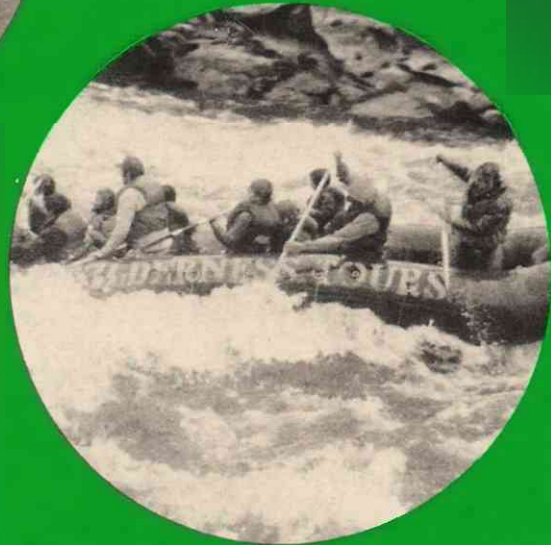
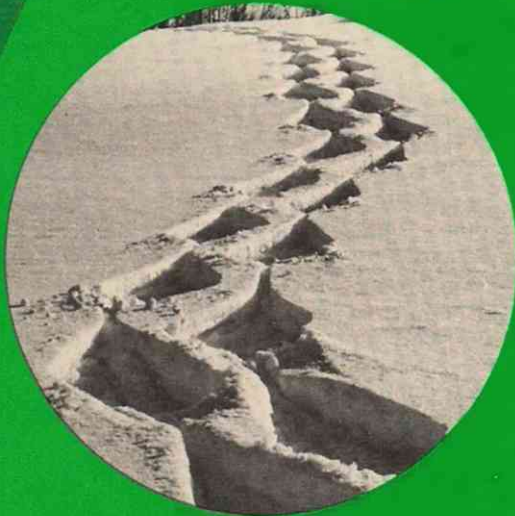


DECEMBER 1977, VOLUME 8, NUMBER 4

# the **Leader**



*Season's Greetings*

# THANK YOU AGAIN FOR HELPING US GROW

by Pat Horan, Director Sponsor Relations

In *The Leader* of April 1977, we wrote to thank you for helping us grow during 1976. Thanks to your continuing support, 1977 turns out to be another good year for Scouting.

Membership increased again by some 14,426 members or a 5.7% increase over 1976, which in turn was a 4.1% increase over 1975. These members are primarily Beavers and leaders but Venturers also gained and the decline in Cubs and Rovers dropped sharply but it did increase slightly in Scouts.

The Atlantic provinces went against the national trend. Nova Scotia, for example, had increases in all programs including leaders, while New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island increased in all but Rovers, and Newfoundland increased in all but Venturers.

In addition, Alberta had increases in Cubs and Venturers; Alberta, Ontario, Maple Leaf and Northwest Territories had increases in Venturers and Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Maple Leaf and British Columbia/Yukon had increases in Rovers. It would seem then that boys and youth are attracted to Scouting if and when the opportunity is provided.

The 7.4% increase in leaders is slightly below the 9.1% increase in 1976 which, in turn, was the largest increase in the last ten years. Here too, it seems as if parents and the adult community are willing to work with us to serve the needs of youth in their community — if and when we get our message to them.

Our partner groups continue to provide, and increase, their support: The census returns show the following partners increased the number of Scout groups operating under their auspices: *Elks, Fire Departments, Industrial/Commercial, Kiwanis, Lions* (by a startling 12%), *"Mormons", Optimist, Parent Groups, Presbyterians, Public Schools, Rotary, Salvation Army and Scout Councils.*

In addition, *Lutherans* maintained the same number of groups from 1976 and the following declined slightly in numbers: *Baptists, Canadian Armed Forces, Home and School, Kinsmen, Knights of Columbus, Legion and Roman Catholic.*

At the National Partners Conference (see report in *The Leader* of November 1977) the delegates from both church and community groups emphasized the necessity to get to and serve the needs of their local groups. A number of them outlined action steps to assist this process. Some examples are:

- the development of Religion in Life programs for the

*Canadian Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches and the Islamic Foundation.*

- the development of a pamphlet "*Elks and Scouting*" for use by local lodges.
- the production of a pamphlet by *Kiwanis International* for use by local clubs.
- the publication of a "Kit on Scouting" and a filmstrip "*Partners in Action*" by the *National Advisory Committee on Scouting in the United Church* for use by local congregations.
- the endorsement and greater promotion of the "Religion in Life Program" film slide series.
- endorsement of Scouting as a youth program to be promoted for and by *Optimist International.*
- the publication of a Resource Manual on the Religion in Life program by the *Baptist Federation of Canada.*
- the production of a "Wayfarers" kit on Scouting by the Toronto (Anglican) *Bishop's Task Force on Scouting.*
- publication of articles on Scouting in a number of partner magazines.

Some of the above publications/items are now available from your council office, the partner organization office or National Scout Office.

It is good to note the increase in support by locally based community groups, by parents and by public schools. The growth of Beavering reflects the support of families and young parents. "Small-town" Canada seems to be playing a great role as the pattern of growth is on that side of our society rather than in the large metropolitan areas. We would like to do more in these latter areas as there is a real challenge there for leadership development, for assistance to immigrant groups, for worthwhile community development projects.

But we are not unhappy. Scouting is taking a rightful role. The impact of CJ'77 and perhaps the influence of the World Scout Conference held in Montreal in July will likely herald good results for 1978.

So once again, we thank you all for your support. For members who bring their friends to Scouting; for leaders who have the fun of working with boys and leaders who work with, and inspire, other leaders; for partner groups and their youth committees who "open the door" to Scouting for their boys; for district, regional and national Scout and partner personnel who actively encourage and support the work at the section level.

Thank you AGAIN for helping us grow. And let us share ideas on ways and means to provide Scouting to more boys in your communities. X

# the leader

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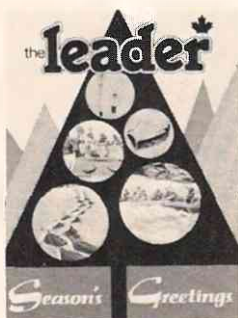
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Editor's Notebook

**JAMES F. MACKIE,**  
Editor

**BETTY RAPKINS**  
Assistant Editor

**MICHEL PLANT,**  
Editorial and Advertising



December is traditionally the month for the giving of gifts and thinking of others, so we have tried to plan this issue so that there is something for every reader. Your support throughout '77 has been most appreciated and those of us working on **The Leader** send you our sincere wishes for a joyous holiday season and health and happiness in the New Year.

# supply services news

by Bill Johnson

It is my privilege at this time to wish, on behalf of all the staff at Supply Services in Ottawa, a most joyous Christmas and happy and prosperous New Year to all readers of **The Leader** magazine. Our association with brother Scouts and Scouters in 1977 has been a happy one and we look forward to another rewarding and exciting year in 1978.

★

By the time you read this we should be all out of **1978 calendars**. Nearly 440,000 shipped out across Canada for another record-breaking year. Badly needed group operating funds will be bolstered by nearly \$200,000.00. Add to this the tremendous P.R. created by having our calendar on the walls of over 400,000 homes and offices and you would have to agree that it is a most worthwhile project.

★

The heavy fall crunch is just about over. Back order problems are disappearing, deliveries are moving much smoother and the salesmen and buyers are talking to each other again. Dealers, Scout shops and Supply Services were all caught short by **the busiest fall season in our history**. Even the most optimistic buying proved to be too little.

We extend our most sincere apologies for any problems our membership encountered in not being able to obtain supplies. Our outlets did their job and we thank them for their patience.

★

We welcome a **new Scout shop** to our family. **Peterborough District** have opened a shop in Peterborough Square, next to Eaton's. They fill a real void in that area and we know they are anxious to serve you.

★

IDEA!

How about a copy of **Let's Celebrate** as a special Christmas gift from your section, to your group chaplain or the minister of your church. Cat. no. 20-357, \$1.75. Available from all Scout outlets. X

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ISSN 0036-9462



by Keith Hannett

In the early 1960's whitewater rafting became popular in the United States when the Kennedy family tackled the waters of the muddy Colorado. In western Canada rubber rafting has been done on the Fraser River for many years. Now, in eastern Canada, the mighty rapids of the Ottawa River, near Pembroke, Ontario, provide a sensational experience in whitewater rafting. The rapids on this six-mile length of the Ottawa are *wild*. They are formed by the huge volume of water that is compressed into a narrow channel by the rugged rock walls. Rock faults are found in this channel, resulting in dramatic drops, at the bottom of which are boiling holes topped by mighty hydraulics, and followed by long trains of standing waves. Only the awesome Niagara River Gorge is rated higher than the Ottawa River, whose waters proved to be too violent for rubber rafts a few years ago.

4 In May 1977 Joe Kolawoski of Wilderness Tours, Pembroke, contacted me with an exciting offer. Because Joe had received his background in aquatic skills as an Explorer in Pennsylvania, he had hoped some day to be in a position to do something for the Scouting Movement. At this time he was able to offer the Venturers of the Region a chance to challenge the white waters of the Ottawa, at cost. At a special meeting called to publicize the event, Joe was easily able to generate tremendous interest in his offer by showing slides and movies of the raft runs and by remarks such as "We have never lost anyone yet, because we only count heads after we have finished!"

In August, forty Venturers and advisers somewhat nervously took their places in one of the four 20-foot rafts which lay on the banks of the Ottawa River at the start of the journey. A light rain was falling, just enough to add to the chills which the head guide was generating by such instructions as "You must balance on the side walls of the raft, because if you are kneeling on the bottom when the raft goes over a rock, your kneecaps will be shattered." Most were dressed in the recommended shorts, running shoes and light wool sweater (to retain warmth even when soaked). After other comforting orders such as "If you are thrown out, float feet first down the rapids until the rescue kayak can get to you and don't get caught downstream of the raft, whose 1,000 lbs can crush you like an egg against a rock", the rafts were carried into the water. On the way to the first set of rapids the Venturers practised "forward right", "back left", "draw left" etc. We had all camped the night before at the farmhouse where the guides live for the summer and had heard, from our tents, the rapids thundering through the night. Now the moment had come . . .

Here, at first hand, are my impressions of what it really feels like to challenge those churning white waters.



'Upon arrival at the first set everyone gets out to have a look. Most gasp with awe and dismay at the 6-foot drop and 12-foot wave that is the beginning of the rapids. A "lucky" raft is selected to start the run, while the occupants of the other rafts gratefully find a vantage point on the steep banks. With nervous giggles and other signs of false bravado the intrepid rafters push off. To those watching, the faces in the raft are a mixture of terror and excitement. As the guide yells "Dig in", adrenalin flows, faces contract, paddles dig deep. The hydraulic approaches. In a hydraulic, water plunges into a hole and, in an effort to achieve its own height, the crashing waters create a back current, which is strong enough not only to bring the raft to a crunching stop, but to hold it while it fills with water and sinks. Only the paddlers can free the raft. Into the hydraulic and the first raft plunges, with the front paddlers perched precariously in the bucking bow. Suddenly the bow drops straight down. The big wave



snaps the bow back, bending the raft in the middle. One of the bowsmen is swept to the floor by the torrent of water that rushes in. Everyone is drenched, but the shout of "Pull" from the guide starts paddles clawing at the churning water and, with a bound, the raft pulls free from the wave. Only for an instant can the paddlers enjoy a feeling of conquest as those on the right must now pull hard to keep the raft clear of the left bank towards which the vicious current is propelling the craft. Quickly the raft shoots into another hydraulic, conquers it and enters a third. In this onslaught the guide, who is arched backwards over the stern of the raft using his paddle as a rudder and kept from falling out by having his feet tucked under a strap which runs across the floor of the raft, is catapulted forward and sprawls face-first. The raft loses control, spins around and ships a great deal of water. With much scrambling and hard paddling the raft is steered back on course and continues its run through the standing waves. Then — calm water and audible sighs of relief, followed by the euphoria that arrives with the realization that one has survived.

'The other rafts have similar experiences. As the successive rapids are conquered, confidence begins to build. Some rafts crash into the banks and some get stuck on rocks, but it is now clear that it is possible to control the big vessels. Then "Butcher Knife" is next. This rapid, at a 30 degree angle to the channel, is a bad one. The tendency is for everyone in the back of a raft to be shot forward when it enters the big hole, and only those few at the bow who have managed to maintain their balance are left to slowly pull the raft out before it tips. The third raft through runs into trouble — the guide is thrown high in the air, landing on an adviser and injuring him, and is then bounced into the raging current. He is pulled back into the raft, but loses both shoes and socks, and suffers a cut foot. The kayak rescues the guide's paddle, but he and the adviser will be sore for days to come.

'During a stop for lunch a large bonfire is built as all are completely soaked from the rapids and the rain, which continues to fall all day. The food, which has been carried in a waterproof container, (as are the cameras) is soon devoured.

'After another set, and in a calm stretch of the river, a wild water fight breaks out. A score of Venturers are thrown in, as well as a few unwary advisers. Some of the guides soon join the fray and are also unceremoniously up-ended. After these hi-jinks the trip continues. All pass up a chance to have a swim at what would, on other more dry days, be a very appealing sand bar. At the last set the rafts are deliberately run up the back-eddy to the ledge and filled with water as the raft is nosed out into the rapids. All hands are needed at the river bank to up-end the rafts and let the water spill out. Around the next bend in the river the trip ends. The rafts are deflated, and a bus carries everyone back to the farmhouse, and to much-needed dry clothes.'

Later on in August another group, of 30 Venturers and advisers, successfully ran the river. The popularity of the event was clear, with 40% of the registered members of the National Capital Region Venturer program taking part despite the fact the runs took place in midsummer, during weekdays, and after C.J.'77.

Next year we will all be back, but in July, when the river waters are higher and the rapids even more ferocious! X

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*Keith is the Venturer co-ordinator for the National Capital Region in Ottawa, Ontario.*

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Exciting things were done by some councils and groups with this theme last year. They didn't just happen. They were made to happen. The best way to show what happened is tell what they did.

Planning for Scout-Guide Week '77 started in the Fall. Meetings were held between Scout and Guide officials to determine what could be done with the "Thanks" theme. Three major shopping malls agreed to make space available for displays and exhibits. Space was allocated and Scout and Guide units were recruited by each Mall co-ordinator to put in suitable displays.

It was felt that visibility in a large mall is important. The usual display with 2-inch letters can't be read from a distance. One Venturer company, specialists in silk screening, put together a series of four triangular banners — one for Scouts and one for Guides in both official languages. These were hung from the ceiling in two rows the length of the mall. It was impossible to walk into one of these malls without knowing that it was Scout-Guide Week.

The focus of most displays turned away from the standard 'This is Scouting/Guiding' to featuring skills that many visitors would like to have. This prompted many visitors to stop and ask questions — to get involved with the organizations.

All on duty wore 3 inch buttons which had the word 'thanks' emblazoned across it. No blatant appeal was made for funds or leaders. Rather, the focus of staff was to thank the people in the community for their continuing support of Scouting and Guiding.

Bookmarks, with the Scout/Guide Week crest were handed out by the thousands as a small 'Thanks' to all who visited the displays.

Teams of Scouts and Guides manned the doors at main exits. They, too, wore the Thanks badges and they opened doors for people and offered to carry parcels to the car. Their instructions were to help people and to thank them for their support.

In addition to the mall displays, coverage was sought in all media and the response was very good.

All of these activities were co-ordinated by the P.R. team made up of Scout and Guide personnel. It was effective because of the planning they had done and their close cooperation.

#### Scout-Guide Week at the unit level

While the above activities were planned and implemented at the council level, with the obvious support of units, there was another, less visible, but equally effective Scout-Guide Week program in operation.

This was the countless activities run during Scout-Guide Week by colonies, packs, troops, companies and crews.

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GUIDES SAY

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SCOUTS  
GUIDES SAY

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The variety of activities was staggering. The following is only a partial listing of known activities.

- Ecumenical services.
- Father and son (parent & son) banquets
- Concerts
- Winter camps
- Field days
- 'Invite a friend' activities
- Birthday parties (on February 22)
- Service projects
- Visits to nursing homes
- Special meetings — visits, tours

To sum up, it was felt by many, that this had been their best Scout-Guide Week ever. They hope to do even more in 1978.

#### What Made it a Success?

There were three basic ingredients in their successful operation.


1. There was close co-operation between Scout & Guide personnel.
2. They started their planning early.
3. They involved hundreds of people

#### What About You?

Scout-Guide week won't just happen in your community. It will if you, and others in Scouting, decide what needs to be done and work co-operatively to get it done. The "Thanks" theme can be effective. It can be a real pleasure for people to be given a sincere "thank you" instead of a request for money or help. It can make it easier for us to approach them for help in the future.

#### Aids to Help You

The following aids have been developed for Scout-Guide Week. They are available through Scout and Guide offices. The first can be used by Scouters and Guiders. The other four are primarily for use by council P.R. personnel.

1. Posters — full colour — for use in halls, in displays, in windows by sections and council P.R. personnel.
2. Pamphlets — on Scout-Guide Week — what it is — ideas for activities.
3. National news stories — use in weekly papers or special Scout-Guide Week supplements.
4. T.V. slides — a set of slides with a script for use on T.V.
5. Radio and T.V. spots — suggested spots of 10, 20 and 30 seconds for Scout-Guide Week. 



**SUMMER**

**SURVIVAL SK**

**WINTER**

8





**Teach survival skills to your boys and tell them: "The life that survives may be your own".**

*The following is based on an article by Kenneth M. Cole Jr., which appeared in SCOUTING (U.S.A.)*

Few outdoor survival skills are new. Our forefathers practiced many of them daily. Take dehydrated foods; many people think they're a modern idea. But dried apples were on Columbus' ship, the *Nina*, to prevent scurvy.

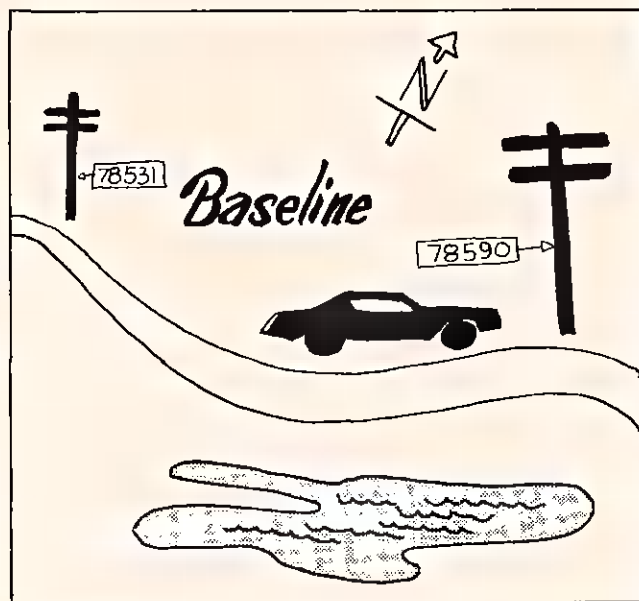
Dehydrated apples are one of the easiest foods to prepare. Peel the apples, cut them up, sew them on a string, hang them in a crawl space or attic, and let them dry. When they turn a horrible brown colour, mix sugar with them and you have dehydrated apples.

Some moderns may feel that such survival skills are fun as hobbies but not needed today. Not so, we still have practical need for these skills because Scouts are outdoorsmen.

Going on a trip? Be prepared; you could become lost — and in need of survival skills.

Nowadays, for a cross-country plane trip, you may wear gray flannel slacks and a blue jacket and your equipment consist of nothing more than a 20-pound zippered flight bag. But suppose the plane were downed on an unscheduled stop in a remote part of your province, in winter? Or

Another precaution: Establish a baseline (see illustration).



Suppose you and some of your boys are going into deep countryside on a photographic trip, or to hike or camp. You'll probably be driving a vehicle so, as you approach suitable terrain, stop about a mile from the spot where you are going to set out, and tie a couple of pieces of cloth on a bush along the road, or record the number of the nearest utility pole. The number is usually on an aluminum strip fastened to the pole. Then drive on for about a mile and tie another piece or record the pole number of the nearest pole. Drive back to a mid-point and leave your car or van.

Now, if you stay on one side of the road only — let's say the north — following a southerly direction will put you back on your baseline. Once there you can soon find your cloth tied to a bush or your car — and you have found your way out.

Pick up your cloth markers. Don't be a litterbug.

But remember this — it's most important: Let other people know where you are going and when you expect to be back, have a good map, and establish a baseline.

Precautions are fine, but what do you do when you know you're lost? First, do the thing that doesn't come naturally — sit down and *relax*. Think calmly about the survival training you're reading about in this article and let your plans slowly formulate.

### **S-2 Signals**

A lost person must have a way of telling others where he is. That calls for signals. Try to get to a spot where signals are easily seen. Most old books on outdoor life glibly directed a lost person to follow a stream. Well, don't — unless you know the stream; and, if you know the stream, you aren't lost. Most streams lead into swamps before they empty into lakes or rivers, and most rivers lead into swamps or oceans.

Where should you go? Uphill — to the top of a hill, or above the timberline in the mountains. There you are easier to spot from the air by rescuers who are most likely to come looking for you by light plane or helicopter.

Now, up where you can signal with a better chance of being seen, signal with fire. In the daytime, build a smoky fire. Clear the ground for a safe distance. Once your fire's going, add grass or leaves for smoke. Most of our wooded areas are guarded by fire watchers in towers or in light planes. When they see the smoke, they'll think it's a forest fire and come in.



what would you do if you were forced down, at any time of year, in an area of forest, swampland or high mountains? Without some knowledge of survival, you are in pretty rough shape. So, that's another reason you need to know about survival skills.

Like all outdoorsmen, we're going to get lost and have to depend on the pioneer's know-how. You can count on it — *You will get lost if you spend much time in the out-of-doors*. When you do, take the letters of that word "lost" and make them into this injunction: **LEAN ON SURVIVAL TRAINING.**

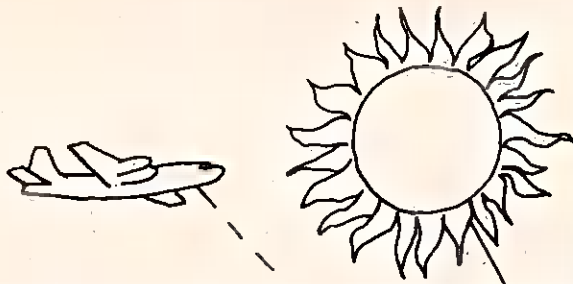
Survival training can be summed up in five words — all beginning with "S" — safety, signals, shelters, sustenance, socks.

### **S-1 Safety**

The first point to remember, should you become lost, is safety. Not safety from wolves, bears, even mountain lions, but from the most dangerous animal in the woods — yourself. *You* are absolutely the most dangerous thing in the woods when you are lost.

To avoid getting lost in an unfamiliar area, take a topographical map with you and, beforehand, learn as much about the area as you can.

Be sure to tell someone where you are going and when you expect to return. Then, if you don't come back on time, they'll know where to look for you.



At night the best signal is a bright fire. But even a bright one is no good unless somebody knows you are lost; you may be mistaken for a tenderfoot cooking a hot dog.

Night or day, don't build a single fire; build three in a straight line at least six feet apart. Three fires, three Scouts, three of anything alike in a straight line and an equal distance apart is an international emergency signal.

What about using a mirror to signal a plane or fire tower? Great! You can signal with a tin can lid. Cut a cross (to aim through) in a lid with your Scout knife. Then, if the sun is shining and there is a plane up there, you should be able to attract the pilot's attention with this improvised mirror. (See illustration and directions below.)

How about signalling a fire tower? Great. Better still — if you see a fire tower to signal — beeline it to the tower.

### S-3 Shelters

Among all kinds of shelters, the best is just ordinary fire. It provides more than heat. It's something to talk to — especially if you have to build it by flint and steel. Once you have it built, you have company; sitting out there alone in the woods at night is better if you are sitting with a fire.

Some people have the idea that fire frightens wild animals away. It won't; it just shows them a better approach. Unless you have a fire on the end of a stick and head it directly toward an animal's open mouth, your fire will not frighten him.

But a fire is good shelter.

A reflector such as an overhanging ledge, rock, cave, even the roots of an upturned tree, makes a fire an even better shelter. One safe place to build a fire is the crater of an uprooted tree where the ground is down to sub-soil.

Some places where you are going to get lost won't have any of these shelters — no big rocks, no overturned trees. You'll have to build a different type of fire shelter — two trench fires with room for your bed between them. This is not for a restless sleeper; but, if the fire goes out during the night, the wind blowing across the hot coals keeps you comfortable or fairly warm.

Lost in a conifer forest? There's shelter material there. Conifers grow quite tall without much girth, so they're easy to fell. (Although, obviously we don't go around chopping down trees in this manner except in cases of real emergency.) Cut one almost in two about 4 or 5 feet from the ground, then grab a lower branch and break the tree over. You have a hasty lean-to. Use the lower branches as roofing, adding thatching as needed.

Should you find no natural shelter, you can make a lean-to as a last resort. Work slowly, though, to conserve your energy.

Whether it's a lean-to made from a tree or one you put up on a framework, the thatching is the important thing. It's not the thickness that's important; it's the way you put it on. Start on the ground side and work up toward the top so you have a shingling effect.

Your choice of thatching material is important too. Straw, boughs, rushes, brush with leaves, you can use any of these.

Attach the thatching with the butt up; then, if any rain comes through, it will be just a mist, not Niagara Falls.

Fasten the thatching with poles, ropes or binder twine. Since you're not likely to have rope enough for lashing or nails or wire, a dovetail notch is an excellent device for fitting branches together to form a frame. A saw and a pocketknife are best for making a dovetail notch, but an axe can be substituted for the saw.

Now, suppose you're lost in a conifer forest when heavy snow blankets the ground. You'd better hole up. Go to the trunk of a conifer and, working with your feet only, trample a hole down the side of the tree. Then, tunnel away from the base of the tree for about 3 feet. Now, take off your coat and sit on it. You will have a shelter safe enough to spend the night in without fire, even in -30° weather.

Don't worry, even if you're down 18 to 20 feet. In the morning you'll find that your breath coming up out of this shaft has crusted over. You can come up out of there just like a telephone lineman climbing up a telephone pole by kicking your feet into the crust and walking right out.

If it snows during the night, the tree will gather the snow and prevent it from coming down the tunnel.

If you use this method, select a tree with a top at least 6 feet above the snow level; because it might snow during the night and you don't want to make a permanent shelter. I spent 3 nights in a shelter of this type and found it quite



Sight plane through the cross. Spot of light through cross will fall on face, hand or shirt and be reflected on back of lid. Adjust angle of lid until reflection of light spot disappears through cross while you are sighting the plane.

bearable. Just avoid getting wet — that's what freezes you.

Your car is stalled in a snowstorm on a highway? Don't stay in the car, because a car doesn't "breathe". Unless you have a fire in something that doesn't breathe, you can freeze to death. The moisture from your body goes up into the cloth or the upholstery and forms a snowstorm of minute flakes that settle back on your body and freeze you to death. A candle burning in the auto with a window cracked open on the leeward side will keep this from happening.

To demonstrate how the principle works, throw your poncho over your sleeping bag when you're sleeping out on a cold night. You will not freeze to death, but you will be miserable. During the night your body will give off moisture that will come right back on you if you are covered with anything that won't let it evaporate.

So, if you're ever stranded in a snowstorm while driving — unless you're in a convertible with a breather top — get out on the lee side of the car and sit outdoors. You are better off than you are inside the car.

Have you ever spent the night in a sleeping bag, quite comfortable, then toward morning the sleeping bag has become cold, as if someone had turned off the thermostat? It need never happen again. Just cross your wrists, inside to inside, and you will immediately warm up. The reason? Your blood is closest to the surface where it crosses your wrists. During the night your pumping system slows, causing the blood to get colder as it crosses the wrists and moves into the body.

By insulating this near-the-surface area, you immediately warm up the rest of the body. That is why the pioneers and the Indians used to wear wristlets.

Mention shelter in the far North and you'll probably think of the Eskimo's igloos. Believe it or not, the igloo is not an Eskimo invention. It was first used by Norwegian and Danish explorers in the 1890's. They got the idea from a beaver hut. Like a beaver hut, a snow house is usually surrounded by water. Inside is a shelf to sleep on. When you're building a snow house, don't worry about this; it forms automatically as you build the house.

Though the snow house has been used for many years, it wasn't until 1944 that a satisfactory entrance was worked out. Before then, some great men froze to death in it; they made the mistake of locating the entrance on the surface, which allowed all the body heat to escape. Sometimes a 24-foot-long wind tunnel was used as an entrance. This kept the wind out and could be used as a doorway. But the body heat still escaped.

If only they had thought like the beaver. A beaver goes underneath the water and out, the water serving as a baffle to gusts of wind from the outside. So the entrance should go down into the snow and then up to keep the heat in.

#### S-4 Sustenance

No matter where you find yourself stranded in the outdoors, food usually abounds. Poisons are about too, so you'll need help in identifying the edible plants. Many will produce a deathly sickness if certain parts are eaten. Some of these plants you eat almost daily. For example, apples. Fifteen apple seeds eaten at one time will make you deathly sick. A few more and you're dead. Apple seeds are cyanogenetic.

The cherries you wolfed down on your last hike could have been your *coup de grace* if you had swallowed one with a cracked pit. Again, cyanide.

Other poisons growing wild in some areas are laurel and rhododendrons. Meat impaled and cooked on forked sticks of wood from these plants can make a person deathly sick.

Did you know that potatoes can be very dangerous? The plant, that is.

The fruit of a potato plant is green and round, and you normally don't eat it, you eat the *tubers*. If the tubers of a potato plant have eyes, you will see sprouts. If you boil the potato leaving the sprouts on, you could be in trouble.

If you get a potato that is green because it has been sun-baked or been too close to the surface, the green part of the potato is poison. More people probably die from eating the wrong part of a plant than are killed by poisonous snakes in North America.

The tomato plant, of the same family as the potato, is also deadly poison. The Yucatan Indians of Mexico used it to make a paralyzing poison for their arrows. Later, it was learned that it was not the fruit that was poisonous, but the plant.

Toadstools, easily mistaken for edible mushrooms, are a poison with a delayed action. You may eat them and not get sick until 6 days later. But when you do, it's too late.

I have known some really good authors of mushroom books. Get it? I have known them. It is absolutely impossible to know exactly an edible mushroom from a poisonous toadstool.

A few wild plants are good in their entirety. The cattail, a favourite survival plant, is one. There are many varieties of cattails, but, basically, they are all the same plant. The green part of the plant is delicious. You can eat it just like corn on the cob and it's good for you. The yellow pollen is good to cook with.

Growing underneath, in the mud, is the tuber of the plant. These tubers, which taste something like potatoes, are good roasted or baked. You can dry them and powder them. Powdered tubers mixed with the pollen after it turns yellow makes a muffin mix that tastes somewhat like European sour-rye bread.

Some plants are edible when young but become poisonous as they ripen.

So a sensible precaution, and one upon which your future survival might well depend, would be to track down some good books on edible wild plants and learn to identify as many as you can of the common varieties, in your area.

#### S-5 Socks

A lot of the water of your body evaporates through your feet. If your feet are wet, evaporation is slowed down or stopped. Whenever your feet become wet while you are walking, summer or winter, stop right there, dry your feet and change your socks. You are better off without them than you are with wet socks.

You can dry socks by placing them underneath your T-shirt, on your chest. This will dry them out as you walk along the trail, and it is not uncomfortable.

We have learned that the temples, where the blood is near the surface of the body, are the first to get cold. Then the head immediately signals to the pumping station that it's getting cold and needs more heat. So the heart adjusts its valves and sends more blood to the head in order to warm it.

You have only so much blood in your body and to send more blood to the head, the heart must steal it from somewhere. First, it draws from your extremities — from your feet, your toes first, then from your fingers. So your toes get cold first and then your fingers.

So, the next time you go to a football game, take a stocking cap with you in your pocket. If your feet start to get cold, look at your wife — or girl friend, as the case may be — as you pull the stocking cap gingerly out of your pocket, pull it down over your head and, if she says anything to you, just tell her you are warming your feet.

(Further advice on what to do when lost can, of course, be found in the *Campcraft* and *Winter Activity* sections of your *Canadian Scout Handbook*.)

by Kathleen Lafleur

Early results from our readership questionnaire, in the October issue of *The Leader*, suggest that readers would like to hear more of specific group activities, particularly when these are the type of events other leaders might like to plan for their own boys.

Here is how one pack Scouter described a very special outing for her Cubs — an action-packed visit to Ottawa.

On May 21, 1977, twenty-nine Wolf Cubs from the St. Vincent Pack, Ste Foy, Quebec, under the direction of Akela, Jean Letourneau, left by bus for Ottawa, or more precisely Blackburn Hamlet. (See *The Leader* magazine, May 1977.)

The first feelers were sent out on January 12, 1977 and a response followed by the end of February. Many problems arose and it was finally the father of two Cubs who, through a relative living in Blackburn, helped us get in contact with the Cub co-ordinator, Mr Bill Kern. It was he who made all the arrangements for billets and organized our schedule.

The difficulties in finding billets for thirty-six people for the long Victoria Day weekend rested on Mr. Kern's shoulders and it was necessary for him to choose from the six packs in Blackburn in order to accommodate everyone. And accommodate us he did! Billets were supplied plus all three meals, and transportation if necessary — not to mention a warmth and hospitality that were remarkable.

For our part, we were busy trying to raise funds for this venture, the first of its scope in our district of Quebec.

Considering the ages of the participants, it is greatly to the boys' credit that they fully financed their trip by creating and running a games arcade. This was successful beyond even the most optimistic expectations. The St. Vincent School Committee also donated the proceeds of a bicycle raffle in which all the boys, of course, took part. Financial cares out of the way, twenty-nine anxious Cubs, Akela, Jean Letourneau; Baloo, Kitty Lafleur; Bagheera, Joan Kenny; Raksha, Daniele Berube; a volunteer Troop Scouter, Roger Levesque and a parent helper, Gerry Kenny, were on their way.

After a breakfast break at Parc des Voltigeurs, a stop to stretch their legs at Rigaud and an out-of-the-way stop for lunch, the large passenger bus pulled into the parking lot of the Emily Carr Middle School, in Blackburn Hamlet, approximately one half hour behind schedule, on a scorching afternoon. The parents and Cubs who were to be our hosts for the next two days were all in attendance. They would also share with us the spacious air-conditioned bus (which would prove to be a relief from the 32° - 34° temperature) on our trips through and around the national capital, to the various spots of interest.

The boys and leaders were introduced to their hosts, luggage was transferred to the cars and all were comfortably installed in the homes. Then they returned quickly to the school where the bus was waiting to take everyone on a tour of the Parliament Buildings. Gerry Kenny, the parent helper from Quebec, taking his "policing" job to heart, attempted to include a strange lad into the already large group (fifty-nine Cubs; thirty of

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## CUBS VISIT



At the Centennial Flame

these unknown to him), while moving through hallowed halls. After an explanation of his non-participation the reason was understood; he did not belong to the group. One boy feeling the effects of loneliness, excitement and the long trip, felt ill, but the visit was otherwise an enjoyable and informative one. Back outside, group photographs were taken, a short stop was made at the Centennial Flame before a walk down the Sparks Street Mall was proposed. Destination: The ice cream stand — a treat for everyone.

Then it was back to the bus and on to the National War Museum. The boys were enthralled and Baloo, never missing an opportunity to instruct, pointed out the display of "The Battle of Mafeking" as one of the origins of Scouting. The tour had be finished hastily since closing time had overtaken us, so it was back to the bus and the coolness inside. Our amiable bus driver, considering Sussex Drive an essential, included it on our return trip to Black-

burn Hamlet. When he learned that the Governor General of Canada was also our Chief Scout, he thought it appropriate to drive right up to the Residence's front door, much to the amazement of the R.C.M.P. guards on duty. The waving of caps, cheers and the Wolf Cub salute finally brought a smile and a wave from them and we left among "Ohs" and Ahs" at the beauty of the site. One Cub was even heard to say: "Boy, would I like to see his BACK YARD!"

Everyone was glad to return to our temporary "homes", since it meant swimming for some, cycling for others and any other kind of activity the boys could think up to pass a free evening. The leaders spent a *leisurely evening* at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Kern, discussing the day and the eventual exchange of a visit to Quebec.

On Sunday morning a Cubs' Own Service was held at St. Mary the Virgin Church on the outskirts of Blackburn, with Reverend Doe officiating. It was a beautiful service, held under a spreading old maple tree, a majestic setting reminding each one of us how small, but how important, we are, and how great He is.

In the afternoon, sixty-two Cubs were given free rein to visit, at their own leisure, the Museum of Science and Technology. Again, our bus driver, Mr. Gerald Valee, showed his genuine friendliness by accompanying us on our visit through the Museum. Everyone enjoyed this visit because of the participating aspect of many of the displays.

The National Aircraft Museum was next on our tour and the final visit of the afternoon. By this time the 34°C

in place, quickly requested that we stay and watch the twenty-one gun salute. They were shaken, to say the least, as we were within fifty feet of the guns! Then we again took our places on the bus, and the suggestion of lunch, at one of the most popular eating places in town, was met with cheers.

After being under way again for two hours, we stopped at a Quebec provincial restaurant area to stretch our legs.

While driving through Montreal, many Cubs showed interest in the Olympic site, so our bus driver suggested that a short detour would be in order. He drove us down the side streets and around the Olympic Stadium, Velodrome and Swimming Pool, to the ecstasy of the boys.

Shortly after leaving the city, all were very quiet and some were asleep, including a few of the leaders. Drummondville was our supper stop (again at the popular restaurant), and at 7:15 we pulled into the parking lot at St. Vincent School, hailed eagerly by all the waiting parents. Cheers went up, a short prayer of thanksgiving said and all filed out of the bus, happy, tired, but sad that such an adventure was over. The last Grand Howl in the school yard was a thing to remember, for if emotion ever hit its' peak, it was then!

When brotherhood, friendship and the sharing of experiences creates a bond between human beings, it is difficult to find ways of expressing these feelings in words.

This enriching experience will never be forgotten either by the Cubs or by the leaders.

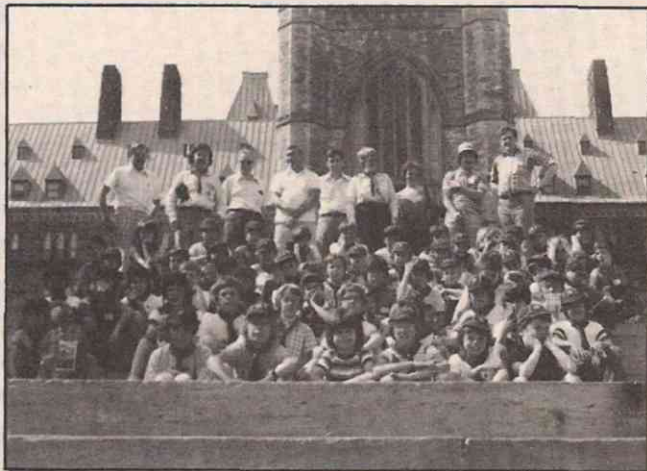
Sincere thanks to our hosts. They were fantastic.

# THE CAPITAL

temperature was getting to most of us. The boys looked at the planes with interest, but were quite pleased when the return to homes was suggested. Again, an evening where they were free to go about their own interests (swimming being uppermost on the list), was considered to be more constructive and individually rewarding than any planned activity. The leaders were again received, this time at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gerry Lavigne, who put their home and pool at our disposal. Music being a universal language, we all joined in a sing-song, with Baloo at the piano, thus expressing friendship in a way that words alone simply could not convey.

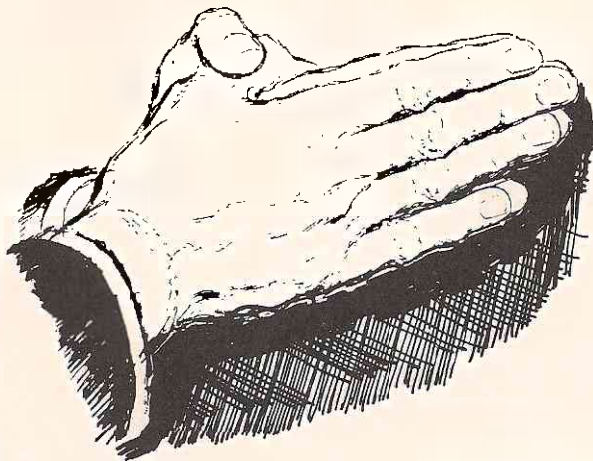
Monday morning found us transferring our luggage into the bus with heavy hearts. Final *adieux* were said, promises for return visits were made and the bus left the parking lot, amid many a teary eye.

May 23, being Victoria Day, special events were taking place on Parliament Hill and the boys, seeing the cannons



Both packs in front of the Parliament Buildings

# UNDERSTANDING



## **BADEN—POWELL ON SCOUTING AND RELIGION**

At Kandersteg, Switzerland, in 1926, our Founder Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell, made the following statement on Scouting and Religion.

"The Scout in his Promise undertakes to do his duty to his country only in the second place; his first duty is to God.

"It is with this idea before us, and reckoning that God is the one Father of us all, that we Scouts count ourselves a brotherhood, despite the differences among us of country, creed or class.

"We realize that in addition to the interests of our own particular country, there is a higher mission before us, namely, the promotion of the Kingdom of God; that is, of the rule of Peace and Goodwill on Earth.

"In the Scouts each form of religion is respected and its active practice encouraged, and through the spread of our brotherhood in all countries we have the opportunity of developing the spirit of mutual goodwill and understanding."

## **THE GOLDEN THREAD**

Because love of God takes pride of place in the Scout Promise and, because in our Movement we have adherents of all the main religions, and of many sects, Duty to God is interpreted in different ways.

However, there are certain key teachings that run like a golden thread through all major religions and it seems appropriate at this joyful season of the year, to relate some of these teachings to aspects of the Scout Promise and Law, and to the practical everyday process of Scouting.

At the same time, if we make the adherents of one religion more conscious of other religions, that too is a constructive thing. One can strengthen one's own religious outlook by understanding something of other religions. As Charles Francis Potter truly says in his book **The Faiths Men Live By**, 'he knows not his own faith who knows not his neighbour's!'

## **DOES GOD EXIST?**

In these unsettled times the question is often asked: "Does God exist?" so perhaps we should begin our search for the golden thread linking our various faiths, by quoting from a number of widely divergent sources.

**Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you; for everyone**

**that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.**

—Jesus, the Sermon on the Mount.

Thou art the supreme Brahman. Thou art infinite. Thou hast assumed the forms of all creatures, remaining hidden in them. Thou pervadest all things. Thou art the one God of the universe. Those who realize thee become immortal.

—The Upanishads: Svetasvatara.

**He created the heavens and the earth with truth, and He shaped you and made good your shapes.**

—Qur'an, LXIV. 3.

For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free: and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

—Paul: 1. Corinthians, XII. 13.

**And through this Teaching I grow true and wise.**

**When difficulties come, my faith in man**

**Leads me to be and do what Thou hast taught —**

**To be my own true self and do my best.**

—Zoroastrianism's Zend-Avesta

*All things are the works of the Great Spirit. We should know that He is within all things . . . and even more important, we should understand that He is also above all these things and peoples.*

—Black Elk, The Sacred Pipe, p.XX (American Indian)

**As long as a man argues about God, he has not realized Him.**

—Sri Ramakrishna, great 19th Century teacher of Hinduism.

I believe in God . . . who reveals Himself in the orderly harmony of the universe. I believe that Intelligence is manifested throughout all Nature. The basis of scientific work is the conviction that the world is an ordered and comprehensible entity and not a thing of Chance.

—Albert Einstein, renowned scientist.

**The material world, which has been taken for a world of blind Mechanism, is in reality a Spiritual world seen very partially and imperfectly. The only real world is the Spiritual World . . . The truth is that not Matter, not Force, not any physical thing, but Mind, personality, is the central fact of the Universe.**

—J.B.S. Haldane, renowned scientist.

Something Unknown is doing we don't know what—that is what our theory amounts to . . . Modern physics has eliminated the notion of substance . . . Mind is the first and most direct thing in our experience . . . I regard Consciousness as fundamental. I regard matter as derivative from Consciousness . . . The old atheism is gone . . . Religion belongs to the realms of Spirit and Mind, and cannot be shaken.

—Sir Arthur S. Eddington, famous astronomer.

**Throughout the World of Animal Life there are expressions of something akin to the Mind in ourselves. There is, from the Amoeba upwards a**

# ONE ANOTHER



stream of inner, of subjective, life; it may be only a slender rill, but sometimes it is a strong current. It includes feeling, imagining, purposing, as well as occasionally thinking. It includes the Unconscious.

—Sir James Arthur Thomson, in *The Great Design*.

God is the Unifying Principle of the universe. No more sublime conception has been presented to the Mind of man, than that which is presented by Evolution, when it re-presents Him as revealing Himself, through countless ages, in the age-long in-breathing of life into constituent Matter, culminating in man with his Spiritual nature and all his God-like powers.

—Robert A. Milliken, physicist, Institute of Technology, Pasadena, U.S.A.

The fool hath said in his heart,  
There is no God.

—Psalm XIV, 1.

## THE GOLDEN RULE

Thus do we find the strong thread of belief in God joining a wide variety of people together. And while no one group has the monopoly of all Truth, certain profound teachings are shared by all. One of these, which we all share, is The Golden Rule:

### THE GOLDEN RULE

- ★ BUDDHISM: Hurt not others with that which pains yourself.
- ★ CHRISTIANITY: As ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise.
- ★ CONFUCIANISM: Do not unto others what you would not they should do unto you.
- ★ HINDUISM: Do naught to others which if done to thee, would cause thee pain.
- ★ ISLAM: No one is a believer until he loves for his brother what he loves for himself.
- ★ JAINISM: We should refrain from inflicting upon others such injury as would appear undesirable to us if inflicted upon ourselves.

★ JUDAISM: What is hurtful to yourself do not to your fellowman.

★ TAOISM: Regard your neighbour's gain as your own gain; and regard your neighbour's loss as your own loss.

★ ZOROASTRIANISM: That nature only is good when it shall not do unto another whatever is not good for its own self.

It is a fact that the more you learn about religions other than your own, the more you will discover similarities. In this way we can all find common ground, and thus feel a greater sense of fellowship and understanding with those of other faiths.

## UNIVERSAL PRAYERS

With an ever increasing number of Cubs and Scouts of different religious faiths coming together, there is an increasing demand for prayers acceptable for all. Here, to end, are two beautiful prayers, the first written by Dr. Annie Besant, who incidentally was deeply involved in Scouting in India in the Movement's early days.

O *Hidden Life,*  
vibrant in every atom;  
O *Hidden Light,*  
shining in every creature;  
O *Hidden Love,*  
embracing all in Oneness;  
May each who feels himself  
as one with Thee,  
Know he is therefore  
one with each other.

And here's a universal prayer by St. Francis of Assisi:  
*O Lord, make us instruments of Thy peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy. Amen.*

Our thanks to Vic Clapham and to Veld Lore.

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# MAKE YOUR OWN CHRISTMAS CARDS

by Betty Rapkins

Each year, as the hustle and-bustle of Christmas preparation reaches a crescendo, it is good to teach our young people the value of resourcefulness and the real meaning of giving. Pretty well anyone, in this affluent society of ours, can go out and buy a gift, a game or a greeting card but how much more it means, to both the recipient and the giver, if we put a little of ourselves into each exchange.

So, this year, why not start a tradition in your group, to produce your own Christmas cards?

Nowadays, as we arrange each new batch from the mailbox, on mantleshelves, or string them around our walls, we tend to take their arrival for granted. But it was not until the middle of the last century, in England, that the first Christmas cards were produced, privately to begin with and then, gradually, on a wider, commercial basis. So by producing our own, we are returning to the historical beginnings of a fashion which is now very much an accepted part of the festive season.

**The Materials You Will Need** can be kept very simple or can be as elaborate as you wish, and boys of any age can join in. Basically, you'll need card, scissors, ruler, glue, plus pens, pencils and/or paints. To start off with it might be an idea to ask local printing works if they have any free "off-cuts". These are strips of card left over from other jobs and usually too narrow for the printers to make use of. However they are often ideal for Christmas card production. For example, a bundle of strips approximately 30" by 5" would cut down and fold into two, three or more cards per strip.

To make a really good, professional job you can order your own rubber stamp and pad from many stationers. This could contain a personalized message from your group but I would suggest that the single word "Greetings" might be best of all. Not only would this cost less but it could be used for a variety of occasions throughout the year. You might even make up boxes of greeting cards for future fund-raising sales, or let the boys make up a batch for their own use on Mother's Day, Valentine Day or for general birthdays.

**The Design Of The Card** can vary from a really artistic, well worth keeping and framing, production to a simple plain postcard with a handwritten message. The most usual basic shape is a strip folded in half. The finished product can be as small as a 3" square or as large as you please but a good average size is approximately 5" by 7". However it might be sensible to look around for big packs of envelopes on sale and, when the best bargain buy is found, to tailor the card to fit the envelope. Otherwise you could run into difficulties finding envelopes to fit your finished product.

A really super-de-luxe effort might consist of folded white card with a flimsy folded sheet inside carrying the printed message. These could be joined together by cord, ribbon or gold thread. The design might be painted onto a piece of coloured art paper, slightly smaller than the folded card. This would then be glued into position on the front cover.

One of the very best and most elaborate handmade cards I have received, consisted of pressed leaves and flowers — purple clematis and a grey leaved plant — each flower petal and leaf edged with glue which was then sprinkled with silver glitter to suggest frost, the entire arrangement mounted on pale lavender card.

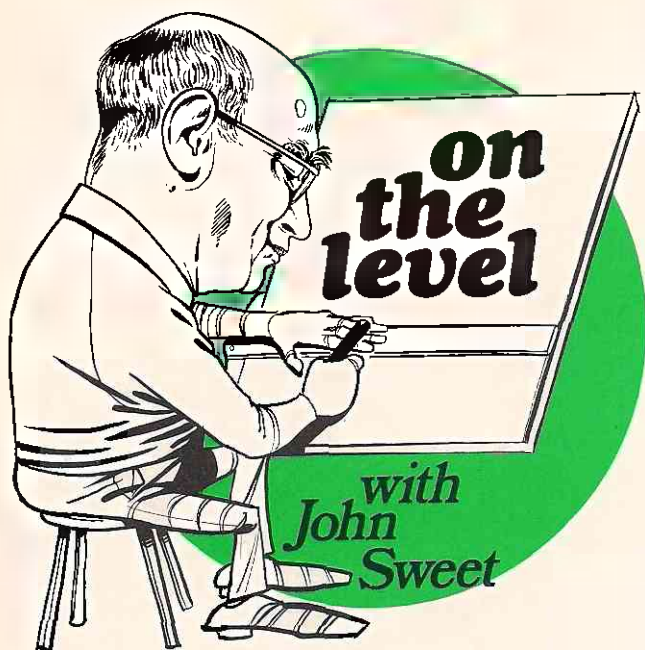
If this sounds too difficult for your boys to tackle, the design can still be excellent without too much trouble. A simple pen and ink drawing of a robin, with just the red breast brightly crayoned in, was once sent to me by a very sophisticated editor. A successful artist, one year, sent all her friends tiny folded brown cards (to suggest earth) on which she had painted, with an absolute minimum of brush strokes, one white snowdrop. A farming friend, a couple of years back, had managed to press a bulky head of barley and had carefully glued this to a ripe-looking, golden yellow card. (Dried grasses would look equally good but, of course would require collecting earlier in the year. In a future, summer edition of **The Leader** we'll tell you how to make a simple flower press.)

My own children, when younger, spent many absorbing hours painting snow scenes, for their grandparents' cards, with poster paints and, other years, we've used a family snapshot, mounted on cards. Perhaps a photograph of some recent Scouting activity might be suitable for your group one year. How about a printing session, using lino cuts, potato-cuts or even wood engravings? If weather permits, why not organise a sketching trip to a local landmark or beauty spot? If the sketches are kept small, the best could be mounted and used as cards.

For younger boys, packets of scrapbook stickers could be used or pictures cut from catalogues. A local view postcard looks like a rare Victorian collector's item if edged carefully with a frill of lace. A circular picture could be bordered with edging from a fancy paper cake-doily, and then mounted onto larger, plain folded card. A seed-catalogue rose, a silver foil star, a snowflake cut from folded white paper and glued to dark blue card are other ideas you could suggest to your boys.

Perhaps, at the end of a busy and varied cardmaking session, they might like to stage a small exhibition, the best Christmas card to receive a small prize — of postage stamps perhaps? X





Even before our friendly neighbourhood Guide, Tessa-next-door joined up, we have always, as you know, held our sister Movement in the highest regard.

That being so, it gives us particular pleasure to announce that the girls of Chirk (which we remember as a pleasant little town on the A5 road in North Wales) are the first Guide company in history to qualify for group-membership in the Lunatic Fringe.

The same distinction has been bestowed on the Kestrel, Falcon and Woodpecker Patrols of the 1st Malvern Scout Group who, under the inspired leadership of Dr. J.G. McWhirter, took part in the Great Piggy-back Pie Fight at the Welsh Jamboree in Llanover in August 1977.

"Our challenge," writes Dr. McWhirter, "was immediately taken up by the Guides with lots of international guests in their team. Each team consisted of eight horses and riders. Paper plates were supplied plus liberal dollops of "gloo" made from stale bread and water. A special attraction was that the referee and linesmen were all Irish (myself and members of the 117th Dublin Troop). The event attracted several hundred spectators and was all over in seven or eight minutes when the ammunition ran out. Some of our lot started recycling it from the ground but got disqualified. The referee, to everyone's disappointment, was only hit once (face, dead centre). I was assured that this was purely accidental despite some blatant encouragement from the touchline. At any rate, we were all hosed down after the game to remove the scars of battle, and honour was satisfied."

Great stuff — and so typical of the fine sporting spirit you always find when the arrogance of the Iceni, the fire and brimstone of the Welsh, and the flair of the Irish is tempered by feminine influence and a touch of international *rapprochement*.

Ahem!

Anyhow, in consultation with the Registrar, we, in our capacity as Life President (self appointed) of the Lunatic Fringe, have had no hesitation in certifying the whole shooting match. In due course certificates will be forwarded to all who took part in this epic struggle.

Our photography (courtesy Mr. W. Mountan, ADC Stretford District, Manchester) shows as workmanlike a job of practical pioneering as you are likely to see anywhere in the world.

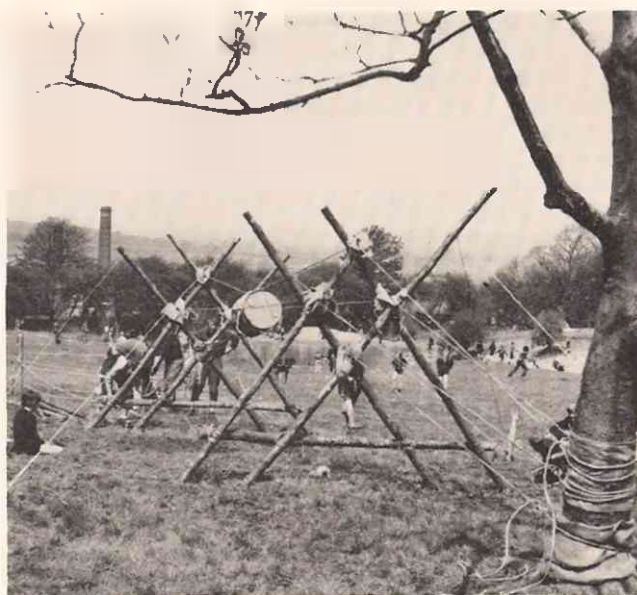
It is, of course, the Stretford Variant of the famous Bucking Bronco as featured in this magazine some time ago. We are told, and can quite believe it, that it attracted a great deal of attention at the County Rally in June 1977. Our only regret is that we weren't there in person to see it.

Now you won't need me to tell you that a project of this sort has to take a lot of hammer. Indeed the nature of the exercise demands that it should and in the process of getting rid of its rider there is always the possibility of an unscheduled mishap through failure in the apparatus itself.

There can be no doubt that the Stretford Pioneers foresaw every eventuality and increased the factor of safety to meet it. To give you a simple fr'instance, they realized from the start that the stability of their frolicsome steed could not be guaranteed by pinning it down with traditional type holdfasts as advocated by such works of literature and art as the book SCOUT PIONEERING (*free advert.*) So what they did was to think of a number, treble it, and substitute rolled steel angle bars for the common or garden pickets. The heads of the angles were well upholstered with sacking to cover any cutting edges and the surrounding area was enclosed in a Scout staff and sisal fence to prevent unwary passers-by or inquisitive small boys from falling foul of all that steel and cordage.

Mr. Mountan does not tell us exactly how many would-be Bronco Busters got busted themselves during that busy weekend but we are hoping to hear more of this particular operation — and indeed of the way in which the Stretford District set up their wet weather camp in preparation for the visit of their Chief Scout, Sir William Gladstone. From all we have heard, the organization behind the event must have been quite something.

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All present will be familiar with that cheerful but rather undemanding troop night diversion known as "The Scavenge Hunt" in which patrols are handed lists of two dozen or so items-at-random and are given, say, twenty minutes in which to collect as many as they can. It is possible, of course, to add greatly to the interest and value of this competition by exercising a little imagination in your

choice of items — always provided, of course, that they are reasonably available for collection. It would never do, for instance, to ask for such things as a tuba, trumpet or trombone (unless you happened to be a Salvation Army troop) but how would it be to specify "Any sort of wind instrument capable of producing at least one clear note" and then leaving it to the imagination and intelligence of the customers? No doubt you'd end up with a battery of empty milk bottles, with Scouts blowing their front teeth out in their efforts to produce the specified "one clear note"; but, what I always say, it's all for the "Good of the Cause" — and just *think* of the cultural value!

Which gives us an idea.

How would it be if we all got together to organize **The Leader Magazine's** First Great Nationwide Scavenge Hunt?

(Thinks: Brilliant! Why didn't I think of it sooner?)

As I see it, the Hunt would be based on the old, well-tried, Jack Blunt Scavenge Hunt, but with this difference: **All the items in the list would be slightly off beat.**

Furthermore, too, as well, an' all (as an intellectual acquaintance of mine used to say when we were discussing some abstruse matter of philosophy) all the items in the list would be based on YOUR ideas.

Are you still with me? Instead of just asking tamely for (for example) "A ball", you might say, "Here a glass slipper was lost". Or you could be even more subtle and put in a request for "A rafter, purline or beam," and so leave the way open for some humorist in the troop to shine the beam of a pocket torch into your eyes, or even face you with a beaming countenance.

Here, at any rate, are a few more examples at random:

"A spooky aircraft" — a garden besom as used by all the best witches.

"One hundred and twenty assorted nails" — the finger and toenails of the six members of the patrol.

"A redundant striker" — a spent match.

"An airgun capable of firing a shot the length of the troop room" — see this month's **Patrol Options**.

"A non-musical wind instrument" — a cycle pump.

"A kitten's supper" — a saucer of milk.

And so on.

Your own ideas, of course, will be much more subtle than ours, if only to match the level of intelligence of your boys which, I am told, is pretty high at the moment. But do bear in mind that the great attraction of the Jack Blunt Scavenge Hunt was that the boys had to travel at speed from point to point to collect their exhibits. It would never do if, in our efforts to be "clever", we cut out all the fun.

Anyhow, this is how it will work, provided we have your whole-hearted co-operation:

Some time during the next few weeks, in consultation with your fellow Scouters, you will draw up your own specification for one of these new style Scavenge Hunts in which the boys must use their brains as well as their eyes and memories. You will then spring it on them during the troop meeting. Later, at the Court of Honour, you will get your boys to pick out, say, three or four of your most brilliant ideas and push them along to this department c/o The Editor.

From all the ideas submitted we will then make our own selection and in the fullness of time, if not sooner, **The Leader** magazine's **FIRST GREAT NATIONWIDE SCAVENGE HUNT** will be launched upon the astonished world, and in all parts of Canada the streets and lanes of our towns and villages will ring again and again (like in the Harrow School Song) to the tramp of twenty-two thousand men as they pound round the purlieus gathering in the loot.

To business, then.

Let us agree that the closing date for Stage I of this great enterprise (that's the bit when you hold your own

Scavenge Hunt and send us your list of selected items) shall be the last day of the old year. That will give you the better part of a month to work out your own plan, try it on the boys, possibly during the Christmas school break, and get your Court of Honour to submit their choice of three or four items.

We shall then form ourselves into a committee to draw up the Master Plan for the Nationwide Scavenge Hunt.



More than that we cannot tell you, at the moment, but rest assured that while you, out there in the sticks, are doing your part — in Hawick, Dymchurch, South Shields, Ruthin, Runcorn, Douglas (Isle of Man), St. Helier — aye, even in darkest Hampshire and mid the ice-bound lakes, mountains, rivers and prairies of the great North American continent, we, for our part, will be burning the midnight oil as we work out the details of what will,

without doubt, be the first great Scouting event of the year 1978.

So . . .

May we leave it with you?  
Thank you. Thank you ever so.  
More, much more, in our next.



TENNIS BALL AS SHOWN WHILE  
KICKING A FOOTBALL



- CARRY OUT RESEARCH TO PROVE THAT COLD WATER WILL SINK LIKE A STONE IN VERY HOT WATER AND WILL MERELY RAISE THE LEVEL WITHOUT IMMEDIATELY COOLING IT.

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CASES	227	\$1.00 SALTED ALMONDS	6 DOZ PER CASE	8.00	4.00
CASES	227	\$2.00 SALTED ALMONDS-TWIN PACK	3 DOZ PER CASE	16.00	8.00
CASES	228	\$1.00 HERSHEY-ETS	6 DOZ PER CASE	8.00	4.00
CASES	228	\$2.00 HERSHEY-ETS TWIN PACK	3 DOZ PER CASE	16.00	8.00
CASES	210	\$2.50 RADIANT CANDLES	5 DOZ PER CASE	18.00	12.00
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CASES	212	\$3.00 HOLIDAY ELEGANCE CANDLES	5 DOZ PER CASE	21.60	14.40
CASES	224	\$1.00 ALMOND NOUGAT ROLLS	6DOZ PER CASE	8.00	4.00

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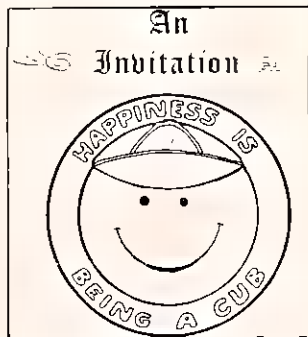
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# paksak

by Bob Butcher

On a recent trip to the lower mainland area of B.C. I had the opportunity to meet and talk with a number of Cub leaders and share some ideas and experiences.

In **Burnaby Region**, **Cub Coordinator Carl Larsen** is trying out some enthusiastic approaches toward the recruitment of Wolf Cubs. For parts of the region where membership is down and packs are small, Carl has prepared a slide presentation all about the fun activities of Cubbing, which can be taken into schools and shown to boys of Cub age. Carl has prepared another recruitment item — the personal invitation pictured here.



Inside the card there is a message which reads:

Hi! .....  
 Our Cub pack is having a special activities night and I'd like to invite you to come. There will be cool games and all you'll have to do is have FUN.  
 Your Mom and Dad can come too.  
 Date: .....  
 Time: .....  
 Place: .....  
 Signed: .....

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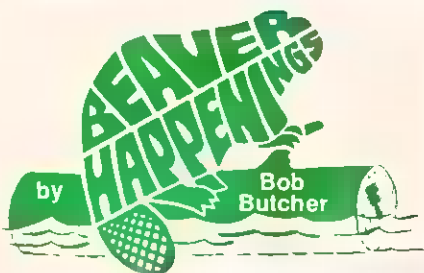
Cub leaders can make these available to Cubs who have a friend that they think might enjoy seeing what Cubbing is all about. If you would like to fill any vacancies in your pack perhaps you could try out one of these ideas.

In other areas of B.C. I repeatedly came across the opposite state of affairs — a situation that is occurring more and more frequently as the Beaver section grows in size. That is the situation where packs are beginning to find it difficult to accommodate all of the Beavers swimming up and still provide space for boys coming in "off the street". If such a situation is developing in your pack **TELL SOMEBODY ABOUT IT!** Don't just create a waiting list or turn people away. Tell your group committee chairman and your service Scouter or commissioner. If you don't have these or know who they are, call your nearest Scout office. It is important that every boy who wants to join Cubbing be given the opportunity and if there is no more room in your pack then the answer is to find or even start another pack, which boys can join. Incidentally many Beaver leaders across Canada are becoming Cub leaders as their boys swim-up. Check out the possibilities of this in your area and by adding another member to your leadership team you may not have to refer any boys elsewhere.

I wish to take this opportunity to extend best wishes for the holiday season to all readers of Paksak as well as sincere thanks to those who have contributed material.

May the new year bring renewed inspiration for all of us.

*Bob Butcher is Director of Beavers and Wolf Cub Programs in Program Services, here at the National Office. He joined the staff in 1967, working then in the National Capital Region. He is married and has two young daughters.*



A letter from Ron Jones, Beaver Coordinator in the Moncton District of New Brunswick, tells us of an event that could only be classed as a flying success. It was their first annual Frisbee Day. Thirteen out of 15 local colonies participated, with 155 Beavers registered for the three-hour Saturday morning event at the local Coliseum. Frisbees were distributed to all colonies several weeks before the big day, for practising accuracy and distance. The Frisbee Committee realized that Frisbees were to be but a small part of the gathering, with the main emphasis on togetherness.

While Ron doesn't describe how the actual events were carried out, there was no doubt from his enthusiastic letter that the day was a complete success. Something that appealed to the Beavers was the surprise appearance of Donald Duck, the Root Bear, and the Cookie Monster. Some of the eatable goodies on hand were potato chips, cola and chocolate cake. While the chocolate-

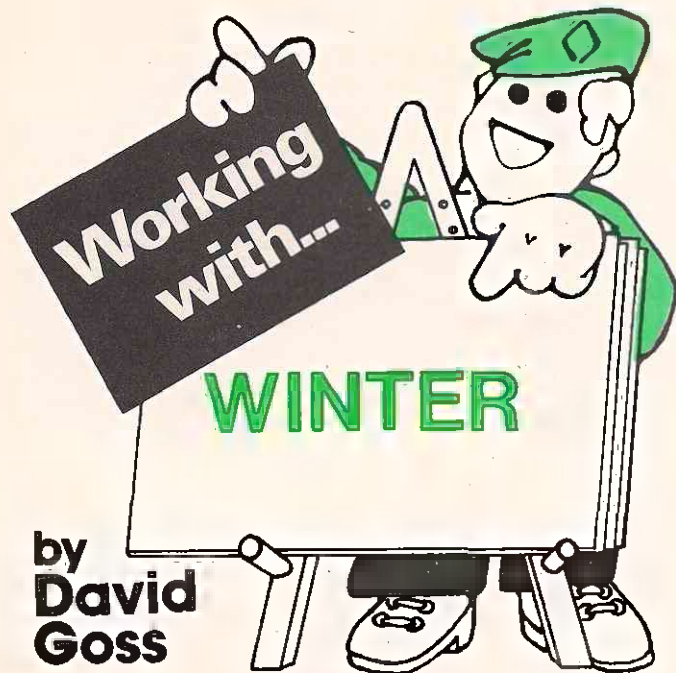
faced Beavers would have made a great T.V. commercial, no one asked for napkins.

Everyone received a Beaver 1977 Frisbee Button. It certainly is nice to have something for everyone so that all the Beavers are winners.

The Moncton District Beavers are planning to share their next district event with the Cubs.

Tell us how it goes Ron!





Champlain, the great French explorer, wrote after spending the winter in New Brunswick in 1604: "This land has ten months of winter". He made one basic mistake when he chose to winter in Canada during those early years of the 17th century. He wasn't prepared. During that first expedition on Dochets Island, a tiny isle in the St. Croix River between New Brunswick and Maine, he lost nearly half his party to the cold grip of winter.

Canadians have come a long way since those days, and for most of us, if winter is not enjoyable, it is at least tolerable. And it really isn't all that long.

There are even those who prefer the winter to our other seasons. Skiers, snowmobilers, snow shoers, skaters and Scouters, all speak of the glories of the frigid season.

"Scouters," you say. Indeed I do! For winter presents an opportunity for challenging Scouting that most boys will carry through the years as their outstanding Scouting memory. I'm speaking of the winter campout.

This magazine, over the years, has carried many informative ideas on winter camping and it is not my intention to rehash them. Just a few years ago, **The Leader** was one of the few sources of ideas on the possibilities of winter camping. Now, there are also a number of good books on the subject (check with your librarian) and several other major magazines have informative articles on the subject.

Our group have been at winter campouts since long before the present popularity came about. What we learned, we learned by doing, and there were some unpleasant nights those first few times when the vagaries of the winter weather caught us, like Champlain, ill prepared to cope.

But, when I meet Scouts that were in the troop ten or more years ago, what do they mention first? It's never the New Brunswick Jamboree, or the Parent and Son Banquet. Not too many even recall the time the boys playfully tipped me into a cold mountain stream as I bent to take a drink. Few recall the afternoon our Scouter lost his false teeth in the muddy Neripis, when two lads tipped him out of the lifeboat. But almost all recall the night the temperature dropped from a balmy 42° F to a -12° below, and we awoke to a morning with everything encrusted in a 2" thick shell of hard ice. Or the night we built snow caves and discovered one of the leaders had claustrophobia and couldn't climb in. It doesn't matter that some years the

temperature remained constant, that no snow fell, or high winds didn't gust around barely flickering fires. The passing years seem to have clouded these good nights, and the boys only speak of the severest weather, the chilliest tent, the most uncooked food, in fact, anything that went wrong seemed to make the most impression on their young minds, and this perhaps added to the unique character of the winter campout, the challenge the cold presented and how they beat it.

This has been a rather long dialogue on the value of winter campouts. If your not persuaded now to try it, no amount of coaxing will likely change you from a summer Scouter. For those who will try a winter camp, or have been trying them, here are a few ideas we've used that were fun. They might not all work for you, just as some didn't for me, but that's part of the fun!

**Winter Games** — An activity day involving a sun-up to sundown round of activities is the next best thing to a winter camp. In fact it should precede any winter outing in order to check the boys' dress, brush them up on winter foods and cooking, and reinforce the idea of the shortness of the winter-day. Many boys make the mistake of putting off chores in winter camp assuming, as in summer camps, they will be able to complete their wood gathering, or similar tasks, after supper.

The activities listed here work best when you have several patrols in competition. So invite your neighbouring troops or those from other districts. Have each set up a base station and on a pre-arranged signal, send one member of the patrol to receive instructions at a central point. Then the boy returns to his patrol, explains the activity, and the patrol carries out the project. First patrol finished or with best job, gets some reward — either points, ribbons, etc. At noontime all return to base to cook dinner, and after lunch the games resume. Some ideas:

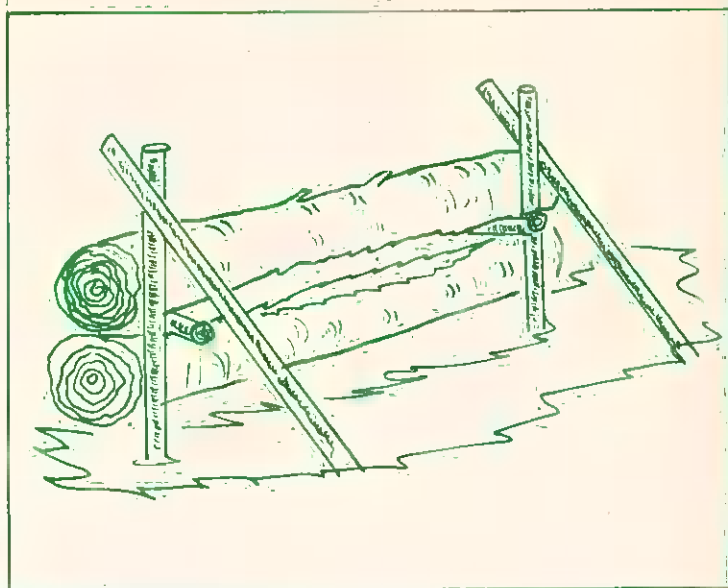
1. Using the bodies of your patrol, spell the international symbol for help in clean snow. (But you'd better make sure there are no aircraft in the vicinity when you try this, or you may be unexpectedly rescued!)
2. Using any method you know, demonstrate how to rescue one of your buddies who has fallen through the ice of a nearby pond.
3. Devise a way of bringing an injured Scout from your base to the central point without him touching the ground. Demonstrate.
4. Find some way, in addition to No. 1, of signalling to an imaginary airplane that you are lost.
5. Take a balloon (provided) back to your base. Devise a way of breaking it from 25' away. Come to central and demonstrate your method. You have only two chances.
6. Find the champion "snow chicken fighter" in your patrol. Once determined, send him to central to see who is the grand champ.
7. With whatever material you've handy, devise a rabbit snare. Once done, send someone to advise central so they can check it.
8. Get one of your members 5' off the ground, have him light a fire sufficient to boil a billy of water on his perch.
9. Capture and tie up one of the patrol leaders of a rival patrol — no fisticuffs — and don't get wet.
10. Send your best axeman to the axemanship contest. (In pulp log, drill ten 1/8" holes 2" apart. Set a wooden match head-up in each hole. Each contestant gets ten direct chops at the matches. The number he lights is his score. A hatchet is recommended over a 2 1/4 pound axe.)

You can round this program off with a toboggan pulling contest, tug of war on ice, tin can curling, ice pond bowling (using frozen milk containers for pins and frozen snowballs for balls), tin can hockey (using dead branches as sticks and tin cans for pucks).

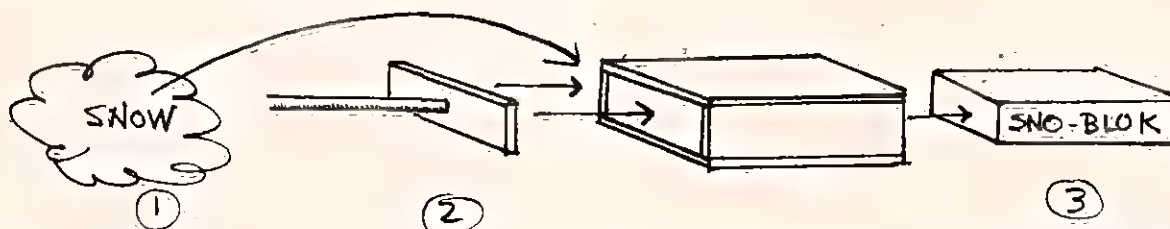
**Living With Winter** — For the troop well into winter camping or winter outings, or for a district looking for a good public relations project during Boy Scout-Girl Guide Week, I can't think of a better activity than a community "Living With Winter" demonstration. Here are some activity ideas:

1. Ice rescue (with live scuba divers in holes cut in a lake or pond, if possible).
2. Cross country skiing demonstration (in cooperation with local ski club or ski shop).
3. Snowmobile safety (in cooperation with local snowmobile club).
4. Winter survival tips (a local Venturer company, with a fully set-up emergency survival bivouac and such supplies as should be carried on any winter expedition into the woods).
5. Car safety in winter — with a car properly equipped for winter travel; not just the usual snow tires and booster cables but spare clothing, flares, extra food, first aid gear, etc. (Contact your Provincial Safety Council for their booklet called "Winter Storms — You and Your Car".)

Don't overlook the possibility of selling hot chocolate and donuts at such an event. Make sure it's well publicized and that the media are present for T.V., radio and news coverage. The above ideas are just starters; your community has other skilled winter workers such as St. John Ambulance, fire, police, radio, search and rescue, and others, that could easily add to the success of this program.



**Finnish Fire** — Two 6' logs are selected. The bark and about 1" of the wood is cut out in the centre 4' of one side of each log. The two cut sides are placed together as in the diagram, and separated by a green stick. It might be



#### Other Outdoor Ideas

**A Catapult** — Design and build a catapult capable of a 100 foot throw with an accuracy of 20%. Of course this will be followed by —

**A Fort or Snow Castle** — Made from blocks of snow or slush compacted into a pre-made form, laid on the snow fort and pushed out to form walls (see diagram).

**A Good Evening Activity** — Is practicing digging snow caves in city snow piles, but be careful of traffic hazards.

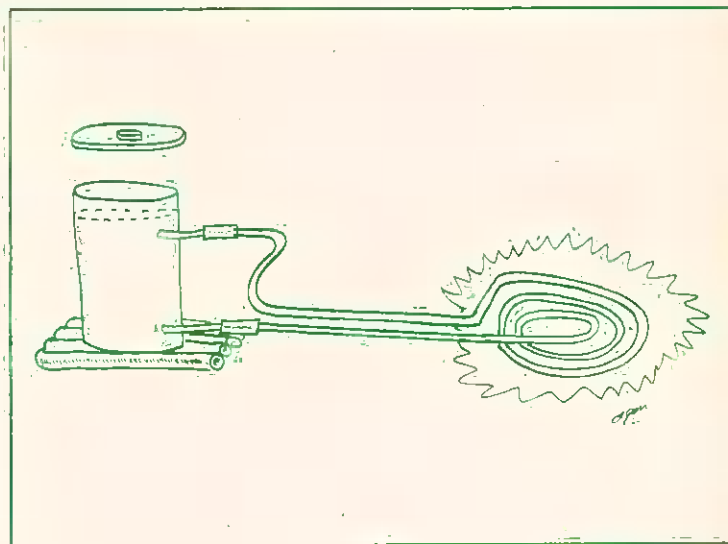
**A Bloodhound Hike** — Send someone out with a good quantity of red poster paint to leave a fresh trail of "blood" on the snow. The troop follows the trail, which, after a good two miles of hard tramping, leads to a friend's house, where steaming hot chocolate and cookies are served by the family.

**Toboggans, Magic Carpets, Flying Saucers** — And all those other new fangled devices for sliding that have replaced seats-of-pants and cardboard, are always good for an evening's fun, especially if the Girl Guides are invited.

**Good Turns** — There are always walks to shovel, fire hydrants to dig out, crosswalks to clear, etc. In addition, older Scouts might offer to do a free battery, oil and anti-freeze check for the Sunday worshippers in their sponsor's church, and also leave each car checked, a couple of milk cartons full of dried beach sand for their next bog down in the snow, along with a copy of the emergency booklet described above.

necessary to place the upright supports shown to keep the logs from tipping and, if used, the logs should lean slightly back against the support sticks.

A fire is lit between the hollowed portions of the two logs, using the chips you've chipped out along with other wood. This fire is reputed to burn all night without attention, and to heat an open bivouac. It will burn all night (once started — which is difficult with frost-filled logs — but not impossible). I'll leave it to you to decide how much heat it provides.



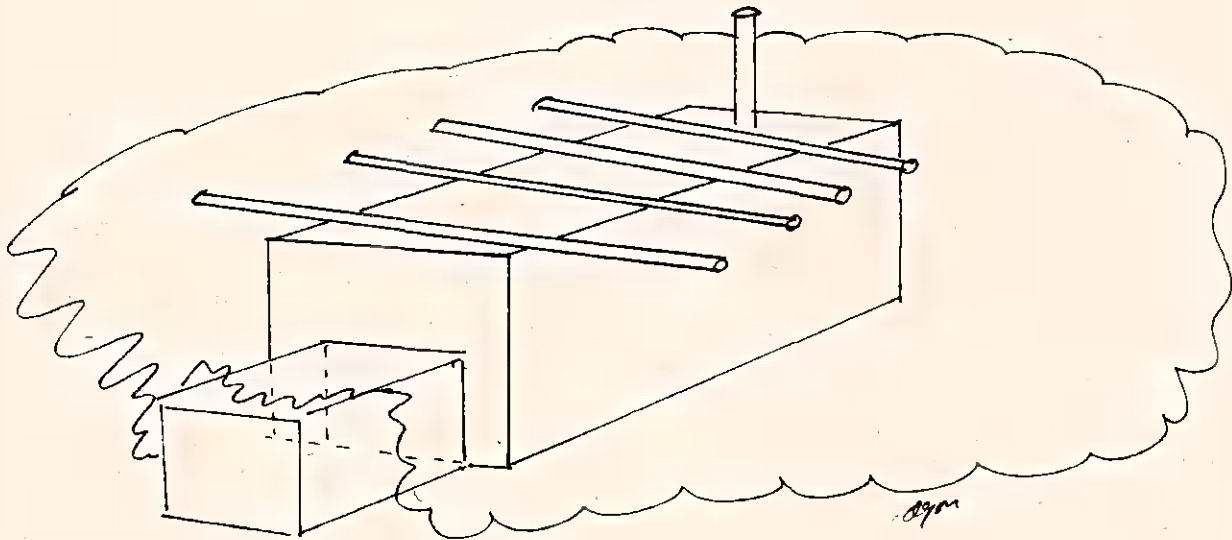


**Continuous Hot Water Heater** — Obtain a 2½ gallon tin and clean it well to remove all traces of previous contents. It should have a cover and should, after all connections are made, be insulated on the outside (try styrofoam and newspaper). Drill a ¼" hole one inch from bottom and two inches from top. Solder in a 3" length of ¼" copper tubing. Obtain an 8' length of ¼" copper tubing and form a coil, as in the diagram, in the middle.

Join the ends to each of the 3" spouts by rubber hose. Fill container to dotted lines with water. Light fire in coil area, or place coil in previously lit fire. The water will heat quickly. Dip it out with a dipper (the sort used for hot chocolate or instant soups). Always replace whatever you take out to keep the level above the top tube, and if there is snow on the ground, have the heater set on logs. Next campout we're going to try heating a tent with this system. Do you think it will work?

**Cardboard Cave** — Snow caves are not possible in many parts of Canada due to fluctuating snowfalls and mild spells. However, if you can get some large cardboard containers (like refrigerator boxes and hot water heater boxes), you can build a nice cave which will give you the same experience a real one would.

Flatten the boxes out and take them to camp on roof racks. Then toboggan them into the woods and re-assemble them. Place a smaller box for the doorway, but just cut a flap. Don't cut the ends out of either box as this gives you a double door to your cave. You should cut a small hole in the roof for an outdoor vent. Pile snow on your box and around it. When there is 2" or 3" on top, lay several poles across the box and onto the snowbank as extra support. Then add another 4" of snow on the roof and 2' or 3' along the sides. It's assumed your box will rest on whatever snow was on the ground when you arrived. This, along with the piles you add, will make for a comfortable shelter. Don't use any form of heat in this shelter without plenty of ventilation.



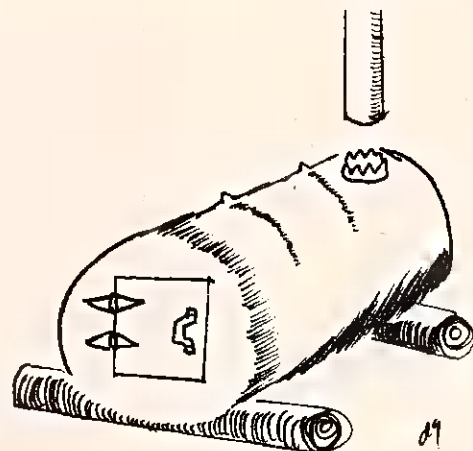
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**Drainpipe Stove** — Pulp cutters often create makeshift stoves, to heat their dinner shacks, out of 5 gallon tins (oil drums usually). This one is made from a 5 gallon tin with a flat end. Paint suppliers or roofers have these.

Cut a door in the cover end, and a hole in the top, with a flange to fit inside a metal drainpipe. Make a door cover of metal and fasten it on with hinges and sheet metal screens.

When you reach camp, give it a good burn to clean out the inside contents. Then set it up in your bivouac, with your drainpipe chimney poked through a hole in the roof. You'll need plenty of small wood for this stove, but it will make a bivouac a lot more comfortable than the best of reflector fires.

As with all stoves, guard against carbon monoxide. X





Compact mounds of partially dried and decayed plant material can frequently be seen scattered among the cattails and bulrushes of marshy landscapes. These dead-looking heaps are homes of the muskrat (*Ondatra zibethica*), a fairly large rodent commonly found in the wetlands and waterways of North America. In the late evening during ice-free portions of the year, these animals can be seen swimming on the water, sitting at feeding stations such as logs or points of land, and busily improving lodges. In the spring, during the mating season, sharp whining noises and occasional sounds of fighting may be heard.

Although the muskrat builds lodges near the water and is an accomplished swimmer, it is not a close relative of the beaver, as is sometimes thought. Nor is it a true 'rat'. Instead, it is basically a large field mouse that has adapted to life in and around water.

### Appearance

The muskrat has a rotund, paunchy appearance. The entire body, with the exception of the tail and feet, is covered with a rich waterproof layer of fur. The short underfur is dense and silky, while the longer guard hairs are coarser and glossy. The colour ranges from dark brown on the head and back to a light greyish-brown on the belly. A full grown animal weighs on the average about two pounds (one kilogram), but this varies considerably in various parts of North America. The length of the body from the tip of the nose to the end of the tail is usually about 20 inches (50 cm). The tail is slender, flattened vertically and up to about 10 inches (25 cm) long. It is covered with a scaly skin that protects it from physical damage.

Only a minimal amount of hair grows on the feet. The hand-like front feet are used in building lodges, holding food, and digging burrows and channels. Although the

larger hind feet are used in swimming, they are not webbed like those of the beaver and otter. Instead, the four long toes of each foot have a fringe of specialized hairs along each side, giving the foot a paddle-like effect. The rather small ears are usually completely hidden by the long fur. The four chisel-like front teeth (two upper and two lower incisors), each up to three quarters of an inch long, are used in cutting stems and roots of plants.

The muskrat's name is derived from the fact that this animal has two special musk glands (also called anal glands) situated beneath the skin in the region of the anus. These glands enlarge during the breeding season and produce a yellowish, musky-smelling substance that is deposited at stations along travel routes used by muskrats. Common sites of deposition are 'toilets', bases of lodges and conspicuous points of land. The biology of musk glands has not been studied extensively, but the odour produced is believed to be a means of communication among muskrats, particularly during the breeding season.

### Distribution

The muskrat is more widely distributed in North America than almost any other mammal, and in this respect is a very successful species. It is found from the Arctic Ocean in the north to the Gulf of Mexico in the south, and from the Pacific Ocean in the west to the Atlantic Ocean in the east. This broad distribution is closely related to the muskrat's use of aquatic environments, which are common in North America. Human activities in North America during the last two centuries have not greatly influenced marshy environments and, as a result, have not significantly affected the distribution of muskrats. In some cases, however, the draining of marshes or swamps for agricultural or other purposes has completely exterminated local populations. In others, the building of irrigation ditches and canals has increased populations.

Until the early part of this century, muskrats occurred only in North America. In about 1905, they were introduced to Europe, where they quickly established themselves as permanent residents. They spread northward and eastward, and today are common in Europe and northern Asia.

### Habitat

Muskrats typically live in fresh water marshes, marshy areas of lakes, and slow-moving streams. The water must be deep enough that it will not freeze to the bottom during the winter, but shallow enough to permit growth of aquatic vegetation — ideally between three and six feet (one and two meters). Areas with good growths of bulrushes, cattails, pondweeds or sedges are preferred. Bulrushes and cattails are most important, particularly in lakes. As well as being used as food, they are used as a building material in the construction of lodges and feeding stations, and as shelter from winds and wave action. In northern regions, horsetails can be important in muskrat habitat.

If bulrushes or cattails are not available, muskrats dig burrows in firm banks of mossy soil or clay. Because easy access to deep water is required, water depths must increase fairly rapidly from the shore where burrows are situated. This provides muskrats with an opportunity to escape from predators, and with a food supply under the ice during the winter.

Because muskrats build lodges in certain areas and bank burrows in others, some people refer to them as 'house rats' and 'bank rats' respectively. Often, these names are used in a way that suggest these two 'types' of muskrats possess inherited biological differences. This is

not the case. The type of habitation used is a simple response to local conditions.

### Adaptations to Life in Water

The muskrat is well adapted to semi-aquatic life style. While fully functional on land, it has evolved characteristics that make it at home in the water. At three weeks of age it is a capable swimmer and diver. As an adult, it swims effortlessly and can do so for long periods of time. This ability is greatly facilitated by the buoyant qualities of the thick waterproof fur. When swimming on the surface, the front feet are tucked slightly forward against the upper chest while the back feet are used in alternate strokes to propel the body. The tail is used at most as a rudder. When swimming underwater, however, the sculling action of the tail probably provides as much propulsive force as do the hind feet.

The muskrat, together with the beaver and several other mammals, is capable of remaining submerged up to 15 minutes if in a relaxed state. Non-aquatic mammals cannot do this because they need a continual supply of oxygen and must continually expel carbon dioxide. The muskrat is able to partially overcome this problem by reducing its heart rate and relaxing its muscles when submerged: this reduces the rate at which oxygen is used. Also, it stores a supply of oxygen in its muscles for use during a dive, and is less sensitive to high carbon dioxide levels in the blood than are non-diving mammals. This ability for extended dives is important in escaping enemies, digging channels and burrows, cutting submerged stems and roots, and travelling long distances under the ice.

The front teeth are specially modified for underwater chewing. Non-aquatic mammals such as dogs or humans would have great difficulty in trying to chew on a large object under water, because water would enter the mouth, throat and nasal passages. This problem has been overcome in the muskrat through the evolution of incisors that protrude ahead of the cheeks and of lips that can close behind the incisors. This adaptation permits the muskrat (and the beaver) to chew on stems and roots under water 'with its mouth closed'.

### Life History and Breeding Habits

Mating activity occurs immediately following spring break-up in March, April or May. Mating pairs do not form lasting family ties: instead the muskrat appears to be promiscuous. Males compete fiercely for females. The birth of the litter, containing five to ten young, occurs less than a month after the female has been mated. The same female normally has another litter a month after the first, and sometimes yet another a month after the second.

The young at birth are blind, hairless, and almost completely helpless, but development follows rapidly. They are covered with thin fur at the end of the second week, and they normally begin leaving the lodge on short trips at about two to three weeks of age. Weaning occurs at about three weeks, and juveniles are essentially independent of their parents at six weeks.

Breeding continues throughout the summer, with the last litters born about August. Food is plentiful during the summer, and the growth of the young is rapid. With the shortening of days and the coming of colder weather in September, preparations for winter begin. The fall is spent building and reinforcing lodges for winter occupancy, and, in some regions, food is stored for winter use. Lodge building behaviour is an extremely important aspect of the ecology of muskrats. The lodge permits them to live in areas surrounded by water, far away from dry land. It protects them from enemies, and gives them shelter from the weather.

A muskrat builds a lodge by first heaping plant material and mud to form a mound. A burrow is then dug into the mound from below the water level, and a chamber is fashioned at the core of the mound. Later, the walls of the lodge are reinforced from the outside with more plants and mud. A simple lodge of this type is about two to three feet high and two to three feet in diameter. It contains only one chamber and has one or two plunge holes (exit burrows). More complex lodges, containing several separate chambers and plunge holes, may be up to five feet high and six feet in diameter.

Shortly after freeze-up, muskrats chew holes through the ice in bays and channels up to 100 yards away from the lodge to create 'push-ups'. After an opening has been created, plant material and mud are used to make a roof over it, resulting in a miniature lodge. Typically there is just enough room for one muskrat in the push-up. It is used as a resting place during underwater forays, and as a feeding station.

The winter is a period of relative inactivity. The muskrat is safe from the cold and from most predators. It spends most of its time sleeping and feeding, until breeding activities begin once more after spring break-up.

Few rodents live to old age, but rather usually are killed by other animals while still quite young or die accidentally. The limited information available suggests muskrats become old at three or four years of age. When they reach this age, they lose much of their natural alertness and fall easy prey to mink, foxes, and other predators.

### Feeding Habits

Of all plants available in marshes, cattails are most preferred as a food item. However, muskrats appear to thrive equally well on a diet of bulrushes, horsetails or pondweeds, the last two constituting the basis of the diet in northern latitudes. A variety of other plants, including sedges, wild rice and willows are also eaten.

During the winter a thick layer of ice restricts the muskrat to the interior of the lodge (or burrow) and the watery environment beneath the ice. The animal's highly developed diving abilities and its use of push-ups become critical in procuring food under these conditions. Foraging trips, covering considerable distances, are made under the ice. When the feeding area is reached, portions of plants are chewed off and carried to the nearest pushup, where they are consumed. This foraging activity under several feet of ice and snow, in ice-cold water and almost total darkness, is truly a remarkable feat.

When their normal food items are scarce or unavailable, and food of animal origin is abundant, muskrats are known to be highly carnivorous. Animals that are commonly consumed under such circumstances include fish, frogs and clams. However, muskrats rarely do well on such a diet. The consumption of such foods is generally taken to be evidence of 'hard times'.

### Limits to Population

The muskrat is a vicious fighter when provoked. It stands its ground courageously if an escape route to deep water is not available, and can inflict considerable damage on an attacker with its long incisors. In spite of this, it is often preyed upon by other species. The mink occupies much of the same habitat as muskrats, and can be the cause of heavy mortality among juveniles under certain conditions. Mink use the same burrow systems, dig into muskrat lodges and may enter lodges through plunge holes. The snapping turtle and the northern pike also inhabit marshes and prey on the muskrat. When muskrats wander on dry land in search of new habitat, they are subject to predation by members of the dog family — wolves, coyotes, foxes, and domestic dogs — as

well as by atypical predators such as badgers, wolverines, fishers, racoons and lynx.

The muskrat has long been hunted by man, probably the major enemy or predator of this species. Prior to the colonization of North America by Europeans, it was hunted occasionally for food. With the coming of the early settlers and the introduction of guns and traps, the muskrat was hunted intensively for its fur. This activity has persisted to the present day — muskrat fur is still in great demand as a luxury item. Also, the muskrat is still used as food by man in some parts of North America.

Musk rats, like many other wildlife species, show large fluctuations in numbers that follow what appears to be a regular pattern. In the case of the muskrat, numbers decrease drastically about every seven to ten years. At such times, few or no muskrats can be found where two or three years earlier there were thousands. These catastrophes are often blamed on predators or on overtrapping. However, scientists believe these are not the real causes. Instead, they believe that, for some as yet unknown reason, the quality and health of individuals decreases, causing widespread death and reproductive failure. Reproductive and death rates return to normal one or two years following such a population decline, leading to an increase in muskrat numbers once more.

**Research and Management**

The muskrat contributes more to the total combined income of North American trappers than any other mammal. Because of this important role in the trapping industry, it has been studied extensively by the Canadian Wildlife Service. The first major studies were conducted on the Mackenzie River Delta in the far north and the Athabasca-Peace Delta in northern Alberta during the late 1940's. The research on the Mackenzie River Delta was continued during the 1960's. A thorough under-

standing of habitat requirements, food habits, reproduction, longevity, causes of mortality, long term changes in numbers and the effect of weather on all these factors is essential to put management procedures on a sound scientific basis. Today, largely as a result of the efforts of the Canadian Wildlife Service and wildlife research groups in the United States, most of the essential information regarding muskrat populations is available.

There are two major methods of managing muskrat populations: the first involves improving habitat, and the second concerns regulating the commercial harvest by trappers. The most common method of improving habitat is to regulate the water levels between about three and six feet of depth over large areas by building dams at strategic points in lake outlets and streams. Sometimes this occurs as a natural side-effect of beaver dams.

Regulation of commercial harvest is based on current population sizes and future population trends. Usually, the harvest is maintained at the highest possible level that will not adversely affect population sizes and harvests in future years.

The future of the muskrat in Canada is bright. In spite of heavy trapping pressure, the draining of marshes for agricultural purposes and unprecedented industrial activities, the species has never been endangered in Canada. Indeed, population numbers today are probably almost as high as they were a thousand years ago. X

**NEXT MONTH:** The Snowshoe Hare.

From the Canadian Wildlife Service's HINTERLAND WHO'S WHO series issued under the authority of the Honourable Jack Davis, PC, MP, Minister of the Environment.

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# Here We Come A-Carolling



30

by Judy Evans

I am sure we are not the only pack leaders who scratch their heads each year and wonder just what kind of a program to set up for the last meeting before Christmas. I think everyone will agree that it should be special and the boys certainly expect something different. But what? They are so hyperactive that you are pretty well reduced to two choices: either keep them so busy that they don't have time to breathe or do something that is so far removed from their usual activities that it keeps their interest.

Last year we more or less combined these two ideas and the results were surprisingly good. What did we do? We took them carol singing.

Now there is, I know, nothing new about carol singing. By the time the last meeting arrives your pack will have spent several weeks singing carols both at church and at school, plus a few "popular" versions of their own on the side. But what about the good, old fashioned singing in the street? You know the sort of thing I mean. The Charles Dickens kind with a group of carollers clustered round a lamp singing lustily, while the snowflakes fall gently all around them.

Well obviously, with a pack of Cubs taking part, the scene would be a little less idyllic but we felt the idea was worth trying out anyway. We knew that whatever we did would be an improvement on the last year, when our Christmas party descended into chaos somewhere between "Hunt the Santa" and "Musical Chairs" and left us with a lasting memory of what *not* to do with the boys just before Christmas.

To be honest, I must admit that when our plan was put forward to the pack it was greeted with something less than enthusiasm. There were long-suffering groans and more than one objection. At least six boys wanted to know if we would have hot chocolate and cookies again this year, and one of the sixers asked, with barely concealed mirth, if we could expect another visit from Santa.

I wasn't too sure about that one, as last year one of the younger Cubs had got so excited that he had run straight into the poor man just as he was sitting down, and not only knocked him off his chair but also pushed his whiskers to somewhere around his left ear. When I mentioned this and said that he may not want to come back, one of the others piped up:

"Oh yes he will. He's Randy's Dad you know, and he told us afterwards that he didn't mind."

I noticed that one of the smaller Cubs was looking decidedly puzzled at this last remark and thought it wise to change the subject. His enlightened colleagues would clue him in soon enough without any help from me.

So back to the matter in hand. At this point I mentioned that, rather than pick houses at random, we would be going to specially selected homes — those belonging to the elderly folk in our community, the shut-ins etc. Along the same vein I made it clear that we would not accept any donations offered. This was to be strictly a community service and one that we hoped would bring pleasure to both the people we had chosen to sing for and the Cubs themselves.

It was a cool, crisp night as we set out and I was glad that we had only allowed an hour for the actual singing. The Cubs would be getting more than a little cold by that time.

We had asked them each to bring a flashlight and, just before we left the church hall, had distributed carol sheets obtained from our local newspaper office. I had picked up almost double the number needed, reasoning that, for a good percentage of the Cubs, the sheets would never make the whole route in one piece.

They soon got into the swing of things. We allowed them to pick the carols they liked best — that is, until we had sung "*Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer*" half a dozen times, and then it was the leaders' turn to choose. The clear treble voices sounded good even to us and the delighted expressions from the occupants of the homes we visited had its effect on both boys and leaders. Each house was treated to two carols and then a mighty yell of "Merry Christmas" as the pack hurtled down the sidewalk to the next place.

All went well until we came to the last house on our list.

Then our plans for a non-profit-making evening came unstuck, for it was occupied by a little old lady noted for handing out scrumptious cookies to any children who call.

The boys crowded around her doorstep singing twice as loud as before and, true to form, the door opened and there she stood with an enormous plate of cookies. Twenty five pairs of anxious eyes looked at me. Did that count? Well it didn't, of course, and soon we were all happily munching on some, still warm, peanut cookies.

It often seems to me that if anyone will find an angle, a Cub will, and this night was no exception. I glanced over to where one of our budding "con men" was standing in a huddle with a few of his friends, and I knew that something was up.

"It's just money that we can't accept isn't it?" he finally asked, having finished his conference.

"Well yes," I agreed, reluctantly, knowing full well that I would regret it.

"And that was the last house we have to sing at?"

"Yes, although we still have a few minutes left if you have someone special in mind."

"Do we ever! Come on you guys!"

In a body they raced off along the sidewalk, leaving three rather bewildered leaders behind. Maybe we had misjudged them. Maybe there was a parent or grandmother they specially wanted to sing for.

We knew better really, but it wasn't until we caught up

with yet another, muffled, rendering of "Rudolph" that we realized where they were. The reason it was, muffled was that they were inside the village store, standing, pointedly in front of a row of candy jars and singing lustily.

As anticipated, an hour was long enough, and by the time we arrived back at the church we were all pretty cold. Santa arrived, a little gingerly I must admit, but I could hardly blame him for that. However, this year the Cubs had used up most of their energy outside and that, along with the warning we had issued earlier in the evening, made them a lot more considerate to their visitor.

I like to think we accomplished two things that evening. We captured the Christmas spirit certainly. But at the same time we managed to tie it up with something of what we are trying to teach the Cubs, for it was an ideal opportunity to get across to them that community service is a pleasurable thing to do, as well as one of importance. We noticed too, that they enjoyed the evening far more than the previous year, when no effort had been required on their part, and that in itself taught us leaders something.

We hope to make it an annual event, maybe expanding it a little to include other Scouting groups. Someone even suggested the Brownies, but I don't know if the boys' community spirit would stretch that far. However, no matter how large or small our group of carollers is, if we can spread a little Christmas cheer and Scouting spirit all in one go, it will be doubly worth the effort. X

## The Evergreens



Once, very long ago, as winter was coming on, a poor little bird who had broken its wing and who could not fly with the other birds to the southland, where it was warm, hopped about among the trees of a great forest to ask for help.

The first tree it came to was a birch.

"Lovely birch tree," the bird said, "My wing is broken and I must find a place to keep warm. Will you permit me to live in your branches until spring?"

"No, no," answered the birch. "Why, I must take care of my leaves through the winter, and that alone will keep me quite busy. I can do nothing for you."

Next the little bird hopped up to the oak.

"Mighty oak tree," said the little bird in its nicest manner, "Will you permit me to live in your branches until spring?"

"No, no," answered the oak. "Spring is a long time off and for all I know you might eat up my acorns. I think you had better leave."

Next the little bird hopped up to the willow tree.

"Gentle willow," the little bird said, "Will you permit me to live in your branches until spring?"

"No, no," answered the willow. "I don't know you at all. Perhaps there are other trees somewhere that will take in strange birds — but not I. Please go away."

Now the little bird did not know where to turn, but it kept on hopping and fluttering along as best it could with its broken wing. Suddenly a voice asked:

"Where are you going little bird?"

The bird looked up and saw a friendly spruce tree, who had asked him the question.

"I really don't know," said the bird, sadly. "My wing is broken so that I cannot fly, and I must find a place to keep warm during the winter."

"Come live in one of my branches," invited the spruce tree. "You may stay all winter if you wish."

"May I really?" asked the little bird.

"Of course," replied the spruce. "I would be delighted to have you as company."

So the little bird fluttered up to a branch and, as it did so, a pine tree standing beside the spruce called

out:

"I could not help hearing what you said, little bird. I will help by sheltering the spruce and you from the icy winds, in my branches."

"And I can help," said a little juniper tree who had also overheard, "By giving you berries to eat all winter long."

"Thank you," said the little bird. "Thank you all very kindly."

The other trees looked on and whispered among themselves.

"I would not have anything to do with a strange bird," said the birch.

"Nor I," said the oak. "It might eat up all of my acorns. You know how these birds are — always looking for something to eat."

"True words indeed," agreed the willow.

Soon the Frost children came to play in the forest.

"We would like to touch every leaf in the forest and see the trees bare," they said impishly, to their father.

But Jack Frost, their father, had seen what had taken place with the little bird.

"Do not touch every leaf," he ordered. "The trees that have been kind to the little bird may keep their leaves."

So the Frost children had to leave them alone. And that is why the leaves of the spruce, the pine and the juniper are green all the year round, even now.

Thanks go to **Jack Adair, Chris MacNeil** and **Katherine Scott** of **Vancouver-Coast Region** for sharing this story with us. X



training talk  
by reg roberts

This month  
Reg writes about ...

**HOW  
ADULTS  
LEARN**

As people in Scouting, who are involved in the training of adults, you would recognize that, despite the fact that adults vary widely with respect to age, background, educational level, personality and many other characteristics, when placed in a training situation they tend to react in similar ways to the trainers and the training being offered.

As a way of checking this out, begin by looking at your own reaction as a participant in a training situation. Think about the best trainers you have known. What did they do to help you enjoy learning new things, and how did they go about encouraging you to work hard to achieve your goals in a training group?

Think also about trainers you did not enjoy being with, and those things they did that made you feel discouraged and lose interest. Finally think about the training events where you as a trainer have tried to help others learn. What worked best for you? What seemed to help the participants achieve, and what were some of the things you learned not to do?

The processes of learning is similar for all adults and, for leaders training young people, similar for these young people also.

Some of the things we know about the learning process can help us build useful guidelines for trainers to consider for each training situation.

- Praise or reward is as important for adults to receive as it is for young people; it increases the chances of the learning being retained and practiced because it is seen as enjoyable. Adult participants need reassurance and reinforcement; particularly when beginning something new or different such as Scout training tends to be for many.

As confidence is gained and participants begin to feel comfortable about the training, praise may be required less often, but should never be completely withdrawn.

- Praise or rewards should come soon after the participant has demonstrated some new learning and a relationship between the praise and the practice should be clearly identified.

- The kind of reward which has the greatest value, in carrying over from the training event to the participants back-home situation, is one that gives participants a sense of achievement in having accomplished their own purpose.

Often at the beginning of a training event an exercise is conducted to determine what the participants know and what they wish to learn. As the learning takes place, it is important for the trainers to point out clearly each objective that the learners achieve and link the achievement to where, and how, it will be used in a back

home situation. In this way the participants can see that they have achieved their goals and be encouraged to set new ones.

- Participants will be looking to their trainers as models of behaviour that they can follow. The way trainers conduct themselves in training situations, the way they interact with participants can prove helpful or hindering to the learning process. The trainer's knowledge of the subject, enthusiasm about learning, consideration of the needs of the participants, sense of fair play, ability to co-operate and concern for each person is important in helping the learners feel that the trainer is as interested in helping them achieve their goals as they are themselves.

- Participants come into training situations with a desire to find out about things not now known to them. Opportunities to discover new ideas, new skills and knowledge provide another form of reward. While the unknown may be scary it is also challenging and participants look forward to expanding their knowledge of things that are important in their lives.

- Trainers will be more effective if they avoid monotonous ways of doing things. Using a variety of approaches, materials and activities will keep the learning experience fresh and the participants attention fully alert.

- Participants in a training situation appreciate honest appraisal of their progress. Positive criticism followed by opportunities to practice further is a useful means to reinforce the learning.

Threats or negative criticism is not seen as helpful. Such action may relieve the trainer's frustration but may only harden a participant's resolve that "I can never do anything right." The trainer should attempt to dispel any 'loser' image a participant may have and create situations where 'winning' is seen as possible and desirable.

- There is a noticeable pace to the learning process in that participants generally start off slowly at first, picking up speed as they acquire new knowledge and skill as well as confidence, and then tapering off as they reach the limit of their interest or have achieved their goals. As new goals are developed the pattern begins again.

- Trainers can expect that some of the content of any particular session will be forgotten by the next one. However if the material is reviewed and recalled shortly after the session, the amount forgotten will be quickly reduced. Building in opportunities for recall and review shortly after first presentation of the information, and again later on, will be most helpful.

In planning a training design, linking session content, reviewing past material and identifying its relationship to what comes next does provide the review and recall opportunities that are very helpful in retaining what is



learnt.

- Learning will happen more quickly if the participants are active rather than passive and they will retain what they have learned longer if they have a chance to practice or apply it.

- When participants find themselves in circumstances in which they feel comfortable and which bring them satisfaction they begin to develop attitudes that encourage further learning. In this way the more they learn the more they want to learn.

If they enjoy the training events you are associated with and see you as competent and helpful, they will be encouraged to take further training in which you are involved. Telling other leaders of their satisfactory experience will encourage more people to get involved in training.

- Adults in Scouting come into training situations generally because they want to learn and therefore expect to have more skill and knowledge at the end of the training than when they began. If the environment appears to be unfriendly and if it appears as though the trainers are not competent, learning may not take place.

- It is a wise trainer who recognizes that the adult participants bring a great deal of experience into a training situation, and a wiser one who puts such experience to use. In some subject areas participants often know more than the trainer and so may not be prepared to simply accept everything that is said without checking it against their own experience. For the trainer this can be seen as a challenge, a threat, or an opportunity to make use of this experience for the benefit of all the participants.

- The more experienced the participants are, the more they will expect the trainers to back up their session content, rules or directions with sound argument and evidence. At the same time, the range of experience within a training group is a resource the trainer can draw on in encouraging active learning by all.

- In any training group it should be recognized that all participants come with concerns they wish to have resolved and many see their own concern as being the most important. In creating a training design, care should be taken to identify with participants all the concerns that will be dealt with during the event, those that do not fall

into the area to be covered by this event (with suggestions as to how they might be dealt with), and those which are clearly beyond the scope of the trainers or the organization to resolve.

- Adults in training situations have a deep need to be treated with respect and to be seen as responsible people. They tend to avoid and resent being *told* what to do or not to do, talked down to, embarrassed, punished or judged. The trainer then, must show respect for the participants through the careful preparation of session material, arrangement of the training area or room, tone of voice, acceptance of the participants' right to develop and express their own opinions, and involvement of the participants in identifying their own learning needs.

- Scouting has always believed in the principle of "learning-by doing" and this is reflected in the programs for boy and youth members. The same principle holds true for adults in training situations and can be stated as "the learner learns what he or she does". Providing opportunities for the participants to do the things in which they are being trained will tend to reinforce the learning.

- Trainers, once they are involved in the practice of training, should continue to work towards upgrading their own knowledge and skill. In doing so they can have the assurance and confidence to respond to more and more questions or concerns that may be presented to them by the participants.

It should be noted, however, that while trainers who regularly work with adults are increasing in ability and are discovering new ways to present their material, the adults who are new to Scouting are still attending courses in the hope of finding answers to very basic questions.

The trainers must continue to aim course content to the level at which the participants are. It may be exciting for the trainer to try out some new design for a particular session but if it is too advanced for the participants it may well fall on deaf ears.

Training is intended to help the adults in Scouting feel more confident in the position they hold, gather new skills which they can use in their program planning and grow in knowledge that can be shared with others.

The trainer has the responsibility of causing this to happen in as interesting and enjoyable manner as possible. ^

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## EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Have you ever attended a **Scouters' Conference**? If not, you don't know what you are missing. Not only do you have the opportunity of meeting, informally, a large number of enthusiastic people but you can pick up a lot of good practical program ideas from experts.

I've been attending conferences in many parts of the country for some 21 years and I always manage to come away with something new.

On Thursday, October 6, I flew to **Halifax**, to participate in the traditional fall conference of **Nova Scotia Scouting**, which had as its theme this year — "The Gathering Of the Clans".

It was 21 years ago, in 1956, that I helped plan the first N.S. conference and by the time I left the province for Ottawa in 1963, it was a much looked-forward-to annual event.

The Conference moves around each year, in order to enjoy the hospitality of various districts and in 1977 it landed in one of the favourite parts of my native province, **Pictou District**, which incidentally, is not only famous for a brand of hospitality born of the highlands of Scotland, but boasts some of the most enthusiastic Scouters in Canada.

When I first saw the conference advertised in the N.S. provincial bulletin, I thought, "I'd like to go," but before I had to invite myself, along came an official invitation.

So it was that over the Thanksgiving weekend, I was in Nova Scotia, meeting old friends and making new ones; attending those *down east* banquets that can best be described as "belt busters" and visiting displays of Scouting, prepared with love and care by the resident experts, to help newer Scouters to plan good programs for their boys.

I had the pleasure of speaking to the hundred or more Scouters who attended the **Gilwell Breakfast** on the Sunday morning, on my visits to Gilwell Park in England and also doing the Sunday evening dinner address. I also sat in on the meeting of districts commissioners on the Saturday.

The Conference opened officially with the Saturday evening dinner and went through until the noon meal on Monday, when the over 250 Scouters, wives and husbands headed for home.

With the enthusiasm exhibited at the Conference, it's not hard to understand why they are reporting increases in every section this year, as well as in the leadership group.

Now I'm looking forward to attending the **Greater Toronto Regional Conference** on November 26, where I've been invited to give the keynote talk at the opening session.

✦

If you should ever try to find **Hornepayne** on a map of **Ontario**, you will first have to locate **Kapuskasing**. Then you head west for about one hundred miles on the Northern Route of the Trans-Canada Highway and then south about fifty, and there it is, pretty well by itself, on the Canadian National Railway line to the west. According to **Mrs. Doris Paul**, Cubmaster of the **1st. Hornepayne**, distance is the community's enemy and therefore a trip away from home is a pretty exciting thing.

Mrs. Paul wrote recently to tell of the kindness of the **Kapuskasing** Scouting family, who hosted the Scouts and Cubs of Hornepayne over a weekend and provided accommodation and entertainment. The 150 mile trip was made by community bus which was driven by the high school principal, **Mr. Cleghorn**, who gave up his Victoria Day weekend to do his "good turn".

The boys were able to participate in a big campfire program, and visit a pulp mill and an amusement park. Hornepayne Scouting is now looking forward to returning Kapuskasing's hospitality.

✦

A word of appreciation to all who felt they could spare 12¢ and the few minutes necessary to complete the **Readership Survey** which appeared in the October issue. The results will be tabulated and summarized in a future issue and in the meantime we are already starting to include some of the things you have asked for.

If you haven't sent us your completed survey, there is still time and we really want to hear from you. Please do it now!

✦

When the **Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba**, the **Honourable F.L. Jobin** visited the **104th Tuxedo Group**, at the **Canadian Forces Base Winnipeg**, he was invested as an honorary member of the group's Beaver colony.

The occasion was the group's annual parent and son banquet and His Honour arrived in time for dinner, participated in some games with the boys and was later presented with a suitably engraved Beaver statuette, as a memento of the occasion.

Our thanks to **Jim Van Dusen**, chairman of the 104th Group Committee for this report.



National Defence Photo

✦

From World Scouting's **Newsletter** ...on April 16, **The Scout Association of Hong Kong** became the newest member of the World Scout Organization. A branch association of the United Kingdom since 1911 and an associate member of the Asia-Pacific Region since 1968, Hong Kong now has its own constitution and legal status. Membership numbers over 30,000 and the program is tailored for children in high density housing... In **Fiji**, fund raising efforts plus a grant from the Scout Universal Fund, have made possible the development of a national camp and training centre... **Scouts of the Ivory Coast** worked for many months, with farmers, to build two large dams which will help to irrigate many acres... When a local Scout council in the **United States** had a fund raising

drive, inmates of a county correctional institution sent a contribution with the message: "We hope it will help some boy on the outside and keep him from being where we are."...**Kandersteg Scout Centre in Switzerland** last year hosted a record 5,203 guests from 26 countries for a total of 33,106 overnights. Among this number were many Canadians from the **Maple Leaf Region**. Information on Kandersteg is available by writing to **Kandersteg Scout Centre, Dept. NL, CH-3718 Kandersteg, Switzerland** . . . As a humorous stunt to launch their 1977 program theme of "Service to Others", the Guides and Scouts of **Finland** set a new world record for helping elderly people across the street. In -20°C cold and a light snowfall, ten Rangers and Rovers helped 1,467 old folks across streets in five hours in **Espoo, near Helsinki**. Since the association is joint, both men and women were assisted. Although some were at first confused, every one reacted positively and agreed to be helped. The previous record of 1,081 ladies was set in April 1976, by Australian Scouts . . . To increase the population of songbirds in the community of **Sumoto, Japan**, Cubs and Scouts worked with the local Rotary Club to place bird nesting boxes in the woods and hills surrounding the town . . . In **Togo**, Scouting has begun a centre for unemployed youth at **Ago Nyivie**. It will teach agricultural and manual skills to enable them to earn a living. At present it has vegetable gardening and chicken raising. It is planned to expand the modern agricultural training and add manual training workshops.

✦

On July 26, 1977, Canada received full membership in the **International Fellowship of Former Scouts and Guides** at the 12th General Assembly of the organization held in **Montreaux, Switzerland**. The application for membership was submitted by the **Canadian Council of B.-P. Guilds**, and was represented by three of its members who reported that some 600 people, representing twenty-one overseas countries were present at the meeting. The International group will meet next in Bergen, Norway, in 1979.

If you are interested in forming a B.-P. Guild in your area, write to **W.D Touzeau, Secretary, Canadian Council of B.-P. Guilds, 1447 54th St., Delta B.C. V4M 3H6**.

✦

Due to space limitations, it is not always possible to recognize awards to distinguished members of our Movement, either by Scouting itself, other agencies or government. However, two recent cases do, we feel, bear recognition.

During a formal ceremony held in Ottawa on October 14, **Federal Health and Welfare Minister Monique Begin** presented plaques and medallions to the first 12 recipients of her department's **LIFESTYLE AWARD**.

The program provides recognition to individuals within Canadian communities who have given freely of their time and energies, to improve the lifestyle of those around them.

**Brigadier General William Reid of Charlottetown**, was nominated for a Lifestyle Award by Boy Scouts of Canada, for his outstanding leadership during the past 40 years.

Bill Reid still serves as an active Scouter, has been provincial president and provincial commissioner, **Prince Edward Island**, and is presently a vice president of the National Council. His contribution to the success of CJ'77 is a recent example of the abilities of this dedicated man.

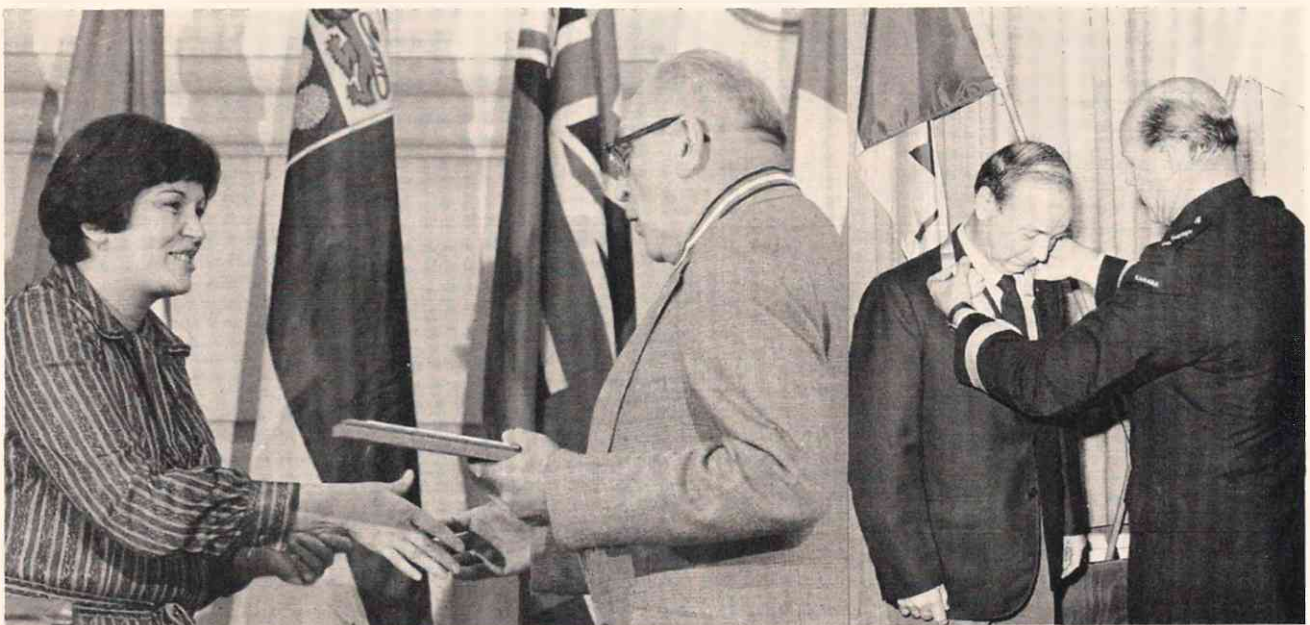
On behalf of Canadian Scouting, we extend our sincere congratulations to Bill Reid and endorse the final paragraph of the citation that went with the Award, "By carrying out his commitments to the youth of Canada, General Reid has truly gained the respect and admiration of all Canadians."

The second presentation took place in **Lahr, West Germany**, where **Frank Kohler**, a long-time Scouter in Canada and in the Maple Leaf Region, was presented with the **Silver Acorn** for his service in Europe and more especially for his work with our International Relations Committee.

Frank, a retired Canadian Forces Officer, is now editor of the Canadian Forces Base Europe newspaper, **Der Kanadier**. A past regional commissioner MLR, he is presently international commissioner for the Region and has represented Canadian Scouting on the Kandersteg Committee and at a number of European conferences.

Our Canadian Forces Information Service photo shows the Award being presented by **Major General Charles H. Belzile** (right), **Commander Canadian Forces Europe**.

At the same ceremony, General Belzile was presented with his **Warrant of Appointment as Honorary Field Commissioner**, Maple Leaf Region by **Major Ralph Gienow**, regional commissioner, MLR.



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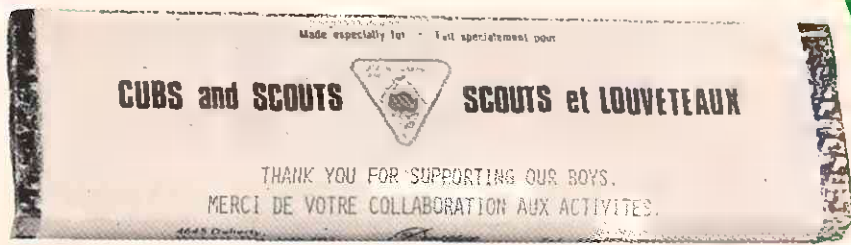
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# Scouter's Five Minutes and Recipes



## COUNT THAT DAY LOST

If you sit down at set of sun  
And count the acts that you have done,  
And, counting find  
One self-denying deed, one word  
That eased the heart of him who heard;  
One glance most kind,  
That fell like sunshine where it went —  
Then you may count that day well spent.  
But if, through all the livelong day,  
You've cheered no heart, by yea or nay —  
If, through it all  
You've nothing done that you can trace  
That brought the sunshine to one face —  
No act most small  
That helped some soul and nothing cost —  
Then count that day as worse than lost.

*George Eliot*

## THREE THINGS COME NOT BACK

Remember three things come not back;  
The arrow sent upon its track —  
It will not swerve, it will not stay  
Its speed; it flies to wound, or slay.  
The spoken word so soon forgot  
By thee; but it has perished not;  
In other hearts 'tis living still  
And doing work for good or ill.  
And the lost opportunity  
That cometh back no more to thee,  
In vain thou weapest, in vain dost yearn,  
Those three will nevermore return.

*From the Arabic.*

Scouter's Five Minutes — page 431

## SOME SIMPLE SWEET TREATS

### Chocolate Crackles

4 oz. cornflakes  
1 oz. butter  
1 oz. icing sugar  
1 oz. cocoa  
1. tablespoon syrup  
12 paper cases

Sift icing sugar and cocoa into a basin. Gently heat syrup and butter in a saucepan stirring with a wooden spoon over a low heat until melted. Remove pan from heat. Add cornflakes plus sugar and cocoa and heap one good teaspoonful of the mixture into each paper case. Leave for about half an hour to set.

### Coconut Ice

1 lb. granulated sugar  
¼ pint milk  
4 oz. shredded coconut  
Red food colouring

Heat milk and sugar in a strong saucepan until it boils, stirring all the time with a wooden spoon. Boil gently for 15 minutes. Remove pan from heat and add coconut. Beat well for a few minutes with wooden spoon and pour half mixture into a shallow, well greased tin. Tint remaining half pink with food colouring and pour pink layer over white half in tin. Leave to cool and then cut into squares.

### Chocolate Fudge

1 lb. soft brown sugar  
2 oz. butter  
¼ pint milk  
1 large tablespoon drinking chocolate

Recipes — page 517

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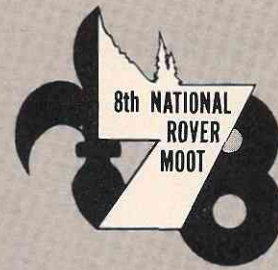
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1978

*Is your crew going  
to be there?*

Empty sugar and milk into a large saucepan and stir over low heat until dissolved. Add butter and bring to boil. Boil for approximately 10 minutes (in a gentle, soft-boil stage). Beat until it thickens, adding chocolate while beating. Pour into greased tin and cut into squares.

**Stuffed Dates**

- 1 box dates, not the compressed kind.
- 2 oz. marzipan
- 2 oz. shredded coconut
- 24 small paper cases

Split each date along the top and carefully remove stone. Divide the marzipan into 24 equal pieces. Roll into oval shapes and press one piece into each date. Place coconut in a bag and drop each date in one at a time, shaking date until coated with coconut. Place each one in paper case.

**Marshmallow Pops**

- 4 oz. marshmallows
- 1 oz. glace cherries
- 1 oz. raisins (stoneless)
- 1½ oz. rice krispies
- 7 fancy drinking straws

Place marshmallows in a large basin over a saucepan of boiling water. Stir occasionally until melted. Chop cherries and raisins into small pieces. Add these and rice krispies to marshmallow, stirring well until well mixed. With slightly wet hands, form mixture into 14 balls. Place on a sheet of aluminum foil. Cut straws in half and press one into each ball. Leave to set.

Recipes — page 518

**DO IT NOW**

One motto which I like very much and which every Scout should think about and act upon is this, "I shall only pass this way (through this life) once; any good therefore that I can show to any fellow creature, *let me do it NOW*. Let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again."

Once, when driving in my car, I passed a man on a sunny, dusty road, and I thought after I had passed him whether I might not have offered to give him a lift. Then I thought probably he would be going a short distance only, to some house a little farther along.

But as I sped farther and farther upon my way, I saw no house and no turning, and therefore I argued that the poor man would have to be walking all this dusty way when I might have helped him along it. I had missed my opportunity. I had not "done it now".

*Adventuring With Baden-Powell.*

A wise man will make more opportunities than he finds.

*Francis Bacon, 1561-1626.*

Ring out the old, ring in the new,  
Ring, happy bells, across the snow:  
The year is going, let him go;  
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

*Alfred, Lord Tennyson, 1809-1892.*

Scouter's Five Minutes — page 432

# CANADIAN SCOUT BROTHERHOOD FUND DONATIONS

## CANADIAN SCOUT BROTHERHOOD FUND DONATIONS

St. Norbert United Church Scout Group, Man.	20.00
West Whalley District, B.C.	26.82
Ontario Prov. Council	432.62
Matsqui-Abbotsford District, Scout/Guide Church Service, B.C.	53.97
Bowmont District, Calgary, Alberta	17.61
Prince Edward County District, Ont.	177.46
Milton District, Ont.	390.00
Northern Lights District, Ont.	157.19
Niagara District, Ont.	1,081.67
1st Minden Group, Ont.	122.41
Champlain District, Ont.	617.49
7th Thornhill Group, Ont.	362.36
Brampton District, Ont.	943.04
Peterborough District Council, Ont.	51.50
52nd, 71st, 118th, 132nd Scout Groups, Ottawa	155.26
Bushwell Park Beavers, Cubs, Scouts & Venturers, Saskatchewan	33.50
Centennial District, Vancouver-Coast Region	105.07
1st Redwater Cubs, Alberta	19.14
East Agincourt Scout Group, Ont.	60.44
104th Toronto Group	100.00
1st Whitbourne Cub Pack, Newfoundland	34.85
179th Scout Group, Toronto, Ont.	30.06
Saskatchewan Provincial Council	586.92
1st and 2nd Brooklin Group Committees, Ont.	32.75
1st King Scout Group Committee, Toronto.	35.01
13th Seymour Scout Group, Van.-Coast Region	35.00
Manitoba Prov. Council	50.00
Cubs of 1st Boundary Bay "A" Pack, B.C.	10.00
Cubs, Scouts, Venturers, Rovers, Aurora, Ont.	35.26
Pinawa Parent Group Committee, Manitoba	18.32
1st Cobourg - St. Peter's Brown Colony	2.50
Vancouver-Coast Region	35.00
1st Ridgeview Scouts, Venturers, Cubs, and Beavers, Ont.	20.00

Provincial Council for Ontario	15.38
Prince Albert District Council	97.50
Vernon 9th L.D.S. Scout Troop, B.C.	41.60
1st Shearwater Group, N.S.	5.00
1st Monkton Cub Pack, Monkton, Ont.	14.00
Golden Sun Division, Girl Guides of Canada	55.56
Western District Scouts, Guides, Cubs & Brownies, Montreal, Que.	25.00
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CGIT - Westway Church, Weston, Ont.	25.00
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Mississauga District, Ont.	835.00
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1st Jecquet River Pack N.B.	
Mount Carmel Pack N.B.	
New Bandon United Pack N.B.	
Sacred Heart Pack N.B.	
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St. Theresa's Pack N.B.	
Woodstock District Council, Ontario	86.05
South Lake, Simcoe District	805.42
Manitoba Prov. Council	43.65
Moir Valley District, Ontario	281.32
South Lake, Simcoe District, Ontario	503.67
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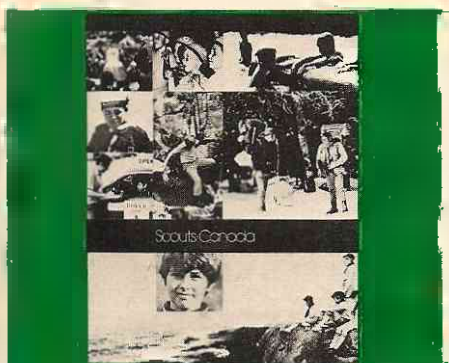
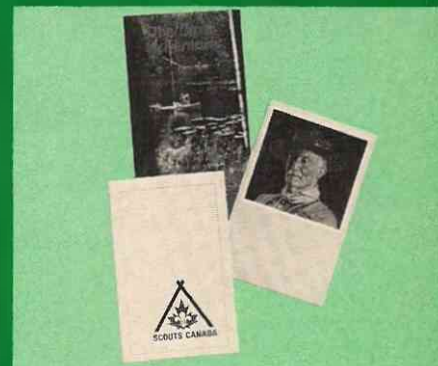


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