



the leader

JANUARY 1998

VOLUME 28, NO. 5

Yukon Gold!



PADDLE-MAKING • SCOUTING THE NET • DEBTOR'S PRISON

Identity Crisis? *What Identity Crisis?*

by Andy McLaughlin

What makes us Scouting members?

Some people might suggest it's our uniform, because it identifies us as members. Others might think that our identity lies in the words we use to describe ourselves — our Mission, Mottos, Promises and various slogans. Still some might suggest that our ceremonies (our unique way of doing things) define our identity.

Maybe we should define ourselves by something far more tangible: our actions. Mottos, Mission, Grand Howls, and uniforms are symbolic trappings of Scouting. They're certainly important, but they are quite useless without definite actions to back them up.

It's not just the *idea* of "resourceful and responsible citizens" that makes us Scouts. Although important, they are just words. The *fulfilment* of these words is vital:

- Scouting members working together for 18 back-breaking hours a day to help provide relief for the Manitoba flood victims,

- volunteering a Saturday to collect food and money for the needy to give to a local food bank, or
- building a rope bridge to learn teamwork.



"If you're a Scout, I know you're having a good time. Just like me!"

Photo: Scouts Canada

These actions are at least as important as any ceremony, uniform, or Motto.

Talk to youth members. Ask them what it is that makes them Scouts. Their field hats? The words in their Promise, Law and Motto? Or the day they spent helping at a senior's home? You might be surprised at their answers.

That's a Strange Concept

Not everyone is comfortable with this concept of identity. Some feel that without uniforms to identify us, words to describe us, and ceremonies to make us special, we will cease to be Scouts. In fact, we spend a lot of time arguing among ourselves over our symbols. We actively debate the shape of a badge, the type of uniform hat we should wear, and the wording of our Mottos and Promises. We rarely discuss the importance of the actual *activities* that our members participate in. You don't often hear an argument over the value of a floor hockey evening vs. a night hike.

"This is all fine," you might say, "but without a standard uniform and a well-publicized Mission Statement, the public will have no idea who we are." Perhaps, but if we started to believe that *our actions defined the true measure of a Scouting member*, the public would probably define us that way too.

Maybe one day members of the public will see a group of young people cleaning up a park, planting trees, or mountain biking on a trail, and know immediately that these kids are Scouts. Not because of the uniforms they're wearing, not because the public knows Scouting builds resourceful and responsible citizens, but "because that's what Scouts do!"

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The Canadian Leader Magazine is produced 10 times a year by Canyouth Publications Ltd., an arms-length publishing company.
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Ottawa ON K2C 3H4
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Web Site: <http://www.scouts.ca/leader.htm>

Yearly subscription:
registered members of Scouts Canada \$8
non-members \$8
outside Canada \$18

The Leader assists Scouters and other adults who work with young people through the publication of timely articles on Scouting's programs, resources and objectives.

Canyouth Publications gratefully acknowledges the assistance of Scouts Canada in publishing **the Leader**.

Editorial contributions are made on a voluntary basis. Unsolicited submissions welcome.
Advertising Policy: Advertisement of a product or service does not indicate endorsement by publishers.

Publishers do not assume any responsibility by warranty or otherwise with respect to products advertised.

The Leader is printed on paper containing 50% recycled fibre.

Publications mail registration #2405.

ISSN 0711-5377

Cover photograph:
Allen Macartney
Inset photograph:
Paul Ritchi

the leader

The Canadian Leader Magazine

January 1998

Volume 28, No.5

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Gold Rush Fever

"I'm Off to the Klondike!"

by Heather Hamer and Ali Eason

A single nugget about the size of a dime started it — the largest, most thrilling gold rush in the history of the world.

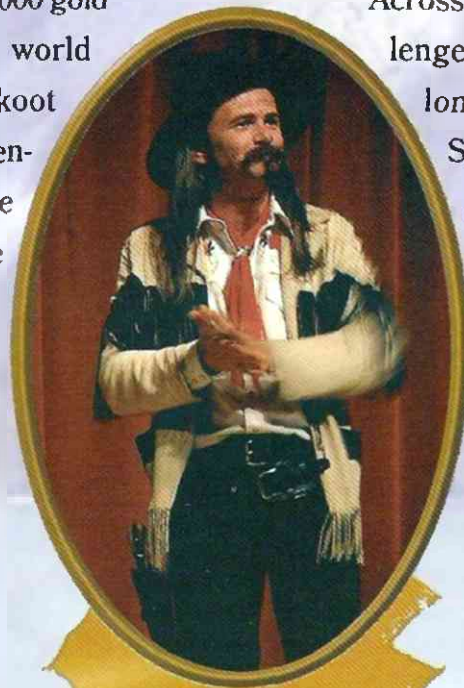
Within several years, over 30,000 gold stampederers from around the world had hiked over the steep Chilkoot Pass, built rafts or boats on Bennett Lake, and floated down the fast-flowing Yukon River to the fabled Klondike Valley. Everyone believed gold nuggets were lying so thick on the ground that you could shovel them into a backpack.

Plan it around a wide variety of stations, including quinzhee building, fire lighting, wilderness cooking, first aid training, log sawing competitions, compass orienteering, tree identification, simple lashing projects, animal track identification, and ice rescue techniques. (The winter survival quiz in December's *Leader* would fit this theme very well.) Award gold nuggets (rocks) to each team that scores the highest points.

Involve youth members in the planning. Find out what they want to do, and build as many badge requirements into the program as possible. Make sure you watch closely that no one over-heats or suffers from dehydration during the activity.

Build a Klondike Packboard

Few gold miners climbing over the Chilkoot Pass could afford expensive, comfortable backpacks. Most made



Invite a gold rush miner to tell his story at your event!

their own from planks, cotton webbing or ropes, and nails. Here's how your Cubs and Scouts can experience a pioneer's hiking pack. All they need is scrap lumber, glue, screws, nylon cord, and thick rope or webbing.

Start with two pieces of lumber (2.5 cm x 10 cm) approximately 55 cm long for the sides. Round off both ends. Glue and screw on three pieces of lumber (2.5 cm x 7 cm) about 35 cm long.

Across Canada, winter Klondike Challenges are popular day- or weekend-long events that test Cub and Scout outdoor skills. What a great way to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Klondike Gold Rush. Here are some ideas to organize your own Challenge. They would fit into an early spring camp or day-long event.

(See diagram) Drill a series of small holes about 2.5 cm in from the side; thread nylon cord through them, back and forth. Your load rests on these cords; use rope to strap supplies on securely.

Drill a hole in the middle of the top cross piece (see diagram) and in the bottom of each end piece. These are to thread your shoulder straps through. You might wish to use webbing instead of rope to make a more comfortable pack. If you do, bolt it to the frame using washers.

Now that everyone has an authentic Klondike backpack, break up into sixes or patrols and go on an orienteering hike.

Mushing Over the Klondike Trail

Using one or more packboards as a sleigh, get your sixes or patrols to make a pulling harness out of nylon rope. (You'll only be able to use the

Photo: Allen MacIntyre

packboards as sleighs if the snow is packed hard; otherwise, use toboggans.) Cubs and Scouts should use at least four different types of knots in the harness, which must accommodate all members except the sleigh passenger. (Allow five minutes for each group to design a harness.) After it's made, have a course set out that requires compass work, setting up a tent, making a fire, and estimating tree heights.

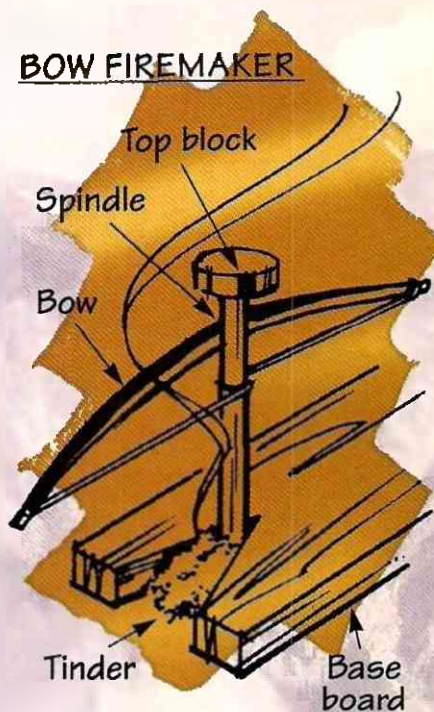
Fire Lighting Sans Matches

Matches were very expensive for Klondike miners, so they often used alternatives like the bow. Get your would-be miners to make their own bow and base board. (See diagram) They'll need a branch (bow), cord, a spindle, and a base board. The top block has a hole in it that allows the spindle to spin freely. Your Cubs and Scouts will produce friction by 'sawing' back and forth on the bow, which will rotate the spindle and heat up the base board. Dry tinder should ignite after several minutes.

Practise other fire lighting techniques, too. Make "fuzz sticks" (see diagram) and use them to start a fire. A good craft might involve making a candle-like fire starter with wood shavings mixed into the wax. Here's how to make it. Pour hot wax into a small paper cup (4 cm diameter)

filled with dry wood shavings. Place a wick stub into the wax. Voilà! This fire starter will help light a campfire even with wet wood.

BOW FIREMAKER



Rescue Signaling

On their way to the Klondike gold fields, many miners got lost in the bush. Organize one station around rescue signaling with a mirror. Standing with their backs to the sun, four lead-

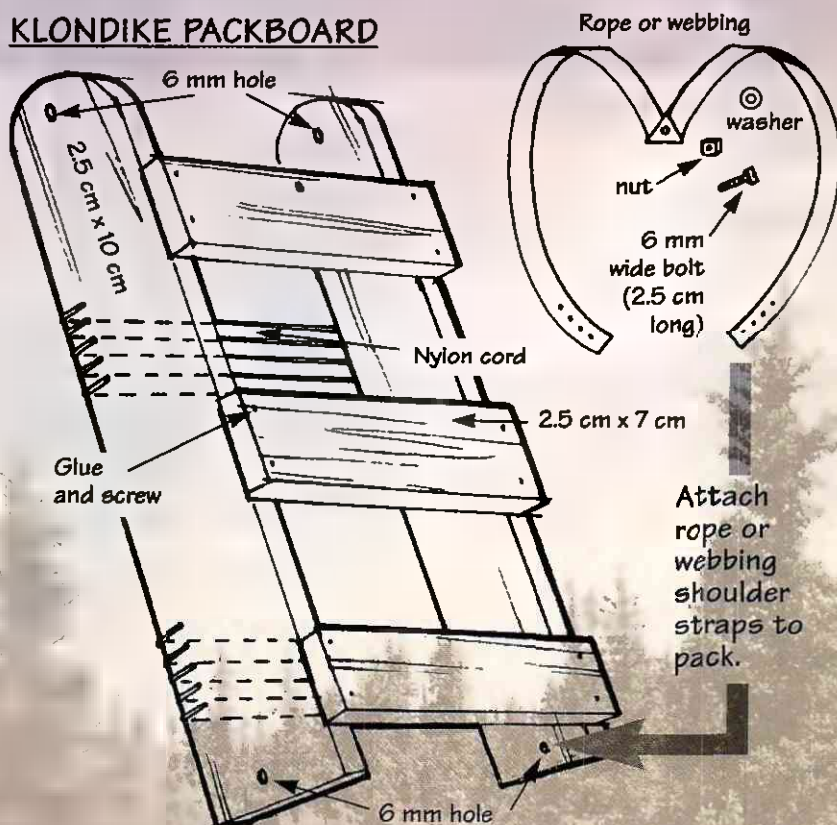
ers should spread out in an arc facing a team of Cubs or Scouts. Using a signal mirror, each youth must signal three flashes to each of the four leaders. (See diagram) When they have accomplished this, members must send three short flashes, three long, and three short flashes, before they can go on to the next station.

Snowshoe Hustle

Each Klondike miner raced against his neighbour to stake the best ground. The race started when he unloaded his supplies on the Pacific coast, and continued over the Chilkoot Pass, down the Yukon River, and along the Klondike River creek beds. The snowshoe hustle will help your group appreciate the difficulty of racing in winter clothing while carrying a pack. Make sure they use the packs they've just made.

Set up two short courses (100 m) that snake along a forest trail. (Two courses allow separate patrols to run the race simultaneously.) Both tracks should be marked with coloured flagging every 10 m. Tell your 'miners' that they must race against the clock along the course, touching each coloured flag before returning to their team and tagging the next person in line. If the entire team gets through the course in 10 minutes, each member gets a gold nugget (gold-coloured rock).

KLONDIKE PACKBOARD



OTHER FIRE CRAFTS



Place dry wood shavings in a small paper cup. Put in a wick and fill the cup with wax



Pine Needle Winter Tea

Klondike miners didn't want to use their own supplies before they reached the gold fields. As they trudged over the coastal mountains and floated down the Yukon River, they lived off the land whenever possible. Pine needle tea was a recipe they learned from local Aborigines.

Collect a handful of green pine needles, and break each one into two or three pieces. Drop them into a pot of boiling water. Allow the 'tea' to steep several minutes before pouring it into mugs. Honey will make it more tasty.

MIRROR SIGNALS

Hold the mirror in one hand close to your face. Hold up a finger from your other hand, sighting on your target (rescuer). When the sun reflects off your finger, the distant target will see the flash.

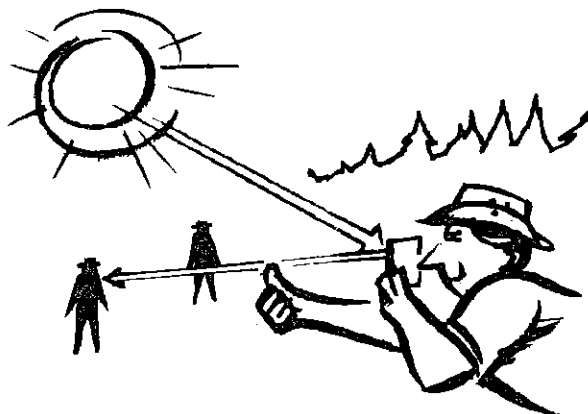


Photo: Ali Eason

"As soon as we get these knots tied into a litter, we're going to transport 'Sam McGee' to the nearest paddle-wheeler. Stoke up the fire!"



Photo: Paul Ritchie

Fresh fish was a rare delicacy for Klondike miners waiting until the Yukon River thawed.

Did You Know...?

- All of the gold ever found could fit into a four-bedroom home.
- Today, Klondike-era ghost towns line the banks of the Yukon River from Whitehorse to Dawson.
- Miners have been finding rich gold streams in the Yukon since about 1850.
- Canada's famous gold maple leaf coin is one of the world's leading bullion investment coins. It is .9999 pure gold.



Photo: Paul Ritchie

*Mushing over the Dawson Trail.
Find out if any dog sled owners will visit your camp.*

"Map-maker make me a map."

At the map-making station, each team has to make an accurate map using pencils, paper, and a compass. This is a team-building exercise. Maps (which don't have to be works of art) should show rough contour intervals, distances, at least one road or trail, one river, and five buildings. Make sure everyone starts by orienting their map with a compass and pacing off distances. Scouts can earn extra points if they estimate the height of several trees or cliffs in the area. (See *Venturer Log* in December's *Leader* for ideas.)

A Klondike Challenge is an excellent way to experience the best of a Canadian winter. It's also a terrific method to bring recently-learned outdoor skills into sharp focus.

Program Links

Cubs: Canadian Heritage Badge, Carpenter Badge, Athlete Badge, Camping Badge, Cooking Badge, Winter Cubbing Badge, Green Star.
Scouts: Builder Badge, Winter Scouting Badge, Winter Sports Badge, B.P. Woodsman Badge.

— Heather Hamer is a district commissioner in Trail, BC; Ali Eason has been Scouting in Manitoba and Ontario for almost thirty years.

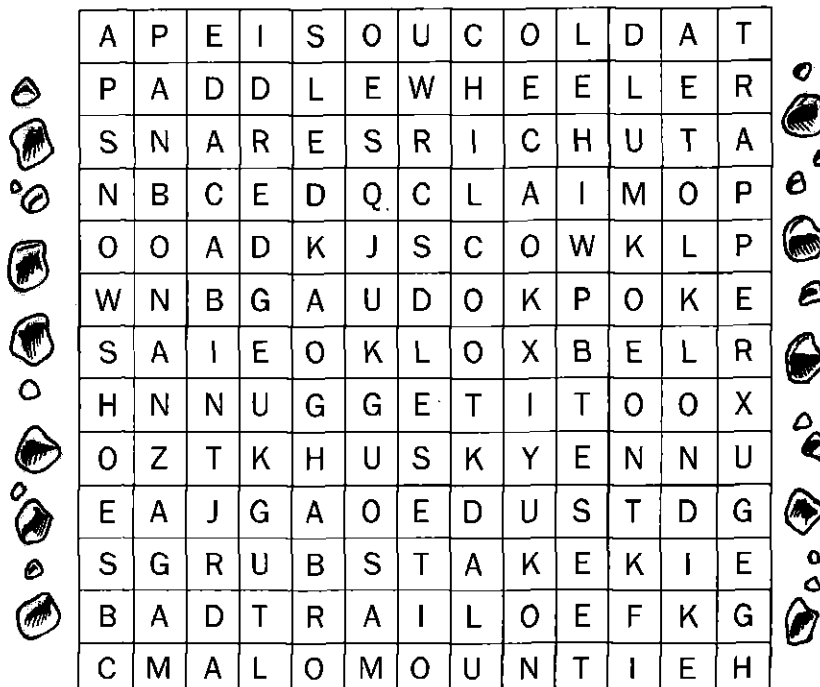
Find the Hidden Word Nuggets

"There's gold in this here word search puzzle!"

Now your Cubs and Scouts just have to find it. You can either tell you kids what words to look for, or let them find as many Klondike-related words as possible. Tie this puzzle into a relay race game for added excitement. Each member has to find a word before completing his or her relay run.

These words are hidden in the puzzle: grubstake, nugget, bonanza, poke, eldorado, klondike, scow, chilkootee, pan, dust, claim, cabin, paddlewheeler, trail, rich, mountie, yukon, trapper, dredge, snowshoes, husky, cold, sled.

Now challenge your group to make the longest sentence possible using only the puzzle words and three extra verbs. They may also use "the", "a", "and" as many times as they wish.



HERITAGE DAY CELEBRATION

by Helene Anne Fortin

Kee your heritage alive. Celebrate Heritage Day on February 16.

This year's festivities will focus on the land and culture of the Yukon. One hundred years ago this beautiful land became a Territory and hosted a flamboyant gold rush involving people from all over.

But what is heritage?

It's anything that you wish to hand down to the next generation. It could be as mysteriously exotic as a ghost story, as simple as an old family photograph, as treasured as a rusted spike from a Klondike railroad track, or as important as language.

Celebrating our heritage strengthens the personal identity of young people. It also builds self-confidence and self-esteem. Here are some activities to try in your Scouting group.

- Create a collage of paintings that tell the story of the Klondike Gold Rush. Your collage might include pictures of paddlewheelers, gold miners climbing the Chilkoot Pass, soaring black ravens, men panning for gold, or a blazing sunset over towering black spruce.
- Read a poem by Yukon poet, Robert Service. "The Cremation of Sam McGee," or "The Shooting of Dan McGrew" are action-packed. Cubs might want to create their own Klondike play and perform it around a campfire.
- Invite an outdoor survival specialist to explore cold weather survival techniques with your group. Temperatures in the Klondike can plummet to -40°C.
- Native people think the Northern Lights are dancing spirits. Investigate

how the Northern Lights are formed. Look for "sun dogs" on cold days, frost patterns on windows, and dew hanging on plants.

In today's world of endless hustle and noise, it's easy to forget the importance of keeping heritage alive. Let's rediscover the importance of traditions on February 16 — Heritage Day.

Get your free copy of the Heritage Day poster and 24-page teacher's guide by writing to The Heritage Canada Foundation, P.O. Box 1358, Stn. B, Ottawa, ON, K1P 5R4. Tel: (613) 237-1066; fax: (613) 237-5987.

— Helene Anne Fortin is the Director of Youth Services at Heritage Canada.

Stay Out of DEBTOR

Money matters!

Here's a 'valuable' program for all Scouting youth. It'll teach them how to save, budget, and spend money wisely. Preparing for the future... that's what Scouting is all about.

Safe in a Piggy Bank

One thousand years ago, people sometimes saved coins in clay pots called "pyggs." Several hundred years later a potter decided to make a bank shaped like a pig. Now you know the origin of piggy banks.

Beavers and Cubs would enjoy making a piggy-shaped bank from toilet tissue tubes, and strips of newspaper covered with glue. Instead of the tubes, they could use an inflated balloon or a small box with a paper cup taped to one end.

Mix up wallpaper paste until it has a watery consistency, then put it in a bowl. Now tear up strips of newspaper, dip them in the glue mixture and cover your tube, balloon or box completely. (See diagram) Add on ears and legs. When the covering dries, cut a hole large enough to put money through, and paint the piggy.

Shiny Treasures

Here's how to combine science with a practical method that will shine up your coin collection. All you need is vinegar and salt. Prepare these chemical solutions in four bowls that are clearly marked:

- vinegar (30 mL),
- salt (5 mL),
- salt (5 mL) and water (30 mL),
- salt (5 mL) and vinegar (30 mL).

Drop a penny into each bowl, and watch what happens after 5, 10 and 15 minutes. One chemical combination in particular will do a great job. After you know which chemical combination cleans the best, discuss what has happened. Now try other metals with your solutions (e.g. bottle caps, pop can tabs). Which solutions work and which

don't? Perhaps a science teacher would come and provide answers. Why aren't coins ever made from iron or steel?

Penny Relay

Have two sets of identical pennies for each relay team. ("Identical" means the same minted year and appearance.) Place one pile of pennies in front of each team and the other piles at the end of the hall.

The first person on each team should quickly pick up a penny and look at the year on it. Then the child runs down to the end of the hall to his team's other pile of pennies and finds the penny with the same year. When she finds it, she places it in a dish and races back to tag the next Beaver.

Make this more complex for Cubs by having them toss bean bags or frisbees through a hoop or bucket before they can pick out the correct penny. If they forget the year, they must return to the start.

Counting Song

Sing this song to the tune of "1-2-3 Little Indians."

One little, two little, three little pennies,
Four little, five little, six little pennies,
Seven little, eight little,
nine little pennies,
Ten little pennies make a dime.

"Is that a Need or a Want?"

Read to your Beavers the book entitled, *The Berenstain Bears Get the Gimmies*, by Jan and Stan Berenstain. Afterwards, explain the meaning of "needs" and "wants", then make up a list for them to divide into "needs" or "wants." For instance, ask colony members if food is a need or want. What about a new sleigh? Winter clothing? A trip to Florida? Water? Give examples how snowshoes might be either a want or a need.

Explain that it's okay to have wants, and help members understand how an allowance saving program might help them get an expensive toy. Give them opportunities to understand how buy-



Photo: Allen Macarney

It's never too early to learn how to draw up a budget.

S PRISON!

by Ruth Dubeau

ing a costly item might mean they don't have enough to buy several less expensive items.

Cub and Scout leaders might want to extend this idea to advertising. Gather several printed advertisements for your group to scrutinize. You might even ask each Cub or Scout to videotape an ad to play at the weekly meeting. Does the ad contain any hidden message? What is the ad trying to make people do? Does it make you feel happy, sad, dissatisfied with what you have? How does it do this? Is it trying to make a "want" appear as a "need"?

Money Board Games

Board games, like *Monopoly*™ and *Stock Ticker*™, can sometimes teach excellent money strategies. (They're also great camp activities when bad weather strikes.) But do they encourage players to buy on margin and make risky investments? Teach your Cubs and Scouts to watch for these hidden messages; award each participant more play money for uncovering an investment trap.

Bargain Basement

Cubs and Scouts will enjoy this active game. Use it to teach about shopping around for the best buy. After playing it, identify some bargain stores in your area, and list ways your group members can make better use of their finances.

For this game you will need four sets of mittens, toques, socks, slippers, vests and coats — each set a different colour. Line your teams up at the end of the playing area with a gigantic pile of clothes at the other end of the hall. On "Go!", the first player of each team races to the pile of clothes and finds a matching set. The first child to get fully dressed in his team's outfit scores a point.

Put the clothes back in a cluttered pile and let the second team member race forward until everyone has had a chance to race. Here's another way to play. Each player must find a different coloured piece of clothing to put on (e.g. a green glove, a red hat, a black scarf).

"This week
I'm going
to be a
shopkeeper.
Next week
I get to buy
things."



Photo: Allen Maramey

Money Quiz

- T__ F__ Banks pay interest for using your money. (Discuss interest, and how it helps increase the amount of money in your bank account.)
- T__ F__ Wise consumers try to get the best value for their money. (Give examples how you can use money wisely by waiting for sales. Ask your group members if they have saved money by some other purchasing strategy.)
- T__ F__ People use charge cards as money. (Explain how and when you can use them, as well as their high interest charges. Show how the interest quickly adds up, and can cause real problems.)
- T__ F__ A loan is money borrowed to make a purchase. (A loan always involves interest and paying back more than you borrowed.)
- T__ F__ People exchange their time and skills for money. (What examples can your group think up? Do any of them have paper routes?)
- T__ F__ Worn out paper money is destroyed by the Bank of Canada. (T)
- T__ F__ Instead of money, pioneers used to exchange things they made. (Sometimes neighbours still do this; a person with a lawnmower might let a neighbour use it in exchange for use of the person's canoe during summer.)

You might let the race continue without stopping between individual runs.

Sharp-Eyed Money Counters

Bank tellers must have sharp eyes, because sometimes coins roll off tables under chairs. Ask your Beavers to leave the room, then hide five pennies on the floor, on chairs, or beside table legs. Now let your Beavers enter the room and try to find the coins. When a Beaver finds all five, she must go to the centre of the pond and sit down without telling others where the coins are hidden.

Adapt this game for Cubs by placing ten pennies on a tray with the dates facing up. Show the pennies to each six for 10 seconds, then cover the tray. Which six can correctly remember the dates? Play this game again, only give each six a minute to plan a team strategy for remembering. (For example, one child might remember the coins on the far left, another on the far right.)

We're Prepared for the Future!

A money theme program will make more responsible consumers, and help Scouting youth prepare for a great future. Your program doesn't have to stop with these activities. Visit a bank and learn about savings accounts and how to write cheques. Design your own money. Stamp it out of metal disks



Photo: Allen Macartney

You can't just pull money out of a hat, like a magician.

(available from hobby shops), or make plaster coins as the ancient Greeks did. A police officer might even come to discuss counterfeit money. Find out how Canada, and other countries, design their bills to make it harder for people to make counterfeit money. Draw up a budget for a future trip, and let your kids decide how to allocate funds, and save for the outing. The

lessons your group learns today may prevent difficulties in the future. ^







Program Links

Cubs: Recycling Badge, Tawny Star, Purple Star, International Trade Badge.

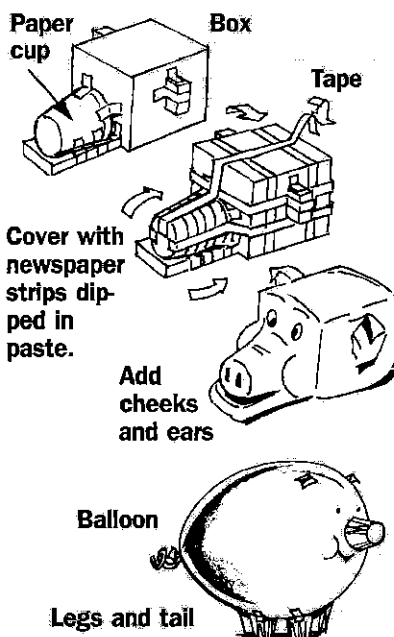
— Ruth Dubeau is a hard-working, penny-pinching Scouter from North Bay, ON.

Match the Coin Heads

Here's a great challenge for Beavers and Cubs. Match up the images on the left to the coins on the right.

	\$1
	25¢
	\$2
	1¢
	10¢
	5¢

Piggy Bank Construction



SAVING WISDOM

How and where do you save your money? This money theme makes an ideal time to raise this question. Do they have some sort of saving program? Do they have a bank account?

Most parents give their children an allowance; it's not meant to pay for home chores (that's expected of everyone in the family), but to teach them how to manage money. Here's a plan suggested by many banks. Suggest to your group members that they could use their weekly allowance in three ways:

- give a little bit away (the child decides where and how much),
- save some,
- spend some.

This method encourages generosity, planning for the future and healthy spending practices.

More Valuable Ideas for Beavers and Cubs

Next month's *Sharing* and *Paksak* columns will feature additional activities that relate to money and saving.



Get Ready for Scout-Guide Week: *February 15-22* by John Rietveld

What do you call it?
Scout Week? Scout-Guide Week? Guide-Scout Week?

Because my Scouter always called this time of year B-P. Week, that's how I've always referred to our special celebration in February. It's the seven-day period that includes both the birthdays of Lord and Lady B-P.

Enthusiasm! That word best describes how I look forward to Scout-Guide Week. While not an avid shopper, I take time during the week to visit malls, view Scouting displays, and feel the bounding excitement of Beavers and Cubs who get to show off their hobbies or race their Kub Kars. I also scan the newspapers (often through the Internet), looking for stories about Scouting. These include everything from church parades, parent and Scout banquets, award presentations, and more.

Scout-Guide Week is a delightful time in our annual calendar. Plenty of great ideas are available to help sections, groups or districts, plan an exciting celebration for your members.

PR Coups "in Waiting"

Are you a section Scouter?

Check with your group committee to find out if it is planning a special dinner or awards banquet. Though you should never postpone awarding a Cub or Scout a well-deserved badge, if the timing is right a Scout-Guide Week banquet is an excellent time to give your members a badge in front of their peers and parents. It might spur them on to greater achievements. Besides, these dinners often attract media. Your local paper might even publish a picture of a Cub receiving a badge. It'll not only thrill a young member, but also tell others about Scouting's terrific programs. You'll score a PR coup!

February can be a slow month for merchants. Most department stores and shopping malls would welcome events that attract a large number of



*How can you
add more
zest
to your
Scout-Guide Week
celebrations?*

people (shoppers). So, book those malls now. The National Office has given regions large banners (72 cm x 117 cm) sporting the Scout-Guide Week logo in bright red. One of these banners will make your mall display more exciting and attract more people. Reserve your banner today.

Get their Attention Now!

February is often a difficult time to draw others to Scouting, but winter offers many opportunities to attract public

attention. For many years the Quebec Provincial Council erected a pioneering project (a gateway or tall flag pole) on their property along the Trans-Canada highway. A tall structure with Scout flags waving is sure to catch the eyes of morning commuters stuck in traffic.

Snow or ice sculptures might be more appropriate for your area. Get your packs and troops competing in a snow sculpture contest. Make the snow art creations on the lawn at city hall. What fun! Ask your mayor and a television weather personality to officiate as judges. Not only will this contest attract the attention of those driving by, but the media will probably cover the event.

Looking for another idea? Why not erect a tent atop a building in your downtown core? Scouts could spend the night there, with local media keeping watch.

Sounds crazy? Hey it might work! Get your Cubs and Scouts involved in a brainstorming session. Ask them for their wacky ideas, then have fun.

We're Different

A religious observance of some sort is always appropriate during Scout-Guide Week; it's part of our principle of duty to God. Attendance at a church or synagogue, temple or mosque during Scout-Guide week reminds the community that Scouting has a spiritual dimension. (Our spiritual dimension is something that sets us aside from other youth programs.) You might organize this event at your sponsor/partner's regular weekly service or at a district-wide event.

Scout-Guide Week (which always includes B-P's birthday on February 22) is a time to celebrate Scouting. Don't miss the opportunity to tell others the great Scouting story. And remember to send your news clippings to the National Office so we too can celebrate with you.

Whatever you call it, Scout-Guide Week offers plenty of chances to tell the public about our superb programs.

"Canoe" Build Your Own Paddle?

It's
easier
than
you
think

by John Joudrey

There's nothing like building canoe paddles to get your Scouts or Venturers thinking about a spring canoe trip. But how do you make a decent paddle that anyone would be proud to dip into a wilderness river? It's not so hard.

Several years ago in mid-winter, our troop (1st Baker Settlement Scouts of Bridgewater, Nova Scotia) decided to make paddles. The decision didn't surprise anyone; after all, we were very interested in canoeing, and had already planned a long canoe trip as the grand finale of our Scouting year. Besides, it was perfect for our interests — a fun activity that all of us could enjoy.

Since then, this project has become a regular winter project. Below are some plans to make various paddle shapes, including a bent shaft racing paddle. After you have made several paddles, change and adapt the plans to suit your own needs.

community interested in supporting your Scouting group?

Materials and Tools

Here's a list of material and tools you'll need. All are readily available.

- kiln dried pine (1 - 1" x 8" x 72" long)
- marine glue (2.5 lb) This is enough to build 12 paddles. It's an odourless, water soluble glue. You can work with it for up to four hours.
- spar varnish (1.5 litres for 12 paddles)
- coarse emery cloth (6 sheets for 12 paddles)
- medium emery cloth (3 sheets for 12 paddles)

Pining for the Best Wood

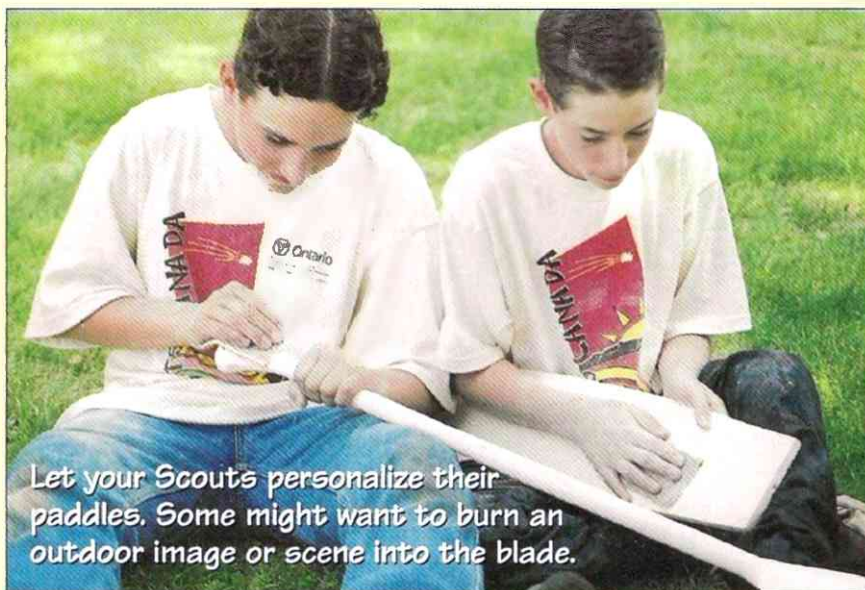
We use pine for our paddles. It's available anywhere, inexpensive, and simple to work with for young hands. Any straight-grained wood works well, but be sure to get "clear" (knot free) lumber. We laminate strips of wood together to make a strong, beautiful, work of art.

Each paddle costs about \$12, but last year a local store (Nauss Bros. Ltd.) gave our troop a 50 percent discount on material — a real help! Why not find out if there's a local lumber store in the

- 220 sandpaper (6 sheets required for 12 paddles).

Tools

- 1 table saw (or radial arm saw)
- Workmates™ (1 per Scout works best)
- planes (1 per Scout is best but again, double up if needed)
- spokeshaves (1 for each pair of Scouts)
- draw knife (1 needed)
- gluing clamps (at least five bar or pipe clamps)



Let your Scouts personalize their paddles. Some might want to burn an outdoor image or scene into the blade.

Photo: Allen Macatney

- 1 round wood rasp file
- 1 flat wood rasp file
- 1 electric finish sander
- 2-3 jig or sabre saws
- 1" or 3/4" wood chisel (1 or 2 for cleaning off glue after it sets)

Optional Tools

- belt sander (this saves a lot of time, and is much better than an orbital sander)
- small hand rotary sander
- band saw
- electric plane
- work table for gluing.

Building the Paddle

Prepare the wood for laminating by cutting it into strips 1 1/4" wide. Remember: you need two pieces 6' long for use as the shaft. Mark each piece showing the direction its grain runs. When assembling the paddle laminates, make sure the grain all points in the same direction; otherwise, you'll have difficulty planing the wood.

Now it's time to determine the length of your paddle shafts. We like

our paddles a bit shorter than usual, so we measure from the floor to the shoulder. Your members might like to make theirs longer. Cut the shaft to this length, and the rest of the wood into pieces 26" long. These shorter pieces will become the paddle's blade. We use six pieces for each youth blade, and eight for an adult blade. (Of course the width depends on your design.) Lots of scrap is generally left over; these extra pieces are perfect to use for hand grips. (See diagram)

Assemble the wood laminates to form a rough-looking paddle. Glue and clamp them together. Spread an even layer of glue on one face of each piece. As you finish applying the glue to each paddle, tighten the clamps. Make sure you clamp the wood with an even pressure across *all* surfaces. (See diagram) Wipe off any extra glue that squeezes out from between the wood laminates.

Allow the glue to dry at least 24 hours before removing the clamps. Remove any dry glue found along the edge of the joints with a sharp knife. (The glue is very hard and will make planing difficult.) Now, draw the paddle

outline you've chosen on the face of the rough paddle. We use an old paddle as a pattern, but you can try tracing a pattern on a piece of cardboard and then transferring this onto the wood. You only need half a pattern, then flip it over to do the other side. Once you've drawn the pattern onto the wood, use a jig saw to cut around the outline mark.

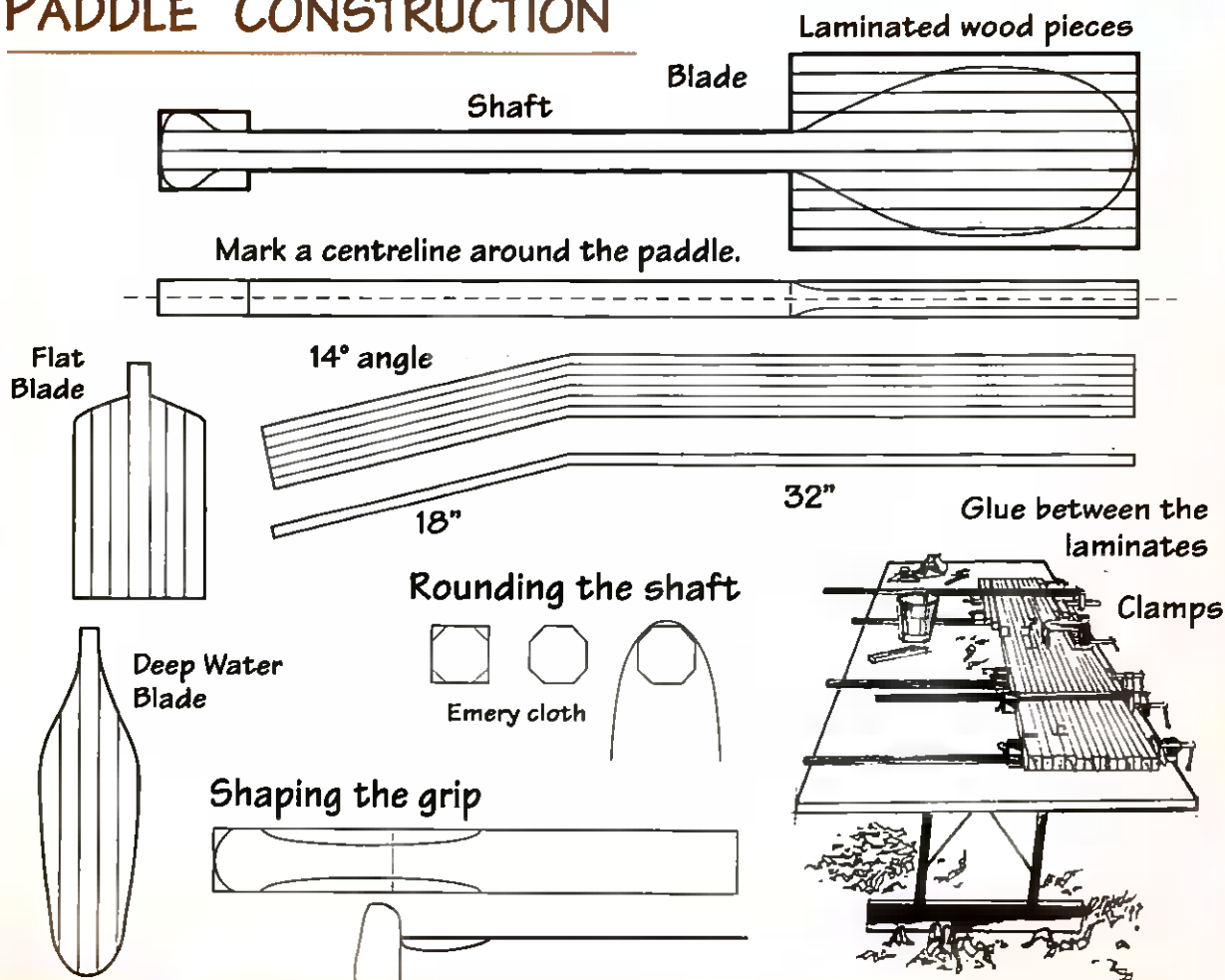
With a pencil, mark a centerline all around the 1 1/4" edge of the paddle. (See diagram) You'll need this to show where the paddle's centre is located throughout the planing process.

Trim and Slick

On the edge of the *blade*, draw two lines on either side of the centreline. This line will taper from the tip of the paddle to the shaft. The lines at the tip should be 1/8" to 3/16" from the centerline, then widen as they get closer to the shaft. (See diagram)

The centre section of a paddle blade tends to be flat close to the tip, then it thickens as it approaches the shaft. (Keep a sample paddle nearby so you can gauge how to form the blade.) Take off small layers of wood from the blade

PADDLE CONSTRUCTION



using a hand plane and spokeshave. Try to make the blade as thin as reasonable without compromising strength; a thick blade makes a heavy paddle.

Once you've shaved down the blade so it's the proper thickness (or thinness!), start work on the shaft and hand grip. First draw lines down the length of the shaft $\frac{3}{8}$ " from the edges. (See diagram) Using the spokeshave, remove the wood down to the level of the lines. The shaft will now have an octagon cross-section shape. Refine this further by removing the edges with a spokeshave to make a polygon with 16 sides. In no time at all you'll have a fairly round shaft. To finish rounding the shaft, use rough emery cloth like a sanding belt.

Get a Grip!

To cut down the grip, follow the same procedure you did to trim the shaft. Draw lines $\frac{3}{8}$ " from the edges. (Our troop uses a draw knife to remove this material because the edge grain is difficult to trim with a spokeshave.) Continue using the draw knife and spokeshave to shape the grip as it meets the handle.

Some of your Scouts might want to make a custom grip. A dremel tool will allow them to even make finger indents.

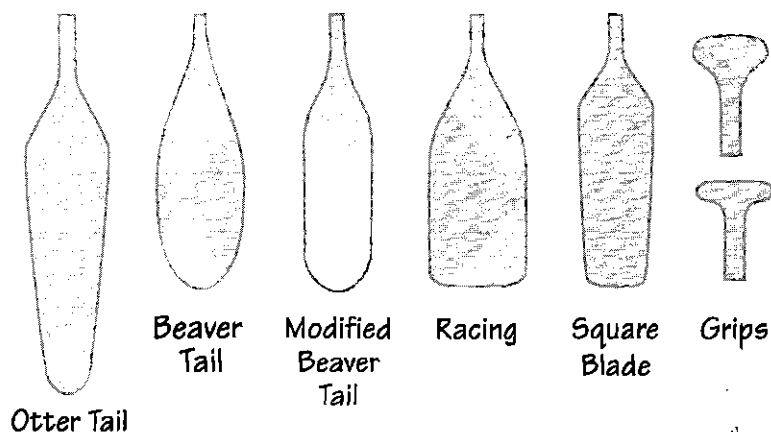
Finishing Touches

Only a few tasks remain until the paddle is finished. You'll have to "blend" the shaft and blade together where they meet; use a spokeshave for this job.

Now all that's left is to sand the paddle. A belt sander will remove all the planing marks and will shape the edges. Then, run your finishing sander over the blade to complete it. Smooth the sur-

TYPES OF PADDLE BLADES

Here are some popular paddle blade styles and grips.



face of the shaft and grip with the fine emery cloth. When finished, sand the entire paddle with 220 grit sand paper.

You're now ready for the varnish. This stuff has a really strong smell, so wait until a warm evening permits you to work outside. Varnishing requires lots of fresh air and ventilation. *Do not* varnish in an enclosed room with poor air circulation.

How many coats of varnish does your paddle need?

At least three. This will require several evenings to apply. Thin the first coat so it acts as a primer, before applying follow-on coats. Lightly re-sand the paddle after each application of varnish.

Bent Shaft Racing Paddles

Here are the main differences between our bent shaft racing paddle and our regular paddle:

- blade pieces are only 18" long,
- shaft pieces are 32" long,
- cut as many pieces of wood for the blade as you want (we use 10 pieces),
- the shaft is cut with the blade end at a 14° angle from the shaft.

For each paddle, cut two shafts (with the 14° angle) from a single, wide piece of wood. (See diagram) Glue these two pieces together, side-by-side with C clamps, then glue up the paddle blade pieces following the same method used in the regular, straight shaft paddle. If the shaft length isn't long enough (or too long) for your members, simply adjust it.

Other methods abound for making bent shaft paddles. You could laminate strips of $\frac{1}{8}$ " pine to form a shaft, then bend the wood at a 14° angle before it dries. Make sure the wood has no knots or imperfections. This technique also requires special tools and a jig. Speak to a carpenter or cabinetmaker before starting this project.

Paddle making isn't just a fun winter activity; it'll also get your Scouts thinking about summer canoe trips. It could help launch a spring program aimed at improving water safety, wilderness skills and first aid. X

Program Links

Scouts: Troop Specialty Badge,
Builder Badge
Venturers: Personal Interest
Activity Award



1st Baker Settlement Scouts with their partly finished paddles.

— John Joudrey paddles around Bridgewater, NS, with his well-equipped, 1st Baker Settlement Scout Troop.

Jamboree on the Trail: JOTT '98

"Leave only footprints; take only garbage."

You're invited to accept the challenge.

Scouting members from across Canada will be taking to the trails on Saturday, April 25, 1998 to celebrate our country. The event is Jamboree on the Trail '98 (JOTT '98).

Scouter Dave Wiebe from St. Catharines, Ontario suggested the hike to a Scouting e-mail chat group. The group quickly endorsed the idea and worked to organize the event.

Everyone can participate; there's no minimum distance to hike. A Beaver colony may wish to explore a small nature trail in a nearby park. A Wolf Cub pack might visit a local conservation area's nature trails as part of a weekend camp. A Scout troop could check out part of the Trans-Canada Trail while working on the Exploring Badge. A Venturer company might plan an ambitious mountain biking trip. Rover crew members could offer their service by restoring an old trail.

Let's all take part in this coast-to-coast unity project. We'll all hike in the same direction — towards a better future.



"Hey! I accepted the JOTT '98 challenge."

The JOTT '98 crest (designed with youth participation) will be available this spring for \$1.50 each. Proceeds (if any) will go to the Scout Brotherhood Fund. Order your crests now, and give them out on hike day.

Send your registration on plain paper by February 27 to:

Ontario/Manitoba/Saskatchewan
David Wiebe, #110-16 Tremont Dr.,
St. Catharines, Ontario, L2T 3A9. (905-684-7955)

BC/Territories/Alberta
Judy Harcus, P.O. Box 110, Lund,
BC, V0N 2G0. (604-483-4642)

Quebec and French Canada
Jean Brunet, 118 rue Ross, Chateauguay, Quebec, J6J 2A9. (514-698-0018)

Atlantic Provinces/Nfld
Dale Kelly, 389 Poplar Drive,
Dartmouth, NS, B2W 4K8. (902-434-3960)

Make cheques payable to: Scouts Canada, 40th St. Catharine's Scout Group. Please include a group contact person and the number of Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers, Rovers, and Scouters who will be participating.

Want More Information?

Find out more about the hike by visiting our web site. Its address is: <http://shell.istar.ca/~slmorla/JOTT/World/>.

See you on the trail! ^

COOL WINTER CHEERS

Here are three cheers that are perfect for winter camps or meetings. They're sure to get the adrenaline flowing in your colony or pack.

Cool Cubs Cheer

Leader: "Are you hot?"

Cubs: "NO!"

Leader: "Are you cold?"

Cubs: "NO!"

Leader: "Are you cool?"

Cubs: "YES! Cool Cubs!"

Firecracker Cheer

A leader starts walking around a circle of Beavers or Cubs. When she begins walking everyone makes this noise: "SSSSHHH..." The sound gets louder and louder until the leader gets back to where she started. Here, the groups jump to their feet and into the air yelling, "BANG!!"

— Hazel Hallgren is a Beaver leader in Red Deer, AB.

MAPS SOLD AT DISCOUNT PRICES

Natural Resources Canada offers a 40 percent discount to Scouts Canada groups when they buy 25 or more, standard, full colour topographical maps at 1:50,000 and 1:250,000 scales.

The discounted price is \$5.37 plus taxes and a \$5.00 shipping and handling charge on each order.

For more information: Canada Map Office, 130 Bentley Road, Ottawa, ON, K1A 0E9, 1-800-465-6277. Web site addresses are: info@geocan.nrcan.gc.ca or www.geocan.nrcan.gc.ca.

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C1A 7L1
E-mail: peiscout@itas.net
<http://www.its.net/peiscout>



Tips for Scouting Out the Internet by Tom Pierce

Have you ever taken your patrol or pack on a worldwide tour of the Internet?

The net has many interesting web sites, and lots of program ideas for theme camps and evenings. It's a great activity when the weather is too cold outside, and your group just wants to stay indoors.

If you have featured an Internet theme program, I'll bet you had difficulties keeping your patrol together. Some members were keenly interested, others weren't. Here are some thoughts to consider before you gather your patrol around a computer screen.

1. Using a monitor is somewhat personal. You have a large number of young people, but just one person is "driving"; the others are in the "back seat" peering over a shoulder trying to see. Because the computer is literally "in your face," it's sometimes difficult to share what's happening simultaneously with everyone. Think about what you have to do to keep those in the back interested. Perhaps they can be the ones giving directions to the driver. That will make them feel as if they're at least partly in control.

If you can arrange to hold your meeting in a computer lab, all your members would be equipped with their own computer.

2. Information on the printed page appeals to the logical (left) side of the brain. Information appearing on a backlit screen appeals to the emotional and creative (right) side of the brain. Taking kids net surfing is, therefore, an emotional trip.

What does this mean?

You have to take your group to interesting and eye-catching web sites (i.e. you have to be prepared and know how to find the really dynamic sites quickly).

There Is Hope!

If you can get your hands on an overhead projector system that ties into a computer, great. Then everyone will be able to see what's on the screen, even those in the back. A training firm or a high tech rental outlet might be willing to provide your troop with one for an evening.

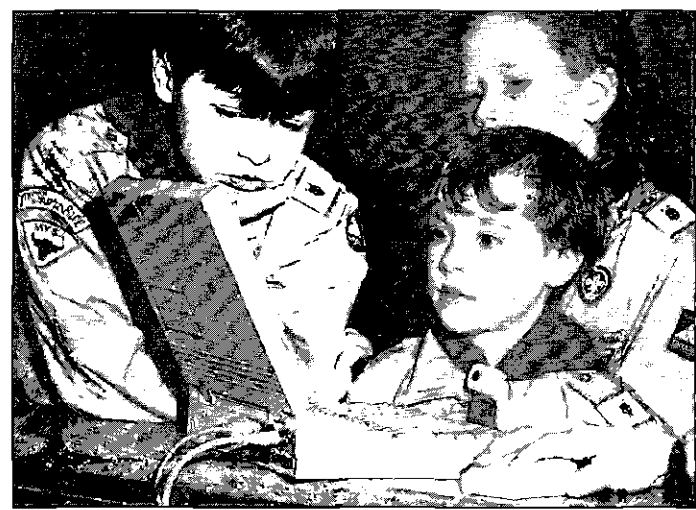
Why not break your web trip into shorter segments, rather than one long journey covering an hour or more? Shorter times will not only maintain everyone's attention at a high level, but it will help people plan for visits to other high-interest sites. It will help build anticipation.

Perhaps your group isn't really interested in the internet. If they aren't, get doing something that they will really enjoy.

Scavenger Hunt

A 21st century scavenger hunt on the internet is another way to focus attention and interest. How do you do it? Simple!

Break into groups of three or four, or challenge a neighborhood Scouting group. (This might also help build links.) You'll need several computers for the scavenger hunt; you may be able



An overhead projection system might make surfing the net more interesting.

Photo above: Jim Purser
Photo: Paul Ritchie

to borrow them or talk a school principal into letting your group meet in a computer room. Here are some ideas to get you started:

- Locate three program ideas for crafts and outdoor games.
- Find the home page of a Scouting group near yours.
- Find a camping resource to use.
- Identify an activity you can participate in as a group.
- How many countries have a Scouting program equivalent to Beavers?
- Find games from at least four different countries.
- Discover five things about the next World Jamboree. (The home page is already up and running.)
- Find home pages in at least four different languages.
- What outdoor equipment outlets can you find in Canada? (Start by looking for Scout Shops.) If this is too easy for your group, make it more difficult by asking for the price of a primus stove, a certain model of tent, and a specific model of backpack.

Program Ideas in Abundance!

Surfing the net isn't just an activity for youth to try. Scouters can make their job much easier by looking for exciting new program ideas. Spend an evening with the leadership team, but keep track of your trip; you'll find some good scavenger hunt items. The net will give you everything from quizzes and true/false questions, to crossword puzzles and games.

To open the door on your adventure, start with the following sites. They're pretty interesting and have excellent links to other sites.

World Scout Movement Home Page

<http://www.scout.org>

(See articles on their newsletter called "Ready", Jamboree on the Internet (JOTI), or the next world jamboree in Chile.)

Scouts Canada Official Site

<http://www.scouts.ca>

(Look for the many unofficial sites as well.)

Ontario Provincial Council Site

(not official)

<http://interlog.com/~asap/scouts/ontario/home.html>

The Global Scoutnet's Canadian Web

Page (it has links around the world)

<http://www.flexnet.com/~eloise/global.htm>

ScoutNet UK: Best in Scouting Online
<http://www.scoutnet.org.uk/home.htm>

The InterNETional Scouting Page
<http://inter.scout.net>

The Scouting Spider (Scout-related search engine)
<http://www.spider.scout.net>

These sites offer an incredible diversity of activities and information. Let your Cubs and Scouts discover them on their own. Here are two more that might be interesting to groups with specific focus.

Scouts: Banadalog Islenskra skáta - Heimasíða (Scouting in Iceland)
<http://www.scout.is>
(Although most of this site is written in Icelandic, it's pretty interesting. Perhaps some youth in Gimli, Manitoba could read it.)

South African Scouting Collection
<http://www.scouting.org.za>

Looking for Resources?

Check these sites for excellent program material.

Interesting Scouting Files

<ftp://ftp.scout.org>

(You'll find many interesting files here that will provide great program ideas.)

Scouter's Resources at MacScouter
<http://www.macscouter.com/>

B.P. Tells a Story of Chivalry

<http://www2.dtc.net/~mpearce/scouts/chivalry.html>

The Scouter's Belay

<http://cac.psu.edu/~jxm181>

Girl Guides of Canada
<http://www.girlguides.ca>

Boy Scouts of America
<http://www.bsa.scouting.org>

Scouting Online
<http://www.scoutorama.com>

Canadian Geographic
<http://www.cangeo.ca>

WetNet: The Wetlands Network
<http://www.wetlands.ca>

Arctic Circle
<http://www.lib.uconn.edu/articircle/>

You'll never wonder where to get a new game, craft or idea again!

Your Scouting group and leadership team can benefit greatly by surfing the net occasionally. Good hunting. ^

— Tom Pierce is a wired trainer in the First Canada Region, ON.

TEAMWORK PAYS

Create a small committee under your group committee made up of volunteers with Internet access. Ask them to monitor activities on the net: one could follow newsgroups, another could search for games, another for trip destinations, and another for section program ideas. Make sure section leaders tell these volunteers what they need and what interests their kids.



Shape Up!

Comfortably ensconced in my armchair the other day, munching sour cream and onion chips and cheese doodles, I browsed lazily through *B.P. & P.* Between sips of cola (not diet), I came upon *Commitment to Principles*.

Here's the gist of what I read: All adult members of Scouts Canada must commit themselves to actively expressing Scouting's basic principles, and to helping achieve our Mission.

What's the Mission? And why must its expression be "active"?

I asked these questions as I poured another cola and opened a box of chocolate-covered raisins. Luckily, I found the answer without having to move from my armchair. *B.P. & P.* supplied it. Scouts Canada's Mission involves helping youth and adults develop their character as resourceful and responsible members of the community by providing opportunities and guid-

ance for their spiritual, social, mental, and physical development.

So far, so good. Sounded like great stuff. But then something occurred to me — I find cheese doodles are often inspirational. It's easy to fake spiritual, social or mental development. Physical development (and the lack thereof) is tough to disguise.

You can cover spiritual development with a Scouts' Own at every camp, an annual church parade, and a prayer at your meeting's opening ceremony. Right?

Social development? Just shake a few hands, smile to everyone you meet, and attend Gilwell Reunions. You've got that covered too.

As for mental development, simply outsmart your Scouts and your commissioner. That's also in the bag. No sweat!

But physical development? Ah, there's a vaulting horse of a different colour.

We reproach Scouters who don't participate adequately in the spiritual aspect of Scouting. We insist that Scouters develop certain levels of mental acuity by attending training courses. But we rarely mention the physical development promised by all Scouters.

Finding Our True Roots

Can you picture Scouters in your neck of the woods staging a public demonstration of their physical prowess? In the early days of the Movement, Scouters held popular gymnastics displays. How come the "back to basics" crowd never calls for a return to similar shaping-up activities?

Perhaps we'd just as soon forget our duty to stay in shape. We prefer using mental skills to fine-tune excuses for avoiding exercise. We demonstrate our spiritual skills by charitably accepting the excuses. And we apply our social skills by laughing off the excuses. Meanwhile, we exhort youth members to work out and develop their bodies. Do as we say, but not as we do?

Like most Scouters, you're probably a God-fearing, law-abiding pillar of your community. Your volunteering to be a Scouter reflects your commitment to citizenship and social responsibility. And running a successful section program requires some brainpower. So, chances are you're in good shape spiritually, socially, and mentally.

the leader[★] BACK ISSUES

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Good fitness makes outdoor activities more fun!



Photo: Paul Ritchie

You Promised!

by Colin Wallace

Roly-Poly Models?

But — be honest now — what kind of physical shape are you in? How's your blood pressure? Your cholesterol levels? Do you smoke? Do you drink too much? What example do you set? When did you last exercise? How's your weight?

Do you put youth members in your section at risk when you take them to camp because you're a candidate for a heart attack? If you collapsed while out in the boonies, who'd look after you?

Do you use steam-off games to wear your kids out and reduce them to your level of inactivity, or do you ensure that your physical prowess is something they aspire to match?

Do you over-compensate cerebrally because you've atrophied anatomically? (If you understand the question, you're probably guilty of cerebral over-compensation!)

Discuss It!

To start you thinking about the topic, talk about the following questions at your next Scouters' Club meeting.

1. An adult volunteers to join Scouting and help out as a leader. Her qualifications are impressive. But, she freely admits that she's an atheist and won't actively encourage youth to believe in God. Would you accept her offer of service? Why?
2. An adult volunteers to join Scouting and help out as a leader. She freely admits that she doesn't believe in regular exercise or healthy diet because we're all going to die some day. "We might as well enjoy ourselves now," she says. Would you accept her offer of service? Why?
3. Why should we discuss physical development in an initial interview with prospective Scouters? Why don't we?
4. Does your district camp have a chapel for spiritual moments? Does it have a nature trail to promote mental

awareness? How about a campfire circle for social gatherings? Does your camp have a Pars-Vitae course (or sim-

ilar challenge course) to encourage physical development? Why not?

Before the discussion, write down all the excuses you think you'll hear in the meeting. Compare your list with the excuses you actually hear. What does the comparison tell you?

**Be honest
now —
what kind
of physical
shape are
you in?**

Program Links

At your next section meeting, ask your sixers or patrol leaders to measure how much time they spend standing, sitting, moving slowly, or moving fast. Resist the temptation to change the program you planned; measure it "as is."

Do you need to make any program changes to increase the activity level?

Part of our problem is that we tend to see each of Scouting's developmental targets as separate items. Maybe it would help if we focussed on the *links* between them so they complement and support each other.

For example, explore the physical-spiritual link. If you accept that the human body is "the temple of God" (Judeo-Christian tradition), is your body more of a basement apartment than a temple?

Examine the physical-social link. Without energy and stamina, you won't be able to participate fully and enjoy the weekly meetings and other activities that are part of your group's program.

Consider the physical-mental link. Perhaps you're too tired to think straight because you don't give your brain enough oxygen. Maybe a work-

out every other day would result in a better program. After all, you'd feel more alert and creative.

Be Resourceful

Verify the truth of the adage, "healthy body, healthy mind." When your Scouts talk of being wise in the use of their resources, remind them that their own bodies are a resource they must use with wisdom. Investigate how they can be proactive in achieving good health.

Discuss what resources are available to Scouters and youth members. You might want to start with the 5BX and 10BX programs used in the Canadian Armed Forces. Work your way through the multitude of exercise videotapes, just to gather ideas.

Signs of the Times

Look around your group. What signs do you see that Scouts Canada endorses physical development? Does your group exemplify Scouting's Mission? If you think of your kids as strong young animals, do they consider you an "Alpha" animal?

Sure, sure, tomorrow you're definitely going to begin thinking seriously about making a small start on the exercise program you need. You don't have to wait until tomorrow. Walk once around the block tonight. It'll take only five minutes. Then, when tomorrow arrives, you'll already have started your program and you'll feel obliged to continue. (A little guilt never hurt anyone!)

Unless you've been hibernating in a cave for a few years, you know that you'll acquire certain health benefits from physical conditioning. If that doesn't motivate you, keep reminding yourself that being in shape is part of your commitment to Scouting's principles.

That will keep you going until May, when your community Walk-a-Thon or Fitness Week program rolls around again. You'll be proud to participate publicly, and you'll be living up to your Scouter's Promise. ^

— When Colin Wallace isn't sitting on a couch eating chips and drinking cola, he's out exercising around Scarborough, Ontario.

Fun at the Pond

by Lena Wong

Happy New Year!
I hope yours will be full of joy.

This wintry month we'll explore art forms used by Aboriginal people in different parts of the world.

Cave paintings and clay figurines were some of the earliest forms of art. Perhaps you can find some pictures of these in a *National Geographic* magazine, or at the library.

Cave Paintings

The oldest cave paintings known were created probably 20,000 years ago in France and Spain. Every continent has examples of cave painting; all feature similar styles and content. Most depict animals, but some also show hunters and even hand prints.

Your colony can make its own cave mural in the ancient style established by these cave dwellers. Start with a long piece of heavy brown packaging paper and thick markers or crayons. Encourage Beavers to draw their pets, farm livestock or any wildlife animals that are familiar to them. Make sure each Beaver gets an opportunity to leave a hand print on the mural.

If your Beavers want to make individual murals, pass out large pieces of brown paper and let the children use their imaginations.

Australian Aboriginal Paintings

Aboriginal inhabitants of Australia have a rich mythological tradition. The Rainbow Serpent is the principal creator in their folklore. Many stories have been told about this

deity. *Kun-Man-Gur* by James Cowan and Bronwyn Bancroft (Barefoot Books: 1994) is a beautifully-illustrated example of one of these stories. Bancroft is an Aboriginal painter whose artwork mimics the prehistoric style of her people. Let your Beavers copy this traditional Australian Aboriginal design by outlining major features with large and small dots, and using plenty of rich colours.

On our own continent, First Nations people and Inuit have similar rich traditions and cultures that have been transmitted through art and stories. Here are several ideas to try out at your colony.

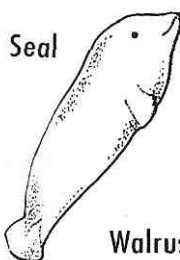
A First Nations Storage Box

Each Beaver needs a box with a lid (perhaps a shoe box, a hat box or something similar). Cover the box and lid with plain construction paper coloured red, blue or yellow. Beavers may decorate their boxes by painting designs using Native images. (Library books will provide many ideas.) The thunderbird is one example of a symbol recognized by practically all Aboriginal people. Other symbols include outlines of flowers, teepees, animals and people.

Inuit Snow Goggles

These were the forerunners of sunglasses, and were used to protect eyes from the harsh glare of the sun reflecting off snow. Original examples were made from bone, but it might be easier to make yours from cardboard. Cut half masks (see diagram) which just cover the eyes. Help your Beavers cut thin eye slits. Then, fasten a piece of elastic to each side of the goggles long enough to go around the head. Decorate the goggles with drawings of whales, fish and seals. Don't forget to let everyone try out their goggles on a sunny day. Use it as an opportunity to talk about winter sun protection and burns.

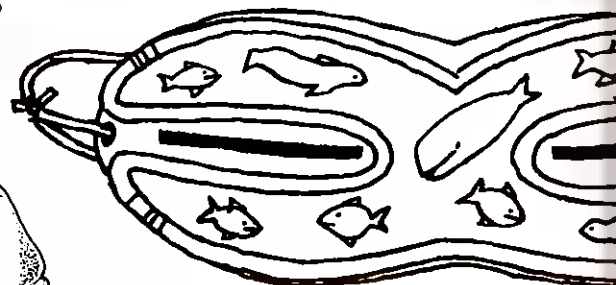
Salt Dough Sculptures



Seal



Walrus



Inuit Snow Goggles

A Viking Necklace

Each Beaver needs a collection of different sized coloured beads, and a thin leather shoelace. String the beads on a shoelace keeping the largest one in the middle and using gradually smaller ones as you work out towards the end. It's not necessary to fill the whole lace with beads. Tie the ends of the lace in a knot so beads won't slip off.

Uncooked Salt Dough

Another ancient art form involves making figurines. You might also make storage and cooking utensils from clay. Here's a homemade salt dough recipe that will be perfect for your project. Craft clay or play dough would also be good. Gather together 500 mL flour (2 cups), 250 mL salt (1 cup), 15 mL cooking oil (1 tablespoon), 250 mL water (1 cup), powdered paint or food colouring, a bowl, and spoons.

Mix the powdered paint with flour and salt. (If you are using food colouring, put it in the water.) Add oil and water; knead well. You can store the dough in plastic bags in the fridge for over a week, but it may tend to crumble. Shapes made from the mixture can be baked in an oven at 180°C (350°F) for 45 minutes to make them hard. It's best to use dough for art objects on the day you make them.

Beavers can also create little figurines of people, animals, pots and vases. Decorate them before they dry using match sticks to draw designs in the dough. After the figures have been baked (or dried) paint and decorate them with symbolic designs.

Outdoors

It may be cold and snowy outdoors, but you and your Beavers still need to get out and have some fun. Organize a Saturday morning winter carnival with skating, skiing and tobogganing. If you make snowmen and sculptures, you'll have to pile up the snow with shovels. Snow statues will last longer if you pour water on them so they develop an ice crust. End the carnival with a hot lunch and storytelling time.

Your Beavers also need some physical activity to keep them busy and happy. Ten years ago we described this exercise in *Fun at the Pond*. It proved a real winner! Stand your Beavers in a circle around a leader. Spread the circle wider by having them lift their arms from their shoulders and stand fingertip to fingertip. In the circle (with arms now lowered), use each letter of the word "Beavers" to start the exercise. Try the routine below, then see if the children can dream up their own exercises for each letter.

- B** — *BEND* at the waist and touch your toes. (5x)
- E** — *ELEVATE* your arms and stretch them to the front. (5x)
- A** — Loosen your *ANKLES* by shaking your feet. (3x each)
- V** — *VIGOROUSLY* run on the spot. (30 seconds)
- E** — *EXERCISE* your neck by rolling your head. (5x)
- R** — *RISE* up on your toes and *REACH* for the sky. (5x)
- S** — *SIT* on the floor and have a rest

After all this exercise, it's the perfect time to tell a story or sing a song. Try this one called "There's a Hole in the Beaver Dam" (*There's a Hole in the Bucket*).

There's a Hole in the Beaver Dam

There's a hole in the dam,
oh Beaver, oh Beaver!
There's a hole in the dam,
oh Beaver, a hole!
Then fix it, oh Beaver, oh Beaver,
Then fix it, oh Beaver, oh Beaver,
please.

With what shall I fix it,
oh Beaver, oh Beaver?
With what shall I fix it,
oh Beaver, with what?
With sticks, oh Beaver, oh Beaver,
With sticks, oh Beaver, oh Beaver,
please.

But the sticks are too long,
oh Beaver, oh Beaver!
But the sticks are too long,
oh Beaver, too long!
Then cut them, oh Beaver, oh Beaver,
Then cut them, oh Beaver, oh Beaver,
please.

With what shall I cut them,
oh Beaver, oh Beaver?
With what shall I cut them,
oh Beaver, with what?
With your teeth, oh Beaver, oh Beaver,
With your teeth, oh Beaver, oh Beaver,
please.

The dam is mended,
oh Beaver, oh Beaver.
The dam is mended,
oh Beaver, oh Beaver, mended.
THANK YOU!

Though January can be dark, the winter offers many great opportunities to enjoy the snowy outdoors. As some people say, "Fill your boots!"



Turn Your Beavers into Scientists

by Ross Francis

There's no such thing as an empty glass!

All glasses, even the ones that appear empty are in fact full — full of air. Prove this to your disbelieving Beavers. All you'll need is a paper towel, a glass (preferably plastic), and a sink full of water.

1. Explain to your group that you're going to put the paper towel in the glass, then both into the full sink without getting the paper towel wet.
2. Push the paper towel into the bottom of the glass. Force it in tightly so when the glass turns upside down the paper won't fall out.
3. Holding the glass straight (but upside down) submerge it into the full sink.

4. Ask your Beavers to count to ten slowly, then remove the glass from the water. The paper towel will be dry.



"But why didn't it get wet Rainbow?" When you hear this question, simply give the answer: water couldn't get into the glass because it was full of air. The air couldn't escape because it was surrounded on all sides by the glass and the water. Therefore, the paper stayed dry. To illustrate this point, repeat the experiment, but this time, tip the glass to one side and allow the air to escape in huge bubbles.

An Uphill Battle

How does water get from a tree's roots to its uppermost branches? To find out you'll need a cup (half full of water), some red or blue food colouring, and a stalk of celery with some leaves on it.

1. Mix the food colouring with the cup of water.
2. Cut the celery stalk about 2 cm from the bottom, exposing a fresh end. Stand the stalk up in the water.
3. Leave the celery standing in the water for one hour or more and you will begin to see the leaves turning the same colour as the food colouring.
4. Once the leaves have completely turned colour, remove the celery from the water and cut the stalk in half. You'll see many different tubes coloured with dye. These tubes allow water to travel up the stalk to the leaves just as it does in trees.

When water molecules are compressed into a small area they tend to follow the lead molecule as it is forced to move into a new space. Thus, water will move upwards.

Why not demonstrate this for those Beavers who are unwilling to take your word? Pour a bit of water on a smooth surface and "pull" the water along with your finger very slowly. Get your Beavers to see how long a water line they can make.

There's Major Construction Happening!

The challenge: Beavers must build a structure of their choice using only tooth picks and miniature marshmallows. If you want to increase the challenge for White Tails, tell them that their structure must be at least 25 cm high and be able to support a paper cup full of water.

Materials required: toothpicks, miniature marshmallows, placemats, and imagination.

Divide your Beavers into work groups (perhaps by tail colour). Place toothpicks and marshmallows in paper cups at each table — enough for everyone. Be sure to allow for some spoilage or 'consumption.'

Before beginning their building projects, your Beavers should wash their hands. (Some are sure to sample the construction materials.)

By sticking toothpicks into marshmallows, Beavers can make square and triangle frames, just like carpenters do when building a house. The frames can be linked together making larger triangles, squares, rectangles and other shapes. With some imagination and lots of creativity, Beavers can make these shapes resemble animals, houses, cars, almost anything.

Be sure to have lots of cardboard boxes on hand for Beavers to bring their fragile projects home. X

Resources

Jumbo Book of Science by Kids Can Press is an excellent resource for Beavers, Cubs or Scouts. It's full of great ideas that will fit into evening programs, camp or weekend events.

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Hit the Trail Prepared

by Ross Francis

Here's a fun way to teach youth what they will need for a weekend overnight campout, how to pack it, and roughly how much they can carry.

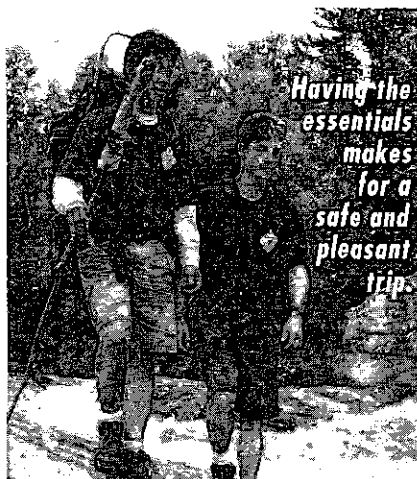
Have a leader or a special guest come to the meeting dressed for the trail, wearing a backpack. It should be filled with everything a Cub or Scout would need for an overnight trip, including food and water. The pack should be completely ready to go.

The Challenge

Invite each youth to come up and try on the pack, walk around with it and guess its weight. Ask your members to write their names and "guesstimates" on a flip chart or blackboard. You might even want to have prizes for those with the best guess — just to add incentive.

Next, appoint one person as a scribe. He or she will list on a flip chart or blackboard the items that the others think should be included in the backpack. When they think that they've written down everything necessary, appoint two other youths to come to the front and unload the pack. Another Cub or Scout will check off the items that they correctly identified, while another could write down items that were missed.

Below is a list of things you may want on a weekend hike. They don't all have to 'live' in the pack. Decide which items may be easier to carry in their pockets for quick access.



Divide and Conquer

Once your group members have completed their list, they should decide which items each person will carry, and which items (e.g. a tent) can be divided up among them.

Each person's complete pack should weigh between 11-13 kg (25-30 lbs). For some youth, especially small Scouts, this will be more than they can carry. Here's a general rule of thumb: hikers should be able to safely carry approximately

25 percent of their own weight. Because each hiker requires approximately the same equipment (which weighs roughly the same for each person), young people over 45 kg (100 lbs) will be able to carry all of their needs. Those weighing less than 45 kg should carry lighter packs. Find ways to make sure these smaller members are included in backpacking trips, and feel that they're contributing a fair share.

Perhaps you will need to find an alternate method for transporting the heavier and bulkier items to your camp. Brainstorm among your members so everyone can contribute ideas. One method might involve dividing the group into smaller segments by tent size or patrol. Now it might be easier for them to determine what their tent or patrol requires (including food), and divide it up among them all.

Leaders should make sure their demonstration is as useful and practical as possible. It might be fun to show off your newest high tech camping wonder, but if no one else in the community has one, the time may be better spent showing how to use the equipment your Scouts will use.

An evening concentrating on getting ready for a backpacking trip can be exhilarating. Enjoy the experience. Happy hiking! \

Possible Items for a Weekend Hike

- backpack (internal or external)
- tent (all of it or just the fly or pole, to illustrate how to split up the gear)
- sleeping bag (in a waterproof stuff sack)
- sleeping pad (not an air mattress; it's too heavy and too cold on frosty nights)
- stove (single burner. Someone else can carry extra fuel)
- pots/pans (split these up among the group)
- frying pan (one per group)
- large plastic spoon (one per group)
- plastic flipper (one per group)
- water bottle (500 mL leakproof and full)
- dish soap/cloth (biodegradable, one per group)
- candle lantern (one per group)
- garbage bag (one per group)
- tent repair kit (one per troop)
- rope/cord (15 metres per group)
- first aid kit (a personal kit for each youth, and a larger one for the troop)
- water treatment system for the troop
- extra wool socks
- extra polypropylene socks
- windproof/waterproof pants
- windproof/waterproof jacket
- shorts
- underwear
- undershirt
- sweat pants
- sweater
- wide brim hat
- bathing suit
- pyjamas
- knife, fork, spoon
- plate, bowl, mug
- toothbrush and paste
- facecloth
- hand towel
- biodegradable hand soap
- comb
- mirror
- toilet paper
- sunscreen
- insect repellant
- sewing kit
- survival kit
- jackknife
- compass
- matches
- whistle
- money
- medical card
- flashlight
- 1 lunch
- 1 supper
- 1 breakfast
- snack food or GORP (good old raisins and peanuts)

A Moot Point that's Quite Significant

by Sandra J. Bell

August 22-30, 1998.

Is this date marked in your appointment book? If it is, you're probably planning to attend our national Rover Moot. Smart decision!

Why?

Moot '98 is the first national Rover gathering of this scale ever held in beautiful Nova Scotia — "Canada's Ocean Playground." Known as the land of lighthouses, Nova Scotia boasts breathtakingly beautiful, white sand beaches, abundant forests, picture-perfect fishing villages, breaching whales, and the world's highest tides. The province is home to two national parks: Kejimikujik National Park is a wilderness area of inland lakes and forests, while Cape Breton Highlands National Park stretches across the northern tip of Nova Scotia from the Gulf of St. Lawrence to the Atlantic Ocean. Peggy's Cove, the most photographed site in North America, is a mere 90 km from Camp Nedooae, the site of our Moot.

Camp Nedooae

This secluded, 105 hectare camp — owned and operated by the Nova Scotia Provincial Council — is situated on Brown's Lake, Elderbank. It offers a private beach, 14 hectares of playing fields, nature trails, and wilderness camping. The inland facility lies approximately 60 km from Halifax and 30 km from Halifax International Airport.

What a Program!

Those looking for excitement will not be disappointed. Our program will take advantage of Nova Scotia's unique maritime geography, history and culture. If you're a water lover, here are some adventurous activities we have planned:

ROVER MOOT



- a Mahone Bay sailing expedition,
- scuba diving to explore ship wrecks,
- Kejimikujik canoe expeditions for the experienced and the novice,
- sea kayaking along the rugged Atlantic coastline.

Rovers seeking a deep-sea fishing adventure will take part in a "cook what you catch" activity. Other marine enthusiasts will be able to join researchers as they view a variety of whale species swimming in the ocean.

A number of hiking expeditions are planned for "landlubbers." One expedition will hike in Blomidon Provincial

Park; this will include beach-combing at the base of towering cliffs. Another expedition will focus on the seacoast of Cape Chignecto, one of the most fossil-rich areas of Nova Scotia. History buffs may enjoy hiking on the Cabot Trail. This trip will include a visit to the Fortress of Louisburg and the Alexander Graham Bell Museum. Others will explore the Bay of Fundy coast, and visit Port Royal in the Annapolis Valley.

An expedition to MacNab's Island will tour forts designated as National Historic Sites. Some forts date back to the 18th century. Cyclists will love a bike trek along the south shore. Their trip will include a visit to Lunenburg, the birthplace of the "Bluenose" and the "Bounty."

Day activities will involve visiting an archaeological dig and spectacular coastal caves, as well as horseback riding, and scuba diving. You'll get to take part in a variety of instructional clinics on campfires, pottery, backwoods cooking, canoeing, line and ballroom dancing.

Register *NOW*. Programs are first-come, first-served. They'll fill up fast.

For more information about Moot '98, see the accompanying sidebar about free registration. The Moot has something for everyone. See you there!

— Sandra J. Bell is on the Moot '98 Promotion Committee.

GET INTO MOOT '98 FREE!

Here's your chance to win free admission to Moot '98!

If you register for Moot '98 before March 1, 1998, we will submit your name for a draw to win *one free registration*. The lucky winner will be credited with the full registration fee of \$375.

To qualify for the draw, your registration form and \$100 deposit must reach the Provincial Scout Office *no later than March 1, 1998*. We will notify the lucky winner by March 15, 1998.

Only "official" registration forms will be accepted for the draw.

To get your official registration form, write to us at:

Rover Moot
Provincial Scout Office
6232 Quinpool Road
Halifax, NS
B3L 1A3

Our phone, fax and e-mail numbers are:

Scout Office: (902) 423-9227
Moot Line: (902) 479-1556
E-mail: moot98@atcon.com

"BUT I'M ALREADY REGISTERED!"

Persons already registered are automatically entered into the draw. Virtually everyone who registers early will also be a "winner" because we're delegating program choices on a first-come, first-served basis.

Register today and you could win the grand prize.

Picture it! You could get into Moot '98 free!

Rovering Word Search Puzzle

Test your knowledge of the Rover program (past and present) while you prepare for Moot '98.

Search through the puzzle to find the correct, hidden words. The definitions will provide hints. Words may appear forward, backward, up, down, or diagonally in the puzzle. All will appear in a straight line.

Definitions

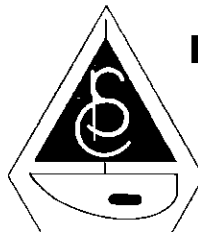
- Province hosting the upcoming National Rover Moot.
- The registered adult leader of a Rover crew.
- Home of Scouting's founder.
- This name is given to a section of Rovers in Canada.
- Place where Rover section members meet, usually used by them alone.
- One of the six activity areas of the Rover program.
- Name of the camp hosting the upcoming National Rover Moot.
- Term used to describe a gathering of Rovers.
- A name formerly given to the setting and achieving of certain personal objectives.
- One of the three Rover program stages.
- Male or female member of the Rover section.
- Year of the upcoming National Rover Moot.
- Inter-denominational gathering of Rovers for worship.
- The form that Rover government takes.
- Person who provides support and guidance to a Rover in the first two stages of the Rover program.
- Name for the Rover secretary.
- Nickname for a Rover advisor.
- A Rover in her/his probationary stage under the old "knighthood theme."
- Month when upcoming Rover Moot will occur.
- Badge that recognizes Rover travel goals and accomplishments.
- Period of self-examination.

S	N	W	T	R	O	S	N	O	P	S	F	A
L	A	U	M	U	C	I	T	C	A	R	P	X
L	N	S	T	V	W	E	R	I	U	Q	S	C
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S	E	R	D	T	R	E	L	3	M	A	R	F
E	L	B	A	T	D	N	U	O	R	N	M	M

- Rover
- Ninety eight
- Rover's Own
- Round table
- Sponsor
- Scribe
- Skinner
- Squire
- August
- Rambler
- Vigil

- Nova Scotia
- Advisor
- Gilwell
- Crew
- Den
- Life skills
- Nedoose
- Moot
- Quest
- Practicum

Correct Answers



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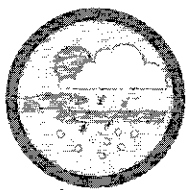
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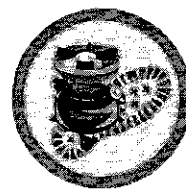
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Introducing Some New Scout Badges

by Ian Mitchell



Young people from across Canada helped finalize designs of these new Scout badges. They fall into the "outdoors" category of our Challenge Badges. Though the actual badges won't be available until September 1998, you can use the ideas anytime.

Weather Badge

Purpose

The purpose of the Weather Badge is to develop an interest in, and skills relating to, weather information.

Requirements

1. Maintain an interest in weather by recording for a one-month period the following weather data at a specific site:
 - a) maximum temperature;
 - b) minimum temperature;
 - c) total 24-hour precipitation;
 - d) mean wind direction and speed;
 - e) barometric pressure and tendency at the same time each day;
 - f) brief description of the weather for the day.
2. Using a current weather map, i.e. from a newspaper:
 - a) identify and label a high pressure area, a low pressure area, a warm front, and a cold front;
 - b) for each of the four points above, point out one station that exhibits "typical" weather;

- c) point out one station where the wind direction clearly shows Buys-Ballots Law, and the speed related to the pressure gradient.
3. What advice would you give to your patrol if the forecast indicated you could expect any two of the following types of weather where you are planning to go:
 - a) lake-effect snow;
 - b) chinook winds;
 - c) blizzard or high wind chill values;
 - d) tornado;
 - e) water spouts;
 - f) dust devils;
 - g) nor'easter winds in Atlantic Canada.
 4. For two outdoor outings of your patrol or troop:
 - a) provide a weather forecast to your patrol/troop for the area of the event. (Use an official forecast from radio, television, newspaper, Internet, etc.);
 - b) advise members what equipment they will need, because of the weather forecast;
 - c) maintain a weather log which includes temperature, precipitation and wind during the outing. Make at least six (6) observations per day;
 - d) discuss with your patrol/troop what affect the weather had on the outing.

Advanced Tripping Badge

Purpose

Demonstrate extended lightweight camping skills by participating in lightweight camping, long distance hiking, or extended tripping.

Requirements

1. Complete twelve (12) nights of camping with at least two (2) three-night camping experiences. These must provide the opportunity to demonstrate advanced lightweight skills.
2. Demonstrate your ability to plan and prepare nutritious, lightweight menus for an extended trip.
3. Demonstrate how to use appropriate lightweight equipment.
4. Demonstrate your ability to pack and carry your equipment.
5. Earn at least two (2) of the following badges: Pioneering, Exploring, Winter Scouting, Water Tripping, or Year Round Camper.
6. Instruct other Scouts or Cubs in lightweight camping skills.
7. Lead a patrol camp.
8. Demonstrate an understanding of environmental camping concerns.

Catch the Wave of Excitement

Next month we'll highlight four more new badges, including: Recycling, Fish and Wildlife, Soil/Water Management, and Forestry. New badges will inspire some Scouts to greater levels of achievement. Help funnel this excitement and energy into new outdoor projects and activities.

Come on. Catch the wave! X

GO WILD ON THE WEEKEND

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Scouters Start Your Engines!

by Ian Mitchell

Now that the Scout/Venturer Review is into its final stage, the time has come to prepare for carrying out the exciting, new programs in September. The Review involved extensive input from the field. We're now starting to include this in resource materials that you, the section Scouters, will need.

Developing New Resources

Any new program requires a complete overhaul of resources, especially if we want it to be easy and fun for leaders to present. By the time you read these words, both the youth and leader handbooks will be in their final drafts. As well, design of new Scout badges will be well underway. We'll also be assessing badge charts, record keeping documents and resources, *The Patrol Leader's Handbook* and *Venturer Executive Workbook*, and more. We're going to make these more useful and relevant for everyone.

We're On Schedule

What does all this mean to you and your Scouts or Venturers? You'll probably have lots of questions. Here are answers to the most common ones.

1. **Q:** Can I start the new program now?

A: Yes. Because the content in both programs has remained *basically* the same, it's easy to start now. We've made adjustments to make it simpler for young people to understand how they can progress through the program, and for adults to grasp how to deliver it. You can recognize youth achievements with specialty badges or activity crests until September.

2. **Q:** How do I convert a Scout or Venturer's program from the old to the new?

A: We're producing a conversion chart which will show as many Scout equivalencies as possible. (For example, the Scout Silver Citizen Achievement Badge equals the Voyageur level Citizen Activity Badge.) Where there are no direct links, leaders should use common sense when recognizing the skills attained by the Scout.

For Venturers, there is no conversion; program requirements have remained basically the same, except for the addition of a spiritual requirement.

3. **Q:** Should our youth — especially Scouts — remove their old badges and put on only new ones?

A: No. Scouts may continue to wear any badge that has been earned. If an equivalent badge exists for one that has already been earned, the Scout may choose to wear it as well.

Venturers will continue to earn the same badges.

4. **Q:** How do the program changes affect the Chief Scout's/Queen's Venturer Awards?

A: A youth who has formally started to work towards either of these awards may continue under the old requirements. Any Scout or Venturer just starting to work toward these awards will follow the new requirements.

5. **Q:** Can a youth carry badges from one section to another?

A: New Scouts may continue transferring any Cub Activity Awards they have earned to the Scout sash. They will be removed from the sash when the Voyageur level Scout badges are earned. The chart below explains this process further.

Scout Badge	Cub Badge
Voyageur level - Outdoor Skills	Remove (any or all) - Canadian Camper Award - Canadian Heritage Trails Award - Canadian Wilderness Award
Voyageur level - Personal Development	Remove (any or all) - Canadian Arts Award - Canadian Healthy Living Award
Voyageur level - Citizenship	Remove - World Citizen Award
Voyageur level - Leadership	Remove - Canadian Family Care Award

6. **Q:** Is it too late for me to give some input?

A: No. It's never too late. Send your comments to:

Scouts Canada
PO Box 5151, Stn. LCD-Merivale
Ottawa, ON
K2C 3G7
e-mail: program@scouts.ca

Thanks!

Did you contribute to this Scout/Venturer Review?

If you did, *thank you very much*. Your continued support will help the programs get launched in the fall. ^

WATCH FOR MORE DETAILS

Stay "tuned" to the **Leader**. We'll share even more developments relating to specific sections. (Scout leaders, see "Introducing Some New Scout Badges" on page 26.) In particular, don't miss the new Scout program insert in the February issue.

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CROSS-COUNTRY PHOTOS

EXCELLENT SCOUTING AMBASSADORS

Four Venturers from the 1st Canadian Embassy Scouting Group in Washington, D.C., (USA), received their Chief Scout and Queen's Venturer Awards last fall. Ambassador Raymond Chretien presented the awards. The proud recipients were Chris Trueman (Chief Scout Award), Stephan Koshman (Queen's Venturer Award), Adam Wahab (Chief Scout Award) and Ethan Greavette (Chief Scout Award). Thanks to Lynnette Koshman.



'Rein In' Those Beavers and Scouts

Last winter, Beavers, Scouts and parents from the Bear's Paw 163rd Group in Cochrane, AB, made reindeer from logs, dowels, glue and ribbons. It was a great cold-weather linking event. The ribbons added a splash of colour, making excellent reins and harness. "We wanted to really mix the age groups so they would help each other and make friends," said Scouter Graham Clark. "Our plan worked. We had a great time!" Photo: Graham Clark



A dramatic re-enactment of a terrible fall down stairs launched a month-long emergency preparedness theme for Cubs of the 1st Bethany Pack in Ontario. (Local first aid experts helping out made sure everyone knew the accident was staged.) After ambulance attendants showed how to prepare a casualty for transport to hospital, the Cubs broke into sixes and practised their own first aid treatment. Over the next weeks, Cubs learned how to check for internal injuries, splint broken bones, and treat burns and frostbite. "I've never seen such a captive audience!" said one Scouter. Photo: Mary Margaret Boone

OUT OF THIS WORLD !

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Cubs and Pocketknives. Should They Mix?

by Ross Francis

Should we encourage Cubs to have and use pocketknives?

Many Cub leaders, parents, and members of the National Program Committee have asked this question. Here's a short answer: yes.

With proper training, as well as the approval of both leaders and parents, pocketknives are still acceptable in the Cub program. Training should emphasize the use, proper care and maintenance of a pocketknife. It should also help all young people to build respect for a knife as a tool.

The Long Answer

If you're looking for a longer answer to the knife question, it remains, yes. Here's why. The Cub program includes a number of requirements which involve them. For example:

- To earn the Green Star or the Trailcraft Badge, Cubs must make a survival/first aid kit. In *The Cub Book* we suggest that this includes a "small pocketknife."
- An optional requirement for the Camping Badge asks Cubs to show how to safely handle a pocketknife or camp saw.
- To earn the Tawny Star, Cubs are required to show how to safely use simple tools, including a pocketknife.

Cubs should be allowed to use pocketknives, but only *after* they have received proper training. Stick to the basics. When you sit down to talk about safety, uses, and proper care of knives, it will probably be their first experience learning about this tool. The time you spend answering their questions, and

them to a special meeting where you explain exactly what you're going to do, and what sort of instruction and supervision their children will receive. You might even want to set some guidelines relating to the size and functions of a pocketknife. (You don't want a Cub showing up with a huge blade.)

If you involve parents early, you'll bypass many misunderstandings. You might even identify several parents who are more skilled at knife sharpening or demonstrations than you.

"I'm Earned My License"

Leaders have developed their own training courses, but one very popular and effective method involves issuing pocketknife permits. A pocketknife permit helps underline the importance of properly using and caring for knives. As well, it emphasizes *responsibility* — a vital message.

Do you have other ways to make your Cubs competent around knives? Tell us about your successes. We'll make sure other leaders coast-to-coast gain from your experiences.

Note: This Cub pocketknife permit idea is not a national policy that all leaders must follow. It is simply an effective method developed by Cub leaders like yourself to help them introduce pocketknives to pack members.

Cub Pocketknife Permit

This is to certify that Cub _____ has passed the (name of pack) pocketknife course. The Cub agrees that the ownership of a knife involves great responsibility. In consideration of the above, he/she is hereby granted the privilege of using a pocketknife within Scouting, while supervised by a leader.

Akela: _____

Parent: _____

On my honour, I promise that I will:—

- read and follow directions in the *Fieldbook for Canadian Scouting* regarding the safe use of a pocketknife;
- demonstrate proper handling, care and use of these tools at all times; and
- carry this permit with me while I am using my pocketknife.

I realize that this permit may be withdrawn by my parents or my leaders if I fail to follow the above rules.

Cub: _____

explaining safety procedures, will help them when they move to Scouts.

Parental Involvement

Be sure you get parental support and approval before any knife training. Invite

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Group Committees Are Vital

by Dick St. John and Scottie Bentley

Group committees play a valuable role in successful Scouting groups. Committee members can "free up" leaders so they are able to focus on the program.

Group committees act as the operating arm of the partner. Their primary responsibilities involve administering group business, and support for leaders.

Structure

The group committee should consist of a representative from:

- a) the sponsor (to keep them involved and informed),
- b) parents (to encourage active participation),
- c) leaders (one per section), and
- d) friends of Scouting (a former leader or community-minded person).

These people take on the roles of chairperson, secretary, treasurer, section representatives and member-at-large. A good motto for group committees would be "Many hands make light work."

Support

- Group committees provide leadership to ensure youth receive excellent Scouting programs. They do this by:
 - arranging for a meeting place,
 - recruiting leaders,
 - coordinating registration, fees and uniforms,
 - monitoring how the programs are going,
 - helping to obtain needed community resources,
 - encouraging leaders, and committee members, to participate in training opportunities,
 - advising when program changes are needed, and
 - providing support, especially in succession planning.
- Group committees help section leaders concentrate on their program by:
 - releasing leaders from as many coordinating activities as possible,
 - providing program resources (e.g. leader handbooks, Cub totem)

- encouraging long-range planning for programs,
- raising funds (e.g. local trips, Canadian jamborees), and
- helping with transportation, camps or special events.

Good programming by caring leaders makes Scouting successful. An exciting program takes a significant time commitment by leaders, particularly for planning and program delivery. An effective and active group committee can take some of the burden off leaders.

- An effective group committee helps with relationships between sections, sponsors, the district council and the community by:
 - promoting links between sections,
 - maintaining a program that encourages growth for all members,
 - communicating with the council, and sharing with other groups within the council,
 - creating a positive presence within the community,
 - preparing and submitting an annual report to the council and the partner, and
 - ensuring volunteer recognition.

Recruitment and Retention

A group must actively recruit youth, leaders and committee members constantly to keep growing. Because leaders and committee members often join (and leave) Scouting with their children, speak to them frequently. In the spring, find out their intentions and long-term commitments so you can plan for September.

Try these techniques to simplify recruitment:

- Run an effective program which is well regarded in the community.
- Draw up an honest outline of the expected duties, commitments and time required for each position.
- Involve all members as active recruiters.
- Make personal contact with candidates.
- Match the talents and skills of volunteers to the roles.

- Ask for a two-year commitment.
- Approach all volunteers annually to ask if they will continue in their current position or a new role.
- Understand the screening process.

Be selective. Parents and civic-minded adults are often the best people suited for a task. Seek out positive role models to work with your young people. The new recruitment and screening process will improve your adult selection criteria.

Retention is as important as recruitment. Some key elements which will keep adults involved, motivated and committed to Scouts Canada include:

- clear expectations,
- participation in training events,
- the "personal touch" (continual communication),
- access to help when required,
- participating in social events,
- recognition for their efforts, and
- personal development.

Finance and Fundraising

A group committee is responsible for coordinating its finances. Section leaders should prepare section budgets, then, these should be merged into a group budget. The *Financial Record Book* sets some standards for those keeping section records or dealing with receipts. Group bank accounts require joint signatures on cheques. Have an annual inventory of group assets and financial statements.

It's easier to raise funds if you have a specific purpose for the funds like a jamboree or a Cub camp. Fundraising must be conducted in accordance with Scouts Canada's finance policy, as well as those of the sponsor. Keep a balance between youth and adult participation. It's very important that the community, the adult members and the youth all understand fully what the fundraising activity is trying to accomplish (i.e. what is the money going to be used for). This applies to annual registration fees, too.

A well run, supportive and effective group committee can make Scouting an integral part of the community, as it should be. It will make Scouting more fun for everyone. ^

— Dick St. John and Scottie Bentley
Scout in PEI.

Experience Alberta

Woodbadge and Family Camp

at Skeleton Lake Camp

An exciting way for section leaders and service scouts to earn their Woodbadge II. An experienced training team will show you how to develop and carry out challenging programs for your youth. For accompanying family members activities packed with fun and adventure will be offered while parents can take part in outdoor cooking, golf, sailing and local tourism hotspots.

The Grand Path

at Skeleton Lake Camp

Follow one of our 4 PATHS to a summer of adventure, fun and learning. With the wind at your back join our professional instructors for a week of sailing. Fully staffed and catered Cub and Scout Camps offer waterfront, outtripping, climbing and badgework programs.

Trail Ride '98

Based out of the beautiful Hummingbird staging area 60 km south of Nordegg, this one week day horse packing trip will offer a great introduction to riding. Evenings and off days will be filled with fishing, swimming, hiking and other recreation opportunities.

Outdoors Together

at Camp Impeesa

Southern Region is proud to offer a 5-day camp in the mountains of Southern Alberta. Outdoors Together will provide opportunities for your family to take part in organized and exciting activities in the great outdoors.

Northern Experience

Northern Alberta Camping Experiences include: Camp Vanier near Cold Lake; Engstrom Lake Camp near Fort McMurray; Camp Sugeema near Grande Prairie; Camp Polaris near Fort Saskatchewan. These camps offer a wide variety of outdoor program



activities including backpacking, canoeing, horse riding, fishing, pioneering and backwoods skills development.

Lighting the Path for Scouts

at Camp Woods

This camp presents a modified jamboree format that offers troops a combination of self directed and staffed activities. Take part in canoeing, rappelling, white water rafting and laser tag among other possibilities. Lighting the Path is a great opportunity to earn badges and make friends in other troops.



Boyle

Edmonton



Red Deer

Nordegg



Calgary



Cub Summer Camp

at Camp Gardener

Calgary Region is offering a series of weeklong and weekend programs for youth and their parents or leaders. Accommodation will be available in either the tent village or in the Longhouse.

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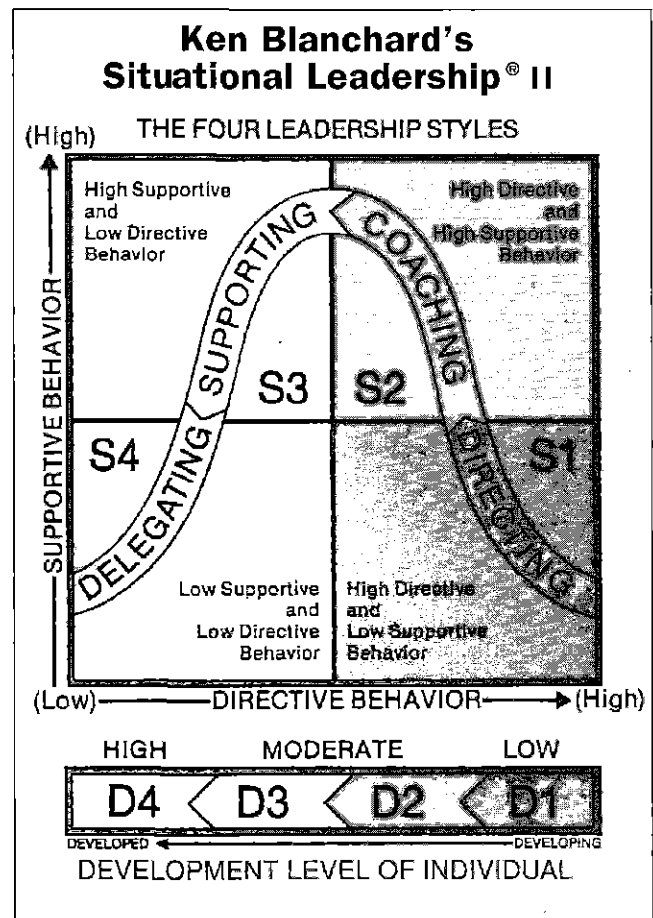
by Rob Stewart

"I think people want to be magnificent," says leadership training guru, Ken Blanchard. "It's the job of the leader to bring out that magnificence in people and to create an environment where they feel safe and supported and ready to do the best job possible in accomplishing key goals."

These words apply to many areas and roles in our Movement. They could affect our national commissioner and youth members alike.

For many years, Scouting has based its leadership training on the Situational Leadership® model. This model defines the style of leadership we promote at all levels. Many training courses — particularly Venturer and Rover Woodbadge, and group skills sessions — have sought to impart an understanding of the model to participants.

Ken Blanchard and Paul Hersey originally developed Situational Leadership® thirty years ago. Since then, thousands of people have used the model to formulate a leadership style. As a result of observation and feedback, Blanchard has revised and re-named the model, "Situational Leadership® II."



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Changes Great and Small

Let's explore the changes in the new model; I'll provide a brief overview. Call 1-800-567-3800, or contact Prentice-Hall Canada Inc., if you want more detailed information.

The changes within the model focus on four leadership styles and four development levels. Leadership styles in the old model were labelled, Telling (S1), Selling (S2), Participating (S3), and Delegating (S4). The new model calls these names, Directing (S1), Coaching (S2), Supporting (S3), and Delegating (S4).

The previous model categorized the "follower" (not leader) in various levels of readiness to perform a task. Situational Leadership® II uses the term "development level of the individual." Development level means a combination of two factors: (1) competence, and (2) commitment.

"Competence" refers to goal- or task-specific knowledge and skills. "Commitment" refers to a combination of motivation and confidence. The basic theory of the model has not changed; the leader still needs to define the follower's development level to understand the best leadership style to apply.

"The potential to guide others to their fullest potential is an honour, and one that should not be taken lightly," says Blanchard. "As leaders, we hold the lives of others in our hands. Our hands need to be gentle and caring and always available for support."

Competitive Intelligence

by Ben Kruser

In today's fast-paced corporate world, keeping one step ahead of your competitor requires ongoing information-gathering, and the ability to anticipate changes in the retail environment. Scouting is really no different.

We need to know what programs attract today's youth, how much they are willing and able to pay, and how we can offer a competitive, high quality service. Parents know what their kids enjoy most; their feedback can help us build a very attractive youth program. By finding out what other competing activities offer, we'll understand how to strengthen our Scouting programs. This might involve adjusting some program elements to meet youthful needs.

Scout Shops must also be competitive with other retail operations. Does this concept seem new or even offensive? It shouldn't.

Scout Shops reduce the cost of your local programs.

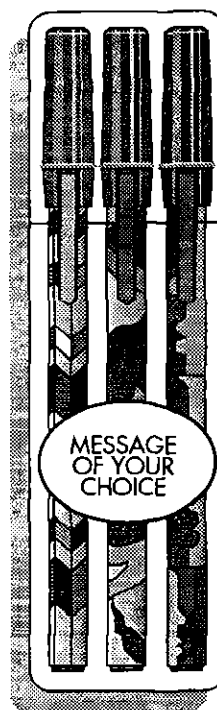
Here's the stark reality: As corporate donations dry up, and United Way funds are slowly cut, Scout Shops need to become efficient profit centres to support council operations. Your Scout Shop helps pay expenses for training, communications and camps. The profits keep local membership fees down, improve council finances, lead to higher quality program support, and indirectly improve member recruitment and retention.

To support local Scout Shops better, National Retail Services has started to limit its involvement in handicrafts, books, awards and family camping products. This market sharing arrangement allows Shops greater latitude to directly source and sell products. Not only does this increase revenue for the council, but it also provides competitive priced products to consumers.

Keep Your Eyes Open

Members have a vested interest in the financial stability of their council. Keep your eyes and ears open. If you see a product that would be useful in the program, tell your Scout Shop manager. Pass on the product name, manufacturer, and retail price — vital bits of information. If you constantly feed your Shop product ideas and suggestions, the staff can serve local needs much better. They'll provide a very attractive and cost-effective alternative to other for-profit retailers.

Remember: Scout Shops exist to help you obtain program-related products. By supporting the Shop in your community, you can both save money and keep the costs of local Scouting programs down. That makes great sense! X



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International Scouting Events in 1998

by Lena Wong

Are you planning a visit abroad with your Scouts or Venturers next year? Here are a few ideas to help your planning. You can get more information by contacting us at the National Office at (613)224-5131, or e-mail: lwong@scouts.ca.

Japan: The 12th Nippon Jamboree

This jamboree takes place in the foothills of Mt. Moriyoshi from August 3-7. It's open to youth aged 12-18. With a theme of "Dream and Excitement", the jamboree offers mountaineering, orienteering, friendship exchange programs, and traditional Scouting activities. The camp fee is 25,000 Japanese Yen; home hospitality is available.

Finland: Satahanka IX Sea Scout Camp

If you're looking for excitement, you'll find it at this Finnish camp from August 1-8. It's open to Scouts and Guides 12 years and older who have good swimming skills. Activities include sailing various types of boats, seamanship, archaeology, history, and visits to local areas of interest around Bomarsund Ahvenanmaa. Camp fee is 800 FMK.

United Kingdom: Sherwood '98

Sports, games, handicrafts, cultural activities, amateur radio, and sightseeing. These are just a few of the activities

planned for this camp at Walesby Forest Scout Centre, Nottinghamshire, from August 1-8. The participant fee (excluding food) is £65 for youth, and £50 for adult.

United Kingdom: Friendship '98

If you think you might be in the mood for canoeing, horseback riding, sailing, archery, badminton, go-carting, climbing, and para-gliding, make plans to attend Friendship '98. Be at Ripley Castle in North Yorkshire from July 25-August 1 for an incredible time. The participant fee is £60. Food is extra.

United Kingdom: Kent Scouts International Jamboree

From July 20 - August 7, the Kent Scouts International Jamboree will be held at Kent County Showgrounds in Maidstone, Kent. The event offers fun activities, adventure, friendship, challenges, and lots more. The £54 participant fee does *not* include food.

United States: High Sierra International Rendezvous '98

Co-ed youth aged 14-20 are invited to attend this international event hosted by Santa Clara County Council in San Jose, California. It runs from July 25 - August 1. Camp programs include mountain biking, rock climbing, rappelling, motor boating, swimming, snorkelling, sailing, canoeing, hiking,

archery, obstacle courses, and many other activities. The camp fee is approximately US\$300; this includes food, lodging, camp activities, home hospitality and ground transportation to and from either San Jose International Airport or San Francisco International Airport.

New Zealand:

15th New Zealand Jamboree

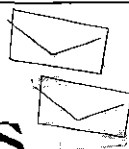
You've got a year to plan for this incredible jamboree. From December 28, 1998 to January 8, 1999, about 10,000 older Cubs, Scouts and young Venturers will gather at Greytown, Wairarapa (80 km north of Wellington) for the 15th New Zealand Jamboree. The event will offer a full range of Scouting activities, as well as home hospitality. Participant fee is \$500 NZD (including food).

19WJ in Chile

Picture it! You could be romping on Chile's Pacific beaches during Christmas 1998 if you sign up for the World Jamboree. It's not too late. Call us for details *now*!

If you're planning travel in Europe or Asia with youth members, contact us for information about Scouting campsites. We may be able to point you towards comfortable facilities that are convenient for foreign visitors. X

Pen Friends



Australia

My name is Lee Watkins. I'm a leader at Stanhope Cub Pack in Victoria, Australia. Our pack would like to contact other Cubs or Scouts through the Internet. Our address is: jeffshir@mcmmedia.net.au

Britain

Scouters Roy and Joan Walker will find British pen pals for all individuals or groups seeking an overseas friend. Contact them at: "Waybrook", Ewing Close, Reepham, Norfolk, NR10 4JQ, phone: 0603-870352. Please send your complete address to Roy and Joan Walker.

Poland

The Polish Scouting and Guiding Association has a post box (pen pal) secretary who will find an English speaking friend for you. Direct enquiries to: Mirela Heinn, International Department, The Polish Scouting and Guiding Association, Konopnickiej 6, 00-491, Warsaw, Poland.

The following Polish Scouts would like to learn more about our country:

Mateusz Partyka (12 years old), ul. Wilowa 38, 59-700 Bolesławiec, Poland.

Grzegorz Kacprzyk (17 years old), ul. Bolesława Chrobrego 18c/3, 73-110 Stargard Szczeciński, Poland.

Emil Bojarski (18 years old), Os. Cukrowni 5/57, 22-3-2 Siennica Nadolna, Poland.

Partyk Majewski (18 years old), Os. Wł. Lokietka 3c/1, 62-200 Gniezno, Poland.

Piotr Stacewicz (19 years old), ul. Perseusza 96/5, 67-200 Glogow, Poland.

Please Note

The Leader provides the Pen Friends column as a forum to exchange addresses between pen pals. The Leader does not conduct any investigation prior to listing these names and assumes no responsibilities with respect to contacts made.

SCOUTER'S 5

☐ I love to stand on a summer hill
As the day gives way to night,
While the valley dons its robes of mist
In the glow of the evening light.
I watch the gold as it slowly fades,
From the treetops of the town
And marks the homing flight of birds
As they slowly settle down.

☐ I feel the warmth of the sunbaked hill
And it lifts my spirits high,
For I join the ever-changing clouds
On the canvas of the sky.
Then I look down through the twilight haze
Through the soft and balmy air,
Feeling the surge of the village life
And know my roots are there.

I hear the call of the vesper chimes
From the chapel in the trees,
As they sound the close of an August day
And leave the heart at peace.
I love to stand on a summer hill
At the setting of the sun,
And let the night envelop me
For the world and I are one.
— *Scouter Les Fisher, Cambridge, ON.*

Working Together

☐ Kind hearts, kind words, kind deeds,
Come easy with our friends.
Can we with strangers do the same
And happy hours spend?
The fire is lit, the gloom is chased,
And friendship now takes its place.
— *Mike McLaren, Prince George, BC.*

Scouter's 5 Minutes

Jan. '98

SONGS

☐ Singing. It's a vital part of all Scouting programs. Here are some songs relating to the Cub program that older Beavers too could learn as part of a linking activity. Your Scouts might even enjoy singing these songs. Break your Beavers and Cubs into small groups and see which can think up the funniest actions.

The Jungle Story

(Tune: Clementine)

☐ In the jungle, mighty jungle
Left so tired and alone,
Was a man cub, whose name was Mowgli
With no home to call his own.

Was adopted by mother Raksha
Raised with wolves in the pack,
And he grew up in the jungle,
And there was no looking back.

☐ He made friends there, in the jungle,
And to name just a few,
There was Akela, Bagheera and Kaa,
Rikki, Hathi and Baloo.

☐ Now he had just a couple enemies
And I'll tell you their names,
There was the Banderlog, the wild monkeys
And Shere Khan, of tiger fame.

☐ Now you've heard some of the story
Of the jungle boy, it's true,
But then along came Lord Baden-Powell,
And made Wolf Cubs of me and you.

— *Composed by Janice Muise, 2nd Meaford Cub Pack, Ontario.*

Songs

Jan. '98

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the **leader***

(Tune: The Lumberjack Song)

I plant Scoutrees, I'm proud to be
Invested in the pack.
On Wednesday's at our meetings
There's lessons, games and crafts.

I play games, I yell and shout
I never see signs up.
Stop and look and listen
Nah! They yell at me "Hush up!"

At summer camp we set up tents
It's great there out of doors.
Remember woodland trails, though
Our leaders slept on floors.

Baloo, he snored just like a bear
Akela's poor old back,
Hathi's voice was long gone
Don't worry, it'll come back.

I'm a Wolf Cub and I'm okay,
I do a good turn every day.

I help my friends, I try to please
My teachers, Ma and Pa.
I want to be a leader
Just like old Akela.

— Composed by Sue Pike, 4th West Scarborough
Pack, Ontario.

Songs

When is enough, enough? Now that the holiday season is over and most people have experienced another time of plenty, discuss this question with those in your group. Here's a quote to spark some thoughts.

There is not enough in the world for everyone's greed. If everyone cared enough, and everyone shared enough, wouldn't everyone have enough?
— *Frank N.D. Buckman*

Blessed are they who advise, not dictate.

Blessed are they who encourage their
Venturers to think big, but realistically.

Blessed are they who guide the thinking
and don't direct the activities.

Blessed are they who seek out specialist advisers and don't try to be an expert on skills they know little or nothing about.

Blessed are they who think about what they should *not* do, as well as what they should do.

Blessed are they who, in addition to what is being said, listen to what is *nearly* said.

Blessed are they who are not afraid to point out any contradiction between what is being proposed and the principles of Scouting.

Blessed are they who remain patient and understanding.

Blessed are they who have faith in their Venturers.

— from Colin McKay, *A Canny Crack*, extracts from the popular Scouting Magazine series.

Scouter's 5 Minutes



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Scouts Canada Trust

Do You Qualify for Scouting's Youth Scholarship Program?

Post-secondary education can prove financially stretching for young people. To honour some of our highly deserving youth members, and to lessen the stretch, the Scouts Canada Trust continues to provide annual scholarships. These are aimed at supporting members either entering, or continuing studies at, a Canadian university or college.

This year, the Scouts Canada Trust will award up to ten (10) undergraduate scholarships, each amounting to \$1,000. Our scholarship program has two purposes:

- to enhance Scouts Canada's Mission by recognizing the scholastic achievements of our young members, and
- to encourage continued self-development of our youth through post-secondary education.

Who Can Apply?

Applicants will be selected based on the following criteria:

- a Scouting history of achievement and involvement,
- leadership contributions to Scouting,
- good attitude and aptitude,
- good scholastic achievements, and
- community leadership and contributions outside Scouting.

In addition, applicants must not have reached their 25th birthday on January 1, 1998, and must provide two confidential letters of reference — only one from within Scouting.

Four Conditions

1. A scholarship will be awarded *only after* the Scouts Canada Trust has received notice that the applicant has been accepted by the post-secondary institution.

2. Recipients are expected to continue their Scouting involvement to every extent possible. They must be *an active and registered member* of Scouts Canada.

3. Recipients must agree to have their names and photographs published in conjunction with the award, and with any promotion of the awards.

4. All applicants must give permission for their statement describing the value of Scouting in their life to be used and published by, and at the discretion of, Scouts Canada.

The Trust prefers to receive original applications, rather than faxed ones.

Apply Now!

If you want more information or an application form, just contact your

local Scout office, or write to the mailing address listed below:

Scouts Canada Trust
Box 5151
Stn. LCD-Merivale
Ottawa, ON
K2C 3G7

You can also get an application form from the Scouts Canada web site: www.scouts.ca. The deadline for submitting applications is April 1, 1998, so don't delay. Get yours in today. ^

Last Year's Five Award Recipients

Five youth members were granted scholarships last year. They were: Amanda McGuire (St. Stephen, NB), Patrick Lam (Montreal, QC), Robert Pollock (Saskatoon, SK), Steven Kent (Mount Pearl, NF) and John Temesi (Hamilton, ON).

It's time for you to take your place in the Scouts Canada Trust scholarship ranks. Send in your application.



Scouting's 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.

Énoncé de Mission du scoutisme

Collaborer au développement des jeunes afin de leur permettre d'atteindre leur plein potentiel physique, intellectuel, social et spirituel en tant qu'individus, citoyens et citoyennes responsables et membres de la communauté sur les plans local, national et international par l'application de nos Principes et Pratiques.



Does Our Work Really Matter?

I enjoy being a Scouter.

However, there are times when I wonder if what I'm doing really *does* make a difference. Recently, when my son (Jeffrey) presented a school speech, I got an incredibly fulfilling answer. In front of his friends, he extolled the virtues of Scouting for five minutes. The speech ended with an invitation to the class to discover Scouting for themselves.

Sometimes we tend to get caught up in the political, financial, and policy stuff. It's important to stand back occasionally and watch the kids. They're having FUN! That's what it's all about. Following is just a brief excerpt from Jeffrey's speech.

Scouting is one of my favourite pastimes. Some people think Scouting is all just a waste of time. That's not true at all, unless you consider canoeing, rock-climbing, camping, archery and learning lifesaving skills a waste of time!

I've been in Scouting for six years. I've met interesting people, visited exciting places and learned a lot about life by earning badges. To earn each badge you must meet certain requirements, some of which are taught by our leaders.

Camping is one of my favourite activities in Scouting. For those of you who go camping in nice, fancy trailers, I can assure you Scouting offers a much different approach to the outdoors. We cook our meals over open fires, canoe for hours, hike and, believe it or not, sleep out in snow shelters when the temperature is -20°C.

In closing, you're missing an incredible experience if you're not in Scouts.

— Judy Peasley, Kanata, ON.

Why We Lose Youth

The drop-out rate among youth is nothing short of startling.

But why do young people leave Scouting? It's because of too little challenge in the program.



Your generosity makes our life better.

Thanks from Scouts in the Czech Republic

I'm a Scout leader in The Kociánka Home in Brno, Czech Republic. We have 25 handicapped boy and girl Scouts in the Home.

Canadian Scouters have been helping us for almost seven years. Particularly, Scouter Milan Gregor (Ottawa) and Scouter Kate Daniel (Elora, ON) have showered us with help. **The Leader Magazine** (which you've been sending to us for several years) has also proved very helpful. It's full of ideas, joy and thoughts that we've applied to our programs.

All of us here just want to say thanks. Your support has made the uneasy life of our Scouts much better.

— Ing. Jan Svábensky, Brno, Czech Republic.

Though most Beavers could swim up to Cubs at 7 1/2 years old, many leaders hold on to them until the end of the year. Because some children have birthdays in the late fall or winter, many will be 9 years old (and bored) when they leave the colony. The same applies to Cubs. Children 10 1/2 years old have outgrown most Cub activities. They're ready for Scouts. (Of course only the leaders can judge which kids are mature enough to move on.)

I founded the 173rd Archwood Scout Group in Winnipeg, Manitoba, in 1970. We started having 2-3 going up ceremonies each year, and we have a very low drop-out rate.

We look at each child individually and decide when the child is ready to experience more challenge. If it happens in the middle of the year, that's okay. It does not create disruption in the programs any more than getting one or more new first-time Cubs or Scouts would cause problems.

As a member of the Manitoba Training Team for years, I've asked many young people why they quit Scouting. It's often because they're bored. Here are the main reasons:

- Program lacks challenge.
- Not moving to next section early enough.
- Leaders change too frequently.
- No linking events between sections.
- Not enough outdoor experiences.

We need greater flexibility in our programs. Perhaps we also need special program activities aimed at older Beavers and Cubs — things that will kindle interest and challenge, and get them thinking about moving to the next section.

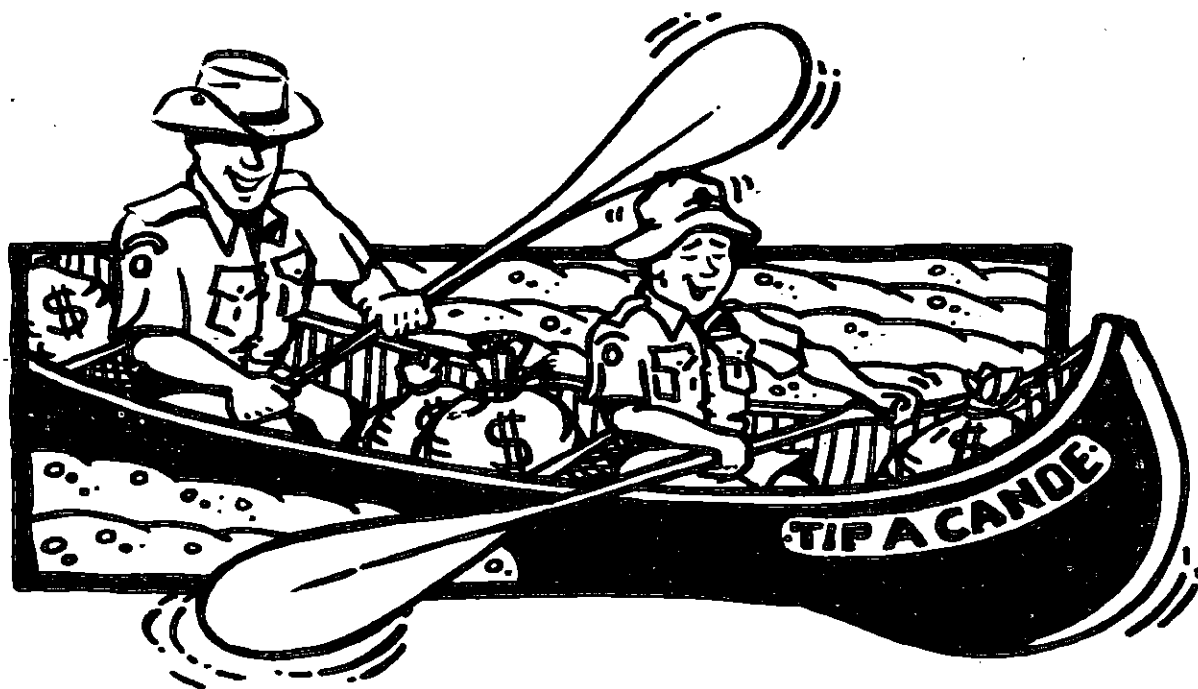
— Ali Eason, Elliot Lake, Ontario.

Correction to "Scouter Can We Talk?"

In my article entitled, "Scouter Can We Talk?" (November issue) my byline said I am a child psychologist. This is wrong.

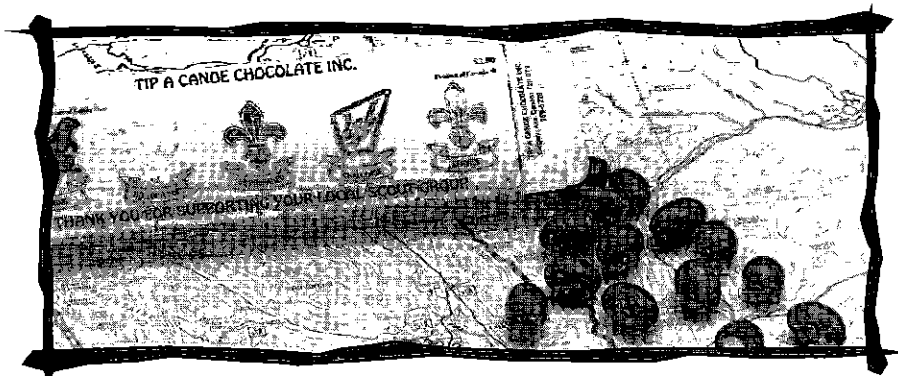
I haven't quite earned this designation yet. Though I have completed my internship, I still have a dissertation, a year of post-doctoral supervision, and several professional exams ahead before the "child psychologist" citation will be accurate. Until then, it would be more accurate to describe me as an aspiring child psychologist. ^

— Michael Lee Zwiers, Toronto, ON.



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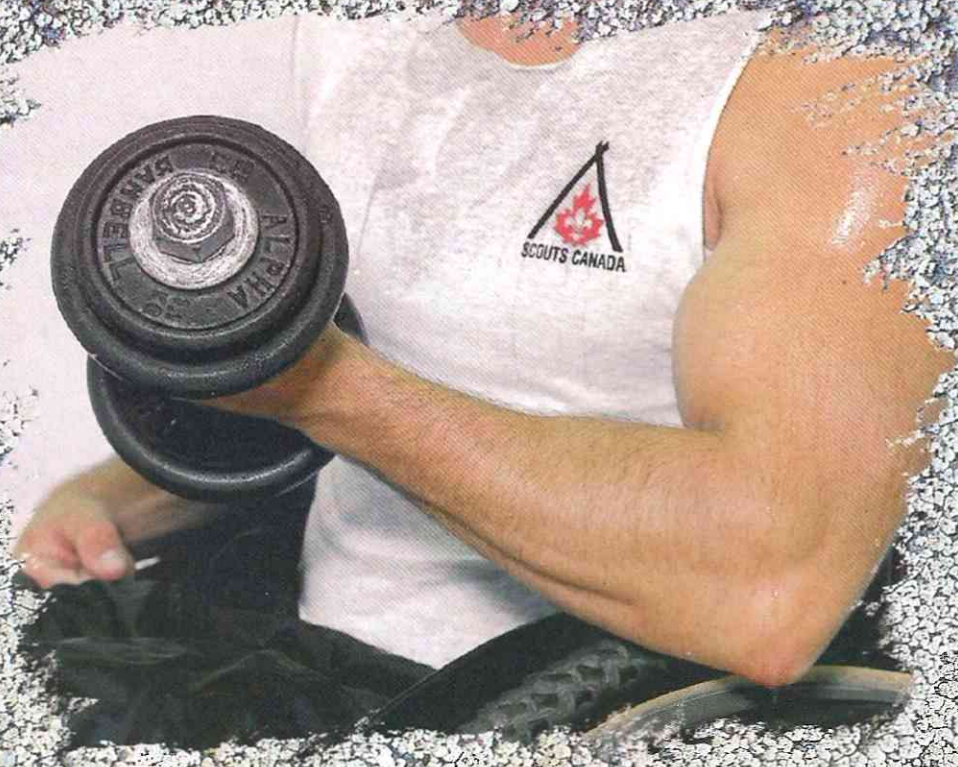
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