

the leader

DECEMBER 1981 VOLUME 12, NUMBER 4



paksaak

In today's world there aren't many events that offer families a place to go and a chance to see and do for free. But it happens each winter in Pointe Claire District, Quebec, which last February opened the doors to its annual Cub Hobby Show for the 16th consecutive year.

Besides Cub exhibits the show features displays from other local groups and individuals: various sections of Scouting; Girl Guides; stamp clubs; model makers; the gem and mineral club; potters; leather workers and a dog training group. But it's not just a series of exhibits and demonstrations. Parents, with the help of the Girl Guides, operate a refreshment stand (cold drinks, coffee and donuts) at which people can sit down to relax and chat.

Preparations for the district event start early each Scouting year so that leaders can put together ideas and Cubs can plan for both pack and individual entries. The display categories are wide-ranging: nature crafts; odds 'n ends crafts; construction set work; projects that illustrate an idea, process, place or thing; various art categories (painting, carving, plaster casting, leather tooling); original models and kit models; useful items; baked goods; Cub hobbies (collections of stamps, shells, coins, sport cards); and a miscellaneous category for toy-makers, popsicle stick artists, origami craftsmen, puppeteers, etc. Every year as well, a display of campfire blankets belonging to Cubs, Scouts and Scouters provides one of the show's most popular and colourful attractions.

A poster contest kicks-off the event and supplies advertising material for it. Adults with artistic backgrounds judge the Cubs' entries and the winner is featured in a photo story in the

community newspaper. But the other entries don't go to waste. After the judging, schools, church halls, libraries and shopping centres bloom with competition posters promoting the show.

The hustle begins the night before the exhibition when entries arrive to be registered and arranged on display. Early the next morning the judges, who are community resource people like teachers, Beaver leaders, district council members, etc., carefully and thoughtfully assess the boys' work. They award ribbons in each category, and trophies for the best pack and the best individual entries in each category. Last year, for the first time, top entries from both individuals and packs received even greater exposure when, after the show, they were displayed for the annual Scout banquet at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel in downtown Montreal.

Because there's no admission charge "the annual hobby show is an ideal place for a family outing," says Brenda Bleakley, who sent photos and information from the 16th show to **the Leader**. "Many people who visit the show just happen to be in the neighbourhood and drop in. Everyone is usually very impressed by the quality of the boy entries.

"Understandably," she adds, "this type of district event does not just happen. The boys and their leaders put in many hours of preparation. But it is a very interesting and exciting project which we intend to continue for many years to come."



A young leather worker draws a rapit audience.



Although Christmas may not seem to be the time to think about Easter, Hawkeye John MacDonald of Innisfail, Alberta, made us think that perhaps it was a perfect time for Easter thoughts. He sent us an account of a successful Easter project on which his colony started work in December.

Last spring the 1st Innisfail Beavers performed an Easter concert for the residents of a local senior citizens' lodge. In preparation for their Easter project, the Beavers raised money

through bottle drives and Christmas tree sales so that they could buy gifts of playing cards, pens and score pads for the lodge residents. They constructed a huge papier maché Easter egg to hold the gifts and faithfully practised six lively songs for the concert.

Concert night was a family affair. The boys presented their gift egg, sang up a storm, and then visited with residents over goodies baked by Beaver mothers and served by their fathers.

Hawkeye MacDonald considers the concert an excellent example of how Beavers can live up to their law, promise and motto.

"The boys showed up at this concert not because they were told to, but because they wanted to," he said. It seems that the main complaint of the evening was the Beaver cry, "Do we have to go so soon?" when it came time to part.

"The concert was more than meets the eye," Hawkeye continued, explaining that he felt it filled the need of two widely separated age groups to have contact with each other.

"I'm very proud of my Beavers," he summed up. "They have done a great service for themselves, the residents of the lodge, their community, and the Boy Scout movement."



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COVER: We've tried to make the December issue one of the friends you'll choose to curl up with this Christmas. You'll find festive season ideas for all sections, a ski race report, winter safety tips and our Christmas book reviews. As the International Year of Disabled Persons draws to a close, Judy Evans offers valuable insights about how and why Scouting can integrate boys of all abilities. And a Scouter disturbed by recent controversy over Scouting's spiritual basis, puts into perspective "Our Pledge to God". To all of you from all of us, a very happy Christmas.

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the leader

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Christmas Things for Cubs to Do

by Jim Sharp



Christmas is almost upon us. Another year is nearly gone, but a hectic few weeks are left before the holiday begins.

Along with the usual tasks of shopping for gifts and planning for travel or family get-togethers, we need to spend some time considering special activities for the Cub pack. Christmas is a special time of year which deserves that extra consideration when we're planning our pack programs.

Every year at this time, **the Leader** is chock-full of ideas for crafts, games, parties and other celebrations that our boys can enjoy. I don't intend to repeat these previously published ideas here, although some may innocently slip in because we can't overlook them.

If you save your copies of **the Leader**, take a few minutes to look through past issues for the months of November and December, and pick out activities and ideas which you perhaps didn't try, or which worked out well and are worth trying again. If you don't keep your copies, or if you are fairly new to the movement and don't have many back issues, ask your Service Scouter or another leader if you can look at his supply.

When I tried to put together my ideas for this article, I sat down with a piece of paper and a pencil and wrote at the top of the page "Christmas Ideas for Cubs". The editor had asked that I consider "a collection of indoor and outdoor things to do which

encompass the spirit of Christmas, service, duty to God, character development and whatever star and badge requirements seem appropriate".

With that in mind, I quickly noted down every idea and thought, in any way related to the topic, that passed through my mind. One idea led to another, then to a third, which brought a different kind of activity to mind, and so on.

Having completed this "brainstorming" exercise, I tried to group the ideas into some logical categories, and came up with three:

- Spiritual/Duty to God
- Service to Others
- Personal/Program

Sounds very much like the three points of the Promise, too!

I've described how I tackled my task of collecting ideas for this article so that you can try the same method to develop new and different approaches to your pack programs. Better still, gather all the leaders of your pack in one place and do it together. That way you'll have the benefit of several heads instead of one and, at the same time, you'll put into practice the principle of shared leadership and total leader involvement. Don't forget to include Kim in your brainstorming session as well.

To give you a start, here are the ideas I came up with, together with some brief notes on how they might be developed into good program activities. But your programs will only

be successful if all of your leaders are committed to and involved in them, and the best place to involve them is in the creative planning stage.

So don't just use my ideas. Come up with your own. If they work well and the boys enjoy them, share them with us at **the Leader**, and next year we may use your ideas as the seeds for even greater things.

SPIRITUAL/DUTY TO GOD

Good Turns: Although they should be a regular part of your activities, a special Good Turn at this time of year may help remind your boys of their duty to God, and to others less fortunate than themselves. How about a Good Turn for the church where you meet, or for your sponsor?

Church Parade: A special Christmas Church Parade, or participation in some real way in a regular service (reading the lesson, presenting a short play, distributing Orders of Service) would be especially appropriate at this time of year.

Law & Promise: Discuss how the Cubs have kept the Law and Promise during the year. What kinds of things have they done as individuals that are in keeping with the Law and Promise? How has their understanding of the Law and Promise developed or changed during the year? What about New Year's resolutions?

Religions/Religious Holidays: Study other religions and different religious holidays. Have someone from a different denomination come to speak to the boys about his beliefs. If your pack is not made up of boys of the Christian faith (or indeed, even if it is) consider the implications of Christmas on their lives. What does Christmas mean to them?

Christmas Stories: Tell Christmas stories with a service or spiritual theme. Look up the story of *The Christmas Scout* in the December 1975 issue of **the Leader**. Have the boys present a play or mime of the story.

SERVICE TO OTHERS

Good Turn Ideas

- Build a nativity scene for a church, hospital or senior citizens' home.
- Make wreaths for gifts from coat-hangers, wire, greens, crepe paper.
- Decorate church, children's hospital, convalescent home, meeting hall.
- Prepare books of Christmas cards, pictures and stories for hospitals, shut-ins, the elderly.
- Visit with the above groups after Christmas.
- Tour the neighbourhood singing carols for those who have supported you during the year.
- Make and stock bird feeders.
- Make and fill Christmas stockings for the sick and elderly.



- Send homemade cards to family, friends, other groups, Akela, the district commissioner, sponsors, sick Cubs, elderly people, local hospitals.
- Make miniature trees for the above groups from pine cones, cardboard and plywood. Spray-paint and add sparklers.

Service Projects: Good turns on a large scale. Consult your local clergy for ideas based on where the needs are in your community. But bear in mind that many organizations focus their attention on providing help to the less privileged at Christmas and, by February, many of the people who need help will have been forgotten again. Perhaps a "Christmas in February" service project would be better.

Christmas Party: Run a Christmas party for the Beaver colony, the Scout troop, the local hospital (perhaps in the children's ward) or senior citizens' home.

Entertainment: Put together a program of entertainment for special audiences: families, friends, hospitals, church groups. Include plays, skits, songs that everyone can join in, mime, puppets, homemade musical instruments, recorders, ukes.

Invite Friends: Encourage your Cubs to bring non-Cub friends to some of your Christmas activities. Perhaps you'll get some new members in the new year.

Christmas Trees and Plants: Distribute Christmas trees and plants to home-bound children and the elderly in the community.

PERSONAL/PROGRAM

Star and Badge Work: Choose star and badge activities that lend themselves to a Christmas theme. Be imaginative in "packaging" what might be quite a normal activity (just as most Christmas gifts are gift-wrapped in colourful paper).

Crafts: Relate this activity to some of your service projects. Have the boys make Christmas decorations or small toys to give away to family or friends.

Games: Indoor and outdoor. What about a Christmas Wide Game developed around the theme of Santa Claus?

Decorations: Draw wall collages or posters using old Christmas cards to decorate for a party or just to show it is Christmas. Make mobiles, advent calendars, Christmas card display units. Decorate a tree.

Parties: Hold a Mexican Piñata Party. Send invitations to each boy. Invite friends to join in. Invite your sponsor, group committee. Some other party ideas are:

- Barbecue a turkey outdoors, with one group responsible for the preparation, another for the cooking, and a third for carving and serving.
- Hold a Christmas campfire with carols, reading the nativity story, and something from Dickens.
- Have groups research Christmas traditions, and include their reports in a party that features as many of the traditions as possible.

Plays: Act the nativity scene or another seasonal play. Incorporate this with your plans for entertaining others.



Christmas Around the World: Have the boys research how other countries celebrate Christmas. Enjoy some typical activities, games and food revealed by the research. This is a good area in which to find and use community resource people who come from other countries.

Picnic: Hold a Christmas picnic outdoors. Hike to your Trees for Canada planting site to see how the trees are growing and surviving the winter.

Nature: Study the wild birds and animals that are still active during the winter. Follow and identify tracks in the snow. Remember, if you start feeding the birds in winter, you should continue to do so until spring. Birds quickly grow to depend on such food at this time of year.

Christmas Cook-In: If the weather is too bad to go outdoors, hold a Christmas cook-in inside your meeting hall.

Safety: Consider some of the safety hazards that arise at this time of year. Make sure that your pack activities don't involve risks, and that your boys are aware of the dangers of fire and other potential holiday-time accidents.

Have a Happy Christmas! X



Think Snow

by John Pettifer

The Texas license plates were very evident as the car, bristling with skis, drove up to the border crossing in mid-August. The driver, so the story goes, wound down the window, stuck out his head and, in the famous southern drawl, asked, "Where's the snow?"

The same question was asked in March 1979 and again in February 1980 by the Scouts, Venturers, Guides and Rangers who wanted to attend the Ontario Provincial Cross Country Ski Jamboree. In each of these years the event had been well planned and well publicized but, both times, lack of snow forced cancellation.

Finally, in 1981, the snow stayed, and the most well-planned event that almost never was, took off! When the starting flag came down, nearly 400 young people began a challenging 20 km race through bushland on the Canadian Armed Forces Base at Borden, Ontario. Two and a half hours later the leaders came gliding to the finish line and marked with success the end of three years' preparation and frustration.

The event was initiated as a major Joint Activity in 1979 by former Provincial Commissioner Donald Deacon and Provincial Guide Commissioner Lillian Gracey. The objective was to

provide Scouting and Guiding a good winter program resource in the outdoors; a major activity that would be the focus for local training and enthusiasm.

Early planning called for several regional clinics on cross-country skiing, followed by local races that would prepare participants for the major event. The idea took hold, the planning moved ahead, and cross-country skiing began to assume a prominent place in the programming of a number of Scout and Guide units across the province.

The site initially selected for the jamboree was Camp Samac, the Oshawa District campsite. It had the necessary facilities and the perimeter of the grounds provided a suitable course for the main race. Planners developed a full weekend of ski clinics, training films and outdoor games, capped by a campfire and dance.

The Ontario Ski Council became a key resource group for the clinics and training. Publicity was widely distributed and soon applications began to arrive at both the Scout and Guide offices. All seemed set.

But, the weatherman had other ideas and decided to introduce a summer break. A week before the big event, bare ground told a sad story. It was a very disappointed planning

committee that had to phone equally disappointed potential participants. Still, there was always 1980!

Bearing in mind the 1979 weather problem, the committee decided to move the 1980 event further north "into the snow belt", and so C.F.B. Borden became the selected site. Again the planning was repeated, the local events were staged and applications came in for the 1st (or was it now "2nd") Ontario Provincial Cross-Country Ski Jamboree.

"Even bigger and better" were the thoughts of those planning the weekend. After all, most of the preparation had already been done. As an additional resource, they'd produced a *Regional Ski Package* "to provide the information for the running of effective regional cross-country ski programs". And to ensure a successful event, they moved back the date from March to early February.

Everything was go! But such are the whims of the weather that again the snows evaporated. A week before the event a spring hike through the bush would have been a successful venture, and no snow was forecast in the near future. Again, a disappointed and somewhat dejected committee had to carry the sad news to all corners of the province. Still, there was always 1981.



Walter Tilden, national president Scouts Canada

What could they do to guarantee snow in 1981? Suggestions ranged from purchasing millions of cans of artificial snow at the Christmas decoration sales to shipping boxcars full of the real stuff from Thunder Bay where, someone reminded the committee, there was never a lack! Finally the only apparent solution seemed to be to ask everyone to "think snow". Planning again proceeded, but this time the credibility of the event was a matter of real concern. They made an extra effort to ensure the widest possible coverage for pre-jamboree publicity.

Once more detailed planning was set into motion. On Friday evening participants would settle in, take part in clinics on waxing and techniques, and watch films on skiing. The Saturday program would start after breakfast with more clinics and a discussion of race strategy led by Tom Best, Ontario Cross-Country Ski Champion. Then there would be free time to prepare clothing and skis, warm-up exercises and the race start at 11:00 a.m. The afternoon would feature initiative games, organized recreation and supper followed by an award presentation and campfire. Before departure for home Sunday there would be a Scouts/Guides Own and tours of the base.

As the date drew closer, everyone "thought snow". The theme appeared everywhere, even on the front cover of the provincial bulletin, and this time the thinking had the required effect. The snow cover stayed, and on February 6, an army of young and young-at-heart skiing enthusiasts invaded C.F.B. Borden. The Friday night program moved smoothly. Participants were booked in, accommodation areas assigned, and clinics started. It was going to be a good weekend.

Saturday dawned clear but cold; a good day for the long-awaited race. The program progressed well and soon contestants massed at the start of the course where Lillian Gracey, Donald Deacon and Col J. Phillips, representing the Borden Base Commander, held the starting flags. Tom Best offered a few final words of

advice and encouragement and the skiers were away!

The massed start was a spectacular climax to three years of planning but, for some, the important work had just begun. The 20 km distance proved a severe test for many whose enthusiasm outpaced their ability. Special patrols from the C.F.B. Borden Rod & Gun Club immediately began to monitor the route on snowmobiles to ensure that no one dropped out without help to return to the base area for a hot dinner. Checkpoints were carefully manned along the way and a field kitchen served drinks and chocolate bars to the racers at the mid-point of the course.

The race finished near the base program area and it was an excited group that cheered the first and every succeeding participant who pushed across the line. Crowds roared an extra cheer for special participant Walter Tilden, national president of Scouts Canada, who completed the course at a crisp pace.



The organizers of the Saturday afternoon après-ski program found they had to make some very quick adjustments in their thinking. The energy expended on the race course was just too great to allow much further physical activity. Most racers enjoyed a good rest until supper time, thereby effectively cancelling the games program.

The day concluded with a grand ceremony to award individual medals and two special trophies: the Lillian Gracey Trophy for the Guiding region with the best average time; and the Donald Deacon Trophy for the Scouting region with the best average time. Because the race was run on the basis

of various age categories, many participants took home prizes and trophies. But the most important thing was the spirit of participation and, in this respect, everyone came out a winner.

The rest of the weekend progressed as planned and it was a very happy committee that bid farewell to the participants on Sunday afternoon.

An event like this cannot operate without the help and cooperation of a great number of people. Particularly appreciated was the support given by personnel at Base Borden, both in a military capacity and through the voluntary interest of members of the Base Rod & Gun Club who prepared the course before the race and supplied snowmobile patrols.

Success depended also upon: the Ontario Ski Council, who conducted ski clinics; the Nordic Ski Patrol, who also patrolled the course and made a final sweep of the route after the event; F.M.H. Canada Ltd. (Fisher Skis), who provided trail markers, start and finish banners and films; and the St. John Ambulance Brigade, who stayed on hand for accidents or emergencies.

Thanks to those within Scouting and Guiding are due to the Nottawasaga District personnel who co-ordinated the logistics and security, and to the planning committee members who donated time, experience and a wide variety of resources.

In retrospect, the benefits of such an event must be an important factor in deciding if it is to be repeated. One benefit, identified by ski jamboree co-ordinator, Field Executive Scott Albion, is that it put Scouting and Guiding definitely into cross-country skiing. Scott feels that the event will help to improve the image of the movements by showing that they do active, outdoor, current activities that appeal to youth.

The cross-country ski jamboree also ties into the emphasis put by Scouting and Guiding on physical development and fitness, especially through outdoor activities. And so, preparations are already being made for a repeat in 1982, perhaps with some slight modifications like a shorter course or an alternative route for those who prefer a less strenuous race.

Whatever the program, the 1981 participants who said they would return in '82, and all of those who will take part for the first time, join voices in a single request: *please... for the Ontario Provincial Council Cross-Country Ski Jamboree to be held at C.F.B. Borden on February 5, 6, 7, 1982...*

THINK SNOW!



Christmas in the Forest



by Marieke Jalink-Wijbrans

In a story you'll enjoy reading or telling to Beavers, Marieke Jalink-Wijbrans of Calgary, Alberta, brings the Friends of the Forest together for Christmas.

On a stormy night in November, Father Jones settled himself in his favourite chair after work and called Mother and the children.

"Listen," he said, "in about a month it will be Christmas. How about spending it at the cottage this year?"

The children jumped up and cried, "Oh yes, yes, that will be fun! Do you think we'll see the beavers, or are they asleep? Do you think we can wake them up? Can we ...!"

"Wait, wait," said Father, "not too many questions all at once! What do you think, Mother?"

They talked and made plans the whole evening until Father said, "Come on, kids, it's past your bedtime and tomorrow is a school day!"

It took the children a long time to fall asleep. They were too excited. The last thing Rusty thought before he dropped off was, "I'll take some apples and carrots for the beavers as a Christmas present and ..."

Two days before Christmas they were all set to go. The weather was nice. There was snow on the ground but it wasn't too cold. As soon as Rusty and Bubbles arrived at the cottage they ran over to the pond. They were disappointed. The pond was frozen solid and covered with snow. A small hill in the middle indicated that

the beavers still lived there; it was the lodge.

"I think they are sound asleep and we won't see them until spring," said Bubbles.

The children turned back to help their parents unload the car and decorate the cottage. They'd decided not to cut a live tree from the forest for a Christmas tree, but to bring an artificial one from home. Rusty pulled it out of the box and set it up in front of the large window.

But the children's visit to the pond had not gone unnoticed. Beavers do not truly hibernate, although they sleep a lot during the winter months. In the fall they'd collected a whole pile of food to store in the water right under their lodge and, during winter, they occasionally leave the lodge to fetch something to eat and take a swim. There is a hole in the ice where they can peek out to have a look at the white world above the pond.

When the children walked over the pond, the beavers heard them and at once were wide awake.

"That sounds like human footsteps. Are THEY here?" wondered Big Brown Beaver.

"Shall I go out to meet them?" Keeo asked.

Keeo left the lodge and swam underwater to the peephole. When he stuck out his head he caught a glimpse of Rusty and Bubbles walking back to the cottage.

"So they are here, how exciting!" thought Keeo. But why were they walking away from him? He returned to the lodge and told the other beavers what he'd seen.

The next morning when Father went out to fetch some wood, he saw Keeo sitting at some distance from the cottage.

"Hello, Keeo," he called out. "How are you?" At once Keeo saw two happy faces peeking out of the door behind Father.

"Keeo!" the children whooped, but before they could say more, Father shouted, "Go indoors, you two, and get dressed first. It's cold out here!"

A short time later, Rusty and Bubbles came out and walked over to Keeo. Bubbles held a fresh muffin in her hand. "Happy Christmas, Keeo," she said.

"Christmas?" Keeo asked. "What is that?" Bubbles looked at Rusty and Rusty looked at Bubbles. Keeo did not know what Christmas was!

"Well, why don't you beavers come to us and find out for yourselves?" suggested Rusty.

All the beavers in the cottage? Keeo was not sure if they would like that.

"We'll leave the door open," said Rusty.

"And we have apples and carrots for all of you," added Bubbles. Keeo's eyes began to shine.

And so it happened that on Christmas morning, all the beavers climbed out of the peephole and walked over to the cottage. At first they were a bit restless and kept looking at the door to make sure it was still open. But after awhile they became more relaxed and, when they had full stomachs from the apples and carrots, they ate muffins for dessert.

Then they settled down to listen to Hawkeye tell what Christmas is all about. After the wonderful story about the star that led shepherds and kings to the manger where baby Jesus lay, Rainbow took up her guitar and started to sing a Christmas carol. Hawkeye, Rusty and Bubbles joined her while the beavers listened.

Some time later, they all watched the sun set over the quiet, white forest. For a moment it looked as if everything had been touched by gold. Darkness fell. Rusty turned on the Christmas tree lights and Bubbles lit the candles. As the candlelight shone in the eyes of beavers and humans, they all felt very close and happy.

Soon the beavers wanted to return to their lodge because they were getting very sleepy. Hawkeye walked them over to the edge of the pond. When the last beaver had disappeared into the peephole, he strolled back towards the cottage.

From some distance, he could smell that Mother had started to cook Christmas dinner. X

Patrol Challenges

by Bud Jacobi

Troop Scouter Bud Jacobi invites Scouters to dip into his grab-bag of patrol challenges. Pick at least one challenge for each troop meeting in order to enrich the program with fun and excitement, attract more boys, and develop boy-leadership skills, resourcefulness and patrol spirit.

PIONEERING CHALLENGE

Have each patrol bring materials from around the meeting place to build a miniature demonstration lean-to shelter, pioneer signal tower or rope-bridge model. Or provide toothpicks, twine and glue and issue the same challenge. Best effort and teamwork wins.

COOKING CHALLENGE

Ask each patrol to bring flashlight, coat-hanger, tin foil, fork or spoon, egg, slice of bread, butter, candle, match and salt. Place sheets of foil or paper on the floor before turning out the lights. The challenge is to cook the egg and toast the bread over the candle, using the foil and coat-hanger to make a gadget that doesn't need hands to hold it (no-hands cooking). Scouter (bless him!) tastes the results and judges the winner accordingly.

NIGHT ORIENTEERING CHALLENGE

Each patrol has map, compass and flashlights, and must hike cross-country to a given spot at night without being spotted by the other patrols. Dress appropriately to the weather. End with wieners, marshmallows and hot cocoa over a campfire.

GOOD TURN CHALLENGE (Slave Auction)

Give each patrol 30 minutes to offer themselves as "slaves" willing to perform any quick chores or jobs as "good turns" for nearby homes, institutions or businesses. They will not accept payment but, after they've finished the job, they must ask how much their work was worth so that they can report back to the troop room. The patrol which reports the most valuable task (highest bidder) wins.

ROPE RESCUE CHALLENGE

Equipment: a 2' x 2' piece of cardboard and eight 6-ft. lengths of rope per patrol. Or time each patrol and use only one set of equipment.

One boy in each patrol is the "victim". He undresses down to his shorts and runs from the starting line to the cardboard, which is placed about 30 feet away. He sits on the cardboard while the other team members tie together their ropes with reef knots or sheetbends. One boy coils and throws the rope to the victim, keeping the other end behind his sitting position. Without moving from his sitting position, the victim reaches for the rope and ties it around his waist with a bowline. Then the others pull him back to the starting line where he must dress completely and stand ready for inspection. The first victim fully clothed is champ. X

CREATIVE CHALLENGE

One boy in each patrol is the "artist" and is blindfolded. Another boy is the "model" and assumes some distinct pose. A third boy is the "clay". The artist of each patrol molds the clay into the same position as that taken by the model. Put a time limit on the creative process. Most accurate result wins.

TEAMWORK CHALLENGE

Members of each patrol must join themselves together to form a "monster" that walks with both hands and feet on the ground. It must have one more foot than the number of patrol members, and one less arm. Once the monster has been created, it must move five feet and make a sound.

Scouter's alphabet

by David Goss



New Neighbours — If you are on the lookout for ways to attract new members, try this idea. It not only will make you friends, but also will provide your boys a chance to get to know their city better.

On maps of the community have the boys circle the area within a three mile radius of your headquarters. Mark all schools, churches, shopping centres, specialty and grocery stores, post offices, parks and playgrounds and special interest areas found within the circle. Then present copies of this map to new residents in your neighbourhood or apartment building, or at the Scouter's place of employment. It goes without saying, of course, that the map will show the location and meeting times of your group, and will include an invitation to look into the meetings for the new neighbours.

No Word Games — Check back through John Sweet's columns for games to try with no words. Simply show the illustrations here, for ex-

ample, and have the boys do the stunts completely in silence. This makes a nice change and provides visual training and development of

leadership skills, necessary to get an idea across without the usual vocalization.



SUPERMAN

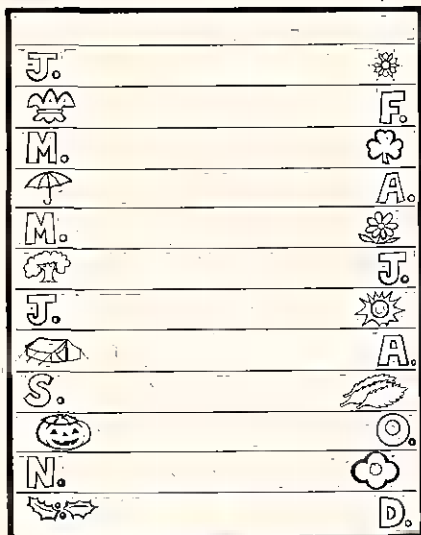
THIS STUNT IS A PROJECTION OF THE PRINCIPLE OF KUNG FU, JIU JITSU AND OTHER ORIENTAL SPORTS IN WHICH EXTERNAL FORCES ARE USED TO CANCEL EACH OTHER OUT. 'SUPERMAN' STANDS WITH LEGS APART AND HOLDS THE KNEES OF THE 'RIDER' WHO SHOULD SIT WELL BACK. THE THIRD MAN PLACES THE BACK OF EACH KNEE ACROSS THE RIDER'S ANKLES AND SITS WELL DOWN BETWEEN HIS LEGS. THE TWO PASSENGERS THEN RAISE THEIR ARMS SIDEWAYS AND SUPERMAN CANTERS ROUND THE ARENA



THE GROUND HOG RELAY



New Year Special Events Reminder — If you enlarge the calendar sketch to fit a full-size sheet of paper, it will make a good colouring project for your Beavers or Cubs some cold night this month. Better still, it will provide an opportunity for you to let parents know about coming special events. Also encourage your boys to write down on it the dates of birthdays, anniversaries and other special family events.



Notice Board — A great time saver, voice saver and training aid. Notices for the immediate future should be placed on the notice board and the boys should get into the habit of reading them before every meeting. If you have access to a copier, you might try using little tear-off slips so that each boy can tear off details of a coming activity and take them home.

Notice boards can be mighty attractive too, if you take some time to make up a special design like a beaver outline, a wolf's head or a Scout symbol. Or you can make a rustic board by sawing a small tree trunk in half along its length and fastening the pieces to the regular frame of a cork board.

Number — Paint by

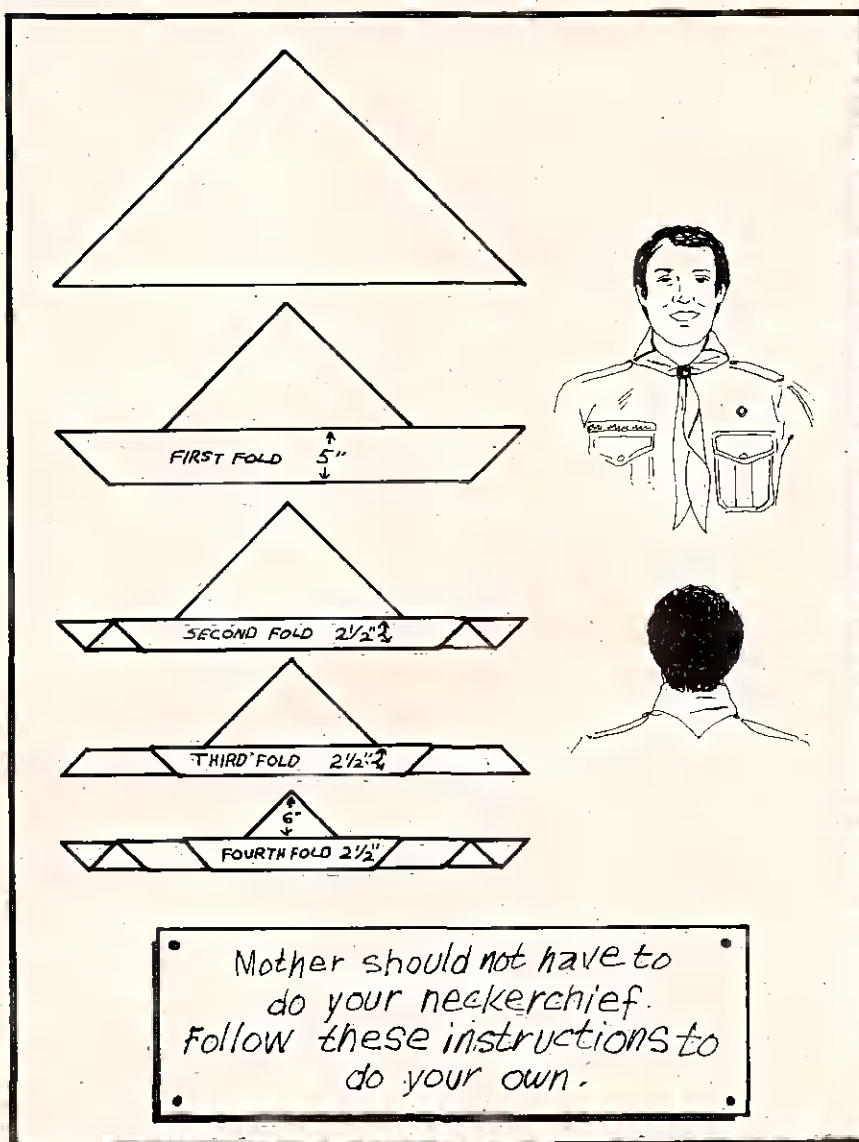
Some years ago the 4th Lansing Scout Troop had a young lady pose for them in her two piece bathing suit. On her body they drew and numbered various circles, squares and lines. The public paid to paint the numbers, and business was apparently brisk.

Just something for you to think about of course. You don't have to use a girl. In fact, the women might object, so you could use the assistant Scoutmaster with his ripply muscles instead. Or, if you find the idea of using people distasteful, you could design a totem pole or a campfire backdrop and try out the paint-by-number system.

Newspaper War — Six Cubs, each with a crumpled sheet of newspaper in hand, are gathered behind a cardboard box in a corner of the room. Other sixes are similarly ensconced in other corners. On signal, all proceed to the centre of the room where they launch their newspaper bombs to try to hit their opponents without themselves being bombed. If a boy is hit he retires to the sidelines. Once he's thrown his bomb, a Cub can return to his corner for another sheet of paper. He is safe while behind his cardboard bunker. Last Cub eliminated is the winner.

Neckerchief Fold — The drawing I've included is reproduced from the **Leader** of more than 20 years ago and was part of the training program in the troop for many years. We'd forgotten this idea, so perhaps you have too. As the little message says, every boy should be able to do this job. Plan to include it in your training sessions in the near future.

Now and Then — The approach of Scouting's 75th anniversary provides a good excuse for some "now and then" activities. For example, your troop might research and hold a Brownsea Island Camp, or a 50-years-ago field day, or a church parade and march past like troops held in the past. Could you find or build a trek cart to pull through a local parade? Is there someone who might come to a meeting or event dressed in the uniform he wore 10, 20, 50 years ago? Can you arrange a display of yesterday's memorabilia, or have someone speak about his experience at a jamboree of some years ago, then provide a contrast by having one of the boys who attended talk about CJ '81? Could you arrange a campfire program, banquet, awards ceremony, investiture, games night or any other activity arising from an authentic program you've obtained from someone who was involved in the program many years ago? A



STEVEN & SCOUTING



by Judy Evans

In the *International Year of Disabled Persons*, we've all had the opportunity to learn more about a group of people who make up a significant proportion of our population.

Some of what we've learned is not to our credit. We now know that, while we have advanced considerably in our attitudes, we still have a long way to go. The individual with a disability continues to be discriminated against and thwarted in his attempts to become a productive citizen.

Scouting gives us a unique opportunity to contribute to the development of boys with disabilities. The lack of rigidity in our programs enables boys to work towards individual goals and to remain within the framework of the organization.

The inclusion of a boy with a disability in a section is not to be taken lightly, however. A well-meaning leader who, without thought or understanding, accepts a boy with a handicap into his pack or troop, can do irreparable harm.

I would like to tell you the story of Steven. The mistakes we made and

our eventual success are relevant to any leader who may find himself working with such a boy.

Steven is 17 years old and has cerebral palsy. He is well known and liked in our village where his handicap is accepted and rarely provokes comment. He is able to deliver papers, hold a conversation, and play a game with the younger children, as long as the game doesn't require too much co-ordination.

A couple of years ago he began to drop in at our pack meetings. He joined in the games and generally offered his help. Several months later he asked if he could become an activity leader. At the time we were short-handed and busy with a full quota of boys. My reaction was simply, "Sure we'd be glad to have you. I think we have a shirt about your size. I'll bring it along next week."

No more thought than that. Steven was a badly needed extra pair of hands and, after all, how many people walk into a hall where a Cub program is in full swing and offer to help?

So, with a Scout shirt on his back and a jungle name to his credit,

Steven joined us. He attended regularly each week, always willing to do what we asked of him, but somehow, never quite fitting in. We didn't include him in our planning meetings because we assumed that he would be unable to contribute. He was our extra; useful for running errands and filling in where necessary. The rest of the time he stood in the corner looking perfectly content, nodding his head happily when one of the Cubs shouted to him or kicking back balls that came his way.

Then his attendance started to fall off. When he did come he was often late and without his uniform. Before long he had dropped out completely.

Over the ensuing summer I had time to think and to evaluate our response to Steven's willingness to help. At a leaders' meeting held just before the new Scouting season, I brought up the subject for general discussion.

Unanimously we agreed that we'd been unfair to Steven. We blithely included him in our numbers and then left him to sink or swim on his own. We assumed that having given him a uni-

form and a jungle name we'd done enough. In fact, because our expectations of him had been so low, we'd paid less attention to him than we would to any other new leader. We'd also, we guiltily admitted, given him the jobs that no-one else wanted, and we'd taken it for granted that he would be content.

Having verbally rapped our own knuckles, we set about putting things right. We agreed that if we were to approach Steven to return as an activity leader, we must be sure that he could be a viable part of the leadership team. We must also use his attributes to advantage without emphasizing those things he couldn't do. Like the rest of us, Steven must feel that he is doing something worthwhile and that his time is not wasted. If we couldn't achieve this, we would do both him and the boys a disservice by asking him to come back.

Well, the sun was hot and we were getting drowsy and we started to think about what it is that makes a good leader. A bad mistake! Having spelled out a number of fairly obvious attributes, we decided that, since none of us had them, we all should probably quit.

Then Rann made one of his rare bright comments. "Surely we are all limited to one degree or another. For example," pointing a finger at me "you are a dead loss at tying knots. Remember your 'bunny-round-the-tree-and-up-the-hole' demonstration last month when you finished with a double granny? And," glancing at Baloo on the chesterfield beside him, "did you taste those hot dogs he made at the last camp?!! I knew we should have brought along a mother to cook." He gave Baloo a friendly nudge. "And what about the Swiss cheese meat loaf you tried the next day? Even young Danny wouldn't eat it, and you know what that means!"

"Well at least I can light a campfire," Baloo retaliated. "I don't have to sneak into my kitbag for a candle."

The bantering went back and forth for awhile and Rann's point became more and more valid. No-one can do everything. We all have weak and strong points. We all are handicapped in some respects. A successful leadership team is made up of individuals who compensate for each other. The only difference in Steven's case is that he's unable to acquire some of the basic skills expected of an adult.

When the insults finally stopped flying, we discussed what Steven was able to do that would make a valid contribution to our program.

"Well, for a start, he could look after the setting up and storing away of

equipment, see that the Service Six does it properly and keep an eye open for anything broken. A sort of Pack Quartermaster."

"He could collect dues," added Kaa, "and I know he is able to count money because he does it with his papers."

"And what about games?" asked Bagheera. "He can assist in running them. I noticed he was really good on the evening when we only had two other leaders."

The list, when we thought about it, was long. More importantly, it added up to a good share of the work that had to be done. Of necessity, most of it was routine, but we agreed to try to teach Steven a little each week to broaden his scope and, we hoped, to keep his interest.

With his usual good nature, Steven agreed to return in the fall. The boys were delighted to see him. They had previously discovered that his tolerance for their pranks was higher than that of the rest of us, and therefore they gave him an A1 rating.

"He doesn't holler like you guys," said one of the more outspoken Cubs, "and," with an accusing look at me, "he doesn't throw my almost new bubble gum into the garbage either."

As we'd planned, we gave him specific duties and regularly tried to teach him something new. He learned a little each meeting and we found that we'd underestimated him. He came to all the leaders' meetings and participated in discussions and program planning sessions. His popularity soared at Christmas when he arrived with a huge batch of doughnuts he'd made. At camp the following spring he proved he was the stuff that leaders are made of by crawling unconcernedly out of his one-man tent, which had been "accidentally" let down on him, and chasing the delighted culprits.

We learned a great deal during Steven's second year with us. We found he was happier doing useful things that were a real contribution than he was with jobs we invented just to keep him busy. And he was able to distinguish between the two. Because his strongest point was his ability to relate to the boys, we revised our original list to include as much personal contact as possible. His learning ability surprised us. We'd expected him to be able to pick up a few routine jobs but not much else. We found that if he enjoyed doing something and was challenged by it he was able to learn and retain the details.

Steven had his limitations, certainly, and we were careful not to ask the impossible of him. But, as time went on, he became a valuable member of

our team who contributed as much as, if not more than, the rest of us.

Steven has an obvious handicap, but if the Year of Disabled Persons has done nothing else, it has made us acutely aware that there also are thousands of people with minimal disabilities who, because their handicap isn't extreme, find it even more difficult to gain acceptance. Take a look at the boys in your section, for instance. You can be sure they will range in ability from the "incapable-of-doing-anything-right" variety to the contender for the next Superman contest.

If you have a youngster with an obvious disability, you will already have made adjustments. You will know that, like other boys, he needs stimulation and challenge, and that he can gain tremendously from being a part of the regular Scout program.

But what about the Cub who is exceptionally slow, the Scout who bed-wets, or the Venturer who stammers? These boys have handicaps as well, and the only difference is one of degree. They are the youngsters who, unless you step in, are likely to become the butt of jokes or to be labelled "dumb" by their fellows.

If you know, or even suspect, that a boy has a problem, talk to him or to his parents. Once you have established the facts, you have something to work with. Give the withdrawn or slow boy a little more individual attention and make sure he doesn't fall too far behind the others. Talk over the sleeping arrangements for the next camp with your bed-wetting Scout. Let him know of your concern for him without embarrassing him. Select carefully what you ask your stammering Venturer to do. If it involves speaking in front of others, make sure that he is as comfortable as possible with the situation and try to provide a relaxed atmosphere.

The boys in your section take their cue from you. Your attitude towards a boy with a disability, be he a paraplegic or a bed-wetter, will be the one they adopt.

If we truly practise what we preach, that Scouting accepts what a boy is and helps him to develop according to his own capabilities, a disability should not present a problem. The onus is upon leaders to integrate him with the group, and to be wise enough both to recognize his limitations and to focus on his abilities.

We have a tremendous opportunity to share in his development. Our program is educational and challenging, and its scope is broad enough to encompass any boy, disabled or otherwise, who wishes to take part. A

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS 1982

by J.L. MacGregor

Canadian Scouting has been invited to take part in the following events scheduled for 1982.

Canadian contingents as such will not be formed. Individuals or groups will be responsible for looking after their own travel arrangements and camping equipment.

Those interested must complete an "Application to Attend an International Event" (available from Scout offices); possess a valid passport; carry a completed medical form (available from Scout offices); be responsible for baggage and out-of-Canada medical insurance; and meet deadlines for applications and deposits.

Relationships Service of your National Office will act as a link between Canadian participants and the host organizers, and will pass along new information as it becomes available.

ENGLAND — *The Greater London International Camp* is being organized by the Greater London Council to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the first Scout camp held on Brownsea Island, Poole Harbour. Open to patrols and Scout troops with leaders, the camp will be held from July 24 to July 31, 1982. Home hospitality will be available in London for all overseas guests during the week following the camp. The camp fee of £20 Sterling per person includes badge, scarf, handbook, camp facilities and program, but does not include food. Each of the six subcamps will provide facilities for the purchase of food.

- *Extoree '82*, to be held at famous Gilwell Park on the outskirts of London during the period July 31 to August 7, 1982, also celebrates the 75th anniversary of Scouting and is open to those aged 11 to 20 years. All members of the movement with a handicap will be welcome. The camp will also accept applications from other Scouts in order to make the event a fully integrated international camp where those with handicaps will live and work together with other Scouts in the spirit of Scouting.

Camping will be in patrols of eight consisting of five Scouts with disabilities and three others, and two leaders. It is anticipated that the cost per person will be £75 Sterling.

JAPAN — *The 8th Nippon Jamboree* in the southern foothills of Mt. Zao, Shiroishi, will be held from August 2 to August 6, 1982, but the jamboree site will be open to campers from August 1 to August 8. The jamboree will commemorate the 60th anniversary of the founding of Boy Scouts of Nippon. The camp fee has been set at 12,000 Yen per person. Participants requiring European-style meals may obtain them for an additional estimated cost of 8,000 Yen. The jamboree is open to Scouts and Venturers between the ages of 13 and 18 years.

IRELAND — *Lakeland '82*, an international Scout camp hosted by the Northern Ireland Scout Council will be held from July 28 to August 6, 1982 at Castle Archdale in County Fermanagh in Northern Ireland. Home hospitality will be available after the camp.

There is a possibility that assistance with camping equipment can be given to overseas participants. The camp is open to patrols or troops accompanied by adult leaders. The camp fee is not known at the present time.

LUXEMBOURG — *Jubica '82*, an international camp hosted by the Scouts of Luxembourg, will be held on the grounds of a manor about 15 km from Luxembourg city from July 22 to 30, 1982. Scouts and Guides between the ages of 11 and 17 will be welcome. The camp fee of 3,000 Flux will cover camp facilities, food, activities and excursions. A period of home hospitality is available before or after the camp.

AUSTRALIA — *The 13th Australian Jamboree* will be held at Ipswich, Queensland from December 29, 1982 to January 7, 1983. Participants will be from the Scout section; that is, boys born between December 31, 1967 and March 31, 1971. The theme of the jamboree, "75 — and Scouting Thrives", recognizes Scouting's 75th anniversary.

The jamboree fee has been set at \$160. (Australian), and the jamboree council will be pleased to assist international participants to obtain camping equipment either by purchase or by rental. A brief period of home hospitality will be offered to overseas Scouts.

PORTUGAL — *Madeira '82*, an international Jamborette, will be held on the island of Madeira from August 1 to 8, 1982. The camp is for Scouts and Guides aged 11 to 14, and for Venturers.

Home hospitality for one week will be available after the camp in the homes of Madeira Scouts. At the present time the camp fee is not known.

Venturer Log

by Phil Newsome

New Resource Material

For many Venturer advisors and parents, the topic of alcohol and drug addiction is difficult to deal with. Today's young people are asking questions and seeking advice in an area about which many adults have little or no up-to-date knowledge.

For advisors, trainers and parents, the Addiction Research Foundation of Ontario publishes an excellent monthly tabloid called *The Journal*. In October *The Journal* started a series about alcohol and other drugs that has been designed and developed especially for young people, teachers and other youth workers, and parents.

The series, which will run for six months, is a four-page supplement that includes easy-to-use guidelines for teachers and other youth workers, as well as a variety of material for young people to enjoy. The features designed for youth include crossword puzzles, cartoons, an advice column and student interviews. These materials were developed by teacher consultants and *The Journal* staff to reinforce the content in the teachers' guidelines.

According to a provincial survey done in 1979, about 20% of the students in Ontario use alcohol once a

week or more often. Because the subject of alcohol and alcoholism is eventually a topic of discussion at most Venturer company meetings, it is very important that adult leaders of companies have up-to-date information and resource material to support the discussion. *The Journal* and its six month supplement is an excellent resource and I highly recommend it to all Venturer advisors.

For a subscription to *The Journal* or for additional copies of the supplement entitled "Kids and Teachers", write to:

**Marketing Service Department LP1
Addiction Research Foundation
33 Russell Street
Toronto, Ontario
M5S 2S1**



CJ '81 Venturer Program Competition Results

To wind up the CJ '81 Venturer program, we offer the results of various competitions held in the Venturer program area.

Assault Course — best times to complete the course:

- 1 man — 3:56 8/10 — 1st Leavitt (Hikemasters)
- 2 man — 4:02 4/10 — 1st Leavitt
- 3 man — 5:21 1/10 — 1st Leavitt

- 4 man — 5:45 4/10 — 1st Harewood
- 5 man — 7:57 — 1st Leavitt
- 6 man — 8:24 — 1st Leavitt
- 7 man — 12:40 — 89th Windsor
- 8 man — 10:38 — 181 Calgary
- 9 man — 14:03 7/10 — 1st Unionville
- 10 man — 19:33 — Troop 540, USA

Catapult — best distance:

- 205 ft. 1 in. — 16th Humber West

Lumberjack Activities

Phone Booth Cram — 13 men

6th Cranbrook, B.C.

Jacks-On-A-Raft — 18 men

1st Kilbroke, Ont.

1st Spruce Grove, New Brunswick

1st Glencairn, Ont.

1st Cliffcrest, Ont.

30' Pole Climb — 6 seconds

Andy Campbell

8th South Peace, B.C.

Log Rolling Slalom — 2 min. 21 sec.

7th North Peace, B.C.

Log Sawing — 18" log

- Single — 4:31 6/10 seconds

Rob Thompson,

1st Sooke, B.C.

- 2 man — 00:58 3/10 sec.

1st Musquodoboit,

N.S.

- Company — 1:29 9/10 sec.

7th North Peace,

B.C.

Information on equipment and construction design for any of the Venturer Program events may be obtained by writing to:

Phil Newsome

National Program Director

Boy Scouts of Canada

P.O. Box 5151, Station "F"

Ottawa, Ontario


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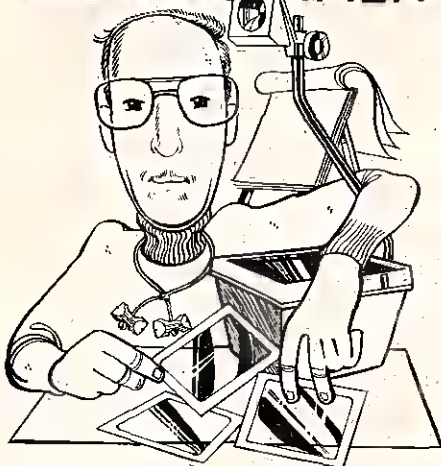
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TRAINING TALK



by Reg Roberts

TODAY AND YESTERDAY

The other day as I drove back to the office after the lunch break, I happened to catch a short segment of a talk show on one of our local radio stations. The subject matter was not at all related to what I am going to write, but a stray remark made by the guest on that show started me thinking.

It was one of those casual comments, something to the effect that today's young people no longer do the kinds of things that he did as a boy. And I thought, "That's right! Kids don't do those things today. Or, at least I don't see them or hear about them any more."

As I drove on I remembered the things I did as a boy — simple things, made-up things, things I created with my friends. We weren't poor by any means and yet my recollections were not so much about store-bought toys as about the toys we made ourselves.

When I arrived back at the office I visited some of the other members of the staff and shared my thoughts. I found much agreement, so I asked them to jot down some of their recollections and it's these I want to share with you today.

As you read this, Christmas is only a few weeks away. The realization reminded me that, while there was joy and excitement around my home when the gaily wrapped packages were opened and the new toys or clothes examined or tried on, often it was the wrappings and boxes that stimulated us as much as the new toys.

Dressed in our latest finery and with a new gun properly holstered, we ventured out into the crisp morning, loaded down with the paper and

boxes. These we piled up as stockades from which cowboys sallied forth to pounce on unsuspecting "bad guys", or set up as a miniature town around which we forcefully propelled the new fire truck or mechanical bus, sometimes removing a fender or, at least, scratching the paint on a friend's truck as it burst forth with equal vigour from some make-believe side street.

That was Christmas time, of course, a time when everyone had new toys and boxes in abundance. But later, long after the battered bus had ceased to be an attraction, tattered boxes served us well as imaginary towns or as material to cut up for a million other useful purposes.

Fantasy was always a very important part of my growing up. In the wink of an eye, my friends and I could be cowboys, or pirates, or wizards, or knights in shining armour, even if the armour consisted only of de-labelled soup cans slid over boyish arms and legs.

Because we are always in search of program ideas, it occurred to me that at least some portion of our training courses could be devoted to a look back at our own childhood activities to see what is still applicable or what can be updated for use with today's young people. It might also be a way to hold on to some of yesterday's fun things so that all that fun isn't lost for today.

We played many games with glass alleys, which we also called "aggies" or marbles. In one you rolled them down the street close to the curb and, if you hit an opponent's alley, you won it for yourself. We lost a few down the street drains, but that was part of the game, too.

In another we cut three alley-sized doors in the edge of a shoe box and placed the box upside down at the bottom of a gentle slope. An alley rolled toward the box returned you one, two or three marbles, depending upon which slot in the box it entered. If you missed, the banker collected. If you won, the banker paid off and, of course, we all took turns being banker.

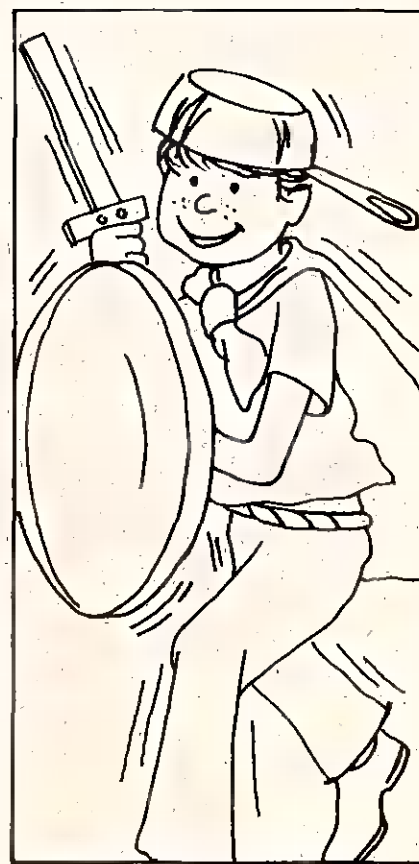
On Saturday afternoon we trooped to the weekly matinee and, depending on the movie, the rest of the week we were cowboys or pirates or dashing knights. We whittled wooden slats into swords and used a piece of cardboard or tin can as the hand guard. We made rapiers from garden canes with padded ends so that no one lost an eye. Cardboard shields, decorated with some heraldic design and fastened to one arm with string, completed the outfit:

Remember horse chestnuts? We called them "conkers". After pickling one in vinegar or baking it in the oven, we hung it on a stout string and challenged all comers to take a swipe at it. As your conker demolished one challenger after another, it became a "niner" or a "tenner", until the sad day when it succumbed to a harder or a newer challenger.

Garden canes. We made kites from them by covering a light frame with newspaper and hanging on a tail of twisted rag pieces for balance. There was always string in abundance in my home, as I remember. I think it grew by itself in the back of the kitchen drawer.

We also made bows and arrows from canes, and then Robin Hood and his merry men would again terrorize the Sheriff of Nottingham (usually the kid from another gang two blocks over). We had secret places with tiny secret entrances that only we could squeeze through hidden away in dense bushes. What fun to leap out suddenly on some unsuspecting passer-by.

In the fall we made a fire-slinger to ward off the chill. We punched holes into a pork and bean size can (usually taking the edge off dad's best wood chisel), and hung it on a two foot long wire handle. When it was ready, we put paper and wood chips and small lumps of coal in it. Then, when the



small fire started, we whirled it around our heads until the can glowed red hot. Occasionally two whirling cans collided and scattered sparks and ashes over everyone. Mother was sure I was smoking cigarettes because of all the burn holes in my clothes. But, oh, the taste of chestnuts or small potatoes roasted in one of those cans on a frosty November night.

We made catapults from the "Y" branch of old trees with tied-together elastic bands. Then we took shots at tin cans lined up on the curb or a fence rail.

We made stilts from tin cans and string and clomped noisily up the street or we made tall wooden stilts and staggered around until, finally, we could nonchalantly walk a whole block without a wobble.

Rubber rings from preserving jars inspired great ring toss games and we learned dexterity along the way. Or there was a game where we tied old rags into a ball with string and threw the ball at tin cans.

Fishing expeditions with string and a bent pin were great fun. In season our search for the fattest worms sorely decimated the worm population, and the local gardens. I never caught many fish, as I recall, but I did catch mother's hand on my ear when I came home with shoes, socks and pants soaked from fooling around too close to the water.

Tin can telephones. How many secret agent messages I whispered into a shiny can, and how wonderful were the secret replies that came back to my ear.

I lost more handkerchiefs, or spent hours untying the knots I had put into them, while making countless parachutes with string and a rock or, better still, a lead soldier suspended underneath. When rolled in my own special way and hurled into the air, my parachutes made a graceful descent that was a delight to watch.

A tin can lid or a big topcoat button threaded with string and given a few quick twists and back-and-forth pulls became a howling whizzing banshee that we called a cheese cutter. A half-dozen cheese cutters going at the same time put the philharmonic to shame, and the local dogs to howling.

Speaking of dogs — there was never a year without a neighbourhood dog show. The occasion called for everyone to bathe and brush his mongrel pet and usually wound up with the noisiest dog fight imaginable.

Relievo was a big thing and *Kick the Can* or *Buck Buck*, and variations like *Storm the Castle*, *Capture the Flag* or *Prisoner's Base* kept us going for hours.

Using old baby carriage wheels or rollerskates, we made go-carts of every imaginable description, and long before plastic skate boards were even a thought, I had taken off 17 layers of skin by falling off a piece of 2 x 4 lumber onto which skate wheels had been nailed.

Homemade sleds were popular in the snowy season. Garbage can lids, an old cupboard door or a piece of galvanized iron served us well. We also fashioned snow shoes from whatever was available and, although they may have lacked finesse, Sergeant Preston of the Mounties never looked as good as we.

We built tree houses for the gang to meet in and could only gain entry by using the right password. We laughed a lot, arm wrestled, ran races or long-jumped a puddle in the street on a rainy day. We flashed secret messages with bits of broken mirror and drove some of the neighbours wild by shining the mirror through windows from a hidden vantage point.

Looking for birds' eggs was popular but the rule was to take only one from a nest. We collected leaves and insects too, and we did learn from these activities, even though it wasn't a conscious thing at the time.

Climbing trees or swinging Tarzan-style from high-hanging ropes was exhilarating. We cycled out into the country and the newspaper-wrapped bread and jam we took for a snack along the way was the best of gourmet foods ever tasted. But, if you just happened to know of a strawberry patch or an apple orchard en route, that was even better.

Cookouts came later. Small fires crackling and the sizzle of bacon on a stick or the popping of the jacket on a baked potato are sounds I'll never forget.

I remember my first air rifle and can still hear my father talk about how to use it safely while practising on the targets in my backyard. I remember star-gazing with a friend; lying on my back on a warm summer night and pointing out the Big Dipper and Orion's Belt. We told jokes and made up stories so scary that sometimes we were afraid to walk home in the dark.

And we had an affection for each other that is hard to believe possible now. But I think, if I look really hard, I can find the place on my wrist where I scratched myself while my friend Arthur did the same so that we could let our blood mingle as we had seen in a movie about the initiation of an Indian brave and his cowboy friend.

We did some wonderful things while I was growing up. I hope kids still do some of them today. A

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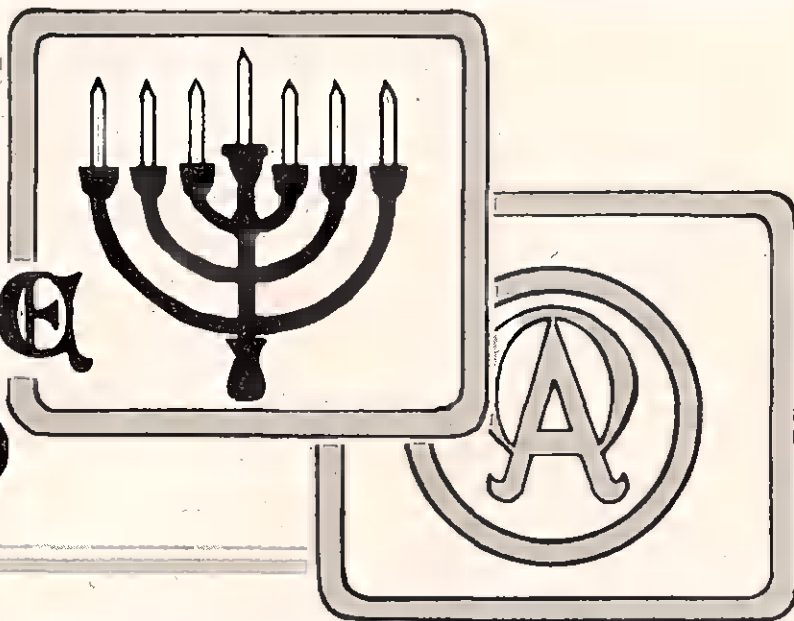
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"the Christmas Seal people"

OUR PLEDGE TO GOD



by G.C. "Rusty" Brown

Scouter Brown first passed these thoughts to the congregation of his pack's church sponsor in an address delivered on Scout Sunday, February 22, 1981.

Both the Scout and Guide movements have a great deal for which to be thankful. The life of the founder, Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell, his beliefs and his work, played an important role in the heritage of both movements.

The year 1907 marked the official beginnings of the Scout movement, and it was in that same year that Scouting took root in Canada. In 1912, B.-P. married Olave St. Clair Soames who, as his partner and helper, gave valuable assistance to the Scout movement. By becoming Chief of the Girl Guides of the World, she enabled girls, as well as boys, to profit by and enjoy the fundamentals of Scouting. Simply expressed, these fundamentals were to help youth and young adults become resourceful and responsible members of the community by providing opportunities for their mental, physical, social and spiritual development.

Membership in Scouts and Guides is open to all boys and girls who wish to make the Promise, regardless of race, colour or creed. In each movement, the promise encourages both youth and adult members to love and serve God, respect human dignity and rights, and recognize the individual's obligation to develop his potential to the best of his ability. The pledge to love and serve God is integral to the promise.

In 1926, Baden-Powell said of 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."

Although he was a Christian, B.-P. saw in his movement a chance to spread peace and goodwill through a brotherhood of all faiths in all countries. One brotherhood under God. But who is God to a young person? Most adults have difficulty answering that question. To Baden-Powell, God was the supreme being, the universal Father of us all, the common denominator for our brotherhood.

The Scout and Guide movements uphold the principle that specific religious instruction is the responsibility of parents and religious authorities. The purpose of Scout and Guide programs is to assist boys and girls in character development by encouraging them to be responsible citizens. An important part of the program is

to help the spiritual growth of each boy and girl and to encourage them to participate actively in their own religious denomination or faith.

Whenever people join one of the movements, they pledge their duty to God. It's the first and most important part of the Promise, and everyone who has sincerely made that promise voluntarily commits himself to carry out the religious obligation of the movement. The religious pledge is one of our founding principles and there is no provision for bypassing it. For this reason, I found a January 1981 newspaper story headlined "Scouts Bar Boy Over Pledge to God" personally disturbing.

The article reports Boy Scouts of Canada under investigation by the Federal Human Rights Commission for a complaint of discrimination on religious grounds from an eleven year old boy who, denying the existence of God, decided not to make the Scout promise with its pledge to do duty to God. (Ed's note: Because Boy Scouts of Canada is a private society which members choose to join because they agree with its aims and principles, the Human Rights Commission ruled in its favour.)

I can appreciate that the young boy did not want to be a hypocrite, and his feeling is most commendable. Scouting and Guiding is obviously not for all youth because, if it was, every boy and girl would belong to the organization. Of course this is not the case, but we do believe that we have a very viable program for youth who accept our aims and principles as a basis for membership. We are one of the largest organizations for young people in the world.

Religious denominations sponsor over 60 per cent of all Scout and Guide groups in Canada. This is fortunate. Where could the spiritual aspects of the movement and the promise to do duty to God be better nurtured than on the fertile soil of organizations devoted to the propagation of religious faith? Scout and Guide groups which are not sponsored by a religious institution are encouraged to seek guidance in the development of a spiritual emphasis in their section from a member of the clergy of a local institution.

Of course it is essential that as youth leaders we provide leadership by word and by example. A leader should realize that there are a great many opportunities to talk about God. When we have an opening or closing prayer at our meetings; we are talking with God. When we say grace at meals, we are asking to be blessed by God.

In Scouting, a Scout's Own is held for the worship of God and to promote fuller understanding of the Scout promise and law. It is not a substitute for church attendance, and it should be acceptable to all faiths. Both Boy Scouts of Canada and its sister movement provide interdenominational guidelines and resource

material to members. All sections attempt to respect the religious obligations of all members.

Both Scouts and Guides encourage youth to participate actively in the life of their religious community. B.-P. once wrote: "A movement of this kind would fail in its purpose if it did not bring a boy to a knowledge of religion." In co-operation with Scouting and Guiding, most religious denominations in Canada have developed their own unique *Religion in Life* program, a formal approach to bringing youth to a "knowledge of religion".

The Religion in Life emblem is granted to a youth who has completed the requirements laid down by his own faith or denomination, and to the satisfaction of his minister, priest or rabbi. The emblem is awarded by the church and not by Scouts or Guides.

The Christian emblem consists of a great circle, the symbol of eternity. In the circle are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet, Alpha and Omega, the symbol of God Himself, and a reminder that the worship and service of God form an essential part of life's program from beginning to end.

The emblem of the Jewish faith depicts the Menorah, the Jewish sym-

bol of light whose gentle rays overcome darkness in the world.

Those of other eastern faiths at present wear the Alpha-Omega emblem, but studies are underway to develop a symbol that will more specifically reflect their beliefs.

There are, of course, many reasons why young people join Scouts or Guides, and I dare say that to do their duty to God is probably not one of the foremost of them. Although it is not the purpose of Scouts or Guides to offend or to convert anyone in any way, it is important for prospective members to realize that the spiritual aspects of our movements are integrated into all aspects of our program.

Given these facts, why would anyone who denies the existence of God and therefore adamantly objects to one of our founding principles, want to become a member of our organization? Membership in Scouts and Guides is voluntary. Those who wish to be members take a pledge voluntarily, and there is no provision for compromise in the pledge to do our duty to God.

"On my honour, I promise to do my best, to do my duty to God and the Queen, to help other people at all times, and to carry out the spirit of the Scout Law." X

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FUN AT THE POND

by Linda Florence

"O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
How lovely are your branches..."

Both the song, and the custom of decorating an evergreen at Christmas came to us from Germany. Some stories say that, in the 16th century, Martin Luther hung the branches of the first Christmas tree with candles and white and silver ornaments to represent the starlit beauty of a tree outdoors on a quiet, snow-blanketed Christmas night.

But, long before Luther's time, the people of northern Europe brought evergreen branches indoors in late December to provide a warm place for friendly spirits. Families probably enjoyed the spicy smell and fresh colour of the branches as well.

Christmas trees can make a fun focus for various festive season activities at the pond this year.

TREE VISITS

Plan an excursion to a Christmas tree lot or farm. While there, compare the different kinds of evergreens by examining their needles and cones. With eyes shut, bury noses in branches and sniff pine, spruce, fir. Collect needles from the various types of trees to bring back to the pond for further study, mounting and labelling.

You may want to buy a cut tree to carry back with you for decorating. But, if you have earlier read Hans Christian Andersen's story of *The Fir Tree* to your Beavers, you'll probably choose to bring back a small potted tree. After Christmas it can be kept outdoors and, in the spring, the colony may be able to arrange to plant it somewhere in the community where it will give pleasure to both people and small birds and animals.

Perhaps you'll be able to visit your Trees for Canada site to check the progress of the seedlings and identify the kinds that were planted there. En route, try to spot and identify wild or hedge evergreens.

After such an excursion, the Beavers will need something sweet to eat and ...

HOT SPICY PUNCH

In a large pot, mix and heat equal portions of apricot nectar, apple juice or cider, and pineapple juice. Sprinkle cinnamon on top, stir and drink.

THE EVERGREENS

Beavers might enjoy this story sent from Vancouver-Coast Region. It lends itself to dramatization and will make a fine entertainment for the boys to present guests at a tree-decorating party.

Once, a long time ago, a small bird broke his wing just as winter was coming along. Unable to fly to the warm south with his friends, he hopped into the forest to look for shelter. First he asked a birch tree for help.

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

"Heavens no!" the birch replied. "I have enough to worry about just taking care of my leaves for the winter. I have no time to help you."

The little bird then hopped to a huge oak tree. "Mighty oak," he said politely, "will you let me live in your branches until spring?"

"No way," the oak said. "I know your type. You'll just eat up all of my acorns. Move along, move along!"

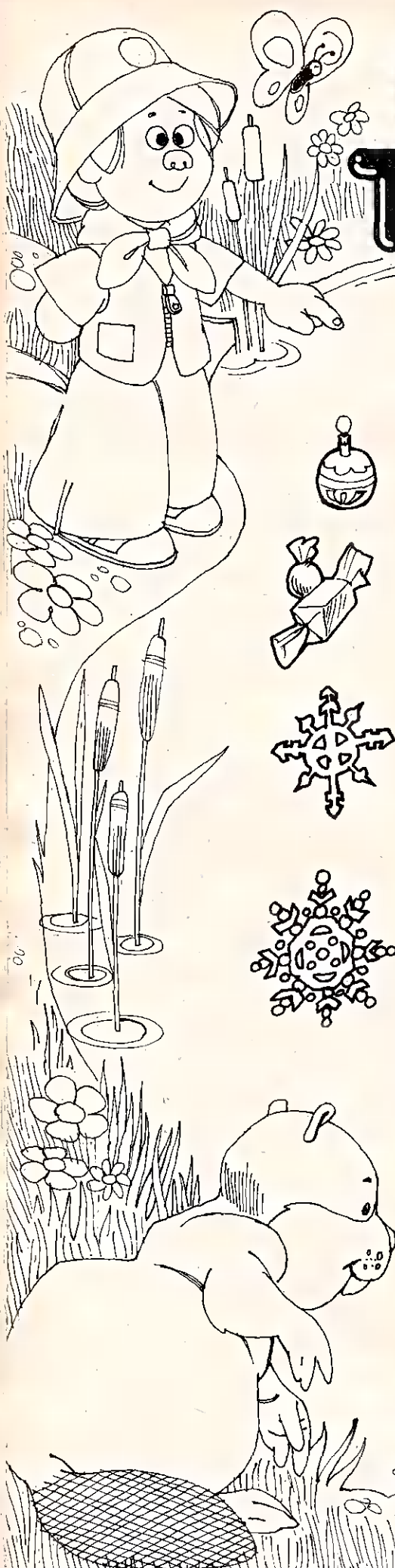
The poor bird limped over to a willow tree. "Gentle willow," the bird implored, "may I live in your branches until spring?"

"Are you kidding?" the willow said. "Perhaps some trees take in strangers, but I certainly don't. Go away!"

Weak and dejected, the bird fluttered along, not knowing where to turn.

"Where are you going, little bird?" a concerned voice asked. The bird looked up at a friendly spruce.

"I don't know," he said miserably. "My wing is broken so I can't fly south, and I need a warm place to stay for the winter."



"Come and live in my branches," the spruce said. "I'll be happy to have company for the winter."

The bird gratefully fluttered into a low branch and was settling down when a nearby pine tree called, "Welcome little bird. I'm sorry you are hurt. I'll help too, by sheltering the spruce to keep you both out of winter's icy wind."

"Me too," piped up a small juniper. "I can help by giving you berries to eat all winter long."

"You're all so kind," the bird said. "Thank you very much."

"They'll be sorry," whispered the oak, the willow and the birch.

The very next morning, Jack Frost brought his children out to play.

"We want to touch all the leaves in the forest so we can see what bare trees look like. Can we, can we, Pop?" the frost children fairly jumped with excitement.

"Hold it," said Jack Frost sternly. Old Jack had been testing the air the day before and had seen the plight of the little bird. "Don't touch every leaf," he ordered. "Let the trees who were kind to the little bird keep their leaves."

Being good children, the frost children listened to their dad. That is why, today, the spruce, the pine and the juniper stay green the whole year long.

TREES IN THE WIND

This game will both use up energy and re-inforce the Beavers' tree learnings. Divide the colony into two teams; trees and winter wind. Stand trees on one side of the room, wind on the other. Trees must decide what kind of tree they are and choose one Beaver to represent them. Trees walk towards the wind and their spokesman asks wind Beavers to guess what kind of tree they are. Depending upon their knowledge, he can give clues to direct the winds' guesses. When wind guesses correctly, it races to tag trees, while trees race back to their safety line to try to escape. Tagged trees join the wind. After a couple of goes, let trees and wind change sides.

DECORATIONS AND ORNAMENTS

• **Homemade Snow:** Use this bubble-snow to paint scenes on windows or dark-coloured construction paper for Christmas party atmosphere; to make Christmas ornaments; or simply to decorate them. You need soap powder (Ivory flakes work well), water, and an electric or hand mixer. For painting, beat equal parts of soap and water until fluffy. To make frosty ornaments (below), use less water. If you want coloured snow, add food colouring.

• **Frosty Ornaments:** Whip soap flakes and water to a stiff, dough-like consistency. On a plastic cloth or another no-stick surface, mold bubble-snow into star, bell or tree shapes. Make holes for hanging and sprinkle the shapes with glitter. Let them dry for at least 24 hours before stringing them on silver cord to hang on the tree.

• **Trees & Snowflakes:** Cut Christmas tree shapes and snowflakes from construction paper. Use bubble-snow paint on tree branches and to highlight snowflakes. Sprinkle with glitter and let dry 24 hours. String and hang on the tree.

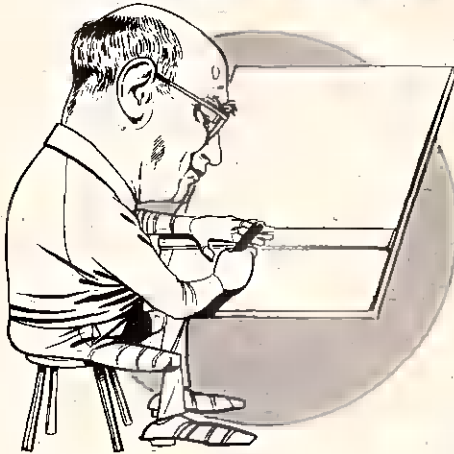
• **Tree Sweets:** Try some of the recipes on page 35-36 of this issue. Wrap sweets in aluminum foil or coloured cellophane and tie to tree with ribbon. Party guests can all take home a tree-bauble to eat.

• **Stained Glass:** With black marker on plain white paper, draw the outline of a Christmas design; perhaps simply a star within a star within a star, etc. Colour the spaces between the lines with brightly coloured wax crayons. Use a soft cloth to coat the back of the finished drawing with baby or cooking oil. The drawing becomes "transparent". Very effective taped to the glass in a window.

Happy tree-decorating party, and
MERRY CHRISTMAS! X



ON THE LEVEL



by John Sweet

A few months back a friend of ours, Scout Leader David Siddons of the famous Tythorne Troop, writing in *SCOUTING Magazine* (U.K.) lamented the fact that now that Scout fiction has died the death, boys no longer have anything to fantasize about — no Scout "heroes" with whom they can identify.

This reminds me that one Christmas morning many years ago, at a time when I, J. Sweet, patrol leader of the 2nd Wallsend Woodpigeons, was identifying like crazy with the hero of the current serial story in our (then) weekly paper *THE SCOUT*, it occurred to me that it might be in tune with my new-found character and personality if I went round the houses, flushing out the members of my patrol and bringing them back to exchange greetings with my mother. My first idea was to get the boys to bring all their Christmas presents with them for a grand display on the family dining table but providentially I called upon Freddie first, because Freddie's home life was — well — different, and when I saw what he'd got, or rather what he hadn't got, I thought better of it.

Anyway, in the event all went well. The day was frosty but fine, so we met round the old ship's figurehead in the garden. My mother welcomed us with thimblefuls of ginger wine and hot mince pies (one per each) and beamed impartially on one and all. When no one was looking I saw her slipping an extra mince pie to Freddie to eat on the road home. Freddie confided to me that he was gonna keep it for his little sister, but this didn't stop him nipping off bits of piecrust when he thought he was unobserved. I couldn't altogether blame him, because my mother's piecrust was rather special and, in any case, I

was sure that his little sister, who was probably the only person in the world who truly loved the lad, would not have begrudged him those few delicious crumbs.

Anyway, tipped off by my mother, my big brother went reluctantly to the piano in "the other room" (which is what we called it) and hammered out Christmas music with the window wide open. My three pretty sisters (well, I suppose you'd have called them pretty if they weren't *your* sisters) mingled demurely, without their accustomed air of condescension, and first and last that little Christmas morning gathering was a great success, perhaps the greatest, if not the only, social success of my lifetime.

All due to my mother, of course. And to one F. Haydn Dimmock, now long with God but in those days editor of our weekly paper *THE SCOUT* and author of the above-mentioned serial story.

Years later I met old Dim and told him this story. He flashed me the famous toothy grin, rubbed the end of his nose with the back of his hand and told me that I mustn't wax sentimental in my old age. (I was pushing 20 at the time.) And now I've been and gone and done it, haven't I? In our Christmas number too!



Another brilliant idea from the filing cabinet of the Lunatic Fringe.

At the next meeting of their council, warn your patrol leaders that at the forthcoming troop night they will be required to measure up the floor of the troop room, using their patrols as animated tape measures. So they'd better make sure that every boy comes to the meeting knowing his exact height from head to toe, won't they? How you set them to work is up to you but it might add to the fun if they all have to measure up the same job at the same time.

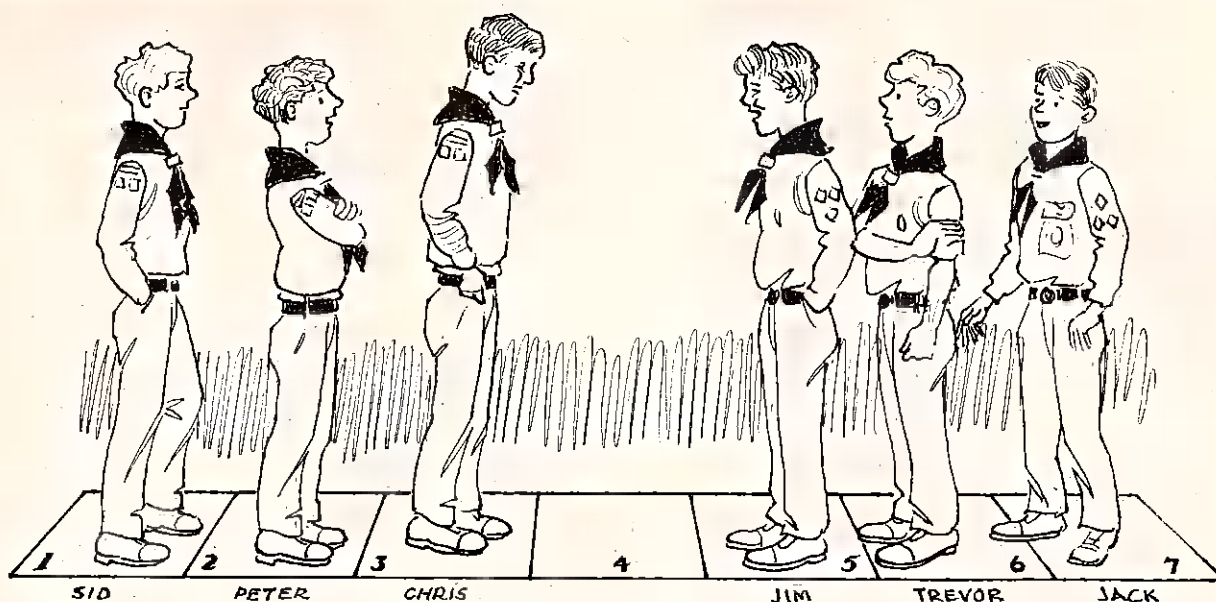


Turning now, if we may, to the age-old problem of how to prevent pioneering pickets from developing tonsures, how would it be to crown them with close-fitting tin cans? This brilliant suggestion comes from a lad who shall be nameless until he has had time to try out his own idea for himself.

We await your report, sir.

Meanwhile, could we suggest that the top of the picket should be fitted with a tightly folded collar of newspaper before it is crowned? Would that be worth trying, d'you think?





The six Scouts must reverse their position so that Sid, Peter and Chris are in the squares occupied by Jim, Trevor and Jack, and vice versa. They can only move in the direction in which they are facing. They can move into an adjacent square, provided it is unoccupied and are allowed to by-pass an opposing player to reach a vacant square. To achieve this no less than fifteen moves are needed... unless you can do better. The 'official' solution is in the endpiece



FIVE MINUTE DIVERSIONS

- Scouts in teams of three at one end of the troop room. Only one pair of hands and one pair of feet may touch the deck as they get themselves as a unit from end to end and back again as many times as possible without repeating the *modus operandi*.

- Call up the patrol leaders, hand to each a sheet of newspaper and tell them that it contains a printed message which they must carry out pronto in competition with rival patrols. The message will be pricked out with a pin, of course (though you needn't tell them!) and should be the same for each patrol except that the name of their own target patrol will be different. Thus: *Join three short ropes together with two different but appropriate knots other than the reef and try to rope in the _____ patrol.* The idea, of course, will be to get the patrols chasing each other in a circle: Peewits in pursuit of Pigeons, Pigeons vs Cuckoos, Cuckoos vs Peewits, and so on. As a (necessary) precaution, it should be impressed upon the P.L.s that all action must cease immediately on a single blast from the Scout leader's whistle.

- Call up the patrol leaders and tell them that it is about time you tried to raise the cultural content of the troop night program. Send them back to organize their boys into a choir which, at a given signal, can produce a chord of exquisite harmony and hold it for

(say) 15 seconds. Allow time for rehearsal, then call the troop together and get each patrol to perform while the others adjudicate.

- Dish out sheets of white card and coloured felt pens and invite patrols to produce a series of identikit portraits of some well-known local character, other than the vicar, priest, minister or rabbi, which will then be submitted to other patrols for possible identification.

- Try this one on the troop as a whole. Tell them that you are about to conduct an important psychological experiment to determine the power of the mass mind factor in relation to human behaviourism. (Any claptrap of that sort will do, so long as it sounds impressive.) Now ask them to think *instantly* of a colour, a flower and any number between one and ten, and almost before they've had time to think, ask anyone who thought of red, a rose or the number seven to raise his hand. If what they tell me is true, you may be in for a big surprise.



More things your patrol leaders might like to know

- Given that the eyes of most wild creatures are much sharper than our own, it is well to know that they aren't, like ours, stereoscopic, which means that they cannot discern the presence of a stalker on the far side of even a light screen of foliage, not so long as the stalker keeps perfectly still. The

slightest movement will give him away, of course.

- When drawing a picket or an out-size tent peg with a lever spar, make sure that the strain is applied directly in line with the object, never at an angle to it.

- Improvised bosun's chairs are best made with strops.

- To convert ordinary drawing paper into parchment, simply brush lightly with boiled linseed oil and then hang up to air-dry naturally. Any inscription or art work on the paper should be done in water-proof Indian ink before the oil is applied.

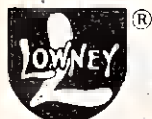
(Note: On the Level will be glad to receive examples of parchment produced by this method. Suitably inscribed, of course. The address is 8 Valley Close, Holton St. Peter, Halesworth, Suffolk, England.)



ENDPIECE: I'm told that the great secret in trying to solve this problem is to avoid getting two members of the same team into adjoining squares until they are safely home. Here is the "official" solution: Chris from 3 to 4; Jim from 5 to 3; Trevor from 6 to 5; Chris from 4 to 6; Peter from 2 to 4; Sid from 1 to 2; Jim from 3 to 1; Trevor from 5 to 3; Jack from 7 to 5; Chris from 6 to 7; Peter from 4 to 6; Sid from 2 to 4; Trevor from 3 to 2; Jack from 5 to 3; Sid from 4 to 5. X

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The cyclical review of the Rover program is scheduled to begin in the fall of 1983. The question that will be asked by the National Program Committee is, "Is there a need for such a review?"

To begin the process of consultation with Rovers, Dawn Wiltsie, Rover program liaison for the National Program Committee, attended Gruntmoot '81 this past summer in Quebec. There she met Rovers and heard what they have to say about their program. During the coming year, Dawn wants to hear from as many other Rovers as possible about the need for a program review, and to determine what kinds of areas should be studied so that the Rover program and Rovers can be better serviced.

To provide this type of information, she's asking Rovers across Canada to answer the following questions. All replies should be mailed to:

Dawn Wiltsie
1955 Fillion Street
St. Laurent, Quebec H4L 4G7

1) Is there a need to review the Rover program at the national level in 1983? Yes or No — Please provide reasons for your answer.

2) Are there other services the National Program Committee can provide Rovers between now and 1983?

She's also asking respondents for the following information:

- name of crew and location (optional)
- male or co-ed membership
- style of crew operation (i.e. traditional or club)
- orientation of crew (service, social, etc.)
- affiliation of crew (community, church, university)
- number of members in the crew
- type of uniform worn (green or grey)
- frequency of crew meetings
- number of members who provide leadership in other program sections.



The 9th Canadian Rover Moot Committee would like to remind all crews that the first fee installment deadline was December 1. To date, 80 crews from Ontario have sent in their registration fees. While the committee has received "Planning to Go" forms from about an additional 109 Canadian crews and from 137 crews in other countries, they would like to receive the first installment as soon as possible. This is necessary before they sign contracts for various services needed at the Moot.

If your crew is planning to be represented at the 9th Canadian Moot, now is the time to show your commitment with a fee payment.

All enquiries regarding the Moot should be directed to:

Mr. Boydan Mykolyn
9 Jackes Avenue
Toronto, Ontario
M4K 1E2



Supply NEWS

by Jim Mackie

One of the current major problems faced by our suppliers is the inability of *their* suppliers to guarantee exact colour duplication of each lot of material and thread processed. While shade variations are usually kept within normal industry tolerances, the differences are often there, and noticeable. You may be assured that every effort is made to maintain colour consistency. Variations do occur, however, even in these days of sophisticated technology, and very little can be done about it.

PAPER SCULPTURES produced by Kaperkit, an ideal craft item for both Cubs and Scouts, will soon begin to appear in local Scout Shops. This item won a Canadian Design Merit citation for excellence. Although made of paper, the figures are very sturdy when completed. To date there are four designs; Rifleman, R.C.M.P. Officer, Indian Chief and British Colonial Soldier. Should demand warrant, there is a possibility that a Cub and a Scout design will be added to the collection. It's an ideal Christmas gift or stocking stuffer.

COMING SOON! — an attractive pewter sculpture of Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell. This item will soon be added to our line of presentation gifts to provide that "special something" for special people who have assisted your group. In cooperation with The Scout Shops Ltd., the sculpture is being produced by Buckingham Pewter in their plant just outside London, England. Watch for a special ad in a future issue of **the Leader**.

In 1907, Arthur Primmer was among a group of boys chosen to attend an experimental camp led by Lieut.-Gen. Robert Baden-Powell, hero of Mafeking, on an island called Brownsea in Poole Harbour, Dorset, England. Now in his 90th year, Arthur wrote recently to acknowledge receipt of his **1982 Scouts Canada calendar** and to say how delighted he was to see the Brownsea photo on the inside of the front cover. While he admits to slowing down a bit, he recently hosted a tour of the original campsite for a group of American Scouts and showed them "where it all began". It would seem that Arthur is not the only one pleased with the '82 Calendar because we are able to report that the entire shipment of over 400,000 has now been sold.

On the back page of this issue of **the Leader**, you will find a full page Supply Services ad showing our two new tents and three new backpacks. As noted in an earlier column, these items have been tested and approved by the program committee, and were used at CJ '81 with good results. Our manufacturer also produces a line of good family tents and these can be specially ordered for you by your Scout Shop. For more information, ask to see the full colour brochure they have on hand. \wedge



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PATROL CORNER

by Phil Newsome



SCOUTING'S KNOTTY PROBLEM IV

Working Load of Ropes

Most stores where we purchase rope are unable to provide customers the very important safety information about maximum recommended working loads of various types of rope.

It's important to the lives of both you and the boys in your care to recognize that ropes may have been permanently weakened if they have been used, even momentarily, at loads greater than those shown in Table I on this page.

Remember that all ropes are weakened by knots, sharp bends, jerking loads, age, weathering, heat, some chemicals, ground-in dirt and the like. Knots which "freeze" under a high strain so that untying is difficult, should be cut out of the rope.

Excellent information on the characteristics of various types of rope is presented in the *Rigging Manual*

published by the Construction Safety Association of Ontario, 74 Victoria Street, Toronto, Ontario M5C 2A5.

Table I, which shows maximum working loads of new three-strand rope, will help you to assess quickly the strength of different kinds of rope. The working load is expressed as force in decaNewtons. To choose exactly the size and type of rope best suited to a particular job, use the following conversions:

- to convert decaNewtons to pounds-force, multiply by 2.25;
- to convert decaNewtons to kilograms-force, multiply by 1.02.

SAFETY WARNINGS

To ensure maximum safety in the use of rope:

- Divide all load figures by at least 2 if the rope is used to support or pull people.
- Use nylon if the rope may be subjected to shock loads.
- Inspect rope frequently. Avoid heat and long exposure to weather.

Strength of Knots and Loops

The second table shows the average strength of different knots and loops. You'll notice that the four new knots introduced in *Patrol Corner* ("S" Knot, Modified Timber Hitch, Figure 8½ Loop, Locking Bowline) are much stronger than the traditional knots. Although figures shown are for 4.8 mm polypropylene rope, this extra safety factor extends to all types of rope. A

TABLE I

Maximum recommended working load of new 3-strand rope (Numbers approximate because of large variety of rope constructions sold) **FORCE IN DECA NEWTONS**

Rope Diameter		Nylon	Poly-ester	Poly-propylene	A-1 Manilla	Sisal
mm.	inches	daN	daN	daN	daN	daN
4.8	3/16	90	90	65	40	25
6.4	1/4	150	140	110	50	35
7.9	5/16	240	220	140	90	60
9.5	3/8	320	300	200	120	85
12.7	1/2	530	500	350	230	160
15.9	5/8	780	700	500	400	280
19.0	3/4	1100	980	700	500	340
22.2	7/8	1500	1300	950	700	450
25.4	1	1900	1700	1200	800	550

TABLE II

Average strength: knots & loops
4.8 mm polypropylene rope
(1 decaNewton = 1.02 kg-force)

Configuration	daN
Modified Timber Hitch	370*
"S" Knot	370
8½ Loop	360
Short Splice	345
Figure 8 Loop	310
Figure 8 Bend	300**
Locking Bowline	300
Double Sheet Bend	255
Sheet Bend	245
Bowline	245
Double Carrick Bend	240
Surgeon's Bend	240
Overhand Loop	230
Reef Knot	210
Lineman's Loop	200
Figure 8 Bend	140***

*rope specification = 340 daN
**standing parts emerged opposite sides
***standing parts emerged together

THE SPIRIT LIVES ON

1987 1982



by Bob Milks

The 75th Anniversary arrives soon!

February 21-28, 1982 is listed in Scout calendars as Scout/Guide Week in Canada. This is a very significant period to us in 1982 and we need to be fully aware of all that will be happening.

Some of the goings-on will be traditional Scout/Guide Week activities: ecumenical services with the Girl Guides; parent and son banquets; B.-P. birthday parties, and other special activities. But the week is especially important to Scouting this year because we will be launching a "year" of Scouting that stretches from February 21, 1982 to July 14, 1983.

In Canada we have chosen the theme *The Spirit Lives On* as the basis on which to build our promotion and publicity for Scouting's 75th anniversary. So, while we will be co-operating with the Girl Guides in some areas, we will be working on separate projects as well.

To keep you informed of 75th anniversary projects, we'll present a series of monthly articles in **the Leader**. Watch for them and use them for your local planning.

The key dates this February are the 21st and 22nd.

February 21, 1982 is the beginning of Scout/Guide Week. Because it is also Scout/Guide Sunday, many groups may wish to hold ecumenical services with local Guide groups.

- On this day we officially launch the 75th Anniversary program in Canada. We hope to have a nationally known person announce the start of the program and the theme *The Spirit Lives On*.

- The Thompson newspaper chain plans to publish a tabloid insert on Scouting in its 50 newspapers.

- A national television promo has been produced by the Greater Toronto Region. Copies of this 30 second promo will be delivered to stations across the country through local councils.

- Magazine and newspaper ads and relevant historical material on local Scouting are also available through councils.

- The book **75 Years of Scouting in Canada** will be published in January and should be in Scout Shops in time for the 75th anniversary kick-off on the 21st. It makes an ideal gift for Scouters, sponsors, committee personnel, and Scouts.

February 22, 1982 is the 125th anniversary of B.-P.'s birth. What a day to hold the biggest birthday party ever! Take the party to a local shopping mall. Have a big cake and share it with shoppers.

- The Book of Members* will simultaneously start its journey on Vancouver Island and in Newfoundland. The two halves will meet some 15 months after this date.

Six other days in the period remain. *Hold special nights, field days and winter weekends.* Involve parents and people in the community. Remember that Scout/Guide Week and the 75th anniversary of Scouting are events worth publicizing. While we can tell people about Scouting through T.V. promos, newspaper ads and the like, we can't do what a local Scouter can do with his troop. Only living examples and live action can really show people what Scouting is all about.

According to the World Scout Bureau's *Anniversary News*, here is what some countries are doing to celebrate.

- So far, 50 countries have confirmed they will issue special postal stamps for the Year of the Scout in 1982 and 1983. Another 25 countries are known to be actively considering special issues. Such stamps have excellent promotional value and, in some countries, arrangements have been made so that the stamps will produce some money for the respective Scout association.

- The Swedish Guide and Scout Council has decided to undertake a joint project on St. George's Day, April 23, 1982. Details are not set, but it is expected to be a country-wide good turn project for all Guides and Scouts.

- The Scout Association of New Zealand has announced a "Scoutreach" program for the 75th anniversary. During "Scoutreach", members will reach out to local communities throughout the country with activities that will increase their involvement in community affairs. The program will begin on February 21, 1982.

- For the 75th anniversary, the Greater Toronto Region in Canada is planning a mammoth parade through the downtown business section of Toronto on Saturday, May 29, 1982. They expect that 10,000 Scouts and leaders, several bands, floats and moving displays will pass before a million spectators. Attempts are being made to have the parade televised. A



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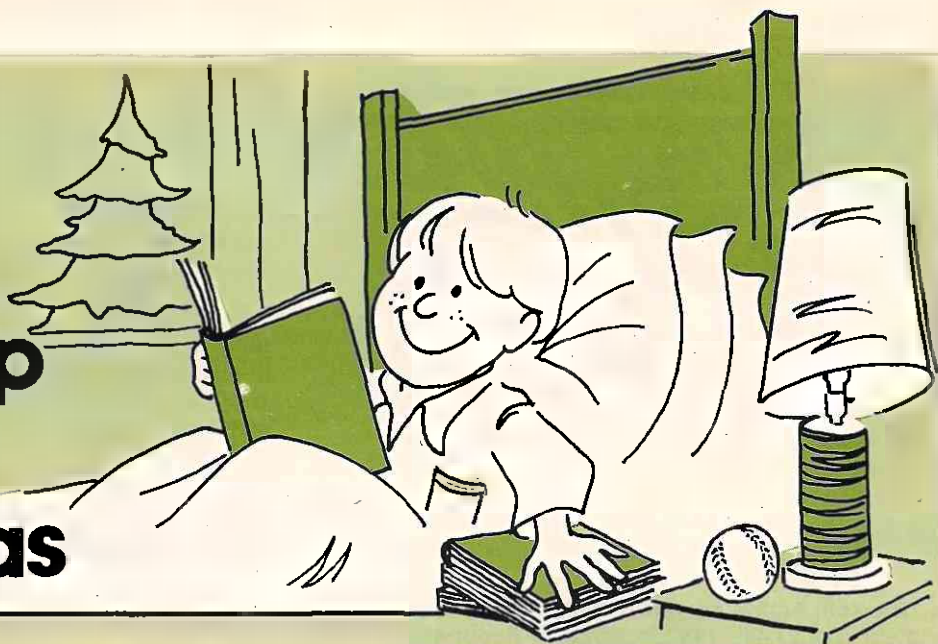
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Friends to Curl up with for Christmas



"Books are the best friends a man can have. You choose those that you like; you can rely on them at all times; they can help you in your work, in your leisure, and in your sorrow. You have them always around you at your beck and call in your home..."

"If you can hand on something of the love of books to your Scouts, you will be giving them friends which will never fail them."

—B.-P.'s Outlook, Oct. '32.

Some things, like the wise words of Scouting's founder, never go out of style, and a book is still one of the nicest gifts you can put under a Christmas tree.

Because of this, the **Leader** continues its tradition of presenting book reviews in December. Not all of the books on our list are new this year, but we've tried to include suggestions for both leaders and boys. We hope they'll help you to find a friend for a friend to curl up with this Christmas.

The Curious Naturalist by John Mitchell and the Massachusetts Audubon Society, 120 pages. Prentice-Hall Inc., \$11.95 (paperback).

This is the kind of book that Beaver, Cub and Scout leaders dream about! It holds enough ideas that they can program for several years without repeating themselves.

The Curious Naturalist is a handbook of crafts, games, activities and ideas for teaching children about the magical world of nature. It is highly illustrated with line drawings and the text is written around them in note form, making it very easy to find the information you need. In most cases a page is devoted to one idea and this makes it easy to photostat instructions for an exercise to give to sixes or patrols.

For easy reference and planning purposes the book is broken into the four seasons, and the whole gamut of nature is covered, from the night sky to grasses and herbs. In addition there are crafts: things to make to further nature study, like a berlese funnel for discovering creatures who live in the soil, or an aquarium to study water life, or a card house to attract moths; and natural material crafts like making rush mats, twig belts, whistles and dyes.

The book is well indexed for easy access to information and, in each case, sources of further information are quoted. The information seems to be technically sound although I was surprised to see peanut butter suggested as bird food. Recent observations indicate that some birds can be harmed by peanut butter because it tends to stick to their bills so that they can't eat or breathe properly. In some cases, it seems to block their gizzards. Bird authorities recommend that peanut butter only be used when it is mixed with oil or fats to make it much more slippery.

No leader should be without this book. It helps put the "out" in Scouting.

Reviewed by Charles Stafford

Backcountry Ski Camping by Alan R. Bagg, 275 pages. Contemporary Books Inc., \$8.25 (paperback).

Although many books on the subject are available, I feel that this is one of the better ones. It covers such topics as: physical conditioning; survival essentials; choosing suitable packs, tents and sleeping bags for winter use; proper selection and wearing of clothing; how to make an adequate snow camp; and the essentials of food and food preparation.

The book goes beyond the basic

winter camping skills in that it includes sections on the selection and use of the proper skiing equipment for this winter sport. Venturers looking for one of North America's more challenging outdoor activities should find Bagg's book very useful.

Reviewed by Bob Butcher

I Can Make a Rainbow by Marjorie Frank, 300 pages. Incentive Publications Inc., Nashville, Tennessee, \$15.70 (paperback).

There's little doubt that snappy vocabulary and drawings on a bright rainbow of pages will attract the Cub-age kids for which this thick book of creative activities is designed. The tips for teachers that prominently footnote many of the pages probably will detract from the book's appeal to children, but they certainly add to its value for Beaver and Cub leaders.

Frank has put together a treasure box of art and craft ideas for both individual and group projects. She urges kids to set free the imagination and explore the possibilities of different materials and techniques. How about painting with mud, for example, or with soapsuds or instant pudding?

Leaders will welcome the recipes for craft mediums like finger paint and different types of modelling materials, as well as the chapter of recipes for sweet things that kids can make and eat.

Each well-illustrated activity includes a material list, clear step-by-step directions, and a healthy concern for safe handling of materials and tools. But the approach is definitely not rigid, and suggestions for variations stimulate many spin-off ideas.

A boy might like to have this book. A leader of a young boy section will be very grateful to find it under the tree.

Reviewed by Linda Florence

1981 Worldwide Adventure Travel Guide, Ziff-Davis Publishing Co.; 544 pages, \$12.95 (paperback).

An excellent encyclopedia for arm-chair travellers, the book provides information about adventure trips available in all parts of the world.

The Canadian section is very extensive and covers adventure trips by canoe, bicycle, hiking and horseback. Although the travel guide describes many exciting trips in this country, unfortunately, it gives contacts which, for the most part, are those available in the U.S.A. Few Canadian contacts are listed, and it's disappointing to be referred to Texas for further information about a canoe adventure in Northern Ontario.

Nevertheless the information in the travel guide can be of help to leaders on the lookout for challenging activities. They may not be aware of the tremendous variety of possible adventures that are available in their own provinces.

Reviewed by Phil Newsome.

The Scouts' Book of Action Ideas, published by National Council, Boy Scouts of Canada, 83 pages, \$3.25 (paperback).

This handbook for Scouts is packed full of great ideas with grand titles like "Flame Thrower", "Highwayman's Hitch", "Greenlighting", "Punk", "Flash Flood", and "Pyatt I Panna".

The ideas can be used on an individual, pair, patrol or troop basis. Themes for 15 patrol meetings and 17 troop meetings and about 40 topics for programs in the local community, are balanced by hints on cooking, camping, kiting, puzzles, knotting, etc.

By my count there are some 286 ideas in this action package. At \$3.25 for the book, that works out to a little over \$.01 an idea. A real bargain!

Someone had fun pulling these ideas together. Why don't you and your boys have fun putting them into practice. Buy a copy of this book for each of your patrol leaders. Have them read, try, adapt and apply the ideas. Send your comments, revisions and new ideas to national headquarters for what could become "More Action Ideas for Scouts — Book II".

Reviewed by Pat Horan

Physical Fun For Everyone by Mike Sawitz and John Ourth; 51 pages. Good Apple, Inc., \$7.75 (paperback).

"...Since competition does exist, excessive and unequal competition for children is really not necessary. Children need to play and cooperate with each other and to express their own individualities."

These words introduce a book that contains some excellent non-competitive games for Beavers and Cubs. It also includes advice about how leaders can help children to see that a game is "for fun", not for beating the pants off one's opponent by hook or by crook!

Individual creativity and cooperation are stressed, and all instructions are concise and clear. Names like "Beanbag Boogie", "Mud Puddle Rumble" and "Long Jump Bump" are bound to spark the imagination even before the game begins.

The authors give several ideas for making your own equipment at little or no cost, and they consistently consider safety factors.

Selection of a game to aid in reaching a particular objective can be easily accomplished because all games have been classified as to their purpose (e.g. development of large motor skills, hand-eye coordination, body awareness, etc.)

This book will make a happy choice for the Beaver and Cub leaders on your list.

Reviewed by Peggy Jordan

Old Tales for a New Day, by Sophia Lyon Fahs and Alice Cobb; 201 pages. Prometheus Books, \$9.95 (hardcover).

In this delightful book there are 39 short stories dealing with ancient myths and legends. These "early answers to life's eternal questions" come from five continents and represent over two dozen different cultures.

The stories have been chosen to appeal to the 5 to 15 year age group but, though far removed from that group, I also enjoyed reading them.

Each story has its own message, and most have a spiritual emphasis. The stories deal with resolving conflict, sharing responsibility, choosing life goals, and making the best use of the skills we all have.

If you have an ability to tell stories, this book will give you a new source of inspiration. If you don't, the book will encourage you to tell stories more often. And, if you find it difficult to help young people understand the spiritual side of Scouting or of life generally, "Old Tales for a New Day" will provide an excellent way to begin.

Reviewed by Reg. Roberts

The Child from Five to Ten (Revised Edition), by Arnold Gesell, M.D., Frances Ilg, M.D., and Louise Bates Ames; 440 pages. Harper & Row, \$23.95 (hardcover).

Beaver and Cub leaders who are really interested in helping the boys in their sections grow as individuals, will

welcome this easy-to-read book.

First published in 1946, it has now been revised in the light of nearly 40 years of further observations. The authors note that the patterns described in the first edition remain basically true; that it is not so much the child as the culture which has changed.

The book outlines distinctive behaviour characteristics for the early school years when a child becomes a person in our complex society. Each year is dealt with separately and examined in terms of behaviour profile and maturity traits: motor characteristics; personal hygiene; emotional expression; fears and dreams; self and sex; interpersonal relations; play and pastimes; school life; ethical sense; and philosophic outlook. This makes it very easy to refer directly to an area of concern without having to read the whole book, or even, a whole chapter.

Leaders with easy access to the information in this book will find their work with young people far less stressful because they will better understand what is going on and where it is leading. By being better informed, leaders will find meetings more joyful and successful, and relationships with individual members more effective and rewarding.

Reviewed by Charles Stafford

Path of the Paddle by Bill Mason; 200 pages. Van Nostrand Reinhold Ltd., \$19.95 (hardcover).

Although I've never seen them, I've heard that Bill Mason's National Film Board films on canoeing are the best available. That's why I was pleased to discover he has also authored a book on the subject.

Path of the Paddle, subtitled "An Illustrated Guide to the Art of Canoeing", is one of those rare hardcover texts that you don't mind laying down \$19.95 for. The beauty of the colour photos alone explains why anyone should want to take up canoeing. The black and white photos and the text inform the reader on just about every facet of the "art" imaginable.

The novice will benefit from material on choosing the right canoe, solo and double canoeing basics, and alternatives to running rapids.

The more experienced canoeists can learn from sections on rapids and white water manoeuvres. All should attend to the chapters on wilderness safety and, just as important, wilderness responsibility. It's the kind of book that many outdoor enthusiasts will enjoy finding under the tree.

Reviewed by Bob Butcher X

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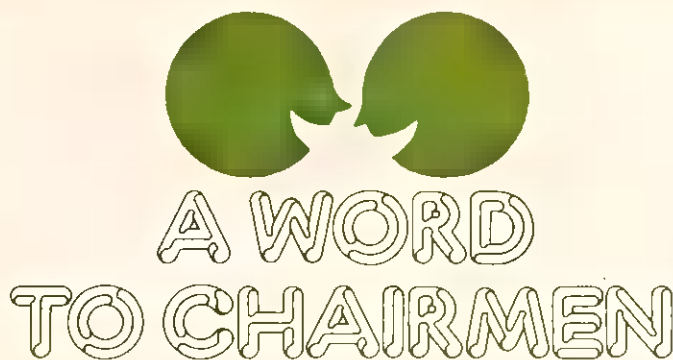
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A WORD TO CHAIRMEN

(of Group Committees)

by Pat Horan

... about the Ontario Relationships Conference

Dear Murray,

I really enjoyed the conference. The Blue Springs Training Centre was at its best, and Howard Jackson did well as cook.

It was encouraging to hear of the action plans outlined by the participants. I knew from an earlier meeting that the United Church people were planning two regional workshops; one in Edmonton and one at Blue Springs. But the plans for three Anglican diocesan workshops and the London sponsorship conference were news to me. I sure hope Father John O'Donnell's idea of a Retreat for boys and leaders of R.C. groups will take place.

I thought Gordon Wilder's idea of combining the 75th anniversary of Scouting and the 100th anniversary of the Salvation Army in Canada to set a target of 175 Salvation Army sponsored groups by 1982 was ingenious!

Bill Smith of the Legion (who said he was "volunteered" for this job) really became excited by the "partnership concept" and plans to share his enthusiasm and interest with the national board, of which he is a member. The representative of Lions International was delighted to hear that Sean's groups, sponsored by local Lions Clubs, have increased again for the eighth year in a row — a great record!

Pete Collins' "Spiritual Emphasis" session was great and allowed full participation. Let's hope the approach and concept is shared more widely.

"How do local sponsors or potential sponsors make contact with Scouting personnel?" is a good question raised by Howard Jackson. In large urban councils the Scout Council office is listed under Scouts Canada or Boy Scouts of Canada. Most Scouting pamphlets list the address of the national office, at least, and every part of the country is serviced by the thousands of volunteer Service Teams supported by the 116 Scout Executives.

But that doesn't fully answer Howard's query for the people out in the "boondocks". What other ways are there to bridge this apparent gap? I would be glad to hear from you on this matter.

All in all, a worthwhile event.

And now that it's Christmas time again, may I wish you, your family and your co-workers all the best during this blessed season.

Sincerely,

Pat



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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK



by Bob Butcher

In our April 1980 issue we featured a story about the 1979 Huck Finn Raft Race held in the Halton Region in Ontario. Halton Region Field Executive Bob Carlaw recently shared with us news and photos of the 1981 race, held on the weekend of Sept. 18 to 20 at Fairy Lake.

The event was open to Scouts, Venturers, Rovers, and any other interested persons willing to form teams and build rafts. A raft unit consisted of one raft, a maximum of six youths, and a minimum of two adults.

Rafts could be of any design, but had to have a strong rope railing, a centre mast flying a flag or a pennant, and flotation provided by tubes or metal barrels. Rafts could be powered

by oar, paddle, sail or peddle power, but no motors were allowed. Health and safety had to be a first consideration for all units, and life jackets had to be worn by everyone on the rafts.

Scouter Mike Walton writes, "When I was asked to help organize the race... my first thought was that as an organizer I could not be part of a crew. However, on second thought, if I could help someone gain a similar experience to mine, then I would willingly help to set the scene."

After crew briefings on race day, five rafts started on five different routes, all about 5.5 miles long, in quest of gold. Each crew had its own treasure map and navigational clues. Crews could collect gold at six checkpoints and obtain bonus points for finding buried gold on a land and water search and by correctly identifying Huck Finn and his friends stationed around the lake.

Scouter Walton reports that the 1st Acton Scouts elected to finish the race quickly rather than to search for buried gold. The 1st Kilbride Scouts, whose craft won the best raft award, made four of the six checkpoints. Despite technical difficulties with their raft propulsion system, the 2nd Georgetown Scouts made two checkpoints and collected bonus points for finding all the buried gold. The 2nd Acton Sea Scouts met difficulties from the start and were unable to make way against heavy winds. The 462nd Toronto Rovers were also foiled by heavy winds but, having overcome the initial humiliation of being out-classed by a bunch of

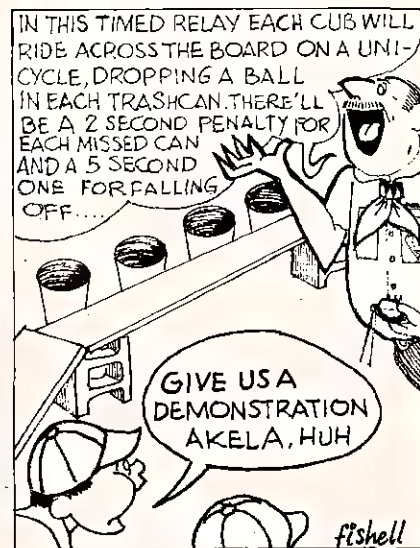
Scouts, they've vowed to recover their honour in the next race.

Saturday concluded with a sing-song around a fire on the beach and Sunday featured a Scouts' Own and additional events such as a speed-race and "highest crow's nest" and "best water cannon" competitions. The tug-of-war was cancelled because of high winds.

The event finished with the presentation of awards and a challenge to return for the third Huck Finn Raft Race in two years time. To date, no one has collected all of Huck Finn's gold.



If the shoe fits.....



To keep readers up-to-date on staff changes at **the Leader**, we should point out that Mrs. Kay Hotham is no longer with us. Kay, who looked after our advertising and, in recent months, wrote *Fun at the Pond*, left **the Leader** in July to accept a position as copy editor at *Canadian Consumer Magazine*. We wish her well in her new career.

In August, Miss Pina Tassi joined to assume Kay's duties in our advertising department. Being new to magazine work, she is not immediately taking on the preparation of *Fun at the Pond*, so we will be relying on other experienced writers to handle this for the time being.

I should add that we depend on material from our readers for inclusion in *Fun at the Pond*, and we encourage Beaver leaders to **SHARE** their activities and experience with us.





Robbert Hartog receives his Bronze Wolf from Bruce Garnsey of Australia, former chairman of the World Committee.

An outstanding Canadian Scouter was honoured at the World Scout Conference held during August at Dakar, Senegal. Robbert Hartog of Cambridge, Ontario, was the recipient of World Scouting's highest award, the Bronze Wolf.

Robbert Hartog has served Canadian Scouting in many important capacities at local, provincial and national levels. At the present time he is Chairman of the World Program Committee.

Both Canadian Scouting and the **Leader** congratulate and salute Robbert Hartog on this richly deserved recognition.



Our March *Editor's Notebook* item about Scout participation in the PNE parade prompted Scouter Ken Knowles of Nanaimo, B.C., to share with us a report and photos of the activities of the 6th Nanaimo group, who entered a float in the May Day Parade.

A local trucking company donated the use of a flatbed and, because the group was holding an all-sections campout on the weekend of the parade, it was agreed that the flatbed be transported to the local camp for decoration. They chose "The Spirit of Scouting" as a theme, and all sections took part in the float's construction. All sections were also represented on the float in the Monday parade.

Scouter Ken also told us about the 6th Nanaimo's "Terry Fox Bowlathon" arranged to kick off the 1980-81 season. A local bowling proprietor loaned the group the use of two lanes in his bowling alley for 24 consecutive hours. The Cubs canvassed for supporters in a local shopping centre, asking people to pledge so much for each hour a Cub bowled.

After official balls were rolled by the District Scouter for Cubs and the local Cancer Society president, the

boys, their parents and their leaders began their 24 hour experience. Between noon on Saturday and noon on Sunday, 252 games were bowled. One boy bowled 17 straight games, and a leader rolled 21 consecutive games.

Participants came and went at all hours of the day and night. Some slept over in sleeping bags, while others stayed up for the entire 24 hours.

The event grossed \$2200, which was later presented during a local telethon. Scouter Ken reports that the bowlathon was viewed as both a great way to start the year and a good deed done in honour of a great Canadian.



On July 1, while many of us were in Kananaskis Country at CJ '81, our assistant editor visited Major's Hill Park in Ottawa, with her family, to take part in some of the capital's Canada Day celebrations. Unexpectedly she happened upon an obstacle course called the "Tarzan Trail" constructed and manned by a local Scout group for the enjoyment of the general public. With her ever-ready camera she snapped for us the accompanying photo showing some Ottawa children enjoying one of the many challenges constructed by the Scouts.



"The world might be reeling under the burden of inflation but youngsters, in their usual blithe fashion, are unconcerned about high prices and the state of the economy, especially now as they begin to draw up their Christmas lists to send Santa Claus."

So says a newsletter we received recently from the Finland National Tourist Office.

Readers may recall that in his Nov. *Beaver Happenings* a year ago, Carl Lemieux referred to a group of people in Oslo who answer all letters addressed to "Father Christmas, Oslo, Norway". Apparently the Finnish Tourist Board also sets up an office staffed by Santa and 10 helpers in Rovaniemi, capital of Lapland, near the Arctic circle. Mail is answered in 10 languages and returns contain a colourful game in the form of a puzzle giving educational information about Finland.

In explaining the lead statement, the newsletter says that youngsters now ask for things like electric typewriters, stereos, stocks and bonds, digital watches, and even computers.

We know that leaders will be spending some time with their groups this December dealing with other aspects of Christmas.

We at the **Leader** wish readers a happy holiday season. λ



SCOUTER'S Swap Shop

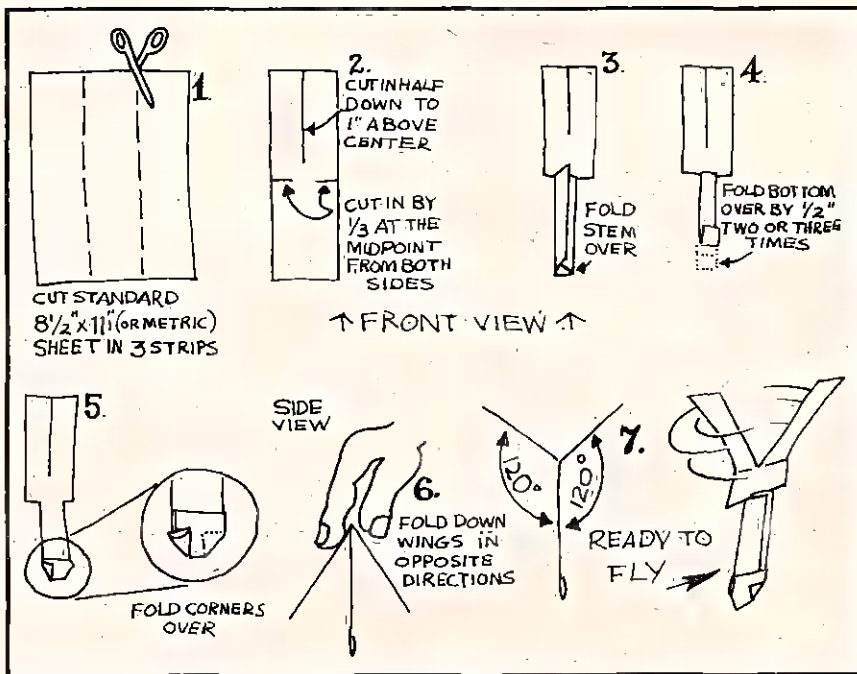
The idea for this snowman was sent to us by L. Modien of Swift Current, Saskatchewan. You can use the men as place-markers at a party or, like the Group 4 Beavers of Swift Current do, as "It's Your Turn" markers during games. You need:

- cotton batting
- toilet rolls
- felt or construction paper
- elastic bands
- pipe cleaners
- cards or paper on which to print a name or *It's Your Turn!*

Glue construction paper to one end of a toilet roll to close it and glue cotton batting all over the roll. Make a hat from felt or paper and put the elastic band around the waist for a belt. Bend one end of a pipe cleaner into a hook

that will hold a card, and slip the pipe cleaner through the belt. Add face features and buttons of felt or construction paper.

• Inspired by the "Bonus Idea" in *Scouter's Alphabet K* (Aug/Sept '81), Fred Fishell of the Greater Toronto Region sent us "a simpler version of a paper helicopter. It can be made from plain foolscap typing paper and will twirl quite successfully (we tried and it did). On a windy day, it will even soar." X



Dear Sir,

I have been receiving the *Leader* for six years now. The magazine is very informative and useful to our colony. However, we would like to see more crafts for Beavers.

— Gloria Manthorne
48th Halifax North Beavers

Ed's Reply: We try to include some crafts for Beavers in each issue of the *Leader*. What we very much need is more Beaver leaders who will take the time to send us their ideas, as Mrs. Manthorne did when she wrote us. Our present conundrum is that Beaver leaders make the most frequent requests for program material while the same leaders are our least frequent contributors. Are you listening all you pond-people out there?

Dear Carl (Lemieux),

This concerns your **OUTDOORS** column (about) camping and character development.

I've seen troops that never go camping, but (the boys) have Scoutcraft, campcraft and other outdoor badges. I approached a Scout from one of these groups and asked him how he earned the badge. He said, "I knew the answers to the questions."

Camping does lead to character development if you take the boys out as I do. I don't take all of them. I usually take a small group at a time. This way I'm brother, instructor and friend to the boys. I find that we understand each other better, respect each other more, and the boys learn more because it's a closer relationship.

The more successful groups in Scouting take the boys camping. The boys enjoy it and when the word "fun" gets out, you find yourself with growing numbers. The unsuccessful groups stay inside, the boys get bored and numbers go down.

Scouting and the outdoors go together like bees and honey. You don't have to take them camping up north

or in the woods. Outdoors can be simply outside doing community work or sightseeing.

— Jim Schneider, Laval, P.Q.

Ed's Reply: Although Carl Lemieux has left his position at national headquarters, we know he will be interested in your comments. The letter has been passed on to him.

To John Sweet:
Sir,

I wish you luck...in all your endeavours. Stay with us in the *Leader* magazine. You are a constant source of challenge, enjoyment and frustration (depending on the individual) and you are one of our greatest resources. Long may your big jib draw.

— Dave Shaw
Gander, Newfoundland

Ed's Reply: Excuse us for cribbing some comments from your letter, but we wanted to share your thoughts with other Scouters in Canada. We happily pass on your challenge and nice words to John Sweet at his Holton St. Peter address. X



SCOUTER'S 5 MINUTES & RECIPES



- . . . our Saviour's birth is celebrated,
The bird of dawning singeth all night long.
— Wm Shakespeare

- *Simple words; poetic words;
wonder-filled words to sing with joyous music;
words given us by the Man whose birth
we celebrate.
Peace! Joy! Hope! Love!
These are the words for Christmas.*

- Fear not: for behold, I bring you tidings
of great joy, which shall be to all people.
For unto you is born this day in the city
of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.
— from the Gospel of St. Luke

Then be ye glad, good people,
This night of all the year,
And light ye up your candles
For His star, it shineth clear.

— old carol

- What can I give Him,
Poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd
I would bring a lamb,
If I were a Wise Man
I would do my part,
Yet what I can I give Him
Give him my heart.

— Christina Rossetti

YULE LOG PRAYER

- May the fire of this log warm the cold;
May the hungry be fed;
May the weary find rest,
And may all enjoy heaven's peace.

— traditional

- Among other things, Christmas is a time for
goodies, and boys will have fun learning to
make sweet things to eat. Recognizing that
few meeting places are equipped with ovens,
we offer a number of no-bake sweet recipes.
One of them requires a hotplate or other
source of surface heat, and we did include a
"cookie paint" recipe for lucky groups who
have access to an oven.

- Boys will certainly want to sample their
products, but they also can gift-package
goodies for friends, serve them at a party, or
wrap them in foil and hang them on the tree as
special treats for visitors.

PEANUT BUTTER BALLS

- 1 cup peanut butter
- 1 cup (or a little less) liquid honey
- 1 cup milk powder
- Chopped dried fruit (apples, dates, raisins, apricots) and nuts
- Toasted coconut or sesame seeds

Combine peanut butter, honey and milk powder and mix well. Stir in dried fruit and nuts. Form into balls and roll in coconut or sesame seeds. Chill.

FONDANTS

- 8 oz. icing sugar
- 2 tbsp condensed milk
- peppermint, vanilla or fruit flavouring
- food colour appropriate to flavouring
- shredded coconut, chopped nuts or grated chocolate
- walnut or almond halves

Sift icing sugar. Blend in milk until creamy. Add chosen flavour and colour. Form into balls and roll in coconut, nuts or grated chocolate. Press half nuts into balls and let set.

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CHOCOLATE BITES

- 1 can chow mein noodles
- 12 oz. chocolate chips
- 12 oz. butterscotch chips
- 1 lb. peanuts

In a saucepan, melt together the two kinds of chips. Mix in noodles and peanuts. Drop by spoonful onto waxed paper and let set.

PEPPERMINT CREAMS

- 1 egg white
- 1 lb. icing sugar
- peppermint flavouring to taste

Whip egg white until fluffy. Stir in a third of the icing sugar. Beat well. Continue to beat while adding the rest of the sugar, but don't let the dough become too dry and stiff. It should be soft and pliable when you add peppermint flavouring and knead well. Form into balls, roll in icing sugar and let set.

If you have a portable oven, bring it and some refrigerator cookie dough to a meeting, then let your boys cut and paint Christmas cookies. Make "cookie paint" by beating together:

- 3 egg yolks
- 1 tsp water
- 1 tsp sugar

Pour portions of this mixture into three or four separate containers and tint each portion a different colour with food colouring. After the boys have rolled, cut and placed the dough on baking sheets, they can use clean paintbrushes to paint faces or designs on their cookies. Bake as per cookie recipe.

If an oven is simply out of the question, bring along a batch of pre-baked cookies, ingredients for a simple icing, and food colouring. Have the boys make up the icing, tint portions different colours and, using clean brushes, paint the cookies with coloured icing.

Deep peace of the running wave to you;
Deep peace of the flowing air to you;
Deep peace of the shining stars to you;
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you;
Deep peace of the watching shepherds to you;
Deep peace of the Prince of Peace to you.
— prayer translated from the Gaelic

Christmas sometimes brings out the cynicism in us. Christmas words may seem like cheap tinsel trying to hide the shabbiness of honky-tonk commercialism, the signs of bitter suffering, even in our own land of plenty, the horror of thoughtless violence and full-scale war in our careless world.

But the message in the words has its own light and, like Scrooge, we listen despite ourselves, we join the songs, and we hope.

And some Christmas words make us think.

Would you follow the star tonight
If it shone past the Milky Way,
Leave comfortable homes and follow it still
Over the hills and away?
How many would open their doors tonight
For a weary and shabby pair,
Make room at hearths for a Stranger-Child
Though the infant be wondrous fair?
How many would give of their gifts tonight,
The best they possess and more,
For their faith in a star and an angel choir
And a king for evermore?
We censure the folk of a bygone time
For indifference to Mary's plight.
How many would do any better now?
Would you follow the star tonight?
— Author unknown. Published in Scouting
(U.K.), November 1974.

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Outdoors

Winter outings, whether camping trips or one-day excursions, can be exhilarating experiences. But, like out-of-doors activities at other times of year, they also can be hazardous undertakings.

If you know the potential dangers, you can avoid them. To give yourself an extra margin of safety, you must know how to recognize and treat a cold-weather problem if it does occur.

For any kind of excursion it's wise to establish a buddy system, but such a system is particularly valuable in winter. If buddies knowledgeable about symptoms periodically check each other for early warnings of hypothermia, frostbite, wind or sunburn, the problems can be treated before anyone is seriously hurt.

The information in this month's OUTDOORS is adapted from *The Camping Book*, Boy Scouts of Canada; *Camping Sparklers*, a winter camping handbook published by Boy Scouts of America; and *Winter Camping* by Bob Cary.

COLD WEATHER PROBLEMS

Hypothermia — a life-threatening condition which develops when the inner body core cools to below 33°C (or 89°F).

- **Avoidance tactics:** dress warmly in layers of clean clothing; wear a hat; keep moving, but at a pace that doesn't cause sweating; stay dry; seek shelter from high winds or very cold temperatures; nibble high energy foods that will keep the body's furnace stoked.

- **Watch for:** severe shivering; speech difficulties; stumbling and dropping things; muddled thinking; slowed pulse and breathing rate; loss of ability to walk, to stand; loss of consciousness.

- **Treatment:** shelter victim from wind and weather; change wet clothing for dry; give hot, sweet drinks or warm food; put victim in a sleeping bag with a buddy; try to keep him awake until his body temperature is normal. If the condition is severe, place warm objects on ribs, head, neck and groin. Do not rub extremities. Find medical help as quickly as possible.

Frostbite — freezing of an exposed part of the body, usually face or extremities.

- **Avoidance tactics:** protect face, fingers and toes from cold and wind with proper clothing; periodically "make faces" to detect early feelings of numbness; wear loose fitting clothing so that circulation to extremities isn't cut off; stay out of the wind as much as possible; don't grab metal objects with bare hands; when refueling stove or light, carefully use a funnel to avoid spilling fuel on skin.

- **Watch for:** gray or yellow-white spots on skin; numbness; pain.

- **Treatment:** Warm affected area in water (108-110°F) or against skin in armpit or on stomach. Do not rub. Don't yank away clothing that is frozen to an affected part. Thaw it loose.

Snowblindness — caused when unprotected eye is exposed to excessive sunlight thrown back from the snow.

- **Avoidance tactics:** wear goggles, polarized sun-glasses, a hood that shades the eyes.

- **Watch for:** burning, red eyes; watering and swelling; throbbing pain around the eyeballs or in the forehead; sensitivity to flashes of light; halo around lights.

- **Treatment:** put cold compresses on eyelids and give ASA tablet; bandage eyes or place victim in a dark room. Don't use drops or ointment.

Dehydration — loss of body fluids

- **Avoidance tactics:** slow down when you start to sweat; take plenty of liquids at regular intervals.

- **Watch for:** rise in temperature; loss of desire to drink; sweating; dark-coloured urine.

- **Treatment:** give liquids and salty foods.

Carbon Monoxide Poisoning — a danger whenever flame is used in a shelter. Even in a ventilated shelter, a yellow flame freely generates this odourless, colourless gas.

- **Avoidance tactics:** Avoid using flames in a shelter. If it's absolutely necessary, make sure there is cross ventilation and that stove flame is blue.

- **Watch for:** tight feeling around the temples; burning eyes; headache; pounding pulse, drowsiness or nausea. **BUT REMEMBER**, quite often there are no symptoms. The victim simply slips into unconsciousness and death.

- **Treatment:** artificial respiration, if necessary, after immediately removing victim into fresh air. Keep victim warm and resting.

Sunburn; Windburn — excessive exposure of skin to: ultra violet radiation from the sun; wind.

- **Avoidance tactics:** protect skin with suncreening creams or lotions; avoid lotions with a high alcohol content that will dry skin; wear headgear that shades face, and scarf or face mask.

- **Watch for:** reddish skin, burning feeling, blisters, swelling.

- **Treatment:** cool skin, treat for burns, prevent further exposure.

COLD WEATHER CLOTHING

Avoiding most winter hazards means keeping warm and dry, and protecting extremities. The secret is proper clothing, and that means layering to trap body heat and allow for ventilation. It also means that all clothing should be loose fitting, with closures around neck, wrists and ankles that can be opened to allow venting of moist air when you're working hard.

Start with fishnet underwear next to the skin. Over this should be a wool shirt and heavy pants, then a wool sweater or padded vest. On top of all goes a parka with hood, and over this a nylon wind parka and pants, preferably waterproofed. Layers can be removed or added to suit weather conditions or levels of exertion.

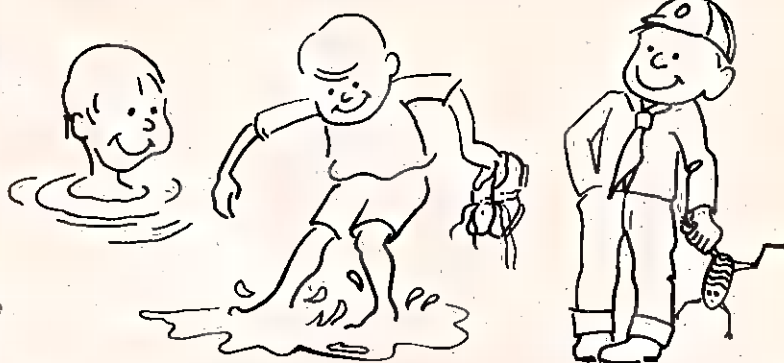
Since the **head** is the main area of heat control, proper headgear is very important. A woolen toque that pulls over the ears should go under the parka and wind hood. It's wise also to have a scarf or face mask to protect nose and cheeks.

Hands need mittens. There should be an insulating woolen inner mitt and a windproof, water-resistant outer mitt. Carry extra inner mitts so that you can exchange wet for dry. Some people like to wear a cotton glove under the two other layers so that when they handle utensils they can strip off mitts and remain protected while gaining flexibility. Never work with bare hands in winter conditions.

Feet need extra protection, and rubber boots are totally inadequate for cold weather. Snowmobile boots with a rubber sole and breathable nylon upper are good. Buy them large so that you can layer within them without squeezing the foot. Start with mesh insoles (felt absorbs and holds moisture). Wear at least two pairs of socks; a light wool inner and a heavy wool over-sock. Carry extra socks to ensure that feet stay dry.

Go out this winter and enjoy. But prepare yourself well. To complete your understanding of the information we've summarized, read the books we recommended and refer your boys to them. The more you know, the safer you'll be. X

What is a Cub?



by Darryl Buckle

When a boy puts aside his teddy bear (well — almost) for good, is almost eight and can proudly wiggle a loose tooth for all the world to see, he often becomes a Cub.

Cubs come in all sizes, shapes, weights and colours, but after an hour at camp they all usually turn the same dusty or muddy brown, so that even their mothers can't recognize one from the other.

Cubs love to swim, climb, jump, explore, play games, do skits and build fires. Cubs do not like to do dishes, make up bed rolls or go to sleep after "lights out".

Cubs learn to tie knots in string, ropes, bedding, neckerchiefs, sweaters and the occasional loose tent flap, but almost never seem able to tie a bow in their own shoes.

Cubs can find dead frogs, live snakes, old, old, old birds' eggs, five kinds of spiders and the only hornets' nest in six acres, but never their own sock, hat or neckerchief in their own tent.

Cubs are noisy, happy, noisy, squirmy, noisy, fidgety, noisy, sometimes tearful, but mostly . . . noisy!

Cubs collect almost anything: spiders, old birds' eggs, hornet bites, scratches, bruises and band-aids by the score; badges by the armful; and money by the canful on apple day to support Scout camping, but never seem able to collect enough good leaders, group executive committee members and parents with a free hour to drive everyone to a parade.

A Cub is curiosity in a green and gold hat, determination with a basket of apples twice his size and, sometimes, very serious . . . with a toad in each pocket.

You may not take his apples, but you won't forget his freckles (and his grin). You may forget to leave your papers out for his wastepaper drive, but he will remember to come back for them next week. And you may not have time for him, but he will take time to watch you . . . because he wants to learn how to grow up.

He will never lose the thrill of shaking hands with his left hand for the first time, winning his first badge and leading the grand howl, although he may eventually lose his hair, his teeth and some money.

As a Cub, he gains knowledge and friends, kindness and honesty, generosity and compassion. As a man he may also gain weight, a family and a mortgage.

Cubs may be just boys today, but will be citizens tomorrow. They need your help today, but will help you tomorrow. If you lead them today, they will lead the world tomorrow.

. . . So the only difference between a good Cub and a good man is a few years . . . and you.

Darryl Buckle is a police constable and community relations officer with the Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police. He is the father of four boys, all of whom have been, or are, involved in Scouting.

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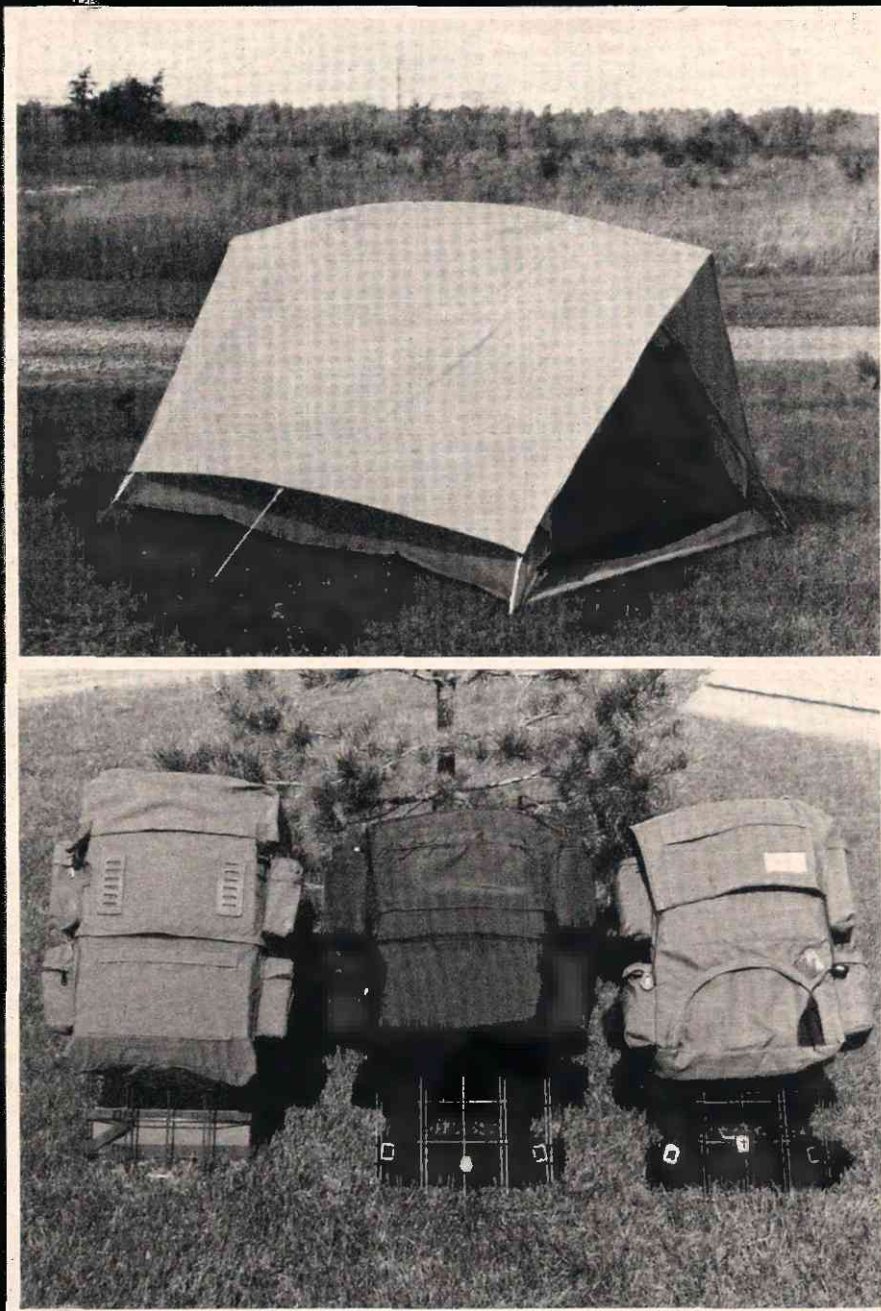
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