ADVENTURE MAN-SIZE

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New places! New faces! New paces!

These are what Senior Scouts look forward to when it comes to high adventure. They want to get away from the home grounds, to meet different people, people with a little "glamour." They want to go through their Scouting paces in a man-size way. These are the aims of the Senior expeditions, cruises, bivouacs, regattas, rendezvous, and air encampments planned by Regional offices and Local Councils.

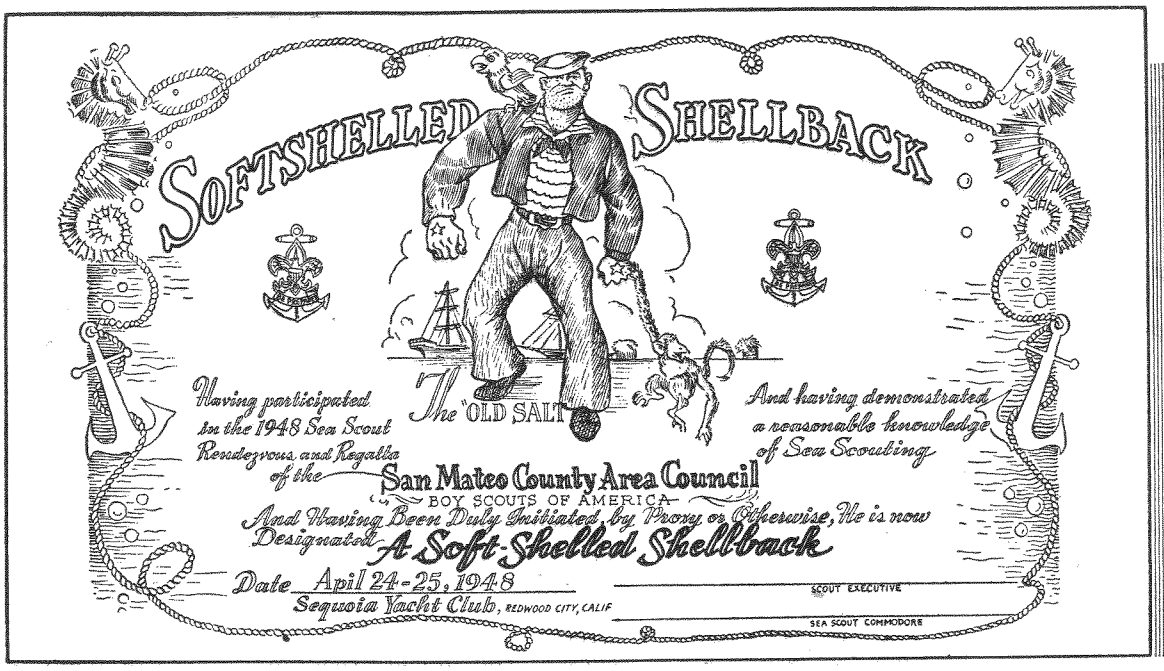
Let it be noised around that your fellows are going to spend a week or so at Philmont Scout Ranch in the Rockies, at an Air Force base, or on a wilderness canoe or pack trip, and you soon see the punch it gives the Unit's morale and reputation. In the words of a radio comedian, "Everybody wants to get into the act."

Summer weather and vacations make June through August the most popular months for these trips. If your Unit runs its own adventures, experience will have taught you to be well along with planning by this time of the year. However, it's not too late to take part in most Council or Regional plans.

Ask your Scout Executive "what's cookin'?" in the Senior high adventure pot. He can tell you about the air encampments in your Region. He has literature on Philmont Ranch, and can obtain a motion picture about it. Then he can get information on the Senior wilderness bases operated by Regions 1, 7, 10, and 11 in Maine, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Montana, and the Chesapeake Bay cruises by Region 3. He can tell you whether your State conservation department is running a forestry camp for Scouts. He will know the details about Council and inter-Council events for Seniors. The Council office is the proper channel for clearing all your high adventure plans, including permits for out-of-Council moving camps (Form C-960).

Philmont's 130,000 acres along the old Santa Fe Trail at Cimarron, New Mexico, are open to all Seniors, first come first served in making reservations. This year ten Seniors and an adult advisor will make up a trail "outfit." One to three outfits will be in each wagon train, expedition, trek, cavalcade, or exploration. Each of these is a special type of trip eight to twenty-five days long, with various activities, most of them rugged. Fees range from $17 to $67. For the money, the facilities Philmont offers are outstanding, and many of the opportunities are unique at any price.

Head of Wagon Train at Philmont Scout Ranch leads off on twenty-five day trip through the Rockies.
Photo by Barnes & Caplin, Albuquerque, N. M.



Novel participation certificate and souvenir presented in Neptune's Court at Senior Regatta, San Mateo, California

Each of the twelve Regions will have one or more air encampments at Air Force or Navy bases. These are open to all Senior Scouts, not just Air Scouts. The high spot on the week's program at encampments will be the orientation flights for the Seniors who have the proper clearance from home.

Picking a few high adventures at random from Regional Office announcements, here are some that appear most interesting:

Region 2 — Paul Bunyan weekend, tour of battleship, cruises on Navy ships.

Region 7 — Wisconsin State Park tour, canoe adventure cruise, Philmont by air expedition, canoe trek and ox-roast.

Region 11 — National Forest camps for forty Seniors in each of five camps; no cost.

Region 12 — Lake Arrowhead bivouac, aquatic camp, King's Canyon trek.

After the Seniors from your Council have been to a Regional or inter-Council high adventure, they may be hosts for such an event. Or your own Unit may be hosts to others within the Council or District. Plenty of manpower and time is required to plan and run the program, but the Unit, District, or Council that does the job will have keen satisfaction in the service given to young men.

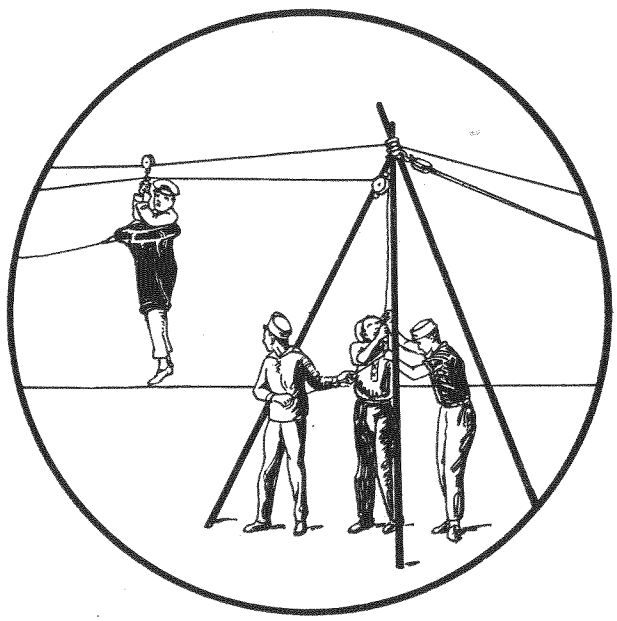
A successful Senior adventure takes ingenuity. An example is the Softshelled Shellback certificate of participation, illustrated above. It was presented in a Neptune's Court that highlighted the party at a California Sea Scout Regatta. The Court was the touch that made this gathering "different," and the certificate was a souvenir for the Seniors and the Girl Mariners who were their guests at the party.

In planning your high adventure, give it that extra thought necessary to glamorize the program.

Senior Scouts observe parachute packing in Air Encampment at Harmon Air Force Base, Guam.

USAF Photo

Briefing PROGRAM SPOTS



Breeches Buoy Rescue

A breeches buoy rescue that never fails makes a spectacular demonstration for Sea Scouts or other Senior Scouts to put on at Camporees, Scout Circuses, or community programs. It can be staged outdoors or indoors, over water or land. Realism and showmanship make it sure-fire.

The *Sea Scout Manual* contains the details of equipment required and how it is set up. A free Breeches Buoy Instruction Chart may be obtained from the U. S. Coast Guard, Washington, D. C.

The "wreck" may be the balcony of an auditorium or a gymnasium. Outdoors, it may be a tower on a pier, telephone pole, tree, fire escape, or second-floor window of a building. It must have something to which the end of the life-line can be lashed and secured.

The showmanship device that makes the demonstration foolproof is the use of a light-weight, but strong black fishline. The color makes it difficult to see. Some time before the start of the demonstration but after the arena has been blocked to spectators, one or two Crew members casually row or stroll across between the wreck and the land station, trailing the fishline after them.

Indoors, it is best to dim the house lights and work under a spotlight. A public address system for a commentator's running description interspersed with a recording of ocean breakers and storm sound effects adds much to the scene.

A beach patrolman opens the act. As he walks along the shore a railroad flare is lighted on the wreck. He turns and signals with a blinker to his station. The rescue Crew runs in with the equipment cart and sets up the tripod gun. etc. The gunner does nothing but aim and recheck the aim until all else is ready.

The gun may be a small salute cannon such as used in camp flag ceremonies or to start boat races. It fires a ten gauge blank shot-gun cartridge. If a cannon is unavailable, a shotgun mounted on a block will do.

When the gun is fired, one of the men on the wreck tosses a five-inch piece of broom stick into the air and catches it. To it has been tied an end of the fish line. The shore end is tied to a light line (quarter inch). This fish line and the light line are hauled to the wreck and finally the life line (one or one and a half inch line) is secured.

From here on the procedure is the same as in the usual breeches buoy rescue. As the rescued are brought ashore, they should be followed with a spotlight or several strong flashlights. Bringing two men in is better than one, but more than three is an anti-climax. For dramatic effect the first may be dressed as a woman, and the last may carry a small dog in his arms.

One Sea Scout Ship gave this demonstration three times before anyone not in the "know" realized that the line was not actually shot from the gun.

Membership Target

This is one of the best times of the year to bang away at the Crusade Membership target. Sea Scout Ships have long known that when the cruising season rolls around, recruits are likely to be standing at the port gangplank. In all branches of Senior Scouting the outdoor program, generally most active in summer, appeals to young men who would not be attracted otherwise.

Many fellows, even friends of Seniors, don't know much about the program or have been misinformed about it. When they are fully and correctly "briefed," they often snap at an invitation to join. Still others know what Senior Scouting is

all about but have never been invited. Interested as they may be, they politely wait for an invitation.

Another reason why this is an opportune recruiting season, is the normal membership losses sustained by most Units in the fall. Among the older fellows who graduate from high school are some who go away to college or jobs elsewhere. These experienced Seniors should be used now in recruiting new members to take their places before they leave.

The *Senior Scouting Program Notebook, Hints On Senior Scout Leadership,* and the *Explorer Scout Manual* contain more detailed suggestions on how to hit the center of the Membership target. Remember, your Unit has set a score to make by the end of 1949 as well as the end of 1950.

Read These

Understanding Yourself by William C. Menninger, M.D. Science Research Associates, 228 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago 4, Ill., 52 pages, 1949, 75c.

Dr. Menninger, former Skipper, author of the *Handbook for Skippers,* and chief consultant in neuropsychiatry to the Surgeon General of the Army, has written this booklet to help older high school students straighten out their emotional problems and maintain healthy mental attitudes. Besides its brevity to recommend it, the booklet is written in language and examples that the intended readers can understand. There is a minimum of technical terms, all clearly explained. Every Senior Unit Advisor ought to read this pamphlet; it will aid him in his inevitable function of advising young men on their personal problems as well as Scouting. Then he should suggest that every young man in the Unit read it. The theme of "Understanding Yourself" will make a highly interesting program for one or more Unit meetings. There is an *Instructor's Guide* for conducting such discussions.

Honor Your Partner by Ed Durlacher. Devin-Adair Co. Publishers, New York, 286 pages, $7.50.

The current revival of square dancing all across the country has folks of seven to seventy honoring their partners. Included are the Senior age *fellers* and *gals.* Although this book is expensive, it is comprehensive, containing 81 American square dances with the music, calls, and complete instructions for doing them. A Senior Scout or Scouter should be able to develop himself into a dance caller with this book. If a Crew or Unit becomes proficient enough at conducting square dances, it could become a money-making activity.

"Joseph Conrad" Ahoy!

The *Joseph Conrad,* famous old square rigger, has again become a training ship. Formerly used by the Danish Navy and then the U. S. Maritime Commission, to train over 4,000 young men, the *Conrad* now is permanently docked at the museum of the Marine Historical Association, Mystic, Conn. Senior Scouts are invited to live aboard while studying seamanship and ship lore. Each group must be accompanied by an adult leader. The fee is 50 cents per person per night with a minimum charge of $5.00 a group. They will furnish and prepare their own food in the galley, be responsible for keeping the *Conrad* shipshape, and stand watches while aboard. Reservations for periods from a day to a week during June 23 to September 6 may be made with Harold L. Knights, Marine Museum, Mystic, Conn.

Hang On!

The poster with this caption above gives good advice, and you will do a service if you pass it on to others. Your Senior Unit may post one on school, swimming pool, camp, and beach bulletin boards. It comes in 8½ x 11 and 14 x 20 inch sizes (larger size, on cardboard) and may be obtained free of charge by your Local Council. Others are available on the subjects of handling firearms, artificial respiration, home fire-escape plans, ice accident prevention and rescue, and safe sledding.