



THE BROWNSEA GAZETTE

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Words from the Chief Commissioner, BPSA-BC

Well, what to say. After many years of hard work and effort Mr. Bill Nangle has decided to step down from BPSA. We only hope it is for a short duration. If it was not for all of Bill's efforts over the last dozen years or so we would not be where we are today.

Where are we today? Let's put it this way, the manuals have been overhauled and brought up to date. Training pro forma has been established and is the model for Canada and some parts of the world. WIFS has taken a strong interest in our training methodology.

A couple of fantastic summer camps have been held and were enjoyed by all who attended.

A lot of interest has been shown from groups in Alberta and Manitoba wishing to join. Ontario is doing quite well with Rick Box recently appointed as Chief Commissioner of BPSA Ontario. Congratulations Rick!

We are awaiting word on when our spring training camp will be held. It is tentatively set for the site of last years AGM. Just a few km outside of Merritt towards Spences Bridge.

As we have just observed our founder's birthday are we seriously taking the 4th Scout law to heart and practicing it or are we bashing each other and other scouting organizations? Perhaps it is time to take stock of our attitudes and made an adjustment.

Now that the snow is finally leaving the rest of the province outside of Metro Vancouver it is time to plan those hikes through the woods and observe the wonder of nature's rebirth after winter.

While driving between Logan Lake and Kamloops I have been devastated by the destruction of our forests by the attack of the pine beetle. Now as the snow is disappearing I am seeing green growth on the ground. Oh look, it's grass. The Cottonwoods and Alders are increasing and wildlife is adjusting. Ain't nature grand? So perhaps we should look at negative things affecting our lives and look instead to the new growth taking place. Look at the wonder on the faces of our youth as we expose them to the great outdoors and the sense of pride they gain from learning how to cook on an open campfire and tie knots correctly and find there way with a compass and all the many other things we instil into them while we have them in our programs. That is what makes this organization so great. We can affect lives. As we impart our knowledge and skills unto others we also grow and reap a lot of satisfaction.



Well, I am running out of this to say so will end this by saying 'Good Scouting to All'.

Mike Maloney



Upcoming Events

SAINT GEORGE is the Patron Saint of Scouting. St. George's Day is April 23rd and Scouts have parades on, or near, that date. His emblem is a red cross.

The legend goes that he was a Roman soldier in the army of Diocletian, an Emperor who persecuted Christians. George was a Christian and decided to leave the army and travel to the Emperor's palace to plead with him to stop this persecution.

As he passed through Libya, he found that one of the cities was plagued by a dragon. This terrifying creature could only be pacified by feeding it with human bodies. The King's own daughter was being sacrificed when George arrived. He hurried to help her, killed the dragon and saved the Princess's life. After talking to George, the grateful King, the Princess, and many of the people decided to become Christians.

George continued on to the palace of Emperor Diocletian who put him to death for his Christian faith. (Hint – Knowledge of this is a 1st Star requirement for Timberwolves!)



Group Activities

Neckerchief Sizes

We have had a few inquires regarding the proper size for neckerchiefs. So, here they are:

Otters: 24" x 24" x 33"

Timber Wolves: 28" x 28" x 39"

Explorers: 31" x 31" x 46"

Leaders: 40" x 40" x 56"

Cut on the bias along the long edge of the neckerchief.

With the exception of the Otter Neckerchief, the maximum allowed for a hem is 1/2" - Otters 1/4"

Hint!

Keep leather boots away from fire, which can both dry and damage them. Instead, dry boots slowly in the sun or on a warm rock.



The Patrol System

III. BUILDING UP

When two Patrols had been formed, another use of the Patrol System was possible. There could be competition in games and in training, and also in smartness and general efficiency. The Hounds of necessity had concentrated mostly on learning the things needed for the Tenderfoot Tests; now Hounds could compete with Wolves in all kinds of relay games, and in knotting, signaling, fire-lighting, and so on. George had to think out some fresh problems.

1. How were the recruits to be trained for the Tenderfoot Tests?
2. How were the Tenderfoot Scouts (which still included the Patrol Leaders) to be trained for Second Class?

All the time he would have to keep in mind the need for training the Patrol Leaders in their job, and also watch each Scout's development and try to meet his special needs. He felt like a conjuror who is tossing about half-a-dozen balls at a time. Fortunately he managed to get an Assistant Scoutmaster, but that didn't help much at first as *he* had to be trained as well! The first problem was solved on these lines: the Patrol Leader would be responsible for the Tenderfoot training with the exception of the Scout Law which would be the Scoutmaster's business. The Patrol Leader need not, indeed should not, try to do all the instruction himself: here again responsibility must be shared with the Second and any other Scouts equal to the job.

The second problem, for the time being, had to be George's own job. When the Patrol Leaders had become Second Class Scouts, they could carry on as with the Tenderfoot Tests. He saw how important it was to use sound methods of instruction as these would later be followed by the Patrol Leaders.

So much for training. But there seemed a crowd of other matters to deal with: for instance, smartness and punctuality. George was determined that both these qualities should be conspicuous in *his* Troop. As soon as the two Patrols had got going, he had a long talk with Fred and Harry. In future an inspection would be part of the opening of a Troop Meeting, and he told them how they would be expected to see that their Patrols were correctly dressed, punctual and ready. They worked out together a scheme of points for an Inter-Patrol competition. George impressed on them that they must make it clear to their Scouts that each was responsible for seeing that he came up to scratch and did not let the Patrol down.

It was astonishing how quickly the games and competitions between the Patrols roused keenness. Each Scout learned that *he* was an important person in his Patrol, and that *his* smartness and efficiency counted for something.

The Patrol Leaders naturally followed the methods George had used with the original Hound Patrol; they kept record books showing attendances, subscriptions, and so on. Then each Patrol was given a corner of the stables as its den; George only made one suggestion on decorations — each Patrol had a chart stuck up to show how its members were progressing in tests.

There was one form of Patrol activity which had worried George ever since he had toured round Troops before starting his own. Many meetings he watched included ten minutes or so for "Patrol Corners." He went round to see what was happening. Generally speaking this item seemed to be regarded as a "breather," and no one did anything in particular. Occasionally a bit of rope would be produced, or a signaling flag waggled about. On the whole, George decided, the time was really wasted; yet, there was a good idea there — the Patrol on its own, training under its Patrol Leader. George put this to the District Scoutmaster, who agreed that a good idea was running to seed. "You may have been very

unlucky,” he said, “in the meetings you happened to visit, but I know that a lot of this ‘Patrol Corner’ business is badly managed. I’d go further and say this kind of slackness is dangerous because the youngsters get the idea that the duller part of a meeting is when they get into their Patrol huddle.” “Need we have ‘Patrol Corners’?” asked George. “Of course not. I imagine the idea began soundly — as so many things do — as a substitute for a proper Patrol Meeting on another night where this was impracticable. Then the whole thing deteriorated into a conventional part of the meeting. If your Patrol Leaders can meet their Patrols once a week for training, you won’t need ‘Patrol Corners’ — the very name has lost any sensible meaning.”

With this conversation in mind, George decided that his Troop Meetings would not include a special period for “Patrol Corners,” but each Patrol would get into a huddle for a special purpose only, such as deciding how to tackle a competition. Then they could meet separately once a week for training purposes. For a month or so he trained Fred and Harry together on how to run their Patrols, what to do at Patrol Meetings, and how to give instruction.

The first Court of Honour

Then there was the question of the Court of Honour. The idea of this was quite strange to Fred and Harry, so that too had to be got over to them in actual practice. George told them that later on he wouldn’t be present at the actual meetings of the Court of Honour once they had grasped the purpose and method. This alarmed the two Patrol Leaders at first, but as they gained experience, so they became more confident. When the Troop grew to four Patrols — as it did very quickly after that first year — the Courts of Honour were carried on much in the way George had taught them. For instance, each Patrol Leader gave a report, first on what had been done at his last Patrol Meeting, and second on how each Scout was getting along. This led to suggestions on what would be most useful at the next Troop Meeting. Gradually, too, as their own knowledge increased, the Patrol Leaders learned how to plan complete Troop Meetings, although George always reserved time for a surprise item which he himself devised.

It was with delight — and a touch of pride — that George watched the Patrol System at work. He found that it was not always easy to hand over responsibility to the Patrol Leaders. Sometimes jobs were not done as well as he hoped, but he was sensible enough to understand that the boys probably learned as much, that way as if everything went smoothly. Experience soon overcame his first doubts on the wisdom of allowing boys to have real responsibility; they seemed to flourish on it, and he noted a definite strengthening of character in Fred and Harry. He watched progress very carefully, and it was not long before he saw danger lights. Fred, for instance, was inclined to be the rather heavy boss — a stage sergeant-major type — while Harry tended to go in the other direction and let his Patrol run him. A chat with Harry helped to get him to see the need for taking charge more firmly and to distinguish between the genuine wishes of his Scouts and the red herrings they loved to drag across the path just for fun. The idea of the Patrol in Council checked Fred’s masterfulness; this, George explained, was a kind of Patrol Court of Honour; it needn’t take up much time, but if the Scouts had the chance of helping in making plans and decisions, each would then feel responsible for getting successful results.

He had got the idea of the Patrol Council from B.-P.’s suggestion. “From different sources I have had interesting reports of very satisfactory results of developing the Patrol System. The sum of the whole thing amounts to this — every individual in the Patrol is made responsible, both in den and in camp, for his definite share in the successful working of the whole.

“This incidentally enhances the Leader’s position and responsibilities, and develops the individual interest and civic capability of each member, while it builds a stronger *esprit tie corps* for the group.

“The Patrol constitutes itself a Council:

Patrol Leader responsible as Chairman.

Second responsible as Vice-Chairman and Quartermaster in charge of stores, etc.

No. 1 Scout responsible as Scribe.

No. 2 Scout responsible as Treasurer.

No. 3 Scout responsible as Keeper of the Den.

No. 4 Scout responsible as Games Manager.

No. 5 Scout responsible as Librarian.”

The Council considers such subjects as, for instance, which badges the Patrol should specially go in for, where to camp or hike, etc., football and cricket matches, athletic sports and displays, and suggests questions to be considered and ruled upon by the Troop Court of Honour.

“The Scribe keeps the Minutes of this Council as record, which are read out at the following meeting as usual to be corrected previous to their signature by the Chairman (the Patrol Leader).

“The Scribe also has the duty of keeping a Patrol log in which are recorded each week, briefly, the doings of the Patrol at home or in the field.

“The existence of these Patrol Councils, when conducted with proper procedure, at once raises the status of the Troop Court of Honour. If carried out with the correct routine and ceremonial of a business meeting, the Court of Honour becomes a sort of Upper Chamber of considerable importance in the eyes of the boys, as they take a close interest in its findings; and the whole thing becomes a valuable and practical education to them in ‘civics.’”

“*You know,*” said George to the District Scoutmaster, “I had an idea that as the Troop developed I should be able to take things easier. But I have to keep an eye on each Scout and see that he’s getting his proper training, and how he’s developing. That seems to take up as much, time as when I was training the first batch.”

“*You might put it this way,*” replied the District Scoutmaster, “Organization is always easier than observation. You’ve started things off on the right lines, but you’ll have to watch carefully to see that they don’t go off the lines. That’ll need a lot of tact. If you butt in too much, chaps like Fred will get annoyed, while the easy goers like Harry will be only too happy to let you do their job. But don’t get disheartened; you’ve made a grand beginning. Don’t forget, they’re only boys and have to learn.”

Downloaded from the DUMP at <http://www.thedump.scoutscan.com/> “Working the Patrol System” by E.E. Reynolds

Part IV will appear in the next edition.



The Quartermaster's Stores

Email the Quartermaster at qmstore.bpsa@gmail.com

Place your uniform order at <http://www.bpsa-bc.org/qm.htm>

Email the Badge Secretary at badges.bpsa@gmail.com

Place your badge order at <http://www.bpsa-bc.org/b-order.htm>



Camp Recipe Corner

Quiche

From “Roughing it doesn’t mean eating lousy” the official cookbook of 14th Dragon Lake.

15ml / 1 tbsp	Margarine or butter to grease pan
250 ml / 1 cup	Broccoli (or your favourite veggie)
375 ml / 1½ cups	Swiss cheese (or cheddar, or ...)
50 ml / ¼ cup	chopped onion
3 to 5 slices	Lean luncheon meat or bacon

Crust:

500 ml / 2 cups	2% Milk
2	Eggs
2	Egg Whites
125 ml / ½ cup	Flour
5 ml / 1 tsp	Baking Powder
2 ml / ½ tsp	Salt
Pinch	Fresh Ground Pepper and Nutmeg

Grease a large cast iron.

Mix the veggies, cheese, onion and meat and place in the fry pan.

In a bowl, mix the milk, eggs, egg whites, flour, baking powder, salt, pepper and nutmeg until mixture is fluffy (at least a full minute)

Pour this over the veggies/meat in the pan.

Cover the pan with foil to create an oven.

Have hot coals or cook on stove, but keep up from heat to avoid burning the bottom.

No peeking, the crust is forming

After 20 – 25 minutes remove the cover and continue to bake for 10 – 15 minutes until a knife stuck into the centre comes out clean.

This will make about 6 servings – good for a Patrol.

If you have a camp oven, bake it for about 40 – 45 minutes at about 325F (8 charcoal briquettes) until top is golden brown (it does not need a cover if baked in the oven).

For variations, use your favourite veggies, meat, cheese or spices. Just keep the base the same for the crust.
Create your own unique quiche!



Rover News

THE ROVER SCOUT SPIRIT

No Scouting can be called Good Scouting unless it is imbued with that mysterious something which in the Scout Movement we call the Scout Spirit. For the very reason that it is indefinable it is no easy task to write about this Scout Spirit. But experience shows that Rover Scouting must be just as full of the ideal of the Scout Spirit as any other branch of Scouting. Scouting in the Crew, like that in the troop and the Pack, depends on team work for its ultimate success. From this point some thoughts on the Rover Scout Spirit may be elaborated.

Successful team work demands unselfishness on the part of every member of the team. In a Rover Crew, composed as it is of individuals with highly differing trends and inclinations, ideas and viewpoints, a sense of give and take, and an unselfish attitude is needed. It is this realisation and practice of “give and take” by members of a Crew that leads to the development of Crew camaraderie; a curious carefree feeling in the air, a song in the heart and a zest for Rovering soon tell the tale of the Scout Spirit to the old hand.

Some call the Scout Spirit nothing more than Enthusiasm. But a Rover Scout can be enthusiastic about getting things done without having the Scout Spirit in his heart. In fact enthusiasm needs to be tempered again with that elusive sense of give and take, from which point it is easy to approach a true appreciation of the Scout Spirit.

Enthusiasm often gets a nasty jolt or two. In Scouting we have to be prepared for minor disappointments from time to time and they may upset the young Rover. But in reality these disappointments are hurdles on the track meant to be cleared in fine style. Probably there are more disappointments to be had in the Rover Section than in any other branch of Scouting. This is undoubtedly due to the uncertainty of youth over 17: every young Rover is an adolescent, subject to all the problems of the teenage years. Scouters know the feelings of despair that come after a poor troop or pack meeting, and he or she knows that these little setbacks are often the result of simple human errors. So often the fault, to adapt our Shakespeare, lies not in Scouting but in ourselves that we are dull. A determination to get the most out of what Scouting has to offer us sooner or later brings us to the viewpoint that if we are to get anything of value out of Scouting it depends on exactly how much we are prepared to put into it.

Determination . . . the Founder, so typically and so admirably, had a better word, “stickability” – is a prime virtue for Rover Scouts. It is the Crew which has weathered the storms as well as the good sailing weather which gets the most out of Rover Scouting.

If other qualities are looked for in this approach of the Rover Scout to his Rover Scouting then courage and a sense of humour may well be in the forefront. He can accomplish a great deal with these. Courage is required to face up to the “kicks” – a Rover Scout who lets his Crew down; a squire who fails dismally to stay the pace; armchair critics who sit back with a pipe and a pleasant fire and find it easy to condemn the energetic efforts of other brother Rovers. Any Rover Leader could recall similar instances. It needs some courage to stick it at times – probably that’s why Good Scouting does grip. It requires effort to achieve Good Scouting and, when we have it, the memory of the effort required and made will make us hold dear to our Scouting.

A sense of humour can relieve the awkward situation. It can help to breed in no uncertain sense the Scout Spirit. A little harmless leg pulling can do more good with some Rover Scouts than a month’s meticulous solemn probing into character analysis. Scouting is a supremely happy and cheerful way of life. Scouting is never dull or dismal. If you enjoy something, you get a thrill from it. A young chap should not remain a Rover Scout, or indeed a Scout at all, if he does not get a thrill out of Scouting.

Moreover, a happy Rover Scout has the knack of spreading his happiness round and about him. One cheery Rover Scout with the Scout Spirit in his heart can spread joy to dozens of others. A disgruntled Rover Scout can damp the ardour of dozens in the same way. So if you want to know something about Rover Scouting in Practice you must place a realisation of the Scout Spirit as the first essential for any Rover Scout.



Scouters Notes

How to Grow a Scout Leader

First plant seven rows of Peas:

Promptness, perseverance, preparation, participation, presence, purity, and performance.

Next, plant three rows of squash:

squash unfairness, squash criticism, squash indifference.

Then plant seven rows of lettuce:

1. Let us delegate responsibility
2. Let us give assistance whenever necessary
3. Let us recognize the importance of pooling ideas and encourage full and free ideas and encourage full and free discussion before decisions are made.
4. Let us appreciate and respect the attitudes of other people
5. Let us encourage cooperation
6. Let us arrive in advance of scheduled meetings, with all materials needed
7. Let *us* be prepared

No garden is complete without turnips:

Turn up for meetings

Turn up with enthusiasm

Turn up with new ideas

Turn up with a smile

The harvest is one terrific Scouter!



Reminder that anyone paying dues after March 31 will have their membership paid through to 2009!



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!

The editor has a new e-mail address:

gazette.bpsa@gmail.com

Don't be shy – drop us a line!



**Twenty years from now, you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do...
than by the ones you did do.
So throw off the bowlines.
Sail away from safe harbor.
Catch the trade winds in your sails.
Explore. Dream. Discover.**

Mark Twain