

SCOUTS-L

**PATROL METHOD
AND
RELATED
SUBJECTS**

Date: Sat, 24 Jun 1995 13:38:53 -0400 (EDT)
From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@capaccess.org>
Subject: PATROL v. DINING HALL COOKING
To: SCOUTS-L Youth Groups Discussion List <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>

In successive Summers not so long ago I was the Program Director of a camp that used the patrol cooking method exclusively and then Program Director of a camp that used the dining hall approach exclusively. Both camps were in Northern Indiana with Scouts from similar socio-economic backgrounds with a wide variety of Troop sizes and experience levels. In both places we kept statistics for the Councils on advancement and merit badges. In both places the results were so close that there really was not any significant difference. In both places larger experienced Troops averaged about three merit badges per boy (some getting as many as six or seven and as few as one) with about 80% of Scouts under First Class finishing rank requirements. Small and less experienced Troops averaged slightly less in each category - closer to two and a half merit badges and about 70% rank advancement under First Class. Provisional units were slightly under the small units.

The only difference was in Scoutmaster perceptions. In the patrol site cooking camp about half the Scoutmasters felt that Patrol Cooking detracted from advancement and merit badge opportunities and in the Dining Hall camp about half the Scoutmasters felt that the absence of Patrol Cooking helped advancement. The results were not significantly different - only the perceptions.

Why the difference in perceptions???

It is real easy to see that the Scouts have to collect food (usually at a commissary, sometimes dropped nearby), that they spend time cooking, that they take time to eat and that they agonize at clean-up.

It isn't as easy to see that the Scouts would spend the same amount of time walking to the dining hall, setting up tables, eating, having group songs, skits, announcements, staff antics, milling about, flag ceremonies, etc. and then spend time on the way stopping off at the trading post, etc. on the way back. Net result was about the same amount of time spent.

Which is better?

Patrol method encourages teamwork, leadership skills, shared responsibility, Scoutcraft skills, etc.

Dining hall method encourages group fellowship, Scout spirit, making new friends outside the Troop, etc.

In both situations I found my self eating excellent meals as well as terrible meals - yes Dining hall cooks can replicate the worst a Scout can do at a campsite and Scouts can add little touches that best group cooking.

My thought is that there really isn't a "best for everybody" answer. It depends on what you think your Scouts need the most. If your Troop is on the road every month with a very active camping program, then the Dining Hall camps make a lot of sense to develop fellowship and spirit. If your Troop doesn't have that kind of opportunity a Patrol Cooking camp offers a great chance to learn skills missed throughout the year. Also if you have a lot of Webelos just turned Boy Scouts, the Patrol Cooking can make the rest of your outings a lot easier during the year - more successful. They learn the basic and then each of your Outings goes with fewer hitches and less of them dropout.

>From my experience as a Scout camper (six years), a camp staffer (eleven years) and an in camp leader (both Webelos and Scouts) at nine different camps I'd be hard pressed to say that one method is better than another. Both offer great opportunities - just depends on what you want and what you like - more importantly on what the Scouts want and like!

**Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman
Prof. Beaver, Nat. Capital Area Council, BSA mfbowman@CAPACCESS.ORG**

**From mfbowman@CapAccess.org Wed Dec 6 12:16:31 1995
Subject: Re: Opinions needed-New SM plans**

To remain healthy a Boy Scout Troop needs to be run by the youth leaders via the Patrol Leaders Council and they need to meet on a regular basis; e.g. weekly. I would encourage you to work with the committee to support the idea of a PLC run troop and to back the PLC in whatever it feels it wants to do. This new concept should not even be considered unless the PLC has agreed to the idea. And I doubt they'll go for it.

This new SM may well be remembering only part of his youth experience without a grasp of the big picture. Sounds like he needs an immediate immersion in fast start training and to get signed up for Scoutmaster Fundamentals to learn how to balance ideas.

I was a Scout in 1963 too and then there seemed to be more emphasis on Patrol Meetings. We had them once every two weeks at the patrol leader's house and planned patrol activities, including patrol campouts. But we also met with the Troop every week without fail. In some months we had a patrol campout and a Troop campout. But, this was in an area that was mostly rural with little else to do on a weekend and no competition from sports, etc. Your chap seems to need to do a little catching up with the times and to clear his memory. For both Scouts and parents, time seems to be real premium and full of competition for attention. This is why most Troops are lucky to have a good Troop program let alone separate patrol programs.

No don't get me wrong, there is nothing wrong about having patrols meet separately. After all this is how B-P started things. And if they have the time and energy to do special activities in addition to those of the Troop so much the better.

The bottomline is that this is a resource management problem - time and leadership availability. It is also a question of who runs the Troop. My vote is definitely for the PLC to make the calls on what they would like to do with the committee and SM giving as much support as possible.

**Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman
DDC-Training, GW Dist. Nat Capital Area Council mfbowman@CAPACCESS.ORG**

**Date: Thu, 14 Dec 1995 09:37:20 -0800
From: Dean Hayes <dhayes@BVU-LADS.LORAL.COM>
Subject: Re: Where is it written**

I responded to Paul in more detail but For those looking for a reference in the literature to a "boy run program". This is what I've found.

The Boy Scout Handbook

Chapter 23. Your Scout Patrol and Troop

**Page 539 describes the job of the Patrol Leader.
Page 543 describes the patrol leader's council.**

Sounds to me like your campout was a surprising success. Yep. Success. With all that didn't go as well as it might have, you and your boys learned a bit more that will go a long way towards making each successive campout better.

By now you've realized that part of the problem was that you feel responsible for the planning. Yes, you have to lend a hand and guide, but ultimately the SPL and the older lads are the ones who should be moving into the planning responsibility. Ask them what went wrong. How do we fix it. What can you do SPL? What can you do QM?? etc. Tell that obviously, if they rely on you and you are holding down two jobs, it may be a bit touch and go. We can do better can't we? So where do we start for the next time? Who should be doing what? If you play it carefully, they may well remember this for the changes it brought and their memories of you will soar later in life. :-) Works that way. It is hard to trust them to do the job, but they are capable and can do it. Let them try. Help by guiding from the background, always keenly interested, but not in charge. You will be surprised - they'll get over the shock and do well. I suspect that your SPL already has a bunch of ideas.

Just a few thoughts from a chap that was once an SM too, though many years back.

Speaking Only for Myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman a/k/a Professor Beaver (WB), ASTA #2566, OA Vigil Honor '71, Eagle Scout '67, Serving as Deputy District Commissioner for Training, G.W.Dist., Nat. Capital Area Council, BSA - mfbowman@capaccess.org

**Date: Sat, 20 Jan 1996 03:03:18 -0500 (EST)
From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>
To: SCOUTS-L - Youth Groups Discussion List <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>
Subject: Patrol Method**

Brian,

**The idea of a "new-scout" patrol is not new or novel. From the beginning the idea was to have Scouts form into patrols with their friends - a gang with a purpose. Putting all of the new Scouts together, especially when they are friends and have already worked together has many advantages and
may help retention. In the Troop I was in as a boy this is how it was**

done and our retention rate was tremendous. Almost every boy stayed with the Troop 3 or 4 years. In other Troops I have observed this method working well in some cases and poorly in others. I could say the same for mixed patrols. It seems to me that the key is to work with the youth leadership of the Troop to select the method that will work best for them and have them participate in determine how patrols are organized. Usually they will do a fairly good job of grouping friends together and picking groups that will foster retention. If a Scout is in a patrol with friends, he will probably have more fun and stay longer. For some Scouts this will mean an age-group patrol and for others one with guys that have similar interests and activities. Which is to say there probably isn't a universal right answer. So listen to what the Scouts have to say and let them exercise leadership/ownership.

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**Date: Sun, 21 Jan 1996 19:49:48 -0500 (EST)
From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>
Subject: Re: New vs Mixed Patrols**

Kevin,

Enjoyed you posting and observations. Funny how when the Scouts form a patrol with friends they seem to do better, have more fun, and get more enthused than when their Scoutmaster organizes things and they have trouble learning to be a team. You are absolutely right though to be concerned about the one or two Scouts that might not be picked. One way to handle this is to allow the new Scouts to drift in a holding position visiting patrols for a few weeks and have them let the SPL know which patrol(s) they would like to join. Then decisions could be made in the PLC by the youth leaders on how best to meet these desires with a little guidance as requested from the Scoutmaster.

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Date: Thu, 21 Mar 1996 12:26:59 -0500

From: Bob Myers <rmyers@ONE.NET>

Subject: Re: Patrol Competition & Patrol Spirit

To: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>

Ben Alford wrote: "I would like some suggestions from folks who have good patrol spirit and patrol competition."

This is an important and tough question. I think the answer will vary widely depending on the particulars of the Scouts, the patrols, the troop, etc. There are two things that seem to have worked for us recently.

First, well planned and executed interpatrol competitions near the end of most meetings are important. Two games that worked great for us recently, generating enthusiastic competition between our 2 patrol, are the Reactor Transport and Chariot Race (see Woods Wisdom). These were done in a gym with fairly large patrols. The competition was intense with no reward other than the thrill of winning.

Second, we had our best campout ever last month in terms of patrol spirit. The primary event took place Friday night from 10pm-1am. It consisted of a 2 mile night hike in a small, 200 acre county park. There were 11 activity stations and the theme was Baden-Powells defense of Mafeking (1899-1900).

Each patrol had to navigate the course in quietly using map and compass.

The patrols were space 15 minutes apart and 6-7 adults were used as "advanced scouts" to run the events. Most adults covered 2 stations.

Events included:

- team building: the patrol had to cross a 100 foot mud puddle (mine field) carrying all their required gear by using two sets of 8 foot 2x4s with ropes**
- trust event: the patrol split into pairs to tie bowlines around their waist with 6 foot ropes, the their rope to their partner's, and lean back to test the knots**
- ladder building (see Scouting magazine from several months ago): using their Scout staves and rope they brought with them to build a ladder to get the entire patrol out of an actual 5 foot deep ravine**
- silent observation: scout a circa 1820 pioneer village**
- mapping: map the village based on the memories of the patrol**
- observation: Kim's game**
- first aid: treat two gunshot wound, build a stretcher (blanket was part of required equipment), carry patient over rough terrain with and**

egg under his head

- measurement: measure height, width, depth of wooden stage (old fort)
- silent march: although the entire event was to be done quietly, this part of the trail was monitored for noise
- fire building: burn the string
- orienteering: small 12 point course and build north arrow without compass using staves (stars were out)

Each event took no more than 15 minutes and the patrols were monitored virtually the entire way by a silent "spy" that snuk (or was that sneaked?) around and hung out in trees; observing all along the trail to assure everyone's safety. We had hot soup and hot chocolate ready for them when they got back to the cabin a little after 1:00am. They were cold and tired, but were so pumped that no one went to sleep for more than an hour. The next day they slept till 10am, had brunch, worked on advancement, and prepared a huge banquet for Saturday supper.

Our "spy" , ASM Terry Eby, did a tremendous amount of creative preparation for the Mafeking event, but it took very little preparation work by the other adults. Terry prepared specific binders for each adult with all the information for their event(s). Each patrol was given an orienteering based course description, but were given their "orders" for each station only when they arrived. These orders were given only to the patrol leader who was then required to communicate them to his patrol.

For me, standing out in the woods for more than an hour at night in absolute darkness with 50 degree (F) temperatures and 30 MPH howling winds was quite an experience. All the adults had just as much fun as the Scouts. It was a great success and patrol spirit has never been higher.

YiS,

Bob Myers, SM Troop 575, Cincinnati, Ohio
rmyers@one.net

Date: Sun, 7 Apr 1996 10:58:06 -0400
From: OPTIMIST <Optimist@cris.com>
Subject: Re: Teaching the Patrol Method

On Sat, 6 Apr 1996, Lew Orans wrote:

> Dean:

>

> At 07:40 PM 4/4/96 -0800, you wrote:

> >Has anybody developed an in-troop program for teaching the patrol

> >method?

>>

> >We would like to implement the concepts in a tangible way such as role

> >playing, demonstration, and/or skits.

>

[...deletions...]

>

> Start with B-P -- "Scouting is a Game with a Purpose." Play the Game as it

> was meant to be played. Organize the troop and patrols as suggested in the

> BSA literature. Elect your PLs and SPLs. Use the Patrol Leaders' Council to

> plan, plan, plan. Train them according to the SM JLT Kit including the

> "Continuing Opportunities" section. And -- USE THE PATROL METHOD. Let the

> Boys do their best. Let their leaders do their best. Coach and Guide the

> leaders. Have the Boy Leaders (SPL, ASPL, etc.) help. Use the resources

> already available -- Woods Wisdom is a key. Then let the boys lead, let

> them stumble, support and use patrols in all things. When you think of the

> troop for any reason (health included) check the patrols first.

>

[...more deletions...]

There is a little known BSA program which actually encourages Scouts to have better patrols. It is called the Baden-Powell Patrol Award. There are eight requirements having to do with Patrol functions and Patrol Spirit. These are completed over three months. Successful completion results in the Scouts being able to wear a star directly underneath their patrol patch on their uniform.

Depending on who you talk to, this program is said to be defunct. However, it continues to show up in new BSA literature and the stars are still sold (at least at my Scout Shop). Even if it is no longer an official part of the program, it can have a positive impact on your troop's program.

YIS

Michael Kauffmann
Wood Badge 92-35
Hey Look! I'm a Bobwhite!!

optimist@cris.com
http://www.cris.com/~optimist/
>--\\\/-\\\/-\\\/-->

Date: Sat, 20 Jan 1996 03:03:18 -0500 (EST)
From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>
To: SCOUTS-L - Youth Groups Discussion List <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>
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Subject: Re: New vs Mixed Patrols

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G.W.Dist., Nat. Capital Area Council, BSA - mfbowman@capaccess.org**

Date: Thu, 25 Jan 1996 03:10:12 -0500 (EST)

From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>

To:

Multiple Recipients of the List SCOUTS-L

Subject: Three Little Pigs (fwd)

Recently I received a private e-mail that I thought would be a good starting place for some constructive comments on the patrol method in Scouting. As you read the forwarded e-mail you will find that George Hay Kain, III <ghkain@cyberia.com> faced a tough committee meeting. After the meeting, George put the situation in focus by using a little humor. Please take a minute or two to read the message and offer a constructive comment, remembering that some of the post was written as humor and that the issues pertain to the patrol method and organization of patrols. Enjoy.

**Speaking Only for Myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman
a/k/a Professor Beaver (WB), ASTA #2566, OA Vigil Honor '71, Eagle Scout '67, Serving as Deputy District Commissioner for Training,**

G.W.Dist., Nat. Capital Area Council, BSA - mfbowman@capaccess.org

----- Forwarded message -----

snip

The Three Little Pigs - a fable updated for Scouters

Once upon a time, there were three little pigs, and a great many more.

They

lived in a wonderful universe created by B-P called the Wide World of Scouting. They lived there with a great many other animals. The most respected other animals were the eagles, and little pigs could become eagles

if they followed B-P's way, and did it before they were eighteen years old.

Those little pigs who did not turn into eagles by age eighteen ended up going to the bacon factory over at Obscurity, a far-away village. Before little pigs reached eighteen, many were also eaten by the Wolf of

Competing

Activities.

Now the eagles that lived in this wonderful universe tried very hard to help

all the little pigs become eagles too, because they did not want to see their little friends either become bacon, or be eaten by the wolf. They did this also because they had once been little pigs themselves.

As time went by, the animals noticed that little pigs that stood the best chance of becoming eagles and flying forever over the universe were little pigs who had been raised as piglets by Akela, the leader of the Pack, and Baloo, the bear. Akela and Baloo would raise and nurture little piglets for up to five years, and when the piglets became eleven years of age, Akela and

Baloo would give each of them an Arrow of Light in recognition of their special efforts over the two past years as Webelos pigs, and turn them loose

in the Wide World of Scouting to fend for themselves.

Pigs in general knew it was their best interest to build a house to protect themselves from the Wolf of Competing Activities until they were strong enough and experienced enough in the ways of the Wide World of Scouting to

become eagles. The newly-released former Webelos pigs in our story had all

joined Akela's pack at about the same time five years earlier. They bonded together and listened carefully to Akela and Baloo. When they arrived in the Wide World of Scouting, they found there were a few pig houses already built by pigs who were one, two, and three years older than themselves. The houses built by the older pigs appeared to be built largely of soccer balls and comic books held together by granny knots and bubble gum.

The new group of Webelos pigs had been trained well by Akela and Baloo, and they set about to build their own house. In short order they constructed a pig house of stout scout staves held together by square lashings and diagonal lashings, wrapped thrice, frapped twice. The Wolf of Competing Activities had absolutely no luck in blowing their house down.

The Webelos pigs' house soon become the envy of the older pigs, who were finding their porcine brethren slowly being eaten one by one by the Wolf or being sent to the bacon factory at age eighteen without having become an eagle. Accordingly, a meeting was called of the senior animals in the world over the age of twenty-one. This animal world Committee consisted of a silly goose, two hens, a few burros, a wise owl, and several old eagles. Almost all the old eagles just so happened to be the fathers of the little Webelos pigs whose marvelous pig house had caused all the stir.

The silly goose spoke up first and said that the hens had been raising Cain with him about the high mortality rate among the older pigs. The hens then chimed in and said they had come up with a perfect plan to save all the pigs from the bacon factory at Obscurity, and from the Wolf of Competing Activities. The hens' plan was to divide the Webelos and send them to live with the various older pig groups and take the east wall of the Webelos pigs' house and give it to the fourteen year old pigs, give the south wall of the Webelos pigs' house to the thirteen year old pigs, give the west wall to the twelve year old pigs, and of course, to be fair, the few remaining Webelos pigs could keep the north wall.

The burros then nodded in agreement and said this sounded like a marvelous

plan. The hens bowed, and basked in reflected glory. As this discussion proceeded, it was noticed that the feathers on the backs of the old eagles were starting to stand on end. Finally the oldest eagle could take this nonsense no longer. He drew himself up into his most imposing posture and tried to point out the obvious:

1) that the hens had never been pigs and therefore no hen had ever actually built a pig house or, for that matter, flown as an eagle;

2) that the burros only checked in on the pigs once a month at best, whereas the eagles were flying over the area all the time, and that burros don't know all that much either about being a pig or an eagle;

3) that in the beginning, B-P, the Creator, had clearly stated that the pig house was to be the fundamental home in the Wide World of Scouting for each group of little pigs, and that it was to be the little pigs' work in building their own respective pig houses that would train them in the ways necessary to become an eagle;

4) finally, that if the Committee directed that the Webelos pig house be dismantled and major parts of it given to the older pigs, all the pigs, old and young, would almost certainly fall prey to the Wolf of Competing Activities or the bacon factory at Oblivion.

Well, to say the least, a ruckus ensued. One of the hens immediately took offense and said she was only trying to help, and that even though she was a hen, she was certainly entitled to her opinions as to how pigs should be raised. She stated she was also concerned because her son was one of the older pigs who was still trying to become an eagle before the Bacon Factory beckoned.

The old eagles collectively tried to explain to the rest of the animals on the Committee that it was not a wise idea to tamper with the Creator's Plan.

They pointed out that although it was true that the majority of the sons of the old eagles were the Webelos pigs with the swell pig house, they as old eagles also wanted see as many of the remaining other pigs as possible

become eagles too.

Towards that end, the wise old owl observed that although he was not an eagle, he was a "bird of the same feather" who had flown through much of the same Wide World in his youth, once reaching as high as a Star, and yes, it was true that the old eagles had been offering the older pigs advice and guidance on house building and had taken them on trips in the forest, without the Webelos pigs, to search for suitable house building materials and methods.

The old eagles reminded the wise old owl that the pigs also had something called the Pig Leaders' Council, or PLC, which consisted of a pig leader (PL) elected by each pig group, plus a senior pig leader (SPL), and that the PLC was supposed to run the daily life for the pigs. The old eagles reminded everyone that B-P, the Creator, had made it pretty clear that the PLC was "what made things go" as far as pigs were concerned, and that the wise old owl and the animal world Committee were really there mainly to assist the PLC or wield a veto if the PLC tried to do something illegal or certain to result in serious bodily harm.

The wise old owl allowed as yes, come to think of it, that was true, and that maybe this discussion should be taking place at the PLC instead of the animal world Committee. He and the oldest eagle had spent a whole day taking all the appropriate pigs through something called the Pig Leader Training Course. Who knows, maybe the pigs themselves were better situated to determine if there really was any problem among the pigs to begin with, and, if and only if so, to consider ways to fix it.

The oldest eagle was heard to mutter under his feathers that to know these things, it helps to be an eagle, but even if you can't be an eagle, you can still take the training courses that the Creator has established to help all the animals understand the Master Plan. Now he's trying to figure out a way to get the owl, the hens, the goose, and the burros to take the necessary training. Hopefully, this can be accomplished without the owl getting his feathers ruffled, the hens laying eggs, and the goose and the burros making a mess on the lawn.

The end of this story has yet to be written.

Dear George: You have reaffirmed my faith in Missouri! Thanks so much for your help. With your permission, I'll incorporate your great ideas above "when the end of the story IS written." As it is, I have e-mail forwarded it to the other old eagles on our committee, and to <mfbowman@capaccess.org> as a gesture of moral support. Thanks again.

As a token of appreciation, I'd like to share with you a great scouting web site I just came across for BSA cope courses:

<http://cac.psu.edu/~jxm181/cope.html>

Enjoy!

YIS

/s/ George Hay Kain, III <ghkain@cyberia.com>
Attorney at Law (Estates & Trusts)
Assistant Scoutmaster, Troop 25, B.S.A. - The Cyber-Eagle
29 North Queen Street, York, PA 17403-1428
Telephone and Fax: 717-848-3500

"I used to be a Bear, but I'll always be an Eagle, and a Silver Beaver, too."

Date: Fri, 26 Jan 1996 22:21:08 -0500 (EST)
From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>
To: "George Hay Kain, III" <ghkain@cyberia.com>
Subject: Re: Hens and Goose meet the Woodbadge Axe

George,

Thanks for sharing the response to your story. Couldn't agree more myself. You are definitely on the right track and judging from the responses you have inspired others as well. And as your story is used in training in many places, you will continue to inspire and help. I have to hand it to you for creativity in storytelling. As they say in the Navy (my client) "Bravo Zulu." Well Done.

Speaking Only for Myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman
a/k/a Professor Beaver (WB), ASTA #2566, OA Vigil Honor '71, Eagle
Scout '67, Serving as Deputy District Commissioner for Training,
G.W.Dist., Nat. Capital Area Council, BSA - mfbowman@capaccess.org

Date: Fri, 3 May 1996 17:11:43 -0500
From: "Settummanque, the blackeagle (MAJ) Mike L. Walton"
<blackeagle@HCC-UKY.CAMPUS.MCI.NET>
Subject: Ceremony for the Baden-Powell Award

Here's the ceremony for the Baden-Powell Patrol Star

Materials needed:

- * **Baden -Powell Star for each Patrol Member, in envelope**
- * **Patrol emblem of B-P Patrol**
- * **single Baden-Powell star**
(these two items should be taped to a card, in the way that they would be worn if on a shirt)
- * **Eight small candles**
- * **One large candle**
- * **safety pin**

Participants:

- * **Patrol Leader of Baden-Powell Patrol**
- * **Assistant Patrol Leader of Baden-Powell Patrol**
- * **Senior Patrol Leader**
- * **Scoutmaster**

The ceremony starts with all lights out, and the large candle lit.

Scoutmaster: "Tonight, we recognize the _____Patrol for their group efforts toward bettering our Troop and their Patrol. Will the Patrol Leader of the _____Patrol please come forward and bring your Patrol Flag"

(Patrol Leader and Assistant Patrol Leader stands in front of Troop, facing the candles and the Scoutmaster and Senior Patrol Leader. Assistant Patrol Leader holds the Patrol Flag.)

Scoutmaster: "Baden-Powell, the founder of Scouting, had some ideas on what kept kids together. He tried out those ideas at a camp and invited boys to come and participate in this experiment. He found that Scouting works better with a group of eight, and that this group must work and support

each other...not just meet. This is the principle behind this special BSA award, which bears his name."

Senior Patrol Leader: "The Baden-Powell Patrol Star Award is a PATROL, not Scout, honor. To earn the Star, the Patrol must:

(lights first small candle) Have Patrol Spirit.

(lights second small candle) Meet as a Patrol.

(lights third small candle) Have representation at the Patrol Leaders' Council.

(lights fourth small candle) and must work as a Patrol.

I have the honor of presenting this award to the _____ Patrol, of Troop _____. Please bring the patrol flag forward."

(Assistant Patrol Leader brings Patrol Flag forward, and while Scoutmaster holds flag still, Senior Patrol Leader attaches the card with the Patrol Emblem and B-P star to the flag. Assistant Patrol Leader takes flag back to stand beside Patrol Leader.)

Scoutmaster: "The Baden-Powell Patrol Star Award is a GROUP, not individual, honor. There were some additional things that the _____ Patrol had to accomplish. To do this, it required them to:

(lights fifth small candle) Wear their uniforms correctly with pride

(lights sixth small candle) Assist each other in advancing upwards on the Scouting trail

(lights seventh small candle) Do Patrol events and activities

(lights eighth candle) and Build their Patrol to EIGHT.

We started out with only one candle...representing the spirit of Scouting. From there, this spirit spread to your Patrol Leader, and in turn, to each and every member of your Patrol. As we lit additional candles, you began to see more and more light and looked at the group instead of the individual candles.

Senior Patrol Leader: As the "light" of Scouting grew in your Patrol, people in and out of our Troop started to see you not as individuals, but as a group. You agreed to work together, to help each other, and to be the

best Patrol you can....just like those boys participating in Brownsea did.

Scoutmaster: For your efforts, I am proud to present to your Patrol Leader Baden-Powell stars for each member of his Patrol. May this encourage you onward to earn a second, third and as many stars as your Patrol can. Congratulations, and don't forget to share your experiences with others as you move onward on the Scouting trail!"

(Scoutmaster presents envelope with stars to the Patrol Leader, and shakes hand with the Scoutmaster. The Patrol Leader and Assistant Patrol Leader return to their Patrol line or seats.

Hope this helps someone out there needing a simple but meaningful ceremony to award these emblems by. You can modify it by creating a ribbon and attaching the Patrol emblem and star to it, therefore making it easier for the Patrol to be recognized.

Settummanque!

(MAJ) Mike L. Walton (Settummanque, the blackeagle) (_____)_
co-Owner, Blackeagle Services of Kentucky (502.826.7046) | ** |]
174 Chapelwood Drive, Henderson, Kentucky 42420-5036
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(WWW) <http://scout.net/~cardinal/index.htm>

Date: Sun, 5 May 1996 20:48:58 -0400
From: Bob Myers <rmyers@ONE.NET>
Subject: Re: Ceremony for the Baden-Powell Award

start ceremony*****

Baden-Powell Patrol Award Ceremony

SPL lights a gold candle and calls the troop to attention.

SPL: "Mr Scoutmaster, the _____ Patrol of Troop _____ has proven itself most worth and has completed all the requirements for the Baden-Powell Patrol

Award."

SM: "Mr. Senior Patrol Leader, assemble the patrol."

SPL: "_____ patrol - front and center." SPL hands an unlit white candle to each Scout as they assemble. The patrol forms a line facing the troop with the SPL and ASPL at the ends.

SM: "Mr. Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, what are the achievements of the Buck Patrol."

ASPL: "They have shown patrol spirit and have conducted themselves with great honor. They have fulfilled their duty to others through patrol service projects. They have had patrol meetings and have planned and carried out patrol events. They have helped with the planning and execution of the troop's program through their participation on the Patrol Leaders Council . Two of their member have recently advanced and they routinely present themselves in proper Scout uniforms."

SPL: "They have proven themselves worthy of this honor and the Patrol Leaders Council has confirmed their worthiness. In remembrance of Lord Baden-Powell, the founder of Scouting and the creator of the Patrol Method, I recommend that the Buck Patrol be awarded the Baden-Powell Patrol Award to wear below their patrol patch as a symbol of their great achievements for all to see."

SM: "Mr. Senior Patrol Leader, you may present the Baden-Powell Patrol Award patch to the members of the Buck Patrol."

SPL and ASPL present the patch to each Scout. The SPL then lights the Patrol

Leader's candle and asks him to light the candle next to him and raise his candle high until all candles are lit and raised high.

SM: "May the _____ Patrol continue to light the way for Troop _____ as we continue down our Scouting path. _____ Patrol - Be Prepared!"

_____ PATROL AND TROOP: "We are prepared!"

SPL and SM: "Congratulations!"

end ceremony*****

YIS,

Bob Myers, SM, Troop 575, Dan Beard Council, Cincinnati, Ohio
rmyers@one.net

Date: Tue, 7 May 1996 08:50:24 -0600
From: "George Hay Kain, III" <ghkain@CYBERIA.COM>
Subject: Young ASPL - a response

Manny Villa wrote of a 12 year old Star Scout just elected ASPL who is temporarily daunted by the task.

Dear Manny:

My heart goes out to your son. I see shades of myself many years ago. Perhaps you might see fit to share this note with him.

Dear Young ASPL:

Congratulations on your election to one of the top two youth leadership positions in your Troop. You now have some challenges ahead which, if you meet them successfully, will be among the most valuable learning experiences you will have in life. The ultimate challenge is earning the respect of those who have chosen you to help lead them. Here are some thoughts from someone who also had to "earn respect" from his peers in Scouting.

1) You have to understand what your job IS, and what it ISN'T. Read your Junior Leader handbook cover to cover. Have a talk with the SPL and the SM, and be sure you understand exactly how they are looking to you to

help support them in their roles in the Troop.

2) You have to learn HOW to do your job. Take Troop-level Junior Leader Training, and then Council-level Junior Leader Training. If you really feel "gung ho" after that, there is even National-level Junior Leader Training at Philmont.

3) Know your Scouting skills cold. You can't lead from the rear, and you can't lead if you can't do what you ask your followers to do. I was a "young" Eagle scout, and when I went to Philmont for Junior Leader Instructor Training, the other Scouts in the program were older and, so they thought, wiser. However, one cold morning (it does get cold on the desert at night) none of them could get a fire going. Finally, they gave me the chance. It was a one match, no paper fire, and in short order. Thereafter, they gave me the respect I had "earned" by showing them "I knew my stuff."

4) Finally, learn "the difference between 'come on' and 'go on'". This phrase is the summary of all I learned from my original Patrol Leaders Handbook. Followers respond to "come on" and they balk at "go on." You set the example. Suppose the patrol needs to get going with the dishes. You might grab the dirtiest pot, wash it, then turn to some other patrol member and say, "Here, could you finish this up for me? - I have to get our skit ready for campfire tonight". This is only a made-up example, but you get the point.

Above all, be of good cheer. Your "constituents" have faith in you, or they wouldn't have elected you. Don't let them down. Above all, don't let yourself down. I KNOW you can do it!

YIS

/s/ George Hay Kain, III <ghkain@cyberia.com>
Attorney at Law (Estates & Trusts)
29 North Queen Street, York, PA 17403-1428
Telephone and Fax: 717-848-3500

Assistant Scoutmaster for Training, Troop 25, B.S.A. (aka The Cyber-Eagle)
|>>>----->| Tuckahoe Lodge 386 - Ordeal '62 - Brotherhood '65 |>>>----->|

We invite you to visit Yorkshire Troop 25's Virtual Scout Room at
<http://www.vhm.com/scouts/YorkAdamsCouncilBSA/Troops/Troop25/>
I used to be a Bear, but I'll always be an Eagle, and a Silver Beaver, too.

Date: Mon, 22 Apr 1996 13:22:59 -0600
From: Norm Kerr <nkerr1@FREENET.EDMONTON.AB.CA>
Subject: Re: Back to Gilwell?
X-Status:

On Sat, 20 Apr 1996, Michael F. Bowman wrote:

> Pat,
>
> Congratulations. I enjoyed seeing the list of patrol names. If I
> understand correctly, in the Canadian Wood Badge program each patrol
can
> devise its own name. I've heard of one patrol with the name "We're
foxes
> because we couldn't spell orangatang." Now that's a mouth full and I'd
> guess it would be fun to hear them sing the Gilwell song with the full
name.
> What are some of the other clever patrol names that patrols have picked
> in Canadian Wood Badging?

>
When I took my Wood Badge II training we were literally camping in a
monsoon. It did not stop raining for 2 weeks. As such two of the patrols
designated themselves:

- a. the Drowned Rats
- b. the Noah's (as in Noah's ark) - my patrol

We also had the Orion's and the Pacifier's

Norman Kerr <nkerr1@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca> Edmonton, Alberta,
Canada

"Opinions expressed are mine only, No One else cares"

Date: Tue, 7 May 1996 23:18:52 -0400 (EDT)
From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>

To: SCOUTS-L - Youth Groups Discussion List <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>
cc: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>
Subject: Re: patrol camping vs 2 deep leadership

I have not been able to find any requirement in BSA literature that mandates that an adult accompany a patrol on a patrol activity. And I suspect that this area has been left vague purposefully. A patrol should be able to do a number of activities on its own; e.g. meet at the Patrol Leader's house to plan for a campout. There may be other situations where it would be wise to have adults present; e.g. a hike and overnighiter. Some Council Risk Assessment Committees have established local guidelines for this. Your best bet is to check with your local council's professional staff to see whether your council has a policy on this. If not, then you need to exercise judgment as to when the activity can be safely conducted by the boys without adults. I would always advise that on any outdoor activity that two adults accompany the patrol, whether it is a hike, overnight, or a cookout.

Speaking Only for Myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman
a/k/a Professor Beaver (WB), ASTA #2566, OA Vigil Honor '71, Eagle Scout '67, Serving as Deputy District Commissioner for Training,
G.W.Dist., Nat. Capital Area Council, BSA - mfbowman@capaccess.org

From mfbowman@CapAccess.org Sun Nov 10 23:56:45 1996
Date: Sun, 10 Nov 1996 23:56:44 -0500 (EST)
From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>
To: SCOUTS-L - Youth Groups Discussion List <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>
cc: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>
Subject: Re: Patrol Method

Jason,

You wrote that both patrols were large. Are they large enough to split up into three or four? What would the PLC say about such a split with the "newer" older boys in a separate patrol? If they were away from the others would they be apt to pick up on good camping habits again?

Either way you probably need to encourage the adults to let the Patrol Leader's Council wrestle with this problem, even if many of the members are the ones who have little interest in patrol duties. Ask them what they think needs to be done to make their camping experience better. Find out what they like, don't like, and what kinds of things they'd like to

do on campouts. What really sparks their interest? Are they bored? Have they decided its uncool to do the same things as the younger boys?

What suggestions do they have? What do they think needs to be done? If any solution is to work, they have to have ownership of the ideas. Ask them how they plan to teach the younger boys skills if they don't use the same skills. Would they consider it fair that a patrol that didn't complete its chores would stay in camp while the others started activities? Or do they really believe that everyone should wait for them to get into the mood?

Some dialog with the Scouts may help. Guided discovery may be your starting point.

In the meantime you might huddle with the other leaders and think about how to reward the Scouts that are trying hard to use the patrol method and make sure that you are not accidentally rewarding the undesired conduct. Nothing wrong with some subtle behavior modification here.

Above all else be patient and allow the boys to learn from their mistakes. Sooner or later just hanging around is going to get old, especially if younger Scouts are doing fun things and they aren't. (This assumes a fun program planned by the PLC and an understanding of what each patrol is expected to do in order to participate.)

**Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman
Dep.Dist.Commissioner-Training, G.W.Dist., NCAC, BSA (Virginia)
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