

## Dear Editor ...

My neighbors have begun to wonder why I pitched a tent out by the mailbox. I told them that I'm just waiting on the next issue of SCOUTER, and they just shake their heads in disbelief. However, with the monsoon-like rains we've been having here in Georgia, my tent is starting to get mildewed. Let me know when the next issue is coming and I'll repitch my tent by the mailbox. Until then, I think I'll hang it up and let it dry out for now. Keep 'em coming!

— Richard Chastain  
Atlanta, Georgia

*EDITOR: Thank you, Richard, and a very big thanks to all of our readers who have stood by us and been patient as we launched this grassroots magazine for Scouting. We'll try to limit the time you have to wait out there by the box between issues. Unless of course, you've started to form a bond of friendship with your letter carrier, and he has taken to asking "permission to enter camp" whenever he tries to deliver the mail. In which case, you may wish to check out the great camp recipes in the back of this issue!*

I never miss an opportunity to promote this magazine to people I meet at Roundtables. I think the practical nature of the contents is VERY useful to the average Scouter on the street. I even try to share it with parents who are not Scouters! You guys are doing a great job!

— Bob Ulicki  
Cupertino, California

*EDITOR: Bob, it is because of Scouters like you that we really do believe this magazine belongs to the readership. Thanks for your help. If anyone else would like to promote our resources at a Roundtable or other adult event, we can provide you with an Event Kit with sample magazines and flyers. Visit [SCOUTER.com/magazine/EventKit](http://SCOUTER.com/magazine/EventKit) or give us a call at 1-800-SCOUTER.*

Congratulations! What a GREAT magazine you publish! We received our complimentary copy just before leaving on a trip, after having signed up on your website. As I was doing most of the driving, my wife began reading SCOUTER. She couldn't put it down! She read every article. I finally had to ask her to drive so that I could see what had gotten her so excited. I fully agree with my wife that this is one of the best magazine I've ever read.

As a member of the Rio Grande Commissioners Staff, I told everyone at our monthly meeting about SCOUTER and agreed to share my copy with them. Our District Commissioner is a subscriber and also agreed to bring copies of SCOUTER to our next meeting.

I've enclosed a check to ensure that we get the next 14 issues. Thank you for your service and keep up the good work. You provided lots of ideas and material that I can use with my units.

— Tom & Elaine Isaacs  
Rio Rancho, New Mexico

## Brunton Compass and SCOUTER introduce loaner program for adult leader training

In a special partnership between Brunton Compass Company and SCOUTER magazine, a whole new campaign is emerging to keep Scouts excited about orienteering and learning map and compass skills. The campaign is called *Scout America!*, and it consists of a series of new education products and a loaner program that will be rolled out by the two companies.

More than half a million Scouts have earned their *Orienteering* merit badge since it was introduced in 1973, and millions more learn the skills as a part of rank advancement.

This past summer and SCOUTER created a loaner kit program for use by summer camp Scoutcraft programs. The loaner kits consist of 24 compasses, a training video, demonstrator compass, maps and educational material. The kits were loaned out to about fifty Scout camps, and thousands of kids benefitted from their use.

"Brunton has been making the finest orienteering products for more than



100 years, right from our headquarters in the Rocky Mountains. Much of that history has been tied to Scouting, and we are pleased to be able to provide these resources for the organization," explains

John Smithbaker of the Brunton Company.

This free loaner program was so well received, that it will be extended during the off-season.

**Loaner kits are available for use by Roundtables, Wood Badge Courses, or other adult or junior leader training program. These kits make great resources when you are trying to train a group.**

In order to control the program, we ask that you pay a \$5 shipping and handling cost to receive the kit, and we may limit each council to one use of a kit until most councils have had a chance to use them.

Kits are also available at a special price, for those groups who wish to have permanent use of the kit. The normal retail price of \$259.95, which is a savings of more than \$140 off the normal retail price of all of the components. A smaller kit with eight compasses is also available for sale, and makes a great resource. (See back cover for more info)

For more information on how to get a loaner kit for your next Scouting event, visit our website at [www.SCOUTER.com/Brunton](http://www.SCOUTER.com/Brunton), or call 1-800-SCOUTER



## Lots of Resources at the National Consumers League!

### Make your Cub Scouts into Deputy Fire Marshalls!

Cub Scout leaders can light a fire of excitement in each Cub Scout, by making them Deputy Fire Marshalls. Each kit includes a certificate, five stickers and a Deputy Fire Department Identification Card.

The Deputy Fire Marshall program not only makes fire prevention awareness a fun program for your Cub Scouts, it also increases the awareness of the statistically increasing likelihood that children can be injured or killed in a fire in their homes.

The Deputy Fire Marshall program is a cooperative effort of the *National Consumers League of America* and the *Advertising Council*, in conjunction with the *For A Safer America Coalition*. Materials for the kit (Document 504E) can be ordered from the Consumer Information Center (CIC) via mail, or online. Please see the addresses for the CIC, printed below.

### Resources for your Roundtable

Hundreds of free government resources like the Deputy Fire Marshall program are contained in the *National Consumer Products Catalog*. We will send out, on a monthly basis, enough free catalogs to distribute to you at your Roundtable. Roundtable Commissioners to request to be placed on the distribution list along with the number of copies needed for your roundtable. The request can be placed through the CIC. There is also an educators kit that can be ordered from the National Consumers League. Please see both addresses below.

**National Consumers League**  
1701 K Street NW • Suite 1200  
Washington, DC 20006  
Phone: (202) 835-3323  
Fax: (202) 835-0747

**Consumer Information Center**  
Pueblo, Colorado 81009  
1-888-8-PUEBLO  
[www.pueblo.gsa.gov](http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov)

## Keep It Fun With These Roundtable Ideas!

To keep leaders coming to your Roundtable you have to make it interesting and fun. Meetings can get boring and lengthy if you wind up listening to the same old stuff each month. Below find some ideas for programs. Plan all of your Roundtables well in advance and make sure leaders are involved in both the planning and *doing* the Roundtable.

### Cooking Demonstration

Have a utensil-less cooking demonstration (see the article on page 40) by having everyone bring an item to cook. Have someone rotate the items and such ready ahead of time and show off your cooking talents. *Egg on a stick, egg in an orange, mud apples, twist bread, and hobo stew* are all fun to cook. Make sure to have hot water and soap for people to clean up afterwards.

### Fun with Knots

Bring enough rope and supplies to your Roundtable to let everyone (re-)learn knots and lashings. After the demonstration, Form teams and have a competition. Use the knots needed to earn ranks through First Class.

### VIP Visitor

Invite your local Congressman, Mayor or celebrity to come talk to your Roundtable.

### Focus on Holidays

If a particular Roundtable falls on or near a holiday, have the leaders prepare and participate in the holiday theme. Bring decorations, music, and games to fit the occasion. Pass the hat each month for program decorations and items, to help keep your expenses down.

### Ice Cream Social

During the hot months, hold an Ice Cream Social. Have everyone bring a couple of bucks and provide ice cream and all the trimmings. Arrange for some sort of entertainment—bring a bag of tricks or like to hold a mock campfire and perform skits and songs.

### Roundtable Picnic

Hold your roundtable on a weekend one month and make it a pot-luck picnic at a local park or lake. Have each unit agree to a "Show-N-Do" presentation and have games and competition.

### Tour the Internet

Arrange for a computer and modem to be brought to your Roundtable and take your leaders on a tour of the Internet and find many references to new and exciting Scouting websites in this magazine. Collect e-mails and Unit websites to share with others.

### Let the Boys do it.

Have a roundtable where the boys in your Pack do the specific training sessions. Boys love to show off, especially if they think they know more than the leaders. Have them give different training or presentations in a round-robin style.

These are just a few ideas that can add sparkle to your meetings. There are many resources available to help you put on successful Roundtables that will keep your leaders coming back for more each month. Program Helps, the many books available from the 1-800-SCOUTER Catalog, and the leaders in your district all can help achieve these goals.

## A "Hummer" of an Idea!

Never forget that adults like to have fun, too! Before your next Roundtable: start with a fun game or sing-along. Games and songs start off the meeting with upbeat enthusiasm and add excitement to the evening. Here's a meeting game to start your next Roundtable with:

### Meeting Hummer

Take some regular binder paper and cut it into 4 equal pieces. Make as many as you need to make sure everyone who comes to your meeting gets one. Write down the name

of some popular songs on groups of 4 - 6 of the pieces of paper them in half, and put them into a hat or bowl. Everyone should have at least two or three different songs in each group for people to take.

As people enter the meeting, they take one of the pieces of paper out of the hat and start humming the song written on the paper. They have to find others who are humming the same song and introduce themselves. They keep humming until the meeting starts and each group, in turn, can "hum" together to get the meeting started.

## R.O.U.N.D.T.A.B.L.E.

**Resources** — Pick up handouts. Some books are available for purchase.

**Opportunities** — To meet other Scouters.

**Uniforms** — Wear yours to show your Scout spirit.

**News** — Of upcoming events.

**Discussion** — Share your ideas with others.

**Training** — Find out what you've been needing to know.

**Activities** — Play games that you can teach your boys.

**Busy?** — Aren't we all. Come anyway!

**Learning** — Things to bring back to your unit.

**Education** — There's so much information out there!