says it would take hours and hours, but we got there so soon. How does that happen?

On the computers at school we watched an airplane fly. It even made the sound. Akela has his own computer. He brought it to Cubs once and let me type on the keys. I think computers are cool.

Young Concerns

Sometimes I worry nobody likes me. I have a lot of friends, but when we fight it makes me sad; it makes me feel lonely. I'm glad Baloo is my friend. She understands me better than Akela. Akela's girlfriend used to visit us. She's a nurse, but she doesn't come around anymore. I wonder why?

We live in a big city. Sometimes I wished we lived in a house instead of an apartment, but Mom says someday we will.

I hope someday we will be rich so Mom doesn't have to work so hard. I hope I'll have lots of friends and nobody will tease me about being different. I hope there won't be strangers who will try to hurt me or my brother, and I hope that in the future there are no more wars or diseases. (Oh yeah, and I hope I get a Sega Genesis for my birthday.)

Hyper-speed Changes

Akela and Baloo tell us that a lot of things have changed since they were our age. They teach us a lot. We still play games and make crafts, but we also do neat science experiments and go on hikes. Last week an RCMP guy came to Cubs. He told us about people who drink a lot and do drugs. They're not as smart as we are because they don't take care of themselves. I want to live for a long time. I think I'm a smart person, and I never want to be in a gang, or hurt people, or call people awful names. My friend Denise is aboriginal. Sometimes she cries when others call her names. Those kids at our school don't even know her.

I'm glad I'm me. I'm also glad I know Akela and Baloo. They never say we're too young to try new things; they know how smart we are. They let us bring new games to play, too. Last week I taught everyone a game, and it was nice when the leaders were proud of me.

Akela and Baloo ask us a lot of questions to find out what we want to do. Someday when I'm a Scout I'll be able to do more stuff on my own. Someday I'll be a leader, too — but that's pretty far away. Thanks for listening!

Listen to Them

The world is changing at an alarming pace. As role models for tomorrow's leaders, we must try to understand the issues and challenges facing young people today.

Find out what is on the minds of your members. Their thoughts and ideas will improve your program and enhance their Scouting experience. ^

— Steve Kent and Natalie Lambert are young leaders and members of the National Youth Committee.



Photo: Paul Ritchie

Does your perception change when looking through the eyes of a child?



CONGRATU We're 90 y

1997 CELEBRATES AN IMPORTANT SCOUTING MILESTONE. Ninety years ago, in July 1907, Baden-Powell ran an experimental camp for youth at Brownsea Island.

From those 22 boys camping on an island off the southern British coast, Scouting has grown to include 25 million members in over 216 countries and territories. Through the years, it has affected the lives of hundreds of millions of men and women around the world.

Modern Scouting

Scouting in the '90s is vibrant, youthful and growing. It's bursting with enthusiasm and energy. Membership is increasing, and young people are more involved in decisions affecting their programs than ever before. In fact, Canada is leading the way in this field.

Scouting youth are enjoying the outdoors, learning about nature and the environment, and most important, having fun. Scouting has opened its doors to girls and young women, so they too can participate in its exciting programs. More leaders are taking

training; they're also gathering regularly (via Scouter's Clubs, e-mail, web sites and fax machines) to share ideas, thoughts and opinions.

Our Movement continues to focus on environmental issues and, through activities like Scoutrees and no-trace camping, is a leader promoting safe, exciting and environmentally-sound outdoor activities.

Changes to political structures in Eastern European countries have signalled a return to Scouting for many youth and adults. More countries are joining the world organization each year.

The More Things Change...

Ninety years ago, great enthusiasm greeted Scouting upon its introduction in Britain and all over the world. After that first camp on Brownsea Island, thousands more youth took part in Scouting activities. *The Scout*, a weekly magazine filled with information, stories, games and activity ideas (sound familiar?) had a circulation of 110,000 in 1908.

Youth continued to sign up for this exciting new program. Finally, something for kids to do! There were few organized leisure and extra-curricular activities for young people at the time, so the timely onset of Scouting filled a void. By 1910, 100,000 British youth were enjoying and benefitting from the programs.

Canadian Scouting also enjoyed rapid growth. Several towns and cities lay claim to organizing the first Canadian Scout troop (1908), but one thing is certain — it only took a few years for Scouting to become a popular youth activity for thousands throughout the Dominion.

What did the first Scouts do? The Brownsea Island camp divided the 22 youth into four patrols. They participated in various activities, including crafts, lifesaving and nature study, and earning badges by passing brief tests. Each night, a different duty patrol set up camp, lit fires and cooked meals. A campfire ended each day. Here, the Scouts sang songs and listened to stories from B.-P. (It sounds like a description from last week's Scout camp!)

Scouting was the first worldwide environmental movement. B.-P. felt the only two things you should leave behind after camping trips were, "Nothing and your thanks." This philosophy is still followed by millions of Scouts.

90 Years of Involving Youth

B.-P. felt it vital to include the Scouts themselves in program planning and decision-making. He invented the patrol system, putting one senior Scout



Photo: Allen Macartney

Jamborees encourage international peace and understanding.

EVOLUTIONS!

90 years old

by Andy McLaughlin

"in charge" of a small patrol within the group. We continue to use the patrol system, and have advanced the concept by involving youth in decision-making at all levels.

Today's co-ed Movement helps us to continue evolving in healthy directions. When B.-P. enlisted his sister's help in 1909 (and later his wife's) to create and manage a mirror organization for girls, many citizens of the day openly questioned his decision. Surely camping, hiking and nature study were not appropriate activities for ladies. But B.-P. did not waver from his belief that young females deserved to share in Scouting's activities — no doubt he would approve of today's co-ed movement.

Catch the Wave!

The excitement of 90 years ago is alive today, with membership increases, new programs and resources and exciting new initiatives. Be sure to include 90th Anniversary celebrations in your 1997 program. All Scouts love a party — what better reason to plan one than our 90th birthday? Don't forget the cake.

Capture the atmosphere of 1907. Have your Beavers, Cubs and Scouts bring family pictures from 1907. Better yet, ask them to bring a grandparent or great-grandparent to join in the celebrations. Take the opportunity to help your Scouts discover their personal heritage. Were their grandparents or great-grandparents alive in 1907? Where did they live? Were they involved in Scouting or Guiding? Do your Scouts have any family artifacts from that era? Organize a "show and tell" to round out your party.

Play games that Scouts 90 years ago might have played. What were they? The December 1923 *Scout Leader* magazine recommends Dodge Ball, A Chair Obstacle Race and Tug-O War as games that Cubs might enjoy.

Many of the program ideas to celebrate the coming millennium also apply to the 90th Anniversary (see the De-

ember *Leader*, p.30). For instance, ask your Scouts: How would the Brownsea Island camp differ from a camp today? What equipment would they have used? List all the camping inventions and innovations since 1907.



Serving, sharing and helping others experience life to its fullest. That's Scouting.

Don't forget about the future. What will Scouting be like 90 years from now? How will people camp? What new camping inventions will come along? Your Scouts or Venturers could have a 90th Anniversary camp in July '97. Better yet, celebrate the 90th with 10,000 of your closest friends at CJ'97 in Thunder Bay!

Make New Friends

Scouting is the world's largest peace movement, so why not commemorate the 90th Anniversary by making a new friend in another country? Australia is another country planning to celebrate Scouting's 90th in a big way. See the *Leader's* December and January *Pen Friends* columns for names and addresses of groups in Australia and other countries.

You could also visit groups around the world through the Internet. Typing "Scouting" into a web search engine (like Yahoo or AltaVista) will give you many group site addresses. Find out what other groups are doing for the 90th.

Onwards And Upwards

The excitement around Scouting today is similar to the exhilaration felt by many at the dawning of the Movement in 1907. More countries discover (or rediscover) Scouting each year. Get ready for continued growth and enthusiasm as co-ed Scouting evolves further, youth involvement increases, and we get more practical program resources in your hands.

Happy Birthday, Scouting! \



Scouting: Reaching higher heights each year!

That Magical Scouting Spirit: *Questions and Some Answers*

by Colin Wallace

Everyone talks about “Scouting spirit”, but most of us haven’t spent time thinking about what it really means. Let’s do that now.

What is “Scouting spirit” anyway? Is it a feeling? An emotion?

We’ve certainly all sung about it in that campfire favourite, “I’ve got that Scouting Spirit down in my heart...” But we need to define it in clearer terms. After all, if we can’t define it, we can’t truly understand it. Without understanding it, how can we teach Scouting spirit to young members? We won’t even know if we’ve got it!

Exploring the Boundaries

Does Scouting spirit involve fellowship or altruism or philanthropy? Perhaps it encompasses all of these. Is it like the festive spirit we often talk about, or is it like the work ethic we claim to hold dear?

If you can define Scouting spirit, how did you get it? How can you give it? Would you ever want to?

And what’s so different about Scouting spirit anyway? Do you have to be in uniform or at a Scouting event to feel its effect on you and the community? I hope not. Then maybe it’s only an attitude.

An Attitude, Vision and More

Don’t try to say, “Ah, I know what it is, but I can’t explain. I just know it when I see it.” Perhaps you’d find it easier to describe what it *isn’t*.

Could Scouting spirit entail,

- the regular and consistent achievement of your Scouter Promise?
- Living up to your full potential?
- Developing yourself spiritually, mentally, socially, and physically?

Scouting spirit probably involves the satisfying feeling of accomplishment you get when you perform an act of unselfish service — a do-a-good-turn-and-get-the-Scouting-spirit kind of equation.



“Scouting spirit? It’s having a good time with my buddies.”

But don’t you need to have the Scouting spirit *before* you do a good turn? Otherwise, you won’t feel inclined to do the good turn in the first place.

Live It

Years ago at a Scouter’s Five, Camp Chief Dr. James Anderson shared these thoughts at the closing campfire of a Woodbadge Part 2.

“We can’t describe it, but we have all felt a feeling of reverence and some kind of spirit acting within us. I’m almost ready to use the word LOVE without embarrassment to express this sense of closeness and family that has happened.”

“You can’t tell everybody about Scouting spirit; it has to be lived. The spark inside you can either glow brighter or it can go out. If it burns low, don’t blame it on the kids or the new program or hockey or the unenlightened service team. Nobody can put it out except you.”

“At Gilwell, we don’t pass you a torch to carry; only a little spark. It is secret — and all your own. We trust you to fan that spark into a steady flame, but do it gently.”

Pass the Spark Please

When you’ve discovered that glorious spark — that Scouting spirit — please share it with everyone you meet, including those outside the Movement.

Scouting spirit: it’s tied into our Mission and Mottos. It’s related to service, and sharing, and doing our best. It’s connected to helping a younger generation learn adventurous skills and experience the best of outdoor life in a safe context.

Catch the spirit!

— Colin Wallace is a spirited trainer in Greater Toronto Region, ON.

Photo: Allen Macartney

The Brotherhood of Scouting: A Skit

by Gary Nelson

This skit is suitable for Scouts, Venturers and Rovers to perform near the end of an all-section campfire, as the program winds down.

Cast

Old man with a staff
Spirit of the Beaver
Spirit of the Wolf Cub
Spirit of the Scout
Spirit of the Venturer
Spirit of the Rover

Notes

The old man is inside the campfire circle, walking slowly and leaning heavily on a staff.

The Scouting Spirits are evenly spaced outside the campfire circle, just far enough back that they can't be seen. If they haven't had time to memorize their lines, let them use index cards lit by small flashlights. Make sure they speak up loudly and clearly.

Each time the old man stops and looks into the fire, leave two to three seconds of silence before a Spirit speaks.

Make the old man's memories specific to the group. This will give the words greater relevance to the audience. Consult with other leaders and youth members for ideas.

Old Man: (*Shuffling slowly around the campfire.*) "My life has been long and my Scouting years are behind me." (*Nodding head slowly and looking sad.*) "My friends are all gone. I will die alone; old and alone." (*Stops and stares into the fire.*)

All Spirits: "Sharing!"

Spirit of the Beaver: "I am the Spirit of the Beaver. When you were young, I taught you sharing and caring for the world."

Old Man: (*Shuffles slowly around the campfire recalling a happy Beaver memory. A smile creases his face, then he speaks with a little enthusiasm.*)

"Beavers! I remember Beavers. Riverbanks and the Beaver pond. Making crafts to take home to Mom.... They were great times." (*Add some activities recently enjoyed in your group. Stops and stares into the fire.*)



Scouting spirit involves sharing your life with others.

Photo: Paul Ritchi

All Spirits: "A-ke-la!"

Spirit of the Wolf Cub: "I am the Spirit of the Wolf Cub. I taught you to do your best. I led your pack through the forest, and you lived by my law."

Old Man: (*Shuffles around the campfire again smiling a half smile, recalling Cub memories.*) "Cubs! I remember Cubs. Hot dog roasts in the bush. My

first real camp out! Kub Kar races." (*Add activities. He stops and stares into the fire remembering the great experiences. He starts to stand a bit taller.*)

All Spirits: "On My Honour."

Spirit of the Scout: "I am the Spirit of the Scout. I taught you knots and how to camp without a trace. We explored the land and water together."

Old Man: (*His shuffle changes to a slow walk as he recalls Scout memories. With greater enthusiasm he speaks.*)

"Scouts! I remember. Long hikes and great camps. Breaking lake ice for water in the winter." (*Stops and stares into the fire nodding head and smiling.*)

All Spirits: "Challenge!"

Spirit of the Venturer: "I am the Spirit of the Venturer — the spirit of adventure. I taught you leadership and set you free to test your limits."

Old Man: (*Recalls the past with a deep satisfied sigh.*) "Oh yes, Venturers. Helping at CJ'93 as a hikemaster. Leading people from around the world into the Rockies." (*Stops and stares into the fire, smiling warmly.*)

All Spirits: "Service!"

Spirit of the Rover: "I am the Spirit of the Rover. I led you to adulthood. We chose to give back the love we were given through service."

Old Man: (*Stands up straight and tall now with a broad smile. Walks slowly, but confidently, as he recalls the excellent experiences.*) "Rovers! I could never forget Rovers. Taking part in district campfires. The moots and road trips. Great friendships!" (*Stands motionless in front of the fire smiling.*)

All Spirits: (*Walk straight into the campfire circle where they stand around the old man. They stand silently for a few seconds.*) "We are the brotherhood of Scouting." (*Each section says its name — Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers, Rovers.*) "If you grow up with Scouting, you are never alone." ^

— Gary Nelson is a Scouter from Surrey, British Columbia.



I Have a Dream:

A LETTER TO B.-P. by Michael Lee Zwiers

Dear B.-P.,

In 1907, you ran a test camp on Brownsea Island and founded Scouting. From such humble beginnings the Movement grew rapidly, spurred on by the enthusiasm and imagination of its youth; their hearts were afire with its magic.

Soon after, you cautioned:

“First I had an idea. Then I saw an ideal. Now we have a movement and, if some of you don’t watch out, we shall end up with just an organization.”

Well, B.-P., we’ve been around for 90 years and I’m not convinced that we took your warning seriously enough. The Movement is still here, but the flame isn’t burning as brightly as it once did.

Rebuild Our Roots

I have a dream for Scouting’s future. I dream that we will return to our roots. This doesn’t mean returning to what Scouting used to be; a real Movement lives and breathes and changes with the times. Scouting should return to its *true* roots — it’s youth and leaders — because the best changes come from those who are playing the game, not the administrators sitting on the sidelines.

Let me tell you about my dream.

Our Handbook

B.-P., you wrote a manual, *Scouting for Boys*, based on your life experiences in many countries. It became a worldwide bestseller, surpassed in sales only by *The Collected Works of Shakespeare* and *The Holy Bible*. Your book was captivating. It made us feel like you were sitting beside us at a campfire, telling heroic stories. You described hundreds of thrilling games, skills and activities that we could try in our local communities and wilderness areas. You mixed wisdom and learning in equal portions with excitement and adventure.

Our current manuals are dull by comparison. They’ve exchanged your personal tone for a more sterile informative one.

I dream of new handbooks written with youth in mind and filled with hundreds of stories, ideas and activities submitted by adults and youth from across the country.

The handbooks could contain tales of heroic acts and real-life adventures of our members; stories relating how fitness, quick thinking, planning, skill, knowledge, teamwork or inventive-

ness saved the day. I would like to see contributions from today’s Canadian heroes: world class mountain climbers and athletes, pilots and astronauts, paramedics and firefighters, ministers and social workers, entertainers and musicians, artists and inventors, police officers and politicians. These people have made a difference in the world. Let’s hear about it!

We don’t have you to write it all down, but surely we could publish books that would thrill youth and adults alike — books to move us emotionally and spiritually at the same time as they instruct and motivate us toward higher personal achievements.

Our Program

B.-P., you called the Scouting program an adventurous game that takes place in the outdoors. You said it only requires the enthusiasm and ingenuity of its members. You guided young people with a simple, yet effective, Promise, Law, Motto and Slogan.

Our current program resembles a complex blueprint of national ideals, rather than a reflection of local inter-



Photo: Paul Ritchie

Everyone wins when we encourage youth to grow in a healthy environment.

ests and needs. It's more likely to be carried out in school rooms and community halls, than the great outdoors.

What ever happened to the out in Scouting?

I dream of a program that takes place in small groups outside. I dream of a program that draws on its local members' strengths, interests and enthusiasm; an active program spearheaded by creative leaders and energetic youth.

Time spent in nature would teach about the mysteries and challenges of life, interdependence, survival, joy, and the wonder of God's hand at work in all things.

Our Badges

B.-P., your initial badge scheme was simple and manageable. Youth could earn a few challenge badges that encouraged them to pursue hobbies in their spare time, including handicrafts, collections and sports. Youth could also work their way through a three-stage achievement scheme that recognized overall development in:

- physical fitness and outdoor skills,
- safety and lifesaving,
- teamwork,
- leadership.

Scouts had to work hard to progress from stage to stage, but they were clear about what they had to do. What a great sense of accomplishment they felt after advancing to a higher level!

Our current badge scheme, with its many hurdles and options, is overwhelming for youth, and complex and impractical for leaders. Its many written assignments and group discussions bear a close resemblance to school work.

I dream of a simple and inexpensive badge scheme that provides general guidance, motivation and recognition to youth and leaders. It has only two branches: personal pursuit and personal growth.

The personal pursuit arm encourages youth to follow some kind of productive hobby; the personal growth side encourages them to develop themselves thoroughly and to demonstrate this growth through practical physical activities over a period of time.

Our Training

B.-P., you outlined a training scheme in a compact manual titled *Aids to Scoutmastership*. In it, you emphasized the simplicity of the Scouting program. You called it a game and not a science, one that required enthusiastic and cooperative leaders — not experts.

Our current training programs and manuals range far and wide. They cover theories of curriculum, instruction, interpersonal communication, and child development. You managed to teach these things but disguised them

person or a superhero. A good Scouter need only be a human being with a sense of adventure, a sense of humour, resourcefulness, ingenuity, and an interest in developing both himself (or herself) and the youth.

The life blood of this Movement is the youth and their leaders.

in brief examples and friendly challenges or suggestions.

I dream of training guidelines that encourage Scouters to (a) visit other groups in order to observe and borrow ideas, (b) watch and listen to their own youth, and (c) do activities which directly benefit their members.

A good Scouter does not have to be a teacher, a counsellor, a business

I dream of training guidelines which are less than a page long and which take fewer than five minutes to communicate.

Here's where we should start.

- Have fun.
- Get outside often.
- Play fun games.
- Give your youth members *real* responsibility.



Photo: Allen Macartney

Ask youth what they want to experience, then help them achieve their goals.

- Smile when you feel like yelling or complaining.
- Teach by example.
- Ask youth members what *they* want to do and then help plan and carry out their ideas. *Really listen to them.*
- Organize your members into small groups so they can learn to work as team players.
- Rely on your own strengths, ingenuity, and judgement.
- Help youth to develop *all* areas of their abilities, instead of just a few.
- Plan activities with other groups so you and your Scouts can constantly broaden horizons.
- Seek to improve yourself as an individual.
- Try new things so you can learn from your failures and thrill to your successes.
- Keep your Scouting group small enough that you can get to know members as *individuals*.
- Give thanks to God.

Our Membership

B.-P., when you started Scouting, you encouraged groups of youth to try it on their own, or to find a leader within their community who could help them set and achieve their goals. Few adults were involved at a regional or national level and the membership fee was low. You said Scouting would not get bogged down in bureaucracy because its members wouldn't stand for it. You encouraged spirited adults to join and help young people grow into productive adulthood.

Unfortunately, too many adults today have forgotten that *the most*



Photo: Paul Ritchie

The outdoors offers amazing opportunities for young people to grow and learn about life.

important members are the youth and the active program leaders. Far too many well-meaning members waste time and energy on committees and paperwork that actually provide little or no measurable benefit to youth. Sadly, some adults are only involved for their own self-interest and glory — not many, but some.

I dream of an active membership of young leaders, parents, and community supporters, people whose main focus is to help youth accomplish their goals.

Parents and other adult volunteers should provide two things: (1) direct program support, and (2) safety and security for young people by finding adult leaders with personal integrity.

Police record checks and ongoing monitoring by other leaders and community members would help ensure a high quality of leadership.

That's my dream, B.-P.

It's a simple one, but many others are dreaming it too. It's a dream for young people. It's a loving and passionate dream for your Movement, a way to help return it to the youth. After all, it was their Movement before we took it away from them. ^

— *Michael Lee Zwiers is a leader with over twenty years Scouting experience in Alberta, Ontario and British Columbia.*

B.-P.'s dream involved teaching youth to work and play together.



Photo: Paul Ritchie

Image Guardians: *Positive, Appealing and Understandable*

by John Rietveld

An important responsibility of public relations involves keeping an organization's image positive, appealing and understandable. This image must be both culturally current and relevant.

When an organization has been around as long as Scouting, public images often become confused because of the history of the Movement and the varied memories of those who have participated over the past 90 years.

The public, the media and some adult members often still refer to "the Boy Scouts," and perpetuate the image of a stetson-wearing Scout in shorts helping an old lady cross the street. During Scout-Guide Week our displays, program folders and other publicity items often include black and white photos of B.-P. Some images may have a negative impact on Scouting's ability to appear culturally-relevant for today's youth.

While knowing about our past can help us maintain focus and direction in the future, all PR people should concentrate on building a better image.

A Uniform Language

How can you help? It's not too difficult. Start with the language you use when describing the Movement to family, friends and co-workers. We are "Scouts Canada," not "the Boy Scouts." Today we have youth members -- male and female -- not just boys. Try to really foster this co-ed image. The term "Boy Scouts" has become part of Canadian culture and will take time to change, but let's make every effort to use our correct name.

Were you given a copy of the Supply Services catalogue when you joined Scouting? If you browsed through it for several minutes it would become evident that we're a uniformed organization. This includes an official shirt, pants and beret. But many photographs received by **the Leader**, and submitted for our photo files, show members with "waist up"

uniforms only. Blue jeans and sweat pants are *not* uniform items, and while some of our members may need assistance to purchase the complete uniform, adults leaders must dress according to the uniform standards of Scouts Canada.

The issue of image cannot be discussed without some reference to the stetson hat. Nearly 30 years ago (1968)

they relate to changes to program methodology, procedures, or the uniform. Communicate your views to those commissioners and committees responsible for addressing the issue, but once the committee has reached a decision, support the new direction as far as possible. Public criticism does nothing to help. It only harms Scouting's reputation in the eyes of the

Change can be stressful, but often it's the life blood that keeps a movement relevant and vibrant.

we decided to replace the stetson with the beret; yet some adult volunteers, and even a few youth members, still sport the stetson. This doesn't help to enhance our image. In fact, it perpetuates an outdated and old-fashioned Scouting image.

Change Is Important

Change can be stressful and even difficult, but often it's the life blood that keeps a movement like Scouting alive, relevant and vibrant. It's okay to discuss the need for change, but let's keep the debate internal. Our feelings don't need to become known outside Scouting.

Everyone is free to an opinion and can participate in discussions, whether

public -- the same people we call on for support: both moral and financial. Be discreet when expressing an opinion on change, and please support the Movement once a new direction becomes policy.

Image Guardians

As we celebrate our 90th birthday, let's all promise to be better image guardians. Proudly wear the uniform, speak of the Movement as "Scouts Canada," and be careful to whom you express unhappiness, for the sake of today's youth.

Together we'll put a positive spin on Scouting's image as we head toward our 100th anniversary in 2007. \



Photo: Paul Ritchi

Scouting: Working together to build healthy, enquiring, fun-loving youth.

Dedication, Selflessness and Valour

1996 CHIEF SCOUT'S INVESTITURE

Twenty-two dedicated and brave Scouting members received Scouts Canada's highest honours this year from His Excellency, the Right Honourable Roméo Leblanc,

Governor General and Chief Scout of Canada. On November 18, 1996 these members joined with families and friends at The Citadel Inn in Ottawa for our annual investiture ceremony.

"Many of you faced danger to help people in need," the Chief Scout said. "In some cases you saved lives. (Often) you used the skills you learned in Scouting. But you also showed the attitudes that go together with Scouting."

"All of you have demonstrated the highest ideals of Scouting. You have inspired others, and you have brought honour to yourselves and to the Movement you represent."

Applauding the actions of those gathered before him, the Chief Scout spoke about his own Scouting background when growing up in New Brunswick. He reminisced about tying knots, building fires at camp, helping the community and star-gazing at night, and linked this with present-day Scouting.

"Lord Baden-Powell's three principles have stood the test of time," he

said. "Scouts have a duty to God, a duty to others and a duty to themselves. Scouting teaches the value of bravery, selflessness and devotion to duty. I congratulate each of you on your achievements."

JACK CORNWELL AWARD

(for having undergone great suffering in a heroic manner)

This decoration bears the name of a British Scout who in 1916, at the age of sixteen, served in the Royal Navy at the Battle of Jutland. He was mortally wounded in this action, but heroically remained at his post with others dead and dying around him. He was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross.

One youth member received the Jack Cornwell Award.

Jeffrey C. Balesdent (16, Trenton, NS) has shown great courage in the face of much physical suffering. His high personal commitment to Scouting exceeds all expectations. His cheerful, optimistic outlook on life has been a great inspiration to everyone he has met. Jeffrey's strength of character personifies his dedication to the Scout Promise and Law.

GOLD CROSS

(for gallantry with special heroism and extraordinary risk)

Two people received the Gold Cross for gallantry this year.

Ashley Jagoe and **Leonard McGrath** (Bathurst, NB) risked their lives attempting to rescue 26 miners trapped by an underground explosion at the Westray Coal Mine on May 9, 1992. By



Photos: Christian Coulombe

Jeffrey Balesdent's optimistic outlook inspires everyone he meets.



Ashley Jagoe and Leonard McGrath risked their lives trying to save 26 miners trapped underground at the Westray Coal Mine.

their heroic efforts, Ashley and Leonard truly exemplify what it means to live by the Scout Law.

BRONZE CROSS

(for gallantry, with moderate risk)

This year seven people received the Bronze Cross.

On January 10, 1995, **Aaron M. Bouchard** (9, Dartmouth, NS) was out with a friend who broke through the ice. The river's current pulled him under. Reacting quickly, Aaron held onto an overhanging branch, reached out to grasp his friend and pulled him to safety. By remaining calm and by doing all the right things, Aaron saved a life.

While trying to retrieve a lost bicycle helmet near the shoreline, a youth suddenly fell into icy water on April 27, 1995. Upon hearing the cries for help, **Hamish Boyd** (12, Nelson, BC) raced to the shoreline, went out onto the ice and lay flat on his stomach. He reached for the youth's hand and pulled him to safety. Without hesitation, Hamish used his skills and knowledge to save a life.

Donald Leach (Delta, BC) suddenly came upon the scene of a serious multi-vehicle highway accident on June 15, 1993. Reacting promptly, Donald used his transit bus to block oncoming traffic. Despite the potential for personal risk due to fire or explosion, Donald attempted to extricate the victim. When this proved unsuccessful, he remained at the scene to administer first aid.

A family gathering on December 26, 1995 was suddenly interrupted when the clothing of a senior family member accidentally caught fire. Both **Dale Morland** and **Liam Morland** (Ottawa, ON) responded instantly by trying to put out the flames. Dale and Liam used their first aid skills to attend to the victim and transport her to hospital, before attending to their own needs. Their efforts resulted in the saving of a life.

Ben Simms (Corner Brook, NF) saw two young swimmers in water over their heads in extreme distress on August 7, 1995. Without hesitation, Ben swam out to them. He rescued one swimmer, successfully bringing him to shore, while the second youth came in on his own. Ben's quick thinking and prompt use of skills saved a life.



Dale Morland and Liam Morland used their first aid skills to smother a fire that threatened a family member.

While looking after his baby brother on March 14, 1995, **Christopher J. Sleightholm** (11, Meadow Lake, SK) went to investigate a noise in the kitchen. Seeing that the oven was on fire, Christopher reacted quickly, called the fire department and promptly left the home with his brother. By acting responsibly and using his knowledge of Scouting skills, Christopher saved the life of his brother.



Peter Hendriks helped save the life of his father.

MEDAL FOR MERITORIOUS CONDUCT

(for especially meritorious conduct not involving heroism or risk of life)

Nine individuals received the Medal for Meritorious Conduct this year.

Achilles J.A. Bellisle (18, Prince Albert, SK) promptly administered first aid in two separate incidents to victims who suffered potential neck or spinal injuries in July 1994. He did this despite personal injury himself. In another instance, Achilles attended to a person with a severe allergic reaction. Achilles' quick thinking and prompt use of first aid skills saved lives.

At a camp on September 19, 1995, a youth accidentally fell into the water, striking her head and injuring her neck. When it was decided to treat the incident as a potential spinal emergency,

Ryan Dixon (Foster, PQ) and **Kirk G.R. Royea** (Knowlton, PQ) canoed to the base camp to alert medical authorities and arrange for transport out. Ryan and Kirk were instrumental in successfully evacuating the victim.

On April 17, 1996, the sister of **Mark Dornan** (9, Corner Brook, NF) accidentally released the parking brake of the family car causing it to

roll toward a 16 metre embankment. Reacting quickly, Mark ran, jumped into car and tried to apply the brakes. When that failed, Mark jumped out of the car and tried to slow the progress of the car. He was successful and his sister jumped out to safety.

During a family camping trip in June 1996, the sister of **Trevor Faunt** (11, Calgary, AB) was accidentally splashed by scalding hot water when a pot handle broke. Trevor administered cold compresses, provided a blanket to prevent shock and calmly reassured her en route to medical attention. Trevor's quick, skilful action spared his sister from more extensive burns and treatment.

Douglas R. Hammond-Wood (14, Keswick, ON) was swimming with his family on August 6, 1995 when a barrel suddenly broke on a floating dock. This caused the dock to flip over, trapping Doug's brother underneath. Without hesitation, Doug dove underneath the dock, disentangled his brother's lifejacket and pulled him to safety. Doug's actions saved the life of his brother.

On October 5, 1995, **Peter J. Hendriks** (11, Edmonton, AB) arrived home to find his father had taken a seizure. Peter used his knowledge of first aid skills to make his father comfortable, and called 911. Peter continued to monitor his father's condition until medical help arrived at the scene. His prompt preventive measures and attention to detail saved his father's life.

While preparing for his Scout meeting, **Scott Muir** (15, Scarborough, ON), suddenly found his father lying unconscious on the floor. Scott's father did not have a pulse and was not breathing. Scott asked a friend to call 911 while he cleared his father's air passage. Scott's proper use of first aid skills and quick thinking in a stressful situation saved the life of his father.

Grâce à son intervention rapide et efficace, **Denis Tessier** (12 ans, St. Hubert, PQ) a sauvé la vie d'un ami qui avait été coincé par la pression de l'eau et l'armature cassée d'une piscine qui s'était effondrée soudainement. Cette décoration lui est décernée en reconnaissance de ses actes dans cette situation.



Mark Dornan helped rescue his little sister from a car.

Denis Tessier (12, St. Hubert, PQ) received this award for his prompt action and proper use of skills in saving a friend who became trapped by water pressure and broken trussing when a swimming pool suddenly broke apart.

SILVER WOLF

(for service of the most exceptional character to Scouting, normally of national importance)

William G. Forbes (Stony Plain, AB) just completed a two year term as National President of Scouts Canada. His service to Scouting included being a Sea Scout leader in Sarnia, and various senior positions with the Alberta Councils. Bill was Chairman of the Planning Committee for the 8th Canada Jamboree. Bill's service has made an impact at the provincial and national levels of the Movement.

J. Avard Marven (Riverview, NB) has provided long and faithful service to Scouting at the district, provincial and national levels. He gave freely of his time and financial expertise to ensure each Scouting event was successful. Avard's support of Scouting has truly benefitted hundreds of young members.

For many years **H. William Westwood** (Dalmeny, SK) has been extremely dedicated to Scouting. He is currently a member of the Regional Honours and Awards Committee in Saskatoon. Bill was instrumental in establishing Saskatoon's Inner City Program; many Aboriginal youth have benefitted from his assistance. Bill lives for young people and truly exemplifies Scouting. λ



Scouts Canada is very proud of these outstanding members of the Scouting Movement.



We've Grown!

Youth membership in every section has increased by 3.10% over last year, while adult membership increased by 1.26%.

Below we list some additional highlights from the November '96 National Council meetings.

Membership Fees

A national membership fee increase might be required in the future to maintain a balanced budget without reducing services. National Council will consider a motion during its next meetings (May, 1997) that could result in a fee increase of up to \$2, effective September 1, 1997.

Funding Principles

Seeking ways to keep the membership fee as low as possible, National Council has been considering new funding sources. A paper, prepared through extensive consultation with provincial and regional councils, was tabled outlining new funding principles and guidelines. (A copy is available upon request from the National Office.)

Volunteer Screening

The following was approved unanimously:

"All members have the right to participate in Scouts Canada in a safe environment free from intrusions on their dignity or person. Volunteers are responsible for ensuring that situations where safety or protection of members is, or has been, at risk, whether for individual or systemic reasons, are dealt with immediately in accordance with provincial, territorial or federal law.

Scouts Canada expects all volunteers will adhere to the policy by:

- Following the steps to become Scouts Canada volunteers,
- Participating in training opportunities to become competent in their role,
- Acting with due consideration for the safety of other members (staff and volunteers),
- Not participating in any activity that offends a person's dignity or person,
- Reporting to the council those volunteers who pose a risk to members or to organizational resources.

Policy:

All programs of Scouts Canada must be designed with due consideration for the protection and safety of all participants. To help ensure the safety and protection of all participants, Scouts Canada will screen all applicants for all positions. Thereafter, Scouts Canada will review the suitability of all volunteers on an on-going basis to ensure Scouts Canada's programs are delivered by appropriate persons."

Elected Officers

The following were elected as National Council officers: David Rattray, President; Herb Pitts, National Commissioner; John Pettifer, Chief Executive; Robin Hamilton Harding, Secretary/Treasurer; Bill Forbes, Past President; Jack Sinclair, International Commissioner; Allen Ball, Vice President; David Huestis, Vice President; Robert Laughton, QC, Honourary Legal Counsel. X

"WAKE UP!"

DON'T WAIT UNTIL SPRING.

VISIT YOUR LOCAL SCOUT SHOP FOR



OUTDOOR PRODUCTS



SCOUT SHOPS
COAST TO COAST



Fun at the Pond

by Lena Wong



February is a wonderful month!

The days are getting longer, and in some places spring is starting to peek out and take a look at us. In colder areas, Scouting groups are taking part in amazing winter festivals.

February usually boasts many sunny days ideal for getting out in the fresh, crisp air. Indoors we can still have long warm evenings with lots of creative fun. Don't forget the splendid opportunities for story-telling and musical activities, both inside or out.

You've probably already started to assemble your mall display for Scout-Guide Week (February 16-23) from craft treasures your Beavers have worked on since September. If you have a photographer, include some shots in your display.

MID-WINTER CRAFTS

Your Beavers will enjoy these activities from *Mobiles & Other Paper Windcatchers and Papercrafts Around The World*, by Phyllis and Noel Fiarotta (Sterling Publishing).

Lodge Totem Pole Mobile

Make one of these mobiles for each lodge in your colony, then hang them side-by-side in your meeting hall. Because this is a cooperative craft, encourage Beavers to discuss their creative activities amongst themselves.

Each lodge needs a long piece of cord and masking tape. Individual Beavers need a piece of coloured bristol board about 21 x 27.5 cm, scissors, crayons (or markers). Ask your Beavers to draw the outline of their favourite animal's head on the bristol board with crayons, using as much of the sheet as possible. Those children choosing birds, should also draw and colour wings to be taped to the back of the head. Make sure everyone uses plenty of colour!

Cut along the outlines of the faces, then tape the faces on to the cord to finish the totem pole.

Beaver Banner

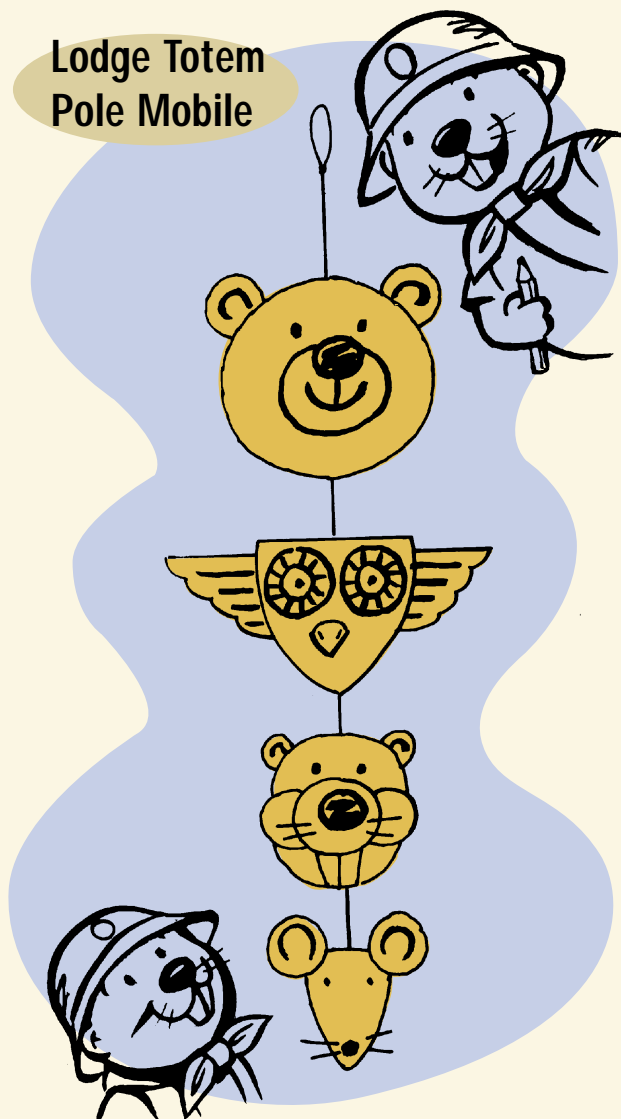
You'll need cord, pencils, yarn, a one-hole punch, and enough single pieces of construction paper to form the letters in your colony's name (i.e. First Everytown Beavers = 21 pieces). Use a half standard size sheet of paper cut across the width for each letter. Discuss with colony members whether they want to use only one colour or many.

Draw the outline of each letter on a piece of construction paper and cut out. Use stencils to outline the letters if you want your banner to be extra neat. Punch the top of each letter and tie a piece of yarn about 12 cm long through the hole. Tie the letters (spelling out the colony name) to the cord, then hang it up taut. You might try personalizing the banner by decorating the letters with drawings or stickers.

Stick Mask

Using the same basic idea as the lodge totem pole mobile, have Beavers draw faces on bristol board approximately the same size as their own

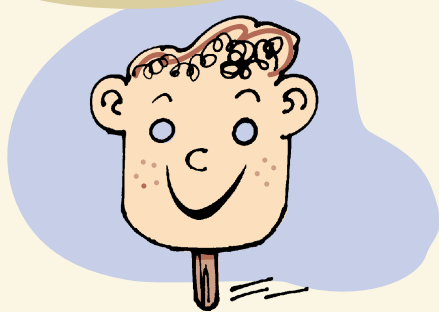
Lodge Totem Pole Mobile



faces. Help each child to locate the position of eyes, and cut the holes out. Now cut out the face outlines and glue a popsicle stick to the bottom of the mask. Dress up the masks by gluing yarn hair, beards and other features to the faces.

Paper Tube People

Stick Mask



Each Beaver needs a toilet roll tube or half a paper towel tube, and a round disc (about 7-9 cm) cut from bristol board. Paint the tubes with poster paint and let dry. Decorate the tubes to resemble a person's body wearing colourful clothes. Draw facial features and hair on the discs and glue on to the front of the tube. Googly eyes and yard (hair and beards) will make the faces more interesting.

Paper Tube Person



GAMES

Danish Mikrospejdere (Beavers) really enjoy playing these next two games.

An Observation Game

Practise your miming technique at home before this evening. Bring a large box to the meeting and leave it outside the door or in a corner. When game time arrives, seat your Beavers in a circle and start by telling a little story, something like this: "My great, great, great grandfather was a mighty pirate who sailed the seven seas and brought home many strange things. Yesterday

I was cleaning the attic and found one of his old sea chests. I brought it here tonight to open and show you some of his many pirate treasures. I need some help to carry the chest into the circle."

Pick several older Beavers to help you bring the box into the centre of the circle. Tell them (quietly) to make it look as if the box is very heavy. Make a great show of opening the chest with a large, old invisible key. Take out the first invisible item and show what it is by miming the actions necessary to use it. For example, if the object is a fishing pole, mime casting the line, hooking the fish and reeling it in. The first Beaver to guess what the item is gets to take the next object out from the chest. But first you must use the big old key to lock the chest; the Beaver must then use it to open the lock again. Keep going until every Beaver has had a chance to take out an item.

Kitty, Kitty Meow

Seat the Beavers in a circle and pick someone to be IT. Blindfold IT with a neckerchief. IT moves around the circle (helped by a leader) and kneels in front of another player, and says, "What does the Kitty say?"

The player answers, "Meow, Meow." IT must guess who the player is from voice recognition or move on to the next person. The first person correctly named becomes IT.

MUSICAL FUN

When you're commemorating 90 years of Scouting, good old "musical chairs" is a sure winner for a game. Use jackets laid on the floor instead of chairs, and play some lively music that's popular with Beaver-aged children.

Musical Statues

This game is a variation of musical chairs. Beavers dance as they please while the music is playing, but when it stops, the children must freeze in position. Any Beaver caught moving after the music stops is out of the game. Continue until all Beavers are standing on the sidelines. (*Nasty hint:* The longer you leave the music off, the more likely Beavers will move.)

RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS

Have you ever watched rhythmic gymnastics on TV? It's amazing what these athletes can do with a combination of gymnastic floor movements, a ball, a ribbon on a stick and a skipping rope.

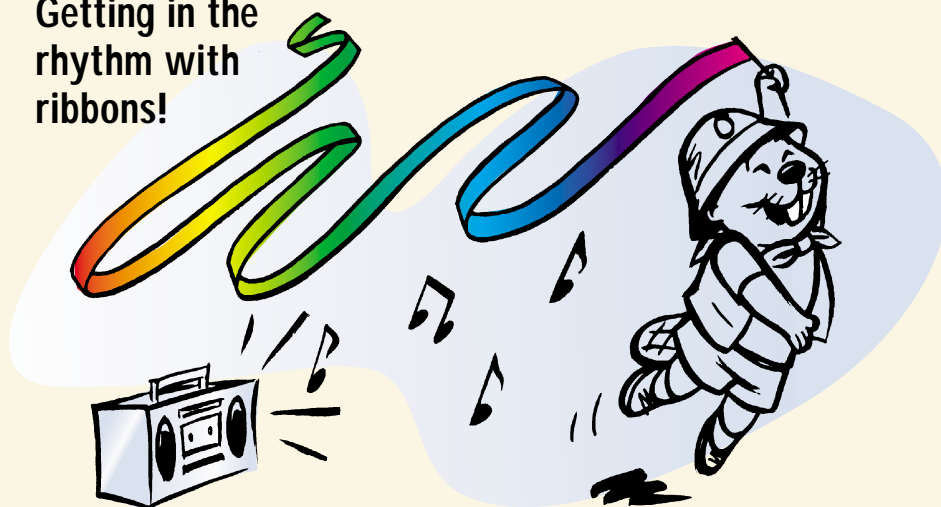
Introduce a simple form of this sport to your Beavers. Choose music that is not too fast. Let the children use a ball (about the size of a small soccer ball) or a piece of ribbon tied to a short stick. As a safety precaution, if you use ribbon, cut it to a length that will not trail on the floor and trip other Beavers.

Beavers using balls should roll them along their arms, pass them from one hand to the other, and bounce them on their toes or knees in rhythm to the music. They should try to avoid dropping them on the floor.

Those children using ribbons should dance to the music while they swirl the ribbons around in a rhythmic movement over their heads and around their bodies. Though athletes who practise this sport will throw their ribbons up in the air and catch them again, your Beavers need to keep a good grip on their ribbons at all times.

Encourage everyone to try both gymnastic tools. Next month we'll look at spring activities. X

Getting in the rhythm with ribbons!



Who's Your Family Safety Officer?

by Ross Francis

AS CUBS GET OLDER THEY'RE ABLE TO TAKE ON more responsibilities. They should also be more aware of safety concerns and issues. This project will help families work together to check their homes and surrounding areas for hazards which could cause injury.

Parents should start by appointing their Cub-aged youth as the home "Safety Officer." This child should set aside some time each month (mark it on the calendar) to do safety checks throughout the home on a regular basis. This is important as some safety concerns (such as swimming pool precautions, cycling, etc.) change with the seasons.

Each Safety Officer will require a clipboard, a pen and a Safety Officer pin. (Let the Cub design this herself.) Safety Officers should inspect the home and surrounding areas with a parent or sibling, recording any safety hazards that they find, the date they were noticed and the recommended course of action for correction.

After completing the project, the Safety Officer should meet with the rest of the family to report her findings and recommendations. Once this is complete, the family can begin making all necessary corrections. As the changes are made, the Safety Officer should delete them from her list.

Search and Correct

There are many things to check throughout the home and surrounding area. Safety Officers should be encouraged to spend as much time as required to list all items that they feel may cause an injury.

Following is a helpful checklist for the Safety Officer, but don't feel restricted by these suggestions.

1. Check for a list of all emergency telephone numbers. This should be posted on, or near, the phone. The list should include numbers for police, ambulance, hospital poison control, fire, parents (at work), trusted neighbour, and any other appropriate numbers.

2. Make sure all cleaning solvents are in their proper containers and stored in a child-proof area.
3. Matches, lighters and other inflammable materials should be stored in a secure area.
4. Check paint cans, paper and rags to make sure they are stored properly and away from heat sources.
5. Is there a hazardous waste collection area in the neighbourhood? Safety Officers should visit this with their parents and take any unneeded items for disposal. Together as a family, discuss how to properly dispose of household waste in an environmentally safe and friendly way.
6. Test the smoke detector and replace batteries when necessary. Do you have enough smoke detectors for your home?
7. Make sure stove tops are free of inflammable items.
8. Check electrical outlets for overloading (i.e. more than two plugs in one outlet).
9. If there are younger children at home, check for child-proof plugs in electrical outlets.
10. Every home needs a fully-charged fire extinguisher. It should be easily accessible in the kitchen. Make sure your family knows how and when to use it properly.
11. All medications requiring refrigeration should be stored in their proper child-proof containers in the fridge, out of reach of children.
12. Check the dates on both medications and food items. Properly dispose of expired items.
13. Check the kitchen for knives, scissors and other potentially dangerous items. Store these in a child-proof drawer.
14. Are stairs, halls and floors throughout the house free of toys and other items which may cause a fall?



Check all smoke detectors regularly.

Photos: Allen Macartney

15. Make sure toys are picked up promptly. If you find any broken toys, arrange for them to be properly repaired or thrown away.
16. Check crayon labels to make sure they are non-toxic.
17. Make sure that cords for blinds and curtains are tied back and out of reach of young children.
18. With a parent, check the hot water heater to make sure the temperature is set below 54°C (130°F) to prevent scalding.
19. If you have a garage with an electric door opener, ask a parent to help you check to see that it operates safely. When closing, the door should reverse if it hits an object.
20. As a family, prepare an emergency escape plan for your home. Draw a picture showing the exits to be used, and practise escaping. Include a gathering place outside the home where everybody will meet after exiting the house.
21. Make sure flashlights are readily available in the event of a power outage. Check to ensure that a number of candles, lanterns and matches are available, but stored out of reach of children.
22. Is a first aid kit available within the house? Each family member should have a basic understanding of how to use it.
23. Together as a family, discuss the importance of proper nutrition, and proper storage and disposal of food items. Talk about proper cleaning of the food preparation area, dishes, utensils, pots and pans.
24. Discuss which areas of the house, or items in the house, are "out of bounds." Talk about the importance of following these rules.

Safe Lifestyles

Family safety involves more than just watching for dangerous conditions in and around your house. Safety Officers should use these ideas below to make the entire neighbourhood safer.

1. As a family, discuss the routes to and from schools and other areas usually walked or travelled by each child. Check the routes for possible hazards by walking over the area. Identify busy intersections, railway crossings, bus connection points, etc. If necessary,



modify your route to avoid potentially dangerous areas.

2. Identify safe areas along these routes; draw a map of the streets you frequently travel indicating both the areas to avoid and the safe areas.
3. As a family, discuss how children should react if approached by a stranger offering a ride, gifts or candy.
4. Discuss proper bicycle safety with your family, and identify boundaries. Make sure the helmets are checked frequently for proper sizing and brakes are properly adjusted. Does everyone know how to wear a helmet properly? Your forehead *shouldn't* be exposed.

Personalize Your List

Each family should make up its own list with additional items that suit its circumstances, then correct any identified problems.

Everyone's list should include these points:

- winter safety
- swimming pool safety
- sunburn safety
- personal hygiene.

What other items come to mind?

Not Just For Fun

The Safety Officer's role is very important. The child may help prevent a family member or friend from experiencing a painful injury.

By accepting the Safety Officer's responsibility, Cubs will begin to really

appreciate the importance of safety in and around their homes and communities.

Encourage those Cubs who decide to participate in this family safety project to share their findings with the rest of the pack. This will promote greater safety awareness and underline the importance of constant vigilance. ^

“ Give Me a Group Experience. ”

by Ian Mitchell

The Venturer Program Review has shown us that youth want more company challenges and company recognition.

At this stage in their development, Venturer-aged youth are beginning to make a place for themselves outside the home. They are drifting away from family control, and are developing influential and lasting friendships with other young people. No wonder the issue of company challenges is so important with teens.

What Can We Do?

Already, many awards in the Venturer program promote exactly what members want: company challenges. With the new changes we're introducing, although some awards won't mention the company specifically, most will refer to small groups or to fulfilling requirements while participating with others.

For example, the Outdoorsman Award (section 1) states: "Projects may be carried out in groups." Section 2 says: "Projects must be carried out in groups of three to five Venturers." The World Conservation Award Requirement #1 states: "As a group...."

When you combine these examples with the Blue and Gold Award, the Can-

adian Trails Award, and the Amory Adventure Award (all of which are company-designed), you get a program which is both heavily weighted towards fulfilling the Venturers' need to socialize (participate in groups), and attaining personal accomplishments along the way.

The program allows for recognition when completing any of these awards if a Venturer wants it. If a youth member is not motivated by recognition, so be it. But remember, *all* youth need positive reinforcement, whether it involves just a pat on the back for a job well done or the presentation of a badge.

Recognizing that Venturer-aged youth crave group activities, it's important that advisors keep a watchful eye on each individual's program. Occasionally, it may be necessary to break up a group of friends for an activity so individuals are given the opportunity to develop in a specialized area of interest to them. Sometimes this will be difficult because the Venturer will need to move outside the comfort of his or her natural group of friends.

Why Program Company Activities?

Working within a group helps Venturers refine leadership skills. Former Scouts and others who have had experience working with groups (e.g. Court of Honour or student council) will fit in well, but watch for those who have had

only limited exposure to groups. These youth may disrupt activities without ever realizing it; counselling will resolve most problems.

If goals are clear and achieved, almost everyone will find group experience rewarding, and not only from a social point of view. But if the group starts spinning its wheels (lots of talking but accomplishing little), watch for growing frustration levels. Members will become defensive, and working within the group will become a chore. Motivated youth will take tasks on themselves, leaving others to follow, whether they wish this or not. In these cases, you should help the group rebuild into a working unit again. One way to do this might involve assigning tasks to each member and ensuring that someone follows up to ensure the tasks are accomplished.

In The End

Working in groups, large and small, remains the essence of the Venturer program. Youth need to understand how each member contributes to a working group, then advisors need to make sure they recognize their contribution.

Group challenges: that's what young people want. Understanding this will help advisors focus more on process than outcome. Then the experience will be rewarding for everyone. X



Book Talk

by Dave Jenkinson



What time is it?

If you're a child (or at least one at heart), it's always "party time." To help with party arrangements, the editors at *Child* magazine have put together *Children's Parties*, a planning guide whose contents will be particularly appealing and useful to Beaver leaders. Though the book focuses on birthday parties, we all learned through *Alice in Wonderland* that almost every day is someone's "unbirthday", therefore, an excuse for merrymaking! You can easily adapt *Children's Parties'* lavishly illustrated contents to any occasion. (How about a 90th Anniversary Party or B.-P.'s birthday?) The book provides ideas and complete instructions for themes and decorations plus games of various types. Food is not overlooked, and the recipes provided offer something to both "healthy" and "sweet-toothed" party-goers. Cub leaders should also peruse the "Party Food" section for ideas.

Beaver leaders looking for simple nature crafts should pick up a copy of Mary Wallace's *I Can Make Nature Crafts*. Here, the author shares directions for making items that are related to nature. Requiring no tool more sophisticated than a pair of scissors, the crafts generally call for materials that can be found around home, though a trip to the craft store will be needed for a few inexpensive items. Some of the crafts will also have to wait for the growing season when nature's raw materials (such as grass, dandelion stems and fresh leaves) are available. In keeping with the Beaver Promise, Wallace provides guidelines for "respecting nature" when collecting living materials. Numbered, step-by-step instructions accompany coloured photographs illustrating each stage of construction. By the end of an evening, your colony could be in-

undated by "nutty buddies", "stone statues" and "forest folk." White Tails might even produce a family of "corn-husk dolls."

"Hawkeye, why do...?"

If you've ever been a Beaver leader, you know that "why" is one of the principal words in this age group's vocabulary. Now Catherine Ripley provides a dozen "why" answers in *Why Do Stars*

nights need no longer mean an absence of stars since individual constellation viewers can be created from cardboard tubes, tissue paper and tin foil, while larger "planetariums" can be produced from tin cans and cardboard boxes. Twelve monthly star-finders make this a year-round book. (**Cubs: Astronomer Badge; Scouts: Exploring Gold Stage 5**)

Cubs can actually recreate phases of the moon using ideas from this book.

Twinkle? and Other Nighttime Questions. Though she obviously hasn't exhausted all the potential questions, her brief responses to the title's question and others like, "Why doesn't that bird fall off the branch?" might provide an effective quiet "filler" at a colony meeting.

Cubs wishing to add the Astronomer Badge to their sash should see the book *Discovering the Heavens*, by Gilles Brillon. Not only does the book use kid-friendly language in supplying Cubs with almost all of the factual information they need for the badge's requirements, but it also provides a lot of fun activities which will reinforce the learning. With a couple of cardboard tubes and a pair of lenses from magnifying glasses, Cubs can build a simple telescope like the one Galileo used. Mini sundials can be created from pill containers while a "picket clock" can be built at the next camp. Instead of just "knowing the phases of the moon," Cubs can actually recreate the phases in a darkened room using a flashlight, a polystyrene ball and someone's head as Earth. They can then go on to "create" a lunar eclipse. Cloudy

Have you ever been reading a story from *The Jungle Book* and run into a word like "sambhur" or wonder what a bird called a "Coppersmith" looks like? Now, a new Viking illustrated edition of Kipling's 1894 classic tales will answer a lot of these questions for you via coloured and black and white photos, paintings and drawings. These are accompanied by brief, explanatory captions. Consider adding this version to your pack resources. ^

BOOK DETAILS

G. Brillon, **Discovering the Heavens: Activities for Budding Astronomers**, Quintin, 1996: \$10.95.

R. Kipling, **The Jungle Book**, Illustrated by Christian Broutin, Viking, 1996: \$19.99.

C. Ripley, **Why Do Stars Twinkle? And Other Nighttime Questions**, Owl Books, 1996: \$6.95.

M. Wallace, **I Can Make Nature Crafts**, Owl Books, 1996: \$6.95.

A. Wilkes, **Children's Parties**, Scholastic, 1996: \$19.99.

Sleeping Pads: How to Turn On the Heat

by Ross Francis

You're all bundled up in your sleeping bag, but you're freezing. How come?

Perhaps the answer is lying just beneath you. I'm referring to your mattress (or lack of one). Tests show that 75% of the heat you lose during sleep goes *downward*. This shouldn't surprise anyone, considering the body's surface area when lying down, and the principle of conduction.

A would-be warm camper must find ways to prevent this heat loss to stay warm.

Three-to-One Rule

A general rule of thumb says to put three layers of insulation underneath for each layer on top. In most situations tent campers will have *four* layers underneath; the ground sheet beneath the tent, the tent floor, a mattress or sleeping pad, and the sleeping bag's bottom layer. Usually, this is enough — even in cold weather. Some sleeping bag manufacturers have added more insulation to their bag's bottom layer to give you a warmer sleep.



Photo: Allen Macartney

Sleeping pads come in all shapes and sizes. Choose the one that best suits your needs.

A sleeping pad or mattress will always ensure a warmer, more comfortable rest. Many brands and types are available. You can spend as much as you want (of course); usually somewhere between \$10.00 and \$120.00 will do the job.

Air Mattresses

Air mattresses provide the oldest and, perhaps, most common support. An air mattress is simply a long, rectangular hollow chamber made from plastic, vinyl or rubberized cloth. For summer car camping it may be quite effective, but its weight and bulk make it unacceptable for backpacking. Because the air chamber is large, you'll need a pump (or a very strong set of lungs) to inflate it. You'll also need to carry a patch kit with you and perhaps a spare plug. In cold weather, air mattresses don't provide adequate insulation to guarantee comfortable sleep.

Foam pads

Foam pads are popular. The two common types are open-celled and closed-cell.

Open-celled pads use the same foam as found in home seat covers. They're comfortable, but must be thick (i.e. bulky and unacceptable for backpacking). Because they are "open-celled" (similar to a sponge) they absorb water readily — not good unless you're staying in a cabin.

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**Seventy-five
percent of
your body
heat goes
downward.**



Photo: Paul Ritchi

Closed-cell pads incorporate thousands of tiny plastic air bubbles that *don't* absorb water. These pads come in various qualities, thicknesses and colours (usually blue, yellow and grey), and are reasonably priced. They're lightweight and remain pliable even in cold temperatures. Most, however, are a little bulky. Tied on the back of a pack, they tend to snag twigs and branches, tearing off pieces of pad along the way. To prevent this calamity, put the pad in a stuff sack or wrap it in your ground sheet.

Self-Inflating Mattress

Self-inflating mattresses are the most comfortable and the most expensive choice. It is an open-celled foam pad encased in a nylon airtight shell with an air valve. When the valve is open, it will allow the open-cell foam to suck in air. Once it has reached the desired thickness, simply close the valve and lie down. These mattresses come in a wide variety of widths, thicknesses and lengths. They're often on the heavy side (about twice the weight of closed-cell pads), but they provide twice the insulation and are very comfortable. To roll them up, simply open the valve and roll from the opposite end, allowing air to escape. Once fully

compressed, close the valve and fasten the straps. When collapsed and rolled, this mattress is smaller than most other foam pads.

Camp Luxuries

Many self-inflating mattresses offer an optional kit that transforms the mattress into a very comfortable chair — great for sitting down after a long day on the trail. The chair kit is simply a cover that slips over the mattress that allows it to be folded in two. These clips are held in position by plastic, or metal rods, and two straps.

Think Before Buying

Before rushing out to buy one of these mattresses or pads, consider when, where and how often you will be using it; then decide which best suits your budget.

Some groups have even made their own pads. Check with your local carpet store for carpet underlay that will easily roll up. It's lightweight and will not absorb water.

Happy camping. ^λ

CROSS-COUNTRY PHOTOS



Meeting the Chief Scout

During a weekend trip to Ottawa, Scouts from the 10th Thornhill Troop, ON, visited the Parliament Buildings and spoke to the Chief Scout, Governor General Roméo LeBlanc. Mrs. LeBlanc soon joined the group and told everyone that she was the Chief Girl Guide, which prompted Scout Michael Spiar to ask if she had any

free Girl Guide cookies! Everyone laughed, but minutes later a very proper-looking butler appeared with a silver tray brimming over with dainty squares and cookies. "What an incredibly nice gesture," said Scouter Fred Berktin. Photo: Sgt. Michel Roy.

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Singing in the Snow Conditions were perfect for Scouts from the St. Michael's Troop in Moncton, NB, to build forts during a camp last year. They built each with blocks of snow, then covered them with poles, a tarp and more snow for insulation. "Everyone was comfortable in the -20°C night," said Scouter Garth Holder. Next morning, some Scouts tuned up their vocal cords in celebration. Were they surprised they had enjoyed the adventure so much?



"There's Nothing Like a Winter Hike!" When Cubs from the 1st St. Alban's Pack, NF, spent a weekend up at Camp Frozen Toes, they were prepared with extra sleeping bags, sweaters and mittens. After they arrived, the weather was perfect for a winter snowshoeing trip, so they set out. At the half-way point they stopped, set a campfire and made some hot chocolate. Photo: Jean Organ



Keep Your Eye On Your Work Concentration and attention: these are two words Cubs from the 1st Steinbach Pack, MB, learned they needed to heed closely when working with wood-working machinery. During one of their meetings the pack prepared for a spring hike by making walking sticks on a lathe. Photo: Norm Falk. ^

Strike Up the Beaver Band

by Ross Francis

Help celebrate Scouts Canada's 90th year!

Start planning now to hold some sort of birthday bash in your colony, complete with music and games. You might even create your own "Beaver Band" and play a few tunes.

Set aside one evening to make the instruments. Invite parents in to lend a hand and share the experience with their child. Here are some ideas for musical instruments you can make.

Shakers

Fill a small plastic bottle with rice, popcorn kernels or macaroni. Leave room in the bottle to allow them to move around when shaken. *Warning!* Be sure the lid is on tight. Your celebration can unexpectedly get a whole lot more exciting than you ever planned. You might even want to seal the shaker closed so items don't wind up all over the floor.

Old toilet paper tubes make excellent shakers. Tape one end closed, put colourful paper over the opening,

drop in some noise-maker, then seal up the opposite end. Beavers can attach streamers and paint for decorations.

Tambourine

Put macaroni on one paper plate then staple two plates together. Run a strip of tape around the edge to prevent the macaroni from escaping. Let Beavers glue on sparkles and colour exciting party scenes.

Clapping Blocks

These are good for clapping or scraping together. Simply cut pieces of scrap wood into blocks 5 cm x 5 cm x 10 cm. Glue fine sandpaper along two sides to make a swishing sound when rubbed. Beavers can provide artwork and bright colours that will enhance their music-making.

Chimes

Pre-cut pieces of metal pipe or conduit to various lengths, each under 30 cm long. Drill a small hole through both sides of pipe and, with short string, attach it to a coat hanger. Tie the strings to your hanger, then tape over the knots to prevent them from sliding together. Don't forget to save one 15 cm piece of pipe to strike the other pipes with.

Sticks

Cut an old broom handle into 30 cm sections that your Beavers can tap together. Ribbons tacked to the end of each stick will add extra flair.

Kazoo

Fold a piece of paper over a clean comb, fasten in place lengthwise and then place in front of your mouth. Hum your favourite tune and see what sound it makes.

Bells

Fasten a number of bells to a ribbon, then tie it around a Beaver's wrist.

Drums

Turn two large coffee tins upside down and use two wooden spoons for drum sticks. Let your Beavers tape construction paper around the tins, and cut out seasonal pictures to glue around the sides. Two brand new unsharpened pencils make good drum sticks; use the eraser end to beat on the drum.

Cymbals

Two old saucepan lids with handles make a great pair of cymbals.

Guitar

Tape an old shoe box lid closed, cut a large oval hole in the lid, then stretch elastics of different sizes lengthwise over the holes. Gently strum the elastic strings to produce melodic sounds.

Horn

Give each child a paper towel tube to paint or colour. Fasten a piece of waxed paper over one end with an elastic, wrap a piece of masking tape around the opposite end, and punch five holes in a straight line along the tube about 2 cm apart. Now blow into the open end, changing the sound by placing fingers over different holes.

Kitchens are a great source of home-made musical instruments. Old margarine tubs are ever-useful: the larger ones for drums, the smaller ones for shakers. Old pots and pans make good noise-makers. Two old cookie sheets make loud cymbals when banged together, while mixing bowls, tupperware containers or two empty plastic 2 litre pop containers make excellent shakers when beaten together empty.

Once your Beavers have completed their instruments, let them practise keeping rhythm to a marching song played on a cassette player. Start by clapping hands and tapping feet. Add their instruments one at a time when the children can keep the beat. Finally, add singing.

Now... make a joyful noise! ^

Don't Delay. Write that Application Today

by Rob Stewart

de.lay \di-'lā\ to stop, detain, or hinder for a time; to move or act slowly.

A few things in life (like wine, cheese and concrete) work better the longer you leave them. Recognition *isn't* one of them.

Recently our National Honours and Awards Committee was asked to process very quickly award applications for Scouters who were extremely ill. Colleagues wanted to recognize these Scouters before they died. Our Committee responded swiftly, but this thought lingers: we ought to have approved these Scouters' recognition while they could better enjoy it. They ought to have lived a long time knowing we appreciated their dedication.

Surviving family members are proud of the legacy left by these Scouters. They value our recognition. Nevertheless, according to Committee chair Douglas Jennings, these Scouters were probably eligible to receive their awards long before they did.

The Numbers Game

The Honours and Awards Committee processes about 400 *Outstanding Service to Scouting* applications each year. Provincial and regional councils process an additional 400 *Certificates of Commendation* and 265 *Medals for Good Service*. At first glance the numbers look impressive. They pale, however, when you consider that 60,000 adults participate in our Movement. How many deserving Scouters receive appropriate recognition?

Membership is on the rise, according to several reports at our recent national meetings. If adults stayed with us longer, perhaps those numbers would grow even faster.

Do we lose leaders because they lack a sense of our appreciation for their work? Scouters aren't in this game for recognition, but it sure feels good to be appreciated! It's a well known theory that people who feel appreciated are likely to continue participating.

Investing in Scouting

Each year we proudly present deserving young people and adults to the Governor General. These people have performed acts of bravery, meritorious conduct and service to Scouting. In this issue you'll find inspiring stories and pictures from the Chief Scout's Investiture Ceremony. Perhaps you know someone we should consider for an award. Let's make sure no one "falls between the cracks."

Sometimes we hear about an act of bravery or meritorious conduct well after the event. Colleagues of a deserving Scouter may believe it's too late to apply for recognition. The National Honours and Awards Committee reviews *all* applications — regardless of time considerations.

We encourage people to act quickly following an occurrence, so their information is fresh and accurate. With time, memories of details fade (another thing that doesn't age well) and people sometimes can't recall the full import of an act. Don't let time be your enemy.

Your Scouting office can provide application forms for various awards. Complete one of those, and forward it to a local Honours and Awards Committee. If you're unsure which award path to choose, check out *A Guide to the Honours and Awards of Scouts Canada*, also available from your Scout office. It describes a host of ways (formal and informal) of recognizing members.

Acknowledging exemplary Scouters makes us a stronger Movement. Watch for Scouters who put in extra effort. Listen for tales of bravery or meritorious conduct. Search youth members for the spirit of the Jack Cornwell Award. Then don't delay! \

Write now!
Time is
your enemy.

Partners in Service

by Bryon Milliere

Four national service clubs and fraternal partners are commemorating 75 years of Scouting sponsorship. Their membership ranks are filled with current, and former, members of Scouting.

Elks

First Charter: 1922

Groups Sponsored: 43

The Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks in Canada is a fraternal order with a strong service orientation and sense of community involvement. It was founded in Vancouver in 1912 by Charles Redeker. There are now 51,000 members in 351 lodges from British Columbia to Quebec. Each lodge is organized and instituted in a community where it meets in fraternal-type meetings — normally held twice a month. Lodges are organized into districts under the supervision of a district deputy with provincial associations and a Grand Lodge.

Elk members can provide a source of support for leadership, a network in the community, specialized skills, assistance with special events and fundraising. Elks are interested in increasing the understanding of the principles of charity, justice, brotherly love and fidelity. Contact the local Presiding Officer, known as the Exalted Ruler, for information.

Kiwanis

First Charter: 1920

Groups Sponsored: 28

Motto: "We Build"

Kiwanis International is a worldwide, community-based service organization founded in Detroit in 1915. The first Canadian club started in Hamilton in 1916. The Kiwanis' dedication to service of youth, community and nation are consistent with Scouting's Mission. Kiwanis members also apply their motto, "We Build", to work with seniors, the mentally challenged, the sick, and children with learning disabilities. There are 10,700 members in 600 clubs across Canada, with most Scouting groups sponsored in British Columbia and Ontario. "Boys and Girls Work Committees" administer Scouting projects. Contact the Club President.

Lions

First Charter: 1920

Groups Sponsored: 298

Motto: "We Serve"

The International Association of Lions Clubs (known as Lions International) is the world's largest service organization. Started in Chicago in 1917, Lions spread to Windsor, Ontario and to Canadian Scouting in 1920. The Club is dedicated to developing international understanding, taking part in the civic, social and moral welfare of their communities, and uniting in the bonds of friendship, good fellowship and mutual understanding.

Lions are strong supporters of Scouting. Founder Melvin Jones declared Scouting as the greatest single project of clubs. Organizational support of Scouting is still very strong as Lions continues to be our largest single service club sponsor. There are 55,810 members in 1,472 clubs across Canada. Contact your local Club President or the chair of the club's Boys and Girls Committee.


Rotary

First Charter: 1920

Groups Sponsored: 49

Motto: "Service Above Self"

Rotary is the oldest service club. Paul Harris started Rotary with three Chicago men in 1905. They wanted to bring together a cross-section of the community's business and professional leaders to encourage and foster the ideal of service, and to apply this to personal, business and community life.

Rotary, like Scouting, is active in most countries including the former Soviet republics. Locally and internationally, Rotary sets ambitious goals for helping the community, from providing local programs for youth with disabilities, to eradicating polio from the planet. Youth programs also include international exchanges, scholarship programs, and a high school service club (Interact). Rotarians hope to foster global peace through improvements to cross-cultural understanding, health, hunger and literacy. Rotary clubs meet weekly, usually in restaurants or hotels. Contact your local Club President or Youth Committee chair to discuss opportunities for support of Scouting. 

ROVER MOOT 1998 GO-AHEAD!

by Ian Mitchell

It's an opportunity to have a hoot, this 1998 Moot.

Yes, it's now a go. The 1998 Canadian National Rover Moot will take place at Camp Nedooae in Nova Scotia from August 22-30, 1998. It'll be an exciting event!

Under the direction of the Nova Scotia Provincial Council, the Moot Committee has been working hard to fill out the planning group. An upper limit of \$375.00 for registration has been set, though each participant should budget \$125.00 more for food. Transportation to and from the event is extra.

Program Highlights

Moot organizers are developing a fantastic program based on the results of an initial survey they sent out. Here's a brief overview of the Moot timetable:

- a day each for arrivals and departures,
- half-day opening and closing ceremonies,
- a three-day expedition/exploration/service project,
- full and/or half-day activities to round out the event.

All events will be based on our Practices and Principles, and will fulfil the new program goals of the Rover section. As if you didn't know, all activities will be fun and challenging.

Great Site

The Moot will take place at Camp Nedooae, the provincial camp, in the centre of Nova Scotia. It's nestled on a lake and houses a dining facility, a training building and a small house, as well as several small cabins — all amenities needed to host the Moot. (The camp is the site of the annual "Alert" — a Scout and Venturer event which attracts over 1000 youth.) The camp boasts wooded areas, as well as a large open field area which is perfect for tenting. Nearby you'll find a large provincial park and the Musquodobit River. Should you decide to take a trip to Halifax or Dartmouth, they're only an hour away.

If You Want to Attend...

Any Rover-aged member of Canadian Scouting, as well as senior Venturers and Rangers (if accompanied by an advisor), may attend. We hope the Moot will serve as a linking event, since senior Venturers and Rangers can attend. They will experience great Rovering fun, first hand. Overseas Rovers have also expressed a keen interest in this event; many will attend, helping the Moot gain a real international flavour.

So, don't miss it. Begin planning today for this adventure of tomorrow. X

WE'VE GOT MORE INFORMATION

If you want more detailed information regarding the Moot, don't despair. E-mail us at this address: moot98@auracom.com.

SCOUTER'S 5

O Canada

- Three major events this month offer many program opportunities, including Flag Day (February 15), Heritage Day (February 17) and Citizenship Week (February 10-17). Use the thought below from B.-P. to launch a discussion exploring the true meaning of heritage, patriotism, culture and citizenship.

"We should take care, in inculcating patriotism into our boys and girls, that it is a patriotism above the narrow sentiment which usually stops at one's country, and thus inspires jealousy and enmity in dealing with others."

"Our patriotism should be of the wider, nobler kind which recognizes justice and reasonableness in the claims of others and which leads our country into comradeship with... the other nations of the world."

"The first step to this end is to develop peace and goodwill within our own borders by training our youth of both sexes to its practice as their habit of life, so that the jealousies of town against town, class against class, and sect against sect no longer exist; and then to extend this good feeling beyond our frontiers towards our neighbours"

-- Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell

They're Ready and Able

- Alfred Tennyson wrote his first volume at 18, Napoleon conquered Italy at 25, Byron, Raphael and Poe died at 37 after writing their names among the world's immortals. Newton made his greatest discoveries before he was 25, and many

continued...

Scouter's 5 Minutes, p.775

Feb.'97

GAMES

Here are some games to try during your night theme program.

Candle Relay Race

This activity is perfect for large and small groups. The first person must light a candle, carry it to a specified point, return to the next person in line and hand it to him, all without letting the flame go out.

If the candle goes out, the youth must return to the starting line, relight the flame and start over.

The first team finishing, wins.

Light/No Light

This is an evening game that is played outside over a large wooded area with one flashlight. A referee should stand beside the person holding the flashlight.

Players must line up at one end of the playing area, while one player (holding a flashlight) stands at the other end.

The object of the game is to move from one end of the playing area to the other, past the person holding the flashlight.

The player with the flashlight stands with her back to the other players. Every five seconds she turns around, switches on the light and scans the area for three seconds. If a moving player gets caught by the flashlight beam, he has to return to the starting end. Stationary players may remain where they are standing.

-- Both from Mike McLaren, Prince George, BC.

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Feb.'97

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Chariot Race

Here's a popular race that should be easy to adapt to your nighttime theme.

This is a game for strong Cubs, Scouts and Venturers. You'll need teams of five youth and a neckerchief for each team. Set the neckerchiefs up tepee fashion on a line 10 metres from the starting point. Have each team form a chariot in the following manner: The front pair of "horses" clasp inside hands. The rear pair clasp inside hands and hold onto the belts of the front horses with their outside hands. The driver holds onto the belts of the rear horses with each hand.

On a signal, they race down to the end of the course. As they pass over their handkerchief, the driver picks it up with his teeth without releasing his grip with either hand. The first team to cross the finish line without breaking any of the grips, wins.

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of the world's greatest geniuses never saw 40 years of age.

So what?

We still seem reluctant to appoint young commissioners before they reach 30. Doesn't that strike you as strange?

-- From "A Canny Crack", extracts from the popular *Scouting Magazine* series.

Our Goal

We must remember that all we do is an act of faith, because it's impossible to assess the results. We are aiming at a better standard of adult citizenship and we seek to achieve this through the inculcation of sound principles of living and a sound sense of the proper loyalties to God, to country, and to other people around us.

We probably succeed best when we keep things relatively simple and accept our position in the life of a youth, not as the *one* influence in his life, but as one of many influences.

It is quite hopeless to pursue Scouting in isolation from all the other things which are happening to the child; we should seek to complement the work of the home, the church and the school. We should seek to keep the balance, to give an extra incentive to the pursuit of the right course, and to fill whatever gaps these other influences may leave.

-- From "A Canny Crack", extracts from the popular *Scouting Magazine* series.

Scouter's 5 Minutes, p.776

Don't Miss the Hidden Treasures

by Ian Mitchell

Tag, hide-and-seek, red rover. Just child's play, right?

Games provide valuable learning experiences for your Scouts. They help reinforce skills. But look beyond the actual skills Scouts use to play a game. You'll find hidden treasures which they uncover.

What purpose could a scavenger hunt have, besides the usual gathering of plants or twigs? Scavenger hunts make great activities for testing independent leadership qualities of your patrol leaders. To complete their hunt, leaders must organize their patrols and get everyone working as a team.

Perhaps your Scouts have "hunted scavengers" until they're cross-eyed. Your suggestion will only elicit a collective groan. Take heart! Colin Wallace has developed two scavenger hunts with a twist. With a little preparation, you can use these during a meeting, at camp, or to fill in for an activity gone bad.

Hold a discussion about teamwork before you begin the activity. Afterwards, evaluate the patrols' teamwork. Where did they thrive? How could they have worked better together to accomplish their goal?

Polaroid Candid Camera

With your Polaroid camera (one per patrol), take a photograph of each of the following situations. You have

film for 20 attempts. Do not let any other patrol photograph a member of your patrol. Deliver the photographs to your Troop Scouter in two weeks.

- Whole patrol inside a washroom,
- Scout at least five metres up a tree,
- Three Scouts blowing bubble gum,
- Canadian flag,
- Scout in the back seat of a car,
- Scout from another patrol,
- Scout beside a sign,
- Scout holding a Scout holding a Scout,
- Adult sitting down,
- Whole patrol with feet off the ground,
- Entire patrol holding one penny,

Scouts Unplugged

Use your tape recorder to clearly record each of the following for 5-10 seconds. Deliver the tape to your Troop Scouter in two weeks.

- Telephone ringing,
- Book pages flipping,
- Backpack zipper opening,
- Scout belt buckling,
- Cloth ripping,
- Adult singing "O Canada",
- Scout chewing bubble gum,
- Your patrol leader at the far end of a phone conversation,
- Musical instrument playing,
- "Happy Birthday" played on a paper and comb,

- Newspaper tearing,
- Bell ringing,
- Blowing over mouth of empty bottle,
- Paper bag bursting.

Give patrols bonus points for a sound that other patrols can't identify.

These games provide an opportunity for you to gauge the patrol system in your troop. Keep a close eye on the patrol leaders; you'll see how their leadership skills are developing. Use your insights to plan your next training event for patrol leaders.

Play is children's work. That's not a new idea — but games remain the most enjoyable way for youth to learn. [^]

Water Safety Badge Changes

The Canadian Red Cross, after redesigning its Water Safety Program, has recommended the following Cub and Scout badge equivalencies.

Wolf Cubs

Watercraft Badge: obtain "AquaQuest 8", plus requirement #6.

Swimmer Badge: obtain "AquaQuest 8", plus requirement #4a and 4b.

Scouts

Swimming (Bronze): obtain "AquaQuest 9".

Swimming (Silver): obtain "AquaQuest 11".

Swimming (Gold): obtain "AquaQuest 12".

Flywheels and Butterfly Wings

by Ben Kruser

IMAGINE A LARGE WHEEL as tall as you stand. The wheel is turning, rolling along the ground. On top of the wheel sits a small fly, almost insignificant in size. As you lean over to look more closely at the fly, you hear it yelling, "I'm pushing, I'm pushing!"

Looking back over the last 90 years of Scouting, one may wonder if we, as the fly, have had any impact on the wheel, or our environment. Push as we may to try and make improvements in today's society, it seems as if the wheel of the world keeps turning without any notice of the force we exert on it.

Getting Personal

To bring the analogy closer to home, you may have wondered after a particularly stressful meeting if any of your kids really benefited from the experience. Baden-Powell's own dream of "Peace Scouts", a whole generation of children brought up on brotherly love that would end all wars, seems to pale in light of ethnic cleansing in various parts of the globe. Has 90 years of Scouting changed the world into a better place? It's a hard question to ask; even harder to answer.

Yet there is another analogy totally opposite in perspective to the fly on the wheel. Imagine a butterfly. It rests on a petal, slowing fanning it's wings back and forth. On the other side of the world, a tidal wave whipped up by tremendous gale force winds slams into a jagged coast. Could the slight breeze of the butterfly's wings contribute to creating a whirlwind half a planet away? The underlying theory is that small actions, repeated over and over, slowly creates change which in turns interacts with a larger portion of the environment, which again leads to more change and more reaction. While the butterfly is obviously incapable of generating hurricane force

wind, it is quite capable of changing the wind pattern around the flower. When combined with other butterflies all beating together, the beginning of something on a grand scale begins.

You're a Cyclone Builder!

Scouting started 90 years ago with one person who had a simple idea. That tradition continues today every time a leader dreams up an activity that teaches kids something interesting about life. The combined efforts of so many wing beats has cycloned into a global youth organization comprised of over 25 million members in 216 countries and territories. While a leader's efforts may seem short-lived (perhaps only as long as an evening), for youth members Scouting activities have contributed to launching careers, establishing a belief in shared values and community, and even brought peace between soldiers on battlefields.

Go anywhere in the world, find a Scout meeting and show the Scout sign; you'll be welcomed as a friend, regardless of who you are or where

you come from. If only the same could be so for those people now living in conflict areas.



90th Products

At the risk of appearing the shameless salesman, look for 90th Anniversary products available in Scout Shops or through our catalogue. Some people see an anniversary as just another date in an endless time line. But when you see a 90th Anniversary product, recognize what it means for a youth organization to have survived 90 years of societal turmoil and change.

If you happen to purchase an Anniversary flag, banner or other product, be sure to share this thought with your youth members: the 90th Anniversary logo should remind us that *all people have value*, and that even today, one person doing a good turn daily can make a significant difference in the world. ^



Photo: Allen Macartney

Everytime you help a child grow, you're making a big difference.