SCOUTERS' DIGEST

NATIONAL YOUTH REPS. Eagle Scout Richard H. Ebright, Reading, Pa., Cub Scout Lee Mason, Brandon, Fla., and National Explorer President Richard Davies, Baraboo, Wis., are the cream of Scouting's crop. They speak for the almost four million youth members of the BSA as national youth representatives.

As such they take part in meetings of our national executive board, offer their opinions about proposed program changes and make the traditional annual visit and report to the Congress and the White House in February.

Davies was elected by his fellow Explorers at last year's National Explorer Presidents' Congress. Ebright and Mason were selected from nominations made by 426 local Scout councils.

50-YEAR VETERAN SCOUTMASTER. Close to 700 Scouts and Scout alumni owe a rich Scouting experience to Edwin Buthman who last fall celebrated his 50th anniversary as Scoutmaster of Troop 2, Lawrence, Mass. Eighty-six of those boys, aided by their dedicated troop leader, won the Eagle Scout Award. This long history of service and the boost to achieve Eagle given by Buthman prompted the National Eagle Scout Association in 1973 to present to him one of its first five National Eagle Scout Association Scoutmaster Awards.

SME OVER THE TOP. The South Plains Council, Lubbock, Tex., at a series of fireside chats addressed to unit and district Scouters explained its need for $200,000 from sustaining membership enrollment. After hearing the story, the committee of Pack 197, Dupree School PTA, established a goal of $500.

Pack committee chairman Barbara Westbury headed up the family enrollment. Committee members joined in making personal visits to the 19 Cub Scout families. At the previous blue and gold banquet the council SME story had been told to parents.

When all the enrollments were tallied, the total amounted to $800, including four $100 memberships. In the 28 years of the pack's life, this was its first family enrollment. Cubmaster Herbert Westbury said, "I was worried at first, but they did it. I'm real proud."

REMEMBER THE ALAMO ... AND OTHER PLACES. If you're going to be traveling through or near San Antonio, take time to visit the Remember the Alamo Theater Museum. The building is situated on the original site of the artillery command post of the Alamo defenders. Ten projectors inside the building are programmed to produce a thrilling visual presentation of the siege of the old mission church. For more info, check with: "Remember the Alamo," 316 Alamo Plaza, San Antonio, Tex. 78205.

SPACE HALL OF FAME. As you swing through the Southwest, plan to take in the brand new International Space Hall of Fame in Alamogordo, N. Mex. Situtated on a mountainside, the hall has 10 levels filled with eye-catching mock-ups, models, hardware of all kinds, pictures, maps, action exhibits—all related to space.

Included are: the Explorer I missile, weather satellites, a Russian Vostok spaceship, a lunar excursion module (LEM) like the one that explored the moon, space suits galore, moon rock specimens. Most current is a mock-up of the space shuttle to go into operation in return trips from outer space in the 1980's.

Space pioneers are honored—from Galileo of the 12th century to Dr. Robert Goddard of the 20th century.

The space hall of fame is a gold glass masterpiece. It's heated and cooled with solar energy, and is open every day except Christmas from nine a.m. to six p.m. during winter. Summer hours will be extended.

NEW FIELD UNIFORM FOR WOMEN. Women registered as members of troop committees, in the Scouters reserve, as Scouting coordinators or commissioners and certain "Mormon" Church leaders can now anticipate wearing a new uniform all their own. It consists of a khaki blouse and skirt, optional slacks, with shorts for summer. It is made from a 65 percent polyester and 35 percent cotton fabric which requires little ironing.

Female den leaders will continue to wear the traditional ladies' uniforms.

Successful field testing was accomplished last summer. The new outfit is stylish and should serve our women Scouters well. Look for the uniform to be available in February. It will be featured in the spring Supply Division catalog.

TOUR PERMITS. If you're thinking of touring with your Cubs, Scouts or Explorers by car or bus this year, consider the importance of a tour permit. Every local council service center has applications which serve as checklists to help you remember all the steps to ensure a safe trip.

Validated by your Scout council, the permit provides you with official, approved status. This helps when you visit national and State parks, military bases and other Federally-operated sites. Local tour permits for trips under 250 miles are OK'd by your local Scout council. National tour permits for journeys over 250 miles are sent by the council to the regional service center for approval.

For the jamboree, each council is required to file a national tour permit for the council contingent, even if it is within 250 miles of the jamboree site.

Wherever and whenever you go, be sure no one rides in the backs of camper trucks or trailers or any similar vehicle. Further help is in: *Campways Tours and Expeditions*, No. 3734, $1.20, from your Scout equipment distributor, or from the Supply Division, BSA, North Brunswick, N.J. 08902.

FLAG CHANGES. On July 7 Congress approved changes in the old Flag Code. We quote some pertinent passages:

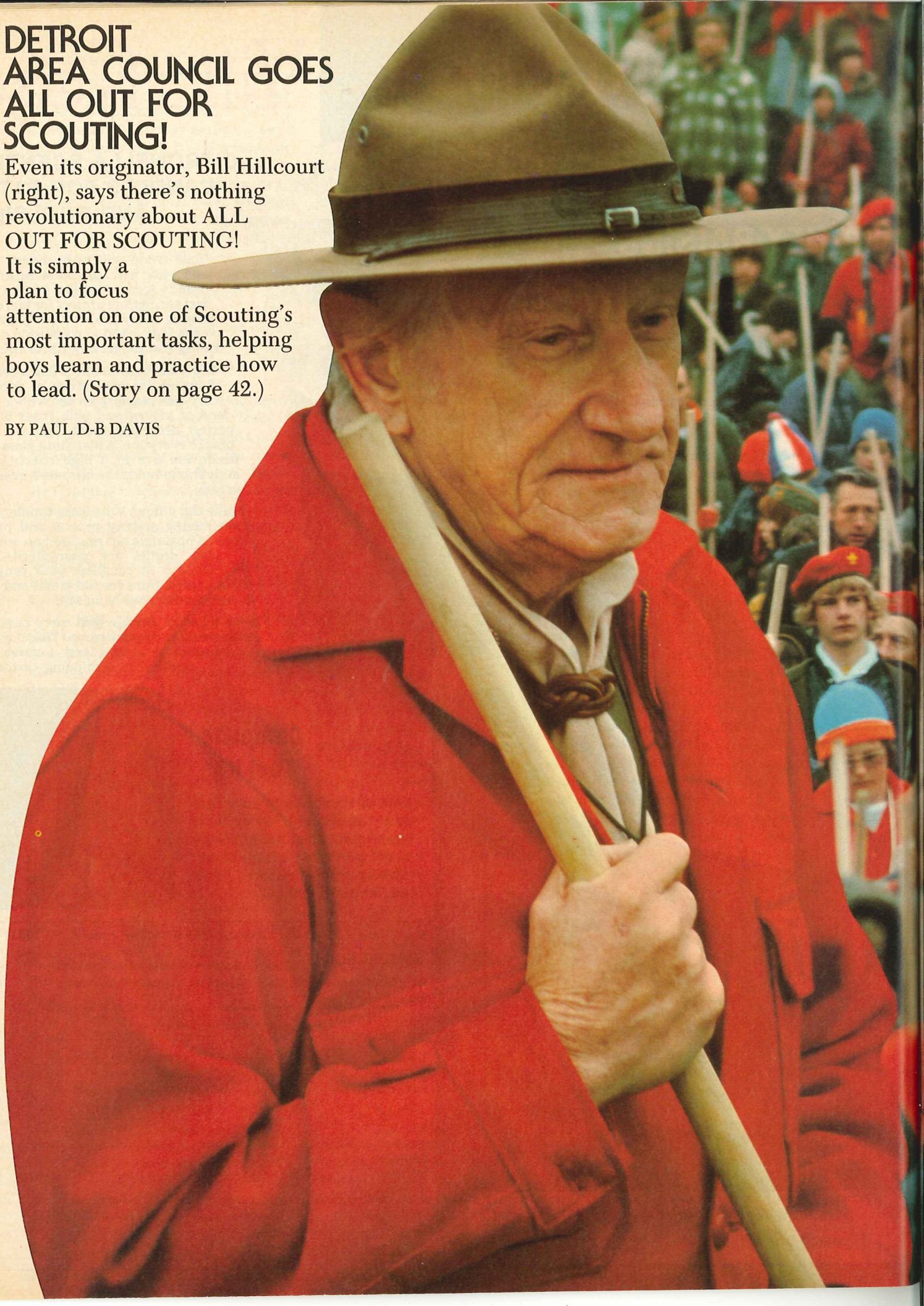
". . . when a patriotic effect is desired, the flag may be displayed 24 hours a day if properly illuminated during the hours of darkness.

"The flag should be displayed on all days, especially on New Year's Day. January 1; Inauguration Day, January 20; Lincoln's Birthday, February 12; Washington's Birthday, third Monday in February; Easter Sunday (variable); Mother's Day, second Sunday in May; Armed Forces Day, third Saturday in May; Memorial Day (half-staff until noon), the last Monday in May; Flag *(continued on page 6)*

DETROIT AREA COUNCIL GOES ALL OUT FOR SCOUTING!

Even its originator, Bill Hillcourt (right), says there's nothing revolutionary about ALL OUT FOR SCOUTING! It is simply a plan to focus attention on one of Scouting's most important tasks, helping boys learn and practice how to lead. (Story on page 42.)

BY PAUL D-B DAVIS



ROAD RUNNERS
TONQUISH

If you believe in the ALL OUT FOR SCOUTING! action goals of increased emphasis on basic Scouting skills, more boy leadership and greater patrol activity, then it just makes sense to get those ideas across to all Scouts in your council. At least that's what Dr. Bill Farrell believed, as he stood talking to Detroit Area Council Scout Executive Joe Wyckoff, at the edge of the woods at the D-Bar-A Scout Ranch.

The two men were watching a troop of senior patrol leaders as they demonstrated the new skills and patrol activities they were learning at Brownsea Double-Two training camp, a vital part of the council's ALL OUT FOR SCOUTING! plan of action.

"You know," said Farrell, a member of the council's leadership development committee, "there's got to be some way to make this kind of training available to every Scout in the council." Joe Wyckoff watched the enthusiastic senior patrol leaders a moment more before answering, "Why not"? Though they didn't realize it, the two men had just kicked off one of the largest council training events in Detroit's history.

"Why not," indeed? When you're one of the largest Scout councils in the world, why not just call everyone up and invite them to an ALL OUT FOR SCOUTING! weekend get-together? When the activities committee and council executive board agreed to the idea, none of them foresaw preparation that would span two years, involve a number of camping activities and eventually require the assistance of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, the National Guard, more than a dozen businesses and, of course, virtually all of the council's executives and leaders.

The final result of that decision was Detroit Area Council's ALL OUT FOR SCOUTING! Jamboree '76 on October 8, 9 and 10. There were 7,000 Scouts and their leaders gathered at Hudson Mills Metro Park near Ann Arbor, Mich., to camp and make new friends, but most important, to participate in a learning program that featured "Green Bar Bill" Hillcourt, former national director of program resources for the BSA, and author of a great number of Scouting books, among them *Baden-Powell—Two Lives of a Hero.* (As the originator of ALL OUT FOR SCOUTING! (AOFS!), Bill called this phase of the action OPERATION FLYING START!)

(Opposite page) Detroit's ALL OUT FOR SCOUTING! Jamboree '76 featured a grab bag of fast-moving patrol activities: (clockwise, from top right) an inspiring evening flag ceremony; tripod lashing using the ever-present, all-purpose Scout stave; maneuvering under a stave obstacle; a patrol flag contest where entries were judged for workmanship and originality; first aid carry that climaxed a rescue problem; Indian braves lighting the campfire; and then a bit of fun petting a troop's pet goose, "Bruce." Put to a test were the youngsters' abilities to get along under their own patrol leadership in a highly competitive atmosphere.

Early in the planning stage the decision was made that the patrol leaders themselves should handle the major share of the training activities, since one of the goals of the program was to stress boy leadership within the troop. But to do this, there would have to be more—lots more—Brownsea-trained patrol leaders. To accomplish this, the council not only stepped up the enrollment of the 1975 Brownsea activity, but eventually organized a second, full-scale Brownsea program that spanned most of the summer of '76 at D-Bar-A Scout Ranch, and trained an additional 255 patrol leaders.

To test the feasibility of so large an activity, it was decided to hold a trial run of three district camporees in the fall of 1975, with the districts participating at each of three different locations.

A solid weekend of rain failed to dampen the enthusiasm of Scouts participating in these camp-outs, and the green light flashed "on" for full-scale planning toward Jamboree '76. From reports received during the trial camporees, Hudson Mills was selected as the best site for the proposed giant jamboree. There was, however, one major difficulty. Hudson Mills, located more than 50 miles from Detroit, was a "primitive" park with only one well, one latrine and no campsite water or electric power. The park's 700 acres had only a few rough campsites; most of the nature trails, bridges over the Huron River and roadways were little more than rough sketches on maps. Moreover, no significant development was planned for the park until some time in the distant future.

Several meetings later, the Scout council executives convinced park officials that the requirements for the jamboree were in harmony with future plans for the park. The state agreed to move scheduled improvements up, and to have the park's natural facilities ready by fall of 1976. The Scouts, however, would have to provide all of their own power, water and sanitation, as well as the manpower necessary to maintain order and security during the jamboree.

Ivan Packard, chairman of the physical facilities committee, went to the National Guard with his problems. They supplied a dozen trailer-mounted portable electrical generators and as many water wagons, as well as the manpower to deliver and operate the equipment. A contractor supplied two field offices, and other businesses made contributions ranging from tents to cooking equipment, either directly to the council or to one of the troops involved in the jamboree. One hundred and twenty-five portable toilets had to be rented, some of them trucked in from as far away as Denver, Colo. When funds lagged, Burger King, a long-time supporter of Detroit Area Scouting, came through with a substantial donation.

Washtenaw County, site of the park, guaranteed a deputy sheriff on duty 24 hours a day during the jamboree, but could not supply sufficient manpower for traffic control, patrol and internal security within the camp. Yet an effective security plan was an absolute condition park officials had laid down for use of the facilities.

Four law enforcement Explorer posts, plus two general-interest posts volunteered to serve around the clock, working with the sheriff's department and park ranger, to help in every possible way.

Peter C. Darin, jamboree chief, and Ernest C. Browne, Jr., council president, crossed their fingers as "J Day" approached. The activ- *(continued on page 58)*

SCHIFF—UNIVERSITY OF SCOUTING

One of Scouting's best kept secrets shouldn't exist. Tens of thousands of volunteer Scouters have heard about Mendham, New Jersey's Schiff Scout Reservation as a training ground that each year graduates scores of career Scouters. But relatively few volunteers realize that thousands of their contemporaries annually wind their ways among the gentle hills of central New Jersey in search of Scouting knowledge, camaraderie and inspiration and find all three—and more—at Schiff.

So if you're within convenient traveling distance of central Jersey and have a yen to find out more about your job in Scouting, consider enrolling in one of the courses listed here for 1977. Your local council Scouters will advise you whether or not the course will benefit you in your present Scouting capacity. All applications for admission must be submitted through your local Scout council executive and bear his signature. Council service centers send applications and fees directly to the registrar at Schiff Scout Reservation, Mendham, N.J. 07945, except for those courses noted for special handling as listed in the course descriptions.

Saturday-Sunday conferences begin with lunch at 12 noon and close with lunch the next day. Friday to Sunday conferences start with dinner at 6 p.m. and close with Sunday lunch. Participants should bring: BSA uniform, outer clothing to suit the weather, toilet articles and other desired personal gear. Dress for persons using Schiff dining room facilities is either the complete uniform or civilian outfit including coat and tie for men, or the complete uniform, skirt and blouse, dress or suit for women. Beds, towels and linens are provided except for the Wilderness Survival Conference.

Fees: two-day conference—$25; three-day conference — $35, refundable if Schiff is notified at least two weeks in advance of the course.

- **Programming Exploring.** January 14-16, 1977—High adventure programming for the adult in Exploring, Financing, budgeting, everything you need to know for success.
- **Train the Trainers.** January 22-23; September 24-25, 1977—Presenting methods of teaching, using tools from chalkboards to closed circuit TV. Old and new gimmicks. Promotion of training events; room arrangement. Designed to sharpen the leader teams of roundtables, training sessions including pow wows.
- **Service to Units.** January 28-30; November 11-13, 1977—The latest thinking in commissioner service, roundtable know-how. Ways district operations bring service to units.

Schiff Scout Reservation, in Mendham, N.J., is where you'll learn more than the basics about your Scouting job.

- **Cub Scout Train the Trainers.** February 19-20, 1977—Helps council and district trainers to teach others how to administer the Cub Scout program effectively.
- **Conservation.** February 26-27, 1977—Helps put conservation of natural resources emphasis in outdoor activities: advancement, merit badge clinics, Cub Scout day camps, workshops, etc.
- **Activities That Attract and Hold Boys.** March 4-6; October 21-23, 1977—Steps to organize and conduct spellbinding camporees, recognition dinners, potluck suppers, anniversary week events, council and district annual dinners, Cub Scout kite contests, pinewood derbies, shopping center shows, service projects.
- **Health and Safety.** March 12-13, 1977—Covers everything from preseason council camp inspection to swim meets, including the resources available to local health and safety committee members.
- **National Camping School.** March 21-25, 1977—For chaplains, camp directors, program directors, camp commissioners, camp rangers. (Apply through Northeast Region Service Center.)
- **Ceremonies That do Something.** April 2-3, 1977—How to write, build, stage ceremonies, create audiovisual aids for council and district events. Where to get help.
- **Camping Enrichment.** April 16-17; October 15-16, 1977—Outdoor knowledge, old and new; ideas beyond the basics so you can enrich the "outing" in Scouting or make high adventure events happen.
- **Weekend Camp School.** April 22-24; May 6-8, 1977—Part I (April) and Part II (May) for chaplains, camp directors, program directors, camp commissioners. No aquatics staff or camp rangers. (Apply through Northeast Region Service Center.)
- **Wilderness Survival.** May 13-15, 1977—Conducted in camp setting. An advanced outdoor course. Participants live in two-man tents furnished with platform and cots. Bring a sleeping bag or equivalent, toilet articles, outdoor clothes, flashlight, knife, rain gear. (All meals but one are prepared and served by Schiff staff.)
- **Public Relations.** October 1-2, 1977—For volunteers and career Scouters interested in learning how to apply public relations techniques to produce successful Cub Scout, Scout and Explorer events.
- **Scouting for the Handicapped.** October 28-30, 1977—For volunteer and career Scouters interested in extending Scouting to handicapped kids.
- **How to Stage a Successful Scout Show.** November 19-20, 1977—All types of shows will be covered. How to staff, administer, program, finance, budget, sell tickets—the works.
- **Winter Programming.** December 3-4, 1977—How to organize cold-weather activities like Operation Zero, klondike derbies, survival programs. Enjoy the thrill of year-round Scouting. ■

ALL OUT FOR SCOUTING! *(from page 43)*

ities were planned down to the hour. Brownsea-trained patrol leaders and their Scoutmasters were briefed; troop registrations completed. Excitement within troops was high, and early reports indicated that some overzealous Scouts were already claiming the coveted "Super Troop" awards planned for the jamboree.

Thursday, October 7, dawned cold and cloudy over Hudson Mills Metro Park, and the riot of fall colors was the only cheery aspect as the first staff cars drove into the park. But new, scenic bridges were in place over the Huron River, roadways marked, and nature trails complete right down to descriptive plaques identifying plants, rock formations and points of interest. Campsites were manicured; the park was perfectly prepared. It was beautiful . . . but silent and empty. More than one early arrival wondered if it was possible to install all of the facilities and services of a small town by four the next afternoon.

But then the first truck arrived. It carried a 30- by 50-foot headquarters tent and crew to erect it. Behind that truck were a hundred more, each moving into the area on schedule, setting up generators, water depots, portable toilets and location signs. Within hours the camp began to take shape, and by early afternoon of the next day, all equipment was in place and operating. Jamboree '76 was ready! As Joe Wyckoff and Bill Farrell stopped by the mess tent for a cup of coffee, the first of the Scout troops began rolling into camp. By nightfall, a city of more than 3,000 tents had been laid out with the precision of a military campaign; population, approximately 5,000 Scouts, 2,000 Webelos Scouts, 1,000 Scout leaders and one pet goose named "Bruce."

"A pet goose!" Troop 1000 had done it again, bringing along their troop mascot, and also carrying with them an entire stockade-fenced fort, complete with jail, general store and sheriff's office "fronts" for administrative tents.

Late Friday afternoon each troop labored to complete the tent city, constructing its own gateways into the troop areas. Some were made of branches and poles. Some were more permanent, displaying the scars of previous encampments. Troop totems appeared and an amazing array of food, utensils and camping gear was carefully stowed in tents and under flies. By 6:30 the camp was in operation, signaled by the delicious mixture of aromas from a thousand supper cookfires.

The first test of Scouting skills was provided by nature as the temperature dropped to 37 degrees Friday night. Michigan's own version of a "Blue Norther" pulled at tent pegs and threatened to carry off any carelessly stowed gear. The wind whistled down canvas-fronted streets and snapped at flags and pennants, straining their poles. But throughout the night, Explorer security forces making their rounds continued to report little damage in the camp. The early light of Saturday morning found the camp cold but undamaged.

Breakfast talk around the early-morning cookfires centered on the upcoming day's activities, the cold night and the seemingly colder dawn . . . always the weather. Around a Michigami troop's fire, Scouts huddled under blankets or scurried back into tents in search of more—and warmer —clothing.

"Here comes Green Bar Bill," someone shouted. Sure enough, stave in hand and in full uniform *including shorts*, "Green Bar Bill" Hillcourt walked down the road waving and calling to Scouts in camps along the way. One by one, as the Scouts saw Green Bar Bill, they shed their blankets and extra clothing, and more than one went back to change into the uniform of the day, the same as worn by Green Bar Bill.

After breakfast, patrol leaders carried their patrol flags, made especially for the jamboree, to the judging area where officials would judge them for style, design, originality and workmanship, before naming one patrol winner in each district. The rules allowed flags to be made from any material, and most conceivable kinds had been used. There were buckskin flags and burlap; flags framed with arrows or topped by antlers. Shapes ranged from freeform to intricate. Most were original and all were in serious contention for the prize award, an autographed copy of Bill Hillcourt's *Fieldbook* for each boy in a winning patrol.

The rest of the Scouts began to drift toward a natural amphitheater, called "the Bowl," for a welcoming ceremony and briefing. Following this opening activity the Scouts, along with their patrol leaders and designated Scoutmasters, marched to an activities field while the other adult leaders remained in the Bowl for a leader-training program conducted by Green Bar Bill. True to his word, the program was a "show and do" exercise in which Bill insisted that the adult leaders do the things they would be teaching their Scouts.

Meanwhile, at the Scout activities field, the senior patrol leaders organized the thousands of Scouts into training troops. During registration, each Scout had received a random-number card. Now these numbers were matched to build whole new troops, mixing inner-city Scouts with their suburban counterparts, teaming farm-reared boys with apartment dwellers and teaming Scouts from Detroit's downriver area with others from North Trails, the council's northernmost district.

Each Brownsea-trained senior patrol leader was assisted by his Scoutmaster, but the individual patrol program was his, as he began teaching some of the 156 skills, activities and competitive games he had been taught earlier that summer.

Flagpoles sprang up across the field, made of as many as nine Scout staves lashed tightly together. In one area, a patrol ran a three-legged race while in another, Scouts used their staves and clothesline to rig a makeshift litter. Still another patrol watched carefully as its patrol leader described the many uses of the Scout stave, from being able to carry emergency supplies in a hollowed-out end of the stave, to serving as a measuring device with the stave marked off in inches and feet, as well as in weight increments that could be used to make a balance scale.

Morning activities alternated between games and skills. By noon, most of the sack lunches brought by the Scouts were unidentifiable as the property of any particular Scout, so just about everyone tried "pot luck," and seemed to enjoy the novelty of it all.

About 3:30 p.m. the Scouts again assembled in the Bowl for presentation of the patrol flag awards and a brief talk by Green Bar Bill. The awards were made, the introduction given, but Bill did not appear. He was found, easily enough, by following a long line of Scouts, each holding his stave in hand. There, under the stage, he sat on the grass endlessly signing each stave with the coveted signature, "Bill," with two green bars slashed across it. Appropriately, the planned program simply waited while this more important business was completed.

Saturday evening the Scouts again returned to the Bowl for the final assembly of the full jamboree contingent. The evening began with an American Heritage pageant highlighted by a campfire, and stressing the parallels in Scouting values with the ideals of America's founding fathers. The pageant closed with the Pledge of Allegiance, voiced by the entire assembly, standing in the glow of a single campfire. As the pledge ended, several candles in the audience flickered to life and each Scout in turn passed the fire from his candle to the next, until the bowl was ablaze with the light from more than 7,000 candles. The ceremony ended with these words from Dr. Bill Farrell: "As you share the light of your candle, so share the light of your spirit with others and let the light of your Scouting spirit burn brightly in your hearts and in your minds now, and in the future. Good night."

Quietly the Scouts returned to their campsites. Even the wind had died, and the night sounds of the camp were subdued. Boys tired from a full day of fun and activity, filled with reflections on the evening's ceremony and with renewed enthusiasm for Scouting, climbed into their sleeping bags. Most closed their eyes with regret that only morning church services and the inevitable breaking of camp lay between them and the end of the jamboree. Yet already the wind of anticipation was freshening across the camp. Ahead lay a whole year of work, play and the chance to earn the ALL OUT FOR SCOUTING! proficiency award for their troop which would show that they had learned well the lessons of Jamboree '76. ■

Over half of our 426 Scout councils—large and small—have taken part in ALL OUT FOR SCOUTING! Many more are planning to begin this optional action plan in 1977.

DEN MOTHERS: Don't Miss the February Issue of PACK-O-FUN!

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crafts, skits and stunts boys love!

February: This jolly cub is made out of old paperbacks!

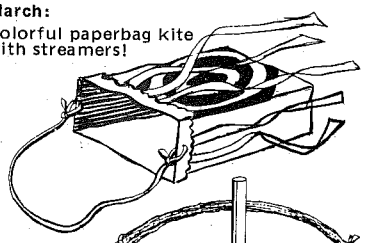
Be a winner at your Blue & Gold Banquet with ideas like these!

Lots more scrapcraft ideas all year long!

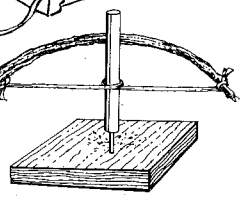
February: Fashion this proud American Eagle from soda straws!

MORE CLEVER CUB THEME PROJECTS COMING SOON:

March: Colorful paperbag kite with streamers!



April: This Alaskan bow drill really works!



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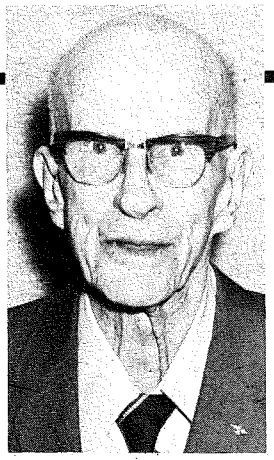

FRED C. MILLS, WATER-SAFETY PIONEER

In 1902, at the age of 17, Fred C. Mills was a YMCA instructor of physical education, swimming and lifesaving.

In 1973, at the age of 88, he was hard at work on a study called "Swimming and the Black American Male."

In the more than 70 years between those dates, Fred C. Mills compiled an astounding array of achievements in the field of safety, including many of the safety measures now in use by the Boy Scouts of America.

Mr. Mills died last Oct. 25, less than a week after receiving the coveted Distinguished Service to Safety Award of the National Safety Council. He was 91 and made his home in Aptos, Calif.

He joined the Scouting movement in 1920 as a volunteer deputy Scout commissioner. Four years later, he became the professional director of the BSA's national Health and Safety Service and served in that position until 1950. From then until his retirement in the formal sense in 1957, he was director of training for the San Francisco Bay Area Council.

During his tenure as a professional Scouter, Mr. Mills:

- Established Scouting's "buddy plan" for swimming.
- Developed several water lifesaving methods, including the jump entry to avoid injury, and the "reach, throw, row, before going" and team rescue techniques.
- Pioneered modern ice-rescue methods and directed and acted in one of the first ice-rescue training films during the 1940s.
- Established the BSA's National Aquatic Schools and ran them for 25 years.
- Was instrumental in creation of the first *Swimming, Water Sports and Safety* manual and the Lifesaving, Swimming, Rowing and Canoeing merit badges.
- Set up a Ranger Training Program for Scouting during World War II which included many safety training methods and was later adopted by our military forces.
- Developed the technique of inflating clothing for buoyancy in water which is now universally taught in survival schools especially those of the armed forces.
- Aided in the design of safer, more stable canoes during the 1930's.
- Was responsible for the BSA's home fire-safety emphasis, as now reflected in the Firemanship merit badge.
- Established the BSA's requirement for medical examinations for summer camp.
- Wrote Scout camp standards that are still in use and were the model for the Youth Camp Safety Standards of the U.S. Health, Education and Welfare Department.
- Organized "Operation Zero" with several famous explorers to test winter camping skills and ice-rescue methods in the Arctic in 1947.
- Created the rifle marksmanship and axmanship safety procedures for the BSA.
- Contributed chapters on health, fitness and safety to many editions of the *Scout Handbook*, was a contributing editor for *Scouting* magazine and was the founder and first editor of a health and safety newsletter sent for a number of years to all Scouters.
- Was one of the four founders of the Committee for National Cooperation in Aquatics (CNCA), which brings together the BSA, YMCA, Boys' Clubs, schools and colleges and other organizations in a drive for safety in aquatic sports.

"CNCA is one of the reasons we're the most advanced nation in the world in swimming, aquatics and water safety," said Adolph G. Kiefer, aquatic subcommittee chairman of the Health and Safety Service. "And Fred Mills was one of the moving spirits."

Kiefer, who was backstroke gold medalist at the 1936 Olympics and is now aquatics consultant for Sears, Roebuck and Co., added, "Fred Mills was a very colorful man. He was outspoken, dynamic and aggressive about seeing that safety programs were carried through." It was for this reason, Kiefer said, that Fred Mills was named to the Swimming Hall of Fame.

Fred Mills was a dynamo for long after his purported retirement. When he was approaching his 85th birthday, he was still inspecting Scout camps and running national aquatic schools.

In 1970, when he was 85, Mr. Mills began research on his own into the questions of why American black men, on the average, do not become good swimmers and on how they might do better. He was still at work—and frustrated by the dearth of answers—three years later. "Much, much work needs to be done," he wrote to the Health and Safety Service.

A measure of the depth of his commitment to water safety may be gleaned from the same letter.

"I have an almost insatiable desire," he said, "to have a part in solving some of the mysteries of death in the water." Citing his age and physical infirmities without self-pity, Fred Mills added, "However, I will still try and by no means be discouraged."

This indomitable spirit was recognized by the National Safety Council in giving Mr. Mills its Distinguished Service to Safety Award. Said John P. Fleming of the Safety Council in making the presentation, "In his many years of distinguished service to the safety movement, Fred C. Mills has amassed a staggering list of accomplishments in the cause of public safety. I find it difficult to itemize his many contributions." With the award, Fleming concluded, "goes the gratitude of countless beneficiaries."

Not a few of those beneficiaries are tens of thousands of Scouts and Scouters whose aquatic skills were honed on the methods of Fred C. Mills. ■