

the leader

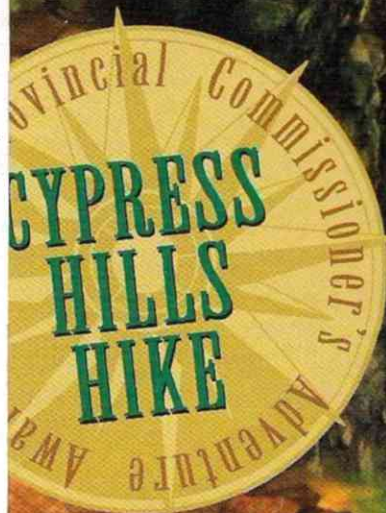
AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 1999

VOLUME 30 NO. 1

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straight into

fall!



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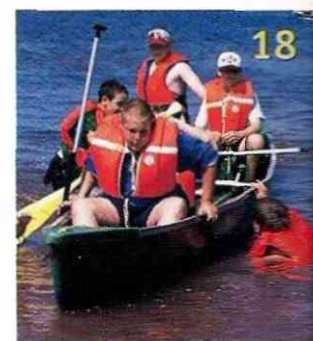
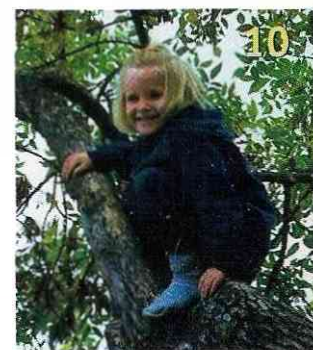
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Alberta Provincial Commissioner's Adventure Award



Ready to hit the Trail!

Sitting on a grassy hill overlooking our campsite, we surveyed the green tents far below. The sky, dotted with the first stars of evening, stretched to the western horizon as we prepared for a well-earned rest. Coyotes yipped on a nearby hill. Here we were, 15 Scouts, five leaders and two Venturers from the Queensland 172nd Scouting Group, at the start of an amazing adventure that none of us would ever forget — a 104-kilometre backpacking trip through Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park in southern Alberta and Saskatchewan.



Make Mine Light

Though experienced campers, before this trip we had not done much lightweight camping. Our Cypress Hills hike required making many "comfort" sacrifices; after all, it's hard to pack a three-burner stove for a 10-day trip over rough territory. But, in the months leading up to the adventure we learned everything necessary by letting each patrol master one skill area, then teach it to the others. After a weekend test hike, we knew the troop could handle the challenge.

Which Way Is the Trail?

Would you believe it? Some of our Scouts got lost on the first day as they hiked in their patrol group. After a

Hiking Through

by James McLean



Map showing location of Cypress Hills Park.

The Cypress Hills rise like a tree-covered jewel out of the cultivated agricultural landscape. It's one of the most unique and beautiful areas in Western Canada. An artifact of the last Ice Age, the hilltops and alpine valleys remained untouched by glaciers that scoured most of Canada. Cypress Hills Park stands like an island oasis in the great prairie, supporting an amazing diversity of plant and animal life.

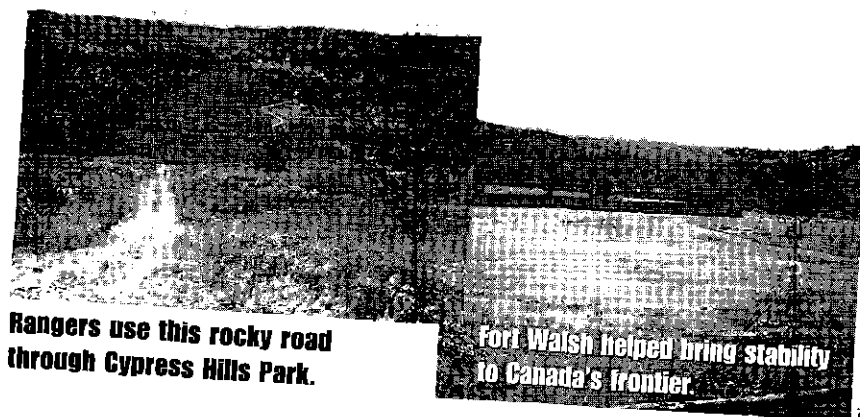
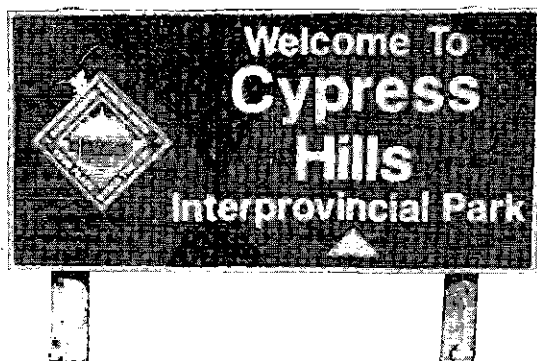
The Hills echo with history: 19th century whiskey and fur trading posts, Northwest Mounted Police forts, and long-abandoned tipi rings. The park forms the highest point of land in Canada east of the Canadian Rockies.

brief search, the errant patrol joined us as we climbed high into the hills.

Later that day, as some of us looked down upon our camp under twinkling stars, how were we to know that a real disaster would strike in less than 18 hours? It seemed as if nothing could disturb the peace that bubbled in our souls.

"Time to get up!"

The sun had just risen over the hills, and tent flaps opened slowly. It's surprising how bad your body can ache on the second day of a backpacking adventure! Within an hour everyone had packed up and was climbing the steeply rising trail in patrols. For two kilometres the path



Rangers use this rocky road through Cypress Hills Park.

Fort Walsh helped bring stability to Canada's frontier

Photos: James McLean

rose precipitously. Frequent turns made the trail hard to follow. Just like the previous day, a patrol left the trail: its members didn't notice their mistake for hours. By that time, they had wandered several kilometres away from the others. Scout orienteering training helped them find a solution to their difficulty, but nature made their challenge more demanding.

While bushwhacking through a swamp to rejoin the trail, a swarm of wasps attacked the Scouts. Then, under a scorching sun, squadrons of mosquitoes found the swatting group. When things couldn't seem to get worse, a downpour hit the patrol. By 5:30 p.m., everyone in the lost patrol was tired and discouraged. Then it happened. Sliding down a muddy piece of trail, Jason tripped and broke his leg in two places. Luckily, the pa-

everyone a good night's sleep and a leisurely breakfast. Instead of setting off in patrols with an adult accompanying each, we lined up in two parallel columns. In minutes the lines stretched out in ragged rows, victims of the day's heat. Our modest goal for the day (9 km) soon flashed by. That evening we enjoyed a bright campfire with juicy hamburgers, dramatic storytelling, singing and skits.

Steeped in History

After a few days our trail led over a massive hill called the North Benson Trail, while the Conglomerate Cliffs provided a striking view. Dipping our tired, blistered feet in Adams Lake gave local leeches a feast that satisfied them for many days. Yuck!

At Fort Walsh (a North West Mounted Police post) our troop ex-

plored frontier life 120 years ago when whiskey traders were provoking Native tribes in the area. The ancient Mystery Rocks and Indian Medicine Circle provided other historic sites that fanned the flames of our imaginations.

During the Cypress Hill hike we trekked through an amazing landscape, revelling in the beauty surrounding us. Our Scouts did take some wrong trails and sustained several injuries, but everyone agreed, "This was a dream trip!" The hike also won our troop the Alberta Provincial Commissioner's Adventure Award for Scouts.

Unforgettable! X

— James McLean is a leader of the Queensland 172nd Troop in Calgary, Alberta.

Cypress Hills Park

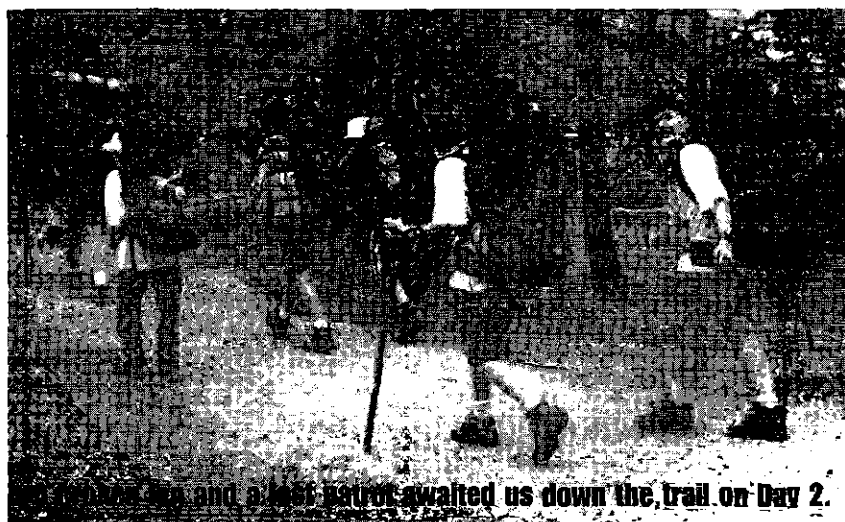
trol had almost reached the rest of us, who had been searching for them. Immediately, we set up camp while two Scouters brought our casualty out to a nearby road for help.

"Let's continue."

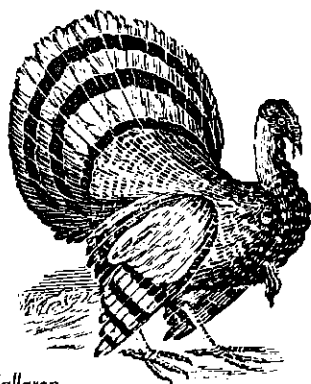
After setting up our tents in silence, we called a troop meeting and talked about the accident. We discussed what had happened, why and what they could do to make the trip safer.

As a group, we decided to continue. Every outdoor trip involves risks; the ones we faced were both manageable and acceptable.

Next day we hit the trail later in the morning than usual. This allowed



Scouts and a lost patrol awaited us down the trail on Day 2.



It's Than

Start Counting

by Hazel Hallgren

Pioneers who first settled this land used to gather with neighbours each fall to give thanks for their harvests and life in general. Thanksgiving festivals became a time of great hope and celebration after a hard-working summer.

This year, Thanksgiving (October 11th) offers many opportunities for an outstanding outdoor program. Traditionally, corncob roasts provided a focus for pioneers. Why doesn't your group organize a giant corncob roast and invite entire Scouting families? Here are some program ideas aimed primarily at Cubs and Beavers.

Carry the Harvest

Fall was a busy time for pioneers. Before enjoying a Thanksgiving feast, they had to take in the harvest and store it in their cellars and barns for winter. This game will add excitement to the task of bringing in the harvest.

Blow up a large supply of orange balloons into approximate pumpkin sizes. Do the same for red balloons (apples), long yellow balloons (corn) and brown balloons (potatoes). Divide your Cubs or Beavers into relay teams of six youths.

Holding his hands behind his back, the first person in line must take a pumpkin, tuck it under his chin and run down to the end of the field, and drop it into a basket. Then he runs back, tags the second person in line who takes another fruit or vegetable (balloon) and races to the basket. When participants have transferred all balloons, the entire team must run down to the basket and pile all the balloons into the arms of one team member who must race back to the start position.



Photo: Allen Macarney

Palm Games Craft

These games are excellent for camp, long car rides or just to pass spare minutes.

For each youth collect two large (at least 4 cm across) screw-on bottle tops; transparent Saran Wrap™; glue; tape; and five, round metal B-Bs (available at hardware stores). You'll also need a circular punch that will punch out round holes *no bigger than 3 mm* (available in most stationary stores).

Cut out a small, round picture from a cardboard cereal box, post card or even photograph. It's best if you can find a Thanksgiving theme,

like a turkey, corn or harvest scene. You might want to draw a Thanksgiving picture on card stock or use a family photograph. Punch five small holes in the picture, then glue the picture into the screw-on bottle cap. (See diagram on page 8)

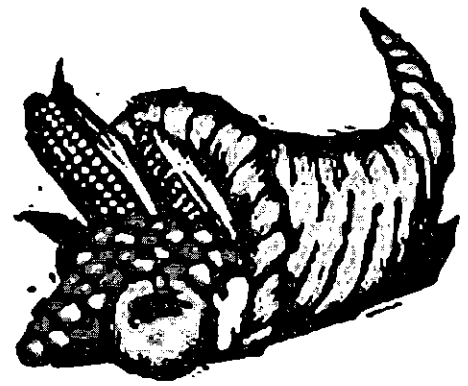
Put in five B-Bs and cover the top with clear, clingy Saran Wrap™. Tape the Saran Wrap™ tightly over the top so the B-Bs can't escape, then play the game by trying to get one B-B resting in each hole. Great fun!

Turkey Mobile

For this activity you'll need construction paper, ribbon, string, tape,

ks giving!

Your Blessings



markers and long bamboo skewers (available in grocery stores).

Get Beavers and young Cubs to place their hands on construction paper, and draw around them. (See diagram) Their fingers represent feathers and the thumb represents the turkey's head. Each child should make five turkeys. Cut them out and draw on a black turkey eye. Cut out

black beaks and a red wattle that hangs under the turkey's chin. Glue these to the turkeys.

Cut five pieces of string, and glue one to the top of each turkey. (See diagram) Tape two bamboo skewers together in the middle forming a cross, and tape the string from one turkey to each of the four ends. Hang the last turkey from the centre. Use

Thankful Prayers

Just as pioneers gathered to express thanks to God for providing for them, use these prayers when you're snacking throughout the month of October.

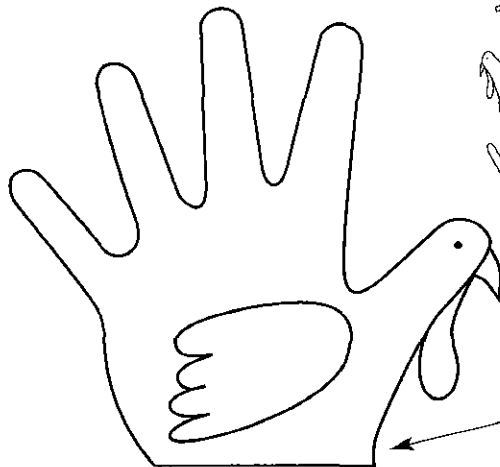
Spend time during your old-fashioned corn roast to talk about how God has helped you over the past year. Go around your group and ask each person to contribute one example of something he or she is thankful for.

We enjoy this earthly food
At this table You
have spread.
We'll not forget to
thank You God,
For all our daily bread.

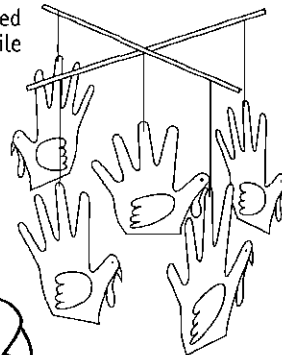
Jesus, Lord, come
be our Guest
Let this food now
be blessed.

For Your love,
For Your care,
For Your presence
everywhere
We thank You Lord,
For our drink,
For our food
For Your gifts that
are so good
We thank You Lord
In Jesus' name.

Turkey Mobile Construction

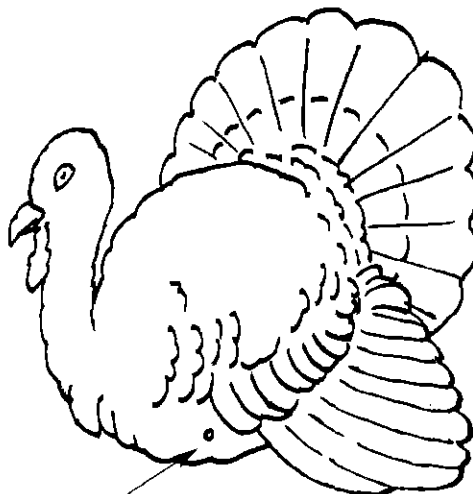


Completed Mobile

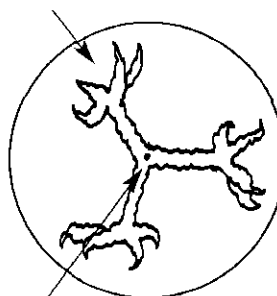


Get Beavers and young Cubs to place their hands on construction paper, and draw around them. This will give you a turkey pattern.

Running Turkey Construction



Cut out a circle from a piece of cardboard. Draw three turkey legs as shown below.



Punch hole into cardboard shape for brass paper fastener.

Punch hole into cardboard circle and attach to turkey shape.

bright ribbon to hang the mobile from the centre. It makes an excellent fall decoration for a bedroom.

Log House and Farm

Collect some dead branches (2 cm diameter) and birch bark. Give Cubs glue, coping saws and short finishing nails, and ask them to work with their family members to make a miniature log cabin. You might also want to provide popsicle sticks for roofing (instead of birch bark), a picket fence, and well covers. Cubs who are good at carving might want to whittle miniature pitchforks, shovels, sleds and wheel barrels.

Give families up to an hour to make their log cabin. Some families might want to make other farm buildings as well.

Ride the Bucking Bronco

Whenever pioneers gathered, one person was sure to organize some form of competition. (Living was so difficult that survival often seemed like one big competition with nature.) Sometimes, kids would drift off to the

farmyard and challenge each other to see who could ride on a calf's back the longest.

Make a bucking calf for Cubs and Scouts to ride on by taking a clean, plastic barrel and tying a rope to each corner. Tie a rope around the barrel for your pioneer cowboys to hold onto. Make sure all riders wear a helmet when they take their turn on the bucking calf. *Adults should supervise this activity closely.*

Turkey Races

Wild turkeys used to inhabit North America in large numbers; they were a favourite treat of pioneers at this time of year. Let's make some cardboard turkeys and organize races with them.

Get some large cardboard boxes and cut out flat pieces of cardboard. Let Beavers trace smaller turkey figures on the pieces of cardboard, while Cubs can trace large ones using the pattern. (See diagram) Then trace out the wheel with the three turkey legs; make a hole in the centre of the turkey legs circle. Cut out the finished turkeys.

Colour the turkeys in browns, reds and tan shades. Glue on feathers if you have some from a craft store. Mount the turkeys' legs behind the bird using a brass paper fastener. Let Beavers race their barnyard birdzillas over a tabletop. For Cubs, fasten a short, thin stick to the turkey with several industrial staples. Line your Cubs up in a line and let them race their birds over the grass to a finish line. (See diagram)

Popcorn: A Traditional Food

When American Pilgrims first celebrated Thanksgiving they invited some Natives who lived nearby to join them. One Native who brought a gift was named Quadequina, the chief's brother. He took some corn seeds out of a deerskin bag and threw them on hot rocks circling the cooking fire. Suddenly, a popping sound rang out; he gathered up the popped corn and handed it out to everyone's delight.

Look for some unusual popping corn in grocery stores this Thanksgiving; one type is called strawberry corn. Tell the story of Quadequina



Read this comical rhyme while your group is digging in to some Thanksgiving treats.

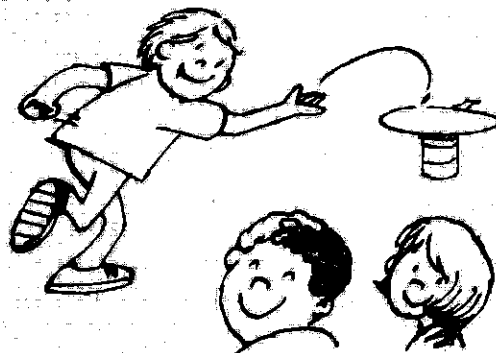
'Twas the night of Thanksgiving,
But I just couldn't sleep.
I tried counting backwards,
I tried counting sheep.
The leftovers beckoned,
The dark meat and white
But I fought the temptation
With all of my might.

Tossing and turning
With anticipation
The thought of a snack
Became infatuation.
So I raced to the kitchen,
Flung open the door,
And gazed at the fridge
Full of goodies galore.

I gobbled up turkey
And buttered potatoes,
Pickles and carrots,
Beans and tomatoes.
I felt myself swelling
So plump and so round,
Till all of a sudden,
I rose off the ground!

I crashed through
the ceiling,
Floating into the sky
With a mouthful
of pudding
And a handful of pie.
But I managed to yell
As I soared past
the trees...
"Happy eating to all!
Pass the cranberries,
please."

Pumpkin Seed Toss



Palm Games Craft

Punch five small holes (no bigger than 3 mm) in the picture, then glue the picture into the screw-on bottle cap.



Put in five B-Bs and cover the top with clear, clingy Saran Wrap™. Tape the Saran Wrap™ tightly over the top so the B-Bs can't escape. Let the fun begin!



and pop the corn by your campfire. Then gather everyone around to enjoy the traditional treat.

As a craft, leaders could have bowls of popcorn already popped for Beavers and Cubs to string into necklaces. Early Natives wore these when pioneers invited them to Thanksgiving feasts. Just string the popcorn on thread with needles before tying the necklaces off. Some youths might want to make their popcorn more interesting by colouring individual kernels with red and green food colouring.

Thanksgiving Cheer

Gather around the campfire and let a six or a lodge teach this cheer:

Leader: "Give us a T."
 Others: "T!"
 Leader: "Give us an H."
 Others: "H!"
 Leader: "Give us an A."
 Others: "A!"
 Leader: "Give us an N."
 Others: "N!"
 Leader: "Give us a K."
 Others: "K!"
 Leader: "Give us an S."
 Others: "S!"
 Leader: "What does it spell?"
 Others: "THANKS!"
 Together: "Thanks. Thanks!
 THANKS!!"

Say "Thanks" three times: first in soft voice, second in normal voice, then in loud, booming voice.

Seed the Pumpkin Patch

Long ago, pioneers had to plant pumpkin seeds in their fields. Sometimes the wind took the seeds and scattered them away from the hole.



This game will train your group members to toss their pumpkin seeds accurately.

From orange construction paper, leaders should cut out a large pumpkin — one for each lodge or six. Place the pumpkins on a paper plate that's sitting on top of a can or glass. (See diagram) Put the pumpkins in the centre of each group.

Give Beavers or Cubs five pumpkin seeds. The challenge: standing one metre away, toss the pumpkin seeds so all stay on the plate. When most of your members can accomplish this task easily, move back to one metre.

Do your final year Beavers or Cubs want a greater challenge? Fasten the orange pumpkin to the ground and give each participant five acorns.

Standing three metres away, Cubs have to roll their acorns along the ground and onto the pumpkin target.

Who's Got What?

Here's an observation game. You'll just need a straw hat, a shovel, a hoe and a bag of seeds.

Divide into two teams of five to eight players. If you have a large group, divide into four teams. Two teams face each other and carefully note how each member on the opposing team is dressed. After one minute, members of Team A turn their backs while Team B switches the props around between members.

When ready, Team A turns around again and tries to identify the changes that Team B made. Reverse roles and try again. For Beavers, just have three props; older Cubs might want 10-12 props.

Musical Pumpkins

Young Beavers will like this twist to a familiar game. Cut out some orange pumpkins from construction paper (or recycle the ones used in the "Seed the Pumpkin Patch" game). Place the pumpkins on the ground; this is your pumpkin patch. Play some music, and when it stops each Beaver has to find a pumpkin to stand on. Take away one pumpkin after each turn until you have just two players left.

Turkeys Scramble for Words

Divide Cubs and older youths into sixes. (Third year Beavers who can read may also like this game.) See how many words your teams can make up just using letters from the words "Turkey Dinner" or "Thanksgiving." Some children may want to start with a larger pool of words, like "Cubs Love Turkey Dinners." Give them five minutes for this activity.

In your thankful celebrations, don't forget about those less fortunate in your neighbourhood. What better time than this to volunteer to pack supplies at the local food bank? ^

Program Links

Cubs: Handicraft Badge,
 Recycling Badge, Canadian
 Heritage Badge.

— Red Deer Beavers are thankful that Hazel Hallgren is their Scouter.

Wildlife Trivia

Pioneers had to know a great deal about animals living around their farms. Can your group answer these questions?

Q: What's the tallest bird in Canada?

A: The whooping crane. Some of them nest in Wood Buffalo National Park, in the Northwest Territories.

Q: What do you call a female fox?

A: Vixen.

Q: Name a Canadian mammal that can fly.

A: A bat.

Q: Name a lion found in Canada.

A: Mountain lion, sea lion.

Q: What's the largest land mammal in Canada?

A: Bison.

Trees Breathe Life into the Environment

by Ruth Dubeau

EACH FALL, BEAVERS FROM THE 1ST Ferris Colony (North Bay, Ontario) enjoy a tree theme program that involves a hike to gather leaves, crafts, games and lots

of laughter. By the end of the evening (or Saturday morning), we have a far greater appreciation of the value of trees and how they make our communities healthier.

Find the Design

Start your tree theme with a short hike during which you collect many different sizes and shapes of tree leaves from the ground (e.g. maple, oak, poplar). Ask Beavers to find designs and patterns in nature around them. Some examples might include: a cloud that looks like a swan, a tree that looks like a giant tulip, or a winding path that looks like a snake. Encourage your Beavers to get down on their hands and knees to get a bug's eye view of the world.

Ask if any child can point out different types of trees. Before you return to your meeting hall, explain the difference between hardwood (e.g. maple) and softwood (e.g. pine) trees. What would your community look like if it had no trees?

Splatter Leaves

For this craft, let your Beavers choose several different sizes and types of leaves that were collected during the hike. Can each child iden-

ment back oxygen that we breathe. Without forests and jungle, our world would starve for oxygen.

Put a leaf down on a white piece of paper and spray coloured paint over it using a toothbrush. See how its pattern is transferred to the paper? Repeat the process with other types of leaves. Try spraying the paint through a screen, too.

Older Beavers might like to try painting a leaf, then rolling the colour onto a piece of paper. Young members could put a leaf on the table and put paper over top; let them rub a crayon on the paper. The leaf's pattern will transfer readily. Make a fall mural with your leaf creations.



Find a safe tree to climb in and pretend you're a squirrel.

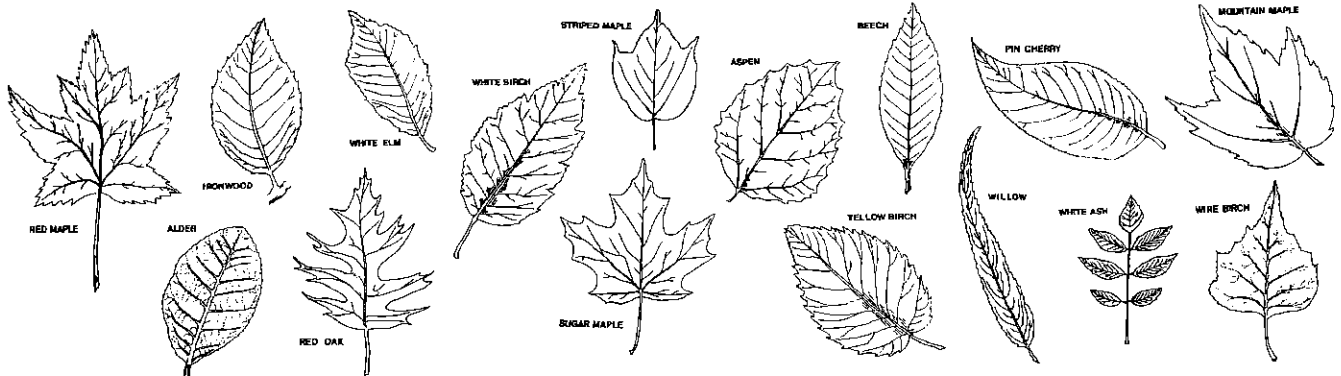
tify the name of the trees where their leaves came from? Tell the children that trees take in ('breathe') carbon dioxide through the bottom part of their leaves, and give the environ-

Squirrels in a Tree

In this active game, two Beavers join hands and represent a tree. A third Beaver, standing in the centre,

Photo: Benjamin Eng

Various Shapes of Leaves



plays the squirrel. (His position is called the squirrel hole.) All Beavers in your colony should collect in fairly small circles.

When a leader calls out, "Run squirrels! The hound is coming!" all the squirrels race out of their own hole and go to another. There's bound to be some traffic jams at one or two holes. Designate one of the Beavers as a hound. The hound's job is to catch one squirrel and switch places with the person.

Leaf Bookmark

Beavers are just starting to read. This craft will encourage them to enjoy books more.

Ask your children to collect a favourite leaf; they should bring it to your meeting. Place it between two pieces of waxed paper; iron it so the wax transfers to the leaf. Now, mount the leaf on Mac-tac™. The wax will help preserve the leaf longer, preventing it from drying out. It makes a nice big bookmark.

You can make long, thin book-marks using tiny leaves. After waxing them, lay them in a line and cover them with Mac-tac™. Punch a hole in one end and thread a ribbon or colourful string through it.

Magnificent Magnified Trees

Put out a collection of tree branches, leaves and other forest material on a table with a magnifying glass for each child. Examine each object carefully, looking for little-noticed details like veins, evidence of insect activity, dried areas of leaves, buds on branches and bark layers. Look at a pine needle up close. Provide a handful of pine cones for Beavers to take apart and try to find the seeds. Squirrels eat these seeds.

Did you find any acorns or seeds from trees during your walk? Plant



them carefully in soil, and water them regularly. Keep them in the sun during the week and watch for signs of growth.

Guess the Age

On a table, put out several trees, stumps and branches that have been cut cleanly with a saw. After explaining about annual rings, get your Beavers to guess the age of each stump or branch. Make sure some stumps are from hardwood trees while others are from softwood trees.

Discuss what conditions might influence the growth of a tree. Examples might include fire, drought, too much rain or insects. Can your kids notice any difference in the size of a tree's annual rings from year to year? If some rings are wider, can Beavers suggest a reason for the bigger ring?

Find the Animals Pop-up Card

This pop-up card will not only have trees that pop-out when you open it, but also slightly hidden animals to find. Your animal might be an owl, a deer, a moose, or an eagle.

You will need white paper (8½ x 11"), card stock (8½ x 11"), glue, markers, scissors and yellow glitter. Fold a piece of regular white paper in half. Make several pairs of parallel cuts along the fold, one pair about 2 cm long, and two others about 3 cm long. Open your card up and push the cut sections through. (See diagram)

Now draw three different types of trees to glue onto these pop-up sections. (They shouldn't be taller than about 6-8 cm). At least one tree should be a softwood type (coniferous), while the others should be a hardwood type (deciduous). Draw and cut out your small animals. They should be smaller than 3 cm so they can hide slightly behind trees.

Before gluing them onto the pop-up sections, draw a scene behind the trees. Your pictures might include a favourite hiking path or camp scene. Now glue the trees onto the front part of the pop-up cuts, making sure they will pop up when you open the card. Glue your animals onto the back of the trees so they look as if they're hiding. (See diagram)

While you make these cards, talk about forest animals and how they try to stay hidden from view by using trees, shrubs and other cover. If people cut down too many trees, forest animals would have nowhere to live.

Your fall tree theme could include a tree scavenger hunt, a forest clean-up (working with a local Cub pack), a touchy-feely box (filled with forest objects), and food. If you run your program in the winter or spring, visit a maple syrup bush and make maple syrup toffee. A maple sugar scene would be exciting for a pop-up card! ^

— Ruth Dubeau is an active Beaver leader with the 1st Ferris Colony in North Bay, ON.

Photo: Scouts Canada archives

Various Hardwood Fruits



RED OAK



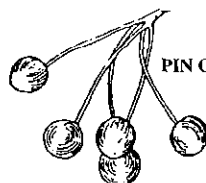
SUGAR MAPLE



BEECH

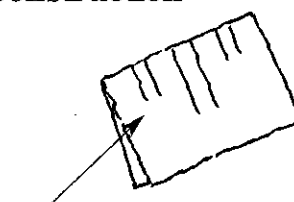


YELLOW BIRCH



PIN CHERRY

Animals Pop-up Card Construction



Make several pairs of parallel cuts along the fold.



Open the card and push the cut sections through.

Decorate the Pop-up Card Complete.



Mould Gardens and Composting Apples

by Allen Macartney

COMPOSTING AND environmental activities are favourite activities of most Scouting youth. Try out these program ideas on older Cubs and Scouts. Venturers will also enjoy the environmental jokes.

Make a Mould Garden

For this activity, you'll need bits of fruit, vegetables, cheese and preservative-free bread; clear plastic bags; twist ties; paper towels; water; soil; and a magnifying glass.

Inflate your plastic bags and check for holes; discard any bags that deflate. Place each kind of food in its own plastic bag on top of a damp — not soaking — paper towel. Put a little bit of soil in each bag. (The soil contains mould spores.)

Blow a small amount of air into each bag, then tie each with a twist tie. Store the bags in a warm, dark place. (See diagram)

By your next meeting you should have lots of moulds to examine. Use your magnifying glass to examine them, but don't open the bags. Wash your hands after touching the bags.

How many different moulds can you count? What colours are they? Are more than one type of mould growing in your bag? Not only do moulds help break down food so it can return to the soil, but one type of mould, *Penicillium*, is an important antibiotic.

Environmentally Sensitive Jokes

These jokes are certain to improve any weekly Scouting activity.

Q: What kind of bird doesn't need a barber?

A: A bald eagle.

Q: What do you call it when you bring a skunk to school?

A: Show and smell.

Q: What do crows play in summer?

A: Cro-quet.

Q: How do cows add and subtract?

A: With a cow-culator.

Q: What's the opposite of sad for a rabbit?

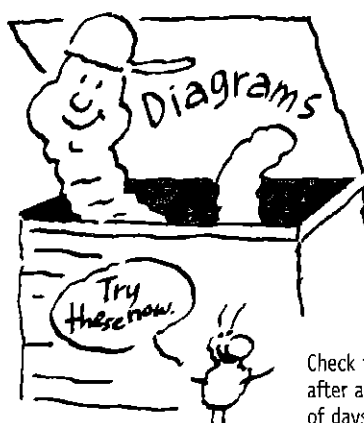
A: Hoppy.

Q: Why did the whale cross the ocean?

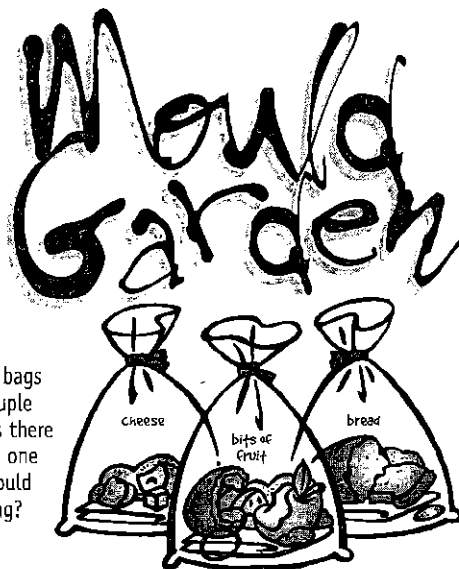
A: To get to the other tide.

Q: What do gardeners like to read?

A: Weeder's Digest.

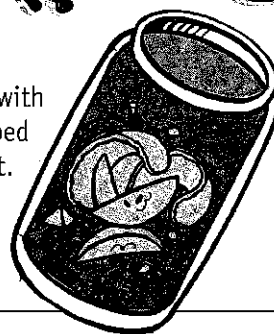


Check the bags after a couple of days. Is there more than one kind of mould in each bag?



Composting Apples & Oranges

Jar #1 with unwrapped fruit.



Jar #2 with fruit wrapped in plastic.



Q: What do you get when five toads sit on top of each other?
A: A toad-em pole.

No Plastic Bags Allowed!

This activity will show how plastic bags stop the composting process. You'll need apple or orange slices; a plastic sandwich bag; 2 large pickle jars; soil; and a large spoon.

Place half the fruit inside the bag and seal it shut. Fill the pickle jars with soil and label them #1 and #2. Dig a hole in jar #1 and bury the unwrapped fruit. Do the same for jar #2 and bury the fruit sealed in plastic. (See diagram)

Moisten the soil in both jars with a bit of water. Water the jars *slightly* each day. Loosen the soil gently with a spoon, being careful not to puncture the plastic bag.

After one week, scoop out the fruit carefully and look for any changes, then bury it again. At your next meeting, take the fruit out again and look for changes. The unwrapped fruit will have become compost — great for gardens. Bacteria, fungi, worms and snails will speed the process, but fruit in the plastic bag will not compost readily. It prevents oxygen, bacteria, fungi and worms from doing their work.

DID YOU KNOW?...

- ☐ A warm compost pile is a sure sign that things are working well and that the decomposing process is active. Your compost pile warms up because organic wastes are breaking down and generating heat. The temperature can increase to 66°C. This is high enough to kill many seeds that you don't want growing in the compost.
- ☐ Red wiggler worms can consume their weight in organic material every two days. Worms need oxygen as much as humans do, but they get it by absorbing it through their skin.
- ☐ Never cut a worm in half. It will die. Worms are delicate creatures that need to be treated with great care. They help compost to break down.
- ☐ If fruit flies cover your compost pile, you probably aren't burying the material deep enough.
- ☐ If your compost pile smells, it might need a good stirring, or it's just too wet (add fresh leaves or bedding material), or you're putting in unsuitable materials like meat and pet feces.

What would happen if we sent all organic matter to land fill sites in plastic bags? What's a better way to dispose of this material? ^

Program Links

Cubs: Recycling Badge,
Gardener Badge
Scouts: Word Conservation
Award, Troop/Individual
Specialty Badge

*** Special thanks to Science World in Vancouver, BC, for providing information on the mould garden and composting apples activities. See their web site at www.scienceworld.bc.ca. Thanks, also to the Canadian Wildlife Federation for sharing their environmental jokes and wildlife trivia. Their web site (www.cwf-fcf.org) provides lots of information on animals.*

IN SEARCH OF COMPOST

Can your compost detectives find 26 hidden words in the compost pile? All relate to composting. When they have found as many as possible, discuss how each one relates to breaking down garbage and kitchen scraps.

L	A	N	T	S	O	P	M	O	C	K	M	W	X
E	Q	S	M	B	O	R	G	A	N	I	C	B	A
A	R	V	U	B	U	W	E	S	A	J	R	A	M
V	S	O	L	C	A	R	B	O	N	E	E	N	I
E	G	F	C	E	H	B	Y	U	B	G	T	A	L
S	N	G	H	D	S	S	A	R	G	G	S	N	L
N	I	T	R	O	G	E	N	Y	C	S	A	A	V
L	L	R	N	N	Q	U	A	O	I	H	W	P	R
E	E	E	E	M	I	L	L	I	P	E	D	E	E
L	E	C	D	E	C	A	Y	S	P	L	R	E	Y
T	P	Y	R	B	C	M	R	O	W	L	A	L	A
E	R	C	A	E	R	O	B	I	C	S	Y	O	L
E	U	L	G	R	E	Z	I	L	I	T	R	E	F
B	S	E	R	E	L	G	G	I	W	D	E	R	T

You'll find the following words hidden in the compost: aerobic, banana peel, beetle, bury, carbon, compost, core, decay, egg shells, fertilizer, garden, grass, layer, leaves, millipede, mulch, nitrogen, organic, peelings, recycle, red wiggler, slug, soil, sow bug, worm, yard waste.



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Craft Treasures from Junk

Recycle and Reuse Your Rubbish

by Dooreen Rousseau

What exactly is junk?

Using only a little inventiveness, most trash we throw out can become the raw materials for interesting craft projects. Ask youth members to

gather up interesting objects from their garbage. (Make sure parents get involved for safety.) While you make the crafts, teach environmental recycling.

Paper and Cardboard Prizes

Making new paper provides both an educational and practical way to recycle leftover paper.

Collect paper with different textures and colors, as well as bits of string or thread, flower petals, small seeds — almost anything. Tear paper into bits, and place it in a blender. Add plenty of water and blend it well into pulp. (Use a hand mixer at camp if you don't have an electric blender.) Stir pieces of string, petals or seeds into the pulp; these will give your paper dimension and creativity. Hold a small framed screen over a basin while you gently pour the pulp onto

the screen. Shake or gently poke the pulp around until it covers the screen. Place the screen on a stack of paper towels or some absorbent material. Gently sponge excess moisture out of the pulp by pressing onto the screen. Carefully flip the screen over onto dry towels and remove the pulp.

Place more towels on the pulp to soak up the remaining water or dampness. Repeat this process by putting a piece of wood on the pile of pulp and get your kids to stand on it to press out the water. When you've removed most of the moisture, peel away the various paper layers and let them air-dry. If you make paper indoors, dry-

ing may take several days, but drying outside in the sun may only take several hours.

Cubs and Beavers can cut their homemade paper into cards or bookmarks.

Tin Can Containers and Lanterns

Tins from tuna or cat food are excellent for crafts and cooking. Cubs and Scouts may use these cans at camp for cooking small cakes on glowing coals, or for melting chocolate for a dessert fondue.

In the craft room, cans make terrific hold-alls for small items. Beavers might want to decorate the cans by covering the outside with torn bits of paper or material. Glue the paper on with white glue; once it dries, fill the can with seeds or rocks, and insert a candle. (See diagram next page) Mom would love this beautiful centerpiece for Thanksgiving dinner.

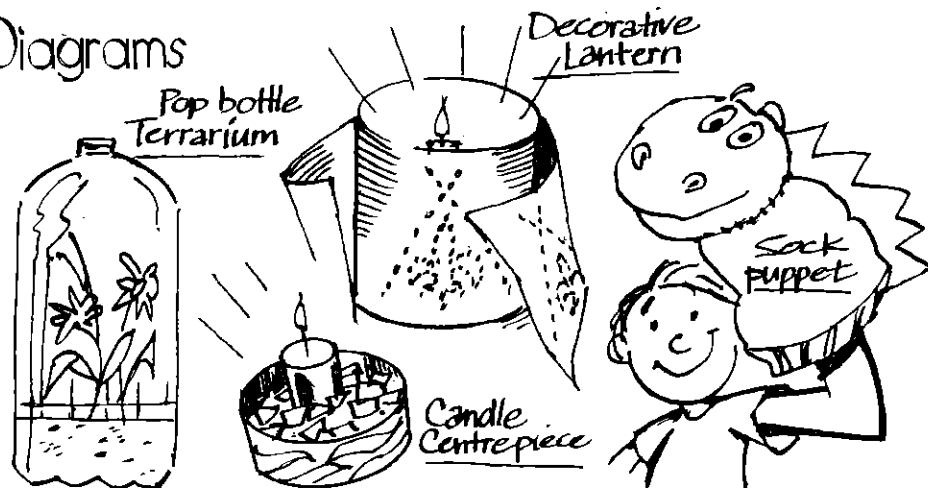
Lanterns are easy for Cubs to make with old cans, large or small. Simply fill an empty can with water and freeze it overnight. Draw a pattern on a piece of paper the same size as the can. When the water freezes, tape the paper in place on the can and punch holes along the outline of your design using hammer and nails. (See diagram) While punching holes in the tin, ice bits and water may squirt out.

When you've punched all the holes, remove the paper and empty out the ice. Place a small candle in the bottom and light with a long match. (Make sure you first warn Cubs about fire dangers.) Now, turn



Photo: Jane Rabin

Diagrams



off the lights and see your design come alive! Line up a series of lanterns along a path to your campfire; it'll add a special atmosphere.

Terrarium, not Tarantula

Plastic 2 litre pop bottles make excellent terrariums for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts to learn about plants. Wash out the bottle, then cut the bottom portion away. Dry both pieces. Put small rocks or pieces of broken flower pots in the bottom portion, and fill with dirt. Place your plants or seeds in the dirt and cover. Water it well. Make a series of small slits into the top portion along the bottom cut edge. Now insert this into the bottom portion to seal the terrarium. (See diagram)

Create a balloon ball by cutting away the top portion and using it as a funnel. Stretch a balloon around the funnel's mouth and pour flour or lentils into the balloon. When full, remove the balloon from the funnel and tie off the end. The filled balloon makes a fun, soft ball.

Cut away the bottom portion of the soda bottle and use it to plant seeds. It makes a neat scoop for the beach.

Proliferating Puppets

Creative minds can make puppets from cereal boxes, sticks, wooden spoons, paper plates, balloons, wood, pine cones, tubes, socks, fingers from old gloves — practically anything. Puppets can illustrate a theme meeting or drive home an important safety message. Keo might want to design a character and tell a *Friends of the Forest* story to the colony, or Cub pack members might want to make jungle puppets and act out a wolf theme.

Young Beavers can draw faces on fingertips or toes to make instant characters. Think up a personality for each figure.

And just who doesn't have old socks around the house. Bring these in to your meeting and get Cubs to sew up any holes. Now stuff the socks with fabric scraps. Sew on buttons and pieces of felt to make eyes, noses and tongues. If you cut out a jagged piece of felt, you can sew it on the back making a dragon. (See diagram)

Teach youth members how to move their puppets to match emotions (e.g. head down for sadness, head up and bouncy for excited). Give them several minutes to think up a



Photo: Allen MacIntyre

"Tin cans are great for crafts. You can make things with the lids or the entire can."

story line, then let them present a brief play in lodges or sixes. Cubs may want to make a cardboard box stage, complete with curtains, props and set.

Toad Homes

Use leftover margarine containers to make toad homes. Beavers or Cubs might decide to leave the containers plain or paint the outside with non-toxic acrylic paint. Place the container upside down, cut out a small mouse-sized hole and put the lid back on. Put the container in a damp, dark place in your garden to provide a home for toads. ^

Program Links

Cubs: Artist Badge, Recycling Badge, Handicraft Badge, Gardener Badge, Black Star.

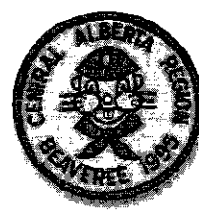
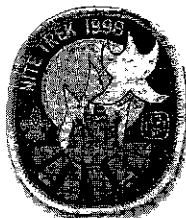
— Dooreen Rousseau (Tiger) is currently an APC (Field Servicing) and a Trainer with Quebec Provincial Council.

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Buying Food for Camp

It doesn't have to cause ulcers

by John Barker

"Mom! We're going camping on the weekend. And we get to buy our own food!"

Would these words strike fear into a parent's heart? Quite likely if the person making the announcement is their favourite little 11-year-old who only graduated from Cubs the previous spring.

Menu planning and food purchase along with cooking at camp, can quickly gobble up lots of precious volunteer time. But if you make your Scouts responsible for these, you'll help develop them into mature adults.

Here's how our troop of about 34 youths deals with the challenge. The week before our camp, we meet, and each patrol plans its weekend menu. (A leader sits in on the discussion.) We allow hot dogs and/or grilled

cheese sandwiches for Saturday and Sunday lunch; this keeps noontime meals and cleanup simple and easy. But Saturday dinner must be a more ambitious meal, like a full-bodied stew made from scratch, barbecued steaks, or a stir-fry in a wok. (No Kraft™ dinner or boil-a-bag meals allowed.)

The night before our camp, each child brings enough money so their patrol can buy food (usually \$10 to \$15 for each youth). Each patrol arranges its own ride to the store. We all go to the same large supermarket, and two or three leaders cruise the aisles to ensure everything remains in control. One leader accompanies the first year group, since its members will have the most questions and will probably make the most mistakes.

Rules in the Store

These are the in-store rule we insist on:

1. If you touch it, you buy it. This quickly teaches Scouts to not grab boxes, but first stand, discuss, and then carefully select the food items.

2. Keep together. If Scouts realize they passed by the butter, the whole group (shopping cart and all) returns as a unit to get the butter. This prevents having a huge mass of Scouts running in all directions around the store.

3. At the checkout, if a patrol's food total exceeds its planned expenditure, patrol members must decide what to return to the counter. No one is allowed to "chip in" extra cash. This helps Scouts learn the real value of food, as well as buying in bulk.

When we return to our meeting hall, each patrol separates its food into perishable and non-perishable containers, and packs it away.

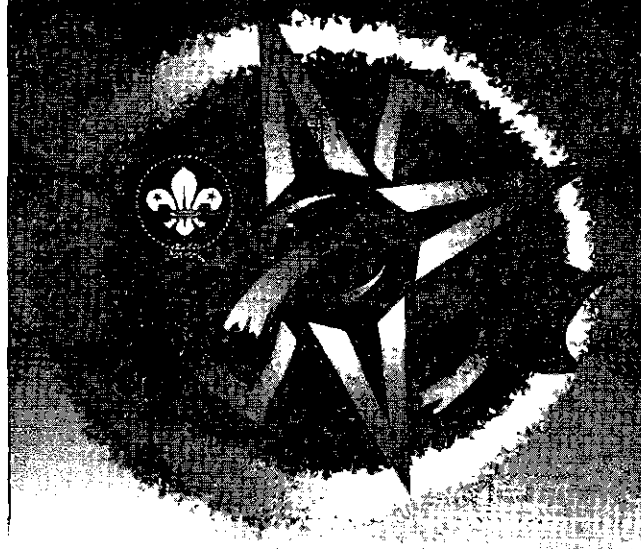
This exercise will teach your Scouts something about planning, purchasing and cooking food. At a recent camp, our final year Scouts made caesar salad, cooked a 6 kg turkey complete with stuffing and potatoes in a cardboard box, and had cherry cheesecake for dessert.

"Here's the pay-off for all the menu planning, shopping and packing — a great wilderness feast!"



Photo: Peter Ng

World Moot – Mexico 2000



While Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers attends camps or jamborees, Rovers do just a little bit more — we hold Moots.

What is a Moot? It's a gathering for Scouting fellowship. If you've ever attended one, you'll agree that it was a highlight of your Scouting life.

The 11th World Scout Moot will be held in and around Mexico City in July 2000. All registered Scouts or Guides born between December 31st, 1972 and January 1st, 1974 may attend.

Five Mexican states are hosting the outdoor and cultural part of the Moot. Participants may choose two, four-day segments in two states, then everyone will join together for a final four days outside Mexico City.

Want more information about this event? See our Moot web site (www.moot2000.org.mx) or the contingent information page (<http://homepage.oanet.com/holden/moot2000>). E-mail me at holden@oanet.com or phone at: (780) 461-0157.

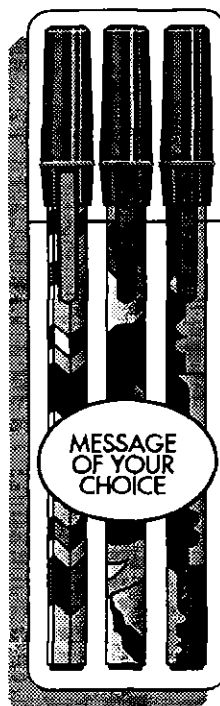
Act now! The registration deadline is December 31st.

— Bill Holden is the Canadian contingent leader.

CORRECTION TO "GET MORE PROGRAM TIPS"

In the May *Leader* we told Scouters how to get more activities, games, songs and program material by e-mail. (See individual section columns for details.) We made a mistake in the instructions. Do *not* end your request with a period (e.g. *subscribe CPRG-L* will give you Cub program tips, but *subscribe CPRG-L.* won't get you the tips).

If you've already subscribed and put a period in at the end of the request, don't worry; we have made the necessary changes for you.



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CREATE MEMORABLE EXPERIENCES FOR YOUTH

by Bryon Milliere

What do you remember most from your childhood? What were you doing and who was involved? We all have stories, both good and bad.

As the Scouting year starts up this fall, ask returning members what they remember best about Scouting last year. What were their choicest memories? Ask them to relate the stories, and give them plenty of time. Listen for themes; write them down and include them in this year's program. Listening will teach you what's important to Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers and Rovers.

Give leaders a chance as well. What was memorable from their perspective? Reviewing last year's highlights will help re-establish old relationships. These reflective moments will help everyone appreciate the role Scouting plays in each member's life.

Will this exercise do anything for new members? Yes. They'll start developing a 'feel' for the group. Ask them what they think of the stories they hear. Do they have any of their own to share?

Stories Fit Scouting Programs

Everyone loves a good story. In fact, B-P. built the Cub program around *The Jungle Book* for this very reason. Cub-aged children are at the age when they're becoming more aware of relationships. Cubs love adventure tales because they're a safe way to explore life and new relationships.

Find interesting stories from history, fiction and real life that examine relationships in healthy ways. Take care to choose appropriate subject matters. Translate the story into the level of language youth can understand and practise your delivery. Work on your inflection, pace, tone

If you had a good Scouting experience, you can probably remember the names of many leaders and friends. Here's how to create memorable experiences for youths.

and emphasis. Control emotion by raising and lowering your voice. A brief introduction helps set the mood; you might even want to darken a room or light it with candles. Pass around interesting props to help youth connect with the story. Allow some time before or after your story to discuss

characters and themes, or move on to a craft or game that builds on the theme.

"Hey! What's the Good News?"

Encourage youth members to tell their stories. Ask them to focus on what's going well in their lives. Start your meetings with several "good news" stories. It will set the tone for your evening. A good story told is a pleasant experience re-lived.

When a Scout tells a story in front of a friendly audience without interruption, it helps build confidence. Give everyone in your group an opportunity to stand up and tell their own good news story; it will also help them to express themselves better.

Use a 'talking ball'. Throw a ball or other object to whomever has the floor. Only the person with the ball is permitted to speak.

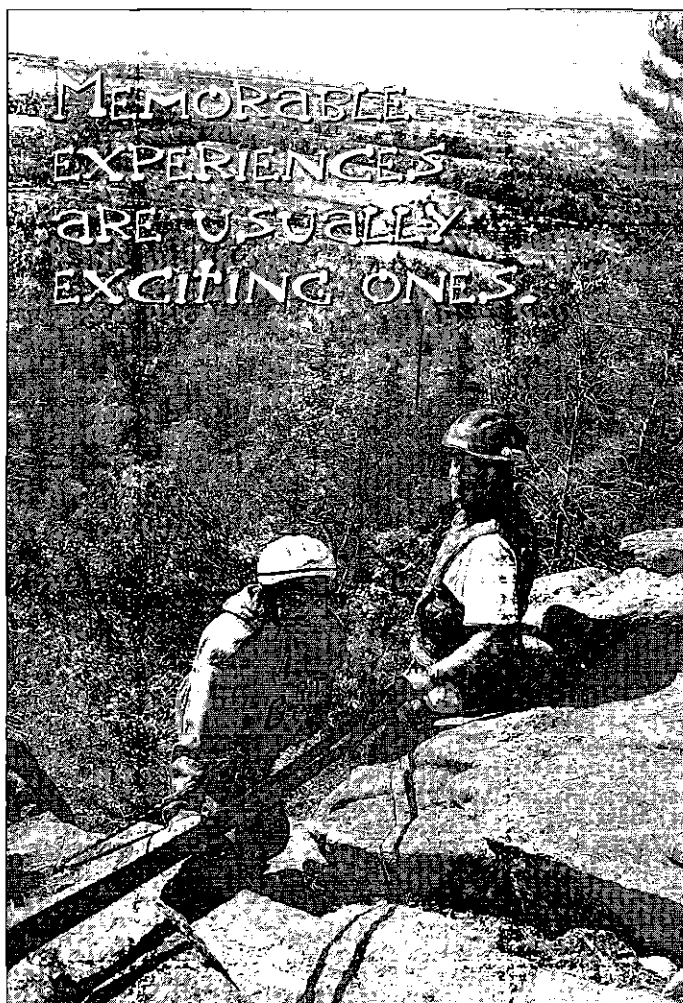


Photo: Rick Chan

Identify excellent storytellers in your community and invite them to your meetings. Make sure their stories don't exceed the attention span of your Beavers or Cubs. Everyone loves to hear stories from real people, especially if they relate to adventures. Leave plenty of time for questions. Where possible, tie the guest's story to **program themes** or badge work. (See program links.)

Don't forget to let Keoo and Kim tell their stories, too. Perhaps they could start the storytelling. Ask them to describe a great time in Cubs or Scouts, such as a weekend camp or their favourite theme program.

Can a story be told without words? Occasionally, ask someone to mime their story — particularly affective around a campfire. Can others guess what's happening?

Appoint someone to keep track of your section's history; this could involve writing it down and photographing popular activities. Make it into a display and bring it out at your next meeting. Parents too would enjoy seeing this visual record. Create funny captions under the photos to add humour. A photography shop or someone with a scanner could transform a great Scouting picture into a computer screen saver.

Learning Through Others' Experiences

Peer pressure, school or family problems, depression, the need to feel accepted: youths face many challenges. Listening to stories how others have dealt with difficulties sometimes helps young people find solutions to

their own troubles. Think up stories that offer a solution or respite and adapt games to reinforce the message. Even short stories may provide great insights.

Life is full of good times and terrific memories. When we encourage members to concentrate on these thoughts, we help build healthy futures. ^

Program Links

Cubs: Photography Badge, Artist Badge, Computer Badge, Reader Badge, Entertainer Badge

Scouts: Performing Arts Badge, Literary Arts Badge

POINTS OF REFERENCE

Each year, staff at Beloit College in Wisconsin draw up a list to help faculty members understand new students better. How can this list help you relate to youth in your section?

1. People who are starting university or college this fall were born in 1981-82.
2. They have no meaningful recollection of the Reagan era and do not know he had ever been shot.
3. Wayne Gretzky has always played in the NHL. There has been only one Pope.
4. They were 11 years old when the Soviet Union broke apart and do not remember the Cold War.
5. They are too young to remember the space shuttle blowing up, and Tiananmen Square probably means nothing to them.
6. Their lifetime has always included AIDS.
7. Atari pre-dates them, as do vinyl albums; they may have heard of an 8-track.
8. They never took a swim and thought about the movie Jaws.
9. Kansas, Chicago, Boston, America, and Alabama are places, not musical groups for these students.
10. They don't know who Mork was or where he came from.

Now make up a similar list for kids in your group. What items would you include in it? Brainstorming like this will help leaders relate more to youth members in their section. Have fun with the exercise!

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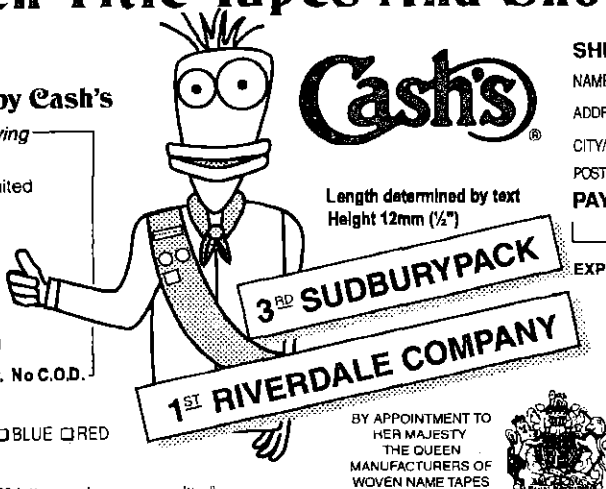
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Fun at the Pond

by Leslie Forward



THE CIRCUS HAS come to town with lots of exciting acts under the Big Top!

Prepare by decorating your meeting room so it looks like a tent. Better yet, set up your circus outside! Hang an orange tarpaulin by the corners from several trees. (If you're hanging a tarpaulin from corners in a room, it will really give your meeting area a tent "feel.") Run a rope underneath the middle of the tarp to support it and prevent the tarpaulin from drooping.

Hang a hula-hoop from this supporting rope. Attach many long, coloured streamers to the hula-hoop; tape the other ends to the four tarp sides (or inside room walls). You'll need lots of streamers and plenty of colour. Get White Tail Beavers and Keo to help with the decorating. Blow up scores of balloons and hang them all around.

Before your Beavers arrive, the leaders should dress up as circus characters (e.g. animal tainers, clowns, trapeze artists). One leader should dress in a formal ringmaster suit, complete with top hat and cane. Dim the lights slightly to create a dramatic atmosphere.

As Beavers come into the Big Top, give each child colourful circus mon-

ey that you've made up. (Perhaps it could have a picture of a clown on it.)

Kiss the Clown

This fun game develops pitching arms. Paint a large clown face on a piece of strong cardboard. Cut out a huge mouth, then prop the face against the open end of a cardboard box. (See diagram) Give each Beaver three bean bags to toss through the clown's mouth.

If you have some pretty advanced White Tail Beavers who are seeking more challenge, get them to design and make their own bean bag toss game. Provide large cardboard boxes for each child, markers, scissors, streamers, stickers and anything else they might like. Your White Tails could draw a face of a clown, lion, camel or bear. (See diagram below)

Other White Tail Beavers might wish to make a ring toss game. They could make this over several meetings. Let them hammer a 3 cm nail into a piece of plywood (30 cm x 45 cm). Provide water soluble paints so they can cover the entire wood surface. When dry, let them paint a colourful circus figure on the game board. With white glue, fasten a large pompom on the end of each nail head.

Now give each child four rubber canning rings (available at grocery stores) and let the ring tossing begin! Keo will love getting involved in this activity.

Photo: Philip Taylor

Kiss The Clown



Here's a Face to Draw



Clown

Lion

Camel

Bear

Clown Costumes

Make your costumes the week before your Big Top meeting; it will help build anticipation and excitement. Purchase cheap material to paint or colour, or use old, but clean adult clothes that Beavers can decorate to make their own clown costume. Don't forget to provide hats and materials to decorate them — especially flowers, pompoms and ribbons.

Circus Foods

Circus foods are easy to prepare ahead of time. Pop some popcorn and wrap it in small, individual-sized, plastic bags. Candied apples are always a treat. Why not get White Tail Beavers to help make them? You can buy cotton candy at many grocery or convenience stores. A creative parent or leader might want to bake and decorate a cake with circus figures or as a clown face. Toothpicks could become trampoline supports, stilts for miniature figures, or cages.

Ice Cream Clowns

Beavers will enjoy making ice cream clowns. Place a scoop of very

hard ice cream in a small dish. Add a candy mouth, nose and eyes. Use coconut for hair *but first make sure no one is allergic to nuts*. You may also use cream topping for hair. Add a cone to make the clown's hat. (See diagram)

Pompom Clowns

Pompom clowns make fun friends to wear on jackets. Give each child a large pompom for the body, two googly eyes, a small red pompom for the nose and a crescent shaped piece of felt for the mouth. With some glue, your Beavers will produce some beautiful clowns. When dry, attach a brooch pin to the back.

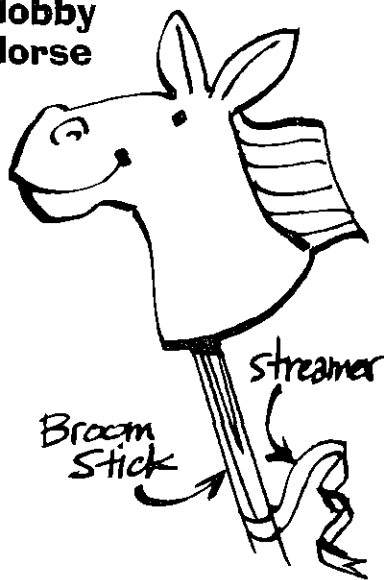
Hobby Horses

Everyone knows that circuses have ponies. Let's make some and put on our own horse show. From large sheets of construction paper, cut out two horse head shapes. Attach ears and colour the faces. Glue the two shapes together around the edges. Attach to a broom handle, stick or cardboard tube, and attach a short piece of streamer to the end. Then, mount up and ride away! (See diagram)

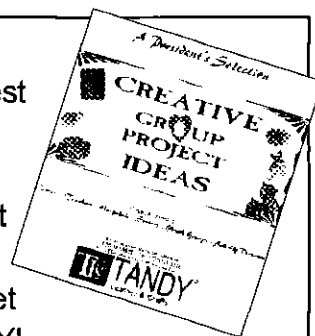
Ice Cream Clown



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CHILDREN LOVE LEATHERCRAFTS

1999 Year of the
OLDER PERSONS Idea

Cold weather is rapidly approaching and leaves will begin falling from the trees. Make arrangements with a senior living at home (or even with administrators at a seniors' residence) for your Beavers to visit and rake leaves. Collect the leaves and bring them to a local recycler or composter. Remember to "help God take care of His world."

The Prancing Horse Game

With masking tape, draw a large circle, about 6 metres in diameter in the centre of your circus tent. The prancing ponies (Beavers on their hobby horses) enter the ring and watch as the ringmaster gives silent commands, with his baton:

Twirls... the ponies turn around
Wave... ponies prance around the ring
Point to the floor... ponies go down on one knee
Tap floor... ponies hop up and down
Point up... ponies stand on hind legs.

Think up additional movements as the game progresses. Make sure the sticks aren't too long and each pony has lots of room to manoeuvre.

Clown Song

(Tune: "This Old Man")

This young clown, he fell down,
 He fell down all around the town.
 With a ha-ha ho-ho, belly laugh
 and smile
 He marched in a line single file.

This funny clown, he turned round,
 Tripped in his shoes and
 fell to the ground.
 With a ha-ha ho-ho, belly laugh
 and smile
 He marched in a line single file.

This big clown, in his car,
 Got a flat tire didn't go very far...

This little clown, lost his nose,
 Big tears fell right to his toes...

All the clowns, in a row,
 Had lots of fun in the Big Top Show...

Funny Puppies Game

In this obstacle race game your Beavers will pretend that they're puppies. Everyone must complete the race on hands and knees, except for one place in the race.

Set up two or three paths; at least one should be a little more difficult than the others to provide challenge for older Beavers. Divide the colony into lodges or tail groups, then set up the following activities:

- ☐ Hoops to jump through
- ☐ Tunnels (chairs) to crawl through
- ☐ Ringmaster activity where the 'puppies' stand on their hind feet and turn around in circles
- ☐ Jumping rope.

Tightrope Walkers

With masking tape, lay down a straight line the full length of your meeting room. Now, ask each Beaver and leader to walk the tightrope very carefully and slowly. When they've completed this task, find out who can walk the tightrope very quickly to the end, staying on the line of course.

It can be surprisingly difficult. Real tightrope walkers hold onto a heavy balancing pole that helps them maintain balance even in a wind.

Circus Bedlam

Divide the colony into groups, each representing a circus act: elephants, ponies, clowns, tightrope walkers, etc. Select one person to be the leader of each group and give that person a small container.

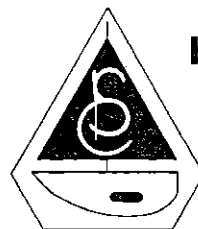
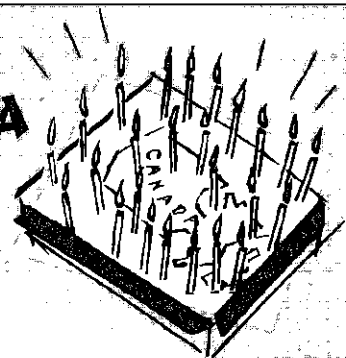
When the game begins, the ringmaster throws out wrapped candy, but only the leader of each group may pick it up. However, the ringmaster cannot pick the candy up unless someone in his group attracts his attention by making the sound of the animal. At the end of the game, share all treats.

A Saturday morning circus theme would make a great fall Beaver kick-off party. Invite the entire neighbourhood so they can enjoy a taste of Beavering. This will solve any recruiting problems you may have encountered in previous years. ^

— Leslie Forward clowns around Beaver colonies in Carbonear, NF.

BEAVER 25TH ANNIVERSARY IDEA

Bake a large, flat cake, and let Keeo draw a large map of Canada on it. Show where Beavers began (Manitoba), and show your own town. Sing "Happy birthday to us" before cutting the cake.



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Early Fall: A Great Time for Sharing Sessions

by Ross Francis

Fall provides an excellent opportunity for organizing a leader sharing session. Why fall? You've got many leaders joining with little or no Scouting experience. And they aren't just in your group; many are in neighbouring areas. Look for opportunities to share your experience with them.

Find out who these new leaders are and where they're serving. Ask yourself what you can do to help. Perhaps you can invite them to take part in your program for an evening. Or, get together with a new leader over coffee to discuss tricks of the Beavering trade. Districts or regions often organize larger sharing sessions to draw new leaders together so they can hear tried-and-true ideas. Any effective method to coach novice leaders will support them and reduce their stress levels.

Recipe for Success

Al Hoard (White Pine Region, ON) has a proven "Success Recipe" for Beaver sharing sessions. Like any major culinary undertaking, his recipe is based on the KISS (Keep It Simple Scouter) principle.

For starters, you need a Chef — someone with overall responsibility. A wise Chef will recruit a team of Sous Chefs, each of whom has distinctive responsibilities:


- ☐ Providing facilities
- ☐ Advertising the event

- ☐ Quartermastering the event
- ☐ Registration and organizing various sharing sessions.

A true Chef Meister will find out exactly what colony Scouters want and need to learn about by asking them. Never waste busy leaders' time teaching them something they have little need to know.

Most sharing sessions will include a dash of song, a pinch of crafts, a splash of stories, a liberal measure of sharing time and, to spice things up, heaping handfuls of outdoors activities.

How you mix the ingredients together will depend on your meeting location and the numbers attending. If you have several rooms, consider moving small groups through various sessions. Make sure a clock watcher keeps groups rotating at the proper time so no single session dominates the sharing.

It's not hard to organize a sharing session; the recipe is easy to follow, and the results provide the very "comfort food" new Beaver leaders crave. Best of all, the sessions are non-fattening because the calories you gain during snacks melt away during fun activities. 

CAN YOU ADD VERSES TO THIS SONG?

George Mawko, a colony Scouter from Dartmouth, NS, provided the first verse of Ted Brown's "Beaver Song."

I'm a Beaver,
you're a Beaver,
We are Beavers all,
And when we get together,
We give the Beaver CALL.

Ask your colony members if they would like to add a verse or two to this song. Then send me (Ross Francis) your literary masterpieces so I can share them in future issues.

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Have You Heard About these Badge Changes?

by Ross Francis

WHEN SCOUTERS IN THE FIELD offer suggestions, we respond as quickly as possible. That's why we're making changes to several badge requirements. These suggestions were approved by volunteers serving on the Cub Network (one Cub leader per province). The changes will appear in the next printing of *The Cub Handbook*, due in September 1999.

Swimmer Badge

The Swimmer Badge now only reflects swimming skills. Watercraft related skills no longer apply to it; these will appear in the Watercraft Badge. The new Swimmer Badge requirements are equivalent to The Red Cross Aqua Quest level 7 (verified by The Red Cross Society). Scouters in the field suggested that level 7 was more age-appropriate than level 8.

International Trade Badge

We've made many changes to this badge to make it more interesting and less like school work.

Red Star

Requirement #2 refers to "a recognized health and fitness test." We no longer use or promote these tests; instead, we've replaced it by promoting an "active living lifestyle." To reflect this change, the requirement had been modified to read: "Develop and follow your own personal active living program, with at least 15 minutes per day of activity for a two-week period."

Watch for future changes. Volunteers on the Cub Network are listening to your advice. Currently, we're reviewing the Computer Badge (to make it more up-to-date). As well, a Cub has suggested having a Snowboarder Badge. Good idea. X

The Leader of the Pack

Eleanor McEvoy (West Durham District) wrote this song. Sing it to the tune of "The Leader of the Pack." Thanks to Barb Pokorski (White Pine Region) for sharing it. Leaders could sing it to parents on registration night or to Cubs during a fall camp.

We met her at the corner store,
She turned around and smiled at us.
You get the picture? (Yes, we see)
That's when we first saw
The leader of the pack.

It's Cub registration
So bring your youth down (down, down).
The community centre
In old (your community's name) town.
She told us we'd be glad
But we knew we'd been had.
That's when she approached us,
The leader of the pack.

Camping and weekly
Meetings were new (new, new).

Selling apples and tree planting
To name just a few.
Our spouses all ask us why
We say we're sorry, we have to fly.
Oh no, another meeting with
The leader of the pack.

He sort of smiled and kissed me goodbye,
Spoken by one.
The tears were beginning to show
As I drove away on that rainy night
I begged
Don't let me go!
Whether he heard me, I'll never know.

The youth have been great,
You know that it's true (true, true).
Remembering all the things
We've been through.
The good times and the fun
We've shared,
Our free time's vanished
But we don't care!
We'll never forget being
A leader of the pack.

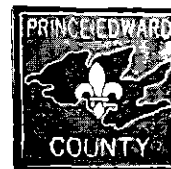
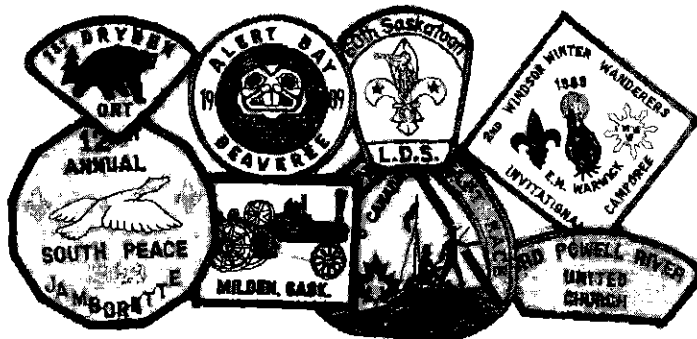
Leader of the pack and now
free time's gone!
Leader of the pack and boy,
we've had fun!
Leader of the pack and now
our song's done!

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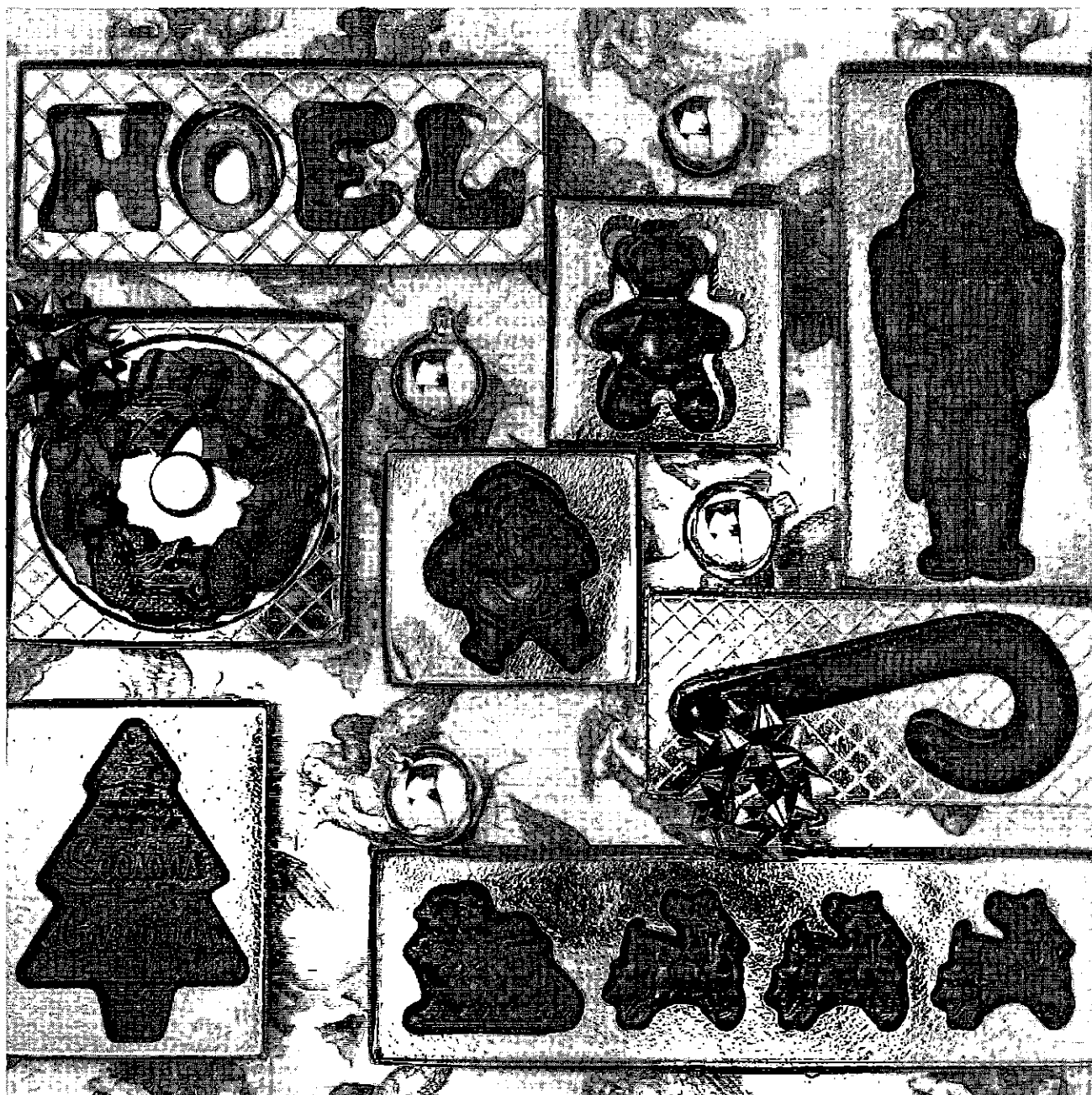
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All-New Fieldbook Packed Full of Ideas

by Ross Francis

WE'VE FINISHED THE completely new Scouts Canada *Fieldbook*! It's ready, in English or French, and waiting for you at your local Scout Shop.

Youths and leaders will find the new *Fieldbook* packed full of useful, up-to-date information that will improve any wilderness experience. It covers all areas of outdoor enjoyment, from planning and preparing, to winter camping and outdoor emergencies.



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Recognizing that every safe outing begins at home, the new *Fieldbook* will 'walk' you through the adventure, starting at the very beginning. The first three chapters deal with the basics: Before Setting Out, Planning Your Adventure, and Preparing Your Adventure.

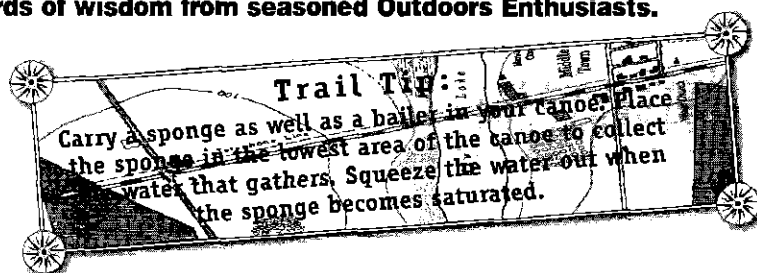
The next three chapters describe what you'll need for a safe, enjoyable experience: Meals and Nutrition, Equipment, and Tools.

Once you're ready and equipped, other *Fieldbook* chapters describe what you can do at the trailhead or lake: The Great Outdoors, Winter Camping, Ropes and Spars, Map and Compass, Water Safety, Canoeing, First Aid, Weathering the Outdoors, Natural History, Cycling, and The Stars.

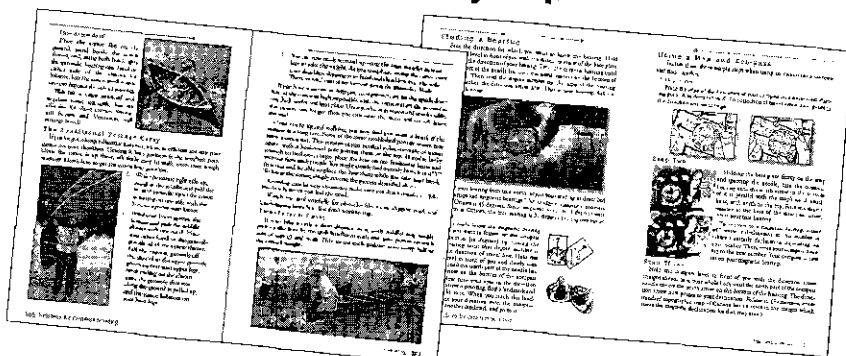
Trail Tips Galore

You'll find all sorts of great trail tips scattered throughout the book.

Trail Tips throughout the book contain little hints and words of wisdom from seasoned Outdoors Enthusiasts.



Whether it's canoes, campfires or compasses, the *Fieldbook* is sure to answer your questions.



Here's a sampling:

- ☞ Liquid fuel freezes at a much lower temperature than water. Because of this, it becomes super cold, but stays in a liquid state. Avoid spilling fuel on exposed flesh, especially in winter when it could cause serious frostbite.
- ☞ If you place a large sponge at the lowest end of your canoe, it will collect and absorb water. When the sponge swells full of water, just wring it out. A sponge is also useful for washing off a canoe after a particularly muddy portage.
- ☞ In winter, allow extra time for travelling, cooking and setting up camp. Remember: the sun goes down early in winter.

Humour Is Vital

To add a bit of humour to the book, we've included some Wacky 'Expert' camp tips. (Of course, readers shouldn't take them seriously.) See the sampling below.

Great Assistance

Many professional organizations have offered advice and assistance. This guarantees that the *Fieldbook* contains the most recent thoughts on outdoor activities and safety.

St. John Ambulance and the Canadian Red Cross gave us permission to use their First Aid and Water Safety material, complete with pictures and artwork. The Canadian Recreational Canoe Association provided advice for the Canoeing chapter, while Denis Bourque (Environment Canada) helped with the Weather chapter.



Colour it Bright

You'll notice the *Fieldbook* has full colour throughout. This makes it visually more appealing and easier to read. Where models were required, we recruited a local Scout Troop — 63rd Ottawa.

Field-tested and ready: that describes the new *Fieldbook*. Before starting to write it, we asked Scou-

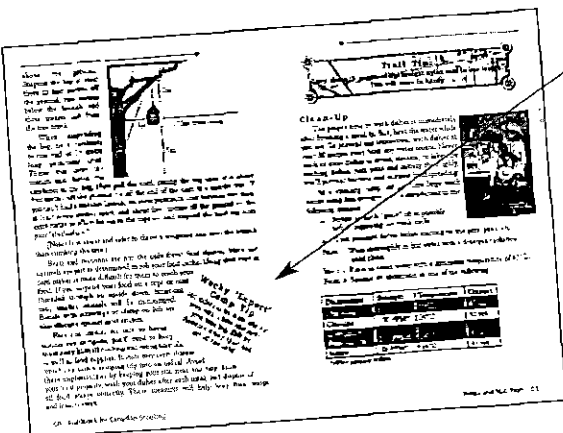
ters in the field what they needed. As the book progressed, leaders and youths from across Canada read drafts and offered suggestions. We have provided an excellent index to help you find what you are looking for quickly; we've even colour-coded chapters, making the book very user-friendly.

The all-new *Fieldbook* has virtually everything you need to enjoy the outdoors, even a mini field guide for identifying birds and animals. A "tree key" will make identifying trees simple while hiking through the woods.

Pick Yours Up Now!

Your very own copy of the completely re-written *Fieldbook* is waiting for you. At \$14.95, it's a great bargain. Pick up a copy at your local Scout Shop today! ^

Wacky "Expert" tips serve to add a touch of humour throughout the *Fieldbook*.



Wacky 'Expert' Camp Tip
Get even with a bear who raids your food bag. Kick its favourite stump apart and eat all the ants!

Wacky 'Expert' Camp Tip
When using a public campground, place a tuba on your picnic table. This will keep the campsites on either side vacant.

Wacky 'Expert' Camp Tip
"Bear bells" provide an element of safety for hikers in grizzly country. The tricky part is getting them on the bears.

— Advertisement —

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- Susan Lunn, Lethbridge 24th Division Scouts

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The Troop Planning Fire

by Herb Barge

TROOP PLANNING IS like building a good fire. You must gather a variety of fuels, surround it with rocks to organize and contain it, then find a good match to ignite and burn the fuel.

With troop planning, the Scouts, counsellors, Troop Scouter, parents and group committee represent the fuel; the Court of Honour represents the rocks which organize and contain it; the Troop Scouter and leaders represent the match to ignite and start the fire.

Too many troops simply touch a match to wood, without doing any other necessary preparations. Then

they wonder why their fire (plan) throws no heat (is dull and boring), and quickly goes out.

Successful troops don't ignore any steps. In these groups, the Troop Scouter can sit back and enjoy the dancing flames. Here are some suggestions for building a good planning 'fire.'

Gather the Fuel

Get patrols to hold a meeting where they individually list things they would like to do as a patrol or as a troop activity during the year. On a separate piece of paper, ask members to list badges that members want to earn during the year.

Scouters should also prepare a list of things they would like to do or accomplish during the year. Next, Scouts and Scouters should compile a list of important dates, holidays, etc. from their families. Include known job commitments of leaders. Ask your group committee, sponsor, district and region for a list of activities (including national events) that are important to both them and the troop.

Contain, Organize and Lay the Fire.

The Court of Honour should gather all these lists together and hold one or more meetings with the following assigned tasks:

Task A

Take the list of badges from each patrol and combine them into one list. You'll find many duplications. On large sheets of paper (one for each badge), list the badge requirements; hang the sheets on a wall. Highlight or circle requirements which your Scouts must complete outdoors. At this point you might feel you need a data base.

Task B

On a large planning calendar for one full year, enter holidays and all district, regional and national events that interest your Scouts. Consulting the badge sheets (posted on the walls), write down the badge require-

ments that could be accomplished by participating in these events. For reference, combine the list of family and Scouter commitments onto one sheet.

Task C

Establish an outline plan of themes for each month. Take note of this at the top of each month's calendar.

Task D

Write on the calendar all dates of patrol meetings, events, hikes and camps. (The information should come from patrol lists.) From the wall badge sheets, write down on each activity the badge requirements that can be accomplished by the event; check them off the badge sheet.

Task E

Write the dates for troop meetings, events, hikes and camps on the calendar. From the wall badge sheets, enter the badge requirements that can be accomplished at that event; check them off the badge sheet.

Task F

Review the wall badge lists noting any requirements that have not been checked off. Decide if you can plan activities which will encompass them or if it's something individual Scouts must do on their own. If it turns out as individual activity, plan some type of encouragement for those Scouts.

Task G

Publish an outline calendar of events, and make sure Scouts, leaders, parents, group committee and sponsor get a copy so no one can say, "I didn't know it was happening."

Light the Planning Fire

Now the detailed plan can be turned over to the Scout Counsellors and Troop Scouter to carry it out. Make sure you involve patrol leaders and the Court of Honour.

Hey! Mr. Match, light that fire. ^

— Herb Barge is the Regional Commissioner in Calgary, AB.

SOME IMPORTANT TIPS

Organizing a Court of Honour is much easier if you start Scouts off by setting a planning goal as the Court's main function. Troop honour and discipline will work better later once Scouts get used to planning.

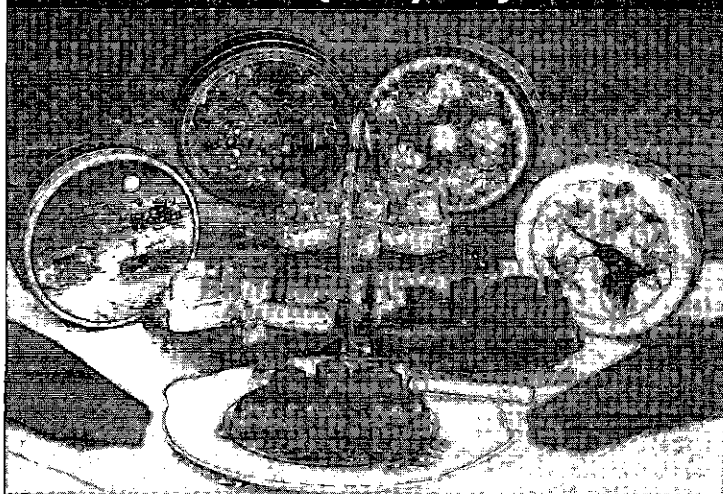
Give your Scouts specific tasks to accomplish during patrol or Court of Honour meetings. It will help things run smoother. Make sure Scouts can accomplish the task in the time you have allotted. If they can't, break it down into smaller tasks and gather more often.

This planning process will make everyone happier and give Scouts more ownership of the program. You might even find membership increases because of it.

At least initially, don't be surprised if the Court of Honour takes longer and involves more effort for you, the Troop Scouter. But don't despair. Soon the Scouts will take over, and the Court will take less time.

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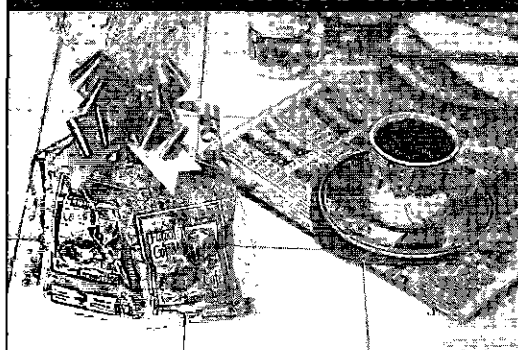
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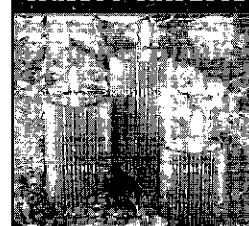


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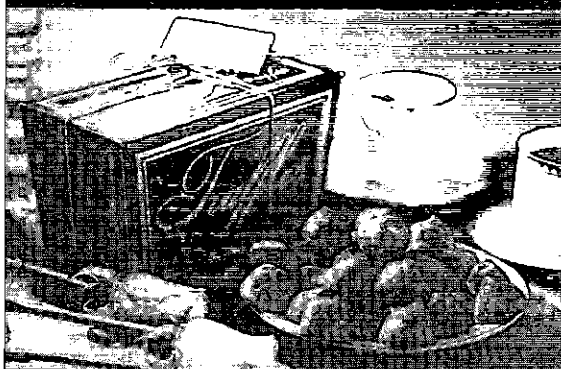
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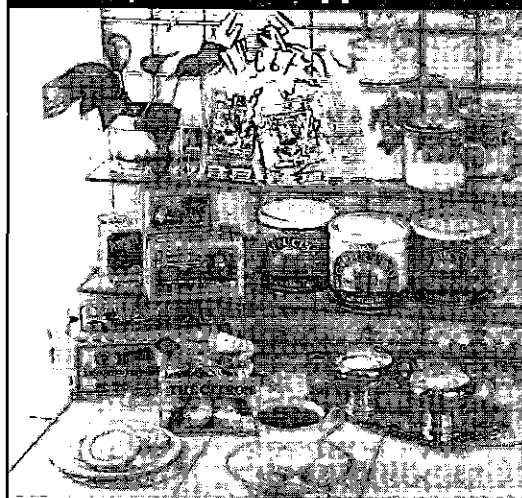
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You Don't Need Matches to Light a Fire

by Ian Mitchell

Night was falling fast as I prepared to cook the evening's dinner over an open fire. The site properly cleared, kindling and pieces of wood neatly arranged in a pyramid, life was good. It was then that I discovered my water-logged matches.

"Have you ever used one of these?" asked the Scouter from Liverpool, NS.

"What is it?" I asked.

From a long canvas bag he pulled out four pieces of wood and a leather thong. Kneeling, he put together his fire bow drill and started seesawing. Less than a minute later, a flame was licking his tinder.



We've all heard tales of starting fires without matches or lighters, but this was the first time I had witnessed the miracle. Pre-historic hunters couldn't transport a fire or glowing coals easily from hunting site to site; instead, many of them used fire bows. Here's a chance to really grab the attention of your Venturers early in the program and get them anticipating more Scouting activities.

At a fall camp, challenge your Venturers with the task of making a fire bow drill, and then starting a fire with it. For incentive, tell them that they have to cook their lunch over their personally made fire. That's sure to ignite some excitement!

When everyone has built a fire bow drill, organize a fire-making race to see who can make a fire quickest. The fastest record is thirty-one seconds — it wasn't me. Can

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your Venturers beat that time? You might want to set up a number of fire-making stations using various ideas presented below. Venturers would love the challenge.

Fire Bow Drill

Step #1

Using dry pieces of balsam fir, make a block and drill. (See the diagram below)

The block should be 5 cm wide, about 16 mm thick and 15-20 cm long. Cut a notch near one end on the side about 13 mm deep. Make it wider on the underside. Near the end of the notch make a small hollow or pit.

For the drill (16 mm thick and 30-37 cm long), find a piece of wood that is long, straight and round. Sharpen both ends as shown.

Step #2

Construct the bow by bending any stick approximately 60 cm long; attach a leather thong to it.

Step #3

Make the socket by boring a small pit about 6 mm deep into a hard piece of wood. A large knot from any piece of wood works well.

Light 'Er Up!

Now your Venturers are ready to start sawing away on their bows.

Place something thin, like a wood chip, under the notch in the block. Wrap the leather thong on the bow around the shaft of the drill once. (See diagram) The thong should be quite tight and grasp the drill firmly. Put one end of the drill in the block pit, and the other end in the socket pit.

Holding the socket in your left hand, rest your left wrist against your shin. This will keep things steady. With your left foot on the block, draw the bow slowly back and forth with your right hand, using the bow's full length. This action will cause the drill to spin, producing a black powder which will soon begin smoking. Press down harder on the socket and draw the bow faster only *after* smoke appears. When lots of smoke is rising from the powder, remove the block cautiously, leaving the powder on the chip. Fan this with your hand until a live, red ember appears.

Gently place tinder (very dry, fine dead grass mixed with shredded birch bark) on the spark, and blow. With a little practice, a small flame will blossom forth with the greatest of ease.

Fire Thong

This fire-making method takes time and practice, but it will produce smoking embers with some effort.

You'll need a thin (1/2cm) piece of dry rattan approximately 60 cm long.

Split a dry stick at one end, prop it open with a rock or wood wedge, and place dry tinder inside. Leave just enough room to slip the rattan inside. (See diagram below)

Holding down the stick with a foot or thigh, pull the rattan back and forth quickly. The faster the movement, the quicker the flames will appear.

As with other fire-making methods, once you have lots of smoke and an ember, blow on it. Dry tinder should produce a flame.

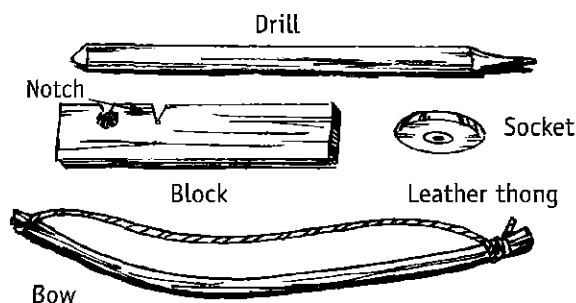
Harness the Sun's Power

If you don't have anything else to start a fire, look around for a curved piece of glass. A lens from binoculars or a camera works well, as does the bottom from an old pop bottle.

Use the lens to focus the sun's rays in as small a point as possible. On a hot day it will take only seconds to ignite tinder.

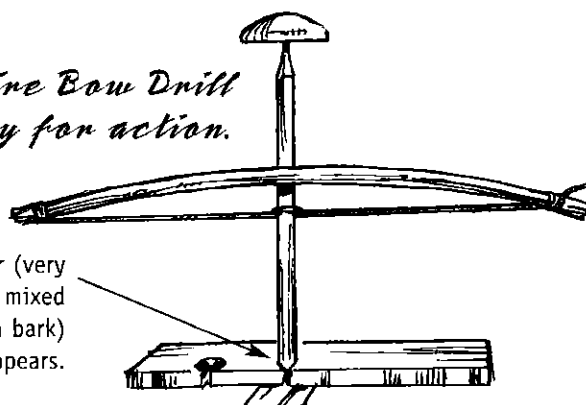
It's not too hard to start a fire if you really want or need to do it. Just put yourself in the shoes of a cave man and use friction to heat up dry wood. You might even want your Venturers to visit a nearby Scout Shop to get some flint and steel. Pioneers depended on flint for generations. Your local Scout Shop will also have the new Scouts Canada *Fieldbook*, an excellent resource for campfire tips. X

Fire Bow Drill

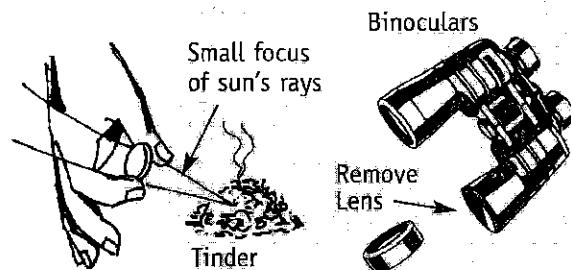


Fire Bow Drill ready for action.

Gently place tinder (very dry, fine dead grass mixed with shredded birch bark) once a spark appears.



Harness the Sun's Power



Fire Thong



Recognize Extraordinary Performance

The honours and awards process: Part 3

by Rob Stewart

The last two segments in this three-part series dealt with the step-by-step process for developing award applications for outstanding service to Scouting. Specifically, we considered the Gallantry, Meritorious Conduct and Jack Cornwell Awards. Let's now look at how long it takes to process award applications, various award presentation ideas and some award examples.

Timing

"It takes an award a long time to move through the system," many people say. "It's so frustrating."

This is a common complaint, but before you voice it too, remember: honours and awards committees at a number of levels (depending on the council) must review an application. In smaller provincial councils, an application may go directly from the person who starts the process, to the provincial honours and awards committee. *Zing!* In larger councils, the award may go through district, regional and provincial committees. Each committee needs time to judge the level of the award.

If volunteers at the provincial level decide the service or activity is important enough to warrant a national award (e.g. Silver Acorn), the application goes to the National Office, which distributes it to volunteers on the National Honours and Awards Committee. Members then process each award and return them to provincial councils within 30 days. Many other councils also set similar time frames to ensure the process doesn't bog down unnecessarily; but committee members do need time to work.

If you want to present an award at a specific event, allow three months for the application to move through the system.

Presentation

All of us like recognition for our efforts; particularly, we like getting recognized in front of peers. How an

award is presented can increase its impact and appreciation. Group and district banquets provide a great opportunity to say "thank you" to all leaders who have devoted time to Scouting. Annual meetings at all levels offer another excellent chance to recognize dedicated leaders.

A letter from the National Commissioner announces all awards within the national program (e.g. Medal of Merit, Silver Acorn). Although addressed to the award recipient, the letter is sent to the provincial council for presentation. This offers some interesting possibilities; you can really surprise and flatter a Scouter with a congratulatory letter from the National Commissioner!

Unleash Your Creativity

In past years, many recipients have answered their door at home only to find a youth member dressed in full uniform who read a letter announcing the award. Other Scouters have been surprised at their places of work or at Scouting meetings. Can your group think up an interesting way to make the award announcement?

One Scouter worked as a television weather forecaster. The station manager let us interrupt his program so a Scout could inform him "on air" that he had been awarded the Silver Wolf. What a surprise. No one had ever seen this Scouter speechless before!

Our Chief Scout, the Governor General, presents some of the awards at a ceremony at Govern-

ment House in Ottawa every November. These awards include the Jack Cornwell Award, the Gold, Silver and Bronze Crosses, the Medal for Meritorious Conduct, the Silver Fox (to Scouters from outside Canada), the Silver Wolf and the Silver Maple Leaf (for executive staff).

Heroes Every One

It's amazing to see the acts of bravery, perseverance and service to Scouting honoured at this ceremony each year. For example, Duncan Bradley (Pierrefonds, Quebec), received the Bronze Cross for saving the life of a man who fell from a waterfall and hit his head on rocks before tumbling into a pool of water. Duncan jumped in and kept the man afloat until help arrived.

Jason Gustafson (Devon, AB) received the Medal for Meritorious Conduct after helping to rescue a young girl who fell into a lagoon and was suffering from hypothermia.

David Jenkinson (Winnipeg, MB) was honoured with a Silver Wolf for his many years of outstanding service to Scouting in a variety of roles. He served as provincial commissioner of the Manitoba Council and chair of the National Program Committee, to name only a few.

Show Them You Care

If you feel someone deserves an award, take action. Begin the application process right now. Don't delay. Sure, it takes time to gather the data, but it's worth it. In the words of Joan Randall, Chair of the National Honours and Awards Committee: "It's a lot easier to say 'thank you' than it is to recruit a new Scouter." Besides, recognition gives valuable returns to both the Scouter and Scouting.

"Getting this honour only spurs me on to continue working within the Movement," said one recipient who received a Medal of Merit.

We've got great volunteers. Show them you appreciate their dedication to Scouting. X

Planning Ahead Brings No Unfortunate Surprises

by Ben Kruser

Welcome back to another great Scouting year. I hope your summer was filled with many outdoor adventures. Perhaps you can share some experiences with your group.

If you haven't begun already, Scouters need to start fall program planning. Without a clear idea what you want to achieve this year, you won't reach your target; in some cases, you won't even come close.

Of course, it's vital to ask group members what they want to do, but before your first meeting, you can still plan for events that all Scouts expect:

- ☐ Hikes
- ☐ Campouts
- ☐ Banquets
- ☐ Welcoming & going-up ceremonies
- ☐ Scout-Guide week events.

Plan these activities well in advance as they may require booking a facility or campground. Many leaders wait too long to book facilities or acquire necessary materials. For example, if you want to go on an overnight hike three months from now, purchase enough hiking-related badges now. If you expect to have a Beaver Buggy night in the spring, don't wait until the week before to buy the kits. (Otherwise, the wheels might fall off your plan.)

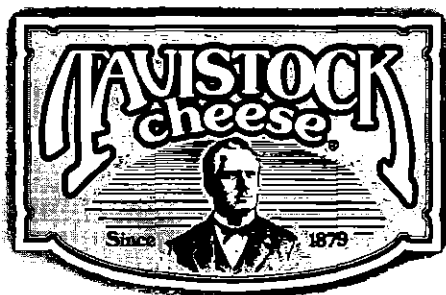
Procrastinators Beware!

Many groups organize similar events at identical times of the year (e.g. Scout-Guide week celebrations, Kub Kar rallies, camps). If you walk into a Scout Shop only days before you need key program supplies, another leader may have just purchased the last items in stock. It's hard for Scout Shops to predict needs, especially if there's a large influx of un-

expected orders. While Scout Shops do adjust their inventory quantities for seasonal changes, they must also carry a realistic amount of stock based on council financial limits. When an unusual number of leaders all want the same product at once, occasionally Scout Shops run out of material.

The Bottom Line

Make important purchases well before special events. If the Scout Shop is out of stock, its manager will have time to order more materials. This process may take several weeks because some manufacturers might have to produce additional items from scratch. By purchasing important program and recognition materials early, you help spread the buying cycle out and guarantee that you'll have items for your activity. ^



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Brag About Your Thriving Group to Us

by Bryon Milliere

We'll send you a mug!

Great groups. Every district has one. We're looking for stories about groups that are *really* thriving.

If one or more sections in your group are flourishing, tell us all about them. Describe what your group does to inspire the leaders and youths. We'll send a World Scouting Mug to the first ten entrants who tell us all about their success and how to duplicate it in other groups. Future *Network* columns will highlight the best submissions.

Specifically, we want to know how your group excels at:

Recruiting leaders, linking sections, involving parents, communicating with parents, recruiting and retaining youths, encouraging family participation, developing a presence in the community or with partner organizations.

Describe at Least Four

Your 400-700 word submission must cover *at least four* of these seven areas. We prefer e-mailed or printed write-ups, but we will accept handwritten submissions, too. Send your write-up to: Bryon Milliere, Scouts Canada (Volunteer Services), 1345 Baseline Road, Ottawa, ON, K2C 0A7. Or, fax: (613) 224-3571; e-mail: bmilliere@scouts.ca.

Include your name, address and phone number/e-mail

address. The post mark date will be our reference when judging winners for the first ten qualifying submissions. We will acknowledge all submissions.

If you're wondering how to approach this challenge, here are some questions to get you thinking.

Probing Questions

Do you have a unique group or are you just really good at doing what other groups struggle with? Who are the heroes in your group? Many groups have an individual who seems to be the sparkplug for the group; others have a team of people who have really 'gelled' together.

What is your group known for? Do your members share a common philosophy or belief?

Recruiting Leaders

How does your group identify and recruit appropriate leaders? When do you recruit (i.e. time of year)? Who makes the approach? What support (such as training and coaching) do you give to new leaders to help them succeed? Do parents support the volunteer screening process?

Linking the Sections

What linking activities do your sections participate in? How well do leaders communicate between sections? How many opportunities do youths have to interact with older sections? Which sections have junior leader roles?

Communicating with Parents

Bulletins, e-mail, notes home, group committee meetings, special meetings, registration nights, socials and family events are some of the many ways groups connect with parents. What works best for your group to keep parents informed and involved? Does your group have a newsletter or regular communication tool aimed at parents? Include a copy.

Recruiting and Retaining Youth

What does your group do to ensure all youths in your area have the opportunity to get involved? What do you do to ensure youths know they're welcome to return in the fall? What compels them to return?


Encouraging Family Participation

Does your group do anything special to involve the whole family? This might involve banquets, barbeques, family fun days or camps.

Making Scouting Known

Is Scouting the best kept secret in your community? Does your partner organization identify readily with the group? How does your group develop its presence?

Tell us all about your successes and we'll tell the world. If you're among the first ten entrants, you'll get a free mug. Write to us today, then "get mugged"! \



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SCOUTER'S 5

Thanks to Scouter Linda Kish of Lethbridge, AB, for providing these thoughts.

Do It NOW

One motto which every Scout should consider and act on is this: "I will only pass this way once; any good I can show for any fellow creature, let me do it NOW."

Once, when driving in my car, I passed a tired person on a dusty road. Afterwards, I asked myself why I hadn't offered to give him a drive. Then I thought probably he would be going a short distance to a nearby house. But as I drove farther, I saw no house and I realized the person had a long way to walk on the dusty road. I had missed an opportunity. I hadn't "done it now."

Don't make the mistake I made. Stop, and help people now. If you have to, turn around and help strangers along life's highway.

Build a Better World

The Lord God wants us to do what we can to improve the world. He knows our efforts won't completely solve injustice issues or hunger issues or rid the world of hatred. All God wants us to do is to act in our own little circle. In the next ten minutes, do something nice for someone — preferably someone you might not even care for or don't know. Anyone can help a friend, but it's the person who serves someone they don't care for who really builds peace.

Like tossing a pebble into a pond, your good works will spread out from you. They will change your 'pond' and encourage others to do their best too.

Scouter's Five Minutes

Aug./Sept. '99

SONGS

Sing 'the Scouting' Song

This is a great tune to sing around a fall campfire. It may even build anticipation for moving up to more senior sections. Sing it to the melody of "The Ballad of the Green Beret."

If you're going to sing this in a colony or pack, find out if Keeo or Kim can lead it by playing a guitar or recorder. (Others may want to take part using instruments too — the more the better.) For a Scout troop, ask a local Venturer company to come and lead the singing.

Some groups may prefer reading the words. You can use it as a Scouter's Five, or opening or closing thoughts to a multi-section event.

C F C
Come and meet some kids who care

G C
Having fun while they learn to share

F C
Beavers all across the map

G C FC
Give their tails a mighty slap!

Put six bright stars upon your chest
Then you've become one of Wolf Cubs' best
You put yourself above the rest
When you take a vow to do your best.

And when you learn to be prepared
You'll have fellowship that many have shared
And when you wear the Chief Scout's crest
Then you've become one of Scouting's best.

Challenge body, soul and mind
And Scouting spirit you'll find
Watch with pride your flags unfurled
As you venture out to meet the world.

Songs

Aug./Sept. '99

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the **leader**

Service is the Rover creed
 Helping out where there is a need
 Young women and men across the land
 Glad to give a helping hand.

Let's not forget adults who care
 A common bond all Scouters share
 A purple badge we wear with pride
 Serving Scouting youth worldwide.

— Rick Snider, 119th Edmonton Scout Group, AB.

Celebratory Cheers

These two cheers will help kick off your new Scouting year with enthusiastic vigour. Beavers can use them during 25th Anniversary parties. They're easy for anyone to learn. (South Waterloo District in Ontario provided these cheers.)

Wacky Cheer

Use this cheer after a wacky performance.

Wicky, Wacky, Wicky, Wacky
 Woo, Woo, Woo!
 Wicky, Wacky, Wicky, Wacky
 Woo, Woo, Woo!
 WA-CKY!!

Rocket Cheer

This cheer works well after a performance.

In it, each Beaver or Cub becomes a rocket to show appreciation. Placing their hands above their heads forming a rocket nose cone, Beavers or Cubs bend down close to the ground ready to spring upwards. Then they count down from five (longer than that creates rowdiness). At zero, everyone jumps up in the air yelling, "WHOOSH!"

Songs

Plant a Future Garden

If you plant for a year, plant flowers. If you plant for a century, plant trees. If you plant forever, 'plant' people.

In tomorrow's world, the ability to face the new will be more important than the ability to know and repeat the old. When a child is told what to learn, the youth learns to repeat. But when a child is able to explore on his own, his mind stays open and is able to create something new. That's progress.



I Am the Future

I am a child. All the world waits for my growing up. All the Earth watches with interest to see what children like me shall become. Civilization hangs in the balance.

I am a child; you hold some of my destiny in your hand. You determine (to an extent) whether I shall succeed or fail. Give me skills and abilities that help build happiness — real happiness, not momentary selfish pleasures that disappear in moments. Train me so I can be a blessing to the world and the people in it.

Scouter's Five Minutes

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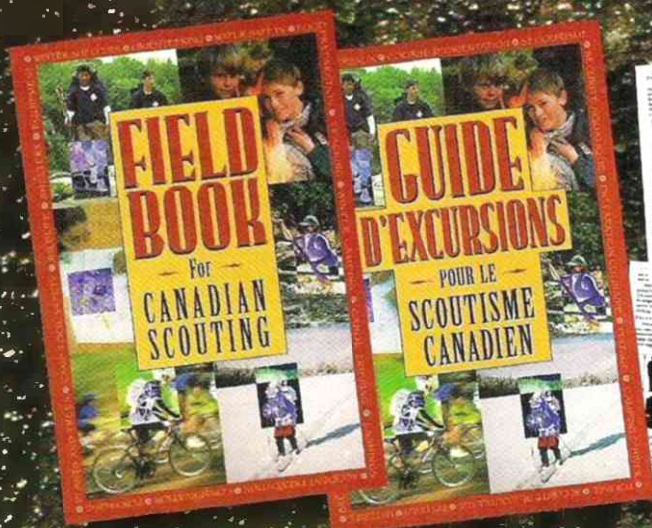
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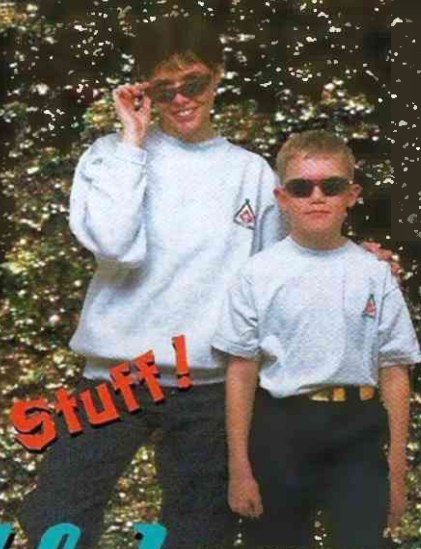


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Co-ed Scouting and More

Scouts Canada's National Council held its semi-annual meeting in Montreal on May 15, 1999. The meeting brings together representatives of the provincial councils, chairs of national standing committees, and the National Management Board.

These motions were approved:

1. That the National Council authorize a two-year experiment allowing Scouters in Training to participate in Woodbadge 1 programs for the section they are serving and be recognized for completing them, and that youth aged 16 and over be allowed

- to participate in the development for Trainer 1 Accreditation.
2. That the following change be made to B.P. & P.: "The Canada Cord Pin may be worn by former youth members of Guiding above the right breast pocket until such time as they earn their Queen's Venturer Award."
3. That the group neckerchief be presented once a new volunteer has agreed to serve, and the group has completed the reference checks, interviewed the new volunteer, submitted the Application for Membership and Appointment of an Adult and submitted authorization for a Police Records Check. Only the epaulettes (signifying investiture) should be withheld.
4. That the National Council hold a National Youth Forum in the summer of 2000, as outlined in the proposal presented by the National Youth Committee to the November 1998 National Council Meeting.
5. That the Co-educational Scouting Task Group report be adopted.

1. That effective August, 2000, all registered section leaders and their assistants will receive the **Leader Magazine**, either through the National Council paid subscription or the Every Scouter Plan.
2. That the National Key 3 be directed to establish a small and representative task group to prepare a by-law for Scouts Canada based on a national governance board model, to be presented to the National Council for approval in November, 1999. The final form of the by-law changes is to be prepared and disseminated by September 1, 1999. (The original structure motion from the National Staffing Task Group introduced in November, 1998 was withdrawn.)
3. That Scouts Canada National Council implement a membership fee increase of up to \$5.00, effective September 1, 2000.
4. That Scouts Canada adopt a fiscal year end of December 31 for all councils, effective December 31, 2000.

Notice of Annual Meeting Boy Scouts of Canada

**Saturday,
November 20, 1999
4:45 p.m.
Radisson Hotel,
Ottawa, Ontario**

Purpose:

- (1) Consider the annual report
- (2) Consider the annual financial statements and auditor's report
- (3) Elect officers, members, honorary members, committee chairpersons, and others of National Council
- (4) Appoint the auditor, who shall be a chartered accountant

Notices of Motion

The following Notices of Motion were presented. (These motions will be discussed and voted on at the November, 1999 National Council meeting.)

Want More Information?

For more information regarding the National Council meeting, surf to www.scouts.ca. The next National Council meeting will be held Saturday, November 20, 1999 in Ottawa. ^

Co-Educational Scouting Task Group Summary Recommendations

Here is a summary of recommendations made by the Co-Educational Scouting Task Group:

1. That Scouts Canada highly recommends co-ed leadership in sections with male and female youth members.
2. That Scouts Canada amend the section of B.P. & P. titled "Requirements for Leadership" (pages 55 and 56) to reflect the fact that co-ed leadership is highly recommended for Beaver, Cub, Scout and Venturer sections when they contain both male and female members.
3. That the Volunteer Services Committee:
 - a) Review and, if necessary, revise existing training materials to ensure they provide sufficient support and information for co-educational Scouting.
 - b) Review and, if necessary, revise materials provided to Service Scouters to ensure they contain the resources

needed to assist with co-educational Scouting issues.

4. That National Council develop an internal and external communication strategy to ensure easy access to current information and support material concerning co-educational Scouting.
5. That existing national networking capabilities be promoted and, if necessary, expanded to enable Scouters to support each other on co-educational issues.
6. That Scouts Canada work with groups to ensure compliance with the requirements of co-educational Scouting.
7. That non-compliance be addressed through counseling and education and that, failing all reasonable steps, withdrawal of membership be considered.
8. That councils review all written materials produced at their level to ensure the content is both language inclusive and meets the needs of a co-educational group.



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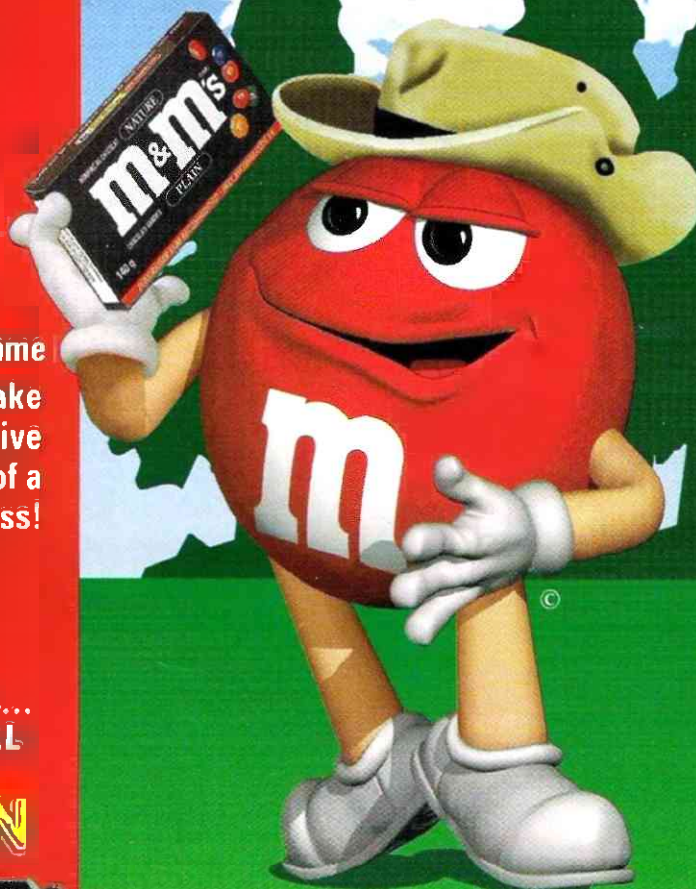
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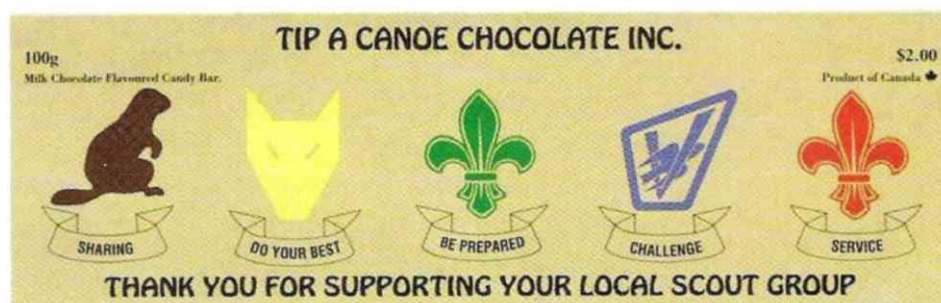


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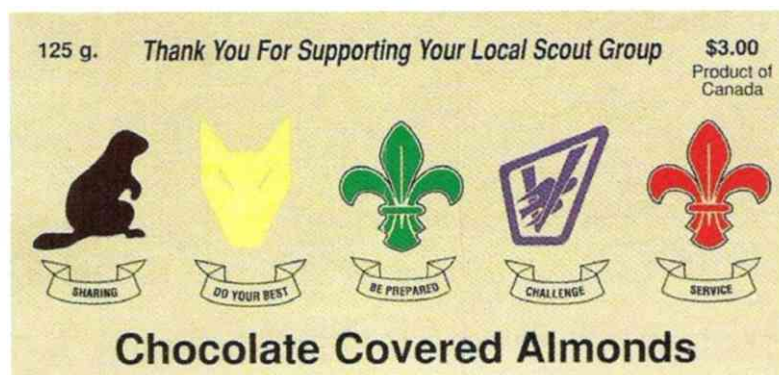
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