

# the leader

JUNE/JULY 2002

VOLUME 32, NO. 10

*Scouting Is... Photo Contest Winners!*



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The Canadian Leader Magazine is produced 10 times a year by Canyouth Publications Ltd., an arms-length publishing company.

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

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

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

We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada, through the Publications Assistance Program and the Canada Magazine Fund, toward our mailing and editorial costs.

Editorial contributions are made on a voluntary basis. Unsolicited submissions welcome.

Advertising Policy: Advertisement of a product or service does not indicate endorsement by publishers.

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

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

Publications Mail Agreement No. 40012387  
Publications Mail Registration No. 09895

ISSN 0711-5377

Cover photo: Gerry Prince



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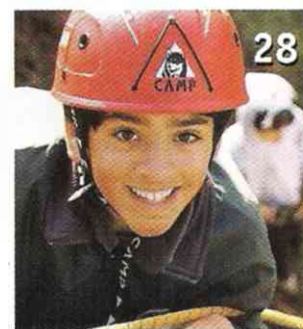
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# Scouting Is...

## Photo Contest Winners

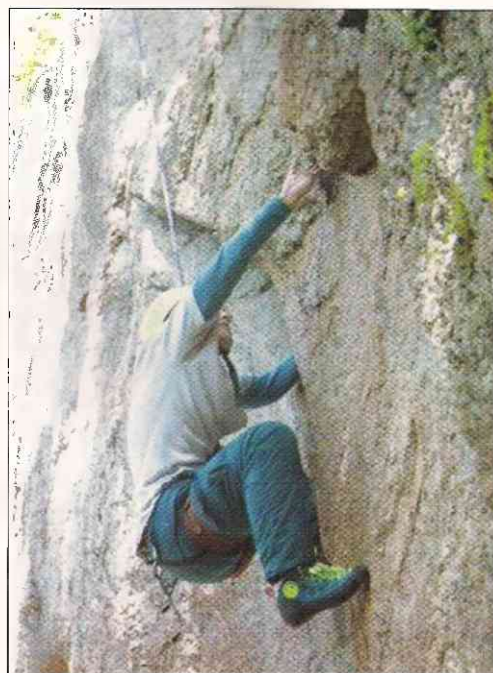
### Second prize winner

"Would you start paddling please?" Rick Bramm (Edmonton, AB) rested for a short time to take this picture. The view was too much to resist.



### Sheer Delight!

An airborne net and a bright day spells absolute contentment for this Beaver from Richmond, BC. Sarah Hirosaka-Campbell was ready when the expression appeared.



### Third prize winner

"Stunning!" That was the almost unanimous conclusion of our judges after seeing Rod Wilson's (Manotick, ON) adrenaline-fired, rock-climbing photograph. Obviously, he doesn't suffer from fear of heights.

**T**he Leader Magazine proudly announces the winners of our *Scouting Is...* photography contest. Leaders and youths sent almost 400 images – mostly outdoor shots – celebrating fantastic programs and Scouting activities. This wide assortment of photos (including hiking, canoeing, kayaking, rock-climbing, caving and bike images), highlight the most dynamic aspects of Scouting programs.

Without doubt our terrific prizes generated some enthusiasm for the photo contest. The prizes include a four-person Eureka™ "El Capitan" tent, a spacious Voyageur, 70-litre backpack, a Coleman™ propane grill stove, "Bring on the Adventure" sweatshirts, "Bring on the Adventure" t-shirts, and "Bring on the Adventure" baseball caps.

### Difficult Judging Task

This year we gathered a very distinguished group of keen-eyed judges to identify the winning photographs.

Who were they? They were Heather Downs-MacIntosh (Scouts Canada's Production Manager), Laureen Duquette (Circulation and Advertising at **the Leader**), Eric Harris (Managing Editor of **Canadian Geographic**), Jennifer Austin (Executive Editor of **the Leader**), Allen Macartney (Editor of **the Leader**), Susie Mackie (Secretary, Program Services), Susan Muehlherr (Secretary, Program Services), and Richard Petsche (Art Director at **the Leader**).

### Winner's Circle

Gerry Prince (Medicine Hat, AB) won first prize for an incredible, high-speed shot of a swimmer a microsecond before he plunged into a cool mountain lake. (See the image on **the Leader's** front cover.) Evidently Gerry also has a good sense of humour. He claims "precise balance and a soft touch allowed the Scout to do a water handstand"! The photograph caused all our judges to do a double-take; it also won their hearts. Gerry will be able to camp in style in his new four-person Eureka™ "El Capitan" tent.

Rick Bramm (Edmonton, AB) loves paddling in a tandem kayak. Last summer he took a brief rest to take an incredible photograph of his kayaking buddy, and



earned second place with the resulting shot. Rick may have some difficulty getting his large (70-litre) Voyageur backpack into a kayak. Good luck.

Rod Wilson (Manotick, ON) captured third prize for an adrenaline-charged image of a Venturer climbing in Quebec's Gatineau Hills. Rod's camping trips will take a tasty turn for the better when he brings along his new Coleman™ propane grill stove. (Read about Rod's Venturer climbing challenge in the March 2002 *Leader*, page 10).



#### ◀ Eating on the Job

These Beavers couldn't help but sink their teeth into succulent fruit during last year's Apple Day event. Maria Vicette-Mazzoli (Etobicoke, ON) captured the healthy moment. Let's hope the Beavers didn't offer the half-finished apples to anyone.

#### Watch for Your Published Pictures!

The *Leader* will keep all photos submitted to the contest (including non-winning pictures), except those accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. The images will be used in Scouting publications, including books, calendars, posters and promotional material. Of course, photographers will receive full credit if their images are published in the *Leader Magazine*.

Thanks to all those who contributed to make this contest a terrific success.

#### A Rafting Adventure!



Paul Snider (Vancouver, BC) caught happy expressions on several Beavers' faces during a rafting adventure on the Squamish River.



#### ◀ Scouting Is...

##### A Face Full of Snow

Kevin Armstrong (Sydney, NS) couldn't resist this photo opportunity when Cubs lined up their sleds and toboggans during a Cub camp.

## THIS YEAR'S WINNERS

Is your name on this list of winners? Prizes will be arriving in mailboxes soon.

#### 1st Prize

Gerry Prince (Medicine Hat, AB)

#### 2nd Prize

Rick Bramm (Edmonton, AB)

#### 3rd Prize

Rod Wilson (Manotick, ON)

#### "Bring on the Adventure" Sweatshirts

Lyle Crump (Toronto, ON)  
Len Godwin (Thunder Bay, ON)  
Sarah Hirosaka-Campbell  
(Richmond, BC)  
Garth Holder (Moncton, NB)  
Ken Kwan (Scarborough, ON)  
Gordon Mann (Vernon, BC)  
Tim Moulton (Corner Brook, NF)  
Dennis Power (Victoria, BC)  
Paul Snider (Vancouver, BC)  
Marie Vicette-Mazzoli  
(Etobicoke, ON)

#### "Bring on the Adventure" T-shirts

Kevin Armstrong (Sydney, NS)  
Tyler Bevan (Surrey, BC)  
Scott Beaton (Calgary, AB)  
Charles Butt (St. John's, NF)  
Rick Daisley (Townsend, ON)  
Alice Ferris (Kitimat, BC)  
Cindy Jones (Hawkesbury, ON)  
Hazel Hallgren (Red Deer, AB)  
Helen Hawkins (Lindsay, ON)  
Evan Holder (Moncton, NB)  
Bill Kowalchuk (Kitchener, ON)  
Mary Margaret Boone  
(Janetville, ON)  
Andrew Lee (Vancouver, BC)  
Don Mintz (Vancouver, BC)  
Libby Nelson (Vermilion, AB)  
Kris Nielson (Cochrane, AB)  
Bob Pallai (North Vancouver, BC)  
Richard Parry (Digby, NS)  
Brenda Read (Port Alberni, BC)  
Simon Read (Port Alberni, BC)

Rick Ross (Toronto, ON)

Fran Seguin (Hammer, ON)

Deb Stumborg (Humboldt, SK)

Robert Teel (Calgary, AB)

Candice Wright (Winnipeg, MB)

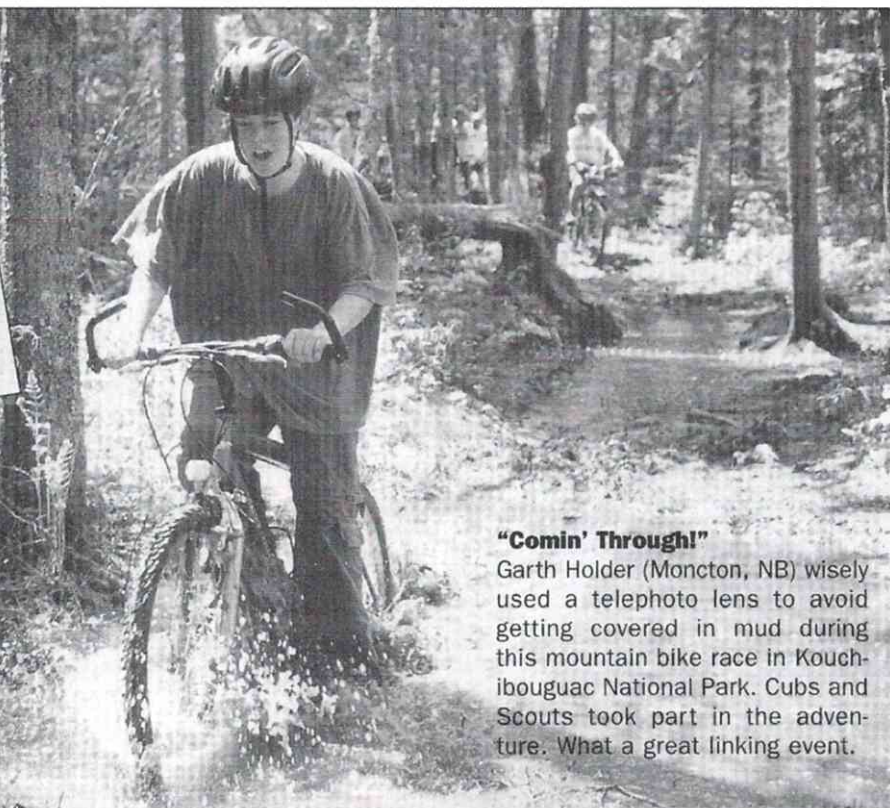
#### "Bring on the Adventure" Baseball Caps

Jeremy Anstey (Gander, NF)  
Barb Bachmeier (Ajax, ON)  
Mike Burns (Ile Perrot, QC)  
Jodi Caron (Langley, BC)  
Benjamin Eng (Winnipeg, MB)  
Brian Handrigan (Brockville, ON)  
Michele Janosik (Woodslee, ON)  
Sue Keczem (Leamington, ON)  
Sharon McDonald (Cambridge, ON)  
Tom Morrow (Dundas, ON)  
Peter Ng (Vancouver, BC)  
Don Purchase (Stittsville, ON)  
Melina Shattler (La Tabatiere, QC)  
May Stevens (Gimli, MB)  
Richard Tardif (Beloeil, QC)



## KODAK WEB PAGE

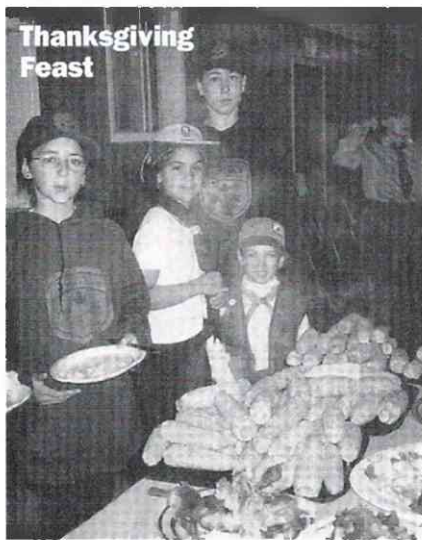
**K**odak offers excellent tips on taking better pictures. Ask your Cubs or Scouts to surf to [www.kodak.com](http://www.kodak.com) and click their way to "Taking Better Pictures." While they're learning to become better photographers, they'll also earn Computer Badge requirements.



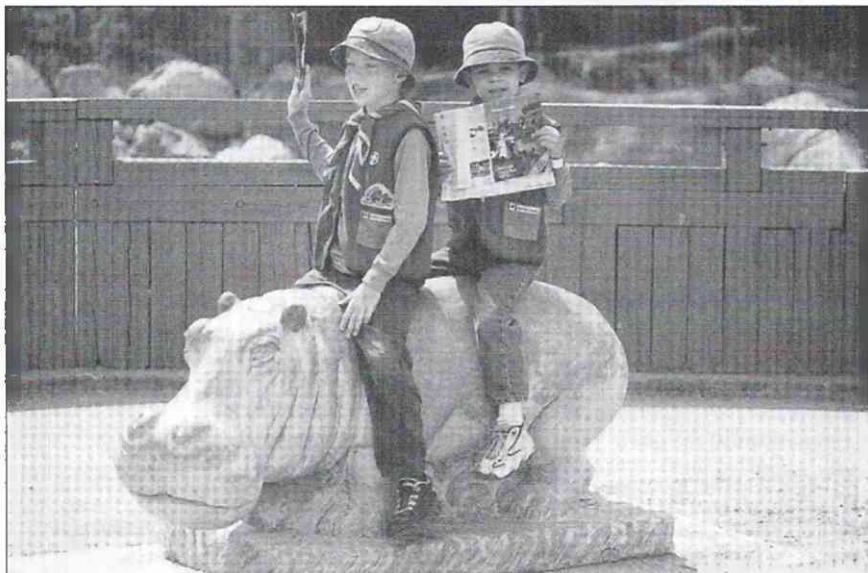
### "Comin' Through!"

Garth Holder (Moncton, NB) wisely used a telephoto lens to avoid getting covered in mud during this mountain bike race in Kouchibouguac National Park. Cubs and Scouts took part in the adventure. What a great linking event.

### Thanksgiving Feast



Just before Beavers, Cubs and Scouts attacked this huge pile of steaming corn and turkey, Melina Shattler (La Tabatiere, QC) captured the anticipating expressions.



### Hippo Bustin' Beavers

Would you believe that moments after Rick Ross (Toronto, ON) snapped this shot, these Beavers were tossed over the fence by this sedate looking hippo?

## Shoot Digital Photos Too!

**T**he **Leader Magazine** now accepts digital photos as submissions for its photo contest. Youths, parents and leaders may send as many digital shots as they wish to our next contest (to be announced in the October issue).



## SHOOT FOR THE PRIZES!

**N**eed some shooting tips to improve your photographs? Try these out.

- ☛ Get up close to your subjects. Let them fill the lens.
- ☛ Take lots of photos. Film is relatively cheap. If a particular shot is important to you, take an extra one just to make sure no one is blinking or looking away.
- ☛ Never shoot posed shots; everyone looks stiff in them.
- ☛ Bring your camera to all meetings or on all outings. That way you'll be ready to capture special moments when they happen.





## Watch for Our Next Photo Contest

We'll be announcing our next "Scouting Is..." photo contest in the October **Leader**.

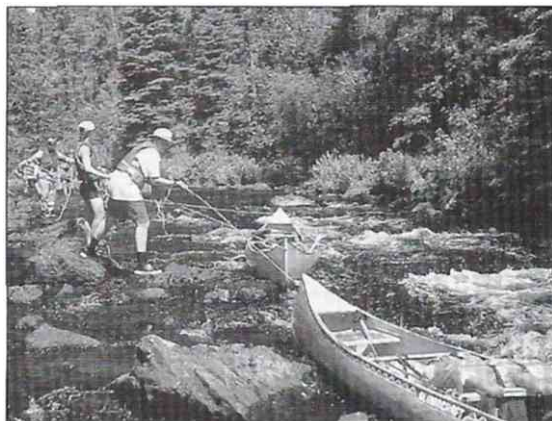
Until then, keep trying to capture that Scouting feeling on film. Who knows? The picture you take this summer at camp might earn you a tent, a backpack, or another terrific prize.

Remember... the more photos you submit, the greater chance you have to win.



### Planting a Survivor

Cubs from the 6th Corner Brook Pack took several hours from their survivor camp to plant some trees last spring. Tim Moulton captured the moment with this shot of a happy youth.



◀ Len Godwin's Scouts and Venturers (Thunder Bay, ON) found that sometimes it's easier to line a canoe during high water levels than during a drought.



### Scouting Means... Outside Play

Brenda Read's Beavers from Port Alberni, BC, love outside play. "Let's have all our meetings outside," a Beaver called out. Well... why not?



Deb Stumborg (Humboldt, SK) caught this teen moments after he dredged up a paddle full of weeds. "With very low water levels on the river," said Deb, "we either hit rocks or came up with the vegetarian special." Mere seconds after this photograph was taken, a serious seaweed war broke out.



**"Wait a second. This is MUD!"**

▲ Photographer Richard Parry (Digby, NS) caught these Scouts just as they finished splashing and rolling at CJ's Mud Maze. "I thought it was going to be a chocolate fight, not mud," said one youth. X

# It's All About Mission Scouting's Two New Programs:

## SCOUTSabout & extreme ADVENTURE

by Ross Francis and Ian Mitchell

**Y**OU'VE HEARD A LITTLE bit concerning our new SCOUTSabout and Extreme Adventure programs. Would you like more details?

These programs seek to achieve Scouting's Mission with children and youths who are *not* affiliated with Scouting currently. They seek to do this by connecting with them in new, creative and flexible ways.

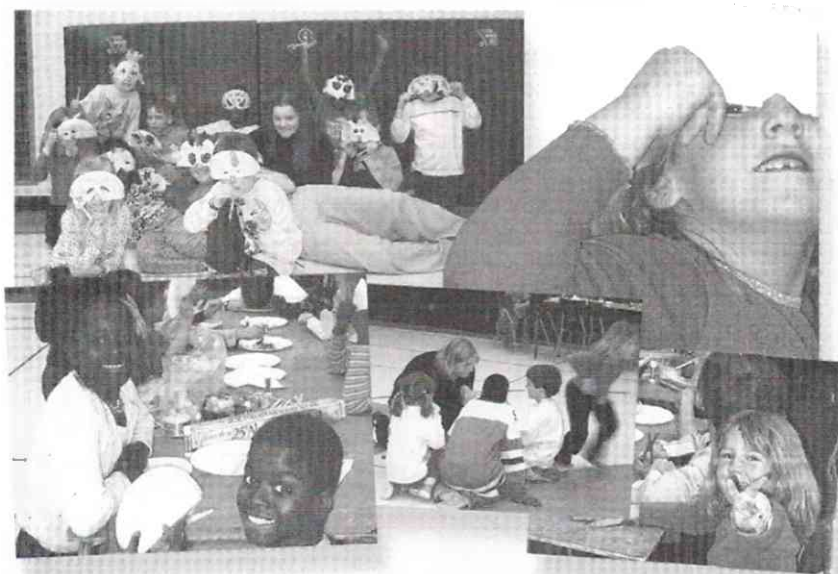
### The Basics

SCOUTSabout is a structured, theme-based, after-school, play program that is based largely on Beaver and Cub JUMPSTART packages. Extreme Adventure is an exciting, short-term program based largely on the Venturer Amory Adventure Award concept. Naturally, given the name, it stresses high adventure.

### TYPICAL SCOUTSabout THEMES

**D**epending on the age of the child involved, some typical SCOUTSabout themes include:

- ☐ Dinosaurs
- ☐ Knights of Olde
- ☐ Food
- ☐ Outer space
- ☐ Pirates
- ☐ Transportation



SCOUTSabout is aimed at children aged 5 to 10. It allows Scouts Canada to contribute to their development (i.e. achieve our Mission) in the same ways as Scouting's Beaver and Cub programs. Why did we introduce it? It came about for two main reasons. First, some families needed a very flexible time frame for their children to participate in guided youth activities; an after school program lasting for three-month terms fits their needs perfectly. Second, many people seek a less formal program (i.e. without uniforms and ceremonies).

Extreme Adventure focuses on teens aged 14 to 17. As with the SCOUTSabout program, it allows the organization to contribute to the development of youth, and thereby achieve our Mission. The short-term, or single adventure format fulfills a need identified by some youth to "graze," or try out many different activities. The absence of some of the more traditional Scouting elements, (e.g. ceremonies, uniforms, etc.) can be very attractive to many youth.

### Dedicated to Scouting Values

Both new program options remain completely dedicated to the values of Scouting. SCOUTSabout and Extreme Adventure provide opportunities to develop group leadership skills and self-esteem; they allow youths to participate in environmental and citizenship activities that are sometimes masked by fun, challenging programs. (This also happens in regular, core Scouting programs.)

Although the new programs are short-term (typically three months long), they still provide sufficient time to contribute to youth development. And they may whet youthful appetites for a second term/adventure, or even a second look at Scouting's core programs.

### Proven Track Record

Tests have shown that both programs are attractive and successful for today's youth. In fact, SCOUTSabout and Extreme Adventure have really caught on in some areas, especially as more and more groups get

Photos: Ross Francis



started. Surveys and feedback indicate that these new programs are allowing us to expand our market areas to include youths and parents typically not attracted to Scouting's core programs.

Looking for proof? Here it is... A SCOUTSabout survey of youths and parents who participated in programs in southern Ontario told us the following:

- ☞ SCOUTSabout meets the needs of some of today's families, particularly its after school programs with its short-term focus.
- ☞ SCOUTSabout provides children with opportunities to participate in activities that will build their self-esteem.
- ☞ The children liked the various activities, particularly the outdoors and theme-based ones, as well as the informal attire.
- ☞ The best things youths experienced about being part of the program were: social involvement, fun, teamwork and cooperation, discipline/responsibility, and feeling better about themselves.
- ☞ Two-thirds of parents indicated that their child would eventually move onto one of Scouts Canada's core programs. A real bonus!

### Racing for Adventure

One "Adventure Race" conducted as an Extreme Adventure involved participants trekking, biking, canoeing and rappelling their way through a difficult, physically demanding course. Fourteen teams of four youths

entered this race, which took place after everyone had taken part in two weekends of training; much of this focused on team-building, as well as developing skills in map and compass work, rappelling, canoeing, cycling, and other outdoor activities.

Response to the adventure was nothing less than fantastic. The comments of parents and participants (found below) sums up the enthusiasm generated by the activity:

"I will never forget this experience, not because of the physical challenge, but because of the mental and emotional challenge. Going in, I had no idea it would change me as a person or perhaps change my view on life. I just thought it was something that sounded like fun. I have definitely learned much from this experience, and because of it have become a stronger person." – *Marysia (Participant)*

"This adventure provided these kids with the freedom to prove to themselves (and their parents!) that they could make it through difficult and challenging circumstances on their own – a major character building, "life lesson," in my books." – *Nancy (Parent of participant)*

### What's Next?

Now that we have a number of SCOUTSabout and Extreme Adventure programs up and running (with many more in the works), we'll be looking for more volunteers who can help promote and support these new program options.

## TYPICAL EXTREME ADVENTURES

**H**ere are some of the Extreme Adventures teens are enjoying:

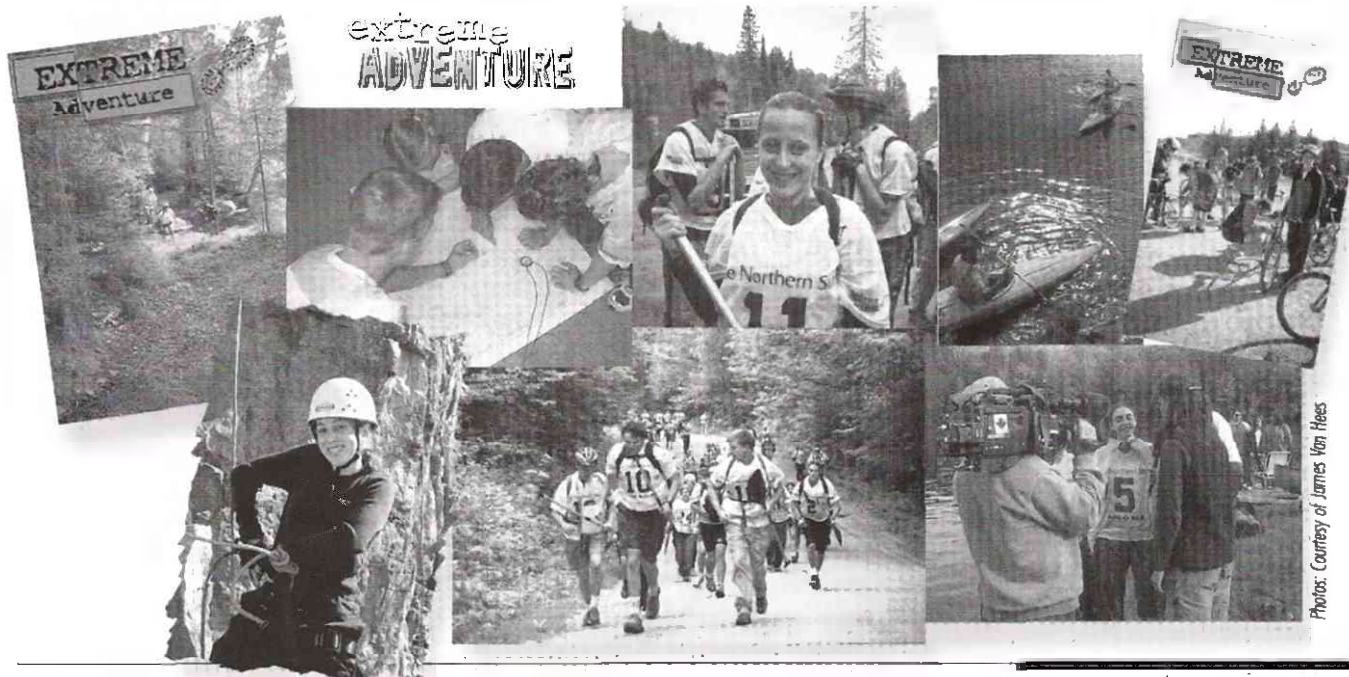
- ▶ Hiking expeditions\*\*
- ▶ Cycling tours\*\*
- ▶ Extended water-based trips, including canoeing\*\* and kayaking
- ▶ Inter-provincial and international travel\*\*
- ▶ Rappelling, spelunking and adventure racing
- ▶ Horseback riding
- ▶ Dog sledding
- ▶ Snowshoeing trek\*\*

All Extreme Adventures include:

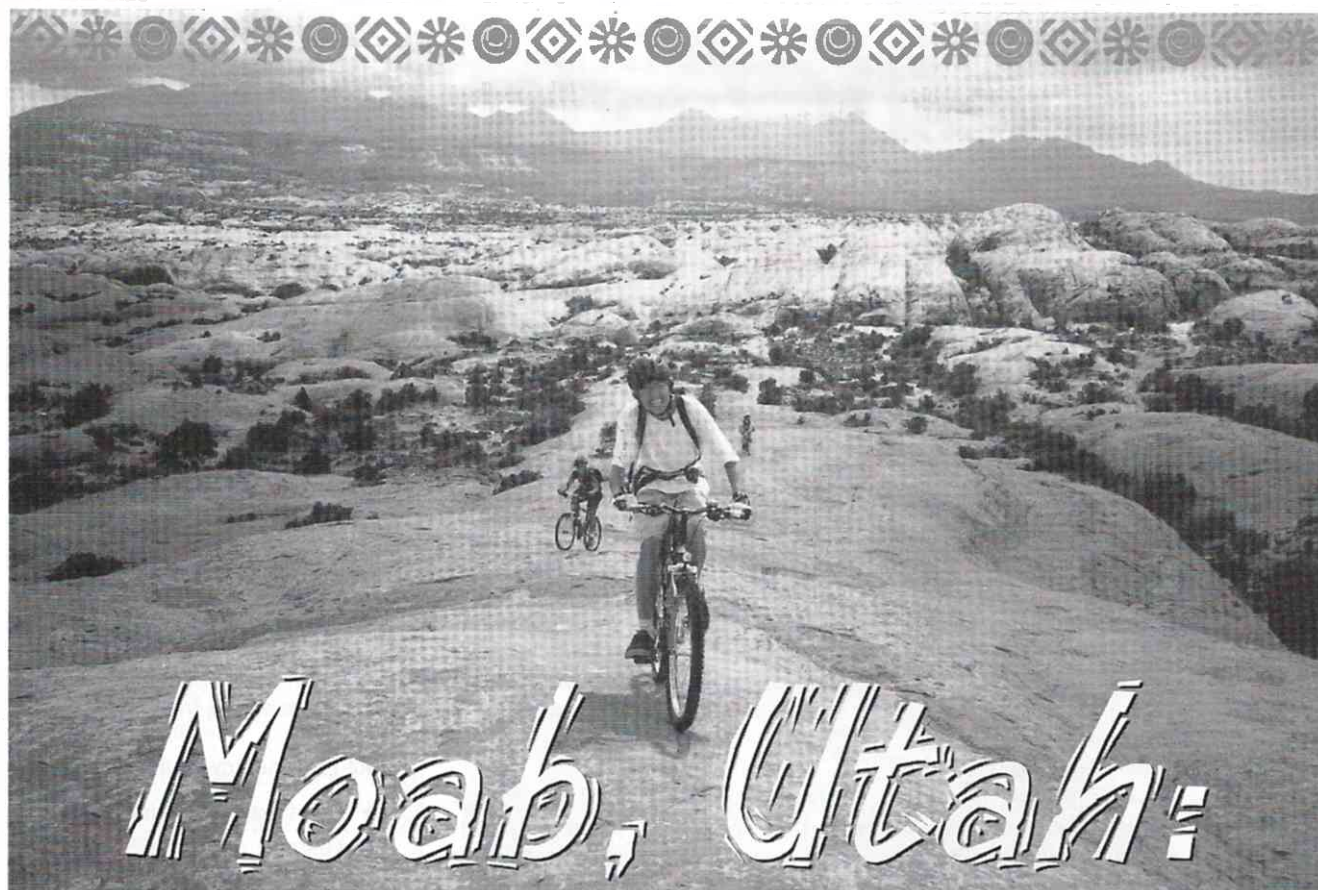
- ▶ Careful advance planning
- ▶ Learning outdoor skills needed to safely carry out the adventure
- ▶ Evaluating and learning from the activity.

\*\* Sample outlines are available for these adventures from your council office.

So now you know something about SCOUTSabout and Extreme Adventure. We're all part of the greatest youth development family on Earth – Scouting. X







## *Welcome to Mountain Biking Heaven*

by Susan Mackie

### *Moab, Utah.*

For mountain bikers, these two words spell heaven. And that's precisely what drew Venturers from the 108th Pioneer Company (Calgary, AB) to the rolling southern hills of Utah. These trails are considered by most to be some of the greatest mountain biking places on the planet. The teens weren't disappointed by the challenge and raw adventure they found.

Combining the best ideas from each youth, the Venturers worked up a basic trip outline. One of the first challenges they faced was making sure each member had the skills required to ride a bike in extreme

temperatures – both hot and cold – on rough and gruelling terrain.

Wise planning and sober risk management made the Venturers demand that each participant take a course in standard first aid and wilderness survival skills. These trails would offer few second chances for failure by the unprepared.

*Part of the planning involved going on several demanding mountain biking treks with full equipment.*

Only when each youth was certain that both individuals and the group were physically and mentally ready to tackle Moab's challenges, did they proceed with planning for equipment, activities and high energy meals.

Part of the planning involved going on several demanding moun-

tain biking treks with full equipment. This identified weak skills and problem areas that needed attention. When everything was in readiness, they loaded their bikes and headed for heaven.

Mountain biking was the first reason the Venturers headed south, but another was simply to soak up the rich history flooding the entire route leading to Moab. Hiking adventures, historic tours and spectacular panoramas all drew the teens, as well as the biking. They just couldn't wait to hit the road with their bikes loaded in the vans.

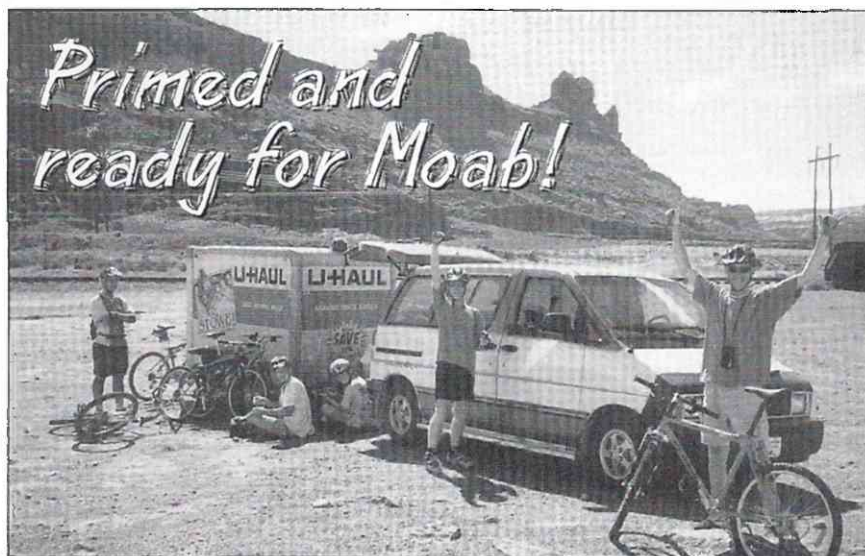
### **Heaven-Bound**

The group's first destination was the Fort Ponderosa campground in scenic Montana, where the rolling plains were punctuated by towering mountains which seemed to appear from nowhere. The Venturers spent their first cold, bitter night on the road telling stories and playing board games by the warm crackle of a campfire. Ahh! Perfect.

Driving through "Big Sky" country, the next day was every bit as breath-

Photos: 108th Pioneer Company





taking as they had expected. The mountains beckoned in welcome as the group headed for the Lewis and Clark caverns, named after the American explorers who mapped much of this area in the early 19th century.

The caverns were amazing. Deep within Cave Mountain, they lie 400 metres *above* a river. A guided tour takes visitors on a descent of 600 steps through rooms of calcium and limestone identified by names such as "Cathedral Room"; many are decorated by nature with amazing stalagmite and stalactite formations. These formations are the result of millions

of years of dripping mineral-laden water. With each level of descent the temperature grew colder, almost tomb-like in its rocky chill. The underground world is home to many interesting species of wildlife, including the Western Big-Eared Bat.

After emerging from the caverns, the group drove to a point of Canadian historical significance. A roadside viewpoint featured a vista of the valley that Métis leader, Louis Riel, had used as a sanctuary in 1878 after running from Canada in fear for his life.

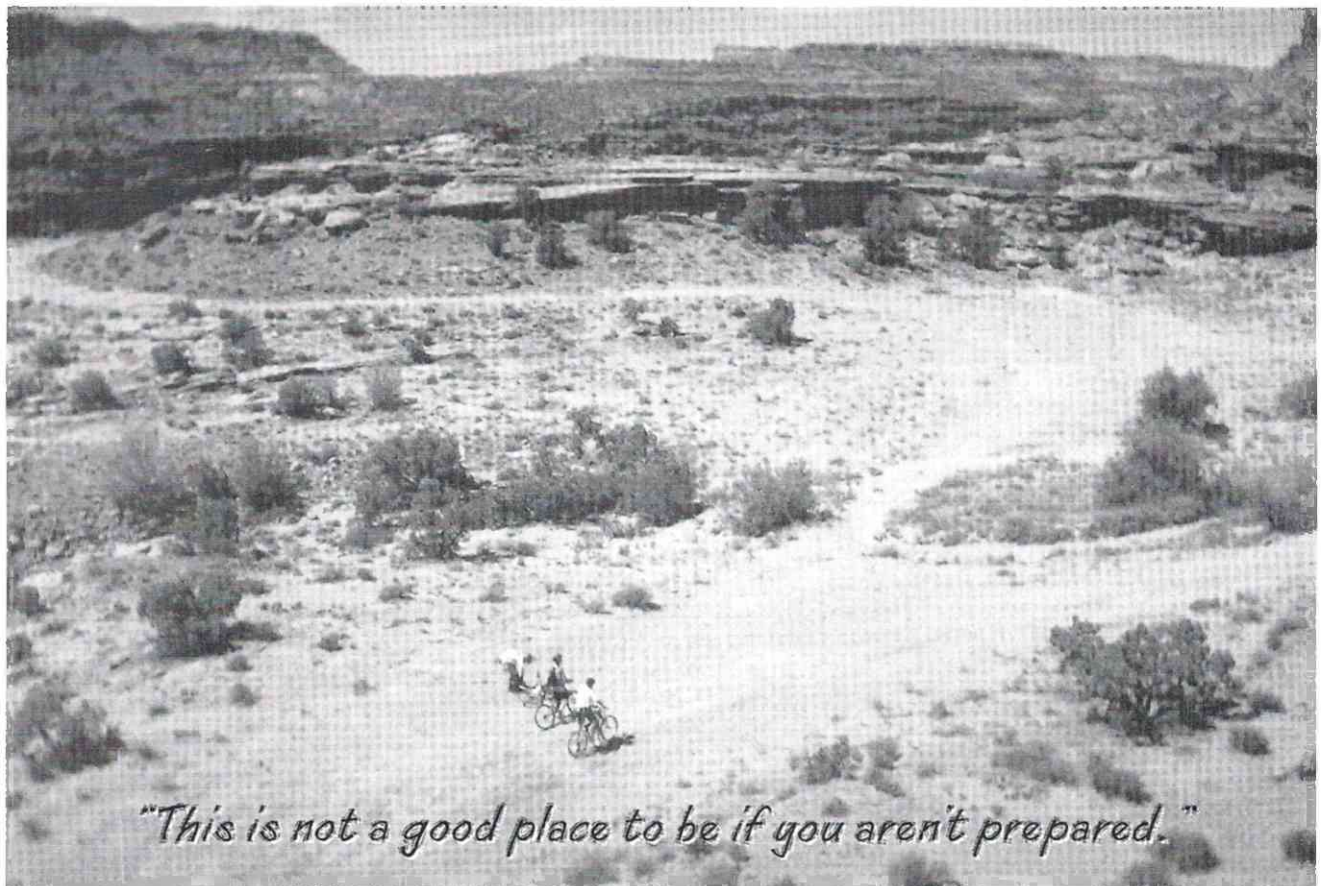
Old Faithful geyser was the next attraction on the Venturers' eventful and

## Did You Know...?

- ☛ Over 90 percent of children aged six to 16 ride bicycles.
- ☛ Less than 20 percent of reported bicycle injuries involve a collision with cars. Most occur in falls, or as a result of riders losing control.
- ☛ Night riding is dangerous for youth. Kids often swerve into the path of cars, and automobile drivers can't see the bikers.

exciting agenda. Travelling to Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming, to see this world-renowned site, at first they tasted disappointment when the geyser seemingly refused to cooperate; it merely rested like an innocent pool. Minutes later, they were treated to the sight of a 20-metre high spout of 180 degree C water shooting towards the sky in a mixture of bubbles and mist. The geyser repeats this performance at 30 minute intervals, day and night.

Next day, with the Grand Teton Mountains perched on the horizon, the teens headed for Jackson Hole, Wyoming, to conquer the Cascade Trail. What a fantastic hiking trail! The scenery was breathtaking as they climbed the steep and craggy rock





formations, spotting moose and other wildlife on the way. Rain soon put an end to this day's climb. The group's risk-management practices helped members to recognize how slick rocks would prove very dangerous if they continued.

### "Get Out the Bikes. NOW!"

Finally, almost a week into their trip, the 108th Pioneers reached Moab, Utah – "the main event." They could barely restrain themselves. The sun baked down on them as the youths began their adventure on wheels at the first bike trail they came to. This trail was a mountain biker's dream come true since it had bumps for testing the shocks, and amazing hills that were a test of bravery and speed. The day sped by.

On the second day in Moab, the restless adventurers yearned for a trail that would prove more demanding. They were not disappointed; the Poison Spider Mesa Bike Trail gave them all the challenge they needed. Located just northwest of Moab, the terrain consisted of slippery rock, and steep hills. It was an uphill climb at first, but when the group reached the top, the spectacular view proved well worth the physical struggle.

That night their beds were a well-coming reprieve, after a very athletic day. Several of them checked their sleeping bags repeatedly, looking for snakes and poison spiders. The desert weather kept the Venturers warm throughout the night.

"Hey, let's go for an even greater challenge," someone called out when the sun finally poked above the hills next morning. The teens chose The Slick Rock Trail as a suitable test of



**Expect punctured tires and spills on a mountain bike trip, wherever you go.**

their abilities. The trail was exactly as its name suggested, punctuated with sharp turns, quick ascents, rapid acceleration and deceleration, multiple G-forces, and hair-raising cliffs.

After an hour of strenuous peddling along the main trail, the teens reached a fork, which split into two very different trails; each offered unique appeal to different types of riders – one trail for novice riders, and one geared to those with considerable experience.

When at last the brave 108th Pioneer Venturers finished this trail, they were certain of two truths: they had experienced one of the greatest adventures in their young lives, and they were exhausted.

In their own words, "the days (in Moab) were magnificent and fulfilling. The Slick Rock Trail... Bravo!" X

— Susan Mackie works at the National Office.

## BICYCLE SAFETY ADVICE

**T**his advice comes from the Canada Safety Council. You can find all sorts of safety-oriented activities and tips on their web site ([www.safety-council.org](http://www.safety-council.org)).

### 1. Make sure your bicycle is safe.

Does your bike have a bell, a light and reflectors? Does it work properly? Check tires, brakes and all cables. Does it fit properly? You should be able to straddle the bike with both feet on the ground. A bike that is too big or too small is a safety hazard.

### 2. Obey all signs, signals and rules of the road. Know the signals for riding on the road (stop, turn right, turn left), and know how to do a shoulder check before turning. Practise it several times with all members of your group.

Child cyclists must obey the same rules of the road as adult drivers. This includes riding on the right side of the road, stopping for stop signs and red lights, signalling all turns, and yielding to traffic that has the right-of-way.

### 3. Leaders should always model good bicycle riding practices. When riding a bicycle with youth members, always wear a helmet and make sure it covers your forehead. Young people watch adults to see what they do; if leaders are excellent role-models, young people will follow their advice and direction. It could save their life.

## WEAR YOUR HELMET CORRECTLY

**T**hree-quarters of all cyclist deaths involve head injuries. That's why it's critical for your members to wear a bike helmet that fits properly and is certified by the Canada Safety Association International.

Helmets can prevent up to 85 percent of all bike injuries. Even though youths wear helmets, many still wear them incorrectly – usually tilted too far back.

When a bicyclist falls, his or her forehead usually hits the ground first. That's why helmets must cover the forehead. If they are tilted back, they can become more of a hazard than a safety measure.

### Tips for Choosing a Helmet

When choosing a helmet, children should try on several helmets carefully.

Level the helmet over the child's forehead, and adjust the chin strap to fit snugly and comfortably. It should protect the forehead without slipping forward or backwards. The helmet should not move unless the scalp moves. A loose helmet may fly off during a fall, creating yet another hazard.





# Book Talk

by Dave Jenkinson



## Calling all chocolate aficionados.

Now you can link your fondness for this "staple of life" with the higher goal of advancing literacy; all you have to do is read Joan van Loon's *The Chocolate Lovers* to your Beavers or younger Cubs. The book combines the story of a young boy, who is taking a six-week cooking course, with 18 recipes involving chocolate. After the reading, and with access to a kitchen, a lodge or six could try some of the simpler recipes, such as "Chocolate and Coconut Crackles" or a "Chocolate Milkshake." A few recipes, like "Chocolate Rice Pudding" and "Chocolate Yogurt" are definite camp food possibilities. (Cubs: Family Helper Badge 1)

Cubs who have dogs or cats might be interested in Linda Hendry's *Dog Crafts* and *Cat Crafts*. Each book contains 16 simple things that Cubs could make either for their pet or to remind them of their beloved four-legged friends. Canines can benefit from decorated treat jars, a collar cover, and a grooming caddy, while felines will enjoy a spider toy, a scratch pad and a catnip fish. Many of the craft ideas, such as a food placemat, bookends, a decorated lampshade, photo albums and jewelry, are common to both books, but just focus on the particular pet type. (Cubs: Tawny Star A2&9, B5, Artist Badge 9, Handicraft Badge 1&5)

Despite its subtitle, *Finding Your Way With A Compass*, Sharon Sharth's *Way To Go!* is much more than an introductory book on how to use a compass. (One is included with the book.) The spiral-bound volume serves as a

good beginning guide to the outdoors for older Cubs or younger Scouts as it also deals briefly with topics such as what to do if you get lost, how to find north without a compass in daylight hours and at night, and how to read and navigate with a map. Directions are also provided for making your own simple compass. (Cubs: Green Star A5&8, B3&5, Camping Badge 4&5c, Hiking Badge 4)

Because of its diminutive size and unusual flying abilities, no other bird attracts as much attention as does the tiny hummingbird. Diane Swanson's *Welcome to the World of Hummingbirds* is just right in length and content for sharing with children aged seven to nine. Filled with numerous coloured photographs, the thin book provides fascinating bits of information about these amazing birds. For older Cubs (or leaders who want to be able to answer those tougher hummingbird-related questions), Laurel Aziz's *Hummingbirds: A Beginner's Guide* is a good follow-up book. Like Swanson's offering, Aziz's title is chockablock with coloured photographs, but the information is more detailed and requires a higher reading ability. She also makes good use of kid-friendly comparisons. For example, because hummingbirds possess a minimum amount of fat to store excess fuel, each bird must consume half its weight in sugar every day. An adult burning energy at the same rate would need to consume 155,000 calories per day, about the equivalent of 250 Big Macs, just to survive. Burp! (Cubs: Black Star, B2, Naturalist Badge 10, Observer Badge 2)

Pat Bumstead's *Canadian Feathers: A Loon-atics Guide to Anting, Mimicry and Dump-nesting* is not a book for identifying birds in the wild. Instead, it is the volume you use to get to know

more about birds, either before or after you can identify them by sight. More than 400 different birds, most of which nest in Canada, are represented and are organized alphabetically by common family names.

Be warned! The contents of this book are addictive; when you are reading it, you will want to share its informative contents with others. For instance, did you know that the nest of the American Goldfinch is so thick-walled that it will hold water and that, consequently, unprotected chicks have drowned in heavy rain? Oh, and just in case you encounter a blue-eyed crow, do not be alarmed. The eye colour simply means it is immature. Adult crows have brown eyes.

Okay, maybe all this information is going to make me a bit of a bore at the next sharing session, but look out "Jeopardy." You can use it during a trivia game. (Scouts: Naturalist Badge 3) ^

## BOOK DETAILS

L. Aziz, *Hummingbirds: A Beginner's Guide*, Firefly Books, 2002: \$9.95.

P. Bumstead, *Canadian Feathers: A Loon-atics Guide to Anting, Mimicry and Dump-nesting*, Simply Wild Publications (100 Lake Lucerne Close SE, Calgary, AB, T2J 3H8), 2002: \$29.95.

L. Hendry, *Cat Crafts*, Kids Can Press, 2002: \$5.95.

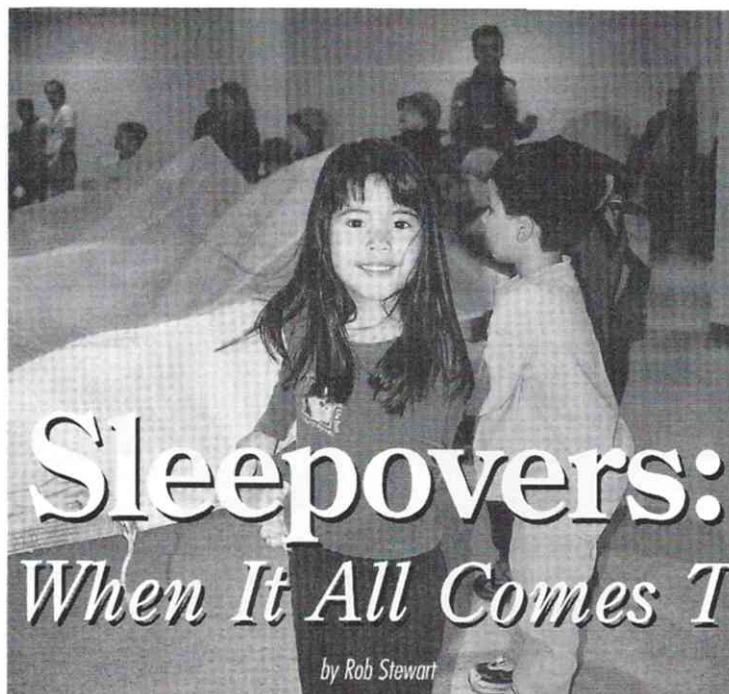
L. Hendry, *Dog Crafts*, Kids Can Press, 2002: \$5.95.

S. Sharth, *Way to Go! Finding Your Way With a Compass*, Reader's Digest Children's books, 2000: \$21.95.

D. Swanson, *Welcome to the World of Hummingbirds*, Whitecap Books, 2002: \$6.95.

J. Van Loon, *The Chocolate Lovers: A Children's Story and Cookbook*, Whitecap Books, 2001: \$18.95.





# Sleepovers:

## *That's When It All Comes Together*

by Rob Stewart

**A**s the parent of a Beaver and a Cub, and as a member of Scouts Canada's staff, I often get to view the work of committees and task groups related to programs, training, policies and procedures. Also, I get to see the end results at section meetings or events.

Everything Scouting stands for came together in technicolour during a recent sleepover of the Bell's Corners Eagle Colony (ON). What a wonderful example of planning, teamwork, and shared leadership, while providing Beavers (and parents) with a fun-filled learning experience.

### "Set 'Em Up Beavers!"

The Beavers, leaders and parents gathered in our sponsor's church basement at 7 p.m. on Friday night; everyone immediately set about pitching their tents. This in itself created buckets of excitement for the little Beavers. Children love the idea of sleeping in tents, whether it's outside or indoors.

The program began when all "campsites" were established. With the tapping of a large pole on the floor, Hawkeye signalled the call for Riverbanks. From that moment until 11:30 a.m. on Saturday morning (pack up time), the leadership team had carefully planned a program that filled every waking second. It was magnificent. These talented leaders knew from training and experience that Beavers, left to their own devices, would create their own "programs" in about five seconds – not all of them healthy.

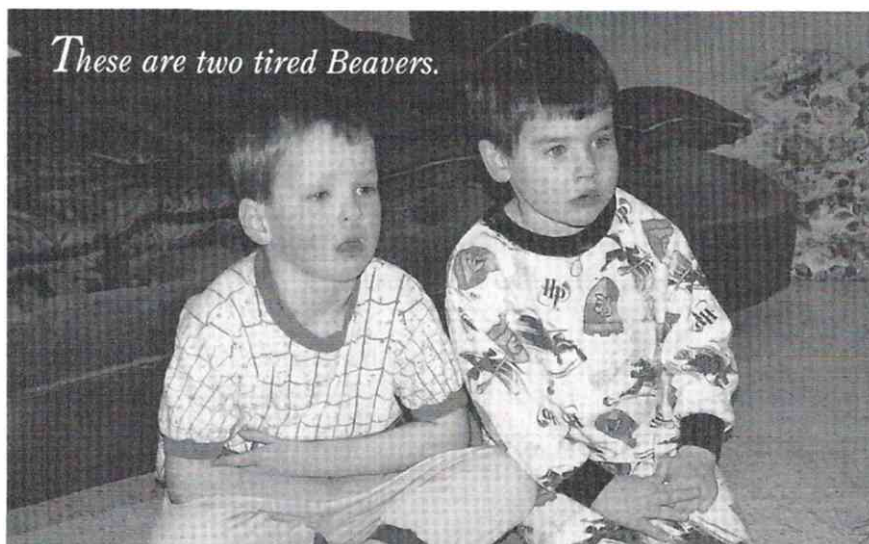
### Precision Balancing Act

What followed was a mix of games, crafts and a campfire that were all de-

signed to maintain a delicate balance of burning off excess energy, creating works of art, play-acting and singing. The way Rusty and Tic Tac told the Beavers that they were going to show them some games they learned at Woodbadge would have been music to any trainer's ears.

The workload was divided equally among the leadership team; some

handled games, some lead the craft activities, some read stories, while all participated in a rollicking campfire. I never heard so many bad "knock knock" jokes during the singing of one of the songs. The cheers and skits were great. The lodges had practised their skits for several meetings prior to the sleepover, so everyone knew their lines.



Photos: Paul Hulganga



This wasn't just a sleepover for Beavers, but also siblings. (What a fantastic linking opportunity!) Younger brothers and sisters fit into the program like a hand slipping into a custom-made glove.

By the time the lights were switched off, everyone (parents too) were exhausted and happy from a terrific evening.

### Ready for More Adventure?

Next morning, the leaders and parents worked like a well-oiled machine to prepare breakfast of waffles, bacon, fruit and yogurt, all the while keeping the Beavers occupied during the cooking process. I think Malak invented a new way to "toast" frozen waffles using the stove's broil setting. After some training, I was certified to pour the syrup on the waffles; others practised their ability to separate strips of bacon, and make sure everyone got their fair share. (Remember: sharing, sharing, sharing?)

Coordinating all planning is crucial when you want to control and creatively channel the enthusiasm of 24 Beavers. This was highlighted during the breakfast clean-up. Following this activity, Rusty presented a slide show focussing on examples of God's love for them and the world.

Did the kids like it? You bet. The children had millions of questions about the wildlife and sunsets in the show; they were fascinated.

### Fresh Air Experience

With breakfast nicely settling in everyone's stomach, it was time for some fresh air. Outside, behind the church, the property offered plenty of

space. Snow was piled up in glorious mounds for the Beavers to run and jump into. Having been advised in a newsletter (see sidebar below), parents made sure their Beavers had proper clothing for outside games. Of course, this made the outside fun even more enjoyable.

The sleepover newsletter included all information that parents needed to ensure their son or daughter (and themselves) were prepared completely for the event. Leaders listed every conceivable item that might be needed or wanted; this made packing an easy chore.

### The Power of a Schedule

Often, new leaders ask trainers and Service Scouters questions about section discipline. The most frequently asked questions include: What do you do when difficulties happen? How do you deal with discipline problems?

Our leadership team had the sleepover program so well planned that there was little, if any, time for kids to find or make trouble. There's great power in a schedule that balances activity with quiet time, and doesn't have large gaps of unstructured time. I can't emphasize this wisdom enough.

While two Scouters were leading a game, Bubbles and Sunshine were preparing an interesting craft activity. (The one everyone liked best involved cutting out small pieces of "fun foam" – get it at a craft store – to create a pin that looked like a campfire.) This coordination was evident throughout the entire event; it resulted in a great experience for all who attended, and no discipline problems.

### Scouting at its Best

Our sleepover proved an example of Scouting at its best for a Beaver section. It re-confirmed we have a program that kids love, and that leaders enjoy delivering. With dedicated Scouters who have taken training, support each other, plan their programs, and share the workload, fantastic results are almost inevitable.

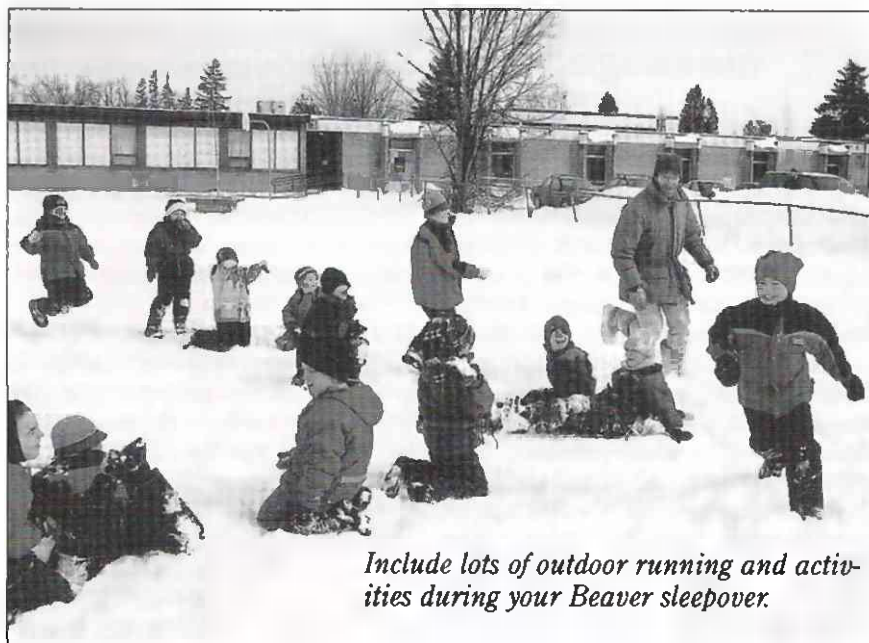
The Beaver section has seven program goals:

- ☐ Find examples of God's love for them and the world
- ☐ Experience and express love and joy
- ☐ Express themselves
- ☐ Be healthy and have good feelings about themselves
- ☐ Develop a sense of belonging and sharing in small group activities
- ☐ Develop a sense of co-operation through non-competitive activities
- ☐ Appreciate nature.

This event clearly included elements of all of these goals, and it reinforced the benefits of considering them when planning programs.

Do you have a favourite Scouting event that your members enjoyed this year? Tell us all about it, then e-mail it to: [leader@scouts.ca](mailto:leader@scouts.ca). Our mailing address is: **Leader Magazine**, 1345 Baseline Road, Ottawa, ON, K2C 0A7. ^

— Rob Stewart is executive director of Program and Volunteer Services at the National Office.



*Include lots of outdoor running and activities during your Beaver sleepover.*

## NEWSLETTERS: Excellent Communications Tools for the Colony

**M**y son's colony leaders use newsletters to keep parents completely informed about upcoming activities requiring their attention. If a permission slip is needed for an event, this is included in the newsletter.

Perhaps a Cub pack or Scout troop would like to help with your newsletter; that way the Cubs or Scouts could work toward one or more badges.

Newsletters: try them. They're very effective.



# How We Integrated Diverse Cultural Groups into Scouting

by Diversity Advisory Committee Members

**T**he BC-Yukon Council has pioneered a highly successful outreach project in the Hispanic community for several years. Now, the Council is preparing to launch an ambitious project to further increase cultural diversity in Scouting. Your group might benefit by learning how they achieved success.

## Genesis of a Great Idea

In 1996, the BC-Yukon Provincial Council helped form a committee called Diversity Advisory Committee (DAC) – a broadly based community group. The Committee's goal: promote cultural diversity in Scouting. Almost two dozen people serve on the Committee, including Scouters, youth members, business people, social workers, and one staff member.

Supported by Vancouver-Coast and Burnaby Regional Councils, DAC is instrumental in reaching out to communities and groups that are under-represented in Scouting; it helps develop culturally inclusive service models, acquire grants, hire workers and monitor the project.

Has it been successful?

Yes. The Committee has successfully received grants from the Scout Foundation, BC-Yukon Provincial Council, the Vancouver Foundation, the United Way of the Lower Mainland, VanCity Credit Union, as well as the BC Ministry of Multiculturalism and Immigration. These grants have enabled us to hire six multicultural workers at various times over the past five years.

## Phase 1: Hispanic Pilot Project

Our Hispanic Pilot Project was intended to reach into the growing Hispanic community to gain a foothold for Scouting. One of our chief goals involved helping to settle and integrate new immigrant youths and their families into Canadian society through Scouting. We wanted to develop a template that others could use to promote cultural diversity and inclusiveness.

How did we accomplish our goal? Here are the steps we took to establish the first Hispanic Scouting Group.

## Recruitment

After hiring two Hispanic membership development workers, our first objective was to develop personal contacts with key members and organizations in the Hispanic community.

**To ensure everyone would get the message, the telephone number featured an extension with a Spanish voice message.**

We did this by holding an open house at Vancouver-Coast Scouthouse, and inviting various organizations serving the Hispanic community, such as consulates, schools, churches, social agencies and media.

During this open house we discussed Scouting's values, principles, objectives, and benefits to both youths and adults. All guests received information, which included pamphlets in Spanish and a phone number that youths and adults could call for more information. To ensure everyone in the Hispanic community would get the message, the telephone number featured an extension with a Spanish voice message.

Other actions included:

- ☐ Conducting follow-up presentations at all organizations that attended the open house.
- ☐ Broadcasting youth testimonials on Hispanic radio programs where youths described their own experiences and benefits of Scouting.
- ☐ Home visits.

A family Scout camp at Camp Byng was the final step in our recruitment process. This further introduced the Hispanic community to Scouting. Delivered by Scouters, the program proved a huge success. For many individuals, this was their first experience in the BC outdoors – a true adventure.

We achieved our main objective; all participants had a lot of fun, and many parents signed up to take leadership training. Although we intended to integrate the youths into existing Scouting groups, the group bonded so readily and developed close friendships that they wanted to stay together as a unique, Hispanic Scouting group. Therefore, those who attended the camp formed our first group.

## Barriers and Challenges

When launching an ambitious, ground-breaking program like this one, you're sure to encounter challenges. Here are the most important ones we experienced.

## Status

Because few members of the Hispanic community are part of Scouts Canada, many people in this cultural

group perceived Scouting as an activity for an elite group, mainly Caucasians and Anglo-Saxons.

#### *Cost*

Coming as refugees from some of the poorest and war-torn countries of Latin America, many Hispanic people we worked with could not afford registration costs, or other expenses of uniforms, camps, activities, etc.

#### *Language*

Many of the newcomers (especially adults) lacked confidence in their English skills and thus found it intimidating to gather in a group with non-Spanish speaking individuals.

#### *Distrust*

Some people came from countries at war, where community or government support does not exist. Thus, some of these people were traumatized and distrustful of our intentions, especially when we invited them to attend a free family camp. However, time healed this mistrust.

#### *Lack of Communication Within Scouting*

Many Scouters weren't aware of our project; this aggravated organizational difficulties.

#### *Lack of Leadership*

We encountered this well-known Scouting difficulty particularly when trying to register all the youths, and service the group. Finding skilled leadership is always very necessary to guarantee success.

#### *Lack of Cultural Understanding*

While Hispanic people learned about Scouting, the Scouting community lacked understanding of the Hispanic community. We responded to this by conducting some education (including workshops); diversity workshops will continue as part of Basic and Advanced Training.

#### **Benefits and Successes**

Because two of the Membership Development Workers came from the Hispanic culture, spoke Spanish, and were involved in Scouting in Latin America, many challenges were overcome with relative ease. Another benefit: Scouting is very well known and highly regarded in Latin America. Those involved in this area have a public image of nurturing high moral standards and principles, protecting the environment, and helping others.

Was the Hispanic Pilot Project a success?

Yes. Not only were 106 youths and adults recruited, 157 families identified as potential recruits, and a bridge between the Hispanic community and Scouts Canada created, but we formed new community partnerships. Some of these partnerships have resulted in:

- ☐ Greater awareness of Scouting and its principles.
- ☐ Collection and development of Scouting resources in Spanish.
- ☐ Financial support that enables DAC to continue to promote Scouting in under-represented cultural groups.

## **This outreach into new communities will expand Scouting's understanding of the cultural communities and increase membership.**

#### **Phase II: Expanding the Cultural Contact**

We are now embarking on a far more ambitious cultural inclusion project that will take up to three years, which represents the second phase in our attempt to develop culturally relevant programs and services in Scouting.

The aim of this second phase is to start reviewing and adapting Scouting programs and practices to ensure they are appropriate for diverse cultural communities.

As part of this project, we have hired a Diversity Coordinator and two Membership Development Workers for one year; they will provide staff di-

rection and support. At the end of the year, we'll review staffing needs in light of available funding.

The Diversity Coordinator will focus on cultural diversity education, and explore how Vancouver-Coast and Burnaby Regional Councils deal with organizational change. Using the Hispanic Outreach template, the two Membership Development Workers will focus on outreach into other targeted, under-represented communities in the area. These may include: Aboriginal, Iranian, and South Asian communities. This outreach into new communities will expand Scouting's understanding of the cultural communities and increase membership.

Some specific activities that will be tackled include:

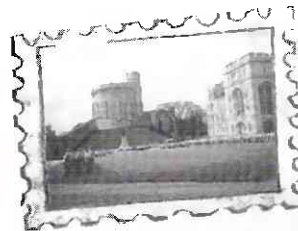
- ☐ Forging new partnerships with key institutions serving various cultural groups.
- ☐ Involving cultural groups in training of current Scouting leaders in order to achieve understanding and appreciation of other cultural communities.
- ☐ Recruiting leadership from diverse cultural groups, and maintaining contact and influence with these groups.
- ☐ Reducing barriers to make it possible for all cultures to enjoy Scouting in Canada.
- ☐ Recruiting youth and adults from under-represented cultural groups.
- ☐ Increasing diverse cultural participation at all levels of Scouting.
- ☐ Developing and acquiring culturally appropriate resource materials.
- ☐ Recruiting, training and placing volunteers from different cultures in Scouting, and linking them to the wider Scouting network.
- ☐ Providing translation and interpretation as required.

#### **Scouting for Everyone**

Canada is lucky to draw its populations from many cultures. It's our duty to ensure they have equal access and opportunity within Scouting. When we engage in cultural outreach ventures such as this one, we achieve Scouting's Mission. ^

— Diversity Advisory Committee Members come from The BC-Yukon Council. For more information, contact Viki Jovanovic at [vjovanovic@bc.scouts.com](mailto:vjovanovic@bc.scouts.com).





# Introducing The Scout Association (UK)

by Lena Wong

**W**ELCOME TO OUR NEW COLUMN CALLED *INTERNATIONAL SCOUTING*.

In coming months you'll learn all sorts of interesting details about Scouting around the world here; these will include international events, activities and details about

world Scouting organizations that generate considerable public interest.

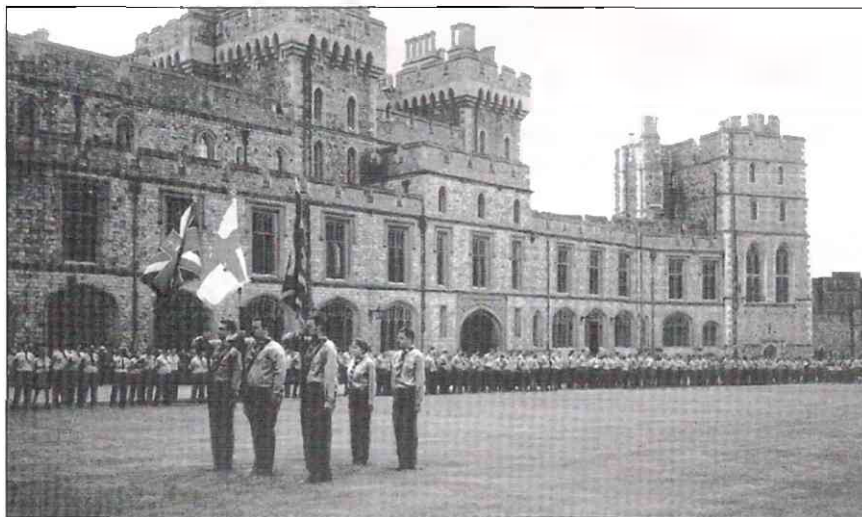
Because many people call the National Office and want to know details of the United Kingdom's Scout Association, we've decided to feature it this month.

Most people know that Scouting was started for boys in England in 1907 by Lord Robert Baden-Powell. Since then the Movement has grown internationally to include boys and girls (28 million so far) in 151 countries and about 60 territories. More than half a million of these members are in the United Kingdom and belong to The Scout Association.

Today The Scout Association is a multi-cultural, multi-faith and co-educational organization committed to helping girls and boys grow and develop together. Unlike the five sections in Canada, Britain's Scout Association has only four program sections: Beaver Scouts, Cub Scouts, Scouts, and Venture Scouts. Let's look at each section individually. You can weigh the similarities and differences on your own.

## Beaver Scouts

Open to children aged six to eight, this section was started in 1982, and gained full membership status in 1986. A colony in the U.K. consists of 24 children and a team of leaders who are named after animals, weather conditions, rivers, lakes, mountains, etc. As in Canada, some colonies use names from the book *Friends of the Forest*. Beaver Scouts can earn badges awarded at different stages of the program, culminating in the Cub Scout membership badge, which prepares them for moving up to Cubs.



Photos courtesy of The Design Studio, The Scout Association

The Beaver Scout Promise is:

I promise to do my best  
To be kind and helpful  
And to love God.

The Motto is: Fun and friends.

## Cub Scouts

Baden-Powell officially started Wolf Cubs in 1916, and based the program on Rudyard Kipling's *The Jungle Book*. In the U.K., this section caters to youths aged eight to 10½, and aims to encourage the physical, mental and spiritual development of these members. Cubs participate in a busy program focussed on activities that include camping, caring for the environment, model making, cooking, first aid, exploring and help-

ing others. Approximately 40 badges can be earned by an active Cub, as well as four awards.

The Cub Scout Promise is:

I promise I will do my best  
To do my duty to God  
And to the Queen  
To help other people  
And to keep the  
Cub Scout Law.

The Cub Scout Law is:

Cub Scouts always  
do their best  
Think of others before  
themselves  
And do a good turn  
every day.

## Scouts

Originally, this section was open to only boys aged 11 to 18. Today, all youths aged 10 to 15½ may join, regardless of gender. Some groups choose to specialize as Air or Sea Scouts. A Scout can earn five progress badges, several awards, and 95 proficiency badges.

The Scout Promise is:

On my honour, I promise  
That I will do my best  
To do my duty to God  
and to the Queen,  
To help other people  
And to keep the Scout Law.

The Scout Law is fairly detailed:

1. A Scout is to be trusted.
2. A Scout is loyal.
3. A Scout is friendly and considerate.
4. A Scout belongs to the world-wide family of Scouts.
5. A Scout has courage in all difficulties.

6. A Scout makes good use of time, and is careful of possessions and property.
7. A Scout has self-respect and respect for others.

The Scout Motto is: Be prepared.

## Venture Scouts

Venture Scouts (the Scout Association's senior section) is open to all youths aged 15½ to 20 who are prepared to make the Scout Promise. Venture Scout units plan their own activities and business matters. While a unit leader is "warranted" with the Scout Association, this person's role is not to manage or arrange, but to help the Venture Scouts in all aspects of their program. Venture Scouts work toward various awards.

## National Headquarters

The Association's National Headquarters is located at Gilwell Park, in Chingford, near London. This facility, which was purchased in 1919, not only houses the national offices, but also features indoor accommodation,

several camping fields, training facilities, and the official Scout Association Amateur Radio Station.

The Scout Association manages many camping and accommodation facilities throughout the U.K., which are open to international Scouting visitors.

Visit the Association's two web sites; the members' site ([www.scout-base.org.uk](http://www.scout-base.org.uk)) is developed and managed almost entirely by volunteers. It's an excellent resource for information, program ideas, magazines and almost anything else you can think of involving U.K. Scouting. The corporate web site ([www.scouts.org.uk](http://www.scouts.org.uk)) provides a good overview of the organization to those who are not Scout Association members.

## Different But Very Similar

The U.K. Scout Association: organizationally it differs from Scouts Canada, but Scouting activities vary little between countries around the world.

— *Lena Wong works in International Relations at the National Office in Ottawa.*

# Popular British Crafts and Games

Now that we know a little bit about U.K. Scouting, let's enjoy some popular British Beaver and Cub Scout crafts and games. All are produced from recycled materials; the crafts lead directly to the games.

## Flapping Fish

For this activity, all you'll need are old newspapers.

Cut a fish shape from half a sheet of newsprint for each youth or team. Then, fold several sheets of paper in half and again in quarters to make a fan. Place the fish on the floor. On the word "Go!" slap or wave the fan behind the fish to blow it across the floor. Make this into a competitive activity by playing it as a relay game with two-person teams racing across your meeting room and back. (See diagram)

### FLAPPING FISH



## Newspaper Ball Bowling

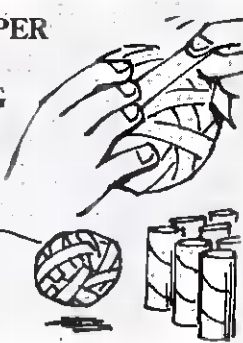
For this craft, gather old newspapers, scissors and tape. Cut or tear several sheets of newspaper into strips; crumble four or five into a ball. Wind additional strips around the ball, taping them together to prevent the strips from unravelling. When the ball is the size you want, tape it with duct or packing tape to make it durable. Now you're ready to play the game. (See diagram)

Use the paper ball for bowling by using it to knock over toilet paper rolls. Cubs might want to use rolled newspapers to form bowling lanes.

### NEWSPAPER BALL BOWLING

Tape the ball with duct or packing tape to make it durable.

Ready for bowling!

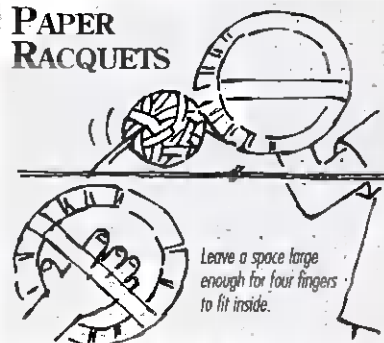


## Paper Racquets

For each racquet you'll need four large paper plates, tape and a newspaper ball or balloon. Put two plates on top of each other with the eating sides meeting in the middle. Tape them together around the edges, leaving a space large enough for four fingers to fit inside. (See diagram)

When swinging at the ball or balloon, players keep their fingers inside the racquets and their thumb outside pressed against their fingers. If you tie a string between two spaced chairs, you're all set for a game of paper tennis.

### PAPER RACQUETS





# Fun at the Pond

by Ruth Dubeau



**F**ISH FASCINATE us all. If your colony is able, consider buying a fish tank for your hall and teaching your Beavers how to care for fish. This ties into their Promise. As you're enjoying the fish, try this program theme.

## Shipwreck

Set the scene.... A ship has hit a reef and the passengers are swimming in the water trying to reach a cluster of islands nearby. The only problem is there's a hungry shark in the water.

Choose one child as IT (the shark). IT chases the passengers who are only safe when they're standing on a piece of carpet or newsprint that serves as an island. Passengers can try to swim to other islands. If someone gets caught, the child becomes IT (the shark). Let everyone play IT.

## Make a Fish Craft

Using the pattern (see below), let Beavers draw two identical fish shapes on construction paper. Let them draw scales and markings of their favourite fish (or one found in your area) using markers. Colour both fish, making sure your Beavers are colouring opposite sides of the two fish cut-outs so when they're put together the fish will be fully coloured.

Staple the two fish sides together leaving the tail area unstapled. Stuff

in newsprint or tissue paper through the tail, then staple this area closed. Attach a line to the fish's head and staple it in place.

Now organize a fish race to work off excess energy. Line your Beavers up with their fish behind them. On "Go!" they all set off racing to the far end of the hall, dragging their fish behind them.

## Digging for Clams

Leaders can develop this game in many ways. Begin with a pail or shallow pan filled with sand or plastic popcorn packing material.

Bury different types of sea shells in the sand, and sit your Beavers around the pail in a circle. Give each child a turn to search for a shell in the pail (i.e. dig for clams). When he or she finds one, ask the Beaver to describe it as fully as possible. Does it have ridges on it? What colours are found in the shell? What type of sea creature lives in the shell?

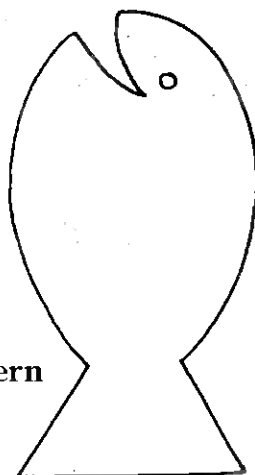
Rather than describing the shell, you might want the child to make up a short story about the life of the creature in the shell, and how it got to be in the pail.

## Ships on the Ocean

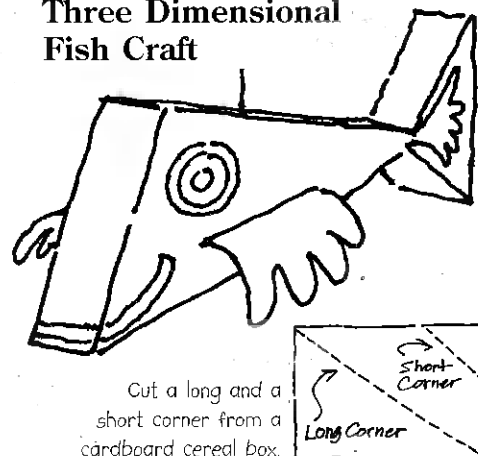
Blindfold one child who plays a ship navigating in fog. Several other Beavers (playing sea buoys) scatter over a small area. Each child in this group holds a small bell, and stands on a pillow or piece of carpet scattered over the floor. The blindfolded child pretends he or she is a ship on the ocean, and must find a way safely past and through the dangerous rocks and shoals (pillows or carpet).

The ship starts out at one end of the room. When he or she approaches dangerous rocks (pillows), the buoy on that rock rings a bell warning of impending disaster. The ship

Fish Pattern



## Three Dimensional Fish Craft



must turn slightly, and keep moving through the danger without running aground.

### Swimming Seahorse Mobile

For this craft you'll need two, long bamboo skewers for each mobile; construction paper; markers; glue; and string.

Glue the skewers together in the middle so they form a giant "X." (See diagram)

Cut out five seahorse shapes (perhaps leaders could have a prepared pattern), and let your Beavers colour and decorate them.

Attach a 15 cm long string to each seahorse, then tie the other end to each of the points of the bamboo "X." Tie the fifth seahorse to the middle where the bamboo meets. (See diagram)

Let your Beavers hang this mobile in their bedrooms.

### "Net those Fish!"

Chose two or three Beavers to join hands and play a net. Their job is to catch fish (other Beavers) by surrounding individual children. Those who are caught become a part of the 'net.' The last three children to remain free become the net for the next game.

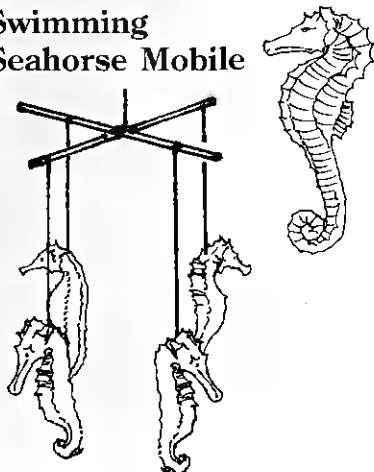
### Three Dimensional Fish Craft

Cut a long and a short corner from a cardboard cereal box. (See diagram) Glue pieces of coloured construction paper over the box corners, and glue or tape them together into a fish shape. Add features cut from construction paper (e.g. fins, a grinning mouth).

Decorate the fish with markers, sparkle, ribbons and googly eyes - anything the Beavers want.

To hang the craft, tape a piece of yarn to the top of the fish.

### Swimming Seahorse Mobile



### Finger Play

Keeo can demonstrate this play, then lead your Beavers in it.

1-2-3-4-5

*(Count on fingers)*

Once I caught a fish alive

*(Wiggle hand like a fish)*

6-7-8-9-10

*(Count on fingers)*

Then I let him go again.

*(Pretend to throw fish back)*

Why did you let him go?

Because he bit my finger so!

*(Shake hand wildly)*

Which finger did he bite?

The little finger on the right.

*(Hold up finger)*

### Going Fishing Action Song

Think up a tune for this song, or just treat it as a poem.

Have you ever gone fishing

*(Cast an imaginary fishing line into a pond)*

On a hot summer's day?

*(Wipe your brow)*

Stepped on a log

*(Balance on one foot)*

Along came a fish

*(Make swimming motions)*

And caught you by the pants

*(Jump looking backwards)*

And all the little fishes

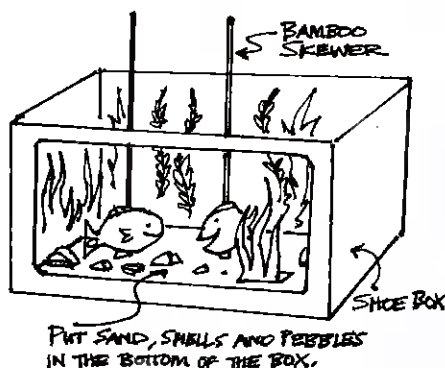
*(Point downwards at the pond)*

Do the Hoochie-coochie dance

*(Dance around)*

Da-da-da-da-da. Da! Da!

### Fish Shadow Box Construction



### Fish Shadow Box

You'll need shoe boxes (one for each child), coloured construction paper, bamboo skewers, glue, clear cellophane, string, shells and sand for this craft.

Cut out a large, rectangular window from the side of each shoe box. (See diagram below.)

Now cut out lots of colourful fish from the construction paper. Glue each fish to one bamboo skewer.

Create the background with green construction paper cut out to look like floating weeds. Put the sand and shells in the bottom of your box. Finish by gluing clear cellophane across the cut out, rectangular window.

When your shadow box is complete, Beavers can suspend their fish from the open top and let them swim across and examine the weeds. Can they think up a simple play?

End your evening by making and eating cookies in the shape of fish: sharks, seahorses, cod, trout and sturgeon. X

— Ruth Dubeau is constantly fishing around for good program themes. She lives in North Bay, ON.

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# Is it Time to Plan a Beaver Sleepover?

by Rita Freeze

**B**eavers love sleepovers, and summer is a great time to plan one. A sleepover will start kindling warm Scouting thoughts for the fall. Here's a story about a Beaver colony sleepover in New Brunswick. What can you learn from their fun?

Beavers from the 1<sup>st</sup> Rothesay Colony (Rothesay, NB) met on a slightly cloudy Friday afternoon last October at the Hammond River Park in Quispamsis. This park features an authentic log cabin that contains ecology and environmental displays. Eighteen hectares of natural forested areas surround the cabin, as well as five kilometres of mapped out trails. It's the perfect location for a Beaver sleepover adventure.

Eight of our ten Beavers attended, with their adventurous parents in tow. After stowing gear in the log cabin, the Beavers headed outside at a full gallop. While others helped



If the weather proves horrible, plan a different kind of campfire.

Photos: Rita Freeze

organize food and supplies, Tic Tac and three parents supervised some popular games:

- ☞ Red Light, Green Light
- ☞ What Time Is It Mr. Shark?
- ☞ Tag

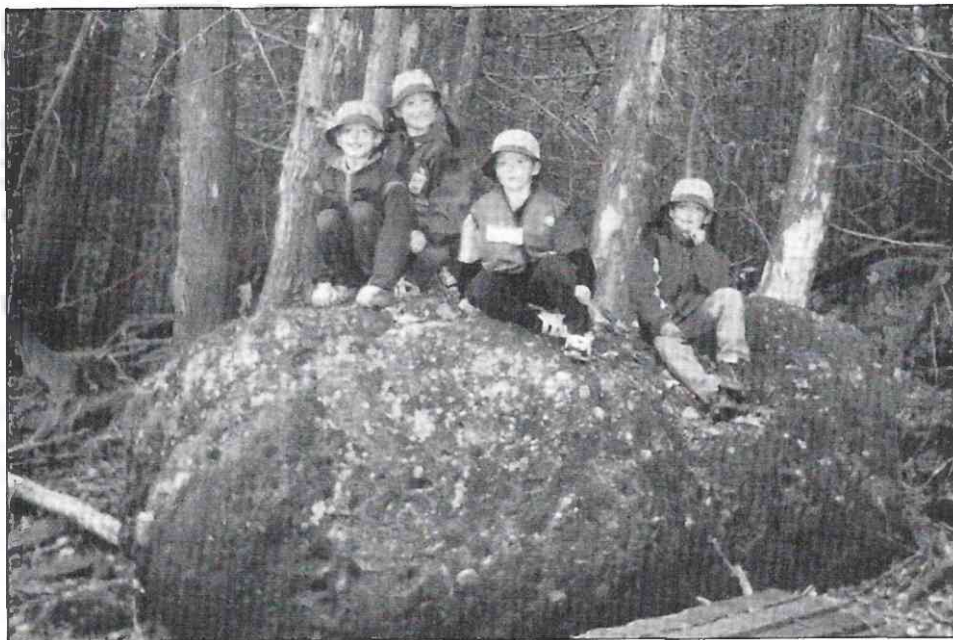
## Hike Steam-off

When all the work was finished, the colony (armed with maps), set out on a nature hike into the woods.

During the downhill trek to the marshes, our Beavers identified trees and looked for wild animals. When we reached the marsh, one of the fathers pointed out deer tracks by the water's edge.

Following our trail map nature notes (provided by park officials), the Beavers watched for numbered signs along the trail. At one sign we saw a rare sight – one of only three elm trees found in the park. Most

**S**ome of our Beavers took a break on top of this huge rock during the hike.



mature elm trees have succumbed to Dutch Elm Disease. The map explained this in detail.

The walk back up to the cabin proved more challenging than the walk down. However, when Beavers (or parents) started lagging behind, someone always reminded them of the delicious snacks waiting back at the cabin. This encouragement was enough to revive even the most tired hiker.

Within minutes after reaching the cabin and devouring the snacks, our Beavers rushed outside to play; this time, frisbees, balls and a parent-child nature scavenger hunt captured their interest.

Usually, the word "barbecue" launches most Beavers into a flurry of excitement; that's what we found after the games finished. The food, conversation and comradery produced a warm glow in everyone.

### Gentle Activities

With stomachs full, our Beavers prepared for craft time. Working individually and with parents, the children constructed their own Beaver dams from playdough and sticks. (Some even helped make the playdough.) Beavers built their dams on a pre-painted cardboard scene of a pond surrounded by trees. (We got this craft idea from the **Leader Magazine**.) While the children were finishing up their crafts several parents prepared a campfire for our evening program.

Each lodge chose a song to lead around the campfire. When we had sung our way through these, we continued with other favourite tunes.

Between singing songs and a few skits, we made s'mores (melted marshmallow and chocolate chips squeezed between two graham crackers). Unfortunately, some of our s'mores got burned over the fire, but the Beavers didn't mind.

Eight o'clock: eyes were drooping and yawns were starting. After all the children had put on pajamas and visited the bathroom, Rusty read a story to the sleepy Beavers. Then, it was off to bed; this didn't require much coaxing. (Parents set up their cots or mats next to their Beavers, just in case of a bad dream. Some of our Beavers had never been on a sleepover before.)

By 9:30 p.m. the last child was asleep. Most parents either played crib or read until midnight, happily munching snacks and talking the entire time.

Next morning, after breakfast and more games, we held our closing ceremony outside by the campfire pit. Following a brief prayer, all children were presented with a crest for their campfire blanket to remember the special weekend. All Beavers gave a cheer to their parents for bringing them.

### Is a Sleepover Worth It?

Never underestimate the work involved with organizing and carrying out a successful sleepover. But it's really worth the effort. If you ever have any doubts, the broad smiles and repeated question, "When can we do this again?" will convince you. ^

— Rita Freeze ("Bubbles") plays with the 1st Rothesay Beavers in Rothesay, NB.



## SLEEPOVER ORGANIZING TIPS

**C**onsider these tips when planning your own Beaver sleepover.

- ☞ Send home a list of all items your Beavers might need to bring.
- ☞ Before leaving, check for allergies. Know if anyone must take medication, and know how much and how to administer it.
- ☞ Bring lots of food. It's better to take some back home with you than to run out. Remember this one important note: regardless what happens during your program, Beavers will *always* consider a sleepover a success if it has fantastic food. Lots of great food is vital.
- ☞ Have lots of craft ideas ready. You might think you only need one, but if the weather turns nasty you might need others. Plan for success, and be prepared with more crafts. Besides, you can always try the ones you don't use at a future meeting.
- ☞ Plan early. Talk to parents and Beavers about the plans; that's sure to get even the quietest member excited.
- ☞ Don't forget to consult the *Outdoor Camping Activity Guide*, and make sure all the appropriate forms are filled out.

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### ENAMELED PINS





NEW!



# Cub Individual And Pack Specialty Badges



by Ross Francis

The National Program Committee is pleased to introduce two *new* Cub badges: the Individual Specialty Badge, and the Pack Specialty Badge.

These badges allow individual Cubs and/or an entire pack to design requirements for special interest areas not already covered in the current badge and star system. While committee members would like to offer badges to meet everyone's special interests, it just isn't feasible. It would create a never-ending list. Committee members believe the best compromise is to follow the Scout section, with its specialty badges.

Does this mean the Program Committee isn't interested in receiving suggestions and proposals for new badges? Certainly not. The Committee is always interested in hearing from youths and leaders. The Program Committee will continue to review all suggestions from the field, and develop new badges when appropriate.

Please cut out the boxed-in area from this column, make photocopies and distribute them to pack members. Make sure they glue them onto either the front or back cover of their *Cub Handbook*.



## Cub Individual Specialty Badge

**Purpose:** To provide a way to recognize a Cub who has a special interest.

### Requirements:

1. A Cub may propose a subject and requirements for this badge, or may develop them in cooperation with other members of the pack, the leaders and/or parents. The requirements should be presented to the Sixers' Council and leaders for review.
2. Topics selected for this badge should not be covered by any other badges or stars.
3. A Cub may hold only one Individual Specialty Badge at a time.
4. A Cub may choose a new Individual Specialty once a year.

**Note to leaders:** Make sure the requirements challenge the Cub's abilities. Remember that the purpose of the badge is to recognize the best effort of the Cub.

I completed my Individual Specialty Badge requirements on (date) \_\_\_\_\_



## Pack Specialty Badge

**Purpose:** To provide a way to recognize a pack that has a special interest.

### Requirements:

1. The pack will identify all requirements for this badge with the guidance of leaders.
2. A pack may have only one Specialty Badge at a time.
3. A pack may change its Specialty Badge once a year if it wishes.

**Note to leaders:** Make sure the requirements challenge the abilities of those in the pack. Use the creativity of your Sixers' Council to come up with ideas for your Pack Specialty Badge.

I completed my Pack Specialty Badge on (date) \_\_\_\_\_

Cut out this page and glue or tape it into the front or back cover of your Cub Handbook.



## STAR AND BADGE TRIVIA

Occasionally, someone asks, "What is the most popular star and badge?" If you've been wondering this, here's the answer. The most popular star is the Green Star, followed by the Black Star, Tawny Star, Blue Star, Red Star, and Purple Star.

Scouts Canada's top ten badges are (in order): Collector, Team Player, First Aider, Cooking, Family Care, Cyclist, Athlete, Winter Cubbing, Hiking, and Pet Care.

If you'd like the full details where the rest of the stars and badges rate, here they are: (11) Camping, (12) Disability Awareness, (13) Astronomer, (14) Skater, (15) Artist, (16) Trailcraft, (17) Handicraft, (18) Recycling, (19)

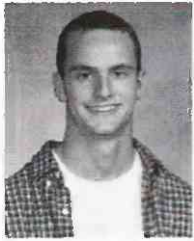
Carpenter, (20) Computer, (21) Reader, (22) Naturalist, (23) Guide, (24) Aboriginal Awareness, (25) Family Safety, (26) Law Awareness, (27) Canadian Arts Award, (28) Fishing, (29) Swimmer, (30) Observer, (31) Watercraft, (32) Musician, (33) Space Exploration, (34) Skier, (35) Entertainer, (36) Gardener, (37) Canadian Camper Award, (38) Canadian Heritage Trails Award, (39) International Trade, (40) Canadian Family Care Award, (41) Home Repair, (42) Canadian Healthy Living Award, (43) World Cubbing, (44) Canadian Wilderness Award, (45) Snowboarder - new badge in 2001, (46) World Religions, (47) Canadian Heritage, (48) Photographer, (49) World Citizen.

# The Value of Scouting in My Life

**S**cenario: You arrive home from a less-than-perfect section meeting that was marred by misbehaving youths and thoughtless parents.

"Why do I do this?" you ask, frustrated.

If these words have ever run through your head, the essays that appear in this new column will renew your vision. Each one was written by a recipient of a Scouts Canada Foundation Scholarship. Let these youth members renew your vision and enthusiasm for Scouting. (This month we hear from two members who received 2001 scholarships.)



## Scouting Spells Excitement by David Baxter

Scouting continues to be an invaluable experience, providing me with incredible opportunities, both as a leader and participant. Scouting challenges me both intellectually and physically.

Thanks to Scouting, I have experienced flying, rock-climbing, exchange programs and white-water wilderness canoe trips, just to name a few highlights. I had an incredible experience at CJ'97 in Thunder Bay. From my first concert on the beach, to learning how to kayak, the memories will last a lifetime!

I have grown and become a better person through Scouting. My leadership skills have been enhanced by working with adults, youths my own age, as well as younger members. I had the opportunity to envision, develop and implement a youth-run camp linking district Scouts and Venturers. The camp's success created an overwhelming feeling of accomplishment; and Venturer membership doubled. I have developed confidence, as well as interpersonal, communication, teamwork, public speaking, time management and organizational skills that will be invaluable in the future.

Scouting fosters many strong friendships. These friendships are one of the greatest gifts I have received from Scouting.

The wide range of opportunities that Scouting offers continues to amaze me. At CJ'01 in PEI, I had the unique experience of volunteering as a lifeguard. I am proud to be able to give back to Scouting; it has changed my life forever!

— David Baxter lives in Oshawa, ON.

## Scouting Improves All Our Lives

by Elizabeth Barrow

For the past six years, Scouting has played an important role in my life.

As a youth member, I have planned and participated in camping trips and special events. I planted trees that will improve the environment for years to come. Committed,

knowledgeable adults who volunteer their time to Scouting have made a positive difference in my life.

Scouting has given me opportunities to develop organizational, time management and problem-solving skills, and enhanced my ability to communicate effectively with people of all ages and backgrounds.

Now, as a leader, I have the opportunity to pass along what I have learned. Camping skills, co-operative working and living, and the positive values promoted by the Scouting movement are an important part of my personal life. It is gratifying to have the trust and respect of youths, fellow leaders, and parents who encourage their children's participation in Scouting.

Serving as Chair of the Youth Committee gives me a chance to make a difference. As liaison between the district and youth members, I can be the "voice of the youth," offering suggestions for change, likes and dislikes, as well as positive reinforcement on behalf of the youth. Since Scouting is for the youth, it is meaningful to me that I can communicate for them.

Throughout my Scouting experiences, I have developed strong friendships with people of all ages. These relationships are based on fun times, difficulties overcome, and shared experiences. I hope that they will endure throughout my life. X

— Elizabeth Barrow lives in Windsor, ON.

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## CROSS-COUNTRY PHOTOS

### Log Rolling Champions

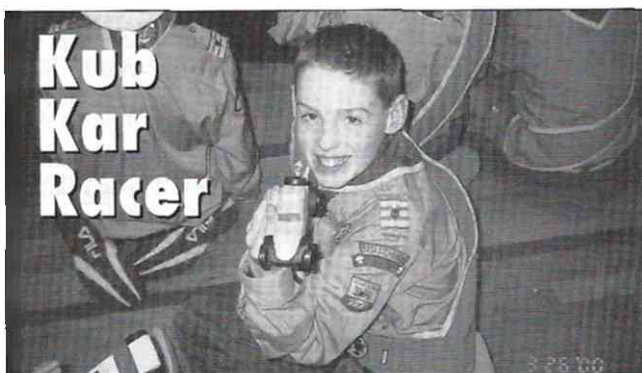
**"Hurry up  
and say go!"**

says Cub Travis Simms  
(Larry's River, NS).

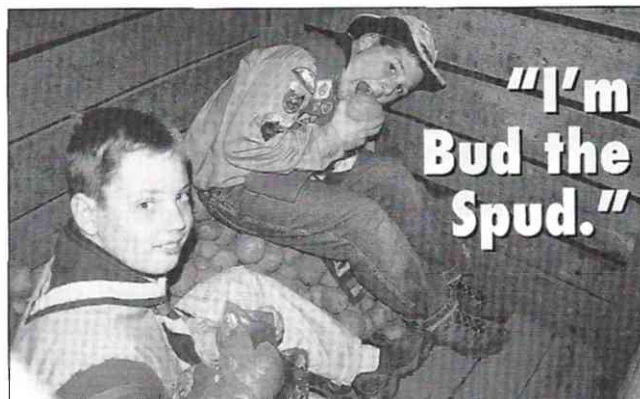
"I'm falling off". During a summer camp, these Cubs from the 1<sup>st</sup> New Harbour Pack challenged each other to see who would win the log rolling championship.

Winning requires considerable skill, quick feet and a shrewd strategy to keep your competitor off balance.

Photo: Joanne Sheehan

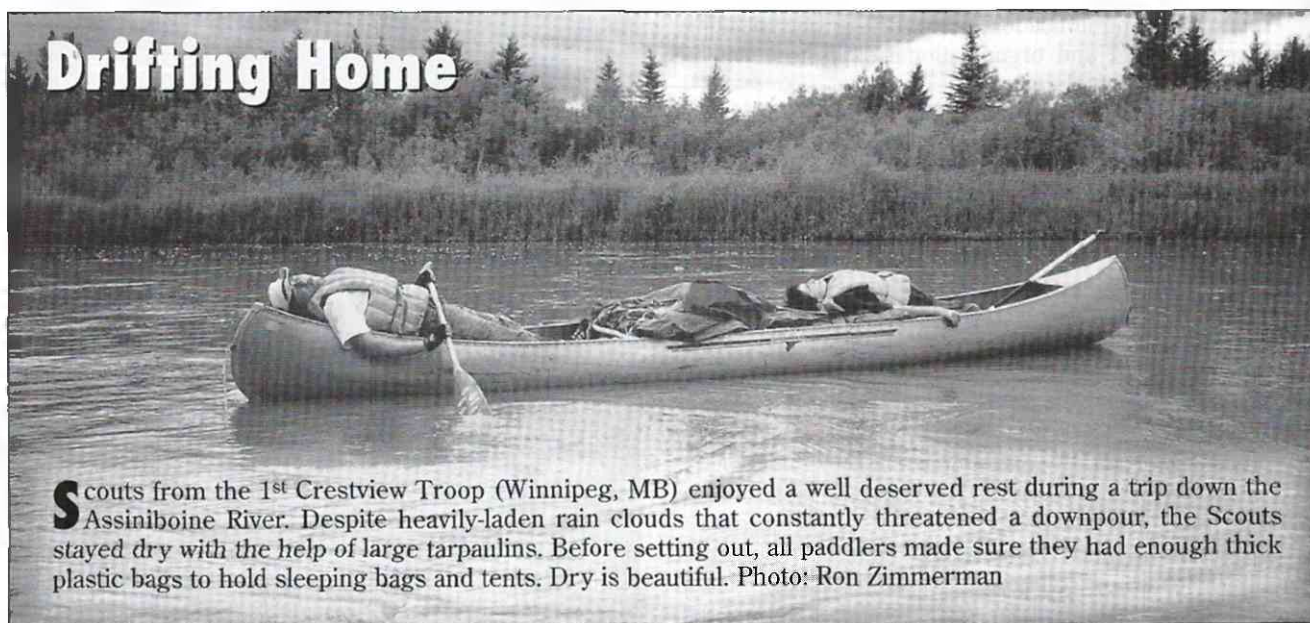


**M**atthew Painter, from the 86<sup>th</sup> St. Angela Cub Pack (Regina, SK) displays his Kub Kar racer that he built last February. Matthew designed this Kar with a fifth wheel on the trunk. "It's just for style," he said, smiling. The Cub also added large, black, fashionable wheel fenders to the Kar. Its yellow and black paint scheme makes it a real contender for a "Best Paint Job" or "Best Design" award. Photo: Benjamin Eng



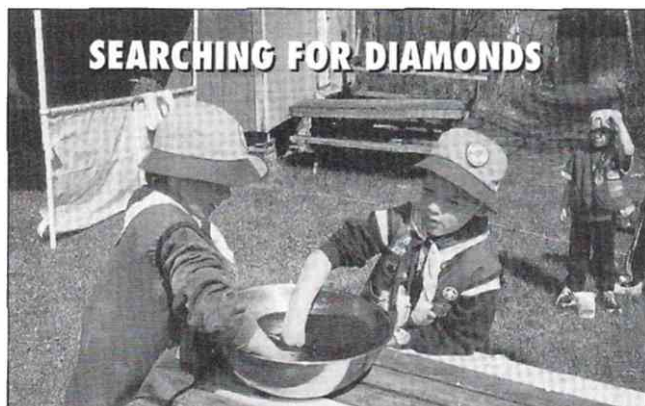
**S**couts from Wellington, Nova Scotia, visited a potato farm and learned all about spud farming during an outing last year. "We love outings," all the youths agreed. The Scouts learned lots of things during this trip, including the fact that potatoes contain almost every vitamin and mineral needed by the human body to survive. It brims over in Vitamin C. Photo: Sandy Wagg

### Drifting Home



**S**couts from the 1<sup>st</sup> Crestview Troop (Winnipeg, MB) enjoyed a well deserved rest during a trip down the Assiniboine River. Despite heavily-laden rain clouds that constantly threatened a downpour, the Scouts stayed dry with the help of large tarpaulins. Before setting out, all paddlers made sure they had enough thick plastic bags to hold sleeping bags and tents. Dry is beautiful. Photo: Ron Zimmerman





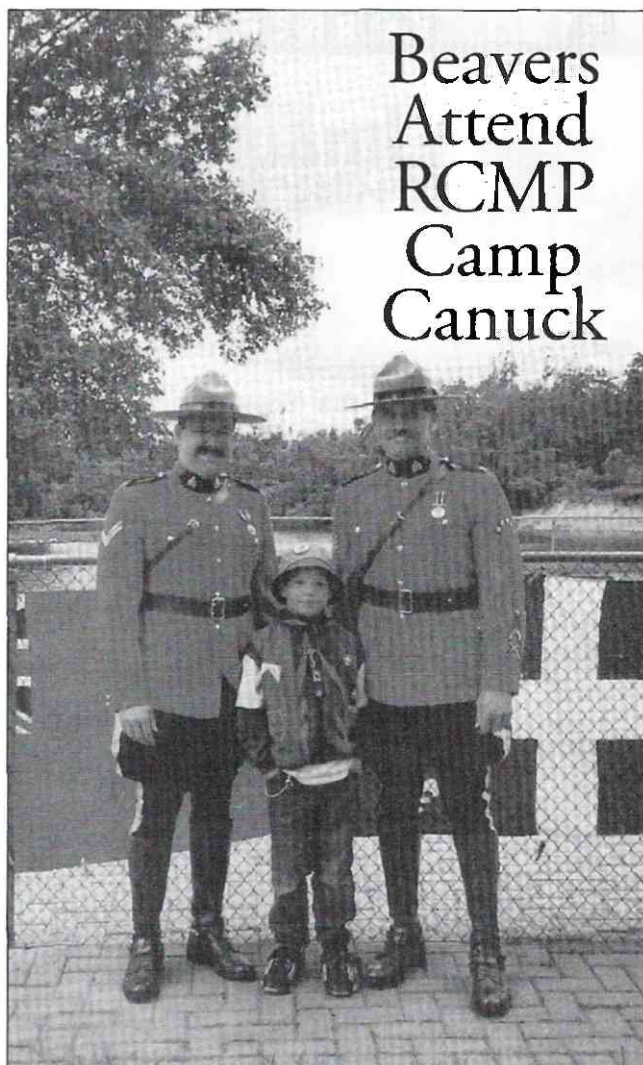
## SEARCHING FOR DIAMONDS

"I feel something!" said one Beaver excitedly, as he and a friend searched for diamonds in a muddy bowl of water at Central Alberta Region's Beaveree last May. Annually, this Region organizes a huge Beaveree focusing on a specific theme to end the year's festivities. The event generates lots of enthusiasm among children, and gets everyone looking forward to fall registration. Choose rock collecting as a theme, or beach party, or water sports... practically anything. The possibilities are endless. Photo: Hazel Hallgren



## Early Canadian Cub Explorers

Cubs from the 14<sup>th</sup> Peterborough Pack (Peterborough, ON) took their 10-metre long, voyageur canoe that they had just built for a test paddle during a Cuboree last year. The camp theme (Early Canadian Explorers) taught the youths all about voyageurs and their cross-country treks that opened Canada up to settlers. The canoe was built entirely from cardboard and duct tape. To simulate water, the youths taped blue plastic along the bottom of their canoe. Photo: Myrna Greer



## Beavers Attend RCMP Camp Canuck

Harrison Grant, from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Scouting Group (Russell, ON), proudly stands beside two members of the RCMP who helped organize a day camp for children at a Mountie facility near Ottawa. The children participated in a Beaver-style musical ride, complete with lances, after an RCMP officer showed them how to safely manoeuvre around each other. "This is really cool!" said more than one Beaver. "Let's do it again next year." Photo: Wendy Cote X



## More About Scoutrees: A Clarification by John Rietveld



**I**n the March *Leader*, I told readers some recent history of the Scoutrees program. After the piece was published, Joe Turner (a retired Provincial Executive Director, Ontario Council) provided additional history.

Scouts first started planting trees as early as 1928 and 1929 in Angus, ON. In 1930, a Scout forestry camp planted 100,000 trees in Angus. Ten years later (1940), Scouts planted 60,000 trees at St. Williams, ON, and a further 60,000 in Angus.

During WWII, Scouts in northwestern Ontario planted the Marathon Scout Forest, and in 1947 other Scouts planted the Ganaraska Forest.

In the early 1970s the Ontario Council recommended a national tree planting program. While initially rejected, success of projects in Ontario eventually led the National Council to endorse the program in 1972.

And now you know the whole Scoutrees story.

— John Rietveld is the President and Executive Director of the Scouts Canada Foundation.



# Imagination Breathes Life into Any Program

by Ian Mitchell

**T**he program tools that we use to provide the Scout program (namely badge requirements, camps, the patrol system, etc.) are not a magic potion. They are but the ingredients that, when blended with care and *imagination*, will provide the opportunities for youth to develop and grow.

Imagination! The dictionary defines this word as: "the mental faculty forming images of external objects not present to the senses; creative faculty of the mind." But how do you instill the idea in busy leaders that the more imagination they use within Scouting programs, the more enthusiasm youths will have for the activities? Enthusiasm translates into fun, of course, and it's while youth are having fun that we take the opportunity to instill our Scouting values.

The following passage, taken from an old handbook, hits the right imagination chord:

"Your IMAGINATION, perhaps more than any other quality, must be developed in order to present the sort of program that youth require. Imagination is needed in order to have the vision to see opportunities when they occur, to seize them and make the best use of them in your program."

## An Imaginative Example

Here's an example. Three Scouters read in a daily paper that in the next month the planet Mars would reach its closest position to Earth for many years. Astronomical societies around the world expected a great deal of excitement in anticipation of the event.

The first Scouter grunted to himself and promptly forgot it.

The second Scouter thought, "Ah! I must tell the troop about that." The leader did, and the troop grunted, and promptly forgot it.

The third Scouter said, "Hmm!" and let his imagination run wild while a scheme started hatching. After one or two telephone calls, delving into several books, and writing a letter, the leader was ready.

A couple of weeks later during a

weeks making telescopes and stands, and then using them.

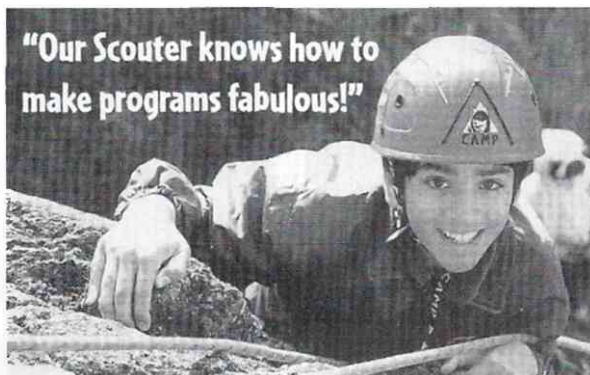
☛ It generated a tremendous interest in astronomy, flying saucers, interplanetary travel.

☛ An entire troop enjoyed a meeting built around an "Outer Space" theme.

☛ Youths earned a flood of Astronomer Badges.

☛ Two Dads, enthused and eager to help with troop activities, decided they wanted to join as leaders.

**"Our Scouter knows how to make programs fabulous!"**



Scouter's Five Minutes at the troop meeting, the leader talked about God's wonders, and the magnitude of the heavens. To fire the imagination of the Scouts, the leader illustrated the discussion by means of a pea, a tennis ball, and a meteorological balloon – the comparative sizes of Earth, Jupiter and the Sun. The Scouter didn't leave things there, but developed them further.

At the Court of Honour meeting the Scouter casually commented on the news about Mars, and wondered out loud if the patrols would like to make telescopes and view the planet; perhaps some would like to work for the Astronomer Badge. By the next Court of Honour meeting the leader had obtained plans on how to make a good telescope from cardboard tubes, and had gotten some old lenses from a junk store. All was ready when the patrol leaders reported that their patrols were wildly enthusiastic about the idea.

What was the result? Let's look at it.

☛ The imaginative effort produced a dynamic program for several

Creative stimulation and exercise sharpens our imagination. We develop it through conscious effort, and a desire to train ourselves. The result: the best possible program.

Sure, reading will give many ideas to mull over, but there's nothing like taking a leader's training course, attending a Scouting conference, or visiting other troops in action. Doing these will fire your imagination, and provide you with a wide and deep pool of ideas.

As you cast around for exciting program themes, don't just read about what others have done; cut your own imagination loose. Explore what is behind the idea. Think how you could adapt it to your situation. Twist it, turn it, bend it, and squeeze everything you can out of it. *Remember. Sometimes you have to act as the spark plug to fire the imagination of your patrol leaders.*

Be prepared to drop ideas into the lap of your troop and Court of Honour so members can ponder them and dream up some really good schemes. Show them how to twist, bend and squeeze themes to adapt great ideas to their interests and circumstances. In this sense you are rather like a catalyst in a chemical reaction: your presence causes a reaction among the others and produces the desired result. ^

Photo: Dennis Power

# How Does Scouting Contribute to the Education of Young People?

by Ross Francis

Scouting's Mission says we contribute to the education of young people, but exactly how do we do this? Here are some concrete examples.

- ☐ Scouting views education as a life-long process.
- ☐ Scouting is non-formal education; it is organized educational activity outside of academic learning.
- ☐ Scouting focuses on "learning by doing," learning in the outdoors, learning in small groups, and learning through adventure and fun.
- ☐ Scouting teaches self-confidence and leadership, and instills the desire and thirst to learn new skills.
- ☐ The development of actual skills like canoeing, building a lean-to or cooking over a fire is less important than developing the confidence and ability to learn new skills in a hands-on way.

Let's focus now on the hands-on, learning by doing and life-long learning details.

## Learning By Doing/Hands-On

Many people refer to hands-on learning as "experiential education." In fact, experiential education is often understood as a learning cycle because the learning is continuous. Psychologist David A. Kolb perhaps best describes the experiential learning cycle as experiencing, reviewing, concluding and planning.

**Experiencing:** This involves doing something, and asking questions like: What is going on?

**Reviewing:** This involves thinking about what you have done, and asking questions like: What happened? What did you do? Why did you do it that way?

**Concluding:** Based on your review, you ask questions like: What have we learned from this experience? What can apply elsewhere?

**Planning:** After drawing conclusions, you ask: What will we do differently in the future to improve on the experience?

How does the experiential learning cycle relate to Scouting?

In Scouting we are always doing things and having interesting experiences – usually in the outdoors. But it's important that leaders complete the learning cycle, that they don't simply stop when the activity finishes. If we want to soak up all the learning from an experience and improve or correct performance, we must complete the cycle. That can be both fun and instructional.

## How One Group Did It

A troop of Scouts and leaders went on a weekend camping trip. They hiked in to a site, set up camp, enjoyed some orienteering, cooked over a campfire, played some games, enjoyed several evening campfires, then packed up and went home.

This could have been the end of their trip; after all, the weekend was over and it was time to plan another adventure. Some groups would think like that, but not this one. Its members wanted to improve their camping enjoyment and expertise. So at their next meeting they spent time remembering their good times and asking questions like these:

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- ☐ Was anyone cold at night?
- ☐ Did supper get burned  
one night?
- ☐ Did everyone have the  
right gear?
- ☐ Did anyone forget anything  
at home?
- ☐ Did anyone bring too much?
- ☐ What worked well?
- ☐ What activities and experiences  
did the Scouts enjoy the most?

By asking these simple questions, the youths relived their camping trip, remembering the fun and adventure, as well as identifying specific problem areas. A brief discussion highlighted all the learnings. Such a review almost guarantees that their next trip will prove even more exciting.

For example, if a Scout was cold one night, identifying this problem could lead to other basic questions that would show everyone how to stay warm during future camps. Is this "educational"? Sure it is, perhaps not in the formal sense, but as *Webster's Dictionary* says, developing knowledge is education.

I'm not suggesting that leaders make this a formal, long drawn out process. Simply discuss your learnings at the end of the day or in the van while driving home. Take a few minutes to process the experience, and complete the cycle. This will ensure that everyone gets the most from the experience, and make upcoming camps more successful.

"But it's better to learn from successes than mistakes," someone might say.

True, but a thoughtful review of your camp will help all members learn from both successes and mistakes. Also, it will create conditions for safer outings, where your risk management plan is more fully thought out.

## Learning Throughout Life

All the learnings youth members soak up form part of the life-long learning process discussed earlier in this piece. Scouts Canada adds to this by providing opportunities for life-

long learning through workshops and training opportunities for both youths and adults. These are very important for developing our members (whatever their ages), and to program success. Most Scouting workshops and training opportunities focus on developing knowledge/skills essential for running programs – whether for a Tuesday night meeting or a weekend camp. These workshops and training opportunities also serve at least two other benefits for youths and leaders. They develop leadership skills, and risk management practices to help ensure the safety of everyone involved.

Scouts Canada recognizes that most people learn by doing, and most information new leaders require for conducting programs is best absorbed through this proven method. That's one reason why Scouting is placing renewed effort on having experienced leaders coach and mentor new volunteers when they join.

Learning by doing is the most effective way for new leaders to complete criteria for the Basic (Part 1) Training. Why? Because, essentially it is on-the-job training. Experienced leaders coach/mentor new leaders, then allow them to practise the skills under their guidance. New leaders will appreciate the opportunity to learn, develop and practise new skills without giving up additional time to attend formal courses. *Please note!* This does not mean that Scouting will no longer offer traditional courses as in the past, but that the organization recognizes that volunteers have limited time to give, to train and to learn. Since most people prefer to learn by doing, Scouting is trying to create more effective ways for new leaders to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to conduct outstanding programs.

Scouting *does* contribute to the education of our members. We're looking for even more dynamic ways to do this for the future. X

# Communicating with parents is very important!

# DAVID ELTON OUTDOOR FUND SAFETY DISCUSSIONS

**R**ecently, the *David Elton Outdoor Fund* of Calgary sponsored a risk management/safety awareness session at Camp Gardner, near Calgary, AB. The Fund was established by David's parents after this young Venturer died while trying to save an adult chaperone on a school backpacking trip in California. David was posthumously awarded Scouting's Gold Cross for Gallantry for his heroic actions.

Providing educational opportunities for Scouters and youths is very high on the list of priorities for the David Elton Outdoor Fund. Because of this focus, the Fund sponsors projects which encourage young people and youth leaders to develop safety awareness as a primary leadership skill.

## Safety Panel Discussion

During the session at Camp Gardner, a number of people sat on a panel discussing how they viewed their role in Scouting, as it related to risk management and safety. As well, these people shared their concerns and offered suggestions. Panel members felt that most leaders understand the importance of following Scouting's policies and practices, even when it comes to filling out the forms.

Following are some highlights that discussion leaders felt bore repeating.

- ☐ Leaders need to plan and prepare fully for all activities before setting out on a trip. For example, leaders should visit the area prior to the trip to assess potential risks/hazards, and measure these against the knowledge, skills and abilities of group members. The activity must always be appropriate for youths.
- ☐ Parents and youth members should be involved in all phases of a trip. This ensures that everyone has a clear understanding of what will happen. Involving and informing parents ensures that they can give "informed consent" when they complete the Parent Consent Form. If they do this, parents won't be able to come back and say, "Nobody told me you would be doing that," or "Had I known, I could have told you that my child has a fear of the activity, and provided some tips on how to deal with the situation." Communicating with parents is one of the most important things leaders can do. Often parents get excited about what Scouting is doing, and want to get involved themselves.
- ☐ Teamwork is vital. One person can't do it all. Delegate different tasks to different leaders or parents to spread the workload around.

- ☐ Develop an emergency response plan. Prior to the activity, ask the leaders/youths to think up different things that could go wrong, and develop a plan to deal with each scenario.
- ☐ File a route plan with someone at home; this plan should come complete with instructions of what to do if, or when, an emergency happens.
- ☐ Keep written notes and records of your plans for future reference. This will make repeating the activity again much easier. Imagine how helpful it will be to present this package to the leader who eventually replaces you. What a great resource this would be.
- ☐ Spend time reflecting on your experience – both positive and negative – after the event.

## Boost the Thrill, But Safely

One speaker at the session, Jeff Reading, a Cub leader and Duty of Care expert with the Calgary Board of Education, summed his thoughts up nicely with these words: "We need to develop programs and activities that maximize perceived risks, while minimizing actual risks."

It's great for kids to think that the risk is high during some activities, as long as they feel protected and looked after by adult leaders. This sense of risk "pumps" them up and gives the illusion that they are on a great, challenging adventure with some danger. This is good, but only as long as leaders

have implemented the appropriate safety measures to minimize actual risk. How can leaders achieve this balance? They could do it through training, practising, planning, getting proper safety equipment, etc., while maintaining the exciting illusion for the kids.

To help ensure that Scouting continues to provide programs/outings in the safest possible manner, Scouts Canada has developed and provided a *Duty of Care Document*, a *Camping/Outdoor Activity Guide*, and our *By-Law, Policies and Procedures (B.P. & P.)*. The *Duty of Care* and the *Camping Guide* are available on our web site ([www.scouts.ca](http://www.scouts.ca)), while *B.P. & P.* is available at local Scout Shops. These documents talk about leader conduct, accepted practices, policies and forms, and applications necessary for camping and outdoor activities. They are essential resources for every leader.

## Thinking About Safety

The risk management/safety awareness session proved very helpful for leaders wanting to find new ways to introduce fun into our programs, yet maintain a high margin for safety. Thanks to Grace Belzner and Ann Gray-Elton from Calgary for sending the video and notes from the workshop.

**Spend time  
reflecting on  
your experience –  
both positive  
and negative –  
after the event.**





# For Service to Scouting


compiled by Cheryl Dinelle

**W**e are pleased to announce in this issue the names of people in Scouting who have been recognized for gallantry and service between August 1, 2001 and February 28, 2002 inclusive. We will announce awards made after February 28, 2002 in a fall issue of **the Leader**.

## AWARD FOR FORTITUDE

*(for perseverance despite physical or mental impediments)*

Patrick Chan, Ottawa, ON



**the leader**

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Paul Sawka, Calgary, AB

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*(for meritorious conduct worthy of recorded commendation)*

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Doug Bolton, Calgary, AB  
John Dyas, Kitchener, ON  
Wayne Fulmer, Calgary, AB  
Kevin Kwong, Richmond, BC  
Anthony Lowden, Owen Sound, ON  
Daniel Morningstar, Niagara Falls, ON  
Benjamin Nickel, Cumberland, BC  
Hal Ostland, Calgary, AB  
Benjamin Quinn, Grand Bay-Westfield, NB  
Ian Ripley, Dartmouth, NS  
James Sealy, Bathurst, NB  
Lucas Steeves, Calgary, AB  
Barbara Steward, Calgary, AB  
Patricia Stoetzel, Calgary, AB  
Alvin Tsui, Richmond, BC  
Cory Van Ryk, Delta, BC  
Brent Webster, Ottawa, ON  
Alex Woods, Hamilton, ON  
Jacky Yasman, Calgary, AB  
Larry Yasman, Calgary, AB  
Michael Yip, London, ON  
Stephen Yiu, Toronto, ON  
Jacqueline Young, Calgary, AB

## BAR TO SILVER ACORN

*(for further especially distinguished service to Scouting)*

Brian Booth, Medicine Hat, AB  
John Cross, Dartmouth, NS  
Gillian Heath, Oshawa, ON  
Frank Jackson, Ferintosh, AB  
Douglas Mason, Gormley, ON  
Ronald Nicholson, Toronto, ON  
Ted Phillips, Oshawa, ON

## SILVER ACORN

*(for especially distinguished service to Scouting)*

Arnold Allen, Peterborough, ON  
Lenore Allen, Peterborough, ON  
Jean Bizot, Strathmore, AB  
Steve Cebuliak, Calgary, AB

David Cooper, Scarborough, ON  
Bob Gale, North Vancouver, BC  
Alan Griffin, Ottawa, ON  
Ethel Harrison, Winnipeg, MB  
Bernd Hohne, Winnipeg, MB  
Charles Lawrence, Mississauga, ON  
David Read, Thornhill, ON  
Walter Reid, Oshawa, ON  
Jeff Smith, Chateauguay, QC  
Howard Sommerfield, Ladner, BC  
Charlie Tanner, Winnipeg, MB  
Jeff Weisler, Richmond, BC

## BAR TO MEDAL OF MERIT

*(for further especially good service to Scouting)*

John Blake, Toronto, ON  
Terry Blaker, White Rock, BC  
Robert Colford, St. John's, NF  
Paul Cook, St. John's, NF  
George Custance, Winnipeg, MB  
Dale Dijkstra, Lennoxville, QC  
John Dijkstra, Lennoxville, QC  
Angus Gilbert, Dunville, NB  
John Knock, Yarmouth, NS  
Murray Lord, Guelph, ON  
Jack Lyons, Toronto, ON  
Don McGillivray, Neepawa, MB  
Doreen Miller, Peterborough, ON  
Ann Pennell, St. John's, NF  
Edward Pennell, St. John's, NF  
Irene Roy, Richmond, BC  
Marina J. Smith, Mascouche, QC  
Gerry Taylor, Mount Pearl, NF  
Wilfred Thomas, St. John's, NF  
David Warner, Yarmouth, NS

## MEDAL OF MERIT

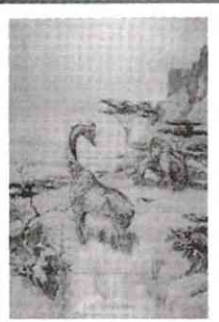
*(for especially good service to Scouting)*

Larry Adkins, Chilliwack, BC  
David Alcock, Mount Pearl, NF  
Valerie Almas, Powell River, BC  
Carolyn Ashley, Milford Station, NS  
Patti Atkinson, London, ON  
Edith Austin, Bancroft, ON  
Harvey Bailey, Hamilton, ON  
John Baxter, Welland, ON  
William Beard, Revelstoke, BC  
Philip Bidwell, South Porcupine, ON  
Edward Blackmore, Gander, NF  
Ida Bogataj, Mississauga, ON  
Robert Boose, Kingsville, ON

David Burns, London, ON  
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 Mary Chandler, Carleton, NS  
 George Chapman, Mississauga, ON  
 George Clarke, West Vancouver, BC  
 Andrea Cook, St. John's, NF  
 Gary Coursey, Clinton, ON  
 Brian Crowe, Aurora, ON  
 Ian DeVerteuil, Shawnigan Lake, BC  
 Lawson Dickson, St. John's, NF  
 Brent Dunford, Winnipeg, MB  
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 Sigrid Fitzpatrick, Corner Brook, NF  
 Paul Freiburger, Kitchener, ON  
 Gary Glassford, Orangeville, ON  
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 Jim Grape, Winnipeg, MB  
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 Barry Hall, Wainwright, AB  
 Heather Hallworth, Courtenay, BC  
 Ross Hamilton, Harrow, ON  
 Joan Harkness, Hamilton, ON  
 Claire Hoisington, Revelstoke, BC  
 Deborah Howe,  
 Dollard-Des-Ormeaux, QC  
 David Huddlestone, Ottawa, ON  
 Lester Ivany, Mount Pearl, NF  
 Jackie Jacquard, Tusket, NS  
 Mike Jacquard, Tusket, NS  
 Myrna Johnston, Dunnville, ON  
 Richard Johnston, Brantford, ON

Trevor Joice, Toronto, ON  
 Janice Jones, Toronto, ON  
 Kim King, Port Perry, ON  
 David Kingma, Penetang, ON  
 Barbara Knox, Blyth, ON  
 Maureen Koss, Richmond, BC  
 Bill Lacey, Sarnia, ON  
 Hung Phuc Le, Thornhill, ON  
 Debbie Lediard, Oshawa, ON  
 Eric Locke, Toronto, ON  
 Jack Lovatt, Toronto, ON  
 James Ludberg, Grimsby, ON  
 Trevor Magee, Winnipeg, MB  
 Ed Mannette, Head of  
 Chezzetcook, NS  
 Keith Mannette, Porters Lake, NS  
 Robert Marcinkow, Richmond, BC  
 Susan Marshall, Corner Brook, NF  
 Maurice Mazurat,  
 Portage La Prairie, MB  
 Dennis McDonald, Langley, BC  
 David McOnie, Ottawa, ON  
 Karen Mickle, Harrow, ON  
 Sharon Miller, Hamilton, ON  
 Douglas Nelson, Surrey, BC  
 Jim Neville, Guelph, ON  
 Harry Niezen, Kitchener, ON  
 Janet Noseworthy, St. John's, NF  
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 Frank Parsons, St. John's, NF  
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 Wesley Roots, Coquitlam, BC  
 David Ross, Ottawa, ON  
 Kyle Russell, Hamilton, ON  
 Vaughan Russell, Toronto, ON  
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 Norman Toogood, St. Thomas, ON  
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## IN THE MARKET

# Catalogue Questions and Answers

by Ben Kruser

**B**Y THE TIME YOU READ THIS, the new Scouts Canada catalogue for 2002/03 will be in final production. By August, the catalogue is printed, addressed with the mailing list provided by Scouts Canada, and mailed to approximately 180,000 members across Canada.

In past years, the national mailing list was compiled by asking each council to send us a copy of its member database. Once received, all the member addresses were given to a database management company, which merged multiple names and addresses to comply with Canada Post's address correction standards.

This September, we're going to compile the mailing list from Scouts Canada's new Membership Management System. Councils expect to input all current members into our national database by the end of next June. From this database, Retail Services will be given the mailing list for the catalogue direct mail program.

### The Bottom Line

Each year people ask us about costs associated with directly mailing catalogues to members. Below you'll find some common questions and answers.

**Q:** Why do you send a catalogue to each member, rather than only one per family?

**A:** The cost to do a multiple address merge and purge is more expensive per address than the unit cost of producing a catalogue. Since we don't send catalogues to a large number of multiple addresses across Canada, we continue this practice to save Scouting money. As well, feedback over the last four years suggests that most families prefer for members (especially children) to receive their own catalogue; this prevents siblings from fighting

over one catalogue. When families don't want the extra catalogue, usually they recycle them to friends and family. This encourages more sales for Scout Shops.

**Q:** Don't you waste money direct mailing catalogues to members?

**A:** Mailing costs are 100 percent paid for by the advertising you see in the catalogue. Previously, when catalogues were bulk shipped to councils for hand distribution, research showed that over 60 percent of catalogues did not reach members. Instead, they sat in stairwells, basements and car trunks – a tremendous waste of trees and money. Direct mail now reaches 95 percent of members, and greatly improves mail ordering and product selection.

**Q:** Why do you print an English-only and French-only catalogue?

**A:** Single language printing reduces the text space required by 14 pages per catalogue. This translates into a \$70,000 production savings. Scouts Canada prints a total of 230,000 English and 10,000 French catalogues. The extra catalogues are given out to new members at registration and to non-members through Scout Shops. English and French catalogues are mailed out to Quebec members at the request of the council, as we do not know the language preference of members, yet. This will change as new information is collected with the Membership Management System.

**Q:** Why don't you put the catalogue on the web?

**A:** As part of updating and redesigning our web site, we hope to have the catalogue online later this fall.

Do you have any other questions about the 2002/03 catalogue? If you do, please feel free to contact me directly at: (613) 224-5131, or through e-mail at: bkruser@scouts.ca.

Have a great summer!^

## SCOUTER'S 5

### Smiling

- ☐ Have you ever noticed that someone who is smiling causes smiles to break out all over? It's like a wonderfully infectious blessing that spreads like a prairie wildfire.

- ☐ Practise smiling in your colony, pack or troop. Investigate how each smile is different. One turns up more at one corner than another one. Some people have dimples that add more mirth to their smile.

- ☐ How many different smiles can each youth member make? Do all smiles "mean" the same? After you've had fun with smiles, read this poem.

Smiling is infectious  
You catch it like the flu  
When someone smiled at me today  
I started smiling too.  
I passed around the corner  
And someone saw my grin,  
When he smiled I realized  
I'd passed it on to him.  
I thought about that smile  
Then I realized its worth,  
A single smile, just like mine  
Could travel round the earth.  
So if you feel a smile begin  
Don't leave it undetected,  
Let's start an epidemic quick  
And get the world infected!

— Author unknown

Scouter's Five Minutes

June/July 2002

## SONGS

### "All You Et-a" Song

- ☐ Use these songs early in the fall when establishing your colony or pack. Sing this first song to the tune of "Alouette," after having eaten a huge meal at camp.

- ☐ *Chorus*  
All you et-a  
Think of all you et-a.  
All you et-a  
Think of all you et.

- ☐ Think of all the soup you et,  
Think of all the soup you et.  
Soup you et... Oh....

(Chorus)

Think of all the corn you et,  
Think of all the corn you et.  
Corn you et... soup you et... Oh....

(Chorus)

- ☐ Potatoes you et...

Salad you et...

- ☐ Meat you et...

Ice cream you et...

— Patricia Johnson (Blenheim, ON) shared this song with us.

Songs

June/July 2002

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## We're Here to Have Fun

Sing this song to the tune of "Auld Lang Syne."

We're here for fun  
Right from the start  
Pray drop your dignity.  
Just laugh and sing  
With all your heart  
And show your loyalty.  
All other meetings we've enjoyed  
Let this one be the best  
Join in the song we sing today  
Be happy with the rest.  
— Thanks to Patricia Johnson (Blenheim, ON) for this song.

## Let's Get Acquainted

Sing this song to the tune of "Tipperary."

It's a good time to get acquainted  
It's a good time to know  
Who is sitting close beside you  
And to smile and say "hello".  
Goodbye that lonesome feeling  
Goodbye glassy stare.  
My name is \_\_\_\_\_ (Shout it out)  
Now put your hand right here. (Extend hand to shake)  
— Thanks to Patricia Johnson (Blenheim, ON) for this song.

Songs

## Blessed is the Leader

from Sue Pike

Blessed is the leader who has not sought the high places, but who has been drafted into service because of an ability and willingness to serve.

Blessed is the leader who knows why and where he or she is going, and how to get there.

Blessed is the leader who knows no discouragement, and who presents no excuse.

Blessed is the leader who seeks the best for those being served.

Blessed is the leader who develops leaders while leading.

Blessed is the leader who has his or her head in the clouds, but feet on the ground.

Blessed is the leader who considers leadership an opportunity for service.

Blessed is the leader who leads for the good of the many, not for personal gratification or gain.

— Author unknown. Thanks to Sue Pike for sharing.

## Why God Made Children

from the Great Sauk Trail Council

God made a world out of His dreams  
Of magic mountains, oceans and streams.  
Prairies and plains and wooded land,  
Then paused and thought,

"I need someone to stand  
On top of the mountains to conquer the seas,  
Explore the plains and climb the trees.  
Someone to start out small, and grow  
Sturdy, strong like a tree," and so  
He created children, full of spirit and fun  
To explore and conquer, to romp and run  
With dirty faces, banged-up shins,  
When He completed the task He'd begun,  
He surely said, "That's a job well done!"

Scouter's Five Minutes

## Pen Pals from Around the World

### Britain

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

### Netherlands

Would you like a Dutch pen pal? Contact the Dutch pen pal secretary. Her address: E. Dekkers-van Houten, Post Box Secretaresse, Scouting Nederland, P.O. Hooftlaan 4-14, 7552 HG Hengelo, The Netherlands.

### Australia

Contact: Brenda de Bes, National Australian pen pal coordinator, Scouts Australia, 107 Novar Street, Yarralumla, ACT 2600, Australia. Please include your name, mailing address and age.

### Please Note

The Leader does not provide a regular Pen Pal column. Scouting members who want a pen pal may contact the three Scouting organizations above that will help them connect with a youth or leader. Leaders should screen all letters or e-mail messages coming from pen pals to ensure that people do not misrepresent themselves or make inappropriate statements. Scouts Canada's web site ([www.scouts.ca](http://www.scouts.ca)) has many links with Scouting groups around the world.

# Grossology and Gruesome Wounds

by Ian Mitchell

**Grossology:** the disgusting study of anything "gross."

If you're looking for a classic definition of the word "grossology," the one offered above is what most Venturers would agree to, with a snicker. Without hesitation, Venturers would say that "grossology" could involve studying food, fashion, or perhaps even the stuff that grows between your toes.

The idea of "grossing someone out" offers endless program ideas for Venturers, who are always looking for ways to shock their peers or parents. Here's a creative method to encourage this fun-loving bent while helping out Scouts.

"What?!" you say, shocked that I would even raise this, well... gross subject.

Yes, I'm going to teach you how to train your Venturers to gross out Scouts, while at the same time preparing them to react better when they reach the scene of an accident.

## Injury Simulation

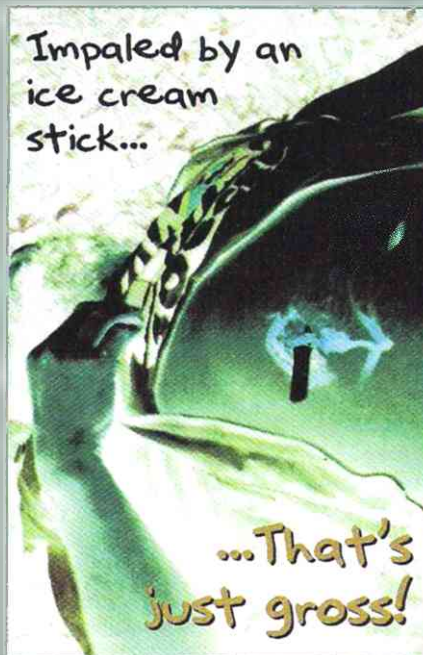
Realistic wounds can gross out the toughest ambulance attendant. After all. Who can prepare emotionally for the splattered blood and gore surrounding many accident sites? This activity will allow Scouts and Venturers to practise valuable first aid skills in a more realistic environment.

First, you have to decide on a scenario for your simulation. Perhaps a victim has been bashed by a flying axe head or sliced by her trusty Scout knife. Let Venturers or Scouts choose what first aid scenario they want to practise. Then, simply use one of the perfect recipes below to create an accurate representation of the wound. The artistic creativity will make them better first aiders when they confront a real emergency with all its visual shock.

### Gross Recipe #1

This recipe is great for any first aid incident that breaks the skin surface (e.g. cuts, a compound broken bone, punctures).

You will need: putty; skin-coloured grease paint (face paint); black, blue and yellow grease paint sticks; skin-coloured face powder (ask Mom before borrowing it); fake blood (see sidebar); and a camera (to take pictures of the terrible wounds). You'll also need knives, nails, and other metal instruments to simulate accident wounds. *Note!* Be very careful



with all sharp objects. Don't let anyone play with them; the harmless activity might create an unfortunate, real life drama.

### Directions

1. Smear globs of putty (tinted with a bit of skin-coloured grease paint) onto the skin of the victim. Mound (build it up) slightly to give a swelling effect of the skin. Blend the putty in at the edges to make the wound appear life-like.
2. Dust the area with the face powder so it looks as if it's real flesh. Now,

*very carefully*, using a *blunt* knife, make a cut in the putty. Create what appears to be a gaping gash, complete with skin peeled back.

3. Apply some of the black, blue and yellow grease paint. This will simulate bruising.
4. Add a prop to the wound (i.e. knife, nail or metal instrument), and then, for the finishing touch, splatter the area liberally with fake blood. To add an even more authentic accident look, sprinkle on a bit of soil.

Don't forget to take pictures. Your Venturers will want to be both the photographer and victim.

### Gross Recipe #2

For this recipe you will need: petroleum jelly; a toothpick; a bowl; red food colouring; white tissue; powdered cocoa; and a camera.

### Directions

1. Place a finger full of petroleum jelly into the bowl. Add three or four drops of red food colouring, and mix with the toothpick. Stir in a pinch of cocoa to darken the mixture.
2. Separate the tissue into single layers. Rip out a small rectangle of this tissue and place it where you wish to make the wound.
3. Cover the tissue with fresh petroleum jelly and mould the goopy tissue to form a wound; keep in mind



- that the sides of the wound should be slightly higher than the centre.
4. Smear the blood-coloured petroleum mixture in the centre of the wound. Sprinkle a bit of cocoa onto the edges and rub in to darken it. Your photographer can record all stages of the gross re-creation.

#### Camps and Halloween

Ask your Venturers if they would agree to help local Scouts during a first aid camp, so the teens can uti-

lize their newly acquired skills. It would make for a great linking event too. Be sure to send **the Leader** pictures of your first aid program, and the realistic wounds. In fact, describe the entire program to us from start to finish. Tell us what games you adapted to the theme, as well as crafts and songs.

If your Venturers are unable to help at a Scout camp, they could volunteer at a Cub or Scout Halloween party. (It would provide an interest-

ing linking event.) They could help make some gruesome looking costumes.

#### Not Dull and Boring

First aid training doesn't have to be staid and uninteresting. It can be delightfully gross.

The more realistic you make your training (within reason), the more it will train youth members to respond to real-life emergencies they encounter.  $\lambda$

## FAKE BLOOD RECIPE

**U**se this recipe either for Halloween or during a first aid training night.

You will need: clear corn syrup; water; a toothpick; red food colouring; a small plastic bag; corn starch; and cocoa.

1. Place two spoonfuls of clear corn syrup into a cup. Add one spoonful of water and stir with a toothpick.
2. Add two drops of red food colouring and stir again.

Dab the fake blood around your 'wound' to add realism.



3. Pour the mixture into a plastic bag. Make sure the bag has no holes; if you miss this step, you might end up looking like Count Dracula on a Saturday night!

4. Add three pinches of cornstarch and two pinches of cocoa to the mixture.
5. Squish the contents of the bag until all ingredients are well blended.

How do you use this blood mixture? Just dab it around the area of your wound. Instantly, it will build realism into any first aid program. For Halloween, drip some of this blood mixture from the corner of your mouth.

## LETTERS

### Take a Bow

**E**ach year, many readers send us praise for **the Leader Magazine**. Universally, Scouters from across the country say **the Leader** makes their job so much easier by providing many timely program ideas.

This praise belongs to YOU – those dedicated leaders who contribute games, crafts, theme programs and songs.

Following is just a taste of the praise you deserve to hear.

I wish to congratulate all concerned with the publication of your most interesting and informative magazine.  
— Phil Frost, Mississauga, ON.

We get lots of good ideas from **the Leader Magazine**.  
— Margaret Purdy, Victoria, BC

Keep up the good work.  
— Charles Schwier, Kingston, ON.

**The Leader** is superb. Keep up the good work.  
— David Green, Ocean Park, Maryland, USA.

I took several years 'vacation' from being a leader. Since I'm now back as a Scouter again, I need **the Leader Magazine**. It's a resource I wouldn't want to be without.  
— Barb Rohlmann, Brampton, ON.

I am a long time member of the Scout Movement and find **the Leader** to be an excellent source for many ideas, both program and at the district council level. I would say that there are usually more suggestions in each issue than can be used before the next one is out.  
— Colin Marshall

Your **Leader Magazine** is terrific and well done in every respect, especially the Beaver column, "Fun at the Pond."

— Prosser Moran, Leamington, ON

Just a short note to say I enjoy **The Leader Magazine** with all its interesting comments and pictures. Keep it up.  $\lambda$

— Wayne Lawrence, ON.

# Charting the Future: A New Vision

by Ian Mack

## Where should Scouts Canada direct its future efforts?

This question has occupied Task Group members of Scouts Canada's Board of Governors for some months. The last time this question was addressed methodically at the national level was in the '80s; the effort resulted in girls being welcomed as full members in the 1990s.

The Task Group includes representatives of the national management, program and youth teams. The Group analyzed historical membership statistics since 1985, and the results of the comprehensive Angus-Reid polls, conducted in 1998-99. Internet web sites provided much useful information, as well as a recent book by Reginald Bibby entitled, *Canada's Teens: Today, Yesterday and Tomorrow*. (Years ago Scouting sought Mr. Bibby's advice during the redesign of the Venturer program.)

### Growing Clarity

After gathering wide-ranging information, the Task Group identified relevant trends and made forecasts regarding the future of Scouts Canada. Interestingly, the themes that emerged from the analysis were similar to current strategic planning objectives, which have been guiding the organization in recent years.

Membership growth in all sections remains critical. However, in the past decade the most dramatic losses in youth membership have been realized in the Beaver and Cub sections. These sections require special attention. As well, Scouting must break into non-traditional communities or risk certain decline as a viable youth development force in Canada.

### Sharpening Our Focus

Scouting needs to re-emphasize the section leaders' key role. A full

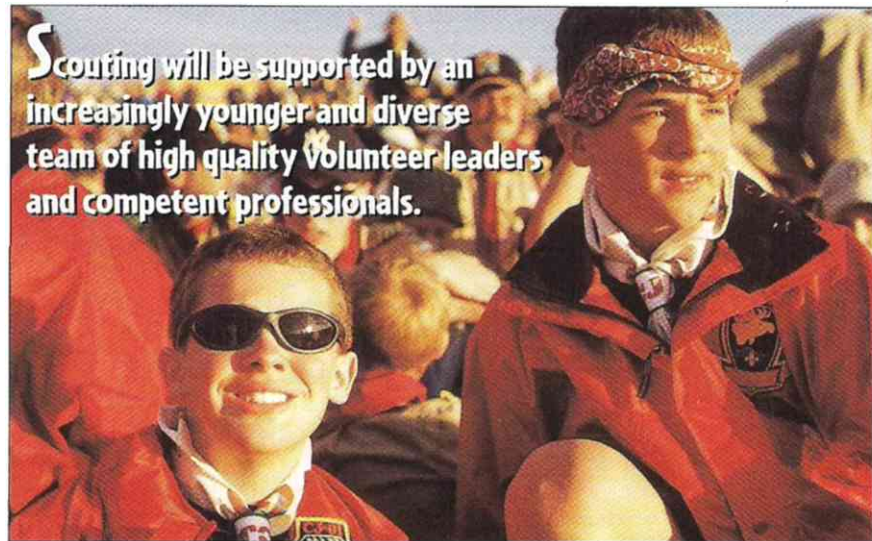


Photo: Garth Holder

review appears necessary to better address the support and recognition requirements of leaders. Also considered important, is the need to recruit more young adults as section leaders, and to ensure they play a key leadership role in the sections they join.

We need to accelerate our journey considerably in making Scouts Canada more of an entity "of youth for youth." This means greater reliance on our Kims, Keeos and Courts of Honour to guide our energies in program delivery, and on other committed senior section youth members to guide program design and governance effort.

Communications remains an ongoing issue, both in terms of how and what we say to the non-Scouting public, and how we ensure meaningful dialogue between various levels – particularly the group/section and national levels.

Scouting must find new ways to raise funds to keep present programs not only thriving, but growing in relevance to youth members.

### New Vision Statement

The Task Group proposes the following vision statement to address some of the issues described above:

"As a member of the World Organization of the Scout Movement, Scouts Canada strives to be recog-

nized by all Canadians as a values-based and dynamic national force in youth education that welcomes all persons and ultimately contributes significantly to the local, national and global communities by developing self-assured and principled young adults. Scouts Canada commits to employing exciting programs that engage youth in their own experiential learning, with support from an increasingly younger and diverse team of high quality volunteer leaders and competent professionals."

### Comments Welcome

Scouts Canada recognizes your important investment in Canadian youth. We understand that some of you may wish to contribute to our work by sending the Board of Governors comments on a consultation paper that will be available on the web. Those who are so inclined may get more details and provide comments by logging onto Scouts Canada's web site ([www.scouts.ca](http://www.scouts.ca)) between now and the end of September 2002.

Rest assured that the Board of Governors is working closely with the national management, program and youth teams to ensure a strong foundation for Canadian Scouting well into the future. ^

— Ian Mack is Vice-Chair (Strategic) of Scouts Canada's Board of Governors.



**A GREAT  
SUCCESS!**



## THANK YOU FOR A GREAT POPCORN SALE!

Scouting realized fantastic results with popcorn sales in fall 2001 and spring 2002. Sections, groups and councils shared in over \$5 million in sales.

Trail's End popcorn is by far Scouting's best fund-raiser!

Congratulations to our top five youth sellers who collectively sold over \$25,000 and earned great prizes.

They are: Derek McGill and Matthew Woloshuck of Chinook Region, Alberta  
Branna Shields of Northern Region, British Columbia  
Kirk Beavis of Shining Waters Region, Ontario  
Carolyn Garland of New Brunswick

When asked how he sold over \$3,000 worth of popcorn, Kirk Beavis said, "I just went around to 417 doors and presented the sales sheet. I made 184 sales. When people said 'No,' I just went to the next house. My family was there to drive me around and help me stay motivated."

Congratulations to the following areas that sold more popcorn than the previous year:

White Pine, Shining Waters, and Voyageur Regions of Ontario  
Interior, and Kootenay Regions of British Columbia  
Quebec, Newfoundland, and the Yukon

Participation in Scouting's endorsed fund-raisers will earn you enough money to run a full year's program. Some groups even raise more than they need, which gives them funds to help start up in the fall.

**For more information about Trail's End popcorn or Scoutrees for Canada,  
contact your council office today, or visit [www.scouts.ca](http://www.scouts.ca).**

