

the **leader** 

JUNE/JULY 1992

VOLUME 22, NO. 10

SCOUTING
FOR A
BETTER
WORLD



LEADERS WANTED

COULD YOU FILL THIS CHAIR?

by Kevin Snair

I've been a member of Scouting for the last 17 years, as a Beaver, Cub, Scout, Queen's Venturer and, for the past six years, Scout leader. A problem has been brewing in the movement for as long as I can remember, and I fear it will someday mean the end of Scouting. It's the continual drop in new people willing to volunteer their time to the Scouting cause.

With an increasing number of organizations competing for kids' attentions, it takes a leadership team a great deal of time and effort to put together a program that holds them. In this work, you can find a great sense of achievement as you watch your troop evolve from a group of separate young people into a team who work, plan, and play together.

I am concerned for Scouting as I watch troops fold around me because kids can't find a leader to help them. Because I am a photographer and feel I sometimes speak better in pictures than in words, I decided to shoot a photo to express my feelings. As I shot it, I pictured above it the question, "Could You Fill This Chair?"

I think the movement as a whole has to go on a campaign to attract new leaders. Until that happens, search every house in your community. There must be someone out there willing to take the seat for awhile!

Kevin Snair scouts with the 1st Boutilliers Point Troop, Nova Scotia.

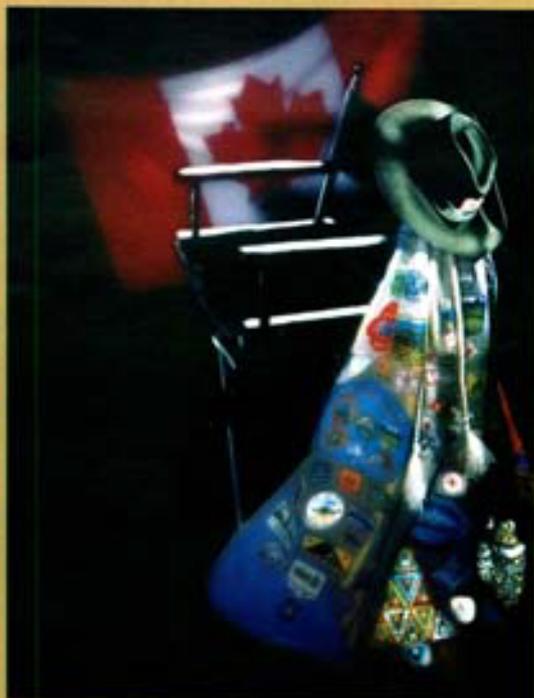


Photo: Kevin Snair

JOIN OUR EFFORTS

by Garth Johnson

Scouter Snair's concern about leadership strikes at the heart of our ability to serve Canadian youngsters and provide them a meaningful Scouting experience. Fewer leaders mean fewer kids and more effort on the part of existing adults to provide a well-rounded program. Fewer kids mean that we stand to have less impact as an organization on Canada's future.

It's no secret that enjoying what you do, having fun with friends, and being recognized for your contribution are at the heart of volunteerism. Scouting is like that. The enjoyment of watching young people learn and grow under your care is an experience tough to beat. And to make the experience meaningful to kids, we have to deliver an exciting program. It's a constant challenge we need to share with thousands of adults not currently involved in our programs if Scouting is going to grow and prosper.

As we swim, paddle, and tent our way through summer, let's think of ways to recruit friends, neighbours, parents and co-workers to join us this fall in a serious effort to strengthen, rebuild and support groups and sections across the country. The future of our kids and Scouting is at stake. Take up the challenge. Fill that chair.

If rekindling youthful experiences might be a motivator, check out Scouter Lynn Johnson's testimonial on the joys of leader-

ship (p.17). Her feelings can speak volumes to someone contemplating involvement. A more lighthearted attempt to recruit might come out of revisiting the 16.5 rumours of Scouting, as Scouter Jim Ives does on page 16. "You'll love every minute of it."

Nationally, Scouts Canada has found a way to support local recruitment initiatives by working with councils to identify sources of available adults and encourage their joining. These Adult Recruitment Campaigns (ARC) are seen as an effective way to employ national resources by customizing materials for local use. Campaign associate Andy McLaughlin outlines the ARC approach on page 14. If your area is slated for a campaign, get involved to ensure we make the most of our collective resources.

Recruitment is everyone's business, and being a proud member willing to share your enthusiasm with friends and neighbours is a great way to launch an effective recruitment campaign. Let's make this fall a special time for Scouting. Let's get more adults involved.

YEAR END

The last issue of a volume year gives us a chance to remind readers that we truly rely on you for most of our magazine content. You are our reporters and photographers; your contributions are what make the

magazine a practical resource for Scouters across the country. Will you have some time during the summer to sit down and share the successes of your great year?

We need games, crafts, songs, successful camp programs, recruitment ideas. Your contributions can take any form — notes, an outline, or finished article. Your writing style doesn't matter; what's important are the ideas you have to share. The easiest way to judge what to send along is to ask yourself what would be of practical use to other Scouters.

Photos are another great way to share your activities. We can always use action photos to accompany articles or consider for cover shots. Good contrast black and white or colour prints reproduce quite well. We can also use 35mm slides. Send your submissions or photos to:

The Canadian Leader Magazine
PO Box 5112, Station F
Ottawa, Ontario K2C 3H4

This issue gives us a chance to thank all of our readers who did take time to send material and share their experiences on our pages through the past year. You know who you are: we couldn't have done it without you. Keep the photos, letters, stories and ideas coming.

Have a great summer! 入

the leader

The Canadian Leader Magazine

June/July 1992

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SCOUTING FOR A BETTER WORLD

by Linda Florence

Bat houses, composters, Christmas tree mulching.... A Scout Council and 10 groups or sections received awards from Scouts Canada's Environmental Fund this spring. Their projects ranged from cleaning up and recycling to improving wildlife habitat in Alberta, Ontario, Newfoundland, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia.

The Environmental Fund recognizes the important work Scouting's members do to improve their world and raise community awareness of environmental problems. By reporting the actions of your section, group, or council using the simple-to-complete form available from your provincial office, you can become eligible for a group award of up to \$500 or a council award of up to \$5,000.

The money is nice to help off-set the expenses of your work, but just as nice is the fact that your report goes on record in **the Leader** to give your bunch a pat on the back and share your ideas across the country. Plan for it. We are eager to hear from you.

The Saint John Regional Council, N.B., received an award to develop wetland in wilderness area on their Scout

TREE SWALLOW PROJECT AN AWARD WINNER

The 1st Port Williams Scouts, N.S., received the Robie Tufts Young Naturalist's Award last November in recognition of their successful "investigation, establishment, monitoring and maintenance of tree swallow nesting boxes adjacent to the Port Williams sewage pond". The troop was honoured by the Blomidon Naturalist Society, which administers the award named after prominent ornithologist, the late Robie Tufts.

The project took shape in early spring 1991, reports Troop Scouter Brad Sweet. "As a troop, we decided to work towards the Conservation Badge," he says. "After discussions among the troop members and some consultation with outside sources, (our choice was) to develop a tree swallow project at the ... sewage pond, just a short hike from our Scout hall."

To clear the idea with the Village Commission, two Scouts researched and prepared a report outlining the project's objectives. The commission granted permission and, in early April, the Scouts began installing nesting boxes. Scouts James Churchill and Arne Jensen report their experiences below. The Scouts planned to continue and expand the project this spring.

April 11, 1991: Tonight we put our tree swallow box up.... Arne and I built it down in the basement. It took about an hour to complete. There were six other boxes put up tonight. We put ours on the southwest section of the fence sur-



The 1st Port Williams Scouts with a sample of their tree swallow nesting boxes.

rounding the pond. There are a lot of bugs, so the swallows should have lots to eat.

May 16, 1991: Tonight we went down to check our boxes and we discovered a nest in our box. There are no eggs in it yet. Matthew's and Robin's boxes also had nests in them. Robin's probably had eggs in the nest because, when we opened the door to his box, the tree swallow sat there not moving. We also identified eight birds for the requirement of a badge....

May 30, 1991: We came down to check our boxes after running 1600 m for our fitness badge. Most people were exhausted. Tonight we saw a bird sitting on our nest. Probably sitting on eggs. There was a male guarding the nest. We could

tell it was a male because of the iridescent colour on the head. Everyone else's box had a nest except for Brad's. We think it is because of the odour of the stain or the colour. The female was really nervous when we opened the box, and she did not move.

June 6, 1991: Sherman Boates and Pam Matthews came tonight from Acadia to band the tree swallows. They banded only a few. They opened up our box to weigh the baby birds. We had five babies and one egg that did not hatch. We took a look at the baby birds and, because there were no feathers on them, you could see right into their stomachs. They were mostly stomach. They still looked cute. A couple of other boxes had babies as well. These were weighed also. A few people had only recently put up their boxes and there were no nests in them.

October 3, 1991: We went back tonight to the sewage pond to clean out our boxes. In our box, we found the nest along with the dud (unhatched egg). The nest was made of grasses and lined with chicken feathers. They smelled really bad. Some of the nests we found were very fragile, unlike ours which held together well. We found a spider's web up by the light, which was huge. The spider in it was feasting on anything that hit the web (that was a lot). This was the last night for our project for 1991. We learned a lot and have kept the nest as a souvenir along with the egg.

property. A beaver pond once flooded the area, but the beavers were moved and the pond was drained. With the help of Ducks Unlimited and the federal government's Environmental Partners program, the region intends to reintroduce beavers after constructing a permanent dam to maintain the water level. The pond will become a centre for environmental programs at the camp.

Wallaceburg and District Scouting, Ont., was honoured in the third year of its annual SCAT (Scouting & Community Against Trash) program (Oct '90). Each spring, all levels of Scouting, members of Girl Guides, the schools, and some local organizations join forces for a day to clean up litter in public areas around town. Last spring, about 500 young people picked up 192 bags of trash, 25 abandoned tires, and \$30 worth of recyclables. Similar results were expected from SCAT 1992, scheduled for Earth Day, April 22.

The 1st Ferris Venturers, North Bay, Ont., followed their successful clean-up of the Mattawa River in 1990 (Mar '91) with a clean-up weekend canoe on the French



Bigger than a bird house... Working in pairs at their winter camp, eight Scouts of the **1st St. Marys Troop, Ont.**, built 12 bat houses after learning that pesticides, urban growth, and noise pollution are growing threats to bat habitat and roosting places. They hung one of the houses at camp, and Scouts and leaders took away one each to place near home. "Bats can eat as many as 600 mosquitoes an evening and are an important element in our ecosystem," says Troop Scouter Mark Oliver.

River in September 1991. "This river is a heritage river and very beautiful to paddle, but there's an immense amount of garbage on the portages and in the campsites," the Venturers report. Members were disappointed to run out of garbage bags and time after picking up along only six of the

12 km they'd planned. "Perhaps the only way we could have achieved our goal is if we had a four-day weekend, another 12 people, and another 30 garbage bags," they write. Undaunted, they planned a clean-up on the Restoule River in late May.

The 1st St. David's Rothesay Scouts, N.B., constructed 50 composters and 10 composter kits for Renforth Village's first Green Workshop during Environment Week 1991.

The 26 Scouts built the composters from 2x2s and snow-fencing, reports Troop Scouter Bob Brittain. At the workshop, the Scouts displayed their handiwork, explained the composters' purpose and operation, and gave away to interested visitors all the composters as well as 10 kits with instructions. When they ran out, they took the names of other residents keen on composting and put together another 25 kits to give them.

As a second project, the group's Cubs and Scouts helped the town of Rothesay conserve water by distributing to over 500 households one litre containers and instructions for placing them in toilet tanks.

SCOUTING FOR DUCKS

The 1st Pasadena Lions Troop, Nfld., started building and placing nesting boxes for Golden Eyes and Mergansers along the Humber Valley River system in 1988 and have turned the habitat project into a Troop Specialty Badge.

The project ties together outdoors experiences and the conservation sections of the Scout program, says Troop Scouter David Sharpe. It gives the Scouts a chance to plan and participate in overnight camps when they set out the boxes, provides an understanding of the environment associated with a major river system, and offers a focus for basic canoe training.

As part of the project, each Scout annually builds a duck nesting box designed by Ducks Unlimited (DU). Representatives of DU and the RCMP migratory bird unit present expert information and advice to the troop. All Scouts take a Red Cross general water safety course, get training in basic canoeing and canoe safety from the local canoeing association, and camp out along a canoe route as they place and monitor their boxes.

The Scouts' work can be applied in whole or part to a number of badges, as Scouter Sharpe points out: Spring Camper, Troop Specialty, Builder Challenge, Naturalist Challenge, Canoe

Achievement, Campcraft Achievement, Conservation Achievement, and World Conservation.

The troop placed 24 nesting boxes along the Lower Humber in 1988 and 28 more in 1989. In 1990, they set out 33 boxes on the Upper Humber. In spring 1991, they built 45 boxes to place along the Upper Humber as part of an overnight snowmobile trip in March '92, prepared and presented a formal report to Ducks

Unlimited, and designed a display for their provincial jamboree.

This spring, senior Scouts and Venturers intended to monitor and map all the placement sites while others assembled photos and videos from past trips into a permanent record. They were also working on a long-term financial plan, a display for a shopping mall, and a presentation to make to the local Rod and Gun Club.



The 1st Pasadena Scouts on a spring canoe-camp to place new duck nesting boxes and check established sites.

The containers hold back a litre of water with each flush, a considerable saving, especially important in a town that often experiences water shortages in mid-summer.

Renforth Village asked the Scouts to bring the water conservation containers and information as well as their com-posters to the spring 1992 Green Workshop, and the Scouts expected to distribute

the water savers widely in another community before summer.

In April 1991, the **1st Chauvin Scout Group, Alta.**, installed a box to collect plastic shopping bags for an on-going recycling project. They constructed the box from used plywood and painted it with bits of donated left-over paint. Youth members added their section insignia and their names before placing the box and appro-

priate signs in the local grocery store. On a regular schedule, they sort and roll the bags to return to merchants for re-use. They offer bags merchants don't want back to the public as garbage bags. "The group plans to keep up with this idea as long as there are plastic bags and we have support for carrying on," says Laurel Goodall, group committee chairperson. A



For Christmas 1991, the **1st Mananook Scouts, Grand Manan, N.B.**, built 20 birdfeeders and gave them to residents of the local nursing home, where they have provided great interest and pleasure. The project enabled the Scouts to work on their Builder and Conservation Badges and to do a good turn, says Troop Scouter Lowell Newman.



In a recycling program that helps people in developing countries, the **1st United Beaver Colony, Bathurst, N.B.**, has been collecting used eye-glasses to send to the Evangelical Medical Missionaries Aid Society in Ontario since 1984. The Beavers wrap each pair of glasses (and some loose frames and lenses) in paper towelling and place them in a box for mailing at the end of the year. And each year, "We send off a box averaging 50 to 60 pairs of glasses," says Scouter Mae Branch. The society's teams of doctors, nurses, and eye specialists take along these donations when they set up temporary eye clinics in needy areas of developing countries.



AWARENESS OF THE ENVIRONMENT

The 15th Vanier South Bar Group, Sydney, N.S., has developed an extensive awareness campaign as the thrust for programming in all sections. Using Brown's Lake as their adopted environment, their goals are to introduce youth members to ecological processes and train them in procedures for habitat protection, monitoring, and recuperation. They want to create an environmental database that could lead to a management plan for the area and to raise environmental awareness in the community through the work of their young members.

In fall 1991, members raked leaves for elderly people in the community and gave them to interested gar-



Good work, guys. Lots of mulching material here.

deners for mulching. Over a weekend in early January, the group mulched Christmas trees, attracting customers from all

parts of the Cape Breton industrial area with their flyers and resulting television and newspaper coverage.

After participating in an environmental display at the University College of Cape Breton, members were invited to talk to local high-school students about recycling. And, for Guide-Scout Week, the Scouts mounted an environmental and recycling display in the local mall.

"In the future, we hope to continue our efforts towards conservation," says Valarie Sampson, group chairperson. "We firmly believe that, by educating our children, we will ensure the well-being and survival of the environment."

Gadgets and Gizmos

by Ben Kruser

Last summer, I spent a great week at the New Brunswick Jamboree outside of Fredericton. I don't have enough room to tell all of the ideas and suggestions I picked up from leaders, but here are a few ingenious easy-to-duplicate tips for long-term standing camps.

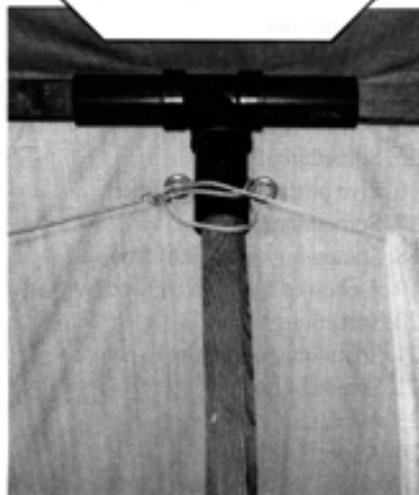
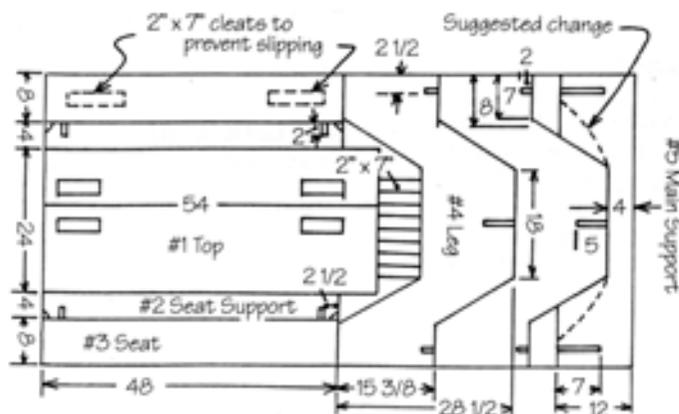
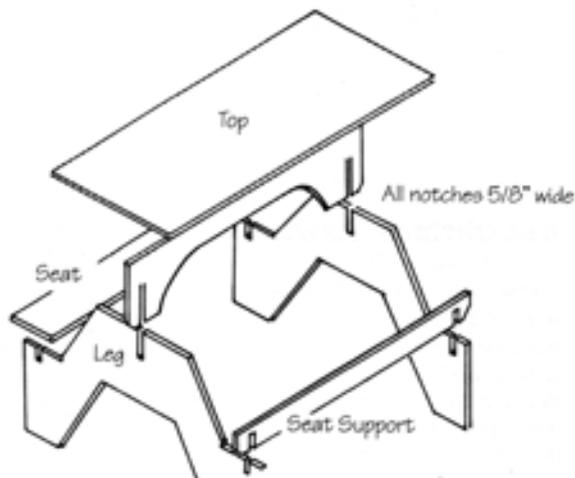


ABS Plastic Ridge Pole Fittings

Another tip from Scouter Terry. Use ABS plastic pipe fittings to make a large tarp shelter. He ripped the edges off 2x2s to make a snug fit into the pipes, then draped plastic tarps over them. So secure was this setup that, during a sudden thunderstorm, his troop quickly relocated their lightweight tents under one end for protection.

Plywood Patrol Table

Scouter Terry Ashton, Steves Memorial Scout Troop, Moncton, N.B., shared plans for a patrol table made from one 4x8 sheet of 5/8" plywood. It takes a couple of hours to build — an excellent project for a patrol to piece together, stain, and finish.



BEAVERS OUTDOORS

The weather's great and there are a million things you can do with Beavers outdoors during an hour-long meeting, on an afternoon outing, or at your end-of-the-year family camp.



Did a mouse or a bird build this nest last year? 13th Red Deer Beaver Brandon Humpting and his dad check out their environmental hunt findings. Now, they just have to count all the pebbles in the bag to make sure they picked up 100 of them!

Nature Hunts

from Hazel Hallgren



Hunts make good Beaver/parent activities. The 13th Red Deer Beavers, Alta., found all sorts of things when they looked for 24 items on an environmental hunt at their 1991 spring camp.

Remember to collect only dead or downed materials on nature hunts. If it isn't possible to bring back a specimen, Beavers can draw a picture of their finding or ask an adult to make a note so that they can tell their friends what they saw and where they saw it at hunt's end.

1. A feather
2. Exactly 100 of something
3. A thorn
4. Three different kinds of seeds
5. Part of an old nest
6. A camouflaged insect
7. Something sharp
8. Something perfectly straight
9. Something of no use in nature
10. One seed carried by the wind
11. A pine cone
12. A bone
13. Four different kinds of berries
14. Something round
15. Something fuzzy
16. Five pieces of human litter
17. Something beautiful
18. Something that makes a noise
19. A chewed leaf (not chewed by you!)
20. Something white
21. Something important in nature
22. Something soft
23. A sun trap
24. A great big smile

Opposites Hunt

Another idea is to ask Beavers to find something that is:

- Fat — Thin
- Straight — Crooked
- Pretty — Ugly
- Large — Small
- Purple — Yellow
- Dead — Alive
- Black — White
- Heavy — Light
- Old — New
- Round — Square
- Smelly — Sweet



Ant Obstacle Course

For this idea, Beavers first need to locate some ants, generally pretty easy to do in most parts of the country. Have them watch the ants until they work out their regular pathways. Finally, using natural items in the area and their imaginations, have them build a series of obstacles along the pathways. See how long it takes the ants to figure out the colony obstacle course.

Mud Models

On a warm day or evening, a little rain can mean a lot of fun. Fashion garbage bag raincoats for the Beavers, have them all put on their gumboots, and head for the nearest muddy area. There, organize in lodges to build mud sculptures (dinosaurs, trucks, whatever catches their fancy) or a mud scene (beavers in a pond, a farmyard, their meeting place, a campsite...).

Because you've chosen a warm day, all the Beavers will need before heading back indoors for a drink and snack is a quick hose-down. Leaders and parents, too.

Fun around the Fire

Scouter Hazel also sent along material you can fit into opening and closing ceremonies or a sing-song around a fire.

Rikki, Rakki Yell

Organize into two groups for this enthusiasm-builder. Start softly and build to a shout.

Rikki, Rakki (Group 1)
Fire crakki! (Group 2)
Rikki, Rakki (Group 1)
Fire crakki! (Group 2)
Zim, Boom, Bah! (All)
Beaver, Beavers,
Rah, Rah, Rah!

Ram Sam Sam

Ram sam sam (2x) (Slap thighs)
Goolie, goolie, goolie, goolie (Tap head)
Ram sam sam (Turn to person on right)
Ram sam sam (Turn to person on left)
Areeba, areeba! (Wave arms in air)
Ram sam sam (Slap thighs)
(Repeat, speeding up as you go)

Thank You Prayer

The air we breathe, the friends we meet,
The walk to use our eyes and feet,
The things around us make us say,
Thank you, God, for each new day!

Daytime Taps

Thanks and praise, for our days,
'Neath the sun and the trees and the sky;
As we go, this we know,
God is nigh.

Scouter Hazel Hallgren works with the 13th Red Deer Beavers, Alta. ↘

Beaver Themes

Nature, Ants, Rain

Cub Fun Day

photos by Noah Fallis

Cubs of Hamilton-Wentworth Region, Ont., had a ball when they gathered for a day of fun at Camp Nemo early last October.



NOW, YOU COULD.... A Cub gets some advice at the handicraft area, one of the most popular challenges of the day. Cubs had about an hour to create a plane, boat, or car from an assortment of supplied materials. All came away with a vehicle and a smile.



PRETTY SAD BUBBLES...NOT! Using a variety of "wands", Cubs created some of the biggest bubbles I've ever seen. A gang of Cubs raced after one giant escapee for nearly 200 m before it popped near the forest's edge.

ALMOST (PANT, PANT) HOME! At the obstacle course, a team effort, Cubs blew a paper cup along a string as they crawled through a series of boxes. At the end of the course, they tagged off a fellow teammate, who repeated the process. The winners received a lollipop! ▼



CONFUSION AT THE INTERSECTION:

The Driver Training Maze was another favourite, especially with the occasional intentional "accidents" that complicated the course. Numerous "one way" and "do not enter" signs made it virtually impossible, legally, to get out of the deceptively simple-looking maze.

Noah Fallis is a member of the 4th Ancaster Rover Crew, Ont., and a leader with Beavers and Scouts in the Hamilton-Wentworth Region. ^

COMDECA I

A New Concept in Community Development

by Lena Wong

COMDECA, scheduled July 26-August 8, 1993, is the first Community Development Camp for Scouts from around the world. The event represents an innovative approach to community development by Gerakan Pramuka, the Indonesian Scout Association.

The theme for COMDECA is "Do it for another human being"; the motto is, "Dynamic - Innovative - Self Sufficient" — a great way to describe community development in a few words. Gerakan Pramuka has invited other Scout associations to participate, and Scouts Canada hopes to send a small contingent to the event.

COMDECA takes place in Lebakharjo Village in the southern part of East Java, Indonesia. The village is located at the foot of Mount Semeru (3,800 m). Average July temperatures range from 28°C to 34°C, with an average 13 hours of sunshine each day and a not-uncommon humidity level of about 80%.

The objective of COMDECA is to provide much needed community services to the local population. Scouts will improve village housing and build roads, bridges, small dams, a fish market, and a

library. They will also install clean water facilities and renovate an existing place of worship.



Along with the physical projects, Gerakan Pramuka will conduct local education campaigns on issues such as law conscious-

ness, natural resources and environmental conservation, public health, job skills, entrepreneurship and home industry, cooperatives, and spiritual development. They will hold a series of COMDECA seminars and workshops called "Lokakarya" that will focus on how Scouting can strengthen its role in educating young people to improve the quality of life in their own communities.

Local residents will prepare the site and some of the materials before the start of the project. Gerakan Pramuka members will be involved in the work and planning throughout.

Participants in COMDECA will have a unique opportunity to experience community development in action. Through contact with local people, they will also learn the realities of life without many of the conveniences and facilities we take for granted. The opportunity to work and live with a diverse group of young people will give participants an insight into the differences and similarities between people from different cultures and backgrounds.

Overseas participants will work on the project for seven to eight hours each day, but will also have a chance to enjoy camping activities, sports and games, a Scout forum, art and cultural activities, religious observances, and seminars and workshops. The organizers will offer tours of Indonesia after the event as well as the possibility of short-term home hospitality.

During the event, leaders will be assigned Service Staff roles. Because they will be working closely with COMDECA staff and participants, they will need a good knowledge of English and excellent leadership and problem-solving skills.

The 500 Gerakan Pramuka members directly involved with COMDECA hope 1,500 overseas Scouts and Guides aged 16-26 will join them. The cost is US\$350, plus travel to and from Indonesia. Post-event tours will be extra. Organizers are arranging transportation between the site and the closest airport, Surabaya International, on arrival and departure. It is a 177 km journey of 3 1/2 hours.

If your group is interested, contact *International Relations and Special Events Services, Scouts Canada, Box 5151, Stn F, Ottawa K2C 3G7* as soon as possible for details. Your provincial office also has information about COMDECA. ^

Scouting Publications from Other Countries

How to Subscribe

Boy Scouts of America

Scouting Magazine (adults)

Six issues a year, US \$15

Boys' Life (youth)

12 issues a year: 1 year US \$18.20; 2 years \$29.20; 3 years \$40.20

Both magazines are available from *Magazine Division, Boy Scouts of America, 1325 Walnut Hill Lane, PO Box 152079, Irving, Texas 75015-2079*

United Kingdom,

Scouting Magazine

12 issues a year: £20 surface mail; £45 airmail

Sterling cheque payable to *Scouting Magazine*

Mail to: *Scouting Magazine, The Scout Association, Baden-Powell House, Queen's Gate, London SW7 5JS*

New Zealand Scout News

Four- to six-page glossy with four-page program supplement insert, 12 times a year: NZ \$20 surface mail; NZ \$30 airmail

Mail to: *The Scout Association of New Zealand, PO Box 6213, Te Aro, Wellington 6035, N.Z.*

In future, we will list a number of French language publications from Belgium and France. We will also keep you informed if we hear of other English language magazines available to out-of-country subscribers.

A Letter from Namibia

by John Neysmith

The heat is back. It's 35°C in the shade, not a cloud in the skies. People now believe that there will be no rainy season this year. If that is so, there will be problems for sure. This is the seventh year of drought in Owambo.

Scouting is slowly developing. There are enormous challenges; culturally, economically, and socially, Namibia (formerly South-West Africa) is a diverse society.

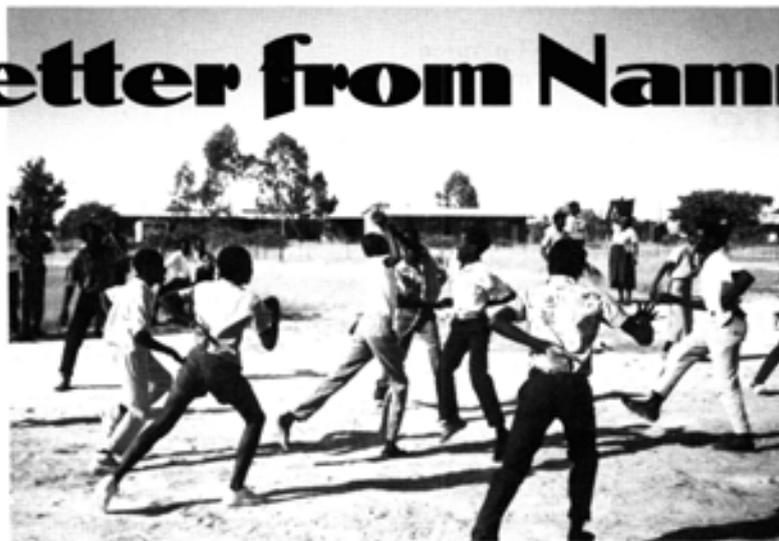
Although Scouting existed as a branch of the Boy Scouts of South Africa before the country became independent in March 1990, it served a limited population — the urban communities, predominantly white. Yet, over 90% of Namibia is black and 75% of its people live in rural areas. In many ways, urban Namibia is a first world society while the "townships" and rural Namibia are in the third world. The differences are immense.

As I visited various areas of Namibia, I realized that most of the population had never heard about Scouting. But Scouting can play a valuable role, not only in youth development, but also in community betterment.

Boy Scouts of Namibia, its membership at the time recorded as 474, became a member of the World Scout Organization in July 1990. Today, it has about 1,000 youth members, 67% of them in Owambo, a region in northern Namibia which has 14 groups in two districts. Two factors explain why Scouting is developing in this region.

First, over 50% of Namibia's 1.5 million people live in Owambo. Given very limited resources, both human and financial, Scouting's national team decided that Scouting can expand only on a slow, controlled, and planned basis. Owambo was the obvious choice for such an approach.

Second, the region's communities themselves expressed an interest in Scouting. Before 1981, Scouting existed on a very



Scouts at play in Oniipa, Owambo Region.

The challenges are great; the potential is even greater.

limited scale in Owambo until the then-existing South-West Africa Scouting Association closed it for what they believed were political involvements. When the country gained independence, a few adults remembered Scouting and started it up again in March 1991.

There is an interesting aspect to this start-up. When the Canadian High Commission in Namibia heard about plans for Scouting in Owambo, it gave its support by donating a "starter kit" to each group. These kits consisted of patrol boxes with locks containing Scout books and flags, compasses, rope, triangular bandages, bowsaws, handaxes, hurricane lamps, soccer balls — in short, everything a group

needs to begin operations. As a Canadian in Owambo in February 1992, I reaped the benefits of Canada's support! But Scouting faces many challenges in this new country. Owambo is a typical example. The community structure is very close-knit. That means Scouting can benefit from community involvement, but it also poses cultural difficulties to do with the age of leaders and community acceptance. The concept of community elders and adult respect is very strong and can be a stumbling block for young leaders. Not only might young people find it difficult to see themselves as "leaders" but, in the eyes of the community, such leaders are not adults who have earned the respect due to age.

Training new leaders is another challenge. In many ways, the idea of youth involvement in the community is new to these people, and Scouting's programs seem as foreign as landing on the moon. Training must be very basic; people need to understand the concepts of youth and programs and communities before we can help them make Scouting a part of their communities. Scouting's role is to adapt its program to serve the community, and although our objectives, aims and principles are the same the world over, our applications must vary to meet differing needs and customs.

It is a true challenge to start Scouting in a new country where there are immense variations among communities, illiteracy is approximately 60%, and unemployment runs at 40%. But the potential is vast; Scouting can, and must, be part of it. A



Scouters Anna Taimi and Letta Sheepo, leaders with the Okinkolo Troop, confer with Owambo's Regional Commissioner Joseph Auia. The broken windows in the building behind are a legacy of fighting that continued during UN supervised elections in 1990.

John Neysmith, former provincial commissioner, Quebec, is on assignment for the International Relations Committee to help evaluate Canadian Scouting's participation in community development programs.

More Favourite Things

from Al Hoard

I greatly enjoyed *A Few of My Favourite Things*, by Colin Wallace (March '92), and would like to share a couple of the 2nd Armour Cubs' favourite things in return.



Cutlery Carrier

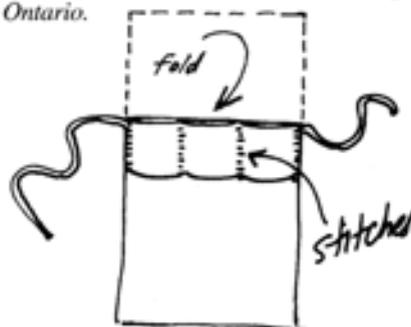
An oven mitt, with the addition of a drawstring around the wrist, becomes a handy carrier to store cooking utensils such as spatula, wooden spoon, and cutlery.

Wash-Up Apron

To make this, you need a large beach towel and sturdy material for ties. Fold down about one-third of the towel's length. At that point, sew on "apron" ties that will fit around the body.

Now, fold the third of the towel back up on itself about 20 cm. Sew up the sides to make a pouch. Run stitches down the pouch in two or three places to make individual pockets for soap, facecloth, toothbrush and toothpaste, and comb.

Scouter Al Hoard is Akela with the 2nd Armour/St. Luke's Cub Pack, Peterborough, Ontario.



Year End Family Campfire

by Michael Nellis

The General Wolfe Group, Sillery, Que., holds a family campfire at our final meeting. It's a special way to close our Scouting season.

A campfire has several things going for it. It lets parents see something of what their children have been learning during the year and gives them a chance to participate actively. If you have former Scouts in the crowd, the campfire helps remind them of the fun they had as youth members (no campaigning for recruits, though, at least not until after the closing!).

To encourage parental participation, include a higher than normal percentage of activity songs and skits. Before you start, remind everyone of campfire etiquette, including the use of cheers or yells instead of applause. When a skit needs audience participation, have the skit leader choose volunteers rather than asking them to raise their hands. Otherwise, you'll find parent volunteers overwhelmed by Beavers and Cubs — and you do want to involve parents as much as possible.

Here's our schedule from our 1991 campfire. You might find it a help when you plan your event.

Campfire Opening
Activity Songs (from Beavers first, and Cubs, then Scouts)
Skits by Cubs; cheers led by Scouts
Quiet song led by campfire leader
Skits by Scouts; cheers led by Cubs
Quiet song led by campfire leader
Public thank you's and recognition for parent volunteers
Quiet song
Scouter's Five
Spiritual song
Closing prayer and Taps
Campfire Closing

You'll find lots of good information on successful campfires in *Campfire Magic* in the J/J '89 issue of **the Leader**.

Scouter Michael Nellis is Akela with the General Wolfe Cubs, Sillery, Que.

First Aid Camp

from Brad Ryerson

Well, it was spring again and time for the 236th Toronto Scout Troop to have a spring camp. But what should the program be? As usual, Scouters got together to discuss whether to have a wide game and teach campcraft, or to teach campcraft and then have a wide game. It looked like another 236th special — in other words, the same old thing.

Ah, but one of our Scouters is a qualified first aid instructor with St. John Ambulance. So, we dusted off our brains and began to think of a way to use this great resource. We decided we'd spend the Saturday of camp giving the Scouts a crash course in emergency first aid. It would be difficult, but it would be different.

Off we went on the last weekend of May to Woodland Trails with 11 Scouts and four leaders. On Saturday morning,

after a typical night of Scout-camp rain storms, floods, and raccoons, we gathered at our improvised classroom, a picnic shelter with power for the VCR supplied by a light socket.

Scouter Scott Spidel used videos, lectures, and many practical situations to teach the Scouts how to treat burns, bleeding, choking, perform artificial respiration, and much more. Our classroom, located in a wooded area, had one downfall — the mosquitoes. Let's just say that none of us could have given blood to the Red Cross by camp's end!

Not all the Scouts qualified after writing their test, but a number of them earned their Silver First Aid Badge and everyone had a lot of fun. The camp was not only different, but also constructive. Now, all our Scouters and a good number of our Scouts are educated enough to deal with most emergency situations we might meet.

Scouter Brad Ryerson works with the 236th Toronto Troop, Ont.

Who can tell me what to do next? The 236th Scouts take an emergency first aid course in their improvised camp classroom.



Puppy Kisses

from Patrick Martin

The 1st North Gower A Beavers give Ben Kruser a resounding tail slap for the December '91 *Sharing* column. Saving stamps for the Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind (CGDB) Training Centre in Manotick is an excellent way to show how a Beaver can share and care for others in the community. One of our leaders stopped in at the training centre and picked up 24 stamp collection boxes to get our Beavers started. The timing was great, as we were able to collect all those Christmas stamps!

At our first planning session of the new year, we decided to take our first Beaver Ramble — to the CGDB Training Centre. Since the centre gives tours between 2:30 and 3:30 Saturday afternoons, the Beavers would also have time to feed the ducks at Watson's Mill in Manotick.

At the CGDB Training Centre, the 1st North Gower Beavers meet a friendly pup destined to become a working guide dog. The Beavers are saving stamps to raise funds for the training centre.



We arranged a car pool to drive the 15 km. Our first stop was Watson's Mill where, thanks to the generosity of a Manotick bakery, the Beavers fed about four dozen rolls to the 50-100 mallard ducks that overwinter there. After about 30 minutes, the weather turned a little nasty, and blowing snow chased us to the training centre for our tour.

It turned out that our tour guide was a Service Scouter as well as a puppy walker for the CGDB. After showing us a 10

minute video on guide dogs, she brought in one of the many puppies she has cared for, and the Beavers' faces were soon awash in puppy kisses! We wound up with a walk through the centre to see students' rooms and the kennels.

All in all, it was great fun and a very memorable afternoon for both Beavers and leaders.

Scouter Patrick Martin works with the 1st North Gower Beavers, Ont.

STRANGE CREATURES KEEP CUBS BUSY

from Peter Pilkington and Pamela Hersey

Cubs at the Yarmouth District camp last June seemed to be at a loss during their free time. On Saturday, we came up with a story that led to a very successful spare time activity. Here's the lead-in.

Something very exciting happened this morning. It was about 5:30, and I was up early to start the pack's campfire. Behind me, I heard a wild rustling noise. I turned around just in time to catch a glimpse of two very strange creatures.

Although I can't be sure, one of them looked like that legendary animal, the Wild Bologna. It was about 30 cm long, reddish brown — and it had lots of legs. It moved so fast, I didn't get a very good look. Hot on its tail was a creature that seemed to be half rabbit and half turtle. All I can think is that it must have been the legendary Salt Water Rabbit.

With this preamble, we challenged all packs in camp to try to spot the creatures. Meanwhile, we promised to see what else we could learn about these exotic animals.

We were astonished at how well Cubs and leaders took to the chase, groups heading off in their spare time to search the woods around their campsites. As the day progressed, some Cubs swore they'd caught glimpses of the animals. We decided to pass along some more "information".

It seems the Wild Bologna is the prey of the Salt Water Rabbit, but both animals also love marshmallows and orange peels. Usually the animals appear only at night, but occasionally people have spotted them during the day. Both creatures are almost extinct. We'd learned there are only five Wild Bologna and four Salt Water Rabbits left anywhere in the world, and suggested it might be an idea to save these creatures by trying to catch them and deliver them to a nearby wildlife park.

WILD BOLOGNA



Late in the day, with the help of a hound belonging to one of the camp cooks, Cubs and leaders took a ramble further afield to see if we could find the creatures. We searched up and down the road to the camp for tracks, all the while listening for animal calls. We did hear the call of the Wild Bologna, but we couldn't spot the animal itself.

As evening fell, some of the Cubs decided to set traps to catch the animals. For

bait, they chose two of the creatures' favourite foods, marshmallows and orange peels. After the Cubs were sound asleep, a few leaders visited the traps to remove the orange peels and replace the whole marshmallows with samples from which we'd taken a bite or two. Before leaving, we carefully reset all the traps.

As soon as they were up on Sunday, the Cubs checked their traps. The Wild Bologna and Salt Water Rabbit most definitely had been there, but obviously they were canny enough to avoid being caught!

With much to do before heading home, we reluctantly called off the search for the animals but, in view of the success of this quickly improvised spare time activity, only until Cub camp next year. A

SALT WATER RABBIT



Akela Peter Pilkington works with the 7th Yarmouth and Akela Pamela Hersey with the 1st Salmon River Cubs, Nova Scotia.

ARC—More Leaders for More Kids

by Andy McLaughlin

In November 1990, the National Council approved Adult Volunteer Recruitment and Development as Scouts Canada's number one priority. The council believes that an increase in the number of adults involved in Scouting will enable more young people to participate and halt a 10 year downward slide in youth membership.

The National Communications Committee wanted to do something significant to support this priority. The result is ARC, or Adult Recruitment Campaigns.

WHAT IS ARC?

Simply put, ARC is a plan to help recruit more adults in specific regions across the country. Each campaign is jointly planned and conducted by the national office and the respective local council.

ARC's goal is to identify suitable candidates interested in becoming volunteers in Scouting. An Angus Reid poll (fall 1990) showed that most people have very positive attitudes toward Scouting. A 1986 survey indicated that one in 10 Ontario adults would join Scouting if asked. ARC asks.

THREE STAGES OF ARC

ARC is broken down into three stages. The first involves a visit by Communications Service to a selected area to consult with the local council around their specific needs. During that first visit, targets are identified and goals set as the Communications representative and the local council work together to design a campaign plan.

Conducting the campaign is the second stage. Because each campaign is designed in consultation with local volunteers, each is quite different.

An ARC held in Winnipeg last March consisted of a four-week media campaign followed by a week of recruitment events, including an outdoor pancake breakfast, a display at a Winnipeg Jets game, and some mall displays. An ARC in Brampton, Ontario in April targeted parents of existing members. Its campaign included three parent information evenings supported by some bus and newspaper advertising. Interior B.C. set up a recruitment display at a Kub Kar rally as part of its campaign.

Most of the materials used in these campaigns are existing national materials, such as the "Plant A Seed" print ads. They are customized to fit an area by adding a local phone number or message. In some cases, new materials may be created to fit specific audiences.

Many of the campaigns include events that expose and "sell" Scouting to the general public. Mall displays, pancake breakfasts, and parent information nights allow for one-on-one direct recruitment.

These activities are important. Think back to how you were recruited. Odds are that someone, perhaps your church minister or a Cub leader, sat down with you and asked you if you would become involved. Events like a mall display allow this kind of face-to-face communication to happen.

The follow-up with interested people is perhaps the most important part of conducting the campaign. It means contacting, interviewing, training, and placing these people with a section, group committee, or district.

The third stage of ARC is the evaluation of a campaign. The evaluation involves answering many questions, the most important being, "How many leaders and other volunteers were attracted?"

It's also important to know how these people were recruited. Was a mall display more successful than a pancake breakfast? Did any parents sign up because of an information evening? The answers to these and other questions provide significant learnings that can be applied to other campaigns.

WHERE IS ARC HAPPENING?

Winnipeg, the Interior Region in B.C., and Brampton, Ontario, have already held campaigns. Halifax-Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, and Fredericton, New Brunswick will hold campaigns in the fall.

Now you might be thinking, "ARC is great if you are in a district or region where it's being conducted, but what about the rest of us? Why not do this across the country?"

"Money" is one answer to that question. A national campaign would cost millions of dollars. Scouts Canada does not have that kind of money to spend. But there is a better answer: Canada's regional diversity. What might work in Newfoundland may not work in B.C. Each region has its own specific needs, and we can meet those needs most effectively by running regional campaigns.

For instance, Winnipeg is home to many different nationalities and cultures. The materials developed for that campaign reflected the city's multicultural nature. We produced a multilingual flyer and distributed it to more than 40,000 homes. We created a multilingual panel for a mall display unit and placed ads in some of the ethnic papers in the area.

If there isn't an ARC in your area, remember that Communications Service continues to produce materials for use as Public Service Announcements. Many of you heard the recent Trees for Canada radio PSA. New PSAs will be distributed for fall registration and next year's Guide-Scout Week.

Winnipeg's multicultural nature called for the creation of multilingual materials for its campaign.



Joe Yuen, 43rd Winnipeg Group Committee

作為團體委員會的委員，我是加拿大童子軍隊伍中的一員。我們這支隊伍幫助孩子們學習知識，成長為負責任的成人。我熱愛我在加拿大童子軍所擔任的工作，是因為我能與其他成年人共同盡到幫助那些正在成長這一應盡的義務。

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

It is still somewhat early to evaluate the program, but we will present a detailed report on ARC's results at the national meetings in November. And, if all goes well, we will conduct more campaigns over the next two years.

Successful campaigns will mean more leaders and other volunteers, which will give more children the opportunity to join the exciting world of Scouting. We will share the evaluation of our initial campaigns in a future issue of the **Leader**. ▲

Andy McLaughlin is a national office project worker assigned to work with ARC.

CNE Scout Service Corps

by Bob Ross

Since 1969, Greater Toronto Region Scouts, Venturers, Rovers and Scouters have provided a wheelchair and escort service at the Canadian National Exhibition. Without them, many seniors and visitors with disabilities would not be able to see the "Ex".

GTR's Special Events Committee is responsible for the corps. The committee assigns a director who recruits senior and junior staff and escorts, works with CNE personnel, and does all the administration.

Planning for each year's service usually starts in November, when three or four members of the Corps Committee review operations of the previous year to determine what improvements might be made, discuss staff requirements and recruiting procedures, submit a financial statement for the current year, prepare a budget for the following year, and provide reports for the CNE Board of Directors and GTR's Special Events Committee.

In 1991, our proposed budget was \$3,000 for postage, office equipment, printing and stationery, transportation, crests, awards, hats, public relations, and laundry (scarves and shirts). The CNE's budget looks after things like meal tickets and golf cart, wheelchair, and trailer rentals. All together, expenses for our 1991 service were about \$23,000.

The CNE provides office space at two or three locations on the very large exhibition grounds. We locate the main office at the gate nearest most of the buildings and the grandstand. The CNE also provides the furniture and telephones we need.

Arrangements for adult volunteer staff are made during winter and spring. These volunteers obtain and distribute meal tickets and public transit fares, sign Scouts and wheelchairs in and out, set up youth members' schedules, record hours, keep track of bookings from individuals and institutions, and deal with Scouting representation at special events. Four senior staff members take charge of daily operations and close the offices at night. The Scout and Venturer escort service runs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., but the office stays open until 10 p.m.

Recruiting for Scouts, Venturers, and Rovers begins in February with an "every Scout" mailing and notices in the provin-

cial and GTR Scouting newsletters. We also distribute brochures at GTR camps, special activities, and area events.

In early spring, we send notices about the Scout Service Corps to nursing homes,

them. A day or two before the opening, corps recruits attend an orientation session on site, where they learn how to manoeuvre the wheelchairs, get tips for talking to their guests, and become familiar with the corps' operations and the layout of the grounds.

ON-SITE DETAILS

When corps members arrive for duty, they exchange their group neckerchiefs for a special corps scarf, which they return at the end of the day. After serving a certain number of hours, they receive a corps baseball cap. There's a crest for those who serve over 30 hours and a special award for those who serve 60 hours or more.

Service Corps members receive free admission to the grounds, meal tickets accepted at most of the fair's food booths, and reimbursement for public transit fares. When members are not on duty, they can relax at the television or

video machine or with card and board games in a recreation area set up at the main office.

Besides providing escort service and dealing with the public at the office, junior staff members often serve as ushers and program distributors at opening ceremonies and various luncheons.

During the past 23 years, the service corps has become a very popular and valued part of the CNE. In all, 3,872 volunteers have served 24,010 guests over a total of 146,440 hours. Between August 14 and September 2 last year alone, 110 service corps members served more than 1,100 people over 4,763 hours.

Toronto is a very large city and the CNE a very large exhibition, but cities, towns, and villages of all sizes offer similar opportunities for service at their summer or fall fairs, craft shows, and other community events. Consider how your Scouts, Venturers, and Rovers can help make these affairs accessible to members of your community who might have to miss out on the fun because they have difficulties moving around. A

Program Links

Citizen Badge, service hours

Scouter Bob Ross handles public relations in Seton Area, Greater Toronto Region, Ontario.



**That looks interesting!
Let's go over there.**

Photo: Bob Ross

senior citizen locations, and rehabilitation centres (the corps served more than 20 institutions in 1991), and arrange to have Scouts and wheelchairs meet people at designated locations.

We book wheelchairs in April or early May and arrange for them to be delivered to the CNE grounds the day before the exhibition opening so that we can number



Golf carts transport Scouts and wheelchairs to pre-arranged spots in parking lots to pick up visitors who need the service. Photo: Carol Wall

16.5 RUMOURS Revisited

With word processor turned on and tongue firmly in cheek, I would like to address Colin Wallace's 16.5 Rumours of Scouting, published in your June/July issue last year.

by Jim Ives

1. **It'll only take a couple of hours a week.** I didn't hear that one. When asked to be the leader of a Scout troop (the gentleman probably meant to add "the only leader"), I was honoured to think that someone older than I would consider me worthy of a trust of this magnitude. I mean, I knew it would involve some of my time but, after all, when I was a Scout, didn't my Scout leader go home when we did? Guess I fell for that one whether I heard the rumour or not.
2. **The parents will help you.** Yes, they will. If you ask, they are only too glad to pick up their Scout after camp, usually an hour earlier than advised. No big deal. After all, they have come early to get the Scouts out of our hair and give us a few minutes to ourselves, right? In gratitude, we gladly assume the tasks of drying wet tents, policing the campsite for gum wrappers dropped by the "other guys", and packing dishes, utensils, and other items to return to their rightful owners at our next meeting. Unfortunately, it often turns out that these items really do belong to the "other guys". Does anybody know where I can unload an eight-piece place-setting for 12? Most of it doesn't match but, if you use it at camp after dark, no one will notice.
3. **Uniform only from the waist up...** This one involves more cover-up than Watergate. It's -30°C and these guys (not to be confused with the "other guys") go out with nothing more on their backs than light spring jackets open to the waist. But, it's 32°C in the shade and they're wearing a coat to their ankles as they proceed to the meeting in full uniform.
4. **What's a Service Scouter?**
5. **You don't have to take training...** Take the training. You get to go to camp with people!
6. **The community will support you.** Try to explain to members of the community that they are "supporting Scouting" (not buying apples) as you take their money, hand them the tray, and wonder if they really expect change.
7. **You don't have to go outdoors....** We sometimes start outdoors because I forgot the key to the hall. Then we go indoors, marvel at the power of nature, and thank God we're not out camping in this weather!
8. **You'll love every minute of it.** I love some of the minutes. In retrospect (right after the last Scout has left for home), I love all the minutes.
9. **"The kids are all keen as mustard"** should have read "the kids are keen for mustard", especially when you don't have any. Even the guy who always wants just ketchup!
10. **Floor hockey will not keep them amused** unless the new guy gets the stick that leaves slivers in his hand. If the slivers go deep enough to draw blood, they'll be amused for weeks!
11. **It doesn't cost me a dime.** I get an allowance every week, but I can get it increased if it's "for the troop".
12. **Your family will be thrilled....** My family is just glad to let me go out to sleep in a tent, knowing that, if I get enough camping time with the troop, I probably won't ask them to try it. I think they have a lot of fun when I'm not home to provide guidance.
- 13 & 14: **The youth ... parents will thank you.** I thank them. I don't have sons and I'm grateful to parents for giving me the opportunity to see what I'm missing. Remember, I only have to do it when I plan to. I'm a volunteer, but they've been drafted for the duration.
- 15: **Canada will thank you....** I can't hold my breath for longer than a minute, but I have learned to hold my temper for almost five minutes. Our meetings and camps last much longer than that, but I'm working on it.
- 16: **Scouts are action-oriented. There's almost no paperwork.** Given our latest experience with Trees for Canada, this writing has used up all the trees our troop may plant, may have planted, or may consider planting in the foreseeable future.
- 16.5: **Going back to basics....** We've had to get back to basics. If we don't teach them how to pack tooth brush, face cloth, soap, and toothpaste at the bottom of their pack where it won't get in the way, who is going to do so? We had to learn it for ourselves. For pity's sake, let's give them the benefit of some of our experience!
When I accepted the position of troop leader, a long-time member of Scouting in P.E.I. offered me a piece of advice: "Stay with it as long as you are having as much fun as the Scouts." It looks like I might be around for a long time!
Hey — maybe that's a rumour you haven't heard yet: *Leaders have as much fun as Scouts.*
Thanks, Scouter Colin, for noting the great truths about Scouting at the end of your article. I'm sure we can name many, many more. X

Jim Ives is Troop Scouter with the 4th Charlottetown Scouts, 1st Baptist Church, Charlottetown, P.E.I.

The Secret of Eternal Youth

by Lynn Johnson

Having given my share of recruiting talks over the years, I can certainly recite standard chapter and verse about the wonderful job we do in training young people and how important Scouting is to the community and the future. I say these things quite comfortably because I believe them. But I am occasionally tempted to use a totally different approach and appeal instead to the selfish reasons that influence some of us to stay in the movement longer than seems sane.

During my own youth, I successfully avoided all organizations designed for my improvement, which means I arrived on the Scouting scene in 1964 with a fresh, uninfluenced outlook. So far as I knew, Scouts helped little old ladies and hung around in the woods. Why did I become a Cub leader? Simple: I wanted to impress my boyfriend!

As my sole acquaintance in Scouting consisted of said boyfriend, 19, I had no idea what the other leaders would be like. My first impression: "Gee, some of them are awfully old."

My opinion probably changed gradually, but my first real insight into my mistake came at a Greater Toronto Region dinner dance. The room was packed with hundreds of people of every age from 17 to 87, wearing uniform or their dressiest clothes. Behaviour was spirited but conventional until the band took a break. That's when the revelation came.

Almost everyone formed a circle and did the Grand Howl, not the easiest feat in high heels. They followed with an energetic sing-song, including "Little Peter Rabbit had a fly upon his nose". Scouters of all ages were being equally goofy. Then it hit me: in Scouting, you do not have to get old!

At a more recent event, a gentleman in his 80s informed me that he had made his doctor happy by giving up his Cub pack. The doctor was less delighted to hear that he did it in order to start a Beaver colony! I saw this Scouter a year later at an event for 3,000 Beavers, and he looked in much better shape than I did.

I could fill pages talking about Scouting friends who are active, interesting, innovative people who have the added advantage of a great many years of experience. Perhaps Scouting attitudes and humour help. For example, Sir Charles Maclean, then British Chief Scout, attended a Cuboree built on the premise that "bugs" were

about to attack the Chief Scout's kilt. Several hundred little boys hunted down the wicked kilt-eating bugs and fed them to a colourful "machine" cranked into action by the guest of honour. The Chief Scout was no VIP figurehead waving demurely to the crowd, but part of all the fun.

A few weeks ago, I asked four Pack Scouters to set up a simple maze with four colours of yarn so that we could play a game called "Spider's Web". Fifteen minutes later, the hall was an intricate psychedelic web stretching to every corner and woven through furniture in mind-boggling ways. A lot of trouble for a few minutes of fun? Perhaps. But the Cubs won't forget it, and the leaders had a ball.

Scouting sets limits of morality and responsibility, but it lifts our self-imposed limits of false dignity and indifference. Where else in my 40s could I play "Hug a Tree", exercise so many different areas of creativity, or dress up and pretend? In the last few years, I have delighted in being a Martian, a cavewoman, a witch, and Jack and the Beanstalk's mother.

Where else could I be comfortable getting emotional over a brave deed or the drama of the re-emergence of Scouting in

eastern Europe? Where else is it still fashionable to care passionately? I do not ever want to acquire cynicism with my well-earned grey hairs!

The film *Scouts!* suggested that one of the keys of Baden-Powell's success was his ability to bring out the adult in the child and the child in the adult. Absolutely right. How else can we have all the best of being young — the wonder, the silliness, the sense of discovery — for as long as we live?

In my imagination, I face a group of potential recruits and say: "Like anything worth having, Scouting is a lot of work. It can be frustrating and time-consuming. And some days, you may feel no one cares, not even the children. But, there will be times when you laugh until you are weak; when you will learn new things about yourself, fulfill fantasies, build your self-esteem, and rediscover a joy in the world around you. And, above all, you will stay young forever!" ^

Scouter Lynn Johnson is area commissioner, Agincourt, Greater Toronto Region, Ontario.

Camping Secrets

by Cub Shawn Elliott

This is a story about how to camp wisely. I mean by making sure you know where your clothes are. In a storm, you may need a rain jacket and you can't find it. To start, you should bring a truck; it is easier to pack. I almost forgot to tell you to put your food in a safe place, because a bear may be lurking around for your food.

Now I will tell you how to wear clothes. There is a way to get four days out of a T-shirt and four days out of a pair of pants and two days out of a pair of socks. I know it seems impossible!

First, I will tell you how to get four days out of one T-shirt. I bet you do not believe me, but I am serious! The way to get four days out of a T-shirt is: one day you wear it regular; the second day you wear it backwards; the third day you



wear it inside out; the fourth day you wear it inside out and backwards.

The same thing, you do for the pants. Oh yeah, the socks. You wear them the normal way; the second day, wear the socks inside out. Never wear white clothes because white gets dirty a lot faster, so wear dark clothes.

Now, when you go camping, you will know how to camp wisely.

Shawn Elliott is a 9 year old Cub with the Knox 15 Cub Pack, New Westminster, B.C. His father, Don, tells us he wrote this story for his class newspaper. "It goes a long way to explain how a Cub can go to camp and leave three days later with a bag of clean clothes," he says. So that's how they do it!

Moments I'd Rather Forget

by Michael Lee Zwiers

Scouting has given me the opportunity to camp outdoors in all kinds of weather, meet and work with a variety of adults and young people, and have a whole lot of fun. In my 19 years with the movement, I've experienced some wonderful moments. I've also known a few others I'd much rather forget.

Like the time I was racing to the closing ceremonies at the end of a week-long Scout and Guide sailing camp. Camera in hand, I flew full-tilt down the worn and muddy path so that I wouldn't be late.

I needn't have worried for, as I pounded around the bend of a hill, I saw the camp chief and his wife ahead, picking their way down the slippery slope. Suddenly, my feet shot out from under me. They turned just in time to see my body chart an arc through the air as I sailed feet-first between the two of them on my way toward a pool of stagnant water waiting at the bottom.

"Hey Mike," Hugh called excitedly, "Would you mind going back and doing that again? I didn't have my camera ready!"

Then there was that canoe course. It was a cool, windy evening and I'd been out in the water learning how to right an upset canoe by means of a T-rescue. I finished my work quickly and dripped my way into one of the boathouse change rooms to get out of my soggy clothing.

The boathouse stood at the lake's edge, and high water and a vicious freeze the previous winter had shifted the building up on an awkward angle. As a result, the door to the change room didn't close well. I had my wet swimsuit around my ankles when it broke loose and swung open.

Two bonnie Cub leaders had front row seats directly facing the change rooms. I suppose they wouldn't have noticed me if the door hadn't crashed against the wall, but they looked up suddenly as the bang ricocheted around the small building.

I don't know which was worse to endure, the ordeal of being caught with my pants around my ankles in front of two unfamiliar ladies, or the blow to my manhood when they casually returned to their conversation as if they hadn't seen anything worth looking up for!

And I'll never forget the winter competition camp where we were housed in cabins beside a beautiful frozen lake. As the evening settled in, we got into a rip-

roaring snowball fight with our Scouts on the deck and in the clearing in front of our cabin.

From out of nowhere, a massive lady appeared and began working her way up the side steps to the deck. One of the Scouts, mistaking her for the enemy, rushed forward and attacked her with a huge pile of crystal snow he'd swept from the railing. Realizing his error, he turned and scuttled behind me, leaving me in the front lines.



Wiping snow from her eyes and glowing under a covering of white powder, she took one look at my youthful face and shouted at full volume, "You! Where is your leader!?"

AT THE RACES

One year, I drove out to the lake to take part in the Skipper's Trophy, a series of three sailing races at our local Scout camp. I arrived a bit late and, as I strolled onto the waterfront, saw the boats tacking back and forth near the start line, jockeying for position.

I had no crew for my boat, and the beach was deserted, except for one lady sitting on the shore. She'd come to watch her son in the race. I engaged her in conversation and tried to convince her to sail with me.

"I've never sailed before," she said.

I assured her that I could teach her everything she needed to know once we got out on the water. Very shortly, we had a boat rigged and were ploughing through the foam for the start line. As chance would have it, we arrived just as the start flag dropped. We were quickly across the line and out ahead of the crowd.

"Oh," she turned and looked at me with admiration, "You do know how to sail. We're in front!"

The first time she went into the water, we were rounding marker buoy number one. The wind was blowing a gale, and I tried to explain the process of changing positions as we came around the buoy. She listened intently and prepared herself for the move.

"Come about!" I shouted. She did her job marvellously, slipping quickly under the boom to the other side of the boat. Just then, a sudden gust caught the sail and pulled over the boat, depositing her in the water. Meanwhile, I stepped over the side and onto the centreboard, pulling fiercely on the mainsheet.

I was back in the boat in a trice, with only a wet foot. Meanwhile, my partner was bobbing in the water 18 m behind me. I came about, tacked past her, luffed my sails and, with one hand on the rudder and another on the mainsheet, coaxed her over the transom and back into the boat.

"What did I do wrong," she asked, somewhat shaken.

"A fluke gust," I explained.

Miraculously, only one boat had passed us during all of this. We were still doing fine. Unfortunately, the boom had touched the marker buoy when we tipped and, as a penalty, we had to turn two full circles in the water. As we raced along, I prepared my crew for this.

"Oh," she said, steeling herself for another turn.

This time, I was determined she would have a smooth ride. I pushed the rudder away from me and moved forward in the boat. In an amazingly short period of time, we had completed the two circles. As I straightened the rudder, however, I notice that, in my concentration to keep the craft upright, I'd allowed the long end of the mainsheet to wrap itself around the rudder assembly.

My crew didn't have much time to enjoy our success before I informed her we had to do the same again, in reverse this time so that I could untangle the mainsheet. She gave me an uncertain look and nodded.

The first circle went without a hitch. On the second, our luck ran out. As I tried frantically to free the last loop, I felt the rope pull taut. Instantly, the boat shot over, catapulting us both into the water. After a bit of splashing about, I managed to right the boat and pull in my crew for the second time.

As she settled to her soggy seat at the front of the boat, she eyed me suspiciously. I could almost hear her saying, "Who is this nut?" To make matters worse, we finished the race dead last.

Within a few minutes, they'd set the start line for the second race. "Are you ready for another?" I asked my silent crew. "It couldn't possibly get any worse," I added, trying to bring some levity to the situation. She just glared at me.

Again, we were first across the start line and, this time, we kept that position. As we rounded the third buoy and headed for home, we held a narrow lead. I saw hope of reclaiming my crew's faith in me.

As we neared the line, I realized the wind had shifted drastically. It was now almost parallel to the line, and our current tack would take us just beyond the end of the buoy. Quickly, I announced a change of tack. My crew, intent on the impending win, didn't hear. As the weight of two bodies settled on the same side of the boat, the boom swung around, and we tipped into the water.

"Does it count if our mast crosses the line?" I called to the race commodore from my position in the waves. It didn't. By the time we righted the craft and brought it in, we had finished second last.

"If you'd stayed on that tack, you'd have crossed the line just fine," the helpful

commodore said. His words of advice did nothing to ease my very tenuous relationship with my crew.

"Well, I'm getting good at crawling into boats," she grunted.

We finished the next race in heavy silence. Although we placed a respectable third, it was too late to win any brownie points. In her eyes, I was dead last.

As we docked and lowered the sails, my crew crawled out onto the deck. "I don't think this sailing is for me," she said, heading off down the dock. I started to call out some words of consolation at her retreating back. Then I realized — I didn't even know her name!

NIGHT TERRORS

Then there was the time John had a nightmare. Now, I'd been to camp with a lot of Scouts, and my nerves had been steeled by all kinds of happenings. But I wasn't prepared for John.

We'd had a glorious day of fishing, hiking, and swimming at our local Scout camp. The troop was laid out in a small clearing, tents close together. Before retiring, my fellow Scouter and I sat up chatting quietly while the Northern Lights crackled their colourful display overhead.

We'd just settled into a contented sleep when bloodcurdling screams shattered the silence. In a flash, we were outside,

prepared to do battle with whatever murderous assailant was at work on one of our Scouts. We followed the screams. It was not hard to identify the source, since the screamer was standing upright in a tent that was not high enough to stand up in.

Quickly, we pulled open the zippers and shone in the flashlight. John stood, inside his sleeping bag, screaming at the top of his lungs as if every breath would be his last. Then, as suddenly as he'd begun, he stopped, fell gracefully to the floor of the tent, and returned to a peaceful slumber.

Silence descended, almost as deafening as the screaming. We surveyed the scene. Amazingly, not one of the other Scouts had wakened. We returned to our tent, hearts pounding, and lay there again, looking up at the night sky and chatting into the wee hours of the morning. But our earlier feeling of peace and well-being was as elusive as sleep.

As I think back over these and other humbling moments in my Scouting career, I often feel I'd like to erase them from my memory. But then again, maybe they hold a few lessons about humility. And our humanity. ^

Scouter Michael Lee Zwiers is a member of the Edmonton Region Training Team, Alberta.

Attention Leaders! Here are 2 resource books which will prove invaluable. "The Best of the Leader" is filled with the Leader magazine's popular cut-out pages.

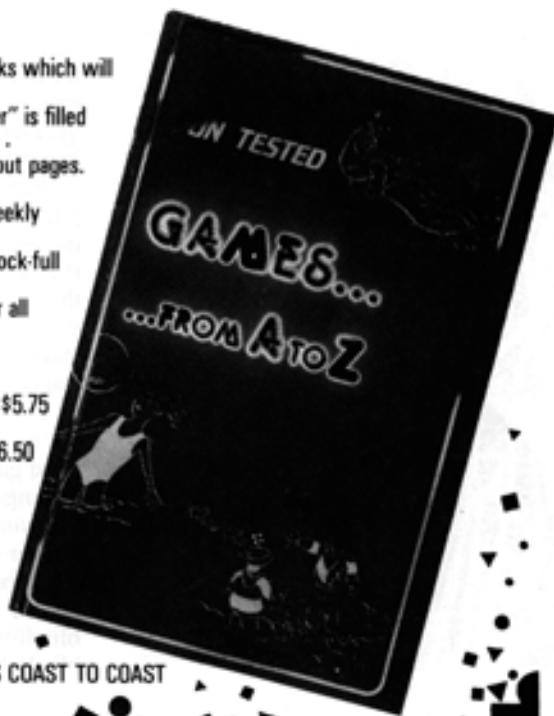
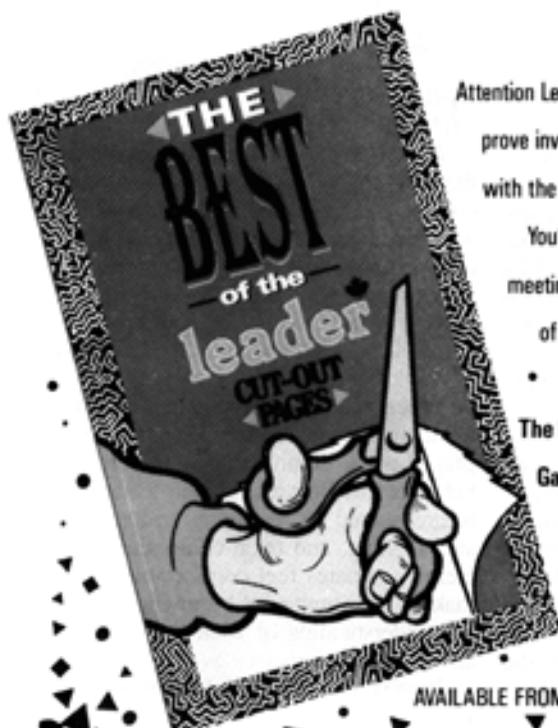
You'll find lots of quick ideas for weekly meetings. "Games from A to Z" is chock-full of fun-tested affordable games for all ages and occasions.

The Best of the Leader 20-510 . . . \$5.75

Games from A to Z 20-504 . . . \$6.50

AVAILABLE FROM SCOUT SHOPS AND DEALERS COAST TO COAST

FUN & GAMES



Fun at the Pond

by Lena Wong

Once again, we've reached the end of a Beaver year. Some of your youngsters will be swimming up to Cubs and some will be back in September. Other Beavers and some leaders will not be returning for any one of a number of reasons.

FAREWELL PARTY

To say good-bye to your Beavers and their parents, arrange an outdoor party on the last scheduled meeting night. Ask parents to bring some of the party foods. Put on a spread of baby carrots, cherry tomatoes, sliced cucumbers, and barbecued hot dogs or hamburgers. Offer cookies and ice cream for dessert or cheese and crackers to tempt those who don't have a sweet tooth.

Decorate your party area with displays of colony photos, completed crafts, drawings, murals, Beaver boxes, and other projects. If some of your Beavers have siblings likely to sign up for Beavers next year, send them special invitations. If you have space and energy, invite other potential new Beavers to join the party, too.

Play some of the old favourite party games, including pin the tail on the beaver. Blow up lots of balloons and let the Beavers have fun trying to keep them up in the air, sitting on them till they pop, bouncing them to each other, and playing whatever other games they can come up with.

Dare a leader or parent to be the target in a wet sponge toss. Set up a fishpond game with party favours as prizes. Arrange a three-legged race in which everyone is a winner. Hold an adult/Beaver soccer game: give adults a handicap (they must wear a blindfold or hop on one leg) or play in pairs, one person blindfolded and the other leading (the blindfolded player kicks the ball).

↑ Sing some of your favourite songs from the year. End your party with a Beaver Parade. Line up everyone and hand out home-made instruments; lids for cymbals, pots or pans with wooden spoons, rattles made by putting a few pebbles into margarine or yogurt pots. You won't need to tell the Beavers what to do with these things! March around

your party location a couple of times before ending your meeting with a final closing ceremony. Thank the Beavers for a good year.

Give each Beaver a special hat to take home. From different colours of bristol board, cut headbands about 10 cm wide and long enough to fit around an average size Beaver head. Glue together at the back or punch a hole at each end and tie with round-cord elastic. Cut a Beaver shape from brown or black bristol board and glue to the front of the headband.

At the party, spend a few minutes with each Beaver and his parents talking about the program and the things they enjoyed (or didn't). Try to assess which parents your leadership team might approach to fill the gaps left by departing leaders. If you think it appropriate, ask there and then if parents of returning (or new) Beavers are interested in joining your team.



BUILDING THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

Now is a good time to start recruiting the new leaders you will need to run the colony next year. The things to look for in potential leaders are maturity, an interest in children and their development, an easy rapport with children (you can observe this in Beaver/adult gatherings), a sense of fun, and a belief in the aims and principles of Scouting.

When you approach potential leaders, tell them about shared leadership and explain how it demonstrates cooperative behaviour to Beavers. Shared leadership means shared responsibility, group decision-making, and open communication. Help candidates feel comfortable about making a commitment by giving them a full understanding of what Beavering is about for leaders as well as children.

Involve the whole leadership team in your leader recruitment campaign. Arrange one or two orientation meetings for potential leaders to meet the team. Bring along your record books, leader meetings notes, program plans, and other resources to show your candidates. Hold a short planning meeting for your first meeting night in September and ask for ideas and input from your guests.

It's also a good time to start thinking about who your new Keeco will be. Ask your outgoing Keeco if he knows a senior Cub who might be suitable and interested. Check to see if Akela agrees or can suggest an alternate name.

Discuss the Keeco role with the Cub's parents to see if they think the youngster is interested and has enough time to spend on the task. As a team, meet the Cub to assess the fit with your colony. When you have made your selection, give the Cub a copy of the *Keeco Book* to read over the summer.

To help orient new members of the leadership team, call a leaders' training meeting before the start of the new season. Topics might include the development stages of Beavers, the needs of Beaver age children, and how leaders influence the colony members.

Ask experienced leaders to share their knowledge and insights with new leaders. Discuss appropriate ways to deal with situations likely to come up in a colony; behaviour problems, hyperactivity, boredom, differing expectations of older and younger children, an occasional shortage of leaders, cancellation of plans because of bad weather or other set-backs. Although there will be plenty of training opportunities once the Scouting year starts, a session such as this will at least ensure that new leaders don't come in completely cold.

FIRST MEETING IDEAS

Scouter Hazel Hallgren, 13th Red Deer Beavers, Alta., sent in a game and a song you might want to try at your first meeting in the fall.



Caterpillar Relay: Whether you play indoors or out, this game makes a good "ice breaker" within lodges. Lodges form team lines. Place a few obstacles in front of each team (chairs, jackets, etc.). Caterpillars start small and grow quickly. The first Beaver in each team runs in and out around the obstacles and back. The second player joins on by holding the waist of the first, and the two run the course together. They return to pick up the third player, and so on until the caterpillars have grown to full size. To make a really BIG caterpillar, all the lodges join together to weave in and out of all the obstacles on the floor or in the playground.



B is for Beaver

(Tune: C is for Cookie, from *Sesame Street*)

B is for Beaver, a busy time for me;
E is for Eager, the way I want to be;
A is for Always, I always,
always care; and
V is for Very middle of the word.
E is for Energy that I always spend;
R is for Resting, I do that in the end; and
S is for Singing, I see that you are glad:
Oh, would you care to sing along
with me?
Everyone...
(repeat verse, with new last line)
It's nice to see that you have
made US glad!

Scouter Hazel also sent along a list of books she's found useful in her colony. If you have time during the summer, look them up at your public library. You may find them just as successful with your bunch.

The Adventures of Paddy the Beaver, by Thornton W. Burgess; Little, Brown & Co., Boston, Toronto

The Lazy Beaver, by Giovanni Gallo, illustrated by Emermanno Samsa, translated by Jane Fior; Wm. Collins Sons & Co. Ltd., Toronto

Beaver on the Saw Tooth, by Bernice Freschet, illustrated by Matthew Kalmenoff; Thomas Y. Crowell Company, New York

Getting to Know Nature's Children — Beavers/Chipmunks, by Merebeth Switzer; Grolier Limited, 1985

Mickey the Beaver (A True Life Story), by Kerry Wood; MacMillan of Canada, 1964

The Adventures of Chuck E. Beaver & Friends: First Day of School, by Kiki, illustrated by Robert Elliott; Montbec Inc.

Finally, get your copy of the new *Beaver Leader's Handbook* from your Scout Shop. It's a super updated book with a fresh new look and lots of great ideas and information.

Enjoy your summer with your own young Beaver(s) and the rest of your family. See you in September.



Yesterday and Tomorrow

by Ben Kruser

We come to the close of what we hope has been an exciting and worthwhile year for you and your colony. Let's look back at some 1991/92 national happenings and ahead to some of the things you can expect in the year to come.

The revision of the *Beaver Leader's Handbook* was the biggest project completed this year. It was undertaken to include the 1989 Beaver Program Review changes to tail groups and provide requested information on child development characteristics, discipline in the colony, and outdoor programs. To ensure that the changes would meet the needs of as many leaders as possible, we followed a lengthy process.

In summer 1990, the handbook was studied to see how best to incorporate recommendations from the 1989 Beaver Program Review. We produced a draft text including proposed revisions, most specifically in Chapter 7 (Tails), Chapter 11 (Child Development), and Chapter 15 (Outdoors). A meeting of the national Publications Advisory Group (PAG) brought together the

national Program, Communications, Supply Services, and Adult Volunteer/Sponsor Relations departments to discuss and produce a book development schedule with projected costs.

By November 1990, the draft had been discussed with the National Program Committee. On December 3, we mailed it out for field-testing to all Assistant Provincial Commissioners for Beavers (National Beaver Network) and seven regions that reflect a broad demographic range (urban, rural, northern, etc.). In this way, we hoped to ensure the handbook revisions met the needs of future users.

By March 1991, the field had returned their drafts with many useful comments and insights. These were incorporated as much as possible into the second draft, which then went to the National Program Committee for review. In July 1991, we gave the final draft to Communications for production and supported that department as needed by helping select photos and the like.

The new book is bound rather than stapled and three-hole punched. This is more cost effective and, we hope, will eliminate complaints that the cover rips off. It

is printed on recycled paper, furthering our commitment to the environment (and leaving more trees for beavers to eat!). The finished product's overall quality ensures a longer shelf life and, most important, the cost will be the same as it was for the old book through next year.

As with any handbook, changes and updates will be inevitable. Please send any of your ideas or comments to Program Services at the national office.

OTHER MATERIALS

Through the year, we have received a number of enquiries and suggestions on the *Friends of the Forest*

book. There seems to be growing interest in a more read-along format and a continuation of the theme — a sort of "Friends of the Forest, Book 2" with new characters and short stories. If you have any suggestions or would like to share a short story for a potential Book 2, please send us your ideas.

The Beaver Activity Books are also due for a review. Some possible concepts include activity books reflecting current societal trends or family needs, such as environment and home safety. If you have any ideas or fun activities that might be incorporated into future activity books, please send them in. We'll be delighted to hear your suggestions.

BEAVER REVIEW

In September 1993, the National Program Committee will begin the assessment phase of the Beaver Program Cyclical Review. Although this may seem a long way off, it is not too early to begin thinking and discussing your vision of Beavers and potential program issues.

Sadly, we are now losing Beavers at a rate of six children a day, every day of the year. This is not a problem with a single cause, and successful resolution will require an integrated approach from all aspects of Scouting. As the person in the front lines, your opinions, views, and insights are critical and vital to identifying causes correctly and developing practical directions to work on.

Please take some time to think about how we can make Beavers the best program possible for 5-7 year olds. Send us your thoughts so that we can start planning how to proceed with the assessment phase. You can write us at:

Scouts Canada, Program Services, Box 5151, Stn F, Ottawa, Ont. K2C 3G7 or: Brenda Robinson, National Program Committee (Beavers), 331 Silver Valley Blvd., Calgary, Alta., T3B 4B7

Thank you for your involvement in Beavers and your efforts to help children grow to their fullest potential. \wedge

BEAVER LEADER'S HANDBOOK



New and Improved!

GREAT CUB MYTHS

In May, Shirley

Roberts, Cub program representative on the National Program Committee, talked about the work being done in the Wolf Cub Program Review to find ways to build issues and needs Cubs and leaders consider important into the existing Cub program. We sent the regions a draft proposal of some ideas to field test and, although we know that not all of you had the opportunity to see it, we have received quite positive feedback from your fellow leaders so far.

It's critical to the future success of Cubbing that program changes are easy for leaders to understand and deliver. To all of you who gave us your comments, thank you. Your opinions are very important.

Shirley and I are especially excited that the review has leaders talking about Cubbing; its purpose, potential, vision, and program opportunities. The discussions are uncovering some deep-seated myths about Cubs (and Scouting) that may have prevented people from using the program to its potential. Let's take a look at some misunderstandings so that we can all reflect on them over the summer.

1. *Comment: By including recycling and disability awareness in Cubs, we are moving too far away "from what Scouting really is".* Scouting's aim is to help its members become resourceful responsible members of the community. Certainly, times are different from what they were 20 years ago (even five years ago). Our communities and families face pressures very few of us could have predicted. What we need to remember is that the skills, interests, and values we instill in our Cubs now will lay the foundation for the decisions they make 20 years from now when they are adults.

While recycling, disability awareness, multiculturalism, blended families, and other societal trends may not have been part of our childhood, they are certainly part of the reality of today's Cubs. The Cub review hopes to move the Cub program into a pro-active position to keep it relevant to the needs of the community now and tomorrow. It may mean we have to adjust our thinking on certain issues, but the result will be a program that produces Cubs much better prepared to deal with the challenges ahead.

by Ben Kruser

2. *Comment: There is "too much variety" and Cubs "won't be able to earn all the stars and badges".* Remember, the Cub Motto is "Do Your Best". As previous articles have stated, *we do not expect or require Cubs to earn every star and badge in the program.* We do expect Cubs to be actively involved in choosing areas of personal interest in a program that covers those topics. If you can tie an interest to an existing award, that's great, but flexibility is important so that Cubs can explore options and learn by doing and by trial and error.

Badges do not automatically make a meeting more interesting. They are the dessert. The main meal is the variety, fun, and relevance the program provides children. The proposed review looks at expanding subject areas to help support programs that seem to be of high interest to Cubs and leaders. To say a program has too much variety is to imply that Cubs have limited imaginations and fields of interest. I don't personally know any 8 year olds who fit this picture. Do you?

3. A line of thinking that confused us because it was couched as a negative was: "proposed changes to the Cub program will make the Cub program really exciting" and "will make Cubs want to go up to Scouts". That is one of our goals!

Scouting is an educational organization; it provides age-appropriate programs that introduce skills used as the basis for higher level programs (*Cubs Can Canoe, Mar'92*). While each section offers an introductory level to activities, leaders need to recognize that children come to the program with various backgrounds, experiences, and skills. By talking to kids about what they want to do and what they are able to do, leaders can get a better understanding of where to start their program.

As adults, we get frustrated when we take on a new responsibility and, despite our previous experience and skills, people treat us as if we know nothing. A program that assumes children have no previous life experiences or skills creates the same kind of frustration and boredom for them. As a result, they leave Cubs and miss the opportunity to have the Scouting experience that once interested them.

4. *Comment: Our programs are "too much like school".* We can interpret this in various ways.

If it means we have to plan our programs (i.e. have a "lesson plan"), it is true. A well thought-out, well-planned program takes time to develop but is much easier to run and more enjoyable for everyone.

If it means our young members have to learn something, it is also true. That's the purpose of Scouting.

If it means we have to deliver the program in a dry academic way, it is definitely not true. Remember that requirements are activity ends, not the means. The Scout method is to learn by doing. Our job is to put what children learn in school (words) into action, because that is how meaningful learning occurs. Leaders are free to make the program as exciting, imaginative, and creative as possible.

As the Wolf Cub Review enters into the final draft stage and then the implementation phase, we will do our best to keep you informed. On behalf of Shirley and the National Program Committee, thanks for your input. We look forward to a new and exciting year ahead. Good Hunting! X

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Walking the Rails

by Scout Robert Daley

Would you consider walking from Charlottetown to St. Peter's Bay? Do you think you could make it?

Last summer, my Scout troop offered me this challenge. On Aug. 19, we met at the Farmers Market and ... set out in Hurricane Bob. So, with the wind on our backs, the rain stopped, and no rail spikes, iron plates, or ties to make the walking hazardous, we soon reached Royalty Junction.

This is where the fun began, with ties and metal junk just laying there until we reached Suffolk, where rails and weeds came into play. The weeds were so big, they would have presented a challenge to Tarzan. We were all very tired when we reached Beford.

My mom and another parent took us to our first campsite at Winter Bay. When we reached camp, we had to set up tents, unroll sleeping bags, fetch water, and build a fire. It sounds like a lot of work and it was, but well worth it to get into bed.

The next day, in spite of our aching muscles, we set out for Tracadie Cross. By noon, we had reached and crossed the St. Peter's High Way. Little did we know we weren't too far from the worst time of our lives. We had to walk through the Mt. Stewart swamp where mosquitoes and black flies rule; oh, and I forgot, wasps!

One boy sat on the rail to rest when a helpful Scout leader stepped on a wasp nest in front of him. He received a wasp sting to go with his 5,000 mosquito and black fly bites. Dad looked worried when the kid said he had a lot of allergies. With swarms of wasps and mosquitoes and a few black flies around our heads, we ran the 2.5 km to Mt. Stewart. It was heaven when we were able to relax on someone's beautiful lawn.

We set out on the last two hour stretch through weeds, more mosquitoes and, we can't forget, the rain. We were tired, drenched and itchy. When we reached the

meeting point in Cherry Hill, we discovered that no one was there. Finally, the parents arrived and took us to camp. When we arrived, we quickly set up and went to bed, knowing we had walked 16 km that day. Getting to sleep was easy.

As we set out on what we thought to be the second last day of our great journey, we thought of home: nice warm comfy beds, TV, food with taste. It was these thoughts that kept us going. Behind Dundee, we met a cheering section. Two dogs came from a house and started to walk with us. My favorite was the little dog that looked like a fuzz ball with legs, but the larger dog was nice, too.

A few hours later, after the dogs had left, we reached Morell and lay down under a large bush for lunch. After lunch ... we continued the walk in good nature and great scenery. When we reached the Morell bridge, we rested and took some pictures. After throwing some rocks in the water, we kept on walking.

With the sun beating down on us, the walking was difficult and we felt light-headed. With the hot sun came wasps, but it was so hot that the wasps were too drowsy to care about us. We also came upon some interesting wildlife, such as snakes and glimpses of a bald eagle soaring in the sky.

While watching these great wonders, we reached Midgell, where my mom was waiting. But we decided to finish the walk. It was only seven more kilometres. I changed my shoes to satisfy my dad, even though the others were more comfortable. In an hour, I had blisters the size of golf balls. By then, the sun was even hotter. As hallucinations and delirium set in, we started doing some strange things like pretending we were trappers hunting for food and things like that.

When we finally reached the camp, we were howling with joy and congratulating each other, for the Great Journey was over. We had walked 54 km in three days and we were very proud. I still am. X

Program Links

Citizen Gold 4a (possible)
Exploring Gold 1,2

Following in the Footsteps

by Scout Todd Blimkie

(An after-dinner address prepared on the spur-of-the-moment for the wind-up banquet at a joint district Arrowhead Badge course)

I thank the man in charge, upstairs, for creating a man such as Lord Baden-Powell, a man with a heart the size of a grown man's head and a never-quit attitude.

Without him, so many young minds around the world couldn't have been captured and moulded towards "Sharing, Sharing, Sharing", to "Do Your Best", to "Be Prepared", to "Challenge" and, of course, "Service".

Recognize these phrases? Or should I say "mottoes"? Of course you do. They are the words that keep so many kids like all of us here (and adults, too) like one big happy family.

From the sadly poor to the filthy rich (you're all equal with us), the Scouting movement has taken millions and millions of young people and turned them into young adults, whether through grueling punishment like cleaning Scouter Linda's cooking pots in the absolute dead of night, or going on more camp-outs and hikes than they ever dreamed possible.

If you ever meet someone who is skeptical about Scouts, just tell them to

talk to all the boys (and girls) like myself who have benefitted so much from Scouting, and see how they feel about it after they've had a run at you!

I've come straight up from Beavers, when I was really too small to figure out exactly what was going on, through Cubs, when I actually started to figure out the fun I could really have around here, to Sea Scouts, where I am now. And I've experienced more things than some lazy couch potatoes will do in a lifetime. I really don't know — and I bet I speak for all of us here — I really don't know where I'd be right now if Scouts had never started up.

I always feel very proud to wear the Scouting emblem and to be a part of it all — a great man's dream — following in the footsteps of many before me in the Boy Scouts of Canada.

Scout Todd Blimkie is a member of the Bayridge Sea Scout Troop, Kingston, Ont. Many thanks to Scouter Robert Leggett, who sent us a copy.

Scout Bobby Daley is a member of the East Royalty Troop who, in summer '91, walked the abandoned P.E.I. railway from Charlottetown to St. Peter's Bay.

1st ALCONA SEA SCOUTS BIRTH OF A SEA SCOUT TROOP

by Barry Mills

Alcona is a little town on the western shores of Lake Simcoe, about 85 km north of Toronto. Our port is Big Bay Point Resorts Marina, located on the southeast tip of Kempenfelt Bay.

In 1989, Skipper Ernie Marshall, a Scouter for 30 years, realized a need to provide a water program for young people in the area. The bonus of this program was that he would no longer have to hike through mosquito-infested bush. He contacted the Ontario Sailing Association "boom school" and arranged for a three-day school that turned out 25 young sailors.

This success behind him, in the fall of 1989 he focussed on securing equipment and support; with six boys from the school, the 1st Alcona Sea Scout Troop was born. At the end of the first year, the troop had a fleet of five boats, the flagship a 5.7 m Georgian.

Early in 1990, the troop eagerly accepted a donation of a 6.6 m Grampion. The challenge was to get it from its resting place in Deseronto, near Kingston, to its new home base on Lake Simcoe. They considered trucking the boat, but the cost was prohibitive. Besides, the chance to test her seaworthiness was too much of an adventure to pass up.

In May 1990, the skipper and two mates set out to sail and motor the vessel to her new berth through the Trent Canal system, beginning at Trenton and arriving at home port on Lake Simcoe seven days later.

Sailing was fantastic all summer 1990, and the Sea Scouts and their leaders enjoyed it at every opportunity. Skipper was in heaven; breezes in his hair without blisters on his feet. Then, during a major storm late one night in August, the boat broke away from her mooring and was washed up on a sandbar.

Rescue attempts to free her during the blow proved fruitless. The storm battered a large hole in her side. In our darkest hour, we looked down through 2 m of water to see our flagship at the bottom of Lake Simcoe.

The community came to our rescue. The Barrie Sea Cadets had a twin screw boat powerful enough to pull our vessel off the sandbar. The Lefroy Marina hauled it out of the water for us and placed it in a cradle. We transferred her to Sandy Cove Marina, which provided us an outdoor area to make repairs. Skipper put his superlative procurement abilities to work and arranged materials and labour.

Spring 1991 was to mark the rebirth of our flagship. Our summer plan was a 10 day trip from Lake Simcoe to Peterborough via the Trent Canal — five days down, a crew switch, and five days back. But the weather that spring did not cooperate. Temperatures were below normal for late May and early June, making it difficult to do the necessary fibreglass repairs.

Two weeks before departure date, the weather broke and the repair team began working day and night to ensure the boat would be ready to sail June 27. Last minute repairs continued June 26 as we transferred her to Big Bay Point Marina for launching. To be absolutely safe, we decided to delay the trip's start a day.

The final repairs were finished at midnight June 27, and we launched the boat under the stars and watchful eyes of her mates. Elated, they enjoyed a celebration feast in the moonlight beside the boat.

At 8:00 the next morning, five wide-eyed Sea Scouts and two tired leaders bid farewell to the send-off party on shore and set



The 1st Alcona Sea Scouts enter the Peterborough hydraulic lift lock during their 10-day journey on the Trent Canal in summer 1991.

sail through 90 cm waves. Four hours later, wet but undaunted, we dried off, ate lunch, and marked the moment with a Scouts' Own. The beginning of a dream was finally a reality. The rest of the trip was a great success.

Santa was very generous for Christmas 1991, when the troop received a lovely hand-made 4.8 m "Friendship Ketch" in perfect shape. Oh, where was the water!

This summer, we plan to use four boats to travel the balance of the Trent-Severn waterway to Georgian Bay. We will base ourselves at Beauoeil Island and day-trip to points of interest.

We are proud of our program. We now have 15 Sea Scouts and three leaders in the troop. Our focus is fun, and we have lots of it through camping, skin diving, fishing, sailing, skiing, and taking part in community and environmental activities.

Skipper no longer has blisters on his feet. But, he has learned that mosquitoes can find you, even on the water. A

Scouter Barry Mills is 2nd Mate with the 1st Alcona Sea Scouts, Kempenfelt Bay District, Ontario.

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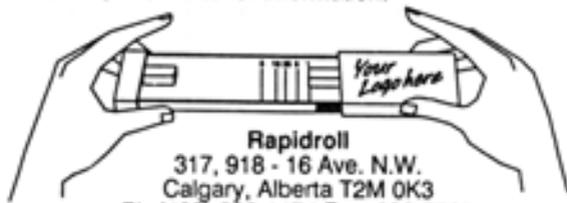
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The Year in Review

by Ben Kruser

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NO LONGER AVAILABLE

1980	March; Aug/Sept
1981	April; May; Aug/Sept
1982	March
1983	November; December
1984	January; February; December
1985	Aug/Sept
1986	March; October
1987	April; December
1988	March; April; Aug/Sept; October
1989	April; May; November; December
1990	February; November
1991	January; February; Aug/Sept

For Glen Hay, National Program Committee volunteer, and me, the outdoors continues to be a very busy and exciting part of program. As finances grow tighter, nonprofit outdoor organizations are collaborating on mutually beneficial projects to get better and more effective service delivery for the dollar. Here are a few examples of some of the joint projects we've been working on.

We applaud the efforts of the Canadian Recreational Canoeing Association (CRCA) to promote safe recreational canoeing and enhancement of our waterways. For many years, Scouting has been an active participant in the CRCA's Canadian Canoe Route Clean-up Project (Mar '92). Their *Kanawa* magazine often recognizes Scout canoeing activities, informing canoe enthusiasts of Scouting's contribution to promoting this form of outdoor recreation.

Our work with the Canadian Wildlife Federation (CWF) has led to greater recognition and improved access to their outdoor resources, such as Project WILD. Program Services has produced a Scouting/Project WILD cross-reference guide for the Project WILD handbook and has made this available to all councils.

This spring, the CWF made a generous donation of 5,000 Habitat 2000 kits, one for each group in Canada. These were sent to each council for distribution to the field. The kits, worth \$25,000, provide hands-on instructions and ideas for improving wildlife habitat.

Scouts Canada also participated in the opening ceremonies for National Wildlife Week. Our Chief Scout and CWF patron, the Governor General of Canada, was host.

Pitch-In Canada is another worthwhile organization whose efforts to reduce litter are strongly supported by Scouts Canada. Each year, Scout groups armed with Pitch-In Canada kits organize and participate in hundreds of environmental clean-up projects. We have contributed to the Pitch-In Canada Newsletter with points on cleaning

up safely and serve on their national advisory committee as well as several provincial advisory committees.

Liaison with federal government departments is an interesting process. We have had talks with Energy, Mines and Resources, the Canadian Wildlife Service, and Health and Welfare on various educational projects that, when developed, may

be useful to Scouting.

As you know, the concrete jungle has its share of disgusting mutant creatures. When one of these approaches Scouts Canada with a silver-lined opportunity that sounds too good to be true, we have been able to tap our outdoor network for the real story. Our liaison with the Canadian Nature Federation gives us access to more than 100 naturalist groups, and their local expertise and credibility have enabled us to make decisions that preserve Scouting's reputation and integrity. As they say in the jungle, "There's no free lunch!"

Within Scouting, we applaud the efforts of the National Outdoor

Network (Assistant Provincial Commissioners - Outdoors), provincial commissioners who handle outdoor issues, and regional outdoor commissioners. With their assistance, we have collected and shared training programs and newsletter examples of how various councils promote the outdoors. Please continue to share your ideas with us. We usually know of someone who is looking for your answer to a problem.

This September begins the assessment phase of the Outdoor Review. Watch for an article in a future issue. In the meantime, please give some thought to Scouting's outdoor programming. What areas could we do better in; what resources do you find useful or would you like to have? We'll be asking you for your opinion. We want to make the outdoor program practical and relevant to your needs now and in the future. ^

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 ideas with us.
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 a problem.

JAMBOREE

—a Scouter's Experience

by Wendy Carlson

It costs a lot of money, work, and time to go to a jamboree. Are you wondering if it's worth the effort to take your gang to CJ'93 next summer? See how you feel after reading Scouter Wendy's account of the B.C./Yukon Jamboree held at Camp Hughes near Prince George in 1991.

I first heard about PJ'91 about three years before it happened. I was a Cub leader at the time. My son was a Cub, and I anticipated the day he would be a Scout able to attend such an event.

In summer 1990 at a Wood Badge II, I talked to other Scouters about the jamboree to find out what was involved in sending a troop. It sounded exciting and, more than ever, I wanted to see the Mackenzie Scouts attend. It would be difficult. The troop only had a small amount of camping gear and no money to buy what they would need.

In September 1991, I started a parent committee to raise money for camping gear and part of the registration fee. Fourteen of the 16 Scouts wanted to go, but faced their first major obstacle; only one of their two leaders was able to attend. Someone asked me if I could fill in. What would the Scouts think of a female leader joining their troop? They said they didn't mind; they just wanted to go.

We kept the Scouts very busy through the winter and into spring. Bottle drives, building ornamental plywood snowmen, and community service came and went as they worked to make money. To prepare them for life at the jamboree, we were also teaching them to be responsible campers and to work as a patrol.

When we tallied the results of all the fundraising, we had enough to pay the last

part of the registration and to buy four six-person tents, camping gear, and materials for a trek cart to carry it all in. There was even enough left over for a chartered bus.

By the time the jamboree came, many plans had changed. A few Scouts were no longer interested, and family situations had changed to prevent others from going. Although the Troop Scouter and I were committed to the jamboree, we felt a little hesitant. Still, early one morning in July, eight Scouts and two leaders began their trip.

No one on the bus had an inkling of what the week would be like. I know that this leader was worried. Did anything we'd tried to teach the Scouts sink in? What would the food be like when 11-13 year olds were cooking it?

Upon arrival, we hastily put together our trek cart. We'd wheeled no farther than 15 m down the road when a Scout's foot tangled with a wheel and ripped the screws through the plywood. Teamwork came into play as the Scouts quickly emptied the cart and moved it out of the way.

Fortunately, our subcamp site was close to the road and we didn't have far to haul all our gear. But when we looked at it, we figured we'd be lucky to set up four tents, let alone the five we needed. We knew that the site had been only roughly cleared but weren't expecting that large fallen spruce tree in the middle of it.

Again, the Scouts cooperated as a team like never before and, a few hours later, we'd put up five tents and a large eating and kitchen area. By the end of the day, they had installed a great gateway.

During the first couple of days, the Scouts learned the benefits of working and moving as a patrol. It set the stage for an incredible week, and it was rewarding to hear things like, "Hey, where's Scouter Wendy? I thought we were a patrol!" I was equally proud when the Scouts suggested we walk in pairs when we moved from one activity to the next so that we would look sharp. When, occasionally, we stopped functioning as a patrol, it wasn't long before one of them said, "Hey, come on guys, we're a patrol. Let's get it together."

In our week at the jamboree, we learned what Scouting is all about. There were times when something didn't go as expected — a late meal, a program that wasn't interesting, a trip to Prince George Hospital when a cut needed stitches. All of these things showed our Scouts that, when things go wrong, attitude can make the difference between a great time and a miserable experience. As a result of our week, the patrol added one rule to their camp list: if something goes wrong or you're not having a good time, smile, turn it around, and you'll have the time of your life.

We did. Spending a week at the jamboree with this special group of people was the ultimate way to end a Scouting year — an experience I will never forget. \wedge

Scouter Wendy Carlson works with Scouts in Mackenzie, B.C.



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YOUTH POWER

Members of Scouting and Guiding in Odessa, Ont., received special crests at an Ernestown Township council meeting in thanks for regularly cleaning up four parks in their on-going "Adopt-a-Park" project (Nov '91). Between April and October 1991, they picked up 54 bags of garbage, 19 bags of recyclable glass and cans, a TV set, two tires, and various chunks of steel and wood, says Gordon Fenwick, 1st Odessa group committee chairman. ▶



Because the water was higher than their boots, the 2nd Channel Scouts, Port-aux-Basques, Nfld., rigged a rope to help them cross a stream on slippery rocks during an early spring hike in the mountains. Unfortunately, Scout Frederick didn't quite make it, but Scouter Tom Dodge says he lived up to his motto to "Be Prepared". He'd brought along a set of extra clothing to change into while his wet togs dried by the fire.



BECOMING AWARE:

Three colonies got together with the RCMP in St. Clair Beach, Ont., for a drug awareness presentation in November. The youngsters saw drug samples and drug culture paraphernalia, says Byron Fieger, Rusty with the 53rd Windsor Beavers. And they went home with special T-shirts, posters, and pamphlets. The one disappointment was the low turn-out of parents, despite lots of advance notification. Those who did accompany their Beavers "expressed gratitude and appreciation for the information made available to them and their sons", Scouter Fieger says.

EASY LIVING

The 4th Agincourt Cubs enjoy a cool drink on a hot day during summer camp at Camp Samac in Oshawa, Ont. The Cubs learned how to cook over a fire and tried some foil-cooking. They also took a trip back in time to test their strength and skill at native Canadian sports and archery, reports the leadership team led by Akela Eric Gambles. ▶



FUN & CHALLENGE



The 4th Abbotsford Special Venturer Challenge Company had a great time at the Abbotsford District Cub Camp in Chilliwack, B.C., last fall. The Special Venturers enjoy tackling many elements of the Cub program, says Scouter Mike Hammond.



LONG-DISTANCE MESSAGE:

Rovers at the Alberta Rover Round Table meeting in Calgary in May '91 send best wishes for a speedy recovery after a car accident to a New Zealand Rover met at the 8th World Rover Moot in Australia. The idea for the Get Well banner signed by everyone came from Rover Todd Beck, 1st Bow Valley Knights of Sicarius Dracowm, says 76th Knights of Logres Rover Marina Flemming.



OPENING CEREMONIES:

For the 61st Winnipeg Scouts, Man., it was the start of a great week at Tomahawk Camp, Wisconsin, with their host troop from the St. Paul Indianhead Council last July. The Canadian Scouts enjoyed meeting their counterparts from all over the U.S. and accomplished a lot of badge work during the week, the troop says. ▶



All of the fun activities at last June's Bathurst District Beaveree, N.B., proved just too much for Beaver Keith Jensen. For Rusty Dave Leeman, being a pillow for a tired child is just another part of the job, says Hawkeye Jeff Trites, Stilesville United Beaver Colony.

A Moot Point

by Karen Bradt

In times when there are so many activities competing for a square on the calendar, it is rewarding to see that some Rovers have put the priority on training. Young adults of today join Roving for many reasons, and it is the crew's duty to ensure that candidates truly understand the commitment they make. I believe Rovers do understand the meaning of those special words passed down from our founder. I discovered how well in 1991, at a Rover Basic weekend put on by the Rover Round Table for the Greater Toronto Region late last year.

November was a landmark month for many Rovers in Ontario as we gathered to rediscover what Roving is all about. First came several months of intense research from the library of past Rover and advisor manuals, books by B.-P., handbooks from other countries, and the wealth of knowledge held by training teams across the province. The results were compiled into a set of handouts and distributed to the teams.

It was a tough choice to gather a select cross-section of Rovers who would lead their peers in discussions of such topics as crew themes, activities, Scouts' Own, history of Roving, and uniforms. Those who agreed to participate showed skills in presentation and an incredible understanding of the content.

The Lions Club of the Toronto Beaches lent us the old Water Activities Centre at no charge for two days of exploration of Roving. The event had almost 30 topics and we welcomed 50 participants on the first evening. We introduced the training team and sessions began — Scouting's aim and principles; promise, law, and motto; structure of the Scouting organization; the history of Roving. A different team member presented each section.

Over the weekend, we moved to Rover program emphases; themes and methods of operation; roles of officers and advisors; responsibilities of members; and the traditional path a Rover can take. B.-P. used the knighthood theme as a ceremonial and program base for Rovers. Some crews

today follow fully or partly in that tradition, using titles of page, squire, and knight to denote the stage a person is at in his or her Roving career.

We also looked at stages as adults develop, continue to explore, mature, and change. We touched on the importance of ceremonies and what they can mean, the award schemes and how to participate, and the vast opportunities for choice Roving offers not only to the crew but the individual Rover.

The Rovers were full of questions and ideas, which made being part of the training team demanding and satisfying. They came from all over the province to a moot that focused and gave new dimension and even some guidance to the Rover program.

In late March, another Rover Basic course was held near Niagara Falls. Roving has begun a new era in this country. Today's young adults continue to spread the word about the friendship, family, adventure, learning, and sharing offered by this senior section of Scouting. I hope to see more of these training sessions appear across this province and across the nation, and to hear about them in the upcoming issues of the **Leader**.[^]



Intense concentration during Greater Toronto Region's "Rover Basic".

Karen Bradt is advisor with the 1st Centenary Imperial Dragon Rover Crew, Toronto, Ontario.

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Aids to Scoutmastership

by Bob Bareham

The World Brotherhood edition of *Aids to Scoutmastership* continues to be produced and made available by Scouts Canada because it sets out clearly, in the founder's own words, the principles, philosophy, and basic program ideas underlying Scouting.

Shortly before World War I, Baden-Powell designed and led a course for Scoutmasters. To prepare himself, he wrote a series of notes on training boys through Scouting. In 1920, he combined these notes with other experiences, and *Aids to Scoutmastership* was published.

B.-P. continued to review his material and kept it up-to-date until 1944. While the style, terminology, and some of the detailed content in the World Brotherhood edition may be dated, the principles, basic program, and B.-P.'s philosophy are as valid and as important today as they ever have been.

"A man carries out suggestions the more wholeheartedly when he understands their aim," B.-P. says in the foreword. We believe the book can help you better understand the incredible world of Scouting. It's available at all Scout Shops and dealers (#25-451).

LORD, I WANT TO TELL YOU SOMETHING: This book for young readers is a recent addition to the line of resources available through Supply Services. Author Chris Jones encourages youngsters to make up their own prayers. "After all, you know best what you want to say," he writes.

Lord I Want to Tell You Something offers some very helpful suggestions to start them off. Scouters will also find this 60 page book (#20-512) of value, and may wish to tell young members and their parents about it.

Add *Thoughts for Sharing* (#20-509), *Let's Celebrate* (#25-202), and *The Best of the Leader Cut-out Pages* (#20-510) to your resource library, and you will have four fine sources of prayers, Scouter's 5 ideas, and other material to help with your young members' spiritual development.

NEW CATALOGUE: The official Scouts Canada catalogue for 1992/93, effective in July 1992, will be arriving at Scout offices, Shops, and dealers very soon. Over the years, we have greatly appreciated the efforts leaders make to ensure that each and every member of Scouting receives a catalogue. We thank you for your continued cooperation and support of Shops and dealers across the country.

WHAT'S NEW? Here's a sampling of just some of the new products, books, badges, and crests Supply Services will introduce this year.

- Troop Resource Book, Cat. #20-470
 - Buddhist Religion in Life Emblem, Cat. #01-500
 - A good quality line of folding lock-back knives
 - More trophies and award plaques you can customize
 - Top quality Scout watches for men and women
 - CJ'93 pre-jamboree souvenir items and collectibles
- And much, much more!

Watch future columns for further information. X



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MUSEUM OF CANADIAN SCOUTING

by Bob Milks

I last wrote about the work we were doing to organize and catalogue the collection of the Museum of Canadian Scouting in June 1990. Well, we have more than 10,000 artifacts listed now, and the job is not yet done.

We've recorded the bulk of these artifacts in a database program that lets us sort and print lists of artifacts under four categories; registration number, category (badge, mug, etc.), location (case number, hall or room), and date of issue. It all makes it easier to plan displays and locate the appropriate artifacts for them.

To register artifacts, we use a coding system introduced to us by Museology students from Algonquin College. The simple set of eight numbers has been able to handle all the material we could register in a year. If we've numbered an artifact 92-023-002, we know from the "92" that we received it in 1992; it came from the 23rd donor in 1992 (023); and it was the second item we registered from that donor (002). We enter the number in our registration books, listing where possible the name, address and phone number of the donor. We enter the same set of numbers into the computer, but without information about the donor.

To identify the location of an artifact, we use a one-letter four-number code. On item C0503, for example, the "C" indicates it is in a display case, "05" identifies the case, and "03" indicates the shelf on which we'll find the artifact. The only problem here is, whenever we move an artifact, we must change the locator number in the register and on the computer.

With more than 10,000 artifacts and room to display only 20% of them, we faced a storage problem. This year, we bought 50 large plastic boxes with snug-

fitting lids. Badges go in one box, china in another, and so on. Because the boxes stack well, we can fit them on two pallets and store them in the warehouse. Before now, artifacts were scattered all over the building, and we had great problems finding them when we wanted them.

INNOVATIONS

For the first time, we have changed all of the displays in the national office. Our new approach is to mount displays based on collections — currently mugs and woggles. We also have a display called *Baden-Powell, Artist, Author and Sculptor*, which includes many of the sketches and paintings from our collection.

Some of the museum displays will be relatively permanent, while others will change every six months or so. One, based



Some displays will be relatively permanent; others will change every six months or so.

on coming events and new items from Supply Services, could change about every six weeks.

In the next year or two, we hope to set up a *Wall of International Scouting* featuring a colour transparency, badge, and information on every Scouting country in the world. Accumulating this material will take time.

Like all libraries and archives, we find that some of the paper in our older documents is beginning to deteriorate because of its acidity. Thanks to a grant, we were able to buy a microfilm camera and now are busy filming early magazines, books, reports, and other records. It costs about \$500 to de-acidify a book, but we can record the contents of five books for less than \$15. In the next year or two, we hope to obtain a printer/reader to complete our operation and make films available in a resource centre for researchers.

OUR THANKS

Each year, the Museum of Canadian Scouting is fortunate to have the services of one or more students from the Museology course at Algonquin College. Hands-on experience is part of their curriculum, and we benefit from their knowledge and skills as well as the many hours they devote to such work as registration and designing displays.

The *Bytown B.-P. Guild* performs a double service in the museum. Each year, they clean the cases. They also act as tour guides for groups who visit at night and on weekends. Thank you for a job well done! ^

Bob Milks is coordinator of the Museum of Canadian Scouting located in the Scouts Canada National Office, Ottawa, Ontario.



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CANADIAN GUIDER

National Resource Centre

by Colin Wallace

There are 43,974 Scouters registered in Scouts Canada: 43,973 of them keep vast files of fantastic ideas they've tried or plan to try. (Instead of keeping files, one Scouter in Saskatchewan just teaches a pet parrot to memorize and recite key items. Weird but effective.)

But how does a new Scouter gain access to those vast files of information? How can new Scouters tap into that well of knowledge and experience? How can they get help to run successful programs?

Sure, local Service Scouters struggle valiantly to distribute the wealth of their wisdom through Scouter's Clubs, section visits, mentoring sessions, phone calls, section exchanges, and area events. But exciting, interesting, and challenging section programs need new ideas every week! And, sometimes, the service teams just can't keep up with the demand.

It occurred to me, however, that in this electronic age of computers and instant mail, it might be possible to supplement district and regional efforts with a central national database of topical information immediately available to subscribers: a kind of food-for-thought-bank for Scouters hungry for ideas and information. Here's how it might operate.

At least once a year, as part of their continuing effort to fulfil their promise to support Scouting's aim, Scouters would donate topical material to a central repository for inclusion in a national database.

The info-donation needn't be a big chore. Groups could donate material as part of their annual rechartering process. Gilwell Clubs could include the info-donations in their traditional rituals. And maybe Scouter's Clubs could make info-donations a regular feature of their monthly agendas. An info-donation could be on any topic from budgets to boots, stoves to starwork, sponsors to spirituality. Donors would be limited only by their imagination and good taste.

Meanwhile, back at the food-for-thought-bank, the central repository staff would compile donated material into a draft bulletin ready for editing. And the edited draft would be regularly published and distributed to all registered Scouters — say 10 times a year — at low, low prices.

The bulletin would also provide a forum where Scouters could request specific information about topics they'd like to explore. And the forum would let them discuss burning issues. We'd throw in some pertinent advertising to help defray operating costs. And, to make sure that subscribers didn't miss a thing, we'd publish all the best material from the monthly bulletins in a book every year or so.

What a great scheme, eh?

"Wait a minute!" I hear you say. "We don't need to set up another national bureaucracy to share topical information among Scouters!"

"We could achieve the same results by sending useful information to **the Leader** for possible publication!" you say.

"Old Scouters could share their experiences with new Scouters through **the Leader** and keep Scouting dynamic and vital!"

"New Scouters could share their ideas with old Scouters through **the Leader** and keep Scouting dynamic and vital!"

You're exactly right.

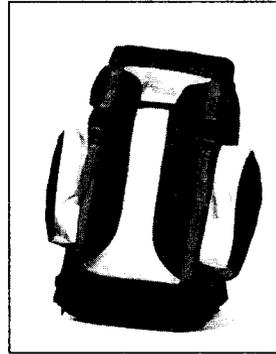
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OUTDOOR ST-EX

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The Outdoors — It's a Wonderful Life

by Warren McMeekin

The Outdoors should be thought of in its broadest sense, projecting the total use of the outdoors. It is more than camping, large scale events, and high adventure activities such as white water rafting, mountain climbing, and wilderness canoeing.

"It also reflects shorter-term activities such as theme walks, rambles and hikes, outdoor games and ceremonies, as well as indoor sessions such as nature study, which contribute to youths' preparedness to cope with outdoor activities.

"The outdoors is available in both urban and rural settings with programs that bring young people into contact with the available natural environment."

(From the video The Outdoors — It's a Wonderful Life and A Way to Go, the final report of the National Outdoor Review.)

Coming up in time for fall start-up, the next in the series of training videos is on planning outdoor activities, a topic crucial to our existence as an outdoors oriented organization.

In the early stages of preparing for this video, we discussed whether we would include all sorts of program ideas or simply deal with the process of planning outdoor activities. In the end, we decided it would be best to focus on the planning process in

the video and to create, as part of a booklet, a list of topics and suggested resource books to lead you to program ideas.

The video deals with five basic steps in planning outdoor activities.

- 1. Purpose:** Design an activity that tests members' skills and leads to personal development.
- 2. Site:** Choose an appropriate one for your members and the activity.
- 3. Program:** Build a program around a theme. Include the members in the planning.
- 4. Leadership:** Plan to have at least two leaders involved. This is important for emergency purposes and to ensure you'll have adult company.
- 5. Physical Arrangements:** Organize drop-off points, health and safety practices, food. (Your group committee can help here.)

These five basic steps will help ensure your outdoor activities will be successful. It is very important to take the time to look at what you are doing. Remember, your activity or event will be only as good as your planning, so do it carefully.

RELIGION-IN-LIFE UPDATES

Many program updates will be included in the next printing of a number of Religion-in-Life pamphlets. Of particular note are the Adult Religion-in-Life requirements. Five programs are now established and one other is soon to be approved.

The United Church, Lutheran Church, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Anglican Church, and Orthodox Church now offer adult programs. An adult program for the Jewish faith is in the final stages of development.

The United Church, Anglican Church, and Orthodox Church are planning further updates to their youth requirements, too. And we thank the United Pentecostal Church for sending their requirements for the Religion-in-Life emblem. They will be available to you in September. ^



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A Scouter

A Scouter is a person who, week after week, month after month, provides fun, adventure, challenge, and learning for our active children;

A Scouter hurries home, eats a quick meal, puts on uniform while answering the phone five times, and arrives smiling to meet the youngsters, all in 30 minutes;

A Scouter gives up weekends and home comforts to teach children about woodcraft, nature, and camaraderie;

A Scouter is somebody who can put up a tent in the rain and dark, find lost boots, dry wet bedding, handle asthma, blisters, homesickness, and children's excitement on four hours sleep — and go home talking about the next camp;

A Scouter is a person who waits in the cold with the last kid, whose parent forgot the time;

A Scouter attends meetings to learn and plan, has an expandable basement and a head full of ideas;

A Scouter can lead a song, teach a skill, play a game, perform a ceremony, listen to a child, and say a prayer;

A Scouter willingly fills the gap so that a child will not be let down;

A Scouter is committed, caring, hardworking, sturdy, strong, reliable — with a wealth of knowledge, a store of skills, and a heart of gold;

A Scouter gets little spoken thanks, but knows the spirit is passed on.

— Jean Buydens, Victoria, B.C.

Scouter's 5 Minutes, p.687

J/J'92

Catch the Cow (& Other Wide Games)

Try this one with Cubs after dark at camp. Organize teams in sixes. Give the cow — a leader, Kim, or willing Cub — a tin filled with pebbles to rattle and send "Bossie" rattling off. Cubs listen for Bossie's "bell" and try to locate the cow to get points for their six.

The Alien Game (Cubs)

Hide two or three appropriately costumed aliens (leaders, parents, Scouts) in a large bushy area. Each alien guards a cache of golden shells.

Cubs try to find alien locations and snatch a shell. If aliens catch them, they put them in a pen and give them a coded message. When captured Cubs successfully decode the message so that they can give the aliens the password, they are rewarded one golden shell and set free.

The Wire Game (Scouts)

Play at night in a bushy area. Scatter lots of 20 cm lengths of string throughout the play area.

Organize the troop into two groups of resistance fighters whose bases are located at either end of the play area. Communications between the bases have been severed. The resistance fighters must find bits of wire (the string) and join them together to connect the bases so that they can resume transmissions. Of course, six or seven security guards are patrolling the area, so the resistance fighters must accomplish the task without being caught.

Resistance fighters carry a drinking straw (life), which they must surrender to any guard who spots them. A fighter without a life must return to base for another straw before resuming the search for wire or working on connecting the pieces.

Games, p.301

J/J'92

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Fill the Bucket (Cubs)

Here's a great evening game on a warm night at camp where you have some trees and undergrowth cover. Organize Cubs in two teams, each with a base and a source of water (a barrel, for example). Give each Cub a plastic mug.

Place half a dozen buckets in the centre of the playing area. Using mugs only, Cub teams try to get as much water as possible from their bases into the buckets.

Guards (leaders, Scouts, Venturers) patrol the area at regular intervals. If a guard spots anybody flitting among the trees or skulking in the underbrush and can name the culprit, the named Cub must empty his or her mug and return to base for a refill.

The guards also shift bucket locations from time to time, so that teams need to search for the buckets, observe the guards to try to determine their patrol patterns and catch them moving the buckets, and organize themselves to get as much water as possible into the buckets.

With thanks to Australian Scout and Scouting (UK) magazines.

Games, p.302

If I had to Live My Life Over

If I had to live my life over again,
I'd try to make more mistakes next time.
I would relax, I would limber up, I would be sillier than I have been this trip.
I know of very few things I would take seriously. I would take more trips. I would be crazier. I would climb mountains, swim more rivers, and watch more sunsets.
I would do more walking and looking.
I would eat more ice cream and less beans.
I would have more actual troubles and fewer imaginary ones...
I've been one of those people who never go anywhere without a thermometer, a hot-water bottle, a gargle, a raincoat, aspirin, and a parachute.
If I had to do it over again, I'd go places, do things, and travel lighter than I have.
If I had my life to live over, I would start barefooted earlier in the spring and stay that way later in the fall.
I would play hockey more. I wouldn't make such good grades, except by accident.
I would ride on more merry-go-rounds.
I'd pick more daisies.
— by an anonymous friar in a Nebraska monastery, quoted in *Three Steps Forward, Two Steps Back*, by Charles Swindoll, Thomas Nelson Publishing, Nashville 1987. Thanks to Scouter G. Mulder, Wainfleet, Ont.

Scouting will add years to your life and life to your years.

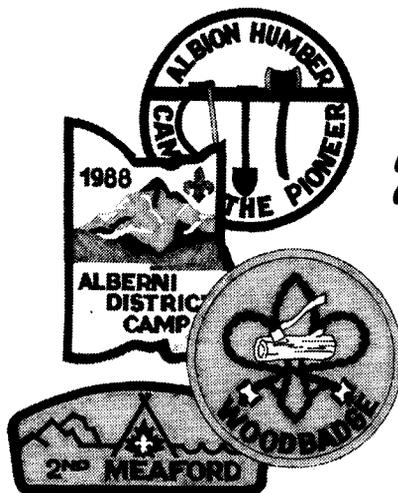
Scouter's 5 Minutes, p.688



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THE HONOURS & AWARDS PROCESS

by Rob Stewart

When you're at a meeting listening to a Scouter report on the recent event or activity he or she organized, have you ever found yourself wondering if this Scouter has been recognized for so much excellent work? Have you ever been around as someone reads out a letter from the provincial or national commissioner to inform a Scouter that he or she is to be recognized for outstanding service to Scouting?

The first question is often the initial reaction; the second describes what can result from that reaction. Many Scouters find it quite easy to identify someone they feel deserves recognition. What they see as difficult is the process involved in making sure it happens.

Scouting has a formal process for service awards, outstanding service awards, gallantry awards, meritorious conduct awards, and the Jack Cornwell Decoration. Over the next few issues, I'll talk about the process for each. I hope it will help you feel more comfortable about taking action to ensure that all Scouting members who should be recognized within our awards system are recognized.

Remember also that there are lots of informal forms of recognition we can (and should) use at any time. First and easiest is simply to say "Thank You" to people who help in any way. We also have a variety of plaques and appreciation certificates you can present at any event, banquet, or other occasion that offers an opportunity to recognize someone for a job well done.

LONG AND FAITHFUL SERVICE

Service to Scouting is recognized annually with a silver emblem for each year and a gold emblem for each five year period. Given the advances in office automation, most of us now can monitor service awards through computer registration information. In councils without a data bank on each Scouter, a quick check of membership forms will identify years of service. No Scouter should have to ask for his or her service pin. It's important to have someone regularly identify Scouters eligible for service awards.

When does the eligibility period for service awards begin? According to *By-*

law, Policies, and Procedures, an adult is a person 18 years of age or older. The Honours and Awards Committee uses this definition to determine the start point of eligibility for long service awards in Scouting.

OUTSTANDING SERVICE

In the eyes of most Scouters, perhaps the most difficult award application process is for outstanding service to Scouting. Let's take a step-by-step approach that should eliminate perceived problems.

Step 1: Identify the Scouter you feel deserves recognition. If you believe a person should be considered for an outstanding service award, initiate the process. Contact your local Honours and Awards Committee to see if someone has already started an application. If not, volunteer to help.

Who is responsible for initiating awards? In many councils, it is seen as the role of the Honours and Awards Committee; *in fact, anyone can initiate an award.*

Step 2: Gather Information

- Check with your Scout office to see if the Scouter has received recognition in the past.
- Refer to the information normally listed on the Form 3.
- Contact other Scouters who know or have worked with the nominee to get their input.
- Keep the application a secret from the nominee.
- If the person has previously received an award, only describe service *since* that time.
- Include only service to Scouting, not to other organizations, churches, civic committees, etc.
- Sit down in a quiet place and list all the information you have gathered.
- Obtain a copy of the application form.

Gathering information can be time-consuming, but you want to make sure you have reviewed all areas of the nominee's service. The more time and effort you put

into this step, the more accurate your picture of the nominee's impact on Scouting will be.

Step 3: Identify outstanding service. Having listed the information, try to zero in on what makes this nominee deserving of an award. Consider each point separately and ask yourself if it indicates outstanding service.

What is considered outstanding service? Douglas Jennings, chairman of the National Honours and Awards Committee, says there is no definitive checklist. In reviewing each award application, the committee looks for the types of things that indicate actions beyond what would be considered the average role and responsibility of the nominee's position.

Some examples:

- service to Scouting outside their own group or district
- training taken and given
- ability to get others involved
- creative ideas or activities used or introduced
- involvement with jamborees; local, provincial, national
- sacrifice of holidays for camps and training, etc.
- networking with other sections, groups, councils
- displayed dependability, loyalty, and supportiveness

There are probably dozens of other activities and characteristics that qualify as outstanding service. The first and most important is your belief that your nominee deserves recognition.

Step 4: Describe the points identified in Step 3. Develop a statement that clearly explains each of the points you have listed. Some typical questions to ask yourself may be: What was done? When was it done? How was it done? Who else was involved? What was the result? How did Scouting benefit? What is happening now (is there a legacy)? ^

Next Month: Some general pointers and a look at the Meritorious Conduct, Gallantry, and Jack Cornwell awards.

We'll All be Old Wolves One Day

A faithful old Scouter I know was treated with shameful indignity recently because he didn't have a new uniform or current badge insignia and held some old-fashioned ideas about how things ought to be done. Yet, one would be hard-pressed to find anyone more dedicated and loyal to Scouting.

Some of us who have been in Scouting for many years are quicker to respond to change. Others are perhaps still living earlier times when Scouting gave their lives meaning and purpose during the depression and war years. They are gold mines of history, information, tradition, and purpose who need to be affirmed, not cut down. We should be celebrating their heritage and dedication.

I appeal to those who are prone to making judgmental comments. You, too, will be old one day. Will you love Scouting enough to still be a part of it? How will you feel when someone younger tells you your badges are all wrong and you cannot wear this or that anymore? I daresay that, if B.-P. himself walked into a meeting, some Scouters would criticize him for incorrect appearance!

Rather than press conformity and correctness, why not invite your Old Wolves to sit and tell their stories? We might gain the care and compassion today's world seems to lack.

— Rev. Lawrence King, 1st Blenheim Scouts, Ont.

A LONGER ROPE

Here are some thoughts to add to Gary Miller's use of the acronym ROPE to explain the relationship between trainer and trainee (*For Volunteers, Mar'92*). The acronym I know is ROPES, with the "S" denoting the "Sensitivity" trainers must have to trainees and their needs.

For our Francophone readers, the acronym is REPOS: Responsabilité, Expérimentation, Participation, Ouverture, et Sensibilité.

— Peter Torunski, Training Consultant, Stittsville, Ont.

HELP FOR UNIFORM PROBLEMS

For Scouters who wear more than one hat, so to speak, I have developed a modification to ease the hat badge problem. I snapped off the clips of the badges, bought navy blue Velcro, and glued on the hook part using a glue gun. I sewed the rug part on the beret over the holes. It works very well, and you can carry all the hat badges you need in your pocket for quick changes.

I also find the loop on the sash inconvenient; you have to unbutton the epaulette to put on the sash and take it off. When it comes off, it pulls off the section slide with it. So, I bought khaki Velcro. The Scouts sewed one piece on the sash and one on the epaulette. Now, a quick pull and it's off; a quick press and it's on.

— Douglas Alpen (Bruno), ADC Training, Prince Rupert District, B.C.

SCOUTER ECHO

Did you know that the electronic BBS (bulletin board system) has a message area Scouters can access? Through our computers, we can communicate with members of Scouting from Vancouver, B.C., to St. John's, Nfld.; Yellowknife, NWT, to Orlando, Florida; and further afield still to the United Kingdom and Australia.

All you need is a PC communication program, a modem, and a BBS "sysop" — a person with a computer hooked into the Fidonet system (a mature message system set up for special interest groups). Once you're set up, you can communicate with each other without even paying Ma Bell long distance charges.

On Scouter Echo, the message area for Scouters, I am right now chatting to John Meed in Regina and Peter Van Houten in Beaverton, Oregon, about the pros and cons of propane versus white gas. Another recent discussion explored ways that Scouting can work more effectively with our growing numbers of single parent families.

As of March 30, a new message area called "Scouting Echo" was set up for youth members. Here is where they can sound off and get new ideas for their section. For further information, contact *Don Poaps, 468 Lorne St., Apt. 403, Burlington, Ont. L7R 2T4*.

STAMPS FOR THE CGDB

The stamp collecting project suggested in the Dec'91 *Sharing* column (*Born to Lead*) was directed to Beavers but caught on quickly at The Montreal Association for the Blind. As a volunteer at the association, I can vouch, first-hand, how wonderful the guide dogs are, so I shared the article. It was not long before many other volunteers, staff members, and friends began to collect used postage stamps, which are sent every week to the Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind in Manotick.

One of the volunteers even contacted local radio station CJAD, and we may receive a great number of used stamps from the station's daily mail. We hope that other sections, besides Beavers, have taken up this worthwhile project.

— Jean Howe, Montreal, Que.

Ed's Note: According to the CGDB, many groups heard the call and have become used stamp collectors, among them: the 1st North Gower Beavers (*Swap Shop, p.12*); 1st Cochrane Beavers; 653rd Toronto Beavers; 1st Forest Glen C Beavers, Mississauga; 4th Orleans Guide Company; 24th Guelph Girl Guides, Ont; Cedar Park Beavers; Bonnyville Beavers; Woodbine 205 Beavers, Calgary, Alta.; and 1st Lantz Guides and Brownies, N.S.

Elizabeth Galway, a member of the CGDB volunteer stamp collection group, also thanks Geraldine Moreau, Coldwater, Ont., and for "many envelopes full of stamps", Jean Howe of Montreal. Keep up the great work! Perhaps your efforts will encourage other groups to become stamp collectors, too. X



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Quizzical Canada by Colin Wallace

Here are a couple of quick activity ideas to tuck into your bag for camp. They may come in handy as spare time activities, quiet-time or rainy day competitions, or sit-down challenges at your Scouting display in the park on July 1. Besides the quiz sheets and pencils, you need a Canadian atlas or Canadian road maps.

Scouting in Canada

Place names throughout Canada reflect the history and heritage of our diverse population. And some place names, perhaps unwittingly, reflect the heritage of Scouting.

For example, Mafeking, Man., was likely named after Baden-Powell's famous Seige of Mafeking. Byng Inlet was named for His Excellency Baron Byng of Vimy, our fourth Chief Scout of Canada. Leader, Sask., might be named for our national Scouting magazine, and Fort Good Hope, NWT, might describe the eternal optimism of our Scouters.

You have 10 minutes to search a Canadian atlas for as many place names as you can link, however tenuously, to Canadian Scouting. Be prepared to explain your choices.

Where's That?

Give each team a Canadian road map or atlas and challenge teams to find a Canadian town or city with each of the following items in its name. Teams may use a town or city name only once, but may collect as many names as they can find for each item. Ask them to be prepared to justify their choices.

1. a colour
2. a direction
3. an animal
4. a man's first name
5. a woman's first name
6. an indication of time
7. an article of clothing
8. an architectural item
9. a weather condition
10. a bird
11. a tree
12. a water course
13. a foreign country or nationality
14. a battle
15. an anatomical feature
16. a saint
17. an internationally famous person
18. an aristocratic title

19. a number
20. a fish

Sample Answers

1. Whitehorse, Y.T.; Vermilion, Alta.
2. North Bay, Ont.; Eastman, Que.
3. Moose Jaw, Sask.; Beaverlodge, Alta.
4. Peterborough, Ont.; Bay Roberts, Nfld.
5. Victoria, B.C.; Charlottetown, P.E.I.
6. Newmarket, Ont.; Youngstown, Alta.
7. Medicine Hat, Alta.; Cap Chat, Que.
8. Lethbridge, Alta.; Stonewall, Man.
9. Thunder Bay; Rainy River, Ont.
10. Gander, Nfld.; Swan River, Man.
11. Oakville, Ont.; Pine Point, N.W.T.
12. Maple Creek, Sask.;
Cypress River, Man.
13. Scotland, Ont.; Welshpool, N.B.
14. Waterloo; Marathon, Ont.
15. Dartmouth, N.S.; Norris Arm, Nfld.
16. Saint John, N.B.; St. Hilaire, Que.
17. Churchill, Man.; Burns Lake, B.C.
18. Prince Albert, Sask.; Czar, Alta.
19. Three Hills, Alta.; Five Islands, N.S.
20. Salmon Arm, B.C.; Trout River, Nfld.

Scouter Colin Wallace is ARC (Training) in Greater Toronto Region, Ont. X



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