

# Pieces of History

**T**wo and a half years ago John Waddell and Alan Griffin set out on a very special mission. True Scouters, they have been doing their best to preserve Scouts Canada's history by patiently sifting through the numerous boxes of archived documents and items. The result is absolutely stunning.

In a large room at Scouts Canada's National Office, the two old buddies have set up a very impressive exhibit of photos, uniforms, Scouting books, old badges – a wide variety of articles that illustrate the history of Scouting in Canada. The artifacts are carefully catalogued and placed in chronological order, starting at the very beginning of the Movement in 1907 until today.

John and Alan both joined Scouts in 1929. They both say that they survived the Second World War thanks to the training they received as Scouts where they learned the buddy system.

"The museum is our legacy to our youth," says Alan. "We want to pass on to future generations the lessons that Scouting can teach young minds. By visiting our museum, young people



Photo: Ian Thomas

Left to right: John Waddell (Museum Liaison, 7th B.-P. Guild), Alan Griffin (Museum Curator), Chief Commissioner Mike Scott, Gladys Hall (Guildmaster, 7th B.-P. Guild), and Bill Fettes (Treasurer, 7th B.-P. Guild)

## POP QUIZ



**L**ooking for an exciting and interesting way to teach your youth members about Scouting's history in Canada?

Keep an eye out for the new series of Scout Popcorn tins. We will be introducing a Scouts Canada designed Collector's Tin, entitled 'The Formative Years' for 2005. It will be the first of a 3 tin series, with each tin being introduced in the years leading up to our 100th anniversary.

Each tin will feature treasured items from the Museum and be displayed in a way that leaders and youth are sure to enjoy. Plus, you'll have the pleasure of eating Scout Popcorn!

Coming soon!

can better understand and appreciate how this organization has helped to shape the world they live in."

The display is not just about nostalgia for the good old days. It is a journey through a century of Canadians growing up in Scouting. And it retraces the steps that our fathers and grandfathers took to learn to survive in the Canadian wilderness.

It is possible to visit the Scouts Canada Museum by appointment. Just call (613) 224-5131, and ask for Alan or John. It will be an immense pleasure for John to point out his favorite piece – a beautifully embroidered portrait of Scouting founder Lord Baden-Powell. And Alan has a thousand Scouting stories that all illustrate the impact of Scouting on our youth and our country.

### A welcome donation

A number of years ago Voyageur Council asked the 7th Canadian B.-P. Guild if its members would operate and maintain its council museum.

The Guild gladly rose to the challenge, appointing a team of members to do the work. Money acquired through fundraising was set aside to purchase supplies and equipment. Operations were temporarily put on hold when the renovations to the National Office required the dismantling of the Voyageur museum as well as the Museum of Canadian Scouting – but it's now back on track.

Now that the Museum of Canadian Scouting has been reconstructed, the Guild has voted to donate the funds to the museum to be used where the curators see fit.

On a sunny day in January 2005, Chief Commissioner Mike Scott was on hand to receive a cheque from the B.-P. Guildmaster in a presentation at the National Office. The Museum of Canadian Scouting is now open and is proud to display its remarkable pieces of Scouting history. X

– Bill Fettes, Treasurer, 7th Canadian B.-P. Guild, National B.-P. Guild/  
Scouts Canada Liaison Officer