



the **leader**

DECEMBER 1984 VOLUME 15, NUMBER 4

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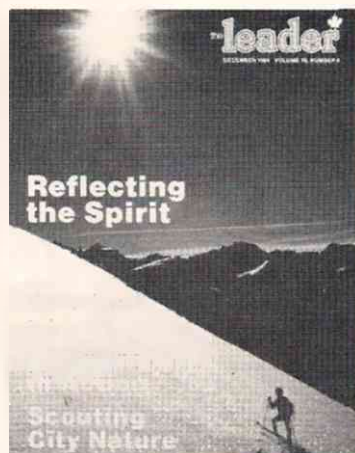
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**COVER:** Peace. Hope. Love: yes, Christmas is a Christian festival, but its spiritual messages speak to people of all religious beliefs all year through. And they shape this issue as leaders show how they make Scouting's spiritual values part of everything they do. There's a look at brotherhood: at understanding and appreciating our differences so that we learn to love and can hope for peace. There's love for nature, the community and outdoors adventure – reflections of our love for God. To all of you: peace, hope and love.

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# the leader

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# The Spiritual Values of Scouting

by Barry Bence

People get more religious as they grow older — true or false?

*False!* Studies show that people are most spiritually turned on at age 10. From then on, their level of good will and their interest in religious activities decline. Obviously, we Scout leaders are in a unique position to support our boys' spiritual development in a way few other youth activities can.

Like it or not, we're always transmitting our spiritual values to our kids. In 1983, I attended the XV World Jamboree as a Lutheran chaplain. One day, I watched while a female Scout leader described her personal opinions of life in language that would have scraped the paint off a naval destroyer. The next day,

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*"Barry, you call that part of the bird a rump."*

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I watched while 30 priests handed out holy communion to over 2,000 young worshippers. In both cases, Scouters were sharing their spiritual beliefs. But which spirit? That's the question.

I remember one of the first camping trips I went on as a boy. My Scoutmaster heard me say one of those descriptive Anglo-Saxon words 12 year olds pick up.

"Barry, you call that part of the bird a rump," he said. And to this day, I still do!

## Passing Along Spiritual Values

The New Testament gives two descriptions of how we ought to pass along spiritual values. We are most effective when we come across as *light* and *salt*.

Light works best when it adds brightness and colour to a scene, not when it floods in so heavily that it blinds us and we close our eyes. Salt should season and preserve, not burn its way into hurts or overpower the food's flavour.

In my experience, we lift up good moral and ethical values when we come

across softly. For instance, my Scout troop once had a problem with profanity. Peer pressures to use "cool" words had turned our meetings and outings into a series of embarrassing moments.

On our next camping trip, I introduced a "new" idea (I found it in one of B.-P.'s books). Anyone who swore would have a pail of cold water poured down his shirt sleeve! The boys all bought the idea and it became a great game as they waited for the first offender.

Wouldn't you know it. I grabbed a hot coffee pot the next morning and, before flag raising, we celebrated our first application of B.-P.'s deodorant — on me! At least I hadn't said the wrong word for rump!

## In Church

Church parades can be a great time to lift up the spiritual dimensions of Scouting. By now, we all should know it's important to plan them "of the boys, by the boys and for the boys", which comes not from Lincoln's Gettysburg address, but from mine.

I used to live in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania and, on Scout Sunday, our Gettysburg troop dutifully sat in the front two pews of our sponsoring con-

gregation. The service is entirely made up of songs, skits and prayers offered by the children.

Because I usually type up the bulletin for this service, I make sure my Beaver colony is last on the program. One year we acted out the story of the good shepherd and the lost sheep. I stood at the front of our Roman Catholic church counting the Beavers as they crawled into the pen. Believe it or not, I actually got drowsy!

Then I discovered one of the rascals wasn't there. The script called for me to find the lost sheep and bring him back. Well, my creative Beaver had hidden himself behind the main altar and everyone but me knew where he was. There's no question we told the story. And everyone heard it!

Our Scout troop dressed up as the characters in the Medical Mission Sisters' song *The Wedding Banquet* with one of my wife's nighties serving as a bridal gown. We even turned one of our patrol leaders into a fairly good-looking cow (he refused to dress up as a bride!), with some cardboard udders and horns.

Someone has wisely called laughter God's special sacrament. Because we were free to laugh, the children heard and shared a Bible story in a way they'll never forget.

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*Because we were free to laugh, the children heard and shared a Bible story in a way they'll never forget.*

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## Called to be Shepherds

Spiritual development is not an option in Scouting; it's a necessity. Without spiritual values, Scouting would collapse as surely as a tripod made with only two legs.

As I type this sentence, I think about some of the books my 9 year old daughter has been bringing home from her school library. These books describe what our kids can expect to find in their world and talk about how to handle these situations.



My daughter and I talk about what the books say. Her books have a lot to say about how to handle your dad's leaving home for another woman; what it feels like when your brother is killed in an accident; how rotten it feels when you think you're ugly; and even, how terrible it is that adults sometimes molest little children.

As Scouters, we're all called to be shepherds. In real life, some terrible

beasts and monsters do lurk in the shadows and we're in a position to make sure our young people don't stray too far off.

I keep a little motto in my journal. It goes like this:

**Count on it. Today, your children saw and heard and thought about everything you said and did. They will probably grow up to be like you, at**

**least to some degree. Will that prove to be their greatest blessing, or a curse?**

*Barry Bence is a Lutheran pastor in Lac du Bonnet, Manitoba, and has been a Scouter for 10 years. X*



# Scouting City Nature

by Ben Kruser

Mention the word "city" and you conjure up images of concrete canyons, smog and industrialized mayhem. We seldom think of urban areas as bastions of pristine nature, but city Scouts live in a special mecca for naturalists. The city environment is filled with thousands of geological specimens, exotic species from around the world, and places where you can discover native wildlife.

Interpreting the natural history of a city can be a difficult task because it means leaders must recognize textbook examples of the outdoors appearing in unusual places. Still, with a little knowledge and pre-planning, finding

nature in cities can be as easy as strolling down a sidewalk.

## Geology

For both strength and beauty, older buildings were made from stone. You can study granite blocks for quartz, hornblende, feldspar and biotite crystals. Limestone and dolomite rocks polish well and are commonly used to face buildings and window ledges. If you examine them closely, you may detect fossil skeletons of early sea creatures, shells and, even, shark's teeth.

By comparing different building materials, you can gain an understand-

ing of rock composition. Crystals are formed when magma cools at different rates, while other rocks result when particles are deposited and compressed.

Find a new highrise building site and look at the foundation hole. Notice the bedrock composition. Igneous rocks, such as basalt, can support different pressure loads than sedimentary rocks like graywacke or shale. Ask the site engineer to explain what considerations must be taken into account because of the stress created by buildings and bridges.

Point out different architectural styles. Should older buildings be re-



*Dark-coloured lichens are slowly wearing away this monument.*



*This cairn is composed of a wealth of different types of rock, including fossil wood.*

moved to make way for more energy-efficient structures, or should they be preserved as part of local history and examples of construction with natural materials?

Check with your university, provincial, federal or museum-based geologist and historian to find the best places to look at local and imported construction stones. Some buildings that house foreign companies include rocks typical of their homeland. Your group may be able to find such stone as serpentine and chert.

What rocks were used to make local monuments? Are they carved from diorite?

Stop at a cemetery and locate different headstone materials. Pre-1800 markers were sometimes made of sandstone or slate. Look at how weathering and chemical breakdown by air pollution, moss and lichens have worn away the engraving. Visit the burial site of a famous forefather (or mother) and discuss that person's role in shaping the city's future. Ask a monument carver to give you a tour that shows the different types of stone and marker symbols.

Look for weathering signs on other stone structures. Limestone is comprised of crystallized calcium carbonate and effervesces when weak hydrochloric acid is applied. Will acid rain (sulphuric acid) corrode stones? If so, who should pay for repairs?

Examine the exposed bedrock in a road cut. Look for formations indicating volcanic activity (granite), shallow seas (shale), or river beds (conglomerate).

Your group can collect samples and list the commercial uses of local stone. With the help of a geologist, you can develop a geology tour of the city or neighbourhood.

## Plant Life

Plants face a real challenge in the city. Paved roads and lots divert rain from the watertable and the air is fetid with noxious fumes. Luckily, some city plants are tolerant of such conditions while others seem to thrive because of the lack of competition.

Trees are a city's blessing. They buffer traffic noise, shade houses during the steamy summer and filter dust from the air, replacing it with clean oxygen. Most important, they add natural beauty to the sterile steel and concrete scenery.

How did trees get into your city? Were they left by early settlers or hand planted? Sycamore, basswood, maples and elm are common hardy city species. Can your group identify others? Develop a guide or run a contest to see who can locate the largest number of different species in the shortest walking distance.

What problems do city trees face? Soil compaction from traffic hinders root growth. Can you find where tree roots have broken the sidewalk? How strong do these roots have to be?

Is there anything special about some of the trees in your city? Sycamores have bark that flakes and unusual seed clusters. The ginkgo dates back 200 mil-

lion years and, because it has changed very little, is called a living fossil.

Many city trees are planted in long rows of single species. How easily can disease spread? Look at the plight of elms and chestnuts. What would be the effect if a pest infected a large monoculture woodlot or grain field? A forest of mixed species makes it harder for disease to spread. Tent caterpillars help prune out old or weak trees by defoliation, but how desirable is that in a city, and when should the city treat pests?

Locate grasses and wildflowers growing in abandoned lots. These are "pioneer" plants. They prefer poor soil that limits competition and, as they continue to spread, they condition the ground so that other plants can grow.

How did the wildflowers get where they are? Examine seeds and their dispersal methods. Could birds have dropped seeds? Is it possible seeds have been encased in mud that drops from out-of-town cars? See how many kinds of leaves your group can find. Clean up a lot and keep track of what new plants appear.

## Animals

We sometimes forget that insects are animals. Where do they live and what are their features? It's not unusual to keep bees in a roof-top hive. See if you can find a city beekeeper, and plan a visit.

Because of the lack of predators, cities abound with larger animals. You can find raccoons, woodchucks, deer and waterfowl living in the grassy strips between highways.

Could city squirrels survive in the country? Could country squirrels survive in the city? What survival pressures are common to city and country wildlife? What different survival pressures do they face?

Where do birds nest in your city? In several western cities, peregrine falcons have adapted to living on skyscraper ledges. These man-made cliffs simulate natural mountainsides and offer the falcons access to abundant prey such as pigeons. Look under bridges and behind large signs for other nests.

## Tracking

Tracks indicate something has passed through the area. Look for oil drops, tire skids, street-sweeper piles, graffiti, shadows and nicks in a telephone pole. Cars leave many tracks, as does the lineman wearing climbing spurs.



*Well-treed cemeteries offer shelter for many migratory birds, and habitat for a variety of animal life.*



Look for city service signs – the hospital, barber, drug store and airport. Track water running down the street to its origin or end. A dent in a car indicates something hit it. Can you guess what?

City snow tracks are great fun. The tracks illustrated here were found in 15-cm deep snow. Can your group identify them?

Track A is usually found alongside two thin, parallel lines. It's made by the tip and basket of a cross-country ski pole.

Track B, also a continuous track, is made by a bicycle with pedals hitting the snow.

You only find track C on certain days. It's left when you put the trash can out for pickup.

What other unusual tracks can you find in your city?

animals leave these corridors (for example, when gulls sit on an airport runway)?

If it has one, visit the park's nature centre, or meet with an environmental designer to discuss park planning.

Botanical gardens offer opportunities to see plants from all around the world. Notice the variety of colours, leaf shapes, height. Look for other differences. Why do some plants have large fronds and others spines? How does climate control plant growth? How do plants affect animals?

Well-kept cemeteries often contain wildlife-attracting plants. Because fewer people visit cemeteries than parks, your group is likely to find more species on a walk in a cemetery. Get involved. Enhance an old cemetery by planting flowering and fruit-bearing shrubs.

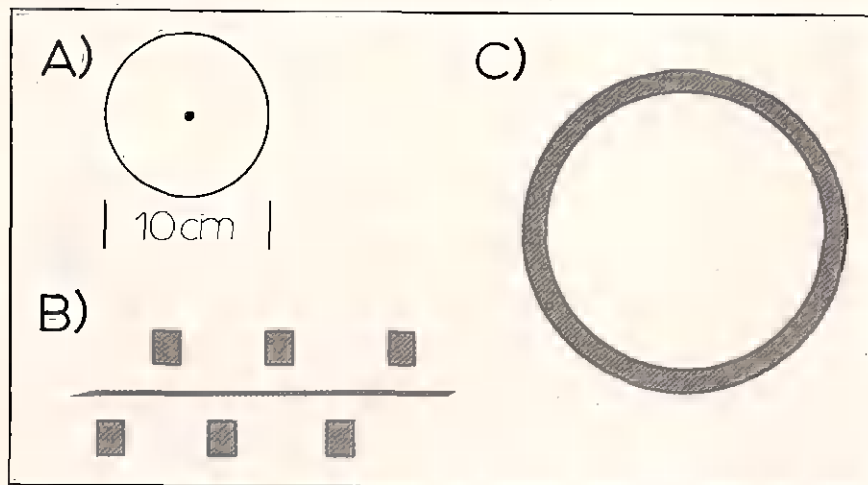
familiar with the building's general layout and up-front content. Ask the group what they would like to find out more about. Among the hundreds of ideas are birds of prey, fossils or arrowheads and antique tools.

Contact the museum to see if they have a staff member in charge of educational tours. Develop ideas around a theme that fits into your program. By doing this, you can avoid distracting detours during your visit and give the boys a goal to work towards.

Before you go, make a pre-tour visit yourself. Study your plan guide and learn what is there so that you can prepare questions to expand the boys' observational skills and increase their understanding of what they see. The most useful questions are those that draw out answers by leading them to piece together information.

If your boys have never been to a museum, avoid the temptation to show them everything at once. Instead, tour a specific area of common interest. This way, you avoid boring them and keep alive their desire to return. Museums are usually happy to put together a "discovery box" in which the boys will find several study skins, fossils, bones, artifacts and other items to keep them occupied and interested.

The city can be an exciting place in which to discover nature. By teaching boys to appreciate their surroundings, you will be encouraging civic pride and a sense of responsibility to the community, now and in the future. X



## Parks & Gardens

Local green spaces provide an opportunity for boys to see wildlife in a natural setting. Discuss the importance of parks as recreational areas for city residents. Is studying nature a "recreation"?

Locate rock outcrops and compare the weathering effects you see to those you found when you looked at buildings. Can you locate gouges that indicate glaciation? And what are those smooth circular grooves you see in some rocks? A drill bit maybe? How difficult would it have been to break the rock by hand?

Look for signs of the bird and animal life that lives in the park. How do these natural creatures avoid people? If your park includes a lake, you can try ponding in the shallows.

How do animals travel in the city? Discuss road sides and parks in terms of travel corridors. What happens when

Present-day zoo philosophy puts animals in natural environmental settings instead of confining them in barred cages. Discuss the adaptations of these animals to their native habitat and their needs in captivity. Avoid penitentiary-style zoos, which often create health problems for their animals.

## Museums

A museum trip is one of the hardest for a leader to plan and conduct, but it gives the best learning experience in the shortest time.

Because a natural history museum is nature condensed into a building, it's easy to become overwhelmed with information. This can quickly reduce a potentially exciting visit to bored window-staring, but you can follow some basic steps to avoid such a happening.

Because schools use museums often, chances are your older boys will be

## Resources

*A Walker's Guide to the Geology of San Francisco*, California Division of Mines and Geology, 1966; Mineral Information Service Bulletin Vol. 19, No. 11, Ferry Building, San Francisco, Ca. 94111. (Write for a publication listing first.)

*Geology of Saskatchewan*, A. Gorden, 1979; Western Extension College Educational Publications, Saskatoon: 68 pages

*Lucky Toronto with its Ravines*, R. Hall, 1984; Canadian Geographic, Vol. 104, No. 33, pp 8-17

*The City Issue*, 1983; Nature Study, Vol. 36, Nos. 3 & 4; American Nature Study Society



Last year you threw a party – invited parents and friends for songs, games, food and a visit with Santa. Or you went Christmas carolling and finished with goodies at the meeting hall. Perhaps you simply attended a special Christmas service at your sponsor's church.

This Christmas, how will your section or group celebrate? Are you ready for something different – something that combines the spiritual meaning of Christmas and all the fun of the season with an insight into the customs of another land? The Christmas fiesta celebrated in Mexico and parts of Southern California may be just what you're looking for.

*Las Posadas.* It's a Mexican word for "lodgings" and a beloved Christmas tradition in Mexican villages. The fiesta begins with a candlelit procession of "pilgrims" re-creating the part of the Christmas story in which Mary and Joseph search for lodgings in overcrowded Bethlehem. Carrying statues of Mary and Joseph and softly singing carols, the pilgrims, friends and relatives who have gathered for the occasion, move slowly down the street. They stop at a house and sing:

*We arrive here, tired from our long journey,*

*And ask for lodging.*

*We are poor pilgrims, looking for a home*

*In this strange country.*

The people at the house come out to listen, and reply:

*Who comes to our door on such a bad night*

*To bother us?*

*There is no place to stay here.*

*The hour is late and there is no place.*

The pilgrims move on to a second house, where the scene is repeated. Finally, they stop at a third house where they are welcomed with the words:

*Come in, pilgrims*

*How fortunate is the house that welcomes*

*The pure Virgin, the beautiful Maria.*

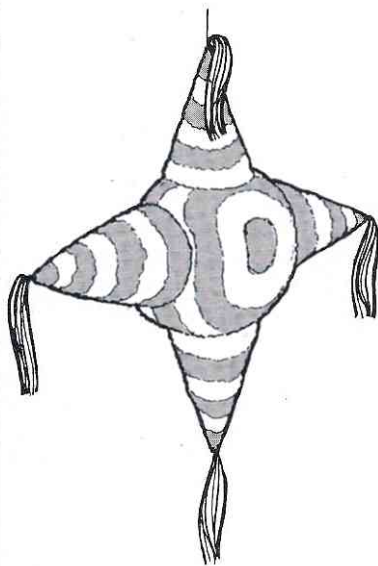
The pilgrims troop inside, place the figures of Mary and Joseph in the home's nativity scene, and gather for mass delivered by the parish priest. When the mass is over, the fun begins. Everybody watches as blindfolded children take turns swinging a stick at the silver star-shaped piñata (three swings each while the others coach from the sidelines: "Higher... Lower!"). When a tumble of sweets, nuts and confetti and a mad scramble for the loot signals success, it's time for the feast, traditional dishes supplied by the celebrants. Singing, dancing and

general merriment continue until it's time to say, "*Buenos noches y Feliz Navidad* – Good night, and Merry Christmas."

Can you see the possibilities? Craft work, carolling, story-telling...

Whether enacted in a Mexican village or in Canada, *Las Posadas* obviously requires planning. You could stage the whole thing inside, using corners of the hall or different rooms in the

## The Christmas Fiesta



by Linda Florence

building as "inns", but how much better if you take it into the streets of your neighbourhood. If it's a section celebration, the inn that welcomes the pilgrims might well be the home of one of your boys or leaders but, particularly if you celebrate as a group, the meeting hall is probably the most appropriate final stop.

Like the Mexicans do, make the fiesta a potluck so that nobody is stuck with all the cooking. Perhaps leaders or parents who have favourite Mexican recipes will prepare some of the dishes served at the traditional fiesta – *enchiladas*, *tacos*, *tamales* and *buñuelo*, a sweet dessert tortilla.

Plan a route with the meeting hall as a start and finish point. Ask two families to volunteer their houses as the inns that turn the pilgrims away. Give them a simple script – the words of the pilgrims and their reply, and invite them to join the procession after they've played their parts.

Post some leaders at the meeting hall where your other guests will gather to help set out the food and welcome the pilgrims. Invite the group padre to lead a Christmas service, or ask your Scouts or Venturers to prepare an appropriate Scouts' Own.

Getting ready for the fiesta offers all sections weeks of program ideas. Tell the Christmas story from the Bible and a story of a Mexican boy's first *Las Posadas*. Practise Christmas carols to sing en route including, if possible, a simple carol in Spanish. Learn the pilgrims' words and set them to a simple chant. Make things.

Candles may be too dangerous for everyone to carry while they walk, but younger members can make safe lanterns by decorating paper bags with traditional Christmas symbols and securing them over the end of flashlights with elastic bands or masking tape. Older members might make torches.

Making the nativity scene, including the Mary and Joseph figures to carry, is a major craft project adaptable to all age levels. It can be a simple cardboard and paper construction, or an elaborate affair of wood and papier mâché. If you are church sponsored, perhaps your church will lend you crèche figures to place in a manger scene made by the boys.

The boys can also make piñatas, but you might want to save this for yourselves to surprise them. If you'll have a lot of kids of different ages, consider making two – one for the smaller boys and another for Scouts and Venturers. Again, they can be simple decorated paper bags, or elaborate papier mâché works of art.

Perhaps you want a tree as well. Decorate it with God's Eyes boys make from craft sticks and different colours and textures of wool yarn. Streamers, wall and table decorations with a Mexican flair – the possibilities offer plenty of scope for hands of all sizes.

In Mexico and Mexican villages of Southern California, as in Canada, Christmas means Santa, turkey dinner, decorated trees and brightly wrapped presents. But it also means *Las Posadas*, and *Las Posadas* makes it something extra special. Make your Christmas celebrations something special this year. *Feliz Navidad.* X

# Epiphany & Other January Extras

by David Goss

In many parts of the world, Christmas celebrations extend well into the New Year but North Americans, seeming eager to be done with the season, wrap it all up on Boxing Day. It's unfortunate because there's a nice celebration on Epiphany, January 6—the 12th day of Christmas in the old carol.

Jan. 6 is said to be when the kings arrived with their tributes to the baby Jesus. In Europe, it has always been a special day of dramatic presentations, gift giving, feasting and fooling and, in a throwback to childhood, riding about on hobby-horses.

In times past, people often played jokes on each other—especially jokes with foods, like baking a pie filled with frogs (remember the story of four and 20 blackbirds?). Lords and ladies pelted each other with rose-water filled eggshells. Men arrived home to find doors and windows boarded up while, inside, the ladies cooked the meal. If the men guessed what was roasting on the spit, they were admitted to join the feast. A large cake containing a “bean” generally was part of the banquet fare. The person who got the bean with his serving became “King” or “Monarch” for the day and, until the clock struck 12, was in charge of the law-making, games and fun.

In all of this, I'm sure you can see a great opening program for January that will carry your Christmas festivities into the new year and make your boys eager to come back after the traditional Christmas break.

At your last meeting in December, warn them the hall will be locked on January 6 (or your meeting night near that date) and, to be admitted, they will

have to sniff the aroma in the night air and guess what's cooking. Set up a winter barbecue with hamburgers on the grill or hotdogs they can cook themselves. Let all the boys in, of course, whether or not they guess what's cooking. After you eat the food, cut and serve the “bean” cake, and crown the bean finder. As a craft project for the evening, all boys can make themselves a crown, but have the leaders present a special crown to the “King”.

For games, you might include relays riding cardboard hobby-horses, egg tossing (hard-boiled), and a waiter's race where the boys carry tennis balls on pie-plate trays.

Another idea is to have the “King” direct his subjects to suggest program ideas for coming meetings—a good way to work boy input into your planning.

Conclude the evening in one of two ways. You might have the boys dramatize the visit of the three kings (borrow costumes from the Sunday School pageant), using John Hopkin's well-known hymn *We Three Kings of Orient Are* or one of many other poems written about the wise men. You may prefer to close by reading all or part of the moving story, *The Other Wise Man* by Henry VanDyke, preferably in the glow of an artificial campfire.

On or around this date, you might also remember that the three kings were astronomers or, at least, very skilled sky watchers. Take the opportunity to visit an observatory or invite in an amateur astronomer who is willing to show your boys the night sky in winter. Your astronomer might also explain the many theories scientists have developed to explain the “Star of wonder. Star of

night. Star with royal beauty bright”. These scientific speculations, rather than disputing the bible's story, make it all the more plausible.

## St. Distaff's Day

If Epiphany seems too much like a continuation of Christmas when you've had enough, consider welcoming the New Year with a celebration of St. Distaff's Day on January 7. Actually, there has never been a saint named Distaff. The distaff is a tool used in spinning, part of almost every day's work in the times when the loom was the source of material for all a family's clothing.

St. Distaff's Day marked the end of the holidays and the time to return to work. But, as indicated by the old jingle “Partly work and partly play, Ye must on St. Distaff's Day”, it urged workers to resume their ordinary chores gradually after feasting for the 12 days of Christmas.

So, on Jan. 7 the men returned to their field and woodland chores and the women to their weaving, but they only worked half as hard as usual. If, on return from their labours, the men found the women had woven too much, they often burned the excess and destroyed the distaff in the flames. Sometimes, accidentally, they also burned down the cottage and sometimes the lady in question lost her life as well.

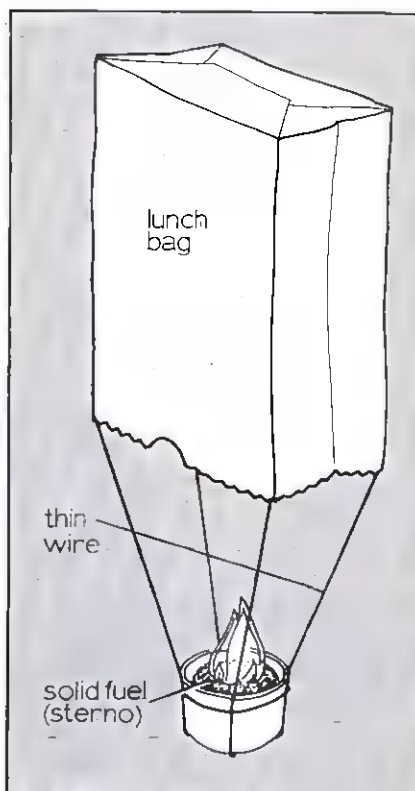
Fortunately, these customs have died, but you can celebrate the day by remembering to make a positive start on your first night back without working too hard. You might tie in the whole idea of St. Distaff's Day by inviting a weaver who will demonstrate the craft and weave something so that each boy can attach a sample to his woggle. Alternately, the boys might do their own simple weaving on a basic loom (see diagram).

Because fire was a part of St. Distaff's Day, a demonstration of fire building and fire lighting skills might be in order. There are many ideas: make some egg-carton fire-starters; cut fuzz sticks; demonstrate commercial fire lighters; show alternatives to open fires, such as sterno stoves or simple tin can stoves with wax burners. Make a simple stove to use, along with fire-starters and fuzz sticks, on a winter hike. It's a great way to give your boys a good evening on St. Distaff's Day at the same time as you let them know it's time to get on with the game of Scouting.





Robbie Maguire proudly wears a "King" crown, easily made from coloured construction paper, as part of Epiphany celebrations.



## Balloon Ascension Day

Frenchman François Blanchard made the first flight in North America in Philadelphia on January 9, 1793. Mark this day by constructing hot air balloons like the one shown in the diagram. Find a safe location and see if you can launch them successfully. You can augment this activity with a "Things that Fly" program and include paper airplanes of various descriptions, parachutes, frisbee tossing contests, boomerangs and the like.

## St. Paul's Day

Like the better known St. Swithin's Day in mid-July, St. Paul's Day, January 21, was considered special for weather forecasting. People believed they could predict weather conditions for the coming months on the basis of the weather on Jan. 21. Let your boys test the idea by recording the weather conditions hourly on St. Paul's Day and then keeping records through the remainder of the winter to check against.

This will be all the more interesting if they construct a weather station as part of your meeting on or near January 21. They'll find illustrations of what they need on pages 226-227 of the *Canadian Scout Handbook* (3rd edition). You can also obtain plans for simple weather instruments from government meteorological services.

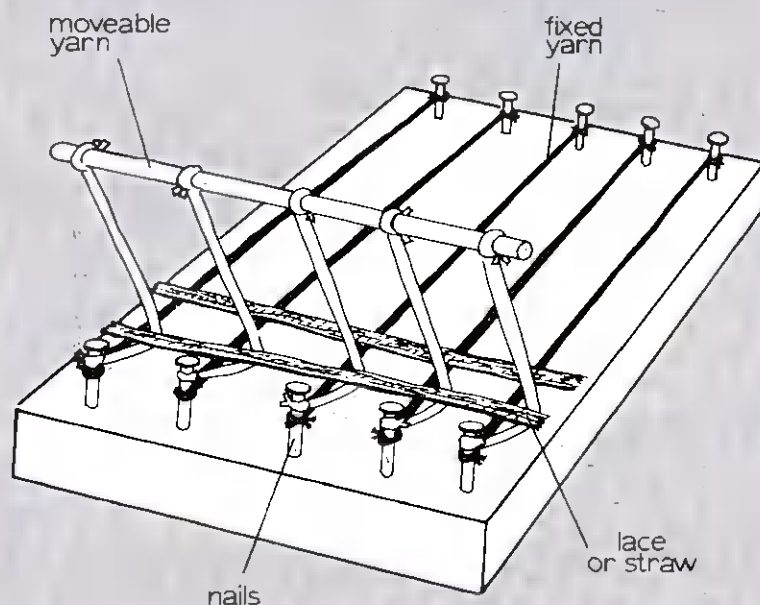
Perhaps you can invite a weatherman to your meeting to discuss local weather patterns. Follow up with a Saturday visit to the weather station for a first-hand look at how weathermen work.

## Carnation Day

Carnations are hardly natural phenomena in Canada on January 29. At that time of year, most of our carnations are imports from South America. As a sign that spring is coming, won't mothers of your Beavers or Cubs be surprised to receive a flower in late January? Carnation Day gives you a good chance to visit a local greenhouse where, with help, boys can make a small corsage to carry home. The outing will give them not only a surprise for mom, but also an early look at what's growing for Valentine's Day, Easter and spring planting time. They'll likely find their discoveries very surprising.

As an alternative, boys can make tissue carnations at the meeting hall. Just remember that it will be second best, and second best isn't good enough if we want to keep them enthusiastic through the weary wintery month of January. X

## Simple Loom



# 219th Toronto Venturers Yukon or Bust

by Bob Millar



*The Dempster*

All Venturer companies set themselves goals for the year's activities and the 219th Toronto is no exception. The topic of future plans came up during our week's camp in the summer of '82. I made a casual comment that started them thinking and the Venturers set themselves a single goal for the '82/83 Scouting year.

Their one objective was "to drive the Dempster Highway in the Yukon and North West Territories". What made it so challenging is that the highway happens to be at the very northern tip of mainland Canada and is, without question, the most rugged and demanding 720 km of road anywhere in North America. In all, the undertaking would mean driving a 16,000 km round trip from Toronto. That the Venturers met their objective is a credit to their detailed study of their proposed undertaking, careful preparations, skills in camping, navigation and truck repair, and dedication.

## Getting Ready

The company centered the year's activities around preparations. Each Venturer volunteered to take responsibility for one specific task before and during the trip: treasurer, Q.M., equipment, navigation and records. Success depended upon everyone's doing his job effectively.

Through fall and winter, the Venturers split and sold firewood to raise funds. They obtained tourist and camping information from all the provinces and territories they would cross and spent considerable time planning exact routes and schedules, down to the details of where they would find campgrounds with laundry and shower facilities.

We held meetings with officials from the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs to learn about conditions we might encounter, and talked to people who had travelled the route in the past —



*A July 1 snowball fight on Mt. Edith Cavell, Jasper National Park.*



*Dawson Creek, B.C.*

valuable sources of information. Through letters to Scouting and church groups in western and northern Canada, we set up contacts who not only made the trip more enjoyable, but saved us the odd dollar as well.

By spring, we were ready for detailed preparation of camping gear and the vehicle — a 12 passenger Dodge Maxivan. We modified the van by installing various pieces of ham radio gear and mounting a large storage box on the roof. The box, nicknamed "the Wedge", carried all personal gear in one compartment and all spare truck equipment in another.

Our truck equipment included four spare tires; pullies, chains and winches to pull the van out of ditches; five ton jacks; and enough spare parts and emergency gear to handle all the possible troubles we could imagine meeting on a deserted highway. As it happened, we needed very little of this gear, but the





*Exploring en route: Yoho National Park.*

preparations made everyone much more aware of the difficulties that could occur.

Finally, we enlisted a good mechanic to give the van a complete "physical" so that we were confident we'd done all we could to minimize potential mechanical problems. During this time, the Venturers also honed their camping skills, finalized menus, agreed upon duty rosters and set budgets.

## Getting There

On June 19, Venturers John Oakes, Doug Garrie, Paul Martin, Blair MacNeill and Jamie Barltrop, Scouts Ian Eldergill and Alex Williams, and yours truly, who came along only to drive, headed out of Toronto after the morning service at All Saints' Anglican Church and a big lunch provided by the parents. Camping in provincial parks en route, we reached Calgary in six days. After another three days in the Yoho Valley and some more time hiking and camping in Jasper National Park, the group was well into the routine of travel camping.

We headed north and west until you can't go north or west any further by highway in Canada. The Alaska Highway to the Yukon starts at Dawson Creek, B.C. The rough road, construction work and remoteness of the territory made for some nervous driving and we took breaks at Fort Saint John

and Fort Nelson, B.C. Rain made our side trip to Skagway, Alaska a disappointment but skies cleared as we set up camp "on the marge of Lake LeBarge" north of Whitehorse, Yukon Territory.

Now well beyond anything resembling paved road, we followed the Klondike Highway to the Dawson City gold fields, where we did find some gold, but not enough to pay for the trip. For two days, we camped beside the Yukon River to rest up for the gruelling days to come. After 6,000 km and 10 months preparation, we were ready to tackle our objective.

## The Dempster

Kilometre 0 of the Dempster Highway starts at a gas station/restaurant just east of Dawson City. Completed in 1979 as a "resource development road", the highway wasn't designed for light cars, but our big brown van was up to the task. Our average speed was 40 km/h with short bursts up to 60 km/h for the rare event of passing another vehicle.

Extra jerry cans of gas enabled the van to make it to Eagle Plains, where the highway's one and only gas station charged 73¢ a litre. After refuelling, we wheeled across the Arctic Circle, up the Richardson Mountains and down the other side to Pelly River and into the Mackenzie Delta. The paved road which led us the last 5 km into Inuvik, N.W.T., Canada's most northerly main-

land settlement, was a welcome surprise after two days of bouncing along the Dempster.

Camping in the far north is like nothing you meet back home. Pitching tents on solid rock or spongy muskeg is a challenge, to say the least. Permafrost lies only a few centimetres below the surface and you can feel the cold seep up through your sleeping bag. And then, there are the mosquitoes. They don't call them the "Inuvik Airforce" for nothing!

Cold rain and overcast skies marred our few days in Inuvik, although the midnight sun poked through the cloud cover one night. On the other hand, because we arrived during the town's 25th anniversary celebrations, we had an excellent opportunity to sample northern hospitality to its fullest. Jack Darling of the 1st Inuvik Scout Troop took us under his wing, showed us a great time, and helped us arrange supplies for our return trip.

## Homeward Bound

Once you've travelled the Dempster one way, the return trip feels like a breeze, but nature continues to wear down bodies and equipment. Our only flat tire occurred within sight of the end of the Dempster and the "pit crew" had a chance to show off their 12 minute record time to unload the van, change the tire, reload and get underway again. In Whitehorse we needed major work done on the differential and amateur radio colleagues rallied to our aid, turning a potential disaster into a really enjoyable visit with some warm and wonderful people.

We celebrated the end of the gravel roads with a truck-washing party in Fort Saint John and, back on smooth highway with a good tail wind, found the return drive to Ontario easy rolling. On Aug. 2, an exuberant but tired group pulled up at All Saints' Church—exactly 44 days and 16,206 km after departing that same point.

During the course of the trip, the Venturers camped a large chunk of Canada, hiked spectacular countryside, talked to people of many different backgrounds and drove on the worst roads the continent has to offer. That they survived it all with tremendous flair and a bounce for life says much about their resourcefulness and character. Now, what do we do for an encore?

Does anyone know of a road to Labrador? X

*Bob Millar is a troop Scouter and Venturer advisor with the 219th Toronto.*

## Baden-Powell Guide/Scout Rally '84

# Scouting-Past, Present & Striving into the Future

by Linda Florence

If you haven't already blocked your calendar for Scout/Guide Week, Feb. 17-24, 1985, do it now. After all, if you haven't yet marked the dates, you probably haven't yet thought about the wonderful things you can do to celebrate Scouting during its special week.

In Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, the week has long been highlighted by an annual Baden-Powell Guide/Scout Rally involving district groups from both movements and many community organizations supportive of Scouting and Guiding. When Scouter Joe Henwood sent in a report of last year's highly successful rally, we thought it was an excellent way to pass along ideas groups everywhere can use to increase a community's interest in and support of Scouting and Guiding.

A district-wide poster contest for youth members of the two movements launched effective publicity for the week and the rally. The submitted posters decorated store windows and brightened up four public display areas in the city. Some of them appeared at the Post Office, where the display area featured Scouting stamps from around the world and mementos from the XV World Jamboree in the Kananaskis Valley, Alberta. Other posters appeared with a display of Scouting books and

mementos from previous world jamborees at City Hall. Still others promoted Scouting's sections and activities in the downtown shopping mall.

The Historical Museum in the city invited Scouts and Guides to bring in old uniforms, pictures and badges, and arranged them in a display to show how the movements have grown and developed through the years. With Scouting and Guiding in the public eye all through the community, interest and enthusiasm swelled for the huge Rally that would wind up the week.

On Sunday, Feb. 19, the simply curious and the parents, friends and supporters of 1,000 Scouts, Guides and leaders packed the Baden-Powell Rally at the Sault Ste. Marie Armory. They



*Spectacular centrepiece built by the 19th Korah Venturers. Only the brave tackled the rope bridge strung between this 5.5 m tower and its twin.*



*"From the Opening Ceremonies to the Closing Campfire, the young people of Sault Ste. Marie were involved."*



came to see what Scouting and Guiding were up to, and to learn more about their programs. They weren't disappointed.

Two 5.5 metre (18') towers connecting a rope bridge stood in the middle of the drill floor, courtesy of the lashing skills of the 19th Korah West Venturers. It was a spectacular centerpiece for a hall full of colourful and fascinating displays.

At the back of the Armory, the Coureurs de Bois Society assembled a 3.5 metre (12') shelter manned by appropriately costumed and equipped coureurs de bois. The Northern Ontario represen-

tative for the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme set up a display to explain the purpose of the program and provide general information. Both the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Ministry of Correctional Services had displays explaining how they might help Scouting and Guiding groups in their activities. Parks Canada's display featured the historical Sault Canal and various programs the parks system can offer Scouting and Guiding groups.

Around the hall, the Sault Ste. Marie Ham Radio Club set up several stations which Scouts, Guides and leaders kept constantly in use. This increasingly active club has enabled more and more groups to learn about ham radio and become involved in Jamboree-On-The-Air, World Scouting's annual October radio-wave get-together, Scouter Henwood says.

At Scout and Guide booths, visitors

saw examples of section activities, model campsites and badge work. One group showed off crystal radio sets made by their boys. Other displays featured Rovering, Cuborees and the XV World Jamboree. The district Water Activities Coordinator arranged to have the Sault Scuba Club and various water equipment suppliers on hand with scuba gear, kayaks and sail boards.

"From the Opening Ceremonies to the Closing Campfire (climaxed by a volley of rifle shots from exuberant coureurs de bois), the young people of Sault Ste. Marie were involved," says Scouter Henwood. "The Rally has developed a more involved Scouting/ Guiding program within the district, and the spirit of our founder and the aims and objectives of Boy Scouts continue to grow. Our leaders and youth have caught the Scouting Spirit, and our society will be better because of it."



Waiting for the crowds: information to supplement on-going demonstration.



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# A Brilliant Idea

by John Sweet

A few years ago, the YMCA Scout Association in Sweden employed a public relations consultant to advise them on how to extend their field of lay support. He took one hard look at the movement and told them they had it made. No problem. Most organizations, he said (and I was there when he said it), would give their eye teeth to have such a catchment area of interested and involved people at their disposal.

He was, of course, referring to the moms and dads of the membership.

This raises the question: what steps have you taken lately to tap this inexhaustible supply of goodwill? How, for instance, do you keep in personal touch with individual members of your Scout families?

One way would be to get each patrol to compile its own secret dossier of family events so that, on important anniversary dates through the year — birthdays, weddings and other historic occasions — suitably inscribed cards of greeting or congratulation, plus postage, could be provided from group funds. The expense would be small; the percentage, in the shape of parental good will, terrific; the training value, in the niceties of social behaviour, beyond computation.

No, no. Please don't embarrass us by saying thank you for this brilliant idea. Just get on with it, bearing in mind if you will, that our own birthday occurs next year on March 29. Picture postcards only, please, but *no vulgarity*.

## Speed Trivia

Speed — speed for its own sake — has a strange fascination for immature minds such as my own and, maybe, for the minds of your patrol leaders too. You could find out by raising the subject during the coffee break at the next meeting of their council.

You might kick off by asking them a few simple questions to which you alone know the answers. For instance, which is the speedier over the ground, a racehorse or a greyhound? Do wireless waves travel at the speed of light, or what? Which flies faster, an eagle or a

swallow? Does sound travel more quickly through air, through water or along a steel rail? They will, of course, be completely clueless, and it will give you deep personal satisfaction to enlighten them.

Know then that, at full stretch, a racehorse does about 30 mph while a greyhound in prime condition can do 56. Wireless waves travel at the speed of light, which means that, in a single second, they go more than seven times around the earth. (Get them to work it out for themselves. Speed of light 186,000 miles per second. Circumference of earth 25,000 miles.) Swallows fly at more than twice the speed of eagles, covering 148 mph to the larger bird's 69.

Does sound travel more quickly through air, water or along a steel rail? You might think it would travel faster when unimpeded, but the fact is that water is a better conductor of sound than air, while a steel railway line will carry sound not only faster but further.

## Thoughts for the Month

- Scouting isn't for every boy, only for those who want to be Scouts. That's probably why Scouters are able to get away with it.

- Nothing succeeds like success. That's why lost causes are necessary for the survival and eventual triumph of the human spirit. X





# Wisdom from the Grab-Bag

by Gerry Giuliani

At times, meeting **Leader** deadlines means the sudden realization: "My gosh, Paksak is due today!" To help when deadlines creep up on me, I keep a grab-bag file of "useful material that might go into a *Paksak*". This month, the file came in handy.

This grab-bag offering isn't original. In fact, I've had to change some expressions because they went out of date almost 20 years ago. Nevertheless, it outlines a good formula for running a successful pack. Some things change very little, and these 20 year old guidelines are just as important today. To fit them to our times, we may need to change how we put them to use, but we can easily adapt them all to today's needs. At the very least, they give us ideas to chew on. Let me know what you think.

## Elements of a Good Pack Program

1. Action, Variety, Purpose
2. An enthusiastic, trained Cubmaster using assistants and parents
3. A year-round program that includes family participation
4. Opportunities for: individual growth and learning; recognition through ceremonies; service through good-will projects; exploration of community and neighbourhood; outdoor activity; imagination; close family relationships
5. Anticipation and inspiration
6. Involvement of many people
7. Regular parent participation in pack meetings
8. Parents working with their sons on achievements
9. Activities directed by Cubmaster and assistants
10. Cubs and leaders correctly uniformed
11. Long-range planning: adopt themes (special activities, special events); coordinate events and training with assistants
12. Monthly pack leaders' meetings
13. Activities that carry over into the home

14. Properly kept record books
15. A program that uses all eight program elements during the pack year (my addition)

## Elements of a Good Pack Meeting

1. Led by a trained Cubmaster with responsibilities delegated to assistants, Cub instructors and parents
2. Detailed, well-planned, written program with time schedule. Copies of the program in hands of all people responsible for leadership
3. Orderly meetings, opened and closed on time and run without delays (an hour and a quarter is about the right duration for a pack meeting)
4. Activities related to the next pack meeting
5. Adequate, clean, safe meeting place where Cubs feel at home
6. Good attendance of Cubs
7. All Cubs and leaders in clean, neat, complete uniforms
8. Well-conducted ceremonies for openings and closings, awards, graduations and investitures
9. Evidence of parents' participation at awards, graduations and investitures
10. Charts on display (if possible)
11. Opportunities for self-expression through songs, games, crafts
12. Activities that contribute to good sportsmanship, team spirit and citizenship
13. All equipment and supplies on hand, ready to use, before meeting begins
14. Informed parents, alert to how they can help
15. Cubs having fun, during the meeting and while they gather
16. Crafts and projects related to a theme
17. Activities and projects to encourage Scouting ideals

## Danger Signs

1. Excessive leader turnover
2. Programs unrelated to a theme
3. Handicraft unrelated to a theme
4. Pack meetings built around "outside" entertainment
5. Month-to-month planning
6. Pack meetings with delays, indecision, weak leadership
7. Poor parent attendance at pack meetings
8. Rapid turnover of Cubs

## Suggested Activities

### Fall

*Family:* attend a football game; make a leaf collection; keep lawn clear of leaves; build bird-feeding stations

*Pack:* play touch football; do a Halloween program; hold campfires with parents; have kite-flying contests; make a pilgrimage to a historic spot; visit an industrial plant; throw a pack and troop wiener roast

### Winter

*Family:* have a skating party; tend bird-feeding stations; take Cubs to visit mom's or dad's place of business

*Pack:* build a snowman or ice igloo; have a snow fight; hold a sledding party; go ice skating; collect toys for Christmas toy drives

### Spring

*Family:* plant a vegetable garden; plant bulbs for Mother's day; build or sail boats; go on a fishing trip; look after the lawn; visit old Indian camping grounds to look for relics; build model airplanes at home and fly them outdoors; make garden tools; construct a golf target

*Pack:* visit greenhouses; take a trip to the airport; collect early spring flowers; hold a field day; have a soapbox derby; plant trees; hold an Easter egg roll or hunt

### Summer

*Family:* picnic; fish; camp overnight in the back yard; visit provincial parks; cook out in the back yard; visit a zoo; discuss Cubs' and parents' achievements

*Pack:* hold family picnics; have family swimming parties; take a trip to a nearby lake or river; play a softball game; visit nearby farms or city; have a treasure hunt X

# Recruiting Volunteers

by Stephen Breen

In Scouting, recruiting volunteers has always been an ongoing task. At times, recruiting the "right person for the right job" has seemed to be an impossible goal. Today, more than ever, the way we approach the recruitment of adults is most important. Because of changes in society, economic conditions and other factors, we must apply a high degree of skill to recruit the people we need.

Scouting needs top volunteers while an ever-expanding number of voluntary organizations has increased the demands for volunteers in general. The competition is stiff. It's important for recruiters to understand the individual motivations, needs and interests of each potential volunteer so that they can match them with the needs of the organization. Every volunteer is different.

## Things Have Changed

One of the major changes in society that affects recruitment for Scouting is our increasing mobility. People no longer settle into one home for a lifetime. In fact, most of us will probably live in two or three different towns or cities over the years. This means that, once we have volunteers, we need to keep track of them through all their moves so that Scouting doesn't lose them. A *Mobile Memo* form, available from Scout offices, is a useful tool for this purpose.

Our society is not only geographically "on the move" more than ever in the past. Today, it's becoming common for people to have more than one career in a lifetime. This also has an impact on Scouting because it means changes in the needs of individuals or their available time for volunteer work.

Trends toward more temporary commitments also affect recruitment and raise some interesting questions for voluntarism. How do these trends affect voluntary organizations that seek long-term commitments? Has the meaning of long-term changed? Does it mean three years or 10 years? Can

Scouting cope with temporary commitments? Gone are the days when, upon recruitment, we implied that the volunteer was signing up for life!

Other things have changed as well. Today, people who are vital active volunteers making positive contributions are not prepared to have decisions made for them. They want to be involved in decisions that affect what they are doing and, from an organization's perspective, they need to be involved. The emphasis, more and more, is placed on team effort — people working together. This also means a closer working relationship between volunteers and staff.

Scouting will not survive if we work in isolation. We need to work with each other more effectively at all levels of the organization if we are to be successful and if volunteers are to achieve personal satisfaction.

Which brings up another point. The source of personal satisfaction is also an area that has changed in our society. Increased automation and other impersonal working conditions can mean that work no longer provides meaningful satisfaction and people have more non-work time. In some cases, their expectations are out of step with today's reality and so they search for new ways to achieve personal satisfaction. They are looking for stimulation, status, prestige, friendship, and a chance to acquire new work experience and use new skills.

## Some Things Never Change

Of course, some things haven't changed. When they volunteer, adults are not seeking monetary returns. Even today, it's true that, if they were asked, more people would offer their services. And, now as in the past, more people volunteer when they're offered meaningful roles rather than "joe jobs".

In attempting to get and keep volunteers, we need to plan. We need to plan for recruitment, selection, placement, orientation, training, recognition and supervision. It's not an easy task and never has been but, today as in the past, we'll continue to develop our skills in these areas.

Do we have job descriptions for all current positions? Do we have a list of future positions and future vacancies we'll need filled? Do we place a time expectation on all positions? Do we try to rotate jobs or make routine jobs more interesting? Are we using several methods to recruit new people? Have we considered other organizations, such as volunteer bureaus, to help us in recruiting? Do we match the job to the person?

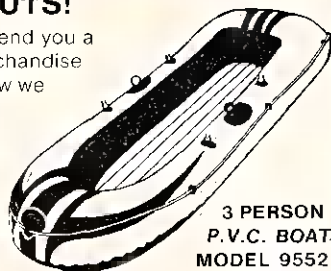
A pamphlet called *Seven Keys to Recruiting Volunteers* is an excellent resource that can help you in your recruitment. Pick one up at your local Scout office, read it, and follow the steps it outlines.

Remember that Scouting isn't for all people. It is, however, an organization that will meet the needs of many. What we have to ensure is that those who should be involved are involved — because we've asked them.

Who have you asked to become an adult volunteer in Scouting today? X

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# Acceptance, Friendship, Love



(Programs shared by Linda Powell, 1st Armstrong B Colony, Armstrong, B.C., at a North Okanagan Sharing Session)

Over a few months, I'd noticed that, in many different ways, all of my boys were showing signs of prejudice. "Tyson is weird" because of his different sneakers; "Kristen is a pip-squeak"; Ansen, who has a speech problem, "stutters and talks like a baby"; "Christopher is a slimey Limey". I knew it had to be resolved, but in a fun, firm and loving way.

Our theme for the next meeting was space. We started with a space game, then read a book about space and the planets. As a craft, we made space ships. During our snack period, we sat and talked:

I brought out E.T. and pretended I thought he was horrible and ugly. Then I threw him over my shoulder, saying I didn't want anything to do with him!

The boys were horrified, and the episode led to a discussion about how all the boys in the colony were different, in one way or another, from their friends. We talked about how Elliot and E.T. became loving friends even though, at first, both were frightened of each other. The ideas expanded: both Elliot and E.T. worked hard on their friendship; both developed an inner language so they could communicate. E.T. showed many human feelings - fear, silliness, homesickness and wanting to be near his own kind. When he left earth, the alien showed love and sadness, and

Elliot returned the feelings. Even though they were two very different beings, they felt the same things.

We wound down by talking about ourselves; how God created all of us and how we all were basically the same, though we might not look or act exactly alike. We all loved, felt pain, felt sad at times, laughed and occasionally acted silly, no matter what our skin colour, our religion, our place of birth or our language.

Finally, we thanked God for creating us the way we are and for giving us such a great mixture of friends. How boring this world would be, we said, if we all had white skin and brown hair and eyes, if we all had been born in Armstrong, if we all went to the same church and wore the same clothes!

To end the meeting, the boys flew the space ships they'd made earlier through a Black Hole. People from outer space were trying to fly to earth to meet all the boys with blue and brown suits and tails on their hats. They'd heard how helpful, thoughtful and loving these small earthlings called Beavers could be.

## Theme: Friends

To start, we read the book *That's What Friends Are For*.

Rather than going to their lodges, each boy paired up with another boy he didn't know too well. The pairs stayed

together for all the games, crafts and songs. We asked them to find out something they hadn't known about each other and each of the leaders did the same with a parent helper. Later, we shared the things we'd learned about each other.

As a craft, the Beavers made friendship pins. Some of them traded their pins with their new friends.

## Theme: Love (Valentine's Day)

Our plan was to explore the ideas of love and hate. We talked about what the boys loved and hated and tied everything together around Trees for Canada, coming up in the spring.

As we talked, we found people don't just love people or pets. We can love the stars, the green grass, the trees. Tyson said he hated trees because he had to pick up the twigs and leaves. He changed his mind when I suggested he must hate climbing them, making a house in them, watching the birds make nests in their branches, diving into a pile of leaves. As you can imagine, everybody discovered they loved trees very much. It got us all into a good start for Trees for Canada.

As a craft, instead of the traditional Valentine cards and hearts, we made butterfly note holders to give to the people we loved. They didn't always turn out to be for mom and dad. My son wanted to keep his because, he kept saying, he loved himself.

## The Richness of Sharing

Linda Powell calls these programs "Beaver ideas that have gone over well for 1st Armstrong B Colony." At the North Okanagan Sharing Session, she presented them very much as they appear here - one fairly detailed and the other two in sketch form. They might have stayed there, the preserve of the colony Scouters who took part, but they didn't because Sandra Morrison, 1st BX Beavers, Vernon, B.C., and the others, felt the program plans "should be shared with everyone".

"We were very impressed, excited and proud of her understanding and the special guidance she gives Beavers," Sandra wrote when she sent us Linda's program outlines. "We hope you will put these ideas in the *Leader* to plant a seed for others."

We're delighted to do so, and we thank all of you for sharing. Have a happy Christmas and a new year filled with many joys and satisfactions. A

# Fun at the Pond

by Kay Warren

With Christmas morning fast approaching and the general Yuletide bustle in full swing, your colony is probably hard at work making presents for family and friends. Recently, *Fun at the Pond* received some successful craft suggestions from Beaver leaders. Here they are, along with some other ideas, just in time for the last minute rush.

## Hints

Enthusiastic Beaver leader Jo-Anne Wood of Grandora, Sask., passed along a series of hints for craft sessions. She also included suggestions for setting up a craft centre, but we'll save that for a future issue. Meanwhile, to help you plan your Christmas craft activities and give you some inspiration, here's a selection of Jo-Anne's hints.

If you're working on a messy project, provide a basin of water and an old towel and cover the floor with newspapers to keep everybody and everything clean, including the washroom at the Pond.

Work with embroidery needles for craft work sewing. Beavers will find the large eye easier to thread. They'll also find sewing easier if you use heavy thread because it doesn't tangle like finer thread.

When your Beavers are making mobiles, have them hang the cutouts from wool or heavy string. Thread tangles very easily.

Use a bread knife or coping saw and a see-saw motion to cut styrofoam. If you're painting styrofoam with tempera, add a few drops of liquid detergent to give the paint a velvet finish. Never paint styrofoam balls with gold paint; it dissolves the styrofoam.

Nylon net is an ideal paint brush cleaner. Used with any type of soap, it will clean even oil paints and will remove paint from the hands without scratching.

When Beavers are working with plaster of paris, keep in mind that one energetic adult can manage five children and no more. Remember to use lots of newspaper and plastic covering. Foil or plastic cups make very good molds for plaster of paris.

If your Beavers are making something that calls for wooden beads and you don't have them, roll up a small wad of tissue paper and saturate with glue to make your own. These "beads" will take paint when dry.

Use toothpicks to pick up sequins. If the sequins are to be glued to something, put a bit of glue on the toothpick to hold the sequin until it's properly placed.

Make sure your Beavers help to clean up after a craft program. That will encourage them to do crafts in a tidy and organized way.

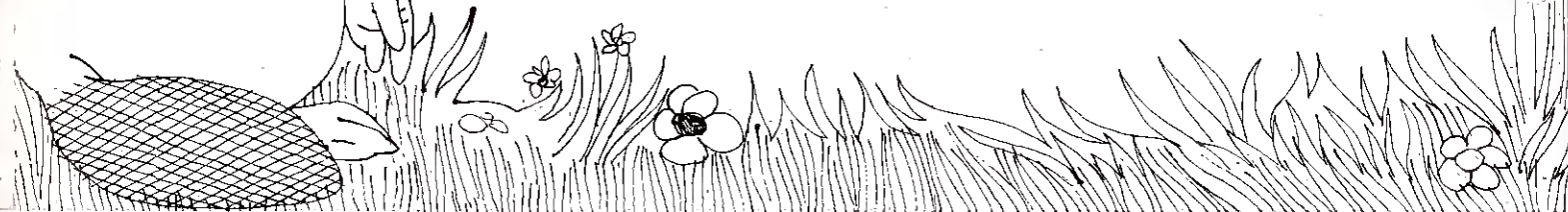
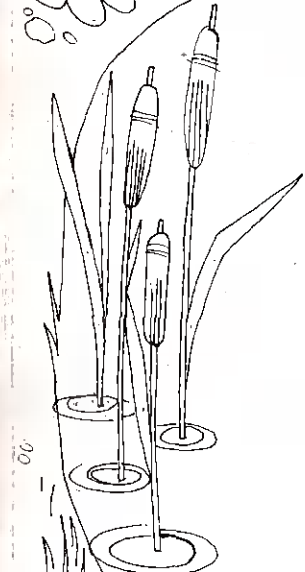
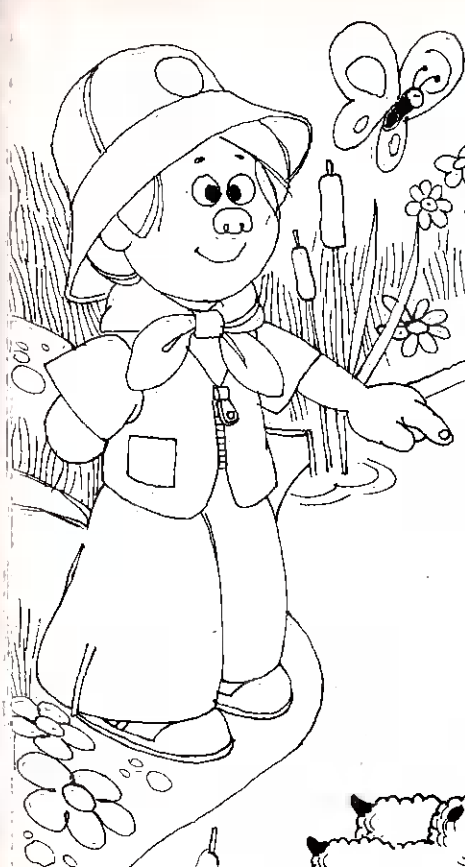
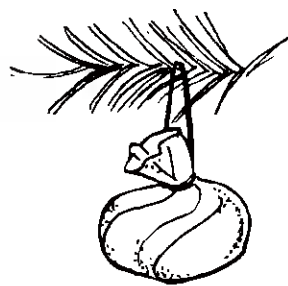
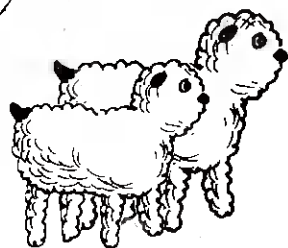
## Christmas Lambs

The traditional nativity scene or *crèche* is a popular craft for many groups, and would be part of preparations for a Christmas Fiesta (p. 9). Jo-Anne suggests this method for making Christmas lambs.

You need three small styrofoam balls, cotton batten, pipe cleaners or chenille stems and toothpicks for each Beaver. The boys make a lamb by attaching the balls together with toothpicks and glueing on cotton batten. For legs, they attach chenille stems or toothpicks covered with cotton batten. Then they cut eyes, nose and ears from construction paper and glue on.

## Sewing Basket

A sewing basket is a useful present for any member of a Beaver's family. Here's a simple way to make one. You need plastic jugs or bottles from bleach or liquid detergent, felt, construction paper and some ribbon.





Cut down the plastic bottles to make 15-20 cm (6"-8") high containers. Have the Beavers decorate them by glueing on felt or paper and attach a ribbon handle through a hole in each side. Secure the handle with a blanket stitch, then let the Beavers make and add some sewing accessories to the basket: decorated pill bottles or matchboxes to hold buttons; needles and thread and odd bits of lace; and beads.

### Austrian Nut Decorations

This very simple idea will give your Beavers some handmade decorations for the Christmas tree at home or at the Pond. You need an assortment of whole nuts (walnuts, almonds or Brazil nuts); gold or silver foil or shiny coloured paper (usually available at this time of year); and thin wire or narrow red string. Cut the foil into squares large enough to wrap completely around a nut. The Beavers place a nut in the centre of the foil and wrap carefully, twisting the ends of the foil together. Then they tie wire or string around the twist and tie the ends of the string together to make a loop for hanging.

### Christmas Pins

Making a pin from plaster of paris may seem complicated for Beavers but, if you follow mixing and handling directions carefully (and consult the hints from Jo-Anne), you may be pleasantly surprised. You need some tin cans for mixing; plaster of paris, waxed paper, tempera paint, emery boards or fine sandpaper, white glue, white shellac, pin backs and lots of newspaper.

Pour half a cup of water into the can and slowly sprinkle plaster of paris on top of the water. With your hands, squish the plaster and water together. Continue adding plaster until the mixture is as thick as soft ice cream.

Drop tablespoons of plaster from your hand onto sheets of wax paper. The Beavers take turns to shape each blob

into round, oval or irregular shapes about 5 cm (2") wide. Tell them to smooth the plaster as much as they can with their fingers, then let it harden for about 40 minutes. Leave the flattest side for the pin back and smooth any ragged edges with emery board or sandpaper. Have each Beaver decorate a pin with tempera paint. Wait 10 minutes for it to dry, then cover both sides with shellac. When the shellac is dry, attach the pin back with white glue.

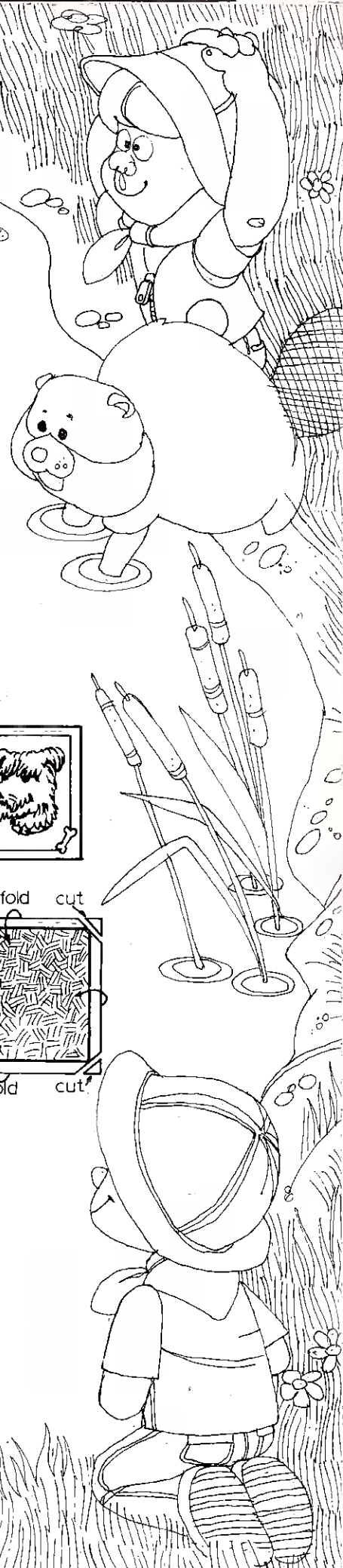
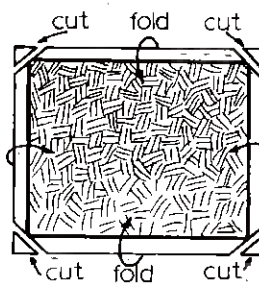
### Pet Presents

Making the family dog or cat a Christmas present is another popular idea for your craft sessions. For this pet place mat, you need pieces of coloured paper about 50 cm x 40 cm (20"x16"); pieces of self-sticking transparent plastic about 5 cm larger all around than the coloured paper, and some newspaper about 2.5 cm smaller all around than the coloured paper.

Tell the Beavers to bring in photos of their pets, or let them draw portraits. Have them cut out the pet's picture and glue it to coloured paper, then help them write something like: "Spike's Dinner" or "My favourite dinner is tuna fish and crunchies: signed Fancy" on the paper.

When they are ready, help the boys peel off the backing from the sheet of self-stick plastic and lay it, sticky side up, on the table. Turn the decorated coloured paper face down and lay it on the plastic, leaving a 5 cm margin all around. Rub all over the back of the sheet from the middle out to the edges to remove any air bubbles. Then, put six sheets of newspaper on the center of the mat and cover with the second sheet of coloured paper. Trim off the four corners of the plastic and, one by one, fold the sticky edges over onto the backing. Turn over the mat and rub out any creases or bubbles that remain in the plastic.

Have a Merry Christmas. X



# Ski for the Fun of It

## The Jackrabbit Way

by Dave Dyer

Have you ever watched an accomplished cross-country skier glide effortlessly along a trail and up a hill? Why didn't he slip backwards or wind up in a ball of fluffy snow as he rounded the downhill turn? The answer is simple enough, and anyone can become that skier you envy. The secret is to *start young and have fun*.

Almost four years ago, I moved to a fairly progressive community just west of Ottawa. The developers had taken great pains to provide recreational facilities suitable for ski trails in the winter. It was during my first winter there that I experienced what a neighbour described as "Jackrabbits" – children between 6 and 13 years old participating in a ski program that had adopted the name of Canada's 109 year old pioneer of cross-country skiing, Herman "Jackrabbit" Smith-Johannsen.

Back in 1902, Okamacum Wapooes, or Chief Jackrabbit, first introduced the Cree Indians and North Americans to the skills and joys of cross-country skiing. He used the same low key philosophy that typifies the present day Jackrabbit Ski League. Jackrabbits, past and present, play games, study the signs and treatment of hypothermia, practise technique, learn how to wax skis and



dress properly and learn what to eat as an active cross-country skier.

The Jackrabbit Ski League was adopted nationally in 1981 and falls under the auspices of Cross Country Canada. Children are taught the basics of skiing by adults who, in turn, learn cross-country teaching techniques by attending Leader Training Workshops sponsored by the local division of Cross Country Canada.

Through its nationally accepted badge program, the League can provide the pack Scouter with the structure and standards by which boys can earn the Cub Skiing badge. Troop Scouters, using the Ski League, can help their

boys work towards the Scout Winter Activities badge.

As a leader in Scouting, you can offer your boys the Jackrabbit program, or you can coordinate a Jackrabbit program through two or three packs or troops in the same area. If you are interested and would like information on ski workshops, contact your local Jackrabbit Ski League coordinator or the nearest club or community-based Jackrabbit program.

Cross Country Canada can identify your local Jackrabbit Ski League coordinator for you. In addition, Cross Country Canada and many of its 16 division offices across the country can provide ski manuals, films and other ski-related information and materials for your use. Contact:

Cross Country Canada  
333 River Road  
Ottawa, Ontario K1L 8H9  
(613) 741-1206.

### Resources

#### Books

*Jackrabbit Leader's Manual* (\$3.25)

*The Tour Leader Manual* (\$25.00)

*Coaching Level 1 and 2* (\$15.00 or \$35.00)

*Cross Country Skiing* (\$6.95)

#### Films

*Jackrabbit – A Skiing Experience*

*Ski Day*

*Dave Dyer is Jackrabbit Coordinator for Cross Country Canada.* X

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# Cross-Border Exchange



After the last supper, members of Troop 672 unfold a gift from the 2nd Cole Harbour.

When the 2nd Cole Harbour Scouts of Nova Scotia met Maryland Troop 672 at Katahdin Scout Reserve near Bangor, Maine in July 1982, the idea for an exchange trip was hatched. In summer '84 the idea took wing and the first half of the exchange got underway when 25 Canadian Scouts and five leaders boarded vans for a five-day drive to Glen Burnie, Maryland.

The Scouts passed through nine states along the eastern seaboard and toured New York City, camping in state parks en route and "becoming proficient at setting up their tents in the dark and rain", reports 2nd Cole Harbour Troop Scouter Jim Tudor.

"A warm welcome awaited us at Glen Burnie," he continues, and six action-packed days followed. The Scouts spent two of them in Washington, D.C., enjoyed the fourth of July celebrations of their host families, camped at the Scout reserve at Camp Broadcreek, visited downtown Baltimore, where they caught the evening baseball game between the Orioles and Kansas City, and toured the Annapolis Naval Academy before their final wrap-up barbecue.

Two weeks later, a Nova Scotia welcome complete with bagpipes greeted the arrival of 30 American Scouts and nine leaders in Cole Harbour. Scouts of the 2nd took the Maryland troop on a

tour of downtown Halifax and an exploration of the province. They camped in scenic Cape Breton, visited an undersea coal mine at Glace Bay and toured historic Fort Louisbourg.

"To honour our guests, we held a seafood banquet which included smoked salmon, clam chowder and steamed clams followed by a sumptuous dinner and a large specially decorated cake," Scouter Tudor says. They capped the evening with presentations and, much to everyone's delight, a challenge or two, including a chocolate pie eating contest (hands behind the back) and a raw egg toss.

"After two weeks of badge and uniform trading, it was difficult to tell the American Scouts from the Canadian Scouts," he continues. "Many new and permanent friendships were cemented between Scouts and leaders. The time to say goodbye was probably the only quiet time during the whole trip."

Scouter Tudor also reports that other troops from both sides of the border got wind of the successful exchange and have been peppering the 2nd Cole Harbour with inquiries. The conclusion is obvious, he says. "The Scouting spirit is contagious!"

*Thank you, Jim, for sharing an account of this exchange with the Leader.* Λ

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# Follow the leader?



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Remember . . . no one's impressed if you're half-dressed.





# Broaden the Focus

by Phil Newsome

Many new companies find it a problem to develop a complete program — one that includes activities in all or most of the Venturer program areas. Experience shows that, when members of new Venturer companies complete the Venturer Interest Questionnaire, they most often indicate a high interest in the area of Exploration activity. Often they simply translate that finding into camping trips.

What these companies need is a broader focus for their camping activities so that members can explore many more areas of experience and enlarge their interest base. How can they expand the focus? Well, they might look at two areas closely related to the camping interest — conservation and weather, for example. The outline that follows shows how they might tackle a broader approach to plan a program which includes a wide range of Venturing activities.

## Exploration

### Conservation

- plan a camping program that includes three seasons
- visit a local provincial or national park and collect information on other parks in the province
- include at least one camping trip in a provincial or national park you haven't used before

### Weather

- investigate how weather relates to energy conservation and environmental projects
- develop camp programs that will increase skills in camping in inclement weather

## Fitness

### Conservation

- study safety, first aid and personal health care
- invite speakers to talk on the topics of stress and mental and emotional fitness

### Weather

- plan programs on survival techniques and wilderness living

## Personal Interest

### Conservation

- encourage members to keep a log of conservation concerns they identify



in each of the company camping areas

- get involved with local community conservation groups and projects

### Weather

- encourage members to keep a weather log for a set period of time

## Service

### Conservation

- where feasible, develop and carry out conservation and energy saving projects with other community organizations
- inventory the community for critical resource problems and bring these to the attention of the appropriate conservation officials

### Weather

- plan projects for charities, churches or youth groups within the community, using the expertise you've developed in working in all types of weather
- develop and carry out a conservation and energy saving project

## Social/Cultural

### Conservation

- plan a parents' camping trip with a program that highlights all the conservation learnings members have developed over the year
- investigate conservation projects undertaken by other youth groups within the community or in other parts of the country

### Weather

- plan a parents' camping trip with a

program that shows the new skills members have learned in the area of weather and its effect on the environment and camping programs

## Vocational

### Conservation

- review the variety of conservation related careers available in local and provincial governments, businesses and industries
- plan a program to learn about the conservation careers; education, skills and training needed in soil conservation, agriculture, land management and recreation

### Weather

- review the variety of weather-related careers in public and private industries
- plan programs on careers in meteorology, aviation, air pollution; maritime weather and atmospheric sciences
- discuss the education, skills and training needed for a career in meteorology and related sciences

Any one of the experience areas can be a Venturer company's major focus, and from this focus they can develop a major activity. The company may plan a number of camping trips for the year and, at the same time, choose another activity area for a focus that will provide the major program event. When you have a balanced program, you ensure that the interests of all company members are taken into account so that every Venturer feels comfortable with the company's program. X

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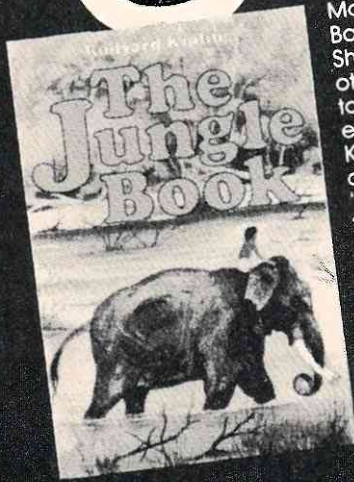
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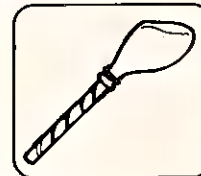
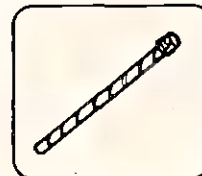
## swap shop

# Balloon Boat

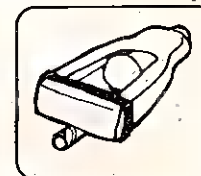
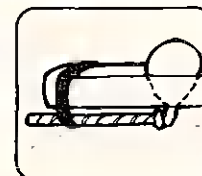
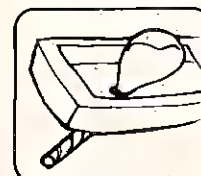
by Ken Shigeishi

Balloons are excellent sources of "air power", and this idea for an air-powered balloon boat can give an indoor winter meeting some water fun. Have each boy make one and hold a race.

You need: a plastic bottle from dish detergent (750 mL or 1 L size); scissors or a knife; a plastic drinking straw or tube; an elastic band; waterproof tape; and a balloon.



1. Cut out a long, wide strip on one side of the plastic bottle.
2. Wrap waterproof tape around one end of the straw to increase the diameter of the straw.
3. Push the wrapped end of the straw into the neck of the balloon and wind the elastic band tightly around the neck of the balloon to make the seal as air-tight as possible.
4. Make a hole in the plastic bottle on the side opposite to the opening you cut earlier. Push the straw through the hole so that the balloon is inside the bottle.
5. Bend back the straw along the bottom and towards the back of the bottle. Tape it into place.



6. Inflate the balloon by blowing into the straw. Hold a finger on the end of the straw, set the boat into water, and let go!

## Beaver Winteree

During Scout Week last February, Dartmouth East District, Nova Scotia, held its second annual Beaver Winteree for about 430 Beavers, leaders and parents. Colonies, organized into three groups, rotated between an outside base and two bases inside, spending about 45 minutes at each. Base 1, in the school lunch room, featured hot chocolate, a snack and a VCR showing cartoons and Beaver-oriented shorts on colour television. Base 2, out on the school grounds, gave everyone a chance to play outdoor games developed from *The Cooperative Sports & Games Book* (Terry Orlick). Leaders were forced to make some last minute changes because winter refused to cooperate with even a speck of snow, but everyone had a great time regardless. At Base 3, inside the school gymnasium, Beavers played parachute games of all kinds developed from *The Second Cooperative Sports & Games Book* and other sources.

"Dartmouth East had a successful event and we are looking forward to Winteree 85," reports Scouter John F. Turner. Thanks for sharing ideas on a Beaver winter event designed for success no matter what the weather. X



# #18

## Kiwanis and Scouting

by Pat Horan



Kiwanis International is a worldwide service organization founded in Detroit in 1915. The first Canadian club was organized in Hamilton in 1916.

Because the purpose of Kiwanis is *service to youth, community and nation*, it's not surprising that Scouting is a high priority for the organization. Local clubs currently sponsor some 40 Scout groups, but the Kiwanis impact is far greater when one considers all the special projects, financial assistance and camp aids (buildings and boats) local clubs have provided to Scouting over the years.

*We Build as Partners Worldwide* is a special pamphlet on Kiwanis and Scouting produced cooperatively by Scouting/USA and Scouts Canada. It describes how individuals and clubs can help support and extend Scouting, and includes a letter to local club presidents which offers suggestions about how Kiwanians and Kiwanis Clubs can work together with Scouts Canada.

Through their partnership with Scouting, Kiwanis Clubs:

- benefit the community by developing community leadership;
- benefit the young people in Scouting by initiating and carrying out projects that widen and enrich Scouting programs;
- benefit Kiwanis itself by giving members opportunities to share their personal skills, interests and life experiences with Scouts.

For the 1984 annual conference of Kiwanis International, George C. Brown of the Westboro (Ottawa) Club wrote an open letter to all delegates. George called it the *Spirit of Scouting* and, in it, listed a number of ways Kiwanians have been and can be involved in their communities through Scouting. Those of you who have visited the National Museum of Scouting in Ottawa may recall that a number of display cases were donated by his club.

His letter goes on to say that both Kiwanis and Scouting benefit when they do things together. The joint action provides incentives to new members, helps make the club an active one and gives Kiwanis a spirit of service. Best of all, it means Kiwanis and Scouting help meet the needs of the young people in their communities.

For further information about Kiwanis and Scouting, write to:

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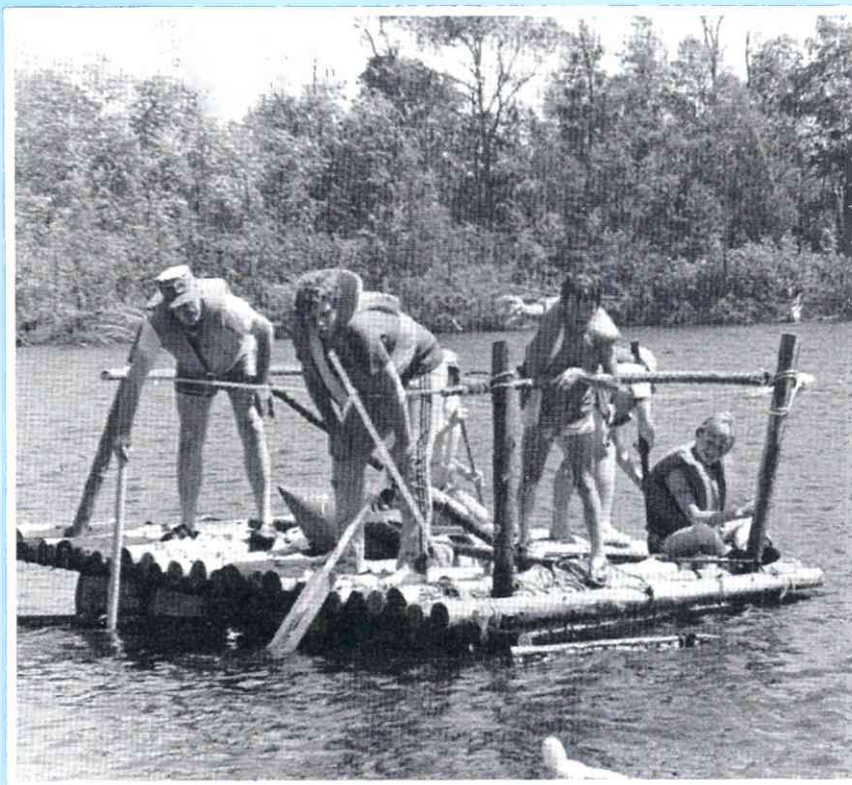
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## cross-country photo news



**BUDDING ROBOTICS CAREERS:** Cubs Troy Wolf (l), Darrell Bridge and Jamie Woods represent three of the four North Halton District, Ont., packs who accepted the 2nd Acton Trinity Cubs' challenge to a robot-building competition. Instructions were specific, reports photographer Jean Layman. "A Cub and parent team had to create a robot from one plastic bottle; one tin can; two hair rollers; pipe cleaners; one wire coathanger; 10 popsicle sticks; four thread spools; one piece of wood 6" x 6"; eight playing cards; two golf balls; two large buttons; silver paint; and glue," she says. "Failure to use all parts meant points lost." The imaginative creations made a dazzling display and a difficult job for the contest's judges.



**HUCK FINN** WOULD be proud of Scouts, Venturers and Pathfinders who lashed together craft like this one to compete in Bobcaygeon, Ontario's second annual Huck Finn Raft Race last June. The three day weekend attracted more than 25 groups from across the province, says Diane McFadden, PR person for the Victoria County Boy Scouts. At the end of the challenging race, they took home prizes for Tug O' War, the fastest raft, the highest crow's nest, finding the gold and the best raft design.

A **SLOW HOUSING** market means houses for birds in Kamloops, B.C. When Parkwood Realty found itself with 250 lawn signs it didn't need, it challenged Scouts, Cubs and Beavers to turn the surplus materials into birdhouses. Parkwood President John Clarke shows a stack of the signs topped by some birdhouse designs. The contest awarded a prize for the best lawn-sign birdhouse from each of the three Scouting sections involved. Thanks to the *Kamloops Sentinel* for permission to reprint this photo, and to W.J. O'Doherty, provincial field executive, for sending the story.



**SNOW FUN** FOR these St. David's Beavers of Rothesay, N.B., is building an igloo. The boys constructed the snow house before coming to the Pond, reports Scouter Dawn Buchan. At the meeting, leaders grabbed the chance to get them talking and thinking about how people live in other parts of our country and the world.



FRESH FALLEN SNOW invites the 21st St. George's Scouts of Saint John, N.B., to take a hike up Bald Peak near Welsford. When they reached the top, they enjoyed the view of the town and surrounding valley below before practising their winter cooking skills and re-fuelling for the downward journey. "It proved to be much quicker than the climb up," reports Scouter Ian Hamilton.



BEAVERS & SENIORS joined forces to plant white pines in celebration of Ontario's bicentennial last spring. Beavers James McGowan (l) and Mathew Park of the 23rd St. Bartholomew's Beavers in Sarnia, Ont., are flanked by Russ Campbell, an executive member of the North End Retirement Club, and Scouter Paul Thompson. Residents of Jubilee Gardens, a senior citizens' apartment block, approve the work in progress. We thank Don Burnard, PR coordinator of Sarnia District Council, for sharing this photo story.



IN OSGOODE THEY paraded for Ontario's bicentennial: members of both movements on 1st Osgoode Cubmaster Wib Cowan's float.



A NEWLY FORMED troop makes a community splash with their prize-winning entry in the 7th Mildmay-Carrick Homecoming Parade, Ont. Thanks to Troop Scouter Don Kupferschmidt for sending a photo of the 1st Mildmay Scouts' rolling camp scene, first prize float in the Institutional Division. Thanks also to the Mildmay Town & Country Crier for permission to reprint the photo.



A BOUNCING EGG - that's what the 83rd Toronto Cubs decided they'd enter in their community's annual Easter parade last year. Instead of simply marching along as they had in the past, the Cubs bounced a huge earth ball along the route. Their antics were a hit with the crowd and generated enough warmth to help them survive a very cool day, says Scouter Bob Ross. Cubbing can be fun for everyone.



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## supply news

# Catalogue Horror Story

by Jim Mackie

We recently received a very disturbing report about the non-circulation of the '83/84 Supply Services catalogue. It seems that one district commissioner made no attempt to distribute his district's supply of catalogues after he received them from the local field executive. We learned this when he turned over his papers to his successor, who found the catalogues stacked in his basement.

This was not only very unfair to his membership, but also an expensive oversight. Catalogues cost money to produce.

All '84/85 catalogues were shipped from Ottawa in August. If you haven't received your supply, we suggest you call your service team representative or district commissioner immediately to ask where they are. If you have any problems securing them, please write to Supply Services, PO Box 5151, Station F, Ottawa, Ontario K2C 3G7.

## New Pennant

A new item has been added to the popular line of *A Beaver! Cub Lives Here* membership pennants introduced last year. The Beaver and Cub pennants, which appear on page 18 of the '84/85 catalogue, have been joined by a Scouts Canada Logo pennant, catalogue #71-340: \$1.95. The new pennant features the official black and red logo on a white background with a red stitched border. It's approximately 5½" x 7½" and comes with a cord for hanging.

## Cub Stockings Change

Because the yarn we've used in Cub stockings is now unavailable, they will be produced from yarn of a different blend this fall. The present stocking contains 52% polyester, 30% acrylic and 18% nylon. The new stocking will contain 40% cotton, 40% acrylic and 20% nylon. This will make it softer and more absorbent, but the colour will be slightly different. The price remains the same: \$4.60.

## Ladies' Tie

The very popular ladies' cross-over maroon tie which had to be discontinued a number of years ago because Supply was unable to find a producer, is once again available through your local Scout Shop or dealer: catalogue #30-122; \$6.00. The first person to wear the newly produced cross-over tie was our new Chief Scout, Her Excellency, The Right Honourable Jeanne Sauvé, P.C., C.C., C.M.M., C.D., Governor General of Canada. Supply Services had the pleasure of securing the Chief Scout a uniform which she wore for the first time in October when she met with the national president, national commissioner, chief executive and youth members from each program section.

## Sleeping Bags

Because of space restrictions, we show only a few sleeping bags in our '84/85 catalogue. But, to every Scout Shop and dealer, we make available a detailed listing of more than 30 bags that can be specially ordered. They come in all sizes, for all weather conditions and at a variety of prices. If you have special requirements in a sleeping bag, ask your local supplier for more information on the full line of TREKK sleeping bags. X



## a word to chairmen

### Religion in Life

by Pat Horan

Dear Murray,

You are quite correct in assuming that the Religion in Life programs are programs of the churches concerned. As you know, the instruction of a candidate who desires to qualify for an emblem is the responsibility of the candidate's own spiritual advisor or his/her appointee.

We are happy to work with the churches by publishing the pamphlets and providing the emblems. In addition, we've provided the book *Let's Celebrate* as a super resource guide.

Next time you are in the council office, check the pamphlet rack and note the variety and new formats of the 24 available Religion in Life pamphlets. Most of the programs have been revised under the direction of national church personnel using local task groups composed of both ministers and lay people.

In response to requests, we are now providing more Religion in Life resources and support to meet the needs of the growing number of non-Christian Scouting members - Moslems, Hindus, Buddhists, members of the Bahai faith and Zoroastrians. It might be an interesting exercise to have your leaders learn about some of the requirements of these different programs to see what they could use as regular or special program activities.

Your leaders also might review and apply some of the ideas Don Laing has incorporated in *Let's Celebrate*. This is a basic resource for the Chaplaincy Corps in their move to integrate the spiritual into all aspects of the CJ'85 program.

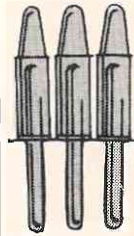
A number of denominations are working on leader's guides for their Religion in Life programs. It's part of the approach to make the spiritual elements of Scouting as regular a part of activities as the mental, social and physical. If you or your people have any good ideas about how to put it across, please let me know and I'll be glad to pass along the information.

One last note: all denominations suggest that the presentation of the Religion in Life emblem be made by the candidate's spiritual advisor as a special part of a meeting, church service or special evening for parents.

Over to you with best wishes,

Sincerely,

Pat



MESSAGE  
OF  
YOUR  
CHOICE

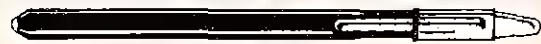
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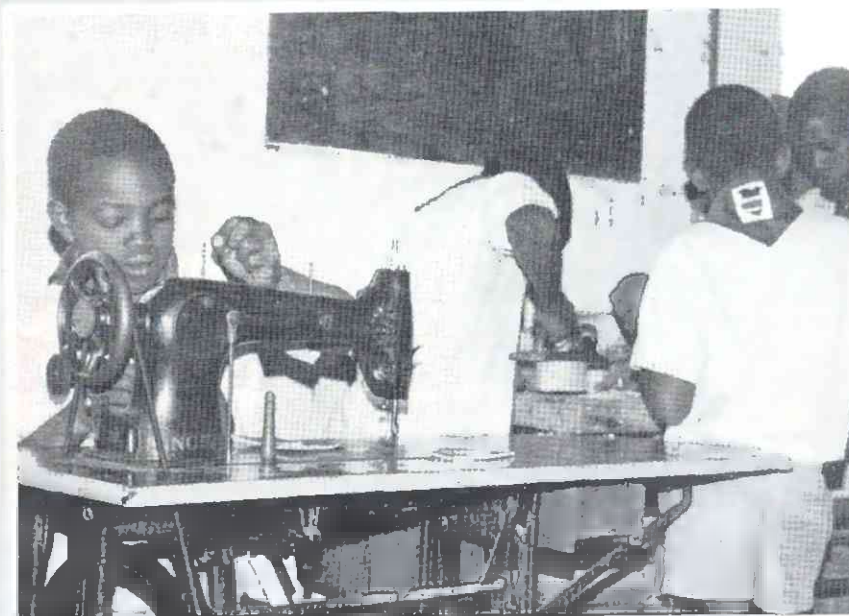
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# Brotherhood Fund in Action

The Canadian Scout Brotherhood Fund, with matching grants from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), helps young people and their communities in developing countries to help themselves.



IN DRY, TREE-SCARCE northern Africa, villagers learn how to build and use efficient wood-burning stoves as well as biogas-fuelled variations from Scouts trained in special community development training centers. In Reo, Upper Volta, the Center includes training in poultry raising, gardening and tree planting. At the Scout Farm in Umm Dohm, Sudan, Scouts are building biogas installations, cook stoves and solar heaters and dryers to preserve food — learning new energy technologies to increase the farm's efficiency and pass on to their communities. Their aim: reduced wood consumption and improved diets.



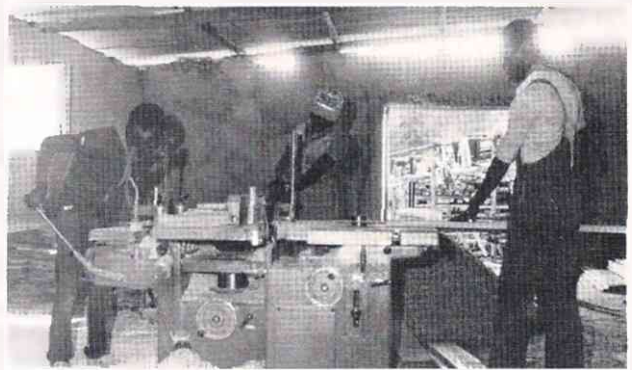
AT THE JOYTOWN Special School in Thika, Kenya, disabled Scouts learn to repair and make braces, crutches, wheelchairs, special shoes and other appliances needed by disabled people. Then they are helped to set up workshops in their communities so that they can earn an income while filling local needs and training others. Many Scouts and Guides have been trained at the workshop and now the facilities are also available to other underprivileged young people. The Scouts make or repair appliances free for those without resources, but they also sell their products and charge for repairs to pay the workshop's operating costs.







**SCOUTS ARE PLANTING** coconut, coffee and fruit trees at the Scout Camp in Kintyre, Jamaica. They've cleared the land, fenced it to protect the seedlings from wandering neighbourhood goats and installed irrigation pipes. Later, they'll help maintain the fields and expand the crops. The project gives Scouts employment opportunities; the sale of cash crops will boost incomes; and the availability of fruit in local markets will mean better nutrition for the whole area.



**A SCOUT LEARNS** the shoemaker's trade at a training school for physically disabled Scouts in Lom, Togo. To young people whose disabilities make life even harder in a land of few opportunities, the school offers a chance they'll be able to develop their own employment opportunities through training in literacy, carpentry, leatherwork, handicrafts and poultry raising. Their 350 chickens give them some income and the sale of their other products is expected to make the school self-sufficient by next year.



**A CANADIAN FINANCED** multi-purpose woodworking machine trains carpenters who, in turn, make and sell furniture to help support the Scout Training Center in Butare, Rwanda. At the Center, rural youth who have few educational opportunities learn useful trades and agricultural methods to take back to their communities. Literacy classes are often a necessary first step before Scouts move on to welding, brick-making, construction, tailoring, agriculture, animal husbandry and horticulture. Canada is also involved with a similar vocational center in Gisenyi in the northwest part of the country. In each case, young people trained by the hands-on Scout method, "go back home (to) develop employment possibilities, introduce appropriate rural technologies and put into practice what they have learned (so that) more food is grown and other basic needs are met."

# Brotherhood Fund Donations

Vanier District Scouters' Club, N.S.	\$300.00	1st Pouch Cove Group Committee, Nfld.	47.32
Winnipeg Scouters' Conference, Man.	10.00	Yarmouth District Scouters' Club, N.S.	113.25
Prince Albert District, Sask.	85.60	1st Dorchester Scouts, Ont.	30.00
Kaniatario District, Que.	15.00	*St. Clair District, Ont.	279.91
*Essex District, Ont.	803.35	*Sunset District, Ont.	400.73
Myles Vanni, Ont.	50.00	Great Lakes Regional Conference, Ont.	200.00
Shelburne District, N.S.	35.00	1st LaRivière Group, Man.	15.00
Ro-Vent, B.C.	115.00	Brandon District Council, Man.	86.50
Kimberley District, B.C.	49.76	*Fraser Valley Region, B.C.	5,924.00
Guntton Parent Group, Man.	20.35	Kirkland District Scout Council.	18.65
1st Lacombe Scout Group, Alta.	52.87	Great Lakes Beaver Leaders' Part II Wood Badge, Ont.	30.75
3rd Waterdown Scout Groups, Ont.	42.00	Wellington District Annual Church Service, Ont.	46.63
Cubs & Scouts, Hearts Content, Nfld.	19.06	South Waterloo District Council Church Service, Ont.	70.00
*Tisdale Venturers, N. Sask.	72.50	Malton Thunderbird District, Ont.	15.97
*Temiskaming District, Ont.	139.16	First Dunbarton District, Ont.	45.35
*West Durham District, Ont.	838.99	4th B.-P. Guild, B.C.	31.00
*Brant District, Ont.	587.00	1st Clarkson Scout Group, Ont.	46.10
*1st Baxter Group, Ont.	85.80	2nd Brooklin Beavers, Cubs, Scouts Church Parade, Ont.	29.31
*Nipigon Bay, Ont.	75.78	1st North Gower Venturer Company, Ont.	50.00
*Ingersoll District, Ont.	381.22	Mid-Island District Church Parade, B.C.	13.80
*Northern Lights District, Ont.	459.04	1st Cochrane Group Committee, Alta.	74.00
*Kingston District, Ont.	8.68	North Island Scouting District, B.C.	42.25
Kings District Council, N.S.	43.89	1st Random Lions Cub Pack, Nfld.	13.91
Vanier District, N.S.	65.00	Kenya District, Alta.	6.40
Ken-Kee Council, Ont.	45.30	66th Edmonton Scout Group, Alta.	89.35
1st Gilbert Plains Scouts, Man.	14.50	1st Breslau Cub Pack, 25th Kitchener "C" Cub Pack, 22nd Kitchener Cub Pack, Ont.	570.07
Briarwood, Beaconsfield West & Beaurepaire Group Committees, Que.	83.27	1st Aldershot Group, N.S.	28.44
Acton Scout Group Committee, Ont.	43.83	1st King Scout Group, Ont.	62.98
The Badgers Club, Canadian Chapter	436.00	4th Atikokan Beaver Colony, Ont.	15.00
First Port Hawkesbury Boy Scouts, N.S.	54.53	1st Otterburn St. Hilaire Scout Committee, Que.	17.50
1st Canal Flats Beavers, Cubs & Scouts, B.C.	30.00	Hawarden/Strongfield Group, Sask.	64.65
St. Vincent's "Mowgli" Pack, Que.	36.85	Mechanics of Training Course, N.B.	16.00
2nd Almonte Group, Ont.	122.92	Mount Carmel Group, N.B.	118.50
Transcona-Springfield District Council, Man.	71.60	East Restigouche District, N.B.	72.00
1st Sagehill Scouting Group, Sask.	20.64	2nd St. Stephen & 1st Milltown Groups, N.B.	95.00
Flin Flon District Council, Man.	95.62	North Cariboo District, B.C.	64.36
1st & 2nd Hinton Scout Groups, Alta.	113.05	1st Red Wing Group, Sask.	59.79
Blue Hills of Brandon Lodge, Order of the Tomahawk, Man.	24.00	Estevan Group, Sask.	189.64
Kerrisdale/Centennial District Council, B.C.	125.00	11th St. Thomas Group, Sask.	90.74
1st Salvation Army Bonavista Group, Nfld.	103.50	Naicam Group, Sask.	15.00
1st Cambridge Group, Nfld.	60.25	Normans Cove, Nfld.	26.75
1st Elmira Scout Group, Ont.	55.00	Beaconsfield West Group Committee, Que.	100.00
Woodstock District Council, Ont. (In Memory of Mr. A. Almond)	25.00	1st North Battleford Group, Sask.	93.83
Wood Badge Course, Que.	45.75	2nd North Battleford Group, Sask.	49.80
Fraser Valley Region, B.C.	134.40	*London District Council, Ont.	912.00
North Peace District, B.C.	89.00	1st Sedgewick Cub Pack	49.28
*Provincial Council of Newfoundland & Labrador	9,000.00	11th Canadian B.-P. Guild, Man.	93.85
*First Swastika Group, Ont.	100.25	1st Balgonie Group, Sask.	68.05
Fort George/Fraser District Council, B.C. (In Memory of Alfred Schneider & Michael Chiappe)	50.00	1st Indian Bay Wolf Cub Pack, Nfld.	46.04
5th Colé Harbour Cub Pack, N.S. (In Memory of Henry Michael Stubbart)	25.00	Dalmeny District, Sask.	48.51
Beaver Part II Wood Badge Course, N.B.	18.50	Meadow Lake, Sask.	109.35
Oromocto District, N.B.	31.55	Trenton District, Ont.	75.85
Dr. Doug D. Pond, N.B.	15.00	1st Pilot Butte Group, Sask.	27.60
Communications Skills Course, N.B.	21.75	Elgin District Council, Ont. (In Memory of Kenneth Bishop & Andrew DeWulf)	20.00
St. James Anglican, South End, N.B.	5.00	*Kempfenfelt Bay District, Ont.	1,017.70
District Staff Course, Oromocto, N.B.	24.85	*Port Colborne District, Ont.	204.06
Grand Bay Group, Woolastook District, N.B.	100.15	*Brockville District, Ont.	632.80
West Riverview Group, Moncton District, N.B.	94.30	*South Frontenac District, Ont.	779.72
St. Paul's Sussex, N.B.	91.35	*Sarnia District, Ont.	1,445.01
First Stittsville Scout Group, Ont.	70.85	*Sydenham District, Ont.	212.00
1st, 2nd & 3rd Streetsville Groups, Ont.	67.00	*Pine Ridge District, Ont.	611.27
South Lake Simcoe District Council, Ont.	161.09	*Chatham District, Ont.	284.08
1st Lac du Bonnet Group, Man.	59.02	*Port Hope District, Ont.	568.09
Chateauguay District Council, Que.	92.11	*Saugeen East District, Ont.	254.67
Melfort Scout Association, Sask.	66.10	*North Waterloo District, Ont.	795.41
Pinawa Parent Group Committee, Man.	140.00	*Trenton District, Ont.	288.73
4 Orangeville Groups & 1st Grand Valley Group, Ont.	109.96	*Victoria County District, Ont.	388.54
		*Petawawa District, Ont.	347.89
		*Airforce Trenton District, Ont.	39.40
		*Haldimand District, Ont.	500.20
		*Trees for Canada donations. Fifteen per cent of Trees for Canada proceeds is designated for World Scouting development projects.	



## scouter's 5 minutes

### ○ Young People and God

○ *These words from Peter Ball, the Bishop of Lewes and Anglican religious consultant to the Scout Association in the United Kingdom, complement the ideas in the opening article of our December issue (The Spiritual Nature of Scouting). They are excerpted from an article in the August issue of Scouting (UK) magazine.*

○ "If we are to try to teach spiritual awareness, or the opening of the eyes of the young to God, the first thing that needs to be said is that we must learn from them.

○ "I visited a Primary School for their harvest festival. I had a sermon all lined up but, as I processed into the school hall in cope and mitre, I knew that my sermon was all wrong. Instead, surrounded by all those simple gifts, I simply asked the children to pick up the fruit.

○ "First we looked intently at a tomato, then an orange followed by an apple and a potato. We experienced the colours and the shapes. Then we felt each one and enjoyed the varieties of their taste. We then smelled each one and the children began giggling and shifting around in sheer delight. We shook each item and tried to hear the rattling of the ripe pips in the apples and, inevitably, the tomatoes could be heard squelching! But, by this time, the children were beginning to wonder and their eyes were beginning to open to where worship, the reverence and loving regard of God begins.

Scouter's Five Minutes – page 549 Dec. '84

## songs

○ **We Are Gathered (Kumbaya)**  
We are gathered, Lord, come be here,  
In Your presence, Lord, come be here,  
As we worship, Lord, come be here,  
O Lord, come be here.

○ Make us humble, Lord, come be here.  
Make us loyal, Lord, come be here.  
Make us courteous, Lord, come be here,  
O Lord, come be here.

– St. Joseph's High School and Rev. Hallam Johnston, Ottawa

○ **Thank You, Lord (Edelweiss)**  
Thank you Lord, on this day,  
For our many good blessings;  
Thank you Lord, on this day,  
For our many close friendships.

Glory to God, may you hear our prayers,  
Guide us on forever,  
Thank you Lord, on this day,  
For our blessings and friendships.

Lord we ask, as we go  
Into all of life's pathways,  
That each day, we may know  
You are calling us onward.

○ Glory to God, may you hear our prayers,  
Lead us on forever,  
So each day, we may know  
You are leading us onward.

○ Grant us Lord, on this day,  
Deeper insights and challenge,  
That each day, we may grow  
In faith and knowledge and wisdom.

○ Glory to God, may you hear our prayers,  
Guide us on forever,  
Grant us Lord, on this day,  
Deeper insights and challenge.

Songs – page 65

Dec. '84

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### Taps (variation)

Great spirit come; beat the drum,  
Journey now, with each one, through the dark,  
Take our hands; lead us all  
Safely home.

### Beaver Pride (Mickey Mouse)

B-E-A V-E-R P-R-I-D-E  
Beaver pride, Beaver pride  
Forever let us wear our tails up high;  
Green and blue and red and white  
We'll all be here tonight  
B-E-A V-E-R P-R-I-D-E!

— Rusty Bill Rivers, 1st Devon, Alta.

### I'm A Little Leprechaun (for Mar. 17)

I'm a little leprechaun, short & green,  
Here is my shamrock but I can't be seen,  
When you pull my feather, hear me scream  
(everyone scream)

I'm a little leprechaun, short & green.

— The leaders of 1st St. Pat's Beavers,  
Carbonear, Nfld.

### Christmas Time (Jingle Bells)

School is out, we won't pout;  
All Cubs shout, "Hurray!"  
Something special's coming soon,  
It is Christmas Day;  
Wrap the gifts, trim the tree,  
Fill your hearts with cheer,  
Soon we'll hear the bells ring out,  
Christmas will be here.

### In the Good Old Wintertime

In the good old winter time,  
In the good old winter time,  
I love the snow, the sleet, the ice,  
Blizzards sure are fine;  
I'm frozen in, I'm frozen out,  
Just watchin' the snowdrifts climb,  
We'll all be diggin' tunnels soon,  
In the good old winter time.

Songs — page 66

"When I was a curate... I was sent into the Church school to teach. I used to play a game that I called 'The Prayer Game' with the 10 year olds. We would read a Gospel story, perhaps the feeding of the five thousand, and I would ask the children to close their eyes for 30 seconds and 'see' the scene in their imaginations. They could all see Jesus on a mound and the Galilean lake below, next to the colourful crowd. I then asked them to close their eyes again and discover what they could hear. They could hear the swish of the women's dresses or the sound of the sea. One young lad said, 'I can hear the sound of crusty brown bread being broken.' That was good. Finally, they closed their eyes to find out what they could smell. Three-day old fish were always a favourite discovery and one small boy whispered that he could smell grass that had been crushed by being trodden on or sat on.

"These are just a few thoughts and ideas. The first thing is for us to realize that, by doing these things, we are allowing the young to know about God Himself, who is the source and the centre of life — the God of prayer and of love... In this way we shall have imparted the best gift of all."

### Merry Christmas Around the World

In Germany, it's *Froöhliche Weihnachten*; in Denmark *Glaedelig Jul*. In the Netherlands, they say *Hartelijke Kerstroeten*. In Sweden *Gud Jul* and in Finland *Jauskaa Joulua*. You'll hear *Gledelig Jul* in Norway and *Hristos Razdajetsja* in Russia. In Mexico and Spain it's *Feliz Navidad*. Italians wish each other *Buon Natale* while, in Greece, it's time to say *Eftihismena Christougenna*. Happy Christmas in England; *Joyeux Noël* or *Merry Christmas* in Canada — no matter what the words, the meaning is the same: warm wishes to all in this season of joy and hope.

Scouter's Five Minutes — page 550

PROVINCIAL  
BADGES  
DISTRICT  
BADGES  
CAMPOREE  
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EVENT  
BADGES  
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AND PRODUCTION  
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# Give Cubs a Shirt

I find myself apologizing over the cost of new uniforms for Cubs. I fail to see why Cub leaders and mothers must put up with such an inferior product as the Cub jersey. One or two washings and it stretches out of shape. It's of no use to pass on to younger Cubs because unpicking the badges leaves gaping holes and the snags turn into big runs. The arms stretch way beyond the boys' ability to keep them pushed up around their elbows so they don't sag into glue and paint. With all the technology and design wizards in the world today, give us a proper Cub shirt. Bring the Cub uniform up to standard.

— Dinah Cook, Cardston, Alta.

## In Defence of D&D

In response to Dorothy McIlroy's letter (Oct. '84), I'd like to write in defence of D&D. This game is the Middle Ages brought to life and there are many levels to suit players of varying experience. The game may seem obsessive because of its role-playing nature. This means that one game may take a weekend or several evenings to play, but it is simply methodical, not obsessive. The game has lasting appeal because of its "damsel-in-distress" swashbuckling nature and also its complexity. People, and not just children but fully grown adults as well, love to sit around the table spouting terms such as "plus 4 vortal". It means "excellent sword", but doesn't it sound rather better? Being a player myself, I like to think of it as just good clean fun. Please write more about it.

— Edward Lycett, Ottawa, Ont.

## Religion in Life for Leaders

I was very pleased to read about the proposal for a Religion in Life program for adult Scouting members in Pat Horan's column (*A Word to Chairmen*, A/S '84). As members of the Scout movement, we all promise to do our duty to God. Most Scouters, however, work in "open" groups where youth of many religious denominations are represented. A Religion in Life emblem worn by a Scouter would be a visible reminder that the leader is indeed carrying out his duty to God, even though it may be in a place other than where the youth members worship. Scouting has always promoted leading by example and this seems to be a great way of showing a very valuable example to an

organization with very diverse religious affiliations. I sincerely hope the proposal will be accepted.

— Priscilla Copeland, Gloucester, Ont.

## Scout Air/Ground Signals

The Aeronautical Information Publication (AIP) covers virtually all general information on aviation matters. It is amended four or five times a year and is pretty well authoritative.

I recently purchased a *Canadian Scout Handbook* for reference and came across a possible error that could have, in extreme cases, fatal results. In the Campcraft section on p.146, some ground to air signals for communication with overflying aircraft are illustrated. Some do not agree with those given in AIP; they use different symbols for a message or use signals for which a message is non-existent. For a pilot who is looking for familiar signals, this obviously will mean confusion and valuable time lost.

— Mel Goddards, Brampton, Ont.

*Ed's Reply: Thanks for pointing out what appears to be a problem. Program Services is checking your information and we'll keep readers informed.*

## "Boy" Scouts Dated?

The film of the '83 World Jamboree was very enjoyable and I had a few good laughs, being able to relate to much of it. One thing concerns me, however. The show is based on Boy Scouts. I have nothing against Boy Scouts, but wasn't it National that changed our movement to Scouts Canada? Are the people responsible for making this film against women in Scouting? Many of our leaders, trainers and group committee members are female and excel in their positions.

— Bill De Groot, Swan Hills, Alta.

## How About a LEADER Binder?

As a Guide leader, I am often able to make use of program ideas from your magazine. It is a great resource. I do have one suggestion, however. Probably many other recipients of *the Leader* like to save their issues intact, as we do, which quickly adds up to a lot of loose magazines. It would be great to have a binder specifically designed to store

those magazines in! Several other publications do sell binders and they work beautifully. Couldn't *the Leader* do likewise? I hope so.

— Peggy Hopper, Caledonia, Nova Scotia

*Ed's Reply: Interestingly enough, your letter arrived at a time when we are looking into the possibility of making such a binder available to our readers. Part of what we have to determine is how many readers might be interested. I hope you'll let us know, and we'll keep you informed about our progress through the Leader.*

## 50th for 3rd Kamloops

The 3rd Kamloops Scout Troop will celebrate its 50th anniversary at Camp Grafton on Shuswap Lake on June 29-July 1, 1985. It gives the troop a great deal of pleasure to invite all former 3rd Kamloops Scouts, leaders and "Bush Creekers" to attend and renew old friendships. For more information, please contact: Alan R. Green, 3rd Kamloops Anniversary Committee, 183 Greenstone Drive, Kamloops, B.C. V2C 1N4.

— Alan R. Green, Kamloops, B.C.

## Help Wanted

Can anybody help me to find these *Leader* cut-out pages: Scouter's Five Minutes — pre-March '80; Songs — pre-J/J'80; Skits — pre-Feb.'81; Games — pre-May'80; Hints — pre-Nov.'80; and Recipes — pre-March'80. I will reimburse anybody who makes photocopies of pages I am missing.

— Gary Jene, 1045 Eagle Dr., London, Ontario N5Z 3H6.

## Pen Pals, Please

We are two Colombian Scouts, aged 13 and 10, members of Group 71, Bogota, Colombia. We'd like to have pen pals. Please write soon.

— Alvaro and Gustavo Vergara, Karra ra 20 #137-08, Bogota, Colombia, South America.

## Rose

I am very actively involved in the Guiding movement, with Brownies as well as Pathfinders, and find your information useful to both age levels. I love your crafts, games and very good recipes for camp.

— C. Silver, Shearwater, N.S.

I've been in Scouting for the last five years and I find your magazine very beneficial. I've tried many of the games and crafts and my pack loved them. Your articles are fantastic. Keep up the good stuff.

— Sue Wissell, Alexandria, Ont. X

# Good Will

by Garth Johnson

In the context of the work place, it's often said, "we tend to do those things we like to do, not necessarily those things that need to be done". Of course, it depends on the individual but, most certainly, from the time manager's point of view, the saying describes a bad work habit. Intolerable? Not really, but it's rather exasperating when something really needs doing.

From time to time, copy deadlines seem to be our menace (whether we miss one or a contributor does). At one time or another, in one Scouting project or another, I'm sure all of us have been foiled by another's bad habits.

Our service teams and trainers at Wood Badge courses spend a lot of energy reinforcing good habits. After all, most habits are hard to break, so we're well advised to develop as many good ones as possible.

But what of other peoples' bother-

some bad habits that we'd like to see changed? The problem here, of course, is that they are likely to find a few of our habits as trying as we find theirs. Try breaking a bad habit of your own, then think a little before you express your annoyance when, as usual, that irritating latecomer whirls into the next camporee meeting.

In the hope that they will be relaxed in their attitude towards some of our bad habits, perhaps a good habit for all of us to form is tolerance of and ease with the "short-comings" of others. As part of our leadership training, we learn to accept people as they are. Surely we can also do this in the Scout Hall. After all, as parents, committee members and Scouters, we are in a position to influence our young people. Let's do what we can to develop and encourage good habits and tolerance in others as well as in ourselves.

## Chief Scout Meets Members

Last month, we officially announced the appointment of our new Chief Scout. This month we are pleased to print the accompanying photo of Her Excellency, the Right Honourable Jeanne Sauvé, P.C., C.C., C.M.M., D.C., Governor General of Canada, following a brief presentation ceremony at Government House on Oct. 12. National Commissioner Donald Deacon presented the Chief Scout the Silver Wolf, Canadian Scouting's top award for service of the most exceptional character, normally of national importance. After the presentation, National President Roy Brookes thanked Madame Sauvé on behalf of all members of Scouting, and introduced the new Chief Scout to a number of youth members and a leader from their group.

Madame Sauvé talked briefly with each of the members and expressed a keen desire to get on with her new duties, among them the investiture ceremony which is part of our National Council meetings in November.

Pictured with Her Excellency are (l to r): Scout Darrell O'Connor, Venturer Shelley Bellefontaine, Roy Brookes, Cub Carsten Saulnier, Beaver Hugo Belisle, Scouter Sean Boyd and Rover John Ladds.

## New Addition

As many of you may have noticed, Pina Tassi, who served as **Leader** secretary and advertising assistant for the past few years, has moved on to bigger and better things. Pina has been replaced by Ellen Meek, who came to us from the Supply Services division of National Office where she worked with one of the magazine's previous editors, Jim Mackie. We wish Pina every success and welcome Ellen to her new place with the **Leader**.

All of us at the **Leader** would like to use this brief space to wish everyone a joyous festive season and the best in the new year. X





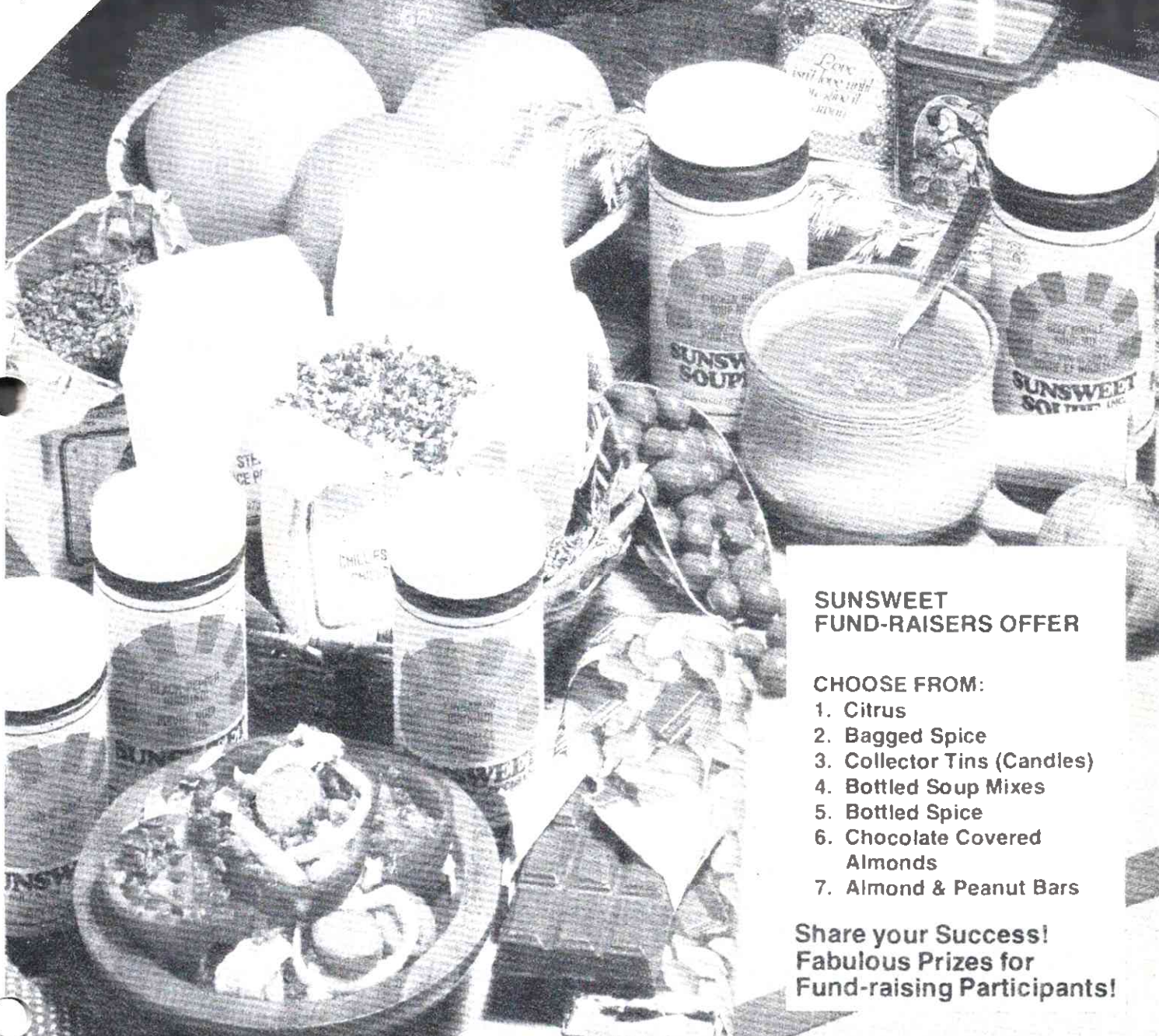
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Season's Greetings