

the leader

APRIL 1982 VOLUME 12, NUMBER 8



CYCLE THE ROCKIES

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sharing

by Gerry Giuliani

SHARING SESSIONS

In this issue of *the Leader*, both Reg Roberts and I have devoted our articles to sharing sessions. In January, I mentioned the concern that sharing sessions are, perhaps, not being used as often as they should be. Although *Beaver Happenings* discussed the importance of sharing sessions and when and how to hold them in January 1980, we still hear that sharing sessions don't happen, or that leaders don't respond to them.

When, recently, we received a request from one of our councils to develop some guidelines for sharing sessions, both Reg and I decided to tackle the issue; Reg from the point of view of the trainer or service team person, and I from the point of view of colony Scouters.

The problem with developing guidelines on how to organize, operate and participate in a sharing session is that the very setting of guidelines gives the impression that it is a structured and complicated affair. Sharing sessions do require some planning, but they were never intended to be complicated. They are informal gatherings where Beaver leaders can exchange ideas, give advice and develop a sense of belonging.

They are Important

There is little doubt that sharing sessions, in the early years of Beavering, played a major role in developing the program to its present size and strength. They performed an important maintenance function, helped keep leaders in touch and helped boost morale.

Sharing sessions seem to me to be as important today as they were then. Surely maintaining and keeping in touch with the program involves maintaining and keeping in touch with other Beaver leaders. Sharing sessions are less structured and more flexible than training sessions, and they promote direct contact between one leader and another. They give you an opportunity to pursue and explore your own ideas and develop them into practical program activities.

How They Can Help

How can sharing sessions work for you, the leader? They can give you:

- activity ideas for every aspect of your program;

- the opportunity to discuss challenging issues;
- a chance to look at different perspectives;
- a better feeling for the idea of sharing that you can pass on to your Beavers;
- a guide to measure how you are doing in your own program;
- contact with other leaders and with your service team;
- a feeling of belonging and moral support;
- sharpened leadership skills;
- new ideas on programming, planning, operating technique;
- a platform to express your views;
- a chance to use your experience to help others.



Get Involved

How can you best participate in a sharing session? There's no fixed rule, but a few suggestions might be helpful.

- Take a look at your program; what you've done for the last three months; what you've planned for the next three. Identify items which gave you interesting experiences to share. Identify items about which you'd like some information or advice. Come prepared to talk about these things, but not to monopolize the conversation. Remember that others have needs and experiences too.

- Bring along any pictures, slides, mementos, projects, etc., and set up a display in the meeting area.

- During the refreshment break or right after the session, introduce yourself to someone with whom you'd like to talk further.

- If you know an expert willing to talk to the session about something of interest to Beaver leaders, pass the person's name to the organizers.

- If you have positive feedback or concerns about the session, express them during the evaluation at the end. It's best to express them in the group because other members may or may not feel the way you do. If you have a concern, try to propose or to search for an alternative with the group.

- If it's difficult to leave kids at home, ask if you can bring them with you. Perhaps the organizers have arranged an adjoining playroom in the facility where Scouts or Venturers will look after your kids. If not, suggest the idea and offer to set it up.

- If a session isn't available to you, approach another colony for a sharing session. You don't have to wait for a district sharing session, but if you feel a district session would be useful, ask your service team to hold one. You can offer to be the host.

Topics

Subjects to talk about at a sharing session can be anything that concerns you as a Beaver leader: non-competitive activities; co-operation; shared leadership; crafts; songs and games; program planning; working with the service team; working with the group committee; Keeso; inter-section activities; outdoor activities; swimming up to Cubs; Scouting policy on Beavers; how to plan and run a Beaveree; how to work with 5-7 year olds; discipline; how to go about changing some aspects of the Beaver program; training; and thousands more, I'm sure.

Sharing is for You

Who should participate in sharing sessions? Well, certainly you should attend. After that, the only rule is to do what is useful. If you find a defined need to invite others, you can include Keesos, parents, group committee, Beavers, trainers, outside experts, community officials, etc.

Remember that sharing sessions are friendly gatherings where you can share concerns and successes. The basic ground rules are: come prepared to share; come prepared to listen; come prepared to belong.

People have expressed concern that the Beaver program has lost some of its unique focus over the past few years. Sharing sessions can help sharpen the focus again, and recapture any founding concepts of co-operation, sharing and shared leadership that may have become hazy over the years.

In the past, leaders relied on sharing sessions to establish and get the program moving. Today, we probably need sharing sessions to keep it on track. X

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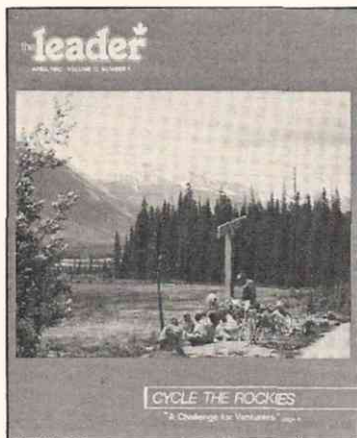
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COVER: April, and what better way to catch spring fever than to dream over Bill Witchel's account of a Venturer bike hike in the Rockies. It's a great lead-in to an activity and information package as bursting with energy as spring itself. You'll find watery antics for the troop and foolishly fun antics for the pack; a story about spring's cheery messenger and spaced-out picnic ideas for the colony; plans for making Kub Kar tracks; and very important information about Scout badge changes. Welcome to the busy season. It's spring!

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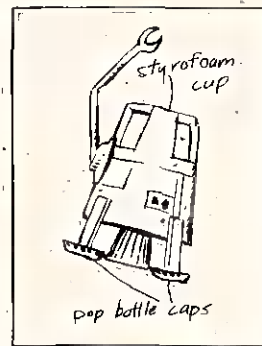
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CYCLE THE ROCKIES

"A Challenge for Venturers"

by Bill Witchel

The Icefield Parkway through the Canadian Rockies is one of the world's greatest mountain highroads. The broad pavement winds up, down and around massive peaks crested with glaciers and snowfields. Close to where it crosses the Continental Divide, a geographical marker indicates the triple divide, a spot where water spilled from the canteen of a careless Venturer will eventually flow into three different oceans thousands of miles apart.

Every turn in that picture-postcard highway provides a different spectacular scene. Last summer my Venturers got to know it well as they cycled the Parkway on their way to CJ '81.

An adventure any red-blooded Canadian boy would love to experience, the trip is a perfect expedition for

Venturers to plan and carry out. An exciting year of preparation helps keep a company together and, if you invite senior Scouts along, you have a great recruiting tool. On such an expedition, boys can meet some badge requirements and work towards the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. And the experience itself is tons of fun.

Cycling through those magnificent mountains gives you a lot more time to see and appreciate the scenery than a swift trip by car, and you find there is much more to enjoy than just the mountains. Turquoise glacial lakes, a photographer's paradise, are scattered all along the route, and many side trails invite exploring.

The area teems with wildlife: elk; deer; Rocky Mountain sheep; mountain goats; gophers and moose. In a rare display of courage and skill spurred by the cheers of the others, one of our more daring Venturers even managed to trap under a wash-

basin a nine-inch ground squirrel who came begging for food. What excitement! What fun! Only the squirrel wasn't amused.

We spent a few chilly hours in the thin cold air, climbing and exploring one small corner of the massive icecube which is the Columbia Icefield. Some boys swam in a glacial lake too frigid for anyone but daft, cold-blooded Venturers to enjoy.

In retrospect, it's fun to remember our shocked disbelief on awakening one morning to find our tents sagging under three inches of a late June snowfall. We shared the pleasure of cresting a hill to find a downslope stretching for miles ahead of us; a chance to coast and rest aching muscles and lungs. Dismay hit at the bottom when we saw the road rise in endless zigs and zags, ever upward towards the crest of the next mountain pass hidden somewhere in the clouds.

The layover at Lake Louise was lovely, but the break at Banff was better. There we soaked for hours in the luxurious hot sulphur pool.

We arrived at CJ in a drenching downpour and had to push our laden bicycles over miles of muddy ruts to reach our sub-camp. But the ordeal was lightened when eager-eyed, smiling jamboree staff reporters appeared, greeted our Venturers as celebrities, and fussed all over us seeking interviews for the newspaper.

Not for long, however. The reporters turned off the smiles and drifted away when they learned we weren't the Venturer company which had cycled all the way from Oshawa, Ont., raising "a million dollars" for research at the same time. Such is fame. It was another learning experience for my boys.

Thus ended a trip which actually started during a Venturer meeting a year earlier. We'd accepted without much discussion that we'd go to CJ '81 because we generally take advantage of all Scouting activities that offer fun, adventure and challenge. The question was, what else could we plan on our own to add to the occasion?

We batted around the proposal for a bike hike through the Rockies at several meetings before accepting the idea. Our route choice was the Parkway between Jasper and Lake Louise, and the Trans Canada Highway between Lake Louise and the jamboree site in Kananaskis country. We settled on the Parkway because it has wide paved shoulders and is reputedly less congested by traffic than other mountain highways.

Timing was a bit of a problem. Because some of our Venturers weren't finished school until late in June, we preferred to have the cycling expedition after CJ to give us more time for side trails. But, many boys had lined up summer jobs which started right after the jamboree, so we were forced to squeeze the trip in between the last day of school and the first day of CJ. That meant getting from Toronto to Jasper and cycling south to Lake Louise then east to Banff and Kananaskis, all within one week. Had we been able to make the trip after CJ, we'd have taken the route in reverse and added more days for exploring.

The experts told us it was wise to cycle south from Jasper because that way we'd always have the prevailing wind to push us. WRONG! The Venturers said they fought the wind all the way.

Early in our planning we thought we'd try to save money and, at the same time, make some friends on the

other side of the continent. We decided to use *Open House Canada*, a scheme whereby, among other things, the Canadian government pays travel expenses for groups on inter-provincial exchange visits. If we tied in CJ, our bike hike, and an exchange visit, we could save all travel expenses and thereby postpone summer jobs.

Unfortunately, we wasted too much time trying to contact a particular Venturer company and, when we finally gave up, we didn't have time left to make other contacts. We should have written immediately to the Vancouver Scout Office to explain our proposal and ask them to help us contact an active group. The bonds of friendship built by a shared adventure with a distant company would have presented great potential for future travel activities.



An important part of our planning concerned how to transport our equipment, our supplies, our bicycles and ourselves to Jasper. Half of our company finished school a week before the others and were eager to take Via Rail to Jasper. The others finished so late they'd have to fly west in order to have time to cycle. We decided that those who wanted to go by train would go directly to Jasper while the rest would fly to Edmonton and find alternate transportation for the final 200 miles.

This is where everything started to fall into place. Although some of our more experienced Venturers are "purists" who wanted no "back-up" vehicle along on the trip, we finally decided it was necessary to have immediate swift transportation in

case of serious injury or major bicycle breakdown.

We also reasoned that, because there are no stores between Jasper and Lake Louise, we'd be carrying a lot of food with us and it would be safer to store it in a vehicle than up a tree at the mercy of the wild western furry critters about which our eastern parents worried. Furthermore, there was a concern that perhaps the hearts of the fat Venturer advisors would not survive the cycling. There was also the fear that the feeble old muscles of those advisors would be unable to pedal bicycles up the hills without a tow from sleek, muscular, well-conditioned Venturers.

Taking all into consideration, we decided to have an emergency vehicle for the advisors to drive, a passenger van which we would rent ahead and have waiting at the airport for those who flew to Edmonton. We'd drive to Jasper and then have the van available to store food, to drive ahead each day to make sure of reservations at the campgrounds and, of course, for emergencies.

With sleepers (two to a bunk to save money) and buying meals en route, the trip by Via Rail to Jasper costs about the same as flying Skybus to Edmonton. But there were advantages to having half the company go by rail. To transport bikes and supplies by air would have added considerably to the cost whereas, under the weight allowance for those on the train, everything went free in the baggage car. A second advantage to the train was that everything arrived directly in Jasper and we didn't have to worry about transporting equipment from Edmonton.

Because Via Rail and Skybus tickets go quickly, it was important to reserve as soon as they went on sale. With our tight schedule, we couldn't afford to miss what we needed. Once we made the reservations, we double-checked that the computers had things straight. At one point there was a question about their accuracy.

Except for the bicycles, we wrapped everything we shipped in heavy plastic and tied it securely to avoid losing things that might slip out of the panniers or packs. To store the bikes compactly, we turned the handlebars 90° and removed the pedals.

Their report showed me I needn't have worried that the Venturers would find the four-day train trip boring. When they reached Jasper, they unloaded everything and rode their bikes to Whistler Campground, a mile away. Later, a leader rented a pick-up truck and fetched the other bikes and supplies.

The rest of us flew out five days after the train group left. At the Edmonton airport we picked up our Tilden van and set off to join the others. Half an hour later, while the other advisor drove and I navigated, I checked the map. We were heading back to Toronto!

I didn't catch what our driver muttered about my ancestry as he made a hasty u-turn, but we did eventually reach Jasper.

We planned our cycling schedule to allow us to take advantage of breaks at the Columbia Icefield, Lake Louise and Banff, places we wanted to explore. There were campgrounds all along our route, most of them primitive but adequate. Major campgrounds at Jasper, Lake Louise and Tunnel Mountain offered more amenities. Although we'd decided which camps would be best for our schedule, we checked alternate sites to be prepared for forced changes.

No two bike hikes along the Parkway could ever be the same. Although I've related some of our highlights, I only scratched the surface and, on

our trip, the adventures differed even within the different cycling groups. The only certain thing is that each day was filled with fun and each day produced its own memories.

As in all adventure activities, flexibility and common sense are vital. For instance, although the Venturers cycled through a heavy snowfall at the Continental Divide, the route descended rapidly out of the snow zone and we carried the equipment and panniers in the van to allow them to cycle unburdened. Pretty soft, yes, but they came through the mess without mishap.

There is a wealth of literature on cycle touring available to help others who are considering such a venture to plan a safe trip. Conditioning is important to enjoyable cycling. Practise journeys not only build stamina and toughen muscles, but also may expose potential bike problems and prepare cyclists mentally for the challenge of stiff headwinds and steep upgrades. Some of the Venturers walked up portions of the hills, but often they had the satisfaction of being

able to cycle up at a speed equalling that of the huge buses full of tourists.

Although the traffic wasn't bad between Jasper and Lake Louise, it was heavier on the Trans Canada between there and Banff. By travelling early in the morning, we avoided the heaviest rush.

There are times when Venturers can survive on virtually no sleep but, during the bike hike, they had no problem sleeping. The problem was to get them to their tents before they fell asleep. And their appetites were good. Really good!

Flat tires were a frequent bother. We brought along lots of spare tubes so that we could wait until we reached camp to patch tires. We also had a spare front and rear wheel which fit some of the bicycles and, occasionally, they enabled us to make faster repairs.

I was most worried about how to make the Venturers realize the danger of cycling at high speed down the immense slopes of the mountain passes. The problem resolved itself when one cyclist lost control and smashed a \$70. wobble into his lightweight alloy rim. The bicycle was useable only with the front brake pads removed, and everyone laughed at the gyrations of the wheel in action. But, from then on, they all used their brakes to hold a reasonable speed when going downhill.

The Venturers learned that they could save a lot of energy by riding in groups of six or seven, following in the lead cyclist's slipstream, and changing leads regularly. I enjoyed watching their teamwork but, from the looks on their faces, it seemed they did it more for fun than to save energy. It took on the characteristics of a game, but they were always enthusiastic about its effectiveness.

Spring is a perfect time for a Venturer company to start planning a bike hike. Perhaps you can combine it with a train ride. My company once cycled to Niagara Falls and returned by train on a weekend.

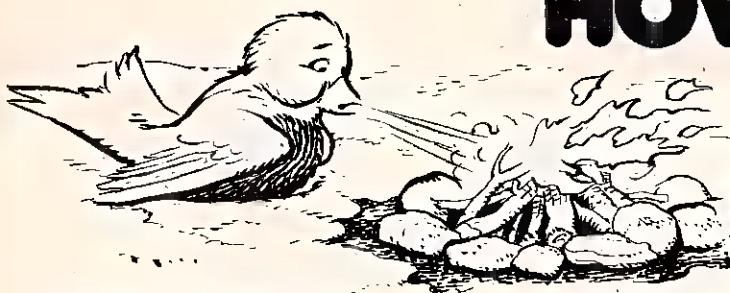
Think about all the great planning and fun your company can experience. How about a major expedition through the Rockies? Research the opportunities offered by Open House Canada.

There are few ways better than a trip like ours to keep your boys together and help them develop. If you don't try it this summer, think about 1983 and the World Jamboree.

Come on, hosers. Take off, eh!

Scouter Bill Witchel is now an advisor with Toronto's 10th-107th Rover Crew. X





HOW THE ROBIN GOT HIS RED BREAST

adapted by Linda Florence

Beavers will enjoy this folk story from Greenland, and it's particularly appropriate for early April when the memory of winter's cold is still vivid enough to make us shiver. It's appropriate, too, because the appearance of robin redbreast means spring to all who live in northern parts of the world. When we see robin hop over the lawn and cock his head to listen for his meal, we have to smile. His cheery song sets our own hearts singing, because it's the song of spring.

The story can lead to a nature study of the robin, and it offers lots of scope for discussions of sharing. It's also the kind of tale that's fun to dramatize. Because it's a very old story, you can act it out effectively in the old way, by letting masks represent the characters.

Have Beavers make their own paper bag masks. For Polar Bear, paint the bag white and glue on ears. Use black marker to draw a nose, fierce eyes and mouth. Robin needs a cheerful face and a three-dimensional construction paper beak. The quick addition of a red scarf will dress him properly for the ending.

For the people in the story, try two masks in one so that, by turning the bag around, the players can reflect a different mood. Give the man and his son a nervous/mean face on one side of the bag, and an ashamed/sad face on the other. The rest of the northern people should have a blue, tear-streaked face on one side, and a very happy face with rosy cheeks on the other.

Encourage the Beavers to make bold, exaggerated faces so that even people sitting far away from the action will have no doubt about who the characters are, and how they feel. Now — on with the story.

Once upon a time, a long time ago, only one small fire burned in the whole of the vast, cold northland. The fire belonged to a man and his son, and they guarded it very jealously and very carefully because, if it went out, there would be no fire at all in the land.

Other northern people often ap-

proached the fire. "Could we please have one small burning twig?" they asked. "If we had just a little bit of your fire, we could be warm too."

"No! Go away!" shouted the man and his son. You see, they were afraid that if they gave away some of their fire, there wouldn't be enough left for them.

"Then, can we please just sit by your fire for a little while to warm up?" the people asked.

"Not on your life!" the mean pair snapped. "Get out of here!" You see, they were afraid someone would steal the fire from them.

But the man and his son had an even bigger worry, and that was Polar Bear.

"I must put out that fire," Polar Bear roared. "I'm king of the cold, and I want it to be cold all the time so that I, alone, will rule the northland."

It was all very nerve-wracking for the man and his son; Polar Bear always sniffing around and trying to pounce on the fire; cold people always begging for a bit of heat. Someone had to watch the fire all the time.

"I must go to find some food," the man said to his son one day. "Polar Bear is out there somewhere, watching, so stay alert. Don't take your eyes off the fire for a moment!"

For the longest time after the man left, his son sat tall and alert at the fire, feeding it small pieces of wood to keep it burning cheerily. But the fire was very warm, and the boy felt very cozy. As he sat, staring at the pictures made by the flames, his eyelids became heavier and heavier. He started to doze, then woke with a start. But the fire was very warm, and again his eyes closed. Soon he fell fast asleep.

Of course, his father had been right. Polar Bear was watching.

"Now's my chance!" he growled gleefully as he quickly ambled up to the fire. He'd planned the operation for a long time and, because he knew he'd only have a moment, he'd figured out exactly the fastest way to do his nasty deed. Without further ado, he sat down with a plop, right on top of the fire.

The snow clinging to his long white fur melted, steam hissed and smoke

billowed. The fire died. As he shuffled quickly away, his backside still steaming, he was a very smug bear.

"I did it," he chortled. "Now I am the only king of the northland."

But someone else was watching too. A robin in a nearby tree saw the whole thing. As the man rushed to the scene and the boy howled with shame and cold, the little robin hopped right down beside the dead fire. He cocked his head and his bright eye caught sight of one last small spark. He hopped as close as he could and started to blow on the spark, ignoring the terrible row going on behind him.

Robin blew as hard as he could. The ember glowed brighter and brighter until, at last, a tiny flame appeared. Again Robin blew, and another flame appeared, then another and another.

Surprised by the warmth, the man and his son looked around just in time to see Robin fly off with a burning ember in his beak.

Robin flew the ember to where some people huddled around a cold fire hearth. He hopped to the hearth, dropped the ember on dry wood, and blew and blew until the ember glowed brighter and brighter. The people, seeing what he was trying to do, knelt and started blowing too, and soon another fire was blazing.

But Robin wasn't finished. From the new fire he took another ember to another cold fire hearth, dropped it and blew the fire to life. Again and again he did the same until, all over the northland, fires burned and people warmed themselves and smiled.

Finally there was no more danger of losing fire in the northland. Robin's work was done, but before he flew away, he noticed that it had left its mark. His snow-white breast had been scorched by the embers, and now it was a fiery red. Since that day, the robin has always had a red breast.

As for Polar Bear, much as he growled, he could see the game was up. Even now, all the fires in the northland made him feel too warm in his thick, white coat.

"I'm heading north to iceberg country," he snorted as he lumbered away. And that's where he lives, in the very north of the northland, even today. A



by Ken Shigeishi

By the time you read this, April Fool's Day probably will be over, and any pack "lucky" enough to have a meeting on April 1, doubtlessly had a great time. But, you can hold a "night of foolishness" at any April meeting, or any other meeting, for that matter. Because of all the excitement and extra energy generated by a new spring, it shouldn't be too difficult for you to implement these crazy ideas in your program.

THE NEW CUB UNIFORM

A week or two before you try this foolish stunt, send each of your sixers a letter written on suitable letterhead and officially sealed (you can buy self-sticking seals from your Scout Shop). The letter will describe the "new uniform requirements" you've just received from national headquarters, and will ask the sixers to pass on the information to all of their Cubs. Here are a few ideas to start you off.



- All Cubs shall have feathers in their caps (you may have to supply the feathers with your letter). Feathers can be of any colour. Seconds shall wear two feathers, and sixers shall wear three.

- All 8 and 9-year old Cubs shall wear their caps backwards.

- Woggles shall be blue and shall include, in orange, the letters DYB (a sneaky way to accomplish Tawny Star #2).

- All Cubs shall have pinned to the back of their jerseys, a sign on which

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is printed in large letters, their name. The name shall be printed upside down.

Suitably attired leaders (their uniform also was changed) should carry out the inspection. Or perhaps you could give the job to an unsuspecting member of your service team, like the area commissioner, or to a Brownie leader, or...

BACKWARDS BUT FORWARDS

*BOD BOD BOD BOD llew
BYD BYD BYD BYD
Tseb ruo od llew
A-l-e-k-a*

What's this? A new secret code? A new song? No. It's just a warning that my next idea may be more trouble than it's worth! Try it out for yourself and let us know what happens.

Run your meeting backwards, from start to finish (finish to start?). If everything about the evening is to be backwards, it will require a tremendous amount of pre-planning. For example, you'll have to teach your Cubs to speak Hsilgne, or Hcnerf, as the case might be. Some other thoughts. Can you play games in your jacket? Giving the score or deciding the winner of a game before it's played may spoil some of the fun, and you and your Cubs may tire of walking/running backwards all night. Parents who happen to drop in may find the Grand Howl even more mysterious when it's done backwards. Can you figure out the actions? There is a way around all this trouble however. Try something and be sure to tell us your results.

PAINTING EASTER EGGS A NEW WAY?

You'll need a hard-boiled egg and an empty glass bottle with an opening slightly smaller than the egg (like a glass milk bottle). As your Cubs are coming in, explain to them that you have a great idea for painting Easter eggs. Say that all you need to do is get the eggs inside a bottle, add paint, and shake. Ask your Cubs to help you find a way to put the eggs into the bottle, in one piece.

Ah, you ask, "What's so foolish about this stunt?" Well, how do you get the egg out again? The editor has put the answer somewhere at the end of this piece.



SILLYLYMPICS

Here are some really tough events to try for an Olympics-type competition between your sixes.

- **Thumb Wrestling:** Two Cubs press their thumbs together. The first thumb to turn red loses.

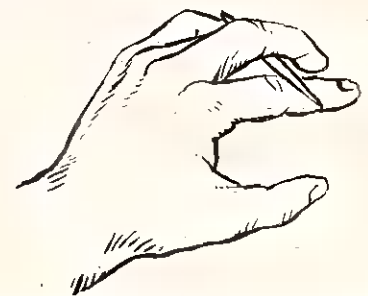
- **One-legged Hand Pushing:** Two Cubs; each stands on one leg and tries to knock down the other, using one hand only.

- **Backward Standing Broad Jump:** same as regular standing broad, only backwards.

- **Chair Lifting:** Each Cub tries to lift a four-legged chair. He uses one hand only and holds only one leg of the chair. The stunt can be done. Grip one of the back legs, then lift the other three legs just a little off the floor. Quickly lift the chair. You must keep the leg you are holding lower than all of the others, and you must be strong!



- **Finger Pulling:** Two Cubs interlock forefingers and pull. The winner is the one who can force the other's finger to uncurl and let go.



- **Toothpick Breaker:** Cubs try to break a toothpick held between three fingers as shown. They may not use the other hand, or any tools. Don't tell them, but you can do it by slapping your hand down hard on a desk or table top. Watch out for flying bits of toothpick.

- **Best Squeezer:** Cubs hold up a bathroom scale, one hand on each side, and squeeze as hard as possible. Find out who has the most squeeze power, and then watch out for bear hugs!

- **Egg Crusher:** Place a raw egg lengthwise between a Cub's hands and see if he can break the egg by squeezing his hands together. *Caution:* put some plastic or newspaper on the floor and have the Cub wear an apron or smock, just in case. If they do it properly, one egg should last to be squeezed by every boy in the pack. It's almost impossible to break a raw egg by squeezing it lengthways.

- **"Sixer":** How many Cubs can write the numeral 6 while moving their right leg in a circular clockwise path? Be sure to watch the movement of the right leg. Usually, only a left-handed person can write the numeral while moving his right leg in a clockwise motion. If you are right handed, try the stunt moving your left leg.

- **Finger Dance:** Give your Cubs rulers to hold in their left hands. Rest fingers of right hand on the ruler. See who can move these pairs of fingers up and down together: fore and middle; middle and ring; ring and little; fore and little; fore and ring; middle and little. Then shift the ruler and try the stunt with the left hand. The most difficult will probably be the middle and little finger combination. You may find that Cubs who play string instruments are better at this than the others.

- **Snake Race:** Cubs lie on the floor, face down. On the signal they must move like a snake to the other end of the hall. Leaders can tell who is moving properly by reading the names on the boys' backs. The names will be printed the proper way if leaders are standing at the finish line as they watch (refer back to section on "new uniforms").

GREAT SOUP CAN RACE

Each six will need a soup can. All cans should be the same size and shape, but each must contain a different kind of soup (e.g. vegetable beef; chicken noodle; pea; consommé; etc). You'll also need a ramp. A piece of plywood or fairly stiff cardboard, one end propped up at a slight angle by a few Cub books, will do.

Race the cans in pairs to determine which is fastest, which will roll the farthest, etc. Because of the different contents, you should see a distinct difference in speed, and in the distance the cans will roll. You may even want to determine which is the best liked; which tastes best, looks best; etc. (pre-camp menu planning?).

SIX SCRAMBLE GAME

Base this game on any popular TV game show. Line up two sixes and have the rest form an audience. The first Cub from each six stands in front of a leader who asks him a riddle. The first person to answer correctly can either pass the rest of the riddles to the other team, or have his own team try to answer them all correctly. A team is allowed only three wrong answers to any one riddle before it must turn the riddle over to the other team. The other team can steal a win if it correctly answers the riddle.

Any good joke book will do as a source. If you want to add something more serious to the meeting, you might use the trivia about Canadian Scouting which appears on the back of the 1982 Scouts Canada calendar.

WET NOODLE RELAY

Have your sixes line up in relay formation. Give each six a string at least 12 metres long, to the end of which you've tied a cold spoon. On signal, the first Cub threads the spoon down his neck and out through a pant leg, and passes the spoon to the next Cub. He must pull on the string, thread the spoon down his neck and out a pant leg, and so on.

After you've determined a winner, you may want to try it backwards. Have the last Cub in line start to "unthread" himself, and the Cubs will have to keep pulling the string until the spoon reaches the starting point again. Keep your cameras ready and send us a few of your better moments!

REFRESHMENTS

A night or two before your meeting, fill a new plastic glove with pink lemonade, or another reddish drink, or simply water you've tinted with red food colouring. Tie off the open end and put the glove into the freezer.

If you have a fridge at your meeting hall, keep the glove in the freezer until you need it. Otherwise, you may have to pack it in ice before you leave home. You should also bring some pink lemonade or some frozen lemonade cubes to serve.

In secret, peel the glove from the frozen liquid, then announce to your Cubs that you just received a package from the ranger at the camp where you held your winter outing. Bring out your frozen object and ask if anyone lost a hand on that day. *Caution:* Be sure your Cubs know that this is a "crazy night" and just another of your foolish tricks. You don't want to give Cubs any nightmares! You can then serve a frozen lemonade treat, or whatever else you decide to have for refreshment.



THE MYSTERIOUS HUMAN

At some point in the proceedings on your foolish night, have an unknown person, suitably dressed, interrupt your meeting. The person should suddenly storm into the hall, shout, scream, jump up and down, and (gently) push Akela before storming out again without saying a word.

Finish up what you were doing when you were so rudely interrupted. Then, have the Cubs describe the person: what was he/she wearing; what was said; what was done? Have them draw the person's face. Display the pictures and lead a discussion about why this incident occurred. Of course, on a foolish night, all sorts of strange things happen!

This activity not only is fun, but also helps the Cubs to develop their observational skills — something they'll find very important if they want to be detectives. But we'll save that for another article, and another night.



Solution: Egg in a bottle (and out again)

To put an egg into a bottle you need to hard-boil and peel it. Drop a burning wooden match into the bottle and quickly set the egg (small end down) on the mouth of the bottle. When the match goes out, the egg will pop inside.

To get the egg out again, try heating the bottle. Or, turn the bottle upside down so that the egg falls into the neck. Then, hold the bottle with the mouth pointing down at an angle, and blow really hard into the mouth. The egg should pop out. Good luck. X

Scouter's alphabet

by David Goss

Rafts — Start planning now to try a most unusual patrol competition some June night, perhaps as your closing program. Announce a milk carton raft contest.

Challenge each patrol to build a raft that will hold two boys and can be rowed over a 100 metre course in a race against the other patrols. The boys will have to save 2 L milk cartons. To make the cartons watertight, they staple up the ends and immerse them in wax. After they design a raft capable of carrying out the challenge, they must figure out a way to hold the milk cartons together. One method is to attach them to a plywood base with contact cement, but there are probably better ideas.

Because rafts of this kind are not particularly buoyant, especially if some of the containers are knocked off or if too few containers were

mounted in the first place, be sure that all participants wear life jackets, and hold the competition in a safe area.

We'll be glad to see photos of completed rafts, and will consider publishing the best of them. Send them to me in care of the **Leader**.

Records — One of the best gifts a retiring Scouter can present a new Scouter is a set of well-kept records. These should contain personal information about the boys; details about parents who will help with various chores; community contacts for program assistance; and descriptions of past programs, including details about their *outcomes* so that the new Scouter can repeat the successful events and avoid the pitfalls.

Since all of us will eventually give up our volunteer roles with the Boy Scouts, it matters not whether your

records are kept for a year, three years, 15 years or a lifetime, as long as they are kept carefully so that they will be of value to your successor. Think about it. Ask yourself if your records are what they should be. Will they really help the person who steps in after you leave?

Reflector Oven — You'll find this excellent project on page 534 of the *Boy Scouts of America Fieldbook*. It's a knock-down reflector oven you can make to carry on backpacking trips, or to use on your next lightweight outing. Give it a try.

Relay Race — Everyone probably has a favourite, but here is one that will work for every age group because you can make it simpler or more difficult to fit your needs.

- **7 Ways to Get There:** Boys in relay formation. Give them one minute to think of seven different ways to move to a marker and back. Each boy must cover the course in a different manner but, at the same time, the boys must remember that the first group to finish is the winner. Watch closely to make sure that there are as many different methods of moving as there are boys.

Role Playing — Baden-Powell pointed out the value of disguise, drama and role playing in many of his yarns and talks. It's a great skill for boys to learn because they'll often find themselves in positions where a little role-playing will make life more pleasant.

Here's one application of this training aid. Ask the boys to come to a meeting as historical characters. They should dress in as authentic a costume as possible, and should be prepared to answer questions about their disguise until someone finally guesses who they are. The boys will probably choose the more modern characters they know best, but if you provide thumbnail sketches of characters of yesteryear, it might lead to some interesting history lessons. You can go way back to people from the Bible, like Sampson. Try saints from the middle ages, like St. Francis of Assisi, or more recent gentlemen like Charles Dickens.

In another variation of play-acting, you can describe a tough problem and assign the boys roles to play in resolving it. For example, you might say that the ladies' group in your church has decided to change meeting nights, and your church board has agreed to their request to use the time and place formerly allocated to the



Rhythm Bands — Rhythm bands are a great introduction to music, especially at the Beaver level. You can easily construct instruments from scraps or throw-aways. Making instruments can be a craft program for an evening, or your Scouts can make a project of

it and donate the instruments to the Beavers. This can provide an important link between the two programs.

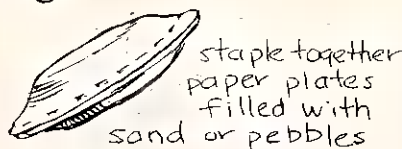
We find the instruments most effective when there's a piano accompaniment and the boys can sing along with them. Occasionally we let them

march as they play, but don't try it on the first or second time.

Follow these simple drawings to make instruments for your colony, and expect loud applause from appreciative adults at your next parents' night.



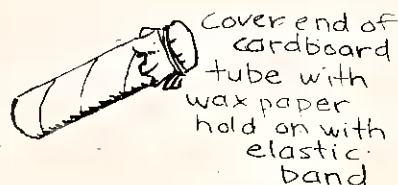
attach bells around rim of paper plate



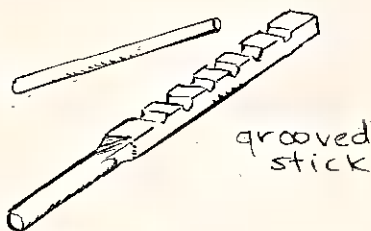
staple together paper plates filled with sand or pebbles



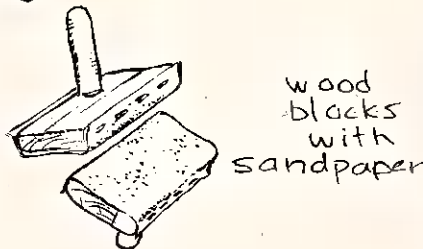
fill bottle with sand or pebbles



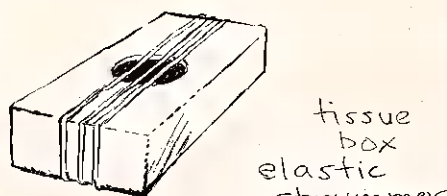
cover end of cardboard tube with wax paper hold on with elastic band



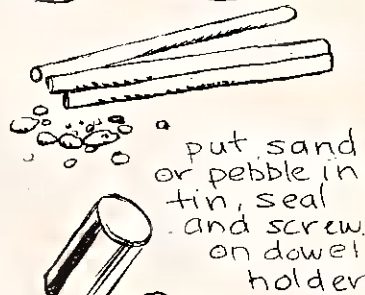
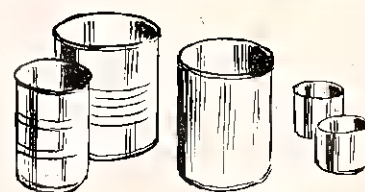
grooved stick



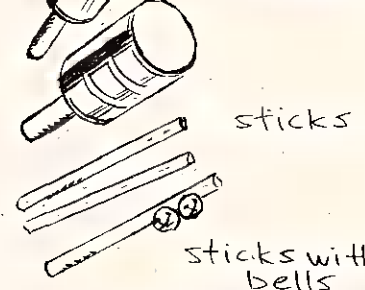
wood blocks with sandpaper



tissue box elastic strummer



put sand or pebble in tin, seal and screw on dowel holder



sticks

sticks with bells

Scouts. Say that a meeting will be held to discuss the matter, and assign a boy to play the role of chairman and another to play secretary. Then, appoint one boy to represent the viewpoint of each of the groups involved: the ladies; the Scouts; the church board; the minister; the group committee.

The chairman could open the meeting by stating, "We're here to discuss a problem. The church board has recommended the Scouts meet on another night so that the ladies can change their meeting night. The ladies' group was losing members and, because they provide financial assistance for operating church facilities while Scouts do not, their program has been judged more important. Now, we'll hear from each party."

The boys then assume their assigned roles and, in their speeches, try to say what they think the person they represent would say.

Rubbings — You can begin a history study of your community by making tombstone rubbings at a cemetery near your headquarters. You need only some large sheets of bond quality paper (perhaps you can beg an end of a roll from a local printer),

some large wax crayons and masking tape. Tape the paper over the carved letters of a stone and gently rub the crayon over the paper surface. Invite a member of your local Genealogical or Historical Society to come along. He/She will be able to explain the various epitaphs and dates, and probably will tell interesting stories about some of the stones you rub.

Run the Gauntlet — Another good game for April, when spring fever is running rampant. You need several playballs or tennis balls, about one for every two boys, although you can get by with fewer.

Line up half the troop against one wall of the room. They must run to the other wall carrying chits of cardboard to place in a box at the end of the run. Station the other half of the troop along both sides of the hall, balls in hand and ready to mow down the runners.

Chit-carrying runners must drop out of the game if hit. Runners who successfully place a chit in the box return for another try and cannot be eliminated on the return trip to pick up a chit.

Play the game for two minutes, or until all chits have been transferred or

all runners eliminated. Then, reverse sides and resume play. The team which delivers the largest number of chits before time is called is the winner.

You can also play the game as a relay. Post two leaders (or boys) on each side of the hall and use four playballs. Leaders try to hit the boys (below the knees, please) as they run the gauntlet. No chits are involved in this game, and it's a little more difficult to decide a winner.

Rustling Up Reaction — When someone is doing a good job, do you remember to say so? If you don't think the job is so hot, do you make suggestions that might improve the program or activity?

If the response to this monthly series is any indication, perhaps Scouters don't react enough. I can't help but wonder if the information presented on these pages is, in fact, being used by those for whom it is intended.

Do let us know. Not that we want a pat on the back (though those are welcome too), but we think that some input from our readers may enable us to better use the time put into this series and the space allotted to it. X

Operation

by Bud Jacobi

OPERATION NEPTUNE

Operation Neptune pulls together a series of aquatic challenges for a summer camp "funoree", a swim meet at the "Y", a camporee or jamboree, or a pool party.

Have each patrol adopt an aquatic name (Barracudas, Sharks, Porpoises, Fin-Busters, etc.) and make themselves an identification poster for the operation. Encourage the boys to prepare and practise special patrol cheers to add spirit to the event. You may want to design a "Neptune Scroll" to award the winning team when scores from all events have been tallied.

Plan the program to make participation possible for every boy in the troop — not just the good swimmers. To keep things moving along, arrange for a megaphone so that you can announce each event and have contestants assemble in a special staging area.

If you use a blackboard to display up-to-the minute scores, you'll keep spirit high with spectators cheering for their teams. You'll need extra help on hand to keep spectators under control, and you can recruit parents as timers and judges.

Success depends upon preparation. All necessary equipment must be ready and lifeguards in attendance. In all events, water safety regulations must be observed. For an outdoor meet, the boys should each keep a towel and sweater handy.

You can choose from an infinite list of possible events. Mix up skill and fun challenges to make a well-rounded meet in which every boy can take part.

Diving

Devise contests for the best straight dive, the best fancy dive, the best crazy dive, or the biggest splash.

Races

Try a: dog-paddle race in which the boys must bark while swimming; life-jacket race; dead man's float glide; free-style underwater distance swim; free style leaders vs boys relay; front and back crawl race; side or breast stroke race; towing rescue where a boy must tow a buddy for a certain distance; team relay.

Novelty Races

- **Pyjama Relay:** Each team has one pair of pyjamas. The first boy must put on the pyjamas, swim across a given area, take off the pj's and hand them to the second boy, who puts them on, swims, removes them and hands them to the next, and so on.

- **Candle Race:** One boy per patrol must swim a certain distance with a lighted candle. To prevent hot wax from dripping onto the swimmer's skin, push the candle through a hole in the centre of a foil plate. The plate will act as a handguard.

- **Spoon Race:** One boy per patrol swims a certain distance holding an apple, potato or rock-filled spoon in his mouth (*sideways works best*). If he drops the object, he must dive to retrieve it.

- **Newspaper Race:** One boy per patrol swims a certain distance on his back carrying a newspaper. He must hand the paper to a judge at the finish line. The judge decides the winner on the basis of whose newspaper remained the driest.

- **Blow Ping Pong:** One boy per patrol blows a ping-pong ball ahead of him as he swims a given distance. He cannot touch the ball with his body.

- **Underwater Knotting:** One boy per patrol must submerge and tie a given knot underwater; a round turn or a clove hitch around his leg, for example. You can do this in shallow water for junior boys.

- **Match Race:** One boy per patrol swims a given distance with a match. The object is to keep the match dry because he must strike it for the judges at the finish line. The winner is the first to light his match after the swim.

- **Obstacle Relay:** Four boys in a team. The first boy dives through the legs of a partner who is standing in a shallow area. The partner then must swim to a finish line while carrying a ball between his legs, after which the third boy picks up an object (puck, rock, ring) from the bottom of the pool or lake. When this is accomplished, the fourth boy swims a given distance with a frisbee on his head and finishes by tossing the frisbee to the judges. Winner is the first patrol to complete the series.

Fun Events

- **Human Chain:** Members of a patrol sit in a line on the edge of a dock or pool and link arms. On signal, the boy at the starting end lets himself





AND OTHER WATERY FUN

drop into the water. Each successive boy in the chain must be pulled into the water by the boy who precedes him. They cannot help things along by jumping in. First chain to slide off the deck is the winner.

- **Mounted Wrestling:** Hold this in shallow water and supervise closely. Each patrol is represented by either one or several teams of "horse and rider". On signal, riders engage other riders in an attempt to pull them from their horses. When a rider is down, the team must immediately leave the playing area. Last horse and rider standing is the winner.

- **Greased Watermelon:** Two teams, each defending a goal line. The object is to get the watermelon to touch the enemy's goal line. The melon cannot be carried.

- **Water Tug 'o War:** Hold in shallow water. Each patrol competes against all others, then winners against winners and losers against losers.

- **Candy Dive:** Each patrol is given three minutes to dive for candies you've thrown in the water. Wrapped caramels work well. Boys who retrieve the largest number of sweets are the winners.

- **Jaws:** This is a water version of British Bulldog. Choose one or more of the good swimmers to stay in the middle as "Jaws". On signal, each patrol tries to swim from one side of the circle to the other without being touched by Jaws. When caught, a boy joins Jaws. Continue crossings until time is called. The patrol with the largest number of boys to escape Jaws is the winner.

OTHER WATERY FUN

Water fun at summer camp needn't be restricted to a full-scale meet like *Operation Neptune*. Try some of these water challenges to freshen up your program.

- **Save the Insulin:** Place the insulin (a plastic bleach bottle) in the lake or river about 20 feet from shore. Patrols equipped with a pike pole, two 8 ft. planks and some rope must try to retrieve the insulin needed by a dying man. The water is full of man-eating sharks which will instantly attack anyone who steps or falls into it.

- **Marathon Obstacle Race:** Of course, this must be set up according to the location and equipment available, but here are some examples. Make it a timed relay in which one boy from each patrol starts off. He swims to a raft or dock, enters a canoe or rowboat, paddles it in a certain manner, jumps out or capsizes it and stays underneath to sing for 10 seconds, pushes or tows the craft back to the dock. Or, he picks up a passenger from dock or raft, paddles around a buoy, jumps out into the water and climbs back in, etc., etc.

- **Punctured Drum:** Although this challenge doesn't happen in the water, it should be done near the water. Provide plastic detergent bottles or other convenient containers for transferring water, and patrols must try to use them to fill a drum in which you've banged as many holes as possible. The only things boys can use to plug the holes are parts of their bodies. Fifty holes will occupy all of the fingers of five boys.

- **Floating Fire Bombardment:** For this effective night activity, you need wooden logs for raft-building; lashing twine; matches and fire-lighting materials; and a source of small rocks for ammunition. Each patrol constructs a small lashed raft and arranges fire materials on it. They tow each raft to an equal distance off shore and light

the fires. Patrols then line up on shore (make sure boys stay in line to prevent injuries) and, on signal, start bombarding their rafts. A "direct hit" which splashes water onto a burning raft counts 10 points. The first raft to be extinguished wins. Alternately, you can use just one raft and judge the direct hits.

- **Mystery Meal:** Here's a traditional challenge that means buying enough tins of food to provide six tins for each patrol. You can keep down the cost by buying from "bash and dent" bins, but make sure the cans aren't damaged enough to be leaking or bulging. Mix it up so that you have soups, vegetables, fruits, stews, spaghetti, puddings, etc. Peel off all the labels, load the cans into a boat and dump them at a marked spot in the river, lake or pond. Avoid muddy bottoms and strong currents.

One boy from each patrol dives for the cans. He must bring up only one at a time and toss it to other members of his patrol who are on shore, on a dock, or in a boat. When he has retrieved six cans, the patrol must leave the area. Back on shore they open the cans and decide how to prepare a meal from the offerings. Swapping between patrols is not allowed and, in order to win the challenge, every member of the patrol must eat and all food must be consumed. Δ

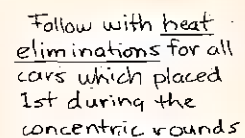




MAKING TRACKS

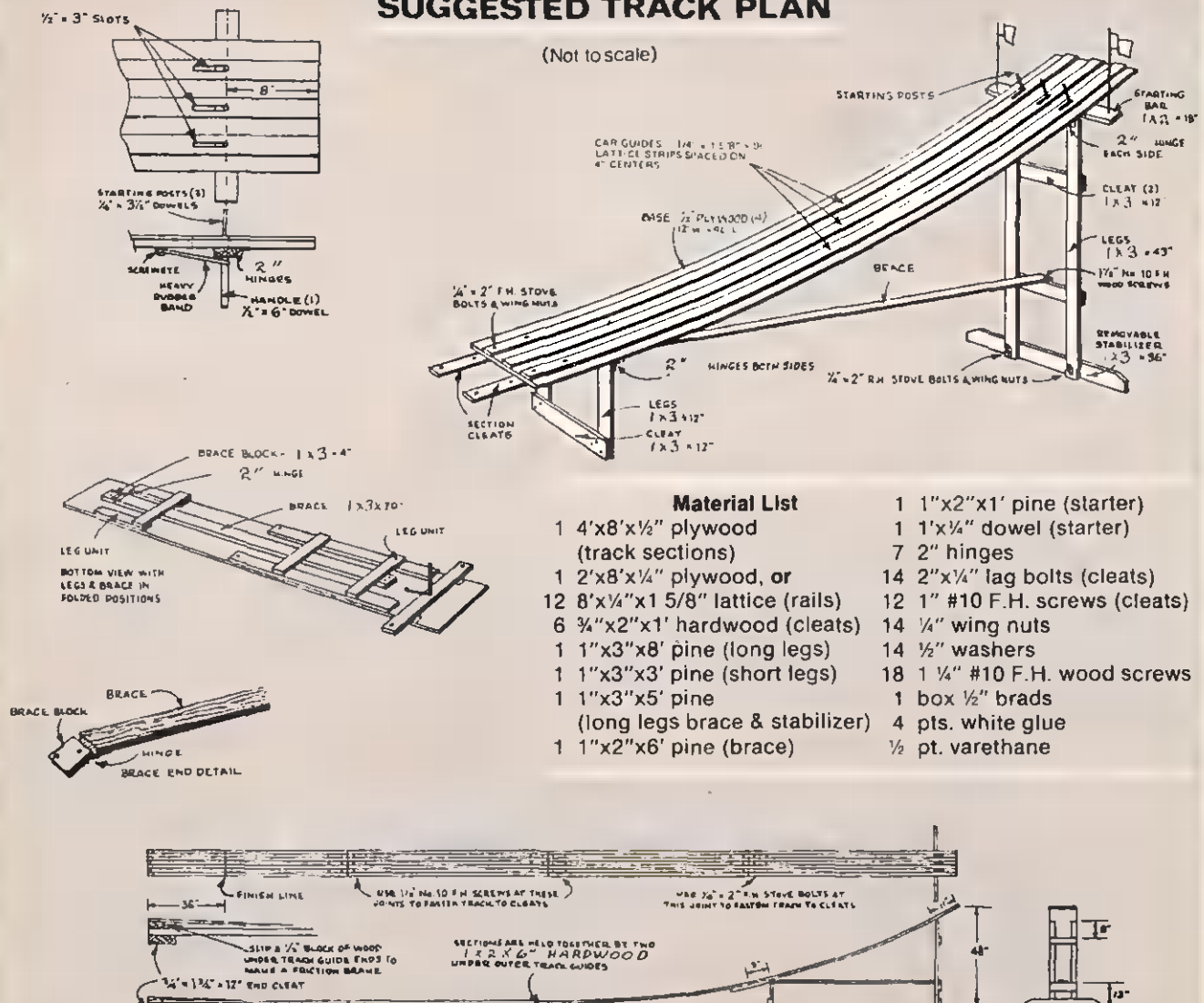
Paint the track with either a ure-

Gordon Hutchison, pack Scouter with the 32nd Ottawa Group (St. Matthias), acknowledges the help of Mr. Raksha, Peter Jordan, in suggesting design modifications for Kub Kar tracks. A



SUGGESTED TRACK PLAN

(Not to scale)



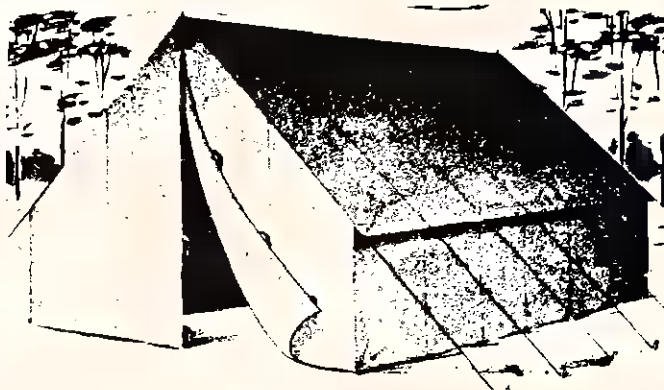
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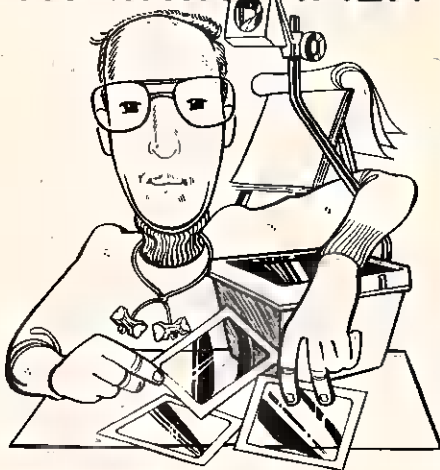
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'SCOUTMASTER'

TRAINING TALK



by Reg Roberts

SHARING SESSIONS

Beavers have been a significant part of our Scouting family for almost ten years, and one of the cornerstones of the program and its subsequent success has been the sharing session. Recently, however, the volume of mail asking for guidelines on how to hold a sharing session, leads me to believe that, if sharing sessions haven't become a thing of the past, they are certainly somewhat rare.

Perhaps it was inevitable that the introduction of Wood Badge training courses would reduce Beaver leaders' sense of need for sharing sessions. If this is the case, it's too bad. Although the Wood Badge is essential to give all Beaver leaders an understanding of what Scouting and the Beaver program is all about, it's the sharing session that keeps the program fresh, new and alive.

Sharing sessions provide a way to keep the original concept of Beavers uppermost in our minds when we plan programs. They ensure a degree of informality and creativity which is as important now as in the early days of the program. And, they provide leaders an opportunity to talk about and try out the type of behaviour they want the boys to practise in their colonies, and outside as well.

The other day I read a greeting card with the message: "Sharing is talking; caring is listening". Sharing sessions allow for both talking and listening; for both sharing and caring.

Sharing sessions should be informal, and should be "owned and operated" by the section leaders as much as possible. But, if sessions are not being offered in your area, it may fall to the service teams to plan and develop them to get things started again.

The January 1980 *Beaver Happen-*

ings column stated that "sharing is one of the basic concepts of Beavers". Indeed it is. It also states that the main objective of a sharing session is to provide an opportunity for leaders to get together.

In the early days of the Beaver program, all of us were busy finding our way in a new and strange area. Because nothing like Beavering had ever been tried before, everyone was a beginner. We banded together to compare notes and exchange ideas, and for mutual support.

We discussed our problems and goofs and talked about the things that worked well. We put on demonstrations and made up songs and skits. The craft projects we developed were something to behold! And we grew; in knowledge and skill, and in closeness to each other.

At one time, other leaders saw Beaver leaders as snobbish; as not wanting to be a part of the rest of Scouting. It wasn't that at all. It's just that we were so busy building the Beaver program and working with those little kids that we didn't really have time for anyone else.

Well, that perception has certainly changed. Beaver leaders now are solid and fully-integrated members of the Scouting family. But something else has changed too. We don't have sharing sessions the way we used to, and we may have lost some of our spark and creativity as a result.

You know as well as I do that leaders come and go in Scouting. The average stay is about three years. Recognizing that, one can see that most leaders who were around in 1972, when Beavers was a scrappy, fighting-for-its-life program, have gone, and the generation of leaders they trained behind them have probably moved on as well. It's likely that few are left who remember the excitement of Beavers in its developmental stages.

I think that what I am reading in the correspondence is the question: "How do we regain the excitement, the joy, the creativity of those earlier times?" The answer is the same now as it was then, and I quote from the *Beaver Leader's Handbook*: "If I come and share with you, and you come and share with me, we can have a sharing session!"

• Sharing sessions are best put together by Beaver leaders, but if it takes the service teams to get things going, begin that way.

• Meet in any place that is warm, dry and well-lighted. Have available lots of flip chart paper and felt pens and, if possible, an overhead projector.

• Drum up enthusiasm among the leaders in the district. You may have to start with a small group, but it will grow. You can always run it as a part of the Scouters' Club if you choose.

• On their visits to colony meetings, service team members should observe new game ideas, crafts, songs, etc., and recommend that the originators share them at the next sharing session.

• Run sessions once every two or three months to start. If more sessions are required, the leaders will make it known. Keep the length of a session to a maximum of two hours, and keep it moving along.

Sharing sessions should provide opportunities to:



• discuss common problems (though they're not a place to gripe);
• share experiences good and bad;
• welcome new Beaver leaders;
• exchange new ideas;
• swap ideas on games and crafts;
• learn at least one new song or skit;

• share thoughts about the non-competitive principles of Beavering;
• discuss how people grow, and the kind of behaviour that will encourage Beavers to develop sound values and characteristics;

• occasionally, have a guest speaker who, briefly, shares insights on a particular topic;

• ensure that no one is a stranger in the session and that everyone has a chance to speak;

- exchange resource ideas; places, material and people.

Include some refreshment in the session. It is, after all, a social event as well as a learning event.

Discussion of a district event can take place during a sharing session, but the planning should be done outside of the sharing session format.

To close the session, ask for feedback on how it went and agree on a date and time for the next gathering. Make sure the session ends on time.

When the Beaver program was in its infancy, the key phrase was, "Keep it simple." It holds true today.

SPREAD THE WORD

From time to time, there's a change in a program. The concern sometimes voiced is not so much about the change itself, but rather about the fact that the people who should know of it are often the last to know.

In this issue, Phil Newsome informs leaders about the Scout badge program update and why it is happening. Additional information on the same subject appears in Phil's *Patrol Corner*. My comments are also about the Scout badge changes, but they are addressed primarily to trainers and service team members.

In September, some revisions to the Scout section badge scheme will be introduced. In support of these revisions, Scout program material will be updated: *Scout Leader's Handbook*; *Canadian Scout Handbook*; *Patrol and Personal Record Books*, and *Achievement Chart*.

Information on the changes should be shared at training courses so that new leaders will know what to expect. Information should also be shared by service team members with all troop Scouters and counsellors during section visits, at Scouters' Clubs and district meetings and, if necessary, by telephone.

While most of the changes take place in the Achievement badge scheme, there are a couple of things to be aware of in the Challenge badge program.

- The Resource Management badge has been dropped.
- A Heritage badge and Naturalist badge have been added.
- The Canoeing badge has been moved into the Achievement badge scheme.

A change in the Achievement badge scheme introduces the **B.P. (Be Prepared) Woodsman** badge. This is significant because it recognizes the need for early and effective development of knowledge and skill in camping practices and personal safety.

In an earlier article I commented on the apparent lack of skills shown by some young people attending national jamborees. The B.P. Woodsman badge should help to improve the situation because Scouts will begin to work on the requirements right after investiture, but before starting work on Achievement badges.

The changes which become effective in the fall are intended to:

- remove the duplication within the three levels of some badges and between some of the Achievement badges;
- reinforce the concept of a boy-centred program;
- introduce an achievement award badge which doesn't have to be removed from the uniform. Rather, it is added to as a boy progresses from stage to stage.

The changes will also support the whole area of leadership by recognizing the value of both formal and situational leadership among peers, as well as the importance of active adult leadership where the age of the members or their lack of leadership ability makes peer leadership ineffective or inappropriate.

The changes in the Scout program will not be reflected in training guidelines until the next review of the Scout section Wood Badge takes place. Trainers can, however, stress some of these objectives in the training guidelines:

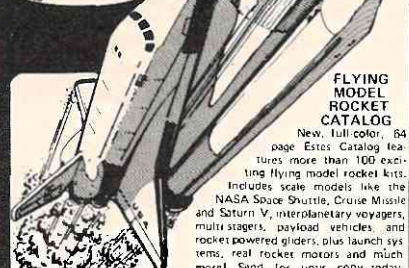
- *in the aim*; social development and responsible actions and how leaders can help Scouts grow in this area.
- *in the patrol*; ways to help patrol leaders become more effective in working with the members of the patrol.
- *in planning*; the role that members take in developing plans for the activities in which they will participate.
- *in the Achievement and Challenge badge schemes*; what the changes mean and how to implement them; what they mean to the future growth of the members.

Look also at such areas as *Getting to know Boys*, *Leadership and Group Work Skills*, and *Scouting and the Community* — all of which are affected in some way as a result of the revised Scout badge program.

Finally, we should recognize that program changes are often viewed with suspicion and resistance. Trainers and service team personnel can ease doubts and fears by being well-informed about what the update entails, what new material is required, and how to go about its implementation. Δ

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the **leader**

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venturer log

by Phil Newsome

I received this report from John Yoworksi and the members of the 49th Venturer Company, St. Stephens Church, McGregor, Ontario. It would seem that, because of CJ '81, at least one new Venturer company has been formed. As a result, a few more fellows are enjoying activities together.

A Venturer Beginning

Thoughts about the 49th Venturer Company were initiated by a composite patrol of five Scouts during their final pre-CJ'81 training camp in June last year. The boys were sitting around discussing their future in Scouting and decided to ask a retiring Cub leader if he would help them get started and become their advisor.

They decided to wait until the end of August, when CJ and a summer of relaxation would be behind them, and to check with everyone again. If the desire to go forward remained, they'd start up a Venturer company in September.

On September 9, the 49th held their first informal meeting. Weekly during the following three weeks, they discussed and agreed upon company bylaws, theme, annual dues and activities. One of the members brought Curious George, a stuffed monkey, to the second meeting, and he quickly joined as company mascot. By the first week of October, all boys and advisor were registered and, in the

interim, two other boys and two co-advisors joined the company.

The company's advisor worked closely with the parent group committee and received a start-up fund to purchase a Venturer flag and a camera. From the beginning, they've also kept the sponsor, who is invited to all meetings and activities, fully informed.

Towards the middle of October, the company established a six month fund-raising program and elected a president, vice-president, treasurer and secretary. They elected other members to the log, P.R., and telephone committees and agreed upon a five month activity program to which they add every month.

On November 2, the 49th Venturer company investiture ceremony, attended by the sponsor, Venturer ADC and area ADC, was held in St. Stephens Church at the entrance to the altar.

The boys planned a simple and sincere ceremony: the advisor re-confirmed his Scouter's promise, then invested the president who, in turn, invested the members. During the ceremony, the company as a whole repeated and personally accepted Scouting's principles and the Venturer promise, and the boys formally accepted and promised to abide by the company bylaws by signing them. After the investiture, members and

guests celebrated at McDonalds.

Since September, the 49th Venturers also:

- conducted three fund-raising events, the last a joint effort with the Scout troop on an equal-sharing basis;
- participated as a full company in the sponsor's Remembrance Day service;
- held an archery outing with a qualified archery instructor;
- participated in four swimming events sponsored by one of the parents;
- spent an evening with Company One Pathfinders singing Christmas carols at the Metropolitan Hospital;
- spent relaxing campfire evenings at the W-W Scout camp;
- in the absence of Akela, prepared and ran two regular Cub pack meetings with campfires;
- attended a Red Wing Oilers NHL game at Joe Louis Arena, compliments of the Detroit Red Wing Organization;
- volunteered to do the cooking for 120 Cubs and leaders at the area winter Cub camp. The camp, unfortunately, was cancelled for lack of adult help.

Our company mascot, renamed Nervous George, has a complete Venturer uniform and takes part in all activities and outings. The company also maintains an extensive log of photographs, and regularly sends two members to attend and report on the monthly meetings of the district Venturer Council.

We challenge other Venturer companies to keep up with the 49th! X

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r.s. jottings

by Phil Newsome

If you check back to the February issue of the **Leader**, you'll note in the Rover Jottings column a warning that the February issue may have been the last opportunity to read about Rovering in the magazine.

Although the response to our challenge was not great, we did receive a letter from Greg Lengyell of Cambridge, Ontario, which I'll share with the rest of the Canadian Rovering membership in hopes it will inspire other contributions for future editions of Rover Jottings. Many thanks to Greg for writing.

... Only recently I received my copy of the **Leader** and the **Ontario Provincial Notes**. As I read through each, I was very pleased with several things.

- Your **Rover Jottings** column, which gives Rovers across Canada an opportunity to send in material.

- **Ontario Provincial Notes**. John Rietveld is doing a bang-up job of the Rover column.

- **Ontario Provincial Notes**: article about **Membership Management** (some thoughts on the older boy program), which shows Rovering in Ontario was up in membership and penetration rate in 1981.

Noting these points, I was inspired to write a short excerpt for your column. I feel that Rovering is alive, viable and very worthwhile.

The article attached is about the Rovers here in Cambridge, of whom I am a part as assistant advisor and Rover

service-team member. You might entitle it **JMA Works**, or **Rovers and Rangers Tune Voices**, or something similar.

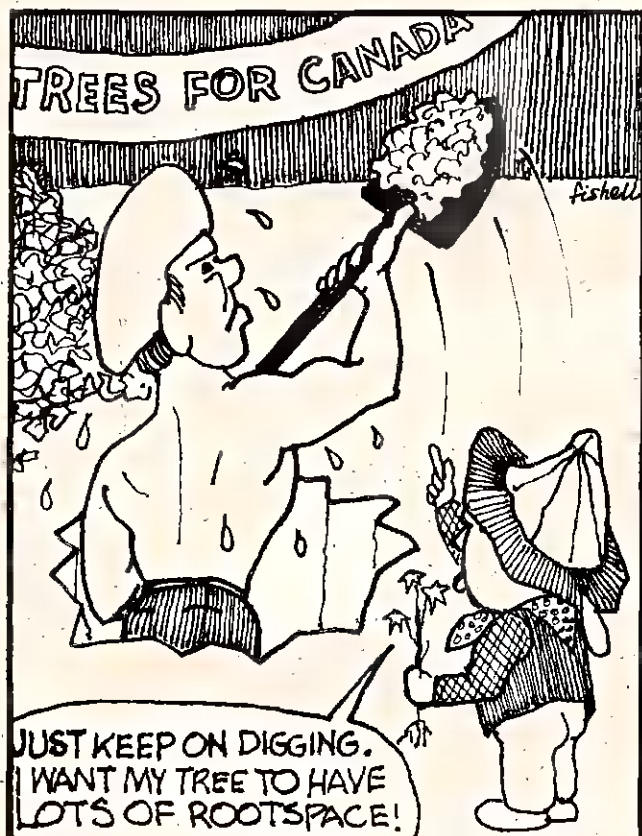
I hope this is the kind of article you are looking for.

Rovers and Rangers Tune Voices

In the past several months, the Rovers of Cambridge, along with local Rangers, have been meeting weekly to harmonize in a choir. Help and encouragement from the ADC Rovers, who is an audio-visual technician, has given this group some local publicity and a few engagements at which to perform. Our district church parade during Scout/Guide Week and, quite possibly, our district annual meeting are two such occasions.

It's a great way to put the older boy/girl sections up front where they can be seen by younger Cubs, Scouts, Brownies and Guides, and by older leaders as well. A

If the shoe fits.....



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SCOUT BADGE PROGRAM UPDATE

by Phil Newsome

A new basic skills badge, the transfer of a Challenge badge to the Achievement program, the addition of two new badges to the Challenge scheme, and badge design changes highlight a revised Scout badge program that was three years in the making.

In 1979, the National Program Committee put together a task group to review the Scout badge program and suggest any changes that were found necessary.

To start the process the task group developed a questionnaire and sent it to a random sample of leaders working in the Scout section. This same questionnaire was printed in the April '79 issue of *the Leader* to enable all Scouters to feed in ideas.

The ideas received in response to the questionnaire indicated a general concern about the duplication of requirements within the three levels of some Achievement badges, and between different Achievement badges, particularly those in the outdoor category. The survey also strongly supported the idea of moving the present Canoe Challenge badge to the Achievement badge program, a change with which the task force agreed.

To limit the requirement duplication within the Achievement badges, the areas of knowledge and skill that were tested repeatedly in the present achievement scheme have been brought together in a new badge to be known as the **B.P. (Be Prepared) Woodsman** badge.

This new badge tests skill areas that are basic to ensuring a Scout can safely participate in a camping event; i.e. those showing he has some rudimentary knowledge of camping practices and personal safety skills. The new badge will be earned following the completion of the investiture requirements and before a Scout begins to work on the Achievement Award program. (See page 27).

The other change to the Achievement badge scheme makes the Bronze stage a pre-requisite for the

Silver stage, and the Silver stage a pre-requisite for the Gold stage. To maintain the challenge for older, more experienced boys who join the troop, the provision was added that Scouts would be permitted to start at higher stages if their Scouter was satisfied they had completed requirements of the lower stage.

The only change in the Challenge badge scheme is the addition of a Heritage badge and a Naturalist badge, and the deletion of the present Resource Management badge.

With the introduction of these changes will come some new badge designs. The present Scout badge, sometimes called the investiture badge, will be reduced to the size of the present Achievement badges, approximately 1½" square.

The new B.P. Woodsman and the bronze, silver and gold achievement awards will be changed from the present diamond shape to red, bronze, silver and gold chevrons.

- **B.P. Woodsman:** red chevron worn below and touching the Scout badge

- **Pioneer Award:** bronze chevron worn above and touching the Scout badge

- **Voyageur Award:** silver chevron worn below and touching the red chevron

- **Pathfinder Award:** gold chevron worn above and touching the bronze chevron

This change means a boy will not be asked to take a badge off his uniform as he progresses through the achievement program. Instead, he'll have one badge that expands outward from his Scout badge as his knowledge increases.

The changes keep the Boy Scout section program boy-centred with an emphasis on natural and interest groups, but not to the exclusion of individual work by Scouts.

The badge program supports the use of peer leadership, both situational and formal, and recognizes the important need for active adult leadership in situations where the age and



ability of youth members may discourage the use of peer leadership. The changes continue to recognize that youth members in the Boy Scout program must have some choices within the program at a level that reflects their ability, and they allow for these choices without creating an administrative problem.

The changes also continue to support the philosophy that the Boy Scout program be boy-centred rather than program-centred; i.e. that it provide options and alternatives at a level consistent with the ability of the average Scout-age boy. This flexibility also increases the program's adaptability to the special needs of some groups and communities within the various regions of Canada.

A new *Canadian Scout Handbook* and *Troop Scouters' Handbook* are now in production, and all Scout program resource material is being updated to reflect the new badge program. The revised resource material is scheduled to be available in September 1982, in time for the beginning of the 1982-83 Scouting year.

Watch for further program articles featuring the updated Boy Scout badge program. A



Complete
Investiture
Requirements



Complete
B.P. Woodsman
Requirements



Red

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

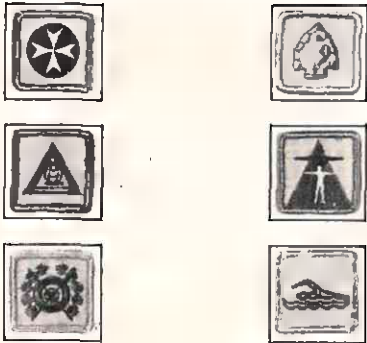
PIONEER (Bronze)



1 Outdoor Category



Citizenship



Service

Personal
Development

1



Bronze

Red

VOYAGEUR (Silver)



1 Outdoor Category



Citizenship



1 Service



1 Personal Development



Bronze

Red
Silver

PATHFINDER (Gold)



2 Outdoor Category



Citizenship



1 Service



1 Personal Development



Gold
Bronze

Red
Silver

ON THE LEVEL



by John Sweet

A fortune awaits the man who can devise a method of bottling woodsmoke under pressure for use in urban troop rooms. An occasional whiff of the stuff would work wonders in some places. Another possibility is a woodsmoke-enriched joss stick, perhaps with the aroma of trampled turf and sizzling bacon added. Any offers? We promise to field test any specimens submitted. The address is **8 Valley Close, Holton St. Peter, Halesworth, Suffolk, England.**

It is now a matter of Scout history that, one evening in the year 1974, a patrol of Scouts from the 38th Camberwell (Dulwich College) Troop, London S.E., in the throes of a wide game, knocked on the door of Number 10 Downing Street, the official residence of the Prime Minister, and asked politely for three sheets of official civil service issue toilet paper. Their request was received with equal courtesy. The police officer on duty looked on impassively as the documents were produced and handed over. The patrol leader said, "Thank you." The doorman said, "Not at all." The door closed. The boys departed. The unceasing surge of traffic up and down Whitehall continued unabated and the tranquility in the blind alley which is Downing Street slumbered on.

There is hope for old England yet.

And now — surprise, surprise! — for the first time in the history of Scout journalism, an original poem by Patrol Leader J. Sweet, especially composed in a leaky tent on a wet day in camp, shortly after the turn of the century, for recitation by Scout Fred-

die Mellidew at the final campfire at West Woodburn, Northumberland, England, and preserved for posterity in the pages of the 2nd Wallsend Troop logbook (editor, J. Sweet). The original idea was that Freddie should learn the thing off by heart and declaim it in the style of a member of the Royal Shakespeare Company, Sir Frank Benson for choice, but we weren't fussy. However, Freddie jibbed at that so we pinned the script to the back of an ordnance survey map of the Scottish border country so that the troop would have something to look at while, protected by the map, Freddie read off my immortal lines by the light of a hurricane lamp held by myself. Though I say it as shouldn't, it went over big, though of course it was Freddie who got all the credit.

Here it is.

*Show me a map and I'm restless
For the road and the hill
and the sky,
And wanderlust demands that I must
Pack my kit and fly.*

*So give me a map
that a man can follow
From here to Timbuktu,
And I'm on my way,
rain, shine or blow,
I don't give a hoot which way I go.
When I'm out on the grid
I'll have you know
That any old map will do.*

*There are maps all brightly coloured
In yellow and green and blue,
And the roads are spread
like a spider's web
And the brown hills call to you.*

*So give me a map
that a man can follow
Through the land of Cloud Cuckoo,
From London Town
to the deep blue sea,
Wherever the mood may pilot me,
When I'm out on the grid
it's the same to me
And any old map will do.*

*When Scouting days are over
And the years have told on me,
In loneliness I'll still possess
A map of memory.*

*So give me a map
that a man can follow
When his roving days are through:
Where every road's a familiar friend,
Adventure waits round every bend.
When I'm out on the grid
near journey's end
Just any old map will do.
Yes!
Any old map will do.*

It is just possible, I suppose, that troop night has got a bit dull and repetitive in recent months. Small wonder if it has but, even if it hasn't, there'd be no harm in ringing the changes by promoting a "Scouting for Fun Night" with as many goofy ideas and activities in the action-packed program as your patrol leaders council can dream up. The following are just suggestions.

- **Lifeline:** Patrols compete to make the longest "lifeline" with articles of their own clothing. No great strain need be put on the line but it must hold together when held by its extremities, without touching the deck at any point. At the right moment, an assistant Scout leader should rush into the room shouting, "Mayday! Mayday! Somebody's coming!"

- **Shot at Dawn:** Scouters, having been tried and found guilty as charged, should be blindfolded, lined up against the wall, offered (candy) cigarettes and shot. The weapons are empty washing-up liquid bottles (plastic) with stoppers detached. These makeshift airguns are fired by jumping hard with both feet together so that the plastic stoppers fly like cartridges. This excellent activity is particularly effective if the firing is done in controlled volleys.

- **Hot Musak:** From time to time a lively tune is played on tape or record and everyone, including Scouters, must stop what they are doing and start jiving like the clappers until the music is abruptly suspended, at which time work is resumed immediately just where it left off.

- **No-tent Tent-pitching:** For each patrol, four 4 ft. garden canes, four strong elastic bands, a ball of fine string and a handful of what we Brits call drawing-pins and our Canadian brothers thumb tacks. The task: to pitch a skeleton patrol tent on the troop room floor, tailor-made to take the entire patrol. If the floor won't take pins, provide insulating tape instead.

- **Chain Gang:** Troop in circle. At signal, all slouch round like lifers in the exercise yard on Devil's Island. When the signal is given, each jumps on the back of the man in front. When order has been restored, hand out short lengths of rope and invite the inmates to promenade as before and, at a given signal, put a bowline round the waist of one or other of their immediate neighbours; one toot on the Scouter's whistle for the man in front, two for the man behind.

- **Witch Doctors:** For each patrol lots of old newspapers, perhaps a sheet of coloured crepe paper, a hank of sisal twine and a roll of brown paper.

gumstrip. The task: to disguise themselves as witch doctors and devise a course of treatment for whatever ailment may be afflicting the Scout leader at the time. Tom-tom accompaniment to be provided by an orchestra of the assistant patrol leaders.

Miss no opportunity to give your assistant patrol leaders a chance to exercise a bit of leadership in the troop room. Here's a simple frin- stance:

Call up the patrol leaders and ask them to put their assistants in charge of the improvisation of a stretcher with whatever is available, while they, the patrol leaders, work together as a team to set up a short obstacle course in and around the troop room. When this has been done, the patrol leaders are informed that they, themselves, are to be their own casualties and must suffer themselves to be transported in uncomplaining silence over the obstacles they have created. At the conclusion of the exercise, the assistant patrol leaders must try to justify the suitability of their own stretcher in relation to the disability of their "patient". Patrol leaders will then be at liberty to comment as they think fit.

Twenty years ago a party of Scout leaders undergoing training at Gilwell Park in the county of Essex, England, reached their finest hour when they designed and built, entirely out of

their own heads, a mechanism which came to be known as "The Peckers' Portable Periodic Picket Plonker". No one was more surprised than they when they found that it actually worked.

The task they had been assigned was to build a machine with anything they could find that would enable one man to wield two large mauls single-handedly. As you will observe, by skilful manipulation of the controlling cord, the operator was able to raise and lower the mauls at will. The double tongs at the bottom held the picket in place and helped to keep the plonkers on target. In actual practice, as I clearly remember, for I was there at the time, it was found necessary to hold the machine down by brute force while it was running, as it became rather skittish and kept bouncing off the job at each shuddering blow. This entailed a certain amount of risk to the person, for there was always the possibility that the plonkers would miss dead centre and take a swipe at one of the spectators instead.

Still, credit where credit is due. Personally, speaking as a Cuckoo myself, I have never had much of an opinion of Woodpeckers as such, but for the last 20 years or more, their Finest Hour has been recorded in a little book of mine called *Patrol Blueprints* and now that this fine work of literature and art has finally gone out of print forever, I feel I must take this last opportunity to pay tribute to their great achievement.

FOOTLING FOOTNOTES

(with grateful acknowledgment to my old friend Dave Siddons of SCOUTING Magazine (U.K.) who is adept at sorting out the wheat from the chaff).

- A grannie is a useless knot but a sharp tug in the right direction will convert it into a clove hitch. Do that with a reef knot and all you get is a piffling lark'shead. (Must be a moral in that somewhere.)

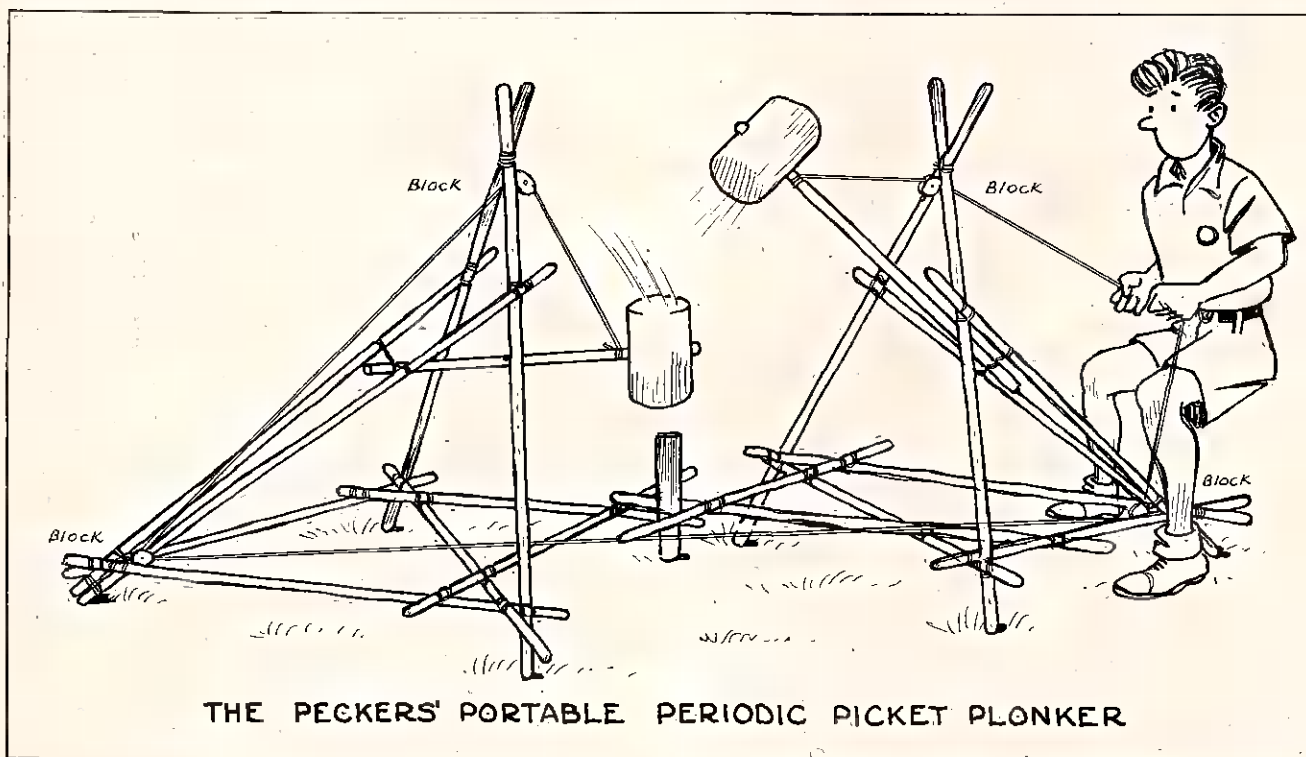
- Taking a naked flame into a modern tent is like striking a match to look for the source of trouble under the hood of a car.

- They say a watched pot never boils. An unwatched pot can easily boil dry and end up a total write-off.

- A good Scout leader never raises his voice. He gets someone else to do the shouting for him and then addresses the troop in civilized, well modulated tones.

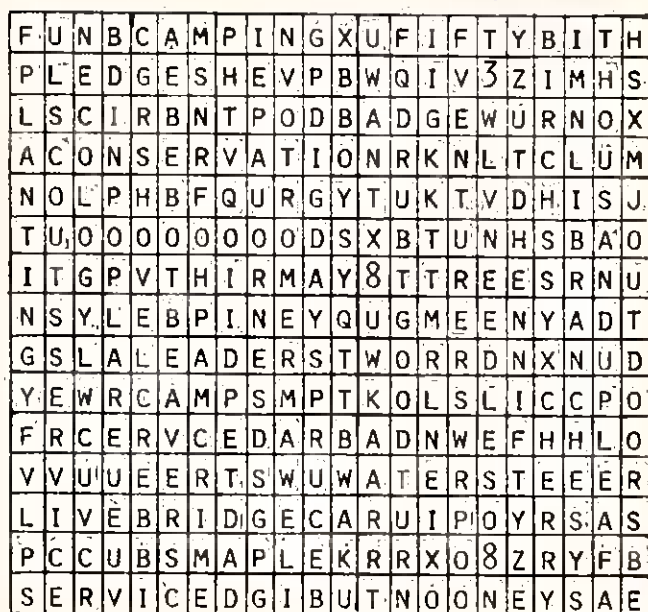
- It is true that you may not be able to produce fire by friction, but the exercise will certainly warm you up to the point where you may not need a fire.

- A good Scout is one who takes more care of other people's property than he does of his own. An even better Scout is one who takes good care of both. A



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THERE ARE SEVERAL OTHER WORDS IN THE PUZZLE. SEE HOW MANY YOU CAN FIND!

LET'S MAKE DIG DAY A BIG SUCCESS IN ALL REGIONS!

**This puzzle was devised by Gordon Hutchison of the public relations committee for National Capital Region's TREES FOR CANADA campaign.*

supply news

by Jim Mackie

XV World Jamboree

With the XV World Jamboree only a little over a year away, Supply has started to produce a number of souvenir items featuring the official jamboree crest. The crest, developed by Supply Services with the co-operation and assistance of Grant Emblems Ltd., Toronto, shows the blue sky, snow-covered mountains, green foothills and grain fields of Alberta, and includes both Canada's red maple leaf and the world Scout symbol.

These Canadian-made souvenir items will be available shortly through your local supplier:

69-025 3 1/2" Jamboree crest decal	\$.65
69-026 World Jamboree plate (limited edition)	6.25
69-027 World Jamboree mug	4.50
69-021 World Jamboree letter opener	3.50
69-022 World Jamboree spoon	3.50
69-023 World Jamboree money clip	3.50
69-024 World Jamboree book mark	3.50

All will make ideal presentation and gift items.

Laminating Service

Supply can now offer a laminating service to help you and your boys preserve membership, business and training accreditation cards. Cards will be sealed in clear 2 1/4" x 4" plastic envelopes which will keep them not only clean, but also in mint condition. Single item price: 70¢ plus a 30¢ mailing charge. If you want section or group registration cards laminated, write for a bulk price to **Supply Services, Boy Scouts of Canada, PO Box 5151 Stn "F", Ottawa, Ontario, K2C 3G7.**

New Silva Compass

The new *Type 1-2-3 Starter Compass* is designed for the beginner who is looking for an economically priced Silva system compass. Features include: transparent, liquid-filled housing and base plate; 5 degree graduation and millimetre scale on base plate. Size is 3 1/2" x 1 7/8" (88x46 mm). **Catalogue 54-116, \$7.50.**

Discontinued Items

For the information of those who order directly from Supply Services in Ottawa, these items have been discontinued and are no longer available. Most Shops and dealers will probably still have minimal supplies.

42-308 to 314	Boys' Camp Shorts
42-330 to 332	Youth Camp Shorts
71-261	Book Cover Kit
71-263-266	Moccasin Kits
71-262	Sun Visor Kit
71-268	Knife Sheath Kit
61-510	Pack Competition Award
61-511	Troop Competition Award
41-602	Sport Shirt — Medium
41-603	Sport Shirt — Large
54-103	Pocket Compass

Cub Jersey

Our new supplier of the Cub jersey, Tri-Rep Company, now uses Canadian Standard Sizes and, by next year, we expect to be sizing in metric. The material used in the new jersey has been tested by two independent research labs for wearability, strength and washing. Although it is lighter than material used in previous jerseys, abrasive tests have proved it to be approximately 40% more durable. **A**



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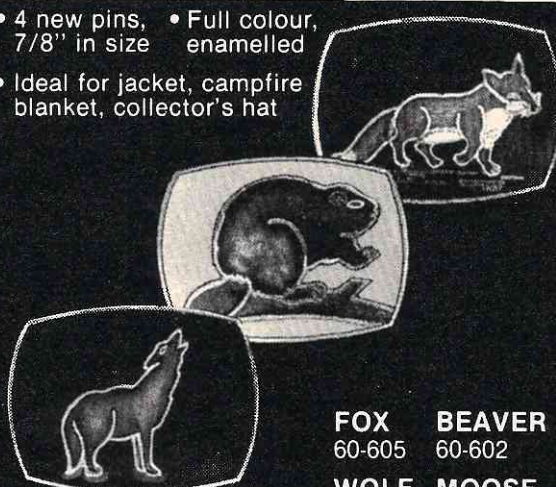
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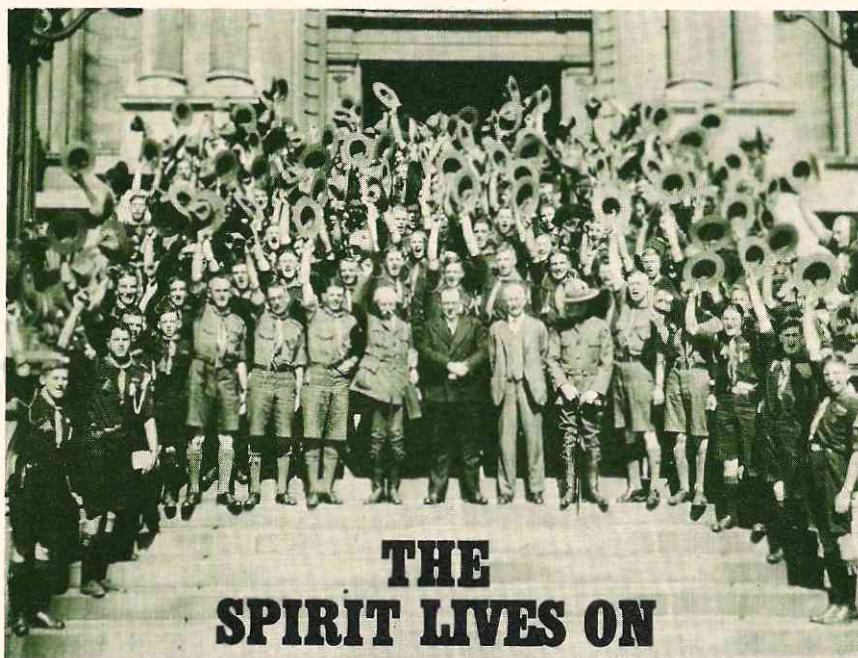


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THE SPIRIT LIVES ON

by Bob Milks

COME ON BACK IN '83

1908? — 1923? — 1938? — 1968? — 1982?

Does your group know when it started? Was it a brand new group at the beginning, or did it divide off from or grow out of an existing group? Obviously, the 1st Ottawa was a brand new group. But, for example, the 35th Toronto was connected to the 1st Toronto and, because of numbers, the 1st Red Deer divided to become the 1st and 2nd Red Deer.

No matter when your group formed, now is the time to start planning for a group reunion to be held in February 1983. If all groups in the country invite former members to attend a reunion, we will be asking some 4 to 4½ million Canadians to "Come On Back in '83 — The Spirit Lives On!"

If all groups in Canada hold their reunions during the 1983 Scout/ Guide Week, we can share the promotion and advertising and really let everyone know that Scouting is alive and well and growing in Canada.

By the fall of 1982 we will be producing radio spots in which, we hope, internationally and nationally famous figures will invite all former members to contact their groups.

We will also have prepared ads suitable for use in newspapers. The possibility for other kinds of national publicity aids is being explored and the results will be announced later.

If your group plans to hold a reunion in 1983, think about a planning schedule, and the committees you'll require to make it a real success.

Starting now, you should set up committees for: research; promotion

and publicity; registration and hospitality; program; and finance.

Research

The research committee should start work immediately. They need to look through group and council records to find the names of former members and to start building a file of their names and addresses. In the initial contact with those you can locate, ask each to send in names and addresses of other members they might know.

Promotion and Publicity

In the fall of 1982, the promotion and publicity team can start work with these suggestions.

- Send personalized letters to all former members identified by the research team. Invite them to the reunion and ask them if they have any memorabilia (uniforms, badges, photographs, reports or records) they might bring along. Ask them also to forward the correct names and addresses of other former members they know.

- Run in the local papers ads which identify the group and ask former members to contact the registration team.

- Build on available national publicity aids by having local celebrities do advertising spots.

- Arrange for Cubs and Scouts to design "Come On Back in '83" posters for displaying in store windows, malls, etc.

Just before the actual reunion, the committee should work with the local council to advise all media of the numbers expected and the program

planned, and to identify any well-known alumnae whom media people might wish to interview.

Program

Scouters should be a part of this team, which has a very important role. Although it's possible to run a number of activities early in the reunion week, the main emphasis should be geared to the weekend. Here are a few ideas to stimulate your team.

Friday Night: registration; home hospitality to out-of-towners; set up displays and exhibits using memorabilia brought by former members and material prepared by Cubs, Scouts and others; hold a campfire and sing-along; light refreshments.

Saturday: drop-in centre where old friends can meet; winter sports day including hockey, broomball, etc. Scouts vs old-timers, with the focus on fun, not the score; exhibits and displays; formal opening and welcome (after lunch); identify oldest members with awards of some kind; Kings Scout, Queens Scout, Chief Scout and Queens Venturer reunion; group photograph; expanded version of parent and son banquet; concert; adult receptions and dances.

Sunday: ecumenical Scouts' Own or church services; closing ceremonies; special certificate, crest or pin for participants.

Registration and Hospitality


The main job here is to establish an accurate list of names and addresses, using 3x5 cards, and to prepare a list of those who have indicated their intention to attend the reunion.

Former members who will come from out of town could be offered home hospitality. Line up a list of homes and have the promotion team publicize the availability of this accommodation to former members.

Finances

Because of dinners and other events, it will be necessary to set fees, collect money and pay bills. The finance chairman or treasurer of the group should be responsible for this area, and should recruit a small team to help.

There are 4 to 4½ million former members out there in Canada. If we combine our efforts, we can persuade a large number of them to "come on back in '83" to discover that "the spirit lives on".

I'm contacting my former group now. What about you? 

patrol corner

by Phil Newsome

Elsewhere in this issue of the **Leader** you will find an article about changes to portions of the Scout badge programs. In this month's *Patrol Corner*, I would like to share with you information that will help your Scouts make decisions about the trails they may choose to attain their Achievement Awards.

Before getting into the Achievement Award program, let's look at the new B.P. (Be Prepared) Woodsman badge requirements. This new badge must be completed before a Scout may wear any of the Achievement badges or an Achievement Award.

B.P. Woodsman Badge Requirements

1) Know the basics of first aid; that is, know how to:

- get help for an injured person;
- stop serious bleeding;
- treat minor cuts, burns and blisters.

2) Make a combination first aid/emergency kit.

3) Know the basics of water safety:

- demonstrate rescue breathing;
- demonstrate a throwing assist;
- explain the buddy system for safe swimming.

4) Know how to avoid becoming lost and what to do if lost.

5) Know the proper clothing, equipment and safety precautions for outdoor activities in all weather conditions, including high winds, lightning and extreme heat and cold.

6) Know how to tie and use six of the following knots: reef; woven S; bow line; locking bow line; sheet-bend; clove hitch; figure 8½ loop; and round turn and two half hitches.

7) Light a fire with two matches.

8) Understand scale and symbols on a topographical map.

9) Know how to use a compass:

- identify 16 points;
- show how to orient a map using a compass;
- walk a given bearing.

10) Know how to handle and sharpen a knife.

11) Know why and how to avoid damaging nature.

12) Identify five birds, five trees or shrubs, and five mammals found in your area.

Achievement Badge Trail

A survey has shown that the most popular trail through the Achievement badges is:

- Citizen badge (a must for every Scout);

- Campcraft or Exploring badges (outdoor category);
- First Aid or Safety badges (service category);
- Swimming or Physical Fitness (personal development category).

The changes to be introduced in September 1982 include the expectation that Scouts will complete the Bronze level requirements of a badge before proceeding to the Silver level, and will complete the Silver requirements before those for the Gold. This general rule does not apply for the First Aid, Life Saving or Swimming badges, which can be completed at any level and tested by the appropriate outside agency.

Discretion is given to Scout leaders to allow Scouts to start work at a higher level when they are aware that a boy has completed lower level requirements. This is seen as an exception designed to help maintain the interest of the Scouts who have greater experience than most boys in the troop.

All the requirements for the individual Achievement badges have been reworked to eliminate duplication of requirements both within the same badge at other levels, as well as between badges. It will still be necessary for Scouts to work together as a patrol or in groups of two or three to complete some of their badge requirements but, in some instances, individual work will also be necessary.

The new *Canadian Scout Handbook* and *Scout Leaders' Handbook*, as well as many other Scout program resource books, will be available in September at your local Scout dealer or Scout Shop. A

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FUN AT THE POND

by Kay Hotham

Has the space age invaded your colony? Do your Beavers capture Wookies and pretend to be Indiana Jones? Do they want to fly like Superman and wish Dad looked like Marlon Brando?

If the latest space craze hasn't hit your Beavers yet, it probably will soon, and you might like to hold a spring outing with a space theme. Here are some space game and craft suggestions for a full or half-day picnic.

Preparing for Blast-Off

Moonshots and extraterrestrial adventures take lots of planning and advance preparation. A few weeks ahead, send all Beavers home with a special message from Mission Control. For example:

Attention all Beaver parents!

The 1st Beaver Colony will visit outer space at the provincial park on Saturday, June 10.

Blast-off from the school parking lot at 10:00 a.m.

All Space Beavers must bring an emergency Space Kit of Space Rations (drinks will be provided).

Any help from Space Parents will be appreciated.

For more information, or to volunteer for duty, contact Space Commander Brown at Mission Control (address/phone number).

Space Kits

At the final meeting before you leave for outer space, include time for each Beaver to make an emergency space kit which he will fill at home and bring along on the day of the mission. Use cardboard boxes with lids and let each Beaver cover his with foil to protect it from radiation. Make a name card for each to avoid confusion over rations. The lid of a space kit is secured with a large elastic band.

Touchdown

When you arrive at the space site, assign each lodge to a picnic table planet. This will be their home base

for the rest of the day. Each base should be equipped with a cooler or ice box to keep space rations cool, and a box of materials for space crafts.

Flying Saucers & Space Shuttles

Outdoor Beaver expeditions tend to be even more energetic than most, but there is always a point when boys and leaders need a rest. A good time for a simple craft may be just before lunch, or just before the closing ceremony.

Outdoor crafts should be quick and easy to make. Flying Saucers are fun, especially if the Space Beavers can use them later in the day.

Staple together two nine-inch paper plates, bottoms out. Plastic-coated paper or foil pie plates are sturdy and travel well. Decorate with felt pens and coloured paper streamers.

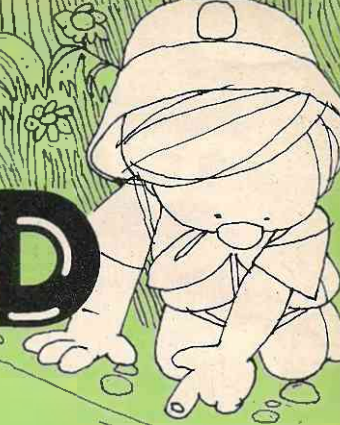
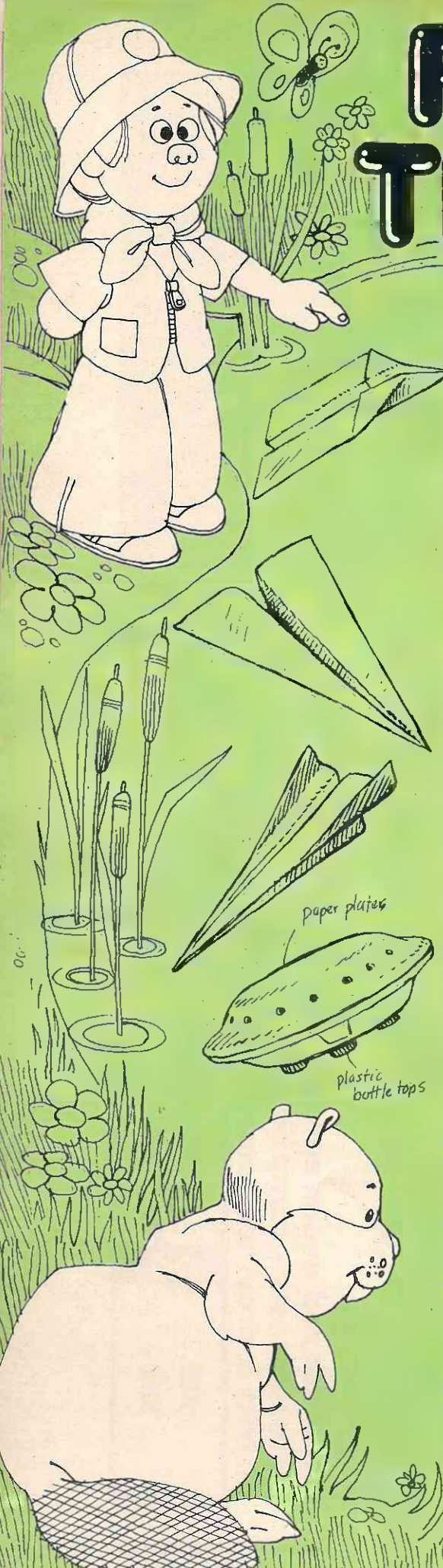
Or, try some simple paper folding and launch space shuttles in a gentle breeze. We'll assume you remember how to make a paper airplane. Use staples or tape to hold body together at nose and back, and increase the stability of the craft by fastening a small paper clip to each wing.

Balloon Rockets

This extraterrestrial game uses balloons, straws and string. Thread a straw onto a long length of string and tie the string between two convenient points: perhaps two picnic table planets. Move the straw to one end of the string, blow up a balloon and tape it to the straw. Let go of the balloon and watch the rocket zoom up the string. Set up several string courses and hold rocket races.

Space Messages

During your closing ceremony, release a dozen balloons in which you've placed greetings from your colony. Include the colony name, address and the date. You'll be surprised at how far the messages will travel.



egg cartons



pop bottle



plastic cream container



Space Flight

Divide the colony into groups and assign each group a space name: satellite; meteorite; space shuttle; two-stage rocket; etc. Have the groups form small circles in which each practises the appropriate movements and sounds for its name. Satellites can run around the circle yelling "beep beep beep", for example. Meteorites might race around yelling "swoosh swoosh" and end with a high jump onto all fours. Two-stage rockets can hop around on two feet while one-stagers hop around on one foot, etc.

When all the boys know their movements, have the colony form a big circle. As you call out each name, boys "fly" around the circle in suitable mode.

At the call "Space Train", Beavers turn left, grab the waist of the boy in front, and race around the circle together. Finally call "Touchdown!" and let everyone collapse.

Explore the Planets

Set up an obstacle course of tires to hop through, chairs and tables to crawl over and under, etc. Each Beaver navigates the planets until he reaches Moonbase One, a picnic table set for a Moon Meal. To finish the course, a boy puts on a space helmet (cover a hockey helmet with foil and paper stars) and tries to eat from a paper plate of smarties with a fork.

Oxygen Mask Race

The Moon Meal will leave the space travellers thirsty, but they'll have to work for a drink. Set up a short course for the Beavers to run. They run it balancing a paper cup on a drinking straw which they hold in their mouths. At the finish line, reward all with a cool glass of Martian Mix.

Martian Mix

Mix all ingredients except the club soda ahead of time and transport in a large cooler.

- 48 oz. can unsweetened pineapple juice
- 2 Tbsp. lemon juice
- 6 oz. can frozen orange juice concentrate
- 10 oz. bottle club soda

Add club soda just before serving. Quenches thirst of 10-12 Beavers.

Beaver Spaceman

This song, to the tune of *I'm a Little Teapot*, is from the Trenton District Beavers' 1981 Songbook.

I'm a Beaver Spaceman, I can ZOOM!

*Off to Mars, off to the moon,
See the Star Trek spaceship,
Star Wars, too,
Just count down, blast-off
ZOOM! ZOOM! ZOOM!*

Star Wars

You need two large soft balls, like nerf balls, and an area marked by two parallel lines. Select two Beaver Darth Vaders to stand in the middle of the playing area. Make two groups of Luke Skywalker and line them up behind the lines. When a leader calls "Star Wars", the Lukes run to the opposite side and the Darths try to tag them with the balls. If a Luke is tagged, he must sit down where he is and try to tag the other Lukes without moving from his spot. Any Luke tagged this way sits next to the player who tagged him. When all Lukes are sitting, repeat the game with new Darth Vaders.

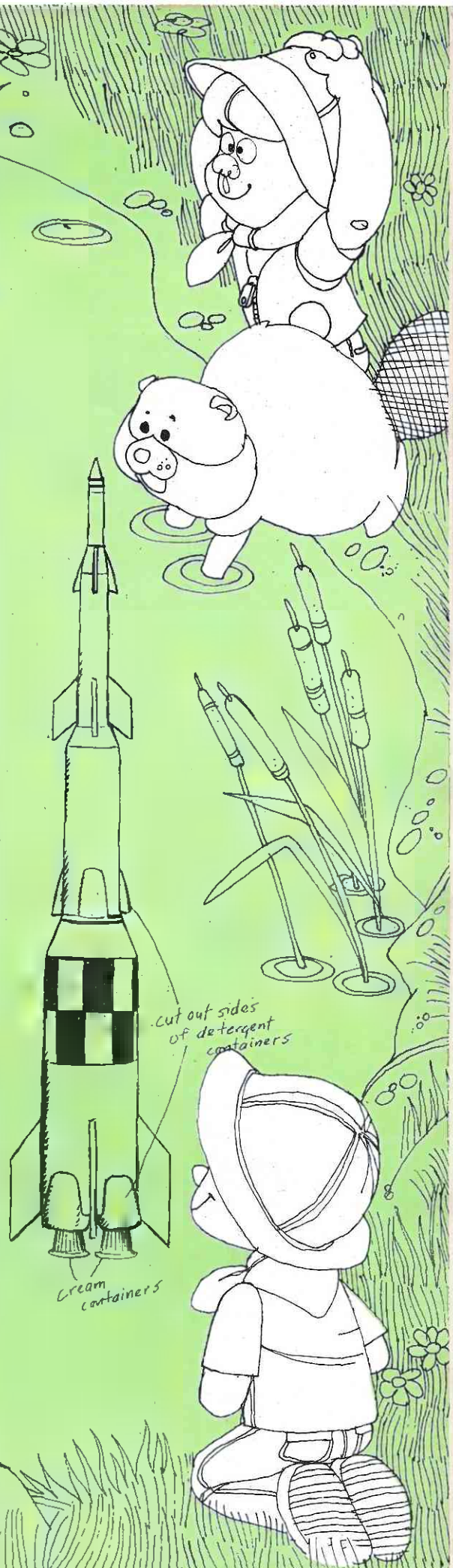
Space Tunnel

All but three Beavers form two lines, arms-length apart, facing each other. They join hands with those opposite them and lift arms to form a tunnel. The three remaining grasp each other by the waist to make a spaceship that must travel through the tunnel. Meanwhile the tunnel moves up and down and in and out. Continue the game until everyone has travelled down the space tunnel.

Monsters from Outer Space

When the sun is low and shadows are high, arrange the colony into lodges and have each make a space monster. For example, four or five Beavers crouch on hands and knees, one behind the other and positioned broadside to the sun. While one Beaver stands in front of the line and waves his arms, the boys in line sway back and forth and make appropriate space monster grunts, groans and hisses. See which lodge can make the biggest, scariest monster.

May the Force be with you! 1



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How many sets of labels does your group plan to sell? (approx.) _____

A WORD TO CHAIRMEN

(of Group Committees)

by Pat Horan

...about teamwork in Scouting

Dear Murray,

Thanks for sending me the especially good article, *Teamwork in Business*, in the Jan/Feb issue of **The Royal Bank Letter**. I think our experience in Scouting certainly supports some of the positive points raised by the author. A group which works together in "unity of purpose", with a sense of commitment to one another as well as to Scouting, can do great things.

The idea isn't new to Scouting. In *Let's Celebrate*, Don Laing describes the section/group team; that is, all the adults working in a section or group, and shows how the service Scouter (a member of another Scouting team) is there to help each section/group team do its job more effectively. Don goes on to show how yet another Scouting team, the regional training team, is brought in to help the section/group teams.

Like the author of the article, Don reminds us that we have many different gifts, skills and talents to offer. When brought together in a team, these gifts and their impact are multiplied.

As another example, we have the various task groups which operate as teams in Anglican dioceses and bring together individuals of diverse skills to better meet the objective of encouraging and expanding Scouting in the parishes. In a slightly different way, NACSUCC (National Advisory Committee on Scouting in the United Church of Canada) does the same thing by stimulating a network of people to work together to support and expand Scouting in local congregations.

The author lists five characteristics of a results-oriented team.

- **Organic:** Although made up of components (individuals), it comes together as a cohesive whole which is perceived as being greater than the sum of the parts.

- **Interdependent:** Each member is supportive of the other. If the team succeeds, all succeed. If the team fails...

- **Stimulating:** The personal impact of the action, attitudes and life experiences of each person spurs on the others to greater efforts and achievement.

- **Enjoyable:** Individuals get much satisfaction from working as a team. The camaraderie, sense of belonging and sense of achievement add to the fun of being a member of a good group.

- **Civilized:** Joyful interaction and sharing tends to submerge personality clashes and differences of opinion. Individual aspirations are merged to meet the objective of the team and, when the common goal is reached, one realizes that often individual goals have been reached as well.

So Murray, let's continue to encourage teamwork in Scouting. It's bound to have a positive impact.

Sincerely,

Pat

A



MESSAGE
OF
YOUR
CHOICE

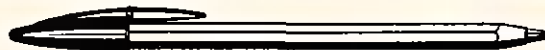
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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK



by Bob Butcher

As the 75th Anniversary year progresses, we are beginning to receive reports about what groups and councils across Canada are doing in celebration.

We heard exciting news recently from Ken Lowe, the Scout Shop manager in the Calgary Region. Ken and some of his Scouting colleagues are promoting the "outing" in Scouting through a number of mountaineering expeditions. These include four ski-mountaineering trips in Banff, Yoho and Jasper National Parks, and three summit attempts. One will be on Mount Columbia (12,294'); a second on Mount Rainier (14,410'), a peak in the Cascade range of Washington State; and a third on Mount Robson (12,972'), the highest peak in Alberta and "the monarch of the Canadian Rockies".

Ken, who leads the expeditions, will be equipment consultant and co-ordinator as well as cross-country ski instructor. Bud Sage has been designated mountain climbing guide and instructor, and cross-country ski instructor. Angel Richards is fitness consultant, photographer and logistics co-ordinator, and Anita Richards is base-camp manager, nutritionist and certified nursing assistant. All are accredited trainers in the Calgary Region, and all have long experience in the outdoors.

Calgary Region Venturers and Rovers will accompany the team on appropriate portions of the expeditions.

In connection with their climbs, the team will be involved in the four levels of Calgary Region's outdoor leadership training program, called *21st Century Camping*.

Ken has promised to send us a series of articles and photos about the various expedition activities as they are completed. The team also plans to put together an expedition display for the 15th World Jamboree.

We look forward to receiving news of this program's progress in the months ahead.

Not every pack outing turns into a real-life detective story, but the 42nd London Pack can boast that it happened to them.

On Hallowe'en day last year, Akela Richard Vandierendonck took his boys on a pack ramble to beautiful

Reservoir Park in London, Ontario. When they arrived at the park, the boys were horrified to see the grass and trees devastated by vandals. Someone had driven a car around the locked gates to the park and had literally torn up the grass on hillsides, valleys and soccer fields. The car also had struck a good-sized pine tree and left it in pieces.

Events of the plot unfolded in the following sequence, and the drama concluded in near-record time.

The boys began a scavenger hunt in the wooded area of the park and, beneath the remains of the shattered pine tree, one Cub uncovered a licence plate.

The boys gave the plate to a departing parent who dropped it off at the police station while reporting the vandalism.

Soon after, two young men entered the park. Obviously they were in search of something, but they left empty-handed.

The police were the next to show up. They wanted to talk with the Cub who found the licence plate. After hearing the details, they thanked the pack for their assistance and left.

Within 20 minutes, police identified and found the driver of the car. Members of the pack were proud of their contribution.

"A good lesson for all," concludes Akela Vandierendonck.

A visit to Canada's capital is a popular summer experience for many groups in Scouting, and the **Leader** receives several reports of such trips each year.

Recently we learned about the busy schedule kept by the 4th Lake Magog Cubs and Scouts on their trip last June. They visited the parliament buildings, the Canadian War Museum, the Aeronautical Museum and the Museum of Canadian Scouting. They also had an opportunity to pat the horses of the RCMP musical ride, and enjoyed a film about the training of the men and their mounts.

Cubs and Scouts viewed the changing of the guard on Parliament Hill and attended one of the many spring and summer music festivals held in the city's parks. A favourite stop was the *Museum of Science and Technology* with its "hands-on" displays ranging from locomotives to computer terminals.

During a visit to the Royal Canadian Mint, the boys were met by their local MP, André Bachand, who had helped



Boys enjoy the tranquility of the former prison exercise yard in the heart of Ottawa.

them arrange their schedule and their stay at the Nicholas Street Hostel. At the hostel, the boys were joined by members of the 27th Ottawa Cubs and Scouts for an outdoor cook-up.

Cubs and Scouts found the hostel, once a prison, a fun place to stay. They especially enjoyed seeing the gallows and hearing tales of the ghost of Patrick Whalen, who was hanged there in 1868 for the murder of Thomas D'Arcy McGee, one of the fathers of confederation.

Brenda Hutchins, chairman of the 4th Lake Magog group committee, reports that the trip to Ottawa was both an educational and enjoyable outing for the boys.

Groups can arrange to stay at the Nicholas Street Hostel by writing to the houseparents at 75 Nicholas St., Ottawa, Ont., K1N 7B9, or by calling (613) 235-2595.

mothers have less time to care for their children, while the children themselves have no chance for school or play. Water brought with such effort is valuable. There is often barely enough for drinking and cooking, and none left over for cleaning. Unfortunately, this water, too, is usually polluted. The children are especially hard hit by the waterborne diseases. Millions of them die every year as a result.

In recognition of this serious problem, the United Nations has declared the period from 1981 to 1990 to be *The International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade*, with the goal of providing safe drinking water for everyone in the world by the year 1990.

One big project, which will provide safe water for 250,000 people in rural areas, is just getting started in Somalia. This east African country has been in the news a great deal lately

because of the large number of refugees living there, but its citizens have also suffered from severe droughts over the past five years.

For this project, several hundred wells must be drilled to tap the water which is trapped in the rocks deep underground. UNICEF Canada will provide the money needed to buy the well-casings, pipes, pumps and the water storage tanks needed to get the water to the people. At the same time, the government of Somalia will teach the people how they can use the clean water to improve their health.

Leaders who would like more information about the work of UNICEF and UNICEF Canada projects, can get in touch with their local UNICEF committee, or write to UNICEF Canada at 443 Mt. Pleasant Rd., Toronto, Ontario M4S 2L8. UNICEF volunteers and printed materials are available for interested groups. X

The Boy Scouts of Canada is one of 28 non-governmental organizations affiliated with UNICEF Canada, meaning that Scouting shares UNICEF's concern for the welfare of children and supports their efforts to help children in developing countries. We thank Christine Lundy, Projects Officer with UNICEF Canada for providing the following information.

When most people in Canada hear or read the name UNICEF, they think of children collecting coins at Hal-low'e'en or of attractive Christmas cards. UNICEF Canada's fundraising activities are only the start of the story. The real work takes place in a hundred countries in Africa, Asia, South America and the Caribbean. By helping to provide basic health services, education and improved nutrition, UNICEF makes it possible for millions of children to look forward to a happier future.

A top priority for UNICEF Canada is to provide children and their communities with clean water, an important part of basic health care.

Over half the people in the developing world do not have access to reliable supplies of clean water. Where water is plentiful, it is often contaminated with disease-causing bacteria and parasites. In places like north Africa, around the Sahara Desert, water is extremely scarce, and people have to walk long distances to the nearest water-hole.

Usually this is the task of the women and children, and since it can take all day to bring home enough water for the family's essential needs,



UNICEF cooperates in the provision of a safe and sufficient water supply for drinking and household use in developing countries. An accessible water supply is a great convenience for mothers and children, like this young girl in Sudan, who must spend hours each day collecting and carrying water. UNICEF Photo by William Campbell

letters

Dear Sir,

I have enjoyed your magazine for years, being a Cub leader, and I'm sure I will for many more years.

You had an article in the December Leader written by Darryl Buckle; *What is a Cub?* What Mr. Buckle wrote is all true. He couldn't have written this any better. A big thanks from all our gang to Mr. Buckle.

Another thing I like very much is the crafts for Cubs. We have done most of the crafts. I'm sending a photo of something our pack made last year — a complete Indian Village. I would like to see another group try the Indian Village. A lot of work went into this, but it was really interesting for the boys. It was on display last year in a local store.

— Florence Boyce, Sutton, P.Q.



Dear Scouter (Bob) Butcher,

In reply to Scouter Bud Jacobi's question in the October issue regarding reasonable transportation to Northern Ontario, may I suggest two proven methods; public transport and lightweight backpacking. B.-P.'s stress on the patrol as the smallest self-contained section is as valid today as in the South African veldt. Ontario Northland runs daily rail/bus transport to Northern Ontario. Katz' *The Canadian Backpacker* is an excellent resource for equipment, planning and geography. To add a little spice to the trip, Harriet Barker's *Single Burner Gourmet* gives zest to the traditional stew.

Good luck, Bud. Keep the Muskol handy!

— Dave Gordon, 1st Avondale, Belleville, Ontario.

Dear Sir,

In your January 1982 edition, I read the Emergency First Aid article by Frido Profoehr and discovered that he says not to use cold water on 3rd degree burns. This is false according to St. John Ambulance's first aid. The use of cold water on burns is correct.

— Joe Wenham, Halifax, N.S.

Ed's Reply: Although we had passed Frido's manuscript to St. John Ambulance to ensure its accuracy before we printed the article, Joe's disagreement prompted us to double-check. Charles King, St. John Ambulance Training Officer, Publications, said that the confusion is easy to understand because Frido's information represents the new approach to treatment of 3rd degree burns.

"The most recent thinking," Mr. King said, "is that cold water should not be used (on open 3rd degree burns) because the chance of infection is too great."

He explained that cold water can help to relieve pain for less severe, closed burns because nerve endings, although possibly damaged, are still alive. But, in an open 3rd degree burn, where nerve endings "usually have been killed anyway", cold water's "ability to relieve pain is negligible and the chance of infection is great".

"On our medical board's advice", a new publication from St. John Ambulance, at present in manuscript form, will include this most recent information about burn treatment, Mr. King said.

Dear Sir,

Leading a pack for three years and

having no children of my own, (I found) your magazine most helpful. I would like to commend you on an excellent publication.

— Leah-Ann Rawleigh
Medicine Hat, Alberta

Dear Sir,

We are pleased to announce the formation of a new club to aid Scouters in keeping up with their troops. The club will be known as The Crazy Scouters Club.

Objectives:

- to put fun into camps and similar activities;
- to preserve our sanity by keeping ahead of the tricks Scouts play on leaders;
- to encourage Scouts to be original in their camp plans;
- to help Scouts learn to make plans and carry them through on their own.

Club Pledge:

Crazy Scouters pledge to keep area commissioners wondering about our sanity at all times. We will make all camps unpredictable while not causing any disruptions.

The club founders are:

Jim Kurylo, 9808-75 Ave., Edmonton, Alta; Gordon Kenwell, #202, 7708-91 St., Edmonton; Lyle Martin, 5912-106 Ave., Edmonton; Mike McArady, 613 Forsythe Ave., Parksville, B.C.; Vince Dwyer, 2 Mercers Lane, St. John's, Nfld.

Contact any of these Scouters for further information.

— Lyle Martin, Edmonton, Alta.

Ed's Reply: Could it be that Canada is spawning its own version of England's "Coarse Scouter"? A

swap shop

This special invitation to a Beaver investiture comes from the South Saskatchewan Region. Leader Sheila Olmstead had the kits in the 5th Weyburn Colony make and decorate cards, inside of which they put this verse.

Dear Mom and Dad,

Date: _____

Time: _____

Place: _____

Come to the Pond
Please come and see
A full-fledged Beaver
I will be.
As a Kit I worked hard
As hard as can be

Learned three things
Important to me
My Promise and Law
And my Motto too
All about sharing
And the things I can do.

So please, Mom and Dad
Please come and see
Me turn from a Kit
To an Eager Beaver

THAT'S ME!



SCOUTER'S 5 MINUTES & HINTS



"Many are the names of God, and infinite are the forms that lead us to know Him. In whatever name or form you desire to know Him, in that very name and form you will know Him."

— B.-P.

April brings Easter, Passover, spring. Christians celebrate the resurrection of the saviour; Jewish families commemorate the deliverance of Israel's people from slavery in Egypt; and the season, bursting with all the promise and vitality of rebirth, kindles profound spiritual feelings in people of diverse faiths and backgrounds. What better time to share expressions of the many names and forms of God, and the joy we feel in meeting Him.

Thou art the fire, Thou art the sun,
Thou art the air, Thou art the moon,
Thou art the starry firmament,
Thou art Brahman Supreme:
Thou art the waters — thou,
The creator of all!
Thou art woman, thou art man,
Thou art the youth, thou art the maiden,
Thou art the old man tottering with his staff
Thou facest everywhere.

— *The Upanishads: Svestasvatara*

Behold, the kingdom of God is within you; you and your Father are one, the Father in you, and you in Him.

— *Jesus*

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

— *Qur'an*

All things are the works of the Great Spirit. We should know that He is within all things...

— *Black Elk, The Sacred Pipe*

I believe in God... who reveals himself in the orderly harmony of the universe. I believe that Intelligence is manifested throughout all Nature...

— *Albert Einstein*

April means spring and time again to focus on Scouting outdoors.

- Make your Cubs keen to learn the knots they'll find useful at camp by teaching them to tie knots in licorice. An American Cubmaster reports in *Scouting (BSA)* that he uses red and black licorice whips rather than rope to teach new knots. When a Cub shows the correctly tied knot, he's allowed to eat the licorice. He then collects another couple of pieces with which to try another knot. The Cubmaster says knot-tying sessions have become very popular and "nearly 100 percent effective".

- If your canoe leaves a snake-wiggle wake on the water, you've loaded it too heavily in the bow. Keep the weight slightly to the stern for easy steering.

- Make handy fire-starters by filling egg carton cups with lint from the clothes dryer and pouring melted paraffin wax over the lint. Break off a cup to start each fire.

- Keep water boiled over a wood fire free of that smokey taste by throwing a clean sliver of wood into the water while you're boiling it.

- You say that some of the eggs you carried along acquired a few cracks en route? You can still boil them successfully if you first wrap them in tissue. Use string to tie the tissue closed like a purse around the egg.

Dian Thomas, author of the Roughing it Easy books, offers good tips on outdoor griddle cooking.

- You need even heat for griddle cooking, so use the griddle only over coals or on a stove. It won't work successfully over a campfire.

- Use a squeeze bottle filled with cooking oil for easy, even griddle greasing.

- To test the griddle temperature before cooking, let a drop of water fall onto the sur-

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face. If the water simply lies there and bubbles, the griddle is too cool. If the drop pops and jumps, it's time to cook. If it spatters and disappears, the griddle is too hot and should be raised a bit from the heat source.

- The day is hot and breezy and you want to keep your drinking water cold. Wrap the water container in a wet cloth and hang it in the open from the branch of a tree. It's as good as putting it in a regular fridge.

- On that same hot day you can keep your dinner meat cold by wrapping it in foil and burying it in the ground.

- When you've finished cooking, set your cooking pot off to one side. Perhaps if you give them their own plate, the bees, wasps, flies and other pests will stay away from yours.

- Speaking of pests, remember that mosquitoes and biting flies seem to like dark coloured clothing and the perfumed scents of many grooming products (soaps, shampoos, colognes, etc.). Dress so that you won't attract the biters, and try using unscented grooming aids.

- Certain fibres can be damaged by insect repellents. Don't apply repellents to spandex (from which many bathing suits are made), rayon, or Dynel fibres. Tent fabrics, plastic and painted surfaces also can be damaged by insect repellents.

- An insect repellent will not keep bees, wasps or hornets from stinging you. Your wisest move is one away from stinging pests.

Try using 35 mm film canisters when collecting insect specimens. A drop of alcohol makes the canister a fine killing jar. Label the canister with tape and keep the specimen in it.

Hints — page 612

If men wish to draw near to God, they must seek him in the hearts of men.

— *Abn Sa'id ibn Abi 'l-Khayr*

He to whom you pray is nearer to you than the neck of your camel.

— *Muhammad*

The Lord dwells in the heart of every creature... take refuge in Him with thy whole heart...

— *Bhagavad Gita: Krishna*

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

— *Dr. Annie Besant*

Tonight the earth is crowned with stars,
A soft wind hums a tune, and for a hat
The pinetree wears a slice of saucy moon.
Goodnight world! Goodnight God!
— a favourite prayer of the 18th Seymour Beavers.

God and I (tune: *Kum Ba Yah*)

God is good, God made me,
If God is good, I am good,
God is love, God made me,
If God is love, I am love.
God and I, together we'll do
The very best, as He wants me to.
God and I, together we'll do,
The very best, all year through.

— *thanks to Scout (Australia)*

"There is a God," all nature cries,
I see it painted on the skies
I see it in the flowering spring
I hear it when the birdlings sing.
I see it in the flowing main
I see it on the fruitful plain,
I see it everywhere abroad
I feel, I know, there is a God.

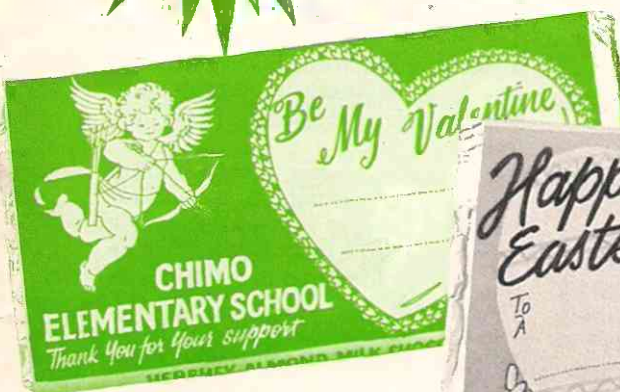
— *Anon*

Scouter's Five Minutes — page 504

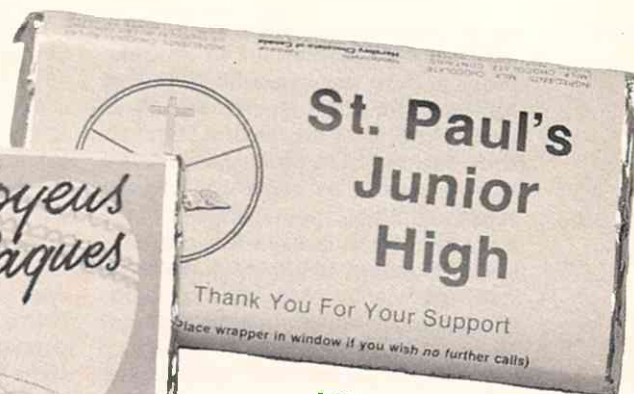


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by Gerry Giuliani

Swimming and Going Up

In the last little while we've been focussing on the idea of a Scouting family. This has helped us look at each of our sections as one step in a total development process for young people. It follows that we all have a responsibility to help our boys make the major transitions in this process; to prepare them to enter and leave the pack in a way that ensures they maintain an active and longlasting interest in Scouting. Without this, the shock of moving up to the next section can discourage the boy, with the probable result that he will drop out of the movement.

Many packs are ready to accept new Cubs from Beavers and send senior Cubs to the troop in the late spring or early fall. Three important elements should be included in the normal pack program plan to make swimming up or going up meaningful and important.

- open communication among the leaders of the sections involved;
- inter-section activity or visiting as part of the regular program;
- preparation of leaders, boys and parents for participation in the transition ceremony.

Productive Communication

The most important thing you can do to prepare a boy to join the pack or go up to the troop is to open a productive dialogue with the Scouters from the other sections. A number of things come to mind.

- At your next group or section committee meeting, start a discussion with section leaders from Beavers and Scouts and discuss the issue with them. Invite both leaders to one of your pack meetings. Introduce to the troop Scouters the boys who will move up. Find out from the colony leaders how many boys are ready to swim up. Talk about some of the challenges and expectations boys will face when they move into their new program, and about ways to help them meet these challenges.
- If your group doesn't have a colony and/or a troop, attend your next Scouters' Club meeting and approach the section leader of a colony and a troop with whom you would prefer

to associate. Check with your group committee beforehand because it may well decide to start its own colony or troop.

- Ask your service team to make the issue of preparing boys to swim or go up a major topic of discussion at the next Scouters' Club meeting. Be prepared to outline your ideas and concerns at the meeting. Feedback from fellow Scouters is important. Ask your service team for program ideas and useful techniques to help prepare boys for the next phase in their Scouting career.

Inter-section Program Activities

Familiarizing the older Beavers with pack activities and the older Cubs with troop activities will give the boys an idea of what to expect, and will introduce them to the new boys they'll meet. This will ensure that the shock of moving from the top of the ladder in one program to the bottom in another will not be so great.

- Work together in group fund-raising projects.
 - Put on a craft display or a play based on the jungle theme for the Beaver colony.
 - Have senior Cubs and sixers and one or two pack leaders participate in a troop weekend camp.
 - Have the pack join the troop on a tour of some community facility or industry.
 - Invite the troop to your pack meeting to demonstrate compass use, knots for pioneering, or some other aspect of the troop program.
 - Hold a joint campfire with the colony, the troop, or all three sections.
- The main goal is to let your boys get to know the boys from other sections so that they feel a part of a larger family.

Preparing for the Ceremony

Swimming up and going up ceremonies require preparation if they are to take on the air of importance they should. The move is a major transition in the lives of the boys, and the event will involve all the people who are important to them; their friends, their leaders, and their parents.

Here are a few ideas for preparing everyone for his part.

- When the troop leader visits the pack, introduce him to the boys who are going up and ask him to discuss investiture requirements. Arrange for him to invite these boys to a troop night to see what goes on and how they will fit in.

- Visit the colony, meet the Beavers who are swimming up, and arrange for them to visit your pack. Be sure that Keo is involved because he has already formed a friendship with the Beavers.

- In consultation with the troop Scouter, consider having your older Cubs meet the Scout investiture requirements before the going up ceremony. Then investiture can be a part of the ceremony and the boys can go up into the troop as invested Scouts. If you choose this route, the boys should be well-familiar with the troop or they may not feel truly a part of it, even though they are invested as they go up.

- Discuss with the Beaver leaders the possibilities of preparing the older Beavers before the ceremony so that they can be invested at their swimming up. Invite these Beavers to your pack to familiarize them with how it operates. Perhaps Keo can be the one who issues the invitation to the boys.

- If the boys will be invested during the ceremony, make sure they have uniforms prepared beforehand. This could involve sewing on the various identification crests and flashes.

- Be sure that the boys' parents or guardians are aware that the ceremony is an important one for the boys. Make up, or have the boys make up, an impressive formal invitation to take home.

- Plan the ceremony carefully with the other section leaders. Remember it's not a test of a boy's knowledge, skills or readiness. He's already demonstrated those things. The ceremony should be short, simple and sincere. Above all, it must be meaningful to the boys. Include rousing cheers from the boys they are leaving and rousing cheers from the boys they are joining. Use Keo and Kim in the swimming up and going up ceremonies. If investiture is part of the ceremony, let the boy repeat his promise after Scouter. The best of memories fall in the excitement of an important event. A

outdoors

by Gerry Giuliani

This first article originally appeared in the June 1981 issue of Canadian Consumer and is reprinted with permission of the editor of that magazine.

A MATTER OF LIFE AND BREATH

What's the difference between a lifejacket and a personal flotation device (PFD)? Knowing the answer could save your life. Ministry of Transport (MOT) approved lifejackets are categorized as either *Standard* or *Small Vessel* type. The first, which is required on all inspected commercial vessels, is the keyhole or slab type. It is completely reversible and comes in two sizes only, adult and child.

The *Small Vessel* type, to be used on pleasure craft over 8 m (26 ft.), can be a keyhole type or vest. It comes in three sizes based on weight. It has slightly less buoyancy than the *Standard* lifejacket but both types are

designed to turn you to a safe flotation position in the water every time, with the mouth and nose clear of the water. If you are unconscious and your lifejacket doesn't do this, you could drown.

A MOT-approved PFD is for use on pleasure craft under 8 m. Available in various styles and sizes, it is intended for constant wear in the marine environment. A PFD has less buoyancy and turning movement than a lifejacket but will provide flotation for a wearer of the size indicated.

Some PFDs offer greater protection against hypothermia (cooling of the body core) than others, and may increase your survival time in cold water. Some contain useful survival equipment (i.e. a small inflatable raft).

Watch out for one type of PFD using macro-cellular elements (air cells made from inflated envelopes). The manufacturer's approval certificates

for these devices have been withdrawn by the Canadian Coast Guard. Though they are still accepted for use on pleasure craft, the cells have a tendency to pop, the melting point is low (just over 100°C) and, when they burn, they drip fiery slag. You can tell if a PFD contains this material as it is usually inserted into the lifejacket in layers which you can feel.

You are advised to test PFDs in water every few months to ensure that they will still support you. Life saving cushions are permitted on craft not over 5.5 m (18 ft.) and can serve as a buoyant aid or as a throwing device for persons in the water.

If an MOT-approved lifejacket doesn't turn you to a safe flotation position every time, return it to the store as defective. If an MOT-approved PFD doesn't support your weight in water, do the same. But first note the name, manufacturer and lot number and report it to the **Canadian Ministry of Transport, Marine Safety Branch, Tower C, Place de Ville, Ottawa K1A 0N5**. An informative booklet, the *Boating Handbook* (published by the Canadian Coast Guard) is also available from the same address.

CANADIAN RECREATIONAL CANOEING ASSOCIATION (CRCA)

The CRCA is a federation of provincial associate groups which come together in a national body to promote and support recreational canoeing. For canoe enthusiasts within its own jurisdiction, each associate provides a variety of experts, advice and resources.

If you need an instructor to teach canoeing skills, some ideas about where to hold a canoe trip, routes, maps or any other resources, the CRCA or one of its associate groups will be able either to provide them for you or tell you where to get what you need.

At present, the association is actively studying a number of areas: canoe travel; canoeing with disabled persons; ethics and the environment; leadership development; maps and codes; safety and design standards; and canoe excursions.

The CRCA and its associate group in each of our provinces and territories can provide an invaluable resource to help you prepare for your canoe outing. Check out what they can do for you.

Achievements in Canoeing

In *Venturer Log* in the March issue of the *Leader*, Phil Newsome wrote about the *Canoe Travel Handbook* published by the Canadian Recrea-

tional Canoeing Association (CRCA), and included a list of addresses of CRCA's provincial outlets.

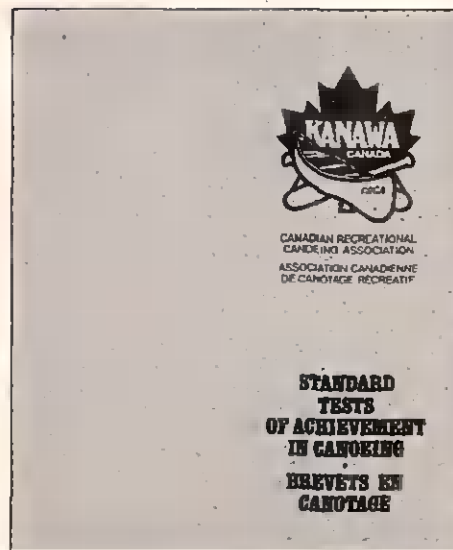
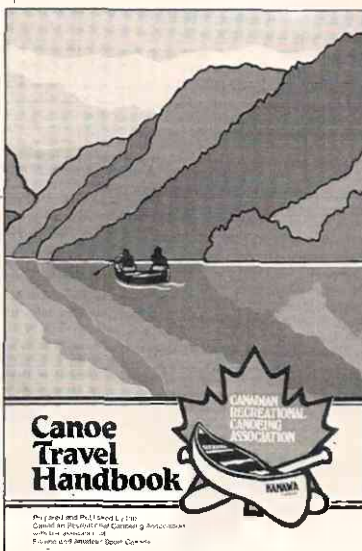
Another useful document developed by the CRCA is *Standard Tests of Achievement in Canoeing*. These tests consist of five levels from novice to master canoeist and, in fact, Boy Scouts of Canada has used the standards in developing its own requirements for canoeing achievement.

You can obtain a set of these standards through one of the CRCA's

associate members. The tests can provide a real challenge to you and your boys.

Although anyone who assumes the function of teaching canoeing is allowed and encouraged to test and pass canoeists on Levels 1, 2, and 3, only certified instructors of the provincial and territorial canoeing associations recognized by the CRCA are authorized to grant levels 4 and 5.

Remember to refer to *Venturer Log* in the March issue for CRCA addresses. A



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