



# the leader



## It's Your Magazine!



**H**ave you ever wondered how the **Leader Magazine** is produced each month, and who its columnists are?

Almost every **Leader** article begins with a very happy section Scouter experiencing a successful evening program. Terry Nail from Calgary, AB, is a good example. He sent in a story about a wild west program for Beavers that his members enjoyed as an all-day event. Recognizing a great theme, we edited his words, making sure leaders only had to read the article to know exactly how to duplicate Terry's success. (Terry told us precisely how to play all the games, and make all the crafts.) The result was a terrific three-page program article.

Sometimes a number of Scouters send us programs covering similar themes, but for different sections. We

combine several articles into one large piece so as many children as possible benefit. Of course, each writer receives full credit in **the Leader** for his or her submission.

If a leader sends a brief write-up that sounds interesting, we'll either ask for more details, or publish it "as is" in the *Swap Shop* column. We look for every opportunity to publish *your* submissions, though it might take a year or more to find the perfect place.

Because **the Leader** doesn't have staff photographers, we depend on Scouters like you to mail us pictures. Why not package up and send us your best ones right now?

### Frequent Contributors

Over the past year you've probably noticed several Scouters' names appearing frequently in by-lines. These section leaders send us a steady stream of their best ideas.

Hazel Hallgren (Red Deer, AB) has been a Beaver leader since the mid-1970s. About every four months she sends in a box with all of her best program material included, with a full explanation of each game, craft, theme and other specific activity. You've read about many of her terrific programs.

Colin Wallace (Scarborough, ON) became a Cub in Scotland. Later, he joined Scouts and Rovers. His creative imagination and fun-loving approach to life make him an outstanding contributor. Last year he wrote an off-the-ground feature, a trivia article, and several others.

Guy Mandeville, a Scouter from Trenton, ON, sends in a lot of material each year, often dealing with Aboriginal subjects. In addition to a feature piece this past year, Guy authored many submissions for the Scouter's Five section of the magazine.

**The Leader Magazine** is always on the lookout for interesting Scouting stories and images. A good share of the content is generated by the staff at the national office. From left to right, they are: Ross Francis, Allen Macartney, Ian Mitchell, Jennifer Austin, Lena Wong, Ben Kruser, Laureen Duquette and Richard Petsche.



Photo: Heather Downs-Macintosh

## Regular Columnists

Many readers ask about our columnists. Who are they, and where do they come from? All but several work at the National Office.

Ross Francis writes the *Sharing*, *Paksak* and *Outdoor* columns. He's a program director who started work as a field executive in New Brunswick. Ross has been writing the *Sharing*, *Paksak* and *Outdoor* columns for about seven years.

Ian Mitchell started as a field executive in Nova Scotia before becoming a council director in British Columbia. Today, he is a program director in the National Office for Scouts, Venturers and Rovers. He writes the *Patrol Corner*, *Venturer Log* and *Rover* columns.

Ben Kruser joined staff in Calgary, AB, then became the director of programs (Beavers, Cubs and Outdoors) in the 1980s. About 10 years later, he became executive director of Retail Services. Today he writes the *In the Market* column.

For years Lena Wong wrote the *Fun at the Pond* column. An accomplished writer who works in International Affairs at the National Office, she writes the *International Scouting* column, as well as the Jamboree on the Air pieces.

Ruth Dubeau (North Bay, ON) writes the *Fun at the Pond* column. She is a librarian and Beaver leader who contributed many feature articles before we asked her to take over this popular column.

Dave Jenkinson (Winnipeg, MB) writes the bimonthly *Book Talk*. A former provincial commissioner, Dave teaches at the University of Manitoba and works with a Cub pack.

Lauri Cunningham used to co-write the *Bridge the Gap* column with Bryon Milliere. Now she writes it herself. She was an Akela in Thornhill, ON, before moving to Ottawa as a trainer.

## Your Leader Staff

A small staff at the National Office tries to make **the Leader** as practical as possible for section Scouters. The staff includes the executive editor, editor, art director, as well as an experienced circulation and advertising assistant.

Before becoming **the Leader's** executive editor six months ago, Jennifer Austin worked in the high-tech industry, for a federal cabinet minister, and for other private and non-profit organizations. Jennifer is an active leader in the Girl Guides.

*Send the Leader  
some of your best  
program material.*

Allen Macartney, your editor since 1993, has an extensive writing, editing, photography and camping background. He has led several 800-km canoe trips down the Yukon River retracing the route of the Klondike Gold Rush.

Art director Rick Petsche has considerable illustration and design experience. As well as preparing **the Leader's** creative layout, his artwork and cartoons illustrate most Scouting advertisements and publications.

Do you have a question about circulation and advertising? Laureen Duquette is the person to speak with; she's been with the magazine for over 12 years. Laureen enjoys writing as a hobby; last year she won a literary award for an outstanding short story.

## We Want You!

Though our columnists and regular contributors are important, the heart and soul of the magazine's great success is YOU!

If you're excited about Scouting, send us your best ideas now. We want to publish them. Don't be shy. You don't have to be Shakespeare to write for **the Leader**.

Send your program ideas to: The Leader Magazine, 1345 Baseline Road, Ottawa, ON, K2C 0A7. E-mail: leader@scouts.ca. ^

## Did You Know...?



- **The Leader** started almost 75 years ago in November 1923. Consisting of eight black and white pages, its purpose was to get as many creative program ideas into the hands of section Scouters as possible. That's still our primary goal.
- Over the years circulation has grown from a modest 5,000 in 1923 to almost 40,000 in 2002. Almost 90,000 people read it monthly.
- Youth leaders from all over the world (including Australia, Britain, Switzerland, Zimbabwe, Egypt and Russia) use program material found in your magazine.
- **The Leader** is printed on paper containing 50 percent recycled fibre with environmentally-friendly, vegetable-based inks.

# Reptilia - Discover the World of Reptiles!



Reptilia's shows are an excellent programming tool that you can use to enrich your group's experience. All presentations feature encounters with live reptiles and amphibians! Our programs cover a variety of badge related topics including: habitat, conservation, ecology, and pet care. Groups can visit Reptilia at 91 Fernstaff Ct., Unit 8, Vaughan ON L4K 3L9 or we can bring the animals to you.

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