

# the leader

MARCH 1999

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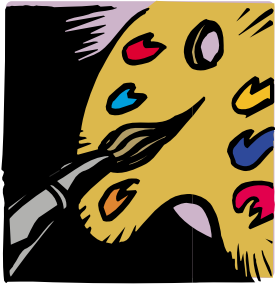
# 1999 in Chile!



CHILE 1999

19th WORLD JAMBOREE





# Pictures Perfect

## 1998 TRAIL'S END® ART CONTEST

### National Winners



Jennifer Laflaur  
St. Albert, Alberta  
Age: 15



Patrick Horne (photo not available)  
Enfield, Nova Scotia  
Age: 7



### Regional Winners



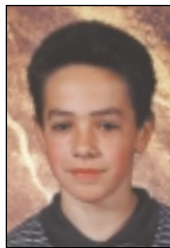
Brian Liu  
Calgary, Alberta  
Western Region  
Age: 6



Blair Spielman  
Calgary, Alberta  
Western Region  
Age: 10



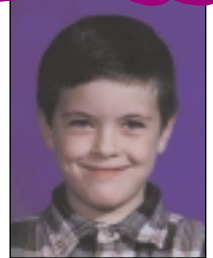
Jordan Pringle  
Thornton, Ontario  
Eastern Region  
Age: 9



Dominic Faucher  
Bagotville, Quebec  
Eastern Region  
Age: 10



Dale Martin  
Hamilton, Ontario  
Eastern Region  
Age: 17



Lyle LeClair  
Snow Lake, Manitoba  
Age: 8



Watch for entry blank for Trail's End Art Contest in the Leader, Trail's End comic book, or at [www.trails-end.com](http://www.trails-end.com)

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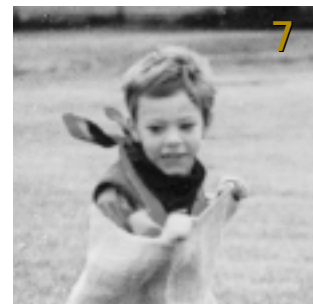
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 John Rietveld



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4

7

10



## 19TH WORLD JAMBOREE

# Under a Latin Sun

Story and photos by John Rietveld

**“W**hen I left home, it was  $-37^{\circ}\text{C}$  and snowing. When I got to Chile, it was  $+33^{\circ}\text{C}$  and very hot,” said 17-year-old, James Kozlowski (Fort McMurray, Alberta). “It took *some* adjusting, but that’s okay. I’m a Canadian!”

From December 23, 1998 to January 11, 1999, 243 Canadians attended the 19th World Scout Jamboree at Picarquín, Chile, about 80 km south of Santiago, Chile’s capital. Tucked high up in the Andes Mountains, 34,000 excited youths from 180 countries gathered almost overnight creating an instant city. Their goal: celebrate life in true Scouting fashion! The site provided spectacular views of snow-capped peaks.

### Jamboree Build-Up

Before the Jamboree began, Chilean Scouts meeting at a boy’s school located in the heart of Santiago, hosted Canadian contingent members. For several days these



*There’s not much leg room when you sign on as a stowaway.*

youths helped Canadians acclimatize to the hot temperatures and Spanish culture.

The stay in Santiago (a bustling city of nearly five million people) began with a day-long game.

After splitting up into 18 Canadian patrols, each escorted by a Chilean Scout, participants fanned out into the city, following a set of clues that led to various interesting sites. With subway tickets in hand and only occasional assistance from the Chilean Scouts, our patrols visited a series of stations (cultural and historic sites), such as the Presidential Palace that was nearly destroyed by an air attack during the 1973 military coup. At each location our Scouts had to learn about the site and perform a challenge.

What type of challenge?

One required patrol members to fashion a Christmas gift out of trash found on the street. Then, they had to sell the gift to a Chilean shopping for Christmas gifts. One patrol made a palm tree from a drinking straw and gum wrappers, then adorned it with Canadian flag pins. Despite the language barrier the Scouts sold

*Terrific friendships, amazing food, exciting activities and Latin music! Welcome to Chile’s world Jamboree!*



their gift to a Chilean woman waiting at a bus stop, for 100 pesos (about 35¢ Canadian). The woman was delighted that we included her in our pre-Jamboree game.

On Christmas Eve, Scouts attended church, then enjoyed a traditional Christmas Eve meal with Chilean families in their homes. Andrew Hanna (Barrie, ON) was ecstatic about his experience. "It was really interesting, and the families made us feel very welcome," he said enthusiastically. It took only minutes to drop cultural barriers.

### Christmas at the Beach?

On Christmas Day our Scouts decided to lounge on the Pacific beach at the coastal resort of Vina Del Mar. "The water was terribly cold," said Dennis Thomas (Alliance, AB), "but we couldn't resist wading into the crashing surf."

The following day, everyone boarded buses and headed south to Picarquin and the Jamboree. As our buses approached the jamboree site, police motorcycles roared up beside and escorted us through the gates. What a thrill!

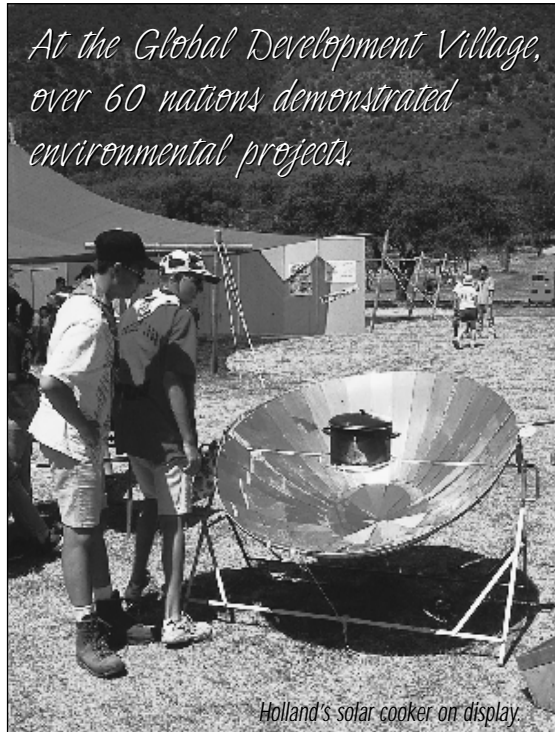
### Smorgasbord of Activities

19WJ offered a veritable smorgasbord of exciting events, unusual experiences and physical activities. Youths hiked through the Andes Mountains, visited Pacific coast fishing villages, swapped badges with Russian Scouts and went on overnight backpacking trips. At night they camped under a velvety sky with the Southern Cross blazing far above their heads.

The Tournament proved to be a popular activity. This 3-km obstacle

course through a cactus-lined valley featured climbing walls, rope bridges and trek carts. Due to daytime heat and dust conditions, all Scouts enjoyed plenty of drinking water provided at each checkpoint.

Dozens of program centres were scattered over the site. Scouts could



make soapstone carvings, play a musical instrument, learn South American folk dances, create clay objects, enjoy leatherwork, fashion Christmas crafts, and more.

At the Global Development Village, over 60 nations demonstrated environmental projects, ranging from Holland's solar cooking, to Finland's recycled paper. Our Scouts brought a cross-Canada CD computer game that described Canadian trees. In other program areas, youths could speak with experts about AIDS or substance abuse.

During an overnight hike into the Andes Mountains, Louis Pierre Cote (Quebec City) camped beside Scouts from Senegal, Gabon and Togo. "The mountains were wonderful," Louis said. "So were my new buddies."

Spending a day in Rancagua, a city of 211,000 people, was a Jamboree highlight for 13-year-old Michal Dahms (Terrace, BC). "We helped clear a field that will become a community plaza. Working together in peace with others from around the world was amazing."

Most countries set up a headquarters on-site where participants could 'taste' that nation's culture. Canada's display (known as Canada House) featured very popular tabletop hockey games. With acquaintances from L'Association des Scout du Canada, we promoted next winter's Jam de Neiges — a huge winter Jamboree in Quebec City.

Many activities required mixed patrols of Scouts from different countries, while others involved the entire sub-camp moving off-site. Language difficulties frequently posed a challenge; some Canadian groups ended up at a local swimming pool without bathing suits or towels, while expecting to be involved in a community development project. Despite these misunderstandings, the program provided plenty of variety and, most importantly, interaction between Scouts from around the globe.

### "Mañana": No Hurry

Yes, Scouts did have to stand in lengthy lineups at grocery stores and banks, but Trish Griffith (Lucan, Ontario) enjoyed the easy Latin



*Hola Mom and Dad,  
there's so much to tell you about!*



pace of life. "You quickly learned to adapt to Chilean time," said Trish. "Things didn't always happen when or as quickly as most Canadians might like. We learned a new word, mañana — Spanish for tomorrow. Just about everything you ask for was promised with the word, 'mañana.' Tomorrow always came, and so did whatever you wanted yesterday."

When the sun sank behind surrounding mountains, the Jamboree really came alive. Brazilian dancing, Tahitian guitar playing and the sweet sounds of steel drums from Trinidad filled the air, providing the perfect ambiance for all participants to continue their celebration of life.

Many Canadian patrols hosted Scouts from other countries for dinner; their guests reciprocated the following evening. One Canadian patrol liked the meal prepared by Paraguayan Scouts so much that they invited themselves back several times.

#### **Once Every Lifetime**

"Unforgettable!"

That's how 14-year-old Michael Dudgeon (Brockville, ON) described New Year's Eve at the Jamboree. "The music and dancing started early and lasted all night. We celebrated the arrival of 1999 once each hour through the night for each time zone around the world. We went to bed at 6 a.m. and got up two hours later —

just in time for more Jamboree activities!" Shrugging, but wearing a broad grin, he added, "I'll catch up on my sleep at home."

The closing ceremony was both spectacular and emotional. Voices of 34,000 Scouts united in harmony and echoed off the mountains. At the end, hundreds hugged new acquaintances and promised to write, before bidding each other a tearful good-bye. "I'm going to stay in contact with my new friends by e-mail," said Scout Tyler Van Alstine (Regina, SK).

#### **Post-Jamboree Activities**

On January 6, while some of the Scouts headed home, others set out for post-Jamboree activities at a Chilean Naval Base near Vina Del Mar. The three-day program included tours of Chilean Government offices and Senate, a ride in a 100-year-old cable car, a tour of the Naval Museum, a tour of the Navy Armada and a sea cruise around the port. While Scouts viewed the city from the water, nearby pelicans dove for fish and seals played in the icy surf.

All too quickly the time raced by. For nearly 20 days Canadian Scouts enjoyed the hospitality of the Chilean people, soaked up the summer rays, and took part in the largest World Scout Jamboree ever. Those who attended left Chile's warm temperatures and returned home to the ice and snow with precious memories.

"It was incredibly fun and exciting," said Venturer Gus Case of Yellowknife, NWT. "I loved it. You had to be there!"^

# **20WJ • See You in Thailand**

**In four years, Scouts from around  
the world will gather in Thailand**

**for the 20th World Jamboree. Tens of thousands of  
youths will enjoy exotic Asian activities from  
December 28, 2002 to January 8, 2003. Make  
plans now to attend this incredible event**

*Check out future issues of  
the Leader Magazine for updates!*



# SPRING DISABILITY CAMP

We're more alike  than different.

by Sue Pike

**FUN** while learning, and learning through play.

These words form the unofficial motto of our Scouter team. With a little thought, most leaders can tackle almost any serious topic successfully. But how could we plan out an entertaining and educational disability theme for our Cub camp?

After arriving at camp on Friday night, everyone (leaders and Cubs) were assigned an hour during the weekend when all their activities would be restricted to a wheelchair. (Have at least one wheelchair at your camp. They're available at hospitals and nursing homes.) Regardless what activity the program required at the time, each person had to spend a specific hour in the wheelchair and "make do" as well as they could. Our program included rambles, active games, cleanup, crafts and skits. Someone always took part in the wheelchair.

Because our clever Cubs made sure KYBO visits took place before or after their chair duty, everyone had to manoeuvre the wheelchair into the washroom at least once, and slide out of the chair onto the seat. It's not very easy; the requirement built real appreciation for those who live in a wheelchair by necessity, rather than just on rare occasions.

## Monk's Lunch

In some religious orders, monks are not allowed to speak at all. They communicate through hand gestures and written notes. Lunch formed an integral part of our disability program. It demonstrated what life is like for those unable to hear or speak. A deep silence (some leaders described it as a "blessed tranquillity") characterized our feasts.

During meals, Cubs dressed like monks and were told they could only communicate non-verbally. Occasional explosions of laughter interrupted our blissfully silent lunches, but generally our Cubs stuck close to the no speaking code of honour. Wild gestures, grunts and pointing also caused fun.

At two meals, Cubs could use only one arm and hand (simulating the plight of an amputee). As Cubs lined up for their meal, leaders bandaged up whichever hand they reached out to received their plate — usually their dominant hand. Cubs then had to eat

Most people take their five senses (sight, hearing, taste, smell and touch)

for granted. Our Scouters wanted the Cubs to get a taste of how people with disabilities live, but in a creative and uplifting way. It didn't take long to decide on a suitable camp program.

with only their less-favoured hand. Of course, food requires cutting. That proved a challenge, but most youths managed well using innovation.

## Insightful Cubs

In sixes, give your Cubs three minutes to think up phrases that refer to sight. Here are some examples: "Nice to see you again," "Oh, I see now," "I don't see how it's possible," and "Finally I can see light at the end of the tunnel."

How many similar expressions can your group think up? When you have a list, talk about how a blind person might feel about these expressions. Are any hurtful? Most aren't. Use this activity to build up a healthy awareness of words and phrases that might offend others.

## Find the Tree Game

Games provided many excellent opportunities to "live" the disability

and discover how to function by using one sense to compensate for the lost one. On Saturday morning we played a Project Wild game. Cubs divided into pairs and took turns being "blind." The sighted Cub led his partner through the woods, and stopped at a tree. The blind partner had to identify the tree

You'll need a helper to navigate the chair through the woods.

### **Toe and Teeth Painting**

Some paraplegics are outstanding artists. One of our crafts involved painting pictures using only toes or teeth to hold the brush. This helped us find out

## **COOPERATIVE GAMES MAKE IT EASY FOR EVERYONE TO ENJOY ACTIVITIES**

by smell and touch alone. Then the sighted Cub led his partner back to the starting point. Removing the blindfold, the once-blind Cub had to lead his partner through the woods to his tree. Then they switched roles.

Older Cubs might play this game with the blind child in a wheelchair.

what frustrations people with no arms experienced. Finger painting too is fun. Make sure Cubs wash their feet up before leaving. Of course they may not use their hands to wash.

Even the best painters in our group were humbled by the challenge of toe and teeth painting.

### **Touchy Subject**

Help your Cubs test their sense of touch by identifying the world around them. Gather an array of objects like burlap, plastic, steel, wool, wood and netting. When blindfolded, Cubs will distinguish these with some difficulty; progress to tougher objects like cotton, rayon and silk when they are more used to depending on their sense of touch.

Now gather a wide array of objects for blindfolded Cubs to touch and uncover their identities. Some to consider include: a small airplane, a toothpick, a screwdriver, a pocketknife (closed) and a cassette tape.

### **Understand What I Mean?**

This game will illustrate the frustrations many people experience when trying to communicate. You'll need several alphabet charts and pointers attached to a helmet or headband.

Playing in teams, Cubs must spell out simple words while others in their six guess the message they're trying to convey. Cubs may also use hand and arm movements to speed communications, but they must not say a word. The first team that finishes, wins.

### **Top Ten List**

Break into sixes with this challenge: make up a list of the top ten ways to protect your eyes. It might range from wearing a face guard when playing hockey to not playing with fireworks. Lists might even include tips like not throwing sand at the beach or placing rakes with their forks facing down in the garden.

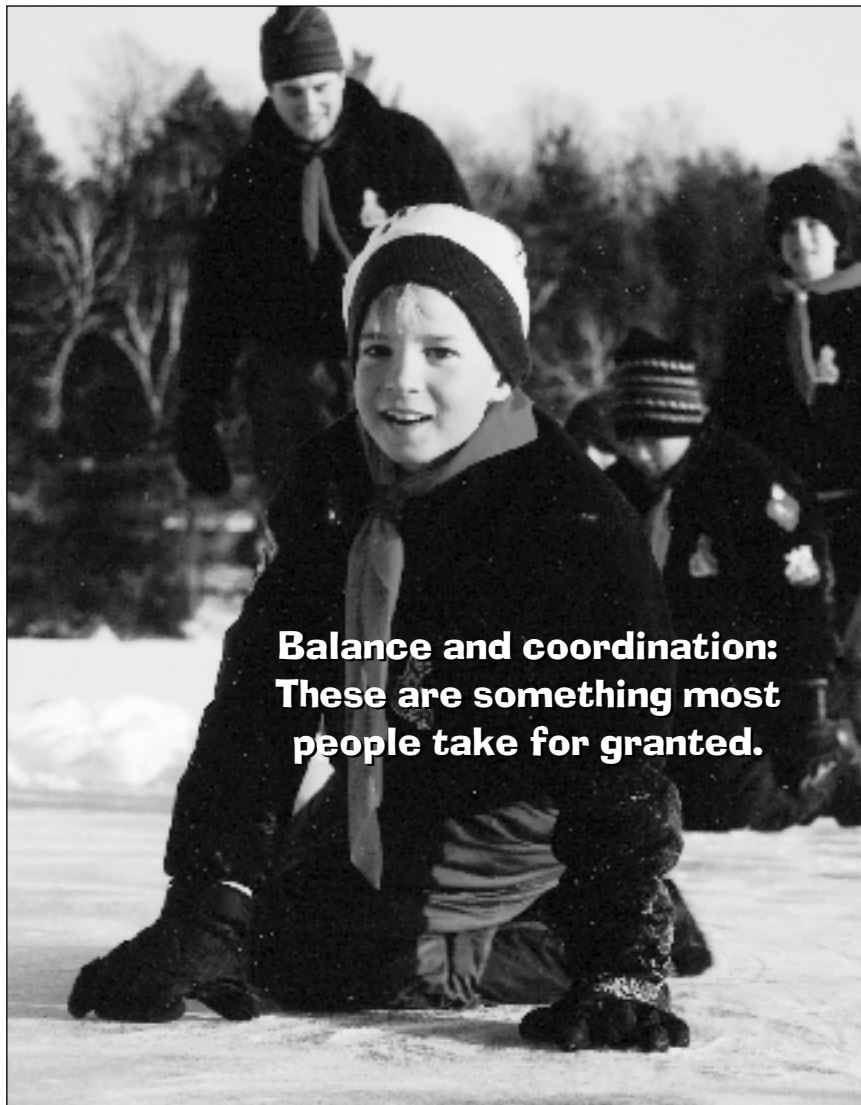
When your sixes have compiled their lists, gather as a group and discuss all the items.

### **Tasteless Food Ideas**

Some people lack the ability to taste and smell. Though some Cubs might think this would be useful at times, drive the disadvantages home by arranging a taste test.

Get several sets of swimmer's nose plugs. Put them on several Cubs and let them bite into some juicy roast beef. It will surprise most Cubs that beef has little taste with the nose plugs. Now try an orange, ice cream and a favourite snack of your pack. How much taste do these treats have? Ask your Cubs if they would really like not being able to taste and smell things.

Make a poster of a tongue, and ask each six to taste things from the four taste groups (salt, sour, bitter, sweet). Let the Cubs sketch a flavour road map



**Balance and coordination:  
These are something most  
people take for granted.**

Photo: Allen Macarthy



on the tongue. Compare the drawings when everyone has finished.

### Creative Campfire

Our campfire included supportive skits and jokes that described people who lived with disabilities in creative ways. We prefaced this time with a brief discussion about how some jokes actually put people down. (Scouts Canada's *Campfire Book* has many ideas you can adapt for this theme.) Here's an example of a joke that might spark discussion:

*Speaker A:* "My dog has no nose."

*Speaker B:* "How does he smell?"

*Speaker A:* "Terrible!"

### Tolerance and Acceptance

Our Sunday Scouts' Own centred on tolerance and acceptance of physically challenged people in our communities. A Cub sitting in a wheelchair read a poem. In small groups we talked about what it meant by, "walk a mile in my shoes." Our Cubs showed a surprising level of compassion. It really encouraged our leadership team.

Many people are colour-blind — meaning they can't see colours. Before your Scouts' Own, look at some black and white pictures then at some colour ones. Notice how much more beautiful the coloured ones appear? Some animals are colour-blind. Do you know which ones? Discuss how colour-blindness might affect your life. Would it have any affect at all when you're reading maps? Walking to school and looking at street signs? Looking at traffic lights?

As part of your Scouts' Own, thank the Lord for the gift of sight, hearing, colours and anything else that strikes you as important.

### Invisible Barriers

Physical and mental disabilities are difficult for people, but many invisible barriers exist also. Is literacy a disability? Tens of thousands of Canadians can't learn to read despite their best efforts. How would this affect their lives?

Have you ever made fun of someone (even just in your mind) who was struggling to speak English? Think again. Is that person doing better than you would in their language? Is the person showing a certain courage by publicly speaking a foreign language?

Have you been near someone who stood too close (or too far way), because their cultural social zones encouraged close conversation? Perhaps you felt very uncomfortable or even threatened. But how does that child feel when you back away to get more space? Does she feel rejected? Can

cultural awareness become a disability at times?

### Timeless Lessons

Our disability camp sparked astonishing levels of compassion, sharing, tolerance, cooperation and friendly laughter. It taught us many valuable lessons, including this one: though

we're all unique, with various skills and abilities, we're more alike than different. Physical or mental disabilities don't have to become barriers.

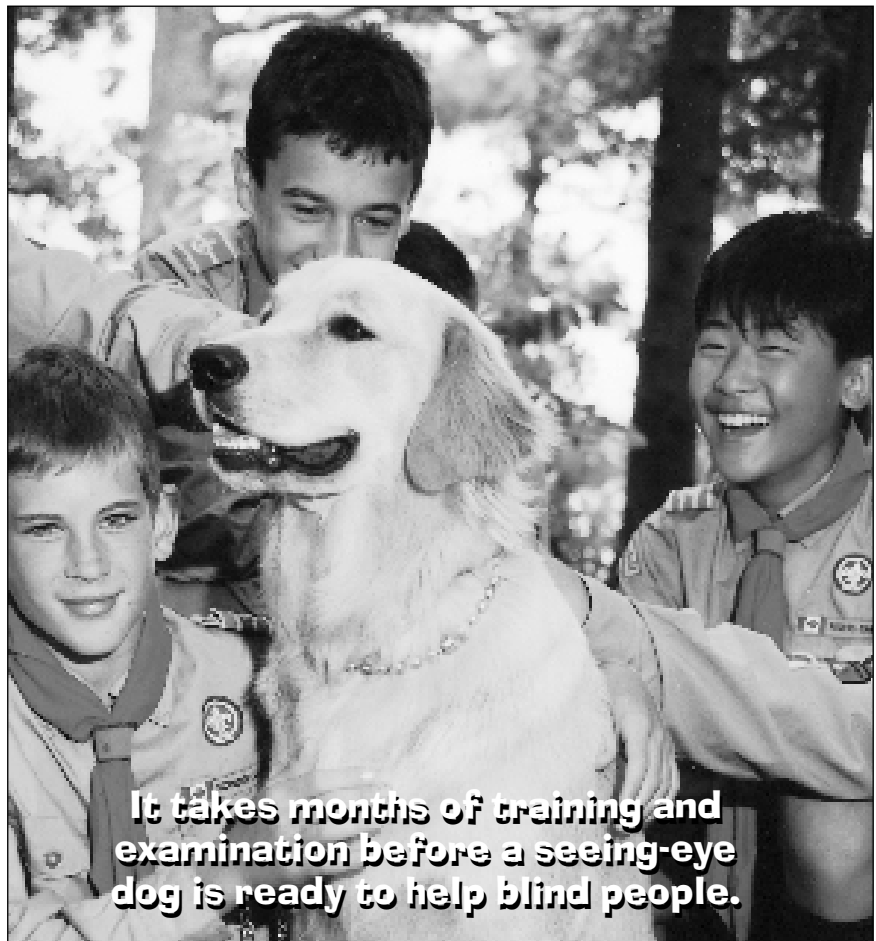
What a great lesson for Cubs and adults to learn.  $\wedge$

— Sue Pike works with Cubs from the 4th Scarborough Pack, ON.

## IF YOU HAVE SOMEONE WITH A DISABILITY IN YOUR GROUP

Here are some ideas to help you run an active, successful program.

- Offer a varied program. Someone with a disability may lack skills in one area but be very capable in another. Identify where the person's skills lie and find games, crafts and activities that make him succeed.
- Play mostly cooperative, rather than competitive, games; this way a team won't be penalized when it has a slower member playing. When playing competitive games, give the struggling Cub a discreet advantage. Or, you might want to let the child sit out.
- If a child forgets directions, give them one at a time. Use as few words as possible and speak face-to-face.
- Follow a normal routine. Children with learning disabilities find it hard to adapt to change. If you plan a special program, take the Cub aside and describe what's going to happen.



**It takes months of training and examination before a seeing-eye dog is ready to help blind people.**

Photo: Paul Hitchi

# Amory Adventure Award



## R e t r a c i n g t h e G r e a t D i v i d e T r a i l

*from the 83rd Calgary "E" Venturers*

Last year, members of the 83rd Calgary "E" Venturer Company tied with two other companies for second place in the Amory Adventure Award. Their trek involved a seven-day trip on the historic Great Divide Trail. This is their story.

A wide, ascending path wound its way out of the river valley and into the deep wilderness of the Great Divide Trail from Alberta to British Columbia. This route is famous for its spectacular scenery, towering mountains, sparkling lakes and rolling topography. It seemed to beckon our group of adventure-loving Venturers forward with an irresistible pull. We had dreamed of and planned this trip for months.

Up we climbed on our first day, loosening outer layers of clothing to vent the heat building inside our light jackets. Surrounding us, tall trees swayed in the breeze, while tiny wildflowers at our feet added a splash of colour to the path.

After a brief lunch break beside dark juniper bushes, we pressed on over several streams and continued up the valley to our destination, Lost Horse Creek. Late in the afternoon,

“ H e y  
g u y s !  
L e t ' s  
p a c k u p  
a n d g e t  
g o i n g ! ”



Photos: 83rd Calgary "E" Venturers

Wise hikers  
drink plenty  
of fluids.



with muscles starting to complain from the really tough climb, we stumbled across the creek that sparked the imagination with images of a phantom horse galloping through the trees.

"Here's our camp," someone yelled out cheerily, dropping his pack. Icy water bubbled nearby. In less than an hour our tents were up, our socks were off (cooling in the creek), and our spoons were plunging into steaming beef stew.

As if they had been waiting for the right moment, dark clouds drifted over the horizon and started drizzling warm rain. We retreated to our tents and sleeping bags as thunder came creeping towards us. The patter of raindrops on the tent flies, combined with the long hike, made sleeping easy.

### Swatting Paradise

After a quick breakfast next morning, we set off. Soon we learned that our trail led through mosquito heav-

en. Swarms of the miserable beasts dive-bombed us from all angles, encouraging us to increase our hiking pace considerably over the now-rocky and uneven trail.

Having feasted for several hours until satisfied on human blood, the mosquitoes disappeared just in time for us to eat *our* lunch. A small log bridge crossed a stream — a perfect place to dangle feet into the water and munch a bagel with sliced meat.

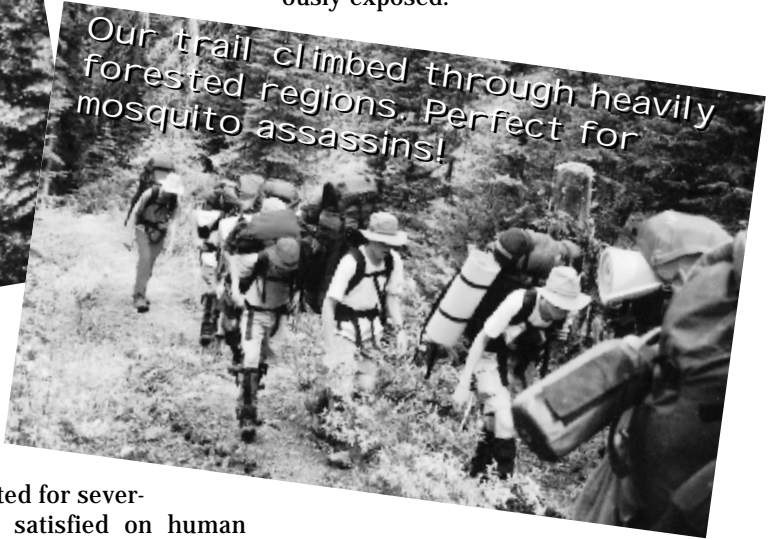
That afternoon as the kilometres roared by, we made up new Dr. Suess-like poems, counted pine trees and quizzed each other about outrageous events in Hollywood action movies. Soon Egypt Lake (our destination) appeared; just in time for supper. With this prospect, thousands more mosquitoes found us. After a quick meal for everyone/thing, we dove for protection into our tent fortresses.

### Rocky Mountain Spectacular

Over the next days we hiked over Healy and Citadel Passes, climbed

Standish Ridge, trudged by Goat's Eye Mountain and saw many other lightweight campers; most carried large cans of bear mace. Did these people know something we didn't? The thought made us feel dangerously exposed.

Our trail climbed through heavily forested regions. Perfect for mosquito assassins!



In Valley of the Rocks the sun beat down with scorn on our group of enthusiastic, but hot and thirsty, Venturers. With no trees for shade, the valley felt like a well-kindled furnace at times. Later, a light rain fell, making our walking much easier and pleasant.

In seven days our dream hike ended several kilometres from towering Shark Mountain. Our first stop beyond the parking lot — A & W.

"We overcame some big obstacles during this trip," said group members seated around the table munching hamburgers and root beer. "But the teamwork was excellent. The sky's the limit now! Where are we going next year?"\



H a n g i n g  
a r o u n d  
o n a  
h o m e m a d e  
h a m m o c k .






# Scoutrees: Growing Team Spirit

by John Rietveld

**I**t's time to scour the garage for your special spade and bucket, and start gearing-up for tree planting. Though you may still have snow in your area, to mount a successful Scoutrees planting you need to start preparing now. Planting season in most areas of the country runs from late April through May.

Scads of work is already done. Your region should have received materials for 1999 including:

-  Planters' kits and pledge envelopes
-  "Thank you" bookmarks
-  The coveted crest for all who participate.

Regions and districts also stock planning guides, posters, communications kits, and appreciation certificates for people and businesses which help in some way. Your regional or provincial council will have arranged planting locations and secured your trees. Radio stations receive a 30-second PSA in mid-March. Almost everything you need for a successful planting is ready; are you?

Scoutrees is an environmental project, and an outdoor activity for our youth. Although its fundraising aspect is important, actual tree planting takes precedence.

## Laying the Groundwork

About one month before "Dig Day" begin to prepare your members for this exciting good turn. Announce the date well in advance. Hand out the planters' kits and pledge envelopes early, allowing everyone loads of time to read up on Scoutrees and to solicit financial support of relatives and friends.

For Beavers, tree planting is a vivid example of their promise to "help take care of the world." In lodges, make posters showing how trees help the forest and us. Display the posters in shop windows and on community centre bulletin boards.

## The Fruit of Their Labour

Cubs can accomplish a number of star and badge requirements through Scoutrees. The Black Star and the Canadian Wilderness Award provide just two areas where Scoutrees can enhance your regular program.

Last year  
Scouting  
youths  
planted  
3.8 million  
trees

Scouts can earn their Forestry Badge while participating in this project. Older Scouts might use Scoutrees as part of their Chief Scout Award Community service requirements. Helping a younger member to gather pledges, and assisting on Dig Day itself are great ways to make up

some of the 50 hours needed for the award. Some districts even combine Scoutrees with their annual spring camporee, or a patrol leaders' training weekend.

Venturers prove invaluable at the planting site. Beavers and Cubs will need help carrying their buckets of trees. Your council Scoutrees coordinator will welcome an offer from any company to stake out the site, plant leftover trees or serve refreshments. For Venturers, as for other sections, participating in a Scoutrees planting may qualify members for parts of the World Conservation Award.

## Rooting for the Home Team

Rovers, with their motto of Service, find plenty of ways to support Scoutrees. Whether working "on site" with other adults, or acting as a follow-up team checking to ensure that every tree is properly planted, Rovers can play an important behind-the-scenes role.

In 1998, Scouting youths planted about 3.8 million seedlings across Canada. Every year, three quarters of our membership gets involved, with super results.

Scoutrees: it's an environmental project, fundraising activity, badge work and a community good turn, all rolled into one. Contact your council office today, and get your shovels ready! ^

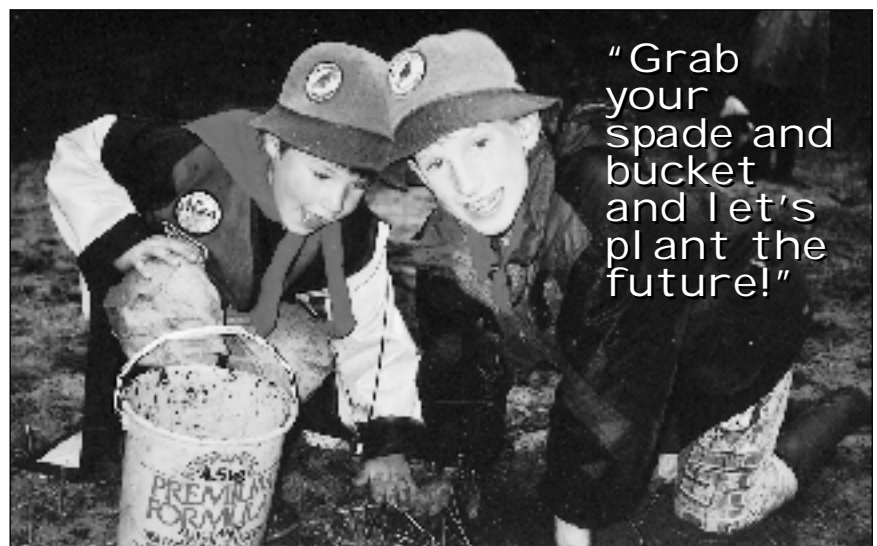


Photo: Tracy Nagy

# The Psychological Stages of a Commissioner's Visit

## There's no time for panic!

by Colin Wallace

Every once in a while, your regional commissioner will visit your section. Although nobody ever actually died during a commissioner's visit (at least none have been reported), the event does seem to make nervous wrecks out of many section Scouters. Don't worry. You'll survive — probably.

Of course, you could pray for a natural disaster to occur on the date of the visit. However, you should be aware that anything less than an earthquake registering 7.4 on the Richter Scale will not deter a commissioner.

You could also hope something terrible will happen to you that provides a reasonable excuse for being unavoidably absent on extremely short notice when the commissioner has planned the visit. This allows the commissioner to come as planned, but without your presence. However, postponing the visit might not be your intent; delaying it only puts off the inevitable pain.

### Overworked and Undervalued?

Chances are that you, like any normal overworked section Scouter, will launch your leadership team into a frenzy of activity and wild preparation. Should this happen, you may experience the psychological stages that such an auspicious event always induces.

If you're lucky enough to rate a visit from your provincial commissioner or — good grief! — our national commissioner, don't sweat it. You'll encounter the same inevitable responses. Here are some of the psychological stages to look for when a commissioner visits your section.

### Look for these Vital Signs

#### Stage 1: Alarmed Denial

This isn't happening, and if it is, it's not that serious. It's only another Scouting initiative. It won't really affect me.



#### Stage 2: Cynicism

You must be kidding! What member of the service team had this bright idea? Is someone out to 'get' me?! (Sometimes paranoia creeps into the emotional mix.)

#### Stage 3: Abject Horror

Expect night sweats and butterflies in the stomach. You may ask, what am I going to do? I don't need this. I have enough problems already. Make it go away!

#### Stage 4: Grudging Adaptation

A commissioner's visit is only a bunch of bureaucracy. I can cope. What's the bare minimum I have to do to get by? Let's get it over with as quickly and painlessly as possible. Can I delegate this to anyone else?

#### Stage 5: Reluctant Compliance

Actually, this visit may prove quite helpful. It'll give me a golden opportunity to bend the commissioner's ear with some of my great ideas for revitalizing this section. I can't wait until she arrives!

#### Stage 6: Stark Terror

Oh my gosh! The commissioner will be here next week and I haven't got the program completely worked out yet. We'll look stupid! The commissioner will think we've got the worst section in the entire country.

#### Stage 7: Positive Acceptance

Hey, we've got a great leadership team. Everything's ready. I knew we could pull this off. No big deal. Next time the commissioner comes, we'll be even better prepared.

#### Stage 8: Exhaustion

Boy (and girl — after all we are co-ed). Am I glad that's over. Now I can get on with more exciting activities like wilderness survival games and canoeing.

### Opportunities Come Knocking

Don't panic when your commissioner comes a-calling. It offers a terrific opportunity to improve your program.

The commissioner isn't coming to slam-dunk you and your program. He or she just wants to observe and be helpful. Ask questions. Dip into the person's well of knowledge and experience. Try out new program material. Fish around for some presenting tips. Your program will benefit greatly. ^

## THE COMMISSIONER'S VISIT: IT'S SERIOUS BUT ALSO FUN

District Commissioner to ambitious, aggressive young Scouter: "Look, I don't mind you following in my footsteps, but please wait until I get out of them!"

Some commissioners are more concerned about the rules of our game than the game itself. If you are a commissioner, give this some thought.

# District and Regional Youth Networks

## *Invite young members for more input*

by Tyler Arrell and Natalie Lambert

**H**AVE YOU BEEN TO A district or regional council meeting lately?

If so, did any young people attend? Literally hundreds of young members are taking part in planning and decision-making in Scouting councils across the country. It works!

For the past few years, youth members have been working toward a common goal: a network of young people active in decision-making at all levels, representing the youth in their group, district, region or province. While huge steps forward have been made involving young members in the decision-making process, many regions and districts across the country are still developing their youth networks. A strong team of young people, coached by experienced advisors, are in place in each province to help your district or region move forward.

### **For Young People**

Why should we involve youth?

"Scouting is a Movement of young people, supported by adults," according to the World Scout Bureau. "It is not a Movement for young people managed by adults only. Thus, Scouting offers the potential for a learning community of young people and adults, working together in a partnership of enthusiasm and experience."

To keep our programs relevant and youth members interested, it's vital to consult young people and find out what they want. Include them in the planning and delivery of the program.

### **Your Own Youth Network**

What can a youth network do for your district or region?

Having youth representation on your district or regional council will make your council run smoother and be more effective. The council will be able to get direct input from those receiving the program. When a group proposes a new activity or event, but there's a question

whether young people would want to participate, your council's youth representative could discuss the issue with young Scouting members, then provide timely feedback so your council will know whether to proceed with the event.

Youth representatives also help ensure that young people are involved in the sections, e.g. recommending kids as Kims and Keeos, or providing support to a Court of Honour.

### **Communications Up and Down**

How do Scouting youths communicate around the country?

A district or regional representative should sit on the youth network of the next higher council — be it the regional or provincial youth network. Members from these groups may also be able to offer support to help other representatives overcome challenges at the district or regional level.

A representative from provincial youth networks sits on the National Youth Committee. (Each province or territory is represented on this Committee, which meets twice annually.) The Committee works to find solutions to problems experienced across the country, as well as working on projects, such as the National Youth Leadership Training Program.

How do you set up a district or regional youth network?

Most youth network members are older Scouts, Venturers or Rovers, although some may be older Cubs. (Cubs should play a role. After all, a large percentage of our members are Cubs and they can give an excellent perspective.)

Most groups will have one or two representatives on their district network, depending on the district's size. For regional networks, a representative from each district may be enough; smaller regions may even want one youth from each group. Generally, networks function

*Plan some activities that help knit members of youth networks together.*



Photos: 31st St. Cyprians Venturers, Calgary, AB.

best with between five and 15 members.

When first starting your network, ask advisors and leaders to recommend possible youth participants. Once established, the networks themselves should select their own representatives.

What is the networking process?

The youth network exists for two basic reasons. To:

- Help the council understand what youths want
- Represent the youthful viewpoint at all levels of the organization.

Make sure young people are directly involved with decision-making at all section levels.

When Scout networks are running across the country, youth members will be able to share ideas and concerns with their peers — those in their province, the country or even around the world.

### Helpful Steps

Keep these steps in mind when starting up your network:

1. Find suitable youths from your Scout troop, Venturer company or Rover crew. Older Cubs too may be useful to the group, although they may not be interested in this kind of activity.
2. A “coach” will help make sure your group functions well. Find someone to fill this important role.
3. During your first meeting, ask a provincial representative or some-

one with sufficient knowledge to speak to your group about the networking process. Make sure all youths understand that they play an important part in the organization. Spark their interest by explaining the importance of the consultation they will provide.

## Make sure young people are involved in decision-making.

(You can get a list of provincial representatives from the Youth Committee web site — [www.scouts.ca/youth.htm](http://www.scouts.ca/youth.htm) — or contact your provincial Scout office for more information.)

4. Provide youths with all necessary resources. A resource manual for youth networks already exists. It's called the *Networker's Guide*, and can be very helpful when running a network. Get a copy at your provincial Scout office or from your provincial youth network. The Youth Committee web site and our online youth publication, *ScoutQuest*, both offer information relevant to the youth networks.
5. Choose a youth member (e.g. Venturer executive member) to chair meetings. Explain that this person has direct influence with the provincial network. Also suggest that

this youth member sit as a part of the provincial network.

6. Gather some issues that your council is currently working on, or make up a list of new ideas that your chair can take to the provincial network. Some examples might include:

- Using Kims and Keeos
- Using the Court of Honour and Sixers' Council
- Program feedback
- Activities young members want included in the program.

Members of a network might want to write an article describing something exciting they've done, or a dynamic idea for *ScoutQuest*, the youth publication. Leaders may have to do brainstorming at first, just to get the creative juices flowing.

7. Make sure your group constantly supports the network. As an advisor, cheer them on, offer advice and let them know how you can help.

### Increase the Volume

Youth have a lot to offer Scouting. Give them a greater voice by developing a district or regional youth network. Then, once it's up and running, really listen to what young members say. Scouting can benefit greatly. ^

— Tyler Arrell is the chair of the National Youth Committee; Natalie Lambert is the Assistant National Commissioner for Youth.



## Scouting's Mission

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

## Énoncé de Mission du scoutisme

Collaborer au développement des jeunes afin de leur permettre d'atteindre leur plein potentiel physique, intellectuel, social et spirituel en tant qu'individus, citoyens et citoyennes responsables et membres de la communauté sur les plans local, national et international par l'application de nos Principes et Pratiques.



# How Are You Building Membership?

by Douglas Moore

**Sure.** You believe in Scouts Canada and would like to see membership increase. Yes, you endorse Scouting's membership drives and Mission. But... what commitment have you made personally to increase membership and involvement?

Now it's okay; no need to start squirming. Instead, take this brief quiz to determine what you can do to encourage more people (especially youth) into your group. Respond to each question with "often," "sometimes" or "rarely."

1. I make at least one telephone call each month to prospective members inviting them to come and see what Scouting is all about.  
Often  Sometimes  Rarely
2. I offer newsletter/publication subscriptions to prospective members.  
Often  Sometimes  Rarely
3. When a member becomes involved, I ensure he or she receives thanks and recognition from our group, district or region and Scouts Canada.  
Often  Sometimes  Rarely
4. I bring prospective members to meetings and social gathering.  
Often  Sometimes  Rarely
5. I keep membership materials convenient, and distribute them whenever the opportunity arises.  
Often  Sometimes  Rarely
6. I educate prospective members about Scouting benefits and services, and explain how to obtain them.  
Often  Sometimes  Rarely
7. I offer ideas and advice on recruitment and retention to the membership committee.  
Often  Sometimes  Rarely
8. I offer my own informal orientation to members I recruit.  
Often  Sometimes  Rarely
9. I keep a record of the members' skills and talents.  
Often  Sometimes  Rarely
10. I introduce new members at meetings.  
Often  Sometimes  Rarely
11. I maintain contact with new members and make sure their Scouting experiences are positive ones.  
Often  Sometimes  Rarely
12. When I find a member who has leadership potential, I act as his or her mentor.  
Often  Sometimes  Rarely
13. I ask the advice of new and prospective members on Scouting issues.  
Often  Sometimes  Rarely
14. I keep my ears open for successful membership development activities of other organizations.  
Often  Sometimes  Rarely

15. I speak to school principals about setting up a Scouting display.  
Often  Sometimes  Rarely
16. I speak to teachers about letting one of our leaders address classes about interesting Beaver, Cub and Scout programs in the area.  
Often  Sometimes  Rarely

**You'll Like It, If You Try It**

If you put just six (6) of these ideas into practice on a regular basis, you're doing a tremendous service to your group. You'll very quickly become very successful at identifying and involving new members in Scouting programs.

Do you put these ideas into practice only rarely? Why not pick six of them right now, and make them part of your everyday routine? It won't be long before your group will have plenty of leaders and youths.

Discuss these ideas with other section members and the group committee. Perhaps together, you can dream up an incredibly effective recruiting program so more youths can enjoy the outdoors more. X

— Douglas Moore is APC Membership Development, Nova Scotia Service Team.

*Scouting Heritage Tour:*  
**In the Founder's Footsteps**

Are you interested in seeing Gilwell Park, Brownsea Island, Charterhouse School and other famous Scouting sites? If you are, this is the trip for you!

From September 13-16, 1999, a group of people will be tracing the footsteps of Lord Baden-Powell and visiting these well-known places, as well as many others including Westminster Abbey and the U.K. Scouting Association's own unique archives. Paul Moynihan, the Scout Association's archivist, will guide the tour.

For more information, contact Paul Moynihan at the Archives Department, Baden-Powell House, Queen's Gate, London, SW7 5JS. Phone 0171 584 7030.

See you on the Heritage Tour.



*When we all pull in the same direction, we've got it made.*

Photo: Allen Macartney



# How to Communicate with Young People

by Bryon Milliere

**D**ig in to your third heapin' helping of *Bridge the Gap*. In this sitting you'll learn how to reduce the chance

of teen suicide, how to communicate with youths, how to get their attention, and more.

## Teen Suicide:

### Be Part of the Solution

Teen suicides and attempted suicides are increasing. Uniquely positioned, Scout leaders have many opportunities to help struggling young people before a tragedy claims someone's life.

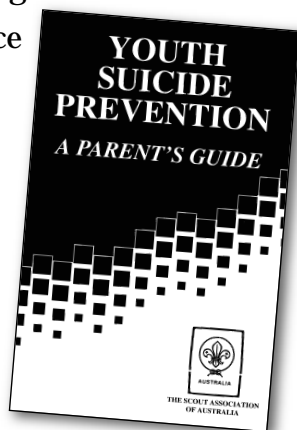
The Scout Association of Australia has published an informative booklet (*Youth Suicide Prevention, A Parent's Guide*) that provides many helpful suggestions. Here are some ideas to keep young people in your group healthy and happy.

### Good Coping Skills

As youths become more skilled and resourceful at dealing with problem-solving, their ability to handle stressful situations generally increases. People who are coping well may view a stressful situation as a challenge and an opportunity for change, rather than an occasion for despair.

### A Supportive and Caring Family

A warm, caring and understanding family is a good source of support for



a young person in distress. Firm guidance, good communication, family stability and an ability to "grow" with the child are important ingredients for a well functioning family.

As a leader, your involvement in the families of your youths may be minimal, but you can teach good communication skills in your group. Look for games, skits and other cooperative activities that stress teamwork and communication.

### Presence of an Important Person in the Youth's Life

An emotionally significant person

becomes a lifeline to a teen in danger. This person might be a parent, a teacher, a close friend or a youth worker. Just knowing someone really cares may save a teen's life.

### Interests and Activities

Activities such as Scouting help to channel energy and frustration in a socially acceptable and healthy manner. Youths learn to relate to others in a semi-structured and fulfilled environment under the guidance of responsible and caring adults. Success and achievements raise self-esteem. Let your members 'taste' the sweet flavour of success often. Find activities that make them succeed.

Healthy Scouting relationships — with both peers and adults — can build youths up and provide a great source of strength.

Do you think a youth may not be coping well with a stressful situation? If you do, seek help quickly. Share your observations with the youth's parents. For immediate assistance call a doctor or a support number listed in the front of your phone book.

## HOW TO COMMUNICATE WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

It's not always easy communicating with young people — yours or someone else's. But, it's not impossible either. Keep these tips in mind when talking with youth.

Establish rapport. Rapport comes from a record of friendly, honest, face-to-face relations. Welcome their suggestions. Laugh at their jokes. Down-

play the lectures. Stay flexible where possible, and stand firm when necessary. Don't wait until there's a problem; instead, be proactive. Play and work and talk together as part of your normal routine. Then, when a problem erupts, you'll be able to communicate better.

Use positive peer pressure (the influence of young people on other young people) to get your message across. A Venturer company, school group, sporting team, youth group or cadet corps can turn a person on or off. Guide the majority (or the influential minority) toward the right attitudes and actions. And they, perhaps without conscious design, will begin working on the rest.

Parents and leaders communicate with each other continuously by words or actions, and for better or worse. They continually influence the behaviour of their kids.

### I'm All Ears

1. Learn to listen with your eyes, your body and your heart without any judgmental interruptions. A good listener hears not only the young person's words, but also the person's meaning and perspective. Expect the best.
2. Listening is a way of helping young people by validating the importance of their thoughts, feelings and opinions. Being a good listener is a way

- of making young people feel wanted and cared for.
- Your listening is a way of helping young people understand and know about themselves.
  - If you're known as a good listener, chances are others will take time to listen to what you're saying.
  - Avoid interrupting. Listen silently!
  - Use questions to help clarify meanings and to make sure you understand the feelings young people are experiencing. This will also keep them talking. Try summarizing and repeating back their message as a way to verify your understanding.
  - Use open-ended questions — questions that begin with "what," "how," and "could you." Avoid questions that can be answered with a simple "yes" or "no," and questions that begin with "why."



*It's easier to communicate when you are enjoying outdoor activities.*

Photo: 10th Kingston Ventures

- Listen to yourself — how you sound as well as what you say. Actions and facial expressions often communicate rejection even

## A good listener makes a speaker feel important by giving his undivided attention.

- Good listeners sometimes ask for clarification of the speaker's feelings. Do this especially when the speaker says, "You don't understand." (E.g. "Could you give me an example what you mean when you said...?") Then, honestly try to understand. Avoid making assumptions.

while your words try to communicate acceptance.

- Develop a feeling of courtesy and respect in your voice tone. A pleasant, understanding tone will pay big dividends in communication, and make young people feel good about themselves.  $\wedge$

## I WANT YOUR ATTENTION NOW!

Do you sometimes find it difficult getting and holding the attention of your Beavers, Cubs or Scouts? Try these approaches.

- Play a steam-off game after opening ceremonies. It will burn off some pent-up energy accumulated from sitting in school all day.
- Ask your members to sit down and face you before beginning instructions.
- Keep messages brief, clear and direct.
- Allow questions.
- Be ready for the next part of the program.

## TODAY'S EXPRESSIONS

Want to understand today's youthful expressions? Here are some browner ideas that really rip.

*Browner idea:* A brilliant or smart idea derived from the term "browner," used to describe smarter and more studious students.

*It really ripped:* This isn't necessarily a good or bad experience, just a significant experience (e.g. "Wow, the camp really ripped!").

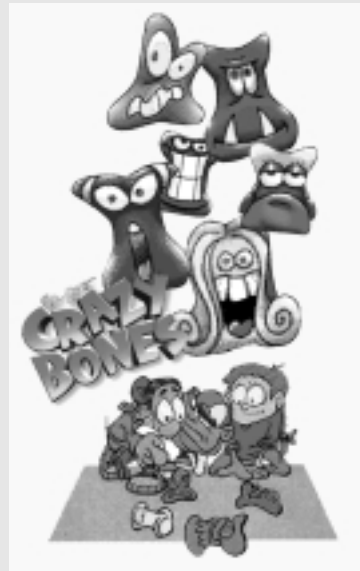
*Not the sharpest crayon in the box:* one is slow or dumb.



*"That's a real browner idea, Ian. It really rips!"*

Photo: Paul Ritchie

# LONG JOHN, GOOFIE GORDIE AND BABE



Do you know these characters?

Long John, Goofie Gordie and Babe are the names of "Crazy Bones," a game for kids that involves small, plastic figurines. Ask your Cubs about it; they'll fill you in. Check out the Crazy Bones web site to learn all the names (<http://crazybones.com>).

Why not create an activity using this popular game? Adults must be quick to keep up to the latest fads with kids. Some fads even return, like the yo-yo. If Crazy Bones is passé by the time you read these words, you might be able to catch it again with your grandchildren!

## YOUTH VOLUNTEER MORE

Young people are volunteering almost twice as much today as youths did 10 years ago — a jump from 18% to 33%. (Source: *Caring Canadians, Involved Canadians*, Statistics Canada)

# COOL WEB SITES

*ScoutQuest* is a webzine — a magazine published on the Web — by Scouts Canada's National Youth Committee. Look for it on Scouting's home page: [www.scout.ca](http://www.scout.ca).



<http://www.excite.com/lifestyle/teens/>

Part of this site solicits teen opinions on the "level of cool" for various topics. Some subjects on this site would make useful discussion topics around the campfire.



<http://teenculture.miningco.com/>

The Web is so large now that it can take a long time to find what you want. This particular search engine will help you find (or 'mine') a wide range of topics that interest teens. Some topics include family and teen culture. It's a great site.



<http://www.au.mensa.org/puzzles.html>

Challenge Scout-aged youths and older teens with puzzles such as the lateral thinking questions found on Mensa Australia's web site. Mensa also publishes books featuring similar mind benders. Read the scenario and then answer any question with either a "yes" or a "no." Or decide that you've made an incorrect assumption, then figure out the answer. It's great for long car rides to camp.



<http://www.theweathernetwork.com>  
<http://www.weatheroffice.com>

These are two great web sites if you're looking for information about Canadian weather. Ask youths in your group to watch the weather leading up to your outings. It will help get them more involved in the planning and preparation phases.



## Correction to the Grand Howl

The January 1999 *Leader* printed an *incorrect* version of the French Grand Howl. The correct wording for the Grand Howl is:

A-a-a K-é-é La-a  
De... no... tre... mieux!

De... vo... tre... mieux!  
(sur le ton d'un défi)

Oui, de... no... tre... mieux!  
(D'une voix ferme et déterminée)

Faire de son mieux est la devise du louveteau, c'est donc avec enthousiasme que tu relèveras le défi.

# Fun at the Pond

by Leslie Forward

## HOP TO IT! EASTER'S COMING

**E**aster falls on April 4th this year. Because bunnies have a mythological tie-in to Easter (just as Santa Claus does at Christmas) plan a bunny rabbit theme. Use it as a jumping off point for a more spiritual look at Easter in early April. (See the Spring JUMP-START package in your local Scout Shop for some spiritual ideas for Easter.)

### Bunny Cards

Here's a good gathering activity. As Beavers arrive, get them working on rabbit cards. Make the cards from construction paper, coloured markers, sparkles, cotton balls and white glue. Let them draw their own bunny pictures or use the pattern provided. (See diagram, p.21) Be sure to cut out sections of the left side of the card. Let your Beavers send their bunny cards to parents, friends or grandparents. Beavers who arrive early may wish to help those who arrive later.

### Rabbit Word Search

How many times can your Beavers find the word "rabbit" in this puzzle? Break into small groups to find the answer. Let Keeo help here.

R	A	B	B	I	T
R	A	B	B	I	T
T	I	B	B	A	R
T	I	B	B	A	R
R	A	B	B	I	T
R	A	B	B	I	T

### Rabbits in the Woods Song

(Tune: "Down by the Bay")

Let your Beavers make up additional verses, adding other forest an-

imals, after they've sung these lines several times.

Down in the woods (2X)  
Where the rabbits love to stay (2X)  
That's where they go (2X)  
Every single happy day (2X)  
But when they play (2X)  
Their mamma will say (2X)  
Did you ever see a moose,  
with its antlers loose  
Down in the woods?

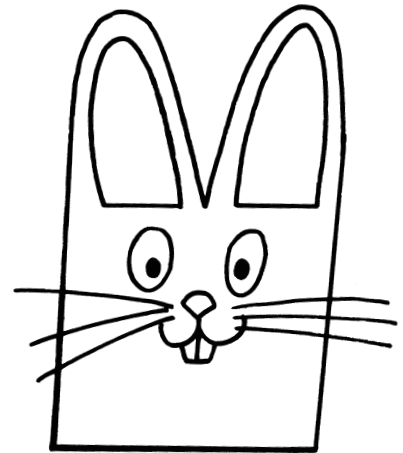
Did you ever see a bear  
with ribbons in its hair,  
Down in the woods?

Did you ever see a skunk  
packing a trunk  
Down in the woods?

### Bunny Baskets of All Sizes

Bunny baskets are fun to make from many different sizes of bags — small white lunch bags to large brown grocery bags. Here are bunny bag ideas. Use the bags to hold craft supplies or treats (depending on the size of bag).

### Bunny Basket



You'll need a couple of white paper bags, large cotton balls, small black or brown pompoms, thin paper strips (for the whiskers), googly eyes, pink crayons or markers, scissors, glue, stapler and coloured straws.

Cut a "V" shape from the top of the bag when the bag is closed. (See diagram) Draw and colour pink ears on the end of the bag. Glue on eyes, whiskers and nose. Draw on the mouth and two teeth. Glue a large cotton ball on the back to represent the tail. Staple the end tops of the bag together to form the ears. Open the bag and fill with coloured straw. Your bunny baskets are now ready to hold a treat.

## Great Big Bunny Heads

For each bunny mask you'll need two white paper plates (large), tissue paper (pink, blue or other pastel colour), thin paper strips for whiskers, googly eyes, cotton ball for nose, pink crayon or marker, scissors, glue and stapler.

Cut two large ears (see Diagram A) from one plate. Discard the centre section. Colour the inside of the ears pink. Glue eyes, whiskers and a nose on the other plate, then draw a mouth and teeth. Staple on the ears. Bunch up some tissue paper to form a bow tie; staple this into place.

## Three Dimensional Card

Beavers love three dimensional toys and cards. This card is easy to complete quickly. Each Beaver will need two plastic spoons, ribbon, permanent marker and an index card.

Glue the bowl section of one spoon on the front of a folded index card. (See diagram) Glue two spoon handles above the bowl for ears. Draw on features with the marker. Make a cute little ribbon bow tie and glue it at the neck. Add a short message either on the inside or on the outside front cover.

## Quiet Time Action Song

If Beavers need time to slow down and focus their thoughts, try this "Hopping Hopping" (tune: "Swimming, Swimming") song. Sit around in a circle and exercise your arms and vocal cords.

Hopping, hopping down  
the forest trail  
In the rain, in the sun  
Down the forest trail.  
Long ears, short ears,  
straight and floppy too.  
Now don't you think they  
don't have anything else  
to do but hop around?

### Actions

*Hopping:* Bounce on bottoms  
*Down the forest trail:* Nod head from left to right  
*In the rain:* Wiggle fingers down  
*In the sun:* Hands held together over head  
*Long ears:* Stretch two arms straight up  
*Short ears:* Open hands by ears  
*Straight ears:* Arms straight out  
*Floppy:* Arms over head, but hanging down from the elbows  
*Anything else:* Shake finger

Sharing  
Sharing  
Sharing

## BEAVER 25TH ANNIVERSARY

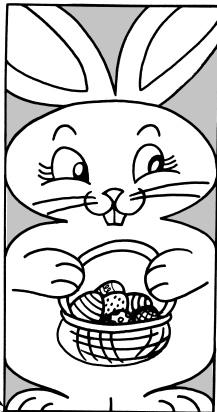
Here's a way to both increase your public profile and say thanks to a sponsor.

Prepare lots of homemade bookmarks. On each, put a Scouts Canada Beaver sticker and ask your Beavers to print the words, "Sharing Sharing Sharing." Ask permission from your clergy to pass these out at your place of worship (if a church sponsors your group) or whatever club or organization provides assistance.

Dress your Beavers in their uniforms and, accompanied by leaders, let them greet church worshippers at the door and present the bookmarks.

Rabbit Card

Paper fold →  
Cut out the dark sections.



Bunny Head

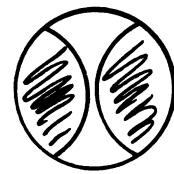
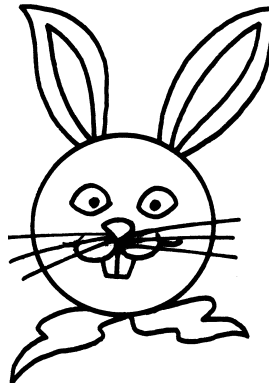
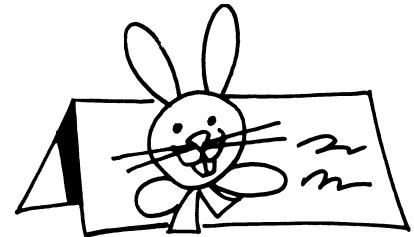


Diagram A



Bunny Card



## STEAM-OFF BUNNY GAMES

When adrenaline builds up to unmanageable levels, play these Beaver bunny games.

### In the Burrow/ Out of the Burrow

Tape a large circle to the floor. Beavers/Bunnies stand outside the circle. When the Big Bunny calls out "In the burrow", the Bunnies hop inside the circle. When Big Bunny says "Out of the burrow", the Bunnies hop outside the circle. Say the directions as fast as possible. Then mix them up. If a Bunny moves incorrectly he/she has to stay still for two turns and then can rejoin the game. Big Bunnies should try this also.

### Bunny Hop Hop

This game is similar to "Shipwreck." Big Bunny calls out alerts and the little bunnies react in a specific way:

*Farmer is coming:* Bunnies run to the nearest corner.

*Mama's here:* Bunnies run to the door.

*Exercise time:* Bunnies hop around.

*Owl is coming:* Bunnies lie on the floor and cover their heads.

Do your Beavers have ideas for more moves? Build these into the game.

Keep singing the song over and over, omitting one group of words and substituting actions each time, until you're only doing the actions.

### Rabbit Cupcakes

Time for rabbit treats. Be sure to provide lots of aprons — cooking can be messy. Don't forget to check for allergies.

Prepare a cake mix according to package directions. Pour it into jumbo muffin pans, filling them only half-way. Bake and cool.

Now it's time to start decorating the cupcakes. Before beginning, get some string and rope licorice, lots of icing, jelly beans, plastic spoons, large marshmallows, and plastic knives.

Give each child one cupcake. Cut the cupcake in half (as shown) and place each part side-by-side, 'gluing' them together with icing. Completely cover the cupcake with icing. Place a marshmallow (representing the tail) on one end. Place string licorice and jelly beans on the other end to make nose, whiskers and eyes. Use rope licorice to make ears. If your rabbit

ends up looking like a happy mouse, that's okay too.

Beavers have to remember that they are part of Scouts Canada, and that a Good Scout leaves nothing but his thanks. (Practical application: everyone helps clean up.)

### Make Up a Story

One of a Beaver's greatest assets is an active imagination. This evolving story will encourage everyone to craft their own mind adventure.

Rainbow or Rusty should start the story like this: "Once upon a time, there was a little rabbit, called Robbie. He was really a rascally rabbit and was always having lots of adventures. One day Robbie called, 'Mom, I'm going for a walk in the woods to meet my friends.' So, he went down the path. Suddenly..."

Now each Beaver has a turn adding to the story. A Beaver might want to weave other forest creatures, colony friends or leaders into the adventure. A Beaver might want to tie the story into events around the colony. Let each child have free rein for her

part. Leaders may need to sit with Beavers to help them dream up ideas. Here are some interesting names to weave into the story: Roger Robin, Barney Bear, Cathy Caterpillar.

### Special Visitors

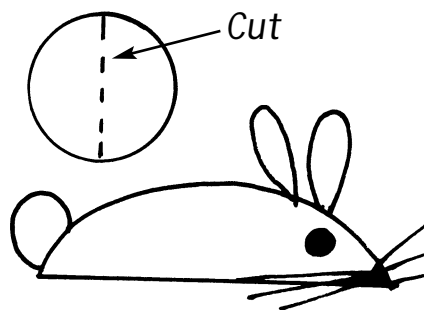
Invite the owner of a pet store or a biologist to your colony. Ask the person to bring a real rabbit for everyone to cuddle and touch. If this isn't possible, invite a large costumed rabbit to visit your colony and deliver treats. (You might even want to visit a pet store or rabbit farm.)

### Resources

These rabbit books are great for Easter and other times of the year.

- *The Easter Egg Artists*, by Adrienne Adams
- *Rabbit*, by Angela Royston
- *A Rabbit for Easter*, by Carol Carrick
- *Goldilocks and the Three Hares*, by Heidi Petach
- *Beatrix Potter* stories ✕

### Rabbit cupcakes



## "YEAR OF THE SENIORS"

### I D E A

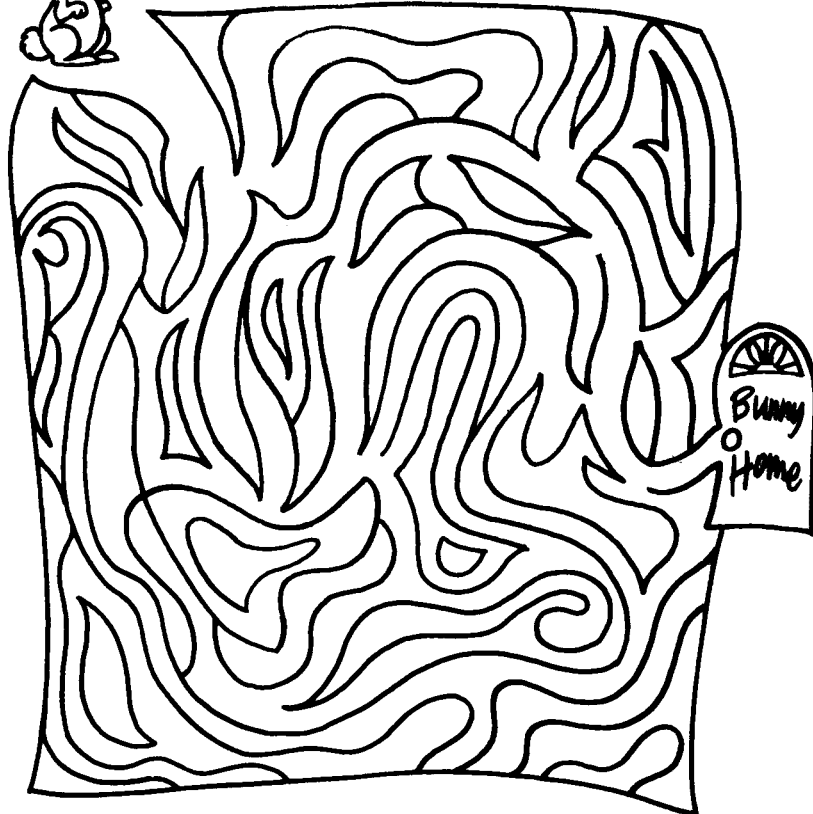
Though spring hasn't arrived yet in all parts of Canada, Beavers can still bring some 'spring' into the life of a senior citizen.

How?

Buy some plain flower pots that your Beavers can decorate with colourful ribbons, stickers and bows. Put clean soil into the pot and plant a spring bulb. When the plant begins to sprout, deliver the plants so they may grow, bloom and provide joy for a senior until spring truly breaks forth and warm weather arrives.

## Bunny Maze

Photocopy this maze and give it to each child. How fast can the bunny find its way home?





# "BEAVERS Я US" Skit

## Or... everything you ever wanted to know about Beavers (*almost*)

by First Point Claire Beaver Colony and Karen Frobb

A SPECIAL EXCITEMENT permeates all birthday parties. That's what makes them an opportune time for recruiting others into your colony. Invite a friend to a special 25th Beaver Anniversary party this year.

While new friends are enjoying Beaver crafts (see ideas below) and activities, here is a fun skit that will tell them almost everything they ever wanted to know about Beavering. Parents will enjoy it, too. The skit makes an excellent introduction to the program.

### Props, Costume, Characters

You'll need a few props to add life to your performance, including Big Brown Beaver, wood chips, lodge posters, a picture of Lord Baden-Powell, a world map, a colony flag and a *Friends of the Forest* book.

Your list of characters will include: S (Stranger), WT (White Tails), H (Hawkeye), R (Rusty), SS (Sunshine), RB (Rainbow) and B (Bubbles).

Costumes make performances more interesting. At the very least, dress up the skit's stranger as if she has come from another planet or place in time.

### On to the Skit

*S: (A stranger wanders into the hall looking lost. The person sees the Beaver colony and, wide-eyed with interest, begins asking questions.) "Who are you?"*

*WT: "Beavers! Beavers! Beavers!" (White Tail Beavers yell loudly)*

*S: "Beavers?" (Scratching her head) "What are you doing?"*

*WT: "Sharing! Sharing! Sharing!"*

*S: "Tell me. Why are you dressed like that? Everybody looks the same."*

*H: "We're part of the Scouting family. The Scouting family has many brothers and sisters. Some are Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers, Rovers and leaders. Members of each section wear different uniforms. We are proud Beavers, so we wear the Beaver uniform: a vest, a hat with a tail, a neckerchief and a woggle."*

*S: "Interesting. But why is the uniform brown and blue?"*

*R: "The colours symbolize nature: brown for the earth and the Beaver's fur coat."*

*SS: "And blue for the clear sky and the fresh sparkling water."*

*S: "How long have Beavers been around?"*

*WT: "25 Years! In fact, this year we're celebrating the 25th birthday*

*of Beavers!" (A general cheer breaks forth from the performers.)*

*S: "What's your group called?"*

*WT: "Our group is called \_\_\_\_\_ (add your name)."*

*S: "What are all those things on your vest?" (Pointing to badges)*

*WT: "We call these 'badges.' (Finger-ing the badges) This one tells the name of our group, this one tells the name of our district, this one tells the name of our province, and this badge says 'Canada', because we're Canadian Beavers. Take a look at this badge. It's for world Scouting because Scouting members come from all around the world."*

*S: "What is this beautiful one?" (Pointing to a lodge patch)*

*WT: "That's a lodge patch. We're all from one Beaver colony, but sometimes we work in smaller groups called lodges. Each lodge has a name and a badge like this. We also have a leader*

**Get acquainted with the Friends of the Forest characters.**



---

to help with each lodge; the leaders have different names. Their names come from characters in our *Friends of the Forest* book.

S: "What's that book all about?"

WT: "It's a fantastic story about a family called the Jones. The family comes to live in a clearing along a river bank near a colony of beavers."

S: "Who are the Jones, and what have they got to do with Beavers?"

H: "Hi! I'm Hawkeye and I have eyes as sharp as a hawk. That's why the Beavers call me Hawkeye. I'm a leader of a lodge."

R: "Hi! I'm Rainbow. I like to wear bright, colourful clothes. That's why our Beavers call me Rainbow. I'm also a leader of a lodge."

B: "Hi! I'm Bubbles. Because I like to have fun and play in the water, the Beavers call me Bubbles. I'm a lodge leader, too." (*Continue through all leaders; make sure you include Keeo.*)

S: (*Looking around in a state of confusion, the stranger sees someone not wearing a necker.*) "How come not everyone wears this thing you call a neckerchief?"

H: "Beavers wearing a neckerchief have been invested; the ones without them are new to Beavers. We call them 'Kits' — the same as real, young beavers."

### **Financial Investments?**

S: "What's this "invested" stuff all about?"

B: "When kits learn certain, important things — like the opening and closing ceremonies, the Beaver Promise, Law and Salute — they're invested. It has nothing to do with banks."

S: "That sounds like a lot to learn; it must take a long time."

RB: "No, not really. Usually it takes just a few weeks. One of the leaders works with the new kits and helps them learn so they can get invested quickly."

S: "Promises, Salutes and Laws. That sounds like pretty serious stuff. Do you suppose I could learn?"

WT: "Sure! Great idea! Our Promise goes like this: 'I promise to love God and to help take care of the world.' The Law is: 'A Beaver has fun, works hard and helps his or her family and friends.' Want to see how we salute? It's like this." (*Salutes*)

### **The More We Get Together**

S: (*Speaking enthusiastically*) "Well! Beavers sounds like a pretty good thing! But what do you do when you all get together?" (*Arrange for some players to hum the song in the background.*)

H: "Hey! You're just in time to see what we do. Come on in and watch. Perhaps you can even help out. Would you like that?"

S: "Sure!"

H: "First we gather everybody around. In my family at home, when it's dinner time, I simply call, 'Dinner's ready!' But it's different here at our pond. When it's time to feed Big Brown Beaver, I call out 'Riverbanks!' Then our Beavers come running and form two wavy lines — one on either side of Big Brown Beaver."

S: "Whoa, whoa. Slow down. You'll have to explain this stuff to me. Who's this Big Brown Beaver you're going to feed?"

WT: "We'll explain everything for you. Come and join in!" (*End of skit*)

## **25th Anniversary Beaver Crafts**

Your guests will appreciate a memento from their visit. Get them involved building this craft.

### **Pompom Beavers**

For two beavers you'll need two wooden craft spoons, brown paint, brown pompoms (2 x 4 cm, 2 x 2.5 cm, 4 x 0.5 cm), black pompoms (2 x 3 mm), felt scraps (brown and white), craft glue, coloured wiggly eyes (4 x 4 mm) and permanent markers.

Paint the craft spoons brown. Use permanent markers to draw tail and feet features. (See diagram) Using brown felt scraps and the pattern, cut one set of "arms." Using the white felt scraps and the pattern, cut two teeth.



To assemble the beaver, glue 0.5 cm pompoms to the felt teeth. Glue the tiny black pompom between these (making the nose). Glue this assembly to the 2.5 cm pompom. Glue eyes in place using the diagram to show placement.

*Crouching Beaver*

Glue the large pompom to the centre of the spoon (the body). Glue the assembled head to the front of the body at the "foot" end. (See diagram)

*Upright Beaver*

Glue the large pompom to the centre of the spoon. Glue brown felt "arms" to the top of the pompom. Glue the assembled head to the top of the felt, facing towards the feet. (See diagram below)

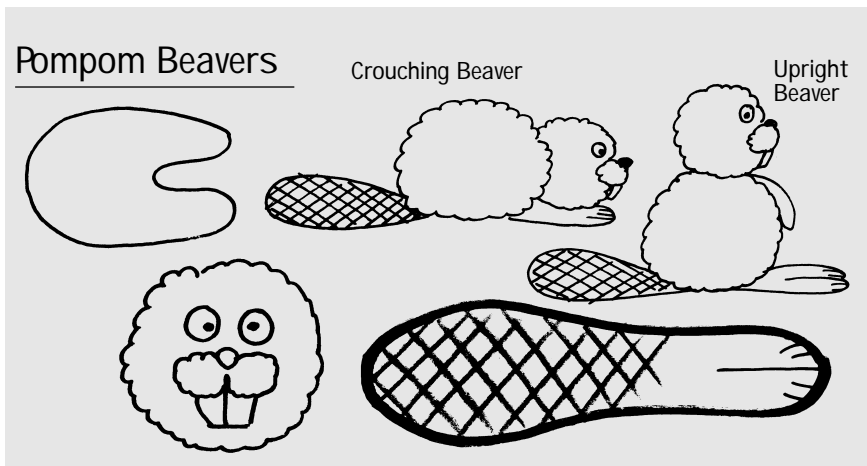
Now you have two cute beavers.

**More 25th Anniversary Ideas Coming**

If you're looking for more great 25th Anniversary party ideas, watch this column.

Do you have any excellent ideas? Send them to Ross Francis, National Office, P.O. Box 5112, Stn. LCD-Merivale, Ottawa, Ontario, K2C 3H4. We'll do our best to print them. X

— *The First Point Claire Beaver Colony (Quebec) shared this creative, slightly-modified skit. Karen Frobb (1st Hanna Beavers) provided the excellent craft idea.*



# COLOSSAL 25TH ANNIVERSARY BEAVER CELEBRATION

**Want to attend the largest Beaveree in the world?**

Beavers in Greater Toronto Region (GTR) will be combining their own 25th Anniversary party with festivities commemorating a quarter century of the Toronto Metro Zoo. The party will take place on the grounds of the Toronto Zoo.

Make plans to attend on May 15, 1999. All are welcome!

Scouts Canada will recognize the Zoo's 25th Birthday by adopting a beaver. We're also sponsoring a contest for all colonies in GTR, Central Escarpment, Shining Waters, and White Pines Regions in Ontario to "Name the Beaver." Registered Beaver participants will receive a special Anniversary crest commemorating this double 25th Birthday celebration, as well as a loot bag of memories.

Special Zoo tours, a tasty lunch, police and fire department displays, special guests, and Beaver activities are just part of this day-long Beaveree.

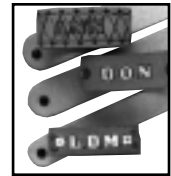
We expect over 5,000 participants. Want more information about this enormous Beaver birthday party? Call our Beaver hotline at (416) 490-6364, ext. 458.

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**CHILDREN LOVE LEATHERCRAFTS**

# Get Outdoors More:

## *It's the Ideal Scouting Environment*

by Ross Francis

**S**couting programs take place in diverse environments, from school gymnasiums to museums to mountain tops. But our most challenging and effective environment has always been nature.

Nature refers to our natural environment, as opposed to artificially created environments, such as a school yard, concrete campsites and crowded cities.

So why aren't more groups getting outside? The natural world offers immense possibilities for young people to grow. It also provides an ideal setting for us to achieve Scouts Canada's Mission (see page 15).

The outdoors contributes to personal development in many ways:

### *Physical Development*

The outdoors offers fresh air, space in which to run and opportunities to test limits of endurance, coordination, the speed of reflexes, etc.

### *Intellectual Development*

Scouts revel in nature's opportunities for exploration. Outside, youths develop their senses, skills of observation and other faculties. With their leaders' help, city kids begin to see colours, shapes, sizes and movement they would otherwise miss. They learn to hear sounds, distinguish smells and feel different textures. Nature can help young people:

- Analyse situations
- Use their imagination and powers of reasoning
- Find creative and appropriate ways of overcoming difficulties, using a minimum of resources.

Young people must cooperate to enjoy their outdoor experience. That's good, because cooperation brings greater enjoyment.

### *Emotional Development*

Nature offers opportunities to explore feelings and emotions — sometimes contradictory ones. Many people find peace and tranquillity in the outdoors; this helps them cope with everyday problems and irritations. As well, at night in a tent hearing forest noises, young people may face and overcome irrational fears.

### *Social Development*

At camp, far away from the trappings of civilization, young people really get to know each other's strengths and weaknesses. Simple activities (such as making meals and organizing the living space) foster a healthy interdependence among campers. Problems occur, and helping each other becomes a necessity. Solutions are found because no one can simply walk away and go home. Paddling, hiking and meeting nature's challenges with your friends: these experiences help to form close

relationships and a sense of solidarity. We seldom find comparable opportunities in the city.

### *Spiritual Development*

Spiritual awareness can grow from taking time to discover and contemplate wonders of the natural world; for example, observing how insects go about their lives, oblivious to the presence of human giants. Conversely, watching for shooting stars in the night sky reminds us that we are tiny, compared to the vast, mysterious universe. Or, enjoying a beautiful landscape engenders a sense of awe and timelessness.

Nature opens our "inner ears" to questions about life. In this environment, young people can more fully explore and freely adhere to their religious heritage.

### **Getting Back to Essentials**

Contact with nature can help a young person discover what is genuine in life. Today more than ever, people find it hard to distinguish between the essential and the superfluous, between what is urgent and what can wait, between what is authentic and what is frivolous — in short, between reality and illusion.

In nature, miles away from civilization, a young person faces reality. City fashion and social backgrounds disappear in the wind when a storm blows. Simple pleasures of life — feeling the warmth of morning sunshine, watching stars at night, swimming in a river — make even the most sophisticated electronic game fade from memory.

### **Living in Harmony with Nature**

When young people grow to appreciate a simple life in nature, and leave materialism behind, they better understand the need to live in harmony with nature and to protect it.

Make sure you give youth members a greater taste of the outdoors in all your programs. ^

Adapted from: *Scouting: An Educational System*, World Scout Bureau, 1998.

# Gourmet Memories of Hobo Stew

by Ross Francis

**P**REPARING THAT FIRST MEAL OVER a crackling fire is a memorable experience, no matter what the outcome.

Spring is the perfect time for Cubs to learn wilderness cooking over an open fire. They can practise skills first introduced inside during the winter and work on their Cooking Badge.

Before setting out, review with your Cubs the related badges, stars and awards listed in *The Cub Book*. Find out what else sixes can work on while they're preparing their meals.

Cooking requires some preparation. Tell your Cubs that their first meal will be a "hobo stew" cooked in tin foil over a campfire. Let them help gather the ingredients: heavy-duty tin foil, margarine, potato peelers, salt and pepper, sharp knives, medium ground beef, potatoes, carrots, corn, mushrooms, onions, turnip and whatever else they want.



small cooler bags with little freezer packs, along with their juice. Don't forget your dishes.

At lunch time, build your fires in established fire pits. Gather enough firewood to establish a good bed of coals.

(Hot coals, not flames, will cook the hobo stew.) Once the flames have died down, carefully place the pouches onto glowing coals. Allow ten to fifteen minutes on each side. Timing is everything. Depending on the heat, your meal may take longer. Open the tin foil carefully without tearing the pouch, and check to see if your meal is cooked. (When turning and opening the pouches, barbecue tongs and oven mitts come in handy.) If the meat and vegetables aren't cooked, rewrap the pouch and place it back on the fire.

## Gourmet Memories

Your Cubs may want to launch right into the feast, but don't forget the table cloth and napkins. Although some Cubs might have a slightly burnt meal, the pride and memories of their first hobo stew will last a lifetime. X

## Prepared at Home

Prepare the stews at a meeting before setting out for camp. Get Cubs involved peeling, washing, and preparing vegetables for their own meal. Let them choose which ingredients to include — a custom-made feast! For faster cooking, ask everyone to cut potatoes and turnip into small chunks about one centimetre square. Slice carrots crossways into thin slices.

When your Cubs have piled their ingredients neatly in front of themselves, they're ready to wrap the food in tin foil. Lay out enough tin foil for each Cub. Tell them to spread a thin layer of margarine on the foil with a knife. Next, Cubs should place their vegetables on the foil and spoon some ground beef onto the pile. (Make sure they break the beef into small chunks to speed the cooking.) Add salt and pepper, as well as barbecue sauce or salad dressing for taste. Mix the ingredients together well.

Create a foil pouch by lifting both outside edges of the foil together. Fold the edges down over the food repeatedly. Now fold each end down in the same way. Repeat this process with a second layer of foil. (The double thickness will prevent food from burning or spilling out.) The result should be an almost airtight package, sealing in all the juices for your stew. Fat from the ground beef and the margarine will keep the ingredients from sticking to the foil; it will also add flavour to the stew. The meals are ready to go.

## Pack it Right, Pack it Safe

If your group is travelling a long distance to camp, put the food pouches in a cooler with ice packs surrounding them. (Make sure you label each pouch with individual Cub names.) For hiking, Cubs can carry their pouch in

## Record- Breaking Cub

**C**OREY WICKHEIM proudly displays a campfire blanket with all of his 42 Cub badges, six stars and seven awards sewn on. He was the first Cub in his area (1st Shawnigan Lake Group, BC) to earn all the badges, stars and awards. When he wasn't working on Cub badges, Corey volunteered as Koo for two years. Photo: Fred Wickheim



## "The Story Tree Is Our Buddy"

**I**t matters not if you are a Beaver or Cub from Brant District, ON; everyone loves the Story Tree. Built from chicken wire, wood, paper mâché, fibreglass and paint, the Story Tree is now the focus of all stories told at Camp Impeesa. Beavers, Cubs and Scouts helped build it over several months. See the December '98 *Swap Shop* (p. 17) for general construction details. Photo: Diane Barkley



## Beaming Face for "Chief Rain in the Face"

**L**AST NOVEMBER, Graham Milton (centre) received the Silver Wolf Award for "service of the most exceptional character." Graham, called "Chief Rain in the Face" by his Scouts, has been actively serving Canadian youth for almost three decades. Joining Graham in the picture are his two grandsons and his son. Photo: Thanks to the Regina Leader-Post \

# Camping Tips Worth Remembering

by Ian Mitchell

**E**ACH YEAR I CLEAR MY FILES of great program activities and outdoor tips that other leaders have sent me. Many of these tips involve making something, and tie directly into badge work.

Hold out your bowl for a heapin' helping of these practical ideas. Here they come!

## Cooking Tips

✓ Metal canning rings, placed in a frying pan, make a great way to cook eggs for an egg sandwich. (Canning rings are the metal outside rings that screw onto jars. They act like walls that contain the egg.) Canning rings work extremely well when using English muffins or hamburger buns. But beware! The rings are hot.

✓ Before using a pot over a fire, smear a light coating of dishwashing soap on the pot's *outside* bottom. The soap will make clean-up a dream-come-true.

## Equipment Tips

✓ How many times have you reached for your flashlight only to find that somehow the switch got accidentally switched on? Your batteries are dead. Next time, prevent this calamity by putting your batteries in *backwards*. When you need the flashlight, simply turn the batteries around and flick the switch.

✓ Add extra warmth to your boots with tin foil. Trace each foot on a piece of foil and add a 5 cm boarder. Place the foil in each boot, shiny side up. As you cut the foil, discuss how space blankets work using the same principle.

✓ It's easier to cut plastic containers (for scoops or bird feeders) if you soak them in hot water immediately before cutting. Be careful. The plastic still might break, leaving sharp corners and edges exposed.

✓ Have you ever used a long rope to tie off a tarp just because you couldn't find a shorter rope easily? You're not alone. To conserve rope during future treks, mark different lengths with a distinct colour using paint or tape.

✓ Slit a piece of old garden hose along its length. It can now be used as a sheath for saws and axes. Use thick elastic bands, twist ties or copper wire to hold it on the blade.

✓ Don't throw out those old jeans; they make terrific pant leg stuff sacks. Simply sew up one end and use a thin nylon cord or tie to close off the other.

✓ If your camp stove or lantern pump has lost its ability to compress air, perhaps all that's gone wrong is the leather gasket has dried out. You can solve this problem readily. Just put several drops of vegetable oil on the leather gasket. The oil will swell the leather pores and restore the pump action. When you arrive home, be sure to inspect and replace any worn or damaged parts.

✓ Use an old ski bag to carry and store your dining tarp, poles, pegs and ropes. You might be able to pick up an inexpensive, new ski bag at discount prices at the end of the ski season.

- ✓ Is this the big, medium or small tarp? If you've puzzled over this question as the rain started to pelt down, we've got a solution to help you know the answer immediately and erect the right tarp. With black, permanent markers, write the dimension of each tarp on the corners. Now you won't have to unfold your tarps just to find out their dimensions.

## Fire-Starters

- ✓ Fire-starters make campfires much easier to light. Make your own by filling small paper condiment cups (ask a McDonald's store for several) with sawdust and a wick. Pour paraffin wax in on top. Let your fire-starter cool before touching the hot container.
- ✓ Place matches in corrugated cardboard strips (in every second hole), then dip the strip into hot paraffin wax. Cut off what you need to start a fire.
- ✓ Waxed milk cartons make a great source of kindling for wet days or emergency situations. Just cut the carton into narrow strips, wrap a bundle of them in plastic, and carry in your pack.
- ✓ Save cardboard tubes and fill them with waste paper or dryer lint. No need to worry about these getting squashed; in fact, they pack very flat.
- ✓ Try soaking a charcoal briquette in paraffin and using it for a fire-starter.
- ✓ Roll individual cotton balls in Vaseline™, then stuff them into a empty film canister. (Each canister should be able to hold 50-60 cotton balls.) These are outstanding fire-starters and always light immediately. A small cotton ball will burn for up to five minutes — plenty of time to ignite kindling.

## Miscellaneous Tips

- ✓ Have thin paper plates ever collapsed on your lap, spilling a messy lunch on your knees? A frisbee will

add support to thin paper plates if you put the plate inside it. From source of entertainment to useful eating utensil — what a deal!

- ✓ If you place a plastic bag over logs made into the shape of a triangle, you'll create a useful wash basin.
- ✓ Before sewing a tough material like canvas or denim, stick the needle into a bar of soap. The coating will help the needle slide more easily through the material.
- ✓ Do your Cubs and Scouts collect countless burrs on their boot laces during hikes? We've got the solution. Rub the hiking boot laces with paraffin wax before hitting the trail. The slippery wax might mean you'll have to double knot your laces.
- ✓ Although voyageurs liked collecting sticky sap from evergreen boughs (it helped waterproof their canoes), Cubs and Scouts usually hate the sticky feel of the gum. Remove it from hands by washing with baking soda and water.
- ✓ Wrap a dampened washcloth in a plastic bag, and carry it in your pack. You'll have a handy "wet-wipe" when needed.
- ✓ Make a flag stand using a large coffee can filled with cement. To make the hole, wrap the flag pole with waxed paper.
- ✓ Melt snow by filling a clean, black trash bag with snow, then put it in direct sunlight. You can also heat water by this method in the summer.

## Now It's Your Turn

It's amazing how some of these tips can improve your camping enjoyment. Do you have some fantastic ideas you'd like to share with others? Send them to me. My address: National Office, Box 5112, Stn. LDC-Merivale, Ottawa, ON, K2C 3H4. Phone: (613) 224-5131. Fax: (613) 224-5982. E-mail: imitchell@scouts.ca. λ

# What Is the Scout Method?

from Rob Stewart

In recent months we've explored the meaning of Scouting's Mission and Principles, based on a World Bureau document entitled *Scouting: An Education System*. Now let's look at the Scout Method.

The Scout Method is a system of instructing youth, composed of several different educational tools including a Law and Promise, learning by doing, a team system, a symbolic framework, personal progression, as well as nature and adult support.

## Key Elements

1. *The Law*. The Law is a concrete, personal code of living. Scouting hopes young people will strive to fulfil it everyday in their lives.

*The Promise*. Through the Promise, the young person accepts Scouting's invitation to develop by choosing to accept the Scout Law and assume the responsibility of that decision through personal effort. Making the Promise doesn't imply that the young person has proven that he or she has become a "perfect" Scout. It is a starting point, not the finishing line.

2. *Learning by Doing*. This hands-on learning approach is a way to help young people develop in many dimensions through personal experience. Scouting wants youth to learn actively (hands-on), rather than by watching

(e.g. listening to a lecture or viewing a demonstration).

3. *The Team System (Lodges, Sixes, Patrols, Companies, Crews)*. Young people organize themselves into small groups (teams). These provide a framework within which young people can:

- a) develop their personal and collective skills, talents and experience.
- b) develop constructive relationships with other young people and adults, based on mutual trust. This relationship strengthens over time as a result of shared adventures.
- c) learn to live according to a democratic form of self-government in partnership with adults. This lets young people experience building a consensus and resolving conflicts; express themselves and listen to others; experience making decisions and accepting the consequences; cooperate and share; take initiative and lead; and take on responsibility and follow it through.

4. *A Symbolic Framework*. By using ceremonies, our handshake and other symbolic frameworks, Scouting seeks to build on young people's natural capacities for imagination, adventure, creativity and inventiveness.

5. *Nature*. Contact with nature will develop young people in many impor-

tant areas. This provides an ideal setting to apply the Scout Method.

6. *Personal Progression (Badges)*. This area helps young people cultivate the inner motivation to take charge of their own development and receive recognition. It lets them progress in their own way at a pace that roughly matches others in their section.

7. *Adult Support (Leaders)*. Adults take part in an educational partnership with Scouting youths. Adult support stimulates youthful development by bringing adults and young people together in a rich learning partnership based on mutual respect, trust and acceptance. In this partnership, each person is personally committed, dedicates time and energy, participates in decision-making, shares responsibilities, and seeks to create a constructive atmosphere.

Adults are active group members, taking part in all adventures and difficulties. At the same time they constantly seek opportunities for young people to take charge of their own development within a Scouting context.

## Scout Method Works

The Scout Method works very well in our organization because it helps young people grow and flourish in the outdoors. ^

# Taster's Choice:

## *Dehydrated Food Doesn't Have to Be Dull and Boring*

by Ian Mitchell

**H**AVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED drying your own food at home?

My Venturers had never thought of it until they planned a weekend hike along the Old St. Margaret's Bay Road near Halifax. No one wanted to carry heavy loads, especially when we would have to somehow ford the Nine Mile River.

During our planning phase we kept stressing the "light" in lightweight camping. We dropped heavy, bulky equipment from our "must have" lists and substituted other gear. Then someone mentioned the sacred cow... food. Several members almost recoiled in shock. No! We *couldn't* cut back here. With his next breath the person mouthed the "D" word — dehydrated.

### Has It Come to This?

Nightmarish thoughts of bland, faded, tasteless meals raced through our minds. Yuck! It's not fit for dogs, let alone hungry Venturers out on a weekend adventure. It didn't matter that we could cut our food weight in half by eating dehydrated victuals. But... we had to do it.

Our first attempts at dehydrating failed miserably, which only elated some Venturers. "That proves it," they said. "We can't depend on dehydrated food."

More drying attempts followed. For snacks we discovered that we could avoid discolouration by dipping food items into one of two different solutions (salt dip or fruit juice dip). This discovery spurred us to greater culinary experimentation. Fruits and pasta particularly fell under our scrutiny.

### Any Way You Cut It

We began by cutting all fruit into very thin slices. This made it easier to dry them quickly. After dipping the slices in a special solution (described below), we placed them on cake racks or lightly greased cookie sheets. Here's how to keep apricots, peaches or pears from discolouring. Use either one of these formulas.

1. Dissolve 90 mL of salt into four litres of lukewarm water. Leave the fruit in the solution for no more than five minutes.
2. Add 60 mL lemon juice to one litre of lukewarm water. Dip fruit into the solution, then drain.

Dried snacks don't have to taste like glorified leather. That's what we learned. Sweeten them with our famous honey dip. It's perfect for bananas, strawberries, rhubarb or pineapples. Just dissolve 250 mL of sugar in 750 mL of hot water. Cool to lukewarm, and then stir in 250 mL of honey. Dip fruit into this solution and drain well.

Place your fruit or snacks in the centre of an oven set at 65°C. Because circulating air helps the drying process, prop the oven door open slightly. Six to eight hours later you'll have some tasty dried snacks.

### Main Course

Pasta has always been a Venturer favourite, but our company members asked how they could make both a dehydrated and appetizing pasta. Here's the delicious tomato sauce recipe we chose. Sauté 1/3 finely chopped onion and two cloves of finely minced garlic in 30 mL of margarine. Before the onion and garlic begins to brown, add two 160 mL cans of tomato paste. Cook slowly for 10 minutes.

Cover a cookie sheet with a non-stick spray, and spread the mixture out as thinly as possible. Dry in the same manner as the snacks above (i.e. about 6 hours). When dry, roll and pack in a plastic bag.

To use, add three times as much water as there is dried sauce, bring to a boil, and simmer five minutes. Add this sauce to dried ground beef or any type of jerky, then dig in!

### Recipe for Success

How did our long weekend backpacking trip go?

Fantastic! We crossed the daunting Nine Mile River, and learned an important lesson: when prepared ahead of time, dried foods will lighten your load and taste great. ^



# High Tech Hiking: Good or Bad?

by Ben Kruser

**I**n March, most groups begin making plans for day hikes and overnight backpacking trips. Like most Scouters, you probably rely on a topographical map and trusty compass to plan your route, figure out your location, and make route changes along the way. Your Scouts, however, will soon experience a whole different means of wilderness navigation.

Open up any catalogue aimed at technical outdoor enthusiasts and you'll find a barrage of high tech gadgetry. Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) systems can now pinpoint your exact location anywhere on Earth. Add to this electronic compasses, altimeters, cell phones, digital cameras, and even featherweight laptop computers with modem adapters. With this array, your Scouts could send and receive e-mail (including pictures), and even maintain their own web page during an extended canoe or backpacking trip.

## Positive Spins

Positive aspects of this technology clearly point towards safety. Hikers have more reliable means of locating themselves in back country areas, as well as contacting authorities in an emergency. Ongoing high tech innovations have now developed something called "E-paper." Made of paper-thin silicon, this new form of computer screen, along with new flexible silicon tape circuitry, will lead to lighter, more integrated communications tools. Imagine a single hand-held computer that would allow you to locate your position, download remote weather reports, display maps and inputted way points, all on a screen that you unfurl like a sheet of paper. The demand for high tech products and services is growing rapidly.

But is it more important to ensure cell phones always have a ready connection point, or to preserve scenic beauty in wilderness areas? These debates have begun to surface. In the United States, while cell phone sales soar, pressure to erect communication towers in national parks also grows. As well, hikers are complaining about hearing other hikers chatting on cell phones even in the depths of the wilderness.

High tech equipment can bring some peace of mind, but it can also create a sense of false security. You must still know how to use the equipment and know how to travel in the outdoors.

## Talk About the Future

Scouts and Venturers should talk about whether high tech equipment (and the consequences) are worth the environmental impact. Your group might enjoy a unique outdoor program experience by renting some of this high tech gear and using it during a camp.

If you're a bit old fashioned and still believe that when all else fails a trusty compass is your best friend, check out the line of compasses at your nearest Scout Shop. They'll always show you where True North lies. X

## SCOUTER'S 5

### How Do You Measure a Leader?

- You measure a leader...  
...not by the skills he possesses, but the skills he develops in others.  
...not by the decisions he makes, but by how he frees others to make decisions.
- ...not by the power he has over others, but by the power (or energy) he releases in others.  
...not by the list of accomplishments he has, but by the accomplishments those directly under him have achieved with his help.
- *Linda Kish, Lethbridge, AB.*

### Contentment

It's a grey day, yet I'm happy. Not because some special thing is going to happen, but because I'm at peace within.

I don't wish I were someone else; I'm glad to be me.

I don't wish I were some place else; I'm happy being where I am.

I'm learning how to savour the present moment and to be glad to be alive and living in it. It isn't a difficult skill to learn. Just walk a little bit slower and eat your food with less haste. Try to really taste your food. When you leave your home in the morning, pause at the front step and take a deep breath. Can you smell at least two different aromas?

At least twice a day, close your eyes or go for a short walk. Bring to mind one really happy moment you experienced last week or during your vacation. Picture yourself fully in that experience. Try to relive the joy and peace.

Do these simple things and you too will know peace and contentment.

— *Linda Kish, Lethbridge, AB.*

Scouter's 5 Minutes

March '99

## GAMES

- B**alloon games. When Beavers, Cubs or Scouts play them, there's a tense excitement in the air because of the ever-present possibility of loud explosions. Try these games out at your next meeting.

### Balloon Bursting Race

Cubs and Scouts will love this race. It requires steady nerves and strong teeth.

Give each youth a balloon to blow up. Players can only hold onto the balloon with their lips and teeth. The first person to explode a balloon by over-filling it, wins.

### Balloon-Butting Relay

Arrange your teams in rows and place a balloon on the floor in front of the first player in each line. On a signal, the first player must butt the balloon with his head across the room and back. Continue until everyone has had a turn.

### Balloon Float

Play with two teams, and have each player equipped with a newspaper folded into a fan. Toss a small balloon between them and have each team try to fan it to the other side without letting it touch the ground on their side.

No one may use hands. Play until one side has scored 10 points.



Games

March '99

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## Balloon-Sweeping Relay

Arrange your teams in parallel lines. Place a balloon and a broom on the floor in front of each team. On a signal, the first player sweeps the balloon to the far end of the room and back, giving the broom to the second player, who repeats this action. The first team finishing, wins. Think up some dire penalty for burst balloons.

## Back-to-Back Balloon Bursting

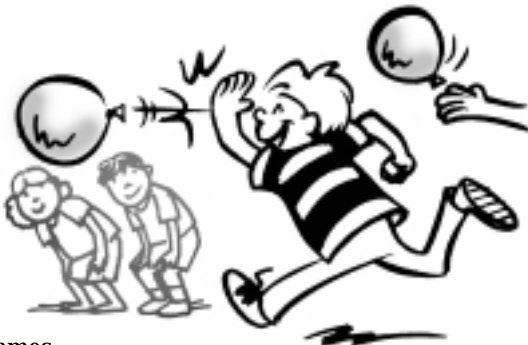
Pick teams of two Beavers or Cubs. Ask the pairs to stand in a line, back-to-back, with a balloon held between their shoulders.

On a signal, they should press together and try to burst the balloon. If the balloon falls before breaking, the players must drop out. The first team to pop its balloon gets to burst three more balloons that Kaa (or Rainbow) is protecting.

## Travelling Balloon Volleyball

Arrange each team in *two parallel lines* one metre beside each other. (See diagram) When Akela says, "Go!" the first team members in each line run to the opposite end of the room and back, batting the balloon volleyball-fashion back and forth. The first team to finish, wins.

If a balloon breaks, the team must run back to the start line and get another balloon.



Games

## Happiness

Happiness doesn't occur by itself  
You cause it to happen or not.  
Yours is the choice to be unhappy in life  
Or to be content with the life you've got.

How you relate to life's events  
Determines your joy and your misery.  
Whether your feelings are mean or kind  
Your attitude to life is the key.

You can make up your mind to be happy  
Life will be more rewarding if you do.  
For happiness is a state of mind  
Developed and controlled by you.

Don't wait to be happy until things  
are just right  
Don't let life's little annoyances get in the way.  
You can be as happy as you've decided to be  
And you can decide to be happy today.  
— Linda Kish, *Lethbridge, AB.*



Scouter's 5 Minutes

Thought your local Scout Shop only carried uniforms, badges, and books?

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*When does your celebration begin?*



To find out your closest Scout Shop call 1-888-726-8876 or visit [www.scouts.ca](http://www.scouts.ca)

# Your Scouting Smile



"Come on, you're not that frightened of water!"



"I'll tell you why these aren't your pants. It's because that isn't your backpack!"



"Just how dark was it when you put this up?"



"I'm just getting the rest of the sausages out of the frying pan."



"Perhaps it was the way you asked for the mustard."

Thanks to Ian West, "Last Laugh," Scouting Magazine (U.K.).



# Is this Progress?

by Andy McLaughlin

**I**RECENTLY MOVED INTO a brand new neighbourhood. In three months, I've used my computer to contact friends all over Canada and the world, yet I still haven't said hello to my next door neighbour.

At the National Office, I use e-mail to talk to Scouting colleagues in the building about issues and projects, but I haven't visited our Scout Shop manager this year to ask how his kids are doing.

The Internet's bright lights are enhancing our ability to communicate; they're also destroying it. Is this progress?

## Luddites Beware

Don't get me wrong. I'm no Luddite. I use the Internet at home and at work. I respond to dozens of e-mail messages every day. I'm even setting up my own web site (not because I have anything important to say, but just to get some HTML practice). *The Leader* often points readers to web sites that will help them plan programs. Scouts Canada maintains an informative web site. But let's not kid ourselves — the Internet is simply one type of medium. It has its good features, but it also has brilliant blemishes.

Just a few years ago, I received several letters a day. They'd include interesting article ideas, thank you notes, or opinions taking exception to something I'd written or done. Most were well thought out, articulate, and contained valuable information and opinions. Those who com-

posed these letters, stuck them in envelopes, and put them in the mailbox really used up a lot of time and effort to relay their opinions.

Unfortunately, these letters have dwindled, and have been replaced with terse, instantaneous e-mails. Many are hastily bashed out on a keyboard, and fired off without the writer pausing for sober second thought, or even giving the composition a quick proofread. In turn, my electronic replies are equally hasty and sloppy. I still get bricks and bouquets via e-mail, but the bricks seem less substantial, and the bouquets less genuine.

Many people revere the Internet as a fantastic and potentially dangerous new resource, often forgetting (once more) it's just one method of communication. Perhaps it's the relative newness of the medium. (I hope the novelty wears off.)

Scouts Canada employees have been asked to use the Internet only for work-related purposes, and not to misrepresent ourselves or download pornography. Valid stuff, right? But I've never been warned about reading books or watching movies during work time, making crank phone calls, or bringing copies of *Hustler Magazine* into the office. Obviously I would never do these things. So why must I be specifically asked not to abuse the Internet?

## Sucked In or Out?

Rather than improving our lives, the Internet seems to be sucking the humanity out of us. People are sacrificing real relationships for virtual ones over the Internet. People spend hours basking in the dim glow

of a computer screen, rather than enjoying the company of friends and neighbours. In extreme cases, marriages are destroyed, lives are ruined, and people seek treatment for Internet addiction. And still we worship this false idol.

I often receive e-mails challenging Scouting to vet potential policy changes through the Internet. What a great way to get feedback! People could find out about a potential policy change on our site, a newsgroup or e-mail list. They could then electronically discuss it among Scouters across the country, and then the organization could receive feedback via e-mail. Terrific, right?

## Turn On to Life

Try this idea: *Turn off your computer* and venture out of your home to meet with other human beings. Have a meeting or take part in a (face-to-face) discussion group. Chat with a commissioner or field executive. Let your words, tone of your voice, body position and hand movements communicate your point of view. Raise your voice. Laugh or cry if you want to. Compare the hours people spend on the Internet with the time taken for a two-hour meeting. Which is a more effective and more human way to communicate?

Keep using the Internet. It can be a valuable research tool, and an inexpensive way to keep in touch with distant friends. But don't let it steal your ability to communicate. Turn off your virtual world occasionally, invite a friend or neighbour to share a meal, and ask how she's doing. ^



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# *Be There!*

### *Attention: Scout Leaders and Venturer Advisors*

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