

the **leader**

JUNE/JULY 1984 VOLUME 14, NUMBER 10



**Bring
Back the
Bluebirds p.4**

For Scouters in Summer:

**Hands-On
Program Ideas**

Fall Fun+Profit:

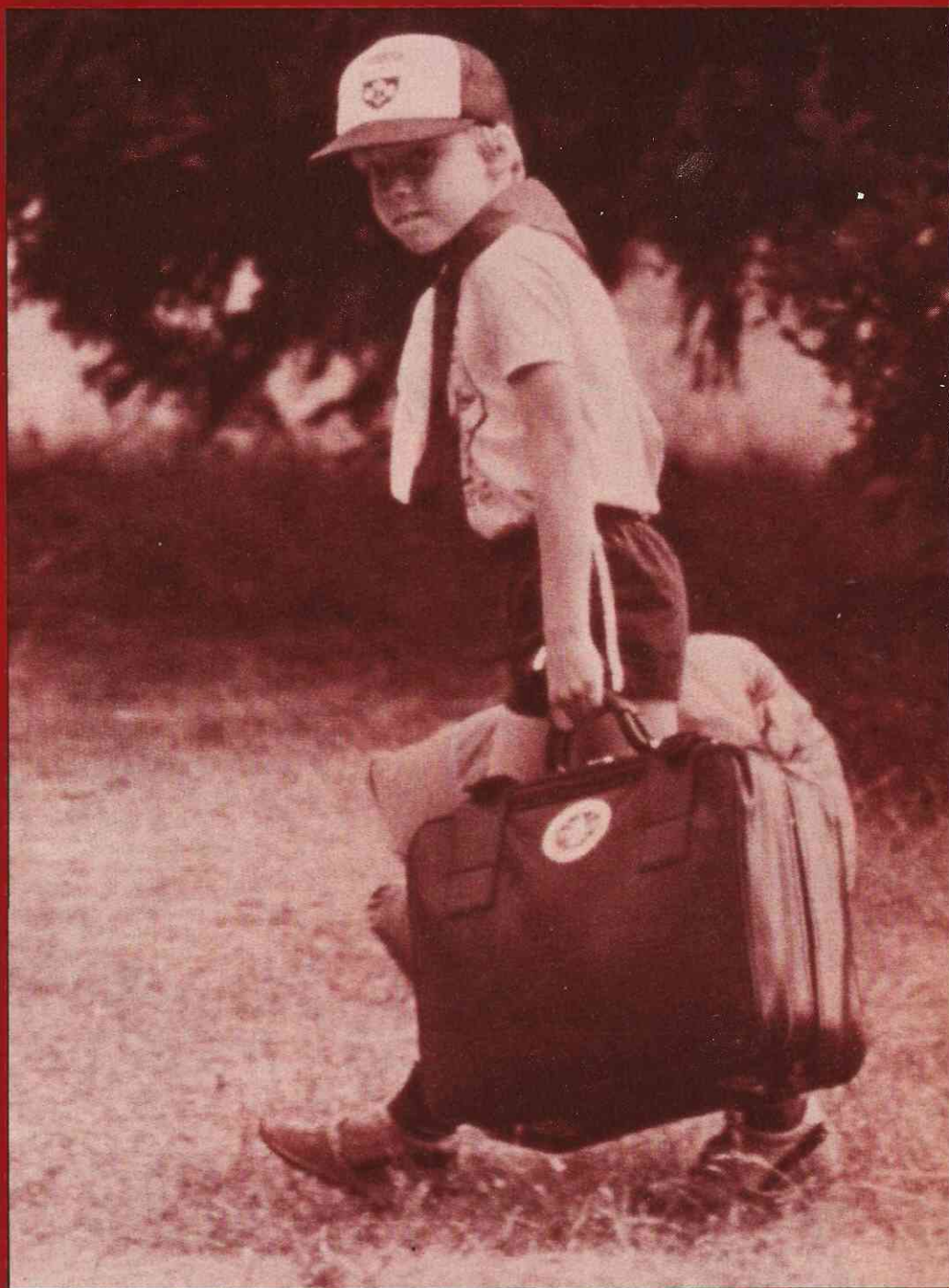
**Scout-Haunted
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Cub Programming for

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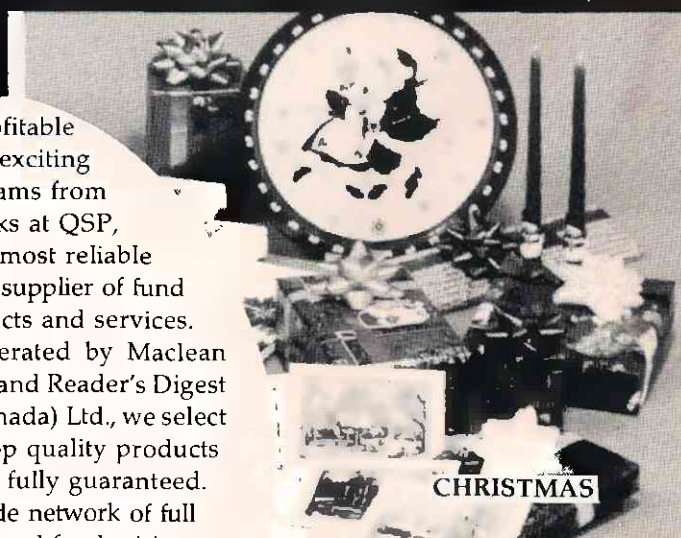
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COVER: Summertime. For boys, it means camp and trying new, exciting things. For leaders, it means camp, and breathing space to read, think, revitalize, and try a few new things themselves. The summer issue takes it all into consideration to give you outdoor ideas, safety reminders, a hauntingly good fall fundraiser and a bluebird conservation program of tremendous value to Scouting and the country. It's all topped off with some just plain good reading as Scouts and Scouters share a few of their year's experiences. Enjoy.

JUNE/JULY 1984

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the leader

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Bringing Back the Bluebirds

by Ken Burden

Haynes Group, Alberta, was looking for ways to earn money to help pay for a summer camp. Someone suggested we approach Union Carbide Co. which had just located 15 miles west of us on a section of the Charlie Ellis Farm. The idea was to persuade the company to buy bird houses from us.

Why would Union Carbide want bird houses? Perhaps a little background is in order.

It starts with the mountain bluebird which, like the eastern and western bluebirds in other parts of Canada, became a threatened species during this century. This attractive thrush, valuable for insect control as well as its lovely song, is a cavity nester whose nesting habitat has been seriously reduced by encroaching civilization.

The clearing of woodland for human developments reduced the number of old woodpecker holes and decaying trees available for bluebird nesting. The few remaining nesting places were taken over by two aggressive foreign species introduced early in the century – the European starling and the English (house) sparrow. Unchecked by natural controls, these birds multiplied rapidly and put almost all native North American cavity-nesting species in jeopardy.

Charlie Ellis, also called Mr. Bluebird, was the first person in western Canada to mount a war against the foreign intruders. At the same time, he encouraged the re-establishment of native bluebirds and tree swallows by building nesting boxes on his farm near Lacombe, Alberta. For many years, the Ellis farm had the highest nesting density of mountain bluebirds recorded anywhere in the world.

When Union Carbide bought a quarter section of the Ellis farm for its new Prentiss plant, it agreed to establish and fund Ellis Bird Farm. The company maintains programs to encourage the nesting of mountain bluebirds and tree swallows, control starlings and house sparrows, and feed birds in winter.

We approached Union Carbide. They asked us to build 220 bird houses of their own design for them – a design

we found very easy to make. And they encouraged us to build enough houses that each Cub, Scout and Venturer would get two of their own. They also offered the services of their recently employed wildlife biologist to give us a slide presentation and talk on the bluebirds.

Our first step was to obtain the necessary materials and start sawing. Then we arranged a construction night. On a regular meeting night, the boys brought their parents to the Scout Hall so that we could all build bird houses together.

What a racket 50 hammers and 50 eager voices make – the parents as noisy as the boys, and having just as much fun. They kept four leaders hopping; two distributing the correct number of pieces for each house, and two others helping to straighten nails, correct “goofs” and wipe up spilled glue.

We were very pleased to receive the money, and the favourable publicity the local newspaper gave the boys for building and setting out the nesting boxes. But several other things were also starting to show because of the project.

Program Develops

Boys and parents developed a fierce pride in what they were doing together, and a genuine concern about the fate of the mountain bluebird. This concern led to an understanding and desire to protect and preserve, not only bluebirds, but all other things in nature as well.

We decided to pursue the subject further and, as a group, joined the North American Bluebird Society in Silver Springs, Maryland. We also started to log all the information we could about the boxes we'd erected: dates of nest building; dates and numbers of eggs laid; numbers of eggs hatched; numbers of birds fledged. Then we set up a map and pinpointed the nesting boxes for which we were responsible.

It seemed we'd developed a program with so many positive spin-offs for boys, parents and birds, the group thought it was important to share it. They asked me to head a resource group that could get the message across. We set up a four-phase program for the task.



Phase 1 meant developing a bluebird conservation program using the star and badge requirements in *The Cub Book* (see sidebar). Phase 2 involves traveling with the wildlife biologist, who is also a registered bird bander, to any interested group in Central Alberta Region to make a slide presentation and talk about our group's program.

Phase 3 comes into play if a group wants to pursue the program. I return to help them construct and place nesting boxes and collect nesting data. The nesting information provides a check on the program and is also passed into the computer system of the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology.

In Phase 4, we check back with the leaders in other groups to see if their experiences and ideas will help us improve the program.

Spreading the Word

We found the most successful way to spread the word was to meet leaders from other groups to explain how worthwhile and simple the program is. Some had reservations about the ability of Cubs to make bird houses of the required design, but their doubts left when I showed samples of our boys' work and told them we'd built 600.

We also set up displays at local Sportsman shows and attended meetings of the Red Deer River Naturalist Society. This gave us a number of opportunities. We were able to tell people what we were doing, and gain their support. We sold a few houses and got feedback on the design so that we could improve it. We also gathered more information about the placement of the nesting boxes.

It all added to our knowledge and increased the enthusiasm of parents and boys. One of our Venturers wrote a grade 11 biology paper on bluebirds. Chances are he'll go on to become a wildlife biologist because of this program.

Meanwhile, I was asked to represent Boy Scouts of Canada at a convention of the North American Bluebird Society in Portland, Oregon, where I learned more and was able to pass on several bits of information from our end. A number of delegates said that, although Scouts had sometimes taken part in bluebird conservation projects, most simply erected a few houses and forgot about them. I showed them the Cub program we'd developed and suggested that, if they worked bluebird conservation into the established program, boys might stay interested long enough to become excited about it.

At the conference, I also met a de-

Bluebird Conservation and the Cub Badge/Star Program

Black Star

#2: Collect nature specimens while waiting a turn to do Green Star #12 and #5 or during a rest period.

#8: Make, set up and look after a bird bath, bird house or bird feeding station.

#12: On a field trip, identify six different kinds of birds, or keep a record of birds at a bird bath or feeding station for a month.

#13: Visit a conservation area (Bluebird Trail) and report on the trip.

Green Star

#8: Use a road map to locate the general area of the Bluebird Trail.

#9: Part one of a three part pack ramble.

#12: Using a compass, directions, a map or clues, follow a trail to find hidden bird houses: check, repair, log information and clean bird houses.

#5: In conjunction with #12, send or receive a code which gives directions or clues to locating bird houses.

Tawny Star

#9 & 14: Collect natural articles during the ramble to proceed with these requirements.

#1: You can meet this requirement by laying out and building a bird house.

#12: Make a poster on bluebird conservation.

Badges

Carpenter Badge: (3) Lay out and build a bird house.

Observer Badge: (2) Observe and know something of the habits of six birds; (3) Recognize and imitate two bird calls.

Winter Cubbing Badge: (5B) Take a winter ramble to clean and repair a bird house before the birds return in the spring.

Woodsman Badge: (9) Find a hidden bird house, not more than 300 yards away, using compass directions and signs on the ground, landmarks, or a combination of these.

World Conservation Badge

1(b) Make, set up and maintain a bird feeder, bird table, bird bath or bird nesting box (Black Star #8 and #12).

1(c) Take part in a nature survey (Black Star #12).

1(f) Choose a wild animal, tree, fish or bird. Discover all you can about it and report your discoveries on a wall chart, in a log book, through a scrap book, etc. (Black Star #2 and #11; Observer Badge).

1(g) Visit a zoo, botanical garden, or natural history museum, or see a film about animals or plants. Report on your observations (Black Star #6, #11, #13).

2(a) Find some examples which show how man has damaged nature and some examples which show how man has improved nature (*Cub Book*, Section 15).

2(b) Write down some rules for good behaviour in the countryside (Country Code) and show that you are doing your best to keep them (*Cub Book*, Section 15 and Observer Badge).

3(a) Watch a film or slide presentation or listen to a short talk about some animal, bird, fish or plant life that is in danger in Canada, then give some ideas about how you can help save them (pack project).

3(b) Make a poster showing the endangered animal, bird, fish or plant and add your own message about how we can help save them (Tawny Star #12).

partment of agriculture plant scientist from Williams Lake, B.C. Her job was to find a way to control insects on range land without using chemicals. She wanted to use the mountain bluebird and tree swallow but was having problems with nest box design and monitoring her area. I explained what we were doing in Haynes and suggested she ask Cubs and Scouts in her area to help with the project. She now has our nest box design and program outline.

We believe our bluebird conservation program brings out the best in the boys, their parents and the community.

People have become more aware of man's positive and negative impacts on nature. They see one small group of boys showing concern about one conservation problem and trying to do something about it. This, alone, has brought all of us closer together.

A project like this is adaptable to all parts of Canada. The mountain bluebird's breeding range extends from western Canada to eastern Manitoba. The western bluebird, found in southern British Columbia, is even scarcer than the mountain bluebird. The eastern bluebird, which ranges from southern

Alberta to Nova Scotia, also is threatened by scarce nesting places. If you are interested in finding out how your group can help, contact the wildlife or bird watching organizations in your area.

Ken Burden has been involved with Scouting for 13 years, eight of them as a Cub leader. He was ADC in Diamond Willow District for two years and district Wood Badge trainer for two years. At present, he is Venturer advisor with the 1st Haynes Group in Lacombe, Alberta. X

Mountain Bluebird Nesting Box

This top-opening nesting box, especially designed for mountain bluebirds, will last for years. It's easily mounted and provides convenient access for observation and cleaning. Because of the size of the entrance hole, starlings can't take it over and, if you mount it away from buildings and fairly close to the ground (on a post not lower than one metre high), house sparrows are unlikely to move in.

A box constructed from exterior grade plywood or cedar need not be painted. If you must paint, use a light colour to prevent overheating, but choose one that will blend with the environment so that the box doesn't attract predators or vandals. Paint only the outside of the box and use a product free of lead and toxic wood preservatives such as pentachlorophenol.

You can expect to see bluebirds in city suburbs, small towns and rural areas. They prefer open areas and rarely

nest in deep woods. If you place nest boxes too close to trees, house wrens are likely to destroy the bluebird nests and occupy the boxes.

Bluebirds do like some trees or shrubs in the area to use as perches. Locate your boxes away from buildings in open areas with some scattered trees. Pastures and golf courses are ideal locations.

Because mountain bluebirds feed almost entirely on insects during the nesting season, areas of short vegetation are best. Fields of tall crops prevent effective feeding by mid-season, so that pairs nesting in these areas usually will only raise a single brood. In good habitat, many pairs will raise two broods a season.

Each bluebird pair needs about 300 yards of territory. If the habitat is good, six pairs of bluebirds might nest along a mile of fence line.

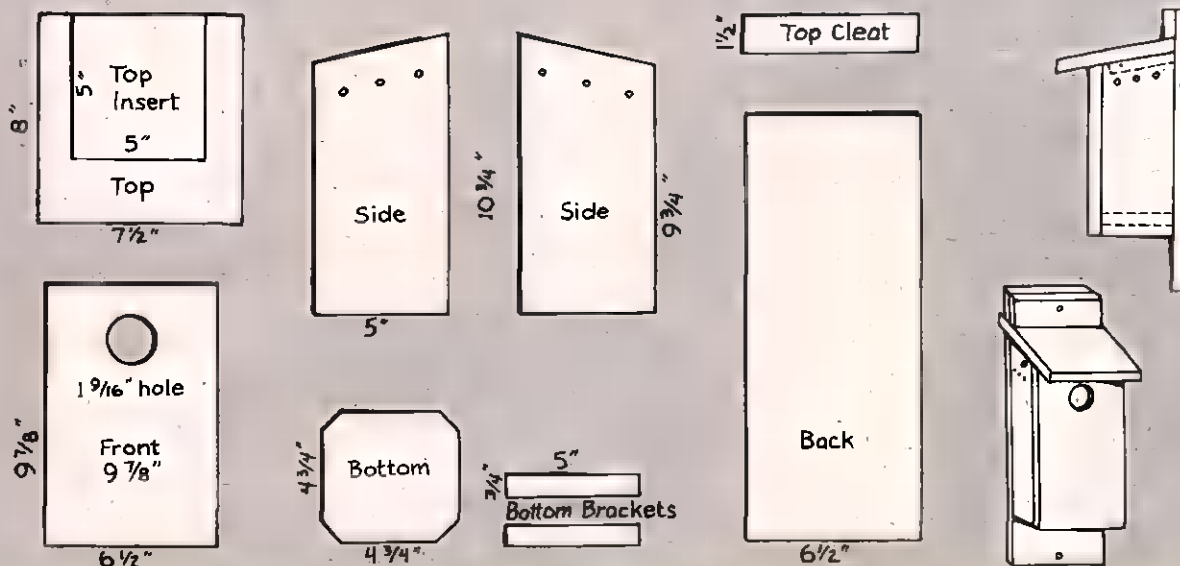
Monitor nest boxes you set out to ensure house sparrows have not moved in. You can count the number of eggs by lifting the female off the clutch. The young fledged 17 to 20 days after hatching.

Once bluebirds establish themselves

in an area, they or their offspring usually return year after year. If bluebirds don't occupy your nest boxes by early May, tree swallows likely will move in. They also are attractive and beneficial birds which feed on flying insects. You can minimize competition between tree swallows and mountain bluebirds by placing two boxes back to back close to each other. This allows each species to establish a territory without interfering with the other.

Construction Notes

1. Top is held in place by a nail on each side which slips into a pre-drilled hole in the side and top insert.
2. Bottom sits loose on bottom brackets for easy cleaning.
3. Pre-drilled holes top and bottom make mounting easier.
4. Splintering around the holes is reduced if you drill a stack of fronts at the same time.
5. Vent holes $\frac{1}{4}$ " in diameter allow ventilation during hot weather.
6. Corners cut off the bottom allow drainage if moisture gets in.



Canadian Rovers Down Under

by Sue Emond with Matt Land, Suzann Smith & Allan Kauk

On Dec. 28, 1983, the first of 35 Canadian Rovers arrived at Gowrie Park, Tasmania, for the 4th Asia-Pacific, 9th Australian Rover Moot. The others arrived over the next few days by jumbo jet, prop plane, bus, bicycle, car, ferry and foot — some without luggage, but all with anticipation of a great time. No one left disappointed.

Gowrie Park, the site of a former hydro village, sits at the foot of awesome, often cloud-shrouded Mount Roland. For the moot period, the site's reversion to farmland and wilderness was halted by the erection of a tent city of over 100 dwellings. At the official opening ceremony Dec. 29, Tasmanian Governor and Chief Scout Sir James Plimsoll gave Rovering a boost by pointing out how Scouting helps Rovers face unfamiliar environments and cope with new factors in life. Canada's Chief Scout, Governor General Edward Schreyer also sent greetings and best wishes.

The opening gave us a chance to meet other Canadians from all across the country and to see the uniforms of more than 800 participants from Australia, New Zealand, Canada, U.S.A., Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Papua New Guinea, United Kingdom, Swaziland, Japan, Fiji, Finland, Pakistan and the Republic of China (Taiwan).

The five days in camp provided an incredible range of activities: pioneer settlement sheep shearing, blacksmithing, bullock team and pioneering; trap, rifle and pistol shooting, and archery; rock climbing, water skiing, parasailing; horseback riding, hiking, caving, trout fishing, prospecting; tennis, basketball, volleyball, and swimming in the pool.

The Eastman Trophy, which various states in Australia compete for each year, was opened to the moot contingents and teams of four males and four females competed in "anything goes" relays in search of the prize. Canadian Rovers entered their own team, and two Canadians joined some Finnish girls who wanted to enter. Despite gallant efforts, neither team made the finals. Canadian John Baynham of Toronto, an ambulance attendant considered "one of the best" at home, put his first aid skills to work when an accident marred one evening's competition, and made at least four first aid runs over the week.



Four-wheeling: On the second day, the road turned to bog.

A rodeo provided the afternoon entertainment on a sunny, warm Dec. 31. After local horsemen demonstrated their skills, Rovers got involved in bull dogging, steer riding, goat tying and wild cow milking. The Rovers enjoyed themselves, but we're not sure about the sentiments of the cattle, and the goat!

A New Year's party for over 800 was a tough introduction to the five day adventures which departed around 6:30 a.m. January 1. There were Canadians involved in all the offerings: rock climbing, rafting, diving, 'Round 'Tassie Bus Tour, cycling, kayaking, four-wheel driving, sailing, sun and surf, Cradle Mountain hike and Maria Island tour.

Three Rovers from the 144th Winnipeg reported some of their adventures. Suzann Smith joined the four-wheelers. On the first day, "the rent-a-wreck lived up to its name and promptly broke down," she reported. On the second day, "the road turned to bog" and the Rovers did a "lot of pushing and pulling". On the third day, they went "bridge building" — the only group to accomplish the service project assigned to them. On the fourth day, they met up with the 'Tassie Tour and took a boat ride. On their final day, they busily rebuilt part of a historic railway line.

Matt Land and Allan Kauk joined the rafters. They spent their first day on a 10½ hour bus trip. Day two was an easy half day on the bus and half day on the rafts, with water fights and the loss of two rafts offering the only real excitement.

It rained on day three. Ten minutes onto the river, one of the rafts split a seam and needed emergency repairs.

While going through some rapids, another crew put a 12" rip down the side of their craft. It couldn't be repaired, and six people had to walk out. Day four was a hot lazy day broken by the excitement of one set of rapids over a five foot drop. "Many of the rafts made it, but a few didn't," said the Canadian rafters, who did. Day 5, after packing and loading the rafts, it was back on the bus.

The five-day groups returned to camp Jan. 5, lame, burned, exhausted and basically happy, but not for long. During their absence, a violent storm swept through the camp, ripping through tents and scattering and soaking gear. The skeleton staff assembled the equipment to dry in one of the empty buildings, and the Rovers' first job upon their return was to wander around this giant rummage sale to find their belongings.

On Jan. 8, Canadian Rovers cooked a pancake breakfast for everyone in camp — and many claimed it the very best of all camp breakfasts. On Jan. 9, it was time to move on. Many Canadian Rovers set out on tours of Australia and New Zealand before returning home and, indeed, at least two of them are still there somewhere!

The friendships we made will last forever. Many of us hope to meet again in '86. That's the year of the Canadian moot to be held in B.C., and of the 10th Australian moot to be held in South Australia from Dec. 28, 1986 to Jan. 7, 1987. The Australians are trying for World Moot status. Let's wish them luck and start saving. Rovering is indeed alive and well and living all around this great world of Scouting. X

A Royal Invitation to Oman

by Myles Vanni & Dominique Tyrrell

A fairytale came to life for three young-men from Scouts-Canada last November. Assistant Scout leader Scott Woods, Winnipeg, Man., Assistant Cub leader Dominique Tyrrell, Montreal, Que., and Beaver leader and Rover Myles Vanni, Hagersville, Ont., were among 450 young people from 50 countries of the world invited to Oman as guests of Sultan Qaboos for final celebrations to Oman's Year of the Youth.

A Muslim country of 1.5 million located on the south eastern tip of the Arabian peninsula across the Gulf of Oman from India, Pakistan and Iran, ancient Oman was a world maritime trading power. In the 19th century, the country turned inward and its isolation kept it from developments which changed the face of the rest of the world.

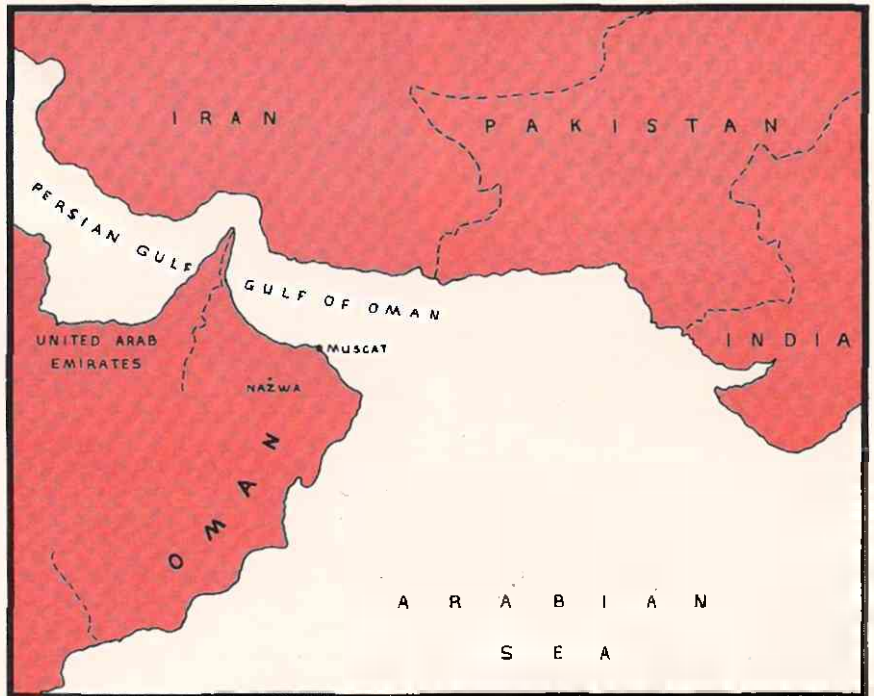
For example, in 1970, when Sultan Qaboos began his drive towards modernization, Oman had only 12 hospital beds and 16 schools, four of which allowed female students. Today it has 2,000 hospital beds, and education is mandatory for males and females. Its first university is under construction and due to open in 1986. In the meantime, the government provides money to allow students to study at universities in other countries.

The Canadian and American youth delegates met first at the Omani Embassy in Washington, D.C. and had an opportunity to tour Washington and the White House before setting off on the 20 hour flight to Muscat, the capital of Oman.

Because Oman is a "closed" country where even businessmen must have in-country sponsors and special papers and passport numbers to enter, the youth delegations were the first tourists ever to visit the country. For our eight very full days in Oman, we stayed in four first class hotels used by business travellers.

The Canadian ambassador in the area serves six gulf countries and lives in Kuwait, but about 120 Canadians work in Oman. David Field, Canadian commercial representative, invited the Canadian youth delegation and a number of other Canadian residents to dinner. It was interesting to hear from them what it is like to live in Oman as foreigners.

Our second night, there was an



outdoor cultural performance where 25 different groups performed national song and dance in costume — a fascinating show.

On Wednesday, we travelled into the interior to the ancient capital, Nazwa. The landscape is rocky desert surrounded by *jebel* (mountains) and the average temperature during our visit was 30-35°C. In the summer, it reaches 55°C. The only vegetation is concentrated in small date palm oases where a little farming is done. A series of ditches called *falaj* bring water from the mountains to the villages.

The youth delegations were the first tourists ever to visit the country.

The *falaj* are the only source of drinking and cooking water. They are also where kids swim, and people bathe and wash clothing and dishes. Clean water is a major project for development in this water-scarce area.

While in Nazwa, we toured an old fort and bought *dish dasha* — the robes worn by Omani men. We found them much more comfortable and cool than our own clothing.

When we returned to the capital, we went straight to the stadium to

practise for the Nov. 18 National Day parade. About 5,000 Omani youth were there to practise as well and, as soon as they saw us, they surged forward and surrounded us, wildly shouting and chanting the name of each country that marched by. It made us feel really good about being there and being Canadian.

Because the young people of Oman are educated in Arabic and English, we could speak with them. Dom and I went over big because we were still wearing our *dish dasha*. It seemed like it took forever to walk the length of the stadium through them. They all wanted to shake hands and, when you held out a hand to shake with one person, six others grabbed onto it. The friendliness and enthusiasm were unbelievable.

On Thursday, the Omani navy took all 450 of us on a private beach party. We sailed down the coast on a patrol vessel, singing and dancing on the helicopter pad to the accompaniment of drums brought aboard by a number of the Arab groups.

The ship stopped offshore at an isolated beach surrounded by *jebel*. On shore, the navy had set up volleyball nets, soccer fields and tents for shade and cooking. Behind the beach was a ruined fishing village to explore, and after a lunch of barbecued

steak, pork chops, chicken and sausage (one of the smaller meals we ate during our stay!), five of us climbed one of the *jebel* to enjoy a stupendous view of the ocean, beach and surrounding hills.

Back in town that evening, some resident Canadians showed us around the *souq* (market) with its hundreds of little raised stalls. It was dark, crowded, noisy and smelly. Many of the pathways between the rows of stalls were only wide enough for two people to pass. When you saw something you liked, you pointed it out and the shopkeeper offered a price. Then, you bartered. It was a fascinating experience.

The National Day celebrations Saturday night were spectacular. While

a military band of 500 played, we paraded behind our flags for the sultan. Omani groups marched behind us and hundreds of young people ran over the field making patterns with coloured flags. The ceremonies ended with a huge display of fireworks.

On Sunday, by 6 a.m. we were on our way to the desert to watch camel races. On Sunday afternoon, Ian Wood, the Canadian ambassador, flew in from Kuwait and met with us briefly. That night, we were at the

left: for each of us a parcel containing a T-shirt imprinted with the youth year symbol and a frankincense burner; and finally, from the sultan, the most valuable gift of all — a free entry visa to Oman.

For a time, Oman will remain a closed country but, whenever we want, we will be allowed to enter it without need of sponsors, special papers or numbers. It is a real honour.

By bringing together youth from

When you saw something you liked, you pointed it out and the shopkeeper offered a price. Then, you bartered.

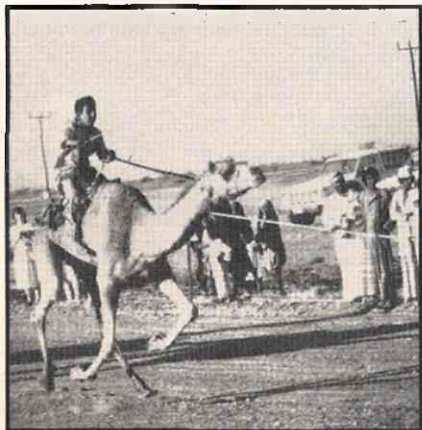
stadium for the Omani youth performance, during which Omani Cubs and Scouts invested the sultan and made him Chief Scout of Oman.

On Monday, we were off to the palace where the sultan was having tea for 1,000 — members of the youth delegations, Omani youth, ambassadors, dignitaries and government officials. On Monday night, the last for the Canadian and American delegations, our hotel held a banquet for us. Afterwards, we all gathered on the steps outside while one of the Swiss delegates serenaded us with an alpenhorn.

Although we considered the entire trip a gift, there was more before we

around the world, the Omani government hoped to show their country's progress and development and cement the bonds between Oman and other countries. More than that, they told us, they wanted to bring together the future leaders of the world to talk to one another, learn from one another and understand each other, because understanding is the only true way to peace.

We believe their hopes for the youth delegation visit were met. The trip gave us a wonderful opportunity to exchange ideas and learn about different cultures. Through it we have made friends from all around the world. X



Dominique and Myles find the Omani dish dasha far more comfortable than western clothes in the 30° C-plus temperatures.

Try It This Summer

by David Goss

June, not January is the right time for resolutions in the Scouting organization. As we wind up another year, it makes sense to look back so that we can see what we've accomplished and plan ahead to make next year even better.

With that thought in mind, I gave the Duffle Bag a good shake to come up with some program ideas you may not have considered. Perhaps, over the less hectic summer period, you'll find time to carry out the research necessary to bring these ideas to fruition for your boys.

Of course, Scouters don't want to spend all their summer hours with noses in books, so I chose project ideas with a practical angle. I figure, as long as you have fun doing something, you're more likely to work it into your program.

Gold Panning

Is there an area near your headquarters where prospectors once panned for gold? If so, traces of gold likely remain in the stream. Learn how to pan the sands and try to find some small bits of the precious metal. In the fall, take your boys panning, too. They will have to find the area by secret maps, codes and symbols, of course. While there, they might also have to locate the food they need to make their lunch — beans to cook, bread to bake, etc.

Bird Watching

The average Scouter likely recognizes robins, jays, crows, turkeys, pigeons and perhaps a half dozen other birds. Over the summer, take time to learn to recognize a few more birds in your area. If you work at picking up just a few each summer, in a few short years you'll know so many birds by sight and sound, you'll be able to add a whole new dimension to your outings.

Wildflowers

As you do with birds, try to learn to identify wildflowers. They are easier to



Maybe there's gold in them hills!

learn because at least they stay in one place. Pick and press a few and make up a display panel. Pick the flowers on dry days. A professional flower press is nice, but you can press them simply by placing them first between sheets of white paper and then between newspaper. Lay heavy books on the package and leave for a week to 10 days.

To keep them looking good on display, place the flowers behind glass. In the fall, your boys can repeat your experience. Asters, goldenrod and pearly everlasting make particularly good drying specimens.

Leaf Collection

Every pack and troop should make and display a collection of leaves along with samples of tree bark so that boys can learn first hand the best trees for making cookfires. City troops and packs can learn what trees are best for city streets because of their disease and smog resistance. You can design a pleasant fall activity around gathering, drying and pressing the colourful leaves of many types of trees. After they are dry, the boys can lay leaves on sheets of dark construction paper and work out interesting patterns. Or they can combine leaves with sticks, stones, cones, burrs, seeds, acorns, pods and husks to

make fall collages. You'll find many ideas in books at your library.

Metal Detector

Arrange to use one of these super-sensitive electronic gadgets over the summer. In the fall, get together with four fellows who will volunteer to head up search patrols on a deserted beach. Hide suitable "finds" in the sand ahead of time.

Archery

Most communities include a few keen archers who will be willing to share their skill. Archery, of course, requires considerable care and is definitely an older boy activity. But, think of other things that "shoot". Consider the local police firing ranges, the driving range at a golf course, ball-pitching machines and bowling alleys. How can you work some of these resources into programs for fall and winter 1984/85?

Unusual Foods

What food is your area famous for? For generations along the Fundy coast of New Brunswick, Saint Johners have picked dulse, an edible seaweed that



How many birds can you identify?



Pick some clams, or some fiddleheads.



clings to the rocks at low tide. After drying it on sun-warmed rocks for almost a day, they eat it raw or slightly cooked. Maritime children snack on it like Torontonians do on potato chips, but we found many boys in our group had never picked it. We also found they had never jiggled the spring run of gaspereau, picked fiddleheads, dug clams, drunk farmer's fresh milk, caught winter smelt through the ice or tapped maple trees. We set out to try harvesting and eating as many of these foods as we could and, over the years, managed to introduce boys to all of them.

Every area of Canada presents some similar possibilities and now is the time to try them yourself so that you can work them into your program in the future.

The Guitar

If there is one thing I'd recommend to every beginning Scouter, it is to take a few lessons on the guitar. I'm a three-chord strummer myself, but those three chords have enabled me to make enthusiastic singers of hundreds of boys who might not otherwise have learned a Scout song.

Get a guitar this summer. Take a few lessons or buy an instruction book and

learn the chords D, G, A7; or C, F, G7; or G, C, D; or A, D, E7. Did you notice the repetition? That's the secret and the beauty of the guitar. Once you've mastered one sequence, you already know one third of the next, which comes in mighty handy. Some songs, like *Down in the Valley* or *The Grand Old Duke of York* require only two chords.

Once you have your boys singing, you'll be smitten for life and you'll never again run an outing without a sing song.

Skits

In an earlier piece I did for this magazine, I put to paper a dozen of my favourite skits. Some of you didn't agree with my choices. Some even wrote to say I should be drummed out of the movement!

It's with some trepidation that I mention the subject again but I'm taking the chance because Scouting surely needs some new skits. This summer, be on the lookout for suitable material. You may find it in books or magazines, on TV, in the movies or at the office or plant. At summer's end, put together a few skits to try next season.

Then, follow up and send your material to me through the editor. I am per-

fectedly willing to commit another group of skits to paper so that none of us who have spent some time in the movement will ever again have to endure *Suckers on the Line*. And I'll do it even at the peril of losing my membership in this great movement, because I believe it will be the finest contribution I can make to Scouting in Canada today.

Have a few chuckles while you're sipping your lemonade in the shade, and let us know what you find funny this summer.

Oldies but Goodies

When was the last time you tried some of these old ideas?

- Fire by friction: did you ever get it to work?
- A study of the stars: not since your highschool days?
- A swap, talk and brag night: just be sure you have a better story than the ones your boys will tell, or think about importing a storyteller.
- Tape recorder hike: combine the Top 10 with instructions that lead your boys to the radio station from which their favourite music emanates. Arrange a tour.
- Animal track casts: it's surprising that, when they see his tracks in the snow, few boys know which way the rabbit was running. What do you mean, they don't even know that the tracks are rabbit tracks?
- Weekly home specials: prepare a series of cards with Scouting tips or projects boys learn or do between meetings; e.g. press a neckerchief, sew on a button, make up an emergency kit.
- Knot bucket: how long has it been since every boy in your pack or troop could tie three basic knots; the reef, clove hitch and bowline? Make it your aim for '85.

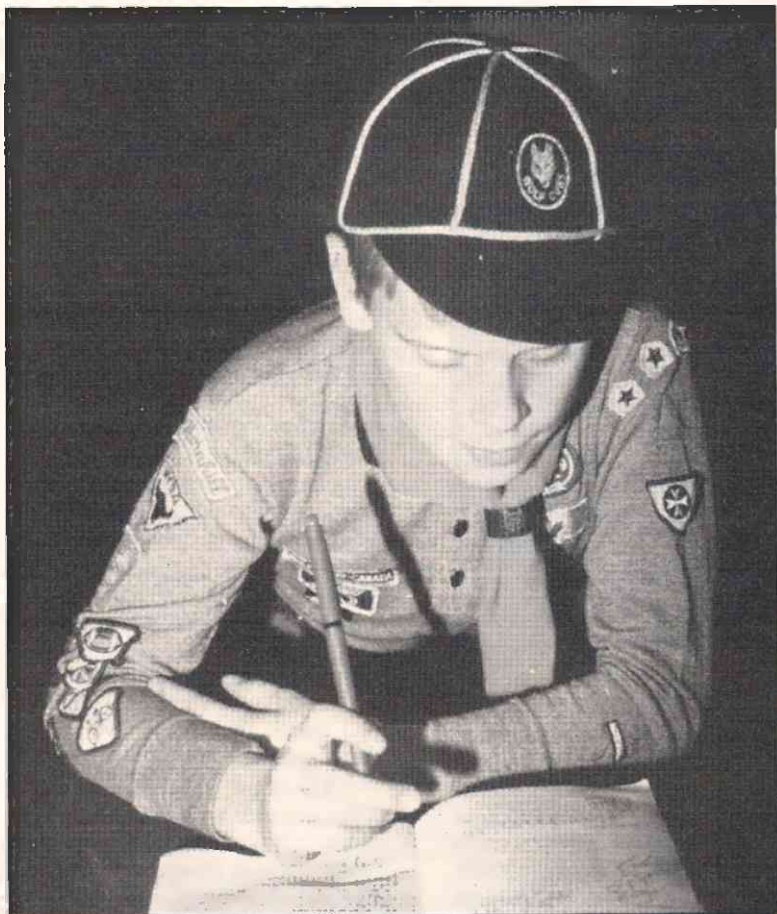
Review your books over the summer and come up with other things you can try: troop calls; troop banner; troop displays; troop games and equipment box; troop cooking kit. The list goes on.

By now, I hope you're abuzz with a headful of ideas. But don't just think about them. Summer in Canada doesn't last long and you'll be back at it very soon. You don't want to arrive empty-handed.

Duffle Bag will be back in October with a whole series of ideas for special days you might never have considered celebrating: Left-handers' Day; Houdini's Birthday; Three Kings Day; and a dozen others you can fit into your program plans. Have a nice summer. X

Program Planning for Pack Meetings — 4

Badges and Stars



photos & text by Paul Ritchi

Cubs want to come home from a meeting feeling they've accomplished something. So do leaders. If they've spent time on the badge program, they need to feel it was time well spent.

For many parents, the badges and stars their sons earn are a visible "end result" of the program you run. The badges the boys wear on their uniforms also show the general public the variety of experiences Cubbing offers.

In other words, the badge program is an important part of Cubbing, but it is not the end-all or be-all of the Cub program.

Because we know that many boys and leaders run into frustration with the badge program, I thought I'd toss out some ideas you might want to

consider to help your pack improve the program they have or build a new and exciting one.

What Cubs Think

"I think badge and star work should be part of the regular Cub meeting so that Cubs have a chance to do stars or badges that they might not have a chance to do at home," one of our Cubs told us. Boys of Cub age need direction, support and encouragement to earn a badge or star, and they want the leaders to give it to them.

Another Cub told us we shouldn't force a boy to do badge work because "if he doesn't really want to do it, he won't try to do it."

Some boys are very happy to be Cubs without earning more than a badge or two and it's important to remember that there's much more to Cubbing than a badge program. Our job as leaders is to provide oppor-

tunity, support and an overall positive environment to encourage boys to earn badges and stars.

Badge Program Organization

Before we can sell a program, we must have a program to sell. With your leadership team, determine your goals for the year and find one leader who will take care of the overall organization of the badge program. According to their individual interests, different leaders will want to take responsibility for different badge work. Schedule the badge program into the overall program and ensure leaders understand both the programs and the specific requirements of any badge or star session they've agreed to run.

Finally, set down on paper an actual program using, if you wish, an outline similar to what we've found very successful:



Badge Program Outline

1) Bring badge and star records up to date so that you know exactly what every Cub in the pack has earned.

2) Organize the pack into equal-sized groups for instructional sessions. This is the job of the leader responsible for overall program organization. It's a good idea to use mixed-age groups so that older boys (normally Sixers and Seconds) can help younger Cubs and generally stabilize the group. Pair up appropriate leaders with each group.

3) Depending on the number of leaders in the pack, leave a minimum of one and a maximum of three leaders free — that is, do not assign them to a specific group. This helps you around the problem of absent leaders. For example, if Baloo, who is in charge of Red Star work, can't make it to a meeting, Keego, who isn't assigned to a specific group, can simply pick up the Red Star folder Baloo has left at the meeting hall and carry on.

4) For each group, put together file folders which include: the names of the Cubs in the group; the name(s) of the leader(s) in charge; the number of weeks scheduled for the group's work; a record of each boy's attendance and progress; a list of specific badge and star requirements which apply to that group.

5) Plan for six individual sessions per badge, allowing a minimum 20 minutes and maximum 30 minutes for each. Organize the program so that the sessions take place over eight or nine meetings. It isn't necessary to plan an instruction session every week.

6) As badge sessions progress, leaders carefully document the names of the boys present, the work they com-

pleted that evening, and the work they plan to complete or take a look at during the next instruction session.

Selling the Program to Parents

I think all pack Scouters are familiar with these kinds of badge program scenarios.

- Ronnie's mother sends you a brief note listing the seven badges and two stars he passed last week at home!

- Boys never complete the badge requirements you ask them to do at home because their parents seem to have no idea of what is expected of them or how to help.

- Many boys don't seem to own a Cub Book, and others have never replaced the one they lost or misplaced.

- When badges are sewn onto the Cubs' jerseys, they are in the wrong place.

- Occasionally, an odd interested parent calls Akela with a thousand and two questions about badges.

Sound familiar?

You can take a number of steps to ensure these things don't continue to happen. First, know what type of badge and star program you want to run, and establish separate lists of badges and stars you recommend for earning at home (e.g. House Orderly, Pet Keeper); at camp (e.g. Woodsman, Fisherman); at Cub meetings (e.g. Guide, Red Star); and both at home and during camps or meetings (e.g. Black Star, World Conservation).

Put together a badge/star information booklet for parents — one you can use year after year — and send it out with the annual group registration forms. This is the kind of information we provide in the kit we've developed.

1) An introduction to the planned badge/star program. We tell parents we need their direct support in order for the badge program to work. We also tell them our program is designed to encourage and help boys earn badges and stars, but we point out that, unlike school, Cubbing doesn't demand that a boy earn a certain number of badges in order to be considered a successful Cub.

2) Lists of badges best earned at home, at meetings, at camps and through joint home/Cub activities.

3) Lists of specific areas where the boy's work will require parent support; e.g. If your son is working on his Green Star at meetings, please encourage and help him to complete Green Star requirements #3, 4 or 10.

4) Instructions on what parents are to provide you when a boy passes a badge at home: a note specifying the badge or star and details about the requirements completed; where applicable, copies of certificates (e.g. Red Cross Certificate for Swimmer badge) and samples of the work (e.g. a project completed for the Artist badge). Leaders can use the samples to encourage other Cubs to undertake similar projects.

5) Times when leaders will be available to look at completed badge or star work done at home. Perhaps, for example, a leader can be at the hall 20 minutes before the meeting starts. It's important to remember that a Cub puts much work and effort into completing a star or badge. If a leader spends less than a minute looking at the work, a disappointed Cub is likely to lose interest because he feels the leader isn't interested in him or what he can do.



If you do set up the "before meeting" arrangement for badge-work assessment, make it clear to parents that only boys with completed badge or star work are to come to the meeting early.

6) A sketch that clearly shows the proper position of badges on the Cub jersey.

Selling the Program to Cubs

Most boys are Cubs because they want to have fun. Since they come to the Cub meeting after spending an entire day in school — and a day is a long time to a Cub — the last thing in the world they want is more of the same.

There are many mistakes we can make in running a badge program. Inadvertently, we may turn Cubs into students and leaders into teachers — that is, give the boys a "school" situation where we lecture and they listen carefully then answer our questions. Or, we may show them, perhaps even say, "Hey, guys, this is very serious work. There will be absolutely no fooling around here!" We're not likely to get very far with that approach, either.

On the other hand, we can make the mistake of treating the whole thing too casually. For example, if we don't have everything we need to work on a requirement, we may tend to "make do" and produce shoddy or incomplete work. Again, it's not a good approach. If we don't take badge work seriously, we can hardly expect the Cubs to have a different attitude.

Both Cubs and leaders can really enjoy their badge and star programs

if you plan, prepare and create a positive atmosphere.

In your badge sessions, view the boys as Cubs rather than "just a bunch of kids" or other adults. Let them know you care about them and their progress by encouraging them to communicate with you, ask questions, offer answers, and actively take part in the learning process.

Things really start to happen if you create an environment which says, "Let's do things: let's explore: let's discover things together!" The more "hands-on" participation there is, the better.

And, the more friendly and relaxed the atmosphere, the better. Let the boys tell jokes if it's appropriate, and tell some of your own. If you keep them engrossed you'll automatically establish discipline and control. Ask and expect Cubs simply to do their best, and let them know it's okay to make a mistake or to miss on the first, second, or even third try.

Try to apportion your help and encouragement fairly. "I don't think the leaders should put all their attention into one boy for badge work," one of our Cubs told us. "I think they should explain it to everyone first and then help each boy on an equal amount of time."

Badge/Star Kits

It's very important for leaders to be prepared. Cubs are pretty quick. If you aren't prepared for a badge session, they consider you aren't very interested in what you are doing. If you're not interested, why should they be?

The overall success of a badge or star instruction group depends upon

having the proper tools to do the job. Our pack established badge and star kits for the sessions we run frequently by building containers in which to store materials and labelling them. For example, our Blue Star kit contains: materials for requirements #2 — 4, 6, 8, and 13; copy of *O Canada*; copies of provincial coats of arms; telephone, phone book and local emergency numbers; information and materials for simple first aid techniques; copies of maps of the community; information about space; a sample notebook to encourage boys to develop one of their own.

Given interested leaders and parents who want to help by putting together one or two kits each, you can easily develop kits for:

- Tenderpad work: write out on key cards the Cub Law and Promise and leaders' jungle names.
- Black Star — samples for #2, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 12
- Green Star — #1, 2 (rope), 3, 5, 6, 8, 11 and 12
- Red Star — #3 — 5, 6, 10 and 12
- Tawny Star — examples to motivate boys; #1, 2, 6 — 8, 11, 12
- Carpenter badge — basic tools, nails and building materials, obtained through donation or loan
- First Aid badge — materials for #1C, 2B, D, E, G
- Guide badge — #2 — 5
- Troubadour badge — #3 — 7, 9, 10 (materials to stimulate interest and to make things like puppets)

To keep kits full, leaders assume the responsibility of replacing, at pack expense, materials their boys use up.

Badge Presentations

When a Cub earns a badge or star, present it as soon as possible. Try not to make a boy wait more than a week or he'll start thinking, "I really worked hard to earn my Collector's badge, so how come Akela keeps saying, 'next week — next week?'"

Any boy likes to see the results of his labours now. If you keep him waiting, you may turn him off. He won't understand excuses. If pack funds allow, keep a stock of the more common badges on hand and save your leaders a lot of hassles and running around.

Present a badge or star formally to a Cub in front of his peers. Salute, congratulate him and shake his hand. He has accomplished something and has a right to be proud. So do you. A

Swimmer Feedback, Please

by Gerry Giuliani

In 1981, requirements for the Cub Swimmer badge were changed to correspond to the Green level of the new Red Cross swimming program (*Paksak*, Feb. 1982). As it had been in the past, this kept the Cub requirements at the same level as the Scout bronze Swimmer badge.

Since the change, a number of people have said the Green level is too difficult for Cubs. Because we are in a Wolf Cub program review period, we welcome your feedback on any item of the program. Because we've heard so many concerns about the Swimmer badge, I'm particularly eager for your input in this area.

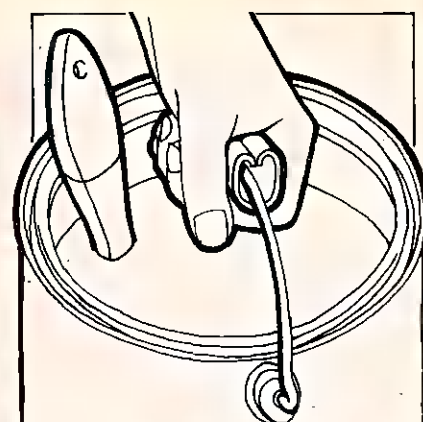
To help you look at the Swimmer badge, I've listed the existing Cub requirements (Red Cross Green) and requirements based on the Red Cross Blue (one level below). Try them out and let me know what works best for your Cubs.

Swimmer Badge (Red Cross Green)

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the basic principles of ice safety focussing on: locale; thickness; emergency procedures.
2. Perform two different throwing assists with a line attached.
3. Demonstrate effective rescue breathing, including turning the victim to a face-up position.
4. Perform a feet-first entry with one foot take-off. Head must remain above the surface at all times and eyes must remain open.
5. Tread water for three minutes and communicate verbally while performing this activity.
6. Complete the following strokes over the prescribed distances:
 - a) Front Crawl — 50 m
 - b) Back Crawl — 50 m
 - c) Elementary Back — 25 m
7. Complete an endurance swim of 150 metres. Stride entry, swim continuously for 150 m using two different strokes.

Requirements: Based on Red Cross Blue

1. Demonstrate an understanding of safe boating practices focussing on:
 - a) equipment: PFD for each person; spare paddles, bailing cans and lights for night travel.
 - b) accident prevention: stay seated; don't overload; no horseplay; inform adult (on land) of destination and time of return; check weather reports before departure.
 - c) emergency procedure: stay with the boat and signal for help. If possible, hand paddle a swamped boat to shore.
2. Identify three items around your swimming area you can use for a reaching assist (paddle, broom, knotted towel, etc.). Perform two different reaching assists, showing how to talk to calm the victim and demonstrating proper low safety position.
3. Perform the basic steps of rescue breathing: tilt head back; pinch nose; four quick breaths; watch for chest to rise and fall.
4. Do a front standing deep dive with streamlined position during entry phase. Hands remain in overhead position until descent phase is completed.
5. Rhythmic breathing for one minute. Exhale below the surface in deep water (vertical or horizontal body position acceptable).
6. Tread water for two minutes. Be relaxed and able to communicate verbally. Maintain body at or near vertical position and remain in place.
7. Complete the following strokes over the prescribed distances:
 - a) Front crawl — 50 m
 - b) Back crawl — 25 m
8. Complete endurance swim of 75 metres. Front (deep) dive, surface, and swim continuously for 75 m using one or two different strokes. Δ



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Books for Summer

Mask Making, by Chester J. Alkema, Sterling Publishing Co., Inc., New York, 94 pages: paper \$8.95; hardcover \$13.95

Whether for Hallowe'en hauntings, campfire entertainment, skits and plays, or props and decorations for special theme events, making a mask is an excellent craft activity. This inexpensive yet lavishly illustrated little book offers ideas suitable for everyone from Beavers to leaders.

Through photos, many in full colour, and clear but not over-elaborated instructions, Alkema shows how to make imaginative masks from the simplest of materials: paper and paper products of all kinds, plastic bottles, egg cartons, seeds, foil, drinking straws, melted crayons, noodles, egg shells, aluminum baking dishes — almost literally, "everything from soup to nuts".

He throws out a challenge Cubs and Scouts will enthusiastically take up: "Try your hand at making the weirdest mask you can, using trinkets from every part of the house." Older boys will also find a challenge in copper or aluminum tooled masks, clay masks and masks of sand-casted plaster of paris.

Some of the masks are for wearing and others are strictly for decoration. Alkema tells us why, and includes safety information in his instructions. He offers valuable tips for shaping, conveying moods and decorating but, as he gives direction, he leaves the application of the techniques to the wild and wonderful imaginations of the mask makers.

Scouters will find *Mask Making* a valuable addition to their personal libraries, and a handy volume to have available in the troop room or company meeting place.

— Linda Florence

The Game, by Ken Dryden, Mac-Millan of Canada, Toronto 1983; \$19.95 hardcover.

Dryden's book on hockey is one of the fortunate few "jock" books to escape the repetitious bore of locker room antics from beginning to end.

Sure, the reader hears what Lafleur does before each game, learns that Mario Tremblay enjoys dissolving his partial plate in a team mate's cup of coke, and feels the tension of playing in the Forum. But these elements are only part of Dryden's description of nine typical days near the end of his last season.

Once, a journalist in Philadelphia, intrigued by the insightful, articulate goalie, asked Dryden, "How do you relate to these guys (i.e. the other members of the team)?" Dryden answered that he shared, with his hockey team mates, a common all-consuming passion. His writing skills bring this passion to life and show that, indeed, Dryden is unique.

After making an excellent example of the Russian game, the athlete-as-lawyer offers an intriguing theory on NHL violence and the future of the game. His fond memories of backyard scrub games help round out an intelligent and lucid picture of the many levels of Dryden's life and the sport of hockey.

The Game is a great read. It will also make a great gift — one you will want to borrow back if you don't already have your own copy.

— Garth Johnson

Nightwatch — An Equinox Guide to Viewing the Universe, by Terence Dickinson, Camden House Publishing Ltd., \$14.95

Anyone whose interest was sparked by Bob Walkington's *Star Gazing for Rank Beginners* series in the *Leader* a year or so ago will find this book a treasure at its price. By pointing out

the pitfalls one meets in shopping for optical equipment, the chapter on stargazing equipment, alone, can save a backyard astronomer many times more than \$15.00.

Author Terence Dickinson, science journalist and part-time astronomy teacher, treats his subject thoroughly in language the beginner can understand. The colourful photos and drawings remove any remaining danger that the text will appear too technical. The charts and star maps are clear and informative.

The chapter *The Universe in Eleven Steps* gives a truly mind-boggling perspective of where our world fits in space. Other chapters cover the planets, moon and sun; solar and lunar eclipses; comets and meteors; and such deep space bodies as clusters, nebulae and galaxies.

This thorough volume includes a useful chapter on photographing the night sky and finishes with a chapter on resources that includes information about magazines, books, equipment and accessories, astronomy clubs, planetariums and observatories.

For those who wish to further their knowledge of astronomy, *Nightwatch* is a veritable prize among books.

— Bob Butcher

The Prehistoric Age, compiled by the staff of the Department of Palaeontology, British Museum (Natural History), GBR Educational Limited, distributed by Sterling Publishing Co., Inc., New York: 97 pages; paperback \$9.95.

Did you know that hylonomous, one of the oldest known reptiles, lived in Nova Scotia 350 million years ago? It's only one of this fascinating little volume's references to the kinds of fossil finds possible in various parts of Canada.

It's basically a picture book of full-colour illustrations of prehistoric life forms accompanied by information captions. Unfortunately, I think the children targetted as its audience will find the reading very heavy going. Kids don't have difficulty with interesting and necessary technical names, but sentences like, "Brachio-pods are most important as stratigraphical indicators in the early Palaeozoic when many genera and species were evolved," are a little much even for many adult readers.

For Scouters, the book is an excellent quick reference. It begins with presentations of theories about the origins of the universe, the solar system and earth, and life itself. As it traces the evolution of various life

forms, it provides insights into the interdependence of all living things on earth. It's attractively and well organized into chapters on various forms of animal and plant life.

The Prehistoric Age might be a great gift for an older boy with a keen interest in fossils and the past, but I think it will be of greatest value on a Scouter's personal bookshelf.

— Linda Florence

The One Minute Manager, by Kenneth Blanchard and Spencer Johnson. Berley Books, New York: paperback \$7.95.

A super little book with just over 100 pages and a lot of white space, *The One Minute Manager* provides an easy and enjoyable read of about an hour. It gives, however, the kind of simple message you'll want to read over and over again.

We've all read lengthy explanations of how to be a better manager. The message of Johnson and Blanchard is simple and to the point: to be a better manager, use one minute goal setting, one minute praising and one minute reprimands.

We usually think management is something that has to do with business, but the message in this book is equally applicable for section leaders who work with young people, Service Scouters and trainers who work with adults, and council and committee members at all levels.

It's available from almost any book store and, believe me, it's the kind of gem you don't want to miss.

— Reg Roberts

Sources and Resources, Ontario Government Publications

During a recent trip to Toronto, I stopped at the Ontario Government Bookstore at 880 Bay Street and came upon two sets of inexpensive, potentially useful booklets for Scouters, trainers, and service team and council personnel.

"Notes for Community Leaders" is a series on *Evaluation*, *The Community*, *Effective Meetings*, *Program Planning*, *Teaching Adults* and other similar titles. For 50c each, they are a great way to pick up ideas.

The other series, available for \$1.00 each, includes *Conference Planning*, *Discussion Leader's Handbook*, *Volunteers in Your Organization*, *Resources for Community Groups* and a few other titles.

These resources are a tremendous bargain. If a trip to Toronto is out of the question, write to the Ontario Government, Publications Service Section, 5th Floor, 880 Bay Street, Toronto, Ontario M7N 1M8.

— Pat Horan

venturer log

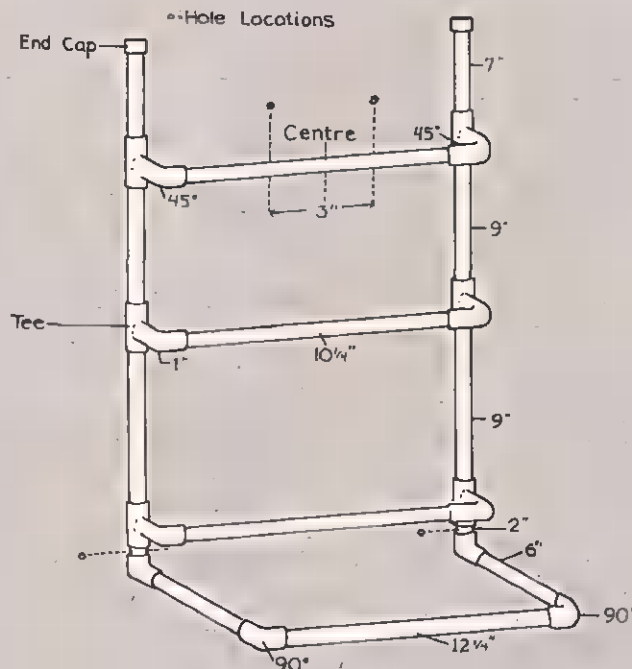
Copper Tubing Pack Frame

by Phil Newsome

This simple-to-construct pack frame may be just the kind of project some of your Venturers are looking for during the summer. The dimensions provided are for an adult frame but, if a Venturer wants to make a pack

for a young brother or sister, they can be scaled down.

To complete the package, attach a duffle bag with shock cords. The result is a light, durable and practical backpack.



Tools

propane torch
tape measure

file
½" tube cutter

drill & ¼" bit
pliers
emery cloth or steel wool

Materials

10 feet of ½" copper tubing cut as follows:

- 2 pc. — 7"
- 4 pc. — 9"
- 2 pc. — 2"
- 2 pc. — 6"
- 1 pc. — 12¼"
- 3 pc. — 10¼"
- 6 pc. — 1"
- 6 — 45° ½" copper elbows

- 4 — 90° ½" copper elbows
- 6 — ½" copper tees
- 2 — ½" copper or brass end caps
- 1 — pair shoulder straps
- 1 — pair back bands
- 1 — padded hip belt
- 4 — ¼"×½" aluminum pins with rings (for attaching straps)
- solder (50/50)
- soldering paste

Procedure

1. Cut copper tubing to length.
2. Clean all ends of tubing and inside of fittings with emery cloth or steel wool.
3. Apply soldering paste to all fittings.
4. Assemble complete frame, lay it on a flat surface, and make sure that everything is aligned before soldering.
5. Solder all joints.
6. Remove any excess solder with file or emery cloth.
7. Drill ¼" holes to attach shoulder straps and hip belt (see diagram).
8. Attach straps and belt with pins and rings, and tie back. X

The Scouting World

by John MacGregor

Scouting news from around the world — what can we learn from it? It helps keep us in touch with brother Scouts, of course, but perhaps there's more.

As I glance over the news items we printed in April, I notice a couple of things. First, they describe community service projects Canadian Scouts might find suited to their own communities: for example, the drug education and abuse prevention project of Scouts in Peru. Second, many Scouting projects in less developed countries attack the twin problems of skills training and conservation, and conservation of trees is high on the priority list.

If your boys planted seedlings this spring, they might be pleased to know that Canadian Scouting's Trees for Canada project is part of a world wide thrust to save or bring back valuable forest lands.

This month, we have a few more news items about community development, conservation projects and Scouting fun. We hope they give you some ideas for your section. As a matter of fact, Surinam, Jamaica and Honduras will hold national jamborees or camporees this summer and next. Learn more about one of these countries and plan a special day around its activities and food for summer camp.

Conservation

Water Decade Challenges Scouts — Over half the world's people do not have reasonable access to safe water. Delegates to the 29th World Scout Conference followed discussion of the United Nation's Water Decade with a call for all national Scouting associations to include, as a priority, programs related to water supply and sanitation.

"As you casually pour a glass of water in this conference room, you take it for granted that the water will be safe to drink," Brother Fred Fink of Peru told delegates. "This confidence cannot be felt by the majority of the world's population. The industrialized countries also have their water problems with pollution of rivers and lakes, acid rain and water shortages."

Water Decade Challenges Scouts is a new leaflet, available from the

World Scout Bureau in Geneva, which gives examples of what Scouts can do at local and national levels.

Mauritania — Last July, the Mauritania Scout Association became the 118th member of the World Organization of the Scout Movement. Located on the west coast of Africa, Mauritania has 2,000 Scouts who have planted more than 50,000 trees as part of a community service project. Their other projects relate to job skills training and rural development.

Honduras — Scouts in Honduras have started an annual program to help protect sea turtles. To start, they learn about the reptiles and the technique of developing nesting camps. Later, they help locate and mark reproductive females and collect eggs to transfer to a protected nesting camp in the Gulf of Fonseca on the Pacific Coast for hatching. This year, they transferred 10,000 eggs.

Community

Guatemala — Last March, the Cub Scouts National Commission organized a national "Good Turn" Rally where Cub packs in all districts and communities made and repaired toys, surprises and clothing for poor and orphan children.

Hong Kong — Since 1975, Hong Kong has been host to Indochinese refugees. Although many have moved on, 13,000 people still wait for a permanent home. To give young people the fun and training of Scouting, the Scout Association of Hong Kong has established Scout units in refugee camps and supplies uniforms and equipment to boys and leaders.

When boys leave for resettlement in other countries, they receive a letter of introduction to the Scout association in question. At the 29th World Scout Conference, International Commissioner Henry Ku urged Scout associations which receive such letters to help the boys resume Scouting so that they can become integrated more quickly into their new communities.

Chile — Scouts in Santiago organized a 12 month course to give school drop-outs skills they need to obtain work. The project offered training in photography, furniture making, metal work and the repair

of household appliances and now Scouts are helping the graduates set up their own workshops.

Lesotho — In this small land-locked country in Southern Africa, the Scout organization is taking steps to double membership, develop a new program for Cubs and Scouts and strengthen leader training. Recognizing that Scouting can make a significant contribution to the nation, they intend to apply the Scout method and develop new programs in career guidance and vocational training, health and nutrition education, communication, agriculture, human rights, house building, self-reliance, community projects, soil conservation and marriage education.

Fun & Learning

Uruguay — At the II Scout Song Festival in Montevideo, 200 Scouts and two Girl Guide groups competed with renditions of folk, Scout and international songs. Winning songs received a special prize, and the audience of 800 thoroughly enjoyed the event.

Italy — Scouts of Arco erected a monument to commemorate the prize for Peace Education awarded to the World Scout Organization by UNESCO in 1981. They held the inauguration ceremony during a week-end event which attracted 700 Scouts to hiking and bicycle orienteering activities.

Switzerland — Scouts and leaders broke a new world record for transmitting a coded optical message by sending visible Morse code over a distance of 240 km. After much research and many trials, the group from Sauvabelin selected the mountains Aiguilles du Midi (3842 m) and Mont-Hohneck (1362 m) in France for the feat. Given optimum weather conditions in mid-September, a team set up on each mountain aimed equipment at each other and successfully exchanged messages. The group is hoping its achievement will be entered in the Guinness Book of Records.

Malaysia — Although none of the 240 Scouts and Rovers had ever seen a real North American cowboy or Indian, the Join-in-Jamboree of the Persekutuan Pengakap in Malaysia featured cowboys, bronco riding, Indian teepees and costumes and totem pole carving. Given research, imagination and the help of World Scout Bureau publications, the Scouts created some wild west flavour and entered the spirit of the XV World Jamboree which was being held at the same time in Alberta, Canada. A

To: DC (re Colony Trips) From: Malton 7th

by Gerry Giuliani

This month's contribution is from the Malton 7th Colony in Mississauga, Ont. Written by Bubbles (Mrs. Margaret Bowman) in response to the district commissioner's request for a list of the colony's trips during the year, it was sent to us by Hawkeye (Gil Aburto-Avila).

Any doubts we may have about the value of excursions for Beavers will be dispelled by this account. Thanks Gil and Margaret. It's a delight to read.

You asked for a list of trips and here it is. I should first mention two important points.

The first is that, of the four of us, only one Malton 7th leader is really keen on "trips". The rest of us tag along, not quite convinced that it'll be as much fun as Hawkeye says it will be.

The second is that the incidents described are true, but the names have been changed to protect the guilty.

"Once a month," he said. "We should go out once a month."

"Hmmm!" we said.

In October, we hesitantly ventured out to Wildwood Park for an outdoors night. It wasn't bad, really, except that it was hard to find "something red" for the scavenger hunt when everything was black as night. Somebody claimed two points for seeing an airplane, but I wonder when I remember how thick the cloud cover was. And when we played "kick the bottle", it was no surprise that little Peter refused to go down into those trees for a "stupid bottle".

Our November trip for Remembrance Day was a breeze. Half the co-

lony showed up and it was freezing.

We thought it would be a breeze to take them to a pantomime in December. After all, the kids would sit with their parents and we would enjoy the show. Somehow, all the parents managed to find seats on the other side of the theatre, so guess who sat with the kids? At intermission, we coped with the bathroom visits and the free drinks.

"Okay, everyone been to the bathroom? Did you go, Johnny? D'you need to go? Are you sure? Well — okay, but I hope you're sure."

On the way home, Hawkeye stopped for some gas and, just then, Johnny decided he'd maybe better go after all. So he did. All over Hawkeye's van. But, it was a pretty good show.

In January we went on an Owl Prowl in Wildwood Park, to be followed by hot chocolate at the Golden Arches. Each leader took a lodge and set out, flashlight in hand. We made snow angels in great tracts of clean, white, untouched snow. We stepped inside each other's footprints to make it look like only one person was there. We pretended we had skis and went up the hill sideways. We went up the next hill making a lovely herringbone design on our pretend skis. We crawled up the next hill on our hands and knees, and to heck with the skis.

"C'mon Sam, you can make it."

"I'm tired."

"You can do it."

"My legs hurt."

"C'mon."

"Carry me."

"Get lost."

We finally reached the Big M and almost everybody wanted coke. Little Sam ran a 103° temperature that night and stayed home from school for three days, driving his mother even crazier than she was before.

A Beaver parent who is in the Air Reserve kindly offered to take us to Downsview Air Base to show us the helicopters and this really neat fighter jet. The helicopters were great, the jet fighter was neat, the cookies and juice really hit the spot. Little John started to cry.

"What's wrong?"

"I want my mother."

"You'll see her soon."

"I don't feel well."

After he'd thrown up, only partly on Bubbles, she took him to the bathroom to clean him, gave him a hug to go on with, and told him if he was going to throw up again to tell Bubbles (so she could get out of the way?). Sure enough, just as we were leaving, there was John.

"I'm going to throw up."

"No you're not. Take some deep breaths and it won't happen."

A couple of days later, I asked John's mom if he'd had a good time. "Oh yes," she said. "He only threw up once!"

Our next trip is supposed to be to Maple Airport to see the little planes. One of our leader's nephews is organizing that one and he just recently got his pilot's licence. I wonder if Hawkeye would like to go for a spin?

Perhaps that trip will fall through. I hope not. You see, Hawkeye's right. Never in a month of Sundays would we tell him, but it really is a lot of fun.

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Fun at the Pond

by Kay Warren

Once again, the regular Scouting season draws to an end and groups and colonies prepare for final events before the summer holidays. If your colony, like many others, holds a special outdoor day to celebrate the coming of summer, here are some suggestions for games, activities and fun in the sun.

Games to Get You There

Many Beaver summer outings begin with a trip to the gathering place. If your group is heading to a special event that means a drive of a half hour or more, you'll want some simple games to keep your young passengers occupied and sitting still.

Beaver Wave

When you have two or more uniformed Beavers in a car, you automatically make an impression on fellow motorists. A leader keeps score in this game and tries to keep track of the number of waves his carload can attract within a 10 minute period. Taking turns, each Beaver has a three minute period to wave at other cars. If he doesn't get a response (highly unlikely), the other boys join in to help him.

Beaver

This is a good game to play in the kind of heavy traffic you'll find in any Canadian town on a Saturday morning. Again, have a leader keep score. Give each Beaver a colour. When a Beaver spots a car of his colour, he calls out, for example, "Blue Beaver", and takes a straw of that colour from a collection of coloured drinking straws in a container. How many different coloured cars can your Beavers see in 20 minutes?

Something in Common

The object of this game is to find other cars which have something in common with yours. Give Beavers 15 minutes to watch passing cars and

passengers. Leaders help to judge the things they notice: e.g. "Our car is green and so is that one; It has four doors and so does ours; The driver has the front window open, like we do."

Tune Tapping

In turn, each Beaver taps out the rhythm of a song with his finger on the seat or door while the others try to guess what song it is.

Things to Do When You Get There

Piñatas

Chapultepec Park, Mexico City's largest public park, is the site of a children's tradition you can easily make part of a Beaver outdoor event.

All year long, Mexican children celebrate their birthdays in the park. The highlight of these parties is the breaking of a papier mâché piñata, often in the shape of a popular Disney cartoon character. On a Sunday afternoon, the park is dotted with groups of children gathered around trees hung with piñatas and balloons.

You can make an easier version of a Mexican piñata by putting several strong grocery bags inside one another. Fill with wrapped candy, small bags of peanuts and boxes of raisins or sticks of gum. Tie tightly and knot securely.

Decorate the bag to look like a beaver or another animal or your colony's favourite alien. Hang the piñata from a low branch and give each Beaver a turn at hitting it with a broomstick. Eventually, the piñata will break and the surprises fall out for everyone to share.

Balloons and Bubbles

A good way to let passers-by know you're having a special Beaver event is to decorate the site with balloons. Hang coloured balloons on tree branches and tie them to picnic ta-





bles, chairs, parked cars or rocks.

Your Beavers will enjoy playing with giant bubbles. To make them, mix eight tablespoons of dish detergent with one quart of water in a baking pan. Dip a large round cookie cutter or another round ring into the solution, slowly pull it out and wave gently. Using a tin can with both ends safely removed, a leader can demonstrate a truly giant bubble. Dip in one end of the can and remove slowly to keep a film of soap on that end. Gently blow through the other end. A huge bubble will appear. Gently twist the can to release it. Some of your Beavers may also want to try.

A good book about blowing bubbles with soap and water is *Bubbles: A Children's Museum Activity Book* by Bernie Zubrowski (Little, Brown).

Trample

You need two large balloons for each Beaver, and a piece of smooth ground or pavement. Help Beavers tie their balloons to their ankles so that the balloons rest on the ground. Mark out a large circle and tell all Beavers to enter it. On signal, each Beaver tries to trample on balloons. See how quickly they can pop all of them. Be ready for lots of action and noise, and watch out for tromped toes.

Japanese Tag

This game of tag has an anatomical twist, and calls for plenty of running around space and a lot of players. One Beaver is It. He tries to tag another player in a silly spot like his knee or elbow or nose, for example. The tagged person must hold onto that spot with one hand while he runs and tries to tag somebody else.

Touch Wood

Play this outdoor tag game near wooden fences, picnic tables and trees. All Beavers, except one chosen It, stand touching something wooden. On signal, they run from one wooden object to another while It

tries to catch them. If he tags someone who isn't touching wood, the two change places.

Ankle Grabbers

Beavers choose partners and kneel facing each other. Tell them to try to grab each other's ankles without getting off their knees. They can use other positions, like lying down, for this game as well. The only stipulation is that their knees must stay firmly on the ground.

Footprints

This delightfully messy outdoor game is guaranteed to amuse your Beavers. First, mix up lots of water soluble paint of different colours and pour plenty of it onto big sheets of plywood. Your Beavers step barefooted into this mess and then out onto a white sheet of paper. Mark each Beaver's name on the back of the paper as he steps out. Leave the footprints to dry and make the Beavers' next step into a bucket of clean, warm water. Later, see if the boys can identify their own footprints.

Wind Painting

Another outdoors painting session also means being prepared to help clean up paint-smeared Beavers. Fill small plastic bags with water soluble paints and attach them to the low branches of a tree. Spread large sheets of paper under the tree and then snip a hole in the bags. The Beavers give the bags a gentle push and see what pictures the breeze will paint.

Catch the Beaver

Make a "beaver" from a paper bag filled with rustling paper or a can filled with stones. Tie a rope to the beaver and blindfold your boy Beavers. Pull the beaver across the ground near the boys so that it makes a noise. The boys try to grab it, but it can stay quiet and still whenever it wants to. Swap the beaver's rope for the blindfold of any boy who catches it. X

Haunting for Fun and Profit

by Linda Florence

Grinning jack-o'-lanterns guard the back door of the darkened house and eerie music, blood-curdling screams and wild howls float through the yard. Those who join the queue for tickets at the innocent-looking camper parked outside may have second thoughts as another shriek cuts like a shiver through the cold autumn night. As they wait in mixed anticipation and fear, they are reassured by the friendly smell of hot chocolate which wafts from the camper to tell them there is something warm and sweet available to combat the chill of the night air. How they will cope with the chilling sounds which fill that air is another matter.

People thought they knew this place. Hadn't it been just an ordinary vacant house in a quiet neighbourhood at CFB Edmonton? What hap-

pened? Why? Who were the tormented souls haunting the premises on this late October evening?

Scouter Mark Atherton filled us in. The culprits were Scouts of the 147th Griesbach Troop at the Canadian Forces Base in Alberta's capital city.

"After two very enjoyable and expensive camps the previous year, all of our Scouting groups were starting off a new year with funds at low tide," he explained. Because the proceeds from a successful bottle drive provided only a fraction of what they needed for successful operation, they cast about for "a new and interesting way to raise money for our troop".

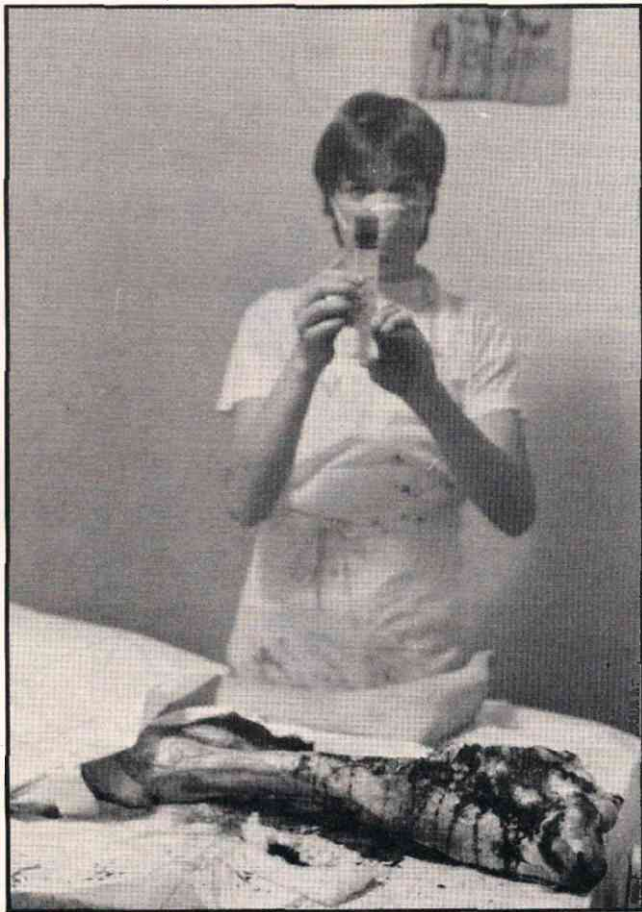
Six years ago, while a Cub leader in Windsor, Ont., Scouter Atherton had been involved in the preparation of a small-scale haunted house staged

for fun rather than profit. "As a Scout troop, we wanted to use the same basic plans, but make it worthwhile enough to be able to charge an admission and invite the general public to our display," he said.

They started planning on a troop night five weeks before the Halloween weekend. At the meeting they set the dates and times for the haunting, chose scenes for the house, cast individual Scouts to play parts in the scenes, and compiled an initial list of necessary equipment and supplies.

"From then on, it was mostly weekend work in Skip's garage" where 11 Scouts, three Venturers, three leaders and some willing parents painted backdrop murals, constructed a casket from an old troop box, made headstones and a box for the cemetery scene, built an operating table,

The Doctor's Office



The Hulk



and so on. "We were very fortunate to obtain a vacant house on base," he said.

They were also fortunate to have a father who is a "qualified makeup artist and worked very hard to provide us 'realistic' makeup jobs".

The Scouts devoted a portion of another troop meeting a week before the big weekend to polishing and preparing for the event, and two leaders put in a late Friday night adding finishing touches to the house before opening day.

It was an ambitious undertaking with a special Saturday morning preview for uniformed groups only (they sent out written invitations to the

Beavers, Cubs, Guides, Brownies and another Scout troop on base), and Saturday evening, Sunday afternoon and Sunday evening hauntings for the general public.

The admission price of 50c per child and \$1.00 per adult gave customers quite an experience! Assuming they were put into the mood rather than scared off by the horrifying sounds broadcast from an 8-track tape, they entered the front door to be greeted by a witch who collected the skull-shaped tickets and rattled a collection of hanging skeleton bones in cackling glee.

What should have been the living room had become a cemetery. Mist

curled through leaves and tree stumps as the grave-digger filled in a fresh grave. Though creepy, it was a calm enough scene until a mutilated hand slowly clawed its way out of the grave.

A 6'5" Frankenstein quickly ushered the horrified guests into the Funeral Parlour (formerly a bedroom), which came complete with candelabras, taped organ music, stained glass windows, mourners, and a casketed Dracula who, hearing visitors, sat up to say, "Hi!"

Still reeling, guests were led over an uneven floor down a darkened hallway to the Operating Room. Strobe light illumination (see sidebar for plans to make the light) revealed "typical instruments for a Doctor of Terror", and suction and hydraulic machine sound effects added to the atmosphere as the machete-wielding Mad Doctor carved the bare-boned leg of a screaming patient.

Beating a hasty retreat, guests scuttled through the kitchen past a grasping mummy with glowing eyes, and down the stairs to the dungeon. As they approached a chained Hulk surrounded by horrible insects and reptiles, they had to dodge the whipping tail of a 'dinosaur'. The Dungeon Keeper led them into the Dark Room where, illuminated by black light, another mummy slowly discarded his wrappings and disappeared before their eyes.

The final terrifying stop was the Bone Yard where indirect lighting revealed three bodies of torture victims — one hanging, another tied to the rack, and a third nailed to the wall. In a heart-stopping grand finale, one of the characters, eager "to get the blood flowing", lunged out at the hapless guests.

"It was a long but very memorable and profitable weekend," Scouter Atherton concluded. Flushed with success, the 147th Griesbach plan to get together with the second troop on base to stage another haunting this fall.

The haunters pose for a group shot.



The Bone Yard



Helpful Hints For Successful Hauntings

Having learning from experience with their Haunted House, the 147th Griesbach offered some hints for other groups intrigued enough by this report to want to try a similar project.

Plan well in advance. Stay away from static (unmanned) scenes as much as possible. A local radio station stages a Haunted House in the city every year. It has very professional lighting, sound effects and

sets, but no people. Our display received higher compliments because we had "living" scenes.

Try to assign an adult or leader to work with the boys on each scene.

Because their non-Scout classmates will be very inquisitive, ensure that you hold the Scouts to secrecy about the parts they will play and the "tricks" you will use in some of the scenes.

Set and enforce a rule prohibiting actors from touching customers.

Post an adult at stairways or other areas which might pose a safety problem.

If you notice that young children are very frightened, carefully explain how the scary scene works. When we invited the younger Scouting and Guiding groups to our Saturday morning performance, we closed off the Doctor's Office and added extra light to other scenes.

After having advertised heavily in your area, if you do a big promotion the first day, you'll find that "word of mouth" advertising will fill your House for the duration of the display. We heard rumours that some of the kids at hockey practice were more interested in talking about our house than hockey, much to the dismay of their coach!

As well as being a great fundraiser, the Haunted House project is a very good way to let your community know your Scout troop exists. We expect to see an increase in our troop this year as a result of the house.

Happy haunting. X

Home-made Strobe

This relatively simple flashing light has been used in many Haunted Houses.

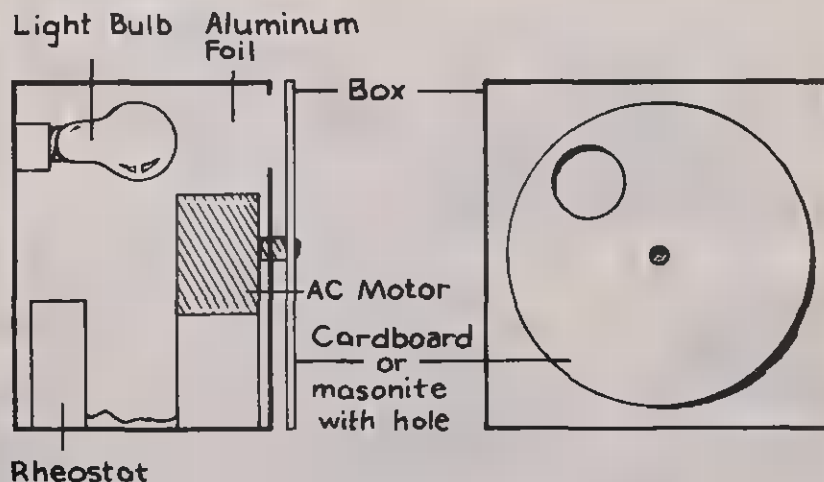
Equipment

1. AC motor — an electric motor made for extended periods of use. An electric fan motor works well.
2. Rheostat — a household light dimmer which you use to control the motor speed and thus the speed of the flashing light.

3. Light — an unfrosted incandescent bulb is best.

4. Sturdy box, either wooden or cardboard. It may be wise to build it to fit the "works".

5. Masonite or heavy cardboard cut into a large circle with a cut-out as illustrated to let the light pass.



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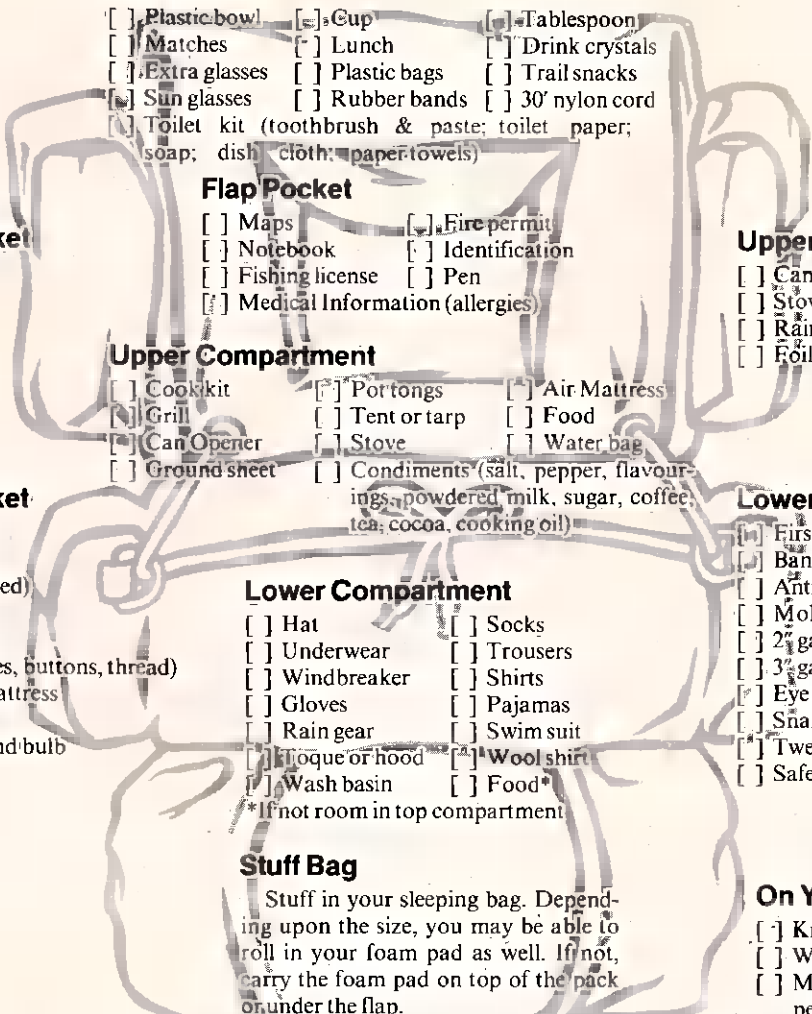
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The Well-Packed Pack

by Phil Newsome



Back Pocket

<input type="checkbox"/> Plastic bowl	<input type="checkbox"/> Cup	<input type="checkbox"/> Tablespoon
<input type="checkbox"/> Matches	<input type="checkbox"/> Lunch	<input type="checkbox"/> Drink crystals
<input type="checkbox"/> Extra glasses	<input type="checkbox"/> Plastic bags	<input type="checkbox"/> Trail snacks
<input type="checkbox"/> Sun glasses	<input type="checkbox"/> Rubber bands	<input type="checkbox"/> 30' nylon cord
<input type="checkbox"/> Toilet kit (toothbrush & paste; toilet paper; soap; dish cloth; paper towels)		

Flap Pocket

<input type="checkbox"/> Maps	<input type="checkbox"/> Fire permit
<input type="checkbox"/> Notebook	<input type="checkbox"/> Identification
<input type="checkbox"/> Fishing license	<input type="checkbox"/> Pen
<input type="checkbox"/> Medical Information (allergies)	

Upper Left Pocket

- ☐ Canteen (or)
- ☐ Stove fuel (or)
- ☐ Rain gear

Upper Right Pocket

- ☐ Canteen (or)
- ☐ Stove fuel (or)
- ☐ Rain gear
- ☐ Foil for stove windbreak

Upper Compartment

<input type="checkbox"/> Cook kit	<input type="checkbox"/> Pot tongs	<input type="checkbox"/> Air Mattress
<input type="checkbox"/> Grill	<input type="checkbox"/> Tent or tarp	<input type="checkbox"/> Food
<input type="checkbox"/> Can Opener	<input type="checkbox"/> Stove	<input type="checkbox"/> Water bag
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground sheet	<input type="checkbox"/> Condiments (salt, pepper, flavourings, powdered milk, sugar, coffee, tea, cocoa, cooking oil)	

Lower Left Pocket

- ☐ Sun screen
- ☐ Chapstick
- ☐ Medicine (if needed)
- ☐ Water purifier
- ☐ Insect repellent
- ☐ Repair kit (needles, buttons, thread)
- ☐ Patches for air mattress
- ☐ Flashlight
- ☐ Spare batteries and bulb

Lower Right Pocket

- ☐ First Aid Kit
- ☐ Band-aids
- ☐ Antiseptic
- ☐ Moleskin
- ☐ 2" gauze roll
- ☐ 3" gauze pads
- ☐ Eye wash
- ☐ Snake bite kit (if needed)
- ☐ Tweezers
- ☐ Safety Pins

Lower Compartment

<input type="checkbox"/> Hat	<input type="checkbox"/> Socks
<input type="checkbox"/> Underwear	<input type="checkbox"/> Trousers
<input type="checkbox"/> Windbreaker	<input type="checkbox"/> Shirts
<input type="checkbox"/> Gloves	<input type="checkbox"/> Pajamas
<input type="checkbox"/> Rain gear	<input type="checkbox"/> Swim suit
<input type="checkbox"/> Hoque or hood	<input type="checkbox"/> Wool shirt
<input type="checkbox"/> Wash basin	<input type="checkbox"/> Food*

*If not room in top compartment

Stuff Bag

Stuff in your sleeping bag. Depending upon the size, you may be able to roll in your foam pad as well. If not, carry the foam pad on top of the pack or under the flap.

On Your Person

<input type="checkbox"/> Knife	<input type="checkbox"/> Compass
<input type="checkbox"/> Waterproof matches	
<input type="checkbox"/> Medic Alert bracelet or pendant (if used)	

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Guelph Promises a Royal Welcome

by Bob Milks

The citizens of Guelph, Ontario, are just beginning to realize that, within a year, they will have the VI Canadian Jamboree literally on their doorsteps.

From the waterfront area of the jamboree site, you can look across Guelph Lake and see the city's suburbs. It's a mere seven to eight kilometre drive from the city limits to the site.

As part of their preliminary planning, jamboree committees have held many meetings in Guelph — meetings which have helped Guelph citizens realize that we really will be setting up a tent city of some 15,000 people next door to them.

Guelph, often called the Royal City, uses crowns as part of its identification. An extract from the letters patent granting Guelph's coat of arms reads:

"... on St. George's Day in the year 1827 there was founded in Canada by John Galt, a hamlet to which the name of Guelph was given and which, thereafter as the Town of Guelph was, by an Act of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario assented

unto by Her Majesty Queen Victoria on the 11th day of March, 1879, duly incorporated as a city..."

Legend has it that, as John Galt and the official party approached the ceremonial site from one direction, a piper and others carrying the "grog" approached from the other. A furious



rainstorm sent everyone scrambling for shelter but, when it cleared, the ceremony proceeded. By then, it is said, much of the grog was in the piper!

John Galt cut down a tree to designate the point from which the city of Guelph would radiate. His act is recorded on the city crest where you see his figure with an axe set in the stump of a tree.

While at the jamboree, go to Heritage Park on the Speed River and take time to seek out the plaque marking this historic site. Enjoy an afternoon in the park, checking out a model of the first house, the Priory, the floral clock and the miniature train.

To complete your exploration of Guelph's colourful past, visit the civic museum and tour the birthplace cottage of John McCrae, physician, soldier and poet — author of *In Flanders Fields*.

Although most citizens of Guelph are just becoming aware of the jamboree, the Scouters of the area are very excited at the prospect of CJ '85. They are justly proud of their city and promise everyone who comes to the jamboree a royal welcome. X

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#16

Schools and Scouting

by Pat Horan



Scouting's earliest history contains frequent references to the close links between schools, teachers and Scouting. Early in the century, Scouting was seen as a much needed extension of the educational system. Key educational personnel supported and encouraged Scouting, and many of them were involved in the movement.

Schools are part of the total educational system — a responsibility of the province. Depending upon the province's size and resources, the system may be quite simple or very elaborate. In most communities, there is often more than one system — public schools, private schools, separate schools, training schools, Indian schools and special education schools. All of these have used and could continue to use Scouting.

In many schools, special education personnel work with students with disabilities. Scouting, which has experience in this area, can be offered as one program to help youngsters with disabilities grow.


Across Canada, local school boards have used council Scout camps as bases for their outdoor education programs. There's a need for greater encouragement and promotion of this innovative move which, among other things, makes maximum use of a community's available facilities.

Many large school boards, especially in urban areas, have a community contact staff person whose job is to encourage community groups such as Scouting to make greater use of school facilities. Because of declining enrolment and increasing taxes, government and educational officials strongly endorse the move to make maximum use of school resources.

Over the years, school authorities have shown a special interest in Scouting. In addition to over 100 Scout groups which operate under local Home and School/PTA auspices, 58 Scout groups operate in public, private, training and rehabilitation schools. The latter groups appear to operate under the auspices of local parent groups or community organizations such as service clubs.

The key contact provincially is the local director of education. Meet with him to explore ways and means by which schools and Scouting might work together. Develop and maintain contact with other people in the system, as well, particularly the community relations personnel, and share these contacts with your regional or district groups.

The principal of the school (and appropriate supervisory officials) is the initial contact on the local level. Meet also with the officers of Home and School/PTA Associations, parent groups and student councils. And remember the essential but often overlooked factor for groups using schools — the need to develop sound relationships with the caretaking staff.

Schools are where potential Scouting members and leaders are. Let's reach out to identify, match and meet their needs. 

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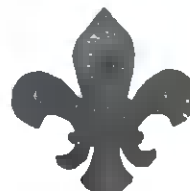


ANY SMALL
OR
LARGE QUANTITIES



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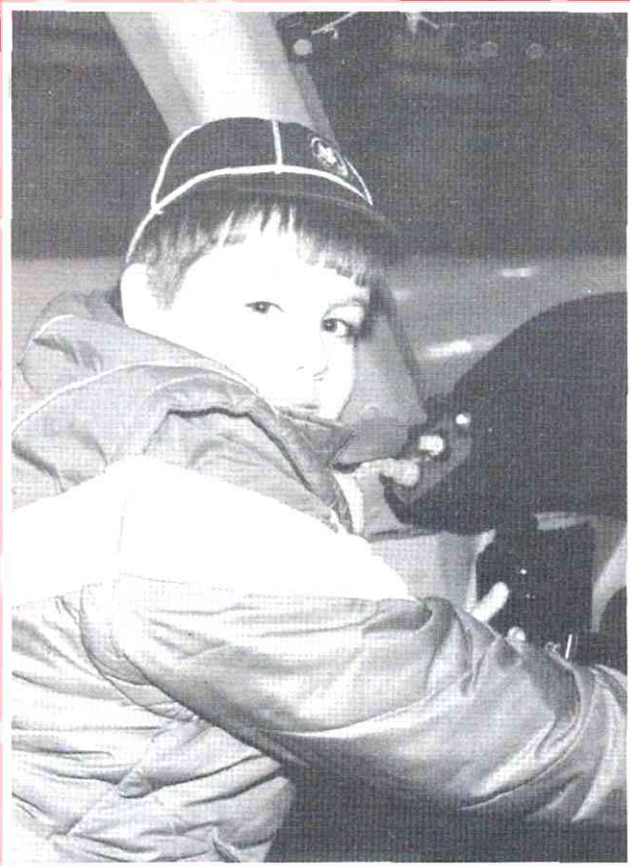
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10th BRAMPTON CUBS (Ont.) took turns sitting in the captain's seat on the flight deck of a 747 during a recent field trip to the Wardair Hangar at Lester B. Pearson International Airport. Parents and Cubs were fascinated to see the jumbo DC-10s and 747s undergoing routine maintenance, reports Scouter Caz Caswell.



ALMOST 1000 PEOPLE, representing nearly every district in the province, enjoyed Quebec Council's annual Scout banquet at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel, Feb. 25. Lt. Governor Jean-Pierre Côté presented the Queen's Venture Awards, and 36 Scouting displays featured everything from woggle-making to computer challenges.



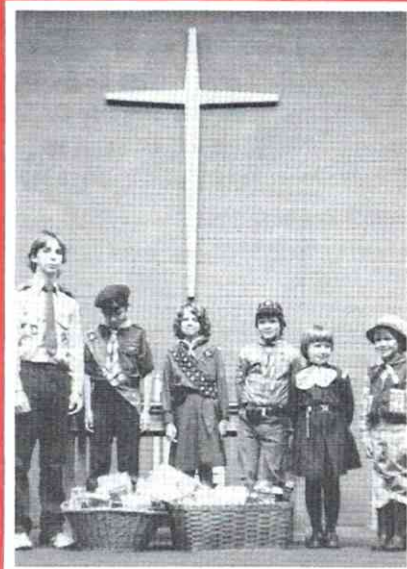
BUDDING FASHION DESIGNERS? Scouting and Guiding members of St. George's Anglican Church in Saint John, N.B., held a teddy bear dressing contest as part of their Scout/Guide Week festivities. Boys and girls from all sections dressed their favourite stuffed friends to parade them at the group's church service, reports Scouter Ian Hamilton of the 21st St. George's. All bears took home a prize.

EVERYONE LOVES A birthday party, and the 55th Cubs of Hamilton, Ontario, thoroughly enjoyed their party for Baden-Powell on Feb. 22. They started with a slide presentation on the Founder and Scouting's beginnings, and topped the evening by devouring the cake they proudly show in this photo sent by Akela Luciano Memme.





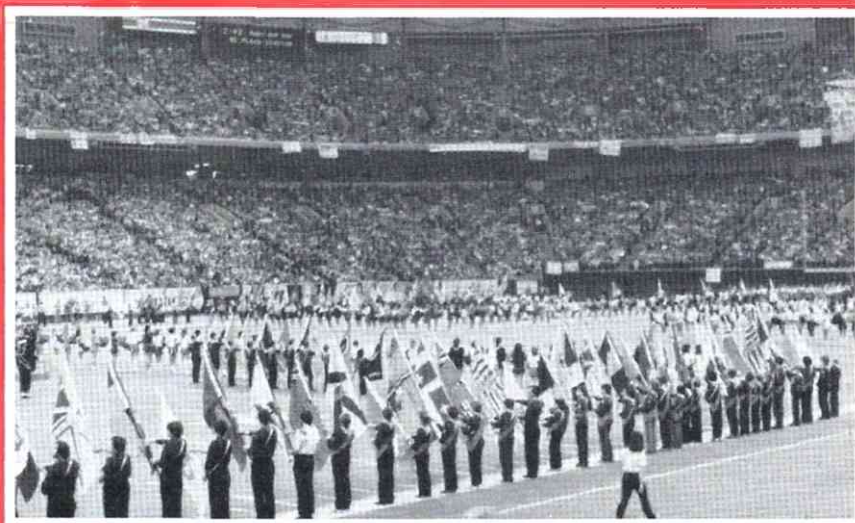
A MONSTER WAS messing up the city, and Pack #5 of Chatham, Ont., rose to the challenge. The Cubs learned that the monster had the ability to break into small pieces and spread over a large area with help from the wind and careless people, so they armed themselves with garbage bags and set out to collect the pieces. To make things a bit more interesting, they competed for the fullest garbage bags in sixes. Back at the meeting hall, they hung, stapled and taped the pieces on a frame leaders had constructed from scrap cardboard boxes and tubes, and revealed a very ugly Litter Monster. "It's a fun way to work on the World Conservation badge and Red Star requirement #13," says Scouter Doug Brown, who kindly sent us the monster's photo.



GOOD TURNS HIGHLIGHTED the B.-P. Week church service at Pineland Presbyterian Church in Burlington, Ont. The first annual *Gift of Scouting* project provided 250 members of the 15th and 23rd Burlington Scout groups and 65th, 66th and 68th Burlington Guide groups an opportunity to help needy people in the community with donations of non-perishable foods and good-used clothing. The gifts were distributed by the Salvation Army. "We hope the *Gift of Scouting* idea will spread nation-wide as a group commitment to Baden-Powell's ideal of a good turn to others," says Charlotte MacKay of the 15th Burlington, who sent this story and photo.



DON'T OPEN 'TIL Christmas. Delightfully boxed and gift-wrapped 1st North Bay, Ont. Beavers decorate the Scouting float in North Bay's annual Santa Claus parade. Beavers and parents worked together on the costumes — cardboard boxes wrapped in Christmas paper and decked with bows and bells. The 1st North Bay Cubs and Scouts, carrying backpacks, paddles and canoes, walked in front of the float to give parade-goers a good picture of three Scouting sections. Thanks to Scouter Sandra Hards for sharing this photo story.



EXCITEMENT, COLOUR, PAGEANTRY: 200 boys and leaders from Vancouver Coast Region were part of it all during the Grey Cup '83 parade and opening ceremonies at B.C. Place. For their participation, they all received T-shirts as members of the Expo '86 Drill Team. Move over, Crazy George.
photo by: Kent Baker



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supply news

More for CJ'85

by Jim Mackie

The VI Canadian Jamboree is only a year away, and Supply has produced a number of souvenir items which will appear in our new catalogue. Directed primarily to the movement's collectors but also ideal as presentation items and gifts for everyone, they will be available in Scout Shops and from some dealers in the near future.

The Jamboree Mug (cat. #69-022, \$5.45) features the official logo on one side and, on the other, a map of Ontario with the Guelph jamboree site prominently marked. The Jamboree Plate (cat. #69-023, \$7.95), diameter approximately 9½ inches, features the CJ'85 crest and is attractively edged in gold. The Jamboree Commemorative Tile (cat. #69-024, \$5.00), which can be used as a wall decoration or, more practically, as a stand for hot dishes, also features the jamboree crest. The Souvenir Spoon (cat. #69-021, \$5.00) features a colourful handle disc which, because of its size, is a variation of the official jamboree crest.

More Campfire Programs

The Jan. '84 column gave notice of the arrival of a new book from Camp Tawingo Publications and we are pleased to announce it is now available through Shops and dealers. Written by Jack Pearse, Jane McCutcheon and John Jorgenson, *More Campfire Programs* (cat. #20-623, \$8.25) contains 202 pages of campfire openings and closings, songs, games, relays, stunts and stories. It also gives five complete campfire programs; e.g. a pioneer theme campfire which incorporates games, songs, gadgets and legends from Canada's early history. *More Campfire Programs* is a welcome addition to the other Camp Tawingo Publications we feature in our catalogue: *Campfire Programs* (#20-618, \$8.25); *Sing with Jack Pearse* (#20-616, \$6.50); *Singing Fun and Games* (#20-621, \$12.50); and the sing song album *Clap Your Hands*, available at \$9.95 in record or cassette form.

B.-P. Sketches

The B.-P. sketch crests have become so popular that Supply has decided to use them on a series of attractive plastic mugs which will appear in the '84/85 catalogue and be available in early fall. The initial production includes sketches 1 to 4, and each mug will have a sketch on one side and a short descriptive paragraph on the other. Watch for more information in a future column.

Catch the Scouting Spirit

Soon to be available, this multi-coloured crest (#06-010, 75¢) based on the attractive jamboree poster that appeared in the Jan. '84 issue of the magazine, has been produced especially to promote CJ'85. The focal point of the crest is the logo with the words *Catch the Scouting Spirit CJ'85* around it. Thirteen triangular sunbursts shoot out from the logo to matchstick figures depicting some of the important facets of the jamboree program: field sports, computers, water activities and marksmanship. X

Fire Hazards

by Gerry Giuliani

A True Story

A few years ago, a young Scout was building a cooking fire. He decided to help his cause somewhat by adding a little naphtha. The fire ignited. He decided to add a little more, to get the fire really established.

The gas exploded. The Scout suffered second and third-degree burns to his hands, arms, face and chest. Badly injured and in shock, he spent a few critical days in hospital. He needed two skin grafts and a long period of recovery.

This accident happened despite warnings from the adult leaders that using white gas to start a fire was a dangerous practice.

Fire hazards are no joke. We have a tendency to believe accidents will never happen in our camp. Until, that is, we experience a tragedy like the one described.

All leaders want their camping experiences to be safe and successful. The leaders in charge in this case felt the same way. I'm sure they looked long and hard at their experience and took steps to assure it wouldn't happen again.

One thing is certain. Words are not enough. The only effective way to limit the chances of similar tragedies is to build regular safety practices into your camp routines. There are a number of situations where an ounce of prevention is worth much more than a pound of cure.

Firelighting

Any Scout can take pride in mastering the art of laying and lighting a good fire. Start small and dry, use one match and, slowly, build up to the size you need (*Canadian Scout Handbook* pp 204-207).

Never use naphtha or white gas to start a fire. Naphtha vaporizes very quickly. When the vapours mix with air, the situation is explosive. The boy in our true story already had started the fire. It heated the added gas and sent explosive fumes towards him. The flames ignited the gas.

There are times when Scouters want to use a gimmick to light a

campfire in a special way. If you do use fuel, I suggest a rag soaked with a bit of kerosene. Although kerosene vaporizes much more slowly than other gas fuels, take care and make sure participants stand well clear.

Tent Warmer

We all hate to crawl into a damp tent and sleeping bag at night. For some people, the answer is to take a lit lantern into the tent with them. Some people are pretty foolish. Even when everyone is warm and alert, it's very easy to knock over a lantern in a tent. Most of us know that a two-man tent can melt or burn to ashes in 15 to 30 seconds. That's not enough time to think, let alone get out of your bag, find the door, unzip and get out.

When the weather is damp, roll up your sleeping bag to keep it dry. Your body will warm it quickly once you crawl into it and you won't notice the damp air in your tent. If you feel a nip at your ears, put on a hat.

If it's absolutely necessary to warm up your tent and bag, place the lit lantern securely on a platform on the floor of the tent, and then get out. Remove it from a two-man tent after two or three minutes, put it out, crawl into the tent and let the sleeping bag do the rest.

Stoves and Fuel

You can't work a stove without fuel, but we often choose the darndest times and places to put fuel into the beast. Before you fuel, make sure the stove is out and cool. Never refuel when a stove is still hot.

Fill up away from any open flame or lit stove. Use a funnel to avoid spilling fuel.

Keep fuel cartridges away from heat, especially the spent one you've just removed. Empty cartridges always contain a residue. Fumes may escape, vaporize and ignite if there is a flame nearby.

Despite taking the best precautions when installing a new cartridge, it's possible to break the seal accidentally and release gas under pressure. A nearby flame will ignite the quickly vaporizing fuel with explosive results.

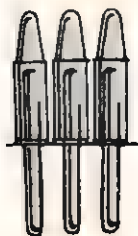
Keep the size of the pot on a single burner stove to 30 cm (12") diameter or less. Particularly when you've sheltered the stove from wind, larger pots may trap the stove heat so that it warms the controls and the fuel container. If you touch hot controls, you may tip the stove and cause a fire. If the heat builds up too high, pressure in the fuel container may spray out fuel through the safety valve or, even worse, blow off the bottom of the fuel container.

An Ounce of Prevention

Work these safety practices into your camping routine.

1. Keep camp fuel in safe leak-free containers and store in a safe location away from tents, brush, cooking or firepit areas. Keep proper funnels available.
2. Make it a camp rule to fill stoves only at the fuel depot, and only if you can pick up the stove by the burner plate.
3. Train all your campers to light a fire and a stove properly. Make it a rule that campers will not be allowed to light a fire or stove without having demonstrated the ability and responsibility to do so safely.
4. Provide general supervision at all times. You can do this by working directly with inexperienced campers or by giving each camper a watchdog role. Based on your judgment, you might give patrol leaders, company executives or experienced boys and girls specific supervisory responsibilities.
5. Forbid cooking inside or beside tents. Allow no lanterns into tents to warm them unless absolutely necessary, and only when there's no one inside and an adult who is a competent camper handles the task.
6. Make it a specific expectation of all your campers that they will never use gas fuels to light fires. The only exception may be for a well planned campfire-lighting ceremony using kerosene only.
7. Know how to treat burns and extinguish fires. Have a useful first aid kit available in case an accident does occur (see p. 321, *Canadian Scout Handbook*).

By taking these precautions, you can keep the risks associated with fires and fuels at a minimum. It's the best way to ensure stories like the one that opened this piece will no longer be told. X



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a word to chairmen

Headhunters!

by Pat Horan

Dear Murray,

At a national training conference last week, I picked up a good idea closely related to the message in my May letter.

The topic under discussion was a position in Scouting called *The Recruiter*. Apparently, a number of councils across the country have such a position, although it may have a different name.

Essentially, *The Recruiters* are headhunters whose job is to seek out and refer people against vacancies. Sensitive to the requirements of Scouting's programs, they use their abilities and knowledge to provide the various sections the type of people they need. The function is similar to that of a company personnel man who supplies people with specific qualifications to various departments which have specific vacancies. *The Recruiter* is presented a need or vacancy, and works to fill it.

Recruiters support and service the many routes of recruitment which now exist. In particular, they support the group/section committee. The committee, for example, may be aware of a need, but may need help to articulate it and then to take the necessary steps to relieve it.

At the council level, the major function of a "headhunter" might well be as a clearing house for recruitment. By correlating a council's recruitment needs and sharing their expertise in recruiting and retaining volunteers, recruiters can fill an important function in meeting the council's needs.

To be effective, recruiters need a number of qualifications. They must be:

- enthusiastic and knowledgeable about Scouting's programs and its potential to provide personal growth;
- thoroughly familiar with the roles and functions of the positions for which they are recruiting; the time, tenure, and quality and nature of the commitment;
- able to communicate effectively with adults;
- knowledgeable about their communities and the place of volunteers in those communities;
- sensitive to people, their needs and the ways they can best share their talents;
- able to share and show how to apply the principles of recruiting adult members, as found on pp. 35-40 of the *Group Committee's Handbook*.

What do you think Murray? Consider adding a headhunter to your committee. And, at the next meeting of your Scout Council, think about suggesting the same to the president.

Sincerely,

Pat x

Indaba CJ'85

by Stephen Breen



What's an Indaba? B.-P. coined the word to describe a "meeting of Scouters" and, with a slightly different twist, that's what will happen at CJ'85 next summer.

CJ'85 aims to offer Scouts and Venturers a chance to try program activities they can use back home. And, for the first time, a Canadian jamboree will offer adult participants, through the operation of Indaba CJ'85, programs they can take back to apply at home.

Indaba CJ'85 will be a series of adult workshops conducted for unit leaders during the jamboree by the people who are in charge of the various youth activities. Most of the sessions will focus on how Scouters can apply the programs available at CJ'85 when the units return home.

Program Theme Workshops

A series of workshops will focus on the theme areas within the jamboree; for example Mediaeval Daze. Scouters who are interested can learn how to design a similar activity centre; how to develop the ideas and how to run the activities. Workshops will also provide equipment designs and material lists where appropriate.

In this manner, Scouters will have the chance to learn about as many of the exciting program activities offered at the jamboree as catch their fancy; Operation Space, Canadiana, Overnight Challenger, Underwater Orienteering — the list goes on.

Skills Workshops

Another series of learning opportunities will focus on specific knowledge and skills. For example, the Soul Patrol (Chaplaincy Corps) will offer opportunities to learn how to conduct a Scouts' Own and how to incorporate spiritual emphasis in your programs.

At other skills workshops, Scouters might learn how to design a safe waterfront and run water games and water-related activities, or how to put together an urban orienteering program with a focus on career development.

Sharing Workshops

Indaba CJ'85 may also offer opportunities for ad hoc groups of Scouters to come together to talk about areas of common interest or other needs for skills or knowledge. The organization is as simple as hav-

ing Scouters drop into the Indaba Centre to identify their areas of interest or need. If a reasonable number of people share similar needs or interests and resources are available, the Indaba staff will make arrangements to provide opportunities in the identified areas.

Daytime Skills Learning

As well as these learning opportunities for Scouters in the evening, adults and their units have a chance during the day to introduce themselves to canoeing, sailing, snorkelling and many other skills. The program activities will offer young people and adults a chance to learn together and to find out what resources are available back home to further their development in these areas after the jamboree ends.

Indaba Registrations

Full details about how to register for Indaba learning opportunities have not yet been completed. Two options are at present under consideration. One is to allow pre-registration for the choices described in a catalogue sent out before the jamboree. The second is to have on-site registration at the Indaba Centre, which will be located at the Jamfo Centre.

By the time you've registered for the jamboree, details will be final and you will receive information about how you can take advantage of the great Indaba opportunity.

Because of these adult learning opportunities, at CJ'85 there is provision to have an extra leader attached to every two to four units. This will allow adults to take part in Indaba workshops in confidence because other adults will be available to look after their units.

The plan is to run the Indaba workshops in the evenings when there are no scheduled program activities. Workshops will be repeated if sufficient interest is expressed.

Indaba CJ'85 is a new venture for a jamboree and, personally, I think it is a super idea. I hope all adults who attend CJ'85 will be able to find one learning opportunity that will meet a personal need from among the variety of offerings. I also hope you all will grab the chance to learn from and share with other Scouters from across Canada.

Take advantage of Indaba CJ'85. Remember — you only pass this way but once. X

World Record Stands

by John Sweet

All present will be familiar with that harmless little partner activity in which two Scouts start in the piggy-back position and have to get the rider over the top, down and between the horse's legs and back to his original position in the shortest possible time, without touching the deck at any point.

What may not be so widely known is that the World Record for this amazing feat was set up some years ago by Messrs Christopher Roberts (horse) and Jonathon Forbes (rider) of the 1st Radcliffe (Mariner) Group in Canada, who scored an all-time first by completing this difficult agility test in just eight seconds. The 1st Radcliffe were then declared World Champs, until some other two-man team could oust them from their pedestal. Nobody ever did. So they are still there.

We just thought your patrol leaders might like to know that.

Ed's Note: Do the 1st Radcliffe, whomever they are, have anything to add?

Testing Communications

Failure of communication is one of the bugbears of our great movement. The trouble is that people just do not listen to what other people say. I ought to know. Nobody ever listens to me.

Let me suggest a simple experiment.

Line up the troop and say to them: "When I say GO — not before — I want you to run up smartish and give old Bosun here a hearty pat on the back. Troop — Troop Alert! Ready set — wait for it, wait for it — OFF!"

What do you think will happen?

Exactly!

You then reassemble the troop, restore old Bosun to consciousness (do make sure the old battleaxe is up to it before you submit him to this ordeal) and ask the boys what they did wrong. As often as not, you will find that more than half of them were well aware of their mistake even as they committed it, while the others just hadn't bothered to listen.

There is only one thing for it. Make the whole boiling lot do six press-ups on the spot, clapping their hands on the rise. It won't teach them anything, but the exercise will be beneficial.

Rescue Problem

The Problem: To weight the end of a light rescue line so that it won't stun the victim if it catches the poor soul on the bounce when he is just on the point of going down for the third time.

The Solution: Souse a large sponge in water and pack it into a small plastic bag.

The Question: Will it work?

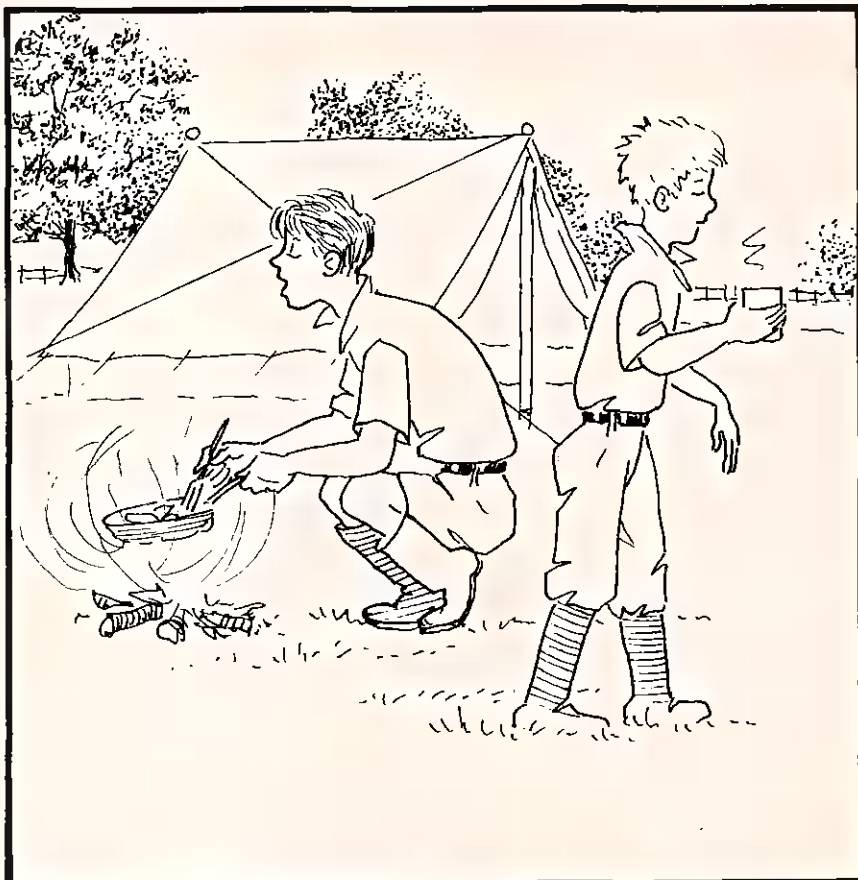
The Answer: That is what you are now invited to find out.

Raw Material Update

"Regarding your comments in the January number of the magazine about the composition of the human body," Mr. Simon N. Stockley of the Birmingham (England) University Scout and Guide Club wrote to us the other day, "your figures are correct

for the adult male, though your comment about your body not holding 10 gallons of water is false. We are constantly carrying around 10 gallons (45 litres) of the stuff, which is about 65% of the average 11 stone (70 kg) man. The reason we don't flop about like some giant hot-water bottle is that the majority of this water (about two-thirds) is held in the cells of the body. Most of the rest — about 2.5 gallons (12 litres) — is packed in around the cells. Only about two or three litres of this is found as the fluid part of our blood."

When I tell you that Mr. Stockley is a Medic in his fourth year, you will readily understand my reluctance to argue. But you can't say it isn't staggering. Speaking for myself, the mind accepts it but the imagination boggles. Mine does, anyhow. How's yours? X



'Ask Skip how he wants his bangers — rare, medium rare, or burnt to a cinder like the rest of us?'

scouter's 5 minutes

○ The Crow Man Who Stole Fire

This legend from eastern Australia has a lot of possibilities as campfire fare. It not only tells how the world learned the secret of fire, but also includes creepy things a good storyteller can play up (the snakes, for example); an origin legend about the Pleiades (Seven Sisters constellation) you can relate to summer star-gazing at camp; and a story about the crow and his harsh voice – often a familiar sound around the campsite.

In early times, the only people who knew how to make fire were seven women, and they refused to share their secret. The Crow Man, Wakala, very much wanted to know the secret. He made friends with the women, and joined them as they moved about to gather food.

As he travelled with the women, Wakala learned that they carried their fire in the ends of their digging sticks. He also learned that termites were one of their favourite foods. Most important, he learned that they were terrified of snakes!

Knowing this, he came up with a plan. He buried a nest of snakes in a termite mound, and then told the women he'd found termites for them. When the women poked into the mound, they disturbed the snakes and, terrified, thrashed wildly at them with their digging sticks. They managed to kill many of the wiggling reptiles but, as they swung their sticks, they sent sparks flying from the tips.

This was just what Wakala had expected and he was ready. He quickly caught some of the sparks between two pieces of bark, then fled to his own camp and kindled a fire with them. The women, furious at losing their exclusive ownership of fire, rose into the sky where they became the constellation called the Seven Sisters.

Scouter's Five Minutes – page 543 J/J'84

hints

○ Camp Hints

Avoid "burnt offerings" from a camp oven by placing the baking pan on a shelf about 4 to 5 cm above the bottom of the oven.

If a Cub at your camp has to take medicine, give him a break by letting him suck on an ice cube to numb his tongue before swallowing the vile stuff.

Ice cubes are also handy when you have to remove a splinter from a boy's hand or foot. Use the ice to numb the area around the splinter before "operating".

Make your own insect-repelling candle from an ordinary thick candle. Drill a 25 mm (1") deep hole near the wick, fill the hole with citronella, and cover it with melted wax. Let boys try it at camp.


When boys handle evergreens or cones, they can remove the sticky sap from their hands easily if they use baking soda instead of soap to wash.

Flashlight batteries dead? To recharge them, place them in a freezer for about two days. This trick will work several times on the same tired batteries.

If you're having a problem cleaning a pan, rub the area with salt. It works.

You're getting ready for camp, and decide to bring along that bag of marshmallows you've had around for awhile. So what if they've gone a little dry and hard. You can soften and freshen them up in a jiffy. Put them in a brown paper bag and place in a warm oven for a few minutes. Even those who don't toast them will love them.

Hints – page 619 J/J'84

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Did you know you could waterproof matches by dipping the tips in nail polish? To light them, strike on a small square of sandpaper.

The little plastic tags from bread and bun packages are great for pinning up wet bathing suits and towels at camp, and they take up a whole lot less packing space than clothespins.

Nature Craft Hints

Make necklaces from dried beans or barley by soaking the beans or barley overnight to soften for stringing. If you want to add colour, put food colouring in the soaking water.

The petals from large pine cones, when painted white and strung, make authentic-looking claw or teeth necklaces. To soften them so that you can easily string them with a needle, soak them in hot water for half an hour. You can also string cantelope or watermelon seeds to make an Indian-style necklace.

Wash and dry feathers boys collect at camp. If you have lots, you can put them into a pillow case and do the job in an automatic washer and dryer. To dye the feathers, boil water, vinegar and food colouring together and dip them into the mixture.

Preserve leaves by placing the stems in a solution of two parts water to one part glycerin and leave them until the leaves have absorbed the glycerin. They will turn from a greenish brown to a rich dark brown in about two weeks. If you want them to remain green, add green food colouring to the mixture.

To dry flowers, bury the heads in a half and half mixture of cornmeal and dry boric acid.

Hints — page 620

But Wakala was no better than they. He refused to share the fire with anyone. If people approached to ask for some fire, he mocked them with a harsh, "Wah, wah!" They pleaded and argued with him, and he became more and more quarrelsome and evil-tempered.

One day, when men once again bothered him for his fire, Wakala completely lost his temper. In a fit of rage, he threw some coals at the men. Although he hit none of them, he started a raging bushfire that raced through his camp and burned him to death.

When the fire burned down, the men sombrely returned and, as they gazed at Wakala's charred body, were surprised to see it tremble and come to life. In a flick of an eye, it changed into a crow and flew to the upper branches of a tree. There it sat, mocking them with Wakala's harsh call: "Wah! Wah! Wah!"

Campfire Cheers

Desert Fruit Cheer — YUCCA, YUCCA, YUCCA!

Seal of Approval — Put forearms together from elbows to wrists and flap hands together while yelling, "Urk, Urk, Urk!" like a seal.

—Thanks to Sandy Bard, Edmonton, Alta.

Campfire Closing

Whatever you are, be noble;
Whatever you do, do well;
Whenever you speak, speak kindly;
Spread happiness, wherever you dwell.

Scouter's Five Minutes — page 544

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Over 50?

by Garth Johnson

Some time ago, *Scouting* (U.K.) magazine began a search for the longest group name registered in the British Isles. They invited readers to write in with their "winner" but, of the 50 or so entries, only three managed to surpass the 50 character mark. Top honours went to the 90th Nottingham St. Andrew's with Castle Gate United Reformed Church — 59 characters in all.

Seems to me there must be some Canadian groups who qualify to join the Over 50 Club. Let us know who you are. We'll award the group with the longest name special LEADER buttons, acknowledgement in this column, and the promise of our sympathy whenever they are ordering their group shoulder flashes.

National Film Board Videos

As many of you may already be aware, the National Film Board (NFB) of Canada offers over 1,000 English and French language films on a loan basis through its film libraries across Canada.

For those of you with access to video cassette recorders, the NFB recently announced it has established a video rental service. Over 100 of its films are now available in either $\frac{3}{4}$ " U-Matic, $\frac{1}{2}$ " Beta or $\frac{1}{2}$ " VHS format.

You can reserve in advance and rent video cassettes at competitive prices from this new over-the-counter service. A catalogue of the video collections is available free of charge from NFB offices in Halifax, Quebec City, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver.

A cursory glance through a copy of the catalogue shows many popular titles: *Path of the Paddle*, *Song of the Paddle*, *Cry of the Wild*, *Cries from the Deep*, and *Paddle to the Sea*.

Contact your local NFB office for further information, or write to the closest outlet for a catalogue.

B.-P. Guilds

Mr. Walter Touzeau, secretary of the Canadian Council of B.-P. Guilds writes to remind us that one of the largest Guilds affiliated with the Can-

adian Council is located in Winnipeg, but many parts of the country are not quite as active.

The Council would like to stimulate the formation of more Guilds in Canada, and felt mention in this little space would help out. You can reach Mr. Touzeau by writing:

1447-54th Street,
Delta, B.C.
V4M 3H6

Scouting Adapts

We came across another interesting tidbit in *Scouting* (U.K.). Apparently, the Scouts in North Borneo have amended the requirements of the First Aid proficiency badge. In areas where there is no electricity, Scouts may delete the requirement that asks how to treat for electric shock and substitute: "Show what to do if seized by a crocodile."

Adaptations to badge requirements are familiar to some Canadian Scouts

as well. For example, as a requirement for the Sewer badge, Scouts in the Canadian Arctic are asked to "Make a pair of mitts correctly from the leg of a Caribou".

Whatever a Scout's land, climate or culture, Scouting helps him be prepared.

Is It Time for You to Renew?

It's the time of year for many of our readers to renew their **Leader** magazine subscriptions.

Because of the overwhelming cost of mailing subscription renewal forms to all of you, we ask those readers who subscribe directly to the **Leader** to complete and send in the renewal form on this page.

Direct subscribers are those who do not receive their magazine as part of the registration fee paid to the local council. For those who can't remember, the expiry date for your subscription (direct subscribers only), appears as a four digit number on your mailing label.

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Katimavik & Scouting

The Jan. '84 issue of the *Leader* contained an article about Katimavik, the federal program for Canadians aged 17-21. I read it with considerable interest, identifying many ingredients and objectives as complementary to the goals of Canadian and World Scouting.

Further inquiries at the Lethbridge Canada Employment Centre informed me that staff duties of a Katimavik group leader are very similar to a number of responsibilities I had before and during the XV World Jamboree as training coordinator for the mountain hike program.

I have now processed an application to Katimavik and have been accepted as a group leader. I understand Katimavik is actively soliciting a much closer association with Scouts Canada and is looking for adult leadership and youth recruits from among our ranks. I am optimistic a number of other people who attended the world jamboree as Hikemasters will soon become active in Katimavik.

I would like to propose a Hikemaster/Scouts Canada option for Katimavik's consideration — something like the voluntary three month military service option which is, at present, incorporated into Katimavik rotations for those who wish it. A three month specialty work and training project built on the existing Hikemaster framework would have a number of benefits.

It would be of immediate interest and appeal to many of our members. Overall goals of practical service to the community, greater national understanding, a conserver life-style, and personal growth which includes opportunities for a second language capability, are all extensions of the Scout spirit.

A strong network of skilled young adults would enhance Canadian Scouting to great depth for many years. Courses could be conducted at Scout region campsites where Katimavik teams might build or renovate physical facilities and provide program services to younger sections attending these sites during the Katimavik project.

Specific Hikemaster-style training (Seamasters in B.C.; computer-masters in Ontario, etc.), would not only beef up the Katimavik unit but also produce especially well-qualified

Scout personnel who, after performing the balance of their nine month cycle in a normal Katimavik rotation to two other Canadian communities, would return to their home Scouting regions with greater expertise.

Although the mountain hike program ended after the jamboree, there has been tremendous interest in maintaining and continuing Hikemasters. Katimavik has excellent potential for making this dream more possible. I have a very firm conviction that a high percentage of current Hikemasters are itching for the chance to enhance and demonstrate their skills in the outdoors. Because they also have high motivation for helping others, I'm convinced Katimavik's \$1 a day plus food and shelter offer, with a \$1,000 honorarium upon successful completion of three full rotations, is the sort of challenge they would take up.

I look forward to hearing the response of other readers who may have noticed the January article.

— Noel Buchanan, Lethbridge, Alta.

Roses to All the Sewers

I write a weekly Boy Scout column which appears in the *Cornwall Freeholder*. Recently, I received a treasure piece from Colleen E. Wilson, mother of two Scouts and a Cub, and wife of an Akela. I'd like to share it.

"I thought it was about time that someone gave credit to all the mothers and/or older sisters who draw the high office of being the official badge sewers in the Scouting and Guiding movements. These unsung heroines were probably never told of the exacting task they took on when their children first became involved in Beavers and Brownies.

"Unhappily, I am one mother who actually hates to sew, but does that stop me? No. Armed with a tube of Jiffy Sew and a heavy brick, I put the badges on the appropriate uniforms. After the glue has set, I attempt to anchor each earned badge with delicate stitches that will outlast numerous washings, campouts, floor hockey games, Kub Kar Rallies and, the most trying of all, the annual Cuboree.

"Well done to all those sewers out there. I haven't even given credit for the sewing of the huge badges that end up on jackets and campfire blankets. Oh well, here's to bigger tubes of Jiffy Sew!"

— Marion Weatherhead, Cornwall, Ont.

Sewing Tricks

In answer to "Silly from Sewing" (Feb. '84), I've found that a pocket novel shoved down the sleeve of the Cub uniform works wonders when you are pinning and sewing on badges.

A trick for leaders who have to sew on pocket badges is to slip a small coaster into the pocket before you pin or sew on the badge.

Now it's my turn to ask for some new ideas! Would anybody out there with some good ideas on Cuborees please write to me. We are trying to get this to be an annual event down here in Nassau and are eager to hear how you get a Cuboree together.

— Julie Atkinson, Box N7518, Nassau, Bahamas

Managing Knives

In the March '84 issue, in his letter about uniforms, Harry Rhyno of Riverport, N.S. talked about knives at Scouting events. I would like to comment about how the 1st Essex (Ont.) works this out.

At young Scout age, boys are starting to perfect their coordination. You can see this as they cook, set up a tent or handle an axe or knife.

When a boy becomes a Scout, he has many expectations — to learn, have fun, go camping. In trying to fulfill these expectations, Scouters must remember one thing always comes first — safety.

At 1st Essex, we allow boys to carry only knives that fold and are shielded. A Scout is only allowed to carry a knife after he has achieved his Pioneer badge. I have been to camps where troops allowed their boys to wear anything from fillet knives to small pocket knives — with little thought to safety.

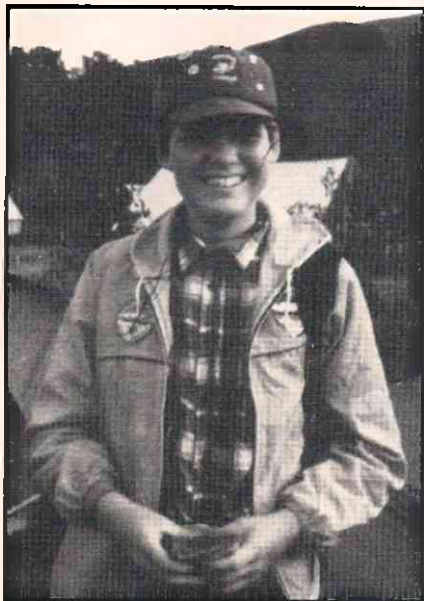
We have three boys who have their Pioneer badge or higher and they have refrained from wearing their knives for the sake of the other boys. I feel the boys find this system a challenge but, most of all, they learn to respect the knife they will soon carry and use.

Boy Scouts of Canada have a smart looking uniform. One who wears it should be proud to stand for peace, unity and brotherhood. A folding knife in a case on the belt can be a legitimate tool of Scouting. A dagger hanging from the belt when we are in uniform, in my opinion, degrades what we stand for.

Thank you for raising an important issue.

— Gary H. Major, Harrow, Ont.

Scout Search



I am looking for the Scout you see in the picture. I met him in Canada during the XV World Jamboree. The first time I met him was in Banff and after that he came to see the Netherlands contingent a few times. Some years ago, he lived in the Netherlands, so he can speak Dutch very well. I hope this is enough information that

the person will know who I am looking for. If you recognize yourself, please write

Paul Dicker
v. Mecklenburg Schwerin.21
2741 CW Waddinxveen
Netherlands

Getting Out the Word

Enclosed is a **Leader** subscription for the Brampton Public Library. We have been exploring different ways in which we might raise the profile of Scouting in the district. The library has agreed to display and catalogue **the Leader** in their periodical section. In our opinion, making copies visible will provide resource material not only for Scouters, but for other library users as well.

At the same time, we are asking Scouters in the district if they would like to contribute any books on Scouting. The library has agreed to receive, catalogue and give them shelf room.

The idea came from Gillie Gillespie.

— Roger Williams, Brampton, Ont.

Hurt by Scouting's Direction

After reading *Where Have All the Good Songs Gone?* and *Futureworld* at CJ'85 (Mar. '84), I was hurt to

think of the direction in which Scouts Canada seems to be moving. I'm not personally ignoring the existence of high tech today. In fact, I'm in favour of it when it can help me locate material at the library or make a long distance phone call in a matter of seconds. But, just where do Sony Walkmans, pocket computer games and radio watches fit in when your troop is sitting around a campfire listening to the loons?

The members of Scouts Canada today are better equipped to write a computer program on fire lighting than they are to light a fire with only one match. If high tech is one more area boys and girls are able to explore in the movement, what organization will they have to join to learn about woodcraft and citizenship?

I must agree with Fred Fishell that singing is slowly going the way of the woolly mammoth, but don't fret. There's at least one troop with a troop song. The Scouts of Troop 59 in Regina created it in '83.

— Kendell Kerr, Assiniboia, Sask.

Ed's Note: It's a good song, too, but we'll save it for our next Songs cut-out pages, scheduled for the December issue. A

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