

# SCOUTING

APRIL 1958

"PEOPLE TO PEOPLE"  
CAN SPELL PEACE Page 2

ESSENCE OF LIFE IS STRUGGLE  
Page 4



60 714 88  
JAMES BOLAND  
BOX 52  
LIBERTYVILLE ILL

*J. Griffin*

# Scout Shorts

**SCOUTING IN ACTION.** These Scout Shorts pages are a cross section of our program in action. Announcements, information, healthy examples of good Scouting. We welcome good items and pictures.

**YOUR NOMINATION?** National honors and a valuable prize are in store for some boy or girl who has performed an outstanding act of kindness to animals. The kind deed may be a rescue, a special project for the benefit of animals, or a written work, according to the American Veterinary Medical Association, which sponsors the award each year.

Anyone who knows of a boy or girl not over eighteen years old who might qualify is invited to submit a nomination.

Nominations should be sent not later than May 1, 1958, to the American Veterinary Medical Association, 600 S. Michigan, Chicago 5, Illinois. The winner will be announced at the AVMA national convention at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in August. The award consists of a framed certificate describing the act of kindness and a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond.

**PRESIDENT TO PRESIDENT.** The following message from Dwight D. Eisenhower, President of the United States, to Kenneth K. Bechtel, President of the Boy Scouts of America, carried greetings on the occasion of our 48th anniversary.

To the Boy Scouts of America:

It is a pleasure to send greetings as you celebrate the 48th birthday of your organization.

With your membership at a record high, you can confidently begin your new service project, National Safety Good Turn. Founded on obedience to God and guided by the principles of good citizenship, the Boy Scouts of America have long contributed to the welfare of the land by building young lives strong in body, mind, and spirit.

Congratulations and best wishes.

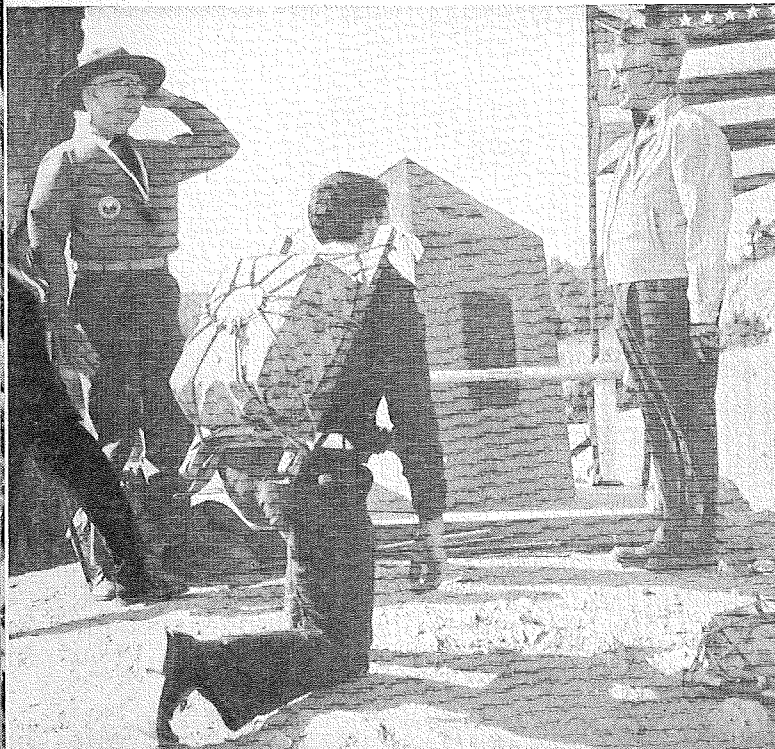
DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

**TO B.-P.'s MEMORY.** Atop Mount Baden-Powell in the San Gabriel Mountains seventy-five miles from Los Angeles, more than two thousand Scouts and Scouters representing nine southern California councils met last fall to dedicate an obelisk to the memory of Scouting's founder, Baden-Powell.

To build the obelisk, Scouts hauled more than nine tons of materials and equipment on their backs up the 9,500 foot mountain.

Photo above shows (left to right) Scouters M. H. Waldron, program chairman; C. J. Carlson, former regional executive of Region XII; and Explorer Larry Winn.

This tribute was especially fitting as the world last year celebrated the 100th anniversary of this great leader's birth.





*These "chop sticks" illustrate the molecular composition of a crystal. Here Howard Watson, laboratory technician, explains it to Explorers Reeves, Broughton and Mintz. These were only a few of the demonstrations that opened up new fields of study to the young men in this Explorer post.*

# EXPLORING THE SCIENCE AGE



*The ohmmeter, for measuring the resistance in an electrical circuit, was one of the instruments Explorer Barton looked over.*



EVERY WEEK WE HEAR OF MORE EXPLORER units whose members are very much in earnest about preparing themselves to live in the science age.

One group making a specialty of learning all they can about various scientific fields is Post 130 of Marietta, Georgia, aided by the officers and members of Lockheed Management Club who are working hand in hand with them.

Like most scientists the men of this club feel the urgent need for arousing American youth to the challenge of science. In this post they are finding a practical outlet for their desire to advance the cause of science through helping with lectures, discussions, field trips, and projects, thus providing practical experiences for the young men.

Post 130 explores a new theme each month, a theme that leads its members to find out more about various natural and social laws that affect mankind. The Explorers themselves assist in choosing themes and in working out projects. Fields already touched upon include astronomy, geology, physics, chemistry, meteorology, nuclear science, and engineering.

The Explorers of Post 130, along with an increasing number of Explorers all over the country, are doing their best to be prepared to live in the science age of which they are a part.

*END*

# SAFETY MUSTS for CAVE EXPLORING

**N**ATIONAL LEADERS OF THE SPORT OF CAVE EXPLORING (SPELUNKING) have recently called to our attention some examples of unsafe practices by Scout groups engaging in this interesting sport. In one case the group ignored "Danger—Do Not Enter" signs. In another case, adult leaders, who themselves were inexperienced in cave exploring, waited outside for a group of untrained boys to explore a cave that is so hazardous that it should only be entered by mature adults who are experts because of their special training and experience as cave explorers. Fortunately, an accident didn't happen in either of these cases, but tragic results could have occurred.

What's the answer? Direct application of Scouting's basic principles of "safety through skill." Here are some minimum safety principles for cave exploring:

1. Is it a safe place for this group under the leadership available? Several things must be considered:
  - a. Ability and experience of the boys in the group and leaders in charge.
  - b. Advice of substantial citizens who know the place proposed and surrounding territory.
  - c. Advice of a good authority on spelunking based on his knowledge of *a* and *b*.

Then the question above must be honestly answered. If the place is hazardous, the answer will be "no"—a safe place must be found or another activity substituted.

2. When a safe place has been chosen, what preparations and training are needed? In order to make this activity a good experience for the group, minimum preparations should include:
  - a. Instruction and training under an adult who has had enough cave experience to give this group the guidance they need for this particular trip.
  - b. Securing and checking the right gear and equipment.

Cave exploring can be high adventure—so is an expedition to the South Pole, a climb to the top of Mount Everest, descent into the unexplored regions of the ocean

keep, **BUT** all of these adventures require expert training, preparation, and detailed planning to ensure safe end results.

Through the efforts of members of the National Speleological Society, Scout and Explorer units in various parts of the country where caves exist have benefited through the training and guidance that made safe cave exploration possible. However, all leaders in Scouting must realize that there are hazards to be met, which can be overcome only through proper training by experts. Every unit that plans to do cave exploring must apply the safety principles of (1) *a safe place* and (2) *proper training and preparations*. Warnings and cautions must always be given attention, never ignored.

When Scouts and Explorers use the safety musts they will really be prepared.

So if you want to spelunk, do it only under the leadership and guidance of a spelunker. *END*

*An Explorer of Post 88, Highland Park, New Jersey, meets tough going in a cave.*

