

the leader



MARCH 1994

VOLUME 24, NO. 7

Scouting in
Eastern Europe
Part 2

SNOW BALL!

SUNDIAL FUN • TEASING BEAVERS • WHIPPING ROPE

From The Commissioner's Tent

— by Herb Pitts, National Commissioner

As I write this, snow is falling, temperatures are dropping, daylight is short and we're well into the Scouting year. When you read these words, spring is lurking just around the corner and your thoughts are turning to Trees for Canada, outdoor activities and wrapping up the year with banquets and other events. Scouts and Scouters a world away are experiencing similar pangs for the first time in decades.

With the collapse of communism, East Europeans are again taking part in Scouting programs. What an excellent way to build peace and bridge understanding gaps between people once isolated from each other. This issue continues its exciting update of Scouting's emergence in Eastern Europe.

Canadian Scouters at all levels also sense an emerging renewal as we look ahead at reaffirming the Movement's direction through work by your Key 3 and the Strategic Management Task Group. Response is positive and encouraging to the identified strategic directions. Over the next months leaders will have a unique opportunity to reflect how we bring Scouting to our sections and groups. This process should result in greater focus on how and what we do at the "grass roots", the "rock face" or the "youth/leader interface". What could be more relevant?!

Involvement of youth at all levels of Scouts Canada has been the subject of much discussion in this process, as well. World-wide, people recognize that young people must experience greater consultation and decision-making. National and Provincial Councils are now actively pursuing some very necessary initiatives in this respect. Let's all look at our own "jurisdictions" to see how we might better involve younger members. During discussions with youth representatives, I (and others) are constantly impressed by their sensitivity and good common sense. We can use more of that!

National Jamborees: this subject stands out from all other correspondence crossing my desk. Generally, people consider these events a highlight of their Scouting experience. However, some people question the resource implications and the value they receive for their money. Regarding jamborees, two widely-based surveys are now in the analysis stage. We will share their findings as soon as possible.

Two major events, moving from "draft" stages to "active" phases, are gathering wide interest: The 18th World Jamboree in the Netherlands in 1995, and the 9th Canadian Jamboree in Thunder Bay in 1997. CJ'97 will coincide with Scouts Canada's 90th Anniversary. What a way to celebrate a very significant birthday!

"What makes Scouting different from other youth organizations?"

People often ask me this question. As we move ahead with our VISION FOR RENEWAL and prepare to conclude another Scouting year, it may be good to reflect on our response to this question. Hoping it will lead to further discussion, my own answer always includes the following in summary. The Scout Movement:

- participates through a huge international membership,
- has a long history of achievement,
- subscribes to principles and a promise,
- operates through partnership with youth and sponsors,
- uses and nurtures the outdoors,
- cares for (and shares with) others, and
- is fun.

Sounds okay?
See you on the trail!



— Herb Pitts, National Commissioner

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Ready, set, go BLUE!

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ROBIN HOOD BEAVEREE

from Hazel Hallgren



Alberta "Robin Hood" Beavers were transported back hundreds of years to Sherwood Forest near Nottingham, England for one day last May during their 6th annual Beaverree.

The event featured well-known personality and bad-guy, the Sheriff of Nottingham. Lurking in the shadows, Sir Hiss wisely stayed hidden (lucky for him!).

Little Robin Hoods circulated through eight stations (taking twenty minutes each) where they experienced everything from nature walks to castle building and destroying!

Special outlaw suits (a burlap sack with head and arm holes cut out) set the mood. Then Beavers made Robin Hood hats (triangular paper ones) decorated with feathers.

Have you ever met a Beaver who *didn't* like an obstacle course?! Ours involved an escape through Sherwood Forest. Little Robins had to leap over, or crawl under, hockey sticks placed on road pylons, scamper over tires, and weave in and out through pylons to the finish line.

Ducks Unlimited organized a special tag game where the Sheriff chased

Robin and his merry men. The game helped illustrate how wildlife had greater survival chances with lots of habitat in which to live and hide.

A quiet nature walk helped settle some excited Beavers.

Always watchful, Beavers spotted spider webs, many insects, birds, fungi and wildflowers. Later, people from a wildlife hospital showed us a real Red Tailed Hawk and answered questions from fascinated Beavers.

Medieval villagers often enjoyed carnivals. Ours included a wide variety of fun activities: bowling, "ring the golden arrow" (ring toss over upright cardboard arrows), balloon dart throwing (each balloon represented one of Prince John's money bags), and mini-golf (move a gold nugget from the castle to the forest).

Generous outlaws could drop a farthing (penny) into Friar Tuck's poor

jar — more difficult than it sounds. The jar sat at the bottom of a picnic cooler filled with water. When a Beaver dropped a farthing into the water over the jar, it weaved a swirling path. Many missed.

Robin Hood Beavers gave the evil Sheriff of Nottingham much attention during one event called "Soak the Sheriff." Each Beaver got three balls to throw at a spring-mounted board that, when hit, knocked over an ice cream bucket full of water onto the head of the unpopular Sheriff.

All Beavers loved building castles. How did they do it? They piled

boxes on top of each other forming walls. When castle-building Beavers decided the time had come for destroying the walls, they launched beach balls into the fortress, and "the walls came a-tumblin' down!"

"Great fun!" everyone agreed. ^



Moving the golden nuggets (mini-golf).



Escape through Sherwood Forest obstacle course.

— Hazel Hallgren works with the 13th Red Deer Beavers, Alta..



Castle destroying: more popular than building!

Hiking the West Coast Trail

from Mike Fleming

An easy stroll along the seashore: that's not what you would call a seven-day, 71 kilometre hike along the spectacular West Coast Trail in Pacific Rim National Park, British Columbia.

1st Sooke (B.C.) senior Scouts Eric Fleming, Myles Martin, Reg Stratton, Leif Watson, and Kevin Clark met the high adventure challenge. The trip filled the Scouts with a new awareness of wildlife and tested their outdoor wilderness skills.

Our plan was simple: get into the outdoors to experience nature. We also wanted to hone our wilderness skills and gather life-long experiences.

On the first day, we hiked from Bamfield to Michigan Creek, stopping along the way to watch Grey Whales spouting, sounding, and rolling on their sides, showing their flukes. An impressive sight!

The route to Tsocowis Creek on the second day started on a barren rock shelf along the Pacific shore. This was our jumping-off point for heading inland. We sighted more whales and over a dozen seals, including babies. Later in the day the trekking Scouts caught glimpses of other wildlife, including mink and heron.

What a fascinating day! After we set up camp, we spent several hours frolicking around a derelict barge.

Next morning (day three) Eric felt sick. We decided to call this a rest day. While he recuperated, the others spent their time riding a log in the surf, mountain climbing, and burying each other in the sand. The day was good for Eric too; he felt better as it progressed.

The next day all of us were anxious to roll out of warm sleeping bags, eat breakfast and make an early start. (Yawn-stretch.) The trail was steadily becoming rougher with each passing day. Rain the night before made the trail slippery and slowed our progress even more. We set out.

A cable car across the beautiful Klanawa River was the day's highlight. Great fun! Tired and with aching muscles, we made our way slowly to Tsusiat Falls.



Ready for our adventure: excited, nervous and raring to go.

Did we slide into sleeping bags after setting up camp that night? Not at all! (It's amazing where energy comes from when you think you have no more reserves.) The Scouts found a rope swing at the north end of the nearby beach and frolicked for a long time.

The next day proved even more challenging. All night it had poured rain; the wet left the trail slippery — a real mess. Our day's mission (whether we chose to accept it or not!) involved a very long nine and a half hour, 16 kilometre hike over twisted roots, logs and mud. In cold rain we hiked to Carmanah Lighthouse, past the Carmanah Valley and on to the Walbran.

Here the trail turned even rougher. Scouter Mike fell head-first into the

mud. The rain finally stopped as we arrived at our campsite with wet tents, clothes, and a few damp sleeping bags.

Ahead of us lay the most difficult section of the trail. Calf-deep mud, narrow log bridges, tall ladders, and slippery roots slowed our progress. Everyone fell at least once — one into a bees nest! For a short while our hiking pace understandably increased! Except for one bee sting and the usual scrapes and bumps, all escaped serious injury.

After a six and a half hour day, we set up our tents wearily at Camper Creek, enjoying the first real sunshine we'd seen. The sun continued to beam warm rays throughout our final day of hiking. By now the trail had dried considerably and we made easy progress to our final destination — the truck waiting to drive us home.

What did we achieve from our adventure trek?

The hike was a real wilderness test. We drew on all our camping skills (even helping fellow campers light a fire in the rain). Working as a team we traversed the most rugged outdoor country on the west coast and enjoyed doing it. ^

— Mike Fleming is Troop Scouter with the 1st Sooke (2nd Juan de Fuca) Troop, Greater Victoria Region, B.C.



Always time for a campfire: Aaahhh... That sand sure feels good on toes that have been in boots all day.

Glen Abbey Goes Blue:

How to raise money while helping the environment

by Paul H. Clarke

“What would happen if the 8th Oakville Cubs, Scouts and Venturers visited every home in Glen Abbey?”

The question seemed to come out of nowhere last March at our group committee meeting. Around the table we brainstormed while reviewing a newly-created list of fundraising activities

for the calendar year. Our group comes from the Glen Abbey area (Canadian Open golf fame) of Oakville, Ontario.

“Okay. What’s the project?”

“Simple. Blue boxes.”

“Blue boxes?”

I explained the idea.

THE PROBLEM

Oakville (a city of 100,000), has had a blue box recycling program for several years. Recycle collectors only gathered the basics in blue boxes: glass bottles, tin and aluminum cans, and PET (polyethylene terephthalate) soft drink bottles, as well as newspapers, magazines, catalogues and cardboard. Managed by the city, collection occurred once a week.

Last year two noteworthy conditions changed: collection switched to once every *two* weeks (instead of weekly) and 5 new materials were added to the list.

Most home owners were ill-prepared for the switch; a single blue box was woefully inadequate for the expanded list of recyclables and the growing mound of materials. Recyclable cans and bottles spilled out all over garage floors and rolled under cars. Furthermore, fuller boxes meant people had to sort cans from bottles, and bundle and tie paper products lest they ‘decorate’ the neighbourhood with litter.

But how could our Scouts solve the problems?

THE SOLUTION

What people really needed was an extra blue box. This would hold the extra recycle products and minimize the need for late night sorting in preparation for the next day’s collection.

If our Scouting group could get a good source of blue boxes we could have both a timely fundraiser and an educational project that tied in nicely with environmental issues.

We formed a committee to organize the program. Our fundraising drive proceeded at full steam.

A quick call to Laidlaw (the collector) set the wheels in motion. They helped us fine-tune our plan. The company told us they collected the recycled material in two streams at the curb, and only separated it at their plant.

Our sales pitch focused on this: the ease of use with two or more boxes. People could put loose beverage containers, glass, metal, PET soft drink bottles, styrofoam, aluminum foil, and

boxboard (cereal, detergent boxes, etc.) in one blue box; in the second box they could place untied paper products, cardboard, magazines and books.

But how do you keep paper from blowing away? Simply place the box containing bottles on top of the paper box at the curb.

Two weeks and two days after hatching the original idea, 8th Oakville took delivery of 900 new blue boxes.

The committee set up a four-week-end program designed around visiting each of the 6,000 homes in Glen Abbey. This was the plan: each sales team, consisting of one adult driver and 2 Cubs/Scouts/Venturers, was assigned approximately 90 homes. Two hours were allotted for the walk/knock activity.

If the owner was home, the youth offered the blue box. If the owners were away, the child left a detailed flyer with the ‘hook’ — our simplified loading instructions. In addition, we set up a phone line with an answering machine and a FAX.

Every seven homes bought a blue recycle box from our Cubs, Scouts and Venturers. Not bad! 10% of our total sales came from phone solicitations.

We sought out other creative ways to contact the public. A local plaza owner let us use a vacant store for our project. We manned it with Venturers. Organizers of the very timely Oakville Home Show (held in our territory) donated a booth. That show provided many sales as well as community exposure for our Scouts. Fantastic!



Nicholas Steczkiewicz, Mark Quintal and Andrew Marchand take time to relax.

AND THE WINNERS ARE...

How well did we do? We sold all 900 boxes!

What started as a glimmer of an idea quickly mushroomed into a major fundraiser. It took plenty of thoughtful planning and a huge amount of horsepower (Scoutpower?) but pulling together, everyone did a magnificent job. Parents and youth threw themselves into the project enthusiastically.

Planning each sales session with the precision and creativity of a successful army manoeuvre, the committee provided insightful ideas and tactical direction. And... it was great fun!

Do you want to raise the public profile of your group, win some easy press coverage, possibly gain more recruits, help save the earth *AND* make money for your favourite Scouting projects?

Why not start a similar project? Your neighbours will love the idea. Custom fit your project to meet local needs.

Get in touch with your town or city works department. Check out to see if



Helping the environment and community, 8th Oakville Cubs proudly gather around their blue boxes.

you have an opportunity to "go blue". Since our success in Glen Abbey, Laidlaw has given our district the green light on an Oakville-wide campaign for the other 13 groups modeled

upon our success. It can be done.

So.... ready, set, go BLUE! ^

— Paul H. Clarke is a Troop Scouter with the 8th Oakville Troop "A", Ont.



"It's Like Planting Trees In Our Own Backyard!"

by David Townsend

National Capital Region (NCR) Scouts have formed a new tree planting partnership. It happened partly because planting sites were becoming scarcer. We needed new ideas.

Last year the Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton approached NCR to see if Scouting had youth program ideas tying in with a water purification theme. After matching joint activities to Cub/Scout badge systems, together we decided that Trees for Canada could work well with both conservation and water ecology.

Our new partnership focuses on Scouts planting seedlings in a nursery, then the Municipality transplanting the trees after 2 to 4 years where they can help purify the water. (Trees growing along the banks of rivers or lakes help reduce erosion, which in turn reduces chemical leaching into the water supply.)

The Municipality also readily agreed to provide tours of their new water treatment plant as well as hands-on learning material for leaders.

A bright sun and a blue sky greeted our first planting day last May. Perfect! The nursery we helped create stood near the water purification plant. Some minor glitches appeared. (Example: square shovels don't work well in ground that has not been previously broken.)



Just like planting a nursery in our own backyard!

Youth and leaders alike were ecstatic to plant "our trees" less than a five minute drive from most of their homes. "It's like planting trees in our backyard," someone said. Many said they wanted to return and follow the trees' growth.

The local television station and newspaper sent reporters to document our new project. The youth did a terrific job performing in front of the cameras. Great PR for our groups!

With all trees nicely planted the work had ended, but not the fun. We all enjoyed a fascinating and educational tour of the purification plant. This included a demonstration of what untreated water looks like before it reaches the plant.

"Yuck!" Sour faces showed that the kids were gaining a new appreciation of protecting water supplies.

The tour ended with the always-popular snack — juice and doughnuts.

Only a few months until we plant more trees. Can't wait! ^

— David Townsend is one of NCR's field executives.



Pine-Sol Supports Trees for Canada Campaign

A four year corporate partnership between Scouts Canada and the makers of Pine-Sol household cleaner will continue in 1994, demonstrating again the value of working together on cross-promotional activities.

Pine-Sol (which calls its program "Plant-a-Pine"), will make a substantial cash donation again this year to the national Trees for Canada campaign. The company will also provide planting site signs and sponsor two recognition programs: one for individual adult volunteers and one for regions or districts.

Planting site signs

Signs to identify Trees for Canada planting sites serve two purposes: they help protect the seedlings until they become established, and they create public awareness of Scouting's role in improving the environment.

In three years, Pine-Sol has distributed more than 1,000 signs to groups all across Canada.

Adult Volunteer Award

The Adult Volunteer Appreciation Award recognizes Scouting's many "unsung heroes" — the front-line Scouters who make Trees for Canada a success. They do this by encouraging youth members, organizing planting sites, obtaining seedlings and providing refreshments for weary planting crews.

Almost 100 such Scouters from colonies, packs, troops, companies or group committees have received these Awards.

Seed an Idea Award

The "Seed an Idea" Award was established in 1993 to recognize the region (or equivalent service area) in each province that raises the most Trees for Canada funds on a per capita basis. Pine-Sol asks recipients for their "keys to success".

The company intends to publish these ideas to help others make their campaigns more successful.

Pine-Sol's involvement in the Tree for Canada program provides clear benefits to Scouts Canada:

- it enhances the overall program
- it reduces substantially administrative costs at all levels.

This means a higher percentage of funds collected by members can help Scouting at the local, regional, national and international levels.

In return, Pine-Sol gains the right to display the Scouts Canada logo on its packages and use its connection with Scouts Canada as an inducement for consumers to choose its product. (Before sanctioning any cross-promotion, Scouts Canada must be assured that a product or service is compatible with Scouting's aim, principles and operating procedures. It also must support efforts to increase the profile of Scouting in the community. Pine-Sol meets these criteria. Its product is totally biodegradable, and packaged in recyclable containers.)

Happily, the cross-promotion continues to work for both parties. "We know from the letters we receive that communities really appreciate our efforts," says Tim Moore, Pine-Sol's Marketing

Director. "Furthermore, the Plant-a-Pine coupon which we distribute nationally has the highest redemption rate of all coupon events run in support of Pine-Sol. This is a very efficient program — it's a great way to help Scouts Canada, the environment and our business, all at the same time."

Pine-Sol hopes to make its 1994 "Plant-a-Pine" program more accessible to Scouters. An order form for planting site signs, a nomination form for the Adult Volunteer Appreciation Award and a registration form for the "Seed-an-Idea" Award are all included as an insert in this issue of *The Leader*.

Is your form missing? Obtain a replacement by telephoning Pine-Sol at (416) 422-3072. ^

1993 APPRECIATION AWARD RECIPIENTS

Brenda Beckett, Owen Sound, ON
 Jackie Berdan, Alliston, ON
 Lily Blackburn, Dorval, PQ
 Ken Buhr, Iroquois Falls, ON
 Phil Burns, Mission, BC
 Peter Dubeau, Acton, ON
 Lori Dudley, Calgary, AB
 Larry Ernewein, Waterloo, ON
 Doug George, Arkona, ON
 Gary Gibbons, New Hamburg, ON
 Dorry Gladding, Thornton, ON
 Brent Grocholski, Flin Flon, MB
 Bruce Hughes, Waterloo, PQ
 Lee Humble, Victoria, BC

Richard Klause, Flin Flon, MB
 Vincent A. Lammi, Coaldale, AB
 John Lewis, Oshawa, ON
 Clarence Louder, Moncton, NB
 Gerry Milne, Coldbrook, NS
 Sandi Morrison, Vernon, BC
 Maria Mortimer, Everett, ON
 Deborah Newhook, Paradise, NF
 Darius Powell, Corner Brook, NF
 Susan Pratten, Thorndale, ON
 Randy Roach, Edmonton, AB
 Joe Szeszorak, Prince Albert, SK
 Lorne Taylor, Pasadena, NF

SEED-AN-IDEA AWARD, 1993

The Seed-an-Idea Award was introduced in 1993 to recognize regions or equivalent service areas that were especially successful at mobilizing youth members and raising money for Trees for Canada. The winning councils in each province were:

British Columbia & Yukon: Fraser Valley Region
 Western Prairie Office, Alberta: Calgary Region
 Western Prairie Office, Saskatchewan: South Saskatchewan Region
 Manitoba: Service Area 3
 Ontario: London Region
 Quebec: Dorval District
 New Brunswick: East Restigouche District
 Nova Scotia: Kings District
 P.E.I.: Charlottetown District
 Newfoundland and Labrador: Labrador Region

Each region or district received a certificate recognizing its outstanding contribution to Trees for Canada and a cheque for \$500. The money is intended to provide "seed" money for the 1994 campaign.

The Fine Art Of Whipping Rope

by Drew Huffman

The first steam-off game of the evening had just finished. Twenty-five Cubs were puffing hard. The 105th Cub Pack was about to learn something new.

"Who knows what whipping is?" I asked.

"Batman uses one!" voices shouted back. Others added: "Spiderman makes his own and swings from buildings!" and "Indiana Jones catches bad guys with his!"

"Not what I had in mind," I said. "We're going to learn how to whip the end of a rope so it won't unravel."

We had been using old pieces of rope to learn the six basic knots in Cubbing: reef, sheet bend, bowline, round turn with two half hitches, clove hitch and fisherman's knot. Many of our ropes were frayed at the end and hard to use.

"Great! Let's also learn the hangman's knot," one piped up.

"Sorry, not tonight."

We walked over to our work table where the materials lay:

- rope cut into two metre lengths. (We used 6mm cotton sash cord. This has a braided sheath that keeps it from unravelling in inexperienced hands. Cut off frayed ends of old ropes, if using them.)

- tightly wound cotton string cut into 1 metre lengths. (1-2mm diameter butcher string is good — not too slippery, strong, and easy on hands. Fishing line is good for experienced rope whippers.)
- scissors to cut the whipping string.

Whipping rope: easy and fun

How did we whip the rope ends? Follow these instructions...

1. Place a 5cm long loop of whipping string along the end of the rope. Leave a short tail along the rope and a long tail of the left. (Fig. 1)
2. Wind the long tail around the rope twice. Start 1cm from the rope end and wind toward the end. Pull string snug — not tight. (Fig. 2)
3. Neatly wind the long tail around the rope until it is 2-3mm from the end. Pull the string tight at each turn. Do not let coils unwind. (Fig. 3)
4. Thread the last wind through the loop you made in step 1. (Fig. 4)
5. Pull the short tail so the loop disappears and snugs up to the long tail. (Fig. 5) It will hold the long tail in place. Continue pulling until you draw the loop half way through the coil. (Fig. 6)
6. Cut off exposed part of both tails. (Fig. 7) You've finished!

Trouble-shooting

Problem: "I can't get started."

Solution: Don't pull too hard on the first few winds or you will pull out the starting loop.

Problem: "The coils fall off before I finish."

Solution: Place your fingers over the coils as you make them.

Problem: "I can't pull the short tail."

Solution: It should be very snug; tight coils hold the whip together better. Use pliers to pull the short tail into the coil for a very tight fit.

Problem: "The whipping fell apart when I cut the tails off."

Solution: Be careful when cutting the tails not to cut the string inside the coils.

"Hey this is neat!"

Cubs love whipping rope. It's fun, but takes practice — more than just one evening. Let them perfect their technique over several evenings. X

— Drew Huffman leads the 105th Cub Pack in Toronto, Ont.

Program Links
Cubs: Green Star.

Fig. 1

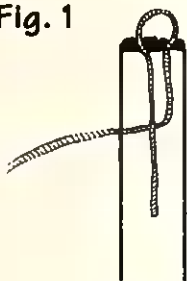


Fig. 2

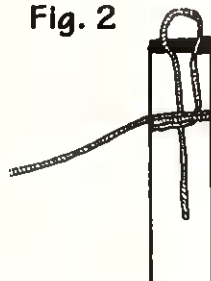


Fig. 3

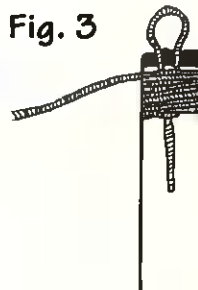


Fig. 4



Fig. 5



Fig. 6



Fig. 7



Fig. 8



Use Your Community Television Channel For Scouting

by John Ollivier

Your local cable television company's community channel provides an exciting publicity tool for Scouting. Whether you call it Cable Four or Cable Ten, Scouting can use it — no charge!

Many groups have featured their Scouting activity on a community channel, but comparatively few Scouters know how to use it effectively.

What is cable community television? The cable channel experiment began about twenty-five years ago. It allowed communities to produce and broadcast local-interest programs. It proved a popular idea. All cable companies with more than 3,000 subscribers must provide facilities. Many even offer cameras and equipment.

Community television stations must not compete with broadcast commercial operations. Community channels show no commercials and get funding from their cable television operation's gross revenues.

A majority of their behind-scenes crews are volunteers or hobbyists who find a creative outlet in television production. Often students on their way to broadcasting careers obtain free basic education in their medium by participating in community productions. Seniors, homemakers, teenagers and others often prefer seeing their own work on screen, to watching pre-packaged broadcast programs.

Local sports, fairs, parades, political meetings, school events and programs for seniors — these are just a few of the myriad programs covered by your local station. Why not make Scouting part of the thousands of community programming hours produced each week across Canada?

Where do you start?

Some cable channels are more approachable than others. Bigger communities receive more demands for access time and have more special interest groups to satisfy. Don't de-

mand or threaten cable companies; they don't have to give you air time.

How can you get your Scouting message on the air?

First, not every cable system under 3,000 subscribers has a channel available. If you do have a local station, visit the programming manager. Find out about their operation, their requirements, and what they need from you.

Community television offers real opportunities.

Who should you send? Carefully choose a keen and *able* individual. Program Managers are very busy.

Perhaps it's time you appointed a Public Relations Officer. As a delegate for your district or region, this PR representative could handle all program ideas and requests for event coverage.

Content deeply interests most Program Managers. They strive for the best on-air presentation possible. Make it a good experience for them.

At very least, your local station should agree to run professionally produced PSAs (Public Service Announcements) available from your Provincial Communications/Public Relations Committee, or from the national office. Ask these Scouting

offices to add your local stations to their mailing list. Timely releases cover many events and promotions, such as Trees for Canada and Scout-Guide Week. Determine which tape format your station uses (VHS, Beta, 3/4") and order the appropriate one.

Producing a Scouting program represents a more ambitious undertaking. You can do it fearlessly and easily if you take a few concrete first steps.

- Get the program manager to agree to run your program if it contains appropriate content. Don't waste time on a project he won't air.
- Brainstorm with several people to outline your show. Make clear notes so you can discuss all points with the programmer without having to rely on memory. Leave a copy with him.

If you receive a go-ahead signal from the station, go back and thoroughly plan your program. For a "talking heads" show, gather articulate people who know their subject well and don't feel shy about appearing on television. Unless it's a particularly lively topic, gather photographs or other "show and tell" articles to intersperse with dialogue.

Don't overcrowd your set! This creates a confusing presentation in a small area. It's difficult to give everyone a chance to say something meaningful in a 15 or 30 minute show. Usually, two or three persons are sufficient, although you could segment the program with "walk-ons" or, if the director agrees, stopping and starting the taping session.

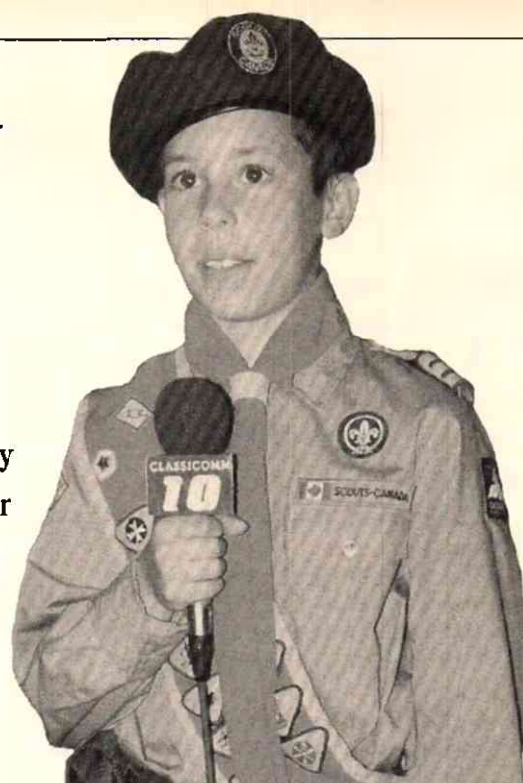


Photo: Paul Ritchie.

Don't forget to wear full uniform. Those without uniform should dress well, avoiding too much white or black.

Location shooting is great as long as you plan everything well. Too often community programmers accept invitations to visit Scout camps, triathlons and other events, only to spend hours waiting for something to happen. Remember, it's your event, not theirs. If you coerce them into visiting, give them lots of action to shoot and make sure your timing is precise. Delegate someone as tour guide and pamper your video reporter with coffee, snacks or lunch and a warm, dry shelter. Not everyone is nutty enough to enjoy camping in rain or snow.

Try another possibility: choose a Scouter with a really good track record using her own video camera; then turn her loose. Providing her format is compatible, many program directors will

take raw stock, edit it into program length, and add titles in the studio.

Perhaps you can best look after your own interests by volunteering as part of the studio's regular crew. If you do, be prepared to help produce a wide range of programs other than those involving Scouting. You'll gain terrific, free experience. As a volunteer producer, you will have some opportunities to indulge in Scouting on the airwaves, but your community channel exists for many groups. Your cable company does not want it monopolized.

Venturers may also find a special interest producing Scout programs. (See sidebar.) Properly trained by the Program Manager and his people, they could become the crew for a Scouting series.

Most community television stations command large audiences for well advertised programs, especially those in-

volving young people. Whenever you're going to appear on television, spread the word, but not just among Scouting people.

Television is colourful, full of action and sound. It lends itself ideally to Scouting. It provides another window through which parents can watch their children experience fun and excitement. This will help you recruit and retain youth. It will help others in your community understand what a great resource they have in Scouting (very useful when fundraising time arrives).

When you use community television to tell Scouting's story, always do your very best. Impressions last a long time.

— John Ollivier is Marketing Manager for a medium sized cable television company. He also chairs the Ontario Provincial Communications Committee.

THE MACLEAN HUNTER VIDEO VENTURERS: A DREAM COME TRUE

by John Udd

When the Maclean Hunter Video Venturers formed in the National Capital Region, Ontario (NCR), it was a dream come true!

Our Company was born from an event that occurred ten years ago. When living in Sudbury, several of us formed a Commissioner's Troop to help manage the Canada Games for the Disabled. We made a video tape for the local community television channel. The video was broadcast many times and drew considerable attention.

Success planted a seed: start a regular program.

Last year I asked our NCR "key three" to support the project. Little did we realize the speed events would occur!

While trying to sell Maclean Hunter on the idea with program proposals and outlines, some community volunteers in Scouts within the cable channel were also working keenly. The chemistry and timing proved perfect.

Originally I thought we would first form the Venturer Company, train them, and only then (about a year later) start programming. But trained and enthusiastic youth were ready to go. Almost immediately we started offering a regular monthly program called "The Scouting Adventure."

The show tells our community all about Scouting (camps, adventure trips, canoeing) by interviewing excited, enthusiastic Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and

Venturers. Not only is this excellent PR, it also gives our Venturers wide-ranging, practical experience.

Maclean Hunter, our sponsor, proved tremendously supportive and let our Venturer Company use their Channel 22 facilities. They knew the Venturers and had confidence in their abilities and maturity. They were so impressed with our group and our message they asked us to run two programs in one month!

So far our Venturers have produced five programs. Very busy, we have a full schedule planned for the next several months.

Production pressures have created some problems. We need to focus on recruitment and "gelling" the Company. Continuity also is a critical element for the future.

We also formed a Rover Crew. This will help ensure that the skills of our older members are not lost later.

Bite off only what you can chew

Producing a television show involves an enormous amount of specialized skills, as well as a huge amount of work and planning. If a television station commits itself to your promises, you had better deliver the program on time and with top quality — a critical issue.

Only bite off what you can chew easily and successfully.

— John Udd is founding advisor of the Maclean Hunter Video Venturers and Rovers in the National Capital Region, Ontario.



Jason Whissell (co-host) interviews a group of Cubs at camp.

INSURANCE: Questions & Answers

Many people ask questions about Scouts Canada's insurance coverage. Here is an up-dated reprint of an article that appeared several years ago in the *Leader*.

Q: Why do we have an insurance policy?

A: Scouts Canada buys insurance for the same reasons a family does: protection. We want to protect members taking part in reasonable circumstances across the country with certain types of coverage.

Q: What is the difference between liability and indemnity insurance?

A: Liability insurance protects Scouts Canada in case of an accident in which we are proven negligent and become legally responsible to pay someone else for damages we have caused to persons or property.

Indemnity insurance involves the protection of an individual's physical person. In our case, the national indemnity insurance program provides coverage for death or dismemberment (i.e. loss of some key part of the body), as well as dental expenses on natural teeth up to a limit of \$1,000 a year. In each area upper limits exist. In case of death, for example, the upper limit is \$2,500 for youth and \$10,000 for Scouters. If someone loses a finger, the limit is \$500. For loss of an arm at or above the elbow, or one leg at or above the knee, it is \$7,500. For details, every Scout office has a small, free, informative yellow pamphlet called *National Indemnity Insurance Coverage*.

Q: How does the dental part of our indemnity policy work?

A: Dental coverage applies only to natural teeth. If Scouts are playing a game and someone trips, hits his/her mouth, and knocks out or breaks two front teeth, our insurance provides coverage up to a limit of \$1,000. If the Scout has a partial plate, however, and the accident only knocks out a false tooth, the coverage does not apply because this is not damage to natural teeth.

Our dental coverage can be extended to payment for future treatment. If a teenager's teeth are still growing, the dentist may not be able to complete treatment until the tooth is mature, i.e. age 18-20. In this case, on the back of the claim form the dentist should summarize the extent of future dental work and estimate costs. The maximum coverage remains at \$1,000 and payment is made within 365 days of the accident.

Q: Who is covered by our insurance policies?

A: All registered members. Under the liability policy, that includes parents or other adults who are helping with particular activities and events. Under the indemnity policy, anyone over 70 years of age has to be endorsed as an additional insured.

Q: Does our policy cover individuals while they are going to or from a Scouting activity?

A: The national indemnity insurance policy covers members on their way to and from activities, but only in normal and reasonable situations: a person leaves home, goes more or less directly to the activity, and returns home again. Some situations do not fit. Example: If a youngster leaves home in the morning, goes to another town for a basketball game at noon, comes back to his town, and then proceeds to his Scouting activity, his little side trip would certainly not be covered.

Q: For drivers, does the Scouts Canada liability policy provide coverage in addition to the vehicle owner's coverage?

A: Our liability policy includes a non-owned auto endorsement. This protects our leaders, committee people, parents, or anybody else who is driving a vehicle loaned or leased for Scouts Canada activities. The protection starts at \$1 above whatever coverage the owner carries, which must be at least what is required by law in his or her province. It stops at \$2 million above the owner's coverage. Example: in Ontario the required coverage is \$250,000. Our non-owned auto coverage provides protection starting at \$250,001 with total coverage in such a situation of \$2,250,000.

If the owner has \$1 million coverage, total coverage is \$3 million.

Scouts Canada encourages those who assist with driving requirements to carry at least \$1 million in liability coverage regardless of a province's legal minimum.

Q: Do Scouters and youth members need additional insurance to cover a Scout outing?

A: The national indemnity policy applies to our members no matter where they are in the world, but those traveling internationally should also obtain protection for two situations outside those covered by family and Scouts Canada insurance.

The first is for protection if a person gets sick or has an accident in another country and must pay some immediate medical costs in cash. Either the Scout group or the parents of the individuals involved need to provide this coverage.

They should also consider buying fare refund insurance up to a minimum of \$1,000. This covers extra travel costs if a youngster is called back home unexpectedly or someone on the tour is sick and cannot travel home with the rest of the group.

Q: Does our liability insurance apply to travel and program activities outside Canada?

A: The policy applies to Scouting activities for Canadians in all countries in the world.

Q: Do our policies cover us for damage to the person caused by "Acts of God" (hurricanes, floods, etc.)?

A: Because "Acts of God" happen beyond the control of individuals, they do not apply to liability insurance. "Acts of God" are not excluded in our indemnity insurance, which covers injury, sickness or death whether caused by an "Act of God" or not.

Q: Do our policies cover damage to equipment, vehicles, or other kinds or property caused by "Acts of God"?

A: Our national indemnity or liability policies do not protect the personal belongings of individuals or groups. Here

we are talking about equipment insurance which, in the case of an individual, is usually provided by his homeowner policy. The group committee should take out a property/equipment policy to protect the equipment of a Scout group (tents, pots, etc.).

Q: What additional coverage should a group or individuals take for equipment and storage?

A: Scouts Canada does not provide coverage at the national level for any group or council equipment or property. That responsibility is left to each group or council. A group with equipment of any capital value (boats, canoes, tents training equipment, camp or meeting hall property) should arrange their own coverage.

Q: Many councils and, in some cases, National Council, require Scouters to get authorization to hold certain types of activities. What happens in a case of an accident where authorization has not been secured?

A: The important thing is that a Scout section is registered. If, for any reason, a Scouter with a registered group does not obtain permission to carry out an activity, the benefits of our policies still apply. This does not excuse Scouters from their responsibility to obtain proper authorization. If a person continually fails to obtain permission for activities, the commissioner or group committee will have to question the person's leadership and decide if he or she should continue as an accredited Scouter in Scouts Canada.

Q: Are guests of a section (i.e. youngsters who are not registered with Scouts Canada) covered in the event of an accident during a Scouting activity?

A: If a registered Scout section involves non-members in a few activities in order to encourage these youngsters to join, our indemnity policy covers these guests during that period of time. *Remember:* a reasonable period of time — for example, two or three activities or meetings. It does not take someone six months to decide to become a member.

Q: Can a Scouter or group who has not registered over a period of

two or three months expect to be covered by our policies?

A: This question involves whether the group is officially a member of Scouts Canada. If a series of reasonably unavoidable circumstances prevented registration, the coverage applies. If people deliberately avoid registration with Scouts Canada, they certainly are not members, do not want to be members, would never be considered members, and are not covered — a highly unlikely situation.

Q: Do waivers (statements that we will not be held responsible in the event of accidents during an activity) exempt us and our policy from covering a Scouter, youth or parent on an outing?



Have fun; play safe.

A: No, do not include waivers of claim for any situation within Scouting. We ask parents to give permission for their child to be involved within our program; we do not ask them to sign away the rights of their child.

Our leaders and council people are responsible people. If somebody outside Scouts Canada asks our leaders to sign a waiver in order to use a property for a Scout activity, we recommend they should not sign. Even if a leader signs a waiver in these circumstances, the judge in a court case resulting from an incident would not consider it. For claims to be paid, negligence on the part of the Scouters or another party

has to be proved. If negligence is proved, waivers do not exempt responsibility.

Q: Do Scouters need written parental permission to take youth in their charge on an outing?

A: When young people join Scouting, parents must give permission for them to be involved. For extended activities like week-long camps, travel, or canoe trips, Scouters may also send our permission forms for parents to sign. Although their permission is not required by law, Scouts Canada recommends the practice because it shows responsibility on our part and reminds parents about the activity.

Q: How should Scouters respond to and report an accident in order to protect the rights of all concerned, including the insurance company?

A: We advise Scouters to respond like a reasonable, responsible parent by trying to do their best in the situation. Help the injured with proper first aid. Redirect traffic if necessary.

Talk only to the people who have a need or right to be informed about the accident. Tell police and insurance investigators what happened. Parents have a right to know; give them an accurate, honest account. Ignore third parties who might ask questions.

Q: How soon must a Scouter advise his council, group and nearest Scout office of an accident?

A: As soon as possible, preferably the next business day. On the national indemnity policy, there is a 30 day period in which he or she must report the accident. It's important to know that payment under this policy is *only* for claim of expenses within 365 days of the accident. In the case of our liability coverage, the accident must be reported as quickly as possible.

Q: Where can Scouters get application forms for indemnity claims?

A: All council offices have claim forms and the yellow brochure describing national indemnity coverage. The brochure includes all necessary information and instructions. λ

Scouting Rebuilds in Eastern Europe

by Allen Macarney

Last month we told how former communist countries were re-building their Scout organizations. This month we continue by relating progress in other nations emerging from communism.

All recently-freed countries are experiencing severe financial crises, political upheaval, and a re-awakening of ancient national and ethnic hatreds. Naturally this slows Scouting's growth.

In these strife-torn countries, Scouting can have a real impact, reinforcing its ideals of international peace and brotherhood in a climate filled with suspicion and anger.

Below we list the most recent information available about Scouting in former communist countries.

ALBANIA

Albanians created their first Scout troop in May 1991. Since then the Movement has grown slowly until now troops exist in several cities. Albanian youth have much enthusiasm for Scouting but have difficulty understanding its fundamental principles (particularly its spiritual dimension) and the Scout Method. Albanians need financial, leadership and training assistance.

BELARUS (formerly Soviet Republic of Byelorussia)

Scout groups started forming in 1991 in a number of urban centres. European Scouts have provided significant help including youth/leader exchanges, finances, and organizing summer camps.

BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

Before the war up to 30,000 Scouts were involved in the Movement in this former Yugoslavian Republic. Little information is available.

BULGARIA

Reborn in 1990, two Scout organizations exist in the country: the Scout Organization of Bulgaria and the Organization of the Scout Movement in Bulgaria. The former claimed 1,400 members in 1992, but due to recent poor planning, weak leadership, and dictatorial practices, it appears to have little future.

The Organization of the Scout Movement in Bulgaria includes at least 1,000 members and appears to be growing. Leaders are dedicated but need training and Cub/Scout materials. Living on the

Black Sea coast, Bulgarians show great interest in Sea Scouting. Plans are being made to merge the two associations.

GERMANY

German Scouting quickly expanded into East Germany when the Berlin Wall came down. A real partnership between groups in the former East and West Germany still does not exist. East German units sometimes feel like younger members. Joint events and planning would help bridge the two.

Four associations in the five eastern regions of the country comprise about 5,000 members. Most groups are growing quickly, though too few leaders exist. Those who are active generally need training.

Many groups are small, decentralized and find themselves competing with groups claiming to be Scouts but not belonging to any associations in the German Federation.



Estonian Woodbadge participants

LATVIA

The Scout Movement began in 1917 in this quiet Baltic nation. 10,000 Latvians were involved in its programs in 1940 when Soviet troops invaded and crushed the organization.

Latvia regained its independence in mid 1990. Within months it had re-established a national Scout Association, the Latvian Scout and Guide Central Organization.

Today Latvia has about 2,000 members (36 Scout troops, 36 Guide troops and Sea Scouts), an annual program calendar for each section, and leadership

training. Its co-ed programs are multicultural and are conducted in Latvian, Russian, Polish and Ukrainian. Latvian Scouts publish the magazine, *Ugunskurs*, six times a year. When its Scouting constitution is ratified, Latvia's Scouting organization will probably be recognized by the WOSM.

As the country's only large youth movement, Scouting has a major role to play in developing young Latvians.

LITHUANIA

The Lithuanian Scout Association, open to boys and girls, was recreated in 1990. In 1992 Lithuanian Scouts probably numbered 1,500. Though very young and requiring training, existing leaders bubble with enthusiasm; programs appear traditional but good.

With the assistance of the World Scout Bureau, a new constitution was voted in during 1992 by 80% of the active leaders. However, some former Scouts contested the new directions the association was taking and called a new General Assembly where the right to vote

was given not only to active leaders but also to former Scouts.

Since this contest over leadership, the association finds itself in a stalemate situation. Nonetheless, the essential elements of Scouting are still present and the WOSM has approached the government to guarantee that the conflict is resolved democratically through the calling of a new General Assembly, subject to standard rules of procedure. When the General Assembly approves the association's new statutes and conflict is resolved, the association can be recognized.

A Polish Scout Association in Lithuania officially registered in 1991. Presently it boasts a membership of about 700. (About 7% of the country is Polish.) Scout and Guide units are established in the Polish schools. Polish Scouts in Lithuania have good relations with Lithuanian Scouts, though they wear Polish uniforms and maintain strong cultural and program ties with Polish Scouts.

Photo: Jarmo Kukk

MACEDONIA

The Scout Association of Macedonia has existed since 1953 probably in underground units. This co-ed association claims 5,620 members. Little further information exists.

MONGOLIA

Scouting is growing rapidly in Mongolia since its start in 1990. Three years later membership had risen to 2,500 boys and girls, and 300 adult leaders.

The first training courses for Cub and Scout leaders took place in June 1993 near the capital city, Ulaan Baatar. 54 adults took part and now form the nucleus of the expanding Movement. Last year Mongolian Scouts applied for WOSM membership.

POLAND

Scouting is very strong in Poland (620,000 members!) due in large part to the strong support from the Christian church. Presently the church offers backing in many areas.

Polish Scouting apparently thrived under communism as an illegal, underground organization. Though Communists banned all official activities, Scouters operated in secret at the grass-roots level. Scouting re-emerged openly in 1989.

Two main Scouting organizations exist in Poland. Both are co-ed movements with strong programs, good training and committed leaders.

The Union of Polish Scouts (600,000 members) was recreated in Poland during a short termed liberalization of the regime in 1956. Rapidly the regime took control of the association and transformed it into a mass movement (3 million members) with communist leadership. Nevertheless, at grass roots level many program elements and Scout traditions continued. In 1980, a clandestine movement developed at the heart of the organization with the aim of returning the organization to fundamental Scouting principles. The Union of Polish Scouts started moving away from communist direction as early as 1989 when leaders approved a new constitution, agreed on a new direction, and began an "accelerated" return to fundamental Scouting elements.

It publishes Scout magazines for each section and for leaders. The organization has an impressive program for handicapped and underprivileged young people.

The Union of the Scouts of the (Polish) Republic began in 1989 by former clandestine Scout leaders in the Union

of Polish Scouts who thought the organization could not be changed internally due to communist control.

Currently it boasts about 20,000 members. The organization has published several booklets for Scouts, Guides and leaders, and an independent monthly Scout magazine.

The two associations are currently negotiating with WOSM over the creation of a Federation which would be recognized for a provisional time as the national organization of Polish Scouting. Hopefully this will lead to the total unification of Polish Scouting.

"Monitoring these exciting developments, the International Committee will be exploring ways that Canadian Scouting can assist."

(JACK SINCLAIR,
INTERNATIONAL COMMISSIONER)

RUSSIA

The first Russian Scouting troop began in 1909 near St. Petersburg. By 1920, despite a bloody civil war, the country had at least 100,000 Scouts. The communists arrested known leaders and sent them to Siberian concentration camps. However, as late as 1926 the Communist Youth Organization referred to underground "pockets of Scouts".

Scouting is growing quickly in Russia. Between 10,000 - 20,000 young people are active in known groups in at least forty different cities.

The most active Russian Scout associations (Federation of Orthodox Scouts, Siberian Association of Scouts and the Organization of Young Explorer Scouts) recently joined to form the Federation of Russian Scouts. Moscow, St. Petersburg and Omsk (Siberia) are the three main centres of Scouting in Russia.

Russian Orthodox priests are playing a more active role to expand Scouting. Many Russian teachers are leading Scouting groups.

Russians are very suspicious of sending their children to youth associations because the communists used their youth organizations as a tool for political indoctrination.

"What Russian Scouts really need is basic training material," says British

Scouter Anita Wolfe, after a recent visit to the country. In many cases programs do not exist for children of different

ages. Many activities mirror activities of communist youth programs. Summer camp programs range from very good to very poor. Some groups are co-ed while others are same-sex.

"No standard uniform exists," says Anita Wolfe. "A lot of kids we met had some sort of shirt covered with as many badges as they could find. Most wore scarves."

Russian children are excited about Scouting. The future looks bright.

SLOVENIA

(former republic in Yugoslavia)

Two Scouting associations exist in the former Yugoslavian republic of Slovenia. About 9,260 people are members. Since 1991 the two associations have worked towards a closer cooperation, and a single application from Slovenia for recognition with the WOSM is expected later this year.

UKRAINE

The first Scout Troop began in April 1912 in the Ukrainian city of Lviv. After the Russian civil war Lenin's Communist Party quickly stamped out all Scouting vestiges.

Today hyper-inflation and political upheaval particularly is hurting the Movement's growth. Leadership and lack of training material are also severe problems.

Last year the World Scout Bureau opened an office near Yalta, in the Crimea (Ukraine), to disseminate information and develop Scouting in all republics of the Commonwealth of Independent States and nearby countries.

YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC

In 1991 the Yugoslavian Scout Association claimed 153,000 boys and girls in the country's six republics. Since then the country has split up. Currently the Yugoslavian Scout Association is a federation of Scout associations in Serbia, Montenegro and Voivodine. (A Hungarian Scout association exists in the city of Voivodine.)

Yugoslav Scouts emphasize outdoor activities. Economic upheaval and war makes Scouting difficult.

OTHER SCOUTING GROUPS

Little is known about Scouting in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kirghizia, Tadzhikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan. Political, economic, and social unrest will disrupt the Movement in these areas for some time. ^

Ed's note: The Leader will keep readers informed of future developments.

The Ever-Vital SWASOH

by Colin Wallace

S — Scouter
W — With
A — A
S — Sense
O — Of
H — Humour.

The greater-crested, liver-spotted, high-flying SWASOH is frequently observed migrating with its adopted young from urban nest to rural roost where it tries to teach the fledglings how to become adult SWASOHs.

Have you noticed that when discussing vital characteristics for a Scouter, a sense of humour (SOH) always figures in the top ten? (And have you also noticed that, for some reason, the discussion always grows serious at this point, which seems to contradict the point?)

It doesn't matter who draws up the list — Scouts, Scouters, group committees, service teams — any discussion invariably cites a sense of humour as a necessary ingredient for any successful Scouter.

How can you tell if a Scouter has a sense of humour?

You can't just walk up and casually inquire, "I beg your pardon, but do you have a sense of humour?"

After the initial shock, everyone would (of course) answer a most definite "Why yes, actually, I do!"

Certainly, no one would ever admit that he or she didn't have one.

In your intrepid search for the perfect SWASOH you could apply definitions: a SWASOH is someone who laughs at your jokes — assuming your jokes are funny! Or, a SWASOH is someone who makes you laugh at jokes.

At new Scouters' introductory interviews you could test the would-be recruit with a subtle one-liner, such as: "A Scouter walks into a bar and falls down. It was an iron bar."

If they laugh out loud (or even crack a smile) they're in. If their faces stay expressionless, look for another Scouter. (While you're at it, look for fresh material. That joke's as old as the hills.)

Humour triggers

Apply tests and definitions like these with great care. They won't work equally for everyone. For example, men and women often laugh at different things because they have different humour triggers; and kids have a different sense of humour altogether. They laugh at almost anything. They laugh when they're happy, but also when they're nervous or afraid or tired or bored. Sometimes they laugh for no apparent reason at all. (How absurd!)

A wise SWASOH understands what triggers a child's sense of humour. To accomplish this feat, he or she needs a sense of humour of his or her own.



The great Canadian humour test

Are you a SWASOH?

Here are a few discrete 'tests' to check if you have one.

You're a SWASOH if:

- you don't lose your cool when your section's kids have a giggling fit during a Scouts' Own. If anything, you'll have a giggling fit yourself.
- you happily participate in any campfire skit you've seen a hundred times before, even if it involves water up your sleeve. You gain extra merit points if your kids think it's the first time you've ever seen it done in such a funny way.
- you read the comics section of the newspaper first. Real SWASOHs cut out the best cartoons to share with their kids as mini Scouter's Fives.
- you look on the bright side of any situation because you know that, as B.-P. once pointed out, a smile and a whistle will get you through any difficulty.

- you recognize and never cross the fine line between teasing and tormenting a kid.
- you enjoy your Scouting activities and make sure everyone else does too (especially the kids).
- you know all the silly verses to all the silly songs that kids love to sing. Real SWASOHs teach their kids more verses and more silly songs.
- you're not grossed out by any of the disgusting objects giggling Cubs bring to you in hopes of "scaring Akela".
- you dance wildly along with everyone else because it's a troop tradition to do so every time someone calls out "Cowabunga!" Real SWASOHs (the bravest ones) do this even on Parents' Night.
- you see the funny side of accidentally sitting down fully clothed in a stream only seconds after you've warned your Scouts to avoid getting wet as they cross the stream.
- you laugh at morning flag break when your favourite pyjamas are unfurled at the top of the flagpole along with the flag.
- you keep a straight face when everyone appears at morning flag break at camp wearing only underpants because you lectured them last night about the need to wear uniform pants. A real SWASOH gets through the entire ceremony without even commenting on the Scouts' appearance.

The ultimate test

Does an ultimate SWASOH test exist?

You bet it does!

You're a SWASOH if your kids think you're a SWASOH. Λ

— Scouter Colin Wallace is a trainer in Greater Toronto Region, Ont.

Ed's note: The Leader would love to hear about your funniest or most embarrassing Scout experiences. Tell us about it (10 words or 1,000 words). We will share the best ones in a future "Humour In (Scouts) Uniform" article.

Photo Caption Fun!

Several outstanding pictures in our photo files beg a second look and comical remark.

Do some pictures suggest (even shout!) a comment never intended by the photographer? Why did he or she take the picture? Does the photo have a deeper meaning?

Take a look at these photos. Can you think up a good caption? It doesn't have to be humorous.

What would a group of Cubs in freshly cleaned and ironed shorts and shirts be thinking as they stand in front of an inviting mud puddle? Or, can you paddle without water?

Why not send us a creative caption or cutline for any (or all) of these pictures? Send them to: *Photo Caption Fun, The Leader, P.O. Box 5112, Stn. F, Ottawa, Ont., K2C 3H4.*

The Leader will print some of your best captions. Have fun! λ



Photo: Paul Ritchie

Photo 1



Photo: Paul Ritchie

Photo 2

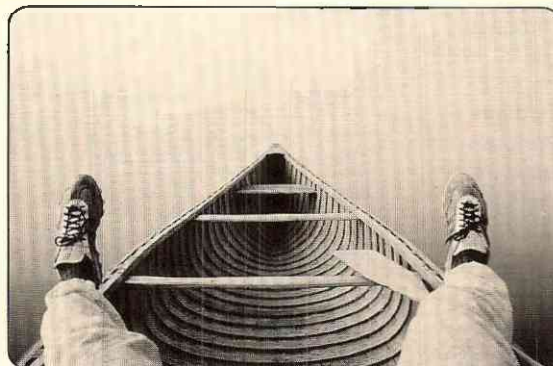


Photo: Scouts Canada

Photo 3

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Make A Sundial Or Sun Watch!

Sundials are the oldest device known for measuring time. Romans, Greeks and Chinese civilizations all used them.

Sundials are both fun and easy to make if you follow a few instructions.

To make an accurate sundial you must know your latitude. The angle of the sundial's pointer in relation to the sundial's base must be equal to your latitude. If it is, then the sun's shadow will fall on the sundial in the same spot, at the same time, all year round.

But what is your latitude?

Use these latitudes as a guide when building your sundial: Vancouver 49°N, Edmonton 54°N, Calgary 51°N, Winnipeg 50°N, Toronto 44°N, Ottawa 45°N, Montreal 46°N, Quebec City 47°N, Halifax 45°N, St. John's 48°N.

Materials

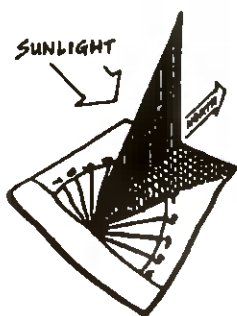
For Sundial: cardboard (or wood); protractor; ruler; scissors; pencil; compass (to determine magnetic north).

For Sun watch: pattern on this page; paper and stiff cardboard; compass (to determine magnetic north); scissors; thread; ribbon or string; coloured pencils.

How to build it

Sundial

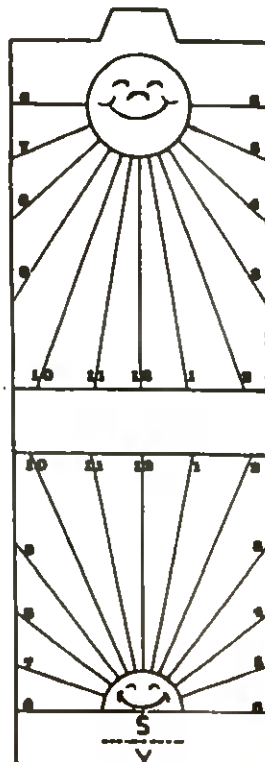
1. Use a protractor to make a half circle on a 25cm square of cardboard.
2. Divide the circle into twelve 15° angles.
3. Use the latitudes listed above to estimate your latitude.
4. Cut an angle out of cardboard equal in degrees to your latitude.
5. Fasten the angle with tape to the half circle (see drawing).
6. Point the sundial directly north.
7. Read the time from the cast shadow.



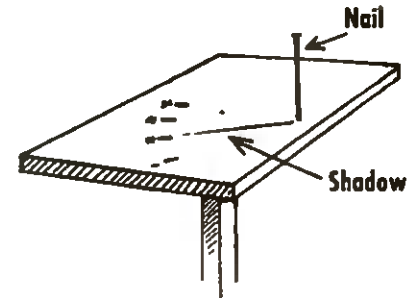
Sun watch

(most accurate at southern Canadian latitudes)

1. Trace or photocopy the *exact* pattern on this page. Do not enlarge it.
2. Cut out pattern.
3. Glue the pattern onto cardboard for extra stiffness.
4. Cut the slit (dotted line).
5. Fold watch along the middle fold line.
6. Fasten a piece of thread from the dot in the centre of the top sun to the dot in the centre of the bottom sun so the watch opens, forming a *right angle* (this 90° angle is important). The thread forms the sundial pointer.
7. Hold the watch level. Point the arrow south and read the time.
8. Close the watch by inserting the tab into the slot.
9. Tape ribbon onto the back to make a watch band.



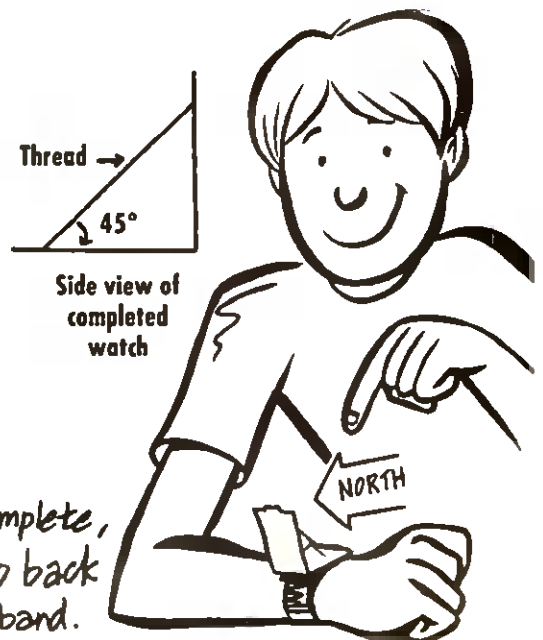
Easy-To-Build Sundial



Do you want an easy-to-build sundial for Beavers or Cubs to make at camp as a group project? Follow these instructions:

- Drive a flat wooden stake into the ground.
- Nail a small square board on top.
- Hammer a nail (about 16cm long) into the board near the end closest to the sun.
- Every hour on the hour, mark a small line with a pencil where the sun's shadow falls. Beside the line write the time, e.g. 3 PM.
- This sundial will stay accurate for several weeks.

— from S. Bosak, *Science Is... Youth Science Foundation*. (This book is an excellent resource for program ideas and craft projects.)



To complete, tape ribbon onto back to make watchband.

Family Hug Coupon

1994 is the International Year of the Family. Why not encourage your Beavers and Cubs to hug their family members?

"Mission impossible!" you say?

Photocopy a hug coupon from below onto coloured paper and give two or three to each of your kids. Tell them to see how often they (or their family members) can use the coupons.

HUG COUPON



Good for One Hug

HUG COUPON



GOOD FOR ONE HUG

WOGGLE MADNESS!

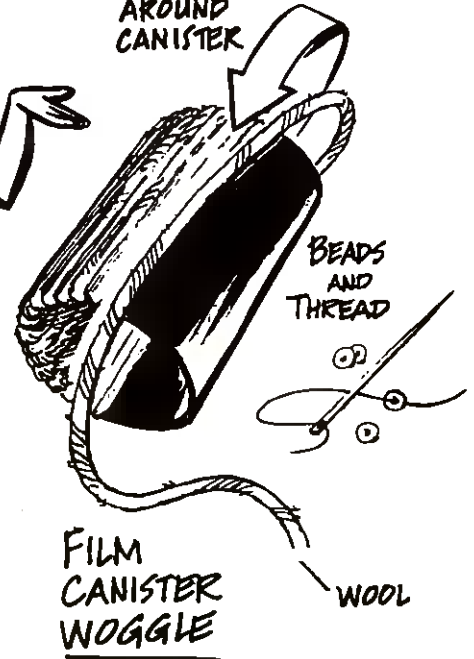


WRAP WOOL AROUND CANISTER

At CJ I saw a woggle made out of a 35mm film canister. Here's how to make one.

You need a film canister; wool; and a few beads.

1. Cut the bottom out of the film can.
2. Wrap the wool through the middle and around the outside of the canister. (This disguises the canister and makes the hole smaller so your neckerchief won't too easily slide through.)
3. Attach the beads onto the wool with thread. ^



— Thanks to Bruce Pilcher, Courtenay, British Columbia.

\$1.50 Profit on EACH Bar!



Made of creamy smooth milk chocolate, each 150 gm bar sells itself for \$3.00 and makes your group \$1.50 in profit. Tip A Canoe will pay the shipping costs on all orders 40 cases (24 bars per case) or more! All orders of less than 40 cases will be subject to a shipping charge of \$2.00 per case. Decide what your group's fund raising requirements are and order today!

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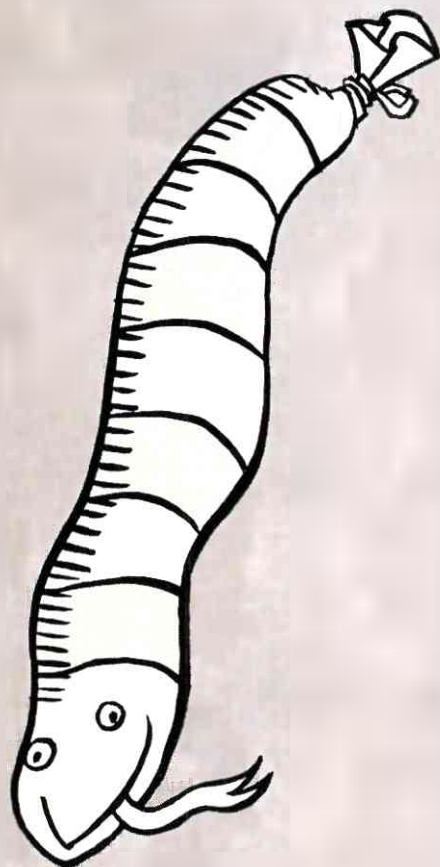
To Order Your Free Sample Please Call

1-800-465-2598

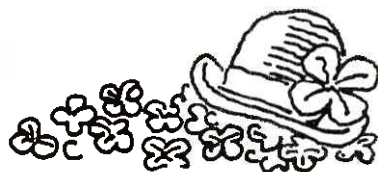
Queensland 172 was the first group to sell our bars. On a Saturday morning 40 boys sold 35 cases and some Moms and Dads took 5 cases to work, \$1,440.00 profit in one morning! No order forms to get out and collect! No orders to wait for! No having to find folks home to deliver their product. No cheques to process. A great K.I.S.S. (keep it simple stupid) Fund Raiser. **Thanks Queensland!!!!**

Fun at the Pond

by Lena Wong



March offers many opportunities for celebrating different holidays and festivals. It's a perfect time for planning one or two meetings around multi-cultural themes. Of course, March also offers some old traditional stand-bys....



ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Start off with a couple of limericks to tickle the Beavers' funny bones.

Said a dear little girl from Duluth,
"Each time I am missing a tooth,
I find in my bed
A quarter instead.
Oh, I wish they would all
become looth."

There was a young fellow
named Kent
Who fell in a tub of cement.
When it hardened and dried,
He was cosy inside,
But they said, "You will have
to pay rent."

Try making up your own rhyme or borrow a book of children's limericks from the library.



LEPRECHAUN STICK PUPPET

Draw a leprechaun on a piece of bristol board and colour with crayons. Cut out the figure and glue on a drinking straw for a handle.

Let the Beavers make up little sketches using their puppets.

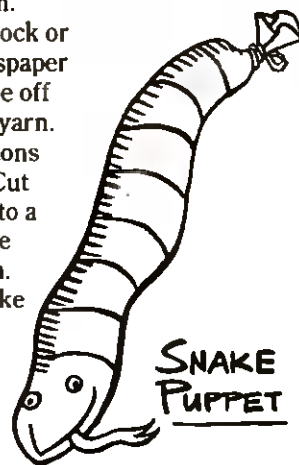
SNAKE PUPPETS

If St. Patrick was responsible for chasing the snakes out of Ireland, it seems appropriate to make a snake puppet.

Each Beaver needs a discarded sock or a leg from an old pair of tights; two buttons; a piece of ribbon; a short length of yarn.

Stuff the sock or leg with newspaper or rags and tie off the end with yarn.

Glue the buttons on for eyes. Cut the ribbon into a forked tongue and glue it on. Paint the snake or decorate with stickers or pieces of ribbon or yarn.



SPRING EQUINOX

Sunday March 20 marks the first day of spring. Almost every culture or religion in the world celebrates a major holiday around this time of year. During the first week of spring, bring some books and stories about spring festivals to your meeting. (Go to the library if necessary.) Find some suitable games to play to help you celebrate the season. The following games and story come from *Globalchild* by Maureen Cech.

Takhraw (Thailand)

Play this game indoors or out depending on weather conditions. You need a large soft ball or balloon. Players form a circle holding hands. A leader throws the ball up in the air. Players work together to keep the ball in the air using heads, elbows, knees, toes, chests and other useful body parts. If Beavers find it really difficult to play the game without using hands, let them do so, but encourage them to use as many other body parts as possible. Point out that cooperation will help keep the ball in motion longer.

Cooperative Hat Game (Israel)

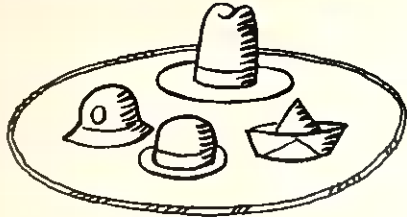
Beavers need to cooperate in pairs for this game.

You need one hat per player (use any kind of hat: paper, plastic, felt, straw etc.) and a large loop made from rope or ribbon.

Seat all players on the floor in a circle and get them to hold the rope loop with both hands. (Throughout the game

players hold on to the rope.) Place all hats in the centre of the circle. The Beavers now try to place a hat on their partner's head using mouth, feet or elbows.

For added fun, if you have access to Bob Schneider's tape "*Having a Good Time*", play the song "Got a Hat Hat" and follow the directions, i.e. tilt the hat forwards, tilt it backwards, twirl it around etc..



The sun, the moon, and the water

(Zimbabwean spring legend)

Once the sun, the moon, and the water all lived in Africa. The sun and the moon shared one hut and the water lived alone. Now the sun and the moon felt sorry for their friend the water, and invited the water to share their home.

"You wouldn't want me," said the water. "I am too big."

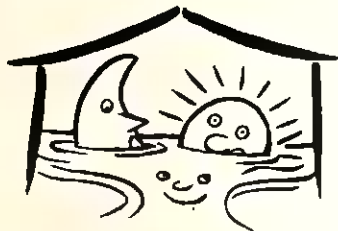
"Nonsense," said the sun and the moon. "You are always welcome."

"But I will take up too much room," said the water.

"Nonsense," said the sun and the moon. "You don't take up too much room. We insist you come."

"All right," said the water. "If you insist, I will come and stay with you."

So in came the water. All day long the water moved into their home, all day and all night, and all the next day. The water filled the hut right up to the roof, and sent the sun and the moon whirling into the sky. The sun went one way, the moon in another direction high up into the sky, and neither one has ever come back to live in Africa again!



OUTDOORS

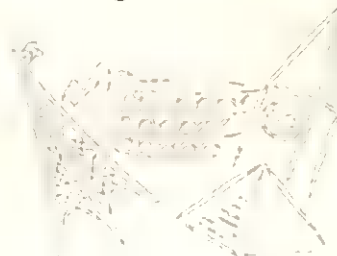
March is a great time to get outdoors. In many parts of Canada, late in the month is an excellent time to visit a maple bush. Take advantage of this time to build sweet experiences.

If cold temperatures still grip your neighbourhood, hold a late winter/spring festival. Arrange some relay games in the snow, go tobogganning and skating, set up camp stoves in the snow and make hot chocolate to keep everyone warm.

For those people lucky enough to enjoy warmer temperatures, go on hikes through the woods, along the beach, through the fields or in the park. Start a collection of natural raw materials for craft times.

What a great time to start a spring diary! Go for some hikes and note your (and your Beavers') observations in a journal. Maintain the diary through the spring until your Beaver year finishes. Then, read the diary back to the Beavers and discuss how spring has developed into summer.

Beaver colonies anywhere can go out and adopt trees. Make some bark rubbings, note the locations of your trees (adopt as many different trees as you can find) and visit your trees regularly between now and the first day of summer. In your diary note how the trees change from visit to visit. Encourage your Beavers to draw the trees at each visit and keep a scrap book for their drawings.



INTERNATIONAL THEMES

In keeping with the international focus of your spring celebrations, take the Beavers on a visual tour around the world. Get your Beavers to gather picture postcards, stamps and photos cut out from magazines and newspapers. Sort these into the five continents and glue your collections either onto large wall charts or into a scrap book for each continent.

Your Beavers may prefer to make their own scrap books to take home. In that case, encourage swapping resources to ensure that everyone get as many different pictures as possible.

Find some pictures of different cultural art styles from each continent, e.g. aboriginal paintings from Australia, or native and Inuit paintings from North America. Look for examples from Africa, Central & South America, and perhaps samples of early European art. Compare the styles; discuss

similarities and differences. Ask the children to make their own artistic creations using different styles they have seen in the pictures.

If your local library has a collection of records and tapes, borrow some of these with an international theme. Pick several songs to teach your Beavers, especially those with movement and action! Learn the song yourself first, print the lyrics on a large piece of Bristol board and hang it on the wall. Play the tape several times so Beavers get familiar with the words and melody. Then sing it using the printed lyrics as an aid for those Beavers who can read.



SPRING PLANNING

Now is a good time to start planning your activities for the rest of the Beaver year. Hold a couple of leader meetings but before you do, ask the Beavers what they would like to do in the spring.

Send home a newsletter to parents. Would a local farmer let your Beavers come to his farm and see animals born during the spring? Why not organize a visit to a local zoo. Other families may have suggestions for favourite picnic spots, museum visits, hiking trails or other interesting locations for your colony.

How are you going to celebrate the end of the Beaver year? Start planning now so older Beavers about to swim up to Cubs get a great send-off.

Identify families with youngsters ready to join Beavers in September. Send them invitations to participate in one or two meetings so both parents and children can see what Beavers do and experience the fun program.

Enjoy the dawning of spring. Next month we will concentrate on more spring activities. A





Strategic Directions For Scouts Canada

by Bob Hallett

The year 2000 is just seven short years away. With the end of the second millennium many are trying to predict what our Movement will look like.

Predictions vary but probably most youth organizations not value-based, developmental and sensitive to the needs of youth, will cease to exist. This is why Scouts Canada needs to plot out a clear strategic direction.

The May 1992 National Council meeting expressed an urgent need to develop a renewal plan for Scouting. National Council charged the Scouting Management Task Group with developing this plan. In November 1992 National Council further directed the Task Group to develop a strategic plan for discussion at the 1993 November National Council meeting.

During the next year and a half (May 1992 - November 1993), the Task Group conducted exhaustive interviews with youth, Scouters, and councils at all levels, coast to coast. The Task Group also sought input from Scouting councils around the world.

The Task Group then made a serious effort to move the "Vision for Renewal" document forward at the November 1993 National Council meeting (February issue, *Leader*), but Council did not feel it adequately addressed Scouts Canada's future needs. It was agreed that Provincial Key Three's (Commissioner, President and Executive Director) would gather in Toronto with the National Key Three and Management Task Group January 7-9, to map out the strategic directions the Movement must take (based on all material gathered and debated to date) to become revitalized and properly positioned in a significant way to achieve our Mission.

Strategic Directions

The National and Provincial Presidents, Commissioners and Executive Directors committed themselves to five strategic directions as a result of the January meeting. They are now sharing these directions with their provincial

people "back home" and seeking positive feedback. This will help bring the following directions to a Strategic Plan in May:

- The Movement achieves its Mission during program delivery at the youth/leader interface. We need to strengthen our capability to excel in program delivery.
- An important part of the Scouting experience includes the involvement and participation of young people in the decisions which affect the Movement. **All levels of the organization** will seek and consider their input.
- To effectively attain its Mission, Scouts Canada must focus all efforts and resources.
- Programs relevant to youth and community needs are essential to achieving Scouting's mission. We need to implement a continuing and effective program research and development function.
- Scouting must inform more youth, parents and guardians, and other potential adult volunteers about the Movement. Furthermore, we must identify, measure, analyze and act upon non-program, yet critical, success factors. The Movement will grow (i.e. increase recruitment and retention) when we combine a quality program with action plans that address this Strategic Direction.

Mission, Principles, Practices and Methods

Scouts Canada's strategic directions are aimed at achieving our Mission — the foundation of our Movement.

What is the proposed mission?

As a member of the World Scouting Movement, Scouts Canada has adopted as its Mission, Principles, Practices and Methods the Fundamental Principles of the World body. Those Principles and Practices are summarized below.

Mission:

To contribute to the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential as individuals, as responsible

citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities through the application of our Principles and Practices.

Principles:

Scouting is based on three broad principles which represent its fundamental beliefs:

DUTY TO GOD:

Defined as: "Adherence to spiritual principles, loyalty to the religion that expresses them and acceptance of the duties resulting therefrom."

DUTY TO OTHERS:

Defined as: "Loyalty to one's country in harmony with the promotion of local, national and international peace, understanding and cooperation", and "Participation in the development of society, with recognition and respect for the dignity of one's fellow-being and for the integrity of the natural world."

DUTY TO SELF:

Defined as: "Responsibility for the development of oneself." This agrees with the Movement's educational purpose, which is to assist young people to fully develop their potential.

Practices and Methods:

Scouting Practices include a system of progressive self-education such as:

- A promise and law,
- Learning by doing,
- Membership in small groups,
- Progressive and stimulating programs,
- Commitment to the values of doing one's best, contributing to the community, respecting and caring for others, contributing as a family member,
- Use of outdoor activities as a key learning resource.

What happens if National Council approves the Plan in May 1994?

We must activate the plan for it to have positive impact. Each one of us must take the action steps necessary within our sphere of influence to focus Scouts Canada on our five Strategic Directions. Only then will we revitalize the Movement and achieve our Mission.

Let's do it! X

CLIMB TO THE TOP WITH CAMPER!

Camper the Honey Bear is hitting the trail with an easy fundraiser available only to Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, and Venturers! It's Canada No. 1 Honey - 100% pure and natural - in 12-oz. containers with leak-proof seals! Honey bears are a great way to finance some of this year's club projects!

Free Fundraising Guide!

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When Beavers Tease Beavers

by Ben Kruser

The tears of a Beaver who has become the victim of teasing sometimes shatters the ideal world of "Sharing, Sharing, Sharing".

How can leaders help a child being teased, while reinforcing colony discipline and respect for others?

Some leaders may complicate the solution by giving anything from sympathy to total apathy to the child. "Let the kids work it out," some leaders might say, as if five-year-olds have advanced social skills to do this!

How should you handle teasing?

Let teased children know that you like them for who they are. Often children tease others because of perceived differences, such as their weight or eye glasses. Rebuild their shattered self-esteem by letting a teased child know that you like them for who they are inside, not for superficial things.

Encourage the child to express how he or she is feeling. Often adults dismiss teasing as part of growing up in the school of "hard knocks". Let children know that their feelings of hurt or betrayal are legitimate; it will help them get past the emotion and talk about how to handle the situation. Listening to their feelings also tells children that each is valued as a person; this again helps restore self-worth.

Teach Beavers that it is okay to voice displeasure at being teased. Ensure them that you will back them up. Telling a child simply to tease right back only perpetuates the problem, causing it to spread throughout your colony. You need to confine and contain teasing episodes to maintain the spirit of sharing and unity.

Some leaders may feel that teasing children helps "toughen them up". This is wrong; it only confuses them because it sends a mixed message. Beavers may understand the motive of your teasing, but they are also at an age when they believe anything an adult tells them. If their peers and adults tease them, their loss of self-image and self-worth is reinforced.

Put yourself in the shoes of Beavers. Would you like your so-called friends to

tease you for your own good?

Chances are you'd find it pretty annoying and very patroniz-

ing. Beaver-age children are incidental learners; that is, they learn by observing what others (especially adults) do. When adults purposely tease children, they model teasing behaviours that children may be encouraged to continue. As a leader, you want to prevent problems, not promote them.

Tell the hurt Beaver that children used to tease you (very few of us were immune to the plague). This will reassure many Beavers; after all, someone they admire once shared their problem. Let the Beaver know how you felt and give your story a positive ending.

But what about the children who are doing the teasing? It is easy simply to blame them for the incident and tell them not to repeat it. Look deeper: children do not tease without a reason.

Talk with the teasers; can you discover the root of their need to tease? Even the best-behaved children have an 'off day'. Letting them air their reasons or feelings can help them blow off enough of their contained frustrations to prevent the teasing from continuing.

Gently remind them that you understand how they feel. Give


a verbal reinforcement that you believe they are capable of better behaviour. This may be all the recognition most teasers need from an adult. If teasing continues, have another talk and explain your expectations for behaviour in the colony.

Remind teasers how they felt when someone teased them and how it would feel to be excluded from some of the colony's activities. Being a Beaver means being part of a team; the colony values everyone for the skills and abilities he or she brings.

Does the teasing centre around someone with a disability or different religious or ethnic background?

If it does, introduce some age-appropriate awareness education into the colony. Plan a program around discovering other people's cultures or read a book about far-away lands. Children as young as age four can learn intolerance. Nipping this kind of teasing before it becomes deeper prejudice is socially and developmentally vital.

Leaders cannot prevent Beavers from teasing pain, but with a little bit of guidance and patience leaders can give children the sup-

port they need to overcome and cope. 

Let teased children know that you like them for who they are





Optimism: A Way Of Life?

by Warren McMeekin

Q: What do you get when you cross a Scout with an Optimist?

A: Someone who is always prepared to look on the bright side!

Optimist Clubs support Scouting enthusiastically, sponsoring over 300 program sections in Canada, and more than 550 in the U.S.A. Primarily a North American organization, Optimists International originated in Buffalo, New York in 1911 and spread to Toronto late in 1924.

Attitude of Gratitude

"Develop optimism as a philosophy of life." It's a powerful goal, but is it feasible in a recession? Given today's state of affairs, is it possible?

Well, why not?!

Many situations have their bright side. People claim "it's not whether you win or lose, but how you play the game". Optimists challenge us to remember this (and teach it): as coaches, when a team of five year olds loses their soccer game; as Venturer advisors, when Venturers lose their regatta. Perhaps everyone needs to adopt our Beaver program emphasis of "developing a sense of co-operation through non-competitive activities"! Surely we could embrace more cooperation, and still challenge Scouts to "Be the best you can be".

Generally optimistic and enthusiastic about life, our youth can energize the world around them. It's vital that we nurture their growth with appealing, constructive activities that develop goodwill, responsibility, citizenship and service to others.



Photo: Paul Ritchie.

Competition thrives all around us. As youth leaders, our job is to provide a healthy example and to foster positive attitudes among our Scouts.

Optimists International believes Scouting sponsorship provides a way to impart this philosophy to their community's youth.

Their Creed fits well with Scouting and our goals. It states:

Promise yourself:

- To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind
- To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet
- To make all your friends feel that there is something in them

- To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true
- To think only of the best, to work only for the best and to expect only the best
- To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are of your own
- To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future
- To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile
- To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticise others
- To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.

The Right Stuff

As Scouters, let's dare to be enthusiastic, even optimistic, about everything we do with members of our sections. Do your youth members see you as a positive influence? You don't have to join Optimists, but catch their positive outlook!

Whether or not they sponsor your particular group, Optimist Clubs willingly involve themselves in local projects. For more information, just call a club in your neighbourhood. They would love to hear from you! X

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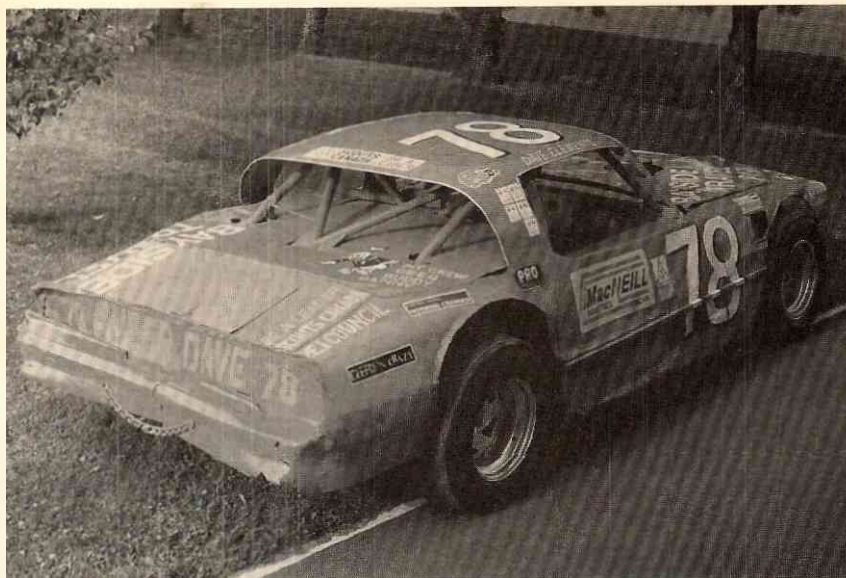
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CROSS-COUNTRY PHOTOS

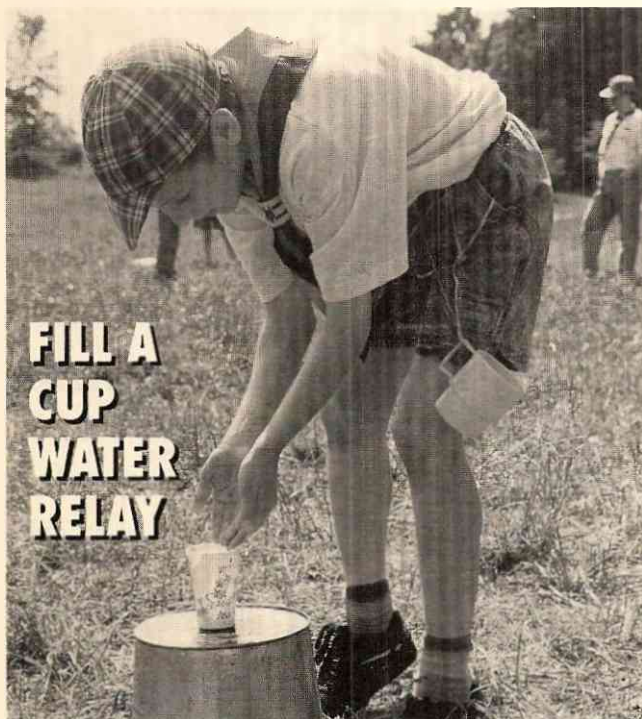
Scouting is Fun!

Every Saturday night that Scouter Dave Clements races his bright red, 1979 Pontiac Firebird in Oyster Bed, P.E.I., he tells people about the Scouting Movement. On the sides, top and back of Scouter Dave's car stickers encourage others to join Scouts Canada and "Be A Leader". What a winning idea!



HIGH ADVENTURE HIKE

Wilderness trekkers from the 1st Lillooet Scouts, B.C., enjoyed a five day trip into the Monashee Mountains. "From the gruelling work of hiking up switchbacks on a treacherous one-man trail to fly fishing in a clear glacier lake, it was a great trip," said Scout Ryan Calder.

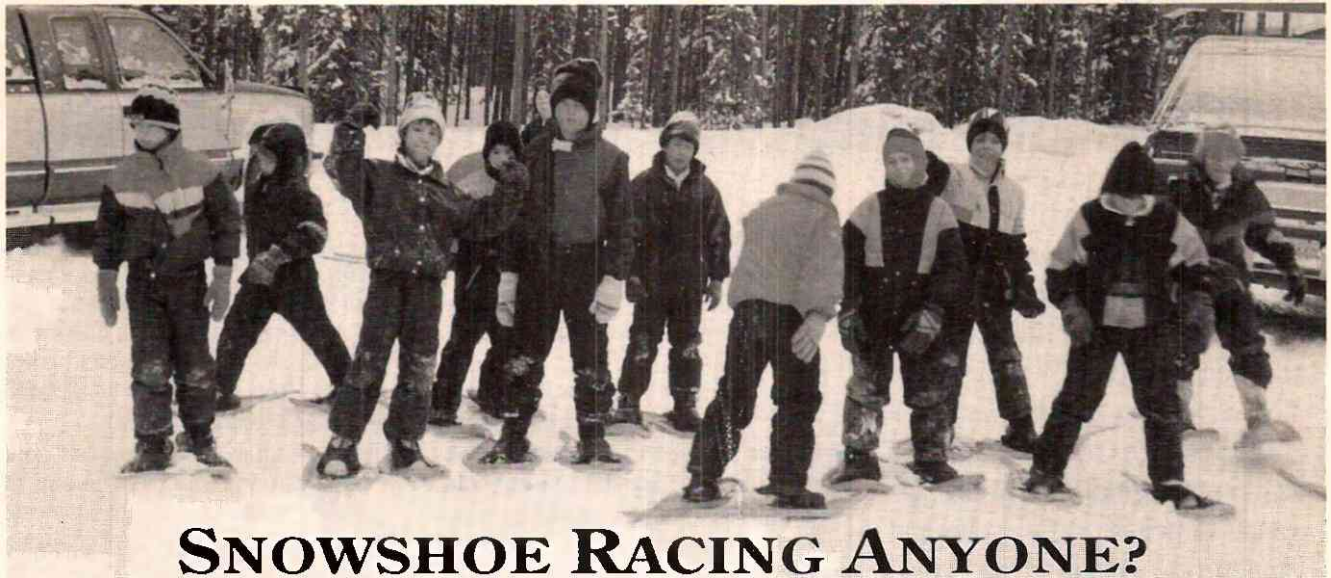


FILL A CUP WATER RELAY

"Don't expect water to stay in your hands if you run." That's one fun lesson Cubs from 21 packs in the Mississauga Region, Ont., learned when they attended Cub-Jamb '93 last June. During the relay race Cubs cooperated to fill a cup with water. Other activities included jousting (while balancing on a slippery log), high-tech teepee making, a secret relay and a campfire. Thanks to Scouter Philip Frost for sharing.



JUST HANGING AROUND 1st Highland Creek Cubs, Greater Toronto Region, enjoyed a fun-filled weekend up at the Oba-Sa-Teeka Scout Camp, Ont.. The ever-favourite obstacle course drew much attention from energetic Cubs. Photo: John Zarudny. Thanks to Lynn Johnson.



SNOWSHOE RACING ANYONE?

Last February, Alberta's 1st Grande Cache Wolf Cubs enjoyed a fun winter camp. Snowshoeing proved a most popular activity. It also burned off lots of excess energy, mak-

ing the activity particularly popular with leaders! Photo: Akela Charlie Case.



BEAVER MONARCH SLEEP-OVER

Almost 600 Beavers from the National Capital Region, Ont., enjoyed an amazing sleep-over at the Canadian Museum of Nature last November. Half of the weekend focused on butterflies, the other half focused on dinosaurs. The event included fun crafts, a play, an archaeology dig, a dinosaur hunt and colouring. Two Venturer Companies helped during the event. "Their enthusiasm and willingness helped the event run without a hitch," said Beaver leader Jim Goat. Photo: Lena Wong.



"GIVE A HOOT! DON'T POLLUTE!" Woodsy the Owl visited Beavers from the 1st Gretna Green Colony of Douglastown, N. B., to encourage them to help clean up the world. Beavers loved him, according to Barry Jeans (Hawkeye).



GREEN SIDE UP! With the sound of inspirational bagpipes playing in the background to encourage them onward, Windsor, Ont., Scouts began replanting a former land fill site, the city's newest park, with native trees. Windsor-area Scouts have planted over 65,000 trees since 1976. Well done!

1994 International Year Of The Family

by Rob Stewart

United Nations General Assembly declared 1994 "International Year of the Family". (Bill Wyman mentioned this on the January editorial page.) Today's families warrant special attention because of their changing roles and structures. Around the world people recognise the importance of families and share concerns over family issues.

The Canada Committee for the 1994 International Year of the Family exists to encourage national celebration of family life in Canadian society. Families provide finances, nurture, protection, education and culture for their members. The Committee plans to focus on these aspects, families' crucial roles in developing individuals, and their contribution to Canadian society.

Scouts Canada joined dozens of organizations, municipal, provincial and federal governments, unions and employers to promote and support goals of the Canada Committee.

We are natural partners in this celebration as our mission, program emphasis and membership reflect. In probably hundreds of activities and events, we consciously include all family members. Perhaps this year Scouting can go a step further, taking special advantage of all opportunities to involve families in our plans.



What Could We Do?

Do our training programs provide possibilities for family involvement? Some Provincial Councils conduct family Woodbadge II courses each summer: a successful mix of training time and family vacation. Many Scouters in Alberta will remember the Woodbadge conducted in Hawaii. (Now that's radical even by today's standard!) Particularly in these times, training in the sunny south is probably inappropriate, but it shows that lots of possibilities exist. Could we adapt some elements of family Woodbadge II and incorporate them into Woodbadge I? Trainers don't need added pressure, but as training teams plan events and workshops, let's consider including family members wherever possible.

Single parents performing leadership roles need training as much as any others, but child care difficulties may prevent them from attending. Do some councils offer babysitting services for Scouters in this situation? Can we do that? Probably. Let us know if your council already offers this type of support and we will share your story with our readers.

What other ways can we include families in our training events or make it easier for those with family obligations to attend? Whatever they are... let's do it!

Program

Many of our activities adapt easily to include all family members.

- If your group or section plans a day trip, weekend camp, or visit a little extra effort would allow all family members to participate.
- Your annual Scout banquet could expand to include everyone in the family, providing your group locates a suitable space. Don't forget grandparents!
- Plan a family night theme for one of your weekly meetings.
- Create a mural where every child contributes something depicting his or her family.
- Profile a day in the lives of different kinds of families in your community.
- Invite everyone in the family to make a Kub Kar and hold a night of family races.

Share your family-oriented activities with us so we can broadcast them far and wide! As a co-ed movement, Scouting gains added opportunities to include families in our programs and activities.

Would you like more information about the International Year of the Family? Each province has a co-ordinating office or government representative. To locate your province's representative, contact Jean-Guy Desgagne, CCIYF 1994, 112-63 Sparks Street, Ottawa, ON K1P 5A6. ^

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From The Awards File

We dug into the historical file for this month's highlight.

On June 22, 1931, Jack Morrall, a twelve year old Scout with the 1st Parklands (Ontario) Troop, saved the life of a young girl who had fallen into the Etobicoke River. Young Jack had to overcome a struggling victim and hazardous conditions to complete the rescue. For his efforts, Jack received the Gilt Cross for Gallantry. The Gilt Cross (now called the Gold Cross) is Scouts Canada's highest form of recognition conferred for acts of bravery.

NORTH VANCOUVER SCOUTING

“Greenspace” PROJECT

by Rocky Rocksborough-Smith

North Vancouver Scouters wanted to find a rustic area for Scouts to experience the outdoors. We needed a place to organize day, and occasional overnight, activities.

Not long ago the many planning and brain-storming sessions came to glorious fruition.

Now over 1,200 North Vancouver youth members have an easily-accessible area where they can hone outdoor skills and learn appreciation for urban greenspaces. The facility has a basic open cooking shelter, outdoor toilet facilities, a clearing with a flag pole, but no electricity or running water. It is entirely self-supporting and requires no service from the municipality.

How did we do it? Here are some notes from my planning diary.

September-October 1991

Informally approached the mayor of North Vancouver, Murray Dykeman, with the idea of finding an outdoor Scout area. Spent a day riding with him ‘Scouting’ out potential sites.

November-December 1991

Identified an excellent wooded area on a creek close to every group in our two districts. Formally applied to the North Vancouver Municipal District Council to designate this a Scouting area.

Learned the project idea was being passed to Director of Engineering Services for approval. Next, Municipal Council will assess the application.

March 1992

The Parks Advisory Committee, and Save Lynn Canyon Park Association are reviewing our application.

Made presentation before the Parks Advisory Committee to show Scouting’s need for the facility and assure them that the project would have minimal environmental impact.

May 1992

The Save Lynn Canyon Park Association expressed concern to Municipal Council about the possible environmental impact of our “camp”. Several seasoned Scouters walked the proposed site with a director of this association and showed that it would not affect the area’s environment. We agreed to work closely with this group.

June-July 1992

Approval in principle granted! Made initial application to the North Vancouver Kiwanis Club for facility funding.

October 1992

Invited to address the North Vancouver Kiwanis monthly meeting to explain our camp proposal in detail. Applied to the North Vancouver Kiwanis Foundation for \$17,699.

February 1993

The Kiwanis Foundation approved our grant. Scheduled committee meetings to organize construction. We will name it the “North Vancouver Kiwanis/Scouts Canada Camp”. It will be ready by summer. Local media printed our story. Through good planning we worked with concerned environmentalists and turned our project into a mutually supportive relationship. Perhaps your Scouts can start your own greenspace project. ^

— Rocky Rocksborough-Smith is ARC, Vancouver Coast Region.



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The Wolf Cub Review Blasts Off!

by Shirley Roberts and Ben Kruser

National Council approved the final report of the Wolf Cub Program Review in November 1992. This review, extensively field tested by over 1,100 Cubs, Pack Scouters, and other section leaders and parents, resulted in significant updating of the program to meet the needs of today's youth and the society they live in. (For background on the Cub Review, refer to the February 1993 *Paksak* column).

At the same time National Council approved the Wolf Cub Review, however, the Council embarked on a major strategic planning thrust to deal with critical issues facing the Scouting Movement. The Wolf Cub Review was subsequently put on hold until the November 1993 National Council meetings to ensure proposed program changes corresponded with other national priorities.

We report happily that with the enthusiastic support of Provincial Commissioners, the National Council confirmed the value of the review and approved the release of the Wolf Cub Review for September 1995. Now comes the Implementation Phase, where preparation must occur to get the revised Cub material on Scout Shop shelves by the September 1995 deadline.

What is our general implementation plan? How will we keep Cub program Scouters informed? Read on.

January - June 1994

First, we need a project team to handle planning and budgeting. The National Program Committee and the National Publications Advisory Group, based in the national office, looks at this work. At these meetings, work is coordinated with the various national office services and key volunteers to ensure a smooth transition from the existing program to the review changes.

By the time you read this article, draft manuscripts which highlight changes in **The Cub Book** and **The Wolf Cub Leader's Handbook** will

have been completed and sent to the National Wolf Cub Network for checking. We intend to maintain the books' same format and style and simply update them where needed.

Beginning with next month's *Paksak* column, we will introduce you to some new badges for your pack to try out. **Remember: you will have to wait until September 1995 to buy the actual badges.**

Exciting Cub program changes coming!

By June 1994, final revisions to the **Leader Handbook**, **Cub Book**, **Pack Resource Book**, **Pack Record Book**, and the **Wall Chart** will be completed and turned over to Communications Service for production. Also, we have asked a number of Cub packs to submit Cub artwork ideas for the proposed new badges and activity awards. We hope that Cub-generated badge designs (finished by June 1994) will generate interest in the new activities.

June - September 1994

Producing the Cub books and materials begins. This includes holding production meetings, contracting artists, arranging French translation and laying out a general production schedule. Supply Services will develop new badge designs, while Communications Service will start production of the materials.

Since the 1994/95 Scouting year is the year of transition, Service Teams and Trainers will need time to discuss how to modify training and servicing approaches. We plan to send each Council an advance trainer/service team program orientation package to help start these discussions. Originally we planned to conduct Council workshops for local trainers, service teams and leaders. Due to budget restrictions facing all Councils at this time, these workshops now seem unlikely. However,

we will hope for the best while working on other means of communication, i.e. conference calls.

October 1994 - May 1995

Production will be well advanced by this time. Cub materials need to be edited, proofed, printed and delivered to Supply Service's warehouse to meet summertime bulk order shipments to Council Scout Shops and dealers. Supply Services will be busy coding and entering new items for shop purchase into their data system along with arranging for advertising and promotion, such as the 1995/96 Scouts Canada Catalogue. They will contact suppliers and Scout Shop managers to ensure they maintain proper inventory levels to match projected orders.

The October and November 1994 *Paksak* columns will probably feature articles on planning and delivery aspects of the revised Cub program. *Paksak* columns will also begin running articles which introduce each Activity Area and related activities. These articles are intended to help leaders and Cubs begin thinking about the fun lying ahead. Again, packs should use the 1994/95 Scouting year to finish present requirement work. The revised requirements will take effect September 1995.

June - September 1995

If all goes well, Supply Services will pack and ship updated Cub materials to Scouts Shops during this period. *Paksak* columns will feature articles offering program "helps" and theme ideas supporting program revisions and updates. After September, the Wolf Cub Review will enter an ongoing Evaluation and Updating Phase.

Although September 1995 seems a long way off, considering the work ahead, we must proceed quickly. We must ensure that those involved in the Cub program have enough time to make the smoothest transition possible, so when September 1995 comes, we are all pulling together to take Cubs into the 21st century. ^

— Shirley Roberts is on the National Program Committee (Cubs); Ben Kruser is National Program Director (Cubs).

Scouts Pitch-In To Clean Up The World

by Allard Van Veen

Over nine hundred Scouting groups across Canada participated in the 1993 PITCH-IN WEEK Campaign held in May 1993. In all, 270 troops, 323 packs, 274 colonies, and 44 companies and crews took part.

Did your group or section?

Each year PITCH-IN CANADA (a non-profit environmental organization supported by Scouts Canada) leads the campaign. It also works with foreign groups to clean up their part of the world. Projects range from starting recycling and composting programs to cleaning up and beautifying streams, wilderness and urban areas.

The theme of this year's campaign ("Cleaning-Up the World Starts at Home") provided the connection between PITCH-IN WEEK and environmental clean-up activities carried out by others around the world.

For the first time many Canadians participated in a fall clean-up campaign — part of a United Nations initiative to "clean-up the world". The project, conducted under the auspices of PITCH-IN CANADA, occurred from September 17-19, 1993 and attracted 40,000 volunteers across Canada (compared to the 2 million who participated in PITCH-IN WEEK). Scouts Canada encourages those who want to participate in the fall international Clean-Up the World Campaign to do so, but recognizes that most Scouting groups will prefer probably to conduct their clean-up project during the May PITCH-IN WEEK.

The May 1994 PITCH-IN WEEK Campaign (May 2-8) will provide participants with another opportunity to clean-up the environment. All groups that took part last year will have received their campaign information already.

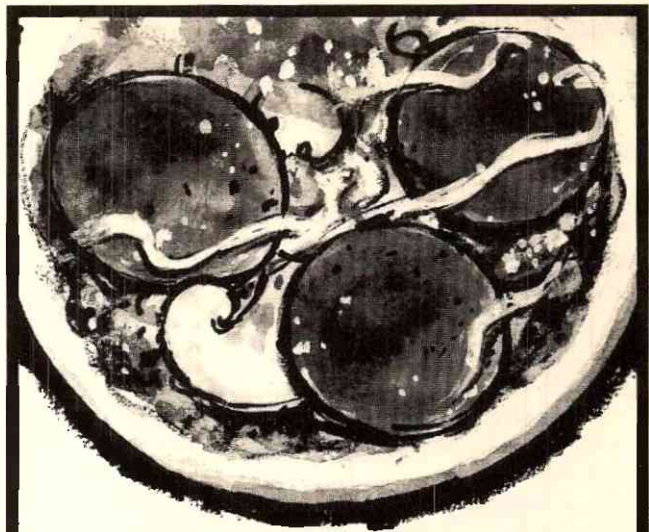
Cleaning up our environment and keeping it clean is a world-wide challenge. Count yourself in.



Happy Beavers from the 9th Colony, Prince Rupert, B.C., "pitched in" to beautify Canada.

For further information, or to get involved in this year's campaign, write: PITCH-IN CANADA, 200 - 1676 Martin Drive, White Rock, B.C. V4A 6E7.

— Allard Van Veen is President of PITCH-IN CANADA.



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Looking Forward

by Dr. Robb Baker

Guess who (or what!) is now just over a quarter century old?

The Venturing program section in Canada.

Many positive events have occurred in the program, but still some Scouters view both the program and (dare I say) teenagers generally through a somewhat jaundiced eye.

This lingering problem continues to impede the development of "traditional" Venturing. But what about the relative newcomer, Vocational Venturing?

Vocational Venturing is only new in the sense that in recent years we have sought to raise its profile across Canada. Driven by a national level task group, most provinces have conducted Vocational Venturing workshops. The federal government's "Stay-in-School" program has helped support and fund the project, including the costs of initial resource materials.

A large number of Vocational Venturer companies started as a direct result of this effort and the fine work of several dedicated Service Scouters and partners at the local and provincial levels.

One in every seven Venturers belongs to some sort of company with a vocational focus. If they disappeared, the number of Venturers would fall to 1970s levels. Vocational Venturing fulfils a real need in youth and it furthers our mission to help develop and equip young people.

Over the next months, draft Vocational Venturing materials will be revised, finalized and released. We will continue to try bringing Vocational Venturing fully into the fold. Each one of us has an important role to play ensuring that Venturing, and particularly Vocational Venturing, prospers.

Success will come if we follow a deliberate, planned process. The process must involve the community, potential vocational partners, teenagers with

identified vocational interests and representatives from Scouting. A Vocational Venturing company will emerge when all these come together.

A key element in success involves having several dedicated Service Scouters willing to devote their time to creating new companies. Success rarely follows haphazard plans. Remember, Scouting's reputation is at stake.

Let us not forget ongoing needs of operational Venturer companies. Service Scouters need a totally different set of skills for this activity. At present this area requires great attention. Communication and involvement with vocational companies is critical to our reaching out and keeping an ever-growing number of teenagers involved.

Are you involved in Vocational Venturing? What works for you? What requires changes? How can Scouting reach even more teenagers? Please write to Doug Simpson or Robb Baker c/o the national office. ^

Spark it up!

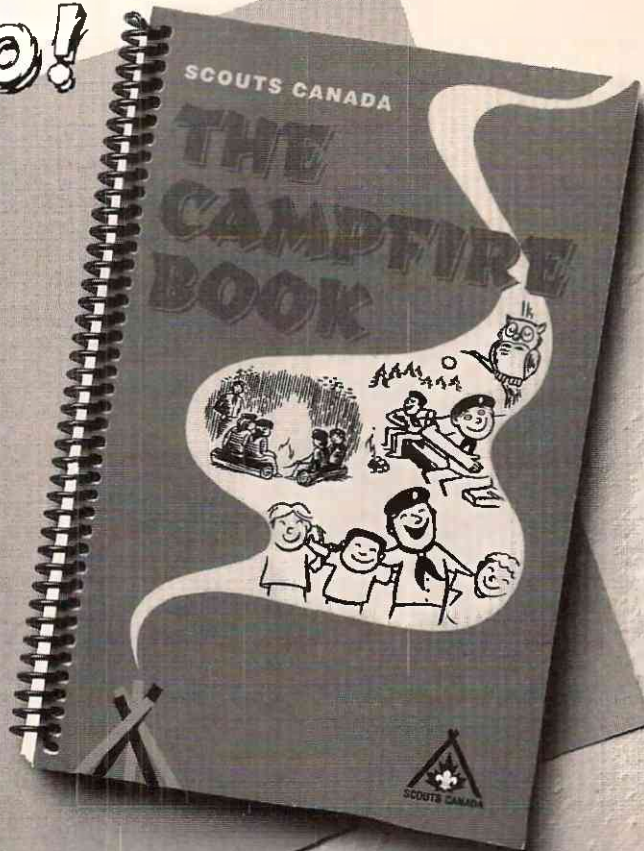


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B. P. & P. Changes

Bob Bareham

In May 1993, Scouts Canada made minor revisions to the last issue of Bylaw, Policies and Procedures (catalogue #20-805). We have produced a sticker containing three of the more important revisions which you can apply to the inside front cover of pre-May 1993 editions of the book.

The revised policies apply to the Beaver-leader ratio, the new Award For Fortitude, and lethal weapons. Get a sticker at your local Scout Shop or Council office.

NEW SCOUTS CANADA PENCIL: Scout Shops across the country now carry a stock of new, 3" Scouts Canada pencils. These feature a white plastic cap, bright red shaft and white lettering (#25-425: \$0.50). The popular Beaver Pencil (#25-429) is also available for \$0.50 cents each.

THE GLOBAL SCOUT: Almost every day we hear how the over-populated world is apparently rushing toward ecological collapse. Environmental education by many youth organizations, including the World Scout Movement and Scouts Canada, has grown because of public awareness of these issues and grass-roots determination to take effective action.

In a new book called *The Global Scout: Scouting For Nature and the Environment* (#20-669: \$17.95), the author combines many new ideas with modern environmental education approaches to provide action-oriented ideas for both Scouts and non-Scouts.

The Global Scout emphasises strong links which exist between people and the environment. This helps ensure that individual actions meet the real needs of people all over the world. Focusing on attitudes, feelings, values, knowledge and skills, you can turn the numerous practical ideas and activities in this book into thoughtful action by your pack or troop.

The Global Scout is a great resource book. Check it out at your local Scout Shop.

NEW! THE CAMPFIRE BOOK: "As the red log glows, so may our spirits; as the flame leaps upward, so may our aims; as the grey ash fades, so may our sins; as the good fire warms our circle, so may our ideals warm the world!"

This is just one of dozens of great campfire openings contained in the new Scouts Canada publication *The Campfire Book* (#20-626: \$7.95).

Good campfires don't just happen. You need to plan all the elements that come together to create an atmosphere of friendship and camaraderie. This book makes your planning much easier. Chapters include practical advice on fire lighting; program planning; how to create a fun atmosphere; campfire leadership; campfire etiquette; story telling; fantastic skit ideas; opening and closing. There's even a chapter on campfire robes — a great Canadian tradition.

What's a campfire without lots of singing, skits and unique cheers! Action songs, reflective and quiet songs, and over 80 great skit ideas round out this well-illustrated book. The illustrations alone will light up a smile on your face.

This is one of (if not) the best campfire resource book available. Be sure to check it out at your local Scout Shop or dealer. A

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Rover Secret Service

by Lee Ann Madill

I am concerned about Roving in Canada. Let me share some thoughts about what Rovers means to me.

Scouting has deep roots in my family. My mother was a Ranger (Guides) and my father a Rover. They first met at a Rover/Ranger wiener roast. As a seven year old I joined Brownies, then moved on to Guides, Pathfinders, Rangers, became a Junior Leader, and finally joined Rovers (Sir Galahad Crew, Cambridge, Ontario). I was a Beaver Leader for two years and Venturer Advisor for four years. Currently I am chair of our Regional Rover Round Table, chair of the First Aid Committee for Provincial Moot '94 (Roving from Sea to Sea), and a Cub Leader in my third year.

After starting in the Rover crew as a Squire, my sponsors taught me about the Crew's theme ("Knighthood"), Scouting history and Crew history.

Four years after my voting in (acceptance), I finished my Squireship and became a real Rover Scout. This may

seem like an eternity for some, but each Crew has different Squireship requirements. Each Squire progresses at his/her own speed.

"Very detailed and complete" would best described the Squireship learning process. It began after my Crew appointed two sponsors: a senior and a junior — both invested Rovers selected from the entire Rover community, not just my own crew.

Before investiture I had to complete 20 hours of service work, learn survival camping, learn Scouting history, as well as read and discuss "Roving to Success" with my sponsors.

Lord Baden-Powell wrote this book in 1921 as a growth guide for Rovers. Although much information is outdated, it does provide guidance for some of life's problems.

After completing these requirements, I had to plan a complete trip for me and my sponsors, including menu, route, departure time and date, arrange the equipment, and buying all the food. This is a big challenge for a Squire. What a great learning experience!

The over-night trip can be a hike, canoe or a bike trip, but it must be at least 15 km in length. The Squire must carry all food and equipment. During the trip you must build and sleep in a shelter and prepare food over an open fire. Under the stars you and your sponsors must discuss the last chapter of B.-P.'s book "Roving".

After the trip my sponsors decided if I was really ready for investiture.

Now the real work began! They gave me a "vigil", a set of questions that B.-P. produced so that a Rover might examine his/her inner self. For some Squires this is the most difficult part of the journey — a real maturing phase — as they must face difficult questions of personal growth.

The enthusiasm that has carried the Squire this far does not die with the goal so near. Service, Brotherhood, and above all further Growth awaits.

My own investiture was a special event. Although I was now invested a greater quest lay ahead: development awards, large demands for service, a Squire of my own who, without proper direction, would falter.

What have I gained from Roving? Mostly experiences, ones that come from the heart and bring happy tears to my eyes. Thanks to Scouting I am a better person and an active member of my community.

B.-P. built secrecy into Roving to draw youth toward its mysteries. Ultimately it has pushed some Scouting adults away from the section. Many problems exist, but its programs are still very dynamic and fulfilling.

All Rover Crews should seek a balanced, well rounded program that provides physical, mental, spiritual and emotional growth.

Let's not let the section, or our enthusiasm, wither. ^

— Lee Ann Madill is a Rover with the Sir Galahad Crew, Cambridge, Ont.

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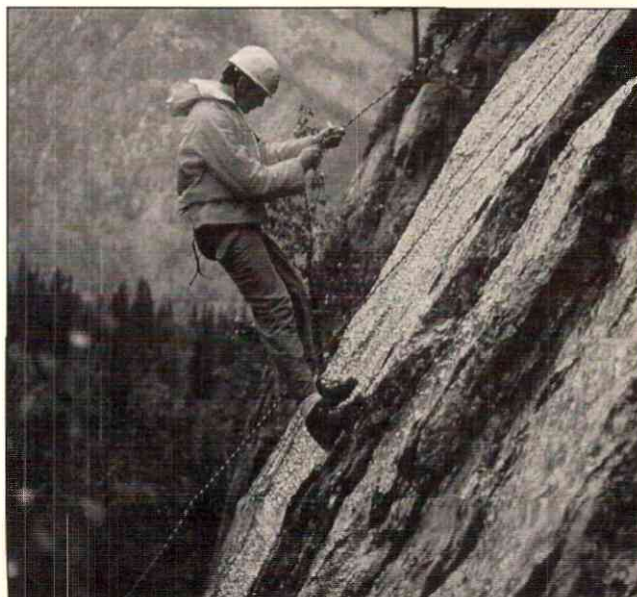


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SCOUTER'S 5

Passover

○ "And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where you are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.

○ And Moses took the blood, and sprinkled it on the people, and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant which the Lord has made with you."

— *Moses* (Exodus 12:13, 24:8)

Why?

Why did it have to be
A cross He was made to bear?
And why did they nail his feet and hands?
His love would have held him there.
It was a cross, for on a cross
A thief was supposed to pay;
And Jesus had come into the world
To steal every heart away.

— *Michael Card*

The Lamb

○ All heaven declares
The glory of the risen Lord.
Who can compare
With the beauty of the Lord?

○ Forever He will be
The lamb upon the throne
I gladly bend my knee
And worship Him alone.

Spend Your Time Wisely

○ The best thing to spend on children is time.
Become a BIG spender!

— *anonymous*

Scouter's 5 Minutes, p.717

Mar.'94

GAMES

Fun With Sleds

Arctic serum race

○ Your Scouts must help save the lives of people trapped in a snow-bound, high arctic village. A special serum is their only hope.

○ Each patrol has a sled or toboggan with a pair of two metre ropes attached. Each sled carries a "bottle of serum" (coloured water in a small jar), and is carried by two pullers and one rider. Other patrol members run alongside.

○ Set out an obstacle course with four stations spaced about 100 metres apart. At each station patrols change pullers and riders so everyone participates. First patrol to deliver the "serum" to the village (the finish) wins.

— *from Boy's Life.*

Sled weight pull

○ File a heavy load on a sled (use cement blocks or logs) and see which patrol team can pull it fastest through an obstacle course.

Band-aid Relay

○ Give each Cub a band-aid and get the Sixes to line up in relay formation. On "go" the second Cub runs out and puts their band-aid on the Sixer's arm.

○ The Sixer then runs to the back of the Six and the third Cub goes out to put their band-aid on the second Cub. Continue until all have had their turn.

— *from Australian Scout magazine.*

Beaver Dinosaur Ideas

○ Play pin the horn (tail, teeth) on the dinosaur. (To add to the fun, ask the kids to bring stuffed dinosaur animals with them. When they arrive, put all of them together in a zoo.)

Games, p.307

Mar.'94

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Cross the Bubbling Lava Pool

What you need: tin can stilts; 'rocks' (large, round circles of brown construction paper); masking tape (to tape the rocks to the floor); several stuffed dinosaurs (optional).

The Story: You are a cave person out walking in the jungle when all of a sudden a dinosaur sees you. He roars a mighty roar, then starts to chase. Ahead your path is blocked by a bubbling, red hot lava pool.

What can you do?!

Suddenly you see rocks leading across the pool. The rocks must be hot! But look, someone left tin can stilts to wear as you cross to protect your feet from the heat.

You cross the bubbling cauldron just in time, and race home for snack.

Peg, Blow and Sew

Another relay. In front of each Six string a line across the hall with pegs and folded clothes, then a candle and a box of matches and finally a piece of cloth, needle and thread,

On "go" the first Cub runs out, pegs the clothes on the line, lights the candle and threads the needle and sews through the cloth.

Then they unthread the needle, blow out the candle and unpeg and fold the clothes before returning to their Six. Let everyone have a turn.

— from *Australian Scout magazine*.

Games, p.308

Failure is not really failure;
not trying — that is the true meaning of failure.

The worst kind of heart trouble is not having love
in your heart.

There's a wideness in God's mercy,
Like the wideness of the sea.
There's a kindness in His justice,
Which is more than liberty.
— *Frederick William Faber*

Stewards

"All worthy things that are in peril as the world
now stands, those are my care. I also am a
steward.

— *Gandalf (Lord of the Rings)*

Keep Your Perspective

"We must always keep our eyes open to the po-
tential in young people."

— *Cathie Nicoll (Order of Canada recipient)*

"Today's youth love luxury. They have bad man-
ners, contempt for authority, disrespect for elders
and would rather sit and chatter than exercise."

— *Socrates (469 - 399 B.C.)*

True Friendship

One who will lend as quick as he will borrow,
One who is the same today as tomorrow,
One who will share your joy and your sorrow,
That's what I call a friend.

Scouter's 5 Minutes, p.718



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Survival Kits

I can simplify and improve the emergency survival kit mentioned in Robb Baker's article called "The A-B-C's of Survival" (January '94, p. 19).

Half of the items in Mr. Baker's kit contained doses of sugar or salt. Maybe several water purification tablets would be better; people need water much sooner than they need sugar or salt.

Instead of using two empty cans to hold the kit, use two FULL 100 gram sardine cans. Tape the two together face-to-face with duct tape (useful for other repairs). Fill the cavity between the two cans with the remaining items on the list. Include a small, flat-folding can opener.

200 grams of sardines in oil will provide more calories and more nutrition than the nine food items listed. (Besides, sardines will tempt few people in non-emergency situations, unlike hard candies and chocolate!)

Use excess sardine oil as a fire-starter (include waterproof matches). Sardine scraps make excellent bait for snares or fish hooks (better than a sugar cube on the line!)

— Colin Wallace, Scarborough, Ontario.

Good Eyes!!

The December *Leader* article "Hiking the Epinette Creek Trail" contained an interesting wildlife photo of a rare lizard.

I commend the 1st and 10th Transcona Troops for having good eyes! Naturalists call the animal the Northern Prairie Skink. This species, the only one found in Manitoba, is only one of three species of skinks in Canada.

The Northern Prairie Skink can grow to 20.6 cm and is easily identified by its five dark or black longitudinal stripes.

What makes this animal unique?

Its tail can quickly break off if seized by a predator. The detached tail twists and turns vigorously for a few minutes, which naturally attracts the attention of the predator and allows the skink time to escape. The skink then grows another tail.

Spruce Woods Provincial Park is one of the few places Skinks are found in Manitoba. The Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada has identified the Northern Prairie Skink as "vulnerable". (This rating is below the Threatened and Endangered status.)

— Ben Kruser, National Program Director, Outdoors.

How I Became A Leader And Why I Stay

In response to Lynn Johnson's article "In Search of the Right Questions" (October 1993 issue), let me tell you my story.

It started when my son wanted to join Beavers. My wife went to register him. A leader recruitment meeting followed registration during which my wife piped up and said, "My husband would love to be a leader!"

An hour later I heard about my new job. "You said what?!"

Then I thought, "Why not?" I remembered when I was a Scout; Cecil and Leman Murl took time from their busy schedules to teach us.

I do not enjoy the public speaking part of being a leader but little by little the Scouting Movement has made me feel more comfortable even with this responsibility.

Why do I stay? Because of the kids and the impact I can make on their precious lives.

— Bruce Macausland, West Royalty Beaver Colony, P.E.I.

Comments and Questions

The December issue of the *Leader* struck home in three ways: two favourable and one questionable. The questionable one comes first.

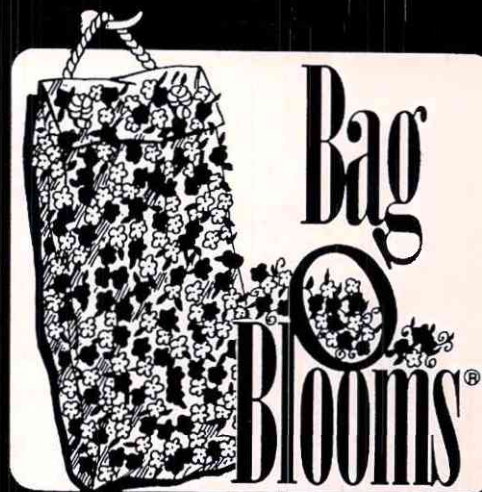
The article by Colin Wallace (no relation) defies all logic. As a recipient of disability pensions, I wonder what Ray Charles' feelings would be when he read Richard Leni's quote. Surely you could have chosen a less offensive example. Is this "Serving God, your country, and your fellow man," as B.-P. said?

On the positive side, the letter from Dian Collins describing "the Scouting family" was most enlightening. She was one of the Woodbadge Part I candidates I trained several years ago, her husband (Jody) is a radio hobby acquaintance, and their son (Jody Jr.) was on the soccer team my daughter coached. Dian is a special person.

I liked your December cover — it gave me a déjà vu flashback. Many years ago I bought a chamois vest at a second hand clothing store. I arranged the provincial crests and world badge around the 80th anniversary patch. The effect and "look" was very similar to your cover. Great idea!

— Glenn Wallis, 2nd Windsor (N.S.) Scout Group. ⚡

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18th World Jamboree Canadian Contingent Program

by Bob Butcher

A number of exciting opportunities (some optional) will exist for Canadians both before and after attending the 18th World Jamboree.

All Canadian youth and leader participants will spend five days (4 nights) in England just outside London. This will be the first time all Canadian participants will be together — a chance to develop a truly Canadian spirit. While staying at Royal Holloway (a part of the University of London), all will have ample free time to see nearby Windsor Castle, or B.-P. House and Gilwell Park.

All participants will travel by bus and ferry from Royal Holloway through the south of England, across the English Channel, through France and Belgium to reach Holland. For those who want to extend their stay overseas, we offer a seven day British Tour before the assembly at Royal Holloway and either the seven day European Tour or the four day Home Hospitality in Holland after the jamboree. Those who do not choose an option will return home immediately following the jamboree.

JAMBOREE PROGRAM

Scouting Nederland is planning a wide variety of challenging and exciting program opportunities for

jamboree participants. Some will be large events such as ceremonies and a water show.

A central arena has been prepared with an estimated capacity of 45,000 people. The opening and closing ceremonies, concerts, cinemas and daily festivals will occur here.

Onsite activities will take place in central program areas and will include the popular Global Development Village. The Survival Trek or Challenge Valley will be over 5 km long. Being in the Netherlands, the jamboree will emphasize heavily water activities: canoeing, sailing, etc..

Offsite activities will include environmental tours, excursions to cities and old fishing ports in the area, as well as one and two day hikes.

Because the event involves so many people spread over a large area, Sub-camps will ease planning. Each Sub-camp will have a stage for campers to display their culture, a space for games and sports activities, and will organize its own "festival day."

A Central Jamboree Plaza will provide space for a number of displays including "City of the Future". Here participants may place national displays. Plan to visit the popular Finnish sauna here.

Each troop will receive a daily packet of tickets to gain access to specific program events. Trade tickets within, or between troops, to get the program mix of your liking.

Participants can use their jamboree free time to mingle with youth from all corners of the world, as well as with outside visitors. (Scouting Nederland expects up to 40,000 visitors to the jamboree. To control crowds, each visitor will be allowed to visit the jamboree for only one day.)

As with most World Jamborees, participants will be eligible to earn a Jamboree Friendship Award by meeting a number of special requirements.

Qualifications for youth and leader participants appeared in the January issue of the *Leader*. Obtain application forms and detailed information on tour options from local Scout offices or Commissioners. ^

— Bob Butcher is coordinator for the Canadian contingent to WJ'95.



PUT A CAP ON IT!

Looking for a way to make your group stand out from the crowd at outings, activities and other informal events?

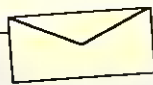
Outfit your whole group with team ball caps customized with their favourite crest!

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Pen Friends Wanted

Make new friends, exchange badges, posters, tourist information, even birthday cards. Pen friends help you and your group learn more about the world. What a great way for young people to experience the culture, life, and experiences of others.

This month our pen friends column includes people from *three* continents: Europe, North America and Africa. They come from Norway, Mexico, England, Canada, North Ghana, and Belgium. Why not expand the horizons of your Beavers, Cubs or Scouts?

Do you have a specific country you wish to contact not included in our list? Write to the British Scout International Links Scheme. Tell them your correspondence language, interests, wishes (e.g. exchange badges, crests, program ideas). Contact: International Links Scheme, Roy or Joan Walker, Waybrook, Ewing Close, Reepham, Norfolk, NR104JQ, England.

Belgium

Two Belgium Scout youth wish to contact Canadian groups. Write to: Vanhove Bjorn, Molenstraat 43, 8450 Bredene, Belgium; or De Smet Annelies, Steengoedstraat 6, 9030 Gent, Belgium.

Canada

English-speaking 1st Heyden Cubs (Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.) would like to write to Cubs in *Central or South America*. Send letters to: Donna Sagle, 1st Heyden Cubs, R.R.#2 Box 80, Rupert Acres, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada, P6A 5K7.

Canadian Cubs wish to contact another pack with deaf boys and girls interested in learning the *American Sign Language*. The pack hopes to go on a joint camping trip and practice sign language. Contact: Lee Ann Madill, 258 Hillcrest Road, Cambridge, Ontario, N3H 1B2.

Thirteen year old Scout from Kamloops B.C. wishes a pen pal. Write to Daren Oldridge, 969 Huntleigh Crescent, Kamloops, B.C., V1S 1G9.

England

The 8th West Wickham Beaver Colony is interested in exchanging program ideas. Write to: Scouters Kate Gamm or Shirley Croydon, 38 Ridgemount Avenue, Surrey, CR0 8TQ, England.

The 40th Chingford Cub Pack wishes contact with a Canadian Cub pack to exchange ideas, experiences, and badges. Write to: Scouter Graham Cane, 94 Daleview Crescent, Chingford, London, E46PG, England.

The 6th Dartmouth (West Bromwich) Cub pack wishes to exchange program ideas with Canadian Cubs. Contact: Mark Toole, 30 Harleston Road, Great Barr, Birmingham, B44 8R2, England.

North Ghana

Eighteen year old male interested in reading, music and songs, would like to learn about Canadian Scouting. Write to: John Akissi, P.O. Box 10360, Accra, North Ghana, West Africa.

Norway

A large, co-ed Scout and Venturer-aged group in Norway wishes to exchange letters, FAXs and videotapes with Canadians. Write to: Sandnes S.A. Scoutgroup, Gunnar Aareskjold, Edvard Munchsgate 16, 4300 Sandnes, Norway.

Mexico

Jorge Ornelas Chavez, Calle 5, No. 97, Col. 10. de Mayo, C.P. 91757, Veracruz, Ver., Mexico. Λ

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As part of our continuing commitment to secure the environment for future generations, Pine-Sol supports Scouts Canada, Scouts, Venturers and Rovers plant more than a million trees every year.

Now, you can clean when you clean

with a clear conscience, with Pine-Sol.

