

THE BROWNSEA GAZETTE

Volume 6 Edition 1

Sept. 2008

From the BPSA-BC's Chief Commissioner's Desk

Greetings one and all, hope you had an excellent summer. Here in the interior of British Columbia we have gone directly into winter. Yup, winter, snow is on all the surrounding major highways today; therefore we have skipped fall and arrived directly at winter!

By now I am assuming that your fall/winter programs are in full swing and that memberships within your respective groups have grown. Here in BC several groups have already held registrations and have experienced growth in all sections both in youth and leaders. Way to go folks.

This summer saw several participants complete their Wood Beads II course and after fulfilling 6 months 'working their tickets' will be presented with their certificates, Necker's and beads.

Our AGM held at N'kawla Recreation Site the first weekend of September was most successful and the interesting aspect was meeting all the other campers sharing the campgrounds who were former Scouters and upon seeing our signs and uniforms stopped by to find out what we are all about!

Now on to what I promised back in June.....

THE SCOUT PROMISE On my honour I promise that I will do my best-To do my duty to God and the Queen (old book reads King), To help other people at all times, To obey the <u>Scout Law.</u>

***The first three lines are self explanatory so I will concentrate on the last line, To obey the Scout Law.

If you are going to keep any law you must first find out what it means. A good Scout knows the laws by having practiced them and Boy Scouts will find this the best way of learning; in fact it is the only way of obtaining their full significance and satisfaction. You can't either learn or continue to be a Scout without practice.

Honour.

What after all, is our honour? In the investiture ceremony this question is asked of every boy before his admission to membership; to which the Tenderfoot replies: "It means that I can be trusted to be truthful and honest"—or words to that effect.

There are unfortunately, very many people who think of honour in quite a different sense. There is a counterfeit kind of honour which is built on reputation, that is to say, on what others think us to be. Genuine honour rests, however, on sound character, on doing the right thing under all circumstances not only when there are others looking on to applaud or blame, but when God alone knows and sees. The true Scout is of this latter type.

A man who is honourable is always to be trusted; he will never do a dishonourable action such as telling an untruth or deceiving his superiors or employers, and always commands the respect of his fellows. His honour guides him in everything that he does.

A captain sticks to the ship till the last, in every wreck that was ever heard of. She is only a lump of iron and wood; his life is a valuable as that of any of the women and children on board, but he makes everybody get away safely before he attempts to save his own life. Why? Because it is his duty to stick to it, and he considers it would be dishonourable in him to do otherwise; so he puts honour before safety.

A notable example of this same spirit was manifested by a party of twenty British Scouts serving as signalers and messengers on board the hospital ship "Britannic," sunk in the Aegean. These lads declined to leave the sinking ship with the women and children. One boy was on the bridge, at what he understood to be his post of duty, and another in the wheel-house. Orders were given to remove them but still one them persisted that it was his duty to remain and in the end he had to swim. Patrol Leader Ireland, one of this party of Scouts, was awarded the Cornwell Badge for his bravery. So should every Scout value his honour above all else.

"Women and children first" is the command given when those on board ship are forced through disaster to take to the boats and there is nothing finer in all the annals of chivalry than the heroic self-sacrifice shown by men for the safety of women and children in peril at sea.

The preceding section was taken word for word from; The Boy Scouts Association Handbook for Canada, 1918.

Next time I shall reprint Loyalty and the story of Jack Cornwell, which covers the 2nd Scout Law.

Until then, Happy Scouting

Mike Maloney, Chief Commissioner BPSA-BC



Registration fees are still only \$40 for youth and adult leaders for the coming year! Reminder to try and get your registration numbers to the Treasurer (email -> <u>rric14@gmail.com</u>) as soon as possible. We want to make sure that we have sufficient insurance coverage for everyone, so the sooner you can get us those numbers...! We would appreciate having everything by October 15.

Mail your registration fees to BPSA Treasurer, 157 Brears Road South, Quesnel, B.C. V2J 4G3. Cheques are made out to "BP Service Association" or simply "BPSA". Registration forms are mailed or emailed to your Provincial Chief Commissioner. Thanks and have a wonderful scouting year!



VI. WHAT IT AMOUNTS TO

In following the progress of one Troop it has been possible to show how the value of the Patrol System was gradually extracted. The following points in particular have been emphasized. 1. The keynote of the Patrol System is the development of a sense of responsibility in each Scout. 2. The Patrol Leader, and, to a lesser degree, the Second, have obvious positions of responsibility, and provided the Scoutmaster genuinely gives them scope, they will make the most of their abilities.

3. The Patrol System is not only a Patrol Leader System. Not all Scouts can, in the nature of things, become Patrol Leaders, nor are all fitted to be so. They find their responsibility in the individual share in promoting the welfare of the Patrol as a whole, and in special jobs they can be given.

4. A Scoutmaster must always be on the watch to see that,

(i) the Patrol Leaders provide for the training of all members of the Patrol, and that (ii) each Scout does get his real share of responsibility according to his abilities.

5. The Patrol System is fundamentally a training for citizenship since it provides opportunities for planning activities and training, for the appointment of Patrol Leaders, and for the working of Patrol with Patrol as members of the Troop. The Scouts should thus, by trial and error, learn how to conduct their affairs in a spirit of good will where each, for the sake of all, may have to forgo some personal satisfaction.

6. Every Troop reaches the stage when the Patrol Leaders, having had a useful experience of responsibility, tend to block promotion, and so to dishearten Scouts who need the same experience. It is, therefore, important that they should make way for younger Scouts while themselves going on to more venturesome and advanced Scouting.

It is very easy for a Scoutmaster, after some years with a Troop, to forget the initial stages which must be gone through if Scouts are to develop along sound lines. He may too feel that his present Patrol Leaders are so good that it would be disastrous to replace them. This attitude is the negation of the Patrol System which *breeds* Leaders. Changes are not always welcomed, but experience has proved beyond question that opportunities for responsibility will bring out unsuspected qualities in boys, and the new Patrol Leaders may well prove as good as, possibly better than, the old ones. As B. -P. said, "Where the System is properly applied it is absolutely bound to bring success. It cannot help itself!

This is the last installment of *Working the Patrol System* by E. E. Reynolds (Courtesy of the "Dump"). For the complete article, visit <u>http://thedump.scoutscan.com/</u>





The Chase of the Trapped Keener

A clever method for Scouter recruitment – by Karl Pollak

First, the Scouter makes it repeatedly clear to the parents that they are welcome to stay during the meeting and watch what's going on. It is important to *invite* each parent personally when they drop off their kid at the Scout Hut.

Some of the "Keeners" will occasionally stay (Big Mistake). One of the Scouters acts as a spotter and marks parents who frequently stay and show some interest in the goings on. Occasionally he will engage them in conversation about the meeting and kids in general, as parents usually do. The purpose is to get a better feel of how good a candidate for entrapment this particular parent is.

Next time Akela is short a Scouter (by accident or design), he'll ask the keener parent, "Mr. Jones, would you mind staying for the meeting today to help out a bit? I'm kinda short on leaders and don't want to cancel the meeting. You don't need to do anything except watch the kids to make sure they're doing what I tell them to". If the parent agrees, and 90% will, that will be their Fatal Mistake. The Keener is Trapped.

During the activities, you always make sure that the Trapped Keener has as many kids "to watch over" as other Scouters. "Mr. Jones, could you take these four and do with them as we do in this group here?" In reality it often ends up with the youth showing the Trapped Keener what to do. Throughout the meeting, keep checking with the Trapped Keener to make sure they're enjoying themselves.

If necessary, depart from previously planned program to give the Trapped Keener a break or a chance to be a kid and have some fun. It is important to make sure the Trapped Keener is in a happy frame of mind before you set in your hook. A happy Keener is a hooked Keener.

You repeat the process 2 or 3 times, always making sure you thank the Trapped Keener profusely during the Closing Ceremony and praise their "natural leadership qualities". After 2 or 3 games of Trapped Keener, you must move in for the kill, otherwise you lose your opportunity. You've made the sale, now close the deal and get the order.

"You are so good at this, the kids respond to you so well, you should put on the uniform. It would be a great help, and I could tell you were enjoying it, too."

Now is the time for The Only Lie a Scouter is Allowed to Tell: "It will only take a couple of hours of your time a week".

After a brief obligatory resistance, the Trapped Keener surrenders their body, soul, and sanity, and the game ends.

Happy Hunting.



In this day and age, outdoor gear manufacturers - eager to sell products - attempt to gain competitive advantage by advertising many of their products as "Lightweight" and/or "Ultralight", and in at least one case, "UltralightLightweight".

This marketing ploy has created sort of an irony in the backcountry community - that is, it is now commonplace to see novice as well as experienced backcountry travelers carrying 50-pound packs full of so-called "lightweight" gear.

On the other hand, there is an increasing number of backcountry travelers who carry packs - loaded with most of the same "gear functionality" as the packs above - which weigh about 1/2 as much. Why the dramatic difference ?

How is it that I carry most of the same gear functionality that you do, but my 7-Day Pack weighs only 27 pounds ? The answers lie somewhere within "The Packlight Weight-Reducing Process".

PACKLIGHT PHILOSOPHY

Most of us are accustomed to a certain living standard and comfort level. When we begin backpacking, climbing, hiking, or whatever, in the backcountry, we often attempt to take that standard and corresponding comfort with us. Consequently, we each have our stories of laboring under heavy packs, and hopefully, each of us has learned ways to shed some of that weight. If not, or if you want to join me in shedding more weight, read on.

I have to laugh at myself. About 29 years ago, I spent four months traveling around Europe and the British Isles. During that time I didn't carry much in my pack-just enough to stay dry, warm, and nourished. After I returned home, I quit backpacking for some years and, in that interim, forgot the basic principle of traveling light.

When I began backpacking again, it didn't take me long to remember.

It was August, with temperatures in the high 90's - a six-day trip into the Washington Central Cascades, Alpine-Lakes Wilderness, High Enchantment Lakes. A long, gruelling, 12-mile climb, with over 6000 feet elevation gain. It was not fun, primarily because my pack weighed 60 pounds ! I won't tell you what was in it, but I will say that if I made that same trip today, that pack would weigh less than 30 pounds, at the outset !

Six days later, it was a descent that included negotiating the infamous Aasgard Pass -- next thing to vertical, losing 2200 feet in 3/4 mile on small rocks that invariably slide under the boot as well as large slippery rocks. No trail, had to follow cairns. Not a good place to be carrying a heavy (now 45 pound) pack !

The primary message being conveyed by this writing, is that traveling light in the backcountry will increase your enjoyment level, significantly. A light pack will allow for increased awareness & enjoyment of the surroundings while en route to your destination. Once you get there, you'll still have energy to celebrate your arrival, as well as to explore further. Also, a light pack decreases the risk of fatigue-related injuries (from falling, heat-exhaustion, etc.) and injuries from undue stress on back, legs, knees, and feet.

The **''Packlight Philosophy''** emphasizes a never-ending commitment to (1) scrutinize packing habits in order to fine-tune minimum packing needs and (2) aggressively seek out the smallest, lightest-weight, highest-quality gear solutions available, to satisfy those needs.

We will look at those more in the next issue, until then,

Happy Trails!



BPSA – British Columbia NEWS

Camporee 2008



The 2008 Provincial Camporee was, in a word,wet. Seems it rained every day, but it certainly didn't dampen the spirits of the campers, even if they did have to relocate their tents once, or twice. Even the cold mornings (it snowed not to far away on one morning, and this is July!) didn't deter everyone from making the best and having a good time.

Camp Puntchesakut hasn't been used as a camp for eight years and it certainly needed the effort that the entire camp put in to restore it back to its original shape. But it wasn't all work, the days alternated between

clean up and fix up and having fun. Canoeing, water sports and fishing prevailed at this most picturesque setting in the North Cariboo. Of course interspersed with games and scouting activities. The variable menu was also a great success with patrols deciding their meals from a recipe book and a choice of ground beef or chicken each night. Some took the spirit of the recipes to heart and created their own concoctions, but nobody went hungry. The Boy Explorers were again outdone by the Girl Explorers, but to their defence, the girls had



more experience as none of the boys had attended the week long camp previously. The weather finally broke at the end of the week so most went home dry. Some more bug eaten than others, but everyone a little more experienced than when they arrived.

Check out the pictures on the website www.bpsa-bc.org !

Letter from Camp:

Dear Mom,

Our Scoutmaster told us all to write to our parents in case you saw the flood on TV and worried. We are OK. Only one of our tents and two sleeping bags got washed away. Luckily, none of us got drowned because we were all up on the mountain looking for Chad when it happened.

Oh yes, please call Chad's mother and tell her that he's OK. He can't write because of the cast. I got to ride on one of the search and rescue jeeps. It was neat. We never would have found him in the dark if it hadn't been for the lightning. Scoutmaster Webb got mad at Chad for going on a hike alone without telling anyone. Chad said he did tell him, but it was during the fire so he probably didn't hear him. Did you know that if you put a gas can on a fire, the gas can will blow up? Billy is going to look weird until his hair grows back.

We will be home on Saturday if Scoutmaster Webb gets the car fixed. It wasn't his fault about the wreck. The brakes worked OK when we left. Scoutmaster Webb said that with a car that old you to have to expect something to break down; that's probably why he can't get insurance on it. We think it's a neat car.

He doesn't care if we get it dirty, and if it's hot, sometimes he lets us ride in the tailgate. It gets pretty hot with ten people in a car. Scoutmaster Webb is a neat guy. Don't worry, he is a good driver. In fact, he is teaching Terry how to drive. But he only lets him drive on the mountain roads where there isn't any traffic. All we ever see up there are logging trucks.

Guess what? We have all passed our first aid merit badges. When Dave dove in the lake and cut his arm, we got to see how a tourniquet works. Also, Wade and I threw up. Scoutmaster Webb said it probably was just food poisoning from the leftover chicken. He said they got sick that way with the food they ate in prison.

I'm so glad he got out and became our Scoutmaster. He said he sure figured out how to get things done better while he was doing his time.

I have to go now. We are going into town to mail our letters and buy bullets.



The Training Team is working on a "self-taught" Introduction to Traditional Scouting course that can be delivered locally and followed up by the Group Scoutmaster. With groups spread right across the country, it is almost impossible to deliver the number of courses that are needed in person. Trials are set to begin this Fall with a formal roll out shortly thereafter.



Wood Beads 2 Training 2008-07-05 to 12 Puntchesakut Lake, B.C.

Loon Patrol (or was that Lunacy??)



Trainees: Luzzara and Mario Mazariegos, Karl Pollak and Tammy Raynor





Trainer: Ric Raynor



Making a Spanish Windlass (don't use nylon rope!)







Chicken Marengo as prepared at the 2008 BC Annual General Meeting

2 lbs. Boneless chicken breast

- 1 cup white cooking wine
- 1 large can diced tomatoes (or you can use 4 to 6 Roma Tomatoes)
- 1 can sliced water chestnuts
- 2 large cloves garlic, chopped finely
- 1 can mushroom caps, quartered
- Thyme and Marjoram, to taste.

Salt

Pepper

Flour

Olive oil

Basmati Rice (I use Elephant Brand, if you can find it, it's the best I've ever found)

Start at home by dredging the chicken with salt, pepper and flour. Cook in 4 tablespoons of oil over medium high heat, turning frequently until golden brown. Let cool and cut into cubes and put in a freezer bag. Doing this at home prevents the problem of cutting raw chicken in camp.

At camp, using a large Dutch Oven or a Texas Skillet, add the chicken, finely chopped garlic, spices, cooking wine (no sampling), tomatoes and sliced water chestnuts. Cover it tightly and cook over low heat until the chicken is tender, stirring often to enjoy the aroma. After 30 minutes, taste for seasoning and add the quartered mushroom caps. Cook for 10 more minutes or until the chicken is tender.

Serve over a plate of Basmati rice.

Serves 4 to 6, depending upon appetite, and can easily be doubled





Have you planned out your activities for this Fall for your Timberwolves and Otters yet? If not, maybe these schedules may give you some ideas:

Sample Explorer Program

Well, that's up to the Court of Honour, isn't it?? Another good reason to start the year with a Court of Honour - Assigning new members to Patrols, short and long term planning, upcoming camps, hikes ... shall I go on?

Sample Timberwolf Program (Thursdays)

- Sep 18: Registration Night
 - Welcome (back) to Traditional Scouting Orientation Night
- Sep 25: Camp Planning Preparing for our first camp. Forming Sixes. How to pack a pack and the Ten Essentials.
- Oct 2: Story of B-P, how did this all start? Star/tenderpad requirements.
- Oct 3/4 Overnight All Section **Camp** details to come.
- Oct 9: Fire Prevention Week Meet at Firehall downtown.
- Oct 16: Evening Hike Meet at Park for Trail Hike
- Oct 23: Review Investiture requirements
- Oct 30: Hallowe'en Party! Bring a costume, scary stories, games!
- Nov 6: Investiture Night Parents bring your cameras!
- Nov.11: Remembrance Day Meet at the Legion in full uniform.
- Nov 13: Winter Camp Planning
- Nov. 15/16: Winter Camp details to come.
- Nov 20: Basic First Aid
- Nov 27: Winter safety outdoor soccer night
- Dec 4: Good Cheer bring a present for a needy family.
- Dec 11: Christmas Party Swimming Meet at the swimming pool.
- Christmas Break

Sample Otter Program

- Sep. 22 Welcome to Traditional Scouting Orientation night.
- Sep. 29 Story of B-P, The beginning.
- Oct. 4 sat. Day outing to Park -, Flower identification. Meet @ 11:00 am
- Oct 6 Fire Prevention Week **Meet at Firehall.** (Safety Badge)
- Oct. 13 Thanksgiving no meeting
- Oct. 20 Evening Hike Meet at Park for Trail Hike.
- Oct. 27 Hallowe'en Party! Bring a costume, Interesting Stories & Games.
- Nov. 3 Basic First Aid (Safety Badge) and Investiture Review
- Nov. 10 Investiture Night Parents bring your cameras! Remembrance Day info
- Nov. 11 Sat. Remembrance Day Meet at 10:20 am at the Legion in full uniform.
- Nov. 17 Finishing a tool box hammer required.
- Nov. 22 sat. Winter Day Camp Hiking, Lunch
- Nov. 24 Winter Safety outdoors activities.
- Dec. 1 Complete the Safety Badge requirements.
- Dec. 8 Good Cheer Bring a present for a needy family.
- Dec. 15 Christmas Party Swimming **Meet at the swimming pool.**

Christmas Break



The Quartermaster's Stores

Email the Quartermaster at <u>qmstore.bpsa@gmail.com</u>

Place your uniform order at <u>http://www.bpsa-bc.org/qm.htm</u> Or for BPSA-Ontario http://www.geocities.com/bpsaqm/index.htm

Email the Badge Secretary at <u>badges.bpsa@gmail.com</u> Place your badge order at <u>http://www.bpsa-bc.org/b-order.htm</u>

Technology is probably an oxymoron for Traditional Scouting, but there are ways to make your "job" easier without costing an arm and a leg. Microsoft has a software donation program through a non-profit organization called Tech Soup and through them we can obtain very reasonably priced Microsoft products. Visit <u>http://www.techsoup.org/stock/</u> and see if there is anything you are interested in. If so, let the Quartermaster know and we can gather an order together. We haven't placed an order with them yet, so the prices listed may not include shipping and handling.

On another note, we do have some spreadsheets that have been created to track your enrolment, revenue and expenses and are working on some to track the progress of Otters, Timberwolves and Explorers. Let us know if you are interested or if you have something you would like to share.



Editorial

Send us news from your Group. We would like to tell everyone what your members have achieved and what interesting things you have done lately.

Let us know what you would like to see in the Gazette - you could even write a story for us!

gazette.bpsa@gmail.com

Don't be shy – drop us a line!

" The unexamined life is not worth living ! " Socrates (470-399 B.C.)

" The unexamined gear may not be worth toting ! "

The Lightweight Backpacker (1946 - ?? A.D.)

Attached is a sample recruiting poster. If you would like a copy in Word format that you can modify for you group, please email the editor at **gazette.bpsa@gmail.com**



Registration and Information night is upstairs at the Arena on Thursday, September 25 from 7:00-8:00. The \$40 annual fee covers registration for the year, uniform, camping fees, camp food and a week long Summer Camp in July.



BPSA is a member of the World Federation of Independent Scouts.

Otters Busy and Bright!



Our junior section follows a program of games and training designed to get them accustomed to social integration, leading to constructive use of leisure time, raise their awareness of concern for others and stimulate an initial interest in Scouting activities. The Otter section is for youth 5 to 7. The uniform is a red shirt. After being invested, it includes the necker and a red baseball style cap. The Otter Raft is headed by Ahmeek and is divided into Dens. Otters attend day camps, hikes and may camp overnight with their parents in attendance.

Timber Wolves Do Your Best!



Rudyard Kipling's the "Jungle Book" still forms the basis for this section. Timber Wolves operate in Packs, divided into Sixes with Akela in charge. The traditional program includes two stars and only 15 special interest badges that can be earned. The highest award is the Leaping Wolf. The unique feature is the Timber Wolf Promise and Law, which provide an ethical and spiritual code for young Canadians to live up to. The Timber Wolf section is for youth 8 to 10. The uniform is a grev shirt. After being invested, it includes the necker and a green baseball style cap.

Explorers Be Prepared

Based on B-P's book "Scouting for Boys" this section has stood the test

of time with its ethical code embodied in the Promise and Law and the proverbial Scouting "Good Turn". Basic training in campcraft and out-of-doors



activities compliments the proficiency badges available.

The Explorer section is for youth 11-15 and the Senior Explorer section extends to age 17. Senior Explorers carry on with an increased emphasis on self-management. They participate in a wide range of social and out-ofdoor activities, not forgetting the important element of helping other people. The top award is the St. George Award. The uniform is a khaki shirt with olive green pants, black Scouting Staff. belt and Upon investiture, the Explorer is presented with the traditional Stetson hat for boys and the beret for girls.

We offer two Troops, one for boys and one for girls. The adults in this section are more advisors and instructors to the Patrol Leaders.

Each Patrol is encouraged to be selfsufficient and to operate as a part of the Troop and also independently.

Rovers Service

Our most senior section for those

older than 17 is Rovers. There is no upper age limit for Rovers who subscribe to "a brotherhood of the open air and service". Rovers can assist



the youth sections without committing to a full Leader position, or participate on their own. Rovers provide service to the Group and the community.